

CARISBROOK SOLDIERS.

HONOR ROLL.

UNVEILED BY DR. SALMON.

The Carisbrook Town Hall was crowded to the doors on Monday night when an honor roll of 46 names of men who have volunteered for active service from Carisbrook and immediate vicinity was unveiled by Dr. Carty Salmon, M.H.R.

Mr Chas. Bucknall, J.P., president of the Tullaroop Shire, was chairman of the meeting and expressed his pleasure at the large gathering, probably the largest that had ever been in the hall, to witness the unveiling of the honor roll by Dr. Salmon. Carisbrook's part in the war had been a remarkably creditable one. The roll contained nearly fifty names of young fellows who had gone to the front from Carisbrook and the surrounding district to fight in the cause of liberty and Christianity. More might have to go, but while they had young men who would offer themselves for such service they should be proud of them. He would not address them at length. They had come to hear Dr. Salmon, who was well known to them and the district. When they considered that he had come by the evening train, and had to return by the early morning train, they could understand the debt of thanks that was due to Dr. Salmon. (Applause)

Dr. Carty Salmon, who had a very cordial welcome, said that he desired to thank Mr Bucknall for his kind introduction. He felt it was a high honor to be invited to perform the important function of unveiling the honor roll, which was one of the first public honor rolls in Australia. In the city they were

Australia. In the city they were accustomed to see displayed in banks and other business houses a modest board containing the names of employes who had gone to the front; anything of a public character evidently being left to the conclusion of the war. He thought this was a mistaken idea, and was glad to find that Carisbrook had decided, by the erection of a public honor roll, to show its appreciation of those who had already gone to the front and to stimulate others to offer themselves for service. He would ask his hearers to take their memories back 16 or 17 months, to those workaday times when everyone was acting as though the morrow were assured and nothing could disturb them in the pursuit of what they desired. Then suddenly and without warning came the news that the greater part of the world was involved in a great struggle. They knew now what was at the bottom of it all. They knew now how carefully and laboriously the German nation had prepared for the war. To-day we were reaping the fruits of inattention to what was going on around us, the fruits of want of judgment, want of knowledge and want of observation. We had been too steeped in our own concerns. Germany had entered on the war in northern Europe with the object of obtaining control of the rest of the world, and we knew that temporarily they were nearly successful. No one, however, admitted that the German nation could have maintained such control. How had they so nearly attained success? First by careful preparation and afterwards by ruthless means, more ruthless than the world had ever seen on such a large scale. They were accustomed to read in history of barbarians from time to time overrunning Europe,

time to time overrunning Europe, and they read with feelings of repugnance of their methods. Innocence, honor and chastity were counted as nothing. Yet, in all these black pages of history there was nothing to compare with the German nation's awful conduct of the war. When the history of the war came to be written, it would be found to be besmirched, blotted and rendered terrible to contemplate by the outrages to civilisation by a nation which prided itself on its culture and civilisation. They were having a taste of what Germany was capable of in her treatment of one of the smaller States of southern Europe to-day. But no matter how horrible the war might be, there was one bright spot to which they could look for consolation, and that was the world-wide response to the call. Britain had been wont to pride herself on the supremacy of the seas, and there had been some who believed that the nation's whole attention should be given to the navy. A few months of war had been sufficient to show how necessary it was that supremacy on land should be maintained, and magnificently had this been done.

Dr. Salmon asked his hearers not to forget the factors that Germany relied on in her preparations for war. When she had violated the neutrality of Belgium, the first great stroke was made at France. France subdued, the attack was to be extended to England in the west and Russia in the east. In this second stroke, Germany relied, not only on her own military perfection, but on the possible eternal dissensions of the British Empire. Ireland would take the opportunity to "throw off the yoke;" Canada would seek independence either as part of the

United States or as an individual; South Africa would be glad to again assume independence and do away with the restrictions of British rule;

in Australia there was said to be a large force of public opinion in favor of "cutting the painter;" there was also disaffection in India. How marvellously had these plans been disappointed! In every case not only was the want of agreement forgotten, but there was a strong determination, to death itself, to be free of the German militarism that threatened the world and whose success meant the dismemberment of the British Empire. In Ireland the two parties joined hands and were fighting shoulder to shoulder. They had it on the word of Mr John Redmond that 400,000 natives of Ireland were in arms. (Applause) South Africa did not send a force to Europe, but they did what was more efficacious. They asked, through General Botha (who a few years ago was in arms against the people he now fought so valiantly for) that they should be allowed to clear their part of Africa from the German menace. There was a certain amount of dissension brought about by German gold, but it was soon put in its place, and how magnificently those South Africans redeemed their promise! (Applause) In India there was a marvellous response. The rulers of that great and wealthy country offered their treasures and men, and also money for ships in the interest of the British Empire. (Applause) And what should they say of Australia, the youngest and most thinly populated country of them all? They must not forget that we had a foretaste of this war in the South African campaign. Sorrow had been brought to many an Australian home. Australians en-

Australian home. Australians entered the present war as men who had firmly made up their minds that the integrity of the British Empire, and, above that, civilisation itself were threatened, and they were prepared to defend them, as one speaker had said, "to the last man and the last shilling." That promise had been redeemed. How splendidly they did not yet know, although some of them had an idea of the happenings in the vast theatre of war in which our men had been fighting. Even as they journeyed from Australia it was given to them to partake in what was really the most notable naval exploit of the war—the destruction of the Emden by the Sydney. (Loud applause.) Our men were then landed in Egypt, a land full of associations for us and which saw the dawn of our religious beliefs. On the sands of Egypt they had a further course of training, so arduous and severe that the men were tried out. At last came the opportunity, and when that history of the war came to be written, and read by those who should come after us, there would be no brighter page than that which told what these young sons of the old lion had done so marvellously. The silent landing, the charge up the hill with silent rifles to the bayonet attack—no greater achievement than this had there been in the war. All honor to the men and those associated with them. (Applause.) From week to week they heard of heroic attempts to do what some experts say is impossible. But the word "fail" was not in the Australians' dictionary. There was only one barrier to their complete success, and to their claim to be regarded as most perfect soldiers. It was necessary to have the power to give orders

sary to have the power to give orders and to carry them out exactly as given. The Australians' drawback was their liability to exercise initiative where they ought not to do it. What they called initiative, others called foolhardiness, risk, too little care for results. Let them see how this operated. A prominent military friend of his explained to him in this way: Suppose the Australians were shown a hill, with three lines of enemy trenches holding it. It was their duty to take it, but to go no further than the first trench until further orders. The Australians would take the first trench—they always have done—(cheers)—but unfortunately they were not prepared to stop and would go on to the other lines without instructions. The consequence was that our artillery, whose duty it was to clear the way in advance and make the infantry's work easier, had not the opportunity to do its work effectively. The infantry went forward before the proper time—they were too eager, too brave, too reckless. And this, he believed, was in great measure responsible for the long list of casualties. They were a test of bravery, but would have been smaller if the men had exercised more discretion. He was not blaming the men. He would sooner they acted as they did than failed in what was expected of them; but he did wish that they could have some intuition, some idea of the risks they were taking. Their names would be held high in history, but they were denuding Australia of the men which it needed, and would need in the future. Australia's future would only be accomplished by the utilisation of all that was best within it, and he contended that the best part of Australia was outside it at present, and he wanted to see it back.

and he wanted to see it back. (Applause.) These men deserved all they could give them.

In his work at the base hospital, said the speaker, he had seen much of the returned men, and it was marvellous to see those who had gone away irresponsible lads come back men in every sense of the word. Through their experiences they had gained moral as well as physical fibre. Many of those returned were not invalids. They were back for a rest, and were full of fire, strength, and determination to see the matter through to the end. (Applause.) Some would not go back. They had been maimed and wounded, and had bled for their

country and civilisation. They had proved that we in Australia, a sport-loving community, take seriously the great work of defending our ideals. It was a great and glorious reflection, that, in the midst of the various lines of thought and occupation in this young country, and considering the tremendous amount of time given up to pleasure and amusement, in the hour of trial we could show, as our forefathers had shown, zeal for the defence of liberty, the upholding of freedom, a belief in the genius of our race and the destiny of the people from whom we have sprung.

Dr. Salmon congratulated Carisbrook again on the method they had chosen to show their appreciation of those who had gone to the front. The honor board would remain for many years. He hoped that before it disappeared, some more permanent method would be devised and placed in the hall where all could see it, and the younger generations could inquire about the names that figured upon it, the deeds which the owners of the names did, and the

principles for which they fought. It would be at once a stimulus to better citizenship and a memorial to those whose names appeared on it. Forty out of the forty-six whose names were on the honor roll were born within the Borough of Carisbrook. This was a marvellous record. What other centre of the size could show such a record? He was proud to point to more than one record in his electorate. One family of Neyland had sent seven sons to the war. (Applause.) The first V.C. awarded to an Australian was to a young Wedderburn soldier who was born at Avoca—Corporal Jacka, whose modest bearing made it hard to believe he could be the hero of such an exploit as had gained him his distinction. The record, as shown on the honor roll he would now unveil, was a magnificent achievement, on which he would find pleasure in speaking to his colleagues in the Federal House. More particularly was it so when it was considered that it was accomplished at a time of depression and when the district was denuded of much of its population. It had been brought about by the force of example and a realisation of national duty.

Dr. Salmon then removed the screening Union Jack from the honor roll, and it is certain that the sight unveiled met with the hearty approval of everybody present. The board, standing about 6ft. by 3ft., was the work of Mr B. Marcollo, of Bendigo and Eaglehawk. The design was headed by the words, "Dieu et Mon Droit," beneath which were the Allied flags, in the centre being an escutcheon of the Union Jack. The words, "Roll of Honor" appeared on a ribbon scroll below, and underneath was a map of Australia in royal blue, with a kangaroo in navy blue.

blue, with a kangaroo in navy blue superimposed. On the north-western corner of the map was an excellent representation of a kookaburra, from whose beak a ribbon flared across the northern part of the map with the word "Carisbrook". On the body of the map itself, in three columns of gold, were the 46 names of the men whom the gathering assembled to honor. Bunches of wattle were artistically distributed on the lower outline, and the motto, "For King and Country" was at the bottom. The ensemble was extremely artistic, and reflected great credit on the artist and those responsible for the work.

Dr. Salmon read the names aloud to the audience as follows:—

D. Lees	G. Shebler
F. Moss	S. Colbert
F. G. Moss	E. Colbert
C. Herd	A. Wadsworth
G. Maas	H. Johnson
F. Maas	A. I. Morrow
J. Maas	R. Howlett
P. De Lima	A. Macrae
P. Bland	L. Veal
J. White	F. Rae
F. Morrow	G. Allan
A. Morrow	W. Crooke
J. Morrow	D. Crooke
W. Clover	H. Evans
J. H. Herd	P. Taylor
R. Botten	C. Collins
H. Kuring, Lieut.	R. Collins
C. Neyland	W. Linton
C. Armstrong	W. Wilson
W. M'Intyre	D. Bruhn
J. Holliday	G. Bruhn
A. Lancaster	B. Downs
A. E. Botten	R. Wilson

Of the above Private E. Colbert has been killed, and Lieutenant H. Kuring and Privates F. Moss and F. G. Moss have been wounded.

At the conclusion of the reading three hearty cheers were given.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Salmon for his presence and address was moved by Cr. G. Nicholson, seconded by Cr. H. Hinks. It was put to the meeting by the chairman and carried by acclamation.

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Dr. Salmon assured the audience he had considered it a privilege to be present that night. He then read a communication from the Defence department, addressed to Mrs J. Moss, to the effect that her son, Private F. G. Moss, 14th Battalion, was returning to Australia by the Runic, and should arrive a few days before Christmas. He hoped they would show their appreciation of Private Moss.

Cr. Nicholson: We will!

In referring to the honor roll, Dr. Salmon said the casualties among the men there listed had been few. Only one of them, Private E. Colbert, had been killed. It was a matter for great regret, but he had died for his country. He trusted that those near and dear to the dead soldier would have that great consolation—speaking from experience he knew there was none greater—that he died in such sacred service. They had the sympathy of all, but at the

same time they were to be envied for the distinction gained for them. The speaker was glad to see so many young people present. The honor board should stand to them as an example of duty to their country. No matter how small that duty was they should do it well, and make every effort to improve themselves for citizenship. By the units of a nation recognising their duty, a nation would become great and uphold its proper place among the nations of the world.

Referring to his duties at the base hospital, where he had worked 16 hours a day, Dr. Salmon said his task had not been that of attending to the different ailments, but of providing means for that attention. He was glad to say that when he reluctantly left (partly on account of a

tantly left (partly on account of a breakdown in health and partly because of Parliamentary duties) at the end of two months, the hospital was in a much better condition than when he entered on his duties. He would leave it to those who had had experience of it to bear him out. He would tell them something that was now made public for the first time. Although he entered the base hospital with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, to which he was entitled by 22 years' work in the defence force and by examination, he had not drawn a sixpence of the pay on the basis of that rank, to which he was entitled. (Loud applause.) It still remained with the Defence department. He and others had done their work because they loved it, and because, also, they felt bound to do their part, not only to tell others to do it. That morning the State commandant had expressed to him the hope that he (Dr. Salmon) might help them again when the opportunity arose. He liked the work. That was the spirit that sent men to the front—love of country and national ideal. Good citizens would defend what good citizenship stood for, suffering all manner of privations and dangers. Only from those who returned could they learn what privations those men had suffered for the love of liberty and freedom, and the determination to prove to the world at large that the descendants of the greatest nation the world had ever seen would dare all, do all and suffer all to save what they prized, would show that civilisation was not to be destroyed because one man was arrogant and brutal enough to want to place her beneath his heel. (Applause.)

A vote of appreciation of the artist's work was moved by Cr.

artist's work was moved by Cr. Dawie, seconded by Cr. Ingram, and carried by acclamation.

Mr Marcello briefly responded.

Dr. Salmon added his tribute of praise to the beauty of the work. He then voiced a protest against Mr Boyd, M.H.R.'s attack on the officers of permanent forces who were engaged in training the men in the camps. Mr Boyd had said they had not volunteered. This was untrue. They had volunteered as a whole at the outbreak of the war, and it had been proved that only those who had been under age had not done so. It was unfair that they should be stigmatised for that reason. It had been found necessary to retain men of the permanent forces as instructors, and all honor was due to them that they had remained loyally, if unwillingly. They had turned out men who had received the highest encomiums.

Dr. Salmon then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman which was heartily carried, Cr Bucknall responding briefly.

Proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of "God bless our splendid men," and "Rule Britannia."

Miss Nicholson was at the piano, and the unveiling and lighting of the honor roll were in the hands of Mr J. Herd.