

yet, another long-felt want, but we are living in hopes of having that too in the near future. Membership has increased this past year, being larger now than for some years, but the lack of a clubhouse is preventing many more from joining up. The ball question is also vexing, but we would remind you that it is only possible to obtain them at all by joining the club.

The "C" table tennis team which were undefeated until their last match in the inter-club championships, decided to have a go at the provincial championships. This was really an ambitious effort on their part, this being their first year in table tennis matches, yet their continued practice and enthusiasm brought their reward as they finished up as runners-up to the champions, Empire, who have held the Hutt Valley championship for a number of years. A really stout effort, this, and we heartily congratulate the members of the team, Messrs. A. King (captain), L. Bull, A. Bull and Miss T. Bull.

Request Stops

WE trust that no one will accuse us of giving away secrets of the Comforts Committee, but we do think it is time you chaps overseas were warned of something that goes on in case you return before the war is finished and get roped in. Occasionally a member of the committee finds it necessary to resign, thus leaving a vacancy and it is then that the events of which we wish to warn you take place. Members of the committee go into a huddle and such words as "He's a good worker," or more likely, "He's a sucker for work," and such like can be heard issuing from them. A meeting is then called, two small cakes are purchased after a brief but hard struggle with the treasurer, and all is ready for the victim. The secretary now goes into action and in a wheedling manner gets the victim to consent to come to the meeting "just to see what goes on." On arrival, he is seated in the best chair, the aforementioned cakes are placed close at hand, accompanied by tea, and in such instances, even sugar, and he is told what a good fellow he is and all that. Watched hungrily by the members, who only get cake on their first visit, he nibbles daintily at the cakes, usually taking two bites for the one he would take if he was at home, and sits back thinking what a great little committee this is which provides cake. When a little later he is nominated as a member, he gladly accepts, probably under the mistaken impression that more cake will be forthcoming at the next meeting, and so another member is added to the committee. Such then is the underhand method of the Comforts Committee to obtain members, and our

sympathies go out to their latest victim, Tom Russell. Of course, it would hardly be the thing for us to add now that we do think that Tom will be a good man on the committee; he may view that with suspicion, having heard it already, but we do expect that he will do his share to rope in someone else in the same way when there is another vacancy. Tom has ably assisted us on many occasions in the past, and we are pleased indeed to have him with us to help look after you chaps overseas.

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We were pleased to see Ben Clothier about again recently. He looks well and has put on a couple of stone. He expects to be back at work again after Christmas.

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On the eve of his retirement, Depot Officer Sydney (Jackie) Potter was tendered an informal but impressive send-off in the messroom at Lambton by the Officers and men of the traffic department.

Mr. Welch, assistant general manager, in opening the proceedings, gave a brief outline of Jackie's service. Born in London on March 18, 1876, Jack joined the tramway service on October 8, 1907. He was promoted to motorman on January 10, 1912, and after serving overseas with the N.Z.E.F. from 1915 to 1917, became pointsman at Cuba Street for many years before his appointment to depot officer at Thorndon.

In presenting Jackie with a cheque, subscribed by the officers and men, Mr. Dunn, traffic manager, stated that this was the first time that such a presentation had been made to a retiring officer by both officers and men and was a tribute to the high esteem in which Jackie was held by everyone with whom he had come in contact. Jackie, added Mr. Dunn, has certainly looked after Thorndon like a father, a statement which brought forth loud applause, especially from the Thorndon men present.

Jackie Potter, in his reply, told us some humorous incidents of his early years in the service, one remark which caused much merriment being to the effect that the men in the service were "Good fellows in them days."

The proceedings finished with the wholehearted singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" and cheers for Jackie and Mrs. Potter. We feel sure that Mr. Potter has left us with the knowledge that everyone wishes him and Mrs. Potter all the best of luck and a long and happy retirement.

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A very pleasant evening was given to Mr. F. W. Good, assistant electrical engineer, on the occasion of his retirement on October 15. The evening took