

# New Freestone Memorial Hall Opened

**FREESTONE:** The new memorial hall at Freestone was packed to capacity for the opening ceremony and ball on Saturday night, visitors being present from all surrounding districts, as well as Warwick.

The hall was beautifully decorated, and the new lighting plant proved a huge success. Mr. T. Phelan was M.C.

During the evening, Mr. W. P. Shelley, chairman of the memorial hall committee, introduced the various speakers. He first of all welcomed the large crowd, and then thanked the committee of the Freestone school for their generosity in withdrawing their booking of the hall to allow the opening to take place that night, the original night having been wet.

He said the committee had worked hard for several years to make a fitting memorial for the men who had fought in two world wars, and especially for those who gave their lives for their country.

Cr. H. Smith (Willowvale) said he had been closely associated with Freestone all his life, in fact, his father had been born there nearly 100 years ago. He was pleased to see that the hall, which had been so much the centre of social life for many years, had been renewed and extended as a tribute to the men of the district who had served their country.

Cr. N. Bourke, Gladfield, also congratulated the district on the effort to make the hall a worthy centre. The ladies' committee, he said, had done a lot of work with street stalls and various functions, and their efforts were

tions, and their efforts were being crowned with success.

Cr. W. Palmer said that a lot of work had gone into the re-building of the old hall and he was pleased they had achieved their object. As a resident of Freestone he had been associated with the committee and knew what had been done.

Cr. A. N. Allen (Chairman, Glengallan shire council) also spoke of the success of the night. The very large crowd present, he said, was an encouragement to the committee, who had been working so long to attain their object.

Before calling on Mr. O. O. Madsen, M.L.A., to declare the hall open, Mr. W. P. Shelley spoke of some of the difficulties which the committee had faced and overcome. Rising costs had meant that a larger sum of money was needed, and even now enough money was not available to pay for all work done. Cr. Allen had offered a donation of £5, and asked that at least 20 others should do likewise.

Mr. O. O. Madsen said it gave him great pleasure to see such a large crowd assembled. It showed that the spirit of sacrifice shown by the men who served in the wars was appreciated, and the building was a worthy tribute to them. He supported the Chairman's remarks, and asked the residents to finish the work the committee had so worthily worked for and accomplished. The payment of the debt which remained on the hall would be ample compensation for the efforts they had put forth.

The ladies' committee, he added, had done a grand job, and the provision of supper to the large crowd was another mighty effort. He then declared the hall open.

A "ballerina" competition was held. The judges, Mesdames Free, Smith, and Bourke, had a difficult task in deciding the best "ballerina." Miss Lavina Southee was finally declared the win-

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was finally declared the winner.

The sit-down supper was a feature of the evening. The long tables, decorated with flowers and well supplied with sandwiches, cakes, etc., were filled again and again.

Mr. Shelley announced that several donations had been handed in or promised.

Ticket sellers were Messrs. M. Angland and G. Allen, and door keepers Messrs. B. Mauch, A. Christensen, and at the supper room J. Christensen and M. King.

A new honour board is being made and will be set up in the hall, and will be unveiled with due ceremony at a later date.