

A MEMORIAL SERVICE

Marble Tablet Unveiled at Alawoona

IN MEMORY OF PTES. C. L. FINEY AND BAWDEN

Alawoona, May 21. Our Sunday Alawoona honoured the memory of two of her soldiers who enlisted in the Great War and made the supreme sacrifice. The institute stage was fittingly set out with beautiful vases of flowers.

There are two marble tablets, one on the western wall being the Roll of Honour of Alawoona and District, and the other on the eastern wall, which was draped with the Union Jack is inscribed to the memory of Private Cecil Lloyd Finney, 32 Bri. A.I.F. and Private Bawden. Both enlisted from Alawoona and made the supreme sacrifice.

Over one hundred attended the service and the Rev. Harry R. Lambert of the Methodist Mission from Karoonda conducted the memorial service. After hymns selected for the occasion had been rendered the reverend gentleman announced that Mr. S. Finney would unveil the tablet.

Mr. Lambert's memorial address was based on the text "Greater love hath no man." He spoke of the underlying principles of right and justice in the defence of which Australia entered the war and stressed the obligation resting on Australians to-day to guard and hand on the heritage bequeathed by the brave men who had died for us.

Mr. S. Finney then rose and drew aside the Union Jack while the congregation stood in silence for a few minutes in honour of the fallen brave.

Mr. Finney said he was very pleased to see a number of returned soldiers present, also a number who had been rejected, both parties wearing their badges. He also referred to the old Alawoona residents who banded together to receive and welcome home each returning man and presenting him with a beautiful inscribed gold medal. Mr. Finney spoke feelingly of those who had given their lives for their King and Country and said that the action of the institute committee in planting in the new hall a tablet to the memory of these brave men was very thoughtful and commendable, and the act was greatly appreciated by Mr. C. P. George and himself and their relatives. He thanked them on their behalf also for the great honour conferred on him of unveiling the stone.

The King's Message

He then read out the King's Message which was received with the Honour Scroll: "Buckingham Palace—I join with my grateful people in sending you this memorial of a brave life, given for others in the great war, (signed), George R.I."

The Scroll

The following is the wording of the Honour Scroll:—

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"He whom this scroll commemorates was numbered amongst those who, at the call of King and Country left all that was dear to them, endured hardship, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men, by the path of duty and self sacrifice giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom. Let those who come after see to it that his name be not forgotten." "Inscribed, Private Cecil Lloyd Finney, 32 Bu A.I.F."

Mr. Finney has also a bronze plaque and a number of medals, but says he prizes the King's message and scroll above them all.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Finney's sons were under age when they enlisted.

Mr. C. P. George in a few well chosen words, on behalf of his brother-in-law Pte. Bawden and the men who enlisted from the district, stated that as each man enlisted the residents gave them a farewell social and presented each man with a wristlet watch and on their return they were given a hearty welcome home, and presented with a fully inscribed gold jewel, in recognition of their services to their country. "Alawoona being such a young district at the time war broke out" he said "I consider that the few young men we had amongst us responded brilliantly to the call, and now that they have returned it is our bounded duty, one and all, to see that those who cannot care for themselves are well cared for."