

THE BRAVE HONOURED.

FALLEN SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL.

UNVEILING AT LAIDLEY.

ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR.

PRESENTATION OF WAR MEDALS

LAIDLEY, February 15.

His Excellency the Governor (Sir Matthew Nathan) arrived at Laidley this morning for the purpose of unveiling the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial and Honour Roll. His Excellency was met at the station by Mr. G. A. Logan, M.L.A., and Mr. C. W. Hooper (Chairman of the Memorial Committee), and was accorded a civic welcome by Councillor R. Dunn (Chairman) and the councillors of the Laidley Shire. Sir Matthew Nathan was entertained at morning tea by Mr. Hooper, and afterwards visited the Ambulance Brigade buildings, the School of Arts, the Lockyer General Hospital, and the Laidley butter factory. The streets were festooned with flags for the occasion, and also in honour of the Governor's first visit to Laidley. The Governor motored to Thornton, where he was much impressed by the cotton crop, and by the possibilities, in favourable seasons, for all crops.

A GREAT DAIRYING DISTRICT.

At luncheon, at which Councillor R. Dunn presided, the Governor, in a speech, said he always liked being in a dairying country, as it represented, to his mind, the closer settlement by which alone Australia would presently have to be saved from the incursions of alien peoples. It represented that part of the life of the Australian people which, though it might lead to the hardest work, was the most healthful, and one of the most useful occupations. He was glad to see some of the results achieved by the farmers of the district. There must be good dairy herds in it, as the average production per cow was greater than that of any other district in Queensland, except Toowoomba, and nearly 25 per cent. better than the average of the

State. A fair area seemed to be under cultivation, but he wished there were greater evidences of extensive forage conservation, of all things the most useful for the future of the Queensland dairying industry. He had noted that an acre sown with cotton produced on an average £13/15 in 1921. He hoped that, by careful cultivation and selection of seed, this figure would continually increase, and that the new industry might greatly benefit this district. The Governor also advocated the furnishing of one of the large rooms at the School of Arts, to be used as a women's club for the convenience of district residents when in town.

UNVEILING CEREMONY.

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The unveiling ceremony at the site on the Recreation Reserve took place this afternoon.

In an able speech, Mr. C. W. Hooper introduced the Governor, who said: "The men whose names are on the monument I have come here to unveil were of this district. They went hence to risk their lives, and, as it proved, to give them in a world war, of which the Allied cause, as they knew it, had only to do with their own land in so far as it was to them the cause of truth and right. If they had stayed at home, and if men like them had not gone from all parts of the Empire, and from other lands which were with us in this matter, the whole world would have been made different to what it now is. That you are living as you are in peace, under mild laws made by the will of the people, and carried out for their good by their fellow countrymen, chosen to represent them, and that you are not suffering under harsh regulations, cruelly administered, mainly for the benefit of a foreign country, is due to the men whose names are there, and to men like them. The whole people have gained by the sacrifice of themselves. We shudder for the suffering and the horrors that they and many who have come back went through. At the same time, we bear heartfelt gratitude to them for what they have done for us and we are proud to belong to the stout-hearted people who reared such heroes, and to the nations and the Empire for which such men thought it worth while to fight to the death. In the solemn moments that will follow the reading of their names let each of us, young and old, make up his or her mind to follow them in sacrificing in small things, if we are not called to do it in great, our pleasures, our possessions, and our well being, for whatever appears to us to be for the good of the country they saved."

THE MEMORIAL.

The fallen soldiers' memorial is a monument obelisk, 22ft. high, built of grey granite. Three tablets contain the names of 47 men who made the supreme sacrifice. On the fourth tablet is inscribed: "Their name liveth for ever more." The soldiers' honour roll is a gate archway, constructed of grey granite, with a bronze lintel, bearing the inscription: "This memorial has been erected by the residents of Laidley and district to do honour to those brave men and women who offered their lives for their country during the Great War, 1914 to 1918." On two marble tablets are engraved the names of 277 men and nurses who enlisted from the Shire.

The unveiling ceremony was performed before a very large concourse of people. The Laidley Band, under Bandmaster M. Colch, played hymns. After the Governor had placed a wreath on the monument several wreaths were laid by relatives of fallen soldiers.

HONOUR ROLL GATES UNVEILED

The honour roll gates were then unveiled. Addresses were also given by Captain H. R. Koch, M.C., G. A. Logan M.L.A., and Councillor Dunn.

PRESENTATION OF WAR MEDALS

War medals were presented by the Governor, who said: "The medals that I have presented are tokens of the appreciation of the King, representing the British

have presented are tokens of the appreciation of the King, representing the British Union of Free States, for the men who fought in aid of that union, and against

the idea that these and all other nations should be dominated by Germany. The medals are, in this sense, badges of freedom. They are also badges of comradeship with the men of all the lands who fought through the long years of war, and triumphed at the end of them. They are badges of honour to those who, in a great cause, faced death, dismemberment, and disease, and all the horrors of warfare through those years. I am glad to have had the privilege, in the absence of the Governor-General, to whom it properly belonged, of presenting these badges of freedom, comradeship, and honour to the men who have so well deserved them."