

## SOLEMN SERVICE

### Prayer Rails Dedicated

#### Colin Jones Memorial

A solemn service was observed and an inspiring address was given yesterday morning by Rev. J. W. Bethune at the dedication of a set of prayer rails at the Launceston Church of England Boys' Grammar School chapel to the memory of the late Mr. Colin Jones, at one time a prefect at the school, who, with his wife and child, was among those who lost their lives when the aeroplane, Miss Hobart, disappeared off Wilson's Promontory in October, 1934.

While those present stood, Mr. Bethune, with a prayer, dedicated the rails to Colin Jones, his wife, and his infant son.

In a short sermon, Mr. Bethune said that at the service of dedication some were praying for a son, and some for a loyal and true friend. The clause in the Lord's prayer, "Thy will be done" was brought to mind. He believed that those words were not a cry of resignation, but a battle cry for future triumph. For some extraordinary reason, God's will was always associated with sickness, pain, and tragedy. Christians believed that Jesus Christ came into the world to speak in the only language they understood—the language of humanity. He had shown God in the light of wonderful revelation—a revelation of mercy and love. He had protested against premature death, sickness, blindness and suffering. If they were to follow in His footsteps they should go through life with a determined resolve to lift burdens from the shoulders of men.

Continuing, he said that the question, "What is the will of God with relation to war?" had been asked many times. War meant destruction, death, and torture. The worst of all evils which resulted from it was the work of profiteers, who made money out of the life blood of their fellow men. "The will of God," he added, "is one of peace and not of war. It is a will of life and healing, and not of death."

"I am not one of those," Mr. Bethune went on, "who believe that peace is to be had at any price. What sort of men would we be if we stood by and saw women and children outraged, and yet were not prepared to offer a blow to protect them. Although I believe that the ultimate will of God is one of peace, I also am of the opinion that there may be a special will. In the course of the world's history we may be flung into another bloody war. Surely it is the will of God that we shall show the same bravery, the same readiness for self-sacrifice, and the same quiet determined courage which was exhibited by both men and women in the days before us."

"We of the school," he concluded, "are proud of those men who were prepared to give, and those who gave their lives for our liberty and freedom. I know that God will triumph, and that one day His will of love, mercy, and

know that God will triumph, and that one day His will of love, mercy, and tenderness will rule the world. Could there be a grander King to serve? Well, then, give Him the service of your life and learn to worship and adore Him."