





To

Lieutenant General Sir W. R. Birdwood

K. C. I. I., K. C. M. G., C. B., C. I. E., D. I. O.

May we send you and the officers and men of the A. I. F. in France further particulars of the Mass Meeting of Women from which the Message, kindly forwarded to you by His Excellency, was sent.

As the appended signatures show, the Meeting was held under the auspices of practically every Association in South Australia in whose work women take an active part. It was attended by fully 3,500 women, and at least 500 were turned away owing to lack of space.

The programme was as follows:-

On the arrival of the Vice Regal Party the first verse of the National Anthem was sung, and then the hymn "O God our Help in Ages Past."

Chairman's Address. His Excellency the Governor Sir Henry Galway K. C. M. G., D. I. O.

Lady Galway moved the following resolutions:-

"That the women of South Australia desire to express to the officers and men of the Australian Expeditionary Force, their enthusiastic admiration for their fortitude and courage, their lasting gratitude for their splendid resistance to overwhelming numbers, and their deep respect for the memory of the heroic dead.

Realizing the gravity of the present crisis, the women follow you every hour with anxious hearts,



hearts, but with unshaken confidence in your ultimate success. They pray that in character, virtue and resolution they themselves may be worthy of the highest standard of the soldiers of the Commonwealth."

"The women of South Australia, realising the gravity of the present crisis on the Western Front, have assembled to send a message to the men in France.

They desired at the same time to express to the officers and men of the Australian Expeditionary Force in Egypt and Palestine the same unbounded admiration, gratitude and respect.

Proud of the fortitude, valour and courage of the troops, they rejoice in being able to offer them their enthusiastic congratulations for the success which has crowned their advance.

The women resolve to spare no effort to be worthy of the sacrifice of the heroic dead, and of the highest standard of the soldiers of the Commonwealth."

The Minister for Repatriation (the Hon. R. P. Blundell, M.P.) seconded the resolutions, which were carried standing.

The audience remained silent for one minute in respect to the men who have fallen, and the "Soldiers Verse" was then sung:-

"God save our splendid men,

Bring them safe home again.

God save our men!

Keep them victorious, patient and chivalrous.

They are so dear to us.

God save our men."



Miss Muriel Farr moved:-

"That the women of South Australia appeal for a more responsible note in our National life in this time of stress and peril, and protest against the growing extravagance in personal expenditure and frivolous amusements."

Chaplain Teece, M. C., seconded the resolution, which was enthusiastically carried.

The Meeting closed with Kipling's Recessional and the National Anthem.

League of Loyal Women Elizabeth Hall

including the

S. A. Div<sup>n</sup> of the A. C. F.

Lucy J. Lendon

Affiliated Regimental Clubs.

Fraust Woodcock

Red Cross Society

Maria Carola Galway

including the

Edith Cavell Fund

Mary Holden

V. A. D's

Ethel E. Wache

Cheer Up Society

Elizabeth Deane

Women's State Recruiting Committee

Welyn Code Datyhan

Associated Kin.

B. S. Christophers

British Women's Alliance

Grace Davysford

Women's Branch of the Liberal Union

M. Emily Hayfield

Women's Branch of the National Party

Annie McHenry

Women's Non Party Association

Hilda M. Burden

Young Women's Christian Association

Mary Verco

Catholic Women's League

Abbie Glynn

Jewish Women's Guild

Fanny Solomon

Women Teachers' Association

Delaido Miethke



University Women's Association    Etta A. Allen  
 Mothers' Union in South Australia    M. Theodora Thomas.  
 South Australian Mothers' Union    Julia M. Holder  
 Girls' Friendly Society    M. Theodora Thomas.  
 Women's Foreign Mission Auxilliary    Rebecca C Hill.  
 Women's Committee of Sudan Mission    H. G. Angus  
 Australian Trained Nurses Association    Mary J. Murray  
 District Trained Nurses Association    M. Biddell.  
 Royal British Nurses Association    Lou M. Penrose.  
 League of Empire    Innes George.  
 Wattle Day League    E. M. Higgins.  
 Soldiers Home League    A. Wedder  
 Alliance Francais    Mabel Frances Boothby.  
 School for Mothers    Eucmie B. Carr.  
 Kindergarten Union    J. S. Morice  
 Lady Victoria Buxton Girls Club    M. Theodora Thomas.  
 16th. & 48th. Batt. Regimental Club.    G. Heming  
 9th. & 11th. Light Horse Regimental Club    Lily. Mc Moirell.



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