

HUME & HOVELL CENTENARY

UNVEILING CEREMONIES.

It is just on 100 years ago that the Hume and Hovell expedition completed their overland journey through Victoria. The pioneer explorers crossed the Murray on November 15, 1884, and set out on a long and wearying tramp through country unknown to white men, in order to reach the southern coast. The story of their trip is too well known—of how they reached their destination near Lara on December 16th 1884, and of their return trip. It was as a result of the splendid report of the country traversed that the settlement of this State gradually evolved.

In order to fittingly celebrate the occasion, the Hume and Hovell Centenary committee, consisting of representatives of the Education and Lands Departments, Historical Society, the Automobile Club of Victoria, and other bodies, in conjunction with local bodies arranged for a series of memorials to be placed along the route taken by the explorers. On Saturday morning the official party, headed by the President (Sir James Barrett), and including Messrs Allan and Laing, of the Lands Department; P. R. Long (Education); W. F. Gates and G. Barrett, and members of the Hume family, left Melbourne by motor. On Sunday the first of the memorials, a tablet at The Horn, Mt. Buffalo, was unveiled. On Monday further memorials were unveiled at Myrtleford, Whorouly, Everton and Murrumbidgee, while to-day unveiling celebrations will be held at Stanley Back Creek, Allan's Flat, Staghorn Flat, Bethanga and Ebdon. To-morrow joint celebrations will be held by the Victorian and New South Wales committees at Albury, after which the Victorian party will divide and the entire route followed by the explorers will be traversed, numerous unveiling ceremonies

being performed en route.

The party will arrive in Benalla on Wednesday evening about 5.30 p.m., after their tour from Moyhu to Molyullah. They will be accompanied by the local representatives of the committee from Wangaratta. On Wednesday evening the party will be tendered a civic reception at the Railway Refreshment rooms, when councillors and local representatives of the committee will be entertained at dinner by the Shire President. At 8 p.m. there will be a public welcome in the Shire Hall when lecturesses on various sections of the trip will be given by the members of the party, and Mr. P. Long, of the Education Department, will deliver an illustrated lecture on the trip. The public are cordially invited to this welcome to the men who have arranged the centenary celebrations.

On Thursday the party divides, the first division unveiling cairns at Tatlong at 10.30 a.m. and at Swanpool at 11.30 a.m. The second division will unveil a cairn at Samara at 10.30 a.m. and will meet at Swanpool at 11.30 a.m., and will lunch at Doon, proceeding to Woodfield, Yarek and on to Yea. Cairns will be unveiled at Warrenbayne on Thursday morning; at Violet Town at 12.30 p.m.; Euroa at 2.30 p.m. and then on to Avenel.