

BROADCASTING UNIT FOR SERVICE OVERSEAS

THE Government has decided to send overseas a complete broadcasting unit to become an essential part of the 2nd New Zealand Division now stationed in Egypt. In all probability this unit will sail with the 2nd Echelon.

Necessary equipment for the unit is now being constructed in Wellington. Three specially selected officials will control the unit — an observer, an engineer, and a technician. Each will be a fully qualified broadcasting official.

In sending this broadcasting unit to accompany the overseas troops in their various spheres of action, the people of New Zealand will be brought into closer contact with their own soldiers. Records and talks will be made on the field of action, for distribution later through the various stations in New Zealand. Similarly, records of important events in the Dominion will be made here for broadcasting by loud-speakers to the men in their various camps. On this reciprocal basis our overseas soldiers will be kept fully acquainted with activities in the Dominion while they are absent, and those on the home front will be able to maintain a more personal contact with the men who are away.

It is thought, also, that this unit will be of considerable his-

torical value after the war, and that it will be of immediate value in maintaining the morale of the troops and of the nation.

Here, briefly, are the activities with which the broadcasting unit will be concerned:

To transmit news by cable or letter from the forces overseas to New Zealand for broadcasting here.

To make disc records of events, voices of personalities, eye-witness accounts, etc., for sending to New Zealand to broadcast throughout the Dominion and to form part of an historical library of the war for future use.

To receive news by cable or letter from New Zealand to broadcast to the troops overseas.

To receive and broadcast to the troops news and programmes which it may be possible to transmit to them by shortwave from New Zealand direct, or via Australia.

To receive discs from New Zealand of commentaries and programmes specially designed for broadcasting abroad, either by any local stations available or by loud-speaker sets to gatherings of men.

the General went on board Mr. Fraser and Mr. Jones continued round the troopships on the tug which was distributing mail to all of them. As they passed beside one ship, someone called down: "Mr. Fraser, you're wanted up here — and Mr. Jones, too." They climbed the companion-way and found that Captain W. J. Lyon, M.P. for Waitemata, was on the ship, and they were able to farewell him again.

Those who visited H.M.S. Ramillies on her last day in Wellington, witnessed a touching incident. A party of Maoris were performing on the ship when they noticed the troopships swinging out into the stream. With one accord they rushed to the rail of the battleship and began to sing their lament, completely forgetting the crowds about them. Those who were there say that the scene brought a lump to the throat. Even the officers of the Ramillies, accustomed as they are to emotional scenes, were moved by the Maori lament.

Departure Jottings

The Minister of Defence, the Hon. F. Jones, watched the departure of the First Echelon from Fort Dorset. He and Sir Harry Batterbee, British High Commissioner in New Zealand, motored out together and remained there until the ships disappeared into Cook Strait.

The departure of the troopships of the First Echelon revived memories for the French Consul, M. André Pouquet. He sailed from Marseilles on the flagship of the convoy early in 1938, on the beginning of his voyage to New Zealand. Two years later, to the very day, the same ship sailed from Wellington carrying New Zealand soldiers to the second World War.

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. Peter Fraser, and the Minister of Defence, the Hon. F. Jones, accompanied General Freyberg on the tug which took him and his staff to the flagship. When

STEADILY RISING

Donations to National Patriotic Fund

THE following donations are acknowledged in response to His Excellency the Governor-General's appeal for funds:—

LIST No. 10

	£	s.	d.
Total donations to 4 3/40	35,572	1	10
W. H. Ward	6	0	0
Anonymous (3rd monthly contribution)	1	9	0
J.D.L.	1	0	0
Shell Co. of New Zealand Ltd.	250	0	0
C.J.	1	2	6
Coroglen Women's Institute	8	8	0
British General Electric Co. Ltd.	100	0	0
Kodak (N.Z.) Ltd., Wellington	25	0	0
Kadok (N.Z.) Ltd., Auckland	25	0	0
Kodak (N.Z.) Ltd., Christchurch	25	0	0
Kodak (N.Z.) Ltd., Dunedin	25	0	0
Threepences	0	12	0
Waitomo Caves Social Club	7	0	0
Old Age Pensioner	1	0	0
Auckland Racing Club	500	0	0
Makower, McBeath & Co., Ltd.	100	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. H. Aldridge	1	0	0
Misses Gibson	10	0	0
Chas. Begg & Co. Ltd. (Wellington Branch)	50	0	0
S. Phair	3	9	3
Sundry miscellaneous donations	8	5	3

Total donations to 11/3/40 £36,721 7 10

IT HAPPENED IN THE ARMY

(B. M.H.M.)

DURING the Great War many little *billets deux* found their way overseas in parcels of comforts for soldiers. Many a man in Flanders or France had a day brightened by a letter from an unknown correspondent; sometimes these epistles were laughter-giving, sometimes serious; occasionally sentiment crept in and romance developed, but few of these old-timers could have been—shall we say more impressed—by their informal mail than a member of our New Army by a recent experience.

This hefty young man was presented with a pair of hand-made socks by a committee. He put them on, and proudly set off on a march. Soon his new-found happiness suffered a set-back; he developed a terrible pain in one foot. However, he carried on bravely until it became so intolerable he was forced to fall out. Removing the sock for an examination of the foot, he found, firmly ensconced in the toe of the garment, a hard screw of paper, which, on being unfolded, revealed the inscription:

— "God bless the soldier who wears this sock."

Personal

Lieut-Colonel J. E. Anderson, M.C., formerly public works engineer at Christchurch, has been appointed officer commanding the railway construction group of the 2nd New Zealand Division.

Lieut-Colonel A. S. Wilder, D.S.O., M.C., of Hawke's Bay, has been appointed to command the 25th Wellington Battalion, 3rd Echelon. He served with the Wellington Mounted Rifles on Gallipoli and in Egypt and Palestine during the last war.

Major A. Bongard, M.C., has been appointed G.S.O., 1st Grade, Southern Military District, and promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

Major A. C. W. Mantell-Harding, solicitor, of Wellington, is temporary second-in-command of the 25th Wellington Battalion, 3rd Echelon.

Major D. E. Bremner, M.C., has been appointed Commandant of the Northern Military School of Instruction, Narrow Neck.

Captain A. H. L. Sugden has been appointed Commandant of the Trentham Army School of Instruction in succession to Major J. I. Brooke.

Captain J. G. Elliott, of Eltham, has been appointed to command the Forestry Company, 2nd New Zealand Division.

Lieutenant G. Colledge, of Auckland, is with the 25th Wellington Battalion. He is a well-known singer, and has been closely associated with the repertory movement.

Second-Lieutenant P. L. Bennett, M.C., has been appointed Quartermaster of the 25th Wellington Battalion. He served with the Canterbury Regiment in the last war.

H. K. Brainsby, of Whangarei, who has been training at Trentham, has been granted his commission. He is a former New Zealand Empire Games representative.

D. A. R. Moloney, of Dunedin, who captained the New Zealand cricket team against Sir Julien Cahn's team, and toured England with the New Zealand team, has enlisted.

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