

Welcome Home & Farewell Social

On Friday night last, in the Triumph Hall, a social was held for the purpose of farewelling Privates Foyel and Smart, and of welcoming home Privates Murphy, Hush, and Kanaef. The chair was occupied by Ald. J. Keefe. The Town Band played several patriotic selections outside the hall prior to the hour for opening the function, at which time they took up a position in the hall and opened proceedings with the National Anthem.

The Chairman said the gathering was for a dual purpose. On behalf of the citizens of Queanbeyan he had pleasure in welcoming home the three returned men on the platform who had gone and done their bit and also he had to wish God-speed and a safe return to the two others who were about to go over to the Western front. They were wholly sincere in their words, but he hoped that there would be something more done for the welfare and comfort of the returned men. He intimated a public meeting would be held on Monday night in connection with the repatriation of soldiers and urged a large attendance. On behalf

ed a large attendance. On behalf of the citizens he presented Privates Murphy, Hush and Kanacel each with a small gift, and to Privates Foyel and Smart parcels from the Red Cross Society.

Mr. E. F. O'Rourke, in supporting the remarks of welcome by the Chairman to the returned men, said they had done their bit at the Front where a colossal conflict was now in progress and merited every expression of gratitude that could be given them. The men who were now going had his and the citizens best wishes for their welfare in the task before them and for their safe return.

Alderman Murphy responded on behalf of the returned men who, he said, had gone across and done their bit. They had participated in the fighting at the front and been face to face with the horrors of war which could not be realised by only reading about them. Referring to repatriation, he said it was incumbent upon the citizens to see that the neglect by their forefathers of soldiers should not be repeated by us, but by united effort they should do all that was possible to provide for the men who had done so much for their country and Empire.

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Rev. R. Elliott responded on behalf of the men who were about to embark for the front. They fully realised the ordeal before them and would not go forth in their own strength alone, for that would avail but little. While it was a right and very proper thing to provide for their material welfare, and any such effort would have his cordial support, there was another aspect. On behalf of the united Churches he could assure the departing men that they would be remembered in their invocations as well as in the prayers of the homes.

Light refreshments were served about 9.30 p.m.

The following contributed to the entertainment programme:—Miss N. Jordan, sing; Miss Thelma Oldfield, recitation; Rev. L. M. Mills, song; Private Mills, recitation; Mr. Smart, violin solo. Miss Hawes, A.L.C.M. acted as accompanist and supplied the music for the dances, assisted by Mrs. Leslie and Mr. Smart (violin).

Miss N. Jordan and Mr. C. A. Leslie were joint hon. secretaries.