

THE DEFENCE ACT

THE OBLIGATIONS UPON CITIZEN SOLDIERS

The Acting Minister of Defence has forwarded to us a statement, in the form of question and answer, as to the obligation imposed upon citizen soldiers by the terms of the Defence Act. In order to assist in removing misapprehensions that have been created on the subject, we have pleasure in acceding to the Minister's request to publish the information:—

Question: Does provision exist for the Territorial Force to be carried or ordered to go out of New Zealand, under the Defence Act and its amendments?

Answer: No. See section 22, Defence Act, 1909, quoted hereunder:—'Any part of the Territorial Force shall be liable to serve in any part of New Zealand, but no part of the Territorial Force shall be carried or ordered to go out of New Zealand.'

Question: Can the New Zealand Territorial Force or part thereof be compelled to go to the assistance of Great Britain or any of the oversea dominions or possessions in the event of an outbreak of war under the Defence Act?

Answer: No. Such service must be purely voluntary, as in the case of New Zealand contingents sent to Africa.

Question: Does provision exist in the Defence Act for calling out the Territorial Force for service in New Zealand in time of war?

Answer: Yes. The Governor has power under sections 27 (1), 28 (1), quoted hereunder, of the Defence Act, 1909, and under the Defence Amendment Act, 1912, sections 16 and 71, quoted hereunder, to call out for military training and service all eligible males between the ages of 17 and 55, who have resided in New Zealand for a period of six months. Defence Act, 1909, section 27 (1): 'All the male inhabitants of New Zealand between the ages of 17 and 55, not hereinafter exempted, who have resided in New Zealand for a period of six months are liable to be trained and serve in the militia.' Section 28 (1): 'In time of war it shall be lawful for the Governor (the occasion being first communicated to Parliament if Parliament is then sitting, or notified by proclamation if Parliament is not then sitting), by proclamation, to call upon persons liable to serve in the militia to enrol in the militia, and thereupon such persons shall within the time and in the manner prescribed enrol in the militia for the prescribed period.' Defence Amendment Act, 1912, section 16: 'When the Territorial Force, or any part thereof, has been called out for active service in New Zealand in accordance with the provisions of this Act in that behalf, every member of the said force, or of that part thereof, shall at all times while he remains under the obligation of active service be subject to military law as established by the Army Act, save so far as that Act is inconsistent with the principal Act, or any amendment thereof, or with any regulation made thereunder.' Section 71 (1): 'The Governor may by proclamation call out the Territorial Force, or any part thereof, for active service. (2) The Territorial Force, or any part thereof, shall be liable to be employed on active service in New Zealand from the time of the publication of the proclamation so calling out that force, or that part thereof, until the publication of a proclamation notifying that the active service of that force, or of that part thereof, is no longer required.'

Question: Does provision exist in the Defence Act for calling out Territorials to assist the civil police in quelling riots and otherwise upholding law and order?

Answer: No such provision exists.

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WEDDING BELLS

ABEL—HENRYS.

A quiet but pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Joseph's Church, Wollahra, on Thursday afternoon, June 12 (says a Sydney paper), when Miss Josephine Mary Henrys, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Henrys, of Wellington, New Zealand, was married to Mr. Gerald Handson Abel, of Sydney. Rev. Father Kennedy officiated. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore white satin charmeuse, with draped tunic of Honiton lace, caught with sprays of orange blossom. Her tulle-embroidered veil was the gift of the Sacred Heart Nuns at Timaru, New Zealand, and the diamond and pearl ring, with her bouquet of white flowers, were presents from the bridegroom. Miss Claire Henrys (sister of the bride) was the only bridesmaid. Her frock of white crepe-de-chine had deep insertions of shadow lace, with over-dress of saxe blue ninon-de-soie; a Juliet cap of pearls was worn, and white osprey. Her bouquet of Countess Bertha roses and a gold wristlet bangle were the bridegroom's gifts. Mr. McNeill was best man. After the ceremony the guests adjourned to 'Osterley,' Darling Point, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Healy, where the wedding breakfast was served. The bride and bridegroom left by motor for Bowral for their honeymoon, the bride wearing a champagne-colored cashmere-de-soie coat and skirt, with vest of lace and net, white crepe-de-chine hat with white flowers.

LYNCH—McAULIFFE.

A pretty wedding was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Temuka, on June 17, the contracting parties being Miss Nora McAuliffe, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. McAuliffe, of Temuka, and Mr. Patrick Henry Lynch, second son of Mrs. H. Lynch, of Milford. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Kerley. The bride was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. T. Orr. She looked charming in a beautiful purple tailor-made costume with Oriental trimmings, and a white velvet hat relieved with purple. The bride was attended by her niece, Miss Kate McAuliffe, as bridesmaid. She wore a dress of cream radianta, with silk insertion, and vieux rose hat. The bride's present to the bridegroom was a handsome gold albert chain. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a set of fox furs, and to the bridesmaid a gold bangle. The bridegroom was attended by his brother, Mr. M. Lynch, as best man. The wedding breakfast was held at the residence of the bride's parents, where a large number of guests assembled, Rev. Father Kerley presiding. The usual toast list was gone through. The happy couple left by the first express for the south *en route* to their new home. The presents were numerous and costly.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

June 23.

The H.A.C.B. Society entertained the Rauma Club, under Mr. J. J. Lynch, at a euchre party in their clubrooms on Saturday. They beat the visitors by 36 to 26. The president (Bro. A. Max) captained the local team.

The National Dairy Show, which was opened by his Excellency the Governor on Tuesday, was easily a record, there being an attendance of 33,000 for the four days. The large agricultural hall and produce shed were taxed to their utmost capacity with over 2000 exhibits. Some 6000 school children from the surrounding State schools were admitted free, but our parish school children, no doubt for want of proper representation in the right quarter, had to pay. This should be easily arranged by the next show, and is a matter for our local branch of the Catholic Federation to attend to.