

RECEPTION AT ILLABO.

ILLABO, Sunday.

About four o'clock on Saturday afternoon the Kangaroos marched into Illabo over 100 strong, under the command of Lieutenant Mayes and Lieutenant M'Leod, accompanied also by Lieutenant Beattie, acting quartermaster, Major Heath, of the Wagga Recruiting Association, and Sergeant Brown, acting sergeant-major.

The business places were decorated for the occasion, and an arch was made across the main street, bearing the words, "Illabo Welcomes the Kangaroos." The men marched to the public School grounds, where they were served with cool drinks. They were then addressed by Cr. W. A. Levett (shire president), who extended them a hearty welcome on behalf of the residents of Illabo and district. Lieut. Mayes responded in a capable manner, after which the men were dismissed. The public then provided tea for the Kangaroos, which was served at 6 p.m. in a large marquee which had been erected on the school grounds, and at 8 p.m., they

were entertained at an open-air concert.

On Sunday, at 11 a.m., the Rev. J. S. Rapkins (Presbyterian) conducted an open air service, at which about 70 of the Kangaroos paraded. Mr. Rapkins took for his text 1st Peter, chapter 2 verse 17—"Honor all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the King"—and addressed the men for about 25 minutes.

At 1 p.m. the recruits were provided with luncheon by the public.

At 3 p.m. a recruiting meeting was held, Cr. W. A. Levett presiding. The speakers were Revs. F. J. Ball (Methodist), J. S. Rapkins (Presbyterian), and H. E. Hetherington (Church of England), Cr. J. Fitzpatrick, and three returned soldiers, Private Boyd, Private Charlton, and Corporal Hunt. As a result of the appeal one name was handed in to join the Kangaroos on the following morning, and ten men expressed their intention of enlisting as soon as harvesting operations are complete. The meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

The number of recruits who left Wagga on the route march on December 1 was 88, and when they reached Illabo the number had increased to 118. From the time the Kangaroos arrived at Illabo until their farewell at 9 a.m. on the 6th inst., the people of Illabo provided them with all meals and all requirements, and entertained

Illabo provided them with all meals and all requirements, and entertained them at every possible moment.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the residents of Illabo (particularly the ladies), in catering and caring for the recruits. Lieut. Mayes is said to have styled it as "one continual picnic."