

WONGA PARK

From Our Own Correspondent.

A very pleasant evening was spent on the 17th inst. at Wonga Park, the occasion being the unveiling of a Roll of Honor presented by R. A. Stock, Esq. The hall, which was tastefully decorated with red, white, and blue and flags, was well filled, and Cr. Hughes occupied the chair. The chairman referred in a very feeling manner to the great loss the Empire had sustained by the death of Lord Kitchener, and asked the audience to stand in silence as a mark of respect to his memory. The programme was opened with an overture by Mrs. Goodchild, who acted as accompanist in her usual efficient manner. The following artists contributed: Miss Bottoms (from Carnegie), Miss Shaw, Mrs. Passe, Miss Forbes, Mr. J. Passe (violin solo), and Master Percy Bottoms. In the absence of Madame Melba, who sent a telegram stating that she would be unable to attend, Mrs. Rowley, in a very able manner unveiled the Roll of Honor, which is a beautiful and valuable piece of workmanship. The audience then stood and sang "God Bless Our Splendid Men." A beautiful bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Rowley by Miss Ida Mitchelsen, whose brother is at the front. Cr. Hughes congratulated the residents of Wonga Park on having such a generous and patriotic gentleman as Mr. Stock living in their midst. Referring to the 24 names on the Roll, he said that this district had done splendidly. He then called on Mr. Bottoms, who, in a few well chosen words also enlogised the generosity of Mr. Stock. He also made an eloquent speech on the war, in the course of which he remarked that there were still some people who had not yet given a pair of socks—much less a man in them. Mr. Billings also spoke in praise of the Australian troops. Mr. H. N. Read spoke in appreciation of the donor, and said that it would be the means in time to come of bringing back fond memories of pleasant times spent with those noble boys. Mr. H.

Wright (president of the Send-Off Committee) then presented the Roll of Honor to the trustees of the Hall. Mr. Fulford, on behalf of the trustees, said he had much pleasure in accepting it, and said it would be a standing disgrace to those eligible and not willing to fight for King and country. Mr. H. Wright moved a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman. Refreshments were then handed round by the ladies of the committee. This concluded an event that will live in the memories of the residents of Wonga Park. The committee were unable to hire a marquee for the occasion, so they clubbed together and bought one, which should be a great advantage to the district, and will be available for hire.