

## SCARSDALE EN FETE

### OLD BOYS AND GIRLS RETURN.

#### MEMORIAL GATES OPENED.

The Scarsdale Old Boys' Association is one of the most live institutions of its kind in the State. Annually the members foregather at the old school, whose crest is the head of the billy goat of immortal memory, and whose Old Boys' Association motto is "Nondum extincti sumus," and the day, or rather, one of them, for there are two or three of them, was passed under the happiest of auspices. The day was delightful, and the attendance very large. Three char-a-bancs and several motor cars conveyed a big contingent of old boys and girls from Ballarat. Many of these, as in previous years, had come from various parts of the State, and there was much foregathering of old-timers and exchange of reminiscence. Two of the old boys were regretfully missed—Mr D. Brown, of Brunswick, who is the auditor to the association, is conned to his home through an injury to a leg, and Mr Geo. Prentice, a veteran of the Browns and Scarsdale diggings, was also absent through illness. The latter was visited by a number of old friends. As is usual on such pilgrimages, the vehicles pulled up at the old cemetery to visit the pioneers' graves, and an incident of this part of the day was the killing of a black snake on one of the paths. From here the vehicles ran through the township to the school, where a big crowd of local people and other visitors had assembled to take part in the day's enjoyment. The school was gaily decorated, and the weather was delightful.

#### THE NEW GATES.

The first ceremony was the formal opening of the new gates which had been erected by the old boys and girls at an outlay of £190. The memorial takes the form of two wrought steel gates, 5 feet wide, with cemented semi-circular brick walls carrying bronze tablets artistically lettered. These tablets were themselves the work of one of the old boys, Mr William Markof. One of the tablets bears the dedication—"In proud remembrance and grateful appreciation of the sacrifices and services given by 111 pupils of Scarsdale State School No. 980, who in the A.I.F. and other forces took

of Scarsdale State School No. 980, who in the A.I.F. and other forces took part in the Great War 1914-18. This memorial was erected by Scarsdale "Old Girls" and Old Boys" A.D. 1922." and the other bears the names of 21 old scholars who gave their lives for our freedom. The names are as follows:—Wm. Anstee, S. J. Bennie, Geo. Brophet, A. Brosnan, John Campighi, N. A. Carnegie, Wm. Chesterfield, Geo. Cocks, W. Corkery, Daniel Corkery, Geo. Dalgleish, C. Fincher, Patk. Griffin, E. Hatfield, C. Hill, A. McMaster, Jos. Peverill, John Quinlan, John Rutherford, M.M., W. E. Thompson, Fred Wrigley.

The children of the school, under Mr J. Clough, B.A., were grouped around the gates, and were flanked by a big crowd of old boys and girls, and present boys and girls, several generations being represented.

After the singing of the National Anthem and the hymn, "Oh, Lord, Our Help in Ages Past,"

The Rev. Allen Leckie said that he wished to express a word of gratitude for the weather. They had never had such glorious sunshine. It was a poor man who had not an inspiration on returning to his native town. It had been grandly expressed by Sir Walter Scott in those lines beginning "Breathes there a man with soul so dead." They had met this time in honor of those men who, in one day almost, had made the name of Australia famous. They had sent abroad many great men, their Berrys and their Deakins, but it was left for the boys to make the name of Australia famous, and to give her an equality with the nations of the world. They were gloriously proud of these boys. Their names were written indelibly on the hearts of the people. They did their duty as grave and great men, and as the people thought of their deeds they trusted that the nation would not forget. The State owed a duty to them, and he trusted that that duty would be carried out to the fullest. But there were those of the boys who would never return. Sometimes they wondered why these bravest and best had been taken, and whether the country could afford the loss. Yet they were not lost; it was not all loss to be taken in the full and beautiful life of youth. They shall not grow old as we grow old. They shall not waste away. They had

shall not grow old as we grow old. Age shall not weary them. They had gone, God's glory on their faces, and in their hearts calm courage for the fight.

Mr P. M. Carey-Smith, representing the Education Department, expressed his pleasure at being there. He could say that this was the nicest and most refined memorial he had seen, and he would be sorry to see anything added to it. It was simplicity itself as a memorial, and he hoped that no one would ever try to "improve" upon it. Mr Leckie had mentioned the men who had failed to come back. These were the men who were in their minds now, and they made the gateway a sacred one. He hoped no boy or girl would ever desecrate this grand memorial. He urged on them to look on the gateway with reverence, for it would be theirs to pass on to others the admiration and love that they all felt for the boys who had fallen in the cause of liberty. When the last great scorer came He would not ask what we lost or won, but if they had "played the game." Let him urge the young ones so to live that they could always at the end claim that they had "played the game."

The Hon. Alex. Bell, M.L.C., president of the central committee, said:— "While regretting the occasion or necessity of erecting a memorial to our noble boys, I feel proud to-day that it has fallen to my lot to have the honor of unveiling it. What we have done to-day is to try to perpetuate the memory of brave men whom we all knew, and who, forgetful of self, offered themselves in the hour of the nation's need. The boys who went from our Scarsdale school 980 were civilians like ourselves, who, when the call came, gave up all their avocations and took to the army. Some had been trained in civilian army corps, but most had no military experience. However, they came of good stock. What could we expect but that they would do their duty fearlessly and well? Terrible as was the experience, and dreadful the toll in precious lives, Australia, by her sons, gave a splendid contribution towards a great victory, which meant so much for the world's liberty. We are proud of the men who were permitted to return. With the per-

mitted to return. With the permanently maimed and invalided we deeply sympathise. With the parents, relatives, and friends of those who fell on the field of honor we sorrow greatly, but know they are comforted and consoled that their sons had done their duty to their country, and proud because their loved ones were "faithful unto death." Let their names be cherished and remembered by us and those who follow us for evermore."

The president then unveiled the tablets and Kipling's Recessional hymn was sung by the gathering.

Mr J. Clough, head master, in a brief address, said that only a little over twelve months ago he has assisted in the unveiling of the honor roll, and again he was with them in this unveiling. It was not mere hero worship that made them erect the memorials. It was a deeper feeling, one of reverence for the men who had fal-

len. It was not mere love of adventure that sent them out to fight, but something implanted in them in their youth. And it was the teachers of those days who had planted in them the seed that had come to fruition in the great war. He had been "over there" himself, and had heard the boys in the trenches speak of their teachers, and he had tingled with pride at the manner in which they had referred to those instructors of their young days. He hoped that his children would be able to speak as well of him. He hoped that the boys and girls would always respect and lovingly care for the memorial. He could find no better finish to his speech than by quoting Newboldt's "Dita Lampada," which he did, adding that if this generation was ever called upon to do as the dead soldiers had done they would also play the game.

Mr H. J. Carroll, chairman of the school committee, then came forward and the memorial was formally handed over to the committee, and in reply said that body was greatly encouraged by the splendid spirit which had led to the erection of the memorial. He hoped that the old boys and girls would continue to take the wonderful interest in the school and the children as they had done for so many years.

The National Anthem was then sung, and the Last Post was played.

sung, and the Last Post was played by Master James Wilcock.

The singing was accompanied by Mr John J. Peart.

The memorial was designed by Mr J. C. Aisbett, A.R.V.I.A., Melbourne, whose work was given as a donation to the fund. The gates themselves cost £19/13 7, the tablets £65, and erection of the memorial £9/10/.