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Camp Entertainers

CONCERT at TRENTHAM

A very successful entertainment was held on Wednesday night at Trentham, the arrangement being made by the executive committee of the Official Camp Entertainers. Those responsible for the excellent programme were the members of the Wellington Operatic and Theatrical Society, under the direction of Miss Dorothy Casey. The theatre was packed and the large and enthusiastic audience encored each item. Mr. Lauri Gubb (drums) and Mrs. Garnett (piano) played the overture, and items quickly followed, those in the party being Mrs. Sims, Mrs. A. Haley, Misses Kathleen Hayes, Ngaire Blundell, Winnie Male, Pat Liardet, Olga Miller, S. Morrison, D. Casey, and Messrs. A. Haley, W. Jameson, M. Cachemaille, P. Keogh, I. Smith, C. Sims, S. Philpot, F. Andrews, L. Gubb, and W. Parnell. The show was exceptionally good and the ballet work was a special feature. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. A. Haley and Mr. C. Simm. The stage managed was Mr. C. Simm, assisted by Mr. Stan. Philpot.

At the conclusion of the performance, and after the lucky numbers were drawn, Major Mackasill, on behalf of the officers and men, thanked the executive committee of the Official Camp Entertainers for arranging the concert, and also congratulated Miss Dorothy Casey and the company on their excellent performance. Those in the party were the guests of Major Mackasill and his officers at supper and afterwards at a dance.

**MAORI BATTALION'S
RAPID PROGRESS**

**Inspection By Chief Of
General Staff**

**PHYSIQUE AND WORK OF
MEN PRAISED**

The belief that the 28th (Maori) Rifle Battalion, which he inspected in its camp at Palmerston North on the 19th inst., would live up to the high traditions of the First N.Z.E.F. and make history for the Maori people was expressed by the Chief of the General Staff, Major-General J. E. Duigan, in an interview.

"The progress the battalion has made is most satisfactory," he said. "It is hard to believe without actually seeing the men on parade the rapid strides that have been made. Their progress reflects credit on the commanding officer, company and platoon commanders and N.C.O.'s who were trained at Trentham for two months before taking over their units. Their marching and drill are of high standard. The physique of the men is excellent; their average height is 5ft. 9in. They are creditable representatives of the Maori race."

General Duigan spoke to the battalion on the need for discipline, which he said was the only thing that would hold men together in a tight corner. He told them they should go on working hard to make themselves as efficient as possible, so that they could be welded into an efficient fighting unit of the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force alongside the pakeha battalions.

Before inspecting the Maori Battalion at Palmerston North General Duigan visited Waiouru, where he inspected the Second Medium Battery,

N.Z.A. (Hamilton), the First Battalion Wellington Regiment (City of Wellington's Own), the First Battalion Wellington-West Coast Regiment, and the Second Composite Company, N.Z.A.S.C. "The physique of the men in the Second Medium Battery is remarkable," General Duigan said. "It is one of the finest territorial units New Zealand has ever produced. Officers, N.C.O.'s and men are outstanding both in physique and in their technical work."

On Monday the Fifth Field Regiment of Artillery and two batteries of the Seventh Anti-Tank Corps, all units of the Second N.Z.E.F., moved by road from Ngauruhia to Waiouru, where they will carry out live firing practice today and on Thursday.

General Duigan will again visit Waiouru while the N.Z.E.F. Artillery units are there and will also inspect the following territorial units which will be in camp at the same time: First Battalion North Auckland Regiment, First Composite Company, N.Z.A.S.C., First Field Ambulance, N.Z.M.C. (all from Northern Military District), Nineteenth Medium Battery, N.Z.A., and the Second Field Ambulance, N.Z.M.C. (Central District). He will leave Wellington today to visit Ngauruhia Camp.

**Enlargement of
Everyman's Hut**

Remarkable Demonstration

The great popularity of Everyman's Hut at Trentham Camp was remarkably demonstrated on Monday evening when a function was held to celebrate the enlargement of the institution to cope with its increasing popularity among the men. The members of the controlling committee and their wives and quite a number of private citizens were present. Mr. C. J. Drake, the Chairman of the Committee, presided. The Camp Commandant was represented by Captain Hadow, who was accompanied by Captain Ready and Captain Milash. Representatives of the other church hutments were present.

The evening was opened by the Camp Band playing the National Anthem, after which the chairman, in a short address, outlined the purposes for which the hut had been established. These, he said, were to give the men a home away from home, and in addition to give them the Gospel under suitable conditions. The committee had been delighted that it had been necessary to enlarge the institution, and hoped that the men would continue to take full advantage of the facilities provided for them. In concluding the chairman paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Gordon Blair, who is in charge of the Hut, and who had been so successful in his work among the men. The mention of Mr. Blair's name was greeted with rounds of applause.

Captain Ready, on behalf of the Camp Commandant, expressed appreciation to the committee for the work that was being done at Everyman's Hut, and stated that the military authorities recognised its value. Representatives of the other institutions in camp then added their tribute.

A touching episode was reached when one of the "Diggers" came forward and as a surprise packet presented to Mr. Blair the results of a spontaneous subscription taken up among the men which amounted to over £20.

After the formal proceedings had been concluded, the evening was given over to musical items of a sacred na-

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ture, several of these being most appreciatively by the Band.

Just before supper was served Drake gave the men a short talk and it was noticeable how they listened with the utmost attention.

Supper was served all round the happy evening ended in allow the men to return to their tents before "lights out."

LATE NEWS

**Wairarapa
Returned Soldiers
Visit Trentham**

A very happy and pleasant visit was spent at Trentham Camp by a party of Wairarapa Returned Soldiers of Wairarapa on Sunday last. In recognition of the assistance rendered by the Territorial Military Band to the Greytown centennial celebrations, the old soldiers felt the stir within them to visit their old haunts. The band met them at the gates and played them "Barrack Room Square." The returned soldiers took their mind back a century, "when we were young," and wished that they could come back again. Their cobbles of yesterday were greeted and escorted them to the sergeants' mess of the Brigade Units where refreshments were fittingly provided. Many old men (Continued on page 7)