

## Memorial to Mr. H. L. White.

### X-RAY PLANT INSTALLATION.

Despite the several district counter attractions, there was a gathering of goodly proportions in the grounds of the Scott Memorial Hospital on Saturday afternoon last, when the recently erected X-ray quarters were opened and plant unveiled, being a memorial to Mr. H. L. White, of Belltrees, one of the district's greatest public men and philanthropists. The unveiling ceremony was performed by Cr. A. A. McDonald, President of the Upper Hunter Shire Council, and a friend of the late Mr. White for many years.

The Mayor (Ald. B. G. Millard), who presided, characteristic of him, was brief. He explained what was primarily the object of the gathering, namely, to open the quarters and unveil the X-ray plant installed therein as a memorial to Mr. H. L. White, one of the district's benefactors. A list of apologies, including those from Messrs. W. Cameron, M.L.A., and E. E. Campbell, of Armidale, were read. (Mr. Cameron was prevented from getting to town in consequence of the crossing of the river near "Glencairn" being washed out).

Mr. E. J. Sherwood, President of the Hospital, explained that apart from the more important ceremony that afternoon, there was the Garden Fete as an added attraction, the proceeds of which would supplement "Hospital Month" appeal. They were appealing for the sum of £2500 to enable them to keep functioning and at the same time to allow its sphere of usefulness being extended an Institution of which the whole town and district were justly proud. The sum of approximately £5000 a year was required to allow them to carry on. It certainly seemed much money, but it must be remembered that some 600 patients were treated yearly, the average daily number being 28. An

average daily number being 28. An eye was ever kept to the efficiency side of the Institution, but it was essential that more accommodation be found for the nursing staff. The subject quarters had actually been built for a staff of six, and slight additions were made when the staff increased to eight. There was, however, a staff of 13, in addition to the Matron; hence the imperative necessity for more room should be apparent. Mr. Sherwood went on to say that the whole district fully recognised that the responsibility of keeping the Institution going rested on their shoulders, adding that the committee were most fortunate in that respect. He felt confident that the appeal, like all its predecessors, was going to be a success. Referring to the Institution, he remarked that it had been placed in position to serve as a memorial to Dr. H. J. H. Scott, who had rendered yeoman service to the town and district. Referring to the subject memorial, he remarked that the late Mr. H. L. White, together with his brothers, had been largely responsible for the erection of the Hospital, and the philanthropy of Mr. White was evidenced in a marked manner after its completion. He had furnished the Anzac (or children's) Ward, provided an up-to-date wireless set, and lastly bequeathed to it the substantial sum of £1000, which had enabled the committee to wipe off a mortgage of £1000. All knew of Mr. White's wonderful work. Thanks to a generous public, the position to-day was that the committee found themselves with a fine Institution not only free from financial embarrassment, but with a credit balance of £1000. Mr. Sherwood expressed the hope that the committee would not find themselves, like others in different parts of the State, "on the rocks," so to speak, and appealed to one and all to continue to give generously and so never let it be said that the sick and suffering of the district had been turned away.

Cr. McDonald remarked that

Cr. McDonald remarked that he had ever regarded it as a great privilege and honour to know and be associated with the late Mr. White. It was therefore regarded by him as a duty to officiate at the ceremony of that afternoon. The late Mr. White was the greatest man ever produced in the Upper Hunter, and one with but few peers in the State. A man of wide vision, open-handed in his generosity, and one who always played a prominent part in the public affairs of the State, a hundred pities that there were not more like him in the district to-day. Wherever the Whites had settled, in Muswellbrook, Scone and Armidale for instance, the towns with their institutions and parks had appreciably improved, and the work of the families would stand for all time. Mr. McDonald went on to say that the district was proud of the Scott Memorial Hospital, with its modern appliances, its Anzac Ward, and now, its X-ray plant, made it one of the best equipped institutions of its kind in the State. Having been told that more accommodation was urgently needed for the nursing staff at the Hospital, he had no doubt that the people of the district would not be slow in seconding the efforts of the committee in having the additions brought into being, and at the same time seek to have more accommodation in the kitchen. It was with pardonable pride that he pointed out that the Hospital had been erected by a generous public, who had actually found 80 per cent. of the amount required, and they had the satisfaction of knowing that it was being run in a most business-like manner. Knowing the people as he knew them, he felt they recognised that in the famous Upper Hunter what a beautiful heritage had been handed down to them. The Hospital was one of the district's greatest assets, and every wage-earner in the district should deem it his duty to give his practical support. Cr. McDonald next unveiled the memorial, reiterating that it gave

the memorial, reiterating that it gave him infinite pleasure in being able to do so, the assemblage standing with bare heads whilst the flag was being lifted.