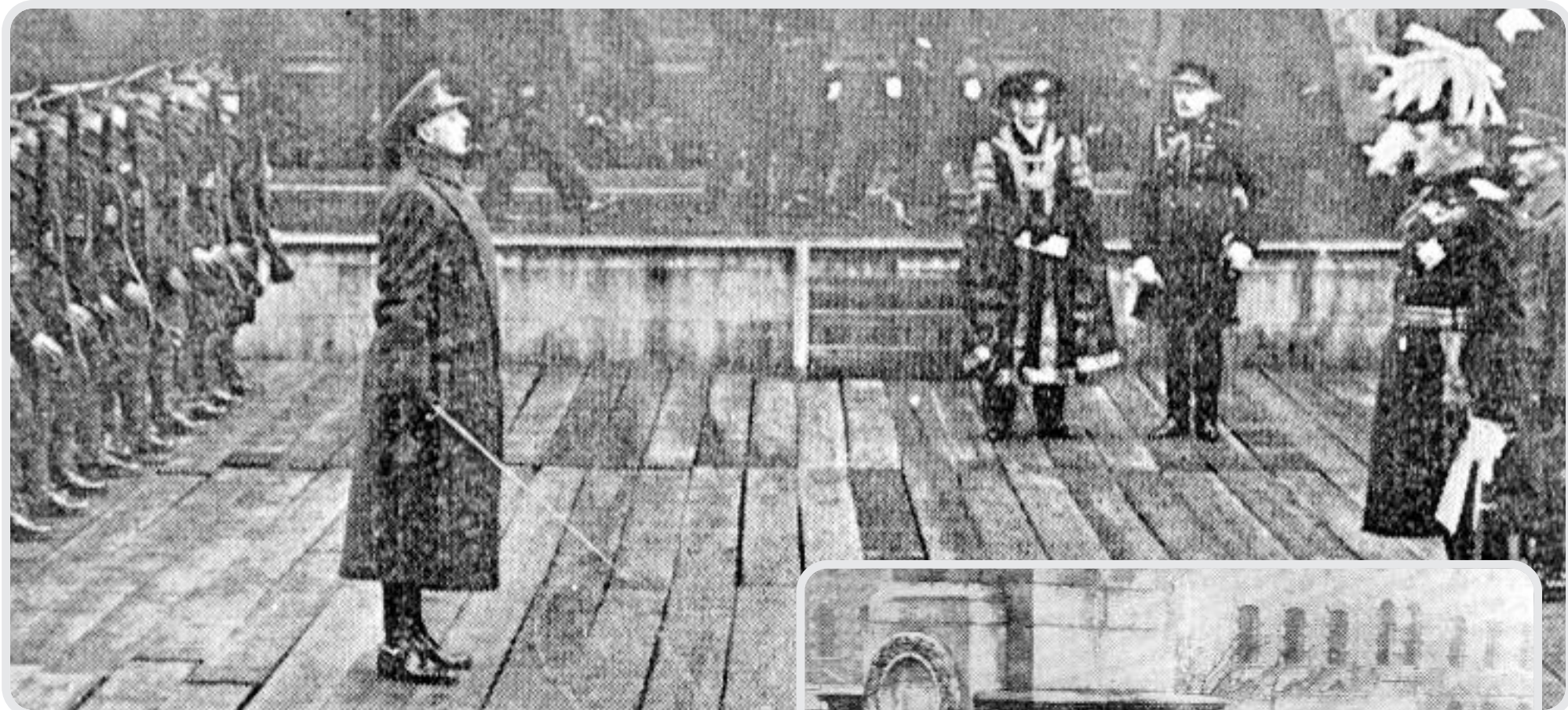


# Belfast Cenotaph



**SALUTE:** presenting arms on the arrival of Viscount Allenby

## Empire pays homage to its heroic dead

**I**N welcoming the Field-Marshal, the Lord Mayor said:- "The anniversary of "Armistice Day" - the day of the Empire's homage to the heroic dead is the most fitting occasion for the ceremony of unveiling our War Memorial. This memorial, conceived in affection, fashioned in proud memory, and raised in honour, will presently be revealed as our token of grateful appreciation - an appreciation which should compel us not to overlook the survivors of the war. It is but fitting that this memorial to our heroic dead should be unveiled by Lord Allenby. One of the greatest of British soldiers, he played a heroic and successful part in the Great War. He knows of the trail and suffering endured by those who took part in it, and by his splendid example he set a high standard of courage and efficiency. He led his army from victory to victory, and by his magnificent generalship crowned all with brilliant success. We are honoured by having him with today.

Our memorial will be unveiled at an hour when throughout our boundless Empire, in cities and towns as well as in humble village, the throb and restlessness of everyday life will be stilled for two wonderfully impressive minutes, while millions bow their heads reverently in memory of our glorious dead.

Sad as the occasion must be, it is at the same time not unmixed with pride and satisfaction, when we think of their gallant deeds, and realise that their service, suffering and self-sacrifice have not been in vain. They helped to win peace. Of our valiant men the country says: "They fought a good fight" and His Majesty the King has said, "The men of Ulster have shown how nobly they fight and die."

We think of those who have gone, we cherish their noble example and steadfast endurance, and we hold them in everlasting remembrance. Sir William Turner, in asking the Field-Marshal to unveil the memorial, said: The consummation today of our earnest efforts

to erect a suitable memorial in Belfast as a tribute to the men of this city who laid down their lives in a great cause will give extreme satisfaction and gratification throughout the entire province. When I took up office as Lord May, I felt it my duty to state publicly that there was one labour of love to which I had set my heart, and that was the raising of a monument which would appropriately perpetuate the memory and gallantry of those men of Belfast who, having heard the call, relinquished home, comforts, good positions, and personal prospects to join in the defence of those sacred liberties and privileges which we now enjoy and which were secured for us at a heavy price. Today we stand beside our token of gratitude - our tribute of affection - this tangible evidence of our appreciation. Places as it is in Belfast's Garden of Remembrance, this memorial will always remind us, and future generations, of the deep debt which we owe, and which can never be repaid.



**SILENT REMEMBRANCE:** the Belfast Cenotaph in November 1929