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The Cheaper Navies Conference

A critic of our January leader on the Naval Conference referred to subsequent happenings, which he did not specify, but which appear to him to contradict our contentions. We fear that our critic has allowed his optimism to overlie his reasoning faculties. Though the Conference has dragged on for nearly two months, little beyond hopeful utterances has been achieved, while competent critics like Mr. Winston Churchill and Commander Kenworthy are frankly pessimistic as to its probable success. Of course, political instability in France has occasioned much of the delay, but this notwithstanding, this Conference, of which the two principal powers were in agreement on all essential points before it was called, has been singularly slow to achieve anything.

A new tonnage agreement between Japan and America, which reduces the former’s ratio in heavy cruisers but increases it in light vessels, has not met with the approval of naval experts, though there is every likelihood of the Japanese Government confirming it. An understanding has been reached with France regarding her demand for freedom from restrictions in building warships within the limit of an agreed total (or “global,” to use the weird word that Yankee journalists have made fashionable) tonnage. None of the super-optimists at St. James commented on the fact that this understanding is practically the same as Britain arrived at in her provisional agreement with France in 1927, an agreement which aroused America to a frenzy of protest, because it had been made without consulting her. It was decided at the outset to waive all further discussion of the abolition of the submarine. The British Admiralty has announced that the two cruisers of the 1928 programme are “definitely cancelled.” As work on these cruisers had not even been commenced, this was merely the cancellation of something not yet in existence—hardly a tangible result. At the date of writing the question of Franco-Italian parity, which, as we anticipated in January, has proved the Conference’s most difficult problem, remains unsettled. One “subsequent happening,” of which our critics are probably unaware, was referred to by the Paris correspondent of the London Truth (a very different type of publication from local papers similarly named). Writing on 29th January, he states: “It is quite a long time since England has been referred to in the French press with such a depth of dislike (and incomprehension) as has been the case during the last ten days.” Surely the most ardent advocate of peace at any price cannot regard the reviving of the ancient grudge of France against England as one of the desirable results of the Conference.

The fact of the matter is that the Conference commenced on a wave of sublime optimism, which has spent its force against a wall of cold fact. It will not lessen the likelihood of future wars; it will merely make them cheaper. The predominant naval powers of the world have met, not to abolish armaments, but to reduce them. Other conferences broke down under the weight of technical details. In summoning this, the tenth since the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament, it was decided to ignore technicalities and deal only with political aspects. It was all charmingly simple, but the wise men soon found that unless technical matters came into the discussion, there would be nothing to talk about, beyond a few airy platitudes. Every nation concerned hates war, and all five powers whose representatives are now at St. James, have signed the Kellogg Pact. However, every nation sees clearly that its position differs entirely from the position of any other nation, and that, therefore, it must use special types of armaments in its own defence. Britain and America have agreed upon a common denominator as regards reduction, but to reach this Britain must reduce while America builds up. As a message from Washington expressed it, “Statesmen have now realised that the chief result of the Conference will be some of the greatest naval construction programmes the world has ever seen.” The French naval programme, in January last, was to cost £1,500,000 more than that of the previous year, and to add 48,000 tons and 1,000 men to the French fleet. If the Italian demand for parity with France is maintained, then the present naval policy of France will impose on the Italian delegation the necessity of insisting upon a considerable increase of strength. All this is the direct antithesis of disarmament, as far as every country, except Britain, is concerned.

The total post-war decrease of tonnage of the British Navy has been 2,100,000 tons. During the last three years Britain has reduced expenditure on the reconditioning of the navy by five millions. “The U.S.A. on a programme involving the construction of a new fleet,” (writes Sir Cyril Cobb, Chairman of the Navy League, in the London Graphic, of 1st February), “infinitely stronger and more numerous than they ever dreamed they wanted before, have increased their expenditure by £23,000,000; France by a similar sum, and Japan by £4,500,000.”

Much of the American demand for parity with Britain is sheer hypocrisy. All the discussions before the Conference centred on cruisers for the reason that this is the one class of vessel in which...
we possess a superiority. Britain has a superiority of two as regards capital ships, but the U.S. battle fleet has actually 26 heavy guns more than Great Britain. The U.S.A. has 309 destroyers (including 14 fitted as minelayers, and 25 assigned to coastguard duties). Last November the N.S. Navy Board decided that 17 of these destroyers were not worth the cost of refitting. Even so, this leaves her with 252 efficient destroyers to Great Britain's 134. In addition, the United States has 125 submarines to Britain's 53, while her naval man power numbers 114,000 to Britain's 99,000. Britain has already placed her own cruiser strength at 50, as against the 70 which naval experts consider are necessary for her requirements. The ratio of cruisers to battle ships in a fleet has been fixed as five to three. This means that of our cruiser strength of 50, twenty-five will be used for the fleet requirements of our fifteen battleships, leaving twenty-five to ensure the safety of our 80,000 miles of trade routes and the fulfilment of our obligations the world over, even in peace time. Of that fifty, twenty-four are obsolete, worn out, or due for replacement within the next few years. Looked at in this light, the claim of the U.S.A. (for twenty-one 10,000 ton cruisers and 10 others of smaller type would, if acceded to, give her an enormous fleet preponderance above any other nation, while leaving her ample cruiser strength for the small amount of peace work she may be called upon to do.

To Foster Empire Shopping

Amongst the resolutions passed at the conference of the British Empire Service League, held in London last year, was the following:

"Realising as we do the vital importance of Empire Trade as a factor in promoting both Empire Unity and Empire Migration, this Conference again urges its Constituent 'Members' to give their utmost support to every policy which tends to promote trade within the Empire. The non-partisan character of our Organisation is such that direct agitation for increased preferences and other policies of a similar character may not be expedient or desirable, but we recommend that occasions such as Empire Shopping Week be made a permanent feature of our work, and be used by all our Constituent 'Members' to create and develop the sentiment that Empire building can best be advanced by Empire buying, and thereby create an atmosphere which will be favourable to the development of such trade arrangements as will make trade within the Empire as easy and as profitable as possible."

Last year was the first occasion on which the League did something practical towards advancing the interests of Empire Trade. The State Executive was represented on the Empire Trading and Shopping Council of W.A., and many sub-branches, particularly that of Merredin, greatly assisted towards making Empire Shopping week a success.

This year, Empire Shopping Week commences on Empire Day, Saturday, May 24th, and all sub-branches are being asked to make its success one of the main objectives of the year.

They are requested to take the initiative in their particular districts and call together all public-spirited bodies and form an Empire Shopping Week Council for their sub-branch or district. The Secretary of the Central Council has over 4,000 posters of varying designs supplied by the Empire Marketing Board, which will be supplied on request, and it is hoped that competitions will be held in each area for the best display by shopkeepers of Empire goods and propaganda.

The need for purchasing goods grown or made within the Empire, particularly those of W.A. or Australian source, was never more evident than to-day, and the individual and collective assistance of members of the R.S.I. will introduce a new and beneficial influence to the whole community.

Scientists consider that geographical situation influences character. Now we understand why Melbourne people are so mid-Victorian.

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**STATE ELECTIONS, 1930**

**Perth Electorate**

**POLLING DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 12th**

**POLL CLOSES AT 7 P.M.**

"The Collier Government has always given the Digger a fair go. Therefore, vote—"

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and KEEP COILLER PREMIER

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State Executive Meetings

19/2/30


Apologies were received from Mssrs. Cornell, Logie, Sadler, Tozer, and Denton.

New Delegate.—Mr. G. E. Cattermole was welcomed by the State President as a new delegate.

Wickham Relief Fund.—The Secretary reported as to what action had been taken in connection with this matter. The report was received.

R.S.L. Co-Op.—Mr. Longmore withdrew the previous motion, and it was moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Walls: That the State Secretary be asked to co-operate where possible with the manager of the R.S.L. Co-Op, with a view to assisting in the expansion of business.—Carried.

Flag from Cenotaph, London.—The Secretary reported that this flag had been delivered by the Premier's Department.

Notice of Motion.—Art Union Sub-Branches: Moved by Mr. Longmore, seconded by Mr. Tyler: That this branch endeavour to obtain permission to run a second art union each year, all profits to be distributed to sub-branches on an equitable basis for amelioration purposes.—Carried.

Reports.—Management Committee: The State President submitted a report on behalf of the Management Committee recommending the submission of certain items for the agenda for the next Federal Executive meeting. These were confirmed. The report stated that neither the Rev. D. I. Freedman nor Mr. Yeates were able to attend as delegates, and on the motion of Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Philip, Mr. Tyler was appointed and Mr. Watt as delegate-in-waiting. The Committee had approved of the appointment of Mr. S. J. Girdle as secretary of the Upper Chapman Sub-Branch. The report was adopted.

State Secretary.—The State Secretary read the report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. The report was received.

Finance Committee.—The report of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 17th February, was received and adopted.

Land Committee.—Mr. Yeates delivered a report of the Land Committee meeting held on the 12th February. The report was received.

Hospital Committee.—Rabbi Freedman reported on a visit made to the No. 11 Ward, Perth Hospital by the Visiting Committee. The report was received.

Anzac Day.—The report of the Anzac Day Committee meeting, held on the 18th instant, was submitted by the State President. The Executive's approval was asked for a suggested policy circular and form of service, which was submitted, being forwarded to sub-branches and unit associations. This was agreed to, and the report adopted.

Pensions Committee.—The Rev. C. L. Riley reported on the meeting of the Pensions Committee, held on the 18th February. The report was received and adopted.

Warooms.—Mr. Cooke reported on his visit to the Warooma Sub-Branch. Report received.

Kondinin.—Mr. Lovell reported on his visit to the Kondinin Sub-Branch. Report received.

Midland Junction.—Mr. Pady reported having visited the Midland Junction Sub-Branch. Report received.

Empire Trading and Shopping Week.—Mr. Watt delivered a report in this connection.

Federal Correspondence.—The Report of the Repatriation Commission was laid on the table for the information of members.

Employment Grant.—The report of the Employment Bureaux throughout the Commonwealth for the month of December was received.

Federal Executive Meeting.—A copy of a communication from the Queensland Branch was forwarded by the General Secretary concerning the Federal Executive meeting. The letter was received.


Invitations.—Railway Workshops Branch, Friday, 28th March, Annual Smoke Social. As many delegates as possible were asked to attend.

Brunswick Junction.—Wednesday, 26th February, Annual Dinner. Left in the hands of the President.

Subiaco Sub-Branch.—A letter was received from the Subiaco Sub-Branch, stating that their representative on the State Executive had not visited them. They also dealt with their action concerning the return of League Badges from unfavourable members. The representative was asked to arrange a visit at a later date.

New Sub-Branch.—An application was received for approval to form a new sub-branch, Canning District. Approval granted.

Proposed Retirement Mr. Murray Jones.—The Secretary reported in this connection.

Moved by Rabbi Freedman, seconded by Mr. ...
C. P. Smith: That without endorsing or rejecting the State Secretary's request a committee be appointed to make further enquiries into the retirement of Mr. Murray Jones. Carried.

Mssrs. Longmore, Yeates, and the State Secretary were appointed.

Wickendon Sub-Branch.—The Wickendon Sub-Branch advised the result of the election of officers, and submitted a report on this year's activities. Report received.

Rail Fares.—The Perth Sub-Branch submitted a request that the State Executive accept the responsibility of providing fares for members of the sub-branch who have been successful in locating positions. A report from the Employment Officer stated that the State Labour Bureau provide such fares with certain exceptions. It was agreed that the State Secretary be authorised to reply to the Perth Sub-Branch.

Employment, Merredin.—A telegram was received from the Merredin Sub-Branch stating that jobs in Merredin were being filled from the unemployed in Perth when local men were not available. Enquiries had been made, and it was ascertained that Merredin was controlled by the Northam Labour Bureau, which furnish reports each month concerning the unemployed in the district, and this made it difficult in obtaining positions from Perth. The Merredin Sub-Branch had been informed of the position, and the State Secretary was authorised to take the matter up with the Minister concerned, and then refer to the Pensions and Employment Committee.

State War Memorial.—A letter was received from the chairman of the State War Memorial Committee advising that it was not intended by hand over the memorial to the care of the League until such time as it was completed. The letter was received.

Treatment, Ward 11, Perth Hospital.—The Perth Sub-Branch had written advising that T.B. suspects and positives were receiving the same equipment and clothing as other patients in No. 11 Ward, Perth Hospital. Enquiries had been made, and in a report the matron of the Hospital advised that every care was being taken for proper sterilising and cleansing to obviate infection. It was decided that copy of the report be forwarded to the Perth Sub-Branch, and that the R.S.L. Band:—The Railway Workshops Sub-Branch complained that the R.S.L. Band practised while social functions were being held at the Institute. The matter was referred to the House Committee.

Branding Bags.—The Dowak Sub-Branch forwarded copy of a resolution carried at a recent meeting concerning the branding of chaff bags. The letter was referred to the Land Committee.

Art Union.—The Secretary reported that it was impossible for the State Executive to secure official approval for the conduct of more than one art union per year. He added that from general enquiries made, he thought it would be reasonable for the submission of an application to conduct an art union for amelioration or building purposes on behalf of those metropolitan sub-branches who had already unsuccessfully lodged applications, or who had intimated their intention of doing so. Moved by Mr. Longmore, seconded by Mr. Yeates: That

the information be forwarded to the Perth Sub-Branch, and any other metropolitan sub-branch concerned.—Carried.

F. Murray Jones.—Mr. Yeates submitted a report on behalf of the committee appointed to enquire into the retirement of Mr. F. Murray Jones. The report was received.

Employment, Merredin.—The Secretary read a communication from the Chief Secretary's Department concerning a complaint by Merredin in connection with employment. It was decided that a copy be forwarded to the Merredin Sub-Branch.

Reports.—The State Secretary read a report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. Report received.

Finance Committee.—Report of the meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 3rd instant, was received and adopted.

House Committee.—Report of the House Committee meeting, held on the 26th February, was submitted by Mr. Philip and received and adopted.

Anzac Day.—The State President submitted a report on behalf of the Anzac Day Committee, the paragraph dealing with the "Dawn" Service was adopted.

Children of Deceased Soldiers.—Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Philip: That the Legacy Club be advised that this Executive is in accord with the Club's idea in regard to boys and girls, children of deceased soldiers, taking part in the Anzac Day procession.—Carried.

The Committee was given full power to finalise all arrangements.

Luncheon.—Moved by Mr. Philip, seconded by Mr. Yeates: That the Anzac Day official luncheon be held.—Carried.

Land Committee.—Mr. Yeates submitted a report of the Land Committee meeting, held on the 12th February, and the 3rd March. Report received.

Brunswick Junction.—A report by the Assistant State Secretary on his visit to Brunswick Junction Sub-Branch, accompanied by Mr. Logan, was received.

Employment Bureau.—The report of the operations of the Employment Bureau for the month of February, was received.

Relief Fund.—The report of the Trustees for the month of February was received, also suggested rules to apply to sub-branch relief funds were submitted and adopted.

Lemons Board of Visitors.—A report by Colonel Margolin was laid on the table.

Osborne Park.—The President reported having visited Osborne Park Sub-Branch. Report received.

Empire Trading and Shopping Council.—Mr. Watt submitted a short report in this connection, and moved, seconded by Colonel Denton: That a letter be sent to the sub-branches requesting them to form in their district an Empire Shopping Council to work in co-operation with the Empire Trading and Shopping Council in W.A., towards making a success of Empire Shopping Week commencing on the 24th May next.

Federal Correspondence.—British Pensions Time Limit: A communication was received from the Federal Executive in this connection. It was decided that publicity be given, and a copy be forwarded to the B.U.S.A. and ex-Naval Men's Association.

Federal Executive Meeting.—Items for discussion at the Federal Executive meeting, to be held on the 27th March, were received and referred to the Management Committee.

C.P.S. Board.—A communication concerning the appointment of the C.P.S. Board was received.

Empire Bazaar.—A communication concerning the holding of an Empire Bazaar in London in May next, was received. The letter asked that samples of work by disabled soldiers be forwarded for exhibition. It was decided that copy of the letter be forwarded to the Blinded Soldiers' Association and the "Maimed and Limbless Men's Association", and the State Executive of the Women's Auxiliary.

Living Allowance.—A communication had been forwarded to the Federal Executive requesting that living allowance be paid to temporarily and totally disabled men until suitable work was offered. A reply was received declining to adopt the suggestion. As the matter would come up for discussion at the forthcoming Federal Executive meeting, the letter was received.

4th Biennial Conference.—The minutes of the 4th Biennial Conference were laid on the table for the information of members.
Empire Trade.—Copies of a speech by Lord Melcbett were laid on the table for the information of members.

Correspondence was received in connection with the following resolutions of the 14th Annual Congress:

Resolution 184—Hospital Treatment Dependents. Copy to be forwarded to the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch.

Resolution 51—Funeral Allowance Widowed Mothers. Received.

Resolution 31 and 54—Non-pensionable disabilities. Received.

Resolution 71—Aggravation Time Limit six months. Received.

Resolution 37—Funeral Grant Federal Capital Territory. Received.

Resolution 122—Staffing Repatriation Institutions. Received and copy to be forwarded to the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch.

Resolution 191—Cancer and War Service. Received.

Resolution 77—Edward Millen Home: This resolution asked for the appointment of a visiting committee for Repatriation Hospitals similar to the Lennox Board of Visitors. The letter conveyed a copy of one from the Minister for Repatriation declining to appoint such a board. Moved by Mr. Bader, seconded by Mr. Cattermole: That the letter be referred to the Hospital Visiting Committee for report. Carried.

Invitations: Invitations were received from the following sub-branches:

—Mt. Lawley, 11th March. State President accepted.

Darling Range, 15th March. Left in the hands of the President.

York Sub-Branch.—A letter was received from the York Sub-Branch advising that they had re-formed, and showing their election of officers. The appointments were confirmed.

District Committee, S.-West.—The President of the Bunbury Sub-Branch, Mr. C. R. Gillett, advised that a District Committee had been formed comprised of Bunbury, Collie, Harvey, Donnybrook, and Brunswick Junction sub-branches. He forwarded copy of the minutes of the first meeting. The Executive agreed that this Committee would be instrumental in assisting the League in every way. It was decided that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Gillett.

Charity Carnival.—The Perth Sub-Branch wrote protesting against the action of the State Executive in not associating itself with this carnival. They gave the opinion that in so doing the Executive officially dissociates all returned soldiers in W.A. from the movement. The letter was referred to the Management Committee for reply.

"Listening Post."—The Meredith Sub-Branch forwarded a protest against an article written in the journal under the heading "The Naval Conference." Moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Lovell: That a reply be sent to the Meredith Sub-Branch in accordance with the previous resolution carried on this subject, and that copy of Meredith's letter be forwarded to the "Listening Post.

Cord of Commissioners.—The Perth Sub-Branch wrote in connexion with this Corp, enclosing copy of the Constitution, and requesting the Executive's assistance. Moved by Mr. Longmore, seconded by Mr. Riley: That the matter be forwarded to the Pensions and Employment Committee for report.

Empire Made Goods.—Concerning the complaint made some time ago that the Railway Department was purchasing goods made in Germany, a communication was received from the Department advising that it was not within the power of the Commissioner to exclude suppliers of foreign made articles from competing for their requirements. The letter was received.

Wickepin Road Board.—A communication was received from the Secretary of the Wickepin Sub-Branch concerning his dismissal from the Road Board, requesting Executive action. It was decided that a report be asked for from the sub-branch.

Employment of Returned Soldiers, Elections.—The Premier's Department advised that the special claims of returned soldiers for employment, on elections were receiving every consideration.

Income Tax Act.—With reference to the Resolution No. 182 of the 14th Annual Congress, which asked that the Income Tax Act be amended to permit of gifts and/or donations to the R.S.L. to be allowed as deductions for income purposes. The Premier's Department advised that the approval of the request would open up a question somewhat wide in its application, and the Government did not desire to do this at the present time.

Morial Sports Ground, Ypsil.—A communication from the Meredith Sub-Branch in this connection was received.

State War Memorial.—Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Colonel Maingon: That letters be sent to the Director of Education, principals of secondary schools, and leaders of the various churches in the metropolitan area requesting them to assist the League in trying to inculcate a spirit of reverence to be shown towards the State War Memorial and other war memorials. Carried.

"Pedro Riley" was congratulated on his appointment as Archdeacon of Northam.

Leave of Absence.—Mr. Parker was granted leave of absence for two months.

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**The Fourteenth Battalion History**

A reviewer's chief difficulty in dealing with a work like the "History of the Fourteenth Battalion," is the almost hopeless task of making his review worthy of the book. It is the stirring tale of the Battalion's Iliad through Egypt, Gallipoli, and France, written in good style, generously illustrated by means of photographs and clear maps, clearly printed on good paper, and well bound. It is in every sense worthy of the great Battalion whose history it records. Considerable spade work must have been done to make the book possible. Records have been searched, casualty lists examined, and officers' lists scanned with that fidelity that only the historical research-worker seems to acquire. "If the book has a fault at all, it is that—casualty and other lists are given in the body of the narrative, and not in appendices at the end of the book. However, this is a matter of individual taste, and does not mar the pleasure one feels in reading such a fine work. What a lot of 'firsts,' the 14th scored! The author of the history, Mr. Newton Wanless, of Point Lonsdale, Victoria, is the father of Captain H. B. Wanless, the first Australian to win the D.S.O. in the late war. Captain Wanless was killed in action at Polygon Wood, on September 26th, 1917. The 14th was the battalion of Jacka, the first Australian V.C. of the war, the man who enlisted as a private and returned to Australia a captain with the V.C., a bar to his M.C., and the scars of seven wounds. No wonder Melbourne gave him a "public welcome that a prince might have envied."

Here are some more of the Battalion's "firsts:"—The first padre killed in action; the first Anzac buried in Great Britain; the first subaltern to win the D.S.O.; the oldest soldier in the A.I.F. (he was 63 when killed in action); the youngest captain and the youngest sergeant; the first digger to win two decorations within 11 days; twins killed on the same day; and recipient of the most destructive shell on billets—13 killed and 56 wounded.

The book is wholly set up and printed in Australia by the Arrow Printers Pty. Ltd., of 7 and 11 Rankin's Lane, Melbourne, for the 14th Battalion and 4th Brigade Association. Copies may be obtained from Mr. W. H. Rutherford, c/o Chief Secretary's Office, Spring Street, Melbourne, the price being 10/-, post free. All the profits from the sale of the book will be devoted to the Battalion Fund.

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**Funeral Allowance to Widowed Mothers Granted**

The Minister for Repatriation recently sent the following encouraging letter to the general secretary:

"I refer to resolution 55 of the 14th Annual Congress of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia, which reads as follows:

'"That the Commonwealth Government be asked to extend the funeral allowance to cover the burial of a person who:

(a) Was a widowed mother within the meaning of the Repatriation Act;
(b) Lost her sole support through the death of the ex-soldier;
(c) And leaves insufficient assets to cover the cost of the burial.'"

"After discussion with the Repatriation Commission, a regulation is in course of preparation which will provide for the funeral allowance to be paid where a person who is a widowed mother within the meaning of the Act dies in indigent circumstances."

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**STATE ELECTIONS, 1930**

**Maylands Electorate**

**POLLING DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 12th**

**POLL CLOSES AT 7 p.m.**

The Collier Government does not promise the earth. When it makes a promise it keeps it. Therefore, vote—

**BARKER [1]**

and KEEP COLLIER PREMIER

( Authorised by P. J. Mooney, Trades Hall, Perth.)

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"SWAN" BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetising, Plentiful
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So many books are published nowadays, that a novel or other work, if not of outstanding literary merit, must be very scandalous or very contentious to attract public recognition. The book which libraries ban is always a best seller, and the financial success of those newspapers which specialise in the chronique scandaleuse proves that the best of us will always lend a ready ear to malicious rumour. No one realises this more fully than the literary mediocrity, who, missing the star of fame, is determined to hit the garbage-bin of notoriety. He will get his book talked about at all costs, and there is no form of publicity cheaper and more enduring than the publicity born of acrimonious discussion.

One may, like the author of “This Side Idolatry,” besmirch the reputation of a great man. Others, like the bright little imitators of H. G. Wells and G. B. Shaw, may tile at social conventions, especially those conventions whose universality has given them almost the force of religious observances. Finally, and this appears to be the most effective method of the lot, one may gratuitously insult a whole people. An attack of this kind is sure to provoke counter-attack, to educe reams of evidence in rebuttal, to set people talking, and so make them read the book itself, just to find out what the writer really did say. T. H. Crossland adopted this method with great success in those masterpieces of vituperation, “The Unspeakable Scot,” and “The Wild Irishman.” Their success, from the publisher’s point of view, induced him to make a similar attack on Englishmen. He did not live long enough to write anything about “The Awful Australian;” but the opportunity Crossland missed has not been neglected by others.

The generation that has grown up since the war years is demanding to be told something about that awful period; hence the present vogue of the war book. The output of war literature is so great, or, in other words, the competition between war-writers is so keen, that the second-rate must resort to publicity-mongering to achieve even a transient success. This would account for the campaign of calumny which is being directed against the A.I.F.

It would be beyond the bounds of reason to expect everyone who fought in the World War to like us. We were at one and the same time too successful and too outspoken to win that wide spread popularity which is usually accorded to amiable failures. To the Piccadilly-front warrior we were doubtless, “stout fellows in action, but socially impossible”; it speaks well for the Australian sense of humour that this criticism became the stock joke of our troops in France. Our fighting reputation is unassailable; there remain only our manners and our discipline as targets for abuse. Robert Graves, the most literary of our traducers, need not be commented upon. He has received enough free publicity from the Australian press already. Lieutenant-Commander Benstead, whose “Retreat” has been the subject of recent discussion, has had the grace to explain that he was writing mere fiction. The third traducer, Private X, who courageously snipes from behind the hedge of anonymity, is evidently one of those fiery particles who determined to live for his country in the ranks of a labour battalion. It is obvious to all who were in France that neither he nor Benstead have any first-hand knowledge of the incidents described. It is equally obvious that the mutual dislike which existed between the front-line soldier and the base wallah still smoulders. Private X (or is it Pacifist X?) has really paid the A.I.F. a great compliment. We are vilified in good company—in that of His Majesty’s Foot Guards. It will be remembered that Von Ludendorff also bracketed us with the Guards, as the most dangerous of his opponents. It is probably this which rankles in the minds of people like Benstead and Private X.

One or two sub-branches of the League are endeavouring to have these books banned by the Australian Customs. We think such an action would be like locking the stable door after the horse had been stolen. The damage is done. Our daily papers, in the sacred names of news copy, have already provided the writers and publishers of such books with much free publicity, and stirred up the usual acrimonious wrangle between two sections of the British race—thus playing into the hands of the sinking communist, whose avowed aim is the disruption of the British Empire.

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Spit and Polish
(By E. W. Edmonds.)

"Spit and Polish!" What a host of memories the phrase evokes! Memories of grand old regiments, whose colours and guidons are records of battles fought and won during hundreds of years; memories of splendid men who were taught never to let those regiments down, and whose bones lie on every battlefield of the Great War. The term is so often used in a contemptuous or derogatory sense, that one can only conclude that the users utter it as a catch phrase, without any knowledge of what it implies.

In a recent issue, a laudatory article on the prowess of the A.I.F. appeared, being a resume of a book written by a German general. In it, the sentence occurs: "All the 'spit and polish' and saluting by numbers did not prevent the 5th Army from breaking." The writer of that article evidently knew nothing of the "spit and polish" as understood by the Old Contemptibles. "Spit and polish" was definitely absent from the British Armies in France with the passing of the men of the old battalions, except perhaps for the guards and Earl Haig's escort of the 17th (D.C.O.) Lancers. "Spit and polish" did not prevent the first six divisions showing the world how British soldiers could fight during the epic Retreat from Mons, turning to strike a blow at every opportunity, preserving their morale and fighting efficiently under an ordeal, of which those who came after can have little conception, holding the line which was never broken at Ypres during that first awful winter, no artillery support or reserves, constantly fighting against overwhelming numbers, just held by sheer grit and discipline, as exemplified by the finest product of the "spit and polish" system the Empire has seen. Again, take the 29th Division—in my humble opinion, the finest and most efficient division placed in the field—whose work at the landing and after, was as fine as anything done on Gallipoli, earning for themselves the title of "Immortal 29th." They were trained on "spit and polish" and "saluting by numbers." Was their efficiency impaired? Was their valour any the less, or their ability to hang on without breaking? Australians who served with them, and felt honoured by having them as comrades, can give decided answers to those questions!

Take the Guards—the example par excellence of "spit and polish."—in the tragedy of Loos, marching sixteen miles in full kit, and "going over" at Hill 70 without a rest, and ask the same questions as for the 29th Division. Could any soldier wish for a finer sight, one that stirs the blood, than a musical drive by the Royal Horse Artillery, or a gallop past by a cavalry brigade, horses' coats shining like satin, the sun glinting on every buckle and button, swords and lance-heads flashing, tossing plumes, polished guns and wheels, the whole making a sight which lingers in the memory for all time.

"Spit and polish" is a definite form of discipline which engenders a proper pride in a soldier's appearance, and it naturally follows a pride in his regiment, which later is a great asset when "fighting is in the air," as I have tried to show.

Let us remember then, when we think of sneering at cleanliness, that the "spit and polish" system produced some of the finest soldiers our Empire has seen; men who won undying fame and glory for the country which bred them, and the system under which they were trained.
Hallowed Ground

(By Peter Hopgood.)

(Indignation and regret was recently expressed by members of the State Executive of the League at the light regard in which the King's Park Cenotaph is held apparently by many citizens. Evidence was cited of couples philandering on the steps of the monument, and of mothers permitting their children to play hide and seek round it, also of comparatively few citizens who remove their head covering when within its precincts. These actions, though innocent in themselves, and, no doubt, thoughtlessly performed, are hardly consonant with the respect due to consecrated ground, would not be countenanced in any cemetery, and should not be allowed in the precincts of our national memorial. One speaker suggested that the rising generation should be instructed in these matters by their teachers and guardians. The writer of these lines ventures a further suggestion that salute be given by all passers as in Whitehall, London, and that the "East Post" be sounded daily at dawn by some needy, though responsible, ex-service man quartered there as official guardian. The "Last Post" would thus become as familiar to the rising generation as the noon gun.)

Far overseas they lie, True men and brave. Stars of a stranger sky, Gleam o'er their grave. Yet is their memory Ours through all years to be. Yet is their memory Ours, when, as shadows pass, Cloud-conjured, fleetingly, Over the patient grass, Headless our people drift Round their tall monolith.

Stately that monolith, "Solemn and stark," Fitting our tribute-gift.

Raised in our park; Still on their memory we Slur cast unwittingly. See, where no better clay Takes its last ride, Through busy streets to-day Seeks the grave, side! Duly each passer-by Doffs hat with solemn eye.

Cenotaphs everywhere— Yet type of all, Midst its thronged thoroughfare, Honours Whitehall. Shall such devotion be Profitless utterly? Here doth the bush resound Twice in the year; Here, as o'er hallowed ground, Mournful and clear, Bugles their requiem play. Why not at dawn each day?

Citizens practical— Be, if you will— Both quick and dead ye shall Thus work no ill. Some poor survivor of night So gain a pittance slight. Earnest our act would be, Pride fingers still In the brave company, Shrinéd on that hill— Stone and sad music met, Dawn—sign—lest we forget.

CANNING ELECTIONS

Preserve State Rights by Voting

Wells H. E. 1

The Nationalist Candidate

Authorised by H. E. Wells

Wilber, having been to New York, was telling his cronies of the sights he saw. "An' up at the hospital I seed one of these machines that tell if a man's lying." "Pooh," said Luke from his corner. "Pooh? Did you ever see one?" "See one? I married one!"

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The Glisy Incident

E. de Mouncey writes from Harbourne Street, Wembley Park:

Sir,—The following extract from a letter written near Villers Bretonneux, on May 15th, 1918, by me to Australia will throw some authentic light on the casualty at Glisy, alluded to by Lieut.-Com. Benstead, in his book "Retreat," in which he alleged that when an old woman was lying in agony some Australians stood around and jeered at her. The 10th Artillery Brigade, to which I was attached as a signaller, left Hennencourt in front of Albert on April 29, 1918, arriving at Glisy on May 1, where we remained till the 12th of that month, and then moved up towards Villers Bretonneux, the brigade headquarters and signallers taking up their quarters in various dugouts in a chalk valley near there.

"Here am I, sitting in a most comfortable saddle back chair five feet below the surface of the ground a mile or so from the nearest village, and less than half a mile from our front line, Villers Bretonneux. On May 10, whilst at Glisy, I took two parcels to be franked by our gas officer, prior to sending them to Australia. This officer's quarters were on the other side of the town to mine. So, having paraded before him, and getting them franked, I handed them over to the mail receiver. I walked back towards my diggings — cellar — through the main street, lined on either side by some fine residences, which the officers of the brigade, and signallers are using as billets and offices. Whilst strolling leisurely along I saw in front of me an old French woman slowly making her way towards one of these buildings, when suddenly a shell came over and burst in the road just beyond the old lady and about fifty yards from her. After the shell exploded, I saw her fall, and on hurrying down found she had received a nasty wound in the leg. Prior to the shell bursting there was nobody in the street but she and I, but it was not long before assistance arrived. An ambulance was brought, but she struggled desperately with those who wanted to place her in the van to take her away, as she did not wish to leave the place, and it was only by gentle force that they eventually got her away, she protesting all the time, although her leg was badly hurt and required urgent attention."

This is the only occasion I know of a French woman being wounded during the stay of the Australians in Glisy.

The Recruit, 1918

(By Peter Hopgood.)

He scraped like a game little son of a bitch, and died - in the end — like a dog in a ditch; For the Devil himself couldn't find him, When he called for his toll, for even his soul With his guts he'd left scattered behind him — Yes, splattered all over the parados, which Is quite a good end for a dog in a ditch. And the cream of the joke is he'd take that ditch, A second ago, From just such another young son of a bitch, Who, six weeks ago, Left his school and his civvy suit on the same day

When he entered the barracks just over the way,
So a likely young Ajax who'd just fleshed his steel, And bled when he harked to the other lad's squall, That second was squelched by a bolt from the blue, Which might have been hurtled by me or by you, For we none of us know and damn few of us care— Though the Devil was cheated, which hardly seems fair. Still, no doubt, he'll make good on the blokes who weren't there, Especially those who staged the affair.

Thought for sermon: "In Bible times the swing, possessed of devils, ran over the cliff. To-day, possessed of motor-cars, they run over the poor pedestrians.

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DIGGERS! YOU ASK FOR PREFERENCE! GIVE IT
THE MONTH

The So-called Saintliness of Ghandi

Political India, which, after all, is but a clamorous fraction of India as a whole, seems to be divided into two sections: the one, animated by Ghandi, demanding complete independence; the other, more moderate in its ideals, having as its objective dominion status. Broadly speaking, the Hindus support the former party, Moslem India the latter.

How long independence, or even political unity, can be retained by a heterogeneous people, riddled by racial and religious animosities, subdivided into castes with, as in the case of the Hindus, the Brahman at one extreme and the "untouchable" at the other, is a matter for demonstration. Public opinion in Britain regards the dominion status ideal as the more feasible of the two. However, it appears to us that India should produce stronger evidence of unity within itself, before any rash experiments of this nature are made.

Among the more extreme section, the left-wing (polite phrase for red-raggers) is becoming more hostile to Ghandi. Scummunism the world over has always been resentfully suspicious of outstanding ability. What is more inexplicable is the changed attitude of British political leaders towards Ghandi, the Mahatma (the great soul), the saintly person who has persistently advocated revolutionary violence. Ghandi's career shows on what doubtful grounds his saintliness rests.

The most fervent admirer of this dangerous agitator was the late Mr. E. S. Montagu, who, after the Jumna rising in 1919, sacrificed those military and civil officials whose prompt action suppressed what might easily have developed into another Indian Mutiny. Ever since then, any high official who has dared to disagree with Ghandi has been sharply called to order.

At Lucknow, on October 18th, 1929, Ghandi said: "Non-co-operation is our religion. God and the devil cannot cooperate, and as long as devilishness exists in the British raj, we commit a sin if we co-operate. When we use swords we shall warn European women and children. Nana Sahib was not so considerate. Probably this is why Ghandi has been canonised within his own lifetime."

In March, 1922, Lord Reading, who was then Viceroy, had Ghandi prosecuted for inciting the Indian Army to mutiny.

Ghandi chose his time judiciously; a similar offence four years earlier would have brought him face to face with a firing squad. He received a sentence of six years, of which he served two, being released on grounds of ill-health. The political martyr is an adept at avoiding the severer forms of martyrdom. India was reasonably peaceful during Ghandi's imprisonment; his release was the signal for further outbreaks. The advocacy of civil disobedience and revolutionary violence is hardly consistent with saintliness. The fact of the matter is, Ghandi is a dangerous revolutionary, and should be treated as such.

Junior Associations

At a meeting of officials of the B.E.S.L., held at Bodmin, just before the New Year, the Lord-Lieutenant of Cornwall (Mr. J. C. Williams) was outspoken on the question of the proposed formation of a "junior section." He stated quite bluntly that if the Legion is to be "watered" by the admission of people outside the scope of the original scope of its organisation, its position will be gone. Captain S. S. Warne wanted to know, "whether the Legion is to die out when the men who served in the Great War died." The obvious answer is that when these men are dead, the B.E.S.L. (and the R.S.L. likewise) will also be dead.

This is a point which is of vital importance to us in Australia, for the Legion's problems are largely the League's problems. Like the League in our country, the Legion is officially accepted as "the great remainder." If it contemplates perpetuating its existence by creating an outside membership, the Lord Lieutenant continued, "it must cease to have any more—if so much claim upon national sympathy than various older organisations for assisting ex-service men."

Mr. Williams put his finger on the weak spot in the proposal when he referred to the danger of the B.E.S.L. "taking second place to clubs formed in connection with it."

His reasoning is sound. At the present juncture, the best way to perpetuate the existence of the League, which is in a similar position to the Legion, is for every digger to become a financial member.

Comrade

As an example of how a good old word can be perverted by bad company, take the case of the pleasant-sounding term "comrade." In the old army, "loyalty to one's comrade" was an ideal inculcated by officers and N.C.O.'s, when endeavouring to simulate esprit de corps; "stealing from a comrade" was the meanest crime in the soldier's decalogue. Call a man "comrade" nowadays in a barracks room and you buy a fight in full working order. The reason for this was made apparent by Mr. Weston at a
recent meeting of the Katoomba (N.S.W.) sub-branch of the R.S.L. The word "comrade" was sacred to the memory of all ex-service men, but the word is now applied to those with whom returned men did not wish to be associated—cold-footers, foreign agitators, and other unsavoury satellites of Moscow. The word is now distasteful to most diggers. It has been dropped in the mire and should be dropped from use in reference to returned men.

Peace Pap

The young intellectual has a touching faith in the value of hot air as a motive force. This was well demonstrated during the speech competition organised by our local workers in the cause of world peace. Judged by the report in the West, the winning speech was a poor and somewhat unoriginal effort. All the threadbare sophistries concerning disarmament and fear of the stranger were trotted out, and even the suggestion of depriving the small boy of history, gun and sword is quite an amusing old friend. The speaker might have gone further and advocated preventing children from playing with water lest they start a fire for the mere pleasure of putting it out. If this is a fair sample of the pap to which the adjudicator (Professor W. Murdoch) was subjected, our sympathies are with him. No wonder he considered that 26 helpings from the same menu would have made him a pronounced militarist.

British United Services’ Association

The B.U.S.A. holds its annual ladies’ night, social and dance, at R.S.L. Headquarters, Perth, on Monday, March 31st. An enjoyable programme has been arranged—songs, dancing competitions, and fun for all. With "Bill" Harrison at the piano, the music, like the catering, will be exceptionally good. Any member who has not received an invitation by post, is requested to send his address to the secretary, 229 Charles St., North Perth. The price of admission is two shillings (ladies with male escort free). Anyone from the Old Country is invited to drop in and renew old friendships.

The Executive of the British United Services’ Association requests that all Imperial ex-service men in the metropolitan area will parade at the sign of the Union Jack outside R.S.L. Headquarters, on Anzac Day for the march and combined service on the Esplanade. The muster each succeeding year has considerably increased since the Imperials have been organised, and it is hoped that this year they will show a larger parade state than any other unit. For exact time watch the Press.

28th Battalion Association Notes

The well-loved blue and white diamond will mark the rallying point in St. George’s Terrace on Anzac Day, when it is expected that there will be a goodly number on parade.

The March luncheon will be held in the Soldiers’ Institute from 1 to 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 27th. Members will please note that the usual date has been departed from on this occasion and they will greatly assist the committee by making a point of advertising the function to all interested. History sales continue to boom and Secretary Davies has still a number of copies on hand. Enquiries for supplies may be made to any member of the committee.

16th Battalion Notes

Colonel Margolin presided over a full attendance of the 16th Battalion Association Committee on Tuesday of last week, at the Soldiers’ Institute. Reports re sales of the “History of the Old Sixteenth” were considered to have exceeded expectations to date. Copies of the book are now available at book stores throughout the metropolitan area, and enquiries from the country will receive prompt attention from Vic. Ketteller, c/o Repatriation Department, Perth. Price, 7/6, postage, 7d. extra.

The Association has called a general meeting for Tuesday, 15th April, at the Soldiers’ Institute. The principal business will be in regard to Anzac Day celebrations, and the meeting will be semi-business and semi-social. There will be some refreshments.

Heard at P.B.S.

Master: "Is there a book on that shelf?
Smith: "No!
Boy: "No book."

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"SWAN" BRAND TOMATO SAUCE is Delicious
**Varia**

Most of us know the meaning of those ominous letters, S.L.N.R., which occasionally appeared in Army Orders after the names of certain officers who were being returned to Australia. During the last Boer War, "dud" officers were sent away to do duty at the big depot in Stellenbosch. Hence arose the phrase "Poor old Soandso has been Stellenbosch." These phrases passed out of general use as soon as the wars that gave them birth were over. However, one of England's older wars gave us an expression which has passed into the currency of speech. During the English Civil War, officers, and occasionally army leaders, turned their coats. Cromwell himself instituted the practice of sending Roundhead officers of doubtful loyalty or proved incapacity to do duty with the garrison of Coventry, a pronounced parliamentary stronghold, where the suspect could do least harm. To be "sent to Coventry" is still the regulation punishment for objectionable people.

The German Officers' Association has notified the British and American Legions that Ernest Remarque, the author of "All Quiet on the Western Front," was not a front line soldier. He was never nearer the front than the recruiting depot, and he got all his information about life in the line from wounded men in hospital. So that's that.

One of the pictures exhibited early this year in the Paris Salon des Indépendants was a quadruple panel, called "War." Its impersonating subjects were a vampire representing war, or war-a vampire; a weeping mother, a profiteer crowned with laurels, and a soldier whose face was one clout of blood. This sort of thing is art to the pacifist mind, but it is hardly logic. Mothers never have cause to weep during the piping times of peace, and when there is no fighting the profiteer goes out of business. Unfortunately for the purveyors of such nauseating propaganda, the French authorities have a short way with pacifists. They very properly ordered the removal of this painting from the Salon.

In this country, we give the pacifist prizes for making silly speeches.

Von Tirpitz is dead. He will go down to history as the man who commanded a great war fleet, but who, like the "ruler of the Queen's navies" in Pinafore, "never, never, went to sea." In a letter of condolence to the widow, the Kaiser paid a tribute to the late Admiral's services in building up a fleet that "was never beaten." Wilhelm must be slipping into his anecdote. We seem to have recollections of a mutiny in the fleet at Kiel, a little before the Armistice. It was ordered to sally forth and engage the British fleet in a last desperate effort to stave off the inevitable defeat. The sailors refused to put to sea unless the intrepid Wilhelm sailed with them.

"Celibacy" writes from Bunbury:—

As Kipling said of Tommy Atkins in another war, "He's left a lot of little things behind him." The Rhineland Women's Association reports that the allied forces have left over 15,000 love children behind them in the "occupied zone," and the report concludes by asking what the entente powers "are going to do about it." Obviously, something should be done. A simple solution of the matter would be to allow Germany to treat these children as wards of the State, and to deduct the cost of their maintenance from Reparation payments.

H.J.S. writes from Kondinin:—What an amiable sort of blighter this "ex-Pte. X" is! It is a pity cold facts won't support his admirable opinion of us and our N.C.O. guardsmen friends. One finds that criticism is hurled usually at the higher lights. Was he a conscript, and found he fell short of our standard? Or did one of us "pinch" his girl? 

---

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"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
horrors of war mean. After the Battle of the Aisne the Germans tried to outflank us. To meet the flank attack the whole Allied line did a change-direction left. My battalion was on the left of the Allied line, and I was the left-hand man of the battalion. I had to mark-time for three 'blinking' weeks."

Among French colonial troops the reveille is always called "La Casquette" ("The Cap"). The practice originated in Algeria, nearly a century ago. A force commanded by General (afterwards Marshal) Bugeaud was attacked in its camp by hostile Arabs. The attack was vigorously repulsed, but the surprise was so complete that Bugeaud himself rushed into action still wearing his nightcap. Next morning the hard cases of the Foreign Legion were heard singing their own words to the trumpet notes of the reveille:

"As-tu vu la casquette,
As-tu vu la casquette,
As-tu vu la casquette,
Due Pere Bugeaud?"

(Have you noticed the nightcap of old Daddy Bugeaud?)

No one appreciated the joke more than the subject himself, for, on a subsequent occasion, Bugeaud ordered his trumpeter to "sound the 'Casquette.'" Thus the expression passed into history.

A Chicago municipal official complained that in that city alone there were 388 unpunished murders last year.—Uncle Shambles.

Digger's Kid: "Daddy, what did you do in the Great War?"

Digger: "I did all my chances of advancement in the Westralian public service."

There's many a "blue" word spoken in jest.

Padre (to Sunday school class): "Who was it that saw the writing on the wall?"

Digger's Kid: "Please, sir, the sanitary corporal."

Diggers, generally speaking, are not hide-bound adherents to any particular political party. They learnt the lesson of toleration "over there." It was the man under the particular political or religious cloak that counted. So it should be, and our only counsel for polling day is for diggers to remember the preference policy of the League, and where possible give the ex-service candidates their first preferences.

Gems from the Classics

(Selected by "Peter D'Out."

My capital who seeks to steal
Deep pity for his case I feel,
But he who'd filch away my thirst,
I'll meet him in the Met. bar first.
—William Takesbeer.

THE DRAGOMAN

French Levantine, Gypso, Turk, Dago,
and Greek,
He cajoled the girl tourists to pay,
Then crept in their tent like a bold Arab sheik,
And silently stole their array.
—10. S. 1.

THE JARRAH ROOT

Though dad may blast the eyes of Tom,
And of his temper lose control;
Though charged with dynamite the bomb
They used to blast in twain my bole,
Beneath the kelly of the Pom,

My bloody knob stays bloody whole.
—Doublegee Henry.

The banks on which the wild time grows,
Met Nacey's overdraft with "No's."
But Ovid didn't give a curse;
He paid his way with current verse.
—Publicus Omnibusiverous Buttonstick.

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“SWAN” BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
Personal

Ted Randolph, of Goomarin, near Merredin, was in Perth during the month, attending a conference of the federation of Co-Op. Societies. Ted, whilst in town, interviewed Mr. Grogan, of the Agricultural Bank, on behalf of the settlers of Goomarin, on the question of morrell land, with a view to getting a soil survey and reclassification. It appears that morrell land, which has been classified as first-class, has been a failure in all but very wet land near the coast. Inland, owing to its alkalinity, it should only be classified as second class. Mr. Grogan stated that the matter would be listed for the Minister’s information and action. We suggest that other branches which have similar trouble in this direction communicate details and figures to the State secretary.

Chris. Beechey, of the West Leederville Sub-branch, must hold the long distance record as a sub-branch secretary, having held that position since the inception of the branch in early 1919. Despite his pronounced war disability, “Beech” is one of the most diligent workers we have in the movement.

Mr. H. D. Forbes, the Nationalist candidate for Kimberley, is a son of the late Colonel D’Oyley Forbes, and of Mrs. D’Oyley Forbes, of St. George’s Terrace, Perth; was born in England, and is 56 years of age. Completing his education, he followed his parents to Western Australia. After serving his articles and acting as associate to former Chief Justices, he was called to the Bar in 1897, and for many years practiced his profession in Perth, and later in Northam. Mr. Forbes served in the South African War, and also with the 16th Battalion, A.I.F., in the Great War. Since his return he has practiced his profession at Broome. He has for ten years been actively associated with the Broome (now Kimberley) Branch of the R.S.L., as president, vice-president, and committee man, and is a firm believer in the future of the Kimberleys.

The sympathy of all diggers is with Padre Eric Nye, in the sad loss which he sustained last week, when his little daughter, aged four, passed away.

Arthur Rogers, the Manager of the R.S.L. Co-Op., was operated on last week, following an attack of appendicitis. Our latest advice is that the popular and capable Arthur is progressing as well as can be expected.

The Boulder Sub-Branch and their Women’s Auxiliary recently sustained a severe loss, when Mrs. Lennell passed away. She was an extremely kind-hearted old soul, who, although the mother of a large family, found time to perform many a kindly act, particularly of late years, amongst soldiers and their dependents. She was the mother of the immediate past president of the sub-branch (Mr. Ted Lennell), to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

We regret to report the death of our friend and comrade, Ted Briggs, who died on January 13th, in the Woorooloo Sanitarium, of the effects of T.B. contracted while on war service. Ted was an original B Coy. man of the 28th, and saw con-
siderable front line service on Gallipoli and in France. As a citizen, he was highly respected at Mornington Mills, where he was reared. His sunny, genial disposition endeared him to all who knew him, while he was ever ready to hold out a helping hand to his less fortunate fellow kin. He will be sadly missed by a large circle of friends. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his sorrowing wife and three children.

Harvey has about a dozen associations in connection with various district activities, and a prominent man in all of them is the energetic and obliging "Bob" Wright, G.O.S. The letters after his name represent neither college diploma nor wartime decoration; they indicate an honour conferred upon him since the war, and stand for "Good Old Standby." This speaks for itself. At present Bob's chief concern is the maintenance of a sub-branch at Harvey.

During the month the stork left a small parcel at the home of Mr. E. Hull, Mt. Lawley Sub-branch. We hope that there will be no forced night marches round the house to keep "Dad" away from digger gatherings.

Cancer and War Service

The following is a copy of a communication received by the League from the Minister for Repatriation:

"With reference to your letter of 13th December, 1929, I have now had an opportunity of looking into the matter. This resolution reads:—

'That the Minister for Repatriation be urged to arrange an enquiry into the incidence of cancer with a view to establishing as far as possible the extent to which war service may be blameworthy for a cancerous condition appearing after a lapse of years."

'I desire to point out that the incidence of cancer is constantly under world-wide review, and all cases occurring post-war in ex-soldiers are assessed according to the accepted knowledge of the disease."

"As you are doubtless aware, the Repatriation Commission has available to it the services of specialists throughout the Commonwealth, not only in respect of cancer, but all other diseases."

"It is quite probable that cases will occur in the future which will be accepted as consequential on the damage done by war service, e.g., in the scar of wounds. On the other hand, it is quite certain that other varieties will occur in which war service can have no valency."

Anzac Day

The crowning effort of a sub-branch's activities should be the organisation of the celebration of Anzac Day. It is a sacred and solemn duty to the million souls of Empire who gave their all on the altar of sacrifice during the fateful years of strife. It is expected that all ex-service men will show a keen personal interest in promoting a due recognition of the day. Owing to certain unsatisfactory features evidenced in various centres in the past, the State Executive has this year issued circulars of guidance to all sub-branches and unit associations.

Legislative Assembly Elections
West Perth Electorate

VOTE

DAVY - 1

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and Sitting Member

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"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
A Gentleman Makes War

After a surfeit of those neurotics who mistake flith for realism, and nastiness for sublety, we read with pleasure and interest the war experiences of Rudolf Binding, a German cavalry officer, who went to the front with one of the Jüngdeutschland divisions in October, 1914, and remained in the field until he was invalided home just before the armistice.

The English translation of his book, which consists of extracts from his war diary and letters home, was published early this year, under the name of "A Fatalist at War."

A soldier to his heart's core, Rudolf Binding is the embodiment of all that was most admirable in the old German Army. He is a scholar and a thinker—many of his opinions are illuminated by profound philosophical insight—addeod to which he is everything we used to mean by a gentleman, in the days when that word still had some meaning. Realising that cavalry was no longer playing an important role on the western front, he applied for an infantry battalion, but in August, 1916, he was appointed to the staff of a division under orders for Galicia. He returned to France in time for the Somme winter, and remained in that country until he was finally invalided home.

Very early in his book he commences to speak disparagingly of the discipline of the new German divisions; and one part of an entry, dated October 22nd, 1914, will serve to illustrate the difference between the German point of view regarding the treatment of the wounded, and our own.

"A man came into the little house, wild-eyed and streaming with blood. 'Ain't there any water here?' A pitcher was standing there, but we had to refuse him. 'We need it ourselves,' was the reply. 'Go further back.' His opinions of the comforts funds people indicate that he would have supported "C.R.C." rather than "J.S.Y." in the interesting controversy they waged some time ago.

"The fact that they made their appearance," he writes, "with a thousand packages of bad cigars, indifferent chocolate, and woolsf of problematical usefulness, sitting in a car, seems to make them think that they have a right to have the war shown to them like a leather factory."

Hindenburg is his hero, and to him, the outstanding personality of the war. He also rates Von Seeckt very highly. Writing in January, 1915, after Mackensen's drive through Serbia, he says:

"To natures like that of Seeckt, it is a matter of indifference if Mackensen is acclaimed by the multitude; those who understand know that Seeckt, and not Mackensen, was responsible." He is not afraid to criticise his superior officers, and again and again expresses the wish that his letters may be opened so that seniors may learn what juniors are thinking about them. He has a poor opinion of the British higher command. In Lord Kitchener he can see only the destroyer of the Mahdi's tomb, and the burner of Boer farms. His belief in the calumnies that were printed in the German Press towards the end of the South African War, is almost childlike. The news of Kitchener's death elicits this comment:

"Very remarkable as a man of power, but not really great. He sought glory in the destruction of small things and found it; subordinate beings whom another would probably have rapped across the knuckles."

He finds Lord Haig's report on the Somme battle "almost deliberate and studied in its mediocrity, and tedious enough for any lord." He complains of vagueness, superficiality, and immaterial padding. To Binding, Haig is a puppet of a general, without ideas, and without imagination, "a general who gets no fun out of the war." He is typical of the English people in their attitude towards the war. "It began as an expedition; its troops were called expeditionary forces. England has never waged wars in such a way that the soul of the people entered into them." "Is one to believe," he asks, "that the generals of a nation that produced Frederick the Great, Schliemann, Clausewitz, Molike, and the victor of Tannenberg, are not the equal of this puppet of a general."

We have quoted these opinions of Kitchener and Haig at some length, partly for their intrinsic interest, and partly because they are practically the only instances in his book where Binding's writing is tainted with bias. He is a shrewd observer of men and things, critical, and outspoken to the point of temerity, yet rarely does he allow his sense of fairness to become undermined.
by his personal ‘likes and dislikes. His Galician experience taught him to despise the fighting qualities of the Austrian troops, and his observation on this point is characteristically brief. "The Austrians are part of the pack of troubles we have to carry—considered as military allies." He dislikes Jews, but again, his sense of fairness does not prevent him from recommending the promotion of Jewish N.C.O.'s to commissioned rank, and even impels him to remonstrate with seniors when those recommendations have been hung up.

Neither does he under-rate the fighting spirit of the British soldier. As early as January, 1915, he declares: "What the English do, they do well; they will make good soldiers. Perhaps not so many as people think, but good ones. If England were to introduce conscription, it would be more dangerous for us than anything she has ever done. I do not agree with those who ask contemptuously where they will find their officers and N.C.O.'s. They will all come—the rowing blues, the leading lights of the cricket and football teams, the athletic trainers, runners, and many more. The quality of troops has always compensated for their comparatively small numbers." He lived to see this studied judgment turned to truth by the touch of time. On the other hand he has no illusions regarding the German N.C.O. Referring to a report that certain Alsatian soldiers had deserted to the French, he says: "No wonder since they were so maltreated." The German N.C.O. does not know the difference between the use of influence and brutality. Whether he has to deal with subordinates in his own capacity, or with the public as a policeman, or with a horse as its rider, does not matter; he ill-treats them.

"Binding was all through the strenuous fighting in the Arras sector in the spring of 1917. He derives one consolation from the poor quality of the enemy ammunition. "Fortunately, the Americans have been selling the English bad shells in return for their good money. Hundreds of thousands out of the millions fired are duds."

He has all a regular soldier's indifference to the sufferings of civilians on the home front. All complaints with respect to this, he answers by pointing out that soldiers are enduring far worse hardships in the front line, and quoting the case of the German mother who told her children: "You can read Goethe's poems when you have no butter. Other children can't do that."

The cheapening of decorations moves him to righteous indignation. "Orders and decorations have something fine about them when they are granted for real merit. But these distinctions lose their value when they are dishonored like the insignia of a club."

To those who know, the only real war decoration will be the Iron Cross, First Class, and only if worn by a captain, subaltern, N.C.O., or private."

"Now when battalion, company, group, and battery commanders learn how plentifully the Iron Cross has been sown in supply, columns, offices, and headquarters, they find themselves in the painful necessity of having to hunt Iron Crosses for their own troops, who have seen real fighting, and, therefore—rightly or wrongly—attach more value to this distinction."

War communiques and propaganda abroad, alike, provoke him. The former are but examples of "our old-time mysticism of the foreigner." As for the latter:

"How can one bear it," he demands, in an entry dated May 7th, 1916, "this German shriek for sympathy to America; 'Look how cruel it is; England is trying to starve millions of women and children to death.' How can one reconcile this, one asks, with the big talk they give us about the ineffectiveness of this attempted starvation? And as if we would not starve out all England in cold blood until the thinnest English miss fell through her skirts.

"Why start a submarine war—for we started it—if one cannot carry it on effectively? There is really no purpose in it; and for this reason Wilson is quite right when he demands that we should give it up."

Equally contemptuous is his treatment of the notion that the individual fights for an ideal. "What is the sense of saying that one fights for Kultur? I hold it to be nonsense to fight for Kultur with weapons in one's hand."

He can understand a stag fighting for the right of the stronger to possess a doe, a man killing his enemy, or even fighting for the joy of fighting, but the ideals for which one is supposed to fight makes the war senseless. It is quite different to unchain a war with them, to keep it going, to bring it to victory. They may be as important as guns. This is the reason for which they are conjured up hastily and often inappropriately, whether they fit or not, as long as they are there. Then they lead man to the place where he forgets them, eye to eye with his foe."

Scathing too, are his comments on the

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS**

R. J. MacCALLUM SMITH who held the seat for North Perth for the past fifteen and a half years, is seeking election and again solicits the vote of the Returned Soldiers in the North Perth Electorate. R. J. MacCALLUM SMITH trusts that his past actions on behalf of the Returned Soldiers will ensure their support in the forthcoming election. Polling Day, Sat. April 12th 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**VOTE SMITH**

If you are likely to be out of town on Polling Day, please record your vote before a Postal Vote Officer. Sick or infirm electors unable to go to the Polling Booth can also vote without any trouble. Arrangements will be made to record votes by ringing up Mr. MacCallum Smith at "The Sunday Times" Office, Telephone B4116

AUTHORISED BY A. MUDDOCK, 14 STIRLING STREET, PERTH

"**SWAN**" BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetising, Piquant
Russian revolution. It is another instance of history repeating itself. "A mob is always arrogant. It seizes power without the slightest capacity to exercise it. They always want to behave at once in the grand manner, just in the old style. An inaugural banquet of these new rulers in the city banqueting hall must be a priceless sight. Tuppenny-halfpenny lawyers, barristers, and scribes of all descriptions are the leaders, and ignorance, conceit, and megalomania sit at the table together."

Patriotic without being jingoistic, fair-minded while being trenchantly critical, he realises the inevitability of Germany's defeat without any unmanly repining. Binding can fight like a soldier and lose like a gentleman. Even in his comments on the slackening of discipline and the undermining of morale, that became apparent in the German armies towards the end of 1918, there is no bitterness, no attempt to palliate defeat by blaming troops or leaders. His sportsmanship is apparent throughout. A shrewd observer and a lucid reasoner, his ingrained sincerity marks every page he has written. His scholarship is obvious, yet nowhere is it marred by any suspicion of pedantry. He wields a powerful pen, yet his style never becomes stilted. He writes graphically, without any attempt at what is called fine writing. Nevertheless, he can conjure up a delightful little landscape in a single sentence. Witness this description of Flanders' mud:

"If the world was created from a fiery shape, Flanders is an exception—an obvious patch out of another completely water-logged cosmos. The wetness is immeasurable."

And this dainty vignette:

"The colours of the landscape are very bright, but not sharp and definite. It is as if it had been drawn with a delicate silver pencil or rubbed—very soft.

We like Rudolf Binding immensely. He is a salutary antidote to the purveyors of slime and neurasthenia. Sanity, sweet reason, and an almost aggressive sincerity are the outstanding features of his work. He is a very gallant gentleman, and one whose acquaintance we should like to make at one of our sub-branches."

Quips and Cranks

A Communist is a colour-blind person who, being yellow, calls himself red, and declares everybody else black.

STATE ELECTIONS, 1930 Victoria Park Electorate

POLLING DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 12th

POLL CLOSES AT 7 p.m.

One Party with One Policy is better than a Coalition of Two Parties, each with a different policy. Therefore, vote—

RAPHAEL

FOR VICTORIA PARK

and KEEP COLLIER PREMIER

(Authorised by P. J. Mooney, Trades Hall, Perth.)

The pacifist is a perfect gentleman who is determined to live for his country.

Democracy is that loose institution which enables asses to elect ignoramuses to carry out the duties of experts.

Marriage is the economic compromise whereby a man gives away half his meals to get the other half cooked.

In Hollywood marriage is a breathing space between divorces.

A cynic is one whose experience enables him to view life in perspective.

The soldier made the world safe for snobocracy. While he fought and bled, drapers were knighted; actresses and female politicians were awarded the O.B.E.

Grand opera is the last resort of the corpulent warbler.

A Double Interference (Rondelets)

Now, ain't that hell?
Say, wouldn't that just jar a bloke?
Now, ain't that hell?
I done me dough—me block as well.
I shoved me shirt upon that mole—
A cert 'e was—yairs—then I woke!
Now, ain't that hell?
An—Gawd!—I done me block as well.
They think 'e'll croak!
I own I done me block as well.

Ther jock's a crook—a kid could tell
'E pulled the prad. 'E earned that soak
I give 'im!
Now I'm in the chokes,
Strewth! Done me dough—me block as well!

—Peter Hope Good

"... While of Unsound Mind"

In all humility I go—

My vehicle, a humble rope—
Small choice has Lazarus, you know,

Of paths beyond his pocket's scope.

Besides, 'this rope is symbol fit

Of the dog's life that I have seen—

Clean docked the nether end of it,

However snarled the bight between.

God knows what waits for me beyond.

God knows the little that I care.

Sleep, or the mystic's vision fond—

God knows it can't be meaner there.

We gazed not eye to eye, my friends,

Towards the goals I deemed worth while,

But bitterness no lesion lends,

And death has little use for bile.

Wherefore my mourners all I greet

In soldier style, before I go—

See, to my ragged trousers seat,

I've pinned a sprig of mistletoe!

—Peter D'Out

STATE ELECTIONS, 1930 Canning Electorate

POLLING DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 12th

POLL CLOSES AT 7 p.m.

Industrial Peace is a National Necessity. The Collie Government's record in this respect speaks for itself. Therefore, vote—

CLYDESDALE

FOR CANNING

and KEEP COLLIER PREMIER

(Authorised by P. J. Mooney, Trades Hall, Perth.)

"SWAN" BRAND TOMATO SAUCE is Delicious
Camp Fire
So far we have been fortunate in finding the location of all diggers being enquired about under this heading. Diggers who have lost touch with old war mates are invited to use this means of location.

R. H. Rutherford, of Mundaring, would like to know the whereabouts of two old-timers—Sergeant C. L. Bingley, 44th Batt., and Captain Adams, A Company, 44th Battalion.

E. S. Watt, of 397 Hay Street, Perth, would like to hear from all who served with the Imperial Camel Corps or the 5th Brigade Light Horse, with the object of arranging a reunion. It is hoped to also get in touch with Imperial men who served with the 2nd Battalion I.C.C.

New R.S.L. Art Union Launched
The State Executive has launched another Art Union, to be drawn in August, and a prize of £1 each to a country or metropolitan sub-branch selling the most tickets is to be awarded. The first prize is £1,000.

Commonwealth Public Service Board
The Federal secretary recently wrote to the Prime Minister as follows:

"It appears from Press reports that the Government does not contemplate re-appointing General McGlun. However, it is hoped that the policy of your Government, in respect to the Commonwealth Public Service Board, will provide for the appointment of a returned soldier, seeing that there are so many thousands of ex-service men employed in the Commonwealth Public Service. In this regard, your attention is respectfully directed to section 11 (2) of the Commonwealth Public Service Act."

—to which the Prime Minister advised that the League's representations had been noted.

Cricket
PERTH v. PRESS
A picnic cricket match has been arranged between the Perth and Press Sub-branches, to be played at Guildford reserve on Sunday, 6th April. This reserve is alongside the river, which has a special fenced part for children. Players and supporters are asked to be at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, at 10.30 a.m., sharp, where they will be conveyed by motors and trucks to the playing ground. It is to be a family picnic event, and should be most enjoyable.

The Goldfish
In a shop in a Perth arcade is a goldfish in a bowl. The shopkeeper, tired of answering the questions of the chaps from Perth Boys' School (Biology class) has placed the following notice in the window:

This is a goldfish. It is alive.
There is only one of it. We got it from a boy.
We do not know where the boy got it.
It has never died. We do not know how old it is.
We feel it when we want to.
It eats what we give it.
That is water it is in.
We got the water from the tap.
We have had the fish ever since we got it.
Yes, we had more of them, but this one is all that is left.
If it sleeps we do not know it.
We change the water as often as we want to.
We do not know how long it will live.
We do not miss the water it drinks.
When there is too much water in the tank we take part of it out.
We do not know how large it will grow.
We can catch it, but we don't want to.
That is all we know about it. It is NOT for sale.

A Windy Morning in Flanders
(Rondeau)
Hover the top an' best o' luck!
At zero plus fifteen we chuck
This bloody waiting stunt. Wot's more,
This trip we're out to win the war—
Me guts feels like they come unstuck!
Ho, yus! Hit's better than the ruck
Of 'oldin' trenches hin the muck.
And Jerry won't 'arf cop wot for—
Hover the top!
But still I dunno as I'm stuck
Too sweet on hoppin' 'art to buck
Me luck. I copped a beaut afore—
A Blight orlight—hit bust me jaw!
But some'ow I fair 'ates to duck
Hover that bloomin' top!
—Peter Hopegood

As Necessary to those of Limited Means as to the Wealthy
The sale of your estate has no bearing on the important question of making a Will. Remember only by making a Will can you safeguard the future of your family; only by a Will can you assure the desired distribution of your estate; but—the will must be correctly drawn up by a lawyer, and a competent Executor and Trustee appointed. The West Australian Trustee Executor and Agency Company is adequately equipped to serve in these capacities. Could you do better than nominate it in your Will?
Call or write in for a free copy of interesting and instructive booklet "Wills and Wisdom."
Returned Men of Maylands, Mt. Lawley & Inglewood

Strengthen the Bonds of Comradeship and Elect a Digger to represent you

Vote WEDD

and urge your friends to do likewise

A thronged by A. O. Burtinon, Maylands

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS—NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE SEAT

VOTE

Hubert PARKER

(NATIONALIST)

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 12th

AUTHORISED BY A. LAWSON WEIR, 23 GLYDE STREET, COTTESLOE BEACH

The Bridge Builder

A pilgrim weary, at close of day, came at evening, cold and grey.
To a chasm vast, and deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dint;
The sullen stream held no fear for him.
But he turned, when safe on the other side,
To build a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"Why waste your strength in building here?
Your journey will end with the ending day."
The builder raised his old grey head.
"Good friend, in the way I have come," he said,
"There followeth me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm, with naught of fear for me,
To this fair youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Chief: "What was your last job?"
Applicant: "I worked at a school that taught how to write well."
"But what did you do there?"
"I had to jog the table while the new pupil's wrote. This is a specimen of my handwriting before taking—writing course!"

Old Lady: "My poor man, I suppose you have had many trials in your life?"
Tramp: "Yes, ma'am, but only one conviction."

"And why, ma'am," asked the visiting curate, "are you here?"
"Well," replied the prisoner, "just run through the Ten Commandments, and I'll tell you if I've missed anything."

Enthusiastic Angler: "I want to be certain that your paper mentions my big fish."
Reporter: "When did you catch it?"
"Next Saturday."

"Aha!" screamed the villain, "where are you taking the papers?"
"I am taking them to the blacksmith's."
"Aha! You are having them forged!"
"No! I am having them filed."

Schoolmaster: "Now, James, you may give me the definition of exercise."
Pupil: "Exercise is work a fellow likes to do because it isn't work."

Girl: "Cheer up, ol' man, why don't you drown your sorrow?"
Old Man: "She's bigger than I am, and what's more, that would be murder."

Smith met Brown in the street and asked for a match. Brown obligingly went through six pockets and from each produced a bottle of aspirins.

"Great Scot," said Smith, "are you becoming a drug fiend?"
"No," said Brown, "I've been trying to buy a body belt all the morning, and every time I go into a chemist's shop a girl comes forward to serve me."

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"SWAN" BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetizing, Piquant

Legs and Lotions
In "A Farewell to Arms," Ernest Hemingway, one of the best of the younger American novelists, has written a brilliant story of the Italian front. As he devotes the greater part of his book to bed-room incidents and hospital scenes, he might, with equal justice, have called it "Legs and Lotions," or "Nurses and Notions." The hero is a young American, who is serving with an ambulance in Italy. While out of the line he has a love affair with an English nurse. They enter into marital relations without benefit of clergy, and unto them a child is born—still-born—and the mother also loses her life. Not a very original tale, perhaps, but the writing and the characterization give it all the points of a brilliant war novel.

Hemingway's style is clear and forceful. The dialogue is crisp, sparkling, and natural. His sentences are short, but there is no jerkiness. They follow one another naturally, and in order, without that explosiveness of staccato, which makes the writing of A. S. M. Hutchinson so irritating. His humour is grim but never salacious. Directness and veracity are apparent in every line he has written. Nothing is exaggerated, nothing understated. He is free alike from the sentimentality of Barbusse, and the smle of Dekobra. He has all the frankness of the eighteenth century novelists without their gross indecency. His is the realism of Tolstoy divorced from the filth of Remarque. The descriptions of his being wounded, and the retreat after the Caporetto disaster are wonderfully well done; and, while he maintains an Olympian detachment in his viewpoint, he brings into strong relief the pessimism that pervaded all ranks of the Italian forces immediately before they dissolved in rout. A book to be read and pondered over—but not by people under twenty-one.

Said the old lady, who kept the pub in Tilbooburra, "I feel so sorry for the Sydney people, because they're so far away."

"Puggles"
(By PETER HOPEGOOD)
"F" Company was known to its rivals as the "Menagerie," allegedly because it contained so many extraordinary specimens, though the nickname originated from its once having been commanded by a certain Captain Wolf, abetted by Lieutenants Dove and Fox and a Sergeant-Major named Lyon. All these worthies had departed, however, by January, 1918, to make way for a new generation of oddities, by nature if not by name. Among the latter was "The Terrible Turk," an individual answering to the name of Rally, and even (when in a good mood) to that of "Mad Rally," the nickname from which his secondary epithet had been derived. This Rally, though late to arrive on the scene, was a seasoned warrior, a soldier of fortune, in fact, who had fought under half-a-dozen flags. In appearance and carriage he rather suggested Captain Kettle's truculent, pocket-edition efficiency. He had even a reddish grizzle on his bullet head, and, though of course no beard, his chin stuck out like a post-hole shovel, which added not a little to his likeness to the immortal little skipper. His complexion, however, was clear olive, and, out of it, his bleached blue eyes gleamed like twin dagger points tempered in ice. He was the son of a Cumberland farmer and had gone to the Boer War at 16 years of age. Since then there had been many scraps on the face of the globe that he had not butted into.

You may ask what such a redoubtable veteran was doing as a Platoon Sergeant in "F" Company right at the end of the war, when, by his qualifications, one might expect to find him commanding a battalion at least, if not an army corps. Rally made no secret about the matter. He had only just joined up. And why? Urgent private reasons! In fact, he had been considered so indispensable, following on a certain little duelling affair, in which he had killed not only his opponent—a high official—but that worthy's
second, that the South American State, then enjoying his services, had flung him into durance vile early in '15, and he had only recently succeeded in getting away to England.

Three other legends, one ancient, the others modern, attach themselves to his name in my memory. As for the first, the authenticity of which I cannot vouch, it appears that Rally was at one time Inspector-General of the Moroccan forces, and entertained a sincere liking for his master, Muley Hafid, a liking which was cordially reciprocated. This affection did not prevent Mad Rally from playing one of his characteristic practical jokes on the Sultan. Amused by Muley's jealous passion for a certain beautiful concubine, he conceived a scheme by which he was enabled to share her favours on at least one occasion. Aware of the Sultan's weakness for mechanical toys, he sent instructions to England for the manufacture of a musical clock, so planned that the application of a moving burden of considerable weight was necessary to set the mechanism in motion. When this mysterious package was delivered at the palace, Rally begged an audience and, in presenting it to his master, informed him that it possessed magical properties, which, he asserted, could be controlled in the first instance only by himself with the gracious aid of the lady in question. If Muley would leave them alone together, retiring into the adjoining chamber, his ear would be gratified by an astounding miracle. With child-like eagerness His Highness assented to this proposition, whereupon the bed was heard, after a slight preliminary squeak or two, as of an orchestra tuning up, to render the “Bluebells of Scotland” with great verve and some pretensions to rhythm.

Perhaps the Terrible Turk's outstanding achievement during this last war was that of taking a ride in Rotten Row, in a suit of hospital blue, astride a horse stolen from a neighbouring mews, and escorted by two fair members of the British aristocracy he had picked up en route from the stables to the Park. This is said to have occurred after he left us. But the third legend, for which I can vouch personally, shows him in his more business-like role as far and away the most practical practical-joker it has been my lot to meet.

Mad Rally was not without his weaknesses, chief of which was a love of the spotlight and a distinct disinclination to share it with anyone else. At that time we had with us an Australian lieutenant, himself a bit of a wag and a Hun-harfer of the first water. His latest exploit had been to creep around behind the German supports and stick up a quarter-master-sergeant and post-corporal, complete with mailbags, piloting the pair of them successfully back to our lines between their frontline posts. The success of this daring exploit had worried Rally considerably. He grudged the Aussie the fame it got him just as he had grudged Muley Hafid the uninterrupted enjoyment of his consoling hour. Rally immediately determined to go one better and got his wits working on the problem without loss of time. The Aussie had carried out a one-man raid. Mad Rally would have preferred to have conducted a one-man war. That not being possible, he had to content himself with staging another raid. But he intended to go one better alright. This was not even a one-man affair. Although the Boche line was to be stirred up throughout the sector, no one on our side was to be in it at all.

The Menin Road, early in '18, was innocent of a front-line trench either on our side or on Jerry's. The trenches ran up to it, or almost up to it, on either side, but did not cross the pàve, which ran unbroken right into Germany. He who would cross the road in daylight must do so on the run, and with almost as much risk as attends the traversing of a modern city thoroughfare in the rush hour. Machine guns swept the exposed area periodically. Stokes and flying pigs added to the fun. Crossing the Menin Road was rather like being a tin rabbit in a shooting gallery. The line consisted of a string of pillboxes very sketchily
connected by trenches. Because of the convenient gaps, this sector was full of possibilities for adventurous patrolling parties, and because of this factor the Menin Road in particular was also an ideal spot to start a panic. Nerves on edge, everyone with anything handy for straffing purposes, forthwith straffed away with a vengeance on the slightest pretext. Mad Rally's Napoleonic brain seized on this unwholesome point in human psychology as a heaven-sent appliance for his no-man raid.

This is where "Puggles" comes into the story. "Puggles" was a mule, and an outlaw mule, at that. There had been quite a tally of casualties among the drivers since "Puggles" joined the battalion. Some had been eaten, some kicked, and some merely jumped out, but although one or two bold spirits had managed to climb onto his back and stay there, nobody had ever been able to make "Puggles" do any work. We had tried to lose him by the simple expedient of leaving him at the watering troughs. "Puggles" would not be left. Driver Jones had been detailed to lead him ten miles away and tie him to a fence close to someone's horse lines. "Puggles" would not be led. So he stayed on as a passenger, drawing his rations with the best, and enjoying the war hugely until January, '18, when the Fates, making use of the brains of a military genius, decided to give "Puggles" an opportunity to perish gloriously for the further honour of his battalion, and, incidentally, of Sergeant Rally. Rally's scheme may be conveniently described as a one-mule raid, and, strange to say, in spite of the obvious difficulties which might have caused it to miscarry, Rally's one-mule raid was a huge success. The chief difficulty, of course, lay in the super-muleishness of "Puggles." The odds were that he would refuse point-blank to be led up the Menin Road by night. Even if one got him to the jumping-off point, there was every chance of his suddenly deciding to return to the horse lines without further loss of time, or, worse still, to open his wicked mouth, and sing out stridently for his supper about ten seconds before zero, thus loosing the whirlwind with unpropitious haste. Any or all of these hitches might have occurred—but they didn't. The unconscious martyr's behaviour was, for once, exemplary.

It was half-past one of a most unpleasant morning, a cold drizzle obscuring the stars, when Driver Jones arrived at a point on the have opposite Number Three post. Many had been the hairbreadth escapes en route, and Jones had reached a state when he considered the world well lost if only "Puggles" could be lost with it. It was with great relief that he answered the password for the night, and swallowed a pannikin of rum, while three ghostly figures materialised, each carrying a couple of empty kerosene tins. "Puggles" had been fitted with a special home-made pack-saddle for the occasion. With unexpected resignation he permitted the attachment of the six tins—an insignificant burden so far as avoiding poisons went, but soon to attain to untold significance as a morale disintegrator.

"Puggles" was led a few yards into No-Man's Land and faced towards the east. Finally Driver Jones produced three Chinese crackers, such as might be bought in the lolly shops of Poperinge for a few souv. A ghostly figure stood on each of "Puggles" flanks; a cracker in one hand, a box of matches in the other. The third cracker was attached by a bootlace to the crupper of the pack gear. Jones also produced a box of matches.

All being ready, the fourth human figure which, even in the mirk and
Electors of Claremont, Swanbourne, and North Cottesloe

Do not fail to return the Returned Man—
ON APRIL 12th
VOTE
NORTH [1]

Authorised by C. F. J. North, Cottesloe.

drizzle, bore a faint resemblance to that of Captain Kettle, opened its mouth and hissed an order. Three flames flowered simultaneously, and, shielded by careful hands, were applied to three fuses; two spluttering crackers were hastily dropped into the open maws of the nearest tins, Mad Rally let go the halter—and, away into the night, bounded—one complete mule-barrage at the running-back, its energies being stimulated to the utmost by the flogging cracker attached to it.

Jerry registered interest within five seconds; a perfect hail of bullets chirped the jamb, but, by that time, the human ghosts had dematerialised with commendable despatch, while “Puggles” had swung sharp to the north and was conducting a flying offensive down the centre of No-Man’s Land. Vereys flared all along the line, every rifle and machine-gun took up the quarrel, “rum-jars” crashed all around, and wiring parties on both sides thought their last hour had come. Gunners tumbled out of their snug bunks miles behind the line and stumbled cursing to their guns to add their quota to the pandemonium; while, bearing a charmed life, “Puggles” sped ever northwards, eventually heading, as was ascertained from subsequently captured reports, down a sunken road that led to the German supports.

It was not till half-an-hour later that the great One-Mule Offensive experienced its final check, apparently in the shape of a tunnel-mouth into which “Puggles” blundered, taking the gas curtain with him, and plunging down a lengthy companion way on to the recumbent forms of an engineering company, “resting” blissfully in the bowels of the earth. This detail was not included in the official report, but was gleaned from a prisoner taken a few days later.

What happened to “Puggles” after that is a mystery. Whether he was sent to Berlin as an exhibit of the fiendish methods employed by the enemy “in a vain attempt to destroy the morale of our glorious troops,” or whether he merely went into Jerry’s dixies, is not known.

What happened to the Terrible Turk, after his entirely unofficial raid, is, however, instructive. Severely reprimanded by the Brigadier, personally, for setting the Boche on his guard at a moment when it was imperative we should obtain information about the suspected offensive as unostentatiously as possible, Rally yet managed to put up a neat enough defence to save himself a court-martial. The matter being referred to our own C.O., the little sergeant’s paybook was debited with “one mule, aged £5."

He stopped a hand grenade in a dinkum official raid three weeks later, and left for Blighty. That was the last we saw of him.

Mt. Lawley Annual “Smoko”

March 11th was the occasion of a successful smoke social, held by the Mount Lawley Sub-branch, at Wallish’s Hall. The president (Col. T. Flintoff) was in the chair, and among the guests present were Brigadier-General Jess, Padre C. L. Riley, J. McCallum Smith, M.L.A., and representatives of the various sub-branches. There were many good speeches, and good yarns, notably the aspro competition between Mr. McCallum Smith and Colonel Flintoff. Musical and other items were rendered by Messrs. J. V. Kennedy (violin), F. Boyd, C. Dudley (ventriloquist), A. Thompson, A. Norwood and Wells (duet), R. A. Hull, and Harry Webster. Mr. G. McDonald acted as accompanist, and Mr. Miller supplied the music for the many marching songs that were sung with great enthusiasm. The “pickle” course caused considerable amusement.

During the evening the secretary (Mr. L. Challen) was presented with a casserole and a silver-mounted pipe, in recognition of his services.

On Sunday, March 16, a cricket match, Committee v. The Rest, was played at Belmont, but as Sunday is a day of rest, The Rest were not strong enough to play the Committee. With the aid of some Belmont cricketers a scratch match was played.

Next monthly meeting will be held at the Lyceum Theatre, on Tuesday, April 1.

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Sub-Branch Notes

(Sub-branch secretaries are requested to forward sub-branch notes, so as to reach us not later than the 12th of each month. On several occasions we have had to hold over rather important matter that reached us too late for publication. Please remember that there are many other sub-branches whose doings must be recorded as well, so make your notes as brief as possible.)

TRAYNING-YELBENI

On December 22nd, the Trayning-Yelbeni Sub-Branch tendered its annual smoke-social to friends and supporters. About 30 visitors were present, and the function was a most enjoyable one. The usual toasts were honoured, the speeches being intermingled with songs and recitations. On January 18th, a dance, organised by the sub-branch and a committee of local residents on behalf of the dependents of the late Mr. J. C. Glover, was held at Kununoppin. It was a great success, about £40 being realised.

HARVEY

February was an unfortunate month for the sub-branch, as the quarterly social clashed with sales day. Nevertheless, there was a good roll-up, and Mr. Jack Firmer's prowess at the piano helped dancers to overcome the deficiencies of the floor. Songs and other items by Mr. and Mrs. Beaumclark, Mr. "Snowy" Ashton, and Mr. Davie Robertson added to the enjoyment of the evening.

MORNINGTON MILLS

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. W. J. Fulton; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. M. London, and L. Armstrong; Secretary, E. N. Robinson; Committee, Messrs. Clarke, Taylor, Forrest, Jones, Parker, Mackie, Matthews, and A. Wilson. A successful euchre party and dance was held on February 8th. It is intended to hold similar functions throughout the year in order to raise funds for amelioration purposes.

FREMANTLE

The new committee and reading rooms are now-completed, and are a credit to all concerned. Diggers with an hour to while away may now drop into the Institute for a game of cards or a quiet read. At the last meeting the proposal of the Rev. Eric Nye in favour of a general committee movement was adopted. Mr. Jack Lynch has taken over the unemployed committee, and has found work for five men already. The amelioration committee is a large one, with Arthur Kirby at its head. Arthur is also secretary of the Institute, and no one understands the digger and his needs better. Messrs. Beer and Allen are in command of the programme and social committee. Under their able management, the euchre parties are improving of late, and are attracting a greater attendance. The parties are always well attended, and any means the sub-branch has of raising amelioration funds. They are held at the Institute every Wednesday evening. On Thursday, the 13th, Commandant R. Griffiths-Bowen gave an interesting and amusing lecture on "Singapore", not Singapore of the five minute tourist, but the real background that can only be supplied to one who has an intimate knowledge of life in the native villages.

WEST SWAN

At the February meeting the sub-branch received a return visit from the Upper Swan sub-branch. Other visitors present were the President of Midland Junction. (Mr. Fred Bate), and Mr. M. Lewis, of Guildford. A challenge to a friendly game of bowls with the local lodge on the 24th was accepted. After various business had been dealt with, it was decided to donate cases of fruit weekly to the various hospitals. Mr. L. Thorpe (President, Upper Swan) addressed members on matters vitally affecting their interests. He suggested the formation of vigilance committees for the purpose of rectifying many of the difficulties under which diggers are labouring. The usual concert ended the proceedings.

VICTORIA PARK

The Victoria Park branch have a solid committee, who not only attend their meetings regularly, but are also hard at work raising money for those in distress, and many are being assisted. Some of the diggers, however, have the idea that there is plenty of money available for relief work, but such is not the case, and neither is the local branch a Repatriation Department. Before granting any more assistance, strict enquiries will be made into every case—"No more buck." Messrs. J. Buzza and H. Hunt attended last meeting, and placed their request on behalf of the newly-formed Victoria Park Band, and it was decided to assist them with their sports demonstration on 22nd March. Leave of absence was granted to several members of the Committee on account of urgent private business. Three solid workers in the movement are Freddie Till, Wally Tolmie, and Jack Barker. A good many pension cases are being put forward by the branch. It was decided, owing to the expense entailed, that only financial members be assisted.

COLLIE

Formation of District Committee

At the last fortnightly meeting, presided over by the President (Mr. A. Rolfe), Mr. H. Mowday reported having attended the inaugural meeting of the South-West District Council of the League at Bunbury, when representatives were present from Bunbury, Harvey, and Brunswick. Mr. C. R. Gillett was elected to the chair, and Mr. A. Murray to the secretariatship. It was agreed that these executive positions should be held by members of the sub-branch which is, for the time being, the headquarters of the Council. To stimulate membership, it was agreed that sub-branch secretaries should prepare lists of members, and that the Council should actively interest itself in promoting League membership. Sub-branches were also asked to submit items they wish to be discussed at the State Congress to the District Council, so that there might be no overlapping, and that the sub-branch placing a motion on the agenda paper might be assured of support and co-operation from neighbouring sub-branches. It was pointed out in the course of the discussion that at the State Congress innumerable items are tabled, which, with slight amendment, might be included in one motion. In regard to the uniform method of celebrating Anzac Day, it was decided that the idea of holding sports meetings be not entertained; that smaller sub-branches be assisted by the District Council in the matter of finding speakers, and that sub-branches be recommended to use every endeavour to bring about the closure of places of entertainment on Anzac Day. A motion was carried that sub-branches consider the advisability of holding one monster re-union within the district once a year. This will obviate the expense caused by the State Executive having to travel to various centres, and there will be a stronger sense of the State President being able to attend. Owing to the late hour, items in connection with Poppy Day, the alien question, and the Constitution of the League, had to be deferred. The next meeting will be held at Brunswick, on May 19th. At the instance of Messrs. Harris and Dartnell, the report was received, and a motion of thanks to Mr. Mowday carried.

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POLLING DAY, 12th APRIL

VOTE

McLARTY [I]

Endorsed Nationalist Party

Late 44th Battalion

Authorised by D. Ross McLarty, Pinjarra

"SWAN" BRAND PURE MALT VINEGAR—Best Obtainable

The Listening Post

March 21st, 1930.

The Secretary (Mr. H. S. Cramer) reported that a very successful dance had been held, under the auspices of the sub-branch, at Worley. A large framed photograph of the late Mr. Harry Bradbury was received from Mrs. Foster, (sister of the deceased), to hang in the premises, and it was unveiled, on the motion of Messrs. Giblett and Harris, to forward the donor a letter of thanks. The President then outlined the aims and objects of the District Council.

NARROGIN

Obituary.—During the past month one of the local diggers passed away in the person of William (Bill) Russell, No. 209 of the Original 11th Battalion, A.I.F. Comrades Grose, Fryder, Bovey, Hogg, McCormick, and others who were pall-bearers, and thirty members of the Narrogin Sub-Branch were present at the interment of their late comrade, who was laid to rest in the R.C. section of the Narrogin cemetery, when the Rev. Father Sheridan performed the funeral rites. When the "Last Post" was sounded, several members of the Original 11th Battalion, and others who had been associated with the deceased during the past few years, visibly showed their feelings at the loss of a good soldier and a true friend.

A "Paddy's Market" was held on Friday, February 21st, under the auspices of the Ladies' Auxiliary, to reduce the debt on the R.S.L. building. The acting secretary, Mrs. W. Job, and Medames Doney, Miller, Porteous, Fryder, Smith, Stone, and Zerk were to be congratulated on the result of their efforts, which were much appreciated by local diggers, who also wish to thank Messrs. Brown, Wiese, Darby, Honfall, Shilling, and Beeton, and the General Shipping Co-Operative Stores for donations in kind. The local secretary (Mr. T. Hogg) was able to reduce the building debt by £50 through the efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Mr. "Dusty" Miller proved a success as commander of the "chocolate wheel," and enticed a considerable number of the fair sex to speculate their "deeners" in the quest for chocolates.

MUNDARING AND DISTRICTS

The last meeting, held at Mr. Helena, was fairly well attended, and many important matters were dealt with. The suggestion made at a previous meeting that the ladies' auxiliary should be entertained at a dinner by the members of the branch, in recognition of their valuable work, and aid in boosting up the subscription fund, was found very great support, and the social committee was instructed to get busy in this matter. Lew Cooper has been appointed secretary of the committee, needless to say that in his very capable hands, this genial and popular member will leave no stone unturned to bring about a bumper festival.

A matter which had caused some delay in finalising was at last disposed of, we hope very satisfactorily, too—the matter of the future disposal of a machine-gun, which had been lying idle for many years, in the care of road board, officialdom. Many were the sighs of relief when the curtain rang down on this business.

Next meeting will be held at Mundaring on 20th March, and several very important matters will be dealt with.

Tom Link, one of the old 11th, has started business in the district as a bootmaker and saddler. We wish him every success. Maurice Trew has increased his ration state total by one, and congratulations go his way.

WEST LEEDERVILLE

The West Leederville Sub-branch report having recently held their annual meeting when a good attendance was registered.

It is pleasing to note the increased interest taken in this district, although it is felt that there are still many returned soldiers in our midst, who should link up with us. The financial position of the sub-branch is sound, and there is a very active committee now operating.

Capt. W. Kruger was recently appointed president for 1930. Capt. Kruger will be remembered by old members of the 11th Battalion.

Notwithstanding ill-health he is taking a very active interest in the affairs of the League, and old battalion associates and other friends are pleased to see him in the presidential chair.

The annual smoke social was the most successful function of its nature which has yet taken place in this centre. The branch was honoured with a visit from Colonel Collett, and most of the nearby branches were represented.

A special committee has been elected to arrange a short social programme to pass on the business of each monthly meeting. Returned men are asked to note particularly that in future the business is going to cease at 9 p.m., and for an hour or so after that the diggers will indulge in a few innocent games and music.

In West Leederville all returned soldiers are earnestly invited to come along and help each other, get to know each other, and enjoy themselves at all our gatherings. There will be no more dry meetings.

BOULDER

President Ted Lennell presided over a large attendance of members at the annual meeting. The balance sheet disclosed that the finances of the branch were in a healthy state, showing a considerable increase over the previous year's figures.

The secretary's report, which was of a lengthy nature, disclosed many interesting items in connection with repatriation; a large number of pensioners had been dealt with, and many concessions had been gained for ex-soldiers and their dependents through the representations of the branch. Employment had been found for a large number of members and a fairly large amount of money had been distributed in distress relief.

Ted Lennell, who, as president, has steered the branch through many trying times, during the past three years, did not seek re-election this year. Ted says that he had had a fair spin, and that it is up to someone else to have a go. No one has worked harder or taken a keener interest in the affairs of the branch than Ted, and, although now he does not occupy the chair, he still makes his presence felt at our meetings.

Genial Pat Cline is our new president. Pat has always taken a keen interest in League matters, and there is every reason to hope that the branch will continue to prosper under his capable management. At the close of the meeting refreshments were handed round, and everybody voted the occasion a most successful one. It was unanimously resolved that an enlarged, framed photo, of the past presidents (Ted Lennell and Ernie Bonistow) be procured and hung on the walls of the rest rooms in recognition of services rendered.
SUBIACO

This sub-branch is showing a welcome return to its old state of activity. For some time, it stagnated, but after the last annual meeting it seemed to take on a new lease of life, with the result that the weekly meetings, held every Thursday night, are attracting record attendances.

Headquarters of the league has now approved of a move which emanated from the branch. The branch felt that there were too many returned men who were not members of any branch, wearing retired soldiers' badges, which they had secured when they first joined a branch, but when the second or third year's subscription fell due they did not pay, at the same time retaining the badges. This is decidedly unfair to those who are carrying on the work of the R.S.I., and it has been decided that a letter shall be sent to all returned men, who are not financial members of the branch, requesting that they either re-join or return the badge. Headquarters has requested all branches to take similar action, as the badges are legally the property of the League, immediately the member ceases to be financial.

The branch recently held its annual river picnic, chartering the motor launch Valkyrie for the occasion. After coming down to the harbour, the party returned to Bicton for lunch, and stayed there the whole afternoon, during which time a sports programme for the children was conducted. The children were regaled with ice cream and lollies.

SOUTH PERTH

In order that the grand charity appeal now in progress may not meet with opposition, the South Perth diggers have acceded to the appeal committee's request and have decided to postpone their fair, which was to have opened at the Mends Street Reserve on the 24th. The organisation of the fair was well in hand and will now remain ready to be launched on a large scale later in the year.

Leo McComish and his merry Maylanders provided too strong for S.P.'s cricket team, and compiled 187 runs (McComish 130, Strickland 24) to 73 (Henley 29, Kollman 23), at Cottesloe, on the 16th. The outing was well attended and was a great success. The second innings, played in true picnic style, was productive of very fast play. Maylands lost eight wickets for 71 runs; South Perth four wickets for 79 runs. This scribe would not have made reference to the second innings were it not for the fact that he surprised everyone, himself not least, with a mighty eighty, and he would hate to hide such a feat from the publicity it deserves. It is the only eight he has ever made, or is likely to make, so his pride is pardonable. (Thanks, Mr. Editor. I'll keep this clipping for the kids!)

The March meeting held on St. Patrick's Day was well attended and matters of importance were dealt with in a breezy way. Mr. Hurst-Barker's advocacy of the queen competition was a gem to be long remembered, and efforts to cut short the meeting met with such strong opposition that the meeting was prolonged another hour. The committee is arranging matters so as to make monthly meetings much brighter and the good attendance of recent meetings will be eclipsed when its efforts are put into operation.

On Anzac Day a special transport service, details of which will be published at a later date, will enable southerners to attend the dawn service. In the evening an inter-denominational service will be held and president Farquharson and Padre Bell have been entrusted with the duty of completing the arrangements.

LEGALIS - ELECTIONS—Leederville Electorate

Polling Day, Saturday, April 12th

8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Diggers, remember your Cobbler and Vote - PANTON

(LATE IN BA by)

Authorised by P. J. Mooney, Trades Hall, Perth

OSBORNE PARK

The Agricultural Hall at Osborne Park was packed on the occasion of the presentation of the Certificate of Merit, awarded to Mr. J. O'Malley by the last Federal Congress. Among those present were representatives of local governing bodies, members of metropolitan sub-branches, and other prominent citizens. President H. Nugent officiated as chairman, and the State President (Colonel H. B. Corlett), after a very happy speech, made the presentation. He was supported in his remarks by the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. H. Millington), who is also member for the district. Mr. J. O'Malley, who was visibly affected by the rousing ovation accorded him, suitably replied. Mr. C. Bader, representing the State Executive, then presented Mr. R. Corlett with the badge for long service; he mentioned that the recipient was one of the original members of the sub-branch, and is a useful citizen of Osborne Park, who had acted as vice-president and secretary on several occasions. Mr. Corlett had missed only two meetings in eleven years. Mr. J. Crawford also paid tribute to Mr. Corlett's services. A musical programme completed the proceedings.

Osborne Park diggers held a very enjoyable picnic at Wanneroo during the month.

GERALDTON

Geraldton Sub-branch held its annual smoke social and re-union on Saturday, March 1st, at the local Soldiers' Institute. Among those present were the Mayor (Mr. G. A. Houston), Messrs. G. A. Kempton and E. H. Hall, M.t.C. F. Eustace, T. H. Shackleton (Railway District Engineer), and A. E. Bates (President of the ex-Naval Men's Association). Musical items were rendered by Messrs. F. Isen, J. Groesler, A. Eley, J. Easther, J. Cullen, G. Culverwell, W. Bagshaw, R. Harrison, G. Rigg, F. Spargo, and P. Bevan.

MOUNT BARKER

The R.S.I. ball held in Mount Barker on February 19th was a very successful function. After several committee meetings, accounts have been finalised, and the sub-branch has been represented at re-unions in various other centres. A notable instance of this was the enjoyable visit to Albany.

The president (Mr. T. G. Sounness) and Jimmy Morgan were the guests of the Denmark Sub-branch at the re-union on March 13. This sub-branch has decided to co-operate with others in making the Great Southern Re-union, held at Wagin on March 22nd, an annual event. The sub-branch's own annual re-union has been fixed for April 12th. Invitations are being sent to His Excellency the Governor, the District Commandant, the State President and Executive, and representatives of sub-branches.

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Head Office for Western Australia:

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PERTH

England Glyde, Branch Manager

Fire Marine Accident

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Total Funds exceed £ 48,500,000
Total Annual Income exceeds £ 20,000,000

"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President and Address</th>
<th>Secretary and Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potter, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, Box 60, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. A. Gillett, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Epsom Aye, Belmont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELMONT</td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>1st Tuesday</td>
<td>G. Courtland, Hekir St., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Roberts St., Bayswater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Burton, King William St., Bayswater</td>
<td>R. B. Anderson, Epsom Aye, Belmont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGETOWN</td>
<td>Mechanics' Institute</td>
<td>Last Tuesday each month, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Major H. M. Whitell, Bridgetown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>First Wednesday, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Anderson, Busselton</td>
<td>R. Urquhart, Box 129, Bridgetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Tuesdays before pension day</td>
<td>H. May, Johnstone St., Collie</td>
<td>A. Wilson, Ford St., Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup State School</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. McKinnon, State School, Cowaramup</td>
<td>C. Francis, Hutton St., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE BEACH</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>After 18th December, last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>G. Brown, &quot;Scotia,&quot; Fairlight St., Cottesloe Beach</td>
<td>J. J. Williams, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT-</td>
<td>Council Chambers, Claremont</td>
<td>First and Third Thursday in each month</td>
<td>C. F. J. North, M.L.A., Forrest St., Cottesloe</td>
<td>J. G. Rod, Box 129, Bridgetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Kalamunda Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 2nd Monday</td>
<td>W. Logan, Kalamunda</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, 12 Dalgety St., Cottesloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Quarterly, last Sunday in Jan., April, July, Oct.</td>
<td>Rev. J. Lawrence, Danemark</td>
<td>W. Newton, W. Kalamunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Every two months, alternately, commencing Salmon Guns Friday, December 6th, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleyung</td>
<td>J. H. Geaves, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Gums, 1st Friday: Dowak, 1st Sunday</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays (Pension Nights), at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Theo. Brennan, Forthgill St., Fremantle</td>
<td>G. J. Andrews, Dowak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>1st Thursday, alt. months, commencing January</td>
<td>W. J. Cooper, Geraldton</td>
<td>P. S. Jane, Carrington St., Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUILDFORD-BASENDEAN</td>
<td>Council Cbrz., Guildford</td>
<td>1st Thursday other months</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Herne Hill</td>
<td>H. L. Kirke, 6th Avenue, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bassendean</td>
<td></td>
<td>Colin Edwards, Campbell St, Kalgoorlie</td>
<td>J. Dunn, Box 87, Geraldton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>When called, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Kooringa</td>
<td>Alfred J. Knight, H. F. Blake, Vine St., Herne Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERNE HILL</td>
<td>Herne Hill Hall</td>
<td>Every 3rd Thursday from 29th August, 1929</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Herne Hill</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel. 299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Colin Edwards, Campbell St, Kalgoorlie</td>
<td>H. A. F. Edle, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. G. Cobb, W. G. Cobb, Katanning</td>
<td>Charles S. Smith, P.O., Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Kelmstocott and Roleystone, quarterly when and where</td>
<td>Bi-monthly</td>
<td>W. G. Logan, W. G. Logan, Katanning</td>
<td>E. Franklin, Kelmstocott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELMSCOTT</td>
<td></td>
<td>called</td>
<td>R. G. McKean, R. G. McKean, Kelmstocott and Roleystone</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kelmstocott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERREN</td>
<td>P.P.A. Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>H. E. Thurkle, Kelmstocott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND DISTRICT</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. V. Hay, Broome</td>
<td>V. B. Sewell, Kooringa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>1st Saturday</td>
<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Kooringa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Derby rep., J. Knopp</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Kooringa</td>
<td>H. H. Pelham, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and S. Waycott)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>J. Brindle, Herne Hill</td>
<td>F. A. Law, Meredith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOJONUP</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>J. P. O'Neill, c/o Shell Co., Moora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>P. R. Gillam, c/o W.A.G.R., Mt. Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td></td>
<td>When and where called</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERREDIN</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>R. Waddington, 11 Morrison St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOOJA</td>
<td>Moora</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>Edward Gray, 39 Holmesdale Rd., Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Kooringa</td>
<td>H. Patten, Mundaring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursday, 7.30 p.m., from 22nd August</td>
<td>P. R. Johnson, 3 Woodbridge Ter., Midland Junction</td>
<td>L. R. Challen, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Rm.</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>T. A. Scott, Mundaring</td>
<td>R. Waddington, 11 Morrison St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring, and Mt. Helena</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Flindt, 3 Woodbridge Ter., Midland Junction</td>
<td>Edward Gray, 39 Holmesdale Rd., Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>Lyceum Theatre, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. A. Scott, Mundaring</td>
<td>H. Patten, Mundaring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Col. T. Flindt, 3 Second Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>L. R. Challen, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

**ARTILLERY COMRADES' ASSOCIATION**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday
- **President:** Bgr.-Gen. A. J. Bessell-Brown
- **Secretary:** J. Smyth, Lands Dept., Perth

**AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS ASSN.**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** When called
- **President:** Maj. Gen. E. C. Catton, M.C., P.O., Belmont
- **Secretary:** T. A. Burns, Hay St., Subiaco

**BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.**
- **Place of Meeting:** Executive at 229 Charles St., North Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** 1st Monday, 2 p.m.
- **President:** Capt. E. W. Edwards, 251 Railway Parade, West Leederville
- **Secretary:** G. E. Cattermole, 229 Charles St., North Perth

**BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION**
- **Place of Meeting:** Cabin Tea Rooms (opp. Booms)
- **Date of Meeting:** Monthly Luncheon, 1st & 15th of month
- **President:** Lt-Col. L. D. Dunkley, 25 Angove St., N. Perth
- **Secretary:** Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion St., Leederville

**ELEVENTH BATTALION ASSOCIATION**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** 1st Monday, 2 p.m.
- **President:** S. Jones, 170 Cambridge St., West Leederville
- **Secretary:** R. W. Blair, Economic Chambers, Perth

**EX-SERVICE ASSN. OF ENGINEERS AND ALLIED UNITS**
- **Place of Meeting:** Cabin Tea Rooms (opp. Booms)
- **Date of Meeting:** Monthly Luncheon, 1st & 15th of month
- **President:** Lt-Col. L. E. Margolin, Nedlands
- **Secretary:** A. D. McLennan, 40 Mabel St., N. Perth

**TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** Monthly Luncheon, 1st & 15th of month
- **President:** Lt-Col. A. H. Sweetapple, 49 Clifton Cres., Leederville
- **Secretary:** V. Kettler, c/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth

**SIXTEENTH BATTALION ASSN.**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** Monthly Luncheon, 1st & 15th of month
- **President:** Maj. Gen. D. Shaw, M.C., P.O., Belmont
- **Secretary:** A. W. White, 51 George's Terrace, Perth

**THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.**
- **Place of Meeting:** Soldiers' Institute, Perth
- **Date of Meeting:** Monthly Luncheon, 1st & 15th of month
- **President:** Col. R. Alexander, c/o Government House, Perth
- **Secretary:** R. W. Perry, 49 Clifton Cres., Leederville
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