

21
-a glass out of a cut down bottle. It gives quite a good light. We have just eaten some of the cake which Edna sent for Xmas (made by the 'Ritz' of Nelson.) & which we cut yesterday. It is a first-rate cake; nice & moist & with plenty of fruit. I haven't received your cake yet, or Edna's parcel, but I expect they will come to hand soon.

Well, Xmas. Day was fine here, though an unpleasant wind was blowing. It seems to blow here on more days than not. A big mess-tent had been erected during the past week & we had our Xmas. dinner here, sitting - about on the sandy floor like a lot of school-boys at a picnic. What a dinner we had, in such a God forsaken place! It was reminiscent of home, having N. Z. mutton, green peas, boiled & baked potatoes, & cauliflower, followed by plum pudding & fruit-salad. I went back for a return