

Memorial to Late Mr. R. Thompson

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND DECIDED UPON

The public meeting convened by the Mayor (Mr D Hammond) at the Quorn Town Hall on Wednesday evening to "organise and establish a suitable memorial to the late Mr Robert Thompson" was attended by a large and representative body of residents of the town and district.

In opening the meeting, the Chairman said that without fear of contradiction, that by the death of Mr Robert Thompson, Quorn, and in fact the whole north, had lost its greatest friend. His interest in the affairs of the town were unparalleled in the whole of the Commonwealth. He had sunk monetary considerations for the common good. Throughout the whole of the State, from east to west, from north to south, he was known as the "children's friend." The whole of the people of Quorn appreciated what he had done and the sacrifices he had made for them, and at the request of his many admirers had called the meeting to see what could be done to perpetuate the memory of this "grand old man." It had been suggested to him that a children's playground would be a suitable project to keep his memory green.

Mr McColive said he was 100 per cent. in favor of the proposal, but thought that until the swimming pool was firmly established it should be held in abeyance. He had brought the matter of a children's playground up before Mr Thompson's death, but had received no support.

The Chairman—That was so. He was not against a swimming pool, but to establish it a large amount

but to establish it a large amount of money would have to be raised. The cost of a playground would be little. He did not think the memorial should be put in the background.

Mr L. B. Adams thought the feeling of the meeting should be tested, and Mr J. T. MacDiarmid moved, and Mrs Hastwell seconded, "That this meeting is in favor of establishing a fitting memorial to the late Mr Robert Thompson." Carried unanimously.

Mr E. N. Twopeny said he was a strong supporter of the swimming pool, but thought the children's playground a better proposition as a memorial.

Mr D. W. Stokes (chairman District Council) thought the swimming pool would be a fitting memorial, and could be dedicated to the memory of Mr Thompson.

Mr M. G. Williams supported, and thought if an archway were added it would be a credit in every way.

Mrs L. B. Adams said a swimming pool would not be suitable for children up to seven years of age. She had had much experience of playgrounds and children in Adelaide and though a playground preferable and more enjoyable for small children.

Mr J. Bradley supported, and Mr Twopeny thought many people would donate the equipment. An archway could be erected in memory of Mr Thompson.

Mrs Nettle thought a playground an excellent idea as a memorial, and Mr Willis supported. He doubted if sufficient water could be pumped to make a swimming pool a success. He did not think it suitable for young children.

Mr Williams—A supervisor would always be in attendance.

Mr Adams thought the meeting was getting ahead of itself, and that all proposals should be considered.

The Mayoress moved "That the memorial take the form of a children's playground" and Mr W.

memorial take the form of a children's playground," and Mrs W. Reid seconded.

Mr W. T. Foster did not approve of a swimming pool as a memorial. It might be a white elephant in a few years, but a children's playground would always attract public interest.

Mr. MacDiarmid said the swimming pool was a Centenary project, and the object of the meeting was outside that.

Mr Williams' amendment "That the memorial take the form of an archway at the swimming pool," lapsed for want of a seconder.

Mr McColive then moved "That the matter of a memorial be held in abeyance, and that a sub committee be appointed to consider the different proposals and report at another meeting." Mr Williams seconded.

On being put the amendment was lost by 18 votes to 20 and the proposition carried.

A committee, consisting of Messrs E N Twopeny, W T Foster, H. L. Townseld, C. J. Easter, O. McHugh, Mrs James C. Hastwell, L. B. Adams, and J. T. MacDiarmid, with power to add, was then appointed to carry the wishes of the meeting into effect.

Mr Twopeny suggested that the financing of the project take the form of straight subscription. Mr F.

A Smith seconded. Carried.
Meeting then closed.