

MEMORIAL TO JOHN MOFFAT

CAIRN UNVEILED AT
IRVINEBANK

CEREMONY LAST SATURDAY.

IRVINEBANK, May 28.—The unveiling of the John Moffat memorial at Irvinebank yesterday was witnessed by approximately 800 persons, who arrived in all modes of transport. Good weather conditions prevailed.

The chairman of the Mareeba Shire Council (Cr. J. M. Brown), which was responsible for the erection of the cairn, on introducing Mr. Henry Robertson, M.B.E., F.R.G.S. (London), S.S., St. J., the president of the Royal Geographical Society, congratulated the society on this move to erect a cairn and plaque in remembrance of this fine northern pioneer.

Mrs. Robertson, who then recalled the history of the late John Moffat from the time he left Scotland to the time of his death on June 28, 1918, unveiled the plaque at 3.30 p.m.

Mr. Brown then asked for a minute's silence in honour of the late Mr. Moffat, after which "Advance Australia Fair" was played by the Mareeba Town Band.

The honorary general director secretary of the Royal Geographical Society (Mr. Dan O'Brien) supported the previous speakers, adding that Sir Leslie Orme Wilson, the former Governor of Queensland, had requested to be informed of the proceedings. Intimating that the name of John Moffat was known throughout the world, he said that to those who knew John Moffat, this was indeed a fine tribute.

Other speakers were: The treasurer of the Royal Geographical Society (Mr. R. G. Gillies), Cr. J. J. Meehan, on behalf of the Mareeba Shire; Cr. C. St. L. Holdcroft, chairman of the Herberton Shire; Cr. G. F. Turner, chairman of the Atherton Shire; Mr. M. O'Callaghan, an old identity of Irvinebank; and Mr. J. Bethal who was the first white child born in Irvinebank.

Mr. A. F. Waddell read a poem composed by Mrs. E. Pike, a member of the R.G.S.A. (Queensland), entitled "Irvinebank."

During the ceremony, Mrs. Robertson presented Mrs. Glenville Pike with an inscribed book from the Royal Geographical Society in recognition of her ser-

vice from the Royal Geographical Society in recognition of her services in mooted the idea for this memorial.

Mr. O'Brien thanked the chairman (Mr. Brown), congratulating him on the arrangement of the itinerary of the official ceremony.

Afternoon tea was then served to all visitors by the citizens of Irvinebank. Special appreciation is due to the small band of workers who assisted in the tremendous undertaking. Twenty members of the Mareeba Town Band travelled 50 miles to attend the occasion, giving their services free. The Mareeba Shire Council provided the transport.