

MEMORIAL CROSS

ALDERLEY ANGLICANS' TRIBUTE

"This cross symbolises something which was performed as a national duty and as an effort to save humanity."

Mr. J. S. Kerr, M.L.A., made the foregoing comment on Saturday afternoon when addressing those who witnessed the unveiling and dedication of a stone cross which has been erected in the grounds of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Alderley, in memory of the soldiers of that district. The monument was almost entirely constructed as a result of the efforts of the children attending the Sunday school attached to the church, and it bears the following inscription: "To the glory of God. In memory of the soldiers of the district. Let us forget." It is the second cross of its kind erected in the diocese of Brisbane.

The unveiling ceremony was performed by the State president of the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League, Brigadier-General Spencer Browne. Among those who attended the function were Councillor T. Pratt, the chairman of the Enoggera Shire Council, Mr. C. Kitchen, of the Anglican Mission, and Mr. A. G. Christenson, treasurer of the Enoggera sub-branch of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Association.

An evensong service preceded the unveiling and dedication. The Sunday school scholars, who were in charge of Councillor W. Arkell, their superintendent, and a church warden, attended at the stone as a guard of honour.

The Rev. P. Hubbard, the vicar of the parish, said that the cross was always a token of sacrifice. He trusted that those who beheld the stone in the years to come would not fail to remember the great lesson there was attached to it.

Brigadier-General Browne said that the stone was a symbol of peace and hope, and it stood as a tribute to those who had given their lives for the cause of their country, and in order that those at home might be spared for the better things of the world.

Canon Garland, after he had recited the dedication prayers, said that the cross linked them up with the history of the land from which they had come and the Church which had played such a notable part in building up the British Empire. The stone also pointed them to their faith. It was therefore witness of the faith which they held, as well as a link with the past. Then there was the link with the cemeteries on the battlefield, where the British Government had erected similar but larger crosses with small stone altars, upon which the only inscription appearing was, "Their name liveth for evermore."

Canon Garland went on to claim that the people of to-day were losing the same sense of sacrifice which the cross exemplified. "We are living," he said, "not for what we can give, but for what we can get and make for ourselves. This cross tells of men who counted their lives as dust that others might live in the realms of freedom and liberty, and we must see that their sacrifice is not thrown away through our own selfishness."