

UNVEILING OF HONOR ROLL AT ALBERTON.

BY HON. THOS. LIVINGSTON.

A large gathering assembled at the Alberton Mechanics' Hall on Thursday evening last to witness the unveiling of the honor roll of the Alberton State School by the Hon. Thos. Livingston.

The board is a handsome one of blackwood, and contains the following names:—E. J. Appleyard, F. H. Appleyard, L. A. Appleyard, T. L. Appleyard, F. Attenborough, J. Babington, R. C. Bateman, A. E. Barlow, S. R. Beames, G. Bland, H. R. Bland, T. J. Bland, G. Casbolt, H. N. Casbolt, W. Casbolt, W. D. Casbolt, W. Christensen, F. H. Collis, S. G. Collis, D. N. Crowe, S. Crowe, A. J. Cummings, A. Davidson, E. Enghlom, H. D. G. Ferrer, E. G. Fitz, H. Ford, T. J. Freeman, J. F. Gellion, A. Greaves, A. J. Gregory, R. Henwood, Nurse E. Horton, F. Hunter, C. G. James, L. Kerr, H. J. Leeson, R. R. Lord, J. McCall, A. McLennan, G. T. McLennan, J. D. McLennan, E. H. McPhail, R. N. McPhail, F. Marks, A. May, J. H. Millar, J. Neill, C. Newton, S. A. Newton, B. Nolan, C. Pritchard, A. Robertson, H. J. Robertson, G. W. Scott, A. Scott, F. H. Scott, W. C. Scott, H. Smith, N. L. Smith, E. Connor, F. White, A. H. Whitford, A. Wigg, W. Wigg, A. J. Willis, C. R. Willis, D. G. Willis, H. V. Willis, S. W. Willis, F. Christensen, H. I. George, N. D. Ferrer, S. E. Ferrer.

Cr. N. J. Christensen occupied the chair, and introduced the speakers.

During the evening a programme of music was presented. The following items, which were well received, being rendered:—Overture, Mrs. F. Casbolt; song, Miss V. Connor; song, "For God and St. George," Mr. P. J. Juniper; song, "Land of Hope and Glory," Mrs. Van Nooten; song, "Australia is the Land for Me," Mr. Christie (encored); song, "We Don't Forget," Miss McGalliard; song, "Sons of the Sea," Mr. Warren; song, "Thora," Mr. J. McDonagh; song, Miss O'Dowl; song, "Till the Sands of the Desert grow cold," Mr. Warren; song, "There's a Ship that's bound for Blighty," Miss McGalliard (encored); song, "The Wee Hoose 'mang the Heather," Mr. Christie (encored). A particularly pleasing item was that by Miss Jean Doyle, "Keep the Home Fires Burning," Misses Thomson, Matches and Crough joining in the chorus.

Hon. Thos. Livingston, who was received with applause, said a great honor had been conferred upon him in asking him to unveil the honor roll. No school could put up a better percentage than the Alberton school had done, considering as it did 74 names. Some whose names were exhibited there had paid the supreme penalty. News had just been received of the decease of Private F. J. Appleyard. He desired to tender his sincere sympathy to the relatives. The State and the Commonwealth had lost many fine men. Those young

The State and the Commonwealth had lost many fine men. Those young men whose names appeared there, a few years ago little thought that such a horrible war could be in our midst. It was beyond our conception that these awful atrocities could be committed. The result could not yet be foretold. The Hon. Thos. McKinnon was not optimistic as to the ending of the war. This was not one of Great Britain's little wars. It was a war to decide whether Great Britain shall remain a first-class nation or take a second place. It was a fight to the finish, for the Allies must conquer or be conquered. The men whose name appeared on the roll showed by their example that they were resolved to take up the responsibility of their manhood. The Deity has laid duties upon man, and he must rise to his responsibilities, and right if possible the wrongs that have been perpetrated. The time would come, it must come, democracy would insist on it coming, when no man should have at his disposal the lives and the liberty of other people. (Hear, hear.) This, it had been estimated, would be the last great war for centuries—the greatest war that was ever known. Some of the men at the front were getting weary and worn. There were men in this country as physically fit as those at the front. When would they feel the call upon their conscience to go to their relief? Those men that were returning to us had done their duty; they had attempted to protect and uphold the British flag, and it was our duty and our pleasure to do the best possible for them. They had given all for us. Some of us are physically unfit to fight, but all can preserve, as far as possible, the lives of those men at the front. If you went about the streets of Melbourne you would find some of the young fellows leaning against lamp posts, smoking cigarettes. He felt that we should still further repress the pony races. Surely there was something better for our young men to do than to be found week after week on the racecourse. The little ones could not have anything better before their minds constantly than the question—What is my duty to my parents, to my State, to the nation to which I belong? When they saw the names enrolled on the board, they should ask themselves what the lads had done for them. They had given them the liberty which they enjoyed, and assisted to give the liberty to people in other climes. They had met to show that they recognised what those young soldiers had done, and were doing. They appreciated their actions to the very highest degree, and acknowledged that they owed them a tremendous thanksgiving. (Applause.)

Three cheers were then given for the men at the front.

Cr. McGalliard said he was proud to be there to see the grand honor roll of honor of the Alberton school. He had known a great many of the boys whose names appeared there; some of them had been taught by him at one time. We could not do too much for them. He would say to

at one time. We could not do too much for them. He would say to the sorrowing relatives of those who had given their lives for their country, "But how can men die better?" We realised that we could not all serve at the front, but we could do something. If the lives of our young manhood was not too much to give for us, then our wealth was not too much for us to give. A national service which would call on the wealth and the service of every man in the country would not be more than an adequate sacrifice. (Applause.)

Mr Greenwood, inspector of schools, spoke on the work of the schools in connection with the War Relief Fund. The fund had grown steadily, and now assumed large proportions, a considerable amount of that from the Sale District had been contributed by the Alberton school. (Applause.) The school fund for the State had reached over £200,000, the greater part of which had been raised by the boys and girls of our schools. Within twelve months the Workers' Patriotic Guild had grown to a membership of 50,000 boys and girls. A girl of Leongatha had earned and given £30. (Applause.)

Staff Sergeant Henham also spoke in the interests of recruiting.

A vote of thanks to the Hon. Thos. Livingston and the other speakers, also to the ladies and gentlemen who contributed items, was moved by Mr.

McKerrow, and carried by acclamation.

After the "National Anthem" had been sung the hall was cleared, and a very enjoyable dance took place, Mrs. Fred Casbolt and Miss V. Connor supplying the music. The total proceeds amounted to £16.