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JUST IN PASSING

The Editor discourses on current digger topics

October 23 promises some interest, as the Prime Minister's Policy Speech will be delivered at Chatswood on that date.

Governments in business concerns were ever a failure. The Commonwealth Government line of steamers is a notable and much discussed example of the futility of this class of exploiting. One third of a fleet of 45 steamers is idle in Australian ports. There is little hope of any activity for them pending the shipping of next season's wheat harvest and wool shipments. In Sydney alone some ten vessels lie idle, representing over thirty-six and a-half thousand tons.

The Royal Show was not as well attended this year as it was during last year's Show, though the interest is sufficiently evident to consider the event as popular as ever. The weather was reasonably considerate throughout, and little inconvenience resulted from the few showers which fell.

Cotton-growing is a subject of vital importance, and keen interest is being evinced throughout Australia. It is estimated that some 10,000 families are engaged in cotton-growing, and the crops produced have been decidedly encouraging. There appears to be an unlimited market for cotton of the class raised in the Commonwealth, and the excellence of the samples grown resulted in the price of 250 points higher than the standard value.

A rumour was current regarding the importation of coloured labour for this particular class of production; but it has already been shown that the quality would deteriorate immediately the labour was introduced and that diseases impossible to eradicate would become established. It follows, therefore, that little fear of such a development is likely.

The proposed woolen mills for Albany will supply a vital need for the State, and the prominent commercial men seem sanguine of the success of such a venture. There is no doubt that the concern should be a private enterprise, and those financially interested anticipated every obstacle in the way of the Government having a finger in the pie; in fact, the latter should guarantee not to meddle with the concern, and perhaps many persons who would be loath to risk having their money frittered away by the bulky red tape methods which would ensue) will come to light with the required backing.

A contemporary in the Mecca of the Australian journalistic world has been responsible for certain untried praise of our official organ. Verily, a "profit" is not without honour, etc.

During the debate on the Public Service Bill in the Commonwealth Parliament, Mr. Blundell, M.R.P., drew attention to a proviso requiring returned soldiers to pass a prescribed examination before being appointed to a permanent position, although they were in the service as temporary hands before they went to the war. He was successful with his motion that returned soldiers who had been employed not less than two years as temporary employees could be appointed permanently without examination if the chief officer certified that their work had been done satisfactorily, and the position was of a non-clerical character.

It is said on the most doubtful authority that an officer of the Repat. Dept. is aware of the addresses of many deceased diggers; also that he is merely holding on to his information.

Sell Poppies on Armistice Day

Advertise in "The Listening Post."

WHEN DEALING WITH OUR ADVERTISERS PLEASE SAY "I SAW YOUR ADVT. IN THE LISTENING POST."

"THE LISTENING POST"
AN EXPLANATION.

The proprietors of this Journal have entered into an arrangement with the R.S.L., through Congress, to post a copy to every financial member of the League. The names and addresses of members are supplied to us by the State Secretary only, and if any member fails to receive a copy, we advise them to forward a complaint to the sub-branch secretary, who will make the necessary adjustment with the State Secretary.

We counsel secretaries to be prompt in forwarding capititation fees to the State office, so as to ensure that their members will receive their journal.

As many League members are subscribers to this Journal, we give them the opportunity of applying to us for a refund of the balance of subscription due.

We prefer, however, for those so affected to use their second copy as League propaganda, by passing it on to a non-member.

We welcome short contributions, and suggest that each sub-branch appoint one of their members to act as special correspondent to the L.P.

COMPETITION.

An announcement appeared in our last issue of the particulars of this Competition, and, owing to the number of entries expected, it has been decided to close business in this connection on the last day of this month.

Would-be consumers of the good wine in this case of assorted wines, etc., which constitutes the prize, and has been generously given for this purpose by W. H. Jones, Royal Hotel, Perth, should write in early.

The Competition provides for the missing line to be furnished to the following verse:

A world in seven days created,
Half finished and par-boiled atnost,
May be kept bubbling, be elated,

The following motion was passed at the R.S.L. meeting of the Narrogin sub-branch held at the secretary's office, on Wednesday, September 6th, 1922.

"That the Hon. J. A. Greig, M.L.C., by his action towards the Narrogin-Dwarsdale Railway, has forfeited the confidence of the Returned-Soldiers League, and the following resolution be passed to the effect that the Hon. J. A. Greig be retired from the said position as Warden."
R.S.L. AND SOLDIER MATTERS

Sir Robert McMillan, Lieut.-Governor, will unveil the cenotaph and roll of honour at the Modern School which have been erected to the memory of the old boys.

Fremantle Soldiers’ Institute.—The old building which served as a recreation hall to the Base Hospital was handed over officially to the returned soldiers on the 12th inst. A largely attended gathering under the chairmanship of Capt. G. Potter, M.L.C., witnessed the ceremony. Dr. Hadley handed over the building. Major-General Sir Talbot Hobbs, Mr. F. E. Gibson, M.L.A., the Mayor of Fremantle, and Capt. Burford were present.

A deputation of the blind and Limbless Men’s Association, comprising members from each State, with the exception of Tasmania, requested from the “central powers” a more liberal scale of pensions for serious disabilities. The increased scale of pensions proposed will cost about 24d. per head of the population. The Bill embracing this measure was passed through its third reading on the 7th inst.

A memorial has been erected to the fallen New Zealand soldiers at Longueville, in France.

November 11 is the Armistice Day anniversary, and will be popularly known as “Poppy Day” throughout the Allied countries. Every returned man should procure one of the poppies, of which a huge supply is being purchased from France. Primarily the funds acquired by the purchase from France will be devoted for the benefit of the French children, and latterly the profits remaining over and above the cost will be applied to augment branch and sub-branch funds.

The 51st Battalion Association conducted a successful “smoke” on October 12 at the Soldiers’ Institute, Capt. F. Albrecht, the president, officiated, and Colonel R. Christie, D.S.O., appealed to the gathering to maintain the old spirit of comradeship under the altered conditions. Advantage was taken of the occasion to form a ladies’ auxiliary.

Brookton Sub-Branch.—There are still a number of “digs” who maintain the old spirit of comradeship, and take an active interest in their local sub-branch. More power to them, for they are helping their old colleagues by so doing. The local memorial stone has just been completed, although it was unveiled last Armistice Day. The delay resulted from the necessity to change the site. Arrangements are being made to suitably commemorate Armistice Day next month, and the ladies, always the right-hand supporters, are organising a “Paddy’s Market and Dance.”

The Tenth Light Horse Association, and also the 28th Battalion Association, held their festive bouts on the 12th inst., and were both attended well.

The 16th Battalion Association was a night later with its social, but was no less successful on that account.

The Perth Sub-Branch recently changed the personnel of its office-bearers. This resulted on the resignation of President C. Longmore. Mr. Whitely was elected as his successor, and Mr. T. P. Lennon as Vice-President.

THE LISTENING POST.
OCTOBER 20th, 1922.

A GOVERNMENT’S GRATITUDE
Departmental Delinquencies.

A deed of gallantry performed recently made the name of Mr. A. H. Page, of Cottesloe, familiar to many. Seldom has a more plucky action been passed over so quickly. At the imminent risk of sharing fate with him his comrades appeared already doomed, Mr. Page disengaged these men from the live wire conducting a high voltage of current.

Now, this hero is a returned soldier, and is a married man with a family, and despite the arguments which could have been raised in favour of retaining his services, the Government discharged him, although many single men are remaining in the Tramways Department.

What is the system used in putting off surplus employees? Does the method in vogue cater for the dismissal of married men with a good A.I.F. record firstly, and so on until the single stay-at-home is the last to be disturbed? Or does the system merely take the form of a lottery or ballot?

Even if the circumstances provide that the department’s action was in accordance with the orthodox “last in first off” axiom, surely a point could have been strained to circumvent the red-tape tangle and to reward the person who had no doubt saved the Government a considerable sum of money in compensation.

It is pleasing to note that the R.S.L. is moving in this matter, which appears deserving of its best endeavour.

Use this journal to propagate your League

Poppy Day
STATE SECRETARY’S MESSAGE TO Diggers.

Right throughout the British Empire and Allied countries—November 11—Armistice Day, will be known as “Poppy Day,” this being recognised as a memorial day on which the poppy will be universally worn as an emblem. It is the soldiers’ day, being the anniversary of the day on which the hardships of war ended, and those who had endured so much could look forward to a return home with some degree of certainty. In view of this fact the poppy has been copyrighted throughout the British Empire and Allied countries by the various Returned Soldier organisations, and on the 11th of next month will be worn by millions of people.

In this State the R.S.L. is organising the sale, and the proceeds, after deducting the cost of the poppies, which are purchased from France, will be applied to augment branch and sub-branch funds. All sub-branches have been communicated with, and it is to be hoped that each and every one will make this a day of special effort, as the movement is worldwide and there is no doubt that Western Australia will be second to no country in its recognition of Memorial Poppy Day.

Pass this journal around among non-members.

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ANNUAL CONGRESS
W.A. State Branch R.S.L.
Report of Proceedings

Sixth Annual Congress held in the Soldiers' Institute, October 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th. The Cote President, Mr. H. E. Bolton, presided.

The following delegates attended:--A. Banks, W. N. Reid; Armandale, J. Smith; Balingup, J. L. Stallard; Beverley, A. C. Brham; Boulder, K. W. Miller; Collin- gridge, E. E. Watt; Claremont, E. W. Morris; Cranbrook, W. L. G. Armstrong; Denmark, E. Hancock; East Fremantle, A. E. Metcalf; East Kirup, J. R. Butler; Fremantle, J. E. Wilson; Gabbin, Rev. D. I. Freedman; Geraldton, G. J. Mitchell; Gnoweil, R. G. Sext; Goomalling, A. J. Matthews; Greenbushes, J. Cornell, M.L.C.; Jarnadup, C. E. Bloxsome; Kalgoorlie, A. Bridge; C. L. Harvey; B. Davids; Yandanooka; Schleicher; South Jane; Philip, and that those of our comrades who whilst engaged in their work and living for the community have for it.

Greetings.
Mr. Bader conveyed greetings from the South Australian Union.
From the Hon. Sec. Friendly Union of Soldiers' Wives, Mothers and Sisters.

Agenda Committee.
The provisional Agenda Committee appointed by the Executive, consisting of J. Cornell, M.I.C., Rev. D. I. Freedman, and A. G. Wright, presented five reports, which, with a slight alteration in respect to the number of meetings, were adopted as presented. The members of this Committee were elected as a permanent Agenda Committee.

Voting Power of Delegates.
The President ruled that any delegate representing more than one Branch could only exercise one vote on any question before Congress.

Visitors.
General Sir J. Talbot Hobbs addressed the meeting, and said that notwithstanding the League of Nations and other things, he thought it possible, those who are behind the scenes have known for some time that trouble was brewing. We have all known how close it has been during the last few weeks, and how close it might yet be. The warning response of the returned men to join up again if they should be needed made a great impression on the people throughout Australia, the Empire, and other nations, and in no small degree on the old Turk himself. There is no doubt that the Turk appreciates the Australian soldier, more perhaps than his own people do.

It is the fourth Congress over which I have had the honour to preside as your President. It is with regret that I now have to inform you that I have decided not to nominate for the position again. The work has been a pleasure to me, and one that I shall look back upon with feelings of pride. I feel that, as I am seeking to re-enter political life, I should not hold the position of President whilst engaged in a political contest.

I desire to record my thanks and appreciation for the good and loyal services of Mr. Butler and Mr. Penny as State Secretaries, and the staff generally.

Although I relinquish the position of State President, my active interest in the work of the League will not diminish. Any assistance I can render to my successor will be cheerfully given, and I ask for the same loyalty to be extended to him as you have been to me.

Presidential Address.

The President, in declaring the Sixth Annual Congress open for business, extended a welcome to the delegates assembled, and trusted that the high standard set at previous Congresses would be maintained. A welcome to the delegates assembled was extended to the delegates assembled, and trusted that the high standard set at previous Congresses would be maintained. I have had the honour to preside as your President. It is with regret that I now have to tell you that I have decided not to nominate for the position again.

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other country. Some months ago a body of citizens who realised their duty to the Returned Soldier had banded themselves together to try and do their utmost to help the soldier who wanted help. They had done that with a fair measure of success. They did good work, but did not know about it but it was a bone-teaser. They were all hard-headed business men, who spent a lot of time on the matter and also went to some expense. But he was afraid that, after all, they were not able to satisfy one of them. He was con- fident that if the money was to be used to help them were not allowed to do it in their own way they should get others to do it for them. Although, perhaps, the activities of the Aid Society had in some measure and some degree, the organisation would continue, and might be of assistance in the future. He was of the opinion that they had seen the worst of their trouble, and that things were getting better. Last year he addressed them on the need for unity, and he again desired to refer to it, and rub it in. It was up to them at once "scotch" any sign of disunion. It was only by being a team they could carry on. In the Prime Minister and the Premier they had two firm friends, and should support them.

Major Raper, the Base Commandant, was cordially received, and delivered a short address. The work of the Leagues in the country was magnificent, but regretted that virtually a lot of it had been done "in the dark." A propaganda Committee was required in order that the work done for returned men, the incapacitated and the relatives of those who had fallen, should be made widely known. For instance, it was only a few days ago that he had become aware of the existence of the Soldiers' Children's Scholarship Fund. That organisation was formed by the efforts of the League and the Friendly Union of Soldiers' Wives. In the first year there were 150 scholarships given to children of the fallen and totally incapacitated was £5,632. They covered a period of 21 years, and the total value was £250,000, and represented every form of education in the country. That in itself was a magnificent achievement. The League had pushed its way into all matters of interest to returned men. If those efforts were advertised, the membership would increase, and fewer diggers would remain outside the League. He regretted that the President intended to retire from office. Mr. Bolot and Mr. Colvin, he said, were both "top men" for the past four years. Mr. Butter, the Secretary, was a real live digger, and his facility for telling plainly the achievements of the League should have been used in paper form. A League should publish a paper for the benefit of its members.

Major Raper drew attention to the Rifle Club Movement, and said that if the League were interested it would be a great fillip to the youth of the country to learn to handle a rifle. Everyone should be taught to do so, as we never know when we will be involved in war. In regard to the Eastern difficulty, we all pray and hope that it will be settled peacefully, because we don't want any more war.

The President read letters of apology from the Lieutenant-Governor, the Premier, the Minister for Railways, and Chairman Workmen's Union Board.

**Federal Congress.**

Mr. Cornell (Greenbushes) reported that Federal Congress had decided that in the “Listening Post” of September 5th, had decided that the Federal President (Capt. Dyett) should represent the League at the Australian Congress. It was anticipated that 15,000 delegates, representing over 2,000,000 soldiers, would attend that Congress. The value that would need to be paid by Capt. Dyett representing the League and Australia there would be in calculable. He knew of no delegate so able to represent Australia as Capt. Dyett. Mr. Bolton and himself (Mr. Cornell) had attended the last Federal Congress as the representatives of the State. He thanked them on behalf of Mr. Bolton and himself for the honour.

The President said it was to be regretted that the opportunity to secure the post of Senator Mills had been lost. The League had done everything it could, but had failed. The matter was fully dealt with in the report of the proceedings of the Federal Congress.

**Report adopted.**

**Preference to Returned Soldiers.**

Mr. Campbell (Kalgoorlie) moved that preference to returned soldiers be pushed as the first and main plank on all occasions, State and Federal, by the R.S.I., and the attention of the Commonwealth and State Governments be drawn to the number of unemployed soldiers throughout the Commonwealth, and to the amount of distress existing among soldiers and dependents, and that such Governments be urged to abide by the pledges given. He said preference should be maintained. The League right throughout Australia was letting the matter slip. The agitation to insist on the Government observing it should be maintained.

Mr. Cooke (Railways Workshops) seconded, and said that when they approached the Government they did not know if the employers were meeting the stumbling block of "all things being equal." When they were told that preference would be given on that basis it meant they really got no preference at all, as the soldiers were not now equal to when they enlisted.

Mr. Braham (Beverley), the League's representative on the Civil Service Board of Inquiry, said that if any names were placed on the Commission or loss of seniority through enlistment, that note to the Board they would be inquired into. The trouble was that the Board was not told of definite cases. It was necessary the Board should receive outside assistance before it proceeded with its work.

Carried.

Considerable discussion ensued on the following motion, moved by Mr. Macpherson (Perth) and seconded by Mr. Griffiths (Perth) Mr. Raper asked the Premier of Western Australia to bring a clause, "Preference to Returned Soldiers," inserted in all agreements or awards drawn up by the heads of the Departments in connection with all Government contracts and utilities. Ultimately the motion was amended to read as follows:—

"That Congress ask the Premier of W. A. to consider any proposals that may be made for providing for a preference to returned soldiers tendering for all Government contracts, and a further clause giving absolute preference in the employment of returned soldiers in accordance to all Government contracts." This was unanimously adopted.

The following motions dealing with preference was also agreed to:—

"That in future all military appointments created by the Defence Department be filled by returned soldiers."

"That the Italians at present settling on the Mt. Marshall Railway Line be replaced by returned soldiers."

**Annual Report and Balance Sheet.**

Considerable discussion ensued on the motion for the adoption of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet, reference being made to the Branch's connection with the "Australian." The President stated that for some time past the branch had been asked to be the official organ of the Branch. Some delegates adversely criticised the past management. Others spoke in an opposite strain and stressed the point that for members of the Legislative Council the $77 and $100 ($56) had resulted from the year's transactions. The Perth Sub-branch delegates protested against the Executive enrolling members in a central branch. In reply thereto the report of a sub-committee appointed by the Executive to, amongst other things, deal with this question, was read to Congress. It was further stated by Mr. Smith, the Chairman of the Executive that this innovation only served to provide for returned soldiers whose domicile was fixed or uncertain.

Mr. Colvin (Auditor) said the Institute had returned a profit of £500 for the League. Mr. Penny, the State Secretary said it was much to be desired that the League and the League was fortunate in having him to watch the affairs of the Institute so closely. He did not think some of the sub-branches were giving Mr. Penny and his staff the consideration they deserved. Many sub-branches failed to send in their required returns, and this greatly handicapped the work of the State Secretary. He had drawn particular attention to the matter in his report, under the heading "Sub-branches." There was an apathy on the part of sub-branch secretaries which should be cut out. It was not fair to the Executive for sub-branch secretaries to be dilatory in sending in their returns and funds. It was disgraceful that a sub-branch should collect money and not remit to the Executive. They had an amount of about £300 which might be regarded as a secret reserve, though it was shown otherwise in the books. This made them that amount better off. If they continued on the line of last year and their membership kept up, they should be able to show a satisfactory state of affairs.

Eventually the motion for adoption was unanimously carried.

**District Councils.**

Mr. Morris (Claremont) said with the permission of South Fremantle Branches he would move the adoption of
the two items which provided for the introduction of a system of district councils. He said the sub-branches had originally proposed that the motions should provide for the division of the League being established, not for the revival of the system of district councils, which had been done away with by the League. The present system of control by a central body had failed to produce the results it was expected to, and he said that the division of the League into districts would increase its efficiency.

Mr. Robson (Mt. Lawley) said he would be divided in funds of the League would be handled against only one, and that the proposal was a democratic one, particularly where it gave equal representation to all sub-branches. He considered the funds of the League would be handled better than at present. The funds were not being spent to the best advantage. The system proposed was practically that of the Queensland Branch, which was working well.

Mr. Sexty (Gosnells) said that Congress aimed at a system of district councils, and failed to see any real difference between the new proposal and the old system of district councils, and the proposed organisation would permit of all branches of the League being in close touch. One of the main principles of the scheme was the power of recall being applied in a quick and democratic manner.

Mr. Cornell (Greenbushes) said the proposal was aimed at the reconstruction of the Constitution of the League. He was opposed to the revival of the old system, and the proposed organisation would permit of all branches of the League being in close touch. One of the main principles of the scheme was the power of recall being applied in a quick and democratic manner.

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THE LISTENING POST.

OCTOBER 20th, 1922.

1. That the State be divided into similar districts as those set forth in the By-laws relating to the formation of District Committees, and be multiplied by the figure plus thus: 7 x 2 equals 14, plus 1 equals 15.

2. That the State electorates be divided amongst the fifteen districts, and the respective sub-branches therein be considered as within the respective districts, as follows:

No. 1. Fremantle, Claremont-Cottesloe, J. Wilson, delegate.
No. 2. East Fremantle, South Fremantle, H. May, delegate.
No. 5. Bunbury, Nelson, Sussex, E. B. Cross, delegate.
No. 8. Williams, Narrogin, Pingelly, W. E. Wedd, delegate.
No. 10. Avon, Toodyay, Swan, A. N. McDonald, delegate.
No. 11. Greenough, Irwin, Moore, and Geraldton, E. W. Morris, delegate.
No. 12. Cue, Mt. Magnet, Murchison, C. L. Harvey, delegate.
No. 15. Carnarvon, Roebourne, Pibbarn, Kimberley; W. Unmack, delegate.

3. In the event of any committee man vacating his seat upon the Executive, the committee man appointed to the vacated position shall be appointed to be the delegate for the district affected by the vacancy.

Amendment to Rules.

After considerable discussion covering the basis of representation at Congress the following new rules were agreed to:

"That on any division taken in Congress any sub-branch may exercise its full voting power, notwithstanding that its full quota of delegates be present when a division is taken."

Rule 5 (3) was amended as follows:

"Delete the words 'members of the League,' line 1, and insert 'Returned Soldiers.'" Insert after the word 'subbranch,' line 2, these words: 'provided that one year's subscription for at least 10 members is forwarded with the application.'"

Rule 24 was amended as follows:

"Delete the word 'may,' line 1, and insert these words: 'Shall automatically be vacated unless good and valid reasons are given.'"

Rule 16, add the following proviso:

"Provided further that copies thereof shall be forwarded to each sub-branch secretary not later than two weeks prior to the date fixed for the opening of Congress."

The rule relating to the issue of Past Presidents' Certificates was so amended as to provide that such certificates are to be issued under similar conditions to Past President shall be a member of the Executive 'ex-officio.'

Land Settlement.

This subject, as at previous Congresses, caused considerable controversy. All agenda items dealing with the capitalisation of the first five years' interest on moneys advanced to soldier land settlers were withdrawn, and the following resolution passed by Federal Congress affirmed:

"That Congress is of the opinion that the first five years' interest on all moneys advanced under the various soldier settlement schemes should be capitalised, and the payment thereof be so distributed as would ensure its repayment by equal annual instalments within the unexpired period, if the sum set out for the amount involved be principal."

All remaining items dealing with land settlement were referred to the following Committee:—A. J. Matthews, F. G. Denslowe, P. E. Wedd, J. L. Stallard, W. L. Armstrong. Subsequently the report as follows, was presented by Mr. Matthews and adopted without amendment:

We find that the agricultural section of your Associations throughout the State, are labouring under similar difficulties, and consequently several motions are submitted from different branches containing similar propositions. The Committee were able to consolidate these motions into a few composite motions, and thereby facilitate the work of Congress and save the time of the number of delegates who are not affected.

2nd. Your Committee, having the weight of Congress behind it, is enabled to deal direct with the heads of different departments, and by direct negotiations remove many grievances of an administrative nature immediately.

Your Committee has taken into consideration on this occasion that a Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry is now dealing with soldier settlement difficulties, and have curtailed their work in the direction of negotiations as not to prejudice in any way the work of that Committee.

1. Your Committee recommends that strong representations be made to the Minister for Lands, pointing out the hard struggle owing to the high prices of foods, which has for some time and still confronts those returned soldiers who were urged to embark in the pig and poultry business, and we suggest that the Price Fixing Commission be asked to review the price of mill offal, which we feel assured could be substantially reduced. Failing this, a number of our comrades will be compelled to seek other means of livelihood after years of wasted effort, through no fault of their own.

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them, the Department was always prepared to meet the request being guaranteed that the cases were genuine.

9. Opposums: Your Committee interviewed Mr. Coppin, of the Fisheries Department, who was not favourable to any request being made, as he held the opinion that opposums are very plentiful and the prices should be good. In the opinion of your Committee his estimate of the number of opposums is not correct. We also interviewed Mr. Sampson, the Colonial Secretary, who was sympathetic, but he relies on the information from his Department the amount of extra royalty he expects, £3,000, seems to him of more importance than the welfare of the returned soldiers engaged in the industry. Your Committee is of the opinion that the desirability of the royalty being the same as last year should be carried by this Conference, and that the Executive put such representation before Cabinet for its consideration.

Mr. Matthews (Goomalling) moved, and Mr. Bader (Kendalup) seconded the adoption of the report.—Carried.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Beechy, the members of the Committee were thanked for their report.

Anzac Day.

The Resolutions of the Federal Congress, as follow, in respect to Anzac Day, were unanimously adopted:

1. "That Anzac Day be known as Australia's nation day, and be observed only once in the calendar and be gazetted by Commonwealth and State Governments as a Statutory Public Holiday."

2. "That the day be observed in such a manner as to combine the memory of the fallen with rejoicing at the birth of Australia as a nation."

3. "That the morning be observed in strictly sombre manner, and the afternoon be devoted to sports and carnivals of a national character, designed to inculcate in the rising generation the highest national ideals."

4. "That the leaders in all proceedings on Anzac Day be, so far as possible, returned sailors and soldiers."

5. "That with a view to giving the fullest consummation to the foregoing resolutions, the President be deputed to approach the Prime Minister and the Premiers' Conference and urge that the same conditions as apply on Sundays within the several States to trading and industrial enterprises, be made to apply to Anzac Day between the hours of 6 a.m. and 1 p.m."

6. "That the flag, when flown on Anzac Day, be flown on the top of the flagpole or mast as the case may be."

Further resolutions agreed to were:

1. "That a deputation of three members from Congress wait on the Commissioner for Railways with the request that the privileges granted to returned soldiers to travel free on the metropolitan trains and trains on Anzac Day be extended to include travelling on Government trains to Anzac Day celebrations in their respective districts."

2. "That permission be given to take up collections on Anzac Day, provided that they are taken up for amelioration and memorial purposes only."

Unemployed Returned Soldiers.

The position in relation to unemployment amongst returned soldiers has purely brought under the notice of Congress, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Smallpage, Ross, McPherson, Cooke and Beechy were appointed to go into this matter. They advised that they would hear a deputation. This course was adopted, and Messrs. McGregor, Sleep, and McVeigh addressed Congress. Subsequently the Committee submitted the following recommendations, which shall be the foremost conditions which shall be the foremost conditions:

1. "That Congress appoint a delegation to try and obtain the following from the Premier: That a Bill be put through Parliament giving preference to returned soldiers on the lines of the New South Wales Bill, which gave preference in Government and private work."

2. "That an amendment be passed to the present Railway Act making it compulsory for the Commissioner of Railways to give preference to returned soldiers in all employment."

3. "That the Premier be again asked to find some form of employment for men who are disabled by war-caused injuries."

4. "That where returned soldiers are employed by the Government on clearing and road work they shall be under the supervision of returned soldiers."

It was further resolved that the recommendations be brought under the notice of the Premier on his return to Perth.

Heroic Action of Mr. A. H. Page.

Mr. Gavynor (Perth) brought under the notice of Congress the heroic action of Comrade Page in rescuing two men from death at the recent electric accident at South Perth. Congress resolved to appoint a deputation to the Premier representing the appointing of Comrade Page as a member of the Government in recognition of his heroic act.

Political Action.

The adoption of a motion from the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch to the following effect: "That the League take an active part in nominating returned soldiers as representatives of Parliament, Federal and State, and such representatives be pledged to support the returned soldiers and their dependants, which shall be the foremost plank of their policy," was strongly urged by delegates therefrom. Other delegates expressed opposite views, and on a show of hands the motion was lost by 24 votes against 19 for.

A motion from the South Fremantle Sub-branch to this effect: "That the League take an active part in nominating returned soldiers as representatives in national and public affairs, but do not ally itself with any political organisation or party," was unanimously adopted.

Trust Funds.

Items on agenda relating to consolidation of existing Trust Funds raised in connection with the War were withdrawn to follow the disposal of Federal Congress resolution dealing with this subject, viz.:

"That it be a recommendation to each State Branch to take the necessary steps to approach the various State Governments to enact legislation with a view to the consolidation of all funds raised by the public during the War for the benefit and relief of returned soldiers, sailors, and nurses of the A.I.F. and their dependants, and that whatever additional funds are set up to control consolidated funds, it each of the various States shall consist of a preponderating number of ex-service men nominated and selected by the respective State Governments for the R.S.L., and, further, that each body be empowered to permit of the retention of a particular fund by the existing trustees."

It was further resolved as follows:

"That Congress be asked to obtain, if possible, from the Commonwealth and State Governments a £ for £ subsidy for Returned Soldier League Amelioration Funds, which are doing such good work on behalf of soldiers' dependants."

Badges.

The wisdom of continuing the use of the large and small badge simultaneously caused considerable debate. The President assured Congress that the only reason for altering the design was purely one of finance. With a view to eliminating the use of the large badge it was resolved as follows: "That the large badge held by members renewing membership on or after January 1st, 1923, be renewed, and a miniature badge be issued free of charge in lieu thereof, and further, that from that date onwards the miniature badge be the only official badge of the State Branch, provided that if any member has already paid such subscription as entitles him to membership to 30/6/23 he shall, on application, receive free of charge a miniature badge."

Election of Officers.

President.—Messrs. Priestley, Sexto, Cornell, Freedman, and Humphrey were nominated. Mr. Sexty withdrew. Messrs. Priestley and Freedman were re-elected with the support of Mr. Humphrey. Mr. Cornell was elected, a motion for the ballot was moved, and the ballot resulted: Freedman, 41; Sexty, 40; Beechy, 15; and Butler, 17. Messrs. Freedman and Sexty were declared elected.

Vice-President.—Messrs. C. H. Lamb, A. C. Braham, G. Robson, and C. Harvey were nominated, and the ballot resulted: Freedman, 41; Sexty, 40; Beechy, 15; and Butler, 17. Messrs. Freedman and Sexty were declared elected.

Trustees.—Messrs. C. H. Lamb, A. C. Braham, G. Robson, and C. Harvey were nominated, and the ballot resulted in Messrs. Lamb, Robson, and Braham being re-elected.

Auditor.—Mr. Colvin was re-elected without opposition.

Committee.—The ballot resulted as follows: Mr. Braham, 39; Mr. Johnstone, 30; Mr. Braham, 28; Mr. Rynne, 27; Mr. Braham, 27; Mr. Braham, 26; Mr. Braham, 25; Mr. Braham, 24; Mr. Braham, 23; Mr. Braham, 22; Mr. Braham, 21; Mr. Braham, 19; Mr. Braham, 18; Mr. Braham, 17; Mr. Braham, 16; Mr. Braham, 15; Mr. Braham, 14; Mr. Braham, 13; Mr. Braham, 12; Mr. Braham, 11; Mr. Braham, 10; Mr. Braham, 9; Mr. Braham, 8; Mr. Braham, 7; Mr. Braham, 6; Mr. Braham, 5; Mr. Braham, 4; Mr. Braham, 3; Mr. Braham, 2; Mr. Braham, 1; Mr. Braham, 0.
Official Organ.

After resolving that the "Listening Post" should be the official organ of the Branch, the question of how best to extend its financial support was referred to Messrs. Cornell, Philp, and Ross, who recommended as follows:

"That the financial assistance of £150 asked for by the proprietors of the 'Listening Post' be agreed to, and be a charge upon the Executive Funds, payable in monthly instalments, contingent upon the delegates here present agreeing on behalf of their respective sub-branches that in any distribution of profits made by the R.S.L. Co-operative Co., Ltd., the Executive shall be allowed for distribution amongst the sub-branches in the hands of 1,500 shares held in trust by the Rev. D. I. Freedman for such sub-branches, such Trustee shall be empowered to deduct the representative sum of money as will recoup the Executive funds for moneys supplied to the 'Listening Post' on the basis of 1,500 is to 2,500.

We wish to add that if this arrangement is adopted and honoured a considerable saving in labour and material will automatically follow both in Executive and sub-branch management." When speaking to the report, several delegates so expressed themselves as to indicate that, whilst in accord with the Committee's recommendation, they did not feel disposed to extend unqualified support until the report had been before their respective sub-branches. Finally, the Committee's recommendation was endorsed and to come into effect as from 16-10-22.

Service Homes.

Resolutions as follow were passed relating to this subject:

1. "That representation be made to the Federal authorities with a view to having approval of the proposal on the War Service Homes Board, Western Australia, in the interest of returned soldier applicants for War Service Homes."

2. "That, in the event of a transfer being made of the properties from the Federal Government to the State Government, or the administrative duties in respect of War Service Homes, a clause protecting the Government of returned soldiers should be inserted in any report of transfer.

3. "That the Federal Government be urged to introduce a scheme whereby the widow of a deceased soldier, until remarriage, may receive a home at a rental consistent with the pension she is receiving."

4. "That the War Service Homes Act and Regulations be so amended as to allow any person eligible under the Act to receive an advance in grant for improvements or additions up to the maximum amount allowed by the Act."

V.D. Stoppages.

On request from the Federal Congress, Congress dealt with the question of V.D. stoppages of pay, and resolved that the Federal Executive be informed that Congress is against the proposal to refund stoppages of pay incurred through V.D.

Poppy Day.

This question was referred, by letter, to Congress for consideration, by the Executive, stating that that body had already resolved to again participate, also giving an outline of the methods it was proposed to adopt. Congress endorsed the Executive proposals, and urged that all sub-branches heartily co-operate.

General Resolutions as follow were also passed:

"That Congress protest against the Government of Australia neglecting non-paying railway lines, such policy not being in the best interests of the State."

"That Mr. H. E. Bolton be the Branch's nominee on the Directorate of the R.S.L. Cooperative Co., Ltd., for the interest of the branch, for distribution amongst the sub-branches in the hands of 1,500 shares held in trust by the Rev. D. I. Freedman for such sub-branches, such Trustee shall be empowered to deduct the representative sum of money as will recoup the Executive funds for moneys supplied to the 'Listening Post' on the basis of 1,500 is to 2,500.

"That the Commissioner for Railways be asked when calling tenders for the right to sell flowers on all railway stations, he so frame contracts as to provide a minimum 10 per cent. preference to returned soldiers."

"That Messrs. Cooke, Kirke, and McPherson be appointed as a committee to go into the matter of employment under the Returned Soldiers Act, particularly with reference to trainees, and to report to the Executive."

"That certificates of merit be awarded to Messrs. Watson, Fremantle, and Mr. G. McLeod, for the work amongst returned soldiers and their dependants, also the dependants of the fallen."

"That a letter of thanks and appreciation be sent to Mr. Price, Karragullen, for kindly services rendered to returned soldiers and their dependants also dependants of the fallen."

"That the interests of returned soldiers, relatives and dependants, and with the object of obtaining cheaper clothing for the Australian community, Congress protests against the decision of the Commonwealth Government in disposing of its woollen mills.

"That the following be appointed as a Propaganda and Social Committee: Messrs. C. L. Harvey, Bader, Morris, May, and Cooke, whose functions shall be organising propaganda throughout the State concerning the possibilities of social, political, social, and financial interests, as well as to organise social, dances, and concert parties, for the purpose of advertising the League and what it is doing, provided that the League is committed to no financial expenditure as to an unlimited majority of the Executive so resolves.

"That the Education Department be approached with the object of arranging that any qualified dentist visit all country State schools at intervals of about six months, to examine and attend to children's teeth."

"That the Executive bring under the notice of the Government the necessity of taking some steps to provide a profitable outlet for the produce of soldier settlers, especially in the metropolitan area, as at present a large quantity of this produce is having to be destroyed."

"That Congress convey the thanks of the Women's Auxiliary to the Minister for the building of the Esperance-Norseman Railway at the earliest possible opportunity."

"That the Executive request the Federal and State Governments to take such action as will ensure the granting of a cemetery title deed in respect of a deceased soldier to his widow or nearest relative as the case may be within a reasonable time."

"That the good work already done by the Women's Auxiliary Branches is appreciated by Congress, and that it be immediately moved from Congress that sub-branches assist in the same way auxiliaries already formed, and, further, where sub-branches are not formed, sub-branches concerned to assist in the formation of the same."

On carrying a general vote of thanks to President, Secretary, and Staff, Institute Staff, and Press, Congress closed with the National Anthem.
With the British Armoured Cars in Russia.

INTRODUCTION.

When in August, 1914, the Germans began their victorious advance into Belgium, the cavalry played a negligible part. The only Indian cavalry units employed were also employed in preparing the way to the north, to open the line of communication to the north. The only large bodies of independent cavalry employed in the flank columns in encircling movements and rear attacks, but numerous, small cavalry units were also employed in preparing the way to the north, to open the line of communication to the north. The only large bodies of independent cavalry employed were also employed in these operations.

Commander Sampson, who later became so well known to all Anzacs, was one of the first British aviators to arrive in Belgium. To counter these smaller enemy cavalry units Sampson equipped his motor tenders with machine guns, and operated them in conjunction with his aircraft. So impressed were the Belgians with his success, and realising the great value of a mobile mounted gunery, the authorities, however, they hastily stripped a number of touring cars of their bodies, replacing instead sheeting of thin armour-plating of the form of a lidless box, and equipped the machines with machine guns. These were the first armoured cars which caused such havoc in the ranks of the enemy cavalry and infantry alike in those early days of the war. They far outranged the cavalry in the theatre of operation and were especially suitable for co-operation in flank movements.

The British Admiralty were quick to see the value of this new arm and in adopting it. Orders were at once placed with several motor works in England to construct armoured cars of an approved design; but, as the War Office was commandeering almost the entire output of cars, considerable delay was experienced before the orders were executed. When, however, the machines were available, the opposing armies had already settled down to position warfare. The cars were manned by highly trained crews and organised into squadrons of twelve armoured cars, each squadron having its own transport and repair staff.

Until the end of 1915 the squadrons, which had been drafted out to France and Belgium as they were available, were kept in reserve behind the lines, the personal being employed as infantry machine gun companies; but as the cost of maintaining the squadrons was not commensurate with their utility on the western front, they were disposed of in 1916. Some, however, the machines were available, the opposing armies had already settled down to position warfare. The cars were manned by highly trained crews and organised into squadrons of twelve armoured cars, each squadron having its own transport and repair staff.

Our Advertisers please say "I saw your Adv. in The Listening Post."
Tonsorial artist Arthur Rodgers, of the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, recently presented a diamond ring, to be worn on the correct finger, to pretty Rene Robertson, of Perth.

Our sympathies are with Harry Hooking, of the Repat., owing to the recent and sudden death of his mother.

Many a digger's heart was sad on hearing of the passing away last month of that splendid woman, Sister Lightfoot.

Will Leslie, who saw much active service with the Army in the war, has, after 4 years' service with the Water Supply Department at Kalgoorlie, returned to transfer to the Perth office.

Lieut.-Col. Olden, ex 10th Light Horse and active in matters of Soldier welfare, has been managing one of Wm. Padbury's farms for some time past. There is a much more agreeable duty for him to owe to his chief now, as he has the custody (if not management) of Mr. Padbury's eldest daughter's happiness.

We hear on good authority that the State Repatriation Board has been used as a stepping stone for its three members towards the political arena.

Jas. Pollard, who has still some of Fritzie's metal about his person, has unfortunately found it necessary to resort to treatment once again, and is now an in-patient at the Soldiers' wing of the Perth Hospital.

President G. F. Carthew, of Brookton Sub-Branch, is a live member of the League, and is battling hard to place his branch well above the financial low-water mark.

The hearty reception given the retiring President of the R.S.L., Mr. Harry Bolton, by members of Congress, must have been some small compensation to him for the many arduous years of self-sacrifice given by him for the digger and his dependants. Mr. Bolton has presided at four State Congresses, and deputations who have attended know with what skill he has carried out his difficult tasks.

Delegates generally wished him success in his efforts to win political honours. We understand that Harry's first plank is "Preference to returned soldiers." Omitting that nullifying addendum, "All things being equal."

President H. S. Humphrey was the first Secretary of the West Perth Branch, and organised the arrangements at its inception. His active service extended over a period of about five years, including a couple of enforced spells with wounds. The sub-branch of which Mr. Humphreys has recently released the helm is now 360 strong. It is expected that continued loyalty and an increase of interest will be evinced by all members.

Ben Davies, though perhaps not so famed for vocal prowess as the famous Welsh Ben Davies, is, notwithstanding, possessed of a fine baritone. He saw service with the 3rd Divisional Artillery. His present activities are confined to some extent to the welfare of Midland Junction as councillor. On November 22nd an election will take place, when Mr. Davies, who was an active and useful delegate at Conference, will contest the vacancy of Mayor of Midland.

A millionaire was addressing a body of students, and during the course of his remarks he said: "All my success, all my tremendous financial prestige, I owe to one thing—pluck, pluck, pluck!" A student called: "But how are we to find the right people to pluck?"

"Enjoying your trip, sir?" enquired the skipper, as the sailing vessel ploughed under the billows.

"Oh, it's all right so far," granted the pallid pessimist, "but I expect I'll soon get sick of it."

WHEN DEALING WITH OUR ADVERTISERS PLEASE SAY "I SAW YOUR ADVT. IN THE LISTENING POST."

WITH THE BRITISH ARMoured CARS IN RUSSIA

(Continued from page 11)

and inner windows, along the sill, were placed slabs of turf and lichen. The only means of ventilation was through a small pane six inches square, which opened in the top corner of the windows. Little air entered by the doors, for these were edged with felt, and fitted tightly. The house itself was built on piles three or four feet above the ground. By boarding in the piles a sort of lumber room was made containing the fisherman's nets and other implements of his calling. As the winter progressed this room became filled with the season's catch of seals, which gave out a fearsome stench in the thaw.

LIFE IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

I said that we landed during the first fortnight in January and remained until the end of May. But we were not idle. Each day there were rifle, machine-gun, and light artillery practices. Field days were indulged in when the weather was mild enough to carry out tactical exercises. For firing ranges were constructed and shelter-sheds built, warmed with old lamps to protect the fires against the bleak, cold winds; but even with this protection it was impossible to remain seated behind the guns for more than a few minutes. Several parties of men, mostly Canadians, were selected from the Brigade to drive cars between the gaps in the new railway then being built to Petropagad. Russia was frightfully short of rifles, and several thousands of cases were imported by our men over the frozen lakes near Kandalaksha. Others of our men were employed in mounting guard over the German and Austrian prisoners engaged in constructing this railway.

FOOTBALL ON THE ICE.

To amuse all ranks and to provide healthy outdoor recreation a football field was made by the simple expedient of marking the ice and laying down the snow until it was beaten down level and hard. Great rivalry had existed between squadrons, and even the sections, in their work, and it was nothing unusual to find the rivalry sport now created. Skiting, sleighing and tobogganning yielded wholesome fun, and we were joined in these pastimes by the villagers. Excellent slopes for our snow sports were to be found a short distance from the billets on the edge of the lake, and competitions were held at frequent intervals. There was no lack of light timber to construct sheds and they would be placed at small cost from across the border. Game in the form of fox, hares, ducks and ptarmigan was plentiful. The main concern of the force during its Arctic sojourn was black rye bread and reindeer, supplemented with bully and biscuits. The long winter evenings were brightened with concerts, lectures and indoor games. So novel was this new life into which we were so unexpectedly thrust that I honestly believe that, despite the hardships, almost without exception the force really enjoyed its stay on the Murman Coast.

THE NORTHERN SPRING.

With the approach of spring the hours of darkness grew less, and again the sun
appeared after an absence of several months. By May the snow had almost disappeared, and streams were rushing through the headwaters of the bay. We were now truly in the land of the midnight sun, for that orb sent its rays into every corner during the whole twenty-four hours. A gale of wind and activity seemed to disturb everybody, and cheerfully we proceeded to embark. Before the glad tidings were given that the White Sea was again open to traffic, and that we could continue our voyage to Archangel, we had to get out of the harbour on that memorable May morning with the Brigade aboard. The entire village, despite a heavy blizzard, stretched out to the last dog to bid us good-by. The womenfolk were in tears and the men stood bareheaded as we slowly drew away. They loved the British Tommy, whose fun and humour had brightened for them at least one dreary, monotonous winter.

TO ARCHANGEL.

In the narrow neck of the White Sea we stuck fast for twelve hours in the grip of the ice, but were rewarded as we endeavoured foot by foot to force our way through. Thirty-six hours later we were steaming slowly up the river. It was low tide, and we had to push with our masts. Twelve miles up the river lay Archangel, and as we sighted the town that had taken us nearly six months to reach a great cheer went up. The reception extended to the arrival of our four men. Nobody could do enough for us. An Ikon, which had been taken by the British from the church of St. Sophia when they bombarded Archangel in the eighties, re-sounded some time later, was presented to us by the townspeople. The men were entertained for a whole day, luncheoned, and fussed over by everyone. The officers were given a dinner at the club, which was the occasion for impassioned oaths by the Russians in honour of Britain's magnificient military and naval achievements.

Within a few days the Brigade was entrained and began its long train journey to the Caucasus.

(Mud and Other Things)

(Mud—And Other Things)

(By Jas. Pollard.)

"Hello, Johnnie!"

"'Struth, Mac! How the d—l are you?" and Johnnie exchanged a warm handclasp with the smiling younger who had greeted him.

The interior of one of the huts at "Palmer's Baths" was the scene of this meeting, in the afternoon of an October day, 1917. Johnnie's battalion had retired from the line during the night preceding; straggling out from the region of Ploegsteert, in twos and threes, weary, nerve-worn, dirty, and in uniform—rifle and equipment lost under a coating of mud. The last-comers stumbled into the huts just as dawn was breaking; dropping to the first vacant floor; pitching their rifles and other gear loosely against the walls; falling back asleep as they wrenched off their footgear. Still clothed in wet, evil-smelling, grubby uniforms, they lay through the first half of the day, sleeping the sleep of utter and complete exhaustion—while the thundering of an extensive bombardment sent long, shuddering tremors through the camp and the ground itself.

A new draft had come in whilst the battalion rested, twenty or thirty fresh-faced, eager-eyed men from the base, whom Johnnie had, that morning, been endearing to for our way through. Thirty-six hours of air; nobody could do enough for us. An Ikon, which had been taken by the British from the church of St. Sophia when they bombarded Archangel in the eighties, re-sounded some time later, was presented to us by the townspeople. The men were entertained for a whole day, luncheoned, and fussed over by everyone. The officers were given a dinner at the club, which was the occasion for impassioned oaths by the Russians in honour of Britain's magnificient military and naval achievements.

Within a few days the Brigade was entrained and began its long train journey to the Caucasus.

(Mud and Other Things)

(Mud—And Other Things)

(To be continued)

The Listening Post.

(Awaiting to be continued)
Hey.—Let H. May say his say about widening the constitution and its scope, my contention is that something more drastic is needed to banish the spathy of the digger. May is a good and enthusiastic worker, and I would to Heaven there was a much larger percentage of men of his type to keep the digger cognisant of his evergrowing tendency to become remiss. But mark you—only not only makes the digger need to awaken and take notice to preserve his righteous interests—he must fight, and fight hard to avoid the undermining of his own organisation by other bodies antagonistic to the League. Do the unions love “preference to soldiers?” Need I say more?

P.G.R.—The Yarloop and District Coastral Development League has already had visits by the Commissioner of Railways, the Inspector of Police, and the Director of Agriculture, accompanied by Mr. Lowe, the potato expert. So the predominance of soldiers in the local association is proving of benefit generally.

Violets.—We hear about large sums of money being spent in bringing out farmer immigrants and in settling them on the land. Shortly afterwards they often leave the farms and drift back to the cities, because they do not understand or enjoy their work. They are then hard up against it and will take employment at a wage below the minimum. Steps should be taken to stop this business, as not only is it a burden to the State, but it puts the “stickers” amongst the immigrants in bad repute. No assistance should be given whatsoever to the “non-sticker,” in fact he should be deported and placed on the permanent immigrant list until he has refunded the whole amount charged to cost the Australian Government. Personally I think it would be far more profitable to encourage those already resident in the State to farm, with better inducements, rather than import population.

ETHEL CAMPBELL FUND.

The purpose of the fund inaugurated to show the appreciation of the West Australian soldiers to this lady, from whom so many received evidence of her interest and of movement on behalf of Australian soldiers, is not so much fulfilled; but notwithstanding the poor response something has to be done. It is not our intention to hold indefinitely the colonial sum shown hereunder, although the accumulated interest would soon place us in a position to retire; we propose to arrange for a suitable address to be prepared. This at least will show Miss Campbell that her good works are not forgotten.

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Before you buy a Vineyard, or Land to make into a Vineyard, consult the Vinelands Expert, the man who has confidence in the industry, the man who has studied the vine-growing proposition in W.A., and is satisfied that it must become a great national asset.

C. J. Cooke and B. Davies had the most to say.
E. B. Smalpage was the stormy petrel of the gathering.
Harold Colvin was concise and solid.
The President-elect, H. S. Humphrey, created a fine impression on delegates. He has a commanding appearance.

"Stumpy" Wright is becoming quite conservative. His favourite word was "peregories.

Bill Ross was the fastest speaker and W. Harvey (not West Perth Harvey) the slowest.
Billy Gaynor was the heavyweight and E. Whitely the lightweight.

"Yandanna" Matthews is a good speaker, and A. J. Matthews was a useful delegate.

"Cherrie" Hancock, of the "Aneodes," was responsible for more than one hearty laugh.

Peter Wedd's negative speech on the Preference question was clever.

Jim Butler was unusually quiet.
F. G. Denewa was unconsciously humorous at times.
Campbell and Ward, of Kalgoorlie, were listened to attentively.

C. R. Kenny, of Katanning, is a cheerful cuss, and was popular with his co-delegates.

More will be heard of Wally Unmack.

Geo. Robson was methodical and wise.

"Alphabetical" Beechey was a bit pessimistic.

No delegate had a better grasp of his subject matter than A. H. Priestley. His reason for refusing nomination for the new Executive was disappointing.

South Fremantle sent a live wire in Garnet Philp.

Sincerity, thy name is Roy Millen.

W. L. G. Armstrong used his tonnage to some effect.

R. G. Sexty was convincing.
The Rabbi was useful and popular.
Fortunately, Goodison only spoke once.
E. W. Morris had a difficult task, and did it well.

Carl Bader, being a better worker than talker, had little to say.

Colebatch, of Northam, is very capable.
Macpherson's (of Perth Sub-Branch) speeches were short and to the point.

General Secretary W. A. Penny was capable, courteous and obliging.

I have found my old bomb-throwing practice useful for the first time since the little upheaval was quietened. A newsciall chorus has serenaded through the stilly night on several occasions during the early part of this month, and I found that one could easily disperse the feline annoyances by hurling brick bat bomb fashion, provided the opportunity was not lost in an automatic attempt to find the ring of the pin.

This bears out my old Euclid master's theory that everything learned proves of use at some later date; but I still await the conviction that "which is absurd" does not still apply to Euclid.

Surprise parties are not quite what they seem to be. The other day I was persuaded to become a member of a very select surprise party, and my wife told me in confidence about a preliminary meeting between the hostess and the guests. They had conferred to discuss the issue of rations, or, in other words, the catering arrangements, and so I can only conclude that the word "surprise" applies to the fact that the party is deemed select in spite of my inclusion.

The Police Department evidently believes in the old tried axiom of remove the cause to effect a cure. The department was strafed through the dailies for lack of supervision in the matter of the tram accident on Theatre Appeal Day. Rather than put such an interpretation on the result of their methods of control of crowds, they have caused the band to be "taboo" in principal thoroughfares. This was demonstrated when the Clontarf Orphanage appeal was launched, the band being forbidden to parade the principal streets. The law always demands a victim.

At the Grammar School sports at Guildford, Sargent-Major Douglas, ex instructional staff in camp, caused an audible smile (in spite of the inclemency of the weather) in the ranks of the crowd witnessing the events, when he called through his megaphone: "Has any gentleman lost an umbrella? if it is not claimed it will be sold to defray expenses.

The Government Railways and Tourist Bureau advertised extensively the projected four days' tour to Geraldton. In the Central Station at Perth, a huge poster was suspended with an invitation to "book now," and for several days after the proposed excursion was concluded the invitation remained. It caused little inconvenience, I understand, as only about 15 people applied for accommodation.

J. A. Matherson,
Dental Surgeon

Remember Poppy Day—11th Nov.
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WHEN DEALING WITH OUR ADVERTISERS PLEASE SAY "I SAW YOUR ADVT. IN THE LISTENING POST."
THE FAITH OF THE SOLDIER SETTLED

(To be said or sung at morning stables, 5 a.m. winter; 4:30 summer.)

Whosoever will be a farmer before all things, it is necessary that he hold the SSS faith.

Which faith, except everyone do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall be Stellenbosch everlasting and his IAB Credit Authority reduced or cancelled.

And the SSS faith is this: We worship one Trustee in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity.

Both confounding the Managers and damning their branches.

For their is one manager of the SSS, another of the AB, and another of the IAB.

But the authority of the SSS, of the AB, and of the IAB is all one; the power equal, and the Glory co-eternal.

Such as the SSS is, such is the AB, and such is the IAB.

SSS separate, AB separate, IAB separate.

SSS incomprehensible, AB incomprehensible, IAB incomprehensible (only more so).

SSS futile, AB futile, IAB futile (and senseless).

And yet there are not three futilities, but one futile.

As also there are not three incomprehensibles nor three separates, but one inchoate and one incomprehensible.

So likewise the SSS is almighty, AB is almighty, IAB is almighty.

So the SSS is the Credit Authority, the AB is the Credit Authority, and the IAB is the Credit Authority.

And yet there are not three almighties, but one almighty; not three Credit Authorities, but one Credit Authority.

So Mitchell is chief, McLarty is chief, Hewston is chief (and the Lord’s anointed).

So likewise Mitchell is boss-Cocky, McLarty is boss-Cocky, Hewston is boss-Cocky.

And yet not three chiefs or three bosscocks, but one Chief-Boss Cock.

For like as we are compelled by Acts of Parliament to acknowledge every Manager and Inspecting Bailiff to be Chief and Boss-Cocky.

So we are forbidden by Cabinet to say there are three Boss-Cocks or three Chiefs.

SSS is made of none but separate and miscellaneous.

IAB is of permanent improvements alone, but separate and miscellaneous.

The IAB is of crops, fallow, food, CLOTHING, and personal credit, but mishapen and unseasooning.

So there is one SSS not three SSS’s; one AB, not three AB’s; one IAB, not three IAB’s.

And in this Trinity none is aforesaid or after other; none greater or less than another.

But the whole three are cavilling together and quibbling.

And as in all things as aforesaid the Unity in Trinity and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshipped.

THE LISTENING POST.

He, therefore, that will have Credit Authorities must thus think of the Trinity.

Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting success on the land that he also believe rightly in the appointment of our IAB Manager and the local Inspecting Bailiff.

For the right faith is: That we believe and confess that Hewston is the IAB and controller of Credit Authorities.

Perfect of Managers of reasonable farming knowledge and of human flesh substance, that is, a man.

Equal to McLarty as touching settled soldier settlers, but inferior to McLarty as touching his administration.

Who, although he be Manager and Controller of Credit Authorities, yet he has no power to take a man.

One altogether, not alone by confusion of jobs, but by complexity of branches.

For, as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man, so should McLarty’s and mine.

We might suffer if this re-organisation be effected, for Hewston might ascend to Harvest Terrace and rise again the same day with both jobs and a diseased brain.

He might descend into Hay-street, pregnant with new ideas, and sit on top of McLarty (from which calamity, Good Lord, deliver us).

Almighty, whence he shall come to reduce sustenance and wages, thereby increasing the average yield per acre, thus performing a miracle after the manner of the Apostle.

And who being all settled soldier settlers shall arise again and make two stalks of wheat grow where one had previously grown.

And they that have done well shall possess to the haven of solvency.

They that have had ill-luck shall be created bailiffs of the IAB.

This is the faith of the settled soldier settler, which faith, unless a man believe faithfully, he cannot obtain necessary Credit Authorities.

Glory be to the SSS, to the AB, and to the IAB. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Chaos without end. Amen.—John O’Tarin (20/7/22).

(These above items were posted to the State Secretary, without comment, in the form of a printed handbill, and by reason of its originality is reproduced here.

We feel sure that the application of the theme is not intended to reflect in any blasphemous manner; but is rather intended to call attention to anomalous fancied or real—with a view to awakening the persons responsible, to a sense of more lively appreciation of the moment’s requirements.—Ed.)

“BILLOSOPHY”

(By Nosivad.)

“What intracate process of reasoning led you to arrive at that logical conclusion, Bill,” I asked.

“Lofty,” said Bill, reprovingly, “when you’re as big as I, you won’t go out talkin’ like a bloke out of a book, because blokes don’t do it in Australia. What you meant by all them long words was ‘Where’s John Dinkum oil from? wasn’t it?”

“Well, yes, but—”

“Well, when you want to say a thing, say it like a man, and give the guts of the thing without lookin’ through a dictionary to find the meanin’ of it. What’s wrong with the Australian language me an’ Alick talks?”

“T think it’s particularly descriptive,” I replied; “but—”

“You mean it’s dinkum,” said Bill; “dinkum’s th’ best word in the Australian language. You can use it in such a way as to give a bloke a dinkum go for ‘is money y’don’t mean a square go, ’cause that means it ain’t against th’ law. When y’ say a bloke’s a dinkum bloke or a straight go or a dinkum white or y’ can’t go over th’ odds, but y’ mean a bit of each. Compare?”

“I compre, Bill,” I said.

“And ter find out what a dinkum bloke is y’ gotta find out what e ain’t; like a nomion; y’ first peal off ‘is top skin an’ find ‘e ain’t a wosser; then ‘is second skin an’ y’ find ‘e ain’t a flammin’ cow; an’ keep on peelin’ th’ skins offs until y’ find that underneath ‘em all ‘e’s as white as a nomion.”

“That’s all very true,” I argued, “but sometimes, after all the peeling, the onion or the—er—bloke, to all intents and purposes appears white, but in the heart you may find a decayed and rotting portion. Your metaphor is weak, Bill.”

“Semaphore ain’t got nothin’ to do with it. ‘S ’e a bad heart in a nomion don’t make th’ rest of it bad, ‘y’ can always tell if there’s a bad heart by th’ way a nomion smells or a bloke talks.”

“But, Bill, look at Alick,” I said; “he isn’t a wosser and he isn’t a flaming—er—slander, and so on, and we know he’s a dinkum chap, but he hardly ever talks; how do we know that he hasn’t a bad heart?”

“A flicker of a grin across Alick’s face.

There was a sudden crash in the sap, and I felt a jarring pain in my right leg. Alick was bending over Bill, tugging at his gas helmet.

“Gas shell, Lofty,” he said, quickly adjusting Bill’s helmet.

I felt weakly for mine, and discovered to my horror that it was torn to ribbons.

“Mine’s—torn—Alick,” I gasped, “drag me—up—on top.”

“Here’s mine,” he said, as he tossed it across. “Bill’s bleedin’ badly.”

“Get ter hell out of it y’ blasted fool,” said Bill, weakly, but Alick stayed until he had adjusted the tourniquet, then he turned to me, his eyes inhaled and streaming.
THE LISTENING POST.

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OCTOBER 20th, 1922.

Before the Armistice

Do you recall that famous charge, by gallant horsemen?

Courage which words could not enlarge,

That deed which cannot fade?

Six hundred mounted men there were,

'Twas but a few returned!

And was it not through lack of care

That this sad fate they earned?

But brave as was the 'Light Brigade',

And wrong as the command

In this stern war are deeds as brave,

Orders out of hand:

Men still may find a soldier's grave

Because some fool misplanned.

Rosebud Souvenir

In each and every phase of war,

A little faded flower

Proved a key to memory's door,

By its enchanted power.

A little flower with faded stem,

Thy petals once did blush

With hue more fair than costly gem

Akin to sunset's flush.

But still won't thou more fair to me

When of beauty bereft,

Than any bloom could ever be

Were Nature e'en more deft!

How often hast thou charmed away

The gleam of vigour long!

How often pointed honour's way!

Oh, sweetest gift, I own.

Answers to Correspondents

Items of news of Sub-branch activities are welcomed by our readers, and personal notes of 'diggers are extremely interesting; we are therefore desirous of receiving such pars, and invite correspondence accordingly.

John O'Tarin: When did you find time to do it?

P. G. Riegert: Let's have more of your personal sentiments.

Jas. Pollard: Your industry and application is proving an asset.

W. J. Phillips: Sub. and letter acknowledged with thanks.

C. S. Temby: Guess again.

'Repatriated': Thank you; delighted to hear from you.

C. H. Davies: Acknowledgement elsewhere. How about a few pars?

'Digger': Your application for a gratuity bond is very late. Write to Defence Department.

Send your orders for printing to the office of, "The Listening Post," 70 King Street, Perth.

THE NEW BILL

War Pensions.

The agitation for an increase of pensions to the limbless soldiers has been in progress for a very considerable term. A good deal of time has been spent by the Returned Maimed and Limbless Men's Association as well as by the League.

Advice from the Federal Executive shows that a new measure has been introduced to provide an additional payment to limbless men under what is to be known as the Fifth Schedule.

In the case of a double arm amputation an additional allowance is made of £2 per week for an attendant; similarly a man who has lost two legs and one arm, or a man who has lost two legs above the knee, one arm with both hands amputated at the hip, will receive an attendant's allowance of £1 a week.

The provision of the Fifth Schedule allows the following rates to be paid in addition to the existing fortnightly rates:—

2 arms amp. 76/-; 2 legs and 1 arm amp. 76/; 2 legs above knee with one or both at hip, 76/-; 2 legs above knee otherwise, 76/; 1 leg and 1 arm amp., 76/; 1 leg above knee and 1 below, 56/-; 1 arm amp. or 1 leg amp. and 1 eye destroyed 56/-; 1 leg above knee, 17/-; 1 arm amp. above elbow, 17/-; 1 leg below knee, or 1 arm below elbow, 7/-.

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL.

It may interest soldier settlers to hear that the secretary of the Parliamentary Select Committee inquiring into matters in connection with land settlement, informed Congress that the committee intended visiting country centres for the purpose of taking evidence. Soldier settlers concerned are advised to either communicate with the secretary to the committee, or to the State secretary, the former preferably.

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Digger Sports!

NOTE:

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BEYOND A DOUBT.

The teacher in a country school tried to make the lesson as interesting as possible. "Now, children," she said, "let me see what you remember about the animal kingdom. You have named all the domestic animals but one. What is that?"

There was no reply.

"What!" exclaimed the teacher. "Does no one know? It has bristly hair, like the dirt, and is fond of grovelling in the mud."

A small boy at the end of the class raised his hand.

"Well, Alan?" said the teacher. "Please, ma'am," said the little boy reflectively, "it must be me."

"Pearson's Weekly" (Eng.).

Going into his stable one day, father found his little son with a slate and pencil in his hand, astride one of the horses.

"Why, Harry," he exclaimed, "what are you doing?"

"Writing a composition," he replied.

"Well, why don't you write it in the house?" asked the father.

"Because," answered the little fellow, "the master told me to write a composition on a horse."

"Pearson's Weekly" (Eng.).

Do your best to increase the League membership.

A CARD

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[late A.I.F.]
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