

Cobrico State School.

ROLL OF HONOR UNVEILED.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent at the above school on Tuesday when the State School Roll of Honor was unveiled by the Director General of Recruiting for Australia (Hon. Donald Mackinnon, M.L.A.). Other speakers included Mr. J. D. Deany, M.L.A., and Or. W. E. Ellis, besides members of the school committee.

There was a large attendance of young and old to witness the scene. The school had been tastefully decorated with flowers by two former scholars (Misses O. Cole and Beatrice Kerr).

The proceedings opened with the National Anthem.

Mr. J. B. Andrews (Chairman of the School committee) was in the chair, and said that he thought everyone knew the reason why they had assembled that afternoon. It was to unveil a Roll of Honor of the brave boys who at one time attended the Cobrico State school. (Applause.)

Mr. J. D. Deany said it gave him great pleasure to be at the unveiling of the Honor Roll. He was at a similar function a short time ago in Timboon and the roll contained 70 names, all volunteers. When the compulsory call came, there were only 5 left. Since then the 5 volunteered, three passed and two were rejected. So the speaker informed Mr. Mackinnon that he need not go to Timboon for recruits, there were none there. (Applause.) At the outbreak of war three years ago, these brave boys knew that England wanted men, and Australia must do her part, so they volunteered their lives. (Applause.)

Or. Ellis said he was at Timboon with Mr. Deany, and although there were still a lot of eligible men in other districts who had not enlisted, he thought they were too nervous to do so. Some of our boys were now in Palestine, and he was sure God never intended it to be ruled by Turks, so he thought the boys would soon be into Jerusalem. (Applause.)

Or. W. T. Fish (Correspondent of the school committee), said that on such occasions one could hardly express their feelings, but amongst the names on the Roll there were two brothers who had given their life-blood

names on the Roll there were two brothers who had given their life-blood on the battle-field, and there were still three other brothers of the family serving. (Applause.)

Mr. G. C. Nelson endorsed all that had been said by the previous speakers.

Mr. R. Kerr said he was sure the children were all very pleased to see the kind gentleman (Mr. Mackinnon), who sent them their prizes from time to time, which had been done for over 40 years. Words could not express his feelings for the brave boys who had gone across the seas, and he thought Mr. Mackinnon would notice there were not many names of the old original scholars on the Roll, but their children were now fighting for the country that our fore-fathers won for us. (Applause.)

Mr. Mackinnon (who was greeted with applause), said the other speakers were honoured with their invitations, but if he had not been asked to unveil the Honor Roll, he would have felt slighted, as he was born only a few miles from Cobrico. He was pleased to see in the audience his old friend Mr. W. Cole (with whom he went to school in Camperdown), who had had 5 sons serving, but two of whom had given their lives. (Applause.) These lads by giving their lives had done their duty, and he hoped the Roll of Honor would be hung in a conspicuous place, so that the children, when the teacher set them a task and they thought it difficult, just to look at the Roll and think, "well now those boys have done their duty, I'm going to do mine." Nothing is too hard for the Australian Soldier. (Applause.) The Germans shiver when they hear the name of Australia. There is nothing so nice on the battle-field as the boy in the khaki. (Loud applause.) It was the Australian that was going to put down Johnny Turk, the Hun, Fritz, the Emperor, and the Kaiser of Germany. (Applause.) One thing he was sorry for that afternoon was that Miss Rogers, head teacher, was not there. He understood that she has 5 brothers serving. (Applause.) In unveiling the Roll, Mr. Mackinnon said it was one that the people of Cobrico should be very proud of. Though only a small school now, one never knew their fortune, how soon they would be possessed (through Mr. Deany's efforts), of a brick building. (Applause.) Cobrico had

Deany's efforts), of a brick building. (Laughter.) Cobrico had helped considerably towards the Patriotic Fund, which spoke well for the teacher and children. He hoped that the soldiers would all return and the honor roll handed down for generations and their children's children would be told about the greatest war the world has ever known, in which

their forefathers assisted to restore freedom and liberty. (Applause.)

Before dispersing all rose and sang "God bless our splendid men," and three ringing cheers given for the committee.

An adjournment was made to the hall where afternoon tea was provided by the ladies.

The Honor Roll was purchased by the School Committee, and contains the following:—

Great European War
1914-1918

Cobrico
State School
Roll of Honor.

Nicholas Cole

Alwyn Cole

Lionel Cole } Killed in
Dyson Cole } Action

Ernest Cole

Charles Williams

Archie Nicol

Peter Breen

Alfred Andrews

William Russell

George Nelson

Frank Lord

Arthur Lord

William Maskell

Ralph Peverill

George Robertson