

CAMP NOTES.

by 'Bee Jee'

For a third time, cadets of the Christchurch Wing have spent their holidays in a training camp. Over Easter weekend, ninety-one members from the three Christchurch Squadrons and from Rangiora attended a camp held at one of the South Island Air Force Stations.

Flight Lieutenant G. S. Troup the O.C. and other Officers present were Flight Lieutenant G. M. Keys and Pilot Officers A. C. Kidson, and C. H. Perkins. Our Wing Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant R. A. Preston paid a number of visits to the camp and was the guiding force behind all arrangements that had to be made with the authorities concerning camp arrangements and instructional programme.

The syllabus itself was one of all round interest—instructional and entertaining. It comprised lectures on the gas respirator, its construction, use and maintenance, the Bren gun, engines and air-frames, aircraft recognition and various badges of rank. In addition to this, more than 30 air-crew personnel enjoyed the privileges of flying Link Trainers and supreme delight, the thrill of actual flight. Since flying has become officially permitted for members of the A.T.C., many cadets have sampled the delights of the high heavens but this is the first time that they have flown on

such a grand scale. Those 50 odd cadets who had flips during the camp had the time of their lives and thanks to the wonderful co-operation of the instructors. These men could have hoped for no better taste of flying and aerobatics.

But to return to the camp. The day began at 0600 hours with breakfast at 0645, Squadron Parade at 0800 hours and march off to Station at 0830 hours, drill and lecture with march back to camp for dinner and then the afternoon back on Station. The march was rather a long one and singing helped to make the distance seem shorter. The Quarter Master's Store was given new words with reference to "bread, bread—as hard as a certain W/O's head" and "mince, mince—as raw as corporal—" all of which helped the time pass more quickly.

The A.T.C. is deeply grateful to the wonderful reception which the Air Force has accorded them. For four days we enjoyed Air Force discipline and life and found it all wonderfully interesting and informative.

The "OBSERVER" Staff extends to the Station authorities concerned, their warmest thanks and appreciation of the friendly and helpful attitude that they showed towards those cadets who enjoyed their hospitality during Easter weekend.

(Physically Speaking—continued)

Number 6 Physical Training has been in abeyance to date pending the installation of three cold showers in the gym. This work has been duly approved and (take warning No. 6) it will not be long now.

No. 17 is unfortunate over this matter of showers as there is no room available for these necessities at their H/Q.

Number 31, the spoiled brats, have the use of the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium for their weekly sweat. Hot and cold showers and a plunge pool, the best

gym gear in Christchurch and everything that opens and shuts. Bah!

The cadets of "R" flight, No. 17 (Rangiora) now flap their arms and wave their legs regularly in the Rangiora Drill Hall. This flight is unable to take part in weekend sport at present because there is not any. This little matter is going to be adjusted in the very near future and then the challenges will be flying thick and fast. You will have to look to your laurels, Christchurch.