

Former Governor Unveils War Memorial

Blessed by glorious weather and in a wonderful setting the unveiling and dedication of the war memorial last Sunday was a proud and memorable day for Freeman's Reach.

Appropriately arranged, and in an atmosphere of serenity, a large crowd gathered for the arrival of the guest of honour, Sir John Northcott, who inspected the guard of honour representing members of both World Wars.

Mr. A. E. Chatman, president of the War Memorial Committee, outlined the steps which had been taken to show the district's appreciation of those who had served their country. He mentioned the important part Cr. Lloyd Smith had played in securing the site.

UNANIMOUS

Mr. Chatman introduced Cr. R. B. Turnbull, President of the Colo Shire, who, in welcoming Sir John Northcott, said that he had been a unanimous choice as an old and distinguished soldier, and now an esteemed citizen of the State.

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He made special mention of Sister Vida Greentree (Freeman's Reach's popular post-mistress), and Mr. George Cook, the monu-

mental mason who, in his final effort, had done such a wonderful job. He paid tribute to the folk of Freeman's Reach for providing such a fine memorial.

In supporting Cr. Turnbull, the Mayor of Windsor (Ald. V. W. Gillespie) said that the significance of such a day was the same in any district, and a constant reminder to all. He felt that it was fitting that one so distinguished as Sir John was to perform the unveiling.

RETURN VISIT

Sir John thanked the committee for affording him the great pleasure of again visiting the Hawkesbury. He com-

mended the people on the selection of the site, with a commanding view of the great Hawkesbury Valley which had produced so many fine citizens. He declared that such a monument would always be a reminder, "Lest We Forget" the sacrifices made and the price paid for freedom.

Instancing the case of his young grand-daughter, Sir John said that the significance of the word "war" is unknown to the young of to-day.

In hushed silence, Sir John, with the words, "May we always remember them," unveiled the monument.

The "Moment of Dedication" was fervently and solemnly performed by the Rev. A. A. Mutton, his theme being dauntless courage, loyalty and remembrance.

The dedication was followed by the singing of the Recessional, accompanied by the Paramatta Salvation Army

accompanied by the Parramatta Salvation Army Band. The recitation of the "Ode to the Fallen", sounding of the Last Post, Reveille, and the final Benediction, closed the ceremony.

DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER

In moving a vote of thanks to Sir John Northcott, Messrs. R. C. Wheeler, M.H.R., and B. S. L. Deane, M.L.A., both spoke in glowing terms of Sir John's service to this country as a distinguished soldier and a former State Governor.

Councillor Smith was applauded for his persistence in securing such a splendid site. Again complimentary mention was made to Sister Greentree, and special thanks was extended to the fine band from Parramatta.

The function was a credit to the committee and its diligent secretary (Mr. W. Hibbert), and it was pleasantly concluded in the School of Arts, where the fine band of women had prepared afternoon tea, Mr. Deane thanking the ladies for such a fine repast.

—Contributed