

ADELONG SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL

UNVEILING CEREMONY.

The ceremony of unveiling the Soldiers' monument, newly erected at Adelong, was performed on Sunday last by Mr. R. T. Ball, Minister for Works. There was a very large attendance of Adelong folk and visitors from the surrounding districts. The Tumut Town Band was in attendance, and their music was much appreciated. Prior to the ceremony, they played a number of selections, and lovers of music gathered round in numbers.

The ceremony opened with prayer by Rev. Chas. Wheeler, and afterwards the community sang the Recessional Hymn, being accompanied by the band.

Cr. R. J. Benson explained that the long-looked-for moment had arrived when the monument was an accomplished fact. He regretted that there were a couple of slight mistakes in the names engraved, and a couple left out, but this was a matter easily rectified. He had much pleasure in introducing Mr. R. T. Ball, Minister for Works, who had come all that distance at a great inconvenience to himself to unveil the beautiful memorial. He had to apologise for Mr. Kilpatrick, M.L.A., who could not be present.

Mr. Ball was pleased that he had been able to make it possible to attend, and take part in this most important function. The monument was something that would last for ever to commemorate the noble deeds and great sacrifices made by our gallant soldiers from this district. They all were volunteers, and the object of their volunteering was to help to protect their King, country and Empire, to which they were proud to belong. Had it not been for their action we might to-day have been the serfs of a cruel enemy; but, instead of that, we were a free people, enjoying all the blessings which could be brought to us under the wing of that grand old flag—the Union Jack. No person in the country, or combination of persons, had done so much, from a national point of view, as those who volunteered for active service and conducted themselves so wonderfully on foreign lands. To-day, Australia is recognised at the Council of Nations, and this was only due to the name our gallant soldiers made for Australia whilst fighting for a just cause. Unfortunately many of our men paid the supreme sacrifice, and he consoled with the bereaved ones; others had been more fortunate and came back uninjured, but they were prepared to run the same risk, and they passed through all the same horrors of war as their comrades who laid down their lives. They have done noble deeds, and he hoped that those who mourned the loss of gallant men would take comfort and

that those who mourned the loss of gallant men would take comfort and feel that they were not lost—only gone before. It was the duty of the people, and the Government, to see to the comfort and needs of those returned men, and do all in their power for them. He trusted that the monument would remain for all time to perpetuate the memory of those gallant men who went to the other side to help to save their country from a bitter enemy.

The Bandmaster of the Tumut Band (Mr. E. H. Pitcher) then played the Last Post, and the Union Jack was lifted off the monument and then lowered half-mast. Unfortunately, at this time, the clouds opened, and the rain fell in torrents, causing most people who had come unprepared for the weather to seek shelter, but the speakers stuck to their task.

Mr. Oates, Mayor of Wagga, was pleased to see many boys and girls present. They should never forget the noble men whose names were inscribed on the monument, and honor them for the noble action they took. He hoped they would plant a tree, and make this park one of the most beautiful. There had been rumors that another war might occur, but he trusted we would never again know the horrors of war.

Cr. Harry Godfrey, President of Gadara Shire, thanked the committee for their invitation to be present. He had mingled feelings on such an occasion as this; that of pleasure to see that the noble deeds and efforts of our gallant men had been recognised by the people of this district by placing a permanent monument as a slight token of their great efforts, and regret that on the monument it was necessary to record the names of many who had made the great sacrifice. Some people had said that there were enlistments given in a spirit of adventure, but he felt convinced that they were wrong, and that the chief reason of the large enlistment was a spirit of patriotism—they were worthy sons of worthy parents.

Rev. J. M. Thomas (Church of England) was pleased to see the monument erected in honor of those gallant men who had enlisted from this district. Their numbers were great, and we were proud of the men who went from here and elsewhere to do their noble duty against a common foe. We do well to commemorate the names of those gallant men who did so much for us, and did not shirk their duty when the call came. To them we owe a debt we can never repay, and we do well to have a permanent monument erected in their honor.

Rev. Chas. Wheeler (Methodist) felt that a great day had arrived, when, after some three years' preparation, a permanent memorial was erected in honor of those great men. He congratulated the members of

erected in honor of those great men. He congratulated the members of the committee on their good work in getting this memorial in its place. He also congratulated Messrs Rusconi Bros on their beautiful work. The pedestal was a representation of the solid foundation of the Empire, engraven with the names of noble men; the roll gave the names of the gallant men who had made the supreme sacrifice; the marble figure was that of a good Australian soldier, and above him was the canopy of the heavens. God had led us through the terrible war to a victory of right over might, giving us permanent liberty. The sacrifice of

youth had not been in vain—it had led us to peace again, which he hoped would be for all time.

Mr. J. Barnes, on behalf of the returned soldiers and sailors, complimented the committee on the beautiful monument which stood before them. It was nice to see the monument with the names of their fallen comrades. The others who had returned in their health and strength needed nothing to remind them of what they had done, which was simply their duty; but they did ask this: not to forget their comrades who had returned and had not their previous good health and strength to fight the battles of life.

"God Save the King," by the Band, completed the ceremony.

Dog month has expired, but fourteen days' grace is allowed, after which any person who owns a dog or has one hanging around his home is liable to be prosecuted. The police intend to enforce the law.

The Graziers' Association states that no fewer than 500 sheds started shearing in New South Wales this side of the Darling during September on the Federal award. This splendid fact, says the Association, puts beyond all doubt the issue in the shearing trouble which will be probably all over by the middle of October. Organised graziers with the help of thousands of reasonable A.W.U. men have gained a notable victory and all primary producers and all employees who are for constitutional methods and a square deal will benefit from it.