

# No Decision On War Memorial At Inglewood

Attended by about 60 residents of the Inglewood borough and county, a public meeting held in the Inglewood town hall last night failed to arrive at a decision regarding the form of a suitable Second World War memorial for the district. Subsequently, a committee representative of organisations, including sports bodies in the borough and county was formed to examine the five proposals which were put forward and rejected and to report back to another public meeting, to be held next month, with two of the proposals chosen for final consideration.

The action of the Inglewood Borough and County Councils and the Inglewood branch of the Returned Services Association, in previously deciding to have engraved on the present memorial the names of all men from the district who served overseas in the Second World War and to have planted on the green opposite the memorial a tree for each of those men who lost their lives, was confirmed at last night's meeting.

The mayor, Mr. R. W. Brown, who presided, pointed out that the chief object in calling the meeting was to determine whether the residents of the district desired a war memorial apart from the steps already taken in having the trees planted and the names engraved on the present memorial.

## The Five Proposals

The five forms of memorial proposed were discussed at length and each had many supporters, but when put to the vote they were rejected by the majority.

The first proposal, for a gymnasium hall to cater for youth in all sports, was supported strongly by representatives of sports bodies. However, the president of the Inglewood branch of the Returned Services Association, Mr. G. Hall, gave an estimated cost of £17,350 for a building catering for all sports with adequate facilities. The meeting agreed that the initial cost plus necessary upkeep, the setting aside of a depreciation fund and the employment of a permanent caretaker would involve more expenditure than could possibly be raised within the district, even allowing for the possibility of a £1 for £1 Government subsidy.

Swimming baths were proposed by a representative of the Inglewood Swimming Club. The suggestion was for baths with attractive surroundings, layout and facilities similar to those at Manaia, but it was strongly opposed by country residents, who stated that they were definitely not in favour of anything which would cater almost solely for the townspeople. Mr. Brown stressed the improbability of a Government subsidy being granted.

The third proposal, for the formation of a playing area in the district, was discussed and favoured by a section of those present but when put to the vote was rejected.

Suggested as a fitting memorial, was the proposal for the erection of three houses, each with a small garden, to be allocated at a nominal rent to three returned servicemen from the district, considered the most badly disabled. This was also out-voted.

The final proposal for a clock tower to be erected in the centre of the green opposite the present memorial found several supporters who pointed out that although the initial cost would probably be high, the maintenance of such a memorial would not involve a great deal of expenditure. Like the other four proposals, it was moved and seconded, but then lost.