

LEGACY CLUB OF ADELAIDE

INCORPORATED

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO GENERAL SECRETARY
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LEGACY HOUSE
83.91 WAYMOUTH ST.
ADELAIDE

ADDRESS GIVEN BY - PADRE LEGATEE C.R. WHEREAT
AT THE CROSS OF SACRIFICE CEREMONY 15TH OCTOBER 1967.

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Fellow Legatees :-

The Code of Legacy does not include a reference to religion in the narrow sense of that word, yet its whole purpose is to set forward a spirit that is Christian and worthy of the best ethic in any of the great world religions.

So it is that at the end of our Conference we gather before the symbol of the Christian Faith to carry out a simple act of remembrance. The chief event in this short ceremony is its climax, when the Chairman of Legacy Co-ordinating Council and the President of Adelaide Legacy, representing all the Legacy Clubs in Australia, will jointly lay a wreath at this Cross.

In that wreath will be symbolised our tribute of honour and thanksgiving to the departed and also will be symbolised the spirit of Legacy which remembers them.

Our object therefore is twofold:- here we offer our thanks for those who handed to us the legacy which we have accepted in serving their dependants. This thanksgiving is made to Almighty God for the blessings we have received through our comradeship on service with those who are no longer with us and for that great number, unknown to us, who were ready at the call of duty to lay down their lives for country and dear ones, or who have since died.

It is proper that we should make this act of thanksgiving before a Cross and, in this case, a particular Cross owing its origin to the women of South Australia, a number of whom were undoubtedly later on to become the first dependants of our original Legacy Club. This Cross also will be full of memories of our annual Anzac Day marches, with the services here which conclude them.

Even more fitting is it that our wreath should be laid here, because the Cross is the symbol of the sacrifice of the one and only Perfect Man who walked this earth - Son of God and Son of Man. HE it was who laid down His life for the benefit of others and thereby made the Cross the sign of the highest virtues that have inspired greatness in individuals and countries.

The second object symbolised in our wreath is Service, for the opening words of our Charter are "The spirit of Legacy is Service". The wreath is laid at the Cross as our acknowledgement of the ideals which inspire us, from which we must always gain our strength and encouragement in the tasks we have undertaken. HE who died on the Cross showed us what God is like and He said "I come not to be served, but to serve". He took a towel and washed the feet of His disciples that they might learn and remember the royalty of service. The next time you make a visit to your widows and families, you would do well to remember His words "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of one of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me", (a saying which introduced Christian charity into the world).

Again, "If I your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye ought also to wash one another's feet".

To serve our Legacy families is to believe that there is something in them that is worthy of consecrating the best we have to give - and that means not only the material things and the advice, but our Personality. If Christ was prepared to die for them, we must be prepared to be, not just friends, but their servants.

So our twofold object, seen in the symbolism of the wreath, is brought to the foot of the Cross, from which has flowed throughout the ages those streams of sacrifice and service which have uplifted, cleansed and invigorated human life.

In our thanksgivings for the legacy bequeathed to us by our comrades, let us not forget John Gellibrand and Stanley Savige, among the founders of Legacy and let us pledge ourselves once more, while the bugles remind us of our comrades, to a new determination to fulfil those tasks entrusted to us - to us - a "band of brothers", as we were so aptly described in the Opening speech of the Conference - a happy band, because we know the value of what we try to do. In the words of the hymn writer :-

To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below.

What a great legacy we have.

As one of the older generation of Servicemen, I would like to say what satisfaction and pleasure it gives to see a sparkling display by these three detachments of the Cadet Corps.

In days when youth activity receives so much publicity it is good to see the fine bearing and obvious keenness of these cadets, with an understanding of things military.

Altogether, I feel that it is much to their credit as it is a pleasure to us, and is no doubt in the mind of us all.

I conclude with the prayer of a soldier-saint, to which every Legatee will wish to say a fervent "Amen" -

"Teach us, good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest,
To give and not to count the cost,
To labour and not to look for any reward, save only
knowing that we do Thy Will". (Ignatius of Loyola)

THE BENEDICTION:

Go forth into the world in peac; be of good courage;
Render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love
and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of The Holy Spirit, & the
blessing of God Almighty, the Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost
be upon you and remain with you always.