

MEMORIAL CHURCH

COOLANGATTA METHODIST

DEDICATION SERVICE

COOLANGATTA, September 8.

Special services were held in the Coolangatta Methodist Memorial Church on Sunday, when the new church was officially dedicated and opened by Rev. Dr. G. E. Rowe, of the Albert street Methodist Church, Brisbane. Throughout the day large congregations were present, and special offerings were taken up at each service in aid of the building fund.

The church, which has been erected in Lanham street, Coolangatta, overlooks the business portion of the township from a commanding position on the opposite side of the railway line. It was erected at a cost of about £2,000 with furnishings, and stands as a monument to the untiring energy of the resident minister, Rev. E. Ball.

The morning services commenced at 11 o'clock, the officiating minister being Rev. Dr. Rowe. A specially trained choir under the baton of Mr. H. E. Twigg, with Mr. W. Pogson at the organ, rendered hymns and anthems.

Rev. E. Ball, on behalf of the trustees, handed to Dr. Rowe the keys of the church in order to declare it open.

Rev. Dr. Rowe congratulated the trustees on the fulfilment of the erection of such a splendid edifice. He, therefore, in the name of God, declared the church open for the preaching of the Gospel, and the furtherance of Christ's work. Dr. Rowe then opened the main doors of the church, and the gathering sang the Doxology.

Inside the church, Mrs. C. Simpson, the oldest member of the Methodist Church, presented to Dr. Rowe a handsomely bound Bible for use on the altar. Mrs. Chadwick, on behalf of the Women's Auxillary, Brisbane, presented to Dr. Rowe two handsome bound copies of the communion service.

Miss Ella Howie, of Coolangatta, rendered the solo "The Burden Bearer," after which the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated.

In the afternoon Rev. Dr. Rowe performed the service of unveiling the memorial tablet, which was presented by an anonymous donor, and has been placed in position in front of the outside of the church. He said it was proper they should recognise the memory of the brave Methodist boys who had paid the supreme sacrifice in the Great War, and who in all numbered 700.

The unveiling was followed by a musical service in the church. At the evening service Dr. Rowe delivered an inspiring sermon to a large congregation.

The services in connection with the opening of the church will be continued on Tuesday and Sunday.