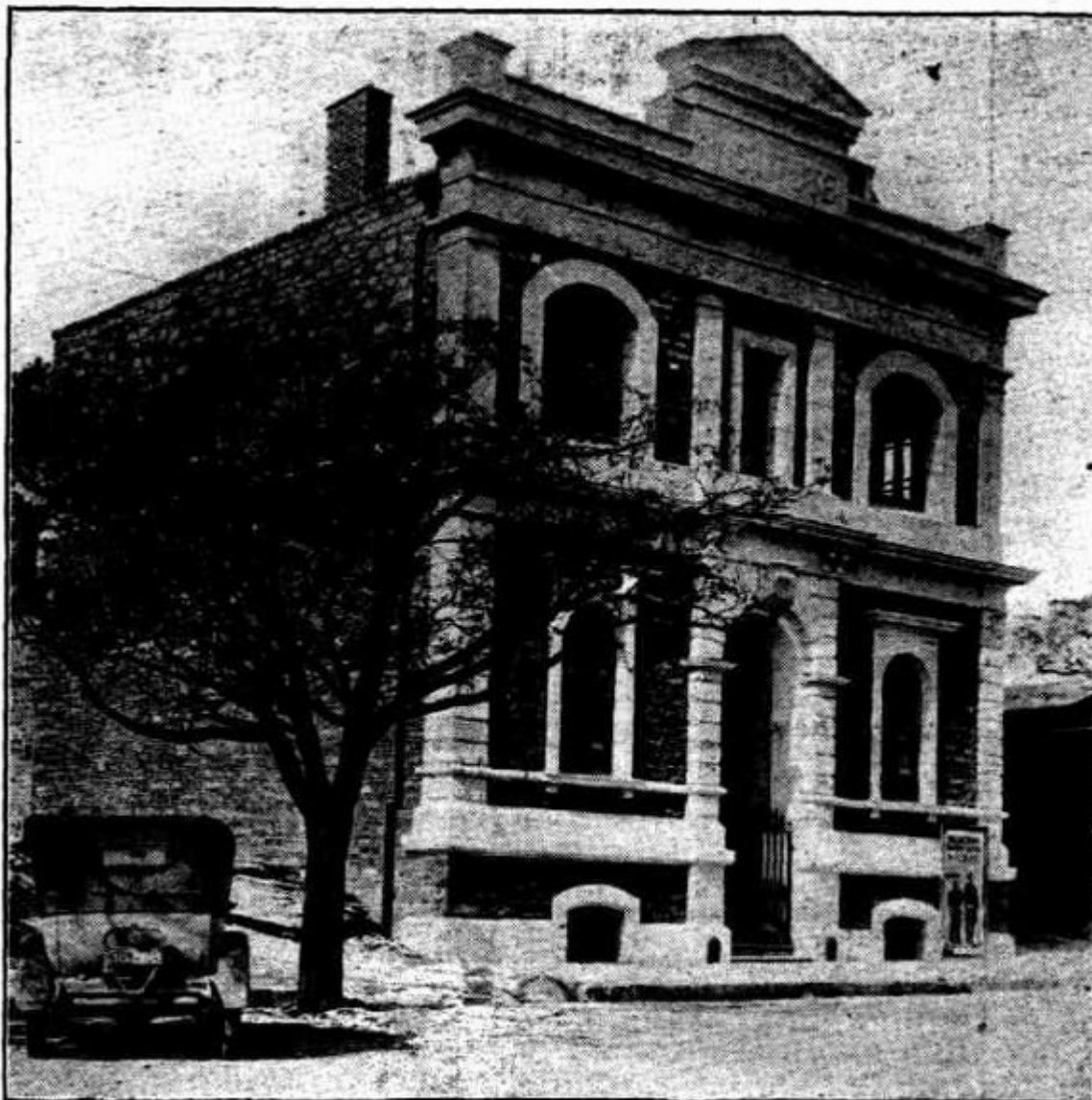


## Kapunda Institute and Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

Carnival Week to Celebrate the Re-Opening.



THE NEW BUILDING.

Photo. by S. A. B. Oats.

It is about ten years ago since the idea was formed to enlarge the Kapunda Institute, and at the same time to make it into a Soldiers' Memorial Hall. Although at the outset the scheme received a fair amount of support, for various reasons enough money was not forthcoming to complete the proposed scheme. However, there were those in the town who were always in touch with the matter, and whose foremost wish was to see the project carried out in its entirety. Time went on without this being accomplished,

without this being accomplished, but when it was decided to hold a Back-to-Kapunda Week, and devote the funds of that to the Soldiers' Memorial Hall scheme, it looked as though something tangible would eventuate. That proved to be the case, as the money raised during the Back-to-Kapunda Week netted something like £1,200, and with the money in the hands of the Soldiers' Memorial Hall Committee, the completion of the scheme was in sight. It took some time to arrange plans, &c., to suit the requirements necessary to make the hall up to date in

&c., to suit the requirements necessary to make the hall up to date in every way, and eventually the tender of Mr. G. C. A. Flugge, of Torrens-ville, was accepted for the work.

The improvements will fill a long-felt want in the town and district, and the hall should now be adequate for many years to come. The main hall has been extended 20 feet, a new and larger stage erected with two dressing rooms attached, a commodious supper room and kitchen have been provided under the stage, and sanitary arrangements improved and brought up to date. Another storey has been added to the front portion of the building, which is now most imposing, which will be seen from the illustration. Provision has been made for club rooms for returned soldiers, who will also be made honorary full members of the institute.

#### The Opening.

To celebrate the re-opening of the building, a public meeting was called to make arrangements for a carnival week, and various committees were appointed to carry out the work. The actual re-opening was arranged for Saturday last, and the ceremony was most successful. At 2 p.m. a procession was formed at the soldiers' monument, and marched from there to the hall. Two police officers, mounted, headed the procession, and then followed the Kapunda Brass Band, a large muster of returned soldiers, members of the Corporation and District Council, Institute, Kapunda Cycling Club (one member riding an old fashioned high machine), the school children with their drum and fife band, the fire reel, Shell and Vacuum Oil Tanks, decorated and other motor cars. The procession was a good one.

Col. McCann, who until recently was President of the R.S.A. in South Australia, had been selected to perform the opening ceremony, and he consented to do so. He was accompanied by Mrs. McCann, Mr. A. H. Dalziel (State Secretary of the R.S.A.), Mrs. and Miss Dalziel. The hall was crowded when Mr. J. Christie, President of the Institute, took the chair about 2.30. On the stage with him were Col. McCann, the Mayor (Mr. T. S. Davie), Mr. S. March (Chairman of the District Council), Mr. R. H. Hughes (President of the Kapunda Sub-branch R.S.A.), Mr. D. C. Murray (vice-president of the institute), Mr. R. Hawke

(who was Mayor during the Back to Kapunda festivities), and Mr. W. D. Ponder, of Adelaide (an old resident of Kapunda).

After the singing of the National Anthem, Mr. Christie, in a few opening remarks, gave a brief outline of the Soldiers' Memorial Hall movement. He said the sum of £1,281 had been received from the Back to Kapunda Committee, and £1,062 from the Soldiers' Memorial Hall Committee, or a total of £2,343. The contractor had been paid £3,529, which included a few extras. Before the alterations were started, the institute had an overdraft of £700, which had now been increased to approximately £2,000. Against that there was an amount of £300 in the Picture Account, which left an amount of £1,700 still owing. So they would see that the position was by no means a serious one, considering the valuable property they now possessed. He extended a hearty welcome to Col. McCann, and said that gentleman hardly needed an introduction, as he had quite recently conducted a strenuous election campaign. The Institute Committee had made a number of concessions to the returned soldiers, who they realized were entitled to everything they could give them. It was originally proposed that the returned soldiers' club room should be up-

stairs, but owing to alterations to the plans, it was found that that room was not large enough, and now they would be accommodated in two rooms downstairs, with the use of the committee room when required. They would also be granted full honorary membership of the institute. He then called on Col. McCann to re-open the building.

Col. McCann said he was very pleased to be associated with any ceremony such as the one they were holding that day, because the ex-service men were deeply interested in memorials erected to perpetuate the sacrifices made during the war. Some people did not believe in war memorials, holding that they served as an incentive to further wars, but they did not hold with that view, and they hoped that the last war had been a war to prevent further wars. Their memorial would serve to remind them of the sacrifices made by their men. He had recently returned from Belgium and France, and

their men. He had recently returned from Belgium and France, and those sacrifices had never before been brought home to him so forcibly as when he was in those countries. He saw Belgium and France being rebuilt—new cities taking the places of those destroyed during the war, and he also saw the cemeteries to remind him of the sacrifices made. In one, 40,000 Germans were resting; outside Arras was a French cemetery where 35,000 soldiers of that country were buried; in another 45,000. If they thought of the rows and rows of those crosses, they would perhaps realize the sacrifices that had been made. He saw numerous English and Australian cemeteries also, and they served as a reminder of the fact that over a million men and women of the British Empire had given their lives in the war. It was up to them, therefore, to see that they did everything to obviate the possibility of further wars, and they should convey to their children the significance of their memorials, so that they too should be taught by the great sacrifices made to do their uttermost to obviate war in the future. He was pleased to hear the financial position of the hall was so sound, and he congratulated all those who had been associated with the movement for the concessions to the ex-service men. He also congratulated Kapunda on the memorial, and hoped they would remember to convey to their children the lessons of the memorial. He hoped, too, they would also keep the lessons taught by the sacrifices of the men before them, so that those sacrifices would never be forgotten. He had very much pleasure indeed in declaring the hall open.

The Mayor (Mr. T. S. Davis) proposed a vote of thanks to Col. McCann for opening the hall, and said he did so with very great pleasure. Now that the additions to the building were completed, the town had a wonderful asset. Considering the building, the debt on it was very small, but it was up to the residents to work together and wipe off that debt.

Mr. S. March, Chairman of the District Council, said it afforded him great pleasure to support the vote of thanks to Col. McCann. They had often heard of him, but now had the pleasure of knowing him. They were proud to have him with them, and on behalf of the district he extended him a cordial welcome. They had all

a cordial welcome. They had all been looking forward to the completion of the additions to the hall, and he was sure they all agreed that now they had a beautiful building.

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation, and conveyed to Col. McCann by the Mayor. The National Anthem then concluded the proceedings.

After the opening ceremony, Col. McCann and his party visited Dutton Park, and were shown over the Soldiers' Memorial Garden there. The visitors all expressed pleasure at the beauty of the gardens.

#### At the Park.

After the opening of the hall, an adjournment was made to Dutton Park, where a children's demonstration and a programme of sports were carried out. There was a fair attendance of adults, and a large one of children. The band played selections at intervals. The programme was as follows:—

100 yards flat race, G. Goodfellow, W. O'Brien, M. Hambour.

Half-mile bicycle race, A. Bettermann, L. Weckert, M. Hambour.

Rhythm demonstration, High School Girls.

150 yards flat race, G. Goodfellow, W. O'Brien, C. Kleinig.

Basket ball match, Kapunda High School girls defeated the Old Scholars by 13 goals to 4.

One mile bicycle race, R. Truscott, C. Hansberry, J. March.

Bicycle teams' race, J. P. Kerin, C.

Linke, M. Hambour, and J. March.

220 yards flat race, M. Hambour, G. Goodfellow, W. O'Brien.

Basket ball match, Kapunda High School II. team defeated the Kapunda Primary School by 7 goals to 6.

Three mile bicycle scratch race, P. J. Kerin, R. Truscott.

Stepping the distance, C. T. March.

Highest aggregate for pedestrian events, G. Goodfellow, W. O'Brien.

In the evening, a special programme of pictures was screened in the hall, and there was a full attendance.