

1943

CADETS.

The barracks, held in the first week of the year, were made very interesting, the syllabus being arranged to lead up to a two-battalion tactical exercise in conjunction with Otago Boys' High School—a scheme which, because of rain, was unable to be proceeded with. The course covered included work on fieldcraft, Bren guns, Bren carriers, in addition to the ordinary syllabus. The final day was spent in a visit to a local camp, where no pains were spared to explain the use of equipment to Cadets.

The work throughout the year has been varied and interesting, Brens, rifles and Tommy guns being made available from the Drill Hall when required. The Signals Platoon has been practising with the latest W/T and R/T sets under the instruction of the Area Signals Officer. During the third term, the Battalion was issued with a considerable amount of new equipment, which is stored at the School in army huts. In anticipation of this issue several n.c.o.'s carried out specialist courses at Burnham during the September vacation—Sergt. Weaver and L/C Kenyon with Vickers M.M.G., Sergt. Chisholm and L/C. McGregor with the mortars, L/C. Bezett with the signals, C.S.M. Judson and L/C. Hutchinson on fieldcraft.

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An artillery section has recently been formed, the drill being carried out at Kensington. It is unlikely that shelter for the 25-pounders will be available at the School.

This year two teams were entered for the "Weekly Press" Shield, practices being held on Saturday mornings at Cadbury, Fry, Hudson's indoor range. We appreciate the action of the company in allowing us the use of a first-class range. The competition took place at Pelichet Bay on Friday, October 29. Among the nine teams competing in Area XI, King's took second place to Christian Brothers, with Waitaki third. The following are the individual scores:—A Team—N. M. Miller, 80; D. Calvert, 79; L. B. Graham, 74; K. Kenyon, 73; L. Gough, 72; J. M. McGregor, 71; A. R. Price, 72; F. M. McKenzie, 65; W. Lindsay, 63; A. Padgett, 63. B Team—R. B. Craigie, 72; S. Middlemass, 69; A. D. Scrymgeour, 69; J. S. White, 68; N. Marquet, 65; L. Davies, 64; A. McIntosh, 62; J. Peat, 58; I. E. Patterson, 53; D. Cabena, 37.

On October 3, the Speight Cup Competition was fired. The conditions were—10 rounds application, 5 rounds snap-shooting, and 5 rounds rapid, all at 200 yards. L/AC Miller was first with the excellent score of 81, AC/1 Graham was second with 73 and L/AC McKenzie FM was third with 70. Thus the Air Force showed the Army how to shoot.

The two Godley Cups for competition in the School were awarded on the class-firing during the first term. Cadet A. L. McIntosh and Aircraftman 1 Middlemass were the winners.

The Moller Cup for the best platoon was won by No. 5 Platoon, B Coy., under Sergt. N. E. Campbell, who gave an excellent display.

Sergt. W. E. Chisholm has been selected as the most efficient Cadet n.c.o. in Area XI. He will be judged against the best n.c.o.'s from the other South Island Areas for the Robert Friar Memorial Trophy.

A.T.C.

The unit, with a roll of 69, has carried out a full syllabus, the result of its work being obvious in that it has three Cadets who have passed the complete Air Force Pre-entry Examination, three others who have passed Part I and 20 Cadets who have just sat for either of the two examinations. All of the Cadets have had a flight, either in one of the R.N.Z.A.F. training aircraft or one of the A.T.C. touring flight planes. During the first term the unit spent a day on a South Island air station. There was also a week-end visit in the second term and a week's course during the second term holidays. At all these visits the Cadets received interesting training in Air Force subjects.

In addition to parades called by the Army the unit took part in a parade inspected by Air Commodore Sir Robert Clarke-Hall and an A.T.C. recruiting parade led by the famous R.N.Z.A.F. Band. The unit received a visit from Squadron Leader Mitchell, R.C.A.F., and Flying Officer Pyke. The unit has distinguished itself by having

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L/AC Miller in its midst—the winner of the Speight Cup for the best shot in the School firing .303 ammunition. AC/1 Middlemass also gained one of the Godley Cups.

A Rugby team from the A.T.C. played a match with the Cadets, the Cadets winning 9—0.

Five members of the unit are now serving with the R.N.Z.A.F.—C. M. Adams (Pacific), A. L. Carson (Canada), Sergt. J. H. Macilree (Pacific), J. G. Webb (Canada) and G. A. Gregg (N.Z.).

As we write, news has come through that John Webb has won his wings and has been commissioned with the rank of Pilot Officer.