

CAMBRIAN HILL.**OPENING OF AVENUE OF HONOR.**

Last Saturday was one of the proudest days in the history of the inhabitants of Cambrian Hill, it being the day chosen for the opening of the avenue of honor, dedicated to the young men of the district who had enlisted since the beginning of the war, and had gone to the front. A memento was affixed at the entrance to the avenue, and signified the sentiments which prompted the formation of the avenue by the following patriotic words, suitably inscribed:— "This avenue of trees was planted by the residents of Cambrian Hill in honor of our brave boys who left our shores to fight for King, Empire, and freedom." Cambrian Hill, for its small population, probably has a record place for the number of local men who have enlisted. A total of 40 soldiers, 16 of whom had been killed at the front, have been given by this locality. There was a very large gathering present at this ceremony, which included repre-

sentatives from Sebastopol, Napoleons, Maggie Ross' Creek, Scotchmans, Black Lead, and Enfield. Of the 16 killed in action, it may be mentioned that Napoleons contributed three soldiers, namely, Privates Frank Bray, Robert Andrews, and George Gilmore, the last-named recently reported killed. Scotchmans was the first place in this district to furnish a soldier who was reported killed in action. This was Private Harold Jude, who enlisted and joined the first battalion of Australian troops that left these shores. He was unfortunately one of the first Australians to go down in the celebrated land-and at Gallipoli. Cr Wallis presided, and apologised for the absence of the Parliamentary representatives, who had been invited to be present. In the course of his remarks Cr Wallis pointed out that some of our boys were still fighting, and that others had given their lives. Although they were gone their names and achievements would live for ever in Australian history. This avenue of honor would very appropriately perpetuate their memory, and he (Cr Wallis) sincerely hoped, as they all did, that the rest fighting at the front would all be spared to return, and see with pride and pleasure the fine trees planted in their honor. Cr Odgers apologised for the unavoidable absence of their president (Cr Tonkin, of the Buninyong Shire Council.) In the course of a very able and appropriate speech Cr Odgers remarked with what pride he looked upon the names of those 40 local boys who had freely offered their services, and he was sure that this part of the district had done remarkably well. His sympathies went out chiefly to the mothers, who were no less heroines than the boys were heroes in this great war. He had contributed one son to the fighting ranks, while a second one had

He had contributed one son to the fighting ranks, while a second one had been rejected. He was proud of his boys at any time, and in that respect he believed his feelings were the same as those of all other fathers and mothers who had brave sons fighting at the front. Cr Odgers having thanked the people of Cambrian Hill for the honor conferred upon him, declared the avenue—which the patriotism of the Cambrian Hill residents had planted with trees—open. The Mayor of Sebastopol (Cr Jenkins) traced the motives that had caused this war. Cr Jenkins declared that he had great pleasure in taking part in this patriotic and important ceremony, that was showing in a practical as well as a emblematical manner their admiration of their local soldiers, and appreciation of their magnificent deeds. He concluded by saying that these trees should be held sacred as symbolical of the graves of our absent ones. Mr. Morecum, a former head teacher of Cambrian Hill State school, remarked that several of the boys who had gone to the front had once been under his control, and he was proud of them. A strong working committee of residents, with Messrs Williams (president) and W. Harrison (secretary) very capably made all arrangements. Mr. O.

Mr. Williams, on behalf of this Avenue of Honor Committee, returned thanks to all who had assisted to make the function a most successful one. It should be mentioned that plates showing the names of the soldiers were affixed to the tree-guards. Before

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people were seen before the function started quietly placing wreaths upon certain tree-guards. These silent acts bore eloquent and touching testimony to the sad cause that prompted these acts. The singing of the National Anthem opened the function, that of "Our splendid men" concluded it. Subsequently the large assemblage, at the kind invitation of the local ladies, was invited to the school hall, where a choice afternoon tea was provided for all. Mayor Jenkins proposed and Cr Odgers seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies. Messrs Harrison, Williams, and Wallis responded on behalf of the ladies.