

UNVEILING CEREMONY AT SPRINGDALE

A LARGE GATHERING

On Sunday afternoon a large number gathered at Springdale, on the occasion of the unveiling of the soldiers' memorial.

Mr. O. E. Cullen presided.

After the anthem, and the singing of the "Recessional," the Rev. Gordon Hirst, Anglican minister of Temora, offered up an appropriate prayer.

Mr. Hugh Main, M.L.A., was the chief speaker. On his return from the war, he said, he was not altogether favorable to the particular form of memorial adopted that day, but he had changed his ideas, and now, in view of the fact that so many adopted a peculiar attitude towards soldiers, he believed that the names of those who had served at the war should be perpetuated, so that their sacrifices should not be lost sight of. Some of the scum of Europe had come here to advocate wild-cat ideas, and unless, on the other hand, steps were taken to honor the Empire, the latter was in a bad way. He was extremely pleased to be present to express gratitude for what Springdale was doing that day for his fellow comrades who had left their bones on the other side of the world. He concluded with an appeal that they should do all they could to keep Australia as an integral part of the Empire. (Applause.)

Ald. W. Callaghan (Mayor of Temora) said if they placed a monument in every village they could not be doing too much for the boys who went to the front. It was a pleasure to see the citizens of Springdale so mindful of their duty to those who sacrificed so much to preserve our liberty. It was easy to forget. As they read the names on the memorial they would be reminded of those who heard the Empire call. (Applause.)

Dr. Anderson (Cootamundra) considered it a very great honor to be connected with a movement which

connected with a movement which sought to pay its respects to those who fought. To the bereaved he expressed his deep and proud sympathy, and quoted an English poet whose words conveyed more than could words of the speaker. The doctor went on to observe that ~~the war was not fought~~ for the sake of gain or power or territory or aggrandisement; and all who served deserved a tribute from the public. They deserved much more than a beautiful monument. Those who returned asked for the chance of getting back into employment as good as was held before. The promises must be honored, whatever the cost. Were they, individually and nationally, honoring that promise? It was a sacred duty to see that all the returned men were suitably provided for. As for those past work, they should be sympathetically, and tenderly cared for. (Applause.)

Ald. W. Gibson (Temora) said he was always anxious to attend functions of this sort. Springdale did itself honor in erecting this monument. Those who lost sons (Mr. Gibson lost one) were glad that those sons did their duty. As the result of such service Australia was still under the grand old Union Jack. It was hoped that such sacrifice would never be called for again. (Applause.)

Mr. Duncan Sinclair said at first he thought it best to have a central monument for Temora and district; but each locality desired a monument of its own. Perhaps, after all, that was right. These monuments were built solidly to the memory of their dead. (Applause.)

Mr. Geo. Dennis (headmaster of the Temora school) said he was heart and soul with every effort to commemorate the memory of those who fought. The rising generations would be reminded of those who fought for freedom. The "scum" had been referred to. Well, the scum usually came to the top; but it did not hide the genuine feeling of loyalty pervading the bulk of the people. (Applause.)

Mrs. J. Penfold, the mother of the first Springdale...

Mrs. J. Penfold, the mother of the first Springdale soldier to enlist, and the first soldier to fall, then unveiled the monument, whilst the congregation stood with bowed heads.

The Rev. Hirst followed with a fine speech, referring to the monument as a dignified one. He was not exaggerating when he said that the throwing in of the few thousand Australians turned the war and won it for the Allies. (Applause.) It would be fitting for the local residents from time to time to place wreaths on the monument. He concluded with eloquent

words of sympathy for the relatives of the fallen.

The Chairman thanked the public for their attendance, and particularly the speakers from Cootamundra and Tomara. The contractor, Mr. S. H. Dickson, of Cootamundra, had treated the committee well.

A balance of £25 was needed to defray the whole cost, and donors came forward to make up the quota. They more than made it up, contributing £40.

The extra money will be used in fencing in the monument, and perhaps adding a flower bed or lawn.

The monument is on the park, and is a credit to the contractor. The height is 10ft. 2in.; the base is 2ft. 9in. square. The main material is polished trachite.

Inscribed on the monument are the words, "Erected by the residents of Springdale and district in memory of those who fell in the Great War, 1914-19." Then follow the names:

HONOR ROLL

Killed

G. H. Hankins, H. C. Harding, W. B. Harvey, B. C. Harvey, R. Harvey, P. Kahlefeldt, S. H. McNair, H. W. McNair, N. Penfold, H. Towers.

Returned

A. F. Ball, T. Bouker, L. B. Crisp, R. M. Cullen, J. T. Carney, T. Coleman, T. F. Dwyer, I. Elliott, J. T. Firman, J. R. Haeusler, W. L. Hein-

Firman, J. R. Haeusler, W. L. Heinius, R. L. Harvey, A. Cartwright, G. McNanughton, F. McNair, W. Pilon, R. E. Piper, W. Reid, H. L. Sinclair, W. Tutill, A. L. Tetley, L. H. Tetley, P. Toohy, H. K. Walsh.

Mr. Frank Dickson, who accompanied his father, secured several photos.