

IN THE COUNTRY.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT DINGEE.

DINGEE.—On Sunday, under the auspices of the local patriotic committee, a combined memorial service for those who have fallen in the service of their country was held in the Mechanics' Hall. The building was crowded. Chaplain-Colonel Crookston was chairman. A letter for non-attendance was received from Father Cronin, of Pyramid Hill. Chaplain-Colonel Crookston, in a touching address, unveiled a handsome marble memorial tablet, which was draped with the Union Jack and the Australian flag, and bore the following inscription and soldiers' names—Australia's Sons. In memory of the soldiers from this district, who fell in the great world war fighting in freedom's cause. Pro patria. M. O'Donoghue, 1916; J. Winterbourne, 1916; J. Wesley Briggs, 1917; R. M. Jackman, 1917." Chaplain-Colonel Crookston delivered a touching address filled with the pathos and tragedy of the war as he saw it. "Our boys," he said, "have packed more in one hour of life over there than most men have done in a life time. They went out entrusted with the honor of Australia, and they have not betrayed their trust." He paid a fine tribute to the people of France, one in six of the whole population having gone in defence of Empire. The German soldier was a brave fighter, but their knowledge of Australians in the early stages of the war was very crude. We are up against a mighty power, and God only knows what we have to go through. There is no glory in war, but to those sorrowing parents present he would say:—"Be proud to know that you are the parents of men, not things; men who think it worth while to lay down their lives in defence of Empire." Miss Blanche Coulter was the organist. A retiring collection towards the cost of the memorial realised £8.