

SCOTCH COLLEGE.

MEMORIAL HALL DEDICATED.

Address by Sir John Monash.

Commemoration of the day by the Scotch College took the form of a dedication of the school hall, Hawthorn, erected by the old boys to the memory of those members of the school who fell in the Great War. The dedication service was held yesterday morning, and the magnificent hall was crowded. The chairman of the council (Sir John MacFarland) presided, and addresses were given by the State Attorney-General (Mr. Robinson) and Sir John Monash. The lesson, Psalm xix., was read by Mr. W. H. Melville, and a prayer was delivered by the Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly (the Right Rev. D. A. Cameron). The hymns were exceedingly well sung by the boys. They put such fervour into their singing that on the still autumn air it could be heard a quarter of a mile away. The words of one hymn were written by the late Corporal J. D. Burns, who was killed a few months after he left for the front. One of the verses reads:—

O England, I heard the cry of those that died for thee,
Sounding like an organ-voice across the winter sea;

They lived and died for England, and gladly went their way.

England, O England, how could I stay?

After this hymn had been sung the principal (Mr. W. S. Littlejohn) recited the names of the members of the school who had fallen—194 in all. Mr. Littlejohn ended the recital of the names with the following lines:—

"And you, our brothers, who, for all our praying,

To this dear school of ours come back no more,

Who lie, our country's debt of honour paying—
And not in vain—upon a foreign shore,

Till that Great Day, when at the Throne in Heaven

The books are opened and the Judgment set,
Your lives for Honour and for England given,
The school will not forget."

"The Last Post" was then sounded.

In his address Mr. Robinson said that the collegians who had given up their lives had shown physical courage, but they had also displayed the greater qualities of spiritual and moral courage, and it was hoped that through this memorial hall those qualities would be preserved as a heritage for every Scotch collegian. The hall was intended to be a perpetual reminder to Scotch collegians of the great sacrifices made by the fallen. By the dedication that day it was hoped that the spirit of the school would be strengthened and uplifted. If all played the game, old boys and present boys, the school would have a good name throughout the years to come.

Sir John Monash, who laid the foundation-stone of the hall two years ago, expressed his pride at seeing such a noble edifice, and at the realisation of what it meant to-day, and would mean in the

future. In all the years to come the hall would commemorate two things—the self-sacrifice of the old boys on the field of war, and the launching of the college by the dedication of the hall on a new career. It was the happiest of thoughts that the dedication of the hall should take place on Anzac Day. Though some people thought that the landing on Gallipoli as a military feat was sublime, others thought that it was rivalled by the events that followed, by the devotion to duty and the hanging on, like grim death, to the ground held against the full strength of the Turkish Empire. Others thought that the deeds of the A.I.F. in Palestine and in France rivalled the landing. Whatever comparison

the A.I.F. in Palestine and in France rivalled the landing. Whatever comparison might be made between the events of the war, the landing set a standard for all that followed. One incident which was little known was closely associated with the anniversary of Anzac Day. The recapture of Villers-Bretonneux during the German offensive by two Australian brigades (the 12th under Glasgow and the 13th under Elliott), which prevented the Germans from taking Amiens and separating the British and French armies, as a military feat rivalled the landing on Gallipoli, but the men were inspired by the feat performed at the landing. When the Germans had driven out a very tired British division, the Australians received orders to recapture the little French town on the night of April 24, 1918, and when dawn arrived on the third anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli they had driven the Germans out of the town, with heavy losses, and had taken 1,000 prisoners. Individual bravery and individual devotion did not count as much as co-operative capacity. It was the capacity for working together, for team work, that made the A.I.F. If such co-operation could be introduced as a tradition among the Australian people it would make the nation great. A combination of mutual trust, mutual help, and mutual sacrifice was needed. "Remember the A.I.F.," said Sir John Monash in conclusion. "Exercise co-operation in your home life and school life, for the honour and glory of your school and for the honour and glory of the Australian nation." (Prolonged applause.)

The service was concluded with the singing of the National Anthem and the school anthem.