

YARRAMAN.

UNVEILING OF HONOR BOARD. ADDRESS BY HON. L. E. GROOM.

There was considerable interest at Yarraman on the historic occasion of the unveiling of the Honor board at the State school there on Friday last, by the Hon. L. E. Groom, M.P. The member for Darling Downs arrived at Coovar on Thursday night, and on Friday was driven to Yarraman by Mr. R. Fenton.

On the way over advantage was taken to visit the wonderful palm and fern valley. The Government has secured a small reserve adjoining the palms, but there are no palms on the reserve. The palm gully is particularly beautiful, and it is to be hoped will remain for the benefit of posterity carefully preserved.

The Honor board at Yarraman is a very fine piece of workmanship, being exquisitely carved. Sixty-five names are placed upon the board and ample space left for others to follow. The present list is incomplete. The names on the board are as follows:—J. Durlan, R. Dunsdon, S. White, Phil O'Brien (K), Wm. O'Brien (W), G. Sutton, D. Turner, H. Wells, J. P. Heenan, A. J. Davage, W. Mewat, R. C. Rogers, J. J. Nash, N. S. White, R. B. Porter, F. G. Mahoney, B. G. Williams, W. Sheehan, P. Thomsett, G. White, F. Joy, W. Wood, V. C. White, V. Wm. White, R. J. Rogers, T. W. Heritage, M. McGregor, D. Potter, H. Monaghan, A. E. Wood, R. Mills, A. Carter, C. Roginson, J. Nash, J. A. Heenan, A. McGregor, E. Bryans, J. A. Groom, J. Guilfoyle, W. Hendra, F. James, M. Osipoff, F. Gardines, L. Salter, S. O'Donnell, T. O'Donnell, A. E. Berton, H. Loughed, B. W. Thompson, M. Peters, F. Benti, C. Fitzpatrick, W. Buddin, D. Glauville, C. Glauville, V. R. Jocumsen, F. Patch, C. Keightley, H. Albion, Alex Darr, A. Priebe, J. Priebe, Alf Darr, Thos. Dobe, E. Cutlan. In camp (to be on board): Jess Paton, R. C. Smith, H. Mungay, A. McDonald, V. P. Thomas, Brown, J. Brown.

Friday was made a school holiday at Yarraman, and at 3 o'clock there was a large attendance on the grounds of the school. Many children were present. The Union Jack floated over the scene.

Mr. C. Shuse, chairman of the committee, invited Mr. Groom to unveil the board.

The Hon. L. E. Groom said that it was a privilege to be invited to perform such a ceremony. Though they were proud of the fact that on that board were inscribed the names of brave Australians, there was a feeling of sadness in knowing that some of them would not return to Australia. Six names on the board were the names of fallen heroes—R. Dunsdon, P. O'Brien, G. Sutton, A. J. Davage, J. T. Nash and C. Fitzpatrick. Their hearts went out in sympathy to the relatives of these men. Though their bodies lay in distant lands, the souls would live in the new soul of the nation born in the midst of the sorrows of this great conflict. To-day, as they

stood under the blue of the Australian sky in that beautiful land, where men and women were busily engaged in their daily avocations, it was difficult to realize that they were at war. While they were placing this board in its beautiful surroundings, our Australian soldiers were fighting at Pozieres, thousands of miles away, shedding their blood on the continent of Europe, that their peace and security here might be preserved. Here freedom and liberty were taken as "a matter of course," like the air they breathed. They hardly realized how priceless this heritage was, and how necessary it was for Australians to cross the seas and to fight for its very preservation. If men would only realize how much that liberty meant to them, men would not be waffling at the front. The Australians, whom they were honoring, had not gone to the front inspired with the desire to deprive other nations of their lands or to interfere in their methods of government, but had gone to the front to fight for all that was brightest in their civilisation. There had come a conflict of ideals among nations, which meant that the British ideals had to be fought for to the very death. Australians were inspired by the highest motives in this great campaign. The honor of their race, the sanctity of their pledged word, the rights of all nations to a free existence, their rights to live out their own national lives in their own way, the development of humane principles in international relationships—all these were at stake. This war had to decide mighty issues. Australia had hitherto been a nation apart; she had decided to take her place beside the Motherland among the nations of the Allies in this great struggle. The heroes they were honoring had placed Australia in the front ranks of the nations of the world. That honor board linked them up with the history of the empire and the history of the world. The board would for ever stand to remind

them of the brave deeds done not only at Gallipoli, but on the fields of western Europe. The recent fighting recalled the fact that the citizen soldiers of Australia could hold their own with the great fighting nations of Europe. The board was an expression of gratitude to the men who had gone to fight at the front. It was a consolation to the relatives of those who had fallen, as it was an expression of their appreciation. He trusted that the residents of the district would treasure it, and preserve it for all time as a most sacred memorial to the home of those who have served the board.

After the ceremony of unveiling, and while all were standing, the National Anthem was sung.

Then three returned soldiers Messrs. C. J. Bobson, Kennedy and Sergeant R. J. Parham gave brief addresses.

Mr. Groom then presented special prizes awarded to the successful scholars of the school. Tree planting was afterwards proceeded with in the school grounds. The Hon. L. E. Groom planted a tree to the memory of Earl Kitchener, and the three returned soldiers planted six trees, one to the memory of each of the six fallen men whose names were on the honor board.

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fallen men whose names were on the honor board.

Mr. R. Betts, head teacher of the school, who acted as secretary, and all those associated with him are to be congratulated upon their successful efforts. Afternoon tea was served to all the visitors.

In the evening a successful concert and dance took place. The programme was as follows: Overture, Misses S. Dunne and E. Nutley; song, "Advance Australia, Fair," school children; song, "What is the Good of Moonlight," Mr. R. Parker; song, "You're a credit to the Austral Flag," Miss H. Crawford; recitation, "Old Chap," Master N. Carmody; comic, "Pushed it through the Window," Mr. P. Hudson; recitation, "The Sentinel, or Who's There," Mrs. Schwartz; song, "Dolly Gray," Miss E. Connellan; marching and flag drill, school children; song, "Will there be any room in Heaven for a little Girl like Me," Miss N. Kiernowski; song, selected, Miss S. Keeble; character song, "When the Band begins to Play," school children; overture, Miss E. Keeble; song, "Coming Home," Mrs. Jas. Stewart; recitation, "I am Fifteen To-day," Miss Hilda Dale; character sketch, "Domestic Squabbles"; song, "With You in Eternity," Mrs. Schwartz; song, "My Daddy is in the Dardanelles," Master B. Rogers; comic song, Mr. E. Hudson; song, "Please Give in a Penny," Miss N. Kiernowski (contribution for Wounded Soldiers); song, "Why can't a Girl be a Soldier," Miss S. Dunne; song, selected, Mr. R. Parker; character song, "Our Little Army," Master E. Connellan, A. Nutley, B. Rogers, W. Parkin and N. Carmody; God Save the King.