

DUNDEE'S FINE WAR RECORD

Tributes at "Welcome Home"

A Memorable Gathering Honor Roll Unveiled

Arranged for the purpose of welcoming home men and women from that centre who had served, or are still serving, with the Forces, a banquet held in the local hall on Saturday night proved also a fitting climax to Dundee's remarkably fine war effort.

From this small centre—

27 young men and women went to the Services;

£1950 was raised by the Dundee Red Cross, and

£1150 by the Dundee Patriotic Committee.

It is a record that probably has not been surpassed by any centre of a similar size in the Commonwealth.

The sumptuous spread was on a scale which few centres would attempt, and the large gathering and the prevailing atmosphere of sincere gratitude for the safe return of all but one of those who had gone forth to service made the occasion one that will not soon be forgotten.

In the course of the evening, Colonel M. F. Bruxner, M.L.A., unveiled a handsome honor roll placed in a prominent position in the hall and carrying the names of the local men and women members of the Services.

After the gathering had risen and stood in silence in honor of the fallen, the Chairman, Mr. O. E. Sloman, welcomed Col. Bruxner, and expressed Dundee's appreciation of his attendance that night at considerable inconvenience to himself.

DUNDEE'S WONDERFUL EFFORT.

Colonel Bruxner said he was proud to have been invited to join with the wonderful gathering that night in honor of the men and women who had come forth from Dundee to serve. That night's remarkable fine effort was something, he felt sure, that the returned men and women would appreciate more than anything else, and was on a scale that would surprise anyone who did not know the kind of people

that would surprise anyone who did not know the kind of people that lived at Dundee.

Referring to the fact that they had just stood in memory of those who had not come back from service, Col. Bruxner said that no matter what the function or how much they were enjoying themselves they would always remember those who had made the supreme sacrifice for their memory would live forever.

To those who had returned and were present that night, Col. Bruxner extended a very hearty welcome home again. As an old soldier he knew what coming home meant not only to the men themselves, but also to their loved ones. They would always

find as they went through life great satisfaction in having been prepared to perform the greatest duty that the citizen of a free country could perform—to offer their lives to uphold the ideals for which they stood and to preserve those ideals for future generations.

To those men and women Australia owed a great debt of gratitude for it was through their efforts that this country had not been scarred by war and that we remained the most fortunate people in the world.

"THE PEOPLE AT HOME"

Stating that the Service men would agree however that all their efforts would have been in vain but for the wonderful support they had had from the people at home Col. Bruxner said he knew of no community of people of similar size that had done a finer job than Dundee. There was only a comparatively small population at Dundee and yet Dundee's honor roll carried the names of 27 men and women who had been in the Services, and no less a sum than £1,950 had been raised for the Red Cross and a further £1,150 for the Australian Comforts Fund—a total of over £3,000 from this little community! He knew, Col. Bruxner, that the ex-Servicemen would understand just what work had been involved in that remarkably fine achievement, particularly on the part of the womenfolk, who had never let up.

WINNING THE PEACE

The record of which Dundee had such good cause to be proud pointed the moral that when the need arose this country had people of courage who were prepared to make the great sacrifice, while those who were obliged to remain at home were prepared to forget their political differences and all the other little things that divided them in the

ences and all the other little things that divided them in the days of peace, and work together for the country which they loved so much. "And if we can do that under the tragedy of war, surely we can do it, when it is just as important, in time of peace," declared Col. Bruxner. "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," and those men and women who had gone to help the war will, we hope, help to win the peace, because if we don't win the peace we have lost the war," he added. This war had been won by youth—the young men and women, and he believed they would also win the peace, said Colonel Bruxner, who appealed to the young men who had come back to step in and pull their weight for the things that must be done, to take an interest in all that was happening, and in politics—for everything finally came to that; to keep together, and put out the evil that was in this country.

"Stand for the ideals that you fought for and worked for," he urged.

Unveiling the honor roll to the men and women from Dundee who had served, Col. Bruxner said it would be symbolic of service of the highest kind and an inspiration to all to render whatever service was in their power for the general welfare of their fellow men and women.

A SINCERE WELCOME

Mr. Tom Watson expressed pride at the presence of such a large gathering in honor of Dundee's men and women who had served. While they sympathised deeply with the relatives of Sgt. Rolff, who had died, they rejoiced in the safe return of all the other young men and women from Dundee.

Mrs. O. E. Sloman, president of the Dundee branch of the Red Cross, in supporting the welcome to those who had returned from service, said they had long looked forward to that night's welcome home. The Dundee Red Cross Mrs. Sloman added, was proud indeed of the men and women who were honoring.

Though there was a sadness in the knowledge that one of those who had gone from Dundee to serve would not be with them again, Mr. Robert Chappell said he felt there could be no happier experience for those who had returned than to share in the welcome by the vast gathering that night.

...of the last gathering that night.

Remarking that it was difficult to imagine the hell that those who had served in the islands had been through, Mr. W. Kneipp said it was in a spirit of deep gratitude that he supported the welcome home. "It is our sincere hope that you will do well for yourselves and those who belong to you in the days ahead," he added.

While they realised that there was sadness in some homes, they were thankful that war had not taken a heavier toll of those who had gone forth from Dundee when they heard the call in the grim days of war, and had given a service for which they could never be repaid," said Mr. Robert Chappell.

As the father of three sons who had gone to the war, said Cr. W. H. McCotter of Deepwater, he could appreciate the feelings of the parents of the men and women who were being honored that night. The sadness caused by the fact that one of the Dundee lads had died was tempered by the knowledge that he had done his duty.

On behalf of the Severn Shire Council, some of whose members had lost sons in the war, Cr. McCotter accorded Dundee the warmest congratulations on its fine war record, and extended to the men and women whom they were honoring a hearty welcome home.

Cr. McCotter suggested that that evening's gathering should be an annual event in the life of Dundee, in tribute to the men and women in whose honor they were assembled.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HOME FRONT.

Acknowledging the welcome on behalf of the guests of honor,