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A. L. ROGERS — Manager
This Monstrous Regime

In wishing our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, we do so with a certain amount of diffidence, because we know that, for many, this will be the most dismal Christmas since the war, and that the curtain of the year will be rung down on something akin to tragedy. There are times and occasions when mere expressions of good will seem an insult; nevertheless, we feel sure that the digger will present a stiff upper lip to his difficulties even as he did in the trenches. He may even jest about them, but that will not make them any easier to bear.

It is idle to attribute the present world depression to the war, as the “peace at any price” weaklings are prone to do; or to our federal connection as do our superficial obsessionists. Other countries have experienced similar periods of financial stringency, when there was neither war nor federation. A notable case was Victoria in the nineties. In an address, which he delivered to the Finance Members of Provincial Governments, the Finance Member of the Indian Government stated that the present world depression is due in no small measure to the political agitation in India and China. These countries contain more than a quarter of the world’s population, and when political upheavals remove millions of people from production, financial disaster must result. As far as Australia is concerned most of our present ills can be laid at the door of the evil old policy of boom, borrow, and burst, a policy which papers like the Sydney Bulletin have been combatting for the last thirty years. We have failed to profit by the lesson that Victoria learned so bitterly in the early nineties.

The trouble with our present social system is that over-organisation has made it muscle bound. Party politicians and the extra-constitutional bodies that determine our course, all those monstrosities which Liam O’Flaherty has so aptly called “the litter of that promiscuous bitch, Democracy,” have become so one-sided that they stiffen thought. The way to better conditions is obstructed with red tape and circumlocution. Over-organisation has destroyed elasticity of government, and has killed initiative. So much is this so, that people refuse to listen to advice unless that advice marches in step with their own political prejudices. When a highly qualified financial expert gives a dispassionate summing up of the situation he is vilified from one end of the country to the other, and every babbling mediocrity has the effrontery to call in question his very honesty. At no time in our history have the dangers of a little learning, the pragmatism of the untutored, been so apparent. The result is that those who are really competent to lead the people out of the financial morass remain reticent. The theories of the half-baked are broadcast while the competent remain politically inarticulate, leaving the very politicians who are responsible for the present chaos to pose as our financial saviours.

When the old Roman Republic was in danger the government delegated its powers to a dictator until the crisis was over. Republican France was even more heroic. The Committee of Public Safety used to guillotine failures and traitors. A few years ago the affairs of the Sydney City Council were in such a parlous condition that the State Government suspended the City Council and placed the government of the City in the hands of a commission of experts. What can be done with a city can be done with a country. When M. Poincare wished to stabilise the France, he conferred with the leaders of the French political parties. A committee of financial experts was appointed, and the French Parliament passed whatever financial measures they recommended. Dictatorships and the guillotine are extreme measures, but surely our Federal Parliament could profit by Poincare’s example. Parliament to-day is not so much a reflex of the people’s will as an expression of the country’s collective ignorance, and unless our democracy is to be condemned as a failure it should provide the remedy by making an honest selection of experts and submitting to their guidance.

The chief obstacle in the way of honesty of selection is our baneful over-organisation. We have far too many organisations. Some, like our own, have a legitimate excuse for existing, and the work they do is for the public weal; others are merely societies for minding other people’s business, and achieve little beyond irritating noise. In a multitude of counsel there may be wisdom, but when that multitude becomes a Babel, only confusion can result. The danger occurs when all sorts of noisy little people begin to void their half-baked opinions upon public questions that are entirely beyond their comprehension, and when the daily press gives the outpourings of these eminent nobody’s the same publicity as is given the reasoned utterances of experienced publicists, we are in grave danger of losing our sense of proportion.

No where is this more apparent than in much of the piffle talked about disarmament and outlawing war. It is fashionable, nowadays, to wave olive branches to the accompaniment of a fluttering of doves’ wings, but it should be remembered that much of this peace talk emanates from melodramatic cranks, or from rogues who preach international peace while stimulating class war at home. Anyone capable of viewing history in...
perspective must recognise that war is a phenomenon, while peace is the normal condition of affairs. Anyone who has not lost all sense of proportion must recognise that the horrors of war are but the horrors of peace compressed within a brief period of time. The horrors of peace—crime, poverty, disease, deaths by accident, class hatred, jazz bands, and vice—are matters upon which our noisy little folks might concentrate with profit to the community, instead of perennially bleating about the horrors of a war which may never happen. Our noisy people talk too much about peace and too little of good-will. If, instead of handing out olive branches to foreigners, they did something to eradicate class war at home, we might be spared disgraceful scenes, like the Lynch-Rae episode, in the very body which should set a standard of decorum for the nation. A greater manifestation of good-will in politics should allow saner counsels to prevail over cut and dried prejudices, and end that indecision in high places which is impeding our financial salvation. A greater degree of good-will will enable all men to pull together for the common cause, and when we have eliminated the greater horrors of peace we will have advanced more than a step along the road to the abolition of war.

The Federal Presidency

Someone has been pulling Smith’s Weekly’s editorial leg over the last election of the Federal President. In its efforts to eulogise Mr. Dyett (he is not Captain Dyett), by the way; the temporary rank of Captain acquired, while holding a temporary job, terminated automatically (with that job), Smith’s gave a very garbled and incorrect account of the election itself, and made it appear that the opposition to Mr. Dyett’s re-election was on personal grounds, and motivated by inter-State jealousies. There has been no opposition to Mr. Dyett on personal grounds. It is recognised that he has rendered valuable service to the League. At the same time it is almost an axiom that a man can hold an office too long. Mr. Dyett’s actions and attitude when the Federal Government attacked the preference principle were far from satisfactory. At the time, and again, in commenting upon his re-election this year, the Sydney Bulletin strongly hinted that a stronger man in Mr. Dyett’s position would have dissuaded Mr. Scullin from attempting such a tragic blunder.

Scullin knew, or thought he knew, his mark. The Bulletin went-on to say that it is time the R.S.L. had a new president. Mr. Dyett, too, was delightfully evasive when the W.A. Branch asked for more detailed information about his negotiations with Mr. Scullin over the preference matter. The full story of that episode would make interesting reading.

What Smith’s Weekly did not tell the public is this: The voting at the election of president was as described in our November issue. Two nominations were received, those of Mr. Dyett, C.M.G., and Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. McCann, D.S.O., M.C. The voting for Dyett was Queensland (2), New South Wales (2), Canberra (1), and Tasmania (1); for McCann, S.A. (2), W.A. (2), Victoria (2), and Tasmania (1). That is, 7 votes, representing 24,910 members were cast in Colonel McCann’s favour, and 6, representing 16,043 members, in favour of Mr. Dyett. Mr. Dyett then adopted the extraordinary course of using the deliberative and casting votes allowed him by Rule 33, sub-pag. 15 of the Federal Constitution, on his own behalf, an undignified proceeding which gave him a majority of one. While Mr. Dyett acted within the letter of the constitution, we do not think anyone can seriously contend that the president was allowed a deliberative and a casting vote by the constitution, in order to secure his own re-election. However, this incident may not be closed yet, for more should be heard about this particular election.

The whole episode clearly supports those who consider that the time has arrived when the League should secure the leadership of someone who is an outstanding feature in the public life of the community; someone who can lead the R.S.L. with courage, force, and dignity.

Unfortunately, Sir John Monash is not available, but there were other capable and distinguished senior officers in the A.I.F. Why not make an effort to secure the services of one of these?

**Suggested Menu for the Annual Christmas Dinner of the Diminishing League**

“**If at first you can’t seduce, Cry, cry, cry again.**”

**Soup:**

“Our Goal.”

**Fish:**

Federal Octopus

**Entree:**

Cooked Figures

**Poultry:**

Gold—Teal

**Propaganda—for Proper Goose**

**Sweets:**

Irrelevant Trifles and Gutter Sauce

**Chestnuts and Whine**

(Note—After the Loyal Toast, which is the Diminishing League’s exclusive copyright, members are requested to remain standing while singing the Diminishing League’s anthem, “We Are Not Little Children Weak.”)

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J. H. Taylor, Caversham

For the year ending 30th June, 1931, a Dividend of 7 per cent. and a Cash Bonus of 2 per cent. on Fruit and Vegetables have been paid to shareholders. Shares payable 1/- per share on application, balance 1/6 per share per month. Bonus earning commences on allotment.

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H. R. HARPER, Manager.

Kalgoorlie Branch: Hannan St., Kalgoorlie.

G. D. Hunter, Manager.
The Listening Post

December 19, 1930

Report of Delegates of the W.A. Branch to the 15th Annual Congress B.E.S.L.A.

At the last meeting of the State Executive, Colonel Collett submitted the following report:

The Congress opened at Hadley’s Oriental Hotel, Hobart, at 9.30 a.m. on the 10th November, when His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, Sir James O’Grady, K.C.M.G., addressed the delegates during the proceedings.

His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, Sir James O’Grady, K.C.M.G., addressed the delegates during the proceedings. Those in attendance included representatives from the Public Service, and the War Pensions Entitlement Tribunal.

Social

Your delegates, throughout their journey, to and from Hobart, were entertained with courtesy and consideration from the Eastern States branch members. Hospitality and entertainment, deeply appreciated, were extended by the Federal President, the General Secretary and State Executives of South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania.

Delegates were received from the Patron of the B.E.S.L.A., H.R.H., the Prince of Wales, and from Earl Jellicoe, the Grand President.

The motion last year was (a) That dealing with second preference to ex-Imperial Service men in connection with the C.P.S. (b) re-entrenched still in progress, this being decreed inadvisable.

(b) A protest against the continuance of the sugar embargo. (The Federal President was inclined to rule this motion out of order as being purely political, but when his own action, and another similar matter which had come up earlier in the proceedings was pointed out to him he receded from that attitude. The subject was vigorously debated and a strong case made out. However, a resolution was passed by the Victorian and Federal C.F.T. delegates coming to the aid of Queensland with a shelving motion.)

(c) Amendments to the Constitution. (These did not meet with favour. Some delegates thought that the stage had not been reached when so many alterations were necessary. Others were not above suspicion as to our motives. However, after the passage of one minor item had been secured and a deletion of the most important ones defeated, the remainder were withdrawn.)

Your own delegates are of the opinion that the improvements sought are still most desirable. Your delegates thought that the stage had not been reached when so many alterations were necessary. Others were not above suspicion as to our motives. However, after the passage of one minor item had been secured and a deletion of the most important ones defeated, the remainder were withdrawn.

It was noteworthy that the Federal President voiced his opposition in many instances and was disposed to raise bogeys. Particularly was this so in regard to the A.F.C. where the alterations sought were not for the benefit of the members. Nevertheless, before the debate on this matter was concluded your delegates had the satisfaction of recording that applications for membership under Rule 5 (paras. c and f) were approved or otherwise.

Several of the other branches submitted proposals for the amendment of the Constitution, but only minor alterations were effective.

Of motion to increase the War Service Homes Commission advances from £800 to £500, irrespective of the accommodation clause as at present, was not pursued, as the amendment was moved to be deleted from the State Executives, for approval or otherwise.

Some 200 motions were recorded on the minutes and dealt with formal matters, leaving 174, of which 39 were withdrawn. The roll was called.

The W.A. Branch Items

Of the 24 items submitted by the W.A. Branch, 20 were carried, 3 lost, and 1 deferred until next Congress.

The motions last year were:

(a) That dealing with second preference to ex-Imperial Service men in connection with the C.P.S. (b) Re-entrenched still in progress, this being decreed inadvisable.

W.A. Branch

Delegates:

Your Senior Delegates are determined to continue the parity of your seniority to express his gratitude to his co-delegate and his co-legate during the entire journey to Hobart and the whole period of the Congress proceedings.

Members and of the Branch met delegates. All delegates were grateful to the General Secretary for the completeness of his arrangements and for the attention he gave to the comfort and welfare of members of the Congress.

W.A. Delegates

Your Senior Delegates are determined to continue the parity of your seniority to express his gratitude to his co-delegate and his co-legate during the entire journey to Hobart and the whole period of the Congress proceedings.

Federal Capital Territory Branch

At the close of Congress proceedings objection was taken by your delegates to the stand taken by the Federal Branch, because the terms of the Constitution did not provide for the creation of any branches in the Federal Capital Territory.

The Federal President overruled the objection and the question was referred to the printed Constitution in the hands of the League’s officers. Under the Constitution the legality of the action taken.

Your delegates asked for their objection to be referred to the General Secretary to have the question being the impossibility of securing additional funds at the present time.

B.E.S.L.A. Conference

The 5th Biennial Conference of the B.E.S.L.A. should have been held in Australia next year, but intimacy was received to the effect that it would be impracticable to arrange it.

B.E.S.L.A. found it impracticable to so arrange and it had changed the venue to Canada. During Congress a cablegram was sent to the Council asking it to reconsider its decision. The following reply was received from Earl Jellicoe:

"Members Council of B.E.S.L.A. might not be able to send more than one delegate owing to the cost. The Federal President intimated that he would not be a candidate. The N.S.W. delegates asked for consideration for their branch, as it had not been directly represented at any previous Conference."

Election of Federal President

Nominations for the office of Federal President were made as follows—

G. J. Dyett, Esq., C.M.G., nominated by Queensland, N.S.W., Tasmania.

Lt.-Col. W. F. J. McCann, D.S.O., M.C., nominated by South Australia, Victoria, and Western Australia.

For the purposes of the election, Mr. Dyett, the standing Federal President, was challenged by Mr. Dyett, and the returning officer, Mr. Dyett then moved his chair some distance from the meeting, but the motion was defeated. His Excellency then moved his chair nearer to the meeting, and the vote was taken by Mr. Dyett, the returning officer, and Mr. Dyett was declared elected.

The voting was by open ballot, and resulted as follows—

- Branch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Members</th>
<th>Votes represented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W.A. Branch</td>
<td>685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>10,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.S.W.</td>
<td>6,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>1,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>24,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This disclosed a majority of one in favor of Dyett, the Federal President, and we think that all delegates were genuinely surprised when Mr. Dyett immediately afterwards declared his intention of retiring for himself (thus making the voting equal) and giving his support to the present Federal President. Protests failed to divert him from this course and the returning officer declared Mr. Dyett duly elected. Objections were at once lodged by the delegates of three branches, but a subsequent motion
by South Australia. "That a legal opinion be obtained regarding the right of Mr. Dyett to record a vote in the election of the Federal President," having been declared lost, the objections were not entertained.

Mr. Dyett said that at the occasion and the undeniably atmosphere noticeable at the previous Congress and in several of the recent meetings of the Federal Executive impels your delegates to take advantage of opportunity, refute the rumours of suspected origin encountered in some of the other States (and occasionally in this) that behind Western Australia's opposition to the present Federal President is personal feud between himself and our State President, and the desire of the latter to secure the greater office. We realize there is no such feud, neither has the State President ever expressed any intention of being a candidate for the leadership of the League in Australia.

Three years ago the membership of the organisation was a diminishing quantity, with a moribund spirit, but the Executive, after an agreement reached by the Federal Secretary and the Treasurer, and the President, and忧 the League President, had been due credit for the organisation with a moribund Federal Executive Committee. At the same time due credit for his past work was not denied to Mr. Dyett, and his position was fittingly expressed in the following paragraph of a letter sent to him on the 18th July, 1928:

"To sum up: After years of excellent work and frequent representation of the ex-service men of Australia to the point where they can lay claim to the possession of a Repatriation Scheme on a scale more complete and more generous than any other in the Empire that ex-service men’s organisation. You have the opportunity of making the greatest contribution and most unselfish gesture of your career towards the organisation you belong to. To such an extent has it been necessary to give up work for Australia with unwavering inspiration, high ambitions and a sense of duty and responsibility which gained your confidence and brought us the ultimate victory of the Great War. The credit and confidence of the members can lay claim to this result of your troubles and difficulties. I now ask to be allowed to stand aside so that you may resume your work for Australia with renewed inspiration and a sense of responsibility, so that you may not fall short of the high expectations which were entertained of you when the work was first taken on by you, and that the action created a feud between yourself and our members. This is not the case, and the work was not denied you. The letter continued: "That people of the Nordic races with sufficient capital be encouraged to emigrate to Australia."

Gold Roses

After a good debate, Western Australia's motion dealing with this matter was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Poppy Day

It was noticed that this appeal extended over a week in one State and that sub-branches received 20 per cent. of the total.

Pensions and Benefits, etc.

Motions were carried having for their object:

(a) The recognition by the Repatriation Commission of all sufferers from T.B. who had had service in a forward area.

(b) The granting of pension and medical benefits to certain cases of V.D.

(c) The fixing of the date of commencement of payment of pension benefits to relatives in accordance with the Repatriation Commission in posthumous cases.

(d) That pensions be regarded in the nature of compensation for loss or injury and not as income.

(e) The continuance of free treatment in cases where the Repatriation Commission had first accepted responsibility but later refused it, and such cases are awaiting decision of the Entitlement Tribunal.

(f) Preference to Australian Soldiers Chemists by the Repatriation Commission.

(g) The right of appellants to peruse relative records on their medical file.

(h) More liberal travelling allowances to members of the Force.

(i) Confering on the Repatriation Commission certain powers in relation to pensions of persons committed to gaol for non-compliance with maintenance orders.

(j) Free medical treatment for army nurses.

(k) The application of the education scheme to the children of totally blinded soldiers.

(l) A request to the British Ministry of Pensions to confer on the widows of ex-Imperial Service men of the pension is similarly as are granted to widows of deceased soldiers.

(m) The acceptance by the Repatriation Commission on behalf of the Ministry of Pensions of ex-Imperial Service men suffering from a war disability.

(n) The establishment of a Statutory Visiting Committee to all Repatriation Institutions.
The encouragement of ex-Service men to use the League’s advocate when submitting appeals to Tribunals.

Permission for relatives to appear before Tribunals when the soldier is too ill to be able to do so.

Conferring on Assessment Tribunals the power to fix the time for which its assessments shall operate.

Advising each State Branch to appoint an expert medical advisor for each Branch.

Conferring on Assessment Tribunals the power to grant living allowances in certain cases.

The securing of counsel’s opinion on the matter of disposing of Tribunal Reports in particular as to the subject of opposing medical opinion.

The increased work performed by the Clubs due to the formation of the Central Legislative Committee of Legacy Clubs.

The General Secretary enquires as to the cost of supplies of Branch (or Legion) flags and report to next Congress.

The use of the term “Returned Soldier,” “Digger,” or anything implying such for trade purposes is prohibited, unless the Commonwealth Attorney-General has given permission, such permission or licence to be reviewed annually.

Conclusion

Congress terminated shortly before 5 p.m. on the 12th November, and the next meeting will be held at Adelaide.

War Service Homes

Motions were carried concerning—

(a) Optional right for occupier to transfer from the rent-purchase system to the Commission’s mortgage system after payment of 10 per cent. of the value.

(b) The provision of further funds for building Australian homes. Tenderer to be acceptable to applicant. Better supervision over building and no additional fees charged when applicant employs own architect.

(c) Commission to build in any locality if guarantee satisfactory.

(d) The use of Australian timbers.

(e) The purchase of properties already erected.

(f) That the War Service Homes Reserve Insurance Funds be placed on an interest-bearing basis.

(g) That the War Service Homes Reserve, Insurance Funds be placed on an interest-bearing basis.

Service

Motions were carried affecting—

(a) Abolition of appeal to the Imperial Repatriation Commission.

(b) Permanent appointment of temporary employees of not less than two years’ service.

(c) Preference in promotion within the service.

(d) Preference during re-employment of women or not of this or any other organisation.

(e) Employment of Dunrobin Cadets in preference to Returned Soldiers who have passed qualifying examination.

(f) Preference in the allocation of Crown bazaars.

(g) Continuity of service on re-employment to Service after re-employment.

(h) Better terms for the removal of employment by the removal from Canberra of the R.M. Collection.

Other Matters

Other motions carried required that—

(a) That the Commonwealth Government be asked to observe Anzac Day in the manner prescribed by the respective States in which it is operating.

(b) Some restriction be placed on the Australian and anti-English propaganda introduced through foreign films, etc.

(c) That the League of Empire be given to local manufacturers and promotion of Empire trade.

(d) That the League’s Certificate of Merit may be issued on the basis of one certificate per State per annum.

(e) The price of the small reproduction of the Menin Gate picture be reduced.

(f) The ex-Service men be encouraged to study the economic problems concerning Australia’s financial condition and Australia’s needs.

(g) The Federal Executive to consider a means of overcoming the difficulty connected with unfinancial members wearing our League badges.

(h) In cases of bereavement, a card of sympathy be sent to the Casual Relief Office.

(i) The financial clip for 1933 be blue on white.

(j) That the Federal Executive formulate some scheme that will provide for the affiliation of the League of ex-Service men.

(k) The duty on oils used in farm engines be general.

(1) The eggs exported be branded with the name of State of origin.

(m) The prohibition on the import of citrus fruits remains.

Northern Australia be devoted to some useful purpose and population and capital attracted.

The next census shall include a record of the ex-Service men resident in Australia.

A nominee of the League be appointed to act with the Censor in respect to any war film proposed to be released in Australia.

Foreign films be reduced or rationed.

The wearing of His Majesty’s uniform for advertising purposes is prohibited.

Every effort be made to advance an early date the proposal for building the Australian War Memorial at Canberra.

Trade Unions not to be employed by the removal from the United Services Fund in order to assist ex-Service men.

The admission, free of duty, of surgical appliances for use by those injured on service.

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State Executive Meetings

26/11/30.


Reports.—Finance Committee: The report of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 24th November, 1930, was submitted by Colonel Margolin. A suggestion in connection with the Commonwealth Loan was made, and after discussion it was moved Mr. Tyler, seconded Mr. Watt, that no action be taken at present. The Committee’s report was then adopted.

Land Committee.—The report of the Land Committee meeting held on the 17th November was received.

Advance ex-Imperial Soldiers.—In connection with this advance it was reported that the money was not earning interest. Moved Mr. Edmonds, seconded Mr. Farquharson that the Land Committee be instructed to press for the investment of this money, and that the interest thereby accruing be credited to the fund.—Carried.

Pensions Committee.—Mr. Watt submitted a report of the pensions committee meeting held on the 17th November. This report included the recommendation that Mr. A. H. Panton be appointed as official visitor to Ward N. The report was adopted.

S. J. Haley—Arising out of the report the case of S. J. Haley was again discussed. Mr. Tozer submitted a report in connection with an interview between the Congress delegates and the Repatriation Commission.

Moved Mr. Smith, seconded Mr. Birtwistle, that it is the desire of this Executive that the en-
The Listening Post
December 19, 1930

The page contains a list of resolutions and mentions of various committees and locations, such as the Repatriation Department, the Belmont Sub-Branch, and the West Perth Sub-Branch. It also includes information about the Australian War Memorial, the Australian War Savings, and the Repatriation Commission's operations.

The page also includes a notice about the Commonwealth Loan, a report on the War Service Homes, and a mention of the Australian War Memorial.

The page is a summary of the proceedings of a meeting of the Repatriation Commission, including resolutions, appointments, and discussions on various matters related to the war and its aftermath.
Honour Avenue

PLANTING EXTRA TREES

The generous courtesy of the King's Park Board, and the private generosity of Mr. W. H. Vincent, a member of the Board, has made possible the planting of extra trees in the Soldiers' Honour Avenue, King's Park. The duty of making the arrangements for the planting of trees in memory of deceased soldiers was delegated to the West Perth Sub-Branch by the W.A. Branch of the R.S.L. Last month, when it was proposed to plant more trees, it was found that the cost for each tree would be £4. This was considered excessive for the times, and early this month a deputation from the West Perth Sub-Branch waited upon the King's Park Board to try and obtain some reduction of the cost. As a result of this appeal, the Board decided to supply the trees and name plates at a cost of £2 10s. each, and the members agreed to make up the difference between that sum and the actual cost of £4. This decision was made after taking into consideration the splendid assistance given by the West Perth Sub-Branch in painting the name plates, and finding manure each year for the trees.

Since the meeting, Mr. W. H. Vincent, a member of the Board, offered to pay ten shillings a tree, up to 50 trees, to supplement the amount fixed by the Board. Under these conditions the cost to relatives will be only £2 per tree.

Applications from relatives of deceased soldiers, giving rank and name (in block letters) unit, killed in action, or died of wounds or illness, place of death, date of death, age at time of death, and the relationship of the donor to the deceased, should reach the secretary of the West Perth Sub-Branch, Mr. P. L. Ross, c/o Workers' Homes Board, as early as possible.

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Announcement

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British United Services Association

The B.U.S.A. will hold high revel on New Year's Eve at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth. Commencing at 8 p.m., King Carnival will reign supreme till 2 a.m. The usual popular programme, considerably augmented, and a large number of prizes, and Uncle George (Pommy Cartermoole) as M.C., will ensure a happy evening. Any people from the Old Country wishing to meet folk from their county will be almost sure to find them here.

The B.U.S.A. members and friends are invited most cordially to join with the Perth Sub-Branch R.S.L. and R.S.I. Band in a river trip on January 2nd, Raving Barrack Street Jetty at 8 p.m., arriving back between 10 to 10.30. The fare is only 1/6. Music, dancing, etc., the whole time. Let's all be happy for an hour or two.
The Month

An Indianised Army

The noisy propagandist soon realises that his strength lies in assertion rather than in argument. This is the main reason why the Congress Wallahs have boycotted the Round Table Conference summoned to discuss the report of the Simon Commission. The Conference is as representative as it was possible to make it, and Gandhi, who is more rogue than fool, was wise enough to see that the man who beats the big drum would not be allowed to drown the whole band. The Imperial Government was equally wise in allowing the Conference to proceed without the noisy trouble-makers. If the Conference does nothing else it will force amiable armchair administrators in England to recognise that India is not homogeneous politically, racially, spiritually, or otherwise. In the present condition of affairs the claim for dominion status is absurd and untenable. Equally impracticable is the idea of an Indianised army. One of the Indian delegates expressed the opinion that the Indianisation of the army should present no difficulty as there were Rajputs, Sikhs, and other fighting races.

This is indeed so; but while representatives of these races, who came into India as the conquerors of the races which bred the Congress Wallahs, are content to serve in the Indian Army maintained by the British Raj, it is doubtful if they would serve under those whom their whole history and religion has taught them to despise. The area from which the Indian Army draws its personnel is small in comparison with the rest of the country. Then there is the Ghurka. The Ghurka is a native, of an independent state, and as such owes no allegiance to either the British or the Indian Government. The ruler of his own state, Nepal, maintains a standing army of forty thousand men, trained and equipped in the most modern manner—quite a nice little army corps to descend upon the squealing Babus, once the protecting hand of Britain is withdrawn. This is a force entirely distinct from the Gurkha regiments on the establishment of the Indian Army, which are recruited much in the same way as the French kings used to enrol their Scottish Archers and Swiss Guards. It is extremely unlikely that the ruler of Nepal would allow his subjects to enlist in a Babu-controlled army, or that he would tolerate on his borders the state of anarchy that would inevitably result from the British withdrawal.

These aspects of the case were dealt with by General Sir George de S. Barrow in an interesting paper he read last October before the East Indian Association. He pointed out that the races from whom the personnel of the Indian Army is drawn would not consent to be governed by those who are destitute of a fighting class. It may be mentioned in passing that among those races the difference between the fighting man and the politician is even more marked than it was in Australia during the war. Bengal, General Barrow continued, in particular, supplies no recruits for the army; and it is in Bengal that the Congress wallahs are as plentiful as nips on pay day. In the result, the disappearance of the British Army would not mean a self-governing India, but an India in which the more virile races would rule the rest of the population, and the Congress wallahs would then be shrinking for the return of the British.

New Destroyers

The increased range of the torpedo boat seems to be causing some obscurity in the minds of naval men as to the future role of the destroyer, and it seems as though this class of ship will eventually disappear. The "Brilliant," Britain's newest destroyer, has a displacement of 1,330 tons, which represents an increase of about 300 tons on the average size of destroyers built during the war. In the matter of the development of the destroyer, the British Admiralty is more conservative than other naval powers. Both France and Italy have established what they call a "super-destroyer" class, consisting of vessels of considerably over 2,000 tons. America and Japan also favour a greatly increased displacement for vessels of this class. It is not yet clear how these large destroyers are to be used. They are too large for flotilla work, and if they are to be employed for independent service during war time, the original conception of torpedo boat tactics will have to be abandoned.

Thirty years ago, torpedoes had a range of 1,200 yards, and were fired from vessels averaging 300 tons with a speed of twenty-five knots. The role of the destroyer was to dash in and discharge its projectiles against the battleship. Such tactics were employed at Jutland, and have been practised by the British Navy since the war. Now the torpedo has a range of 12,000 yards, so that it has ceased to be a weapon for close-range action. Consequently, it also ceases to necessitate a particular type of vessel to deliver it effectively. The "Brilliant," has eight torpedo tubes. The new 10,000 ton cruisers are fitted with twelve torpedo tubes, and their speed is very little below that of the destroyer. The cruiser is now practically a super-destroyer, while conversely the newer destroyers are becoming minor-cruisers. The development of the torpedo's range has correspondingly lessened its value as a weapon of surprise attack. The latest 21-inch torpedo takes twenty minutes to cover its full range. A 19-inch shell will span the same distance in about twenty-five seconds. Naturally naval experts prefer the shell. According to English authorities, the explanation of the growth of the destroyer lies in the doubt as to her real value as a destroyer, which has resulted in her adaptation to other functions.

The Governor-General

The appointment of an Australian to the office of Governor-General is an innovation in this country, though a precedent already exists in the Irish Free State. Like all innovations, it has called forth a certain amount of criticism, some of it valid, much of it merely stupid. No objection can be made to the appointment of Sir Isaac Isaacs on personal grounds. His elevation is the crowning point of a distinguished public career. However, there is something to be said in favour of the principle of the King's representative being someone remote from the hurly-burly of our own party politics. Were every Governor-General and every State Governor of the same mental and social calibre as those appointed at an earlier period of our history, we would unhesitatingly say " carry on with the practice." But the fact remains that we have in Australia many men of better lineage and of higher mental attainments than certain recent appointments. The only valid objection to the appointment of an Australian is that such an appointment must necessarily have a political
Bookshelves and Shows

England's First General

Cromwell and Napoleon have several characteristics in common. Each was a soldier, a consummate soldier, who rode the gale of revolution to the dictatorship of his country. Each was the progeny of revolution, who was eventually compelled to stay that revolution. Each has suffered similarly at the hands of his biographers. Historians, blinded by the glare of Napoleon's military successes, have understated his political ability; Cromwell's statesmanship, in the eyes of his biographers, eclipsed his undoubted military genius. Few great commanders have had such a singular history as Cromwell; none, if we can except such men as Robert Clive, Graham, the victor of Barrosa, or our own Sir John Monash. All four had adopted civilian careers before they became soldiers; all four achieved military distinction; yet Clive, who was twenty-five before he defended Arcot, was still young enough to learn a new profession when he entered the army of the East India Company; Sir Thomas Graham, a saddened widower, served an apprenticeship as a gentleman volunteer before he became one of Wellington's major-generals; and Sir John Monash was an experienced Citizen Force officer, and, for years, a keen student of military science before he took the Fourth Australian Brigade to Gallipoli. Cromwell, on the other hand, became a soldier by chance rather than from choice:

His real name was Williams. His ancestor, Sir Richard Williams, a nephew of that Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's famous minister, adopted the name of Cromwell in compliment to his uncle and patron. A simple country gentleman who had "taken up" politics, much the same type of man as our own light horse officers in South Africa and the late war, Oliver Cromwell was on the ripe side of forty before ever he saw a shot fired. He appeared on the stage of military history at that chaotic transition period when the old feudal levies and the free companies of hired professional soldiers were giving place to the regimental organisations. Cromwell adapted himself to the new conditions, grasped them, and moulded them to his purpose. His puritanism, carried over into military life, imbued him with a thoroughness more deeply rooted than that system of "thorough" Strafford outlined for King Charles, and this is probably why he realised the value of stern discipline and intensive training, and which enabled him to become the inventor of modern cavalry tactics. A great commander whose victories were all won over his own countrymen, the army never became his profession. It was the Frankenstein monster which thrust him into the uneasy chair of political dictatorship.

The relentless logic of circumstance forced him to become a dictator more autocratic that the king he overthrew, and to stifle the very liberties in whose defence he first drew the sword. In view of this, a biography of Cromwell (Cromwell, by Eucardio Moniglio, Hodder and Stoughton, 10/6), written by a countryman of Benito Mussolini, is of especial interest.

The political struggles of Seventeenth Century England excited great interest and caused not a little misgiving in continental Europe, particularly Catholic Europe. They were, in a sense, the outcome of the Reformation, yet not altogether. Moniglio is inclined to overstress the influence of the Reformation, just as, probably influenced by the history of the struggle for national and political freedom in his own country, he overstates his account of the royal tyranny and the influence of secret conspirators. Even in pre-Tudor England, the English Church was always inclined to oppose papal domination. There were reformers in England before Luther, and in England the struggle for religious independence always marched in step with the cause of civil freedom. He omits to notice another point. All English revolutions have been conservative revolutions. They did not, like the revolutions in France and Russia, found a new social order on the ruins of mediaeval autocracy. Even Magna Charta was simply a statement of the old-established rights of freedom-born Englishmen. The rebellions of the Middle Ages aimed at saving the king from the bad advice of evil counsellors. Cromwell's Civil War was merely an effort to force the king to abide by the existing constitution. At the very end of that war Charles might have saved his throne and his head had he honestly tried to rule constitutionally.

Most of Moniglio's data is derived from the letters and diaries of the ambassadors of Italian States who were residents in England during the troublous period. These men, neutrals, yet keen and unbiased observers of the trend of events, and whose writings have only lately become available, have given us an impartial picture of the man Cromwell, a picture such as he ordered the younger Lely to paint. "Paint me as I am," said Cromwell. "Leave out a single scar or a wrinkle and I'll not pay you a penny." Moniglio has done this with tenuous success. For some reason or other he considers English biographers unnecessarily biased, either for or against Cromwell. Still, in the main, his account differs very little from theirs. His account of the Civil War itself, is, to our mind, rather sketchy. The bibliography he appends to his book, strangely enough, omits Professor Gardiner's monumental History of the Civil War, and Frederic Harrison's Shorter Life of Cromwell, published in the Twelve English Statesmen series. He is no hero worshipper, yet he has paid full tribute to Cromwell's greatness. He has painted the man with all the scars and wrinkles, even the wars; the man that was Cromwell, the man who invented cavalry tactics, who made England a

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continental power, and who laid the foundation of the British Empire.

Great Guns

Like the Navy, our gunners are not given to rushing into print. The older, romantic school of war fiction refused to recognise any arm of the service other than the cavalry. The last war placed the infantryman on the map of romance, rather to the exclusion of those who provided the power behind the punch. Nevertheless, two of the finest war novels—fine because of their essential sanity and freedom from fitch—are "Peter Jackson, Cigar Merchant," by Gilbert Frankau, and "Medal Without Bar," by R. H. Blaker; both deal with the war experiences of field artillerymen. In "The Gambar-dier" (Ernest Benn), by Mark Severn, we are given not only the heavy gunner's point of view, but much interesting information as to the part the heavies played in winning the war.

At the outbreak of the war, the British heavy artillery in France consisted of four four-gun batteries, that is, sixteen guns in all. When the war ended, the British armies in France were supported by 2,215 heavy guns and howitzers. During the last nine months of the war an average of 1,000,000 shells a month was shipped from England to France, and the cost of the ammunition fired in a day during the final battles of 1918 was over £3,000,000.

Mark Severn's book is an interesting testimony to the triumph of the gunners over many difficulties during the campaign.

A Few War Books
(By "Bindy Boo")

War Books—there are dozens of them and everyone well worth the reading. To the soldier, whose misfortunes took him to France, there is always a wealth of appreciation. To those who served in other fields, tales of France and the Western Front are generally treated as much hot air or "flap-doodle." "All Quiet on the Western Front" broke the ice to a great extent, and many who were "not there" thoroughly enjoyed it—meaning the story as well as the war. Of course, they would. Remarque adopted an attitude of anguish and lamentation, all the while crying, "What is it all for?" It is an excellent way of filling the pages of a book, but the motive of a book is to state facts (and fiction) not ask questions. It is not the way in the army to ask questions. Was Remarque vulgar? No! He was perfectly candid. Such is the general opinion of the soldier. Take the story for what you like, "All Quiet" earned an indecent reputation and vul-garity breeds popularity or some such spawn, when one is dealing with books. Ludwig Renn, another German writer, has perhaps given us one of the best translations in his book "War," and by cutting out his anguish and getting down to tin tacks gives us an excellent story of trench warfare and its tribulations from Fritzie's point of view, which is the same point as our own. Junger, still another German writer, gives us more in his "Wall of Steel" which is generally speaking a chronicle of slather and whack. Reverting to our own side of the argument, "Ex-private Ex" gives the private's view, which is the general view. The private, Digger, Buddy or Tommy Atkins, had an extremely heavy cross to bear and it is almost impossible to realise anything you have not experienced. Ex-Private Ex believes Australians to be boastful—pretty right too. Listen to those who were at the "Landing"—Read the Anzac Book—Good Lord, it makes the average soldier quite ill. Little or no mention of the thousands of Tommies who were there. If Gallipoli is not a boast—what is it? We will call it a big mistake and blame it on to somebody. The Anzac called newcomers war babies. What should the Tommy call Australians when they arrive in France nearly two years after the gong? Tommy was charitable, he was pleased to see us, but was very rightfully adverse to being shown how to win wars. When we failed we occasionally blamed the Tommy for letting us down. We are not the sports we would have the world think. (I am not courting a bite). Ex-Private Ex says we are boastful. Why not give him the benefit of the doubt—if there is one. (I had my own opinion of the Tommies). The point of view is very difficult to place in a universal setting, General Monash in his "Australian Victories in France," tells us his point of view. Colonels are very small fry, and when he gets to the private he thinks of some humorous incident. No, the private is "that man" "the accused" "prisoner and escort," and so on. The pieces with which a war is played. We must not stray from the "Book" side of the business. A very creditable plod is put up by Helen Z. Smith. Man is inclined to selfishness and forgets that woman also played a good stick in the big war. "Not so Quiet" is a revelation—providing it is true. Helen Smith gets on to the sex question and commits herself rather badly (I would prefer to keep those things to myself). Our War Women had a hard row to hoe and until "Not so Quiet" has been read, little or no thought is given to them. Mrs. Bitch, the Commandant, reminds one of others in authority. It must be an awful thing to have a female in charge of affairs—there is enough of that sort of thing at home.

Robert Graves with "Goodbye to All That," gives us something worth reading, but bores most to death with his constant nagging about poetry, poets and men of letters. At the same time he gives us some idea what the old soldiers of the British Army were like. Button sticks, Brass and several other Bees. E. Ray-
A CHRISTMAS MASQUE
(Written for Perth Legacy Bulletin.)

SISTER. ST. NICHOLAS.

Sister (in the costume of a Nursing Unit): What can we do? Ordinance and the Quartermaster are neither of them a bit of good, and I am sure the boys want a Christmas tree.

St. Nicholas: Are there any trees left?

(Voice heard off, singing—

What toy is that you make?

Said Mary to her Lord,

Sometimes it seems a Cross,

Sometimes it seems a Sword.)

Enter Digger

Digger: Evening, Sister; where is the glad smile to-day?

Sister: Where are the others?

Digger: Oh, Sister, how should I know? I don't go to such places.

(Voice heard off, singing—

Light the lanterns,

Trim the tree,

Pour the wine and

Eau de vie,

Pete de Noel,

Pete de Noel.)

Enter Poilu

Poilu: Digger: Tell Sister where you have been, Poilu.

Digger: I have been buy a bottle for Sister.

Poilu: Let's open it now. Sister isn't thirsty, and I am.

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900 HAY STREET, PERTH 51 ADELAIDE-STREET, FREMANTLE
Sister: What makes you so late, Poilu? Poilu: I make to come, but that Fritz ...

(Voice heard off, singing—

The Ox it doth not low,
The Sheep they do not bleat,
So patiently they wait
Near the Madonna's feet,
Heilige Nacht! Heilige Nacht!

Enter Fritz.

Digger: Do you say your prayers in German, Fritz? Fritz: Yes.

Digger: No wonder you hadn't any luck.

Fritz: Doesn't God know German?

Digger: God knows.

(Voice heard off, singing—

So early, so early
The starry night was spent—
So early, so early,
David, stripling David, went,
And the sling that slew Goliath
Unto Mary's Son he lent.)

Enter Yank.

Digger: What delayed you, Yank? Yank: Delayed? We certainly didn't start the war, but we sure finished it.

Digger: Yes, and you sure finished the Allies, too. Yank, you're very pleased with yourself.

Yank: No, sirree. There's millions of people in the States nearly as good as me.

(Voice heard off, singing—

Do the tides that fall in Flanders
To some new Eden go?
Are the Christmas trees we long for
With Verey lights aglow?
And has the flammentearer
Burnt out the Misteletoe?

Enter Tommy.

Poilu: 'Ello, Tome, you come 'ere. Tell me about those Misteletoe?

Tommy: Not 'arf, Poilu. Mustn't spread alarm and despondence among the troops.

If I told you about the Misteletoe, France wouldn't be any good to you any more.

Sister: Saint, I want to introduce you to the boys.

St. Nicholas: What I want to know, first, is—do they believe in me?

Sister: Of course they do!

St. Nicholas: You don't know how awkward it is meeting people who don't believe you exist.

Sister: Don't you worry. They think you are Christmas boys. I want to introduce you to Saint Nicholas.

Tommy: Good-day, sir. What unit did you say?

St. Nicholas: Transport, you would call it.

Digger: Transport? You look more like Santa Claus to me. Anyhow, what did you do with my souvenirs?

Sister: There's a Christmas tree, boys, and St. Nicholas is going to help.

St. Nicholas (handing presents): Here's a mince-pie for you, Tommy—and a sausage for you, Fritz—and a tin of escargots for you, Poilu—and some mutton-birds for you, Digger—and maple syrup for you, Yank.

Sister: That's all the wretched Q.M. could do, boys.

St. Nicholas: I am making a little addition of my own—a letter from home for each of you. Step forward, Sister, you are in this.

Sister: Now we shall sing "Let every man."

Owens: Let every man who e'er bore arms
To-day make carnival—
The victor and the vanquished
Must answer to the call.
For Christ was born in Bethlehem,
That He might save us all.
Near trenches on the battle fronts,
Beneath a grassy sward,
Are comrades we would fain believe
Join in this medley—
For Christ was born in Bethlehem
That He might save us all.

(Curtain)

Mike: "I got one of these suits with two pairs of pants."

Gus: "How do you like it?"

Mike: "Not so well. It's too hot wearing two pairs of pants."

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**U.S.A. Pensions**

**HOW UNCLE SAM LOOKS AFTER HIS SOLDIERS**

**MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE JOHNSON BILL**


(By Jean Dell)

The passing of the U.S.A. veterans' pension bill and its approval by President Hoover on July 3 of this year, constitutes a radical change in government policy towards veterans (as Uncle Sam calls his returned soldiers) of the World War. The new policy abandons the principle, set forth by the Wilson Administration and agreed to by veterans' organisations immediately after the war, that compensation should be limited to those disabled as a result of active service in the war. It inaugurates a vast pension system for all partly or wholly disabled veterans, not already receiving compensation, no matter what their illness or when contracted.

Figures taken from "Current History" (August, 1930) show that the government had already spent about a million and a half dollars for veterans' compensation on the basis of active service. It had given free hospital care to about 500,000 ex-service men. Government life insurance amounted to more than three thousand million dollars by July, 1929. The Veterans' Bureau had been spending about two hundred and six million dollars a year for direct compensation to World War veterans. In addition, war risk insurance and the bonus law brought the annual budget of that agency up to five hundred and eleven million dollars.

But, says the journal quoted, there were many cases of suffering among veterans in which disability could not be traced to active service, and demands for the relief of these men became more and more urgent. The need for some sort of legislation was generally conceded, but stormy battles in both houses of Congress, hours of oratory and a presidential veto were necessary before a bill acceptable to the administration was passed. And even the final bill has been harshly criticised as being either too liberal or not liberal enough.

Some idea of the original (rejected) measure (the Rankin Bill) may be gained from Mr. Hoover's veto message in which he set forth concisely what he considered the serious and fundamental fallacies of the bill.
The measure, he said, was based on a flagrant hypocrisy. Unwilling to grant an out-and-out pension for disabilities not incurred in active service, the bill "provides that in respect to veterans who between the years 1925 and 1930 shall have become afflicted with any one of an extensive category of diseases and thus disabled, there is established a 'pre- assumption' that these diseases originated from their service and that they should be 'compensated' or pensioned upon the basis of men who suffered as the result of actual military service. This provision would give war disability benefits to from 75,000 to 100,000 good men who were not disabled as the result of actual war. In other words, the bill purports to establish that men who have enjoyed good health for a minimum of seven years (from 1918 to 1925) since the war, or a maximum of twelve years (to 1930), and who have then become afflicted, have received such affliction from their war service." This "pre-supposition" was characterised by medical authorities of the Veterans' Bureau as a physical impossibility and, Mr. Hoover added, a "wholly false and fictitious basis for legislation in veterans' aid."

"Men who were enrolled in the army who remained but comparatively few days or weeks in service, without ever leaving their home States, will receive aid upon the same basis as those men who passed through the battle of the Argonne." They might be paid, if totally disabled, from 80 to 200 dollars a month for life, in some cases receiving more than those actually wounded at the front. (In this connection Representative Johnson also pointed out the absurdity of the bill under which "a man who enlisted in the regular army on July 1, 1921, nearly three years after the World War, and served two days, and then was afflicted with gout or obesity in December, 1929, will be given, if he takes hospitalisation and has dependents, a pension of two hundred and twenty-five to two hundred and fifty dollars a month.")

"There is no provision in this bill against men of independent means claiming benefits from the government for these disabilities 'rising in civil life,' protested the President. As a remedy, he suggested that the Secretary of the Treasury return to the Veterans' Bureau a statement of the men who are exempt from income tax "at some level to be determined by Congress."

"Mr. Hoover greatly deplored the 'inclusion of compensation for disablment due to vicious habits.'"

In putting his signature to the present Johnson bill Mr. Hoover termed it "a generous national action based upon sound principles." It provides pensions of from twelve dollars to forty dollars a month for veterans whose disabilities were not acquired in the service, provided they have not had to pay income tax during the year before application. But they shall not be compensated for illness incurred through wilful misconduct. The minimum service requirement for this class is ninety days during the World War. Pensions up to two hundred dollars a month are also provided for disability due to personal injury or disease contracted "in the military or naval service" between April 6, 1917 and July 2, 1921, or to a recurrence or aggravation, caused by service, of a former disease. "Wilful misconduct" is here also eliminated as a cause, except in cases of total disability.

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**Children's Hospital Sweep**

**ON PERTH CUP**

Diggers are reminded that this sweep will be drawn on Wednesday, 31st December, and all who like a mild flutter are advised to patronise this most deserving institution by purchasing tickets. The £1,000 first prize must go to someone, and it might be you. Buy your tickets early.

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For several hours the sergeant-major had been lecturing his men on the duties of a soldier to his country. Thinking it time to see how much they had understood of his discourse, he fixed on Private Jones and barked out:

"And why should a soldier be expected to die for his country?"

"The man paused to think for a few moments. Then a smile broke out of his face.

"Yes, sir," he said, "you're quite right. Why should he?"

The time was midnight, and the man was leg weary and thirsty as he trudged along the country road. At last he came to a public house by the roadside called the George and Dragon. He knocked loudly on the door. Presently the head of a fierce-looking woman appeared at the window, and she demanded what he meant by disturbing her at that time of night. It was long after closing time, and he would never get a drink out of her.

"Go away," she shouted, "before I set the dog on you."

"Well," said the man, "Will you please tell George I'd like a word with him?"
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Great Southern Districts Committee, No. 4

REPORT OF MEETING HELD AT ROAD BOARD ROOM, WAGIN, MONDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 1930


Apologies were received from Mr. Gladsen, M.L.C., Mr. W. J. Cobb (President), and from Wickup, Tambellup and Albany. Mr. Ainsworth (Wagin) was appointed Chairman.

The meeting was called to discuss the Premiers refusal to grant Zone Valuation Boards to deal with Soldier Settlement properties throughout the Great Southern area. The Members of Parliament had been invited to attend the meeting so that they could hear the disabilities discussed firsthand and plan their action in obtaining justice for the soldier settlers.

Mr. Morris (Wagin) moved, seconded by Mr. Brown (Dumbleyung), that the following motion be affirmed:—"That the sub-branches comprising the R.S.L. Great Southern Districts' Committee are very concerned at the Premier's refusal to grant Zone Valuation Boards to deal with Soldier Settler properties, and strongly affirm that it is the only remedy to put soldier settlers on a proper footing."

Mr. Morris explained that when this matter was brought up on 1st October last, Mr. McLarty definitely stated that he could not grant Zone Valuation Boards.

Mr. Ainsworth (Wagin) suggested that the term "Advisory Boards" and not "Revaluation Boards" could have been used with better chances of success.

Mr. Doney, M.L.A., stated that he was present at the last Conference and the Premier had said that the properties had already been revalued.

Mr. Roche (Kojonup), addressing the meeting, said the Premier when asked to express a definite opinion in regard to Zone Valuation Boards stated he would not grant same.

Mr. Roche went on to say he thought our main trouble was that properties had not been revalued at all. It was at the present time impossible for a soldier settler to carry on, even though he be a capable, practical and industrious man. In many cases notice had been given that if the soldier settler did not pay his interest the Bank would exercise its option under mortgage and foreclose. It was impossible for the soldier settlers at the present time to meet their commitments. Originally 5,300 men were on the Scheme; to-day we only had approximately 2,000 men. About 40 per cent. of the settlers were gone. In the G.S. district about 50 per cent. of the soldier settlers were in difficulties. Either they were incompetent or laboring under conditions which made farming possible: but he thought the latter was the true situation. Zone Valuation Boards were granted, he felt sure that the settler would have the interest of growing potatoes. Each case would be dealt with on its merits. In a good number of instances cases had been dealt with by their banks, and not on their merits.

Mr. Barnett (Gnawangerup) and Messrs. Warburton and Pennington (Kojonup) told of cases where the soldier settlers were in great difficulties. In one instance a soldier settler paid 15/- per acre for virgin country and some time later a civilian bought similar land for 2/- per acre.

Mr. Finlay (Kojonup) related a case where, originally, two soldier settlers took over property in partnership—cost 35/- per acre. Later, at their own request, the property was divided between them as equally as a Bank inspector could possibly do so, giving as nearly as possible equal acreage and classification to each. No. 1 Soldier Settler realised the impossibility of making a success, and abandoned the property. After another soldier settler had also tried and failed, a civilian took over at a reduced valuation, viz., 12/- per acre. No. 2 Settler is still battling with his problem, but cannot get his half of the property reduced from the original 30/- per acre.

Mr. Plessey, M.L.A., asked if the deputation in October last was the first. Mr. Roche replied that he believed another one had waited on the Premier in 1925 and 1926. Mr. Brown (Dumbleyung) then reported on the Royal Commission.

Mr. Whittam (Torbay) spoke on the conditions of potato growing in his district. At the present time there was not a living in growing potatoes. He was only receiving 12/- per ton for same. He thought that a journal should be published setting out what acreage the grower was planting: this would give growers some idea of the amount of potatoes being cropped.

Mr. Whittam moved, seconded by Mr. Flinders (Katanning), "That potato growers meet with the Assistance of the Agricultural Department acreage of their crops planted each month, and the acreage to be grown the following month, forward to growers; no fee to be charged."—Carried.

Mr. Finlay (Kojonup) read for the information of the members the following from previous meeting:—"That the State Secretary be requested to advise the scope and terms of reference of proposed Zone Revaluation Board, and that this District Committee is..."
of the opinion that the Zone Board should consider the interests of all soldiers individually and take what action they consider necessary, either in regard to capitalisation of their farms, or for assistance in any way. Mr. Stewart, M.L.C., agreed with Mr. Prize's views. Mr. Brown suggested dividing the Committee into Groups.

Mr. Stewart, M.L.C., agreed with Mr. Prize's views. Mr. Brown suggested dividing the Committee into Groups. Sheen-Wool, Wheat, Fruit, and Potato Growers, etc.

Mr. Wansbrough, M.L.A., suggested that if this was done perhaps the Premier would give the charge of instructions that the delegates to the meeting should meet the representative of the different industries.

The Chairman explained that the suggested constitution of the Board was—(1) a representative of the Government; (2) a practical farmer in the area concerned; (3) a representative of the local sub-branch of the R.S.L.

It was not asked that the Board should travel the State revising all S.S. properties, but that the machinery should be created whereby a settler in difficulties could appeal to the Government, and that authority with power to grant or refuse relief must be given. Should it be found that the properties were not being considered, where properties that had been neglected were not being written down, which procedure would be continued by the man who worked.

Discussion next took place on the report appearing in the Auditor's Report for the year ending June, 1929, on the losses of the Peel Estuary, where charges were fixed at the S.S. The following extract was read:—"Estimated proportion of losses on Peel Estate, £146,725, etc., 146 Peel Estate, £146,725, etc.

Estimated net loss on sales of re-purchased estates, including value of unsold land and Herdman's Lake drainage, £9,049 3s. 6d."

Resolved, that an endeavour be made to have this explained by arranging that the question be asked in Parliament.

Accommodation was requested. This was explained to be interest charged on interest—i.e., interest on an area of land. The Committee found it difficult enough to pay the usual interest, and it was impossible to pay additional interests this year.

Mr. Whittem (Torbay), moved, seconded by Mr. Horsley (Kojonup), that the Government was asked to instruct the Agricultural Bank and the S.S. to waive for 12 months the rates of interest charges in cases where soldier settlers are unable through private causes to meet their interest payments on due dates, and that the repayment of instalments of principal be postponed for a similar period, each case to be judged on its merits. This would apply to soldier settler fruit and potato growers as well as to those engaged in producing wheat and wool. Carried.

The question of Land Tax arrears on abandoned land taken over subsequently by soldier settlers was next discussed. Mr. Wyat, (Pilbara), gave information, a soldier settlers were asked to pay Land Tax arrears on abandoned property. Mr. Osborne (Eppalock) also spoke on this question.

Pilbara Branch forwarded an appeal for intervention in a case where a soldier settler was threatened with repossession of his land taken over subsequently by soldier settlers. This was referred to the State Secretary for action.

Mr. Fiske (Kojonup), moved, seconded by Mr. Filen, (Kajtaming), "That the State President and Secretary R.S.L. be asked to confer with the Members of Parliament present at this meeting with a view to having the following resolutions from the Annual Congress—(a) Press for active representation of the Soldier Settlement League, such representative to be nominated by the League; (b) The acceptance of the Premier's opinion that local opinion must be considered in determining the fate of soldier settlers; (c) The exclusion of instructions that sub-branch officials must be recognised and consulted when the soldier settler's affairs are being considered by the Agricultural Bank district officers." Carried.

Mr. Roche (Kojonup), moved, seconded by Mr. Fiske: (Kajtaming) that Branches in the area covered by No. 4 District Committee arrange for representatives from their own areas as proxies to the Annual Congress, where a direct delegate is unattainable. That No. 4 District Committee be empowered to submit the day for the Call A.G.M.

Members of Parliament, present, voiced the opinion that through the meeting they had gained a clearer outlook of the difficulties and troubles of the soldier settler. They would use their best endeavours to help forward matters discussed at this meeting.

Australian Army Medical Services in the War

Arrangements are nearing completion for the publication of an Official History of the Australian Army Medical Services in the War, which is being edited by Colonel A.G. Butler, D.S.O. The history, which will be profusely illustrated, will be issued in two volumes. The first, dealing with the Dardanelles, Sinai and Palestine, the capture and military occupation of New Guinea, and Australia during the first half of the war, is now in the press and will be issued in a few weeks' time. The second volume, dealing mainly with the Western Front, will be ready later.

In these volumes the work and experiences of the doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and other members of the Australian Army Medical Services, and of the Voluntary Aid Societies, furnish material for an intimate historical study of the highest interest. The narrative of humane endeavour under the amazing circumstances of the war is made the basis of an arresting examination of the purpose and scope of the medical service in modern warfare, and of how experiences at the front may serve the purposes of peace. Realising what interest the history will have for the medical and allied professions, and for all ex-members of the A.I.F. and their relatives, and believing that its widespread distribution is most desirable, the Commonwealth Government has approved of its being made available to them on special terms. Further particulars may be obtained from the Australian War Memorial, P.O. Box 214D, Melbourne, by whom the history will be published.

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STATE EXECUTIVE

Owing to the nearness of the Xmas vacation, the meeting was held on the 8th December, instead of the 15th, at 2.30 p.m., Mrs. T. C. Wilson presiding. A fair amount of business was transacted, and Auxiliaries are requested to make a special note of Tuesday, the 24th February, 1931, when the next United Auxiliary Social will take place, at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, at 8 p.m. (ladies only); also, that it was decided at this meeting that we again hold a picnic to the Swan District on March 1st, 1931 (Saturday), further details to be announced at the social on the 24th February.

At about 4.11 a very interesting meeting concluded, and it was decided to go into recess until February 18th next, at 2.30, (absentees, please note date). At the conclusion of proceedings, President Williams extended to all present the season's greetings.

VICTORIA PARK

The V.P., Women's Auxiliary held a well-attended meeting at the Library Hall, on Friday, November 28th, at 8 p.m., when officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Mrs. Taylor; vice-presidents, Mdesdames Jordan and Nicol; hon. sec., Mrs. D. Pike; treasurer, Mrs. Tolmie; committee, Mdesdames Barnett, Caldwell, Hughes, Colley, Haigh, Ottaway, Brophy, Kanzler, and Matthews. It was decided to hold the next general meeting on Friday night, December 12th. Arrangements are also in hand for a party to be held on New Year's Eve, which is hoped will be well patronised.

DARLING RANGE

Mrs. H. Morris, hon. sec. of this branch, sent in the following report:—very successful card and dance evening was held by the Women's Auxiliary to the Darling Range Sub-Branch R.S.L. in the Agricultural Hall, Kalamunda, on Monday, 7th November, to suggest their funds for unemployment relief work, thus bringing funds for that particular branch of their work up to £24.

GUILDFORD-BASSENEDEAN

A pleasant social evening was spent in the supper room of the Basseeneedan Town Hall on the evening of November 19th, when the members of the local sub-branch and their wives were guests of the Women's Auxiliary. Games, cards, dancing, interspersed with vocal items, were indulged in, and a dainty supper was served during the evening. Songs were rendered by Mdesdames Chipper and Lewis; violin solo by Mr. Harry Iles, and a humorous speech by Mr. Jim Mann. Mrs. R. Smith, and Mrs. J. McKinnay acted as accompanists for songs and dancing, assisted by Mr. H. Iles; while Mr. Grieve kindly acted as M.C.

BRUCE ROCK

The third general meeting of the above was held in Lonsdale's Hall on Monday, 10th November, at 8 p.m., the president (Mrs. Withall), presiding over the following:—Mdesdames Mansbridge, Jamieson, Bourne, Cameron, David Thomas, Blackwell, Bullimore, McKie, Fitzpatrick, and

Personal

It is understood that amongst those who so kindly assisted in entertaining at Kalgoorlie, the W.A. delegates to the Federal Congress, were representatives of the Kalgoorlie Yacht Club and the Kalgoorlie Deep-Sea Anglers' Club.

Down from his farm in the Merredin district, Peter Lyon, (11th Battalion), Peter is looking well and fit; and had many interesting things to tell us about his experiences as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Another 11th man, Charlie ("Dad") Fielding, mine host of the Geraldton Hotel, has just undergone an operation on his foot, in the Waverley Hospital. His many friends will be pleased to hear that he has made a satisfactory recovery.

A gloom was cast over the city during the first half of the month when it was learned that big, genial Charlie Wake had passed away after a short illness. The deceased was one of our best-known insurance men, served, as a young man, in the Grenadier Guards. He came to...

Miss Follington. Apologies were received from the secretary (Mrs. Black) and Mrs. Dean, owing to indisposition, and from Mdesdames Ross, Kitsch, Jago, and Allen (2). The president reported 32 financial members for the first half year. Mrs. Thomas was elected a vice-president, to fill a vacancy on the executive. A motion that the quarterly social evening be open to the general public was carried unanimously; also, that a Continental evening be held in Mrs. Withall's garden on Saturday, February 28th. Full particulars will be advertised later.

Three members of the R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary (Mdesdames Bullimore and Withall) spent a very busy day on Saturday, 8th November, selling poppies to passers-by, after making a house-to-house canvass. Poppies were also sold in the school on Tuesday, and the Auxiliary's best thanks are due to Miss Morphett, who did...

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VICTORIA HOUSE, ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH
An ex-Imperial, who has entered very heartily into the spirit of Australian life is F. Mitchem, who served through the war with the Queen's Bays, gaining the M.M., M.C. (with bar), and eventually a commission. As a member of the Army of Occupation after the Armistice he helped to wind up the watch on the Rhine. He came to Australia in 1922, and, until recently, held a commission in the 10th Light Horse.

Died on Armistice evening, in the Katanning Hospital, Charles Frederick Walter Ratcliffe, who had, for some years suffered from the effects of war gas. Mr. Ratcliffe was born and educated in England. He brought his wife to Australia, as a bride, in 1913. When the war broke out he joined the 19th Battalion, and had three years and nine months of active service. He came to Western Australia to engage in farming, but continued ill-health forced him to relinquish this, and the management of the Woodanilling Hotel also. In his day he had been a cricketer and soccer player of no small repute. Mr. Ratcliffe leaves a widow, three daughters, and a son. The Listening Post joins with the Katanning Sub-Branch in extending condolences to Mrs. Ratcliffe and family.

As a result of a motor accident, Mr. G. Anderson, Honorary Secretary of the Dowak Sub-Branch, has been a patient in the Esperance Hospital. According to latest reports he is progressing favourably, and in the meantime his secretarial duties are being carried out by Mr. A. Evans.

Bob Anderson, of Bayswater was noticed chaperoning the ladies on Poppy Day. Bob is one of those energetic workers who believe that the best way to get a thing done well is to do it yourself. He posted his fair sentries with their money boxes and remained about himself to be ready with advice and assistance when wanted.

It is proposed to publish in book-form, before they are all forgotten, the songs soldiers sang during the war, that is, those of them that can be knocked into printed form. Can any readers oblige with the words of the following:— "I've Lost my Rifle and Bayonet," "Always B— well Raining," "Far, Far from Ypres, I Long to be," "My Little Wet Home in the Trench," "Boys of the Eighth Brigade," "Hush, here comes a Whizz-bang," "Good Breeze," "I Don't Want to Die," "If the Sergeant Steals Your Rum, Never Mind," or any others suitable for inclusion.

When lovely women stoops to the folly of airing her views in public, she often makes an unholy show of herself, and this was very apparent at the exhibition of mass hysteria organised on the Esplanade on Armistice Sunday. The affair was supposed to be a women's rally in favour of world peace, but it seems to us that the chief obstacle to world-peace is the calibre of those who shriek loudest on its behalf. If the designations of the organisations represented are any criterion, few if any of the speakers could have known what they were talking about when they blathered so weepfully about war's horrors, and some of those organisations have never been distinguished by any whole-hearted admiration for the digger and the ideals he fought for. All the old threadbare catch cries were trotted out for their annual airing. The public knows them so well that it was hardly worth while using up a beautiful afternoon to re-hash them. Our own Women's Auxiliary is to be complimented on steering clear of this undignified form of foolishness. It is believed that there were one or two onlookers.

The following libel on our perfect climate has been placarded around the city, advertising a sound-film: "Spring is Coming First time in Perth!"

Ex-service men in the Old Country are expressing indignation at the Government's action in suggesting that foreign delegations might, except on special occasions, refrain from laying wreaths on the Cenotaph and the grave of the Unknown Warrior. The curious double reason advanced for this action, by the Government Press, is (1) that the "perfunctoriness" of the act tends to obscure the sacred significance of those memorials, and (2) that wreath-laying, anyway, is calculated "to keep alive the spirit of militarism." As Our Empire, the official organ of the British Ex-Service Men's Legion points out: "Those two alleged reasons are mutually contradictory. If it is good for us to forget all that the wreath helps us to remember, we should level every war memorial in the country, and cut off from our national life the sacred commemoration of November 11th."

The peace-crankers in England, like their rear-rank numbers in Australia, seem to think it more important to spare the feelings of late enemies abroad, and of shirkers at home, than to render due homage to the memory of those who sacrificed their lives for our spineless democracy.

It had to happen.—A current English magazine contains a reference to "a new game called 'Crown and Anchor.'" Can any reader oblige us with a copy of the rules? Don't all speak at once, please.

During the month burglars visited the offices of the "Listening Post." They were unable to break through the office safe, but managed to extract a few bob from the table. Only a few bob, but considering the times, wasn't it a compliment!

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Sub-Branch Notes

KALGOORLIE

Unfortunately we have suffered a loss in the person of our President, Mr. W. T. Barnes who, owing to ill health, has resigned the position of President, and at the time decided not to nominate for Councillor in the Kalgoorlie Municipal elections. Mr. C. D. A. Donaldson was elected to fill the position of President, and Mr. C. B. Manners asked to stand for Councillor, vice Mr. Barnes. Subsequently Mr. Barnes decided to stand for the Municipal elections and so the sub-branch had three nominations for the Council table, Cr. H. A. Kingsbury, an old, and tried worker for the League in this district, Mr. C. B. Manners, newly elected as vice-president and also a very old worker for the League, and Mr. Barnes, who had done such excellent work during his term of office as President. Messrs. Kingsbury and Manners are old identities in the district, while Mr. Barnes has only been a few short months in Kalgoorlie. We are gratified that the gentlemen topped the poll with Mr. Barnes a very good second, and although Mr. Barnes did not acquire a seat, he was only beaten by a very narrow margin, and considering his short stay among us he polled remarkably well, and it speaks well for his ability that he defeated one of the retiring councillors by a big margin.

The Kalgoorlie sub-branch has now three out of twelve councillors returned soldiers, and at each attempt has managed to get its men at the top of the poll. Last year Cr. DePassey topped the poll and so our councillors are Misters. DePassey, Manners and Kingsbury. It speaks well for the prestige of the League that men of such sterling worth can be persuaded to accept the responsibility of such an office and that the ratepayers give them such whole-hearted support.

Armistice Day service was last year held at the Fallen Soldiers’ Memorial at synchronised time with London, making the silence at 7 p.m., and it was a distinct success. In a working district the 11 a.m. service was not well attended, but the idea of a synchronised time proved that it was not apathy but dire necessity that kept people away.

The sub-branch is progressing satisfactorily, and a new innovation is the delivery of lectures after the general meeting, which is the second Tuesday in each month. Last meeting was the initial lecture night, and the secretary spoke on “Buy British Goods.” The lecture was well received, and a lot of useful propaganda was made. Next meeting our Digger doctor, Dr. Webster (the local medical officer for Health) will lecture on “The Prevention of Disease and preservation of Health in Civil Life.” The doctor is going to great pains to make his lecture interesting and from a man who knows the rigours of war service as he does, some useful health matters will no doubt be forthcoming.

The State President and his co-delegates were briefly entertained whilst breaking their journey both East and West, and the usual goldfields hospitality shown.

MT. BARKER

Best wishes for a Prosperous New Year to all Sub-Branch members, and may 1931 be a year of prosperity to this Branch and the League generally.

Our President (T. G. Souness) was the chosen representative for W.A. Fruit Growers to travel to Melbourne for the Commonwealth Conference held there to discuss Marketing and other problems.

Jimmy Morgan wrote from London in November. He had had a salubrious time in the war areas and came to London from Scotland to attend the Armistice Service and a couple of Regimental Dinners, and was also one of the thousands who attended the Albert Hall Service where the Prince of Wales was the main attraction. Jimmy says the fall of poppies from the roof of Albert Hall (one for each of the Empire’s dead) was wonderfully organized, and helped to send the sale of poppies well along. He hopes to give more details next March, on his return, and sends his best regards to all W.A. coppers.

Through the efforts of this Branch, the Local Road Board has allotted work out for the unemployed of the district. Several Branch members are among this list, and latest reports are that most of them are benefiting by this effort. Thanks to “Mr. Thrip,” the district will go through a trying time for the next six months. Callers are numerous for assistance also, so the funds are being well probed. The funds now started in the town may relieve the Branch a good deal.

Members whose sub. ends with the close of 1930 are reminded to put in as early as possible as every sub. will be wanted this coming year. So let all notices be served as usual in January. Keep this in mind.

WEST PERTH

The committee meeting held on Thursday the 11th inst., was the last to be held this year, the committee going into recess until January 22nd. Business was not brisk, but among the matters which came up for discussion was that of the trees in Honour Avenue extension.

A letter of thanks from Sir William Lathlain in response to a letter from this branch congratulating him on his election as Lord Mayor of Perth, was read. It was moved and seconded that an annual appeal be made towards the upkeep of a cot in the Children’s Hospital. An invitation to the smoke social of the West Leederville Sub-Branch was received, two members being elected to represent this branch. The committee take this opportunity of wishing all members a Jolly Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

DOWAK

The sub-branch held their annual reunion at Salmon Gums on December 3. A very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Weeks, chairman, presided.

(See the above report, which we print exactly as we received it, glazed heart of our sub-editor. Evidently they believe that brevity is the soul of wit, down Dowak way. Still, in keeping with the spirit of the season, we beg leave to make our report as brief as possible, we do not wish to drive them to the other extreme.—Ed., L.P.)

BRUNSWICK JUNCTION

A special meeting of the Sub-Branch was held on November 17, when Mr. Gillett, of Bunbury, who acted as proxy for Brunswick at the recent State Congress, gave a report of the business of Congress, which proved to be of very great interest to those present. Mr. Gillett urged upon those present to take a greater interest in economic matters and to prepare items now for the next Congress. On the motion of Mr. Sagar, Mr. Gillett was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

Musical items were provided by Messrs. Davis and Callen, while Mr. Murray beguiled the diggers with his conjuring and magic. At the ordinary meeting on 23rd ult., the minutes of the last meeting of the No. 2 District Committee were received, and the delegates, Messrs. Noakes and Buttle, reported therein. Nominations were moved for office-bearers. The election will take place at the January meeting. The next fortnightly meeting of the Sub-Branch will be held at Burekup on December 18.

Another long-standing pension case has now been finalised; Stan. Bowser returned home from a successful visit to the Pensions Tribunal. The Sub-Branch still has several pension cases in hand.

Vice-President Fred. Sagar met with a painful accident on the 3rd inst, at attending some machinery in the railway coaling depot. The little finger of his right hand became caught in some machinery and was severely crushed, necessitating its amputation. Fred. is not so young as he used to be, but he is still one of the main props of the League in this district, and we hope he will soon report back to duty with us again.

PRESS

Mr. C. P. Smith presided over the annual Christmas dinner of the Press Sub-Branch, which was held in the Institute on December 13. Among those present was Mr. Mann, a veteran press photographer, who gave members much interesting talk about the work of the Press on the Continent which sailed from Australia in 1885. Later in the evening Mr. Mann sang the “Marseillaise” in French. Members were called upon to relate war-
ON OUR SELECTION

A Gallipoli Glimpse

From the W.A. Digger Book, a few copies of which are still available from Sub-Branch Secretaries or the State Secretary
time Christmas experiences. These experiences covered the period between Gallipoli and the Armistice, and ranged from clinks to cathedrals. Another pleasing innovation was the part-singing of a quartette (which consisted of seven singers and the conductor).

MUNDARING AND DISTRICTS

The presentation of the report on Poppy Day appeals was received with a great deal of pleasure, for, despite the times, the figures upset all the calculations of the more pessimistic. Although the appeal day was an off-day for many, the organization of the many lady helpers, and their individual efforts, was particularly gratifying, and much praise is certainly due. It was pointed out that to enable this State to obtain the value which would accrue from the manufacture of these tokens of Remembrance within the State, this matter should be given very serious consideration for the future.

At is the case in practically every district within the State, the unemployment problem is being felt very severely by ex-soldiers within this district. Even the most optimistic find it hard to see silver lining looming in view. We are bound to admit that a great deal more must be done, and very soon, to alleviate the suffering. Many valuable suggestions could be put forward to endeavour to assist in boosting up the local amenity funds, and while we naturally look to the Executive for a lead in the formulation of a plan of campaign, sub-branches must get down to work at once. Every little helps some little one.

A very successful variety entertainment and dance was held at Mundaring on the 6th December, the organisation of which was very efficiently carried out by Secretary McGregor. The attendance in itself must have given Mac's troubled brow the first smooth-out. At all events, it speaks well for the future success of a similar venture.

The foundation of the proposed concert party will shortly be transformed from the "spirit" to the "material," judging by reports to hand. Harry Rutherford is still hoping to hear from any others who may be interested.

As this is the last report for the year, we wish to convey to you, Mr. Editor, and all fellow-diggers, the very best wishes for a merry Xmas and happy New-Year.

BRUCE ROCK

The quarterly general meeting of the Bruce Rock Sub-Branch was held on the Druid's Hall, on Monday night, November 10th, when the Vice-President (Mr. H. Wilkins) occupied the chair. Visitors present were, Messrs J. Vander-velde (Nedlands), G. Ross, Bugas, Jago, and William Armstrong (unattached). The Treasurer (Mr. D. B. Black) submitted a financial statement, showing a credit balance of £22 13s. 6d. He expressed the opinion that the sub-branch was holding its own very well considering the hard times.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. C. G. Latham was unanimously re-elected to the post of patron. The President (Mr. K. A. Burton) declined to seek re-election on the grounds of business pressure. A ballot was then taken, resulting in the election of Mr. H. Wilkins. The two vice-presidents elected were Messrs. D. B. Black and S. J. Bourne. Messrs. Bullimore and Black were unanimously re-elected to the respective positions of secretary and treasurer. Six members were re-elected to the general committee: Messrs. Dean, Thomas, Hawke, David, Sherlock, and Miller.

Accounts up to November 1st were passed for payment.

Mr. J. Vander-velde, a visitor from the Nedlands Sub-Branch, stated that he had attended the meeting at the invitation of the Secretary. He was interested in the Bruce Rock Sub-Branch, and had read of its doings in the LISTENING POST. The past and new presidents, and secretary, had done excellent work, and on his returning to Perth he would have much to say regarding the work of this executive, and the splendid position of the branch generally.

SOUTH PERTH

Since the November monthly meeting, the membership drive has been launched, and those participating report a fair response. Unfortunately, the unemployment bogy was well in evidence and members who are still working are urged to make sure they are financial, and so assist the sub-branch to carry on its excellent amelioration efforts.

The concert party, the "Whizz-Bangs," held a very successful show at the Gaity Theatre, on the 9th, and delighted the very appreciative audience. Rumour hath it that several wives were positively jealous of "Tosca," Thomas, whose smile was all that a man could desire, but we can assure the doubting ones that he really is only a female impersonator.

The "Whizz-Bangs," complete with orchestra, are prepared to give their show in outside districts for a very reasonable fee, which will be devoted to sub-branch funds, and are already considering several offers from country districts.

Monthly meetings continue to be well attended, and are always of interest. The monthly sub-branch, luncheon, at the R.S.I.L. Room, is also proving very popular. These are held on the third Monday each month.

KIMBERLEY

Matron McWhinney organised a successful bridge and euchre party at the R.S.I.L. Club on the evening of November 11th; the local amelioration funds will benefit considerably.

Prizes, generously donated by well-wishers of the League, were presented by Vice-President Hornby at the close of an enjoyable evening.

The sub-branch committee is greatly indebted to the Matron for the many ways in which she has assisted the ex-service men's affairs.

Poppies were sold in Broome during the week-end, and proceeds will be a welcome addition to assistance funds, which have been considerably drawn upon during the year.

GREENBUSHES

Readers will be pleased to hear that this sub-branch has been re-formed, and, although in its infancy, is coming on quickly under the presidency of Mr. Clem Sells, and Secretary, Mr. M. Anderson. Members, although not numerous at present, are enthusiastic, and their interest in all R.S.I.L. matters augurs well for the success of their activities. A drive is in swing at present, the objective being 100 per cent. membership. With Mr. C. Thompson as chief scout there is a possibility of victory. A smoke social in the near future will no doubt enhance the prospects.

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M. HAWTHORN
Humanising War

"Nedele" writes:—Some time ago there came over the air a talk on the subject, "Humanising War." The idea is to kill or injure your adversary without hurting him. Say, for instance, you wish to cut his throat. The procedure is quite simple; all that is required to do the job is a nicely coloured soft feather.

What is there humane about war?

If war were confined to a space where the combatants could be governed by a referee, then we might have a fair fight. Statesmen from all the Powers have met and discussed methods of bringing about a world-peace, and preventives against war. Governments with noble sentiments may, ten years hence, be supplanted by other politicians whose ideals are not quite so high, and agreements signed by a present government might be disregarded by its successors. Our men and women would answer the call again, because their chosen government gives the call.

If our statesmen cannot find a solution to the problem, then men and women who do the actual fighting can put an end to war. In all civilised countries there is a close co-operation between all wage earners. There are trades' unions, and various other workers' associations composed of men and women who bear the brunt of war. If a world-wide union could be formed wherein its members decline to take up arms against their fellow members, then we would have peace.

To war means to pay. A insults B. No apology is made and they commence a fight in which several other units of the alphabet take a hand. After the scrap the survivors go home and recommence work to pay for the damage and loss of life occasioned by the fight.

As children we were often told by our parents how wicked it was to fight with other boys. (Boys' arguments are similar to those of the nations.) We grow up and go overseas to fight. Now we are telling our boys the same story that grandpapa told us.

Let us teach our children the futility of waging war against our fellow men. Some little time ago there was a suggestion for an Australian National Anthem. If such is composed, may we hope that we do not beseech God to give us the ascendency over our enemies. Let us thank God for the beauties of our own land. Dispense with the martial music; and replace it with such as would instil in the hearts of the rising generation a love of and an ambition to create all things beautiful. Tradition is a double-edged affair, and if has been shamelessly neglected. At school they take us back centuries to the "glorious battles" fought by our forebears. We must admit that glowing accounts of battles are most interesting to the young mind, whilst the poets are abhorred.

I would like to see the Executive of the League take a hand at organising a world-wide union of non-combatants. If such a union were in existence we should pay hard cash only for our differences of opinion. Whereas, under the present conditions, we pay in every conceivable form.

Our Economic Problems

"SNIPER" OPENS FIRE

In commending Mr. Law, Honorary Secretary of the Merredin Sub-Branch, on his initiative in suggesting and opening the discussion in your columns on the above subject, I would just like briefly to comment on one point of his article, merely as a prelude to a continuance of the discussion.

Mr. Law says that unemployment is prevalent in almost every country in the world, and it is not only an Australian problem, but a world-wide one. Every country, of course, has a greater unemployment problem following on the world-wide depression, but it is infinitely greater here in proportion to population, if a recent statement of figures by Mr. J. H. Thomas, in England, is to be believed, and it was not denied.

In my opinion, the cause of the depression in Australia to-day may be divided into two headings:

1. The world slump in the prices of wool and wheat, Australia's main products.

2. The financial chaos in which Australia alone finds herself.

It must be admitted that Australia is economically in a far worse state than Great Britain, the other British Dominions, America, and the stable countries of Europe. The low rate offering for our securities, the exchange problem, our inability to secure loans, are proof of this assertion, and this brings in its wake, unfortunately, greater unemployment.

Australia is essentially a primary producing country that produces much more than she can consume. Her excess production, therefore, must be sold in competition with the rest of the world. If the rest of the world can produce more cheaply the goods Australia grows or makes, it naturally follows that to sell her products Australia must sell at the price other countries are prepared to give. You cannot get over this economic rule. Therefore, if Australia is to compete in the open market of the world, she must take stock of her costs of production.

Firstly, the grower or manufacturer in his endeavour to compete with the nations of the world must not be loaded with overhead charges.

It is useless for Australia to foster industries for which she is not suited. We find to-day some industries being afforded protection under the tariff—of which, if they were closed down and the workers paid full wages in their idleness—
interest in industry. Each worker has a stake in the work he is doing, and is not a mere time-server. Thus it appears that if we are to maintain the present wage, the wage earner must give more for that wage.

Coming to the financial stress that is peculiar to Australia, we find that a handful of people owe 1,100 millions. After the war the debt was 694 millions, so that we have added over 400 millions since then. We now find ourselves in the position of being unable to obtain credit from the outside world, and of having great difficulty in meeting our liabilities. At least the meetings of our liabilities is a great drain on the financial resources of our country, and has brought about much disorganisation.

Where has the money gone? Excluding our war debt we find that most of it has been spent in unproductive works, with little thought for the repayment of capital and interest. Even to-day a striking example of this waste of loan money is the deviation being made at Greenmount. A road being built alongside another road that would last for years. Money being thus spent that will not return one penny towards its repayment or interest, and, therefore, another debt for the revenue of the country to meet.

If a man borrows from a bank, he does so, if he is intelligent, with a view of employing the loan money in his business or undertaking so it will return him above the interest he is paying to the bank, and also he provides for repayment. In other words, he borrows to make a profit out of borrowing. If, on the other hand, he spends the loan in the pub, or buying an expensive motor car, or building a catchment dam on the top of a hill, he is looking for trouble, and has to find the interest and repayment from somewhere else. If he can’t he is in bother, and that is acutely the position in Australia to-day. In our bother the overseas lender has closed the door. It is similar to the bank telling a client who is working on an overdraft, that he is not-spending the money wisely, and he cannot have any more.

But there is nothing wrong in borrowing provided you do so profitably, and provide for repayment and interest. Much of our unemployment is most decidedly due to the sudden cessation of overseas loan money. The lack of this money has caused the withdrawal of capital from industry. There is no money for buildings, expansion of business, or anything else. The Government has collared the lot to meet its liabilities. Meanwhile the worker is unemployed.

Industry lives on credit, or otherwise there would be no use for banks. If a business firm wants a loan it goes outside its business for it. An overdraft is obtained, debentures are issued, or unpaid capital is called up, etc. Therefore, Australia must borrow outside Australia and repay with exports. This would enable us to keep ourselves employed, and after meeting the dues for the current loan, make an honest endeavour to produce a
bit more to pay off a little of our big debt. Idleness will not repay anything, but causes discontentment. Internal loans stifle a country. India, a country of internal strife, and South Africa, with her republican ideas, can borrow cheaply, yet Australia, through mismanagement and the buying of votes, is stranded.

Our system needs overhauling badly. Any old fool is good enough to deal with our financial affairs. Politics is about the only trade that does not require an apprenticeship, or the passing of an examination to show fitness. Every employer requires evidence of fitness from an applicant for a job, and if he is unfit, out he goes. It is time we required the same from our politicians, especially in integrity, commonsense, and a few rules of economics. Then Great Britain will probably have faith in us, for the solution of our domestic trouble lies in her help, and our consequent increased production of the right goods.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, might I say that an elaboration of some points would probably make them more clear, but I have avoided detail as much as possible in order to conserve space. There are many questions that other diggers might take up, such as the effect of the present tariff, the system of bounties, government by commission, our banking system, etc. All are of vital interest to our well being to-day.

"BAYARD’S" BROADSIDE

Your correspondent, Mr. F. A. Law, in the last issue of the LISTENING POST, supplied a very interesting article on "Unemployment," but made, what I consider, a great mistake in dealing with the subject as purely an international affair. He also only devoted his last paragraph to suggesting any remedy, and that I consider the weakest link in his argument, as he undoubtedly wished to imply that higher wages would solve our difficulties, and, I presume, would favour inflation to provide, temporarily at any rate, those higher wages. In case I have misunderstood Mr. Law, I will not criticise him unduly on that score.

Mr. Law quite rightly refers to our troubles as a natural result of an unnatural system; but if I interpret his ideas correctly, he and I will differ on what we consider the "unnatural" system.

Whilst agreeing that the unemployment problem is no respector of country, governmental or political opinion, and treats free-trade and tariff countries with, an equal degree of indifference, I would suggest that each country affected has its own peculiar contributory causes which have brought about the present day difficulties, and each country will have to work out its own salvation. What I would term an unnatural system is the high protective policies adopted by some countries as compared with the ultra-free-trade of the Old Country.

After all, one must get down to the fundamentals of economics and consider reasons whereby nations set up what is known as the gold standard. Originally goods were paid for by other goods, and coinage was only brought into being for the sake of convenience, and the gold standard later adopted as a means of adjustment between nations, etc. The position to-day, however, is that by means of (a) her tariff wall, and (b) her insistence on the payments of war debts, America has cornered considerably more than her share of the world's gold, which she now finds of very little use to her. She has produced at an enormous rate all sorts of goods, which she has poured into the world's markets, but she cannot barter these goods and obtain other goods in return. Imitating U.S.A., Australia, in her attempt to build up secondary industries for which it must be remembered, she has, unlike America, no home market, has set up a false standard of living and reduced in effect her "real" wages.

So long as good prices for wheat and wool obtained, the folly of Australia's system was only apparent to the thinking few; but to-day the position has to be faced by every Australian citizen, if our main source of revenue—primary products—is to be maintained.

As I said earlier, each country's problems are peculiarly its own, and I, as an Australian citizen, and one whose livelihood is bound up in Australia's prosperity, am naturally mainly concerned in the solution of Australia's difficulties. Summing up, I offer the following as a means to that end:

1. A quick reduction of working costs by means of the gradual reduction of existing tariffs.
2. A cessation of the granting of bounties and bonuses to any industry, and a gradual reduction of those already existing.
3. A speedy return to "real" wages for all classes of the community, so that every £1 earned may be worth its full value in the world's market, and that in the future we may say with every confidence that £5 a week in Australia is worth every bit as much to the individual as £5 a week in Great Britain; not as to-day, a ratio of approximately 5:3.

Critics of this article will probably ask how my ideal of "real" wages is to be obtained. To them I would refer the appalling overlapping of State and Federal Arbitration Courts as instanced by the position in Western Australia to-day, where the State Award for the Basic Wage is approximately 9/- higher than the Federal Award, and at least 5/- higher than the award in any other State. In consequence I would consider the abolition of the present system of Arbitration, which is largely responsible for the high cost of living, a veritable blessing to Australian industry, and, therefore, to the Australian people.

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The sire of the fat lamb for export should be a Shropshire, Dorset Horn or Southdown. The mother of the export lamb should be a Longwool Merino crossbred ewe, if available. If crossbred ewes are not available, mate the Merino ewe with a Longwool ram.

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December 19, 1930

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<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, P.O. Box 14, Albany</td>
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<td><strong>BUNBURY</strong></td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>C. R. Gillett, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
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<td><strong>BELMONT</strong></td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>27th May and every 4th Tuesday</td>
<td>T. H. Sibbritt, Grandstand Rd., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Epson Ave., Belmont</td>
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<td><strong>BAYSWATER</strong></td>
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<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>V. White, Slaie St., Bayswater</td>
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<td><strong>COLLIE</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Tuesdays before pension day</td>
<td>A. E. Rolfe, Throssell St., Collie</td>
<td>Hugh S. Cramer, Medin St., Collie</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COWARAMUP</strong></td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Sydney Frohawk, Cowaramup</td>
<td>P. Few, Cowaramup</td>
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<td><strong>COTTESLOE BEACH</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>G. Brown, &quot;Scotia,&quot; Fairlight St., Cottesloe Beach</td>
<td>W. Burrage, Cottesloe Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLAREMONT</strong></td>
<td>Alternately Council Chambers, Claremont, and Wells Hall, Cottesloe</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>C. F. J. North, M.L.A., Forrest St., Cottesloe</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, 12 Dalgety St., Cottesloe</td>
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<td><strong>COTTESLOE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DARLING RANGE</strong></td>
<td>Parish Hall, Kalamunda</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>W. Logie, Kalamunda, Rev. J. Lawrence, Denmark</td>
<td>Wm. Wright, Kalamunda</td>
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<td><strong>DENMARK</strong></td>
<td>Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>Denmark, Denmark</td>
<td>J. Holmes, Denmark</td>
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<td><strong>DUMBLEYUNG</strong></td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Quarterly, last Sunday in January, April, July, Oct.</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleyung</td>
<td>H. Greaves, Dumbleyung</td>
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<td><strong>DOWAK</strong></td>
<td>Salmon Gums, 1st Friday; Dowak, 1st Sunday</td>
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<td>L. A. Weeks, Dowak</td>
<td>Gerald Andrews, Dowak</td>
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<td><strong>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICTS</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>Theo. Brennan, Forthergill St., Fremantle</td>
<td>P. S. Jans, Carrington St., Fremantle</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GASCOYNE</strong></td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays (Pension Nights), at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. R. Cornish, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>W. J. Firmin, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GUILDFORD-BASSENDEN</strong></td>
<td>Council Chbrs., Guildford</td>
<td>1st Thursday, alt. months, commencing January</td>
<td>M. Lewis, Helena St., Guildford</td>
<td>H. L. Keize, 6th Avenue, Basendean</td>
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<td><strong>GERALDTON</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Busseland</td>
<td>1st Thursday other months</td>
<td>A. H. Salmon, Geraldton</td>
<td>W. Bagshaw, Geraldton</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HARVEY</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Memorial Institute</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Heritage Rd., Harvey</td>
<td>Alfred J. Knight, Harvey</td>
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<td><strong>KALGOORLIE</strong></td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>C. D. A. Donaldson, 11 Hinemos St., Kalgoorlie</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel. 290</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Flanagan, P.O., Kardungup</td>
<td>Charles S. Smith, P.O., Karridale</td>
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<td><strong>KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>P.P.A. Room</td>
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<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
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<td><strong>Kimberley</strong></td>
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<td><strong>KOJONUP</strong></td>
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<td><strong>KOORDA</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Koorda</td>
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<td><strong>LAKE GRACE</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>H. H. Pelham, Lake Grace</td>
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<td><strong>MERREDIN</strong></td>
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<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>P. A. Law, Merredin</td>
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<td><strong>MOORA</strong></td>
<td>Moora</td>
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<td>E. Logan, Merredin</td>
<td>Dr. W. S. Myles, c/o Shell Co., Moors</td>
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<td><strong>MOUNT BARKER</strong></td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. G. Sounness, &quot;Merryup,&quot; Mt. Barker</td>
<td>P. R. Gillam, c/o. W.A.A.R,</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOUNT MARSHALL</strong></td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, Dec., Mar.,</td>
<td>P. P. Le Cras, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Mr. Barker, S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
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<td><strong>MAYLANDS</strong></td>
<td>Friendly Societies' Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alts. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>L. A. Hallet, 114 Guildford Rd., Mayland.</td>
<td>N. R. Waddington, 6 Nornambuy St., Maylands</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring and Mt. Helena</td>
<td>3rd, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helena</td>
<td>A. J. McGregor, Mt. Helena</td>
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<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Rm.</td>
<td>1st Friday</td>
<td>P. F. Jamieson, 1 Woodbridge Ter., Midland Junction</td>
<td>Edward Gray, 39 Holmesdale R.d., Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>Wallish Hall, Grovenor Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Flintoft, 1 Second Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>L. G. R. Challen, 49 Fourth Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td>Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every Alt. Sunday</td>
<td>W. J. Fulton, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Mornington Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>Premier Hotel, Quarterly, North Dandalup,</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Ross McLarty, Pinjarra</td>
<td>W. Marsh, P.O. Box 9, Pinjarra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS</td>
<td>Broadway Theatre (Lasser Hall)</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>J. Toner, Nedlands</td>
<td>W. A. Dunfield, 55 Tyrell St., Nedlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>K. J. Jones, M.C., Northampton</td>
<td>Rev. J. C. Lund, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Avon Bridge Hotel</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>N. C. Scott Northam.</td>
<td>G. C. Curlewis, Fitzgerald St., Northam. Tel. 374.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUNNARIN</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. L. Warner, Red Forest, Kewlan</td>
<td>L. W. Brockway, Nungarin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. F. S. E. Buchanan, Belmont</td>
<td>Geo. S. Mellor, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Office hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESS</td>
<td>At Luncheon</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, noon</td>
<td>C. P. Smith, C/o The Western Mail, Perth</td>
<td>I. T. Birtwistle, C/o The Western Mail, Perth. Tel. 5518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Billiard Saloon</td>
<td>Alternate Month, commencing Feb. 1, at 2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Elston, Pithara.</td>
<td>H. K. Maclean, East Pithara, Tel. No. 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPANYNING</td>
<td>Yornaning and Popanyinning</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month, alternately</td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yornaning, Ross A. Keesing, Port Hedland</td>
<td>C. J. McGarrigal, Popanyinning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILBARA</td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. E. Clarke, Port Hedland</td>
<td>A. J. Clarke, Port Hedland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAILWAY WORKSHOPS</td>
<td>In the &quot;Mill&quot; at Workshops</td>
<td>Alt. Tuesday, 12.5 p.m. from 22nd July</td>
<td>R. B. Gibson, Olive St., Subiaco</td>
<td>W. J. Lovell, 92 Sixth Ave., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH PERTH</td>
<td>Masonic Hall, Cr. York and Forrest St.</td>
<td>3rd Monday</td>
<td>H. K. Kahan, 69 Douglas Ave., S. Perth</td>
<td>M. H. Mundy, Cr. Dyson and Vista Sts., South Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Rokeby Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>Every Thursday</td>
<td>W. A. Wilkins, Subiaco</td>
<td>F. G. Shand, 244 Hammersley Rd., Subiaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
<td>Palace Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>J. Kightley, Southern Cross</td>
<td>T. S. Anderson, Southern Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOODYAY</td>
<td>Freemasons' Hotel</td>
<td>Second Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Padre O'Halloran, Fennis St., Toodyay</td>
<td>A. Scott, Clinton St., Toodyay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING-YELBENI</td>
<td>Library Hall, Albany Rd., Victoria Park</td>
<td>Third Friday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. C. Thompson, Traying</td>
<td>F. N. Graves, Yelbenni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>Mr. Hair's Office</td>
<td>1st Friday, 8.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Nicol, 51 Miller Street, Victoria Park</td>
<td>W. G. Thomas, 62 Temple St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAROONA</td>
<td>'Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>V. Walker, Waroona</td>
<td>R. H. Roberts, Waroona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>'Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Tyler, Taxation Dept., Perth</td>
<td>P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUBIN, BUNTINE, JIBBERDING W. LEDERVILLE</td>
<td>Each place alt., commencing Buntine, March 1st</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Day, Buntine</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubs (Tel. No. 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge St., Lederville</td>
<td>1st Saturday, Quarterly</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Ave., Lederville</td>
<td>C. W. R. Beechey, 8 Rer. St., Lederville</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Best Bar

Bar None

PLAISTOWE'S NEW WORLD CHOCOLATE BAR
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. A. J. Beswell-Brown</td>
<td>T. A. Burns, Hay St., Subiaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.</td>
<td>Executive at 229 Charles St., North Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday, 6 p.m. (monthly)</td>
<td>Capt. E. W. Edmonds, 218 Railway Parade, West Leederville</td>
<td>Geo. E. Cattermole, M.C., 229 Charles St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. I. E. D. Dunkley, 16 Angove St., N. Perth</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion St., Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEVENTH BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly Luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td>R. W. Blair, 79 William St., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-NAVAL MEN'S ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Sports Club, King St.</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>L. Kaye Perrin, 43 Douglas Av., S. Perth</td>
<td>F. S. Harrison, 270 Wellington St., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly Luncheon, 1 to 2 p.m., 28th of month or nearest weekday chosen</td>
<td>S. Jones, 170 Cambridge St., West Leederville</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. M. Davies, 42 View St., Cottesloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIXTEENTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>General Meeting, October 25th, 1929</td>
<td>Colonel E. L. Margolin, Nedlands</td>
<td>V. Ketterer, C/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. D. Stone, c/o West Australian Newspaper Office</td>
<td>R. Alexander, c/o Government House, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. L. Cox, A. H. Sweetapple, 49 Clifden Cott., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>R. W. Perry, c/o Repat. Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Chops a la Scrounge"
(By "Shrapnel")

The folks down at Suby—the R.S.L. mob, Are blokes from all units, who served on the job When Wilhelm decided the world he would own, And England and Co. chased the cow off his throne.

They have blokes from the Air Force, the Navy, and foot, Who had put in their quota, and worked at the "toot," And insist now in spending their peaceful years On visiting rounds, and surrounding long beers.

A party from Suby just recently came To a branch in the country (I'll mention no name), So with fiddle and cornet, on pleasure hell-bent, A very enjoyable evening was spent.

When the dancing was over, and morning was nigh, They retired to their room, had a spot (on the sly), But fun makes one hungry, the worst of the best, So they foraged for tucker 'ere going to rest.

The scrounge of the party went fossicking round, And a platter of succulent "Schwein-flesch" he found. With bread, and with butter, with pickles and beer, They ate, and retired, and slept without fear.

But early next morning, 'tis sad to relate, The land lady's nerves were in terrible state. She raged, and she hoped that the belly would walk, Of the blokes who had stolen that platter of pork.

The culprits slept on, in sweet ignorance blessed Of the rumpus they'd started, until they were dressed. Then one of them told her, and wanted to pay For the grub they'd consumed before break of the day.

But the lady still raged, and she muttered of "cops," (Oh! what trouble was caused by those little pork chops.) So the mob held a meeting, and voted all round, They would pay for those chops with a good Aussie $.

So they gave her that quieted (Yes, forty long beers), Whereat the good lady shed copious tears. Now no one, unless he's a troublesome booby, Dares mention pork chops after dances, at Suby.

Unwritten war history from the Ked-dentong sub-branch:

"Biff, what's this 'ere O.B.E. that old Facefuscus got for looking after the Home Comforts?"

"Oh, that's the Orudge of the British Empire. You see, during the war England was ruled by King George the Fifth and Lloyd George the Four-fifths. Lloyd George didn't reckon it was a fair go for common soldiers to be hogging all the decorations while actors and politicians and distinguished civilians were playing at war work and getting sweet F.A. for it, so he put it to the King. At last the King agrees to start a new show, more to keep Lloyd George quiet than anything else. Then Lloyd George says, "What'll we call 'em, by way of a short title?" By this time the King was fed up with the whole business and he says "Oh, b-'em. You see, O.B.E. and Lloyd George thought it was dinkum and wrote it down. That's how it happened, Harry!"

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Efficiency and Economy are the two most important factors to consider when buying a Separator. The "DAHLIA" and "SYLVIA" are unrivalled for efficiency, and, combined with their low cost, cannot be beaten.

CASH PRICE LIST.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAHLIA</th>
<th>SylVIA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>Capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallons</td>
<td>Gallons</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>13 gallons</td>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>13 gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>20 gallons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Terms can be arranged if desired at slightly higher rates, but cream suppliers will be considered cash buyers and may purchase on terms at above rates.

Remember, the DAHLIA and SYLVIA are proved machines. — They have stood the test of time, and for all-round excellence cannot be surpassed.

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For the man who has neither the time nor the opportunity to bother with measurements and fittings, Boans can offer, an unequalled service in READY-TO-WEAR SUITS that are the quintessence of smartness, perfect in fit, cut in the very latest style, and made from the very best materials; and they now offer Ready-to-Wear Suits which you cannot tell from Tailor-made, at 79/6. They are Boans' Special Make of English Worsteds or Albany Serges, with unbreakable points, jigger button, breast pocket, double-breasted lapels. Range of choice of materials is immensely wide—practically any shade or design being procurable—and even the most particular man would have no hesitation in wearing one of these suits. When purchasing your next suit it will pay you handsomely to investigate this Special Offer.

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You are assured of a Perfect Fit because even if at the moment there should not be in stock a suit that is exactly to your measurement, Boans will take your measure in the properly equipped fitting room and within an hour or two a suit to fit you perfectly will be ready and waiting for you. This Ready-to-Wear Suit Service should be a convenience in many ways, for should you arrive in the city dusty from train or motor travelling, you may come into Boans, procure your suit, and change in their well-equipped, well-lighted fitting-room.

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