

# Dundee Roll of Honor

UNVEILING CEREMONY.

Yesterday afternoon a representative of this journal availed himself of a kind offer of Mr W. A. Cronin for a lift to Dundee in one of his well-fitted motor cars, to be present at the ceremony of unveiling a roll of honor which had just been compiled by the residents of that town to perpetuate the memory of the Dundee boys who had enlisted.

Last February the residents decided that something of this kind should be done so as to keep abreast of other places, and as it well known Dundee is never behind; in fact, very much ahead of larger places with anything like the same take in hand. A committee was formed for the purpose of raising the necessary funds, and a day's sports arranged, which was a decided success, the proceeds reaching £117/2/6. Mr. Y. Broadbent was elected President of the Roll of Honor committee, and the matter of selecting the roll of honor was left to his hands, and that gentleman has fully justified the confidence placed in him, for he succeeded, during his recent visit to Sydney, in securing absolutely the best honor roll at present in the district. It is shield-shaped, made of leather covers and mounted on oak, the destination and name plates being on brass. The name plates can be removed, and extra names added. The whole is certainly a work of art, and reflects the greatest credit on the residents of Dundee. The roll is erected in the public hall, a special part having been set apart for its reception and an altar side to the Union Jack and Australian flag, these having been generously donated by Mr. Dakers. At the present time there are 23 names on the roll of honor, which is a very fair number considering the population, much better than many larger places. There is also a branch of the Red Cross Society at Dundee, which has done remarkably good work. All these things go to show there is no question about the patriotism of the Dundeeites.

The object of our visit was to report the unveiling ceremony. Shortly before 5 o'clock the hall was fairly well filled by a representative gathering of residents from all parts of the district. Mr. Fred Broadbent presided, and explained the object of the gathering. He read epigrams from Revs. Messrs. W. T. Wain, F. A. Westbrock, and Messrs. F. J. Thomas and C. J. Campbell. He was very pleased to see such a representative gathering present, and would call on Mr. Cronin to perform the ceremony of unveiling the roll of honor.

Mr. Cronin said he took it as an honor and privilege to have been invited to perform such an important ceremony. The people of Dundee were to be congratulated on their roll of honor, which was far and away the best he had seen, and it was a distinct credit to them. In the Dundee district they had done well both as regards men and money, and there was no doubt it would continue to keep its end up. As they would see the honor roll contained 23 names, viz.—John Sharpe, Joseph Ryan, Alfred Cullin, Vivian Birchard, R. Proctor, Norman Broadbent, Cyril Kealey, William Proctor, Alfred Campbell, Neil Johnson, Herbert Pockin, Robert Middle, and Neil Proctor. Of this number unfortunately two had paid the supreme sacrifice—Privates Johnson and A. Cullin. These had died fighting for the cause that would far ever be handed down in memory. Two others had returned, having been invalided home; these were Privates Middle and Pockin. He felt sure that the people of Dundee would not stop at the number now on the roll, but many other names would be added if the gear was not brought to a speedy

many other names would be added if the gear was not brought to a speedy termination, which he sincerely hoped it would be. He had, therefore, much pleasure in unveiling the roll of honor.

At this stage a beautiful wreath, made and donated by the ladies of the War Time Tea Room, Glen Innes, was hung on the honor roll by Miss Ethel Sharpe.

This was followed by all present singing "Soldiers of the King," Mrs. Broadbent playing the accompaniment.

Rev. Canon Cronin said they had gathered that afternoon to honor those men who had went to fight for their country, and all honor was due to them, for they were not only fighting for the honor of Australia but for the liberty of the world. Unfortunately some, even in this small center, had paid the supreme sacrifice. These men had given up all they possessed, home comforts, friends, and everything and responded to the call of duty. Some people had said there was no reason for these men to go away and fight, they were wanted at home to defend Australia. It was on the other side the fighting had to be done; if it came to a matter of defending Australia they could do practically nothing. They must try and crush the Prussian militarism, whose object was to bring every nation to slavery, but thank God Belgium never would be slaves. We have done well in this district, but the question arises, "Have we done enough?"

Threats the question, and we must not treat it lightly. There are many families who have given two or three sons, whilst others have given none. This was the question, and we must ask, "Why don't you get?" "I would have been there long ago if they would take me," continued the speaker, but he has his own kith and kin doing their best, and he hoped some of them at least would be spared to return. They would never submit to the fact that beautiful Belgium; they would never allow this sort of thing to happen in Australia. He felt sure that every man would lay down his life rather than see Australia's fair daughters treated the same way as the unfortunate women of Belgium, who were treated by the enemy. It was hard to hear of these young men falling in battle. Only that day he heard of the death of the only son of the late Bishop Cooper. This was a sad blow to the mother and sisters, but this brave lad had done his duty, and been called home. He felt sure those women's young sons in Australia to-day who would readily answer the roll when dire necessity arose. He congratulated the people of Dundee on the roll of honor which was in keeping with the place, for he had never yet found them behind in anything.

He also congratulated the ladies of the Red Cross Society on the good work they had been doing in providing comforts for the boys in the trenches. He referred to the need of economy during the present time. It was an eye talking about the good old days, they had to think of the future, and what that would be experienced would teach them. In conclusion, the rev. speaker said he hoped everyone would do their best, and show all pray for those who had gone home.

Stewart Cuthbert made a strong appeal for recruits. He felt sure that there were many eligible young men

who were wanting, and if there was anything he could do in the way of giving advice, he was only too pleased to be of service. He also mentioned that there would be a big recruiting rally in the Town Hall on Friday in next week's week for the questioner's aid.

Mr. Broadbent moved a vote of thanks to the Glen Innes visitors who

Mr. Broadbent moved a vote of thanks to the Glen Innes visitors who had come out at considerable personal expense to take part in the ceremony. Carried by acclamation.

All present, Rev. Canon Cronin, West Cuthbert, and the "Glen Innes" representative remained, after which the playing of the National Anthem and cheers for the boys of the front contained the proceedings.

During the proceedings Mrs. Broadbent sang "Auld" in a very pleasing manner.

The Glen Innes visitors were entertained at afternoon tea in the Dundee Hall of House Committee.

After the unveiling ceremony a block of land, comprising half acre, donated by Mr. J. C. Smith, to be sold for the Glen Innes Returned Soldiers' Fund, was auctioned by Mr. Campbell, and realized £2/15, Mr. W. Kealey being the purchaser.