

**“LEST WE FORGET.”**

**Anzac Day Celebrations.**

**UNVEILING OF MONUMENT AT  
SOUTH GRAFTON.**

**Speeches by Dr. Page, M.P., and  
Mr. Vincent, M.L.A.**

**COMMEMORATION SERVICE AT GRAFTON.**

**“Engraved on the heart of the nation are the names and  
the deeds of our immortal dead.”**

These fitting words, which form the inscription on the South Grafton and District Soldiers' Memorial, which was unveiled yesterday at South Grafton, express the feelings of all in the solemn moments on Anzac Day which are devoted to the commemoration of our honored fallen soldiers.

Anzac Day on the Clarence was bright and sunny, and large crowds assembled to pay their tribute to the deeds of heroism and sacrifice which are associated with that glorious occasion in Australia's history.

The service at Grafton was curtailed in order that all might have the opportunity of participating in the unveiling ceremony at South Grafton, which was to commence at 11 o'clock.

By the time appointed a tremendous

By the time appointed a tremendous crowd had gathered around the veiled structure which now stands as a permanent record to those honored men of South Grafton and district who gave their lives in the Great War. The site chosen for the monument is an ideal one, being right in the heart of the town, in the centre of one of the garden plots.

The movement for the erection of the memorial was participated in by South Grafton, Clarenza, Coutts' Crossing, Sherwood, Creek, Blaxland's Creek, Chambigue, and O.B.X. The secretary to the committee latterly has been Mrs. J. F. Roberts, who succeeded Mr. McKee. Mrs. Roberts and the committee had all arrangements well in hand, and the most careful thought was manifested in the preparations for the function.

On one side of the memorial a detachment of the 41st Battalion and a detachment of the 41st Cadet Battalion formed a guard, under the command of Captain Paul and Warrant-officer Turner, whilst on the other the Grafton detachment of the 15th Light Horse Regiment, under Captain Sturt, M.C., Lieut. Robinson and Warrant-officer H. W. Pearn, filled a similar capacity. The Boy Scouts were also present, under Scoutmaster J. J. Weller. Members of the Salvation Army Band and the Grafton City Band, under Bandmaster Klaus, provided the music for the hymns.

An enclosure was specially railed off for the accommodation of the widows, orphans, parents and relatives of deceased soldiers.

The ceremony throughout was impressive in character, and there was an air of solemnity and dignity pervading the assembled throng, which bore testimony to the deep feelings within their hearts.

The first part of the proceedings was devoted to a religious service of commemoration, upon which the unveiling ceremony followed. The Rev. Sydney Smith, B.D., late Chaplain of the A.I.F., acted as director of ceremonies, and was supported on the platform by Dr. Earle Page, M.P., Federal Treasurer, who was accompanied by Mrs. Page, Mr. Roy Vincent, M.L.A., the Mayor of South Grafton (Ald. C. T. Schwinghammer),

Grafton (Ald. C. T. Schwinghammer), Ald. J. Reid, Revs. W. D. McIlwraith, B.A., W. Payne, E. Coleman and W. R. Coleman.

The proceedings began with "God Save the King," this and the other singing being led by members of the Salvation Army and Grafton City Bands under Bandmaster Klaus.

The Rev. W. D. McIlwraith, B.A., then led in prayer, after which portions of Scripture, taken from the Book of Revelations, were read by the Rev. W. Payne.

The Rev. Sydney Smith, B.D., late Chaplain in the A.I.F., delivered a brief address, in the course of which he drew attention to the fact that the first part of the official order of procedure gave precedence to what was now generally regarded as the most important part of this particular celebration, and that was the religious and solemn commemoration. They were not alone in this celebration, for throughout the length and breadth of Australia the same celebrations were going on. It might interest them to call to mind that shortly after nine o'clock that morning the Governor-General was present at a great Anzac Day celebration in Brisbane, and that he unveiled the Cross of Sacrifice and the Stone of Remembrance in front of Toowong Cemetery. It showed that although nine years had passed by the heart of Australia still beat true and still recalled the great remembrances that we passed through during the war, and the great sacrifices then made by our own good men and true. On the Cross of Sacrifice over there in Brisbane—and also in the British Cross of Sacrifice—there was this inscription "Their name liveth for evermore," and no greater thought or consolation could be given at this particular time than a verse like that. It called to his mind one great word—immortality. It showed the immortality of various kinds. There was the immortality of remembrance. They were remembering to-day the soldiers of the great war, especially those who laid down their lives on the altar of their country. There was also the immortality that came from influence. That influence had made a deep impress on our country.

had made a deep impress on our country. When we looked back upon those scenes so many years ago we could more truly estimate the sacrifice, and we could more truly estimate the influence which those men had had upon succeeding generations. They had brought their country into the knowledge of the whole of the world. They had by means of their deeds during the war brought to all the civilised and uncivilised countries of the world the knowledge of a country which was until then known only as far away Australia. Then there was the greatest immortality of all—the belief that these men were not dead, that “their name liveth for evermore,” that their personality, their identity was still the same. We believed them to be in part of God's Universe. So let their names be always remembered. Anzac Day should come before us with the great appeal “their name liveth for evermore.”

At this stage the Rev. Smith announced that an apology had been received from the Rev. Father Lawton, who

had been ill, and was not able to be present to speak to them that morning.

The hymn “For ever with the Lord” was sung.

The Mayor (Ald. C. T. Schwinghammer) expressed pleasure at seeing such a large gathering, and at having Dr. Earle Page, their Federal Treasurer, and Mrs. Page, and Mr. Roy Vincent, M.L.A., with them. The monument had been raised by public subscription from South Grafton and the immediate districts of Clarenza, Sherwood Creek, Blaxland Creek, Coutts' Crossing, O.B.X. and Chambigne. Those different committees did their utmost to gather funds and to collect the names of the soldiers who had done their bit on the other side, and given their lives in doing so. There were 46 names and they felt confident that not one name had been omitted. The monument, which had cost about £375, would be practically free of debt when finished. He was pleased to see present so many of the widows and parents and relatives of the soldiers whose names were on the tablet.

were on the tablet.

Dr. Earle Page, Federal Treasurer, said he was especially grateful to the committee of this South Grafton and District War Memorial for their invitation to him to be present at the unveiling of the permanent memorial to those brave sons of this district, who had given their lives for the sake of Australian liberty and of the world's freedom, and to have the opportunity of joining with all his old comrades and friends and his native fellow-citizens in this great memorial day. He congratulated them on choosing Anzac Day for the function. Though here they would have a proper memorial to all those brave dead, yet this was not the only place where their memory would ever live. It would live always in the hearts and memories of those who knew the men who never would come back, but as well as that over on the battlefields of Gallipoli and France, and all the battlefields of the great war there was a wonderful work being done by the Empire War Graves Commission. During his late visit to England, Mr. Bruce, the Prime Minister, went to every cemetery where Australian soldiers were buried, and he said the work being done there was one that would gladden the heart of everyone who had lost a loved one on the other side. The graves of the men who made this day famous with their sacrifice in Gallipoli were being kept in a most considerate and splendid way by that War Graves Commission, and our old foe, the Turk, was helping all he possibly could, because he admired the gallant men who died there, even though they were opposed to him.

It was worth while, continued the doctor, on an occasion such as that, pausing to recall something of the spirit that animated the whole of Australia, and especially such districts as this, during the war. It would be superfluous for him to say that the Clarence district did its bit in that regard. It did its bit in furnishing men for the other side; it brought out its full quota. They all knew that the farming districts were almost stripped bare of eligible men, who were only able to go by reason of the faithful work of the womenfolk, and the fathers and brothers who stayed

the fathers and brothers who stayed behind. It would be invidious to speak of individual bravery where all men were acknowledged to be brave, but it was worth while remembering that this river sent some of the most distinguished leaders of the war. It sent there Sir Harry Chauvel, who was regarded by some as the greatest cavalry leader that the war had produced. There was Col. Bruzner, who had added to a distinguished war record a great record of civil service as well. There was Brigadier-General Ivan McKay, a son of the Manse, whose name would live for good comradeship and sportsmanship. There were Col. Tom Flintoff and Col. Norry, and many others whose names it would scarcely be possible to give. It was always found that the men from this district did their bit, and did it gloriously, whether in leadership, in bravery in single combat or in massed troops. But whilst they were away the people left behind did their bit as well. The work done by the ladies of this district would never be forgotten. They did well everywhere. The Red Cross in South Grafton, of which he believed Mrs. Roberts was the secretary, during the whole of the war labored continuously to send comforts to the other side, and with wonderful organisation, worked unitedly and without friction for the good of the nation as a whole, and especially for the boys on the other side. When the war was over it did not cease work, and he thought that nothing was more gracious than the way in which the South Grafton Red Cross, with its associated branches outside, welcomed home the soldiers. Then the men in the country kept production going and helped to fill up the war loans, and when the soldiers came back, met them with ready sympathy, and helped to get them established. They all knew how the repatriation committees had worked. He esteemed it one of the greatest privileges of his life to have been president of the Repatriation Committee for the shires of Nymboida and Orara, and the municipalities of South Grafton and Ulmarra. They had no idea of the amount of work that was done, and he did not know how they would have done it if

of work that was done, and he did not know how they would have done it if Mr. Pollack had not got to work with his legal mind on the Repatriation Act, and showed them what they were able to do. Mr. Pollack's work was not only of invaluable service to them, but also helped in the general repatriation energies throughout the State. He would never forget the single-minded devotion and attention given to their job

by all the members of that committee—Mr. Reid, Mr. W. J. Hawthorne, the two Messrs. Mulquincy, Messrs. Fitzgerald and Kelly, of Ulmarra, and Mr. Bush, who, unfortunately, had since died. He was glad to know that nearly all the soldiers they were able to put on the land hereabout had made good, and were going to have solid and comfortable homes with a future for themselves and their kiddies. He hoped that the names enshrined on that memorial would be a perpetual reminder of the spirit which enabled Australia to do her part so gloriously in the war, and an appeal for a resuscitation of that spirit in the tasks of peace. "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," said the poet, and much remained for us to conquer still. Here we had the richest undeveloped district in the Commonwealth. Here we had our task, and the memorial should call us to buckle to that task of making this the most productive, prosperous and comfortable part of Australia—a magnet to attract people from the whole of the world. We had enormous problems here, bigger probably, than in any part of Australia—a huge river to dam, forest hills to be made into fertile fields, wild country to be subdued, and comfortable homes to be placed there. This memorial would live as a perpetual appeal to them to keep alive that great spirit which would enable them to subdue nature and make it their servant and bondslave—a bondslave to make on the banks of this beautiful stream a place where there would be better opportunities for everybody than could be found anywhere else in the civilised

anywhere else in the civilised world. In concluding, Dr. Page expressed his sympathy with the bereaved and the hope that the names inscribed on the memorial would never die, but would be an everlasting source of inspiration, not merely for this generation, but for generations to come. (Applause).

Mr. Roy Vincent, M.L.A., congratulated the people of the district upon the fine type of memorial and the central site that had been chosen. Dr. Page had said "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," and he wished to say that in the battles for ordinary progress and development in normal times, although those battles might not be attended with the same glamour as in the field of war, still their issues were often fraught with just as vital consequences for mankind and undoubtedly the spirit of sacrifice was just as much involved, so that whether a man gave or offered his all upon the field of battle or gave freely of his time in the interests of his fellowmen he was equally deserving of honor.

This country and those ideals which we held dearer than life itself had been preserved to us by the sacrifices made by our sons. Nothing great was ever achieved without sacrifice. Consequently he hoped that the people would continue to sacrifice so that a memorial even greater than this might be raised to the everlasting memory of those who really won for Australia her nationality. What he meant by a greater and grander memorial was this, that the country should be developed, and made a country capable of containing an enormous and prosperous people, a country with a generous and Christian people capable of fulfilling their duty in the making of the world. He trusted that the patriotism shown by the sons of Australia for their Empire and their country would be an inspiration to the coming generation, and that the spirit which impelled them to go forward would live in us and find expression in a wholesome public life and in a will to make this country one worth living in. Many of their soldiers had had a hard time and some of their Diggers unfortunately had fallen. He wanted to appeal to the community when they saw a Digger who had fallen not



wanted to appeal to the community when they saw a Digger who had fallen not to pass by on the other side but to extend to him a helping hand. They wanted to look upon the cause of his fall rather than the fall itself, and to remember that when the supreme test came that man stood to and played his part like a man, and helped to retain this country for us. (Applause.)

Captain Sturt, M.C., as the representative of the Returned Soldiers and Sailors League, in a brief speech said that one thing he would like to stress was that Anzac Day had been chosen to commemorate not only the landing on Gallipoli, but many other feats of valor that stood to the credit of the Australians forces in the war. It was nine years ago since the Australians were committed to that ill-starred venture on the shores of Gallipoli, when there were 9000 casualties, including 2500 killed. Those men had not made their sacrifice in vain. If they emulated the deeds they did and took the same spirit into it, no doubt many of the problems of civic life could be overcome and Australia would keep her place in the forefront of the nations which formed this Empire of ours. To those who mourned their dead he would say "let pride more than temper your sorrow" for he was sure that would be the wish of the men who fell. (Applause).

Ald. J. Reid said it was indeed gratifying to one who was an old pioneer and resident of South Grafton, and who had watched the course of things right through since the strenuous days of 1914, to see such a large assemblage there to do honor to the occasion of the unveiling of that monument to their departed soldiers. It was typical to us to be prone to have short memories, but they could cast their minds back to the days of 1914, when war was first declared. They could only imagine what it meant then up to a certain stage. They could not have thought that it would develop into the enormous and awful conflict that took place. The first proposal from Australia was to send a contingent of 20,000 men, and he well remembered the occasion when the first contingent was sent from that town in the month following the war. He was then Mayor, and in conjunction with

was then Mayor, and in conjunction with the Mayor of Grafton it was his duty to see those first soldiers leave to go to Egypt. He was sorry to say that several of the names of that small body were on the memorial tablet. Australia sent 300,000 or more men, but he ventured to say that if such a thing occurred again Australia's response would be the same.

Continuing, Ald. Reid said that the work of the Red Cross had been one of the noblest things done during the war. He also referred to the subsequent work for the returned soldiers, and the efforts of the Repatriation Committee. The Repatriation Committee took a certain stand, and in conjunction with the able advice tendered by Mr. Pollack they straightened out a lot of matters that could never have been straightened out if they had been in the hands of weaker men. As the result of their strong action he thought they could say no Repatriation Committee showed better work. Many things were done to help them in their work, one of the noblest acts of assistance being that of Mr. Charles Tindal, one of the oldest residents of the district, who practically made them a present of £500 to enable them to engage a secretary to do their work. He felt it an honor to be present to witness the unveiling of that soldiers' memorial. (Applause.)

The Rev. Sydney Smith then mentioned that Mr. A. J. Pollack, who was to have been the next speaker, was unable to be present owing to his court duties, and had sent an apology.

The monument, which was covered with a huge Australian flag, lent by the South Grafton School, was then unveiled by the mothers, widows and orphans of deceased

soldiers, after which the first verse of "Nearer My God To Thee" was sung.

The monument is a handsome obelisk. It is erected on a foundation of concrete, with steps of freestone and bases and obelisk of granite. It is the work of Messrs. Matheson and Collins, of Grafton, and is a creditable production. Its situation is an ideal one. On the face of the monument are the words, "The Great

monument are the words, "The Great War, 1914-1918," and beneath is the inscription, "Engraved on the heart of the nation are the names and the deeds of our immortal dead."

The names of the soldiers on the tablet are as follows:—

South Grafton.—B. L. Asperry, J. C. Calman, A. C. Collins, A. Elder, W. R. Haigh, W. S. Hazzard, B. G. Johnstone, C. C. Layton, H. F. J. Maxwell, H. McDermid, W. St. C. Orr, H. S. Park, E. S. Perrett, O. Rea, W. Rea, J. C. Robertson, L. J. Thompson, C. F. Weatherstone, G. Weatherstone, D. Webber, L. J. Windsor, E. Withers, T. A. Inglis, W. Pollard, and A. Welch.

Coutts' Crossing.—N. L. Avery, A. J. Avery, C. H. Butters, H. Cogan, A. E. Fothergill, A. James, T. Jones, J. E. Luckett, A. A. Mackay, M. Morrison, R. Mully, W. Walsh, V. W. Walsh.

Sherwood.—E. L. Dea, R. H. Grey.

Chambigne.—E. G. Austin, C. B. Bellamy.

O.B.X. Creek.—G. E. N. Rhodes, F. G. J. Rhodes.

Blaxland.—A. Jones.

Clarenza.—A. Munro.

The placing of wreaths on the monument followed, the first wreath being deposited by Captain Paul and Captain Sturt from the residents of South Grafton on behalf of the mothers, widows and orphans. This wreath, the Rev. Smith announced, was the work of Madame Scott, to whom they were very grateful. There were also wreaths from the Municipality of South Grafton, the Anzac Day Committee, and the Red Cross.

The Recessional Hymn, "God of Our Fathers," was then sung, after which Bugler D. Strong, of the Grafton Militia, sounded "The Last Post" and "The Reveille," with which the proceedings terminated.