

## HEALTH OF TROOPS

### X-Ray Examinations

#### SMALL SICK LISTS

Experience gained in the last war and modern advances in medical science have played their parts in formulation of the modern scheme for care of the health of troops. Each man who proceeds overseas now has his blood type, for possible use for blood transfusion purposes, noted in his pay book. X-ray examination is being used as an additional precaution, and at present all ranks in the Central District Mobilisation Camp, Trentham, are undergoing an X-ray examination to determine the condition of their chests and to ascertain the possible existence of tuberculosis in its early stages.

The examinations are being carried out by the Medical Corps, and after being examined and interpreted by a radiologist and chest specialist at Wellington Hospital, each man's X-ray plate will be filed with his papers at Base Records, Wellington. The present plan of X-ray examination aims at dealing with 2000 men in six weeks.

The troops in training at Trentham have so far maintained an excellent health record and the daily average of sickness is below the Army's normal allowance of three men per 1000.

The camp hospital accommodation is excellent and the old buildings have been remodelled and renovated. There is accommodation for 48 cases. The hospital block contains, in addition to the wards, a modern kitchen, large refrigerator, a medical inspection room, camp sick inspection room, waiting room, medical board room, dispensary, boiler room, and he offices.

Separate bedrooms for eight nurses and a nurses' sitting-room and sun porch have been provided in portion of the old hospital block.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Kemp is senior medical officer for the camp and has his own office and quarters in the hospital.

### PUBLIC WORKS MEN FOR ARMY

#### Railway Company Strength Of 386

Officers and employees of the Public Works Department have been advised of the details of the New Zealand Railway Survey, Construction and Maintenance Company for service overseas which the military authorities have called on the department to organise.

According to a general circular signed by the engineer-in-chief and under-secretary, Mr. J. Wood, the general conditions of enlistment and service will be the same as for other units of the Special Force—age 21-35; physically fit for service in any part of the world; preference to single men, but where these are not available, married men with up to two children will be accepted. Applicants will be required to enter camp early in February and to proceed overseas after a short period of training.

Sixteen commissioned officers (including a medical officer) are required, and the approximate number of other

ranks, including non-commissioned officers, will be 371. The latter figure is made up of:—

Headquarters section: Sergeants, 2; corporals, 2; sappers, 12; medical officer's orderlies, 2; clerks, 3; draughtsmen (railway construction), 2; batmen, 2; cook, 1; drivers I.C., 3; motor-eyelists, 5. Total, 34.

Survey section: Company quarter master-sergeant, 1; sergeants, 4; corporals, 7; sappers, 52. Total, 64.

Railway construction company: Company sergeant-major, 1; company quartermaster-sergeant, 1; sergeants, 8; corporals, 20; sappers, 235; first reinforcements, 8. Total, 273.

The corporals and sappers of the railway construction company will include blacksmiths, bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, clerks, draughtsmen (railway construction), drivers (transportation plant), fitter-drivers, fitters, fitters (railway signal), masons, painters and decorators, platelayers, plumbers and gasfitters, riggers, riveters, storemen (technical and departmental railway), surveyors (railway), welders (acetylene and electric), engine hands, I.C. blacksmiths' strikers or hammermen, stokers (stationary engine), cooks, fitters' mates, motor-cyclists, drivers I.C., batmen.

Volunteers are to submit their applications to the officer-in-charge of the work on which they are employed. Officers-in-charge of works are forwarding applications to the district engineer immediately they are received. The Army Department is arranging for enrolment and medical examination of volunteers after the applications have been considered in Wellington.

## GERMAN SELF-SEALING TANKS

NO SECRET

The cabled statements relating to bullet-proof tanks being possessed by the Germans may come as news to those who know little of flying, but they are no surprise to airmen. The principle of the bullet-proof tank is that which was adopted to make a puncture-proof inner tube in a tyre. That is to say, the tank is surrounded with rubber under compression and when the bullet passes through the rubber the compression causes the hole to be closed up. The British Air Ministry has been working on the perfection of these tanks for some time, and while it might appear from the messages received here that the Germans have been somewhat ahead of

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## The Little Soldier

(Contributed)

Stepping forward, on we go,  
Springling lightly, marching so,  
Soldiers in our grand array,  
Colours flying all the way.

March, march, march, the trumpets play,  
March, march, march, so light and gay,  
Keeping steps, we march along,  
While we sing our cheerful song.

Hear the lively, rattling drum,  
Calling loudly, O, come!  
For the band is out to-day,  
And we will at soldiers play.  
Bang, bang, bang, we beat the drum,  
Calling loudly, Come, O come.  
Bang, bang, bang, list to the call,  
Come, boys, come, come one and all.

March, march, march, the trumpets play,  
March, march, march, so light and gay,  
Keeping steps, we march along,  
While we sing our cheerful song.

Now the battle has begun,  
And we won't like cowards run,  
Even though the bullets fly,  
We will stand and fight or die.  
Shoot, shoot, shoot, we now must fight,  
Fight the battle for the right,  
Even though the bullets fly,  
We will stand and fight or die.

See the little soldier now,  
Marks of death are on his brow,  
In the battle bravely fell,  
Now we sing his funeral knell.  
Drum, drum, drum, now all is o'er,  
Fight again, he'll nevermore,  
In the battle bravely fell,  
Now we sing his funeral knell.

Britain in developing this protection, it should be realised that they have not stolen a march on us in applying the device. In the British Air Force the rubber under compression is enclosed between two casings of the tank.

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