

CALLISTHENICS -- MAORI STYLE

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CELEBRITIES IN A NOBLE ART

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Brought to New Zealand by the intrepid Polynesians who first peopled our land, the art of Calisthenics, Maori style, is one of the few that has survived this modern world, and, indeed, is the only one that has made any semblance of progress.

The ancient Moriori was an expert teacher and the various movements (or rather lack of movements) were handed down through the ages. We have their teachings preserved in the songs and verses of that period, extolling their prowess. The Maoris in turn passed it to the Pakeha who proved more adept with each succeeding generation. So, now we have a race more proficient than any yet.

With the advent of the war, the cream of the nation's manhood went to fight with the glorious 3rd Division and with them went the greatest exponents of the art. After a time there came a purge, and only the best men were retained while the lesser artists were relegated to the infantry. With this final sifting of talent, the Artillery Training Depot, consisted entirely of men who had made names for themselves at horizontal or Maori P.T.

Never before were so many talented artists gathered in one unit, and the rolls were illuminated by the names of such men as "Leatherhead the loafer", "Tired Tim Trigonometry", "Flea Bag Fox" and "Stick to the Stinker Stewart". Truly an array of talent to make the press reporters go wild-eyed with excitement.

Many books have been written on this art. The most noble literary contributions include "Maori P.T. in Necal", an excellent, concise handbook by that expert and author, Sgt

"Nugget" Robinson, now gathering material for a new book on "Foxholing and Fleabagging in the Solomons!" The author of the well-known book "Bed sores, and how to aggravate them", Bdr G.P. Grödg is also gathering material up above. These authors are accompanied in their peregrinations by the greatest exponent the world has ever known, Butch Armitage. They form the spearhead of a movement to popularise Maori P.T. among the Melanesians.

With so many books written on the subject by more competent pens than mine, it is not necessary for me to discourse on the positions, but in closing I earnestly recommend that all students read at least two books of those mentioned above. If the A.E.W.S. library cannot supply you with copies, I will be only too pleased to lend you my own autographed first editions. -- R.T.S.

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CRICKET VICTORY FOR D.H.Q.

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Depot HQ clinched victory by 11 runs in a cricket match against a combined A and B Battery team at the former Brigade HQ ground on Wednesday. Depot HQ's tally of 78 included a good 28 by Pelham with Murray scoring 12. Bowling for the combined team Beard took four for 16 and Edwards two for 7. The Battery eleven made 67, the top scorers being Brown, 15, and Jack and Scott, 14 each. Hazelden took four wickets for the cost of a single run, including the hat trick. Pelham embellished his batting performance by taking three Battery wickets for 6 runs.

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