



C.E.T.C. Pierrots.

Back Row—Sergt. H. C. Smale. Spr. C. J. Wilson, Spr. A. J. Deneau, Spr. A. F. Bentley.

Sitting—Sprs. W. C. Atkinson, J. Howe, Sgt. H. Doncaster, Lt. S. H. Grant, Sprs. C. C. Pillington, H. W. Smythe.
Spr. J. Holden.

C.E.T.C. Band.

Early in 1916, when the Engineers' Training Depot was stationed at Shorncliffe, Kent, its growth became very rapid. Large drafts were arriving from Canada, and the need for a band became apparent. Eventually negotiations were completed with Lieut.-Col. Towers, Officer Commanding 70th Battalion, for the transfer of *personnel* and equipment of the band of that unit. In July, 1916, the following N.C.O.s and men were transferred to the C.E.T.D. :—

Bandmaster J. G. Knipper, Corpl. J. Reading, Ptes. G. Bell, J. Cumming, W. Chisholm, G. Coleman, F. Grey, W. Hammett, P. A. Hanson, G. Jackson, P. Jeacock, T. H. Jones, J. May, F. Midgley, W. Marley, W. H. Perryman, P. Pinkham, E. Pendry, O. Ripley, L. Rydealgh, V. Sainsbury, R. Sargent, H. Toovey, L. E. Turney, W. Venneer, and G. E. Walker.

It was due to the efforts of Lieut.-Col. Harrison, Major Kilburn, and Lieut. Grant that the Depot was placed in possession of this talented organization of musicians. The first Band Committee was composed of Major Kilburn, Lieut. C. S. Osborne, and Lieut. A. E. Gregory. By agreement with Lieut.-Col. Towers the instruments were purchased outright for a sum of £200.

A Band Fund was organized, to which each officer in the Depot subscribed 4s. per month, and it was out of this fund that the instruments were purchased. Lieut. S. H. Grant had charge of the Band Fund until

he went to France, when the position was taken over by Lieut. F. J. Arrey.

That the acquisition of the band had filled a long felt want was apparent from the outset. The calls upon it were many, and as the Depot grew in size, that much did the work and usefulness of the band increase.

In July, 1917, a week's engagement was filled at the West Pier, Brighton. Large audiences gave an enthusiastic reception at each performance. Additional offers were made for further concerts, but just at this time orders were issued from London that in future bands of the C.E.F. would not accept private engagements except at Hospitals.

In November, 1917, the following members were selected to take part in the band representing the Crowborough Area, at the Lord Mayor's Show in London :—

Sergt. Reading, Ptes. F. G. Gray, R. Rounsefell, T. H. Jones, R. Moore, J. Ritchie.

Numerous concerts have been given at the various Hospitals in Brighton, Eastbourne, and Hastings; also at various military entertainments in the areas which the Depot has at different times been situated. That these concerts have always been deeply appreciated, whether by wounded men or men in training, is testified by the number of letters of thanks that have been received at Headquarters.

In November, 1917, Bandmaster Knipper returned to Canada. Bandmaster Gorse then took charge.