

## DEDICATION AND UNVEILING OF STONE OF REMEMBRANCE AND MEMORIAL PLAQUE

### Impressive Ceremony at Anzac Day Observance

An impressive feature of the Anzac Day observances at Pittsworth yesterday was the citizens' meeting held in front of the Soldiers' Memorial School of Arts, and at which the Stone of Remembrance and a marble memorial plaque inscribed with the names of local lads who fell in the Second World War, were dedicated and unveiled.

From its central position in front of the building erected as a memorial to those who served and fell in World War I, the Stone of Remembrance stood out against the flower-decked vestibule, where the marble memorial plaque kept honoured company with the perpetual reminders of the names of those lads who gave their all in the first world struggle for freedom.

The observance of Australia's national day of remembrance commenced at dawn, when members of Toc H held a memorial service in honour of the "elder brethren."

Later in the morning large congregations attended services at the local churches. Members of the Pittsworth sub-branch of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A. laid wreaths at the Pittsworth cemetery on the graves of comrades who had passed on.

Prior to the commencement of the citizens' meeting ex-service men and women and the 1st Pittsworth company of the Girl Guides marched to the Soldiers' Memorial School of Arts, where Colonel N. G. Hatton (Brisbane) and Major R. W. Swartz (Toowoomba) took the salute.

The meeting, which was presided over by the Chairman of the Pittsworth Shire Council (Councillor Lee-Archer), was opened by the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a prayer by Rev. R. L. Hogg.

#### UNVEILING AND DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS.

Rev. C. L. Biggins, in unveiling and dedicating the Stone of Remembrance, said: "This memorial has been erected to perpetuate the memory of those men and women of Pittsworth and district who, with devotion, self-sacrifice and patriotism, served in two great wars. Very many units went overseas and every one served with imperishable gallantry and honour. From every branch of the military service and from the senior service, the Australian Navy, and the air service, many laid down their lives in these souls we commend to Almighty God, and we hope and pray that we and those who follow after us may be worthy of the traditions and ideals which they have bequeathed to us. They march in a deathless army and their name liveth for evermore.

"They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them, nor the

are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,  
We shall remember them."

The following names of the fallen were then read:—

World War I.—F. Asche, W. Barlow, E. Baynes, C. F. Blake, A. J. Bond, H. Bridgman, A. L. Cooper, J. W. Collins, F. J. Daniel, H. E. Daniel, J. M. Dobson, E. Eastwell, H. P. Fiegler, H. Freier, R. Gray, A. Hogarth, Alex Hogarth, J. Hogarth, C. Holley, Bert Holley, C. Johnson, D. Kirk, L. Krieg, J. Little, Ashton Lee, L. Lee, C. J. Mann, A. Marshall, C. McCullough, C. Mitchell, A. P. Porter, C. Pierce, T. Radcliffe, C. Robertson, R. Ronfeldt, H. Stumm, R. Stower, M. Scanlon, P. Scanlon, A. Westripp, C. Woodridge.

World War II.—H. Allen, L. M. Bailey, D. J. Black, R. H. Brodie, J. Cobon, A. Cover, W. M. Crittenden, J. B. Dignam, G. de Frain, S. de Frain, L. F. Fox, C. R. Frizzell, A. S. Gerard, D. Graham, M. F. Hegarty, W. Ind, L. L. Jarick, W. A. Jinks, N. S. Kath, Noel Loveday, R. Loveday, Kev. Mahoney, R. K. McIntyre, K. C. Murray, John Newman, B. O'Connell, R. C. Ritter, P. Scanlon, A. Sidorenko, K. J. Sterling, J. M. Stirling, L. Tews, L. K. Teitzel, J. Trinder, N. H. Trott, L. W. Tyson, P. S. Wade, R. S. Vary. The Last Post was sounded as the names were being read.

Representatives of the Pittsworth wars. Their bodies lie over many quarters of the globe. Their honoured memories remain with us for all time; it is for us to treasure and honour them. They will never be forgotten. We hope and pray that the lesson and example which those who died gave to us may rest in our hearts and in the hearts of future generations for all time, and that those who died may not have died in vain. This beautiful memorial will be a constant reminder to present and future generations so that those who run may read and thus find "sermons in stone and good in everything." May this memorial be regarded not merely as something that is pleasing to the eye,

MEMORIAL BE REGARDED NOT MERELY AS something that is pleasing to the eye, stone that has been fashioned into but rather as a silent but eloquent reminder of duty well and faithfully performed by thousands of the best of our young manhood."

Turning to the marble memorial plaque inscribed with the names of the fallen of World War II, which stood side by side with the memorial tablet commemorating the sacrifice of those local lads of a previous generation who perished in the first World War, Rev. Biggins said as he performed the dedication ceremony.

"On behalf of the people of Pittsworth and district, I dedicate this memorial to the men and women who served throughout the two wars, and in hallowed memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice, whose

of the British way of life. Australians had rallied in 1914 and again in 1939 to the call of their country and the British Commonwealth, and had displayed magnificent gallantry and determination to preserve for succeeding generations the way of life for which so many had willingly given their lives. To-day, the word loyalty was wide in its interpretation and application. Loyalty began with the individual, and came in the first place to Australia from those pioneers of British stock who had passed on to their children their ideals to maintain and cherish. Loyalty to the Empire, which had been built on the ideals of affection and justice for all peoples, was needed more than ever to-day, and would be of great value in helping to build a better world. Although the Empire may appear to be failing in strength, it had often proved before that even in its darkest hour it could still rally as a force for good in world affairs. The loyalty of the people of the Empire appeared likely to be tested in the future as it had never before been tested in the past. Never in history had they read of rebels firing on British warships as had happened last week, but despite this and other similar occurrences the Empire, by the loyalty of its subjects, would emerge greater than ever.

Major Swartz, who moved the resolution of sympathy to the relatives of those had fell and suffered on behalf of the Empire, said that the torch lit in 1914 had been passed on after the first World War, and had burned brightly once again in 1939, when Australians had once again fought for the cause of peace and justice. He recalled the sacrifices made in the Battle of Britain as typifying the spirit of sacrifice in which thousands of the Empire's manhood had laid down their lives, and to whom Churchill's great words: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few," were so appropriate. The world situation to-day was due to the drift from a Christian way of living, and mankind could not survive unless it returned to the principles of Christianity. It was the duty of all, as they celebrated the

principles of Christianity, it was the duty of all, as they celebrated the thirty-fourth anniversary of Anzac Day, to remember and to pledge themselves to aid those who had suffered loss of loved ones or loss of health in the struggles to maintain for future generations the privileges enjoyed under the British Empire. Only thus would the sacrifices made be worth while.

In closing the meeting, the chairman thanked the speakers, Miss Joy Lindenberg, who had acted as accompanist, Messrs. Luscombe & Halford for supplying the sound system for the meeting, and the joint secretaries of the commemoration committee, Messrs. F. Fox and R. Swenson.

#### LUNCHEON TO EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The annual luncheon to ex-servicemen, which has been a feature of the Anzac Day celebrations for the past three years, was once again very well attended, over 150 local ex-servicemen and women enjoying the spirit of comradeship which always pervades these gatherings. The singing of rollicking old favourites was entered into with great gusto at the conclusion of the luncheon, and a number of toasts were honoured.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. M. McIntyre, M.L.A., who complimented Colonel Hatton and Major Swartz on the fine addresses that they had given at the citizen's meeting—addresses which had provided food for serious thought. The addresses had emphasised the duty of all Australians to fittingly observe their greatest national day, to impress upon the younger generation the importance and the honour of maintaining the British way of life, under which all dwell in a brotherhood, part of the great brotherhood of mankind.

In response, Major Swartz said that the visitors had been welcomed to an extent which made them feel that they were not strangers to the district. Colonel Hatton and himself had been impressed by the enthusiastic spirit which lay behind the organisation of the day's commemoration, and it was a fine thing to know that such a spirit existed. Its existence indicated that Pittsworth need have no fears as to the future of their Anzac Day commemoration.

In proposing the toast of "The Anzac Day Commemoration Committee," Mr. D. Austin said that the success of the commemoration was due to a small band of loyal workers, headed this year by Mr. F. Fox and Mr. R. Swenson. Everyone realised the amount of work and thought connected with the organising of the observances and the luncheon, and the thanks of ex-servicemen were due to those responsible for such a splendid effort.

The toast was responded to by Councillor W. Lee-Archer, who said he also wished to take the opportunity, prior to his retirement as chairman of the Pittsworth Shire Council,

to thank the ex-service personnel of the district for the kindnesses extended to him during his term of office. He hoped that similar co-operation would be extended to his successor, Councillor Alan Fletcher.

The honouring of the toast of "The Fathers' Association," which was proposed by Mr. D. Austin, and responded to by Mr. M. McIntyre, brought proceedings to a close.

Shire Council, the Pittsworth R.S.S. A.I.L.A., Pittsworth Red Cross, Pittsub-branch of the Fathers' Association, the Pittsworth C.W.A., the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Toowoomba Fathers' Association, Mt. Tyson residents, Brisbane Fathers' Association, Brookstead R.S.L., Brookstead State School, and Wallingford C.W.A., and State School placed wreaths at the foot of the Stone of Remembrance.

The chairman welcomed the two guest speakers, Colonel Hatton and Major Swartz, who had been invited to move the two uniform resolutions of loyalty and sympathy. In his remarks, Councillor Lee-Archer said that Colonel Hatton had served in the two world wars. Major Swartz had served in World War II and had suffered as a prisoner of war in the hands of the Japanese. He thanked Rev. Biggins for dedicating the two memorials that day, and also the Fathers' Association, which had erected the Stone of Remembrance, with financial assistance from the Pittsworth Shire Council.

In moving the resolution of loyalty, Colonel Hatton stated that it was fitting that Australia's greatest national day should be the occasion for the nation's expression of loyalty to the Throne and the Commonwealth of Nations. It was owing to the sacrifice made by gallant Australians in two world wars that Australia to-day enjoyed the liberties and privileges





**The Stone of Remembrance, with the memorial plaque in right background.**