

YAMBA HONOR ROLL.

THE UNVEILING CEREMONY.

The Yamba District Roll of Honor was unveiled on Friday last in the Public School there at one o'clock by Mr. W. T. Fraser, M.A., Inspector of Schools, who also occupied the chair. The ceremony was to have been performed by the Hon. G. W. Fuller, Chief Secretary, but who, the chairman explained, was unable to come along from Maclean, on account of being delayed by the heavy rain which fell during the previous evening. Mr. Fraser said Mr. Fuller had asked him to express his keen regret at his inability to be present at the ceremony.

The proceedings commenced by the company singing the National Anthem. The chairman then called on the Rev. J. Nicholson (Rector of Taralga) to speak.

Mr. Nicholson said it gave him great pleasure to be present on that auspicious occasion. It was right to remember those who had done so much for us, who had gone to fight at the front for us. They were met there for the specific purpose of unveiling a tribute to those who had shown their bravery. But they must not go away and forget what this unveiling meant. All must remember that these lads went to the war that others might remain here in peace and freedom. If those men had not gone, what would have been the result? Think of it! These lads had gone forth to give their best, to make the supreme sacrifice, that the grand old Union Jack might still wave in the breeze. He felt when meeting a returned soldier that he must shake hands with him for what he had done. He wanted all the boys and girls, and adults as well as children, to realize the responsibility and duty that should be theirs. In Australia that spirit of responsibility appeared not to be as strong as in the homeland. He knew that in Yamba and other centres the Red Cross workers had done much. But still more could be done. They must not only sing the National Anthem, but act it, and show their appreciation of those grand Australians who had shown their bravery and adaptability. His brother had written to him and said, "You have in Australia the making of

"You have in Australia the making of the finest soldiers in the world." When they went away from there, let them remember to do all they could to help those who had returned or may return. They must be practical and must do their level best on behalf of the soldiers at the front.

The school children sang "Australia Fair."

Mr. Fraser next addressed the company. He said: Three hundred thousand soldiers have gone from Australia to fight in order that peace may reign upon earth. Peace is a beautiful word and a term that meets our highest ideals. But peace to be durable must be based on justice—the feeling to be just. Our soldiers will return after the war, proud of the sacrifice, but hating war so deeply that peace will have no stronger advocates than our returned warriors. It will be the same in other lands, and, to my mind, the one bright hope amid the horrors of this awful strife is the conviction that the seeds of peace are being sown even in the deepest trenches, unconsciously, perhaps, but no less surely. When the great international peace is signed and we turn to our national problems, we are to have peace at home as well as abroad. It is the business of each to think, enquire, learn; but above all to think in order that each may be a factor in bringing to pass that fraternity and co-operation between class and class that will produce the grandest traits of common humanity—intellectual advancement, moral stability, strenuous work, with well-spent leisure. What is cruel, ruthless, base, overbearing, inhuman in our foes, let us hate and avoid. But do not let us run to the other extreme in patriotism and exalt imperialism and commercial predominance above goodness and justice. In the quiet days that are to come, the thoughts (in real and deep) of every individual are needed. The more our actions are grounded in wise judgments and sincere convictions the stronger will be our national life and the more effective our national work. The dream of the Central Powers has been of vast empires based on military supremacy. Let our dream be one of a nation so educated that the individual thoughts are right thoughts, wise, tolerant, just. It is our duty to ascertain, as far as in our power lies, what is justice, and to diffuse the idea among our fellow-citizens in order that it may be em-

to diffuse the idea among our fellow-citizens in order that it may be embodied in our political, civic, and national life. But to accomplish this there must be strong leaders, men and women who prize honor, virtue and justice above external advantages of wealth and place.

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift,

We have our work to do and loads to lift!

Shun not the struggle; face it—'tis Life's gift,

Be strong.

Say not the days are evil; who's to blame?

And fold the hands and acquiesce; O shame!

Stand up! Speak out, bravely in Right's name,

Be strong.

It matters not how deep entrenched the wrong;

How hard the battle goes, the day how long.

Fault not, fight on! To-morrow comes the song,

Be strong.

The audience rose while the chairman unveiled the honor board.

Mr. Dalby, the headmaster, said: Although the honor board was placed in the school, it is one for the whole district. I, as head master of this school, appreciate the placing of the board here, as it will aid the pupils' patriotism. I found on my arrival that the children and people of Yamba are extremely patriotic. Three of the men whose names are on the board have made the supreme sacrifice. The spirit of honor begets honor, and the names of those who are enrolled on the board will act on the generations to come as those who fought in the Peninsula and Crimean wars have done. I hope the names will so act as an impetus to future generations.

Mr. E. Duce, a returned soldier, spoke of the apathy of many of the Australians. We were told in England, he said, that if the referendum was carried, we would be able to return to Australia. But as it was turned down the men who should have been relieved were sent to the trenches many of them quite unfit to go there, all through need of reinforcements.

The pupils sang "Hearts of Oak," after which Mr. E. Perkins moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Fraser and Mr. Nicholson for their attendance and

vote of thanks to Mr. Fraser and Mr. Nicholson for their attendance and addresses. This was carried by acclamation.

The National Anthem was again sung and the proceedings brought to a close by three cheers being given for King and Empire and the boys at the front.

The following names appear on the board:—G. J. N. Anderson, E. A. Baker, V. R. Baker, R. E. Barber, A. Barclay, G. Barclay, D. Carr, E. C. Carr, G. Cox, E. Duce, J. McDermid, W. Pegus, W. A. Collins, W. G. Perkins, D. J. Raymond, H. Raymond, J. Reardon, T. Reardon, H. S. S. Redman, C. J. Redman, G. Samson, F. Schaumann, G. Unwin, J. Unwin, G. F. Want, G. J. Harrington.

The Solicitor-General for Ireland said in the House of Commons that no prisoners were being forcibly fed, but those refusing food must take the consequences.

Speaking in the House of Commons Mr. Hope (Junior Lord of the Treasury) stated that he believed the agreement with the Turkish Government regarding the exchange of prisoners would be ratified.