

WARDELL NEWS.

WARDELL, August 6.

A basket picnic in connection with the Wardell Public School was held in the school grounds on Wednesday last. The function was arranged for the presentation of Peace Medals to the children, the unveiling of the school honor roll, and the presentation of the shire certificates to returned men. Unfortunately the Peace Medals were delayed in some way in transition, and there were only nine certificates that arrived in time. However, a good crowd rolled up and a very pleasant time was spent by children and adults in games, etc. Visitors were present from the district around, very many being interested in the unveiling of the honor roll. The description and names have appeared in a previous issue. After a hearty luncheon had been partaken of the children and adults repaired to the school room, where the honor roll was erected and veiled with the Union Jack. After the National Anthem had been sung the teacher, Mr. McLeod, explained that owing to the clashing of the function with the opening of the Soldiers' Club in Ballina he had received a number of apologies, which he read, and called on Cr. A. Robins to preside. The chairman said he was sorry that the medals had not arrived. They had been posted and would be presented later on. He felt it a honor to be there to express his praise and appreciation of the men whose names appeared on the honor roll. These names stood for liberty—the liberty they enjoyed at present. Few people seem to know their work. They had but to follow the boys in their career in Gallipoli and France, where they had made names for themselves. He would like to say in addressing the children did they pause to think why we won the war? Because we fought in a righteous cause, and right must always prove victorious. He never had any doubt as to the ultimate result of the war.

always prove victorious. He never had any doubt as to the ultimate result of the war. They knew how hard pressed our armies were, how when in the north they were almost cleft in two, they made no further retreat. The Higher Being came to the rescue. He would like to remind them that the Australians played an important part in the turning point of the war. There was nothing too good that Australians could say or do for the returned soldiers. He would like to add that of all the force of human hands the greatest force was the British Navy, and he asked the children to sing one verse of "Rule Britannia." The chairman then called on Mrs. C. T. Lumley to unveil the board, which was done amidst much enthusiasm.

The Rev. Mr. Rigby (vicar of Woodburn), more especially addressing the children, told them when they came in for lessons to remember that the names on the board meant to them tradition. They engaged in warfare for a just cause, and they fought it to a finish. They had on their Peace Medals, "Liberty and Justice." All of them had heard of the German navy. Well, they had no tradition; they had withdrawn into their harbor and had surrendered. Different nations had tried to sweep the British Navy from the seas, but that they could never do; they might sink ships, but the navy would not surrender—that the British Navy would never do. And with this board before them they would never forget their traditions.

The Rev. Mr. Jenkins referred to the Peace Medals having inscribed on them "Liberty and Justice." He would like to draw their attention to the fact that if examined with a microscope the angel representing "Peace" appeared to have on shoes or sandals. As people did not associate anything such with angels his own view of the matter was that the artist in designing was embodying a Scriptural reference where the angel was "shod with the Gospel of Peace." The speaker expressed great pleasure at being present to do honor to those names

being present to do honor to those names which were on the roll. Everyone was proud of the fact they had fought to give Australia freedom. He asked the children why they were so happy that day, and explained that it was the release following the excessive strain of four and a half years of the greatest war the world had seen, and the feeling of triumph and of victory which followed the declaration of peace. The Germans had peace, but their peace was not

like ours. It had been said before the war that England had been a decadent nation, but there had been no sign of that during the war. They were on the side of right, and "right must win." The speaker concluded by expressing his pleasure at the goodly gathering.

The song "Laud of Hope—Australia," having been sung by the children,

Mr. W. Fredericks (Tintenbar) said such boards were erected to perpetuate the work of the boys who had done so much; who had brought us freedom at the cost of their lives. The Rev. Mr. Rigby, the speaker said, had remarked what their fathers had done the children could do if called upon, but he hoped they would never have it to do. The soldiers had done their work well. They fought well when things were quivering in the balance. No one realised how near the British were to losing this war, and they could thank God their arms were victorious. He was proud to be an Australian. All of them knew how brave men made history for Australia, and how many slept on the far-off hills of Gallipoli and in France so that those at home might be happy and free. His sympathy went out to the friends of those whose names were on that roll, those who would not come back. But he knew they were prouder of them than they would have been if they had not gone. In four and a half years the Allies had undone what the German nation had taken 40 years to build up. There were very few trained men among the Allies at the outset.

trained men among the Allies at the outset, and their achievement was something to be proud of. He was glad to welcome the returned boys and to know that peace was signed, and now would reign supreme.

Lieutenant Wilcox said the honor roll was a fine record for the district. There had been 500 men go from Tintenbar Shire, and 100 of these were killed. Sixty thousand Australians had given their lives to get this peace. Remember the men who went were prepared for any sacrifice. That was how they died. Several speakers had eulogised the work done by the British Navy during the war. He (Lieutenant Wilcox) had witnessed the sinking of the *Triumph* by a torpedo, which he graphically described, emphasising the fact that while ever the guns were above water they sent shot after shot on the enemy, and not until she heeled over did the firing cease. That was the way they died, and do not forget that, girls and boys.

Cr. Campbell (Tintenbar) endorsed the previous speakers' remarks, and added his quota that the heroines of the war were the mothers and wives who stayed at home and waited, waited for news.

Messrs. P. Lumley and W. J. Eanson having spoken, the Tintenbar Shire certificates were presented by Mr. Robins to the following returned men:—Lieutenants F. Wilcox and A. Bartlett, Ptes. C. Lumley, Geo. Law, J. Elder, and A. Payne. The Rev. Mr. Rigby presented the following certificates to the bereaved relatives of those who had fallen:—Ptes. C. T. Lumley, Percy Lumley, and L. R. Payne, all standing. The indoor proceedings closed with the "Hymn of Peace," by the children, who dispersed to continue their pastimes.

The certificates issued by the shire are very appropriately designed. There is the outline of the map of Australia, on which is the inscription forming the centrepiece. Across the upper portion the flags of the Allies are arranged about a small picture of a soldier. At the lower edge the wattle

of a soldier. At the lower edge the wattle blossoms, waratah, and flannel flowers are artistically depicted. The names on the honor board have been compiled from the names on the school roll of the boys who had sailed from Australia.

Ptes. Cecil Lumley and V. Mortimer were the successful applicants in the ballot for two blocks of land at Victoria Park, Dalwood.

A very successful gift evening was held at "Mayley," Mr. C. T. Lumley's residence, on Monday last, in aid of the bachelors' stall at the forthcoming C.E. bazaar on 4th and 5th October next.

WARDELL, August 12.

On Saturday night Mr. J. Allworth (vice-president of Ballina District Hospital) addressed a meeting of Wardell residents in the School of Arts on the forthcoming annual hospital benefit. After explaining the great expense the hospital had been under during the 'flu epidemic, which ran into fully £500, the speaker said that what was required at this meeting was that a number of delegates should be appointed to attend a meeting to be held at Ballina on Friday night for the purpose of arranging in what way the annual sports would be carried out. It had been suggested that this year's sports would be held at East Ballina, where there were better facilities for sport. At a later date members of the committee would visit Wardell and give an account of the year's work. Messrs. E. J. Meaney, B. McDonough, W. Rudgley, D. Hartigan, J. Collier, senr., P. Lumley, and E. Mallett were appointed delegates to attend the meeting in Ballina on Friday night. A vote of thanks to the speaker concluded the meeting.

The six-year-old daughter of Mr. F. Williams had the misfortune to cut off portion of the middle finger of her left hand with a tomahawk. The child was taken to Ballina Hospital, where the injured member was removed.

removed.

A party from Meerschaum Vale is expected on Friday night at the Wardell School of Arts to compete in a 500 tournament.

Wardell and Broadwater football teams met at Broadwater on Saturday afternoon, and a well contested game resulted in a draw. J. Maroney received a nasty bump just at full time.

The Wardell school boys defeated a team of Broadwater lads at Broadwater on Saturday by 3 to nil.