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THE PASSWORD ]  
**'A Good Waitemata House'**

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TO-DAY'S GREATEST DRINK

**WAITEMATA**  
ALES and STOUT

## THE SERGEANT WHO MISSED THE BUS

A certain sergeant asked for leave,  
Then promptly donned his hat,  
And started out for Hamilton  
To try and find a flat.

At least that's what he told us,  
And we took him at his word,  
We know he got to Hamilton  
But 'twas there he got deferred.

Now whether or not he found the flat  
We've never yet defined;  
He said he'd be back at five o'clock,  
But must have changed his mind.

For he didn't return 'till early morn  
And his story sounded phoney;  
He told the lads he missed the bus  
And travelled on Shank's pony.

Now fifteen miles is a long way  
And perhaps I'm a doubting Gnome,  
But I'm inclined to think he found  
the flat  
And the young lady was still at home.

She probably asked him in for a while  
And gave him a spot of supper;  
For if he had walked the fifteen miles  
He'd a had nought to his boots but  
upper.

However, we have to believe him,  
And it makes no difference to us,  
Still he might have thought up a new  
one  
Instead of just missing the bus.  
—J.P., Ngaruawahia.

## HOLIDAYS FOR WIVES OF SOLDIERS

### Waikato Scheme

### ASSISTING ARMY MORALE

"If a soldier can feel that while he is away his wife and family are in some way protected, that man's morale will be tremendously helped," said Captain-Chaplain O. T. Baragwanath, when addressing a meeting convened by the Bryant House Trustees to further the scheme initiated by Mr. D. V. Bryant, Hamilton, to give the wives and children of men in the armed forces a free holiday. The mayor of Hamilton, Mr. H. D. Caro, presided, and asked for the whole-hearted co-operation of women's organizations and the Returned Services' Association in selecting suitable families who would benefit by the scheme.

Captain Baragwanath said a worried man could not be a good soldier. There was a surprising number of young married men in the forces, and if a chaplain could write to a responsible organization and receive assurances that the men's families were being cared for the effect on the morale of the unit would be of incalculable benefit.

Explaining the scheme Mr. Bryant said the trustees had set aside £3000 a year to be spent in taking the wives and children from their homes and giving them a holiday by the sea. They would be the guests of the trustees till they returned. A start had been made at Raglan, where 18 householders had offered accommodation. They had agreed to accept £2/2/- a week for adults and 30/- for children. There would not be much profit in this, but the Raglan people had accepted the terms as a patriotic gesture. Fares both days would be paid. Mr. Bryant said it had been estimated that the money allotted would provide holidays for a continuous stream of 30 people at a time.

**Some Distressing Cases.**  
The trustees were not confining the scheme to Raglan and homes at other seaside resorts and in the country would be considered. Mr. Bryant said many distressing cases had come under his notice.

The appeal board, of which he was a member, heard an appeal from a young woman with three children who wanted her husband released from camp. She had to undergo an operation and did not know what to do. The husband was a key man in the Army and could not be released. An

## CONDUCTED INDOORS

### Air Force Relations' Fete Opened By Lady Newall

Though rain prevented the holding of the Air Force Relations garden party on Saturday afternoon in Wellington, an indoor fete, held in St. Andrew's Church hall, was most successful from all viewpoints. Generously supported by a large number of buyers, the stalls did excellent business and as a result the comforts for airmen fund will be largely helped. Her Excellency Lady Newall officially opened the fete, which, had the weather been fine, was to have been held in the grounds of Mrs. W. E. Herbert's home. Mrs. R. V. Goddard thanked all the workers who did so much to ensure that stalls would be well laden. Air Commodore Goddard was present, also Mrs. P. Fraser, and Mrs. A. de T. Nevill. Miss Nora Walton accompanied Lady Newall. The R.N.Z.A.F. orchestra played throughout the afternoon. Produce from the country, home-made cakes and an abundance of Christmas novelties were among the goods for sale.

Mrs. Goddard had faithfully and successfully carried on the work of Air Force Relations, so ably started by her predecessor, Mrs. H. W. L. Saunders, Lady Newall said. In assembling that afternoon, all were co-operating with her and her committee to continue this essential and much appreciated war service. Already more than 20,000 airmen had been equipped with woollen helmets, pullovers, scarves and gloves. The quota for gloves was 500 pairs a month and more than 90,000 garments had already been made and distributed.

Lady Newall suggested that more workers would be welcomed at the Wellington headquarters of Air Force Relations, Aitken Street. There were now 52 branches of this organization in the Dominion, where many voluntary workers met each week to sew and knit for gallant airmen. Moreover, each member of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force was supplied with half a pound of wool which she could knit herself into pullovers and gloves. Where necessary, W.A.A.F.'s doing night duty were given their fair share of comforts, too.

Her Excellency congratulated the organizers of the attractive stalls as well as all who worked so faithfully in Air Force Relations.

## DEATH PRESUMED

### Major-General Mead

Posted in a casualty list published yesterday as presumed dead, Major-General O. H. Mead, C.B.E., D.S.O., commander of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the Pacific, was reported missing in July last as a result of an aircraft flight over a sea route. An Army lieutenant and four Royal New Zealand Air Force personnel were also reported missing on the same flight.

Born in Blenheim in 1892, Major-General Mead was educated at Marlborough College. He served in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the last war and rose from the rank of lieutenant to major in March, 1917, and later to that of lieutenant-colonel. Till his return to New Zealand in November, 1919, he held command of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, Canterbury Regiment. He was wounded twice, mentioned in dispatches twice and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

Following his appointment as captain in the New Zealand Staff Corps in 1919, Major-General Mead for two years was at the Staff College at Camberley and was later attached to the War Office in London in 1929. He subsequently held the position of Adjutant and Quartermaster-General of the New Zealand Military Forces and was second member of the Army Board. In November, 1937, he was appointed officer commanding the Northern Military District, and in 1939 he became Adjutant-General at Army Headquarters. He later went to Christchurch to command the Southern Military District with the rank of brigadier, and was also appointed to command the Southern Division. Major-General Mead was appointed to command the land forces in Fiji last February. He relinquished the appointment of officer commanding the Southern Military District and succeeded Major-General W. H. Cunningham.

organization such as he suggested could care for the children while the mother was in hospital.

Mr. Bryant said he was anxious that similar organizations should be set up throughout New Zealand. There were many wealthy men with large homes who could offer hospitality to women and children whose breadwinners were away fighting.

Mr. F. Findlay, chairman of the Waikato Hospital Board, said the Government should support the scheme and assist in its development throughout New Zealand.

Dr. H. L. Gould, superintendent of the Waikato Hospital, and others, supported the scheme, and offered their assistance.

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