

# BISHOP OF ARMIDALE DEDICATES ALL SAINTS'

**The world today was not looking at the Church but running parallel to it, said the Bishop of Armidale, the Right Rev. Dr. J. S. Moyes at the dedication of All Saints' and the Warriors' Chapel at Moree on Tuesday night.**

Despite the rain which kept hundreds of country people away from the service, the Church was packed to the doors and there was standing room only.

The dedication was the culmination of many months of hard work and organising. Setbacks had been experienced but determination to carry the job through saw the fulfilment of the hopes of parishioners on Tuesday night.

The service was attended by clergy from throughout the north and north west, as well as a number of visitors.

The churchwardens met the Bishop at the entrance to the church where Mr. F. C. Webb presented him with a petition to dedicate the building.

Following the opening prayers, the Bishop and his attendants then proceeded in turn to the Font, the Chancel steps, the Lectern, the Pulpit, the Chancel and the Holy Table. At each station prayers were offered.

His Lordship then went to the Sanctuary of the Chapel where he dedicated the Chapel in the Faith of Jesus Christ and in the memory of the men and women who gave their lives for their country.

who gave their lives for their country.

In his address, Dr. Moyes said there were some in the congregation who had waited twenty years for this night, some might have planned long before that that someday there would be a beautiful Church at Moree, while some who had planned had passed on to their rest.

"This Church is your spiritual home," he said. "You are the Church—the people. The Church that is living imposes itself on the world as a sign; it is a building where man can meet God."

Everything of the peoples' works, interests and relationships were caught up in Christ.

"Then what next?" he asked. "Does this Church exist for you—its members and congregation? Does it exist just for Sunday to feed you the bread of Christ? You are meant to be a group which lives in Christ."

This modern world was a judgment on our Church, he continued. Nine-tenths of the peoples of the world ignored God and ignored Christ.

"There are some who tell us we are heading for a religious eclipse, that we are going back to the Dark Ages. God forbid," the Bishop added.

the Bishop added.

Dr. Moyes said the greatest population increase in the world were in lands that knew nothing of Christ.

The most live force in the world today was Communism, but we must remember that despite the Roman Empire's opposition, Christianity lived.

The only way to win these people to the Church was to have groups of Christians here, there and everywhere doing what they could to win others to the Church.

"This wonderful Church must never become a shell, but a home for the multitude," he continued. "Today we meet many people who are like lost sheep looking for inspiration.

"The world is not looking at the Church but travelling parallel with it. Part of the problem before us is that many are looking to us and think we have not the answer. But Christ has the answer.

"Tonight God is hoping that we will dedicate our lives that He might use us in winning this free, revolutionary world to the heart and fellowship of Jesus Christ," Dr. Moyes said.

It was no use being a lukewarm congregation; all must go out into the world to seek new members. Salvation was not found outside the Church.

"The Church is a net into which are gathered the fish of the World. The people of this Parish must go out and bring

back thousands to the Church in Moree.

Moree.

"Too much in the Church of England have we replaced the priest with a fishing rod when the whole congregation should be the net," he said.

"Go, seek you people and bring them to the family of God".

Bishop Moyes said the Mothers' Union could be of great help by going to every home. It was the influence of women on their children that would bring many back into the Church.

Then the men should form a fellowship and approach every class and every occupation. "Just as Christ chose a group of men to go out and change the World," he said.

"Let this be the beginning; not the end. Let it be the beginning whereby a congregation knit together by prayer sets out to win hundreds of thousands to the Church. Make this Church not windows, arches and pews but a House where lonely souls can find their home."

Visiting clergy were the Dean of Armidale, Rev. M. K. Jones, Archdeacon R. J. Stockdale (Gunnedah), Archdeacon F. Young (Tamworth), Canon C. R. Rothero (Glen Innes), Canon C. J. Eldridge-Doyle (Glen Innes), Rev. A. Battersby (Inverell), Rev. G. A. Baker (West Tamworth), Rev. S. M. Bramson (Narrabri), Rev. F. W. Heyner (Delungra), Rev. J. Shaw (Ashford), Rev. G. L. Dent (Emmaville), Rev. J. Wagstaff (Bingara), Rev. C. Quayle (Uralla), Rev. K. Patfield (Narrabri), Rev. M. McGregor (Glen Innes), Rev. K. S. Steele (Baradine).

Rev. K. S. Steele (Baradine).

Also present were the Rev. C. Edgerton and his wife, life-long friends of Canon Ormerod, who travelled from Kempsey to unofficially represent the Diocese of Grafton.

After the service the congregation adjourned to the Memorial Hall for a reception and friendly gathering with the visiting clergy and their wives.

Brief speeches were made by the Bishop, Archdeacon Stockdale, the Dean of Armidale, the Archdeacon of Tamworth, the Vicar of Kempsey and the Vicar's Warden, Mr. F. C. Webb.

All congratulated Canon Ormerod on attaining his ambition in completing a venture begun twenty years ago.

Responding, the Vicar appealed to parishioners to have the remaining debt of £4,000 wiped off before November, in order that Moree might have the distinction of having All Saints' consecrated by the Archbishop of York.

With 4000 Anglican families in the parish this should be possible, he said.

Bishop Moyes made the announcement of a surprise presentation to Canon Ormerod and, after a charming speech of appreciation on behalf of the Mothers' Union and the Women's Guild, Mrs. Fred Smith, president of the Guild, presented the Vicar with a large photograph of himself in clerical robes.

The guests then adjourned to supper.