

A REGILDED "STAR."

GILBERTON SWIMMING CLUB'S WORK.

Thousands of South Australian boys have known the delights of the pool at a bend of the Torrens at Gilberton called the "Star Hole." Why it was named the "Star Hole" none of the lads knew nor cared. It was a famed swimming place. The ambition of each newcomer to it was to dive in and reach the other bank, which was quite five yards away. The pool was long, its waters were delightfully cool, and there were cosy adjacent corners in which undressing and dressing could be achieved in comfort, but not always in safety, for even in those back, unsophisticated days, boots and shirts had a habit of getting themselves mixed up. In consequence, when home was reached mothers were prone to ask the reason of the difference in the articles of attire. Then they would place a hand on a towed head which still reeked with damp, and the mystery stood revealed! Old "Star-hole" boys would not recognise it to-day. It has been improved out of all knowledge. The Gilberton Amateur Swimming Club has long had control of it, and the members have converted it into "a joy for ever." They have created a fine swimming pool of the regulation length of 33 1-3 yards. They have terraced the banks, built dressing sheds, and achieved other feats that redound to their utmost credit. And they have done it to the memory of Fallen and Returned Soldiers of the district in order that each boy who in future enjoys the delights of the "Star Hole" may pause and ask himself why. Perhaps he will not. He will most likely dive in and splash and shout and enjoy himself to the top of his bent, just as hundreds did on Saturday afternoon, when the new baths were opened by the Minister for Repatriation (Hon. E. A. Anstey). A working bee of members of the club had been engaged on the improvements for nine months. Stout hearts, although accompanied by soft hands, stuck to the tasks, which were mainly associated with pick, shovel, and barrow, and hammer and saw, and they had their reward in the praise expressed by the visitors at the opening ceremony. The chief workers in the bee were Messrs. P., T., and E. Whitehead, G. Donovan, H. J. Powell, T. Linnane, W. Malone, George Hinder, and A. E. Carpenter (hon. secretary). The plans were prepared as "a work of love" by Mr. E. F. Eberbach, Assistant City Engineer to the Adelaide municipality, who was asked to hand the designs to the Minister for presentation to the club.

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Mr. Eberbach mentioned that the amateur workers had shifted no less than 6,000 tons of earth.

The Minister congratulated the members on the public spirit they had shown. To those who knew the pool in the old days the transformation must be truly wonderful. There had been no "go slow," no demand for more pay, no strikes. (Laughter.) In fact, all the workers of Gilberton seemed to have been in the pool. (Laughter.) A true spirit of co-operation had been displayed, and if that spirit pervaded in all sections what a wonderful country Australia could become. (Applause.) Other work was necessary to make the swimming pool still more complete. Dredging would have to be done, although he did not know how, as the river seemed to have become more shallow. Therefore, there was need for the people of Gilberton to keenly maintain their practical interest in the club, which was a real live asset that was the envy of other less fortunately situated suburbs. (Applause.)

The Chairman of the committee (Mr. C. Edridge), in receiving the plans, said the club would treasure them as mementoes of something achieved. They did not intend to rest content, but would go on until the swimming pool was made as perfect as possible. The club had established classes to teach swimming to those who did not know it, to encourage to greater efforts those who could swim, and to give instruction in life-saving methods. (Applause.)

Among the guests were the Lord Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. Frank Moulden) and the Lady Mayoress (Lady Moulden Backett), and both were heartily welcomed. The Lord Mayor said that they were glad to be present to recognise the fine spirit of co-operation which had led to the ceremony of that day. In training boys and girls to swim the club was performing a two-fold duty, for which the community should thank them—namely, aiding in the physical culture of the children and imparting a knowledge which might lead to the saving of lives. (Applause.)

Officials:—Committee, Messrs. C. Edridge (Chairman), A. G. Hughes, H. Powell, G. Donovan, P. Whitehead, J. Rowett, D. Looker, and A. Carpenter; Ladies' Committee, Mrs. H. Whitehead and Miss J. Lambert; Captain, Mr. D. Furlong; Vice-Captain, Mr. R. Douglas; Treasurer, Mr. P. Birkle; Secretary, Mr. J. J. Bloomfield; Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Drew; Judges, Messrs. G. McKee, R. J. Reed, and A. G. Hughes; Starter, Mr. H. N. Suryk; Timekeepers, Messrs. R. A. Dalton and J. Cooney; and Handicappers, Messrs. S. J. H. Williams, J. Drew, and W. Malone.

—Results of the Races.—

Boys' Race, under 12.—L. Donovan and B. Medwell (dead heat), A. Hughes, 3.
100 Yards Open Handicap.—First Heat—L. Jervis, S. Reedman; time, 1.11 3-5. Second Heat—L. Reedman, L. R. Wilkie; 1.8 1-5. Third Heat—Not contested. Fourth Heat—S. Pectrey, B. Bywater; 1.12. Fifth Heat—Harry Moon, Harry Bates; 1.14. Final—L. Reedman, Jervis, Moon;

water; 1.12. Fifth Heat—Harry Moon, Harry Botoa; 1.14. Final—L. Reedman, Jervis, Moon; 1.5.

State Championship (under 18 years), 100 yards.—First Heat—W. Bungey, W. J. Phillips; 1.15 2-5. Second Heat—C. Smith, F. Greig; 1.13 1-5. Final—Smith, Bungey, Griff; 1.9 3-5.

Bread Stroke, 100 yards.—First Heat—F. Hodgette, J. Drew. Second Heat—W. Fowler, H. J. Ware. Third Heat—L. J. Godwin, E. McKenny. Fourth Heat—C. Roney, B. Roberts. Final—Godwin, Hodgette; 1.25 1-5.

Ladies' Race, 66 yards.—First Heat—E. Farrelly, C. Pose. Second Heat—M. Hughes, E. McKee. Third Heat—N. Hughes, V. Staveley; 1.1. Final—E. Farrelly, N. Hughes; 1.1. 66 Yards Open Handicap.—A. L. Geary (5 sec.), G. McLeod (4), H. Dillaway (7); 45 4-5. 66 Yards Boys' Race (under 16);—W. Donovan, S. Medwell, E. Green; 52 1-5. Vincent Cup.—V. Knuckey (5 sec.), W. Matthews (7), S. Purlong (3). Veterans' Race.—H. Bridgland, R. Wilson. Teams' Race (400 yards).—North Adelaide No. 1 team—B. Bywater, L. Jervis, S. Reedman, E. C. Stokart. Glenelg—J. Farrelly, F. Suhard, S. Reedman; R. Stanhope; 4.45 1-5. Fast Dive.—Earl Thompson.