

MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

School of Arts and Returned Soldiers

KYOGLE'S IMPRESSIVE BUILDING

Official Opening Ceremony

KYOGLE, Wednesday.

The Memorial Institute erected at Kyogle by the School of Arts committee and returned soldiers of the district in memory of the district fallen soldiers was officially opened this afternoon in the presence of a very large gathering by the shire president (Cr. R. J. Moore).

Mr. C. B. Snodgrass presided, and read an apology from the private secretary to the Governor (Sir Philip Game), who stated he regretted that prior arrangements at Casino precluded him from coming to Kyogle, as he desired very much to have done had it been possible. Apologies were also read from Mr. J. T. Reid, M.L.A., Rev. Father Henderson, and a number of others.

HEALTHY PUBLIC SPIRIT

Mr. Snodgrass, in extending a welcome to the visitors, said that the presence of so many people in the afternoon indicated healthy public spirit.

Referring to the memorial buildings, Mr. Snodgrass said there was nothing better of their kind in any country district in New South Wales.

Explaining the change in the name from the School of Arts to the Memorial Buildings, Mr. Snodgrass said

Memorial Buildings, Mr. Snodgrass said that when the returned soldiers decided to join up with the School of Arts it was thought fitting that a suitable name should be found for it, and the name decided upon was fitting for the purpose for which the building was designed and erected. For all time it would serve as such a memorial.

Mr. Snodgrass invited the public to regard the Memorial Institute as their own building and to take a hearty interest in its future.

Referring to the quality of work put into the building by Col Board, who designed it, to Mr. Stevenson, the contractor, and to the artisans who did the building the one aim in the mind of all connected with its erection was to give of their very best, and they had worthily upheld the good name of Australian artisans and workmen.

RETURNED SOLDIERS

Speaking on behalf of the returned soldiers, Mr. G. S. Mackerill said that the returned men felt that the institute would for all time fittingly do honour to the district's fallen soldiers, and their comrades were pleased to be associated with it.

Mrs. R. E. Alcorn, president of the Kyogle branch of the U.W.A., thanked the president and committee of the institute for making available a beautiful room for the association. Every convenience had been provided for the ladies' comfort in the room, and they looked forward with pleasure to many happy meetings in it.

INSTITUTE OFFICIALLY OPEN

Cr. Moore, in officially declaring the institute open, said that the occasion was a very important one, and he regretted that the Governor could not have graced the occasion with his presence. Cr. Moore referred to the

presence. Cr. Moore referred to the erection of the Memorial Institute as another important step in the progress of the town and district.

The building stood as a great tribute to the public spirit of the Kyogle people.

“We have almost achieved the impossible in Kyogle by walking hand in hand together,” Cr. Moore added. He was pleased to see in the hall that afternoon many of the original settlers who came to the district. The institute stood for faith on the part of the public in the future of the district and for faith on the part of the financial institutions which had assisted in financing the erection of the Institute. In addition to being second to none of similar buildings outside Sydney, it also stood permanently as a hall of remembrance to the district’s fallen soldiers. Concluding, Cr. Moore said that although not erected free of debt there was no need for any fears as to the capacity of the town and district to wipe off the balance owing within a very few years.

Mr. Snodgrass conveyed the committee’s thanks to the town and district’s public spirited men who had come to the assistance of the committee and had subscribed a sum of over £900 on long term repayments to enable the whole building to be completed. Continuing, Mr. Snodgrass said that in proportion to its predecessors the debt on the Institute buildings was only about one half and could easily be wiped off within a few years if the public gave the necessary support to its sources of revenue.

TABLETS UNVEILED

Miss M. Amess performed the ceremony of unveiling a tablet at the entrance to the vestibule in memory of

trance to the vestibule in memory of the fallen soldiers.

“Nothing can be too good for the men who died in fighting for our nation and who gave us Anzac,” said Miss Amess.

“Only the scum of society who stayed in safety at home criticise the Anzacs. The scum comes to the top of the pot and boils over at times, and makes an awful mess when it does,” concluded Miss Amess, in referring to undesirable elements that are fermenting in Australia at the present time.

Mrs. R. E. Alcorn unveiled a similar tablet on the opposite entrance in appreciation of the work done during the war and since by the women of Kyogle.

She said that it was with a desire for the betterment of the town and district and its splendid institutions that the women had banded together in associations.

They felt sufficiently honoured by having their efforts permanently recorded in Kyogle's fine memorial building.

Cr. Moore was presented with a gold key with which he officially opened the doors to the memorial hall.

Souvenirs were also presented to Mrs. Alcorn and Miss Amess.