

COBRAM'S FIRST WAR MEMORIAL TO BE OPENED ON ANZAC DAY

HON. J. McEWEN TO PERFORM CEREMONY

To commemorate 21 district servicemen who lost their lives in the Second World War an avenue of trees, was planted in Punt Road many months ago and are now well established. On Anzac Day, Monday, April 25, the memorial, which is the first in Cobram to soldiers of either war, will be opened by the Hon. John McEwen, M.H.R. The dedication ceremony will be performed in conjunction with the Anzac Day Service which will be held at 4 p.m.

The creation of the avenue is due to the generosity of Mr. H. D. Hay, a well-known district grazier and orchardist, who has borne all the expense of purchasing the trees, guards, concrete stands and metal plates on which the names of the twenty servicemen who did not return from the last war are engraved.

The Numurkah Band will be in attendance and will lead the March of returned servicemen in charge of

Mr. K. A. Evans (senior vice-president of the Cobram Branch R.S.L.) from the Mechanics' Institute to the Railway Reserve, in front of the Presbyterian Church and adjacent to

the Memorial avenue, where the ceremony will be held providing the weather is fine. At the conclusion of the march returned servicemen will form a hollow square in front of the dais from which speakers will stand.

The guest speaker for the Anzac Day Service will be Mr. Eric Chapman, J.P., Chairman of the R.S.L. Housing Commission, of Melbourne.

A choir, trained by Miss J. Mc-

Fadyen and conducted by Mr. H. E. Brentnall, will considerably assist in making the service one that will be remembered in the minds of all who attend.

The area to the north of the speakers' platform will be reserved for next of kin of deceased servicemen in whose honor the avenue has been planted. The area to the south of the platform is to be reserved for the choir and the band.

The road running past the State school will be used as a car park and during the ceremony the highway between William Street and Railway Street will be closed.

As many returned servicemen as possible are urged to be in attendance and take part in the march on Monday afternoon.

Following the ceremonies arrangements have been made for returned men to meet at the Mechanics' Hall supper room to talk of old times.