

open.

MR. BALDWIN'S SPEECH.

Mr. BALDWIN, who was loudly cheered, said the school war memorial was from that moment an integral part of the life of Harrow; from that day onwards and through the centuries so long as the school should last; and what that memorial might mean to the generations that came afterwards depended on what that memorial was going to mean to the generation in possession of the school to-day. For that reason he proposed to address his remarks more to the members of the school than to the older members of that great assembly.

"Ten or 12 years in one's life," he continued, "when one is a boy seems an eternity, and it is difficult for the generation at Harrow to-day to realize the gulf that separates them from those who were here in 1914. No generation was ever at school, or probably ever will be at school again, under similar conditions or in similar circumstances to those then existing. With every boy life lies before him in a vista almost of eternity in expanse and in duration, and many of his dreams are filled with what may happen to him in those vast and spacious years when he escapes from the petty thralldom of school or the wider thralldom of a university. Of all those in 1914, as every schoolmaster knows and every parent knows, every boy, though he seldom acknowledged it, knew that he had to pass literally through the valley of the shadow of death, and he knew that he might never emerge from it. That knowledge left marks on the character of thousands of Englishmen that will never be obliterated, however long they live, and I often think that if the generation of 1914 could send a message across the years to the generation of 1926 they would speak to us in the words used by Socrates when he left the Court under sentence of death, and said:—'And now the time is come for us to go our ways; I to death and you to life, but which of us hath the better lot is known to none but God.'

"It is hard to say which is the better lot. Death is easy and life is very hard. It is not going to be an easy life for those who are now entering upon or are on the point of entering upon, manhood in this country, in Europe, in this world to-day, provided, I mean and take it for granted, that you are going to play your part in this world. Many forces of good and of evil were loosed in 1914, forces that were not bound at the time of the Armistice, and there is a strange leaven at work to-day among all the nations of the world. Just as at the time of the Renaissance the age devoted itself to intellectual inquiry, so to-day

it is devoting itself and will devote itself to social inquiry, and all of you will have to justify yourselves to the country and to the world; to justify yourselves for the advantages you have received and to prove yourselves worthy of them in the sight of all men.

A SEARCHING QUESTION.

"There is one question that will hammer at all our hearts for many years to come. We have heard it often, the question that the dead themselves might answer: 'Have we died in vain?' and the question you hear asked by mothers and widows and orphan children all over the world. I have got to give an answer and you will have to give an answer. The answer we can give will depend upon what superstructure we can build upon foundations that have been cemented in their blood. It will be hard work, and it will be hard work to prove to the world that those deaths have not been in vain, for there is no toil like that of trying to mend things, trying to make the world better and happier. Time after time you will find your work destroyed, you will find your best efforts misunderstood and you will be derided, and yet in spite of all that you know perfectly well there is nothing for it but to go on in faith if you mean to accomplish anything.

"You cannot hope, and perhaps you ought not to hope or expect, to see in your lifetime the result of your work, but of this I am convinced, that if you can take into the world the best spirit of this place; if you will take into the world the lesson that I need not preach to you, but which your own innermost consciousness will teach you when you look at that memorial by yourselves sometimes and let yourselves think about it; if you will take that lesson into the world and devote your lives to England as those others gave their death, then indeed the answer to the heart-searching questions may be found not to-day or to-morrow, but possibly a century

heart-searching questions may be found not to-day or to-morrow, but possibly a century or two centuries hence, when it may be that the historian, seeing the events of to-day in a truer relation and perspective, may be able to write something like this: 'At that time a generation indeed was wiped out, but from their graves sprang a rebirth and a new kindling of the spirit that raised our country to heights which surpassed the dreams of those of her sons who in past ages had sacrificed most and had loved her best.' (Cheers.)

HARROW AND PUBLIC SERVICE.

The HEADMASTER, thanking the speakers, said those whom they commemorated had partly died in vain if the school was not the nobler for their example. He would have every boy think that there was the name of a Harrovian carved in the shrine who died that he might be free to live, an English citizen. Too often since the war had we shamed our fellowship and by our quarrels had denied our dead. Might Harrow still stand for public service and noble fellowship! The only true commemoration of the dead was the dedication of themselves. (Applause.)

After the principal ceremony the Prime Minister unveiled a portrait of Lord Long, which will be hung in the north room of the memorial buildings.

Among those present upon the dais during the ceremony to support the Headmaster, the Chairman of the Governors (the Warden of 'All Souls'), the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Prime Minister, and Mr. Fladgate, were many Governors of the school, members of the Executive Committee of the War Memorial, and other distinguished Old Harrovians including:—

The Dean of York, the Master of Caius, General Lord Horne, Mr. J. R. M. Butler, Mr. A. W. Pickard-Cambridge, Mr. Ronald McNeill, Mr. H. Pirie-Gordon, Mr. A. Vassall, Mr. Herbert Baker, Colonel F. S. Jackson, Mr. L. S. Amery, Lord Ronaldshay, Mr. M. C. Kemp, Sir George Murray, Lord Frederick Hamilton, Lord Ernest Hamilton, Lord Desborough, the Bishop of Hulme, Lord Bradford, Mr. P. G. Blackwell, Major-General B. Burnett-Hitchcock, Lieutenant-General Sir A. Codrington, Dr. Lambert, Dr. Douglas White, Colonel Kittoe, Mr. J. P. Bennetts, Mr. J. Strachan, Mr. V. S. Galsworthy, Mr. A. de Rothschild, Mr. A. J. Webbe, the Hon. Cyril Ponsonby, and Mr. W. B. Anderson.

Unfortunately Lord George Hamilton, Mr. E. M. Butler, Sir Samuel Hoare (Minister for Air), Mr. H. Yates-Thompson, and Mr. M. J. Rendall were unable to attend.

The sum of £88,723 has been expended on the memorial scheme. The first appeal was issued in August, 1917, when the Committee asked for £100,000. The foundation-stone of the buildings was laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1921 and the shrine was completed two years later. The cost of the buildings which were opened yesterday has been about £75,000. Before the undertaking of this work a sum of £10,000 was set apart for educational grants to the children and relations of old Harrovians who died in the war. In addition to the general memorial, contributions to a total of about £50,000 have been received for special purposes, among them, the decoration and equipment of the crypt chapel.

HOUSING MATERIAL TESTS.

WORK OF BUILDING RESEARCH DEPARTMENT.

In the grounds of the Building Research Department, where new materials and systems of building are investigated by experts on behalf of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, a two-storey house has been built with a permanent steel framework but with only temporary walls. At the present time the walls are made of Fletton bricks, and careful experiments and tests are being made in order to discover exactly how these resist variations of temperature and climate. The results will eventually form a standard for a normal brick house. As soon as these standards have been obtained, the temporary walls will be dismantled, and then a wall of some other material, possibly wood, steel, or concrete, will be inserted, and the tests will be made again. In this way it is hoped to discover actually what are the merits or demerits of walls of houses made of wood, as compared with brick, steel, or even cast iron.

Up to the present many tests have been made of building materials, notably at the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington, but in almost every case these experiments have been under cover, where the materials have not been exposed to rain, hail, snow, and other varieties of wind and weather. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research believe by thus having an actual house built out in the open, exposed to all changes of climate, it will be possible to obtain a far more accurate estimate of the merits of different walling materials than the