

WINTER SPORTS

GAMES FOR THE TROOPS

Trentham Organisation Formed

Preliminary plans for arranging winter sports competitions for soldiers, including Expeditionary Force units at the Central District Mobilisation Camp, Trentham, and the various units on home-service in and around Wellington, were discussed at a meeting held at the camp on Thursday night, 11th April. Rugby, Soccer and hockey competitions, to be played on Wednesday afternoons, are contemplated. Representatives were sent from District Headquarters, Wellington, the 22nd (Wellington) Battalion, the Central District School of Instruction, Brigaded Units and the Medical Corps.

It was decided to set up a management committee consisting of permanent camp personnel and members of the Third Echelon. A committee was formed consisting of three members: the camp staff and three of the Third Echelon. The 22nd Anti-Aircraft Battery and the 15th Heavy Battery are to be invited to nominate representatives on the committee, the G.S.O.1, Central Military District (Lieutenant-Colonel E. M. Foster, N.Z.S.C.) and the Camp Commandant (Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Hugh, M.C.), are to be ex-officio members. Lieutenant P. G. Thompson was appointed general secretary.

The main sports activity is to be purely military and outside the jurisdiction of the various sports unions, but any advice offered by the unions will be welcomed.

The meeting decided that at this stage it was impossible to set

up sub-committees to control Rugby, Soccer, and hockey, but those attending the meeting were requested to ask their commanding officers to call meetings of those interested in playing the various sports be nominated to represent each sport on their respective sub-committees. Units are also to be asked to supply names of likely referees for the various sports and from those nominated a referees appointment committee will be formed.

A list supplied by the Director of Parks and Reserves of sports grounds available for use on Wednesday afternoons was submitted to the meeting. Delegates considered Anderson's Park (one Rugby ground, two Soccer grounds), Kelburn Park (one Rugby, one Soccer), Kilbirnie Park (four Rugby, one Soccer), and Hataitai Park (two Rugby), to be the most suitable grounds on the list, but it was considered that equally suitable grounds might be obtained at Lower Hutt Recreation Ground (two Rugby, one Soccer and two hockey), Petone Recreation Ground and Maidstone Park, Upper Hutt.

Two football grounds are available for practice at Trentham.

Delegates considered that more grounds could be made available at the camp by obtaining use of the oval of the racecourse, where several hockey and Soccer grounds could be formed. It was further suggested that the use of grounds at Lower and Upper Hutt might be obtained.

The meeting did not favour the provision of trophies. It was suggested that gift sports material sent by the various unions should be handed over to the management committee for control and distribution.

It was decided to play the first matches on Wednesday, May 1. An

earlier start is not possible because Wednesday, April 17, coincides with vaccination at the camp, and April 24 is the camp athletic sports day.

To provide the necessary sports equipment such as boots, jerseys, shorts, and so on it was decided to appeal to patriotic societies, the New Zealand unions controlling Rugby, Soccer, and hockey, the Returned Soldiers' Association and the Warehousemen's Association. It was also decided to approach the Wrestling and Boxing Associations for equipment for their branches of sport.

Alternative suggestions regarding the provision of sports gear were discussed. One was that a large supply of jerseys and so on should be held permanently at the camp under the control of the management committee. The other was that a steady supply should be maintained so that troops could take materials overseas with them. From the camp point of view the first suggestion was favoured.

A challenge received from the Air Force Ground Training School, Levin for a Rugby match against a Trentham team was referred to the management committee to report to District Headquarters. It was suggested that this match might be arranged as a practice game for the team to visit Christchurch on April 27.

ARMY SPORT

TRENTHAM ACTIVITIES

One of the spectators at the Rugby practice match between the University and Athletic senior at Kelburn Park last Saturday afternoon was Eric Tindill, the New Zealand Rugby and cricket representative. Tindill has joined up with the forces and at present is a member of the Pay Corps at Trentham Camp with the honorary rank of captain.

Trentham Camp is not going to be behind hand in promoting sports activities this winter, and it is plain that full use will be made of the splendid talent available out there. At the present time, of course, things are only taking shape, but recently a sports committee was formed to arrange for winter games. Incidentally Lieutenant Thompson, well known as physical training instructor at Wellington College, is the secretary of the committee.

The intention is to have teams playing Rugby, Soccer, and hockey regularly on Wednesday afternoons.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

A Rugby selection committee has been appointed, and of this Tindill is a member. The other members are Lieut.-Colonel Wilder and Lieut.-Colonel Andrew, V.C. After trials have been held, a team is to be selected to represent Trentham Camp against a team from Burnham Camp at Christchurch on April 27.

In all probability Tindill will be playing in this match. At any rate, he certainly has not put away his football gear for good.

There are a number of other prominent players in camp at Trentham. They include Wesley, Rae, Hearn (from Canterbury), and Barton from Wanganui, and reports indicate that other prominent players will be going into camp there with the Third Echelon.

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