



Capt. Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne



Played with Adelaide University



Cricket Club – B Grade (1910/11)

Degree BA Hons (1910), MA (1921)

Background

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

The AIF Project

<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=206138>

Alexander Clifford Vernon MELBOURNE




Date of birth	10 June 1888
Place of birth	Adelaide, South Australia
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	University lecturer
Address	University, Brisbane, Queensland
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	26
Next of kin	Wm. Clifford Melbourne, Jasper Street, Hyde Park, South Australia
Enlistment date	23 August 1914
Rank on enlistment	Captain
Unit name	9th Battalion, D Company
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/26/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Brisbane, Queensland, on board Transport A5 <i>Omrah</i> on 24 September 1914
Rank from Nominal Roll	Captain
Unit from Nominal Roll	9th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 13 February 1917
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Note: the information above is incorrect as Alexander returned to Australia in November 1915.

Service Record

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8012172>

AUSTRALIAN  **MILITARY FORCES.**

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. *Adjutant Capt* Name *MELBOURNE, Alexander Alfred Vernon*
Unit *Sea Transport Service*
Joined on *18/10/16* **Voy cert**

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? *Alexander Alfred Vernon MELBOURNE*
2. In the Parish of in or
near the Town of *Adelaide*
in the County of *St. Paul*
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a
Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the
latter, papers to be shown.) *Natural Born British Subject*
4. What is your age? *28 1/2*
5. What is your trade or calling? *University Lecturer*
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so,
where, to whom, and for what period? *No.*
7. Are you married? *No.*
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) *Mr. W. E. M. Melbourne
Brisbane University
Queensland*
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? *No.*
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His
Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incon-
gruous and Worthless, or on account of Con-
viction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Ser-
vice, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace
from the Navy? *No.*
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His
Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the
Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy,
or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not
now serving, state cause of discharge *about 1 year A.M.F.*
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous
service? *No.*
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's
Service? If so, on what grounds? *No.*
14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will
be issued in respect of your service beyond an
amount which together with Pay would reach
eight shillings per day. *No.*
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox
and enteric fever? *No.*

I, *Alexander Alfred Vernon Melbourne*, do solemnly declare that the above answers made
by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military
Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

*And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during
my service for the support of my wife and children three-fifths

Date *24-11-16* Signature of person enlisted *A. V. Melbourne Capt*

*This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

RSL Virtual War Memorial

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people/324684>

MELBOURNE, Alexander Clifford Vernon

Service Number: Officer

Enlisted: 23 August 1914, Brisbane, Queensland

Last Rank: Captain

Last Unit: 9th Infantry Battalion

Born: Adelaide, South Australia, 10 June 1888

Home Town: Brisbane, Brisbane, Queensland

Schooling: Not yet discovered

Occupation: University Lecturer

Memorials: Glenelg HB1* WW 1 and WW 2 Glenelg and District, Glenelg HB4* Moseley St Uniting Church, University of Adelaide WW1 Honour Roll Mitchell Bldg*

World War 1 Service

23 Aug 1914: Enlisted AIF WW1, Captain, Brisbane, Queensland

24 Sep 1914: Embarked AIF WW1, Captain, 9th Infantry Battalion, HMAT Omrah, Brisbane

24 Sep 1914: Involvement AIF WW1, Captain, 9th Infantry Battalion, Enlistment/Embarkation WW1

25 Apr 1915: Wounded AIF WW1, Captain, SN Officer, 9th Infantry Battalion, ANZAC Gallipoli, GSW (thigh and head)

3 Jun 1915: Wounded AIF WW1, Captain, 9th Infantry Battalion, ANZAC Gallipoli, 2nd occasion - (GSW (left hand)

15 Apr 1917: Discharged AIF WW1, Captain



A C Melbourne
Scarborough Portrait Collection
RSL Virtual War Memorial

Australian War Memorial



ACV Melbourne – Third Row – second from Left

C02496 AWM & NAA 26th Bn Research by Gary Parsons Posted by blackboycreek, Monday, 6 March 2017

C02496

Officers of the 9th Battalion aboard HMAT Omrah (A5). Identified back row, left to right: Lieutenant (Lt) (later Captain) Arthur Cowan Hinton; Lt Joseph William Costin, killed in action, aged 23, at Gallipoli on 25-28 April 1915; unidentified; Lt (later Captain) George Thomas. Third row: Lt Henry Cavendish Harvey, Captain (Capt) Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne; Lt P J Boase, Capt Isaac Jackson; Capt (later Major, 50th Battalion) Alfred George Salisbury DSC; Capt (later Lieutenant Colonel) John Alexander Milne, killed in action, aged 46, in France on 12 April 1918; Lt H G Ker; Capt (later Major) John Leaper Fisher, Anzac Provost Corps; Lt (later Major) William McKenzie Young; Major (Maj) Sydney Beresford Robertson, killed in action, aged 29, at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915; one unidentified; Lt William John Rigby, killed in action, aged 23, at Gallipoli on 25-28 April 1915. Second row: Lt (later Maj, 45th Battalion) Duncan Chapman, killed in action at Pozieres on 6 August 1916; Maj William Cavendish Harvey VD; Maj J C Robertson; Lt Col Harry William Lee VD; Capt (later Maj) Thomas Victor Brown, Anzac Provost Corps; Capt A G Butler; Capt (later Maj) John Mitchell Dougall. Front row: Lt Frank Granville Haymen, killed in action at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915; Lt (later Capt) Lancelot Alban Jones; Lt (later Maj) Charles Fortescue MC DSO; Lt Rogers.

Published Biography

Biography - Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne

by Malcolm I. Thomis

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/>

Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne (1888-1943), historian, was born on 10 June 1888 at Hackney, Adelaide, son of William Clifford Melbourne, printer and trade union official, and his wife Elizabeth Agnes, née Braidwood. Alexander was educated at Norwood Public School and the Adelaide Pupil Teachers' School. For three years he taught at Unley Public School; then in 1908 he attended the University of Adelaide, winning the Tinline scholarship in 1908 and first-class honours in history in 1910. He accepted a temporary assistant lectureship in the department of history and economics at the University of Queensland in 1913. Melbourne soon became honorary secretary of the newly formed Historical Society of Queensland and delivered its inaugural address.

With ten years experience in the citizen forces, on 20 August 1914 he enlisted as captain in the 9th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, left with the first contingent, shared in the horrors of Gallipoli and was wounded on 25 April and 4 June 1915. Invalided out of active service in October, Melbourne returned to his previous position at the University of Queensland in 1916, but for much of 1916-18 worked in censorship and on troopships. On 20 November 1916 he married Ellen Mary Lowenthal in the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane.

Melbourne returned to the university as lecturer in history and industrial history from 1919. He gained his M.A. in 1921 from the University of Adelaide for a thesis on the constitutional development of Queensland. He failed in 1922 to secure the foundation McCaughey chair in history and economics for which Henry Alcock, an Oxford graduate, was preferred.

Regarded as a man of 'brilliance, bonhomie and restless initiative', 'always on the best of terms with his colleagues', Melbourne in 1920 was the first secretary of the University of Queensland academic staff association and the first non-professorial academic to be elected to the university senate in 1926-28 and 1932-43. He was a strong advocate of the St Lucia site and became heavily involved in the planning and construction of the new buildings. Vice-Chancellor J. D. Story was to remember Melbourne as 'one of the most virile and progressive members of the Senate' with 'a flair for organisation'.

In 1928 he was awarded a Laura Spelman Rockefeller fellowship, enabling him to study at the University of London for a Ph.D. (1930) under A. P. Newton, Rhodes professor in Imperial history. This was an unusual and imposing achievement for a Queensland scholar in humanities. His work in London led to his writing two chapters in volume 7, part 1, of the *Cambridge History of the British Empire* (1933), his John Murtagh Macrossan lecture in 1932 on William Charles Wentworth (Brisbane, 1934) and his classic study, *Early Constitutional Development in Australia* (Oxford, 1934). Returning to Queensland by early 1931 and without a party-political affiliation, Melbourne was invited by Premier A. E. Moore to submit a scheme which would ensure reintroduction of a second chamber into the parliament. Melbourne's proposal was placed before Moore's party, but nothing came of it.

At the suggestion of the public service commissioner and with financial support from the Moore government, the university senate sent him to Japan and China in 1931-32. Melbourne published his *Report on Australian Intercourse with Japan and China* (Brisbane, 1932). He was Queensland government representative on the Queensland and Federal advisory committees on Eastern trade (chairman of both in 1933-35).

Having failed in attempts to secure chairs in Sydney (1929) and Adelaide (1934), Melbourne was appointed part-time foundation librarian and promoted associate professor. He was a frequent and fine public lecturer and broadcaster.

In 1935 his application for the Australian trade commissionership in Tokyo was unsuccessful; the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, K. Hirota, supported him. Backed by the government and the university, Melbourne returned to East Asia in 1936 and compiled a *Report on a Visit to the Universities of China and Japan* (Brisbane, 1936). He also wrote several pamphlets on foreign policy for the Australian Institute of International Affairs. In 1937 he failed to secure the chair of history at the University of Melbourne. He was largely responsible for the engagement of a Japanese national, Ryonosuke Seita, to lecture in Oriental civilization in the University of Queensland's history department; Seita was interned soon after his arrival.

World War II brought Melbourne back into national service as a deputy district censor. He died, childless, of cerebral haemorrhage at Glenrowan Private Hospital, Brisbane, on 7 January 1943 and was cremated with Congregational forms. His wife survived him.

Citation details

Malcolm I. Thomis, 'Melbourne, Alexander Clifford Vernon (1888-1943)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University*, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/melbourne-alexander-clifford-vernon-7552/text13177>, published first in hardcopy 1986, accessed online 29 July 2017.

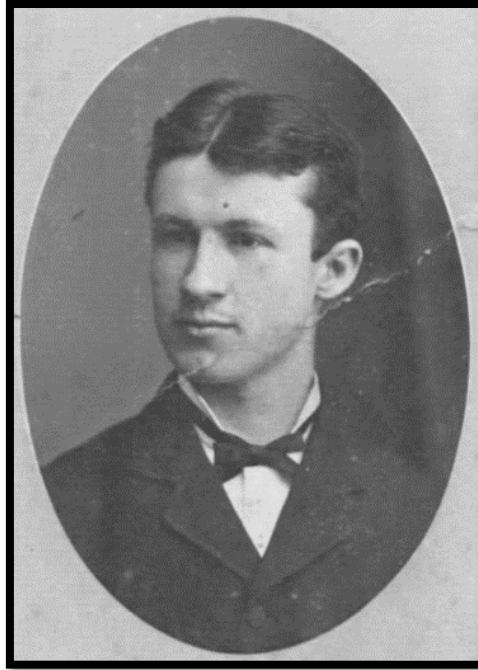
This article was first published in hardcopy in *Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 10, (MUP), 1986*

Additional Biography

Early Life

Alexander was born on 10 June 1888 to parents William Clifford Melbourne (1864 – 1924) and Elizabeth Agnes Braidwood (1862 – 1961) SA Birth Registration 419/368) at Hackney. His siblings were Henry Eoin Sydney (1893 – 1978) and sister, Julia Aileen (1895 – 1980) - See Appendix 1 - Family Tree.

Alexander's father, a printer by trade, was active in Union activities and an early member of the South Australian Labor Party. He was on the Board of the Children's Hospital and on the Board and one time President of the Workers Education Association. He was also active in Church affairs.



William Clifford Melbourne

Schooling

In 1900 Alexander was attending Sturt Street School, Adelaide and won an exhibition (scholarship) which assisted his studies at Norwood District School in 1901 (where he again won an exhibition). Alexander then attended the Student Teacher School (later became Adelaide High School in 1908) where he passed his Junior Examinations in 1902. Alexander was a Pupil Teacher at Unley in 1905 and he was in the Cadet Corps from at least 1906, when he was a Lieutenant on probation.

University

In 1908 Alexander, aged 20, commenced studying toward his Bachelor of Arts at Adelaide University; he also passed Arts Examinations that year. In October 1910, Alexander wrote to the University Council suggesting that a University Regiment be formed. He won the Tinline Scholarship in 1908 and the History Prize in 1910. Alexander graduated with first class honours in 1910.

University Sport

Rifle

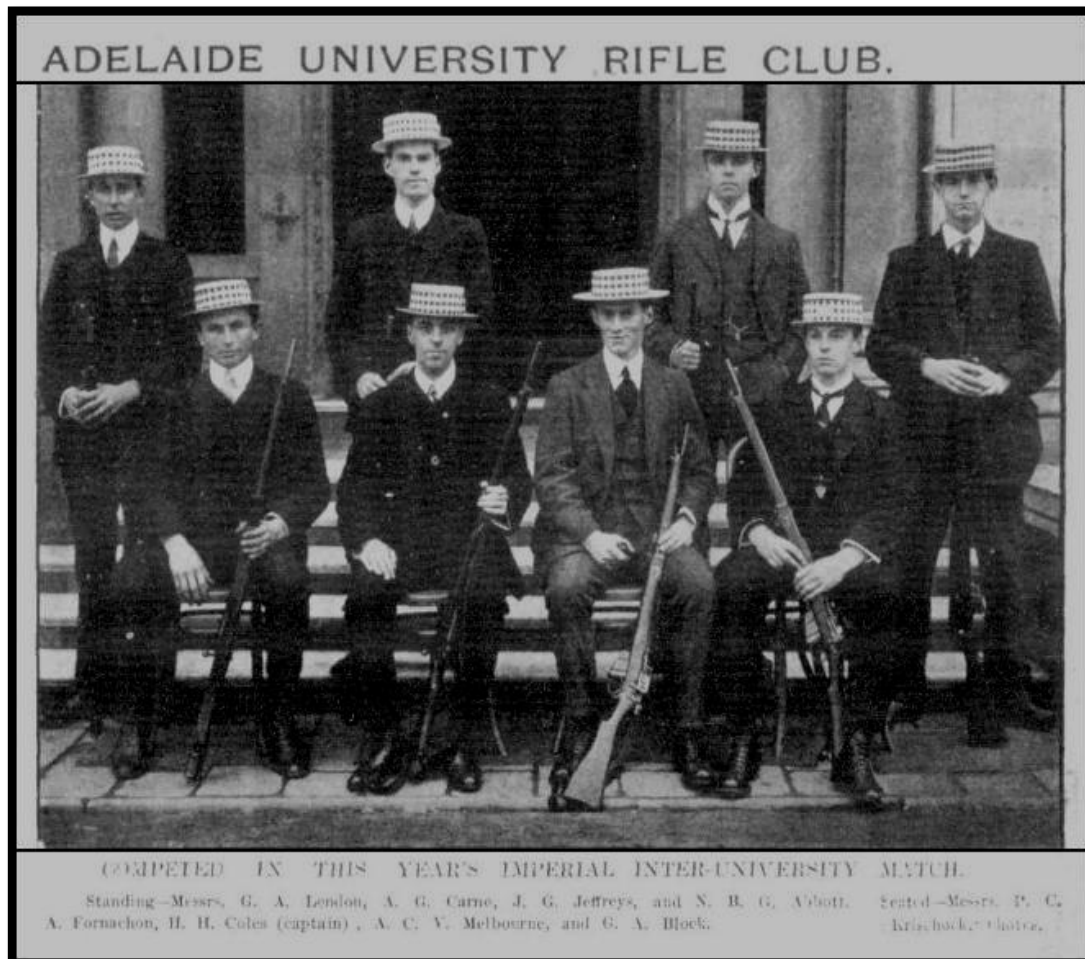
Alexander shot for the Adelaide University Rifle Club and in June 1910 he represented the University at the Inter-collegiate completions in 1910 and 1912.

1910 Adelaide University Rifle Team



*Back: R.H.Chapman, A.O.Boer, S.W.Coombe, A.C.V.Melbourne, W.W.Cooper.
Front: E.C.Grigson, C.T.Madigan (capt), H.D.Simpson (vice capt).
Won by Melbourne*

1912 Adelaide University Rifle Team



A.C.V. Melbourne – Seated – Second from Right

Cricket

Alexander represented the University in the B Grade District Cricket competition during the 1910/11 season. He had 8 innings, total runs 102, highest score 37, average 12.7 and took 6 wickets at an average of 10.6.

Early Teaching Career

In November 1911 Alexander was appointed to teach at the Norwood District High School. This was followed by an appointment to Nailsworth in June 1912. In February 1913 Alexander accepted an appointment to lecture at the Queensland University.

World War I

Alexander enlisted on the 23rd of August 1914. His war experience is best read in his own words in the newspaper article below.



AMONG THE WHINING SHELLS.

HOW OUR BOYS PLAYED
THE GAME.

A CAPTAIN'S STORY OF
GALLIPOLI.

HEROIC 9TH BATTALION
CUT UP.

The following extracts are taken from a letter written by Capt. A. C. V. Melbourne, 9th Battalion Infantry, dealing with the landing of the Australian troops on Gallipoli:—

On Sunday, quite early in the morning, about an hour before daybreak, to be exact, we left the battleship and got into the small boats alongside. Three other battleships were engaged in the same operation, and when we were about two miles from the shore the pinnacle which was towing us turned to the right and made straight for the black ridge of hills, which we could just see through the gloom.

The Blighters Watched Us.

We crept, going slower as we got nearer, closer and closer to the shore, wondering all the time how much further it was, for it was impossible to judge the distance. All the time we were expecting to be greeted with an outburst of rifle fire or the discharge of a big gun, but we got so close that we began at last to think we had not been noticed. We knew the Turks were there, of course, but we imagined them asleep. It was just before dawn, when we were about 100 yards from the beach, that this fond hope was shattered by a rifle shot from the cliff. It was followed by a hundred others. I suppose the blighters had been watching us all the time, waiting till we were close enough to make sure of us. In a second the air was alive with humming bullets, not round, heavy ones like ours, but vicious, needle-pointed little devils. They went through the air buzzing like bees, to the right and left and over us. The water round was torn up into little patches of spray as the pinnaces slipped the cables and left us to make the last few yards with the oars.

To tell the truth, when the first shot came I never expected that any of us would reach the beach alive, but their shooting was atrocious. There we were huddled up in the boats absolutely in the open and unable to reply, under a heavy hail of fire from the cliff, and yet hardly one of us was hit. Had we been on that cliff I'm confident no one would have reached the top alive. There is no doubt they did not expect us to attempt a landing at that particular point, as there were so few of them there, and even they could not use a rifle for nuts. The consequence was that most of us reached the shelter of the foot of the cliff unharmed, wet through, of course, and just about breathless, but still—looking for them. The way those fellows went up the cliff was a revelation. In spite of the fire from above they went up with fixed bayonets, climbing like mountain goats. It was here we lost a lot of men, for the day had come, and the distance was so small that even those blighters at the top couldn't miss.

A Good Start.

But they did not wait for the bayonet. When our fellows got to the top they had gone, and we were greeted by another burst of fire from a ridge about 400 yards inland. It was a steep ridge, too, with a wide, open valley between it and us, but the boys went at it, finishing off as they passed the few snipers who had hidden in the bushes, and they got that ridge and the next just as easily, although the enemy had trenches there and guns. The guns were never used, and within an hour and a half of our landing on the beach we had stormed the cliff and two very steep, bushy ridges. Not so bad for a start, was it?

The Turkish Howitzers Begin.

We had been chosen as the first landing party, and all this time other troops were being shoved ashore as fast as the Navy could do the job. At daybreak the news had spread along the coast, and a howitzer battery to our right began to throw shrapnel shells on to the beach, where the supports were landing, and we knew that as soon as the enemy could bring reinforcements they would make a determined effort to push us back into the sea. So we began to dig in on the highest of the ridges we had taken in order to be ready for them when they should come, and we did not have long to wait. They came in force on our left, and we left our dug-outs to go out and get after them, for it was our job to cover the landing of the rest and to hang on at all costs.

Absolute Hell.

All our training has been in attack, so when they came the boys did not wait for them but went out and hunted them with the bayonet. However, there were too many of them; we could not see how many, or where they were, as the hills were covered with short prickly bushes, which absolutely concealed them as they advanced under the protection of a heavy fire from rifles and machine guns. It was hell, absolute hell, humming, cracking, buzzing, banging hell, especially

when they opened up on us from the left with another howitzer battery. We were without guns, so that they could spray us with shrapnel to their hearts' content.

Retreat Would Have Meant Disaster.

It was sudden death to stand up, but the boys knew that they had to hang to it, as a retreat would have meant disaster. We would never have got off again, so we hung on. By midday there were few of our original landing party left. The shrapnel and machine guns had cut us to pieces. Their rifle shooting was negligible, it was so rotten; but the howitzers and machine guns they handled magnificently. All we could do was to lie flat on the ground and wait for them, and this we did, going for them with the bayonet whenever they came close enough. The only lulls we enjoyed during the whole day were those when every howitzer and machine gun was turned on our aeroplane when it came over the lines.

Heavy Losses.

They must have had an enormous number of men against us. We were hopelessly outnumbered, and we were losing men more quickly than they were coming up from the beach. It looked bad, as bad as possible, for us, when the warship opened up and relieved us a little; but at dusk we were gradually being forced back by weight of numbers, for, although they would not face the bayonet, their fire was giving us a perfect hail of bullets. However, more reinforcements were hurried ashore, and we managed to hang on to the ridge nearest the sea. More troops were landed during the night, and the position was made good. Our losses were tremendous. From what I've heard, I should estimate them, for Sunday's fighting, at something between five and six thousand. Luckily the very large majority were not killed. I think that proportionately the deaths are very few.

Language Unequaled.

Well, there is the story of our fire baptism. Fellows who were at Darghai, Spion Kop, and Magersfontein say that at none of these was the fire of the enemy comparable to the fire of the blighters who dusted us up on those ridges on Sunday. The men behaved magnificently. The navy officers said that they never saw men like them; they swear they are the finest fighters in the world, while their language they acknowledge to be unequalled—rather a compliment from the Navy! All Imperial soldiers say that they are beyond praise; they never thought there were men like them. Well, allowing for the usual exaggerations under the circumstances, you can believe that Australia has every reason to be proud of the men she has sent. Perhaps their behaviour on Sunday last will convince many who stayed at home to criticise that they are not all rotters, although they do like their little bit of fun.

Shell Fire.

As to myself personally, well, I don't remember very much, except that after the first couple of hours I got so darned sleepy that I could not keep awake. Every time I got down behind a bush I went sound asleep for a minute or so, but when a bullet came zipping past it would wake me up. But we couldn't do anything; we couldn't see them, we could only wait, so beyond keeping as low as possible and telling the men to do the same I did nothing at all. I got one bullet through the sleeve of my tunic, another through the pocket, and a third ripped a piece out of my puttee, but until about 3.30 I was not hit. It was only when the shrapnel began to play on the ridges that things began to look particularly lively. Up to that we had lost heavily, but we were still holding them. When the howitzers turned from the beach to us we could hear the shells coming, whining through the air, and then a sharp crack, a puff of smoke (I remember thinking how beautiful it looked against the blue sky), and a scatter of bullets all around, stirring up the dirt and ripping through the bushes, tearing off twigs and leaves, then a sigh of relief, and—look out for the next.

Remarkable Escapes.

Sometimes they burst high, sometimes low, sometimes right overhead. I remember listening and following the sound up, watching, as they passed over, for the little white cloud. One burst within six inches of me as it hit the ground, and I was covered with dirt and sticks and leaves, half-stunned. I thought I was done for, but I wasn't hit. Another burst in the middle of another fellow's back not two feet from me, and I was sprayed with pieces of him. When I looked up he wasn't there, but still I wasn't hit. At last one burst just in front of me, and I got it in the hip. I thought, of course, I was bleeding to death, but it was not so bad after a bit, and after tying it up, I came back to wait for the next, and it wasn't long in coming. I heard the whining, and thought it was going to burst just above me, so I ducked, and all the bullets missed. I looked up for the next, and saw a big bit of stuff coming straight for me. I couldn't get out of the way. It was the top piece of the shell, I found out afterwards, and it got me right on the top

of the head. I bled like a pig, but my cap evidently saved me. I had half a dozen handkerchiefs stuffed in the top of it, and they broke the shock, and although I was knocked out, this is witness the damage is not much. I remember being taken down a steep prickly gully to the beach, with shells bursting overhead all the time, but we got there eventually, and, one of thousands, I was sent off to the ship where I now am. I don't remember much of the first 24 hours, but both wounds are now healed up, and I'll be back again in the thick of it in a few days.

We Did Our Job.

Our battalion was fearfully cut up. We have, I think, 12 officers out of 20 killed, and all the others wounded, while it is impossible yet to tell how many of the men are gone. Still, we can rest quietly, knowing that we did our job in what was, I suppose, one of the most difficult military operations ever undertaken. There is no doubt Australia should be proud of the whole lot of the forces. I know I'm proud of my own men; they were simply splendid. Although of our company officers four were killed and the other two of us wounded, they played the game right through, and stuck out to the finish. This account doesn't seem to be remarkable for its lucidity, but it's the best I can do. The whole thing was so mixed up and we were all so busy making ourselves inconspicuous that I've only the vaguest impressions myself.

Capt. A.C.V. Melbourne was wounded twice at Gallipoli and returned to Australia in November 1915.



CAPTAIN A. C. V. MELBOURNE,
9th Battalion—wounded.

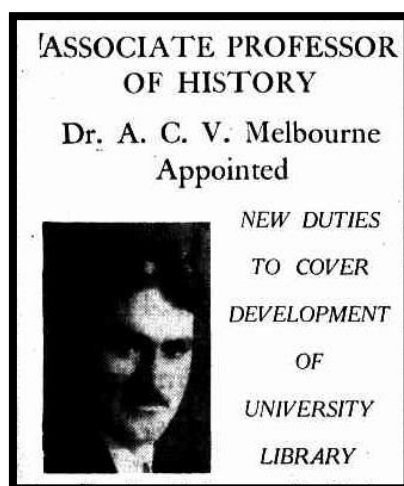
Family Life

Alexander married Nellie Lowenthal on the 20th of November 1916, at St Mary's Church, Kangaroo Point. The couple were frequently in the Brisbane papers attending social events such as the races. The couple did not have children.



Alexander's father William Clifford Melbourne died in December 1924 (see Appendix 2 – Obituary). His mother passed away in 1961 at the age of 99.

Later Career



The position of the library as a utility within the Queensland University, and the facilities that it might afford beyond actual staff and student requirements, are matters that have engaged the attention of the Senate from time to time. The library is now regarded as having reached a stage of development when it should be treated as a department of first-rate importance within the University.

To meet the new conditions, and to enable the Senate to collect the necessary data on which to formulate future library policy, it has now been decided to secure for that department the benefit of the wide experience of libraries and library methods obtained by Dr. A. C. V. Melbourne.

As a research student of Colonial history, Dr. Melbourne has made considerable use of the more important Australian libraries and during the two years that he spent recently in England he devoted much of his time to work in the principal libraries of London.

Dr. Melbourne will combine his new duties within the library with his present duties in the Department of History and Economics, and in view of the importance attached by the Senate to the joint position it has been decided to appoint him to the grade of Associate Professor of History.

MELBOURNE, Associate Professor Alexander Clifford Vernon, M.A., Adel., Ph.D., Lond., Associate Prof. of Hist., Qld. Univ. since 1934, Authority on Far East: son of William Clifford Melbourne, of Adelaide, S.A.; b. June 10, 1888, Adelaide; ed. Adelaide Univ., B.A., 1910, 1st Class Honours History, M.A. 1921, Ph.D. Lond., 1930, Tinline Scholarship in History 1908, Laura Spelman Rockefeller Fellowship, 1928-30; temp. Lecturer in History & Economics, Univ. Q., 1913, Assistant Lecturer in History & Industrial History 1916, Lecturer 1919, Lecturer in Economic & Colonial History 1920-34; member of Senate 1926-28, & since 1932 Chrmn. Buildings & Grounds Cttee. since 1935; Sec. Joint Cttee. of Public Lectures & Tutorial Classes, & Sec. Univ. Staff Asscn., 1920-28, Macrossan Lecturer, 1932; appointed by Senate of Univ., Q., to make extended visit to China & Japan, 1931-32, to enquire into possibility of increasing sale of Aus. products; representative of Q. Govt. on Q. Advisory Cttee. on Eastern Trade & Chairman of the cttee. 1933 & 1934; representative of Q. on Fedl. Advisory Ctee. on Eastern Trade, & Chairman of the Cttee. 1933 & 1934; apptd. by Senate Univ. Qld., to visit Chinese & Japanese Univs., 1936, to inquire into possibility of bringing about exchange of professors & students; *publications*, numerous series of articles in *Daily Mail*, Brisbane, on Q. History, contributions to *Cambridge History of the British Empire*, Vol. V., N.S.W. & *Its Daughter Colonies 1821-50*, *Establishment of Responsible Govt., 1850-60*, *Australian Intercourse with Japan & China* 1932; *Early Constitutional Development in Australia*, N.S.W. 1788-1856, 1934; *The Political Career of William Charles Wentworth*, 1934; served Great War A.I.F. 1914-16, captain 9th Battn. A.I.F., twice wounded & invalided out; m. Nov. 25, 1916, Ellen Mary, d. Emil Lowenthal, no chil.; address, Archer St., Toowong, Bris., Q.; clubs, Johnsonian (Bris.), Savage (Lond.).

1938



The chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (Mr. W. J. Cleary) speaking from the Belle Vue Hotel at the official opening of 4QR, the new A class station. Standing on the right is Dr. A. C. V. Melbourne.

Opening of 4QR – Dr A.C.V. Melbourne at Right

September 1939



Commander R. B. Thompson, R.N., Captain A. C. V. Melbourne, and Mr. J. Claude Henderson exchange reminiscences at the annual reunion of the Omrah Association.

Captain A.C.V. Melbourne (centre)

(Omrah Association – named after the ship 'Omrah' which transported the 9th Battalion to Gallipoli)

Death

Alexander died on 7 January 1943 and was cremated with Congregational forms. His wife survived him, passing away in 1954. They rest together at Mt. Thompson Memorial Gardens, Holland Park West, Brisbane City, Queensland, Australia

'BIG LOSS TO EDUCATION'

The death of Dr. A. C. V. Melbourne, Associate Professor of History at the Queensland University, was referred to by the Chancellor (Sir James Blair) last night as "a great loss to our educational progress."

Dr. Melbourne, who also was deputy district censor, died early yesterday morning in a Brisbane private hospital after a brief illness. He was 54 years of age, and attended his office as censor on Wednesday. He leaves a widow.

Sir James Blair said that Dr. Melbourne's death had removed



Dr. Melbourne

one of the most valued workers in the cause of education in Queensland.

The Vice-Chancellor (Dr. J. D. Story) said that Dr. Melbourne had a flair for organisation, and was one of the most virile and progressive members of the Senate.

Dr. Melbourne was born in Adelaide, where he obtained the degrees of B.A. and M.A. From Adelaide University he travelled to London, where he obtained a doctorate of philosophy.

Of late years Dr. Melbourne's attention was given to the study of Far Eastern affairs. In 1931-32, on behalf of the Government and the University of Queensland, he visited Japan and China to inquire into the prospects of extending Australian trade.

In 1936 he visited most of the important universities of Japan and China to extend cultural relations with those countries. For some time he was closely associated with the advisory committee on Eastern trade.

His publications included, "Early Constitutional Development of New South Wales, 1788-1856," "The Economic Organisation of the British Commonwealth," "Report on a Visit to the Universities of China and Japan," "Report on Australian Intercourse with China and Japan," a study of William Charles Wentworth, and contributions to the Cambridge History of the British Empire.

Dr. Melbourne was one of the original officers of the 9th Battalion, the first infantry battalion to leave Queensland for service overseas in the last war. He was twice wounded at Gallipoli.

Appendix 2

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IN MEMORIAM.

MR. W. C. MELBOURNE.

William Clifford Melbourne was born at Naracoorte in 1864, and after a brief schooling he was at an early age apprenticed to the printing trade. Later for a short time he followed his trade in Victoria, then moved to Adelaide, where he resided until his death. For more than twenty years he was on the staff of the "Advertiser," but left this work to undertake the duties of Secretary of the South Australian Typographical Society. In his early years he had a great desire to become a minister of the Gospel, but the way not opening he determined to make his life one of service. His warm, sympathetic nature made him feel keenly the sufferings of others. This led him to become one of the early members of the Labour Party. His counsel was eagerly sought and freely given, and for one year he was President of the Party. During his Presidency feeling ran high on the Conscription issue, but with honesty

and courage he marked out his own line and pursued it. In the industrial world he enjoyed the confidence of his fellows and was their representative on the Board of Industry, the Advisory Board of Education, and Apprentices' Board. He took his duties seriously and attended the Law Lectures at the Adelaide University to enable him to carry out his work efficiently. His justice and candour were appreciated, and at a meeting of the Board of Industry, at which the President (Dr. Jethro Brown), and Messrs. S. Perry, W. T. Rofe, and F. McCabe were present, the following resolution was carried:—"The Board of Industry records its profound regret at the death of William Clifford Melbourne, and desires to acknowledge the invaluable services rendered to the Board and to the community by its late member."

Mr. T. R. Bright, S.M., bore this testimony:—"While sitting as Acting-President of the Industrial Court, it was my privilege to be associated with the late Mr. W. C. Melbourne as a member. May I be permitted to say what in my opinion the world at large has lost by his early decease. Strong as his convictions were as to the principles he advocated, no one could have been more tolerant to those who differed from his views. How many of the world's differences would be overcome were there more like him!"

In education matters Mr. Melbourne was an enthusiast, and he carefully studied authorities available. He was a member of the Executive of the Workers' Educational Association and served one year as President. His services were freely given to all movements making for social happiness. He was on the Executive of the S.A. League of Nations Union and a member of the Board of Management of the Children's Hospital. His industrial and social work did not prevent him from rendering service to his Church. At Malvern he was a Sunday-school teacher and for some years superintendent, and at a later period he was superintendent of the Moseley Street school at Glenelg, and he was for one year vice-president of our Methodist Sunday-school Department. For some years he had been circuit steward at Glenelg and was a member of our Annual and General Conferences. His sympathy for the suffering made him an ardent Prohibitionist, and he did much valuable work for the cause. He had a very large circle of friends in all classes of society, and they bear tribute to his worth. The funeral service at West Terrace was conducted by the Rev. C. E. Schafer. A very large gathering assembled at the grave side, and hundreds of his fellow-unionists joined in the funeral procession. During his last illness he was wonderfully patient and had complete faith in Christ his Saviour.



THE LATE MR. W. C. MELBOURNE.

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