

ACCOMMODATION FOR MEN OF FORCES

Expansion Planned

WELLINGTON PATRIOTIC COUNCIL

"Though Wellington at present lacks a hostel that perhaps can provide sleeping accommodation under one roof for as many men as can be accommodated in this way in Auckland and Christchurch, it is quite wrong to suggest that Wellington lags behind other centres in catering for the welfare of the men of our forces," said Mr Ward, M.L.C., honorary secretary of the Wellington Provincial Patriotic Council, yesterday afternoon. Mr Ward gave details of some of the work being done for the servicemen in Wellington, including from time to time visitors from overseas, and added that steps were being taken to provide additional facilities.

"It has been suggested," said Mr Ward, "that the inference may be drawn by some people from a recent article in a weekly publication that Wellington is doing very little for the men in the forces in comparison with what is being done in other cities. If that impression should have been created it should be removed at once. It is fairness to the many hundreds of patriotic workers in this city. The position in fact is that Wellington actually is doing at least as much for the men of the forces as any other place in the Dominion."

"In Wellington city alone," Mr Ward continued, "there are approximately 15 clubs and organizations catering for the men when they are on leave and also for visiting servicemen and merchant seamen. As an indication of what is being done, the A.N.A. Club in Willis Street served approximately 10,000 meals last month, the Combined Services Hostel 2000 meals and the Y.M.C.A. about 1000 meals, excluding Sunday teas. In addition the Y.W.C.A. provides meals and entertainment for another 500 men over the weekends. The Salvation Army also provides hundreds of meals each week at its hut at the railway station. There are decided advantages in having a number of clubs. For one thing it gives greater opportunity to those desirous of having a part in entertaining the servicemen; it also provides greater variety for the men themselves."

"As for sleeping accommodation, the Combined Services Hostel provides 130 to 150 beds at the weekends, the Y.M.C.A. 120 and arranges for 56 more, and Toe H up to 20. Moreover, the Salvation Army and a number of hotels and boarding-houses have special cheap rates for servicemen."

Besides the provision of meals and accommodation, another big service was represented by the arrangements made to provide the men with dancing and light refreshments.

Mr. Ward announced that steps were being taken to expand the hostel accommodation available in Wellington. It was realized, he said, specially in view of the calling up of more men for service, that additional sleeping accommodation was required, and negotiations were proceeding with a view to providing an additional 200 beds.

Mr. Ward also referred to the recent establishment of the American-New Zealand friendship group for the entertainment of any visiting American forces. "All visiting servicemen from overseas are taken care of by the patriotic organization, and that has been our policy from the beginning," said Mr. Ward. "In undertaking this special service among American visitors the new organization will be working in close co-operation with us."

Blondes for Hitler's Stud Farms

I ASSURE YOU.

By Bill Greig in London "Daily Mirror."

Neutrals arriving from Berlin bring amazing stories of the setting up of "human stud farms" to offset the terrible losses the Nazis are suffering in Russia.

This follows the reports from other sources of the drafting "for special duty" of thousands of girls who are told that they will not be allowed to communicate with relatives owing to the secret nature of their work.

It is now stated that all these girls are of the fair-haired and blue-eyed ("pure Nordic") type, and that they are to be the mothers of a special race.

The fathers of the children will be a limited number of S.S. men chosen for their mental and physical powers.

Many German soldiers now at the front have heard of this, and there is considerable unrest.

All the women chosen are between the ages of 20 and 35.

Girls Free for Huns

More than 300,000 Slovene men, women and children have now been transported from their homes in Yugoslavia in cattle trucks, without belongings, for forced labour in Germany, according to information which has just reached Dr. Miha Krey, head of the Slovenes in London.

The only young people left behind in Slovenia are girls and women be-

tween the ages of sixteen and twenty-four.

The German occupying forces have branded all these women on the back of the hand with the words: "Freies Militarmadchen"—"Girls Free for the Soldiers."

All churches and schools have now been closed, all food and cattle stolen without even paper receipts.

Typical of German attitude to the Church is the case of the parish priest of Slovenjgradec near the frontier, who was made to sweep the main street on Sunday morning and gather up the manure with his hands. He is sixty-eight years old.

Families have been split up and allowed to take only essential personal belongings on the long cattle-truck journey to the labour camps in Eastern Germany.

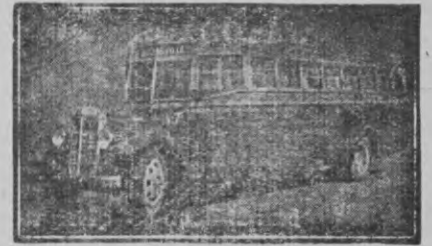
Except for a small area around Ljubljana held by the Italians, the Germans are in complete control of Slovenia. When Hitler was at Maribor he gave the army instructions to regard everything they found in Slovenia as their own.

R.N.Z.A.F. AT RUGBY

A Welsh Guards Rugby team beat the R.N.Z.A.F. by 9 points to 6. The New Zealanders' hard and accurate tackling checked the Guards time and again. The captain of the R.N.Z.A.F. team, E. Grant, was an outstanding player. The Guards gave the New Zealanders one of their hardest matches of the season.

TROOPS' GUARANTEE

The commanding officer of a New Zealand mobilization camp has advised the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, that the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of his camp guarantee 100 "Bonds for Bombers" as an opening gesture, with more to come.



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