

BELLERIVE SOLDIERS AVENUE.

TREE PLANTING CEREMONY.

There was a large gathering on Saturday afternoon at the Bellerive rifle range to witness the planting of trees to form an avenue in honour of those members of the club who have volunteered for active service during the present war. The Inspector of Rifle Clubs (Lieut. Sanders) and Mrs. Sanders were amongst those who went over from Hobart, and evinced a lively interest in the proceedings. Mr. H. H. Facy, captain of the club, asked Major A. Morrisby to address the gathering before the actual work began. Major Morrisby said the trees to be planted would represent the members of the club who were now or had been at the front in this great war, and now numbered 23 men out of a total of 60 members. This constituted more than a third of the membership, a percentage, he believed, that had not been exceeded by any country rifle club in Tasmania. Of the 23 two, Private Herbert Lazenby and Private A. Edwards, had made the supreme sacrifice. In planting the avenue they were helping to mark an event that would form no mean portion of the history of Tasmania, and show to future generations the part their boys had taken in the affairs of the Empire, and in assisting to vindicate the rights of the weak and small nations. He urged them to continue to do all they could to assist in the prosecution of the war, which they could do in many ways. The visitors were then invited to the entrance of the rifle range, where the first tree was planted. All the holes had been previously prepared, and the trees (*Macrocarpa*) placed beside them. The trees were marked with the names of the soldiers in whose honour they were planted. Many of the relatives of the men were present, and themselves planted the trees. Other trees were planted by the president of the club (Dr. Haywood), the captain (Mr. H. Facy), members of the club, and visitors. The members of the club (who turned up well) set to work with a will, and while the planting was going on others put up guards, a quantity of sawn timber having been provided, while others fastened wire round the guards, the more effectually to protect the trees. Splendid work was done by Mr. James O'May and his son, Mr. E. W. O'May (secretary of the club). The former was the practical man, and mainly attended to all the details of the tree-planting, while the latter was everywhere when work was to be done. After the trees had been planted, the ladies, who had mustered in great force, dispensed afternoon tea. Work was then resumed, and all the trees were guarded and wired, and the names added. In the evening an entertainment was given in the Bellerive Institute, when the trophies won during the past year were presented by the president (Dr. Haywood), and Major Morrisby. The room was crowded. Several songs and recitations were given by Messrs. McVilly, N. Ford, and others, after which dancing was indulged in. Supper was provided by the ladies. The proceeds of the entertainment were in aid of the funds of the Miniature Rifle Club range, which is in course of construction.