

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

"B.B. WEEK, 1931"

The annual, special week of the Boys' Brigade world-wide—namely, "B.B. Week"—has been celebrated throughout New Zealand during August 2 to 9 inclusive. "B.B. Week" is a time of united effort by officers and boys—old boys and friends of the Boys' Brigade—a week of special activities and publicity, and the one united financial effort of the year. "B.B. Week" was established in 1921, and has proved a great success. It gives a splendid opportunity of service, and enables boys to show their keenness and loyalty to the organisation to which they belong.

A few years ago the brigade was being hindered by lack of funds. The matter was put before the boys, with the result that the position is stronger to-day than ever before. Officers and boys are asked to contribute, and to ask their friends to do so. Boys are forbidden to collect from those to whom they are personally unknown. The amount raised is divided between the brigade and the company, and the brigade's portion—one-third—is used for the formation of new companies, and the extension of the movement generally. The amount raised in the United Kingdom in 1921 was £2,855, and has increased each year, and in 1929 the amount collected amounted to £11,258.

The Dunedin Battalion has been awake to its responsibilities, and "B.B. Week, 1931," has been a busy and a memorable week for the officers and boys of the battalion. Sunday, August 2, being the first day of "B.B. Week," companies attended church parade at the church to which the company is attached. The companies attended in good numbers, and chaplains availed themselves of the opportunity of speaking to the young men and boys of their companies. A demonstration and concert were staged on Monday, the 3rd, at the Y.M.C.A. concert hall before an appreciative audience. The honorary president of the Dunedin Officers' Council (Mr W. Duncan) occupied the chair, and the hall was comfortably filled.

On Tuesday the officers and n.c.o.'s of the Battalion attended the "Old Boys'" reunion, and this event once again proved to be a time of happy fellowship and conversation. Old boys from Scottish, English, and Irish companies, as well as several old boys of the New Zealand companies, were present to answer the roll call and recall many happy and cherished memories of boyhood days in the Boys' Brigade. Many apologies and testimonials were received from old boys unable to attend. After a profitable evening, supper was handed round.

The Officers' Council is aware that there are many B.B. old boys in this city and elsewhere in New Zealand whose names are not yet on the "Old Boys' Roll," and the council would be glad if such would leave their name and address with the president or any of the officers.

Wednesday was tournament night, when companies met in competition work. The ambulance competition presented a most interesting test, and the examiners—Messrs J. C. White and C. H. Blackledge—complimented the teams upon their performances. The result was a draw between 1st Dunedin and 3rd Dunedin Companies, the announcement being loudly applauded by the spectators. The signalling test was controlled by Mr Clark, and resulted in a win for 1st Dunedin. The performance of the 6th Dunedin in coming into second place was excellent, they being a new company. Competitive games,

etc., were enjoyed by the boys, and enthusiasm reigned supreme.

A harrier run was organised for Saturday afternoon, when some sixty boys assembled at the headquarters of 3rd Dunedin (Roslyn), when a hard and enjoyable trail was run through Halfway Bush and Fraser's Gully. The boys remained for tea and social which followed.

The annual battalion church parade was held at Caversham Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning last. The battalion assembled at Caversham Glen, and marched via Main South road, headed by Forbury School Band. The service was conducted by Rev. Ferguson Fish, who spoke on the subject 'A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ.' The speaker addressed himself to the boys in a manner which will long be remembered. The whole service was most appropriate. The council president read the Scripture lesson, and an officer spoke briefly on the aims and methods of the movement. During the service the hymn 'Will Your Anchor Hold?' was rendered by the boys.

This concluded "B.B. Week, 1931" for the Dunedin Battalion. The officers' council expresses gratitude to all friends who have assisted in making the week successful.

Counsel: "Are you married or single?" Witness: "Married." "And where were you married?" "Heaven alone knows." "But, surely, sir, you must know where you were married." "Where? Oh, I beg your pardon, I thought you said why."