

Lower Hutt

Hospitality Committee

The committee has been operating since October last and many soldiers, who have come to Wellington, have availed themselves of the opportunity to meet their friends with residents of Lower Hutt. It has been felt that many soldiers, coming from other parts of New Zealand without friends in Wellington, would be glad of having a home to which they might go during week-ends. Residents of Lower Hutt extend a cordial invitation to such men to accept of hospitality in their homes on week-ends, afternoons and evenings. Please send your name not later than Thursday of each week to—
 Mr. A. J. DAYSH,
 Secretary, Y.M.C.A. Hut,
 or
 Captain Pearce (C.A.),
 Manager Church Army Hut,
 Trentham Mobilisation Camp.
 A troop train will be met each afternoon at the Lower Hutt Railway Station by Mr. A. S. Kemp. Miss N. OLPHERT
 Secretary.

THE BUCKLE STREET GUARDS ON THE STAGE.

On Monday, the 22nd of April last, the boys of the Buckle Street and the Company were featured in an excellent evening's entertainment, "N.Z. Youth On Parade."

which was presented at the Main Assembly Hall, Centennial Exhibition. Under the direction of Pte. L. M. Buick-Constable, the following boys gave a strictly impromptu but interesting sketch of barrack room life: L/ Cpl. Pat Smith, Ptes. "Scotty" Moncrieff, D. Russell, S. Chamberlain, D. Delaney, P. Cross, W. R. Smith, and R. I. Goldsmith.

Big Bill Smith's rich basso was commented upon most favourably, as was the general harmonising of the boys who were called upon several times during the evening to sing famous Digger songs.

The sketch was called "Buckle Street Blues" and featured a brand new song of the same name especially written for the occasion by Pte. Buick-Constable. It was crooned in appropriate blue tempo by the composer backed by the guards' very tuneful harmony, and judging by the enthusiastic reception accorded to it by the large audience, it seems destined to be quite a song hit—its melody is extremely bright and at any rate it is the only song written about the boys left behind—the boys on home defence.

CHAIRIED OFF FIELD

At the conclusion of the Poneke-Johnsonville match at Athletic Park, five players were chaired off the field by their team-mates. They were Crisp, Elliott and O'Brien (Poneke), and Dean and G. Burns (Johnsonville), who have joined the forces. As some of them will be stationed at Trentham, it is possible that their clubs may have their services for a few more matches. All five have had outstanding records for their clubs. For many seasons Crisp impressed as the best full-back in club matches. In these games his play was almost faultless, but he never seemed able to do himself justice in representative games.

YULE SMILE

"Good morning," said the tramp. "Has the doctor any old trousers he does not require?"

"No, I'm afraid they would not fit you," replied the lady of the house with a smile.

"I'm very handy with a needle," answered the tramp.

But the lady remained adamant. "What makes you so sure? Can't I see if they'll fit?" the tramp persisted.

"Well, if you must know," replied the lady, "I happen to be the doctor."

* * * *

The live-wire salesman walked into the factory and said to the manager: "I want to sell your men my course on 'How to put fire and sparkle into your work.'"

"Not much you don't," said the manager. "This is a shell-filling factory."

* * * *

THE COLONEL'S GOOD ONE!

"While watching the German lines one day," said the old colonel, "I saw a German guarding an ammunition dump. Picking up a rifle, I fired a quick shot, knocking the cigarette lighter he was holding out of his hand.

"I took careful aim and fired again—but I'm almost ashamed to tell you the rest of the story. I had to shoot five times before I spun the wheel of the lighter, lit it, and blew up the dump."

* * * *

Smithy, hard nut of the company, was stopped by an officer whom he had not saluted. "Why don't you show respect? I have hundreds of men under me, and they all salute me," said the officer.

"That's nothing," said Smithy. "Back home I had thousands under me, and they never saluted."

The officer (impressed): "What was your job?"

"Mowing the grass in the cemetery," replied Smith.

* * * *

Walking through the camp, the new militiaman passed a newly-fledged officer without saluting him. "Don't you know you must salute an officer?"

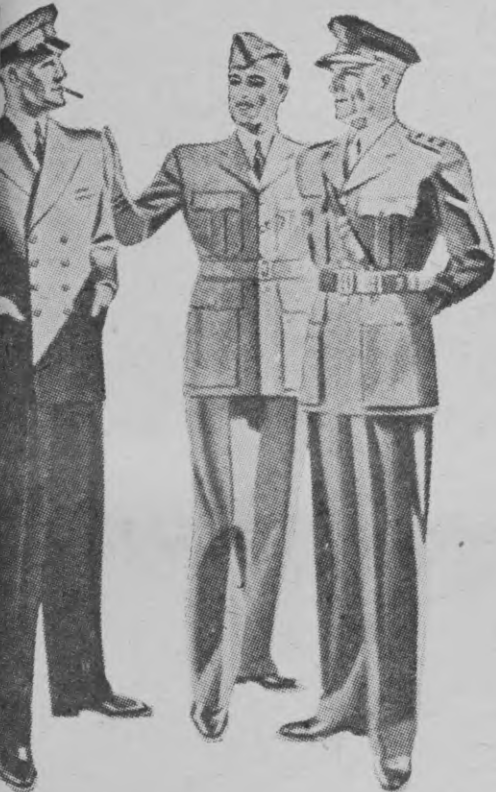
"Yes, sir," meekly replied the private.

"Right. So that you won't forget next time, you can start right away and salute me . . . a hundred times."

The private began. He had reached twenty when a senior officer butted in and inquired what was going on. The young officer blushing explained.

The senior officer smiled. "H'm. Very good. But all the time I've been in the Army I've always understood that an officer must return a salute. So we'll start all over again . . . and I'll see that it's done properly this time."

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