

Mogriguy's Memorial.

SPLENDID HALL OPENED.

ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING.

Wednesday night will long be remembered in Mogriguy, both for its occasion, the opening of a Memorial Hall erected in memory of the soldiers of that centre, and for the enthusiasm and numbers of the gathering and the mixture of reverence and heartiness that characterized the evening.

The Hall is a fine building, 46ft. by 27ft., with stage and dressing rooms, the front being specially designed by the architect, Mr. J. B. Macdonald, to be impressive of that spirit of memory that will always hover round the building; and it is indeed something quite off the beaten track, and bearing a large panel for the inscription of some suitable memorial legend.

The muster of people was nothing short of magnificent, hundreds being present, and the motor cars parked outside the hall numbered at least fifty. Dubbo was largely represented, and visitors were present from so far away as Baradine, while folk from Gilgandra, Eumungerie and all surrounding centres swelled the throng. The hall was tastefully decorated, and a large marquee had been erected outside for supper.

Opening Ceremony.

The actual ceremony was performed a little after 9 p.m. by His Worship the Mayor of Dubbo (Alderman J. B. Macdonald), and commenced with a reverent silence of one minute's duration. On the stage the Mayor was surrounded by members of the Memorial Fund Committee and the trustees of the hall.

His Worship's dedicatory address was solemn, impressive and inspiring. He said that the purpose for which the form of monument they had chosen stood was to keep in perpetuity the memory of their fallen soldiers, and for an aspiration to the generations to come. Within those walls they should see to it that no word of treason should ever be uttered, no disloyalty ever heard. Bigotry must be boycotted, and any differences that engendered hate, should they arise out of class creed or sect, must be left outside of that building, and the banishment of any feeling of that kind should be the only passport necessary for admission to the Mogriguy Memorial Hall. The Hall, continued the speaker, is sacred to the memory of the comradeship of all men, and to the special memory of those from among themselves who were now mustered amongst the Deathless Army. The Hall was also a grateful oblation to the women of the community, who throughout the terrible years of war had endured agonies that no man could understand, and made sacrifices that were inestimable and could never sufficiently be rewarded.

His Worship concluded with congratulations to the contractor, Mr. Andrew Bailey, for the faithful manner in which the work of building the Hall had been

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Dr. E. H. Burkitt, President of the Dubbo and District Branch of the Returned Soldiers' League, congratulated the people of Mogriguy most heartily on behalf of the League on the erection of such a fine memorial. He made a strong appeal for co-operation and comradeship amongst the people of that community and the district, and the organisation of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

Mr. Cole, President of the Committee of the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, gave a short account of the work done by the committee, and the help received from the ladies, and he heartily congratulated the Secretary (Mr. Howe) upon the result of his labors, as seen that night.

Councillor W. H. Godwin also spoke, and moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, Dr. Burkitt, and visitors from all centres, which was carried by acclamation.

His Worship the Mayor then made an appeal for further funds with which to complete the payment on the Hall. There was a magnificent response, resulting in the sum of £79 18s being subscribed in the hall in a very short space of time.

The ceremonious part of the evening came to a close by all present singing the National Anthem.

Dancing was indulged in until 12 o'clock, when supper was announced. The supper reflected great credit on the ladies, who went to a great deal of trouble and labor to make everything as pleasant and satisfactory to the visitors as possible. In many homes there had been nothing doing lately but the preparing of cakes, etc., for this supper. The following ladies were responsible for the splendid and beautiful repast:— Mesdames Godwin, A. Howe, N. Howe, Stroud, Paxton, Bailey, Haines, Cole, J. Cox, W. Waser, Taylor, Shaw, Crawford, Thompson, and Miss Chandler. The music was supplied by Messrs. Moore and Tracey, of Dubbo, who gave every satisfaction. The duties of M.C. were carried out most satisfactorily by Mr. A. Howe, Junr. The extras were played by Miss Susie Godwin. During the evening three hearty cheers were given for the energetic Secretary, Mr. A. Howe, senr.