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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE R.S.L., W.A. BRANCH

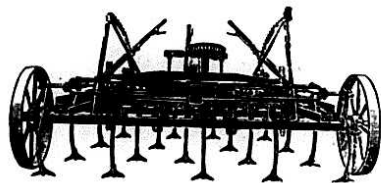
15 June, 1936

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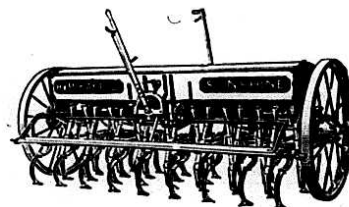


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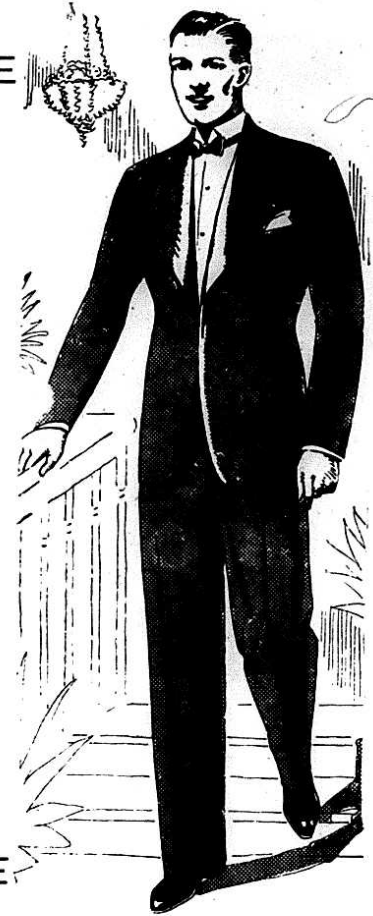
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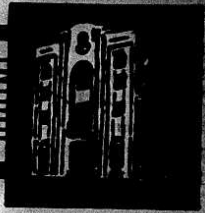
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THE LISTENING POST



Applying the Axe to Anzac Day

EVER SINCE the League was a league, all manner of coteries and individuals have been striving to split it or, failing that, to exploit it for the advantage of outside interests. Fifteen years ago, there were in the Eastern States rival leagues constituted in accordance with the religious and political bias of their members. None of these lived. When their futility and impotence became apparent, diggers who had been attracted to them by the lower subscription rates returned to the older and broader comradeships and the League, one and indivisible, has flourished ever since. Of course, not every cause in which outside people have tried to interest the League has been an unworthy cause. The digger with his unerring instinct of criticism has been able to sift the wheat from the chaff and discern the nigger in the woodpile. That is why his organisation has rigorously eschewed party politics and sectarianism; that is also why the League has thrown its weight behind such causes as the Empire Shopping movement, the Safety First movement and others.

Remembering this, we, as the League's official organ, are very suspicious of outside interference with the interior economy of our organisation, especially when that interference takes the form of propaganda for the alteration of the present mode of observing Anzac Day. As ex-service men we have our own individual opinions on this very important matter and those opinions are often very divergent; but the opinion of the League as a whole can be expressed only in and through the resolutions passed by the Annual Congress. Congress only can alter the present method of observing Anzac Day and, over a period of years, Congress has decided very definitely in favour of regarding the day as a fifty-third Sunday, and has with equal definiteness set its face against all efforts to whittle away

the sacred character of the occasion. The progressively increasing attendance of the general public as the years roll onward is evidence that the State as a whole approves of the League's interpretation of the significance of Anzac.

One wonders then what motives underlie the attempts of certain newspapers and business men's associations to induce the League to alter a method of observance that has stood the test of time. Reduced to their common denominator the objections are based on a falling off, for twenty-four hours, of cash takings and a shrinking of the newspaper space devoted to racing and other commercially organised sports. Naturally enough, this is not stated so openly. The newspaper objections are camouflaged by high-sounding moral precepts and a carefully stimulated interest in the digger's own well-being. There are touching references to the recreational value of certain games which would be robbed of their health-giving effect if they were not played on this one afternoon out of the three hundred and sixty-five. There is also much talk of Anzac Day as a day of gloom and crocodile tears are metaphorically shed over the supposition that the fallen whom we honour would not like to see hotels closed and racecourses empty on this day of days.

It is the height of absurdity to become dogmatic over what the man who gave his life for his country in 1915 would think in 1936, as these propagandists do. It is more reasonable to assume that the man who fell in the Great War was much the same type of chap as the man who survived and that, if he were with

us to-day, he would feel and think much as we who are left feel and think. If that assumption is valid, so is the corollary that he would be just as conscious of the sacred character of the annual observance as the rest of us, and just as reluctant to allow a national occasion to be exploited for purposes of gain. Whether our assumption is right or wrong, we feel sure that his views would at least be expressed with common honesty.

Objectors in our own ranks are refreshingly free from the intellectual dishonesty of those who would exploit them. They will tell you straight out from the shoulder that they would like a drink when the march is over, and so would most of us. However, there is no reason why we should sell our birthright for a pot of frothage, and this particular difficulty is not insurmountable. At the risk of being branded as wowsers, may we suggest that after the sacrifices made by troops in the war, surely one other little annual sacrifice might be made with dignity to ourselves and advantage to the League?

Candidly, we cannot help feeling that we should be adopting a very dangerous attitude were we to acquiesce, or even appear to acquiesce, in attempts to whittle away the solemnity of Anzac Day. It is a dignified occasion, an act of remembrance mingled with gratitude and pride, for solemnity is by no means synonymous with gloom. The League has striven hard to evolve the most fitting form of commemoration which, rightly or wrongly, we believe is that now in use. To devote the afternoon to sport would mean doing away with the suburban ceremonies, and it would provide the thin end of the wedge that would ultimately force the day out of the calendar. Future generations may, and no doubt will, do as they like about the matter, but, while we live and are in possession of our

faculties, let us hold out for the day, the whole day, and nothing but the day. Only by taking the manlier and loftier stand shall we be able to imbue our sons with the ideals for which we have risked so much and suffered so much.

NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL

In connection with Resolution No. 183, passed by the Twentieth Annual Federal Congress of the R.S.S.I.L.A.,

That representations be made to the Federal Government with a view to the erection of the Australian National Memorial on the site of Villers-Bretonneux as soon as practicable, the General Secretary (Mr. E. V. Raymond) has forwarded a copy of a reply from the Prime Minister's Department which we publish for information.

As you are doubtless aware in 1926, the then Commonwealth Government approved of the erection of a National Memorial on a site at Villers-Bretonneux, at a cost not to exceed £100,000, and that in 1927, as the result of a competition limited to Australian architects and designers who enlisted or whose sons or daughters enlisted for service in the Great War, the design of Mr. W. Lucas, of Melbourne, was selected. Owing to the period of financial stringency, construction of the proposed Memorial was postponed and in 1931 the scheme was abandoned. The Imperial War Graves Commission subsequently drew attention to the fact that the constructional programme for treating graves overseas of the fallen of the British Empire had been completed, and that memorials to the missing (excepting that at Vimy) had been erected, whilst the names of some 11,000 Australian missing on the Western Front had not been commemorated.

Under the scheme which has now been approved by the Commonwealth Government the proposed Memorial will serve two purposes:—

- (a) Memorial to the Missing.
- (b) National Memorial.

The main portion of the funds (£30,000) necessary for construction will be found by the Imperial War Graves Commission, and the additional cost (approximately £10,000) to raise the status of the Memorial to that of a National Memorial will be found by the Commonwealth.

In these circumstances the Imperial War Graves Commission has been requested to proceed with the construction

of the Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux. The design approved was prepared by the eminent British architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens. This architect had designed the entrance to the cemetery at Villers-Bretonneux, and as this entrance also leads to the Memorial site, it was considered appropriate that Sir Edwin Lutyens should have been selected by the Imperial War Graves Commission to design the Memorial.

ABANDONMENT OF FARMING PROPERTIES

The following is a reply received by the State Secretary from the secretary to the Agricultural Bank Commissioners (dated 14th May) in reply to representations made by the Land Committee following a complaint from Kondinin sub-branch that many settlers were leaving their farms and were likely to become a charge on the State, whilst, if retained as farmers, they were undoubtedly an asset:—

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo., conveying certain protests received by your League from farmers in the Kondinin district regarding the policy of the Bank in connection with abandonments of farming properties in that particular district. From general investigations made by the Commissioners, it has been found that the reasons prompting settlers to abandon their holdings are attributable to many causes. It has also been found that the satisfactory settler on a reasonably good property has been able to carry on, and in many cases with satisfactory results both to himself and to the Bank.

Towards enabling clients to continue their farming operations, the Bank is giving every consideration to applications submitted by settlers for releases or ad-

vances against crop proceeds to enable them to harvest their crops, also to requests for refunds of money received by the Bank when the proceeds of crops have come to the Bank in payment of interest, and exemptions against stock, progeny and wool.

In drought affected districts, the Commissioners are providing chaff, seed wheat, wages, fuel, spare parts and assistance, in addition to the Commonwealth Acreage Bountry and Drought Relief Funds, and every consideration is now being given applications for advances for the purchase of horses and other essentials to enable the farmer to carry on his farming operations under the best conditions possible.

The Commissioners have already published their decision regarding debt adjustment. Under their proposals, where settlers have outside creditors, they make application to the Director of Farmers' Debts Adjustment Act; and where there are no outside creditors, application is made to the Commissioners, and every consideration is being given applications received. The Commissioners in this connection have established a Valuation Department and relief from overcapitalised indebtedness is being calculated on the values assessed by that department.

Assistance in other directions is being constantly provided by the Bank, particularly at the moment in the drought affected districts. The Commissioners have determined, where the personal equation of the settler is right and the land reasonably good, to maintain the settler on his farm.

Among the many reasons why settlers are leaving their properties at this time of the year, it has been found that poor prices and medium to bad seasons have been the main causes.

It is noted from the letter that no suggestions are submitted by your correspondent from Kondinin regarding steps which might be taken to correct any undue exodus from farms which may be taking place in the Kondinin district. I wish to advise that if the farmers in that district submit suggestions along these lines, they will receive every consideration by the Commissioners.

Mr. B.
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WHY NOT? The Returned Soldier Printers—the IMPERIAL PRINTING COMPANY LIMITED

COLONEL COLLETT ASKS QUESTIONS re PENSIONS

The following extracts from the Federal Hansard are very interesting:—

WAR PENSIONS APPEALS

Senator A. J. McLACHLAN.—On the 30th April, Senator Collett asked the Minister representing the Minister for Repatriation, upon notice—

1. Has the additional War Pensions Entitlement Tribunal, appointed last year, been dissolved?

2. What, at the present date, are the arrears of pension appeals?

3. It is not anticipated that there will be a considerable increase in the number of appeals as a result of the institution of the system of service pensions?

I am now in a position to inform the honourable senator as follows:—

1. Yes, as from the 15th April, 1936.

2. At the 1st May, 1936, there were 340 appeals listed for hearing by the Entitlement Appeal Tribunal in the State in which it will actually conduct sittings during the period from the 1st May, 1936, to the 12 June, 1936, and 245 other appeals are ready to be listed in the various States to which the tribunal will subsequently proceed, while 93 appeals are waiting registration by the commission. This makes in all a total of 678 appeals already listed or waiting listing or registration. The tribunal can hear 50 cases a week. It will, therefore, dispose of the 340 cases actually listed within the period from the 1st May, 1936, to the 12 June, 1936, and the remaining 338 cases in less than seven weeks from that date. The tribunal can hear 700 cases in fourteen weeks. This means that the average waiting period for each appeal is less than three months. Seven hundred cases are necessary to keep one tribunal constantly functioning. When the additional tribunal was appointed there was an accumulation of 1,302 cases. This was beyond the capacity of one tribunal. The accumulation having been disposed of, the position is now well within the capacity of the existing tribunal.

3. No, as no right of appeal from service pension applications lies to the War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal. All service pension appeals on the grounds that an ex-soldier is—

(a) permanently unemployable; or

(b) suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, lie to the War Pensions Assessment Appeal Tribunals.

SERVICE PENSIONS

Senator A. J. McLachlan.—On the 30th April, Senator Collett asked the Minister representing the Minister for Repatriation, upon notice—

Concerning the benefits allowed by the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act, 1935—

1. What number of service pensions in each State have been (a) applied for; (b) granted; (c) refused, since the act came into force?

2. Similarly, how many tubercular ex-

soldiers in each State have been granted pensions and treatment?

3. What is the approximate total annual financial commitment so far incurred?

In am now in a position to inform the honourable senator as follows:—

1.—

	Applied for.	Granted.	Refused.	In progress of investigation.
Queensland ..	1425	273	371	781
N.S.W.	2985	952	1409	624
Victoria ..	3015	478	1472	1065
S. Australia ..	2491	339	783	1369
W. Australia	971	213	270	488
Tasmania	139	27	53	59
Total	11026	2282	4358	4386

2.—

T.B. Ex-soldiers Granted.		
	Service Pensions	Free Medical Treatment
Queensland	24	36
N.S.W.	140	141
Victoria	63	99
South Australia	13	45
West Australia	23	39
Tasmania ..	5	7
Total	268	367

3. As at the 30th April, 1936, the figures showing the total annual financial commitment were—

Service pensions	£ 66,071
Reinstatement of commuted pensions	19,952
Pensions to dependants of certain deceased soldiers (Section 39A)	1,869
Free medical treatment to those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	36,400
	124,292

but it is estimated that, when all applications at present on hand, and likely to be lodged, have been determined, the annual financial commitment will be—

Service pensions	£ 183,000
Reinstatement of commuted pensions	34,000
Pensions to dependants of certain deceased soldiers (Section 39A)	5,000
Free medical treatment to those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	36,400
	258,400

EMPIRE SHOPPING WEEK

An Outstanding Success

MR. HASTINGS C. REID'S REPORT

Mr. Reid, the hon. organiser, in his report on the week's activities submitted the following report:—

The Central Organisation this year comprises the following ladies and gentlemen:— E. S. Watt, Esq. (Chairman), Mesdames E. Bagot, H. C. Griffiths, H. Hopperton, J. C. McKinlay and T. C. Wilson, and J. C. Bartington, Esq., J. A. Child, Esq., J. E. Mitchell, Esq., A. H. Macartney, Esq., R. A. Nicholas, Esq., T. Nisbet, Esq., A. E. Pady, Esq., H. E. Wells, Esq., C. Ferguson, Esq. (honorary secretary), and Hastings C. Reid, hon. organiser).

Through these ladies and gentlemen the following organisations are brought directly into contact with the movement, which through their enthusiasm and powerful influence is now of a State-wide character: the Returned Soldiers' League and the Women's State Auxiliary, the Women's Section of the Primary Producers' Association, the Country Women's Association, the Department of Industries, the W.A. Chamber of Manufacturers and the Australian Association of British Manufacturers.

It is estimated that during the last decade the governing body has handled and distributed upwards of 250,000 units of propaganda in the form of posters, and has issued between 5,000 and 6,000 printed circulars and appeals setting forth the principles for which Empire Shopping Week stands. The funds required to meet the cost of a campaign of this nature have been raised by voluntary subscription, and over the years in question have aggregated a sum of approximately £600.

This year, thanks to a generous consignment of Empire Marketing Board posters kindly supplied free of charge by the Overseas Service of the Department of Overseas Trade, London, and to the generous support of the Local Products Campaign Council, it has been possible to issue to metropolitan, metropolitan-suburban and country districts between 40,000 and 50,000 posters of Empire and local significance to assist shopkeepers in dressing up their windows for the occasion. The kindness of the W.A. Government Railways and of the Midland Railway Company in allowing all parcels of posters free transport to their

destinations is gratefully acknowledged. That this unprecedentedly large stock of posters is now practically exhausted speaks in eloquent terms for the increased enthusiasm of the 3,000 or so persons who have individually assisted to make the Week a success.

The Week was officially opened in the Perth Town Hall by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor, Sir James Mitchell, K.C.M.G., who also declared open the two-day exhibition of locally manufactured goods, organised by the Department of Industries. Other speakers besides His Excellency and Mr. Watt were the Hon. the Minister for Industries (Mr. Hawke), and the president of the W.A. Chambers of Manufacturers (Mr. Bartington). The proceedings were broadcast through the National Broadcasting Commission's station 6WF, and were largely attended by the general public.

Throughout the week the shopkeepers continued to display and sell mostly goods of Empire origin, and this support of the Campaign was ably seconded by purchasers themselves. Every year that Empire Shopping Week is held shows more conclusively the value of the campaign. Through the close co-operation and active support of the metropolitan and country press the public at this time is brought face to face with the problem of whether it is in their interest, apart from the consideration of racial ties and the like, rather to buy most from those who buy most from us, than to give their support to countries whose interest in Australia may be purely of a selfish and commercial character. It is an irrefutable fact that during the Week in question public attention is focussed more than at any other time upon the need for making their purchases from within the Empire, and that each succeeding year this spirit of goodwill towards the Empire holds good and endures for a longer period after the Week is over.

Almost synchronising with the commencement of Empire Shopping Week came the announcement of the Commonwealth Government's new Trade Policy. This appears to aim at giving most consideration to those parts of the world which treat Australia best. As there can be no denial of the fact that Great Britain buys more of Australia's exportable produce than any other country, and that Australia still enjoys an immense and favourable trade balance with the Mother Land, this policy must be accepted as aiming more particularly

at greater reciprocal trade with it. Nothing more advantageous to a campaign for Empire shopping could have been launched than a gesture such as this, so entirely in keeping with the principles associated with the movement. It will be the fervent hope of all who are interested in Empire Trade that at this time next year the advantages to the Empire of the new arrangement will be apparent.

The thanks of the Council are due to the following: the Press, for the publicity they gave to the Week; to the shopkeepers of the State for the displays they made of Empire and local goods; to the two railway organisations for the free carriage of posters; to the lady members of the Economic Council and the Women's State Auxiliary of the R.S.L. for so kindly distributing posters by hand in Perth and Fremantle; to all the organisations above referred to as standing behind the movement; to the following ladies and gentlemen who during the Week gave such interesting broadcasts: Mesdames Griffiths, Hopperton and McKinlay, and Messrs. C. G. Latham and T. Nisbet; to the Department of Industries for staging in the Town Hall so interesting and educational a display of the products of Western Australian manufacturers to coincide with the two first days of the Week; to the R.S.L. State Executive, for so kindly placing a room at the disposal of the Council for the storage and distribution of posters; to the Aero Club of W.A., for the flight of planes over the city on 25th May; to the R.S.L. Band, for its assistance in drawing people to the Town Hall on the opening night; and to the Local Products Campaign Council, for its generous contribution towards the cost of local posters as well as to those firms who also contributed to the funds of the Council.

Finally, I desire most sincerely to thank Mr. C. Ferguson, who has so efficiently and indefatigably discharged the duties of hon. secretary of the Council; to our chairman (Mr. Watt), for the fine example he set us all in the enthusiasm with which he inspired us, and every member of the Council for his or her advice and assistance. May Empire Shopping Week long continue to be an important annual function in this State, and that as the years go by the community will see to it that no purchase of any magnitude is made from outside the British Empire.

THE PRESS BALL

BY "MARTINGALE"

Just as I had learned to compose myself to slumber without mentally rehearsing a brace of Grand Marches and a covey of Press Cotillons on the bedroom ceiling, and was almost convalescent after a bad attack of "Ink Splashes before the eyes," a ukase from the Big Chief has sent me delving back into the scintillating splendours of May 22 to write up an account of the Press Ball for this learned periodical.

Well, boys, it was a great show and numerous harassed committee men gradually smoothed away the apprehensive corrugations which had marred their classic frontspieces, and relaxed with cyclonic sighs of satisfaction as the evening sped by on well-oiled wheels (you may delete that bit, Mr. Editor, if anyone takes it as a personal reflection).

Tickets, which were limited to 800, were all sold out long before the ball commenced and Government House ball room boasted more "fair women and brave men" than did the famous Boston tea-party before the Battle of Trafalgar, or whatever it was that Shakespeare wrote about. The delegates and visitors to the Australian Newspapers Conference were the guests of honour and included Mr. A. C. C. Holtz and Miss Olga Holtz, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dunstan, Mr. Norman White, and Misses Clarice and Beryl White, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dumas, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. K. Thompson, Mr. J. F. Fairfax, Mr. H. Pacini and Mr. T. Dunbabin. Other guests were Lieut.-General Sir Talbot Hobbs and Lady Hobbs, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grieg, and Mr. H. Baldwin. Henry Cochrane's orchestra dispensed the sort of music that puts the jig into gigolos and tempted even the most bashful performers to take a chance on the floor.

The Pageant of the Press, and the Cotillon, which the sets performed, was a memorable spectacle. Ten sets took part, each being heralded by a fanfare of trumpets. First came the *West Australian* octette ushered in by a gleaming golden figure garbed as Mercury—and a very charming figure it was—pirouetting in the spot-light's gleam. "Buzz," and his merry men—be-frilled and stiffly stocked, sprouting hirsute luxuriance, escorted a quartette of demure crinolined damsels of a century ago.

The *Western Mail* was represented by

a set in period costumes of 1885, and four dainty ladies in rose pink and black gave a demonstration of "How to be graceful though bustled." The men framed their features in face, fungus and sported toppers at rakish angles.

The *Broadcaster* and *The Daily News* gave entrancing visions of what we may expect to see in the years to come and provided another argument in favour of "monkey glands." The Wests' baseball set with the men in their grey uniforms and their partners in leaf-green; and the Australian Journalists' Association in the garb of "go-getter" Yankee reporters with partners representing War, Murder, Scandal and Fire, were two effective sets.

"Radio," immaculate in spotless white and scintillating diamante carried off the prize with a futuristic set, and well deserved the award.

The R.S.L. Press sub-branch, preceded by a diminutive chappie arrayed as an ink-bottle, symbolised the comradeship of the Pen and the Sword, and I noted that with a magnanimous gesture, the ladies permitted their better halves to wield the mightier weapon—for one night only.

A very effective double set, arranged by Miss Kathleen Coronel, was symbolic of *War News*, and the ladies in their varied national costumes bore appropriate topical slogans.

Miss Rene Esler's Newsboy Ballet might be cited as an effective method of increasing circulation and would certainly send ones "sales resistance" down to zero.

Ink Splashes, the paper issued at the ball, was a great little journal and contained some good samples of written pictorial humour. A "flash" of the sets at the conclusion of the grand march gave it added interest and it formed an interesting souvenir of an enjoyable function. Syd. Longmore, who managed to edit it somehow or other in the intervals of organising the ball and functioning as "Non-Com," described it as "everybody's baby," and hoped that "all those whose labours gave it birth" would be amply rewarded. He certainly deserves to be bracketed with Dr. Dafoe for his masterly handling of the accouchement.

The committee responsible for the unqualified success of the ball included Messrs. C. Longmore (chairman), C. P. Smith, H. Greig, J. A. K. Tonkin, V. Courtney, P. Belton, H. Hearty, W. Shakespeare (secretary), J. Mallett, B. Samuel, R. Olney and A. E. Dunn (publicity officer).

TWENTY YEARS AGO War Anniversaries of June, 1916

June 1.—Austrians held up in the southern Tyrol, but gain ground in the Asiago section.

June 2.—Germans pierce the French lines in the southern part of the Gaillette Wood in the region of the Vaux Pond and Daloup.

June 3.—Allied troops occupied the government bureaux at Salonica, and proclaimed martial law throughout the occupied territory.

June 4.—Russians commence an offensive from the Pripet to the Rumanian frontier.

June 5.—H.M.S. *Hampshire*, with Lord Kitchener and his staff on board, sunk at 8 p.m., to the west of the Orkneys,

by a mine. The Secretary of State for War was on his way to Russia.

June 6.—Germans bombard British positions about Hooge and in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Comines railway and canal. Russians take Lutsk. Allies blockade the Greek coast.

June 7.—Fort Vaux cut off. First Australian action in France. Australians raided German trenches east of Bois Grenier, inflicting loss and bringing back prisoners.

June 8.—During the Russian pursuit of the Austrians after the capture of Lutsk, 11,000 prisoners surrendered, in addition to the 40,000 men and 77 guns captured since the opening of the offensive.

June 9.—Meeting of the Allied War Council in London. Those present included Generals Joffre, Roques and M. Briand, the French Premier.

June 10.—Violent artillery action around Verdun.

June 11.—Brussiloff captured Dubno and on the Bukovina border, continued the thrust towards Czernowitz.

June 12.—Successive German attacks on Thiaumont repulsed. A British column under General Sir Percy Sykes enters Kerman, South Persia.

June 13.—Canadians recovered lost ground to the south of Zillebeke. Australians made a successful raid on enemy trenches south of Armentieres.

June 14.—General Smut's northern column reached Makuyuni.

June 15.—French carried a trench on southern slopes of Dead Man Hill.

June 16.—British destroyer H.M.S. *Eden* sunk after a collision in the English Channel; 31 saved.

June 17.—Austro-German counter-attack on the Styr repulsed. Russians capture Czernowitz.

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STATE PRESIDENT ON TOUR

Visit to the Murchison Sub-Branches

Rain storms, brain storms, water-logged roads, and true digger hospitality were the experiences of the State President (Mr. A. Yeates) and the State Secretary (Mr. D. M. Benson), during their long-promised tour of the Murchison district. In all, 15 sub-branches were visited, contact was established with several more, and by the time the apostles of League efficiency returned to Perth, the speedometer had registered 1,900 miles. Reporting on the tour to the State Executive, Mr. Yeates states:—

Leaving Perth on May 8, we called at Moora, where we met the secretary of the sub-branch (Mr. Alex. Gloster) who reported increased membership. At Carnamah, we attended a sub-branch meeting presided over by Mr. H. Dunning (28th Battalion), who was ably assisted by his secretary, Mr. George Bradshaw (11th Battalion). At this meeting Mr. C. Mettam, manager of the Bank of Australasia, was elected president, vice Mr. "Chitter" Brown, who has left the district. During the evening, Mr. Mettam reported that he had enlisted eight new members.

On the way to Geraldton we called at Three Springs and Yandanooka, where we met members of each sub-branch.

June 18.—French repulse German attacks against Dead Man Hill. General von Moltke, former chief of the German general staff, dies suddenly of heart failure.

June 19.—In Italy, Alpini carry a summit of Monte Lidro, taking 200 prisoners. British airmen successfully bombard enemy aerodrome, five miles south of El Arish.

June 20.—Three German attacks against French positions north-west of Hill 321 repulsed.

June 21.—General Smuts occupied Handeni.

June 22.—Greek Government acceded to the demands of the Allies.

June 23.—Russians capture Kimpolung.

June 24.—Allied blockade of Greece raised.

June 25.—Italians in the Pasubio sector extend their lines of occupation as far as the Piazza.

June 26.—Italians advance from the Val Arsa to the Sette Comuni plateau.

June 27.—Italians re-occupy Arsiero and Asiago.

June 28.—General Lechitsky defeats the Austrians on a front of 25 miles east of Kolomea.

June 29.—Roger Casement sentenced to death.

June 30.—Russians capture Kolomea.

We arrived at Geraldton at 2 p.m. During the afternoon a meeting had been arranged with Mr. T. Simpson, the president and members of the Upper Chapman sub-branch, and matters affecting the sub-branch and district generally were discussed. The reunion at Geraldton was held that evening in Birdwood House, about one hundred and twenty being present, with the president, Mr. Roy Skinner (44th Battalion), in the chair. The acting secretary is Mr. Bob Webb (R.G.A.) The toast of "The League" was proposed by Mr. A. E. Anderson, and responded to by myself. On Sunday morning, at 10 a.m., a meeting was held with the executive committee of the Geraldton sub-branch, and there again matters in connection with the sub-branch were discussed and advice given.

At Gutha we learned that the sub-branch had been languishing for a long time, the main problem there being a hall which was built some years ago and which had been allowed to get into a state of disrepair. Fifteen attended the meeting and at present there are ten members, but no capitation fees have been paid. I undertook to discuss the question of the hall with private bank officials.

Arriving at Morawa at 6.30 p.m. we were met by the president, Mr. R. J. Leete (R.G.A.), and the secretary, Mr. J. W. Hanant (11th Battalion), and Messrs. Valentine (father and son, both diggers). A good meeting was held in the evening with about twelve members of the sub-branch present. Again at Morawa there had been a falling off of the sub-branch, but signs of revival are in evidence. Mr. Robert Swan (12th Battalion), who is well known in League circles, had, during the previous few days, collected ten new members.

On May 11, we reached Mullewa at about 1 p.m., and were met by Mr. F. Albrecht (51st Battalion), and Mr. R. B. Latto (12th Battalion), president and secretary of the sub-branch. A most enthusiastic dinner and meeting were held in the evening, at which about 70 were present. The hall which has been erected by the Mullewa sub-branch is a very useful structure and should be a great convenience. After the dinner the tables were cleared and the ladies of the auxiliary, who had had their dinner at the hotel, came along, and Mr. Benson and I addressed them. Mullewa is one of our finest sub-branches and the officers and the committee deserve every credit for the very fine work they are doing in that district.

Tuesday morning found us on the road to Yalgoo. We called at Pindar, eighteen miles distant, and met three local diggers, Messrs. Kinsella, Wright and Simpson, and were entertained to morning tea by Mrs. Jim Wright. At Yalgoo, both the president and secretary were absent on business and we were met by the vice-president (Mr. Mick Rodan). After lunch we discussed with the members of that newly-formed sub-branch their problems and the work of the League. We found them quite enthusiastic despite their local difficulties. Mr. J. Neville, on behalf of the Yalgoo Road Board, which he described as being as large as the State of Victoria, gave us an official welcome.

Leaving Yalgoo, we reached Mount Magnet at 5.30 p.m. We were met by the president (Mr. Punch Dawson) and Mr. Joe Gardener (secretary). We also met Colonel Mansbridge (the Resident Magistrate for the district), and were conducted to the Road Board hall, where we were extended a very hearty wel-

come by the chairman (Mr. J. Atkinson). The Honour Board in the hall has over sixty names inscribed upon it. At the evening meeting, the Executive Toast was proposed by our old friend Mr. Tom Silver. It was a very good meeting and it was reported that numbers had grown from fifteen to thirty and they expected to get forty. Here we met Mr. Jim Watt.

On May 13, we left Mount Magnet at 10 a.m. and proceeded through Cue to Reedys, where we were entertained to lunch at the Mines Boarding House by Mr. W. Munsie, the president, and afterwards met seven members, who were not at work on the Triton Mine. Triton is very up-to-date, both as regards the mine's modern machinery and the laying out of the camps for both married and single men. It seems to be assured of a good future.

Arriving back in Cue at 5 p.m. we were accorded a Road Board reception by the acting chairman (Mr. J. G. Peken) and members of his board. The Honour Board in the Road Board hall has over one hundred and twenty names inscribed. At night a meeting was held at the Residency, about forty being present, including two American Engineers from the Big Bell Mine (Messrs. May and Sweeney), both of whom served with the A.E.F. during the war and now members of the sub-branch. The president is Mr. Ron Fleming (1st Brigade Signals), and the secretary Mr. A. Haines.

May 14 again saw us on the road with Mr. Thomas, a digger from the Postal Department, as passenger. We called at Tuckernarra on Mr. F. Moloney of the Australian Artillery, who has a battery there and inspected his workings. We were entertained to morning tea by his good wife.

Reaching Meekatharra at 1 p.m. we were met by the new president, a well-known League worker, in Mr. A. Salmon (past president of Geraldton), and the secretary (Mr. Toby Metcalfe, R.A.F.). During the afternoon, we were taken for an inspection of the local hospital, which contains the new Soldiers' Memorial in the form of an Operating Theatre and special cots. This was built and equipped as the result of an initial effort by the sub-branch, which raised £122. We were there received by that highly-esteemed lady, Matron Dutton. The hospital is a credit to the town of Meekatharra. Later on, we were accorded a Road Board reception by the chairman (Mr. George Caddy), who is also manager of the Consols Mine, members of his Board, representative citizens, and a number of our own men. As a result of our replies to the welcome, two of the gentlemen present offered to pay the annual League subscriptions of two indigent returned soldiers each year. At the evening meeting, about fifteen attended and the result, I think, will be excellent because one man, who has considerable influence in the district, and who had always stood out, became a member and an honorary organiser. It is felt that the future of the Meekatharra sub-branch is good.

Next morning we left Meekatharra in a thunder storm, having as passenger the Rev. Father Prendergast, who was going to Wiluna. For the first thirty-five miles the road was practically under water and it was very hard driving, but the storm appeared to be only local and soon we were out on to dry country. On our way through we met Mr. Tom Goode, late of the 10th Light Horse, who is a member not only of the League, but of

A Modern Florence Nightingale

BY E. L. H.

Anzac Club, and he informed us that he was going to the Coronation next year.

We found the road very patchy. Along the track we visited the station of Moolagooloo, owned by Messrs. Smith Bros., both of whom are ex-service men. We spent a few minutes with them.

All pastoralists in the Murchison district are having a very hard time. In many places the top bush has died out; there is not a vestige of grass of any kind anywhere and the sheep, in many cases, have died; and in others are in a very weak condition.

We arrived at Wiluna about 4.30 p.m. and were met at the Club Hotel by Mr. A. G. Paterson (original 8th Battery), the president of the sub-branch, a pastoralist of Yandil station. At night we were entertained to dinner at the Wiluna Hotel, about thirty being present, including the general manager of the Wiluna Mine (Mr. Bert Carrall), who served with the Tunnellers. There was considerable friction, we found, over the reported dismissal by the Hospital Board of Dr. Johnson, an ex-service man, but fortunately the whole matter was amicably settled while we were there. On Saturday, we were conducted over the Wiluna Mine by Mr. Paterson and the technical part was explained by the oil flotation expert (Mr. Brickendorfer).

Wiluna is a very important centre. There are two mines operating, the Moonlight and the Wiluna. The Wiluna Mine alone employs 1,200 men and it was explained that £40,000 was paid out in wages each fortnight. At 2.30 p.m. we were accorded a Road Board reception by the chairman (Mr. A. L. Gerrick) and members. We found that the Road Board was made up of nine members, three from the country, three from the town and three from the mines. The town and mines are up-to-date and, quite a pleasant surprise, the town lacks the ugliness of some of our older mining centres. We had a meeting with a number of our men at 3.15 p.m. Many questions were asked and it was a very successful meeting. At night a social was held at the Club Hotel, with Mr. Paterson in the chair. About sixty attended. The gathering was very enthusiastic and I feel that our visit there was very worth while and that League affairs should make considerable progress in Wiluna.

On Sunday, we left at 8.45 a.m. for Sandstone. On the way out we missed the road and went a few miles off to Joyner's Find. Luckily we were able to get back without any difficulty. We called at Gidgie station, the home of Mr. H. W. Sholl, the president of the Sandstone sub-branch, where we were entertained by his good wife to lunch and afternoon tea, and were later joined by his brother, Mr. L. Sholl. In Sandstone, we were entertained to dinner and afterwards attended a meeting. The president of the Road Board, Mr. Robin Black (R.A.F.), is a member of the sub-branch. Considering the general state of affairs in Sandstone, the number attending the meeting, twelve, was very good. They are doing great work in that district. The hon. secretary, Mr. C. W. Lane, is a live wire, served with the 24th M.G. Coy.

Leaving Sandstone next morning, we called at Atley station, the proprietor of which is Mr. R. Black, and were entertained to morning tea by Mrs. Black. This is a very comfortable home and shows what can be done in this country where underground water is available.

For over a week a deep gloom had hung over the Perth Hospital. Sometimes it had a slight silver streak in it, but gradually that gloom became a pall, heavy and black, and felt by all. Doctors, sisters, nurses, staff moved with an uncanny silence, spoke in whispered tones, and no place more so than the No. XI (Repatriation Ward). Here, when sick sailors and soldiers lay, all the cheerfulness, apparent nonchalance, and cheer-up qualities had vanished, for a loved form was missing. The chief question asked and asked again was: "How is she?" or "Any news?" or yet again "Any hope?" The reason—

Sister Ruth Victoria Jones was ill, very ill. Great big men forgot their pains. All their suffering, mental and physical, was as naught to them. Sister Jones was off duty; Sister Jones was ill. And so the weary hours dragged on; medical men and surgeons, sisters and nurses fought, oh! how they fought! but it was in vain. God in His mercy had decided her race was run, and so on Saturday, June 6, Sister Ruth Victoria Jones was called to her Eternal rest, to her great reward, and thousands left to mourn the passing of a great woman, one who will rank as Western Australia's great heroine; one who died on active service.

Reaching Youanmi during the afternoon we were met by the secretary, Mr. F. Banfield (R.E.), and later by the president, Mr. Peter Slee (7th Field Ambulance). A meeting was held at night in the Mines' Dining Rooms with Mr. Slee in the chair. About fifty were present. We were told that Youanmi had grown during the last six months from a population of fifty to its present population of about seven hundred and fifty.

Leaving Youanmi at 11.45 p.m. we reached Yalgoo at 6.45 a.m., where we proceeded to Mullewa. From Mullewa we commenced our journey to Ballidu, but unfortunately took a wrong turning at Pithara and found ourselves at Miling. We had gone out of our way for a distance of sixty miles.

The evening reunion at Ballidu was one of the most enthusiastic that I have attended. The president of the sub-branch, Mr. H. Goodie (39th Battery), presided, and the secretary is Mr. S. C. Craske (Wiltshire Regiment). About thirty were present, including members from Pithara. Both Ballidu and Pithara reported increased membership and the spirit of the troops was excellent.

Leaving Ballidu, we called at Wongan Hills and saw some of the members there with a view to trying to reinvigorate the Wongan Hills sub-branch.

True, November 11, 1918, heard the cease fire sound. The arms were dropped and peace was declared, but to-day the fight against wounds and pestilence caused by the Great Catastrophe goes on. And those valiant bands who carry it on are as much on active service as they of 1914-1918.

Sister Jones' career was as unique as it was noble. Entering the Perth Hospital as a probationer just twelve months before the war, she completed her training in 1916, and immediately offered her services to the military authorities. Her credentials were of the highest; she had specialised in surgical nursing; was accepted and went to the Base Hospital at Fremantle where she at once became popular. Just 20 years ago, one evening in June, 1916, the writer well remembers the call coming for her embarkation and her joining a transport at Fremantle together with Sisters Ward and Caporn for Egypt.

On arrival there, they joined up with a number of Australian and British nurses for service in India. At that time there was a terrible shortage of European nurses in India, and as far north as the wild Afghanistan frontier large numbers of sick, very sick, men were pouring back from Mesopotamia and besides a number of diseases were rife in the country itself.

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The Late Sister Jones

veniences and often lack of supplies, and not one of that noble band, but had her health undermined and her system liable to recurrent attacks.

After her return to this State she took a course of maternity instruction at the King Edward Hospital, then at the

old Base at Fremantle. She came to Perth when the Repatriation Wards Nos. X and XI came into existence in 1921, and had been connected with the Perth Hospital ever since, with the exception of a brief period as Matron of the convalescent home at Lesmurdie. She has been sister to the soldiers for the past 14 years, and during the last 10 years constantly in charge of "the boys," her boys. It can safely be said that some 11,000 war patients had passed through her hands and under her skilful, loving, devoted care. Through all time she must be called and remembered as *Our Sister Nightingale*.

Words would fail even in a small measure to express what she did for her "boys." They were no mere patients to her. They were part of her family. She felt with them in their pain and suffering. She was by them at their sick bed, in the "theatre" when "hop over time came." She watched them till full consciousness returned, soothed the heated brow or helped ease the pain and agony. Her word was often enough "Now that's all right—smile." "You're a good boy"; and the restless, tossing man lay still. And when the last came, 'twas she who closed the eyes and pulled the ominous screen round the bed and left, sad-hearted, tears running down her face. Time was nothing to her. Her duty was not ruled by set times. If a man was grievously ill, Sister Jones was never off duty. Oft and oft! when the lights were out, only the dim passage light showing at midnight or in the early morn, if a stealthy little figure would be seen stealing its way, felt-slippered, down the ward to reach the bed of some chap on the danger list—it was Sister Jones.

Nor was it to the men alone she proved a veritable message of hope, of sympathy, but to the wives and families she rendered aid, by help, by advice, and often much more.

Sister Jones' charity was unbounded and she never had anything for herself. It is safe to say that eighty per cent. of her salary went to her boys, and it was no good to argue the matter with her.

There is no nobler profession in the world than that of the nurse. The surgeon or the doctor sees and advises, but the nurse does the job. Her nerves are ever at a strain. Her sympathy is ever called upon and her tact and intuition, her continuous skill, it is that that counts.

Of the thousands of such women, and we must thank God there are such, Sister Jones stands out, a great comet amongst

a firmament of stars. To-day thousands miss her and will miss her, but her name will live on and on in the annals of the diggers, in the hearts of the people. She was the fount of true charity, the charity which St. Paul wrote, of which "Collen" said, "Did universal charity prevail earth would be heaven and hell a fable." And now Sister Jones lies at rest in a grave at the highest point of the Karrakatta Cemetery. Around her in every section lie the remains of those she had nursed, had suffered for and with, and loved. And yet one must think of her as gone to her reward and say:

"And now she stands before the great White Throne,
And Christ in all His tenderness,
doth say: 'Sweet Sister, Wel-come Home';
And the great All Knowing answereth: 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"

Let us not be ever sad, but thank God such a one as Sister Ruth Victoria Jones was given to us.

ANZAC CLUB LADIES' EVENING

This year's Ladies' Evening at the Anzac Club was as brilliant and enjoyable a function as its predecessor last year. It was well attended and all present thoroughly enjoyed the Club's hospitality. The South Perth R.S.L. Orchestra provided the music, and solos by Miss May Pilgrim and Messrs. B. Davis and Claude Saunders were greatly appreciated and well applauded. The whole of Anzac House was thrown open for dancing, card playing and other amusements. Early in the evening, a buffet supper was served, the supper room being effectively decorated with varied flowers. The guests were received by the chairman of the club committee (Mr. W. A. Wilkins, D.C.M.), and Mrs. Wilkins, and the secretary (Mr. J. J. Andrew) and Mrs. Andrew. Members of the Blinded Soldiers' Association were the special guests of the evening. Other visitors were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Melvin and Miss Melvin, Mr. and Mrs. D. Ireland (Tattersall's Club), and Mr. W. Brown (Celtic Club), Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bailey (Mundaring), Mr. and Mrs. Keith (Chittering), and Mrs. A. G. Kirby (Fremantle auxiliary).

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PERSONALITIES



The Federal Office reports the receipt of a message, sent by Field-Marshal Sir William Birdwood to the Prime Minister (Mr. J. A. Lyons). The message, conveyed by wireless from s.s. *Lancastria* on May 13, reads:—"On behalf of old comrades on board *Lancastria* who fought on Gallipoli, send most sincere heartfelt greetings to all old Anzacs in Australia on the occasion of laying wreaths on the memorials of comrades who fought and fell here. We humbly honour their memory and the courage and ideals for which they lived and died."

It was wonderful the respect that was shown to the remains of Sister Jones along the route of the funeral procession to Karrakatta Cemetery. Salvation Army bands were drawn up in Pier and Barrack Streets, and members of the Salvation Army Congress, which was being held at His Majesty's Theatre, lined the street. Amongst others who lined the route were about 200 V.A.D.'s. and Red Cross helpers under Colonel McWhae, nurses from the King Edward Memorial Hospital, and sisters from St. John of God Hospital.

Major J. M. Hobbs, son of Lieut.-General Sir J. Talbot Hobbs, has been appointed Military Adviser of the Punjab States, India, from July 13 next. Major Hobbs, who was educated at Scotch College, Claremont, and Bedford Grammar School, England, went to the War with the 8th Field Battery, and served on Gallipoli and in France and Belgium until August, 1917, when he was gazetted to the 2nd-5th Ghurkha Rifles. He was awarded the Military Cross in December, 1917. He also served in the campaign in Waziristan, 1920, being severely wounded in the operations and heavy fighting that preceded that capture of Makin in the February of that year, for which service he gained a bar to his Military Cross. He was promoted to the rank of Major in 1934.

Alex. Craigie, a well-known and popular member of the Blinded Soldiers' Association, and a vice-president of the Albany sub-branch, has packed up the old kitbag and taken Mrs. Craigie with him for a long holiday in that land we used to call "Dear Old Blighty." We join with the Albany lads in wishing

them both a very pleasant holiday and hope that the fleshpots of Egypt and the jackpots of London will not keep them too long away from us.

Members of Victoria Park sub-branch and women's auxiliary attended the funeral of the late Henry John Ware on May 20. The deceased served abroad with the Electrical Mechanical Mining and Boring Company of the A.I.F. and had been for several weeks a patient in the Repatriation Ward. Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to his widow, Mrs. Frances Ware, who is an active member of the Victoria Park auxiliary.

At the annual reunion of the York sub-branch on June 2, Mr. Vernon Harris, a past secretary, was presented with a silver inkstand as a token of the esteem of his fellow members. In eulogising the good work done by Mr. Harris, the president of the sub-branch (Mr. C. M. Thorn) mentioned that he had occupied office of secretary for three years. The State Secretary (Mr. D. M. Benson) made the presentation on behalf of the sub-branch.

A casualty return from Albany shows that Vic. C. King has been in hospital, and that R. Byleveld of Denmark is recovering in the Government Hospital from the effects of a serious accident which injured his back. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Mr. Basil Kirke, who was a Gentleman of the Light Horse during that little unpleasantness we had with the Kaiser, was the recipient of many farewells before he finally handed over the management of the Perth National Station to his successor. The Press sub-branch entertained him to a complimentary luncheon on June 2, when his health was proposed with all good wishes for the future, by Mr. C. P. Smith, whose remarks were supported by Colonel Olden and Mr. E. S. Watt. All three speakers paid glowing tributes to the many services Mr. Kirke had rendered the League during his management of the National Station, and in his capacity as a committeeman of the Press sub-branch. It may be mentioned that Basil was caught by the press-gang almost immediately after his arrival in Western Australia. On behalf of the sub-branch, the president (Mr. R. A. Nicholas) presented the guest of honour with an inkstand made of

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Western Australian wood. Mr. Kirke, in reply, spoke in an interesting vein, describing the evolution of the National Station, particularly during the difficult transition period. He took the opportunity to introduce his successor, another good digger, Mr. Conrad Charlton.

The new manager of the Perth National Station, Mr. Conrad Charlton, is a hefty genial soul who fought the good fight with the New Zealand Rifle Brigade. He is no stranger to Perth, having been here in 1928 as a member of the J. C. Williamson Operatic Company which played "The Student Prince." It was Mr. Basil Kirke who gave him his entree into radio work seven years ago. When Mr. Kirke introduced him to the press-gang he mentioned that Mr. Charlton did not wish to be called Conrad. He preferred the shorter and more friendly Con. The motion was carried nem. con.

Other diggers connected with the National Station are Nelson Burton, the conductor of the orchestra; the inimitable Billy Edwards, the conductor of the popular community concerts; Roy Glenister, the popular singer and announcer; and C. R. Collins, the A.B.C. Commentator. The sprightly comedienne, May Webster (not to be confused with the lady of the anecdotes) is the wife of an ex-service man, Paul Daley, of 6IX, who is an ex-Imperial. Sid Longmore, well-known to the League in his own person as a former member of the State Executive and past president of both Perth and Press sub-branches, and as "Non Com" of *The Western Mail*, is also a very senior digger broadcaster, while Jim Grant, of 6PR, is an old-time Thespian who served in the war with the New Zealanders.

His many friends and comrades of the Bassendean sub-branch were shocked at hearing of the death of Will O'Rourke, an old 11th Battalion man, who was the victim of a "hit and run" motorist in Guildford on Saturday, May 11. There was a large gathering at the graveside on June 1 of relatives and friends, including many members of the sub-branch. The pall-bearers were Messrs. R. A. McDonald (chairman, Bassendean Road Board), L. Latham (secretary, Bassendean Road Board), W. Menkens (Maylands sub-branch), T. Kerr (Union secretary), and H. Grieve and F. Leng (president and secretary, Bassendean sub-branch). Our

late comrade was a well-known and highly respected resident of the Bassendean district, and a great stalwart in the A.R.M.S. competition games. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to his widow and five children.

Narrogin reports the death of Charlie Dunstall, 16th Battalion, who passed away peacefully in the Narrogin Hospital. The Rev. Boxall officiated at the

graveside. Messrs. T. Stenn (president of the Narrogin sub-branch), F. Johns, W. Hurst, D. Bennett, T. Hogg, Bob Cameron, S. Parker, Bert Duncuff, each cast a poppy into the grave, to signify "We shall never forget." The deceased soldier who also served in the South African War was a valued member of the sub-branch and a highly respected townsman.

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79—A.I.F. Diggers' Slouch Hats, regulation rims. Broad. All sizes. Fur Felt 10/6



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WRITE FOR OUR LATEST ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE—POST FREE

We join with Maylands sub-branch in extending sincere sympathy to Tom Hollings, of Mt. Barker, who has been for many years a member of the Maylands sub-branch, on the loss of his wife.

A good soldier of many years standing answered the last roll call in Fred King, of the Maylands sub-branch, who passed away suddenly in the Perth General Hospital on May 26. Many old soldiers attended the funeral, Maylands sub-branch being represented by Messrs. J. Stanfield and W. L. Menkens.

While Italian and German newspapers were gloating over the British Empire's alleged loss of prestige because the League of Nations could not quite decide whether it was a league of hallucinations or a league of recriminations, a British officer and his 130 Sikhs unostentatiously but very efficiently set about the task of preventing Addis Ababa from becoming another Cawnpore. Major William Forster Charter, M.C., 5/14th Punjab Regiment, the commander of the British Legation guard that Italy has been trying to shift from the Abyssinian capital, rescued the occupants of the American, Belgian and Turkish legations, and, in a situation as desperate as that of Gordon in Khartoum, white foreigners found safety under the British flag. Major Charter was born in the northern English county of Cumberland and joined up as a ranger in the Scottish Rifles early in the Great War. He gained his commission in 1915 and joined the Indian Army in 1918.

The interest taken in the proposal to send a contingent of A.I.F. men to King Edward VIII's coronation next year reminds us that Ted Arundel, of Perth, a Boer War veteran, who served with the 10th Light Horse in the Great War, was a member of the contingent the Commonwealth sent to the coronation of King Edward VII.

The originator of the sounding of the Last Post at the Menin Gate was Pierre van den Braambussche, Chief of Police at Ypres, died last April. His admiration

for the British dated from November, 1914, when his life was saved by the bravery of a British soldier, Sergeant-Major Johnson, of the Warwickshire Regiment, who rescued him from the Cloth Hall which had just been struck by enemy shells and was in flames.

NEW EXECUTIVE DELEGATE



Mr. Lindsay Thorn, M.L.A., who takes the seat on the State Executive recently vacated by Mr. W. Lovell, is a viticulturalist by profession and has held the Toodyay seat in the Legislative Assembly since 1933. During the War, he served with the 1st D.A.C., both in Egypt and France, for three and a half years, being badly gassed at Hill 60 during April, 1918. He has been delegate to several State Congresses and is a past president of the Upper Swan sub-branch. He will prove a valuable acquisition to the Executive on which all political parties in Parliament are now represented. Like

Mr. F. Warner, M.L.A., Mr. Thorn is a Country Party man; the Hon. James Cornell, M.L.C., is a Nationalist, while Mr. Speaker Panton is a good Labour stalwart. Another Executive delegate is Mr. H. Wells, who formerly represented Canning in the National interest.

PROTECTING NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

With reference to Resolution No. 174, passed by the 20th Annual Congress, which reads:—

That the Commonwealth Government be requested to immediately investigate the desirability of the acquisition of small fast sea-going craft to protect the vast coastline of Northern Australia,

the Department of Defence advises—

That one fast motor craft has been obtained and despatched to Darwin for use as a patrol vessel in connection with the air route across the Timor Sea, and for general patrol purposes. It is anticipated that additional craft will be arranged for later.

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A limited number of the 1920 reprints, bound in one volume, of all the numbers of Aussie printed in France and Belgium of the diggers' own paper, edited, written and illustrated by the diggers in the field, is now available. No book of history or battle stories can reflect the spirit of the A.I.F. like this journal which is now out of print. The price is 7/6 a volume, post free. Orders received through sub-branch will be subject to a special discount of 2/- a volume. Applications will be treated strictly in rotation. Members of sub-branches will no doubt appreciate the opportunity of securing a volume. Intending purchasers should apply direct to H. Jeffreys, c/o. Holland and Sons., Ltd., 16-20 Bridge Street, Sydney, New South Wales.

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Recently a Son of the Press sub-branch was visiting Albany and naturally was proudly wearing his S.S.L. badge. He was spotted by members of the Albany sub-branch and given a hearty welcome. Being a stranger he was shown around the town and made feel very much at home. Well done, Albany! this is the spirit, and we trust you will carry on the good work, knowing that your friendly efforts are appreciated.

The latest addition to the growing list of sub-branch organs is *The Albany*

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Wizbang, the first number of which we have just received from the Albany sub-branch. As a publication it is a credit to all who have taken part in its production. Clearly printed and well-written it contains many items of interest to ex-service men, sons and members of the women's auxiliary of the district, as well as some very readable articles of more general appeal.

Vic. Walker (ex-28th Battalion) writes from Yalgoo, mentioning that he suffered from a severe cold, through drinking out of damp glasses when the State President and his burly offside, the State Secretary, visited the Murchison. Vic. continues: "The importance of these visits of Executive members to country centres cannot be too highly valued. They establish the personal touch and diggers feel that the destiny of the League is being guided by comrades whom they know and have spoken to. This is a big factor in keeping the League together. In urging returned men to join up, I should like to remind them that League membership is a form of insurance. We may be ninety per cent. today, but to-morrow we may be only twenty-nine per cent. and very glad to have the League behind us to help us fight our battles. We all hope that that day may never come, but none of us knows when it may, so the bigger the League, the better the insurance—and the premium is just the same."

In order to stimulate interest in that vigorous and muscle-grinding game called draughts, the Gloucester Park sub-branch hereby issues a challenge to any sub-

branch in the metropolitan area to a match under the following conditions:— Teams to comprise 6 or 8 men a side; players to be financial members of the League; rules governing A.R.M.S. competition to apply; losers to provide 10 gallons liquid refreshment; first in first served; match to be played at Anzac House. In the event of this challenge being accepted supporters of each sub-branch and others interested will be expected to assist in the disposal of aforementioned liquid, and will be catered for in other branches of sport. The date of match will be advertised after receipt of the first acceptance.

More than 25,000 officers and men, past and present, of the Brigade of Guards will contribute to a memorial to King George V, which is to be placed in the Guards' Chapel at their headquarters, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, St. James's Park. The memorial will take the form of a design in mosaic on the top step below the altar. This design is now being considered by Sir Neville Wilkinson, the Ulster King of Arms, who has already refashioned the lower steps as memorials in mosaic. Immediately below the step reserved for King George, is one dedicated to Field-Marshal Lord Methuen, who died in 1932. A subscription of threepence a man has been suggested, but many have already contributed larger amounts.

A medallion of sixteenth century glass recovered from the famous Cloth Hall at Ypres by Captain Percy Palmer of the Welsh Guards, who was killed at Loos, has been dedicated in St. Dunstan's Chapel, Brighton.

Two thousand survivors of the British Expeditionary Force to France in 1914, otherwise the "Contemptible Little Army," are planning a summer camp at Shorncliffe, Kent, on August 1, for eight

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R. K. BUSCOMBE, Secretary

days. The camp will be run on real military lines, and all the old regimental cooks, barbers, and so on, will go back to their wartime jobs. An advance party of unemployed members of the Old Contemptibles' Association will prepare the camp site, lay water mains, and put up tents. There will be no drills during the camp. Every day will be a soldier's dream—one long programme of recreation.

A tablet to the memory of the million dead of the British Empire was unveiled in the reconstructed cathedral at Arras, on May 10, by Mr. Duff Cooper, the Secretary for War and Chairman of the Imperial War Graves Commission. The tablet is dedicated "To the memory of one million dead of the British Empire who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918, and of whom the greater part rest in France." It is similar in design to those erected by the Commission in other cathedrals in France.

France has honoured a Canadian soldier, the late Sergeant Hugh Cairns, V.C., of North Saskatoon, by naming a street in the historic town of Valenciennes after him. The reconstruction of the towns in the forward areas has given France many opportunities of paying such graceful compliments to Dominion soldiers. We named the side

streets of Vignacourt ourselves after the capitals of Australian States. They bear those names to this day, but digger face-tiousness got out of hand a little when a street in Peronne was named Rue de Kanga. The French authorities, in all seriousness, have retained that name also.

BULLYING THE BEEF

BY "TOC-EMMA"

I read with interest "Come on the Guns" (*Listening Post*, 14/6/'36), but I was surprised at your contributor's remarks about a certain brand of "Bully."

I remember we regarded "Fray Bentos" as being the only make of canned beef which did not seem to have been devitalised in the process of manufacture. Even in stew it was palatable and some considered it a luxury. I should mention that I served on the Western Front, with infantry and trench mortars, where we did not suffer from thirst to the extent to which troops did on other fronts—excepting that thirst when out of the line, of course!

During the succeeding seventeen years of peace, I have been batching most of the time, sometimes in places where fresh meat is hard to come by; and often, when opening the "tinned dog," I have wished it were "Fray Bentos."

Scabbards Off!

By "Pip Tok"

When Lord Gowrie met Jack Carroll, V.C., in Kalgoorlie, His Excellency asked Jack what he was doing these days. "Mucking about the country," was Jack's picturesque reply. We wonder if, by any chance, Jack was misreported.

After giving the Presbyterians their lesson in bayonet fighting and suggesting that Australia should whet the German appetite for further demands by giving up New Guinea, Prossor Murdoch indulged in another controversy with Mr. Somerville over the formation of a new political party. Amidst these activities he found time to say a few kind words about the censorship of books, which he alleged is done by illiterate whippersnappers in the Customs Department. Then Mr. Bird, the head of the local Customs, unkindly retorted by giving the names of those constituting the Australian Censorship Board—Sir Robert Garran, K.C., Professor L. H. Allen, M.A., Ph.D., and Professor Heaydon, M.A. The cream of the joke is that Professor Allen, formerly professor of English at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, and now of the University College, Canberra, is a gentleman of higher academic and literary attainments than Professor Murdoch himself and a recognised Australian poet who is represented in Professor Murdoch's own Oxford Book of Australian verse.

At the same time, Mr. Bird's reply is hardly a refutation of the charge that the censorship of books in Australia is done in haphazard fashion. Obviously, Professor Murdoch did not refer to the members of the Censorship Board, and it is equally obvious that these gentlemen and the Minister who relies on their advice, have not time to read every overseas publication that comes into Australia. But the term "illiterate whippersnappers" is unfairly applied to departmental officials who have to pass a fairly stiff educational examination before receiving their appointments. One does not need a string of letters after his name to be able to recognise filth, blasphemy and sedition when he sees it and I, for one, fail to see how Australian culture will suffer by the exclusion of pornography and turgid communism from our bookshelves.

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The main trouble with the censorship is the loose way it is administered. To cite a concrete instance, Aldous Huxley's "Brave New Worlds" was included in the catalogues of circulating libraries in Perth for some months before it was banned by the censors. A few years ago, when Eastern States and New Zealand libraries were banning "All Quiet on the Western Front," the manager of a large local library wanted to cope with the demand by soulful spinsters for the book by ordering extra copies. He obtained five from a neighbouring Church Book depot. While I am suspicious of the motives of many of those who advocate the abolition of the censorship, I agree that no censorship at all would be preferable to one that is haphazard, irksome and absurdly Gilbertian.

One must compliment the Rev. Eric H. O. Nye on his dignified and forceful refutation of the hysterics of John K. Ewers over the commemoration of Anzac Day. In an answer which was really no reply, Mr. Ewers said that his insults to deceased soldiers were not really insults and concluded by saying we should remember our dead with pity rather than pride. Contempt rather than pity is the reaction of ex-service men towards Mr. Ewers.

The State President got off a good one at the expense of Major Jack Colpitts during the South African Veterans' smoke social. It was mentioned earlier in the evening that Jack had been captured near Reddersburg. The Boers did not need prisoners so much as what they were wearing, so Jack and his companion were duly stripped. Later in the evening, Mr. Yeates complimented the gallant Major on having been a pioneer of the nudist movement.

A Miss Irene Glasson told a number of Y.W.C.A. girls that the present fashions in women's hats and frocks are subtle propaganda for war. Evidently the rooster feathers in ladies hats are construed as a throw-off at cocktails.

Much publicity has been given to the activity of a section of university students who intend to take measures to prevent the enlistment of other students in the militia forces. It was not stated how strong or how representative this section is, nor what measures they propose to adopt. Possibly they will refuse to knit socks for soldiers during the next war.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S VISIT

His Excellency, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth, has arrived in Perth just as we go to press. Lord Gowrie is a distinguished soldier and a winner of that most coveted of decorations, the Victoria Cross. He is no stranger to Australia, having arrived here 28 years ago as Military Secretary to the then Governor-General, Lord Dudley. He saw much of the A.I.F., both on Gallipoli and in France. Naturally, in getting to know the people of this State he will see much of ex-service men and women while here. His Excellency was accorded a bumper reception by the ex-service men of the goldfields while passing through Kalgoorlie. The Perth reception by ex-service men and women will take place in Anzac House on June 26. The doors will be open at 7.30 p.m.

A.R.M.S. COMPETITION

The results of the second round in the above competition are as follows:—

Zone 1

North Perth beat West Perth	6-4
Osborne Park beat Maylands	7-3
Bayswater beat Bassendean	10-0
Mt. Hawthorn bt. Mt. Lawley	8-2
Perth, a bye.	

Zone 2

Victoria Park beat Fremantle	8-2
Gloucester Park beat Cottesloe	10-0
South Perth beat Claremont	8-2
West Leederville beat Subiaco	8-2
Nedlands, a bye.	

The following is the result of the 3rd round of the A.R.M.S. Competitions:—

One should think that interference with enlistment is a dangerous proceeding even in a university-riden place like Perth, but the amazing thing about it all is that those who are loudest in their denunciations of anything savouring of defence are the very ones who would derive immense physical benefit from a bit of drill and training.

Zone 1

West Perth beat Bassendean	10-0
Perth beat Osborne Park	10-0
Mt. Hawthorn beat N. Perth	8-2
Mt. Lawley beat Bayswater	6-4
Maylands a bye	

Zone 2

Nedlands beat Cottesloe	10-0
W. Leederville b. Fremantle	10-0
South Perth b. Victoria Park	8-2
Subiaco beat Claremont	6-4
Gloucester Park a bye	

The position of the teams at the end of the third round of the A.R.M.S. Competition games for 1936 are as follows:—

Zone 1

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Complete Pts.	For	Against
Mt. Hawthorn...	3	3	0	6	24	6
Perth	2	2	0	4	18	2
North Perth	3	2	1	4	16	14
Osborne Park	3	2	1	4	15	15
West Perth	2	1	1	2	14	6
Bayswater	3	1	2	2	16	14
Mt. Lawley	3	1	2	2	10	20
Maylands	2	0	2	0	5	15
Bassendean	3	0	3	0	2	28

Zone 2

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Complete Pts.	For	Against
South Perth	3	3	0	6	26	4
Nedlands	2	2	0	4	20	0
Gloucester Park	2	2	0	4	18	2
West Leederville	3	2	1	4	22	8
Victoria Park	2	1	1	2	10	10
Claremont	3	1	2	2	12	18
Subiaco	3	1	2	2	8	22
Fremantle	3	0	3	0	4	26
Cottesloe	3	0	3	0	0	30

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A GOOD CITIZEN PASSES



Sir Charles Nathan

The State lost a good citizen and the R.S.L. a good friend when Sir Charles Nathan passed away on June 5. Sir Charles was the third warden of the State War Memorial, an honorary office which he took as seriously as if it had been a highly-salaried appointment. He spent much time in the neighbourhood of the Memorial during week-ends, and provided afternoon tea in the kiosk for whatever sub-wardens were on duty. Now that death has removed the embargo on publicity, it may be mentioned that Sir Charles was the anonymous donor of the electric lighting equipment for the Memorial. After the Memorial had become an accomplished fact, Sir Charles interested himself very actively in the provision of a permanent headquarters for the League. He was a member of the original committee which raised funds for and brought about the erection of Anzac House, and subsequently became a member of the Anzac House Redemption Fund committee. He was one of those rare men who, while reserved and somewhat taciturn in temperament, was easily approachable and genial once the ice of a natural shyness was broken. He stood for all that was best in the public life of our State, and, in passing, his influence in the life of the community will be greatly missed.

“Come on the Guns!”

(By R. G. HUMMERSTON, ex-10th Light Horse Regiment)

Continued from May Issue

'Twas the same old picture—sand, eternal sand, with here and there a stunted bush—shade for neither man, nor beast, and if the route was not uphill, it was down—nowhere flat, just a scramble up the side of a mountain of sand, and a slither, slide, down, sideways on. Sometimes here and there a horse would come a buster. Sometimes a gun-pack would fall, and then there was a hearty curse from all concerned. The sand just had to be got out of the barrel, and the mechanism of the gun—oh! what a glorious life—sand in your tucker, in your teeth, down your bloomin' back, in one's hair. You saw sand, slept in it and woke to find yourself, equipment, every damned thing covered with sand. In daylight the heat blazed down, and the glare blistered up. Picture to yourself thousands upon thousands of mounted troops riding through the middle of hell with the lid on up to, and the fire going full rip under foot, and you have a vision of what our Walers went through with their riders. Presently, as the monotony of the ride forces itself upon you, you find yourself, or perhaps a cobbler, and even the horses dozing, moving automatically, endeavouring to make up for lost sleep—when suddenly a halt is called, followed by the order to dismount—a short halt—but you immediately fall asleep in the shade of the horses, while the nags also close their eyes, and possibly dream as do their riders—of home.

Sometimes a horse has lain down beside his sleeping rider; both oblivious to everything. Here and there men open a tin of “Fray” and bog in while they may,

for who knows what the next hour may bring; gulp a mouthful of lukewarm water from the canvas neck bag; light a fag, and are content—till the word comes to prepare to mount—and we are off again. And so the chase went on, for days upon end, always the same ride and fight, stable pickets, cossack posts, inlying pickets.

We are manoeuvring to out-flank Jacko, but he is wise, aided, no doubt, but Allah-il-allah, and will not be caught. Weeks go by and still we ride. Then, one morning, just before dawn, after an unusually “forced” march, we are halted, still mounted, for what seemed an hour, till from far out on the left front came the familiar crack of an Arab rifle, followed by another. The order to trot came simultaneously, and away we went, into full gallop on the instant, and the pace is kept up for possibly two miles until we are again halted. The East is lightening, and we can distinguish each other's features, awhile and distant objects can be seen. Then the long-looked for order comes, “you may smoke.” Instantly scores upon scores of smokes are lit up and troops are happy, for it is monotonous riding all night without a smoke. Proceeding at a leisurely pace, we are suddenly roused by the sharp order to trot, almost instantly to gallop—and away we go again. God, what exhilaration, galloping in the nippy dawn, intent on obstacles in front, thinking—of what? is your luck going to hold

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or are you going to collect? Wh-ee-ee! zip-bang! bang—Hell! that was close. What a cold, prickly feeling goes racing up and down your spine. How suffocated one feels—just as if one's heart was trying to leave that damn fool mouth for a safer place, but the very speed at which we are galloping thrills one to the roots of the hair. Tug, tug, and I look at my shirt just above the belt and find two separate bullet holes. But one has no time to worry now, whee-ee-ee, cr-a-a-sh, cr-a-a-sh—two shrapnel burst away ahead fair in our track, and we are rapidly getting nearer—bang—bang—and a shower of steel marbles whistles round us, and still we are untouched. But now we are filled with that feeling that bodes no good to an opponent. It's him or me, you mutter, and dig in the "hooks" for more speed.

Suddenly you open your eyes wide with incomprehension, rub them, look again—what's that—grass—you are galloping on hard, red earth, covered in green grass. Strike me pink, is that grass? Ye gods and little fishes, it is! We have galloped from Sinai into Palestine in the twinkling of an eye, but we have no time to admire the scenery, so on we gallop. But now we meet with a poser. . . Our horses are getting shin-sore from the sudden transition from sand to hard earth—and Jacko is putting the boots in. We dare not stop; on—crash—crash, and down goes a horse and rider in front. Too late, I cannot stop—I am too close to dodge. My horse takes a flying leap and we are over what remains of the horse, and his rider. But the sudden leap is almost our undoing, for my gun-horse was taken unawares and he only half leapt, but it was enough to let me

get my balance again. Other men are toppling from their saddles. Horses scream and go down kicking, but we cannot stop our mad gallop. Our sergeant is in charge since poor S . . . got his, and suddenly with a scream and terrific roar a heavy explosive bursts right in the middle of a too close-packed section of men and horses, creating a shambles amid a cloud of dust. The cries of mutilated horses, the groans of men—we know that the men will be seen to just as quick as it would take us to pull up, for the ambulance men are riding with us, but behind with the "guts-carts" and camel cacolets—motors were not our portion those days—and suddenly we see dead ahead of us, one—two—three, three lines of trenches on what appears to be the other end of a billiard table (the country is so flat), and further on what appears to be two batteries of light guns firing point-blank.

Thank God they had the wind up and were shooting wild and over. Men and horses are still going down. Some rise and run on. Others lay still, but we gallop, and now I must keep my eyes skinned that I don't ride over a fallen man—for while there's life there's hope. With a shrill blast the whistle calls a halt and we get *action front*. With a sliding scramble we pull up. The sergeant hands me his horse, also No. 1 and I have four to see to now and am also an alluring target for field pieces and machine guns. No 1 grabs his gun, No. 2 has bolted with the tripod, No. 3 with the ammunition, and I am once more into a gallop, but this time out for a spot of shelter, and I lose no time getting there for on me depends the safety of the gun crew if it is necessary to get "out-of-action."

From the shelter behind a knob just out of range, one listens for the whistle from the connecting file, but it is long in coming. At last it comes, and you are instantly into saddle and away "into" the slaughter, this time crouching low, riding as if the devil were behind you. You speed on. You pick up your gun crew in the distance by a pre-arranged signal. Now shells are searching, but the zig-zag course you ride makes it hard to sight for a knock-out. And now it wants twenty yards to the gun, already dismantled. A sliding scramble, clouds of red dust, and you are helping the crew to buckle on the gun. The sergeant grabs his horse, mounts, and crouching low, waits for No. 1. Everybody mounted we are off, not before I notice

No. 2 has been hit somewhere. Poor old Fred is missing, and one of our new Rios also. As we gallop No. 1 tells me it was hot—bloody hot—and still we tear along, heading further into it. Shells are shrieking—bullets whistling. Men are falling and lie still. One feels stifled with the friendly dust which is rising in clouds round us—and then there comes tearing along the Major—a fire-eater if every there was one—but we liked him, a real tip-top sort. He roars out in a voice to strike terror into one who didn't know him—"Come on the guns." Speed is increased if possible. A hasty word is exchanged with No. 1 to find if he is all right. You glance over to see if the pack is riding true and find the gun has slipped a bit. Drawing the horse closer to you, and holding the reins in one hand, you grip with knees and reach over to buckle the offending strap still tighter. It's a cow of a job, this riding practically on air to do up buckles some feet away on the opposite side of a madly galloping horse, with bullets snapping round, shells bursting, your own equipment rattling and banging into you at every stride. Still, it's part of the game, and you ride, ride like hell, caring not a damn for what might come. Feee-ee-p—the whistle shrills and "action front" comes again.

(To be concluded in our July issue)

OUR OVERSET

We regret, owing to pressure on our columns, having to delay publication of some splendid contributed articles, including "The Diggers' Postal Service," by A. J. S. Strutt, "Here Comes an Old Soldier," by Morrie Munday, "Soldiering in the Early Days," by J. E. Hammond, and others.

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Westralian Cavalry in the War

By Lieut.-Colonel A. C. N. OLDEN, D.S.O.

CHAPTER I The Formation of the Regiment

At the outbreak of hostilities, Western Australia possessed, under the Commonwealth Defence Act, one Mounted Regiment, with a Machine Gun Section attached. This Regiment was at that time known as the 25th Light Horse, and, under Lieut.-Colonel Brazier, had seen a couple of years successful training, and, although its component units were scattered over a great portion of the State, had, by the keenness of its personnel, attained a fair degree of efficiency.

Judge, then, of the bitter disappointment and chagrin evinced by officers and men, when, at the first call for enlistment for service overseas, it became known that no mounted troops were being asked for from the West.

A good number, in order, as they thought, not to be left out in the cold, immediately enlisted in one of the infantry battalions or other units then forming, and by this means the ranks of the "Old 25th" became sadly depleted. Others, however, never for one moment lost confidence in their belief that, sooner or later, our State would be asked to supply mounted troops, and, in the case of several officers, even volunteered to resign their commissions and go as rankers if necessary.

Their zeal and belief in their own arm

was at last rewarded, when it was announced that the offer of a squadron from Western Australia was accepted, the condition being that each member would supply his own horse gratuitously.

A party of officers made a tour of each important centre, and, from the numbers who were offering their services, made selections large or small enough to be fairly representative of each district.



Review of 10th Light Horse by His Excellency the Governor, Show Ground, Claremont
December, 1914

The men fortunate enough to be chosen were concentrated at Guildford, near the Old Remount Depot, in the first week of October, 1914, and were soon in full training as a Light Horse Squadron.

And what an assortment of Australian manhood that squadron was! Could any assemblage of well under 200 souls possibly be more cosmopolitan? Here were gentlemen of independent means, professional men, university graduates, commercial men, farmers, labourers, all shaken down together and actuated only by that splendid spirit which Western Australia showed from the beginning and from which, in the brightest or darkest days of the War till the last shot was fired, she never looked back.

The Squadron was then "C" Squadron of the 7th Light Horse, the balance of the 7th being in process of formation in

Queensland and New South Wales.

Continual applications were being made from all parts of the country for service "with the Light Horse," but had of necessity to be shelved for the time being, if not turned down altogether.

It soon became evident, however, that our State was quite capable of turning out at least one complete regiment, and representations to this effect were made to Headquarters. Repeated efforts were at length crowned with success, authority to form a regiment was granted, and the 10th Light Horse Regiment was accordingly formed. In this respect great credit is due to the personal effort put forth by Lieut.-Colonel N. M. Brazier, who may be rightly called the "Father of the Regiment."

Enlistment now proceeded rapidly, and officers who held commissions in the Commonwealth Military Forces were given appointments in the A.I.F. to serve with this new regiment.

The original squadron became "A" Squadron, and continued its training at Guildford, whilst a party of officers under Captain T. J. Todd, D.S.O., was despatched to the Royal Agricultural So-

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ciety's ground at Claremont to supervise enlistment, the riding tests, and preliminary training of what afterwards became "B" and "C" Squadrons.

What days they were, those days of the birth and infancy of a regiment that people are already calling the "Old Tenth"! Is any one who lived through them likely to lose sight of the mind-picture they portray? No comic opera,

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by

Lieut.-Colonel A. C. N. Olden, D.S.O.

The Second Edition of this book, copies of which are now available at the office of "The Listening Post."

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no screaming farce, could have possibly caused more mirth and merriment to any one possessing the slightest sense of humour than did the numberless incidents of the daily routine of that period.

Captain Todd was the life and soul at Claremont, and to him fell the task of putting prospective Light Horsemen through their riding tests, with poor old Sandy McPhee standing by as a groom, and sometimes picker-up of dislodged candidates. Of these latter there were not a few—but they were not all rejected.

On one occasion a young fellow presented himself for the test, and was given the tall chestnut "Doctor Mac" to ride. Everyone who knew "Mac" will remember that he was a grand old horse, but with rather a mischievous disposition. On being ordered to mount, the youth made several desperate attempts to clamber into the saddle on the off side, and at last arrived there. But he was not destined to remain long, for "Mac" arched his back, put his head down, and away went the recruit about five yards clear in front to the ground. Nothing daunted, and apparently not in the least surprised, he repeated the performance with a similar result. A third time was he "skied," when Captain Todd said to him kindly:

"My boy, what made you think you could ride?"

"I don't sir," promptly replied the boy.

"Have you ever been on a horse in your life?"

"No, sir."

"Well, what the H— did you come here for?"

"I didn't say I could ride, but I don't mind having a try, and I want to join the Regiment."

"That's the way to talk," said the Captain. "Well, go away for a week and practice riding and I'll give you another chance."

"Thank you, sir."

In a week's time the boy came along again and went through the test in fine style. Needless to say he was immediately "taken on the strength."

Many similar examples of wonderful spirit and determination were exhibited on the part of men in their desire to enlist in the Regiment.

Take for instance young Godley's ride of 300 miles overland from Kimberley to Wyndham to catch the Fremantle boat only to find on arrival at the recruiting office that there was no vacancy at that time. Persisting, however, his case was soon brought to notice, and a place was eventually found for him. A fine boy, who, after serving gallantly with the Regiment, died fighting in France as a pilot in the Air Service.

Or take the spirit shown by the man who was rejected on account of possessing a malformed great toe. Walking away, not be any means downcast, but with rather a resolute air, he reappeared a week or so later with a confident grin and the remark, "Will you take me now?" The offending toe had been amputated!

Such was the stuff which composed the original "Tenth." Many incidents similar to these could be recalled, but they may not be recounted here. Now came the work of licking this willing material into shape, and here it was that the splendid efforts of the *pukka* sergeant-majors shone out prominently. They were literally the backbone of the Regiment at its inception, and their devotion to their job, their knowledge and their manner of imparting that knowledge to raw material went very far to create that grand *esprit-de-corps* which has since firmly stood to the Regiment through its many ups and downs, its joys and sorrows, and the light of which has never once waned.

Rapidly did "B" and "C" settle down to the dismounted training, and on October 28 these two squadrons marched on foot from Claremont to Guildford, where the Regiment was ordered to concentrate. They might easily have gone by rail, but they preferred to march, just for the purpose, as the men said, "of trying themselves out."

The sixteen miles were covered in very fair time, and, on their arrival at Guildford, "A" Squadron turned out and gave their new comrades a rousing cheer.

The ensuing few weeks were strenuous ones, as only those who have witnessed the organisation, training and equipment of a unit for active service could possibly appreciate.

Doubtless the same thing must have been taking place throughout the length and breadth of the Empire at that moment, and one can only marvel at the enormous amount and concentration of energy required to build and set the huge war machine of Britain working.

Everything went smoothly. Colonel Brazier and his adjutant, Captain R. E. Jackson, carried on with the administrative work; Major A. J. Love, the Regimental Second-in-Command, was indefatigable in his task of training the Regiment, whilst the Quartermaster, Captain W. C. Robinson, had charge of the equipment.

A Machine Gun Section was organised and trained under Lieut. C. L. Nicholas, and the veterinary officer, Captain Weston, was busy with the selection, branding and handling of remounts.

Summer was now making itself felt, and the heat and dust of Guildford had a very appreciable effect in increasing the general thirst of the Light Horse camp. To meet this contingency, a long row of wooden, hessian, and iron shanties, lovingly called "Hay Street," sprang into being, and the termination of the day's work saw a general rush in their direction for squashes, ices, or anything else which might be legally retailed in a "dry" camp. For Guildford was "dry" in those days.

(To be continued.)

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THE UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

MEDICAL UNITS ASSOCIATION

The Medical Units Association is well behind the movement for increasing the membership and efficiency of the Militia Forces, and for propagating the ideals of the League in other directions. At a well attended reunion on May 23, these aspects of the Association's activities were duly stressed. In outlining the aims of that organisation, the chairman (Mr. C. A. Davies) mentioned that one of the outstanding achievements had been the establishment, during the past year, of libraries for the use of patients in the various repatriation institutions. By this means it was made possible to give some recreation to invalided ex-service men. Over 1,000 books had been donated, and others were still awaiting distribution. Thanks to the donation of handsome bookcases which had been installed in Ward 11 of the Perth General Hospital and at Lemnos Hospital, more money was available for the purchase of books that may be asked for, from time to time, by patients. Books were still required. Mr. Davies stated that one donation had been received from England. A novel and amusing feature of the evening was the mock broadcast from Station 606, Bulford, interspersed with musical honours, by which the guests and representatives of kindred associations were welcomed. In his reply, Major-General A. T. White, C.M.G., V.D., said that every opportunity should be taken to increase the existing Militia Forces, especially the Army Medical Corps. He considered that medical officers in country centres should interest themselves in the teaching of first aid, which was useful both in peace and war. Men learnt much of ambulance work and organisation in the sham fights which were an essential feature of the training in the days that preceded 1914. Major Donaldson assured listeners that the work of mechanisation of the forces was proceeding and that the training still assimilated as far as possible to the conditions of active service. Other responses were made by Drs. Johnson and Leedman, Captain C. R. Collins (State Executive), and Messrs. W. James (Blinded Soldiers' Association), Armstrong (28th Battalion), and Bing (Maimed and Limbless Men's Association). "Television," an amusing shadow-show of a wartime sick parade,

followed the responses, and community singing, conducted by the leader of a very efficient orchestra, and humorous items by Mr. W. Talbot, added to the gaiety of the evening.

12th-52nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION

After the Anzac Day parade the 12/52 Battalion Association met to elect officers for the ensuing year, the result being: President, Mr. H. Hopperton; vice-presidents, Messrs. Fullerton and Cook; hon. secretary, Mr. Sid Rowles; country vice-presidents, Messrs. Reeves and McCormack; committee, past president Jack Harvey, Messrs. Evans, Allen, Hunt, Cooke, Kitson, Thornton, Deary, Sawyer, Sparrow, Hall, Tout, Bath and Dalton. After the election there was a pleasant discussion on past reminiscences intermingled with various musical items provided by Messrs. Banjo Reeve, Percy Lester, Jack Allen and H. Hopperton. Ex-soldier members of above units wishing to join up are asked to get in touch with secretary Sid Rowles, c/o. Rowles and Bignell, Milligan Street, Perth.

44th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

The committee is extremely pleased over the result of the art union. The winners were 1347, 769, 435, 2042, 1665, 924, 793 and 992, and the profit £38/10/-. Thanks are extended to all who contributed to the success of the effort. The secretary has been very busy and will reply personally to all country members as time permits. Keep in mind the Annual Dinner on October 6 (the Tuesday of Show Week). The Association is not now charging a membership fee.

BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.

The annual general meeting will be held at the Wentworth Hotel (lounge entrance, William Street) at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, July 6. Imperial ex-service men who have served under the flag at any time or place should roll up to elect the officers for the ensuing year and discuss coming events.

112th HOWITZER BATTERY

The quarterly social was held on May 29, when a big muster of old hands of all ranks assembled in Anzac House. The following officers were elected:—President, Bill Lulham; joint secretaries, Alex. Cunningham and Wally Masters. Fred Yeomans obliged the company with a humorous song and the cornet solos of Ron Rees, bandmaster of the Y.A.L. Band, were greatly appreciated. Community singing and war reminiscences helped to fill in the gaps of the programme. The secretaries would like to hear from any 112th men who have not yet joined the association.

11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

A good attendance was secured on June 8, when the association entertained members of the Young 11/16th, and listened to an interesting lecture by the C.O. of the militia battalion, Lieut.-Colonel Walter Jones. The subject was the organisation of the modern infantry battalion, and the speaker drew many interesting comparisons between the battalion as we knew it during the war, and the battalion of to-day. Incidentally, Lieut.-

Colonel Jones is one of the youngest of commanding officers now serving. He was too young for the war, a matter which helps us old diggers to realise the flight of time.

EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSN.

The Machine Gunners' Association has every reason to be satisfied with the success of recent activities. The quarterly gathering on April 22 was a great success, and the parade of between 60 and 70 strong on Anzac Day was most gratifying to those who have worked to make a success of the initial parade of the Machine Gun Corps as a separate unit. Association members are looking forward to the next gathering which will be held at Gregson's, 32 King Street, Perth, on Friday, June 19, when as a result of increased membership, there promises to be an even more successful evening than on previous occasions. Intending members are advised to communicate with the hon. secretary, Mr. L. J. Parks, Forests Department, Perth.

THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, at the Anzac House supper room, the Association will celebrate the 21st anniversary of the formation of the Battalion, with a grand "coming of age" reunion. Festivities will commence with a hot dinner at 7.30 p.m., and this is to be the outstanding function in the history of the Association. The committee are storing up surprises for old 32nd men, and there will be excellent entertainment from the word go. The price of the tickets is to be kept at the old level of 3/6, and tickets will be available from the hon. secretary (Mr. L. D. Lobascher), No. 27 Second Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth, or from any of the committee, and will also be on sale at the door on the night of the function. It is asked that all those who intend to go to this function buy their tickets as soon as possible to help the committee to gauge prospective attendances. The committee urge every 32nd man to attend this reunion as no effort is being spared to make the 21st anniversary of the Battalion one to be remembered—an eventful year in the history of the Battalion Association. On the exact date of the 20th Anniversary of Fleurbaix (Sunday, July 19), members will parade at 3 o'clock at the Queen Victoria Statue in King's Park, and will march to the State War Memorial where, at 3.15 p.m. a wreath will be placed at the foot of the Memorial in remembrance of fallen comrades.

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Sons of Soldiers' League

PRESS

At a meeting of the Press S.S.L. in the Y.M.C.A. on May 28, an Empire Shopping Week subject was dealt with in the form of a talk on "How Wire Netting is Made." The speaker was Mr. Charles Hull, of the advertising branch of Malloch Bros., who is also publicity officer of the Bayswater sub-branch. For purposes of illustration he used a large working model of the W.A. Netting and Wire Company's factory at West Perth, which showed all the machines in action and made the explanation of the various processes very interesting. The sales manager of the factory (Mr. N. McSwain), who was also present, pointed out to the Sons the value of buying local products, for by so doing, our industries would be increased, and there would be more positions created for our Sons as they left school. Arrangements have been made for the boys to be shown over the factory on June 11.

ALBANY

Mr. E. Forster presided over the monthly meeting on May 5. A letter was received from the State Secretary congratulating the sub-branch on its activities during 1935 and conveying the best wishes of the State Executive. It was resolved to purchase additional material for games. The business meeting has been changed from the first to the second Tuesday of each month. Combined games and fretwork meetings will be held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the monthly dance on the fourth Friday of each month.

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STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

20th May, 1936

At the meeting of the State Executive on May 20, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Denton, Aberle, Hunt, Freedman, Cornell, Margolin, Watt, James, Wilkins, Mitchell, Pady, Ross, Lamb, Collins and Nicholas. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Riley, Olden, Sten, Collett, Philp, Panton, Warner, Wells, Newman, Henning and Roche.

Empire Shopping Week.—Mr. Watt reported that the final arrangements in connection with Empire Shopping Week were in hand.

Constitution.—Mr. Aberle reported that the amendment to Rule 5 of the Federal Constitution had emanated from the Sixth Biennial Conference of the B.E.S.L. and had been confirmed by the 19th Annual Federal Congress.

Visits.—The State President submitted a report of his tour with the State Secretary of sub-branches in the Murchison district. Other visits were reported by Colonel Olden (Mt. Hawthorn-North Leederville), Mr. Cornell (Marvel Loch, Southern Cross, Boulder, Ravensthorpe, Norseman, Coolup, Kalgarin, Newdegate, Esperance, Lake King), Mr. Pady Rockingham), Rabbi Freedman (S.S.L.), Col. Margolin (Gloucester Park).

It was arranged that the State Executive would be represented at functions as follows:—Medical Units, May 23, Mr. Collins; 28th Battalion Association, June 9, Colonel Lamb; Torbay, May 23, Mr. E. Y. Butler; Harvey, May 26, Mr. Cornell. An open invitation for June 9 was received from the Nedlands sub-branch. An invitation from the Kirup sub-branch on a date to be arranged was referred to the Management Committee.

Sub-Branches.—Approval was given for the formation of new sub-branches at Kukerin, Yalgoo and Beacon.

Cowaramup sub-branch advised its intention of negotiating for the acquisition of property adjoining the sub-branch hall. It was agreed to advise the sub-branch that the full responsibility must be accepted by its members and that further information would be appreciated by the Executive.

The appointment of a new secretary of the Norseman sub-branch was approved.

Suggestions for the alteration of the Anzac Day service, forwarded by the Merredin sub-branch, were referred to the Anzac Day Com-

mittee. Northam sub-branch forwarded a resolution to the effect that the recent advertisements on the celebration of Anzac Day made, by Mr. J. K. Ewers, should be treated with the contempt they deserved.

Approval was granted for the change of the name of West Leederville sub-branch to West Leederville-Wembley sub-branch.

No. 10 District Committee.—Approval was given for the formation of No. 10 District Committee which will embrace the following sub-branches:—Busselton, Nannup, Forest Grove, Rosa Brook and Cowaramup. A resolution from No. 10 District Committee concerning soldier settlers' difficulties was forwarded to the Land Committee.

Poppy Tabs.—A suggestion from the Maimed and Limbless Men's Association that the Poppy Tabs used on Poppy Day this year be coloured royal purple as a mark of mourning for the late King George V was received to be forwarded as a suggestion to the Federal Executive.

Pensions.—Information relating to Entitlement Tribunal appeals and service pensions, submitted to the Senate as the result of questions asked by Colonel Collett, was received and referred to the Pensions Committee.

Anzac House.—Perth sub-branch's request that urgent action be taken to supply a rest room at Anzac House was referred to the House Committee.

Medical and Hospital Expenses.—It was agreed that the matter of medical and hospital expenses raised in a communication from the Kondinin sub-branch be made an item for the agenda of next Annual Congress.

Kirup.—Approval was given for the appointment of trustees by the Kirup sub-branch for the vesting of a block of land granted by the Government.

Community Concerts.—Mr. Aberle re-

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ported on the success of two further community concerts.

Leave of absence.—The State President was granted leave of absence from such Executive meetings as would be held during his visit to the Eastern States.

Resignation.—Mr. W. J. Lovell tendered his resignation from the Executive, through pressure of private business. It was agreed that this resignation be accepted with deep regret and that appreciation of his past services be recorded.

The vacancy caused by Mr. Lovell's resignation will be filled by Mr. Lindsay Thorn, M.L.A.

3rd June, 1936

At the meeting on June 3, there were present Messrs. Olden, Collett, Panton, Denton, Aberle, Hunt, Freedman, Cornell, Margolin, Warner, Watt, James, Wilkins, Mitchell, Pady, Ross, Collins, Nicholas, Newman and Thorn. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Yeates, Riley, Sten, Philp, Wells, Lamb, Henning and Roche.

In the absence of the State President Colonel Olden occupied the chair.

Sister Jones.—It was reported that Sister Jones was seriously ill. At the instance of Colonel Olden, a resolution was carried conveying the Executive's sincere sympathy and heartfelt wishes for her speedy recovery.

New Delegate.—Mr. L. Thorn, M.L.A., the new delegate to the Executive, was formally welcomed by the chairman.

Land Committee.—The Land Committee's report indicated the action being taken in connection with relief for farmers in the drought-stricken districts.

Trustees.—The trustees reported that 133 applications for relief had been approved during the month of May, and that the amount expended was £157/5/0.

Empire Shopping Week.—Mr. Watt reported that this year's Empire Shopping Week had been highly successful, and at his suggestion it was decided to invite the hon. organiser (Mr. Hastings Reid) to submit a more detailed report at the next meeting of the Executive.

Visits.—The following visits were reported:—Mr. C. R. Collins (Medical Units Association), Rabbi Freedman (Memorial Society, Battle of Jutland), Colonel Margolin (Aero Club), Mr. Panton (Pingley sub-branch and annual meeting, M.C.L. Home), Mr. Aberle (York sub-branch), Mr. Cornell (Harvey sub-branch), and Colonel Olden (Manjimup sub-branch).

Visit of Governor-General.—The State Secretary reported that advice had been received from the Premier's Department that the League had been allotted June 26 at 8.30 p.m. for the purpose of entertaining His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Gowrie. It was agreed that Lord and Lady Gowrie be tendered a reception at which the attendance would be confined to ex-service men and women, together with the State President and Secretary, women's auxiliary and the presidents and secretaries, women's auxiliary sub-branches. The details were left in the hands of the Management Committee.

Sub-Branches.—Invitations from Waroona sub-branch (June 5) and Gosnells sub-branch (June 28) were referred to the Management Committee.

Approval was given for the reforming of the Mundijong sub-branch and an invitation to attend a gathering at Mundijong on June 13 was referred to the Management Committee.



BAYSWATER

On April 27, we were defeated in the A.R.M.S. competition round by last year's champions, Mr. Hawthorn. However, the disasters of the night were light compared with those that befell the dubious twins, Dick and Darkie. They missed the transport and the route march that ensued got them home just ahead of the morning milk. The sub-branch was entertained by the women's auxiliary to high tea on April 26, and to an evening on April 30. This put members into form for the victory in the A.R.M.S. contests over Bassendean on May 13. The formation of a sub-branch of the S.S.L. is now under consideration.

MAYLANDS

Among the 20 new members who have joined the sub-branch are Messrs. Donavan, Castieau, Leake, Foster, Davies, Evans, Martyn and McKenna. North Perth defeated us on our own ground in the A.R.M.S. competition. Nevertheless, the evening was a most enjoyable one and the supper for which Messrs. Smith and Elkington were responsible was a most enjoyable one. Both teams showed an improvement on last year's form. Maylands was again well beaten by Osborne Park on May 20. The evening was another enjoyable one, for the victors were excellent hosts. The Osborne Park women's auxiliary

A correspondence was received from several sub-branches supporting the action taken in connection with cancelling a recent booking of Anzac House by the Italian Club.

Anzac Day, 1937.—A suggestion from Mr. J. E. Watson, of Ludlow, in connection with Anzac Day, 1937, was referred to the Management Committee.

Lotteries Commission.—Perth sub-branch urged the Executive to press for the appointment of the League as the sole agent for the sale of lottery tickets. It was decided to advise the sub-branch that it was not within the power of the League to venture upon undertakings of that nature.

W.A. Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund.—Victoria Park women's auxiliary donated £5/5/0 to the W.A. Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund. It was agreed that an appropriate letter of thanks be sent to the auxiliary.

Visitors.—After the meeting had been declared closed, the Executive at an informal gathering farewelled Mr. Basil Kirke, of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, and welcomed his successor, Mr. Conrad Charlton.

turned out in style and put on an appetising supper. The Friday evening dances in the North Perth Town Hall continue to be well patronised. The next meeting will be held in the Lesser Town Hall, Maylands, on pension day, June 25.

BULLFINCH

A successful picnic was held on the Soccer ground on May 24. The children for whom the event was arranged thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It is only when Christmas Trees are decorated and picnics partaken of that we realise the numerical strength of the Bullfinch children. Athletic events for young and old were the order of the day. Bill Bacon successfully hurled the hammer and Harry Day won the cycling event. President Jim Dixon was again to the fore and Jack Tyson helped to make things go with a swing. Afternoon tea was served by the women's auxiliary.

NURSES

At the meeting in Anzac House on June 9 the president (Miss I. T. Borwick) asked the members to stand and observe a two minutes silence as a tribute to the memory of their late member Sister R. V. Jones, and in a subsequent address recalled the many sterling qualities of their late fellow member. She was proud to realise the esteem in which Sister Jones was held by the thousands of diggers to whom she had administered with kindly care and attention during the course of her duties. The deep respect in which she was held was exhibited by the unusually large assemblage of old soldiers at Karrakatta. The meeting accorded that some fitting memorial be placed in the club rooms. Business dealt with included a letter from Miss E. McKay, of Caulfield, Victoria, thanking the sub-branch and Sisters Hetherington and Gray for the very valuable assistance rendered in connection with the application for pension for Sister Olive McKay. Notification was received from the League that a reception would be given to their Excellencies Lord and Lady Gowrie at Anzac House on June 26. It is anticipated that forty members of the Nurses' sub-branch will be able to attend the reception and the League officials have been asked to make the necessary reservations.

PERTH

Since our last report a further two meetings have been held, both of which were fairly well attended. The president (Mr. J. O'Farrell) occupied the chair in both instances, and at the first meeting which was held on the 12th May, quite a considerable amount of business was got through. One of

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the main items of the evening was the discussion of the Rest Room in Anzac House. This sub-branch does not intend to let this matter rest, and is making a determined effort to have this room established in the interests of those members who cannot afford Club membership. Every consideration is being extended to the State Executive in the very difficult task which confronts them, and the sub-branch is now awaiting the report of the League's architect to see what he proposes in regard to this matter. Accounts totalling £39/5/4 were passed for payment. A report that £10 was won in a sweep was greeted with applause. In response to a circular letter from the R.S.L. Band, it was decided to make a donation of £2/2/-. The president welcomed two old members in Messrs. D. Cole and J. Keightley, and also a Mr. Marriott, who has just joined up with the sub-branch. Sympathies were expressed to Messrs. A. Massey and H. Norris in their recent sad bereavements.

At the meeting of the 26th May, Mr. E. Beaumont's position on the committee was declared vacant by reason of non-attendance, and Mr. G. P. R. Wall was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. A. Della-Rocca took Mr. Beaumont's place as a sub-warden of the S.S.L. Our next games in the A.R.M.S. competition are to be played against Osborne Park sub-branch, and we are fully alive to the strong opposition that this sub-branch will give us. The last thing done at this meeting was a congratulatory resolution to the State Executive for its stand in the recent episode of the proposed Italian celebrations, and the State Executive was urged to make sure in all cases that the purpose for which the hall is hired are stated distinctly on the application forms. This meeting closed at 9 o'clock and games were indulged in until a late hour.

PRESS

The most spectacular item of the Press Ball was the "Pageant of the Press." One of the sets which presented a tableau, was the R.S.L. Set, which represented the activities of the Press sub-branch, past and present. The past was symbolised by ladies in scarlet military costumes, each with a small sheathed sword, and the men in evening dress, each holding in his white gloved hand a huge black pen with the gold nib dipped in ink. Heading the set and three paces in front was a small boy of six years of age. His eyes just

showed out of the neck of a huge ink bottle and his head was dressed as the cork. The bottle bore the label "Press Sub-Branch, R.S.L., S.S.L. Branch." Thus all the activities of the sub-branch were represented from the sword to the pen, bringing to our minds the fact "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword." The set was organised by the newly-appointed president of the sub-branch (Mr. Reg. A. Nicholas) and included the following members:—Messrs. Sorenson, Brown, Sexton and Nicholas.

MOUNT MAGNET

During the past five months membership strength has increased from 12 to 33 financial members. This is the result of the co-operation of all concerned. Meetings are held on alternate Saturdays. During the month, the sub-branch had the pleasure of entertaining the State President and State Secretary at a reunion social. Other visitors that evening were Colonel Mansbridge and the chairman of the local Road Board (Mr. J. Atkinson). These visits by members of the State Executive are greatly appreciated and undoubtedly stimulate interest in the League. The arrangements for the annual dinner on June 6 have been carried out by a capable committee under the leadership of the president Mr. B. Dawson) and the secretary (Mr. J. Gardiner). With the co-operation of the recently-formed women's auxiliary monthly dances are being held. The social committee is now arranging a R.S.L. Ball for June 20.

MT. HAWTHORN-NTH. LEEDERVILLE

At a recent meeting of the State Executive Colonel A. C. N. Olden reported having attended the annual smoke social of the above sub-branch held in the Memorial Hall, Oxford Street, on May 14. This gathering constituted an official "house warming" of the newly completed hall and as such was a complete success. Over 150 sat down to the well-stocked tables, the following sub-branches being represented:—Maylands, Mt. Lawley-Inglewood, Osborne Park, Perth, West Perth, North Perth, West Leederville, Claremont, Nedlands, Press, Subiaco, Bayswater and, of course, a strong muster of the Mt. Hawthorn-North Leederville sub-branch itself. In addition there were 5 members of the State Executive, two members of the Perth City Council, and last, but not least, Mr. W. Melvin, the latest recipient of the League's Certificate of Merit, to whom the happy financial position of the hall finances is mainly due. The completed building is of tasteful design, roomy and well ventilated, and is indeed a credit to its sponsors and the district generally. Judging by its popularity as a place of entertainment, it should rapidly become free from debt and develop into quite an appreciable source of revenue to the sub-branch. The social was presided over by Mr. Ted Damon, president of the sub-branch, and the happiest spirit prevailed throughout. An excellent orchestra was in attendance, led by Mr. J. Bates, and the musical and vocal items were frequent and of a very high order. Mention should also be made of the manner in which the toast of "Fallen Comrades" was received in the dim light of a candle and the impressive rendering of the Last Post and Reveille by Mr. G. Gilmore. Speeches were reasonably short throughout the evening. The toast of the "R.S.L." was most ably proposed by Mr. J. Norton, who, in a few brief sentences, voiced

the true League spirit and a broad outlook. Other toasts honoured were those of "Parliament," "City Council," "Visitors," "Mt. Hawthorn-North Leederville Sub-Branch," "Artists" and "Chairman." The financial membership of the sub-branch was stated to be 98, and the energetic secretary (Mr. G. F. Charles) was confident of reaching the century in a couple of days.

Members who assist in the busy bee every Sunday morning are to be commended for their work. By their efforts the seating accommodation in the hall is now 200. Improvements and additions to the kitchen and basement have added to the comfort of all concerned. In the A.R.M.S. competition the sub-branch has defeated Mount Lawley and North Perth. The next contest will be with Osborne Park. Social committees are making a great success of the weekly dances.

CARLISLE

(By "McTootle")

Well, lads, here we are! In response to a demand from my comrades for "noos," and a few polite (?) enquiries from that privileged class known as "bosom pals," and worded something after this style: "Are you crook?" "Are you dead?" or "Have you pawned your typewriter?"—and with the very kind permission of the editor—here we are! Safe and sound, and full of apologies to those voracious (and very discriminating!) readers of "The Listening Post" who devour the contents of this column with the avidity and discernment of the born literary connoisseur.

To tell truth, there has been very little to write about lately. An air of desuetude and spirit of ennui appears to have combined in an effort to create an atmosphere of non-chalance strangely not in keeping with the general cheerful comradeship which has hitherto characterised Carlisle diggers. But the future is distinctly hopeful—if the signs exhibited at the June monthly meeting are to be correctly interpreted. Anyway, "ere's 'oping!"

His comrades learned with deep regret of the unfortunate accident to Jack Milligan, and one and all wish him a speedy recovery. Should this catch the eye of Mr. Smith, late secretary of the Karridale sub-branch, a pleasant surprise is in store for you if you come along to our next general meeting on Thursday, July 2, 1936.

The indefatigable "Taffy" Powell is busily engaged organising a week-end tour of a south-west district sub-branch, and contribution cards are available from him. The idea of exchanging visits with other R.S.L. sub-branches has always found favour with this sub-branch, and 27 members have already taken cards or expressed an intention to go on this trip. Special arrangements will be made for those of our comrades who are less fortunately circumstanced than others, and a really enjoyable outing is anticipated.

Members of the Carlisle sub-branch are very anxious to have a dinkum post office erected in a convenient part of the district, as the present arrangements are very far from satisfactory to pensioners and other residents, to say nothing of moving ahead with the times. Views on the matter were freely expressed at the general meeting, and as a result, it was decided to present a petition to the Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs from the sub-branch and other residents.

The June meeting was well attended and

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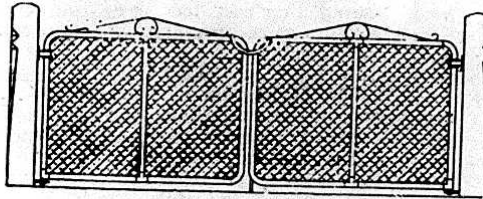


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quite a lot of business disposed of. The most important, perhaps, was a very commendable decision to change the date which has previously ended the financial year at December 31, to the first Thursday in July. Nominations were received for the new executive and committee office-bearers, and the election of officers will take place at the next general meeting on Thursday, 2nd July, next.

Agenda items for the forthcoming annual congress were submitted for the consideration of the sub-branch agenda committee. Great interest in the form of observance of Anzac Day was evinced and many useful suggestions made. Another matter of particular interest was a discussion on the present method of electing the State Executive. All members with helpful suggestions and pertinent questions for the consideration of the State Congress are asked to come along to any of our committee or other meetings before the end of July.

Amusement was caused when secretary Ernie Ritchie announced that Harold Nicol was unfinancial! The look of utter amazement on "Nick's" face had to be seen to be believed, and in his hurry to rectify the oversight he parted up with TWO ten bob notes! Harold is a member of so many and varied organisations that the incident is understandable.

The business over, the lads quickly got on to the social side of the evening, and "Curl" Macrone and "Nick" deep in the throes of a story-telling competition! Later, "Nick" and his off-sider "Quarter Bloke" Cope, gave a splendid exposition of the art of harmonica playing and ivory tickling. The worries of the daily grind are quickly forgotten or put aside when the "pig's ear" makes an appearance, and the hour or so in which is permitted the recapture of "the spirit of comradeship" as we knew it on the battlefields of France, the heights of Gallipoli and other theatres of war, is well worth while and greatly prized by those who are fortunate enough to be members of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia.

Those returned men in the Carlisle district who have not yet joined up with the local sub-branch, and those who for divers reasons have dropped out, are assured of a very cordial welcome if they care to come along.

And, now, before I close, the Carlisle sub-branch send cherri-ohs to comrades Bill James, George Merrel, Bern Hunter, and others who are working away from the district or otherwise prevented from attending the monthly meeting.

YORK

At the annual reunion in the Palace Hotel on June 2, probably for the first occasion in the State, wives of ex-service men were included in the gathering, at which the president of the sub-branch (Mr. C. M. Thorn) took the chair. The State Executive was represented by Messrs. F. Aberle and D. M. Benson. Other guests were Mesdames J. C. MacLachlan and C. A. Foreman (Red Cross), H. K. Stirling (women's auxiliary), M. E. Geary (a returned nurse), the Hon. G. B. Wood, M.L.C., Messrs. A. Thorn (Mayor of York), Warren, Marwick and G. J. Dovey (Repatriation Committee), J. R. T. Keast and J. J. Murray (Quairading sub-branch). In responding to the toast of the State Executive, Mr. Aberle complimented the sub-branch on its good work and loyalty to the League.

Mr. Aberle also spoke appreciatively of what the Red Cross had done for Lemnos and other hospitals. Other toasts were "The Ladies of the Auxiliary," proposed by Roy Inkpen and responded to by Mrs. H. K. Stirling; "Parliament," proposed by Mr. S. E. Hardwick and responded to by Mr. Wood; "Local Governing Bodies," in proposing which Mr. Roy Inkpen specially mentioned the Mayor who, in his reply, referred to the hard times experienced by primary producers during the past few years and expressed pleasure at the prospects of improvement in their conditions.

COLLIE

Mr. Stirling presided over a good attendance at the meeting on June 2. Mr. H. May reported progress on pension matters and stated that he had taken action to obtain retrospective pension. After the president had eulogised the work done by Mr. May in connection with pensions, a motion of appreciation of his efforts, proposed by Messrs. J. Giblett and J. Nicholls, was carried. Mr. J. Giblett reported on the meeting of No. 1 District Committee at Brunswick on May 18, and submitted a further report on an interview with the secretary of the W.A. Athletic League (Mr. Begley) in connection with the sports carnival to be held on the recreation ground, Collie, on January 1 and 2, 1937. He had been informed that a large number of professional runners would be likely to compete at the Collie meeting. Mr. Stirling stated that a weekly Saturday night dance had been organised for the purpose of raising funds for the completion of the installation of a radio system at the Collie Hospital. The resignation of the caretaker (Mr. A. Burridge) was accepted with regret. His successor is Mr. H. Brown.

REEDY

The sub-branch has suffered the loss of its valued president, Mr. Arthur Nugent, through his leaving the district. Before his departure he was tendered a valedictory social. Mr. Muncie, the new president, eulogised the services of his predecessor, both in forming the sub-branch and in holding it together, and special reference was made to the address he delivered on April 25, the first Anzac Day celebrated under the auspices of the sub-branch. His remarks were ably supported by Messrs. George Thompson and George Whalley, who presented the departing guest with a case of pipes as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the sub-branch. Mr. Nugent, in response, thanked office-bearers and members for their co-operation, and stated that as soon as he knew the position in Big Bell where he was going he would endeavour to form a sub-branch there.

GLOUCESTER PARK

This sub-branch, formerly Tramways, is now open to all diggers residing in the East Perth district. Mr. A. Wilkins, the hon-secretary (c/o. the Car Barn) is desirous of hearing from intending members. Excellent programmes are arranged to follow the business portion of meetings. The sub-branch recently defeated Fremantle in the A.R.M.S. competition by eight points to two, dropping two points at bridge. Anyone who fancies himself at quoits, table tennis, shooting, draughts or bridge is advised to join up. Carpet bowls are always on the mat.

NARROGIN

The sub-branch is now very active in securing new members before the close of the

year. The Soldiers' Memorial Institute has now been completely painted and the new caretaker, an old-time secretary, T. Hogg, is busy attending to the garden. All members are pleased to see him at the Institute.

BASSENDAN

A good attendance was mustered for our visit to Bayswater on May 13, a most enjoyable evening being spent. The business of the evening was to engage Bayswater in Shield Games, the honours of contests going to Bayswater. May 14 was the general business night, with 40 to answer the roll call. A letter was received from the Road Board about the removal of the prize gun from the Memorial. As the result of an interview between the president and chairman of the Road Board, it was decided that the gun be removed but not scrapped. A contribution was made to the R.S.L. Band towards the trip to Adelaide. A vote of thanks was recorded to Mr. R. Lovelock for his contributions to the sub-branch on meeting nights. Mr. Kidson was elected to the sick committee, vice Mr. Burkett. We miss the cheery presence of Padre Vine, who is away on the goldfields. The social committee met on June 1 and decided to run a social evening during June at the Town Hall, inviting all ex-service men and their wives. It is hoped that this will help the membership drive. On June 2 we received a visit from West Perth for the A.R.M.S. competition. The visitors, who were the winners in all departments, expressed their appreciation of Bassendean's hospitality, stating that it was their best night's outing since entering the competition. Members generally welcomed back "Hughy" Prosser, who has been on the sick list for several months.

SERPENTINE

The dance social, given by the women's auxiliary, on May 2, was a great success. Mr. T. Thurgood, jr., carried out the duties of M.C. in an efficient manner. The music, by Mr. Bates' Band, was perfect. The programme included songs by Miss Monk and Mr. T. Thurgood, jr. Mr. Drake, of Hopelands, was a delightful pianist. The novelty dance and spot waltzes with prizes for ladies and gentlemen were very popular. A dainty supper was provided by the auxiliary under the direction of Mesdames Green, Stockdill, Senior and Gerry. Thanks are due to the ladies for organising this function, the proceeds of which go to the amelioration fund. The monthly meeting on May 20 was well attended, and we were delighted to welcome visitors from Perth, Cottesloe and Byford. A talk by Dr. J. A. Gollen, of Jarrahdale, on "The Advance in Medical Science during the last 100 years," was handled in an exceedingly interesting manner and "question time" brought an avalanche of requests for information. The catering of our host of the Serpentine Fall Hotel was par excellence. The landlord, who will provide tea for his wowsy visitors at 10.30 p.m., ought to have at least the O.B.E. (Army version).

NORTHAM

The monthly meeting was held at the Avon Bridge Hotel on Wednesday night, June 3, the acting president (Mr. P. T. Prince) presiding. A resolution of sympathy with Mr. Prince in the death of his brother was carried, those present standing. A motion of thanks to Mr. H. J. Newman for distributing Empire Shopping Week posters was carried. It was decided that questions for the agenda of the State Congress be considered at the July meeting. The annual

meeting of the sub-branch was fixed for August 5. Mr. Prince was appointed as the sub-branch's representative on the St. John Ambulance Association committee. It was resolved that three months' trial be given to a proposal to send personal notices of meetings to members.

TORBAY

The monthly meeting at Bornholm on May 23 gave opportunity for the entertainment of storm troops from Albany. The toast of the League was proposed by Mr. P. Buckridge, and responded to on behalf of the State Executive by Mr. F. T. Evans. Musical and other items were provided by Jack Page and I. Lawson, while Don Dewar lived up to his name by dispensing the necessary gards and lubricants.

ALBANY

At the meeting on May 19, it was decided to accept the offer of broadcasting station 6AM of a special birthday broadcast on matters concerning ex-service men in the rainy south. The secretary of the St. John's Church forwarded the proceeds of a collection on Anzac Sunday which will be devoted to amelioration purposes. In connection with a letter from the Town Clerk about the lettering on the War Memorial, it was resolved that he be informed that the Memorial was handed over in trust to the Municipal Council after its unveiling. Mr. T. Bennett was auditor, vice Mr. J. Vincent, transferred. It was resolved that letters of condolence be sent to Messrs. A. R. Harvey and P. Finlay on their recent bereavements.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

On May 20 our stalwarts of the A.R.M.S. games had the pleasure of meeting the little lads from out Mt. Hawthorn way. Whether the Mountites live on B.B. caps or quoit rings I cannot say, but they certainly handed out the heavy villain stuff. Of individual scores there were none worth writing home to aunty about, even the hardened snipers of the small-bore got flummoxed. Following on this exhibition of how NOT to do it, we somewhat anxiously awaited our battle with the brigands from Bayswater, and our hopes rose considerably when eight o'clock went, and no visitors appeared, and we were just on the point of three cheers when they blew in with all sorts of excuses—the new Inglewood "spottery" was not to blame. Anyhow, we were made to work for every point we won, and an interested crowd just about suffocated the draught players with back-seat "moves" until old Jack Satinever routed the enemy, and so we hereby record our first win—but gee, it was close.

The members of the sub-branch were deeply grieved at the news of the passing of our beloved Sister Ruth Jones, of No. XI Repatriation Ward. By all diggers who knew "Jonesey," as she was affectionately called, she will be sadly missed. There was many a time in No. 14 A.G.H. at Abbassia (who will forget it!) when "Jonesey" was called upon to relieve a sick digger of a surreptitious supper or snack smuggled in from Cairo by a cobbler out on leave. One could never get cross with Sister, and it was about the only occasion diggers went "on guard" cheerfully—to watch "Jonesey" while a cobbler had a feed. Sister, we salute you!

The committee is arranging a series of entertainments for the winter months. There will be a very busy time ahead for our sporting members, as there are five valuable cups to be played for and won. Some are for out-

right winning, others for a period until won a certain number of times. The members are waking up to the value of attending meetings. No fewer than 53 turned up to the last one. At the next meeting it is intended to conduct the first of a long delayed series of games with the cups as the incentive. A challenge is already out against the rifle team by the rejects, for the right to shoot in the A.R.M.S. games as some of the rejects reckon they are more invulnerable to stage-fright than the official team. The committee would be very pleased to see other games captains rouse up some energy and follow the example of the rifle team by having a weekly practice. The team is showing a handsome profit after paying for ammunition and refreshments each practice night.

Will somebody please donate three pairs of G.S. Limber wheel rims to a needy combination—our quoit team has the necessary peg on hand. A supply of ear-plugs would also be welcome for distribution to the daught and bridge teams—as a protection against back-seat players.

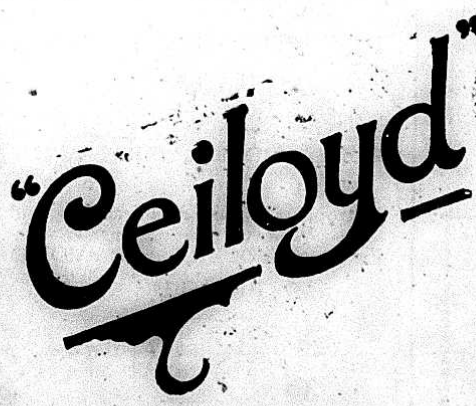
SUBIACO

The monthly meeting on June 4 the sympathy of fellow members was expressed to Ben Williamson, our secretary, whose father had passed on during the week-end at the good age of 81 years. Members of this sub-branch share with all fellow comrades the deep sorrow felt in the loss of our beloved Sister Jones, of the Repatriation Ward. We all feel that this world can ill spare such a comforter, and healer of broken men. Working bees have been busy in painting the interior of the meeting room, and the women's auxiliary is assisting in making these premises more pleasant and comfortable by adding the finishing touches. Bridge evenings are held on alternate Saturday nights, in order to raise funds for a piano. Permission is also being sought to conduct an art union. Miss Doris Melville has offered to put on a children's concert in Subiaco. The net proceeds are to be devoted to same purpose. The date and particulars will be advertised later. In the A.R.M.S. games competition the sub-branch was successful against Claremont. In reference to the Essay competition on Empire Week among the children of local State schools, no entries were received, so quite a number of book prizes go begging. The secretary is to make inquiry from the proper

quarter as to the reason for this apparent lack of interest. The next general meeting on July 2 should be of more than ordinary interest. Members will be invited to relate some of their most interesting experiences of the late war.

BOULDER

The president (Mr. J. Sheridan) presided over a splendid attendance of members at the general meeting on May 6. A good deal of correspondence dealing with repatriation and other matters was read and dealt with. Mr. F. Berthold, hon. secretary of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch, was welcomed by the president. Mr. Berthold reported that a meeting would be held at the Kalgoorlie Hotel at an early date for the purpose of forming a 3rd Brigade Association, and issued a cordial invitation to any members of that Brigade to attend. The annual Anzac social on April 18 was without doubt one of the most successful yet held. Among those present were Sir John Kirwan, J. Cornell, M.L.C., the Mayors of Kalgoorlie and Boulder, and many other prominent citizens of the district. The fact that the Dawn Service has taken hold was manifest by the very large attendance at this solemn service this year at Boulder. The usual commemoration service at 11 a.m. was also a great success, and the president (Mr. J. Sheridan) is to be congratulated on the very fine address he delivered on that occasion. In an effort to stimulate greater interest in the affairs of the sub-branch and to secure new members, a harmony night was held on May 18. Every member present was expected to contribute some item to the programme, and this caused a good deal of amusement, it being apparent that many of our members had previously been hiding their lights under a bushel in the past. The secretary, after he had contributed that mournful little ditty "The Lost Sheep on the Mountain," was immediately pounced upon by the treasurer (Mr. Syd. Hoare) and accused of pinching his item to the programme. A large number of pension claims have been dealt with by the secretary during the past month, the majority being Service pension claims. We had the pleasure of meeting the Senior Pensions Officer (Mr. Keays) at the Kalgoorlie railway station on his way back to Melbourne. He stated that he was very pleased with the way everything was being carried out, and spoke in glowing terms of the staff of the Repatriation Department in this State.



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RECENTLY Lieut.-General Sir Talbot Hobbs made a stirring appeal to the relatives of ex-service men to induce their men-folk to join the Militia of this State and give voluntary service in her defence. His earnestness and convincing words must have aroused many a woman to give serious thought to the gravity of the present situation. Others, too, in high command, urge daily for the greater protection of our country.

Current events in the world have rudely awakened us. The British Empire, keeping so loyally to the ideals of the League of Nations, has, since the War, kept armaments reduced to a minimum. Now, an undefended country, Abyssinia has been invaded and conquered in spite of the League of Nations, making the situation distinctly alarming for other poorly protected nations.

Having lived through the sorrows and anxieties of one war and being still in contact with its bitter aftermath in our hospital and amelioration work, there are no keener advocates of peace than the women of the R.S.L. Yet we cannot actively associate ourselves with many of the peace, or rather pacifist, movement in the State because "peace" to the R.S.L. means peace with adequate defence. "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance" runs their motto. This idea of security conflicts in no way with the ideals of the League of Nations. Defence, after all, is only another means of life-saving. It is urged by ex-service men because they, themselves, have seen what invasion means to a country and to its women and children.

The British Army stands as a symbol of security and protection and has contributed largely to the peace of the world in such places as Egypt, Palestine and the north-west frontier of India. It is un-

just to attribute aggression and lust of war to either our regular army or our militia. Together with an appeal for the youth of the country to become trained in its defence, comes one for the women to form V.A.D. detachments. The knowledge gained in such training would be invaluable for any emergency. If Australia were suddenly beset with danger there would be no lack of volunteers, the youth of to-day rallying round just as readily as the youth of 1914 did. But the greatest asset in any crisis is efficiency and that only comes with training.

Let us therefore place no obstacle in the way of sons or daughters who wish to give military and V.A.D. service to Australia; rather let us encourage them, knowing that the price of liberty we enjoy has been won through the service of those who advocate "eternal vigilance."

The State President, Mrs. J. McKinlay, has received the following letter signed by Sir James Mitchell, Lieut.-Governor:—"Dear Madam, with reference to your letter of condolence and loyalty on the death of His late Majesty King George V, I now have it in command from the King, on behalf of His Majesty, Queen Mary, and the other members of the Royal Family, to inform you that your message has been received with deep appreciation.

VICTORIA PARK

Members have had a busy time this last month. Included in their activities have been a jumble sale, a children's local product and Empire fancy dress ball, and the annual carnival dance to celebrate the first birthday of our fortnightly dances. The jumble sale enabled us to give a donation towards the

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(Late A.I.F.)

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Hospital Visiting Committee. The children's ball was attended by over 170—the majority in local or Empire products costumes, and the judges—Mrs. McKinlay, Mrs. Stockmin and Mrs. Browning-Turner, had a difficult task in allotting prizes. At the conclusion of the judging each child was presented with a bag, containing fruit, lollies and cakes. This effort proved a fitting conclusion to the auxiliary's effort to help the sub-branch in their Empire shopping campaign. Proceeds will go to the amelioration fund. The first annual carnival was the scene of great gaiety and it was noticed that even the committee found time to enjoy themselves. The attendance was all that could be desired, 163 being present. At the general meeting in May, Mrs. Taylor happened to remark that the boys in the hospital could do with some matches. In a few moments the sum of 5/8 was collected—for which sum a member said she could procure a case at wholesale rate. Mrs. Caldwell reported 11 patients at the Edward Millen Home, and an appeal for cards was launched. As there is a tremendous amount of business to be dealt with, the annual meeting will be held in the committee room and the usual social will not be held on this occasion. The second annual rally will take place on July 14.

NORTH PERTH

The North Perth women's auxiliary recently entertained the patients from Lemnos Hospital and Edward Millen Home. The guests were driven to Araluen where an enjoyable hour was spent wandering round the grounds. From there the patients were conveyed to the North Perth Bowling Club house (lent for the occasion) where high tea had been prepared by auxiliary members. Mrs. Cliff (president of the auxiliary) and Mr. S. Dival (president of North Perth sub-branch) welcomed the guests. Mesdames McKinlay and Hopperton (State President and State Secretary) thanked the North Perth auxiliary for their generosity to the patients. Mrs. Stubberfield spoke on behalf of the motor outing committee, Mr. McKeever for Lemnos and Mr. Mason for Edward Millen Home. Mr. H. Purling sang several songs and played the piano for community singing, and Mr. Mason gave a comic recitation. During the evening the ladies of the motor outing committee (Mesdames McKinlay, H. Hopperton, V. Stockmin (chairman motor outing committee), H. L. Downe, Stubberfield and G. W. Randall were presented with work baskets made by the patients at Edward Millen Home as a token of appreciation of the work done by these ladies.

PINGRUP

Arrangements were made at the monthly meeting for a round of bridge parties. The first of these was held at the home of the president (Mrs. Martins) and was very successful, financially and otherwise. In May the second evening took place at the Mesdames Keays. A pleasant time was spent, the prize-winners being Miss Altham, first, and Miss D. Knight, booby; Mr. D. Altham, first, and Mr. A. Spencer, booby. All returned home in the early hours of the morning after a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Not even the thought of bad roads ahead and the cold drive could damp the visitors' spirits. Mr. E. Keay, the energetic secretary of the sub-branch, gave a raffle and sold many tickets, thereby visibly swelling the takings for the night. The next evening

is to be held at Mrs. Carrie's, where the promise of a "Scotch Evening," as well as bridge, has greatly aroused everyone's curiosity.

KATANNING

A very enjoyable evening was spent in the R.S.L. club rooms on Friday, May 15, the occasion being the 7th anniversary of the women's auxiliary R.S.L. A large number of members and friends were present, also pleasing to note were the presence of Mr. Tyler, president R.S.L., Mr. Bailey Lee, and quite a few members of the R.S.L. The women's auxiliary were honoured with the company of Mrs. McKinlay, State President, and Mrs. Wellard, Country Vice-President, who travelled from Gnowangerup to be present at the celebration. Mrs. Stewart, president of the women's auxiliary, and Mr. Tyler, president R.S.L., gave the visiting ladies a hearty welcome to Katanning on behalf of the sub-branch of the R.S.L. and women's auxiliary. Mr. Tyler also made very pleasing remarks about the women's auxiliary. Mrs. McKinlay was then requested to say a few words. All present must have thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the State President's remarks. They were educational re work and aims of auxiliary, and no doubt must make members more interested in their sub-branch and the big ideals which are the foundation of the League. Mrs. Wellard was very interesting to listen to, and showed herself an earnest worker for auxiliary. The evening passed very quickly and pleasantly with songs from Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. James, and recitation from Mrs. Rogers, all of which were much enjoyed. Games made a pleasant interlude. An excellent supper was provided by the ladies. The place of honour on table, gay with flowers, was given to the Birthday Cake complete with its seven candles, presented by Mrs. Higman, vice-president, who also made two lovely bouquets of golden roses which were presented to Mrs. McKinlay and Mrs.

Wellard by Miss Vera Spowant. An enjoyable evening closed with good-byes to Mrs. McKinlay and Mrs. Wellard, with the hope of them visiting Katanning again at not too distant date.

PRESS

There was a record attendance on Saturday evening, the 30th of May, at the second of the series of monthly dances held at the Stirling Institute by the women's auxiliary of the Press sub-branch. The room was tastefully decorated with flowers and gum-tips. Those responsible for the evening's entertainment were Mesdames I. E. Sorenson, R. A. Biggs, A. D. Stone, A. D. Hood and A. Shaw. The music was supplied by Mrs. Bates' orchestra. Mr. G. Warner ably carried out the duties of M.C. The next dance will be held at the Institute on the 27th of June. The annual meeting of the auxiliary was held at Anzac House on the 3rd of June. After reports had been read and the balance sheet submitted, the elections for the ensuing year took place, the following ladies being elected: Mesdames Sorenson (president), R. A. Biggs (secretary), A. D. Stone and A. D. Hood (vice-president), A. Shaw (treasurer), J. McKinlay, H. Hopperton and J. Williamson (trustees). The committee were elected unopposed. Afterwards, the members partook of supper provided by Mesdames McKinlay and Hopperton, thus bringing a pleasant evening to a close. Mrs. A. D. Stone was re-appointed publicity officer.

MAYLANDS

The very successful poster ball in the Maylands Town Hall reflects great credit on those who organised it. Among those present were Mr. H. V. Shearn, M.L.A., and Mrs. Shearn, Mr. Harry Woods (president of the sub-branch) and Mrs. Woods, and the Rev. Lindsay and Mrs. Lindsay. The funds of both sub-branch and auxiliary will benefit

greatly from the effort. The thanks of the organisers are due to Mesdames Adamson, Cameron, Whittaker, O'Meara and Golding, and all who provided single characters and couples. Mesdames Griffiths, Cecil, Sweeting and Henderson proved themselves competent judges. The organisers were also fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. Knight who has had much experience in the conduct of children's functions. Mrs. Golding's orchestra supplied excellent music, and the evening closed with a dance for adults. The monthly visit to Lemnos was paid on May 15. The Lemnos lads were entertained with a concert and dance, the following artists contributing:—Messrs. Penn, Bracknell, Williams, Henderson; while Mr. J. Frankish acted as M.C. for the dance. The auxiliary's birthday will be celebrated on June 23.

QUARTERLY SOCIAL

All roads led to Anzac House on the evening of the 9th of June, when the quarterly social of the united auxiliaries took place. Members, numbering about three hundred, were welcomed by the State President (Mrs. J. L. McKinlay). The first part of the evening took the form of an entertainment contributed by the State Executive. Two items were given by Mrs. Hopperton, a monologue and tap dance and a Dutch song with clog dance, accompaniments being played by Mrs. McKinlay. Fourteen members took part in a play, termed "Patience," and absurdity in one act, the mere male in this being Mrs. Henderson. The others were all ladies of different type and class, and all roles were carried out extremely well considering the few rehearsals that had taken place. The final item was a burlesque entitled "Miss Mary Mac's Kindergarten—all local products," wherein the State Executive appeared as bright young things arrayed in red checked dresses and hair ribbons, socks and sandals. "Teachet" was in blue check and horn rimmed glasses. Performances on their percussion band were given interspersed with antics and incidents common to every kindergarten, much to the amusement of the audience.

Later, supper was served by the State Executive still in costume, which further contributed to the merriment of the evening. Dancing took up the second half of the programme with an interlude by Mrs. Taylor, of Kulin, impersonating a "lady" at a football match and at the pictures. Mrs. Irvine, of Bassendean gave her services as pianist for the dancing. A very happy and friendly evening was brought to a close at 11 p.m. with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

F.U.S.W.

The annual meeting of the F.U.S.W. was held in the ball room of Anzac House on the 4th of June. It was a particularly momentous occasion as it also marked the coming-of-age of the Union. Many guests were invited and representatives from public bodies, kindred associations and Parliament were seated on the platform. Lady Mitchell was presented on her arrival with a dainty autumn-tinted posy.

The reports of both the president (Mrs. Dean) and of the honorary secretary (Mrs. Clear) showed considerable progress and a deepening interest in the Union membership

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RATES: £1 1s. PER ANNUM

Sub-Branch	Place of Meeting	Date of Meeting	President	Secretary
ARDATH-BABAKIN	Ardath Hotel	1st Saturday, 8 p.m.	A. W. Wheeler, Babakin	A. F. Cant, Ardath
ALBANY	Soldiers' Institute	3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.	E. Y. Butler, R.M., "The Residency," Albany	F. T. Evans, Serpentine Road, Albany
BASSEDEAN	Town Hall Basement	Alt. Thursday (pension days, 7.30 p.m.)	H. Grieve, Shakelton St., Bassendean	F. J. H. Leng, 85 Parker Street, Bassendean
BUNBURY	R.S.L. Hall	3rd Wednesday	H. E. Gibson, Banksia Street, Bunbury	A. E. Murray, Stephen Street, Bunbury
BAYSWATER	Town Hall, Bayswater	Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.	J. E. Batey, Railway Crescent, Bayswater	A. Spencer, 10 Francis Street, Bayswater
BUSSELTON	Soldiers' Institute	2nd Monday	T. Morris, Busselton	M. W. S. Greatorex, Road Board Office, Busselton
BRUNSWICK JUNCT.	Memorial Hall	1st Thursday	C. J. Piper, Brunswick Junction	S. Chamberlain, Brunswick Junction
BUCKLAND HILL	Town Hall	Last Thursday in each month	B. T. Goadby, 40 Harvey St., Buckland Hill	A. Sillis, 35 Gill Street, Buckland Hill
CARLISLE	Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall	1st Thursday	W. Marshall, 29 Mars Street, Carlisle	E. A. Ritchie, Chapman Road, Queen's Park
COLLIE	Soldiers' Hall	Alternate Tues., 8 p.m.	J. Stirling, c/o. Power House, Collie	H. H. Stuchbury, Hawthorne Ave., Collie
COTTESLOE	Council Hall, Jarrad St.	1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.	C. L. Harvey, 8 Dean St., Cottesloe	A. G. Cook, "Lilydale," 4 Kean St., Peppermint Grove
COWARAMUP	Cowaramup Institute	1st Saturday, 8 p.m.	R. V. A. Bush, Cowaramup	C. Lewis, Cowaramup
CLAREMONT	Parish Hall, Claremont	First Thursday in each month	C. H. Briggs, 1 Brae Road, Claremont	W. Ford, 51 First Avenue, Claremont
DARLING RANGE	Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion)	3rd Saturday	R. I. Tanner, Kalamunda	Wm. Wright, Kalamunda
DUMBLEYUNG	Dumbleyung	Quarterly, last Sunday in Jan., April, July, Oct.	Tom Towers, Dumbleyung	W. S. Bartlett, Dumbleyung
DOWAK	Salmon Gums	3rd Friday	J. W. Wegner, Salmon Gums	Alan Morton, Salmon Gums
DONNYBROOK	Memorial Hall	Last Monday, 8 p.m.	L. R. Overheu, Donnybrook	G. F. Palmer, Donnybrook
FREMANTLE AND DISTRICT	Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace	Alternate Thursday (pension night), at 8 p.m.	Theo Brennan, cr. Mary and Fothergill Streets, Fremantle	S. P. V. Harrison, 65 Bellevue Terrace, Fremantle
GASCOYNE	Gascoyne Hotel	1st Monday	C. A. P. Gosteiov, Carnarvon	W. S. Appleyard, Council Chambers, Carnarvon
GLOUCESTER PARK	Anzac House	Every Wednesday, 7.45 p.m.	J. Shields, 195 Washing Street, Victoria Park	A. J. Wilkins, 43 Lord Street, Perth
GNOWANGERUP	Soldiers' Room	1st Thursday, 8 p.m.	R. Alderman, Gnowangerup	T. Wilkinson, Gnowangerup
GWALIA	State Hotel	1st Thursday, 8 p.m.	Dr. H. E. Clarke, Gwalia	E. Shepherd, Gwalia
HARVEY	War Memorial Hall	2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.	B. H. Lofthouse, Wokalup Phone Harvey 108M	D. D. Johnstone, Herbert Road, Harvey
KALGOORLIE	Soldiers' Institute	Every 2nd Tuesday in month at 8 p.m.; Executive alt. Fridays	R. R. Gibbs, Bank of N.S.W., Hannan St.	T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell Street, Kalgoorlie. Tel. 290
KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT		Bi-monthly	V. Monti	W. J. Cox, Karridale
KIMBERLEY	Derby	1st Thursday	S. S. Waycott	E. C. West, Derby
KATANNING	Club Rooms, Carew St.	When called	H. W. A. Tylor, Katanning	W. Bailey, Katanning
KELLERBERRIN	Farmers' Comm'cial Room	1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.	D. Tolerton, Minkadine	A. H. Cole, Kellerberrin
KOJONUP	Memorial Hall, Kojonup	4th Friday, 8 p.m.	D. C. MacPhail, Kojonup	L. E. Treasure, Kojonup
KOORDA	Koorda	Quarterly Committee 1st Friday	Chas. H. Smith	R. C. Wood
LAKE GRACE	Road Board Hall	When called	H. H. Pelham, Lake Grace	E. Wood, Lake Grace
LAKE KING	Lake King Hall	2nd Sunday in month	R. D. Allen, Lake King	C. Verden, Lake King Tel. No. 1
MOUNT BARKER	Mt. Barker	When called	T. G. Sounness, Merryup, Mt. Barker	K. Honey, Mt. Barker
MAYLANDS	Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands	Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. (pension week)	H. Woods, 51 Seventh Avenue, Maylands	J. E. Adamson, c/o. Town Hall, Maylands
MENZIES		1st Sunday	F. Bantow, Menzies	C. H. Jacobsen, Menzies
MIDLAND JUNCTION	Town Hall Committee Room	1st Thursday	Len Wilkinson, Midland Junction	H. B. Stephens, 19 Amherst Road, West Midland Junction

Sub-Branch	Place of Meeting	Date of Meeting	President	Secretary
MOORA	Road Board Room, Moora	When called	W. H. Boyce, Moora	Alex. B. Gloster, Commercial Hotel, Moora
MOUNT MARSHALL	Rd. Bd. Hall, Bencubbin	1st Wednesday, monthly	F. P. Le Cras, Bencubbin	V. M. Creagh, Bencubbin
MOUNT LAWLEY	Wallish Hall, Grosvenor Road, Mt. Lawley	1st Thursday, 7.45 p.m.	J. K. Craze, 118 Central Avenue, Inglewood	R. G. Hummerston, 46 Leake St., North Perth
MORNINGTON MILLS	Mornington Mills	Every alt. Sunday	T. E. King, Mornington Mills	W. J. Fulton, Mornington Mills
NARROGIN	Soldiers' Institute	2nd Sale Day, monthly	T. Sten, Schoolmaster, Narrogin	T. Hogg, Soldiers' Institute, Egerton Street, Narrogin
NEDLANDS	Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Nedlands	2nd Tuesday in each month	J. M. W. Anderson, 33 Tyrell Street, Nedlands	R. A. Wood, 81 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands
NEWDEGATE	Newdegate	Every 3rd Friday, 2.30 p.m.	D. G. Kinlock, Newdegate	J. H. Kane, Newdegate
NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE	Artillery Barracks, Burt Street, Fremantle	2nd Thursday	Lieut.-Colonel G. P. W. Meredith, Artillery Barracks	Staff-Sergeant S. McMurray, Artillery Barracks
NORTHAMPTON	Railway Hotel, Northampton	3rd Saturday, 9 p.m.	L. F. Ash, Northampton	A. Glance, Northampton
NORTHAM	Avon Bridge Hotel, Northam	1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.	J. F. Roberston, c/o Court House, Northam	G. C. Curlewis, 145 Fitzgerald Street, Northam, Tel. 174
NORTH PERTH	St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe St. (off View Street)	1st and 3rd Monday at 8 p.m.	S. Dival, 453 Fitzgerald St., North Perth. Tel. B8438	G. C. Fraser, 5 Hobart Street, North Perth
PERTH (Office hours 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.)	Anzac House, Perth	2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.	J. O'Farrell, 223 Fitzgerald Street, Perth	Geo. S. Mellor, Anzac House
PRESS	At Luncheon, Anzac House	1st and 3rd Wednesday, 1 p.m.	Reg. Nicholas, c/o Government Printing Office	R. Biggs, c/o "West Australian"
PITHARA	Coffee Palace, Pithara	3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.	E. T. Roberts, Pithara	L. G. W. Browning, East Pithara
POPANYINNING	Yornaning and Popanyinning	1st Saturday in month, alt.	T. Cowan, Yornaning	C. J. McGarrigal, Popanyinning
PILBARA	Port Hedland	When called	L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland	E. J. Gregan, Pt. Hedland
QUAIRADING AND DISTRICT	Quairading Hall and Dargin Hostel, alternatively	1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.	J. R. T. Keast, Quairading	John J. Murphy, Quairading
RAVENSTHORPE	Miners' Arms Buildings, Morgan Street	When called	H. Stockdill, Ravenshorpe	T. F. Smith, Ravenshorpe
SOUTH PERTH	Public Hall, Swan Street	4th Thursday	Gordon Day, 151 Angelo Street, South Perth	C. F. Hart, 15 Hensman Street, South Perth
SUBIACO	Branch Rooms, Rokeby Road, Subiaco	1st Thursday, 8 p.m.	J. E. Mitchell, 11 Rankin Road, Subiaco	B. T. Williamson, 87 Salisbury St., Subiaco
TAMBELLUP	Road Board Hall	2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.	F. T. A. Daddow, Tambellup	J. E. Trathan, P.O. Box 1, Tambellup. Tel 45
TOODYAY	Town Hall, Toodyay	1st Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.	K. Somers, Toodyay	N. H. Millar, Box 41, Toodyay
TRAYNING-YELBENI	Trayning (3) Yelbeni (1)	4th Sunday	R. W. Walker, Yelbeni	S. Snook, Trayning
VICTORIA PARK	Memorial Hall, Salford St.	3rd Friday, 8 p.m.	F. Matthews, 3 Manchester St., Victoria Pk.	J. Matthews, 21 Esperance St., Victoria Park
WEST PERTH	Anzac House, Perth	3rd Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.	W. J. Earnshaw, Taxation Department	P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth
WUBIN, BUNTINE, JIBBERDING	Each place alternatively	1st Sunday, 3 p.m.	J. Day, Buntine	W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin. Tel. No. 7
WEST LEEDERVILLE	Town Hall, Cambridge Street, Leederville	2nd Monday, 7.30 p.m.	H. E. Smith, 186 Railway Parade, West Leederville	H. J. Hains, 97 Blencowe Street, West Leederville
YEALERING	Comm'l Hotel, Yealering	3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.	J. H. B. Lawton, Yealering	Prof J. Kerr, Yealering
YORK		2nd Tuesday, alt. months	S. Hardwicke, Avon Terr.	W. F. P. Andrews, Post Office, York
WYALKATCHEM	Town Hall	3rd Saturday, quarterly, June, Sept. and Dec.	B. O. Read, Korrellocking	Hugh A. Leslie, Wyal-katchem
WAROONA	Memorial Hall	1st Friday, 8 p.m.	T. Crokan, Hamel	R. H. Roberts, Waroona

R.S.L. Sub-Branch Women's Auxiliaries

VICTORIA PARK	R.S.L. Memorial Hall, Albany Road	4th Friday, 7.30 p.m.	Mrs. E. Tolmie, 88 Teague Street, Victoria Park	Mrs. C. B. Howard, 225 Berwick Street, Victoria Park
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Associations of Ex-Service Men

Association	Place of Meeting	Date of Meeting	President	Secretary
ARTY. COMRADES' ASSOCIATION	Anzac House, Perth	3rd Tuesday	Bgr.-Gen. A. J. Bessell-Browne	J. Smyth, Lands Dept., Perth
BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION	Anzac House, Perth	When necessary	D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth	Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion Street, Leederville
BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.	Wentworth Hotel, Perth	1st Monday each month at 8 p.m.	C. J. Garner, 59 Boulevard, Mt. Hawthorn	Geo. E. Cattermole, M.C., 229 Charles St. North Perth
11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION	Anzac House, Perth	Monthly Luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month	W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Ave., Leederville	C. Pilley, c/o. Vetter & Co., Murray St., Perth
FORTY-FOURTH ASSOCIATION	As advertised	Annual Reunion, Tuesday of Show Week	Col. C. H. Lamb, Victoria House, St. George's Terrace, Perth	E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield St., Mt. Hawthorn
MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION	Anzac House, Perth	Third Thursday, quarterly	Col. D. M. McWhae, (Chairman, C. A. Davies, 755 Hay Street, Perth)	H. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth St., Nth. Perth. Phone B8394
TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.	Committee, as arranged	2nd Monday	Lt.-Col. I. E. Dunkley, Ardross Street, Applecross	W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruislip Street, West Leederville
THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.	Anzac House, Perth	Annual Reunion, Saturday July 18, at Anzac House	Bob Alexander, Shepperton Rd., Victoria Park	L. D. Lobascher, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth
10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION	Anzac House, Perth	When called	C. E. Woodrow, Farnley Street, Mt. Lawley	R. W. Perry, c/o. Repat. Department
12th and 52nd BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION	Subiaco Club	4th Wednesday	H. Hopperton, 30 Waterloo Crescent, E. Perth	Sid Rowles, c/o. Rowles and Bignell's Car Sales, Milligan Street, Perth

during the past year had increased from 250 to 414. The representatives on the Soldiers' Scholarship Trust were Mesdames C. H. Manning, Evans and Clarke, and the Union had donated the sum of £5/5/- towards the fund. The social afternoons throughout the year had been most successful and the river picnic had been an all-day outing. A branch was formed at Donnybrook in May, with Mrs. Harding as president.

Two posies, a F.U.S.W. shield, and two birthday keys were presented to Mrs. Dean to mark the occasion of the 21st birthday. Greetings were expressed by Sir Talbot Hobbs, Colonel Collett, Brigadier P. M. McFarlane, Commander J. C. McFarlane, and many other prominent citizens.

Afterwards tea was served in the supper room where Lady Mitchell cut the huge birthday cake. Songs were given by Mesdames Clear and Lewis.

The office-bearers elected for the coming year show little change to those of last year. Mesdames C. H. Manning and Clarke have been made life vice-presidents in recognition of their work for the Union since its inception. Mesdames J. C. McFarlane and T. C. Wilson were appointed vice-presidents and Mesdames Sidney Taylor and Wearne were added to the committee.

It is with deep regret that we have to report that on her return home from the above meeting Mrs. C. H. Manning became seriously ill. Our loving sympathy and hopes for a complete recovery are extended to her.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

The following are excerpts from the secretary's report:—Substantial assistance was granted to nine families (an increase of one on last year) in the nature of food, clothing, fuel, bedding, furniture, medical necessities and attendance, and on Christmas morning in conjunction with the sub-branch the majority received hampers.

To augment the funds of the auxiliary entertainments in the nature of social afternoons and evenings, bridge parties, jumble sales, children's ball and an annual fair were held at various intervals.

Donations during the year totalled £12/12/0.

The annual outing to the patients from Lemnos Hospital was held on Sunday, March 22, with assistance of the sub-branch in furnishing necessary vehicles. The function was a great success and was heartily appreciated by our guests.

In regard to the State Exhibition, members of the auxiliary responded in a greater degree than in previous years and a fair number of prizes were obtained from exhibits. It is to be hoped that Mt. Lawley-Inglewood will again take charge of the produce stall as last year.

In accordance with the motion of July last to assist those country sub-branches represented by our State Executive members, I have to report that Trayning auxiliary have called upon us on three distinct occasions in connection with distress and deaths. In one case assistance was granted to a family in distress and at Christmas time the family having been transported to Perth the mother dying shortly afterwards necessitates supervision and visiting by your Executive members. In two of those cases our thanks are due to Mr. J. K. Craze for visits and inquiries which were outside our province.

In connection with the social activities of the auxiliary a tennis club was formed in September last, and a regular practice has been held on Thursdays (weather permitting). The average attendance is about 12 to 17 members and is progressing satisfactorily.

KIRUP

The Kirup Hall presented a gay scene on May 16 when the women's auxiliary of the

Kirup sub-branch R.S.L. held its annual ball. The hall was tastefully decorated with black and white streamers, and miniature flags, representing the colours of all A.I.F. units, while around the walls were posters of Empire Shopping Week. Joe Chamberlain's Bandits provided some bright music for the dancing. The function was a huge success, both financially and socially.

ALBANY

On May 12, members had the pleasure of entertaining at afternoon tea Mrs. J. McKinlay, the State President of the Women's Auxiliary. A social evening and dance in her honour was held in the evening. During the evening Mrs. McKinlay gave a very welcome and inspiring address in which she explained the objects of the organisation, stressing the fact that comradeship was essential, the need to training children to be loyal to the memory of the fallen, to Australia and last, but not least, to the Empire; and to help in aiding the needy and sick amongst returned men and their dependents.

THE LISTENING POST

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Advertisements: Only reliable firms are allowed to advertise in our journal. Rates will be supplied on application.

All communications should be addressed to the Manager, "The Listening Post," 397 Hay Street (East), Perth.

All advertisements and matter for inclusion must reach our office not later than the 8th of the month.

The only official League matter contained in this journal is embodied in the published minutes of Executive Meetings, and other items which are acknowledged as such in their text.

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