

## ALLANSFORD.

HONOR ROLL UNVEILED.

ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING.

PATRIOTIC SPEECHES.

BRITISH RED CROSS APPEAL.

220 SUBSCRIBED IN THE HALL.

Thursday evening will be remembered by the people of Allansford and district as marking an important event in the history of the township, the occasion being the unveiling of the Honor Roll erected in the Mechanics' Institute as a memorial to the brave young men of the district who have taken up arms in defence of their country in the great war. Despite the very inclement weather and muddy roads there was a large gathering, representing most of the surrounding centres, and the large audience entered most enthusiastically into the spirit of the gathering, the patriotic speeches of the various speakers being cheered to the echo. The hall was tastefully decorated with bunting and flowers, a prominent and appropriate feature being sprays of early wattle blossom along the front of the platform.

The Honor Roll, which contains the names of no fewer than 57 district volunteers, eight of whom have paid the supreme sacrifice for their country, has been erected at the back of the stage, where it arrests the attention of everyone entering the hall. It is of most effective design and made of Victorian blackwood from Beech Forest. It has a canopied top supported on two Corinthian columns and surmounted by a neatly carved representation of the Australian Coat of Arms, and the whole is set on two blackwood brackets. The lettering, done in gold leaf, is as follows:—Allansford and District Honor Roll—For King and Country. In recognition of the bravery of our boys who volunteered to fight in the great war." The board was designed and manufactured at Mr. E. B. Phillips' warehouse, and the lettering was done by Mr. W. J. Hickford.

The Roll contains the following names:—

A. S. ABRAHAM.  
W. S. ABRAHAM.  
R. P. ABRAHAM.  
W. J. ALLWOOD.  
W. E. ANDERSON.  
L. G. ANDERTON.  
E. J. AYDON.  
F. BENTLEY.  
E. W. BORTHWICK.  
H. R. BORTHWICK.  
J. BRIGGS.  
H. J. BRISTOW.  
J. BRISTOW.  
I. G. BRISTOW.  
H. BURLEIGH.  
W. BURLEIGH.

W. BURLEIGH.  
J. BROOKS.  
A. BUTLER.  
G. CHISLETT.  
A. DAVIES.  
G. DOWIE.  
G. DRAKE.  
D. J. FARTHING.  
R. FARTHING.  
L. L. GRANT.  
R. L. GRAUER.  
I. HORN.  
H. JEWELL.  
J. JENKINS.  
O. S. JOHNSON.  
D. LOGAN.  
P. LOUGHKEED.  
J. LYNCH.  
T. O. MEMBERY.  
W. J. MEMBERY.  
J. MILNE.  
G. MILNE.  
W. H. MCKENZIE.  
D. MCCALLUM.  
D. C. MCCALLUM.  
R. MCKENZIE.  
A. E. McDOWELL.  
F. G. NORRIS.  
S. OWEN.  
J. O'CONNOR.  
T. O'KEEFE.  
H. P. PALMER.  
J. PHILLIPS.  
R. PERRIE.  
W. BOBB.  
G. SADLER.  
J. SADLER.  
W. J. STONEHOUSE.  
J. STONEHOUSE.  
J. SHEPPARD.  
C. WORMALD.  
F. WORMALD.

Those who have laid down their lives for the cause of freedom and liberty are indicated on the board by a black line drawn under their names. Those so distinguished are:

A. S. Abraham, W. S. Abraham, A. Butler, D. J. Farthing, L. L. Grant, L. Horn, A. E. McDowell, H. P. Palmer.

Mr. Jos. Edge presided over the large gathering, and the proceedings opened with the National Anthem, after which Miss McCallum gave a stirring patriotic recitation for which she was recalled and recited "The Hero of the Commune."

Mr. J. D. Deany, M.L.A. was the first speaker and he was given a hearty reception. He said he took it as a great honor and privilege to be with them to join in doing honor to the brave lads whose names appeared on the Honor Roll. (Applause.) The parents of those lads must feel proud and privileged to have sons taking part in the great war (applause) and every son should be proud to have his name on the roll. That night would mark an epoch in the history of Allansford, and the Honor Roll would be something for the children of the future to look upon with pride. (Applause.) He congratulated the people of the district on the splendid board erected—it was one of the finest he had seen. He understood they had 57 names on the roll and yet they heard people say that the men in the country centres were not volunteering as well as the men in the cities. That was incorrect, for the country people were doing

men in the cities. That was incorrect, for the country people were doing more than the people in the cities. (Hear, hear). If they went through the State electoral rolls they would find that the number of electors in the country constituencies had decreased while those in the city electorates had increased. He was proud to be the representative of the Warrnambool electorate—(applause)—because the people of the electorate had proved themselves the most loyal, patriotic and generous people in the State. (Applause). He had had the honor of unveiling a roll at Timboon recently which contained 87 names, which was practically 100 per cent. of the eligible men in that district. (Applause). Should they not be proud of what the Western District had done? He said they had reason to be proud, and they were proud to be there to do honor to those lads who had proved themselves to be the finest fighters the world had ever seen. (Applause). Yet they heard men ask from public platforms, "What difference would a few Australians make?" That was an insult to the men whose bodies were lying on Gallipoli to-day. (Hear, hear). The Kaiser had referred to England's contemptible little army, but it had been big enough to stop the Kaiser and his Huns from entering Paris and so had saved France and had also saved Australia. (Applause). Therefore men who said that a few Australians would make no difference were unpatriotic and unfair to their brother Australians. (Applause). What the Australians

had done was only what might be expected of the sons and grandsons of the pioneers who endured the roughness and privations of the early days to clear the country—which was the finest on God's earth—and hand it over to their descendants absolutely free. It was a country worth fighting for. (Applause). In conclusion Mr. Deany said he did not intend to touch on State politics, but wished to say that, as their representative, and a country member he was watching the interests of the country, and would use his best endeavors to further those interests. (Applause.)

Mrs. Begley sang "The Long Trail," for which she was encored, and Mr. M. McCallum amused the audience with a couple of comic songs in costume.

The Mayor of Warrnambool (Cr. Webb) expressed pleasure at being present to assist in unveiling the Honor Roll erected as a memorial to the memory of the men who had gone to fight the battles of the Empire. So far there was no Honor Roll in Warrnambool, but they were hoping to have one erected in the Town Hall to commemorate the deeds of the men fighting at the front, and those who had sacrificed their lives for the Empire. At present they were doing all they could to show their appreciation of what the men were doing, and arrangements had been made to present each returning man with an address of appreciation. (Applause). It was their duty also to see that the relatives of the men were looked after

their duty also to see that the relatives of the men were looked after and that the men themselves were properly provided for when they came back. This was a duty which both the State and Federal Parliaments had neglected in the past, but they hoped that the new Federal Government would put the matter of repatriation on a proper basis so that the men coming home may have no worry as to their future. (Applause).

Miss Dalton gave a clever exhibition of club swinging.

Cr. O'Brien, President of the Shire, thanked the committee for the invitation to be present and to associate with such a lot of distinguished company as they had on the platform, and to do honor to those young heroes who had gone to fight for the Commonwealth of Australia and the British Empire (applause)—and also to remember those heroes who had lost their lives on the battle fields of Gallipoli and France. (Continued applause). To the parents of those men he extended his sincere sympathy. It was a well-known fact as far as their soldiers were concerned there were no better, cleaner or more indomitable fighters on the face of the earth than the Australian lads, and they had proved it to the nations of the world. (Loud applause). In years gone by there was great talk of the achievements of the Dublin Fusiliers, the Gordon Highlanders and the King's Guards, but none of them could compete with the Australian natives for dash and courage. (Applause). They could not do them too much honor. The boys whose names appeared on the Honor Roll were born and bred in the Allansford district, and he was proud of them. The nation was proud of them, and he hoped they would be cared for as they deserved when they came back. (Applause). Referring to the proposal to settle returned soldiers on the land, Cr. O'Brien said it was useless to expect a man who had been brought up in a bank or a city office to make a successful farmer unless he was trained for the business. "Such a man might be given a sum of money and put on the land," declared the speaker, "but unless he knows the business, the first time he goes to the sale yards he will have it all from him before he knows where he is." (Loud laughter.)

What was wanted was that the soldiers who went from Allansford should be settled in the district from which they went. As far as the shire was concerned they would insist on that being done. A few years ago, when the Hon. Walter Manifold offered the Motang property for sale, he (Cr. O'Brien) tried to get the Government to purchase it for closer settlement, as it was close to the Warrnambool markets, where they could sell anything, even a bag of bones. (Laughter). But what did the Board do? They went to the back blocks beyond Garvoe where the land was so densely covered with timber that it would take a Samson to clear it. (Laughter). They did not want their returned soldiers to go to pieces like that, but where they could get land and do good with it. (Applause).

land and do good with it. (Applause). What he wanted Mr. Manifold to do was to see that the money collected in the district for the repatriation scheme was used for the purpose of putting the young fellows of this district in a position where they could make a living. They did not want them put out in the scrub to

starve. (Laughter and applause). He was afraid that if each district were not allowed to deal with its own returned men the Government would box them all up and men from this district would be sent to Rutherglen to grow grapes. (Laughter). He was glad to show the respect and esteem in which he held these young men, and his appreciation of the manner in which they had distinguished themselves. (Applause).

Mr. Page sang "A.N.Z.A.C.," and the audience joined in the chorus.

The Rev. T. P. Bennett also gave a brief address in which he expressed his appreciation of the invitation to be present to do honor to those who had gone forth from Allansford to fight for them. The three things which struck him most in his experiences amongst the men were their brotherliness, their intense earnestness and their humor. They would growl like lun when there was nothing to growl about, but when they were "up against it" there was never a word of complaint.

Miss McCallum gave a splendid rendering of the recitation, "The Charge of Australians at Gaby Tepe."

Mr. J. C. Manifold, M.H.R., on rising to speak was greeted with ringing cheers. He thanked them most heartily for their reception and for the honor they had conferred upon him in asking him to unveil the Honor Roll. The reception they had given him that night and the reception he had been given at Warrnambool and Ararat was flattering enough to give him a swelled head. He had made a similar remark at Ararat and Mr. Fairbairn said it was a bad thing for the politician who got swelled head generally lost his seat. (Laughter). Mr. Deary had referred to the Timboun Honor Roll, which was a splendid one, but Apollo Bay held the pride of place with 89 names, and they only put on their roll the names of men who went from there. In Hamodren they were preparing an Honor Roll which would contain the names of every soldier who was born in the shire. With regard to repatriation of soldiers he could assure Cr. O'Brien and others that the party with which he was associated would do everything possible to repatriate the soldiers and he believed the right way to do it was to bring them back to their own localities. (Applause). Cr. O'Brien seemed nervous about the money raised in Corangamite and Wannon under Mr. Rodgers' scheme. The Government would not get a penny of that money. It was in the bank still and he, as a trustee, could assure them that they were not going to part with any of it to the Government. If the Government was not going to subsidise the fund it would be held in trust and in all probability the money would be returned to the

or held in trust and in all probability the money would be returned to the subscribers. The donors to the scheme laid it down that all soldiers were to be treated equally. Unless the Government were prepared to give the trustees sufficient so that they would be able to repatriate the soldiers the scheme would have to go by the board. As for the city men being unfitted for settlement on the land, it had been found that the man bred in the city was just as good as the country man after he had served an apprenticeship. He had settled some 400 men on the land and had only had about five per cent. of failures. When they settled a man on the land they must keep hold of him for a time and give him advice and assistance, and they would find that the majority would come out all right. He had been making enquiries at the Defence Department about this question and he was told that a great many of the returned men who had gone back to office work soon became restless and longed for the free life in the open air. They could not stick inside. They must get out in the open. It was unnecessary for him to deal with what the men had done at the front, but he would say that one of the things that struck him more than anything else was the bravery of the wounded. He had visited one of the largest London Hospitals where there were thousands of wounded men, and their patience and bravery were wonderful. He wished to pay his tribute to the men who had gone from Allansford and from other parts of the Commonwealth. He was proud indeed to unveil the Honor Roll and he hoped and trusted that it would not be long before the war was over, and the men who were standing up to-day

would return. When they did come back he trusted the Government would see that they were properly treated, and that the Allansford boys would settle in Allansford and choose Allansford girls when they wanted to get married. (Applause).

Mr. Manifold then unveiled the roll, the audience standing and singing "God Bless Our Splendid Men."

Mr. W. J. Richards, representing the Y.M.C.A., delivered a short address in appreciation of the men who had gone to fight for liberty.

#### BRITISH RED CROSS APPEAL.

Mr. Manifold, at the request of the committee brought under notice the British Red Cross appeal. A special committee had been formed to canvass for subscriptions for the funds, and it had been decided to launch the appeal at that meeting. Mr. Manifold pointed out that the Australian branches of the Red Cross looked after the needs of the Australian soldiers, but the British Red Cross had to deal with all branches of the service including the navy, and it was deserving of the heartiest and most liberal support if for no other reason than that it helped the men in the navy.

The Rev. W. D. Anderson, after referring to the unveiling of the Honor Roll, and paying a tribute to

referring to the unveiling of the Honor Roll, and paying a tribute to the men who were fighting, supported the appeal and pointed out the absolute necessity that existed at the present time for funds for the Red Cross work.

Sergeant Fredericks delivered a short recruiting address, appealing to the young men remaining in the district to do their duty.

Mr. J. D. Deany then made a direct appeal to those present to contribute to the funds of the British Red Cross. He eulogised the work done by the Society, and urged a liberal response to the appeal. Mr. Deany then called for donations, and commencing at £5 5, several sums of £5 were promised amidst cheers, and then smaller amounts down to single shillings were given, the utmost enthusiasm prevailing, the net result of the appeal being that sums totalling £80 were received.

The committee appointed to make the canvass for subscriptions was Rev. W. D. Anderson, Messrs. John Neale, R. Page, W. A. Anderson, Michael Burke, G. E. Devenish and Miss Kean, with Mr. A. W. Senger, hon. secretary, and Miss Anderson, treasurer.

The following is a list of the amounts promised at the meeting: Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Begley £5 5; Mr. W. A. Anderson, Anderson family, J. Neale, Miss Watson, Mr. E. Uebergang £5 each; Mr. Senger £3 3.

Messrs. Logan, Devenish, W. Burleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Page, Jos. Edge, Otto Uebergang, Mrs. E. Uebergang £2 2 each.

Mrs. Chilton, Miss Sharpe, Jas. Johnston, A. E. Dalton, A. Morgan, Rev. W. D. Anderson, A. Grauer £1 1 each.

Jas. Neale and Miss Chislett, £1 each.

Mrs. Perrie, Mrs. Farthing, Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. Avdon, A. McCallum, Jas. McDowall, M. Barling, A. Poor Boy, R. D. Brock, Mr. Phinard, Mrs. Hall, P. Carroll junr., H. Murfitt, M. Wilson, J. Brock, J. Fiekhert, A. Bentley 10 6 each.

Grafer, Miss Doris Uebergang, 10/ each.

Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Bristow, Miss R. Chilton, Miss M. McClure, Miss Vera Chilton, Miss N. Kavanagh, Miss Hall, Miss Walters, Miss Drake, Miss A. Drake, Hard-worker, Elsie Johnston, Mr. Borthwick, Mrs. T. Bonnett, Mrs. H. Allwood junr., Mrs. Malone, Mrs. Allwood, D. Morgan, Spindliger, J. Kavanagh, Miss Kean, Mr. Chislett, W. Sherherd, Lindsay Johnston, Soldiers' Sister, Ivor Johnston, Ven. Farthing, Jean Jenkins, 5/ each.

The Mugs 3/.

Mrs. Crouch, Eight young ladies, Stanley Chilton, Beatrice Phillips, Geo. Hall, Bert Burleigh, Ned Chilton, Chas. Burleigh, Miss Weatherhead, G. Manson, Mrs. Cook, and six anonymous donors 2/6 each.

Annie Bonnett, Miss Allwood, Annie Jewell, 2/ each.

Miss Morgan, Keith Morgan, E. Farthing, 1/ each, and other anonymous amounts, making a grand total of £80.

The proceedings closed with the

The proceedings closed with the customary votes of thanks and the National Anthem.

#### TWO RECRUITS.

At the conclusion of the meeting two young men—J. C. Chislett and R. D. Brock—came forward and handed in their names as volunteers for the A.I.F., and they were cheered by those present.