

AN ORIGINAL ANZAC

MEMORIAL AT WOODBURN

The memorial headstone subscribed by the friends of Sergeant Thomas McCormack was unveiled at the Woodburn cemetery on Anzac Day. There was a large gathering from all parts of the district to pay the last tribute to his memory.

Sergeant McCormack was one of the original Anzacs, and one of the first to leave Woodburn for active service. He served four years in Egypt and Mesopotamia, receiving the Military Medal. Returning after the war he met his death in most tragic circumstances whilst working his farm at Woodburn. The unveiling ceremony was very impressive and was performed by the Rev. Father O'Regan, of Coraki. The memorial was draped with a large Union Jack, and the Australian Flag lay across the grave. The Rev. Rigby, vicar of Woodburn, called on the Rev. Williamson (Presbyterian), who gave a brief address on Anzac Day and all it signified, the principles fought for, and the memories associated with it.

Captain F. W. Davis, of Lismore, made touching reference to the young man whom they were honouring that day, whom he knew from boyhood till the time he embarked on the river boat from final leave, and then again until he crossed the "great divide." He referred to the sorrowing parents, brothers and sisters standing with bowed heads round the grave, and commended to their care the beautiful memorial, a token of kindly esteem subscribed for and erected by his friends.

The vicar feelingly addressed the gathering, referring particularly to the emblems on the stone—firstly, the cross standing for Christianity and righteousness; the soldiers' badge inset, the civic emblem of duty nobly done by Soldier McCormack. He was pleased to have present that afternoon a young man who had served in the same battalion as Tom McCormack, the 5th Australian Light Horse, and he called upon Alex. McKinnon, of Woodburn, to place on the grave a beautiful wreath outlined with the battalion colours, blue and red. Other friends then brought forward many handsome floral tributes. An impressive feature of the gathering was the number of ex-service men present from all parts of the district, numbering about 20 from Woodburn to Coraki.

present from all parts of the district, numbering about 30, from Wardell to Coraki. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

The monument is a square of Carrara marble, 5 feet high by 1 foot 4 inches, with a marble cross on top. A carved panel of lilies comes just above the inscription, and underneath the late soldier's badge is fitted into the marble and made watertight with a glass cover. The monument is enclosed with art stone moulded kerb, and six moulded pillars. The foot stone has a marble step let into it level with the floor, which is covered with New Zealand white pebbles, making a very pleasing effect. The whole of the work was entrusted to Roberts and Davis monumental masons, Lismore.

The memorial fund committee desire to thank all who contributed especially the firm of Roberts and Davis, who forwarded a cheque for £5 as a donation.
