

*Organization and Distribution of the New Zealand Defence Forces on the 28th February, 1909.*

Unit.	Wellington.	Auckland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Nelson.	Total.
Headquarters .. ..	15	..	..	..	..	15
District Staffs .. ..	11	11	15	12	6	55
Permanent Force .. ..	114	77	34	39	2	266
Garrison Artillery Volunteers..	239	299	172	225	76	1,011
Field Artillery .. ..	98	66	80	75	63	382
Field Engineers .. ..	59	45	94	75	..	273
Mounted Rifles .. ..	827	1,352	592	707	281	3,759
Infantry .. ..	2,027	873	1,037	1,598	573	6,108
Active List .. ..	65	22	47	34	10	178
Medical Officers (attached) ..	30	22	17	31	14	114
Medical Officers (unattached)..	19	12	10	8	..	49
Field Ambulances .. ..	27	36	50	47	49	209
Veterinary Officers .. ..	..	4	4	3	3	14
Reserve Volunteer Corps .. ..	28	..	100	114	..	242
Defence Cadets .. ..	1,016	766	528	994	256	3,560
Defence Rifle Clubs .. ..	2,050	344	410	327	566	3,697
Garrison Bands .. ..	32	30	26	30	28	146
Battalion Bands .. ..	104	67	45	67	67	350
	6,761	4,026	3,261	4,386	1,994	20,428

*N.B.*—On the 29th February, 1908, the total showed 19,947, making an increase for the year ending 28th February, 1909, of 481. Bands are being trained as stretcher-bearers. There are also 191 officers carried on the Militia List.

7,730 adult Volunteers have up to date qualified for capitation. Seventy-two rolls are still outstanding, taking which at an average, it can be expected that about 11,000 will capitate for the year ending 28th February, 1909.

The number of adult Volunteers who capitated as efficient for the year ending 28th February, 1906, was 11,051; 28th February, 1907, 10,846; 29th February, 1908, 11,068.

The number of Defence Cadets who qualified for capitation, year ending 28th February, 1908, was 2,577. 2,269 have up to date qualified for capitation. Eighteen rolls are still outstanding, taking which at an average, it can be expected that more cadets will qualify for the year ending 28th February, 1909, than for the previous year.

*Military Operations.*

Camps of instruction were held in each military district for four days at Easter, the attendance being as under:—

Volunteers,—

Auckland .. ..	959, or 33% of strength.
Wellington .. ..	1,788, or 50% ..
Nelson .. ..	572, or 40% ..
Canterbury .. ..	1,150, or 56% ..
Otago .. ..	1,120, or 40% ..
Grand total .. ..	5,389

Defence Cadets,—

Auckland .. ..	161
Wellington .. ..	317
Canterbury .. ..	70
Otago .. ..	307
Nelson .. ..	Nil
Grand total .. ..	855

It must, however, be kept in mind that at most colleges and high schools it was considered best to hold a training camp at a time other than Easter.

*Rifle Clubs.*—Opportunity was given to Rifle Clubs to put in the greater part of two days; but, except in the Wellington District, where 77 attended, no others mustered, and in many cases did not even reply to the District Commander's circular asking for information as to numbers likely to attend.

There is no doubt that Saturday of Easter week not being a general holiday is accountable for many men not being able to attend manœuvres. The training at these camps was, as referred to in last report, a combination of camp training and manœuvre under the direct command of each O.C. District and his Staff. Night firing was successfully carried out by the fort defence at three of the defended ports, and attacks with shell and ball ammunition were practised by the Field Force in all districts.

Staff rides, tactical exercises, and daylight week-end parades have been encouraged and carried out under district arrangements.