

171 NEW OFFICERS

Ceremonial Parade On Passing Out

HIGH TRADITIONS TO BE MAINTAINED

Responsibility Stressed

The passing out ceremonial parade at Trentham racecourse yesterday of 171 officer cadets who have just received first appointments to commissioned rank was considered as smart a military display as has been seen at Trentham since the war began. In addition to the officer cadets, more than 30 officers took part who have also just been through a 10 weeks' intensive course at the Army School of Instruction. It was a perfect day for the ceremony, which was witnessed from the main stand by a large number of relatives and friends of the new officers, including many who had come from other districts, as well as soldiers from the camp.

The drill movements were smart and finished. The marching was specially good, with the clear-swinging of the arms, an even movement by all taking part. Another feature was the turning on the march, with complete absence of any swing-out on the turn. The Trentham camp band played for the march and inspection, the parade being drawn up in the centre of the course. The sunshine glinting on the bayonets as they flashed upward to the present arms position in the general salute made a spectacular effect. The parade was under Captain G. McCullough, N.Z.P.S., who is recognized as New Zealand's foremost instructor, and who has had a long association in the training of officers and other ranks at Trentham.

The Adjutant-General of the New Zealand Forces, Colonel A. E. Conway, O.B.E., N.Z.S.C., in the absence from Wellington of the Inspector-General, Major-General Sir Andrew Russell, was the inspecting officer. He was accompanied by Major J. R. Sherston, D.S.O., M.C., G.S.O., 1 Army Headquarters. They were met on arrival by the Commandant of the Army School, Lieut. Colonel A. L. Sugden, N.Z.S.C.

Addressing those who paraded, Colonel Conway said that such a parade could not be produced without hard work by the staff and the full co-operation of those being instructed. The percentage of passes had been high. This showed that the selections to train for commissioned rank had been good, the initial training in the mobilization camp sound and that the Army school had moulded the material in the way required.

A Fighting Class.

Each batch of cadets which passed through the school was different. Colonel Conway continued, and he had formed the opinion that those he had seen on parade were a really good cross-section of New Zealand manhood. "One of the instructors told me you are different from previous classes—that you are a fighting class," he continued. "I hope he is right, for that is what we want. You have concluded 10 weeks of solid training here, but I want to impress upon you that your military education has just commenced. Do not get the idea that you are now the finished article; you are far from it. When you go back to your units you will find that you have a great deal of hard work in front of you. At Army Headquarters we have had excellent reports about the first echelon officers who passed through this school. I want you to merit the same commendation. We are responsible for supplying the best men available to the forces overseas. You have to uphold the banner of the forces of this country, and nothing but your best efforts will suffice. We want you to be worthy of the confidence we place in you today."

First Reinforcement Officers.

"You are the first officers who will go away as reinforcement officers. All up to the present have been posted to units. You are a general pool, and the best of the pool will be selected when the necessity arises for officers to go forward to units. The Second N.Z.E.F. has the traditions of the First N.Z.E.F. to maintain; it is for you to live up to them. We consider the New Zealand soldier at least equal to, if not better than, any other soldier in the British Army. That being so the officers must set a high standard. I want you to count yourselves lucky to be leading New Zealand soldiers."

Their responsibilities would be great, continued Colonel Conway. They would have in their hands the lives of the men under them, not only when they reached the battlefield, but as soon as they started to train them in a week's time. Bad handling then could have far-reaching results. They should get to know their men; take the greatest interest in them. Anything they could do for them would be repaid a hundredfold. If the men had confidence in them they would go anywhere or do anything for them. "If they have not that confidence then when you get in a tight corner God help you," concluded Colonel Conway.

The full list of cadets who passed out is as follows:—

Group No. 1: R. C. Allen, W. F. Ashley, W. S. Banks, T. M. Battersby, A. W. Boyce, F. J. Bradley, D. G. Brash, W. D. Bremner, C. D. Bryant, K. A. Bryant, C. K. Buckingham, A. B. Bullen, R. G. Bush, N. M. Conder, A. E. Christian, H. G. Cutler, E. B. Dalmer, J. B. Dow, H. C. Gayford, H. D. Gilfillan, I. Graham, T. A. Hawke, E. L. Hendry, R. E. Horrocks, C. N. James, D. C. Ker, H. M. Kirk, L. J. Kirk, T. M. Logie, B. J. Louden, D. J. Miller, T. V. Mitchell, J. W. McCowan, N. McDonald, S. H. Naismith, R. A. Nicol, G. G. Olsen, R. L. Pratt, E. Proctor, A. C. Pryde, B. C. D. Rawson, W. S. Ross, R. C. Seavill, R. A. Shaw, A. Stark, A. G. Steele, W. E. Street, W. A. Scott, R. N. Thomas, A. J. Trubshaw.

Group No. 2: N. O'D. Alexander, L. B. Allan, J. B. Andrews, C. M. Arnold, J. R. Baird, R. H. Barlow, A. W. Bar-

nett, G. S. Brash, H. N. Burns, J. H. Cameron, L. I. Carlyle, C. R. Carson, D. Chambers, F. D. Christensen, D. G. Coldwell, N. M. Cotchings, H. J. De mouth, L. G. Dickey, J. H. W. Dymock, T. J. Ferris, J. Finlay, H. L. Francis, A. J. Fraser, G. B. Gibbons, G. P. R. Gifford, H. R. Gilbert, H. F. Hamilton, D. P. W. Harvey, R. K. Harvey, P. F. Hawkins, T. R. M. Hobbs, R. A. Howarth, F. A. Jarrett, G. T. Kain, C. R. Kemp, D. C. Latham, G. P. Lattimer, B. Loddell, D. J. Maxwell, T. R. Murphy, J. W. McArthur, C. W. McMillan, W. F. K. McMillan, A. W. F. O'Reilly, T. G. Ralfe, A. C. Rendall, J. S. Riddiford, A. Ross, C. K. Saxton, J. G. Seton, S. Talbot, W. A. Talbot, D. G. Thomson, J. E. W. Toomath, R. Wardell, K. S. M. Waterhouse, J. L. Webster, D. U. Wellington, J. E. A. Wheeler, J. M. Wiseley, A. E. Wilkinson, J. R. Williams, P. R. Willock, I. M. Wilson, D. L. Wood.

Group No. 3: W. A. S. Armour, P. Barcham, K. H. Barron, D. B. Beard, J. A. L. Bradley, C. J. Brownie, G. R. Chance, A. A. Coles, A. G. Coughlan, D. E. Cootts, T. L. Cooper, G. J. D'Auvergne, D. G. Day, G. F. L. Dillon, J. H. Eccleton, S. V. Fernandez, A. G. Gray, G. D. D. Gray, G. K. Grocott, D. L. Holt, E. Y. M. Hutchison, O. S. James, A. J. Jamieson, R. A. Johnson, I. M. Logan, A. F. Martin, M. N. Moore, I. Morgan, G. B. Morpetn, W. D. Murie, C. G. Murray, L. E. McAneny, K. M. W. McDonald, F. G. McKechnie, R. D. McKechnie, A. S. McMillan, E. M. Oswald, K. W. Paterson, W. L. Phelps, N. C. Pileher, L. R. L. Redshaw, E. L. Reeves, M. M. Robertson, A. S. Robinson, I. G. Scott, J. R. Shirley, R. Q. Short, H. D. Slyfield, D. A. Smith, R. M. Smith, T. K. S. Sidey, J. M. Stafford, M. P. Tulloch, H. G. Vivian, S. Wolfenden, P. K. Wilson.

AIR PROMOTION

New Group Captain

The promotion of Wing Commander J. L. Findlay, M.C., to the temporary rank of group captain in the general duties branch of the Royal New Zealand Air Force is contained in the current Gazette. Group Captain Findlay is one of New Zealand's best-known Air Force officers, and for some years was in command at Wigram, near Christchurch.

In the last war, Group Captain Findlay served with the East Surrey Regiment as lieutenant and then captain, and was wounded at Loos and the Somme. He transferred to the Royal Flying Corps in 1917, and was later awarded a permanent commission in the Royal Air Force. However, in 1921 he resigned his commission and returned to New Zealand, where he joined the Royal New Zealand Air Force on its establishment in 1923.

N.Z.E.F. in Palestine holds race meetings with donkeys to serve as mounts. At home, the donkeys merely serve as punters.

Nazis declare propaganda is just as essential as oil for winning the war. But, then, that's crude oil.

OFFICER CADETS

New Zealanders Training For Commissions

(From the Official War Correspondent attached to the New Zealand Forces in Britain.)

BRITAIN, November 11.

All 38 New Zealand non-commissioned officers approved some two months ago for training for commissions have now been posted to officer cadet training units, every infantryman going to the Brigade of Guards Company.

The selection of an additional 26 candidates, the first of whom have already begun cadet training, is now announced as follows:—Artillery: Lance-Sergeant J. F. Christian, Gunner L. A. Hugban, Bombardier G. S. Woodward, Lance-Sergeant R. L. Taylor, Sergeant C. W. B. Fountain (all Seventh Anti-tank Regiment Battery); Sergeant-Major N. B. Mitchell, Sergeant C. E. Evans, Sergeant H. E. J. Reaney (all Fifth Field Regiment); Divisional Cavalry: Sergeant W. C. Sutherland, Infantry: Sergeants G. S. Rogers and A. B. Cotterill (both Auckland Battalion), Warrant Officer H. J. Allen, Sergeant K. R. Hutcheson, Staff-Sergeant F. H. Greer, Corporal B. Skean, Warrant Officer H. S. Catchpole (all Wellington Battalion), Staff-Sergeant W. J. Perry, Temporary Warrant Officer H. A. J. Boag, Warrant Officer H. A. E. M. Lawrence, Warrant Officer H. A. N. Buckley, Corporal J. F. M. Moffatt (all South Island Battalion), Warrant Officer I. A. C. Wood, Sergeant H. M. Mitchell, Temporary Company Sergeant-Major E. C. Pohie (all Maori Battalion), Warrant Officer H. J. A. P. Worthington, Warrant Officer H. S. H. Betts (both Reinforcement Battalion).

Private Geoffrey Cox, a Rhodes Scholar and English war correspondent, who enlisted in England and served briefly with the South Island Battalion, is also in training for a commission. Former Warrant Officer H. L. H. Stroud, Ordnance Headquarters, is now 2nd Lieutenant and has earned the distinction of being the first and so far only soldier in the Second Echelon to be commissioned direct without a special course of training.

300 MEN AT SPINSTERS' CLUB

More than 300 men of the Army, Navy and Air Force attended yesterday's weekly gathering arranged by the Spinsters' Club in Wellington. The gathering was held for the first time in the club's recently-acquired premises in Manners Street, many favourable comments being passed by men guests and girl visitors on the roominess and convenience of the new place. During the afternoon one of the men from Trentham on behalf of all the "boys," expressed thanks to girls of the club for what they were doing. Three cheers were given, followed by musical honours. As usual, a savoury tea was served and later community singing was held.

Today's Great Drink

WAITEMATA

"That's the stuff to give the troops!"