

# On Our Job

By Wellington Trammies, for Wellington Trammies

No. 2.

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Wellington, N.Z.

**HULLO FELLOWS**, here we are again. Well, our first issue of this little paper seems to have gone over well, so well in fact that we have to start this copy with a word or two of explanation to those fellows who would have liked to receive a copy of the first issue and did not get one. Maybe we misled some people with our sub-title, "By Wellington Trammies, for Wellington Trammies," whereas we really should have included the word "Overseas" somewhere in the latter part. Actually the position is this: "On Our Job" is printed solely to get news to the boys serving overseas or in camp in New Zealand. Controlled by the Comforts Committee, sufficient copies are obtained to see each man away from the job is assured of his copy, and it is not until then that any extra copies are distributed to men still in the service. Of these copies left over, first preference must be given to officials of clubs or organisations who so kindly forward material to help us write this little paper, and after that we attempt to get a copy to persons who receive mention, even where we are "rubbing it in." By this time the issue is just about "a skinner," but we feel sure that should you particularly desire one, a request for a copy from any member of the Comforts Committee will probably result in your getting it. Maybe the day will come soon when everyone will be able to have a copy.

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If you want to start something you need only ask our Comforts Committee Secretary, Alf. Burns, to tell you about the work done by the Comforts Committee for the boys overseas. Our General Manager, Mr. Hutton, did this recently and in no time at all the records were on his desk and Alf. was talking nineteen to the dozen. Mr. Hutton expressed his interest in the work being done, and after examining the books asked for the loan of them to show to the Tramway Committee. Apparently the Tramway Committee was also interested, because the following week the City Council passed a grant of £25 to the Comforts Committee to assist us in the work we are doing

for you chaps away. Our special thanks to Mr. Hutton for his interest and his assistance in obtaining us this grant.

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We were standing inside a tram recently on our way to work when we overheard an argument between an inebriated passenger and the conductor. After the argument was over, another passenger turned to us remarking, "What effect do these sort of passengers have on your temper during the course of a day." We summed up our answer in two words, "Sours it." There are passengers, however, who by their words and actions make up for those who upset us, and one in particular to whom we desire to pay a tribute is Mrs. Mulcahy, of Upland Road. During the course of the Comforts Committee's activities several donations have been received from Mrs. Mulcahy, and her recent donation of £1 was accompanied by a note telling us it was forwarded because of the fine way the motormen and conductors assisted her on and off the trams. To Mrs. Mulcahy we say, the donation is greatly appreciated, but far more do we thank you for your kind words, which show us someone appreciates the assistance we are so willing to give to all.

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Now, a couple of other things for us to mention before settling down to tell you some news "on our job." First, the important question of parcels. Our last issue finished with mention of the tobacco parcel ready to be sent away at the end of August. That parcel was dispatched as promised and was followed by a "St. George" parcel of eats in September. The parcel in hand now, ready to send as soon as we get rid of this writing business, is tinned Cadbury chocolate, and we anticipate favourable reports concerning this parcel. Incidentally, while mentioning these tins of chocolate, we got rather a knock-back when we received them to discover that they had to be sewn in calico. Seventy tins of chocolate, standing on the floor looking rather naked for the want of calico, gave us food for thought, and we could see visions of members of the committee getting busy with needle

and thread. Before this sad event came off, however, Mrs. Burns, wife of our Secretary, had hoed in, and while Alf. kept well away for fear he would be roped in, had completed sewing them all within a couple of weeks. You chaps who rip that calico off will no doubt join with us in thanking Mrs. Burns for her assistance.

The second matter we wish to draw to your attention also concerns our Secretary. As you know, all acknowledgments for parcels and letters are addressed to him, and he has asked us to tell you that he is finding it impossible to keep up with your mail. On a recent Monday morning he received 25 letters and more followed during the week, so if you don't get an answer to your letter as soon as you expect, will you just be patient, for it will undoubtedly arrive as soon as possible. And now, one last thing before we tell you how Traffic cleaned up the Bus Drivers. What about those addresses? Some are still wrong, to name a few this time: Ken Henderson, Andy McLean and Frank Nicholson. With wrong addresses you may be getting your parcels, but how about all those papers and "Free Lances" we have been sending you. Please let us have your correct address as soon as possible.

## Rugby

### Bus Drivers v. Traffic

THE long-awaited game between the Bus Drivers and Traffic men took place at Kilbirnie Reserve on Saturday, August 28, under ideal conditions. Some opposition to the match was put on by other sporting bodies, such as the North Army v. South Army match, the Wellington v. West Coast League game and the visit of Mrs. Roosevelt, not forgetting the march of the returned soldiers, but we leave it to you to guess where the crowd went. The Bus Drivers took the field in black and white, and the Traffic in black, and upon looking at the hefty players one could not help wondering if he had walked in on a game between Hawke's Bay v. Wellington in a Ranfurly Shield match.

The teams were as follows:—Traffic: Lund, Bardwell, V. Maher, C. King, Elliott, McLennan, Olson, Smythe, Ryan, Ewart, Russell, Cawley, McIvor, Beaton and Williamson. Bus Drivers: McLeod, Falleni, Holmes, Quinn, Watt, Anderson, Richards, Love, Mitchell, Christenson, Forbes, Horsley, Valentine, McHerron and Gill.

Play commenced at 3 p.m. and the ball was kicked off by Mrs. Beauchamp, whom most of the boys who have played in Kohn Shield matches will know. She has been well known for support to the Football Club as well as for her social

activities in entertaining Kohn Shield players.

Play was quite bright at the beginning and the ball was slung about in good style. After about ten minutes' play, Vin Maher scored the first try in the corner after the ball had passed practically all the back line. With a beautiful kick, McLennan placed the ball well between the uprights to make the score: Traffic 5, Bus Drivers 0.

Ewart was the next one to score for Traffic, but this time McLennan failed to convert. Play continued to be bright and some good back movements were seen, but over-eagerness failed to add any further points and the half-time score was 8—0 in Traffic's favour.

Play had been in progress quite some time in the second spell when McLennan, with a beautiful run, scored in the left-hand corner, but the try was not converted by Russell. This score seemed to make the Bus Drivers eager to break their duck and once or twice they narrowly failed to score. Play during this period was usually up and down the field, and we noticed players were feeling the strain and no doubt wishing they had attended the practices. The Traffic backs got going once again and with a stab kick in the Bus Drivers' twenty-five, Ryan scored, Elliott failing to convert although his kick was a great effort. With the score now at 14—0, the Bus Drivers made a desperate attempt to score and after some good all-round play, Anderson, with a great burst of speed, managed to score in a handy position and we were surprised that "Stewie" did not convert his own try. By this time most of the forwards were looking for a "free air" station, and it was with a sigh of relief that the whistle sounded time with the score reading Traffic 14, Bus Drivers 3. The referee was our one-time workmate, Bill Perry, who gave an excellent display of refereeing, and his decisions were accepted by both sides without comment.

We were most impressed with the amount of material still offering on the trams and buses in regard to Kohn Shield players, as there are quite a lot of new young faces which are badly needed. We are sure that from what we saw in this match that we could pick a team that would take some beating. These new members, combined with a few of our overseas members, Leonard, Jack Young, Bernecker, Howard, Hawkins, Hoskins and Beaton, just to name a few which come to mind, would make a name for the Wellington Tramways. At times the Traffic backs made some good movements and showed plenty of pace. The forwards were patchy but combined well occasionally. The Bus Drivers are mostly a new lot of players; as a matter of fact they had

rather a job to field a team at all as their staff is now only 19. Still, Anderson made a good job of his team and their keenness was a big help. Of the two forward packs the Bus Drivers' was probably the best on the day, although both were not at all good in the line-outs, being content to knock back to the half without placing enough direction in their efforts. After the game we adjourned to the Newtown Sheds, where we had the presentation of the Anderson Cup and an informal function presided over by our Traffic Manager, Mr. H. Dunn. A pleasant time was enjoyed by all, an excellent table being set out, and the time seemed to pass very quickly. The organising was done by Stan Vine and his able committee comprising T. O'Sullivan, Maher, Ogden, Cawley, Russell, Anderson and Elliott. We had numerous guests, many of whom gave items and when we all went our way it was with the idea that it had been a grand show and we certainly must have one again next year. After all expenses were paid, Stan Vine, who was in charge of the show, stated that he hoped to be able to hand over to the Comforts Committee approximately £2/10/-, the profits from the turnout, so we reckon all will agree with us it was a successful day.

## Table Tennis Notes

THE Recreation Club had three teams entered in the Association this year and has every reason to be proud of the way they performed, both from a social aspect and a match-winning point of view. Our "A" team, comprising J. Monro (captain), W. McIvor, V. Maher and D. McLennan, came out runners-up in their grade, being narrowly beaten in the final by A.N.A. by 11 games to 9. Monro was the most consistent player in the team, only losing two singles during the whole season. He was ably supported by Bill McIvor, who at times played exceptionally good table tennis. Vin Maher and Don McLennan did their share, playing well at times, although Vin often allows match nervousness to beat him in some of his matches.

The club also entered a "B" team, but owing to sickness of one member and the resignation of another, this team had to withdraw before the finish of the season.

The "C" team, consisting of A. King (captain), L. Bull, A. Bull and T. Bull, had their first experience of association competition and rose to the occasion real well. They went through the season undefeated until the last game when they met another undefeated team from Shipping. After an exciting match they were beaten and so finished up as run-

ners-up in this grade. Our congratulations to them on an exceptionally good performance for so young and inexperienced a team. They have improved out of sight, and the reason for this can be put down to the keen manner in which they attended practice and took notice of the advice and coaching of more experienced players. Indeed, we offer our congratulations to all the members of the club who participated in the most successful table tennis season the Recreation Club has ever enjoyed, and we hope to see them all on deck next season when we are sure more will be heard from them.

## Tramway Band Notes

A VERY pleasant social evening was held in the band room on Wednesday, August 18, the occasion being a welcome home to two of our band members, Bob Milligan and Reg Scott, home from the Middle East on furlough. There were about a hundred guests present, including Frank Lloyd, a life member of the band also home on furlough from the Middle East, Mr. Alf Burns and Mr. Joe King, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of the Tramway Comforts Committee, and Mr. Harry Tankard, another life member of the band.

Mr. C. Patchett, chairman of the band, in a well-chosen speech, extended a hearty welcome to the guests of the evening, assuring them of the delight of all at having them with us and our hopes that they would have a pleasant holiday while on furlough. Mr. Franklin, conductor of the band, joined with the chairman in extending to the guests a hearty welcome home.

Bob Milligan, in his reply, paid a feeling tribute to the memory of the late Jack Foster, a member of the band who lost his life on active service overseas. Reg Scott expressed his thanks to the Comforts Committee for the manner in which they had looked after the welfare of the members of the band serving overseas. Frank Lloyd, who was included in the welcome, replied in his usual humorous manner. Mr. Joe King replied on behalf of the Comforts Committee and thanked Mr. Scott for his kindly reference to the committee.

During the evening items were given by Miss and Master Tait (xylophone duo), Bob Milligan (cornet solo), and Messrs. Sharp and Tindle (novelty item). Dancing was indulged in for the rest of the evening, the M.C. being the popular Ernie Bull. The music for the dancing was supplied by Ray Middleton's Orchestra and Dick Duncan's Rhythm Boys.

The arrangements for supper were in the capable hands of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Burns.

## "Request Stops"

WE have to report the retirement, on superannuation, of Messrs. Alf Bade and Tom Orchard. Alf started as a conductor in March, 1908, and Tom joined in June, 1905. All members of the service will join us in wishing our old friends many years of health and happiness in their retirement.

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Every Monday morning, at Newtown Depot, Motorman Syd Langford can be seen handing to Comforts Committee Treasurer, Joe King, the sum of one pound. Contrary to the popular belief that this is some form of blackmail, this pound is the result of a voluntary contribution from 20 members of the service, one shilling being collected from them each week by Syd Langford, who was the originator of this bright idea to help the lads overseas. The scheme has now been in operation for nine months, so that the Comforts Committee has benefited to the tune of £36. Nice work, Syd. Keep it up. Many thanks to those who assist in this worthy cause.

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The committee which runs the dance at St. Thomas's to help the funds for the lads overseas wishes to acknowledge with thanks the sum of £1 donated by Wally Loach. It's nicer having you this end than on the receiving end, Wally.

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One of Newtown Shed's most popular personalities, Nugget Winter, has given up ticket punching to take up the duties of assistant custodian at the mess room, Lambton. Traffic Manager Harry Dunn certainly showed great judgment in selecting Nugget, for next to ticket punching, Nugget is never happier than when wielding a broom or duster. Nugget's cheery patter and smile will be missed at Newtown, but all wish him well in his new sphere.

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We are pleased to be able to report that Inspector Syd Leonard is back in charge of the shift again after a long illness.

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There is to be no tramway cricket team in the Mercantile Competitions this year as at the annual general meeting it was found that sufficient players could not get off on a Saturday. A pity this, as the boys used to enjoy those games. But never mind, after the war we will all be as keen as ever.

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We had to laugh at a woman passenger's comments on loading on trams recently. Struggling in a packed load to reach the door, she remarked: "Once we used to ride on trams for a rest. Now we ride for a wrestle." She's telling us.

Several of our workmates have been off ill lately, some even requiring hospital treatment. Motorman Percy Wilcox ("Stiffy" to all his friends) is in hospital recovering from an operation and hopes to be out soon. Charlie Sutherland, who returned from the Middle East a short time ago, is also in hospital for an operation, and again reports are favourable. Another we have heard of as making eyes at the nurses is Conductor "Morrie" Ching. Motorman "Curly" Perkins has also been off with a broken bone in his hand. It appears he tripped over the tram lines in the dark, and we are wondering now if all those letters to the papers about the condition of the tracks was the result. In any case, we notice that there seems to be an improvement lately, so either "Curly's" hand or the letters did the trick. Motormen Les Hurren and Errol McCourtie have both been off work with the usual trammie complaint, "crook tummies."

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We often receive reports from Electricity House concerning the good work being done by the Tramways and Electricity House Social Club Orchestra. Under the conductorship of Mr. Bert Coleclough, this combination is rapidly improving, and our most recent report shows that they are putting their talent to very good purposes. Certainly the patients at the Ewart Hospital, where the orchestra recently paid a visit, will agree with us. In addition to the orchestra and other instrumental items, Mrs. McKechnie and Misses Gilmore and Nixen were much appreciated as supporting artists. It is good to see Tramway organisations like this one doing splendid work for others.

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Who is the motorman who holds up the trams at the Railway Station on a wet morning while he gives his driving gloves to his conductress so that she won't get her hands wet swinging the pole?

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"Why did you lose your job at the gown shop?"

"Well, near the end of a very hectic day a fussy, fat woman came in. After I tried about twenty dresses on her, she said she thought she would look better in something flowing, so I told her to go and jump in the river."

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Old Gent: What does your father do for a living sonny?

Tommy: He chops down trees.

Old Gent: And what does he do when he has chopped them down?

Tommy: He chops them up.