



The .. New Zealand Frontiersman

Official Organ of The Legion of Frontiersmen (N.Z. Division)

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Welcome to H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester.



The Royal car being driven through the ranks of cheering children during a double circuit of the grounds. With His Royal Highness in the car is Captain W. Palmer, O.C. "A" Squadron.

On the 24th. December, the day of arrival of His Royal Highness, "A" Squadron assembled at Squadron Headquarters at 8.45 a.m. The roll was called and disclosed a parade strength of 50 all ranks—considering that the total strength of the Squadron plain clothes members attending this time was 82, and that it was a working day to wit, Xmas Eve, it is considered that this was an extraordinary good muster. At 9.30 a.m. the Squadron had been numbered, told off and inspected and were marched off, headed by the St. Andrew's Pipe Band bound for the Town Hall, where on arrival they lined the immediate approaches by request of Northern Command Headquarters of the Defence Department. The Civic Reception finished at about 10.50 a.m. and the Squadron marched to

a position in rear of the Town Hall, where transport provided by Troopers Webberley and Walker was waiting to take them to the Cenotaph. On arrival at a position within very easy marching distance of the Cenotaph, the Squadron rested for about half an hour, during which time they were each regaled with a glass of Timaru which had been thoughtfully provided by the Q.M.S. The Troops then fell in and marched to the Cenotaph and took up the positions required of them viz. that of lining both sides of the steps to and leading into the Museum. H.R.H. arrived at 12 noon and after having placed the wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph passed into the War Memorial Museum. On his return General Sir George Richardson who was in charge of the Ex-Service Men's Rally pre-

sented Captain Palmer to H.R.H. This completed a very busy morning for the Squadron, who were dismissed at about 12.30 p.m. The smart appearance, and march discipline of the Squadron on the day evoked much favourable comment from the public.

The following letter has been received from His Worship the Mayor of Auckland:—

Dear Captain Palmer, I desire to convey to you and Lieut. Taylor and the members of your Company my sincere appreciation of their capable organisation and control of the children's rally at the Domain yesterday. The success of the function was mainly due to the valuable assistance rendered by the Legion. With all good wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed) GEO. W. HUTCHISON, Mayor.

LOYAL ADDRESS.

The New Zealand Command presented the following address from all units in the Dominion:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, K.C., P.C. K.T. G.C.V.O.

PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS.

The New Zealand Command of the Legion of Frontiersmen respectfully asks Your Royal Highness to convey to His Majesty the King its assurance that it shares with all the branches of the Legion throughout His Majesty's Empire a deep and sincere Loyalty to His Majesty's Throne.

The Legionaries in New Zealand are glad of the opportunity given them by Your Royal Highness's presence in New Zealand to express the hope that for many more years of gracious sovereignty His Majesty may continue to dwell in the affectionate regard of his people. To the members of his Imperial family we respectfully ask you to tender our best wishes and are honoured to join in the welcome which all New Zealanders are proud to extend to yourself.

We trust that the memory of your visit to New Zealand will always remain with your Royal Highness as one of interest and pleasure, with the knowledge that the Loyalty to the Empire of its Southern Dominions has been strengthened thereby.

(Signed)

H.Q. Staff and Squadron Commanders.

The Duke presented the following reply:—

Major Findlater,

The New Zealand Command of the Legion of Frontiersmen:

I shall be pleased to convey to the King, my father, the message of loyalty which you have entrusted to me on behalf of the Legion of Frontiersmen in New Zealand. His Majesty fully appreciates the loyalty of the legion to himself and the value of the service which it has rendered for many years to the Empire. I thank you for the welcome and good wishes which you have extended to me and assure you that I have greatly enjoyed my tour of New Zealand, which I regret ends today. I sincerely hope that all your legionaries and their families will meet with every happiness in this country, which they have served so well.

HENRY.

HERE AND THERE.

No. 1 Troop "G" Squadron's annual meeting was well attended by an enthusiastic crowd of members and could be well voted as one of the best meetings held. Our popular Troop Leader Lt. Perry was re-elected without opposition, Sgt. Minnell was re-elected Secretary and Trooper Ruthborn, Treasurer; Trooper Mathews and Harrison were elected Corporals in charge of sections, and it is hoped that very strong competition will be seen in drill, shooting, first-aid, signalling, etc., as three medals have been donated for this work. It was good to see our old friend Trooper Percival present, he having travelled in 28 miles especially to attend the meeting. That is the spirit that will make the Legion a success.

The Dunedin conference was not forgotten and "G" Squadron hopes to be well represented there! Reference was also made to the death of our sole lady Life Member, wife of the late Dick Coffy, who did so much for the Legion in Wanganui in the early days of its existence. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect. Captain Robinson reported that six of "G" Squadron attended the funeral in uniform and acted as Pall Bearers.

"I" SQUADRON REPORT.

There was a large attendance when members of "I" Squadron foregathered for a social evening, the main purpose of which was to present the Otaki Health Camp Committee with a cheque for £10, which the chairman described as an earnest of better things to come.

In presenting the cheque to Dr. H. B. Gibbs, chairman of the Otaki Health Camp Committee, Legion Captain H. G. Burton said that the Legion of Frontiersmen had a record of which any body might be proud. Founded thirty years ago in London, the organisation was now world-wide; its beginnings had been difficult, but it had done good service before 1914. The Legion still stood for service to the community and to the Empire, and, as the future of the Empire depended upon the children of to-day, and nothing hindered the progress of a nation so such as sickness, he thought that no institution in the country was more deserving of help than that to which the Legion was devoting its attention.

On behalf of the committee of the Otaki Health Camp, Dr. Gibbs thanked heartily the members of the Legion for their gift, as material evidence of the good will they bore towards the work the committee was carrying out. There was no better way of helping the nation in peacetime than to help the children back to health. "Before I took up this position," continued Dr. Gibbs, "I did not realise then how large was the number of children suffering from malnutrition. The need was great indeed."

Dr. Gibbs then gave a lecture illustrated by a film showing the work in progress at the camp, and also one on the kindergarten in Taranaki Street.

Mr. R. Brown gave a piano solo, and Mr. A. Elston and Lance-Corporal Bennett sang. Mr. Campbell sang "On the Road to Mandalay" and "There's No Discharge from the Army," and Mr. H. F. Wood, who was repeatedly recalled, sang "Good-bye," "Funiculi, Funicula," "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes," and "Charmaine." The evening concluded with the toast "Absent Comrades."

THE TIMARU TROOP.

The Timaru Troop is slowly but steadily growing. We are endeavouring to make sure of our men and hope to elect only those desirable. Several members paid a visit to "D" Company Machine Gun Camp, at Bluecliffs and