

RETURNING HOME - Poverty Bay Herald, Volume XLVI, Issue 14823, 29 January 1919, Page 2

Among the soldiers who arrived at Auckland on the 9th was Pte. E. Potae, who left with the First Maori Contingent when he was 18 years of age. He landed with the contingent on Gallipoli on July 3rd, and took part in the fighting about Quinn's Post (No. 1). He took part in the historic charge by the Maoris when the war cries put fear into the hearts of the Turk. He participated in the evacuation, and retired to Lemnos Island, where he spent the most miserable Christmas in his life, the rations being bully beef and water with biscuits. They then returned to Egypt and were joined with the Second Maori Contingent and the remnants of the Otago Regiment, and a Pioneer Battalion was formed. After a lengthy term of service in France he was given six months' holiday leave, and had only been in London eleven days when news of the signing of the armistice was signed. "All England went mad," he said, "and for about a week there was not a tap of work done by anybody. Munition workers walked in procession up and down the streets of London singing the 'Marseillaise' and other patriotic songs of the different Allies, and despite the entreaties of the munition factory managers a deaf ear was turned to everything suggesting labor. Whistles blew almost continuously, public meetings were in evidence everywhere, church services were held, and everyone seemed almost too excited to act in a sane manner. Even in Piccadilly Circus I saw a couple of munition girls waltz along the footpath with a couple of astonished soldiers, quite taken back by the bold affront. After that the people seemed to realise this state of affairs could not proceed for ever and settled down to work once more.

MARRIAGE - Poverty Bay Herald, Volume XLVI, Issue 14863, 17 March 1919, Page 2

A charming little wedding was solemnised on the 8th inst., the first khaki wedding on this part of the Coast, at the pretty home of Mr. Peter Mulligan, Te Kata, East Cape. The contracting parties were Miss Atareta (Addie) Mulligan, eldest daughter of Mr. Peter Mulligan and Private Enoka Potae of the first Maori Contingent. A pretty bower of tree-fern branches had been erected at one end of the lawn, and with the vinery on one side and flower beds all around the effect was fairy-like. In the bower was the solemn ceremony performed. The bridegroom was supported by Corporal Tawhai Kohere, also of the First Maori Contingent; both appeared in their uniform, and on emerging from the house on to the well-mown green lawn were applauded by the guests, both Europeans and Maoris (who were present in large numbers), when it was seen that both boys had four blue marks on the sleeves of their tunics, thus showing they had both seen service on the Gallipoli peninsula. The bride looked very nice in white georgette, while the bridesmaids appeared in white crepe de chene, and all carried beautiful bouquets. The bridesmaids were Misses Queenie and May Mulligan (sisters of the bride), Miss Taka Albert (cousin), Misses Pani Potae and Moe Porter (sisters of the bridegroom), Miss Oraitu Ahuriri (cousin), and Miss Hine Paringatai. The Rev. R. T. Kohere officiated. After the ceremony followed, the indispensable toast, and the toasts to the bridegroom bride, of the bridesmaids, of the host and hostess were drunk in soft drinks. One and all of the guests voted it was one of the prettiest wedding, if not the prettiest wedding, they had been to. The presents were numerous and valuable.



GREAT WAR FRIENDSHIP RENEWED Mr. E M Potae, of Te Araroa, East Coast, photographed yesterday with Mrs. S. A. Jacob, of Sydney. During the Great War, Mrs. Jacob and her family entertained thousands of Allied troops behind the lines in France

MANY REUNIONS

GREAT WAR FRIENDS HOSPITABLE FRENCH FAMILY MEMBER'S TOUR OF DOMINION Friendships made with many New Zealand troops behind the firing line in France in 1916 and 1917 have been renewed during the past fortnight by Mrs. S. A. Jacob, a former Frenchwoman now living in Sydney, who, accompanied by her husband, is visiting Auckland at the conclusion of an extended Dominion tour. Living with her parents for the greater part of the war near Bois Grenier in a cottage known as the "Little White House," Mrs. Jacob and her sister were known as Germaine and Madelaine to thousands of Allied troops whom they were able to help and entertain. The "Little White House" was the second of three homes near Bois Grenier which the family occupied during the war, each one being in turn destroyed by the Germans. Soldiers from almost every part of the British Empire were entertained at the "Little White House," but it was the New Zealanders and Australians who arrived in 1916 that Mrs. Jacob and her family came to know best, for by then they had become fairly proficient in English. Mrs. Jacob recalled yesterday how, in the confined space of their cottage, they had entertained scores of men at a time, providing them with food and coffee, doing laundry work for them, even writing their letters.

Since going to Australia in 1919 with her husband, a former Australian soldier whom she married in Paris, Mrs. Jacob has met many soldiers who had enjoyed the hospitality of the "Little White House." With innumerable New Zealand soldiers, she lost touch, however, and it was not until after the Dominion party

of returned soldiers visited Sydney for the Anzac Day ceremony in 1938 that many friendships were renewed by correspondence. At the request of many, she promised to visit New Zealand this year.' "I have been living for this tour," said Mrs. Jacob. She added that she had travelled from as far south as Invercargill and at almost every centre she and her husband had been entertained by groups of ex-servicemen whom she had known in France. A reunion of especial interest had taken place on her arrival in Auckland when she met again Mr. E M Potae a well-known interpreter, of Tc Araroa, East Coast, who, according to French war custom, she had adopted as a war brother. Mrs. Jacob will leave on a brief visit to Pago Pago by the Mariposa to day, while Mr. Jacob will go to Rotorua and Taupo for a fishing holiday. They will join each other again in Auckland before returning to Sydney. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob are at the Station Hotel.