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SMILES

THAT'LL LARN IT!

The militiaman was doing his first sentry-go in the country. And when a pheasant got up, and nobody seemed near, he took a nice aim and dropped the bird.

The Colonel appeared round a field corner.

Gazing at the dead pheasant, with a triumphant air of unconsciousness that anybody was near, he said: "Try to peck me, would yer?"

* * * *

Fed-up, the evacuees were on their way to Sunday School—and they could think of many more jolly things to do.

"I'll tell you what, Bill," said one. "Let's toss up and let that decide. If it comes down heads we go fishing. If it comes down tails we'll play football . . . and if it comes down on its edge we'll go to Sunday School."

* * * *

"Ah, Elsie, it's fine to be married to an officer—such a beautiful uniform, and so many decorations!"

"Yes, and besides that, he'll have a band at his funeral."

STAFF ANNOUNCED.

TRAINING REGIMENT.

Appointment to the staff of the Artillery Training Regiment at Papakura camp which is to take over the training of artillery units for reinforcements were announced at headquarters of the Northern Military District recently. The principal appointments are:—

Training Regiment. — Regimental commander and chief instructor, Major W. Pollard; adjutant and quartermaster, Captain C. W. Cobby; assistant instructor, Lieutenant J. F. Callagher; regimental sergeant-major, Sergeant-Major J. A. McGavin; regimental quarter-master sergeant, Sergeant-Major F. Fieldsend; non-commissioned officer instructor, Sergeant-Major K. A. Kinzett.

Depot Battery.—Battery commander, Captain F. C. Rawle; instructors, Lieutenant and Quartermaster J. P. O'Connor, Lieutenant C. P. Harper; battery sergeant-major, Sergeant-Major A. P. Tierney.

TROOPS ONLY.

Trains on Sunday.

COAL ECONOMY MOVE.

The cessation of local Sunday train services, except for the transport of troops from Papakura Military Camp to the city and the Waikato and back, is announced by the Railway Department, as an economy measure to conserve coal supplies. Apart from troop trains, only Main Trunk expresses will be run on Sunday, when the new move takes effect.

ARMY OFFICER'S COMMENT.

Major W. W. Dove, Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General at Northern Military District headquarters, when asked by an "Auckland Star" representative to comment on how the cessation of Sunday suburban trains would affect troops, said:—

"We told the Railway Department that there will be 3000 men in Papakura camp, and 1500 will be on leave each week-end, and that we must have a troop train from Papakura to Auckland and one from Papakura to Hamilton each Saturday and similar trains from each of these centres back to the camp on Sunday night."

On the subject of trains to carry the public to and from Papakura camp he had no comment to make.

CHAPLAINS IN CAMP.

The Rev. F. Gardner Brown, of the Dominion Road Methodist Church, has been selected to represent the Methodist Church as chaplain to the forces, third class (major) at Trentham camp. During his absence his pulpit will be supplied by the Rev. H. E. Harkness.

The Rev. J. W. McKenzie, Presbyterian minister at Epsom, has also been appointed a chaplain, third class, Trentham camp.

TRAINING OFFICERS

Narrow Neck School Of Instruction

PRELUDE TO TRENTHAM

Now occupying the pleasantly-situated quarters and parade grounds of Narrow Neck district military school are more than 80 soldiers of the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force who hope shortly to qualify as second-lieutenants. They are being trained on the very sound principle that no officer should give a man an order unless he knows exactly what it entails, and that all officers should be able to do every thing they instruct their men to do.

This is the first advanced training course for the Expeditionary Force held in the northern district. In the past all prospective officers have been sent direct to Trentham, which will be the destination also for the Narrow Neck group before their readiness for promotion is determined. Meantime, they are proceeding with the Trentham syllabus, which they will follow when they go south.

Some of the men doing the course are artillery subalterns who previously had experience only of garrison work; they are now receiving the field training given members of the Expeditionary Force. For the most part, however, the men have been taken from the ranks of previous echelons and given the opportunity of qualifying for first appointment to commissions.

The selections have been made only after those responsible have been satisfied that the men are suitable types and that they have performed their allotted tasks in the ranks with the utmost efficiency. Showing how exacting the Army is in making sure of a man's qualifications is the fact that all territorial subalterns have to pass the advance training course before being confirmed in their appointments for the Expeditionary Force.

All the men at Narrow Neck are of a uniformly high stamp and were described yesterday by their staff non-commissioned instructors as being "a very good bunch of boys." So keen that a repetition of the same task does

not become monotonous, but is used to discover and correct mistakes, of very good physical type, and show their alertness in every movement they have already made rapid progress along the toilsome road that leads to a commission in the Expeditionary Force.

SIGNAL COMPANY

NO LONGER RESTRICTED TO P. AND T. MEN.

The Central District Company of the New Zealand Corps of Signals just completed its training year, and a report issued by the No. 5 Military Area Headquarters. Next month the 1940-41 year will be begun with a period of intensive training, intended to increase the efficiency of the unit.

There will be four parades a month for the next few months, of which two will be exclusively devoted to training prospective N.C.S. men.

In future the ranks of the Signal Company will no longer be composed solely of employees of the Post and Telegraph Department. This restriction has in the past debarred many keen men from training in the most interesting phases of the unit's work.

The company, which is now commanded by Lieutenant G. H. J. Underwood, of the Reserve of Officers, has had wartime experience with the Royal Corp of Signals, is back to normal strength. After the war started, its ranks were for some time depleted by numerous enlistments for service overseas with the first echelon. Among those who enlisted were commanding officer, Captain (now Major) G. T. Agar, and the administrative officer, Captain L. Marshall. Vacancies caused by these enlistments have since been filled, however.



Third Echelon Goes Into Camp: Wellington area men drafted to Papakura Camp marching through the streets on the way for the Railway Station to entrain for the North.