

Foreword

THE value of "Serial Waves," the topical and broadcast news sheet published daily on board, was very great. The production of this magazine bearing the same name now allows me to place on record my appreciation of that news sheet, and, moreover, provides us all with a permanent record of our activities on board which were so punctually and ably recorded at the time.

It has long been recognized that it is a soldier's privilege to "grouse." "Serial Waves" has thrived on "grouses" and has converted many of them to laughs. In this respect it is reminiscent of the action of a well-known N. Z. Regular Officer who once "lost" a sideboard on charge to him. He converted (by voucher) the board, side, to a board, bread, and wrote the latter off charge as "cut to pieces, fair wear and tear."

To anyone without a sense of humour, soldiering must indeed be a trying business. "Serial Waves" has developed that sense of humour in us all and has made better soldiers of us in the process. On more than one occasion it has made one laugh at incidents concerning which one had felt quite angry only a few hours previously.

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without thanking Captain J. W. Thomas, whose officers, and all his ship's company, for the magnificent manner in which they have willingly and cheerfully assisted us in every phase of our activities on board, irrespective of any trouble or inconvenience to themselves. This was the predominant factor in making the voyage such a pleasant and successful one.

Again I would like to place on record my appreciation of the efforts of the Editor and his staff, whose hard work, done largely in their own time, has produced results which have lightened the duties of our working hours and increased the pleasure of our leisure ones.

"Serial Waves" has given many of us our first taste of the brighter side of soldiering and we like it. I have not the slightest doubt that it will be appreciated by all who were on board and I am sanguine enough to believe that it will not be without interest to those in New Zealand who are interested in us.