

Our Returned Heroes.

Port Pirie, May 8.

Among the soldiers who returned home on Thursday last was Corporal T. H. Buttery, an old resident of Port Pirie, and an Anzac who has had the unique experience of serving abroad for over four years "without receiving a scratch." Corporal Buttery was attached to the Third Field Ambulance Division, and had returned to Australia on a previous occasion—about two years ago—on duty. Corporal Buttery does not propose to reside permanently in Port Pirie, and his present visit was largely in connection with business matters. The other two heroes to arrive by the same train were Private A. Voitkun, a resident of Ellendale, and who prior to his enlistment in the cause of his adopted country was employed at the Smelters. Private Voitkun had a host of personal friends to greet him upon his safe return to Port Pirie. Private Voitkun had been abroad about three and a half years, but since 1916 had been a prisoner of war in Germany. He is disinclined to speak at length of his experiences, but states that his lot while under the control of the Hun might have been much more enviable. Trooper W. H. Clerke, son of Mrs T. E. Wallis, Waterworks-town, was the third hero. He was attached to the Mobile Veterinary Section, and looked as though the terrors of war had fallen lightly upon him. Trooper Clerke's overseas experiences had extended to three years, and he

had extended to three years, and he had been once wounded. The men were accorded a hearty reception at the Solomontown railway station, and also at the Town Hall, where they were welcomed by Mr C. A. Degenhardt (President of the Fathers of Sailors' and Soldiers' Association). Messrs C. Morgan and W. O. Slater welcomed the returned men on behalf of the Anzac Hospitality Committee. Among those present who also took part in the welcome were:—Messrs Chas. Edwards, T. S. Smith, G. F. Ide, J. Raftery, and others. Motor cars were kindly supplied by Messrs H. Osborne and R. T. Lawry.

The returned soldiers who reached Port Pirie on Tuesday included Lieut. L. J. Clark, of the 16th Battalion, son of Mr William Clark, of Florence-street. Lieut. Clark has nearly four years of service to his credit, and has been twice wounded. The returned hero was motored to his home by Mr A. R. Bosomworth. The other two arrivals were Corporal Frank Allen, 5th Division, M.T.M.B., son of Mr and Mrs. O. Allen, of Solomontown, and Corporal F. R. Reid, wireless operator Australian Flying Corps, son of Mr Fred Reid, of the Loco. Department.

On Wednesday afternoon the only arrival was Private O. E. Pavlich, son of an old and respected resident, Mr H. S. Pavlich, of Second-street, Port Pirie West. On arrival at the Solomontown railway station the school children, marshalled by the headmaster (Mr Geo. Charlesworth) sang appropriate airs, and the young soldier was in other ways accorded a hearty reception. Private Pavlich enlisted in New Zealand in the early stages of the war.

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On Monday Lance-Corporal H. G. Dodd (50th Battalion) was accorded a hearty welcome on his return from the front. He is the son of Mrs Dodd, of the Terrace, and is one of four brothers who enlisted. The customary reception—always enthusiastic—was given the young soldier, and he was conveyed to his home in Mr H. J. Cavenett's motor car.

By yesterday afternoon's train Private W. Clifford, who was a member of the 50th Battalion, returned to Port Pirie. He was accompanied by Mrs Clifford, who is a daughter of Mr W. M. Pelham, of Ellen-street. Prior to enlistment Private Clifford had been a resident of Port Pirie for some years, and was employed at the Smelters. Our returning townsman has had the unenviable reputation of being a prisoner in the hands of the Huns for about two years. The returned hero was welcomed by the President of the Fathers of Sailors' and Soldiers' Association (Mr C. A. Degenhardt, J.P.), at whose call three hearty cheers were given. Messrs Chas. Morgan and W. C. Slater represented the Anzac Hospitality Committee, and a number of the Fathers assisted at the welcome. Ellen-street presented a gay appearance, most of the business houses being decorated in honor of the returned warrior.

The Inter-Allied boat race in England on Sunday last was won by New

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Only about a third of the worlds population ever heard the word Christmas.