

**HONOR ROLL UNVEILED.****ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,  
NEWLYN.**

Last Sunday afternoon, St. Matthew's Church of England, Newlyn, was packed to overflowing when the Bishop of Ballarat, the Right Rev. M. H. Maxwell-Gumbleton, unveiled the honor roll in memory of the soldiers who were formerly connected with the church. The vicar (Rev. J. R. Hill) read the Psalms while the lessons and sermon were given by the Bishop. During the offertory, Miss Carter, of Ballarat, gave a very effective rendition of "Let us have Peace." Miss R. Yelland presided at the organ in a very capable manner. The church was very appropriately decorated with miniature flags and flowers. Among those present were Mrs. A. R. Stewart, F. H. Carter, and J. T. Yates, the east riding members of the Creswick Shire Council, and representatives of the several churches of the surrounding district.

After a very appropriate prayer, in reference to our soldiers, his Lordship unveiled the honor roll, by removing the Union Jack from in front of it, and the singing of the National Anthem and God Bless Our Splendid Men followed. The board was of a very nice design of polished oak, with the lettering done in gold, and was worded as follows:—To the Glory of God: For King and Country: St. Matthew's: Roll of Honor: S. J. May, N. R. Richardson, E. A. Richardson, W. G. Richardson, E. L. Atkins, N. B. Atkins, C. Norman, H. Speed, L. Speed, H. W. Botterill, J. B. Botterill, A. L. Teasdale, W. R. McCormack. Out of this number four have made the supreme sacrifice.

For his discourse his Lordship based his remarks on the 11th chapter of St. Luke, verse 1—"Lord, teach us to pray." He said he supposed it would be true to say for the past four years at every service held in the church prayer had been offered to Almighty God for our sailors and soldiers, who, in the hour of deadly peril, had responded to the call to arms. It would be true to say that prayers had been offered for the 320,000 who had left Australia to fight for King and Empire. These men—some from this district—had been fighting and were still fighting for the cause of right against might; for freedom against oppression. They were fighting for the ideals set up by Christ against those of Satan. To-day, in spite of all their prayers, and the good results of the previous week, the war was still raging. The position is very critical. The debacle in Russia had made it so. Russia was in a state of anarchy. A number of Germans had been released by Russia, and had been used against the Allies. The enemy was getting ready for a decisive blow. We are faced with the question, "What is the value of prayer." Prayer was constantly upon the lips of Christian people. The great African traveller, Dr Livingstone, gave one hour each day to prayer. When at prayer he put a sign on his tent door, and his native servants knew he was not to be disturbed. One day he was at prayer

servants knew he was not to be disturbed. One day he was at prayer and at the end of the fifth hour his servants became alarmed and looked inside the tent. When one saw Dr Livingstone in the attitude of prayer, the servant said to the others, "Hush, the white man is talking with God." While Livingstone was talking with Christ he was called home. When they were praying they were talking with God, and it mattered not on what subject. During the past four years they had been talking to God about their soldiers and sailors. They had been telling Him the peril they were placed in. It was the most righteous war ever waged. They had implored God to guide their boys and bring them back home safely. To all appearances peace was just as far away as ever it was. Is it because they have not appreciated the conditions attached to prayer? Prayer, in order to be answered, must first be offered in the name of Him who taught us to pray. When on earth He said "Verily, verily, what you ask of the Father He shall give it to you." Prayer in God's name is in accordance with the mind of Christ, such as the Lord Himself prayed. Prayer must be offered with faith and real earnestness. If a man refuses to work or lay in stores of provisions, he should not expect to wake up in the morning and find his table spread because he said "give us this day our daily bread," or if a man was sick and he refused to have a doctor or take medicine, he should not expect to get better by saying to God, "give me back my strength." God helped those who helped themselves. Have they fulfilled the conditions of prayer? Have they been praying with the mind of God and with faith? When war broke out they fell to prayer at the outset. We have asked God for victory, but have we done everything in our power as a nation to secure peace? We have asked God to bring our soldiers and sailors home safely. Have we made their life safe by sending adequate reinforcements? Their numbers were daily decreasing against an enemy who was full in numbers. Have we thrown all our available men into the struggle, or have we let only the patriotic men go whilst others stayed at home? It was man's duty to fight for his country. Were we in Australia following the policy of drift instead of augmenting the reinforcements required? When the history of the past few years was written would we be proud or ashamed of it? There were fairly pertinent questions, and each one could answer them for themselves. Each, on the 20th December last, was called upon to give a silent answer to the great question of reinforcements. He trusted before they gave their answer they asked for the guidance of God. In England the whole nation was organised for war. No words of

his could adequately express his appreciation of the women. Large numbers of English women were now in France behind the firing line, doing work which enabled men to go and fight. The food in England was controlled. It made his heart grieve to go through this country and see the big stacks of wheat, which, owing to the shortage of shipping, was not able to be shipped to England. The trains were controlled by the Government, and they could

to England. The trains were controlled by the Government, and they could see the Red Cross coaches attached to the trains with wounded men, who a few hours before were in France in the firing line. Military hospitals were in nearly every town, and doctors and nurses were giving their best to the men. The factories were working at unprecedented pressure. In the ship yards work was unceasing. Military camps were spread all over the country, and at these camps they would see troops from the overseas dominions—which was a welcome sight. In most homes there was the grief, which would not be revealed on this side of the grave, through the sacrifices which had been made for King and Country. Australia was included in the fight for existence. Australia was 12,500 miles away. It was

easy to talk, but it was different to realise what war meant. The Empire was in jeopardy, and they were fighting for a place on God's earth. God had endowed them with a faculty called imagination. If they were to realise they should develop that faculty. Picture the main seaport towns in Australia—Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide and Perth—in heaps of ruin through the bombardment of enemy ships out of sight. Picture the inland towns, which were free of ruin, devastated. Picture Australia's manhood, who glory in their independence, and who in glory sing "Rule, Britannia," working as slaves under a cruel enemy. Picture their womenfolk, slaughtered, outraged and brutally treated before their eyes. Picture the lust, and then picture Hell. They would then realise what war meant. The pictures were not the outcome of fancy, but were taken from the real life Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro and Roumania have experienced under the enemy. They should go to God on their knees and ask Him to bless our manhood, and that they be supplied with adequate reinforcements. May God open their eyes, and use them to open the eyes of others. As a Commonwealth they could see the danger of their soldiers, and they were responsible to give all the help they could. The dangers daily day were threatening their existence. If they did their part God would answer their prayers in a way that they had never been answered before.