

RAILWAY VOLUNTEERS.

ROLL OF HONOUR UNVEILED.

There was a large assemblage of the employees of the Port Waratah Locomotive Depot, with their wives, families, and friends, at the sheds on Saturday afternoon last, for the purpose of taking part in the ceremony of unveiling a roll of honour containing the names of the employees who have enlisted in the Expeditionary Forces. The grounds and sheds were decorated with the flags of the Empire and Allies, the Stars and Stripes (America) were prominent. The gardens adjacent to the sheds were admired by the visitors. The unveiling took place in the dining hall, where the roll was placed temporarily, but its permanent position will be in the large room where the employees sign on and off work. The roll is of polished oak, of artistic design, and was made by Driver A. J. Nimmo, one of the employees, and his work was much admired. The letters of the names are gilded. Mr. W. Godden is secretary of the roll of honour committee. Mr. W. Fraser, steam shed inspector, presided, and the proceedings were commenced by the singing of the National Anthem.

The chairman said the employees all felt they should honour and preserve the names of those of the men who had gone from amongst them to fight for the flag of freedom, and the roll was decided upon. There were 52 names on the roll, which was a good record from amongst 300 employees, and it was a further proof of the loyalty and patriotism of Australians.

Mr. W. Hamblin, district locomotive superintendent, then unveiled the roll by drawing the Union Jack from before it, all present standing as a mark of respect to the men whose names were revealed, and the hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," was rung.

Mr. Hamblin said he felt highly honoured to be amongst them to do honour to the brave lads who had gone from the works. He felt proud of them, as fellow workmen, and that so many had gone from Port Waratah sheds. It was satisfactory to think that 52 had answered the call of duty. He regretted with them that some of their comrades had fallen. Four whose names were on the roll, viz., C. O'Malley, H. Scott, A. J. Campbell, and J. Hefner, had made the supreme sacrifice. But it was a consoling thought that the loss could not have been in a greater cause, as they died for the protection of the weaker States, and to defend the wives and daughters of Australia. He thanked God that they had men amongst them willing to do what many of them could not do. These men were fighting in France on their behalf, just as much for their freedom as if the Germans were at the gates of Australia. He hoped those still alive would come back safely. Mr. Hamblin then recited some appropriate verses. He also, in the course of his remarks, complimented Driver Nimmo for his work on the roll.

Mr. S. Irwin, chief clerk, said the men who had gone on service had no joy-ride. There was danger, and they knew it, but a love of liberty and loyalty to their fellow-men had prompted them, and they had gone away cheerfully to fight to preserve that liberty.

Mr. Ashton (driver) said their comrades had nobly answered the call, and he felt it an honour to honour them. The drivers and firemen who had volunteered for the railway units would face danger as well as the private, as the enemy if he wanted to wreck a train would shoot at the driver first. He hoped all whose names were on the roll would return full of glory.

Mr. J. Williams, leading storeman, Mr. W. Halles, leading fitter, Mr. W. Godden, driver, and Mr. Thornton, head charge-

man, each spoke in eulogistic terms of their fellow-workmen who had enlisted, expressed sympathy with the relatives of those who had fallen, and the hope that all the others would return.

Mr. Carroll moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hamblin, the speakers, committee, and chairman, carried by acclamation. The chairman, in reply, thanked all for their attendance, particularly the ladies, and complimented Driver Nimmo for the work of the roll, which, he said, was a credit to his ability.

"God Save the King" was sung, and the proceedings closed.

The roll is inscribed: "N.S.W. G.R. Roll of Honour, Loco Depot, Port Waratah, For King and country." The names thereon are: C. O'Malley, L. Ross, H. Patfield, A. De Caturet, H. Scott, S. Scowercroft, K. Robertson, A. Jack, P. Milgate, J. Lovell, W. Vogt, J. Harrison, A. J. Campbell, E. McDonald, H. Sharpe, H. Makins, R. Murray, R. Boyle, R. Bailey, R. White, J. Davey, W. Woodward, A. Hayes, H. Proctor, C. Rhoden, A. Waddell, G. Fleming, W. Easton, A. McLean, H. Fisher, C. Roberts, H. Hinde, E. Liddell, E. Thomas, W. E. Irwin, A. Downie, D. Jenkinson, S. Jamieson, G. L. Nicholson, R. Grace, J. Green, J. Redding, T. J. Smith, H. C. Cooper, W. Willis, Joe Powell, P. Eather, T. Prince, A. Sharp, L. Doran, J. Richards, J. Hefner. The name of J. Hodgson will be added.