

N.Z. Y.M.C.A. ABROAD.

Headquarters, 15, Gower-st. (opp. Shakespeare Hut). Tel., Museum 746.
 Supervising Secretary: George W. W. B. Hughes (Dunedin).
Shakespeare Hut, Gower-street, behind the British Museum. Accommodation for 400 men. Lounge, billiards, hot baths, correspondence rooms, concert hall (piano and pipe organ). Orchestra daily. Canteen open day and night.
Clubs for N.Z. Soldiers.
France.—At the front and at base camp, etc.
England.—Slings, Codford, Brockenhurst, Walton-on-Thames, Torquay, Brocton, Ewsfott, Boscombe, Hornchurch.
Egypt.—At the front, base camp, Ezbekieh Gardens, Cairo.
 To See London.
 Parties leave Y.M.C.A. huts every morning about 9.30. Conducted drives also arranged. Inquire at huts.
 A word to soldier visitors: Never go wrong for want of asking. Anyone in uniform will direct you.

TE WHARE PUNI CLUB, HORNCHURCH.
 Founded by the Williams Family.
 Manageress—Mrs. Crofts.

ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 Mr. William Ward, a well-known stockman, was gored to death by a bull in the railway yard at Wellington.
 James White of Whakamara, was seriously injured by a motor-lorry running over his legs.
 Percy Parker, aged 21, while motor cycling in Carterton, collided with a train at Kent-street crossing and died of injuries.
 A tramway labourer named John Patten, aged 55, living in Great North-road, Grey Lynn, was knocked down by a motor-car and killed.
 A married man named Houghton, of Agnew-street, South Dunedin, while fishing near Cape Saunders lighthouse, was washed off a rock and drowned.
 Garnet H. Tregonning, a Lee Stream sheep farmer, was found lying dead with a gunshot wound in his head caused, the jury believed, by an accidental discharge.
 A returned soldier named Gordon Randall was using a rifle as a walking-stick at Ahu Ahu when it was accidentally discharged. The bullet, entering his face below the jaw, severely wounded him.

FIRES.

AN AEROPLANE BURNED.
 (The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 By an accidental fire at the Flying School of the Canterbury Aviation Company, at Sockburn, one of the machines was destroyed.
 A fire in the benzine store at Beach-road, Auckland, resulted in the destruction of between 7,000 and 8,000 cases of spirit. It was burning for some days.
 A two-storey sixteen-roomed dwelling, at Blenheim, owned by Mr. Norman Dodson, and occupied by Mr. Frank Dodson, was destroyed by fire. Insurances, £700.
 Damage estimated at £500 was done by a fire in the workshop of the Crescent Manufacturing Company, Wiltshire-buildings, Ch.ch. Miss Culliford's studio on the floor above was slightly damaged.

EQUAL JUSTICE.

RETURNED SOLDIERS IN COURT.
SHOULD JURIES DISCRIMINATE?
 The attitude of the law towards soldiers came up in an interesting manner in the Supreme Court at Ch.ch. before Mr. Justice Herdman, when a young man who had served at the front was charged with breaking and entering and theft.
 Mr. W. J. Hunter, for the accused, suggested that the law would have to deal gently with men who had passed through terrible scenes of blood and agony and devilish cruelty on the battlefields of France. They must have consideration for the severe shocks they had gone through and the consequent weakness of their physical and mental faculties.
 Mr. S. G. Raymond, K.C., Crown Prosecutor, contested this theory. If applied it would result in one standard of justice for returned soldiers, who were entitled to every degree of credit, and another for the ordinary citizen.
 His Honour agreed that all were deeply sensible of the great obligations they owed to their returned soldiers for the splendid heroism they had shown. Nevertheless, the men who had served at the front must obey the laws of the country when they returned. It would be absurd for him to suggest that because a man had been a soldier and had borne a good character he should be brought in not guilty.
 The jury acquitted the accused.

DUTY FURLOUGH.

LIBERAL AUSTRALIA.

In connection with the duty furlough to New Zealand for men with three years' service, the conditions are much less liberal than those in Australia.
 Our men, on arriving in N.Z., are given twenty-eight days leave on full pay and a return railway pass to their homes. In Australia the men returning under similar conditions are given two months' leave on full pay, with a subsistence allowance of 3s. per day, and they may draw a quarter of their deferred pay.

THE LAW COURTS.

TROUBLES AND TRIALS.

Isaac H. Curtis was fined £40 and costs at Dunedin for keeping a common gaming house.
 The Chief Justice at Wellington gave a declaratory judgment ordering the forfeiture of the fee-simple of a parcel of land held by an unnaturalised German.
 When the quarterly sessions of the Supreme Court opened at Palmerston North there were no criminal cases, and Mr. Justice Chapman was presented with a pair of white gloves.
 Capt. Alfred C. C. Stevens, N.Z.S.C., Group Commander at Milton, was acquitted in the Supreme Court at Dunedin of a number of charges of stealing Government money.
 Miss Mary Randall, a Ch.ch. waitress, was awarded £638 damages against the Timaru "Herald" Company for injuries sustained by an accident to their mail car, in which she was travelling.
 Robert Abercrombie Brown, lately accountant to the Auckland Farmers' Union Trading Company, pleaded guilty to the theft of moneys belonging to the company and was committed for sentence.
 William Uren, on the permanent staff of the Ch.ch. Fire Brigade, pleaded guilty to forging and uttering a cheque and, having several previous convictions, was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.
 The jury awarded £543 damages to N. F. Morgan against Michael Flynn in connection with a collision on the Waimate-Forks road. Plaintiff, while motor-cycling at night, ran into defendant's unlighted gig.
 The S.M. at Dunedin considered Capt. Fraser, assistant superintendent of Mercantile Marine, at Port Chalmers, a "most excitable person," and fined him £10 and costs for refusing to show his pass and obstructing an armed guard.
 A man named George Yates, accused at Wellington of the theft of leather from the Government, said the department declined to accept his resignation and he stole the goods deliberately to obtain his discharge. He was fined £5.
 Mr. Justice Cooper, at Auckland, gave judgment for William A. Rockland, a motor inspector in the tramways, against the company. The principle involved was that a servant who was reinstated on appeal was entitled to recover wages for the period of suspension.
 A number of young Jugo-Slavs who struck work while engaged on national work at Okahukura, were ordered to come up for sentence, the S.M. holding that they would be better working than in gaol. Several of them still declined to report for duty and were sentenced to three months' imprisonment.
 The full court gave judgment against Samuel E. Fitzgerald in the case in which he proceeded against the members of a courtmartial which sentenced him as a deserter. Though Major Kirk was declared ineligible to act on courtmartial, the sentence was not a nullity and no action could lie. Costs were not allowed.
 The Red Cross Society at Ch.ch. first learned that certain sums of money had been embezzled by a clerk named Arthur R. Cole, when they saw themselves scheduled as unsecured creditors in his estate. He was simple in his habits, said his counsel (Mr. Alpers), and probably in his intellect, too. The moneys were collections made by several ladies in the south-west ward. Cole was committed for sentence.
 Mr. Justice Herdman severely reprimanded at Ch.ch. Mr. and Mrs. William G. Price, who were found guilty of sheltering and assisting deserters, one of them being their son. In sentencing them to six months' imprisonment without hard labour he said he could not think what foolish notions they had got into their heads. Fortunately the great bulk of the population of N.Z. were sending their sons to the war cheerfully. Mrs. Price is daughter of a previous mayor of Ch.ch.

COST OF LIVING.

WORKERS' DEMANDS.

TRAMWAY STRIKE SETTLED.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 The officials of the Post and Telegraph Dept. are agitating for increased salaries owing to the extra cost of living.
 The conference to discuss the tramway strike in Wellington has granted the men 1s. 4d. an hour and overtime at the old rates.
 The tramways have resumed running their full services.
 A civic reception was given in Ch.ch. to Mr. George Bell, M.P., of British Columbia, and Mr. James Simpson, vice-president of the Canadian Trades and Labour Conference, who, with Prof. Bayley, of Winnipeg University, are taking part in the prohibition campaign.

A FAMILY QUARREL.

AUCKLAND HUSBAND CHARGED.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 John Arnold, of Alfriston, after quarrelling with his wife, is alleged to have attempted to murder her.
 It is stated that he bound her to a bed and set fire to the house. Mrs. Arnold managed to free herself and escaped with the six children.
 Arnold then disappeared, but was afterwards arrested and charged with the offence. He is forty-two years of age.
 Alfriston is eighteen miles from Auckland.

N.Z. NAVAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

A PROPOSED ORGANISATION.

It is proposed to form an association to further the interests of temporary N.Z. officers at present serving in the Royal Navy, R.N.R., and R.N.V.R.
 Amongst the proposed objects are to provide a common meeting place in London; to keep a register of all officers serving, with next-of-kin; to record their war services, and, if possible, to have annual reunions. The association will, of course, continue in N.Z. after the war.
 All enquiries should be addressed to the secretaries, pro. tem., Lt. J. C. Hewson, R.N.V.R., and Lt. C. H. Palmer, R.N.V.R., c/o THE NEW ZEALANDER.

MARINE RISKS.

NEW ZEALAND COASTERS.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 As the outcome of enquiries made by the Government, it has been ascertained that the British scheme of compensation for marine losses during the war applies equally to vessels engaged in the N.Z. coastal trade.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

EFFICIENCY BOARD'S REPORT.

The report of the National Efficiency Board on the liquor question in N.Z. shows that evidence was sought from the most widely diverse interests. The Board "did not permit its judgment to be influenced by the moral aspect of the question."
 "From a national efficiency point of view," they say, "we are convinced that it would be beneficial to the nation and conducive to the well-being of the people that the liquor traffic should be prohibited. This view is supported by results obtained in our own country under conditional prohibition, and confirmed wherever prohibition has operated. The greatest efficiency would be attained by a state of complete prohibition, but the Board recognises that this is a people's question, and should be determined only by them."
 As regards the loss of public revenue, it is remarked that "the people should be better able to provide the necessary amount of taxation if the inefficiency at present created by the effects of alcohol is removed. The increased national thrift which would follow the diversion to productive trade channels of money now spent on liquor would more than counteract the loss of public revenue. The money now spent on liquor would be spent or invested in some other direction."
FOR IMMEDIATE DECISION.
 The Board, therefore, recommended that the question of immediate national prohibition, with compensation, should be submitted to a vote at the earliest possible moment. Public sentiment was such that it would approve of the opportunity being given. Any compensation would for the most part be invested in the Dominion for production and trade. No compensation would be required for individual employees, as they would be absorbed elsewhere. The parties to be compensated would be the brewers, wine manufacturers, hop growers, and the wholesale and retail vendors and the owners of licensed properties. Compensation, paid as suggested, and preferably in Govt. securities, would be a sound investment for the State, and would be recouped by increased national efficiency.
 The Board states that while it approached the question from the view-point of war conditions, yet, as the enquiry proceeded, it became apparent that the efficiency of the State and of the individual both during the war and afterwards, was involved.
 Mr. William Ferguson (Wellington) is chairman.

THE SCALE OF WAGES.

WAR INCREASES.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 Since the beginning of the war wages in many occupations in New Zealand have increased by from 20 to 37 per cent. The increases are least in the non-essential industries.
 According to official figures, the aerated water workers have received 4.3 per cent. extra, at one end of the scale, while the shearers, at the other end, have received 37.5 per cent. In one State coal mine the increases are nearly 38 per cent. Local bodies have granted 15.3 per cent. to unskilled labour and 31.3 to skilled labour.
 It is stated that the increase in the cost of living is 39.35 per cent.

ON SERVICE.

Lt. W. H. C. Patrick, R.A.M.C., is promoted captain.
 Lt. A. N. H. Whitcombe, R.F.A. (Ch.ch.) is in Russia.
 Paymaster W. E. M. Guy, R.N.R. (late P.W.D., New Plymouth) is at Dunkirk.
 Lt. R. M. Watson, R.N.V.R. (Ch.ch.), is transferred from a M.L. to a patrol ship.
 Maj. M. E. Makgill-Crichton-Maitland, D.S.O., Gren. Gds., is lt.-col. commanding a battalion.
 Maj. G. R. Pridham, D.S.O., R.E., formerly C.R.B., N.Z.E.F., has been promoted Lt.-Col.
 Lts. R. H. Baigent, R.N.R. (Nelson), and H. H. D. Bothamley, R.A.F., are on their way to N.Z. on leave.
 Mr. Reg. Woods, the well-known Ch.ch. musician and member of the Union Rowing Club, has gone into camp.
 Capt. W. H. Johnston, R.A.M.C. (Wellington and Stratford), is on the orthopedic staff at the Reading War Hospital.
 Lt.-Cdr. John Pearce, R.N.R. (Wellington), is operating from a French base. He has been in the naval service since 1915.
 Capt. A. K. MacLachlan, R.A.M.C. (Doyleston), is stationed at a hospital in Cambridge. He served in Gallipoli and Egypt.
 Pte. B. W. H. Smart, who served with the 2/Otago Batt. is in the 16th Lancers, and has been nominated to train for a commission.
 Lt. C. A. McLaren, United States Army, is the son of Mr. D. B. McLaren, of Ch.ch. He has been in business in Seattle for some time.
 Mrs. Macdonald, wife of Lt.-Col. W. Marshall Macdonald, N.Z.M.C. (Dunedin), is again in France, attached to a Red Cross hospital.
 Capt. Murdo M. McRae, R.A.M.C. (Te Kuiti), is on his way to N.Z. on a few months leave. He has seen much service in France and the Balkans.
 Lt. Kirkby Wilson, R.E. (Auckland), is returning to Mesopotamia from furlough in N.Z. after having served in the East for almost three years.
 Mr. G. E. Butler, the Wellington artist, and Mr. Alfred Pearce have been appointed hon. captains in the N.Z.E.F. for the purpose of doing war pictures.
 C.M.M. W. A. Thompson, R.N.V.R. (Auckland), who has been serving in a M.L. in the Mediterranean for some time, is now stationed at a dockyard in Malta.
 Mr. J. A. B. Hellaby (Auckland) is now with the Westinghouse Company in Manchester. He relinquished his commission in the R.E. a year ago owing to ill-health.
 Sister E. Clare Jordan (Auckland), after three years' service with the Q.A.I.M.N.S., chiefly in France, has transferred to the N.Z.A.N.S. She was mentioned in despatches in 1916.
 Asst.-Paymaster A. N. Field, R.N.V.R. (Wellington, late N.Z.E.F.), is the author of a useful guide-book to the British Isles for N.Z. soldiers, which is published by the N.Z. Y.M.C.A.
 Eng.-Sub-Lt. J. le C. Morgan, R.N.R. (Wellington), ex-N.Z.F.A., transferred to the Navy in March, 1917, has seen some service in the Red Sea in connection with the Arab operations.
 The Rector of Bere Ferrers, S. Devon, has sent £5 to the N.Z. Red Cross, the result of the collection taken at the dedication of the memorial tablet to N.Z. soldiers who were killed there in a railway accident.

WEDDINGS.

At Christ Church, Chelsea, on September 26, Lieut. A. Travers Black, R.N.V.R., of Sydney, to Charlotte, daughter of the late Rupert Stevenson, of Auckland.
 On September 30, at St. Mary's, Buttsbury, Essex, Howard Spooner, E.A., R.N., Martinborough, to Margaret W. B., daughter of the late R. H. Tonking, Greenwich, and Mrs. Tonking, Leland, Cornwall.
 At St. Stephen's, Gloucester-road, on September 26, Lieut. H. Bruce Mackenzie, N.Z.M.C., son of Sir Thomas Mackenzie, High Commissioner, and Lady Mackenzie, to Elyn Caroline, daughter of Mr. G. J. Nicholls, late Judge I.C.S., and Mrs. Nicholls, of Bideford. Sub-Lieut. C. S. Clarke, R.N.V.R. (late N.Z.F.A.), was best man, and Canon H. D. Burton, O.B.E., C.F., officiated.
ENGAGEMENTS.
 Lieut. Robert Tapper, Dunedin, to Dorothy, daughter of Mrs. S. W. Trotter, Ch.ch., formerly of Invercargill.
 Pte. Charles Heaphy, 8/3625, 2/Otago Rgt., to Vera May, elder daughter of the late Sgt.-Maj. E. T. Handley, South Staffs. Rgt., and Mrs. Handley, of Wolverhampton.

SOLDIERS' INTERESTS.

PROTECTION OF HOMES.

(The New Zealander Special Cable.)
WELLINGTON, October 10.
 The Government has promised to introduce legislation during the coming Session with the object of preventing landlords from selling the homes of men who are on active service, or evicting their wives.

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