

## NEW MEMORIAL WALL.

### At Woronora Crematorium.

The new A.I.F. memorial wall near the entrance to the Woronora Crematorium, Sutherland, was unveiled and dedicated last Sunday afternoon by Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, in the presence of a large gathering. Many returned soldiers also attended. The memorial was dedicated to memory of ex-soldiers who had died through war causes, their ashes reposing in the memorial. The service was commenced by Chaplain Rev. R. C. Turner (Congregational) announcing the hymn "Lead, Kindly Light," after which Chaplain Rev. W. H. Arthur (Methodist) read Psalm 46 as the scripture reading. Following on the announcement of the hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past," by Chaplain Rev. W. Torrance (Presbyterian), the commemoration prayer was offered by Chaplain Rev. J. Robertson (Baptist). Kipling's "Recessional" was announced by Chaplain W. J. Crossman (Church of Christ), and after the Vesper by Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel W. Pennell (Salvation Army), the service was closed with the Benediction by Chaplain Rev. R. H. Pitt-Owen (Church of England).

In unveiling the memorial, Sir Charles Rosenthal said it had been erected by the Crematorium trustees at the request of the Commonwealth Government. The latter had provided the granite centre panel and also the urn and engraved plate for the ashes of each soldier to be placed in the 200 recesses. The recesses were on each of the panels, provision being also made for extensions. There were 113 graves of ex-soldiers in the Woronora Cemetery, and 1915 in the State, each year many dying from war effects. In addition, there were 197 graves of ex-enemy subjects in the State. Sir Charles said the average age of the returned soldier was 45 years, in comparison with the usual age of 70 years, showing how the dreadful strain of war was taking its toll. The sacrifice made by soldiers had not finished at the end of the war, their lives being taken at such an early age. In other crematoriums throughout Australia similar memorial walls were being built, and returned men had no greater wish than to be placed beside their comrades, with whom they lived and fought during the war years. The memorial would be a reminder to all people to recall with gratitude the great sacrifices made. The difficulties between nations during the war had not yet been settled, and the position in Europe to-day was similar to that in July, 1914. Australia was the only

in Europe to-day was similar to that in July, 1914. Australia was the only country in the world which had not seen war within its borders, and nobody wished that such should ever occur. The three bugle sounds of "Retreat," "Last Post," and "Reveille" were fitting and symbolical of the occasion. The first was for the close of the day, representing the death of a soldier; the second for "Lights out," symbolical of the burial; and the third for calling of an army to rise, representative of the resurrection.

The centre panel is also engraved in bronze, the wording being "In Memorium, those who gave their lives through service in the Great War, 1914-1918." A guard-of-honour and band was provided by the 34th Battalion, Hurstville.