

## Memorial Gates at High School Dedicated

**Erected by the Old Scholars' Association the fine memorial gates at the Mount Barker High School were dedicated Saturday last to the memory of old scholars who had lost their lives in defence of Australia.**

High School Headmaster, Mr. T. W. Charlesworth, M.A., Dip. Ed., extended a welcome home to old scholars and expressed his pleasure at the knowledge that the association was a particularly virile one. Usually old scholars' organisations appeared to flourish for awhile and then go into recess, he said and it spoke well for the office-bearers' efforts that the local association was so alive. He commended them on their efforts which had resulted in the fine gates being erected as a memorial to the fallen of World War II. They would serve the school and be a most useful and fitting memorial in the years to come. Mr. Charlesworth then introduced the president of the Old Scholars' Association, Mr. Don H. Wollaston.

Mr. Wollaston expressed his pleasure at seeing so many people present which demonstrated appreciation of the efforts made by the association. The erection of the gates had been a labor of love by a very few, but the necessary money for materials besides some outside help had come from old scholars all over Australia and he publicly

over Australia and he publicly offered his thanks to all who had assisted. An old scholars' association was a very loosely knit body, he said, and it was extremely difficult to keep in touch with a great many old scholars. Teachers of the school could be a great influence in the creation of the spirit necessary to keep the interest of the school alive and in this respect he mentioned the names of the two original teachers, the late Mr. J. E. Smith who was represented by his sons, and Miss Stolz who was present that day. The two persons mentioned, Mr. Wollaston said, had been the foundation on which the association was built. No names were inscribed on the plaque the reason being that there were about 1500 old scholars and it was impossible for the committee to keep account of hundreds of them and the probability of many names being omitted in consequence.

Mr. Wollaston raised a laugh when he revealed that when question arose of an old scholar being asked to dedicate the gates that there was only one known clergyman who was an

known clergyman who was an old scholar of the school which he wondered was perhaps not a very creditable showing. The Rev. Cedric Noon was unable to be present due to illness but sent the following message: "Gates are the symbols of entrance and exit. I trust that your memorial gates will serve as the entrance to wiser, wider and better living, as part of the debt we all owe to those who fought and died during the war, for high ideals and nobler ways of life."

Miss Stolz then unveiled the plaque and Rev. H. Woolnough dedicated the gates.

Addressing the gathering in the absence of the Minister for Lands, Mr. Hincks, Mr. Schumacher expressed his regret that Mr. Hincks was not present.

He said there was no one more worthy of performing the opening ceremony on such an occasion as this, and spoke of Mr. Hincks service in World War I in which he had lost a leg. He had risen above his handicaps to perform outstanding work as Minister of Lands and to assist in the settlement of ex-servicemen on the land. The S.A. land settlement was recognised as being ahead of other States—a particular example being on Kangaroo Island where a remarkable transformation had taken place, the ex-soldiers settled there being very happy. Returned men had a very sympathetic minister in Mr. Hincks, he said.

Mr. Schumacher said a lot of wisdom had been shown in the choice of the gates as a memorial and a lasting testimony to the deep debt of gratitude owed to the heroic efforts of those

to the heroic efforts of those who served their country in World War II. He said the Old Scholars' Association could not have survived without the active interest of Mr. Wollaston and Miss Stolz. Mr. Schumacher then declared the gates open.