

MAGAZINE OF THE CHRISTCHURCH WING OF THE
AIR TRAINING CORPS

AUGUST 1942

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.

EDITORIAL

Wilbur and Orville Wright met with almost unsurmountable obstacles and unhelpful criticism when, nearly forty years ago they sought to fly a "heavier than air machine." The Air Training Corps, now a fast growing movement throughout the British Empire, has met with some opposition.

The amount of support from the public, and the degree of their appreciation is in the hands of the individual cadet. A.T.C. training has improved the bearing of cadets, and so, by carrying on the good work that this start has given them, they can build up for themselves a solid reputation that will be a credit to the Corps.

Remember cadets, that the Air Training Corps is a new organisation, and, as with all other new movements, the public is hesitant of taking notice of it, and that individual appreciation of the necessity for high standards of bearing and strict attention to personal smartness will place the A.T.C. in high regard with the public.

* * * * *

Our concert, held in the Jellicoe Hall on the 7th September was a great success and the Social Committee extends their thanks to P/O A.W. Brown, who led the Community Sing, P/O J. Stannage for his interesting talk, F/O Stedman for his address, and all those NCO's and cadets concerned with the show. Our thanks are due also to P/O Wilcox for arranging for the use of the Hall.

* * * * *

KEEP ON YOUR COURSE

By F/O G.E.M. Keys.

It's a great life - if you can make the grade! But in this, the finest of the Services, only the best is good enough. From the time you applied to enter the A.T.C. to the time you are posted to an operational unit you will find that you are being kept constantly under observation. Time and time again you will have to appear before Selection Boards who will examine your personal file wherein will be recorded your physical and educational qualifications and the opinions of the officers and instructors who have been responsible for your training. It's a 'log book' kept by others about you and will show what kind of a course you've made.

Too many made the mistake in the early stages of this war of underestimating the enemy. A few still do - but not those with any experience. I watched the young Germans at their training in 1939 - just before the outbreak of war, and came away realising that, no matter how much I detested their social outlook and political views, they had developed many qualities which were going to make them very difficult to bring down. They were splendidly developed physically, and fanatically devoted to their cause. Their technical training was