

Woodburn News.

Last Wednesday evening a welcome home to three returned soldiers induced about 100 persons to be present at the Literary Institute. The tables were very nicely decorated, in fact the ladies excelled themselves on this occasion. The proceedings were opened by the Chairman (Capt. F. W. Davis) proposing the toast of the "King," which was followed by "Home Sweet Home" and other patriotic songs. The Chairman said it gave him great pleasure to welcome home three heroes—Gunner J. Woods, Pte. Osborne, and Pte. Katajisto, and he complimented them on the help they had given in the great fight for victory, which meant liberty and freedom for all. Mr. R. Mills sang "Down the Vale," which received great applause. The Rev. Ferris, in proposing "The Guests," said he was there not only as a citizen, but as a minister of the church he represented. It had been his duty on a few occasions to take those dreaded slips of pink paper to homes where the parents received the news with sinking hearts. Capt. Davis had referred to the past, but we must look forward—look and impress into the minds of all concerned that these men who have done such great work in breaking down Germany have great work still to do in building up Australia. There was plenty to be done. By ourselves we could do very little, but by co-operation we could do a great deal of good. Gunner Woods, in reply, said soldiers

Gunner Woods, in reply, said soldiers generally felt shy when they are asked to make a speech, and he thought he must be more game than "Ned Kelly" to attempt one, but it was only to lead the way for his mates, so he thanked them for the hearty manner in which they drank the toast. J. Osborne and E. Katajisto also responded. Miss Marjorie McPherson played a piano solo. Mr. Christie, in presenting the medals, said that these boys had just passed the pinnacle of work and suffering by helping the Allies to achieve victory, and they look to us and look to Australia for the welcome home they deserved. When the first breath of war burst upon the world the British navy formed a line of steel in the North Sea, which the self-styled supermen tried in vain to break. These men of blood roared around clamoring for world domination, but that line gave Britain time. Britain was unprepared, France also. Britain had no army, but she built up an army of which these three men were units, and did their parts. Now we wish to make the occasion worth remembering by presenting each returned soldier with a medal, a medal that should have the respect of every person in Australia. "Gunner John Woods," added Mr. Christie, "the people of Woodburn congratulate you upon your return and regret your wounded knee, also you, James Osborne, and also you, Eric Katajisto, who, though a Finlander by birth put your life in jeopardy to fight for the same principle as our boys, with our boys, and as one of

boys, with our boys, and as one of them, and I trust you will keep these mementoes and live to a ripe age to enjoy the freedom you have helped to win." The soldiers thanked the people of Woodburn for the gifts, Gunner J. Woods saying he often had the "wind up" in France, but he had the complaint worse to-night than ever before. Mr. J. Carmichael sang "Roaming in the Gloaming." The toast of "The Returned Soldiers," proposed by Mr. W. H. Cravigan, was responded to by Lieut. Moroney. Councillor Rose proposed "The Parents of the Guests," and Mr. F. Osborne responded. The Chairman regretted that more people did not take an interest in repatriation matters. The same old five or six turned up to every meeting, and he deplored the fact that men on the street held back and did not bother their heads about the soldiers who gave them the peace they now enjoyed. The National Anthem was sung, and after the hall was cleared dancing was indulged in till the early hours of the morning.

At the Public School, South Woodburn, on Friday afternoon, a large gathering attended the unveiling of the School Honor Roll. The head master (Mr. Hunt) said he was glad to see so many present, and asked Capt. Davis to take the chair. The Chairman explained the reason of the gathering, and gave a very nice address to the children. Miss Essie Bale recited the "Dove of Peace." Mr. Hunt reviewed the chief reasons for having the Honor Roll. At a large public meet-

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Honor Roll. At a large public meeting it was decided to erect a monument for the soldiers that would have cost over £100 to carry out. They could easily have done that, or more, but the authorities strongly advised something smaller, as a lot of money would be required from the people to carry on different parts of the war service, such as Red Cross, War Comforts, etc. The people fell in with their suggestion, and certain speakers thought an Honor Roll in the School would meet the occasion. Hundreds of rolls had been put up in Schools and other public places in the State, and this Honor Roll would be a silent help to teachers to train scholars in the way that they should live. The Honor Roll was unveiled by Miss N. Meston, the school children singing "Lest We Forget." Mr. R. McInnes remarked that it gave him great pleasure and satisfaction to see so many people present, and to note the interest they took in the Honor Roll from the start. It was a splendid piece of work. He had ten nephews who enlisted. Five had paid the supreme sacrifice. The whole ten had been scholars of Public Schools, where children were trained to be loyal to the Empire. He knew a lot of people who had no one at the front, but they were just as good workers for the boys at the front, yet others had one or two relations there, and they stood back and did nothing. The Rev. Mr. Ferries said he was glad the last speaker had referred to relations who had gone to serve the King and country. It showed that loyalty was not

had gone to serve the King and Country. It showed that loyalty was not absent in the family. This Honor Roll was a silent witness of the loyalty of the people of Woodburn to the British Empire. Rev. Jenkins said that by looking at the Honor Roll scholars could see the names of men who had done so much for their country, men who had fought for the freedom and liberty that allowed us to sing our National songs in joy and gladness. In the ages past God scattered seeds of all kind over the earth. Satan tried to destroy that seed, by covering it up with earth, and getting the rain to fall on it so that it would rot. When he thought it was rotten enough he got the sun to shine so that it would complete the destruction, and what did that do? (The children: Made the seeds grow.) Quite right, and they brought forth fruit and flowers. So the Kaiser, like the devil, tried to upset the glorious work done by God's servants, and tried to sow discord so that

he could conquer the world for his own glorification. But God was on the side of the Allies, so the Kaiser's arms were defeated. Sergt. Thos. McCormack said he did not expect to see such a beautiful piece of work as was unveiled there to-day, and it was a credit to the efforts of the people of Woodburn. He saw about 24 names with the letter "K" after them, amongst them was that of Mr. Blair—his last teacher, who enlisted in Woodburn and had

who enlisted in Woodburn and had paid the supreme sacrifice along with the other 23. He was an example of what a man should be. Pte. A. Davis expressed pleasure at the magnificence of the Honor Roll before them. Many of his schoolmates' names were there, and he hoped, if it was necessary at some future time, that the boys who were now looking at the roll would not be backward if their country called them. Lieut. Smart said it was only that day he knew about the Honor Roll, and he was dumbfounded when he saw the large number of men who had answered the call from Woodburn. He regretted there were so many with "K" behind their names, but was sure if he could ask those men they would say the sacrifice was not too great, and they did not regret making it so that Australia could enjoy the comforts of victory. Gunner Woods paid a fine tribute to the men whose names were on the Honor Roll. He hoped that the boys and girls when sitting in school would sometimes think of the names with "k" behind them—some were in Gallipoli, some in Palestine, some in France. Those were the men who paid the full price to make Australia one of the finest and foremost places in the world. Master Nelson Bale recited "The Departure of our Soldiers from Lemnos," Miss Marie McDonald "The Graves of Gallipoli." Mrs. J. McPherson told the children that the names on the Roll with "k" behind them left a legacy for them to carry on, and that legacy is to boost Australia. The girls were one of the

carry on, and that legacy to Australia. The girls were one of the greatest assets of Australia for this reason—that although just now they were nieces, cousins and sisters of the boys here, in the future they would be the mothers of the future men of Australia. Jack Brown recited the answer to the German expression, "That Contemptible Little Army." The recitation "England" was well worth hearing, being a quartette by Jack Ballantyne, Jim McDonald, Jessie Symes, and Flo Gollan. The Chairman's announcement that Wednesday, 20th, was a public holiday was received with cheers. Nelson Bale recited "France" (this lad has a fine resonant voice) and received great applause. The children sang the "Marseillaise." Mr. Hunt thanked the audience for their kind attention and said he would call upon two of the scholars to say a few words. Miss Winnie Cameron, on behalf of the scholars of this school, thanked the visitors for their kind attendance, and trusted that the young Australians would always remember this day and the Honor Roll. She hoped when they had grown older they would be able to come back to the school, and see the Honor Roll as well cared for as they intended to do it. She invited the visitors to join the children in the end room for a cup of tea. Master Jack Ballantyne supported the welcome to the visitors, and assured them the scholars would look after the Honor Roll and keep it as nice as possible. They were proud of the men who fought for us, and proud also that such a fine record of their service had been

a fine record of their service had been placed in the school. He hoped that when the boys grew up they would prove themselves to be as fine men as the soldiers proved themselves to be. The visitors then had lunch, with the school girls as hostesses.

The Ballina v. Woodburn match, played at Ballina, resulted in a win for the home team by 8 points to 5. From the kick off the game was fast. From a scrum McGuire (Ballina) got the ball, beating his man, passed to Stewart, who had a clear run and scored. Roberts failed at an easy kick for goal. Ballina 3, Woodburn 0. M. Wagner marked at half way, and by a splendid kick W. King put the sphere over the bar. 3-2. Cramp took a mark, Stewart (Ballina) landed the oval. Ballina 5, Woodburn 2. On resuming after half time Woodburn kept the ball near the Ballina line. Finally, after the ball had been passed to half a dozen players, Marshall scored near the corner. No goal resulted. Scores 5 all. Then Anderson scored for Ballina. The full time whistle sounded with the scores—Ballina 8, Woodburn 5. The game was friendly all through, the only dissatisfaction being the hesitating way the referee had in giving decisions, and allowing the line umpire to dictate the procedure (which was done on several occasions). The League officials should now be aware of the fact that a man must have played League or he cannot make a good referee.

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In an interview with Gunner Jack Woods, he informed your correspondent that he was very much surprised to learn in the paper that he came home with his wife and infant. He says he brought a wife home alright, but the "infant" gave him an electric shock, for he makes no claim just yet to distinction in that direction.

The Apostolic Delegate, after visiting New Italy on Saturday, called at Woodburn on his way back to Lismore.