

BRUXNER LAYS STONE OF WAR MEMORIAL HALL

EMMAVILLE CEREMONY:

(By Our Correspondent)

EMMAVILLE : Despite the rain, there was a large, representative attendance when Lieut.-Col. M. F. Bruxner laid the foundation stone of the new War Memorial Hall at Emmaville on Saturday afternoon.

The hall is now well on the way to completion.

The President of the War Memorial Hall Fund (Mr. H. M. Simpkins) took the chair and called for silence, in honour of the fallen.

Following this, he gave an outline of the history of the movement to erect a memorial for the men who served in the two great wars.

Mr. Simpkins said the Committee, which had been formed in 1945, had come to the conclusion that the best plan was to provide a worthwhile amenity for the people of Emmaville and help them to stay in the district, instead of drifting to the city.

LOYAL SUPPORT

When the Hall was finished and paid for it would be handed over to the local branch of the R.S.L. to control and use.

Mr. Simpkins then introduced Col. Bruxner and said how glad everyone was to welcome him as they felt he was the right man to perform the ceremony, which was all the more important as it was taking place during the visit to Australia by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Col. Bruxner said he was glad and proud to lay the foundation stone of the new hall, because he knew it was the culmination of a loyal effort on the part of

a loyal effort on the part of the citizens of Emmaville and district to honour the services of those who went to both wars.

CHOSEN WISELY

He said that from time to time there was argument as to whether it was proper to erect memorials of a material nature, and although in some instances monuments could be very beautiful, he thought the committee of the War Memorial Hall had chosen wisely in deciding on a hall in which people could meet in social contact and enjoyment.

All he asked them to remember was the debt they owed to the men and women who had helped this country to be free, where people could live decent, honest and happy lives.

WISH FOR SUCCESS

The Colonel said that every man who went in service hoped that he was doing something that would make the people at home not only safe but able to enjoy themselves as they would in the new hall.

Col. Bruxner then laid the foundation stone.

He wished the contractor (Mr. Gordon Loseby) success in the completion of the job.

The Chairman asked the President of the R.S.L. (Mr. Cyril Lennon) to move a vote

Cyril Lennon) to move a vote of thanks to Col. Bruxner.

Mr. Lennon, in doing so, said the day brought back memories of childhood of the many good mates he had

had at school, how those mates had grown to manhood and had gone overseas during World War II, many of them paying the supreme sacrifice.

FINE MEMORIAL

He was very pleased to see that the people of Emmaville had not forgotten them and had worked so willingly to erect such a fine memorial in their honour and in honour of those of World War I.

He said he knew of no other person who could qualify for the job of laying the stone better than could Colonel Bruxner.

The President of the Ladies' Auxilliary of the War Memorial Hall (Mrs. D. Say) said it was a wonderful day for her to see the stone being laid.

The ladies had always worked hard towards the hall.

She also thanked Col. Bruxner, on behalf of the ladies.

APPROPRIATE TIME

Cr. A. J. Potter supported the vote of thanks to Col. Bruxner.

He said the people of Emmaville and district should be very proud of the Hall.

"We wanted another Hall and now we have one," he said.

Cr. Potter said he thought the laying of the foundation stone could not have occurred at a better time than during the Queen's visit.

He was happy to have been called upon to speak on behalf of the Severn Shire Council and would mention the occasion at the Council meeting on Tuesday.

Next speaker was Cr. E. J. Clifford, who said he was glad to welcome Col. Bruxner, and endorsed Cr. Potter's remarks concerning the Council.

RIGHT BEHIND MOVEMENT

Cr. Clifford said he was

Cr. Clifford said he was happy to see the memorial to the men of two wars nearing completion.

The Chairman called on Mr. R. R. Gurnow, who spoke on behalf of the donors of Emmaville and district.

He said he felt he could quite safely say that they were all happy to see the building as it stood to-day. It was something they could be proud of as a memorial of both wars.

He said the citizens of Emmaville were right behind the movement and he was very glad to see the Hall nearing completion.

Mr. Gurnow also thanked Col. Bruxner for performing the ceremony.

SILVER TROWEL

After a vote of thanks was generously acclaimed, Mr. Simpkins presented to Col. Bruxner a silver trowel, a replica of the one used in the official ceremony.

The trowel was suitably inscribed to form a true memento of the occasion.

Col. Bruxner said he was deeply moved by the presentation and deeply appreciated it.

In thanking the President and Committee for the kindly thought behind the gift, Col. Bruxner said he would now be able to convince his family that he had really laid the foundation stone of the War Memorial Hall at Emmaville, and he would treasure the trowel as a reminded of his good friends in Emmaville.

IMPRESSED WITH PROJECT

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the ladies provided a sumptuous afternoon tea in what will be the supper room of the new Hall.

During the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Simpkins and others conducted Col. Bruxner over the Hall and showed him the blue prints and plans.

Col. Bruxner said he was most impressed with the project.

Emmaville Hockey Club has donated a cheque for £50 towards the cost of the new War Memor-

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