

Dedication of Beautiful Gateway.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND THANK-OFFERING.

The gateway to St. Paul's Church of England, which was dedicated at a special service on Sunday night, stands as one of the two most beautiful war memorials and the first memorial of World War II in Gloucester. The other is the clock in the Memorial Park, a memorial of World War I.

Composed of an iron gate between two stone pillars inset with marble tablets and surmounted by handsome wrought iron lights the memorial is one of the most fitting that it would be possible to see anywhere as well as adding beauty and dignity to the church itself. It was built by Mr. Vic West.

The dedication was performed by the Rector, Rev. D. R. May, during the service. Surrounded by the reverent congregation, which was one of the biggest seen at the church, Mr. May dedicated the first tablet as a thankoffering for the men and women from the parish who returned safely from the last war and the second tablet as a memorial to the twelve men who gave their lives in the same war. The names of the men on the tablet are : N. Bagley, O. H. Blanch, F. Breese, N. Corbett, K. Crane, F. Ellis, H. K. Merchant, W. Redman, Roy Smith, T. Shepherd, D. Sheldrick and J. Taylor.

The cost of the memorial and the honour roll inside the church, which was dedicated the previous Sunday night, was £80. It was subscribed by the parishioners.

During his address at the church service Mr. May said that the inspiration for the gateway came from Mr. H. T. Shepherd. He reminded the congregation that both memorials were their memorials to those who gave their lives and a thank offering to those who returned safely from the war. The gateway, he said, would stand as long as the church stood, and if a new church were built it would be transferred to the entrance of the new church.

Mr. May said that people were very apt to forget the war and all it stood for. The remembrance of the war, of past victories, was going out of practice to-day. "We do not preserve as we should the story of our heritage," he said. "These memorials will remind all who come here that as a church we have not forgotten. Let us all remember the men who died that we might live," he added. Mr. May also expressed his grateful thanks to all those who contributed to the cost of the memorials.

At the service in the church, which was a most impressive one, special hymns appropriate to the occasion were sung. The lesson was read by a returned soldier member of the

were sung. The lesson was read by a returned soldier member of the church, Mr. C. L. Fraser, secretary of the local R.S.L. sub-branch. Synod representative, Mr. H. Muddle, read the special licence which was obtained from the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, Rt. Rev. Francis de Witt Batty, granting permission for the placing of the memorial in the church grounds and the dedication of it.

A beautiful rendering of "Nazareth" was given by Mrs. W. Irwin, soloist for the service. St. Paul's choir singing the choruses. The organist was Miss Kath Witt.

As it was the first Sunday before Christmas, Mr. A. G. King gave a special Christmas talk on the significance of keeping Christmas alive in the same democratic spirit of Christ Himself, whose birth we celebrate, of observing that goodwill towards our fellow man not only at Christmas but all through the year. Appropriate to the special occasion he quoted a Christmas poem written in the M.E. in Christmas 1941 by a well known soldier poet of the last war, "Tip" Kelaher, who later paid the supreme sacrifice.