

POSTAL HONOUR BOARD.

A handsome honour board, containing the names of Queensland postal employees who have enlisted in the A.I.F., on 2nd December, was unveiled in the vestibule of the General Post Office. The Deputy Postmaster-General, Mr. H. Templeton performed the unveiling ceremony. Those present included Commander G. A. H. Curtis (D.N.O.), Colonel Lee, D.S.O. (commandant), Major Pendlebury, A.A.G., Captain H. A. Benjamin, Messrs. W. F. Finlayson, M.P., J. B. Sharpe, M.P., Messrs. A. McNab, H. D. Brennan (taxation), H. H. Allata (electrical officer), C. H. E. Todd (Federal works department), H. Robinson (customs), C. J. Cornell, S. J. Dunlop (senior inspector), L. C. Williamson (accountant), J. W. Sutton (electrical engineer), J. R. Kelly (manager of telegraphs), H. Macbin (superintendent of mails), R. Rankin (manager of telephones), G. H. Thomas (controller of stores), W. Sewell, P. J. McDonald (Postmasters' Association), J. Heffernan (Post and Telegraph Association), H. A. Burbe (Clerical Association), D. J. Donovan (Professional Officers' Association), W. Wilson (line construction). The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of representatives of the various staffs of the department.

The honour board is located in the vestibule, which was decorated with flags. The structure was designed by Mr. C. W. Wade, in lined maple wood, and seven panels are provided across a list of 187 names appears in gold letters. The cost was defrayed by 15 subscriptions from the post and telegraph employees in Queensland. A special committee organised this fine ornament, and tribute to the patriotism of the postal and telegraph officers who have joined the colours. Mr. J. M. Conachie (chief clerk), was the chairman of the committee, Mr. F. Curry (senior clerk), secretary, and Mr. C. Ward, treasurer. Mr. M'Conachie, addressing the gathering, said the honour board expressed the appreciation of the patriotism of their fellow employees who had enlisted. It would serve to remind every eligible Australian of his duty quickly to follow the scriptural injunction, "Go thou and do likewise." (Applause.)

Mr. Curry said the board was paid for by the officers of the department, and no subscription had exceeded one shilling. (Applause.) Great credit was due to an officer of the electrical engineers' branch, Mr. Wade, who designed the board. The committee were absolutely satisfied, and he hoped all present would agree with them. (Applause.) R. S. Erton and Sons had carried out the decorative work. The honour board, he thought, was a most excellent production. (Applause.) The work had been carried out by John Hicks, Limited.

Mr. Templeton, before unveiling the memorial, congratulated the officers of the department upon the successful result of their efforts. It was very satisfactory to recall the fact that the honour board, which he understood cost 50 guineas, had been covered by shilling subscriptions from individuals. That indicated the feeling and unanimity of the officers of the department, and also their strong sense of patriotism. He understood that there shortly would be 300 names inscribed on the board. He was personally proud of the men who had enlisted. They had recognised their duty to their country, and had offered their services and their lives in the interests of their country. He sincerely hoped the majority of them would return to take up their places again. Unfortunately some of the men had fallen, and to the relatives of those fallen officers he conveyed the deepest sympathy of the department. When discussing the work of the land forces, they must not overlook the work of the navy. (Applause.) The men who performed the silent watches in the night were protecting the British Empire. (Applause.) He appreciated the high honour of being asked to unveil the board. The officers throughout the State had reason to feel proud of their achievement. (Applause.)

The D.P.M.G. then drew aside the union jacks, and the noble tributes to the post and telegraph patriots flashed upon the gaze of the auditors.

Three cheers for the King concluded the

gaze of the auditors. Three cheers for the King concluded the first stage of the proceedings. Subsequently refreshments were served and at the request of Mr. M'Conachie the health of the King was honoured enthusiastically. Mr. M'Conachie intimated that the next toast would be "Australia's sons, tried, tough, and true."

This was submitted by Mr. Finlayson, M.P., who said the function they had just witnessed was perhaps the most interesting that had taken place in the building since it was erected. That roll of honour was a great credit to the workmen responsible for it, and to the employers who had decided to erect it. Future generations would look upon the board in a manner that would enable them to appreciate its significance, in the light of events now passing in Europe, which they would be able to see in their true perspective. Contrasted with what soldiers had done in other parts of the Empire, the work of the Australian boys was simply remarkable. The name of Australia to day was better known and more respected in consequence of what her soldiers were doing in Europe. (Applause.)

Mr. J. B. Sharpe, M.P., in supporting the toast, paid a tribute to the sons of Australia, who had gone to the front.

The toast was enthusiastically honoured with three times three.

Commander Curtis, in responding for the navy, said Australia had proved that she could produce seamen. They were able to play the same part as well as the old, old sea dogs of Britain. (Applause.)

Colonel Lee thanked the post and telegraph employees for the honour they had done to him by inviting him to be present on that occasion. The subscribers to the fund, which had enabled the board to be erected, would feel proud of the assistance they had given towards the realisation of the project. (Applause.) The patriotism of employees who followed them would prize it hereafter. What the Government departments had done towards supplying recruits represented a magnificent response, and what had been done by other business establishments was something remarkable. He believed when those who, as yet, were not thoroughly interested in the war became so, every one of them would resolve to go to the front, and fight life for in uphold everything that was dear to themselves, their families, and their country. When responsibilities were fully realised, the men would be ready to come forward, and take up their responsibilities. (Applause.)

If the British navy had not cleared the seas, and had not kept them clear, they in Queensland would have scuttled off. (Laughter.) He congratulated the postal department upon the fine expression of appreciation of those employees who had enlisted. (Applause.)

Mr. Templeton proposed "The Victors" and in doing so made an important statement concerning the work of the department during the war (as reported elsewhere).

Mr. A. McNab and Mr. H. D. Brennan responded.

The proceedings, which had commenced at 4.15 p.m., concluded at 8.45 p.m.