

### ROLL OF HONOR FOR YAHL.

A roll of honor of young men who have left the district of Yahl to fight for the Empire, for Australia, and civilization in the great European war, was unveiled in the public school-house there on Wednesday, October 31. The Ven. Archdeacon Samwell performed the ceremony. The roll, which is of hammered copper, mounted on an oak frame, has been hung on the school verandah. The name plates are of brass, and stand out on the dark background. On the day of its unveiling the roll was wreathed in flowers and surrounded with the national flags.

Mr. G. G. Norman, chairman of the Yahl School Committee, in introducing Chaplain-Colonel Samwell, said the committee desired to commemorate the action of the young men, and thought they could do it in no more fitting manner than by placing a roll of honor in the school.

Chaplain-Colonel Samwell said he felt proud to be there to honor the boys who were now fighting the nation's battles at the front. The young men concerned had gone so that they who remained might live and be free, and in doing what they had testified to the fact that they were Britishers and true to the breed. It was but a short time ago that they had farewelled Ptes. A. Pasfield, L. Norman and D. Button. On the occasion referred to Pte. Pasfield, replying for himself and comrades, disclaimed any special credit for what they had done, but added "If we are unfortunate enough to go under then I would like you to remember us as having at least tried to do our duty." These were the words of a hero, and any country might be proud of the possession of men such as were those to whom they applied. They knew their lives were the price of the cause they believed in, but were quite prepared for the sacrifice. They had fulfilled their sense of duty as nobly as did Nelson himself and he (the speaker) appealed to the children present to live up to that spirit of duty. Colonel Samwell drew a vivid picture of the treatment meted out to soldiers in the past when peace was restored, and said the community must pledge itself to see that the men were given a square deal on the present occasion. (Applause).

A short prayer followed and Colonel Samwell then unveiled the roll of honor.

Commandant Butler, who said he regretted that he did not personally know the young men whose names were on the list, endorsed the previous speaker's remarks.

Mr. W. H. Hand, who also spoke, referred to the part the public schools were playing in connection with the war. It was a part which, unfortunately, was not fully appreciated by the public. General Birdwood had told them that one Australian soldier was worth ten

General Birdwood had told them that one Australian soldier was worth ten Germans. That was very flattering, but he was quite prepared to believe it, for the Australian had beaten the Germans time and again. In what then lay their superiority? It was not to be found in mechanical efficiency, but rather in that sense of initiative which stood the Australian in such good stead when left to his own resources on the battlefield. He laid claim, but in no boastful spirit, to the "educative discipline" of our schools as being responsible for the marked superiority of the men we had sent to the front. Mr. Hand sympathised with those who had lost their relatives, and after enumerating those of his staff who had been killed, stated that 127 teachers from this State had enlisted in Queensland and Western Australia all the young men had gone, while in Victoria a whole battalion was recruited and officered by teachers alone. The children and teachers in every school were working constantly for the soldiers. No words of his could commend the women right through the Commonwealth for the unselfish part they were playing in the present war. He commended the roll of honor to their notice, and assured the residents of Yahl that he was in a position to say that their school teacher was one worthy of their trust. Mr. Brown thanked the people for providing the roll of honor, and said he was proud to be associated with a school that had produced such scholars. It was a standing testimony to the worth of Mr. R. A. Nicholson, the former teacher, that many of the old boys who had gone to the front were taught by him.

Musical selections by the Mount Gambier school band and songs by the children of the Yahl school were included in the programme, which concluded with a vote of thanks to the speakers and the singing of the National Anthem.