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A. L. ROGERS, MANAGER
In Favour of Preference, but —

Returned men throughout the State were surprised and disgusted when the present State Ministry stultified previous promises by ignoring the principle of preference to returned soldiers and sailors when appointing the new Public Service Commissioner. The history of the present Government, in this respect, has shown that it is prepared to promise preference from the hustings, but conceals it only when such a concession fits in with the desires of the individuals who compose it. That this attitude is persisted in is largely our own fault. As a body, we have been too prone to allow ourselves, notably on the occasion of the Blackboy Camp appointment, to be foobed off with flimsy excuses or with idle promises for greater consideration in the future. The politician is an adept at deceiving without lying; at seizing upon a fact or two which seems to justify a certain course of action. Every protest made by the League has been countered with specious reasoning from uncorrelated facts, which is an insult to the intelligence of all but the party politician.

The digger, during his war service, missed opportunities of entering the public service and for qualifying for promotion therein; he missed opportunities of establishing himself in business; physical disabilities incurred on war service have placed him at a disadvantage in securing and retaining positions since the war. These are some of the reasons, apart from the more nebulous one of a nation's gratitude, why preference should be made such a vital issue.

Unfortunately, an impression has been created recently, possibly by some of those interested parties who would like to see the R.S.L. disintegrated, that the League, as a body, is ready to advance the claims of those highly placed, and ignore those of the rank and file. Nothing could be further from the truth. The action taken by the State Executive in connection with the Midland Workshops dismissals, so quote but one instance, should disabuse the minds of all thinking men of such a notion. The Listening Post has always maintained that there is a fundamental hypocrisy displayed in concealing preference to ex-service men when appointing a yardman or a caretaker and ignoring it, or side-stepping it when filling highly salaried positions.

The question of the Public Service Commissioner's appointment has been taken up, not because any individual within the League was a "disappointed candidate"—as a matter of fact, four or five well-known senior officers were applicants for this post—but because a principle was infringed by politicians who had previously rendered it lip-service; because the excuses made by prominent members of the Government are so many insults to our intelligence. It is entirely our own fault if we allow such a state of affairs to continue.

The R.S.L., by its constitution, cannot oppose or support any political party; but its members, as individuals, can. The individual digger has always the remedy of the ballot box. A block digger vote at the next general election, say, is a gesture that even a politician can understand. If such a block vote were the means of putting a Government out of office, the striking example would not be wasted on succeeding Governments.

The Anonymous Mud-Slinger

Among the lowest species of humans is he who attacks his superiors under the secrecy of a nom-de-plume. This scurrilous type has been particularly active of late in inundating the daily papers on the subject of pensions.

"Sundry anonymous knowalls, signing themselves "Digger," "Returned Soldier," "Soldier's Wife," and so on, have drawn attention to cases in which it is alleged that persons are in receipt of pensions who are not entitled to them or who could do without them. It is a well-known fact that a man's neighbours always know more about his own private affairs than he does himself. Most of these letters display a lamentable ignorance and nearly all are tinged with jealousy of the man who is possibly making a little more than his neighbour. If these alleged ex-soldiers would only sign their names and units to their effusions, the public could form some judgment as to the reliability of their information and the motives which inspire them to rush into print. Their conduct sheets, too, would probably make interesting reading.

During the month a snake-in-the-grass, signing himself "Too True," attacked the State Executive in the columns of the "Daily News" for objecting to the appointment of a non-soldier to the position of Public Service Commissioner. Every sentence was a lie and the whole effusion reeked with despicable innuendo. It is difficult to understand why the "Daily News" allowed such a letter to pass the w.p.b. On the other hand, it is easy to understand the attitude of our pink Sunday paper in printing a prominent place a scurrilous attack on this journal, written by someone who used the original nom-de-plume of "Returned Soldier." Under the mask of "anonymity" this ex-warrior endeavoured to floor us with a hit below the belt, and we request "Returned Soldier," if he exists outside the office of

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REASONS FOR LOSS OF CONFIDENCE

[We have been requested by members of the League to publish a fairly complete history of the facts leading to the very unsatisfactory position which exists between the Federal President and this State Branch of the League. A few days ago Colonel Collett, on behalf of the W.A. State Executive, sent the following letter to the other State Branches of the League, which accurately and concisely states the W.A. viewpoint. All State Executive delegates regret the publicity which this matter has received, but a perusal of this letter will disclose that a time arrived when patience became exhausted and it became necessary to inform members of the lack of confidence in the Federal President by the State Executive and the reasons actuating same.—Editor.]

It is within your knowledge that the Western Australian Branch has, for the past two or three years, been dissatisfied with some of the actions, and, in cases, the lack of action, of Mr. Dyett whilst occupying the office of Federal President of the League.

I propose, therefore, to set out the reasons for this dissatisfaction:

1. It has come to be recognised that in the fullness of time the measures for the repatriation of the Australian soldier and sailor have reached the maximum of development and require, on our part, merely the maintenance of precautions in order to ensure that the usefulness of such measures shall not be impaired. This in itself, it may be admitted, does not justify the continuance of a large organisation entailing the expenditure of considerable sums of money for its upkeep.

2. The framers of the League’s Constitution recognised the probability of the cessation of the operations of repatriation and, legislated for the perpetuation of our association, with one another, by designing a policy of national import intended to develop a high sense of citizenship upon the part of ex-service men.

3. A survey of the history of the League will reveal the stage at which it reached its greatest popularity and membership. It will also show that about the year 1927 its membership had decreased by over 20,000; that the Federal Executive had ceased to function; that the principal aims and objects of the League had apparently fallen into disuse; and that the whole control had passed into the hands of one man. It was thus obviously a matter of mere time and the organisation would finally dissolve.

4. Such a condition of affairs was realised by the W.A. Branch Executive when examining the general position during 1927. That body decided to place its views before Mr. Dyett; and these, with certain suggestions for effecting an improvement, were conveyed in a private letter to the Federal President early in 1928. Correspondence was exchanged over a period of some months, but Mr. Dyett seemed loath to fall in with the ideas put forward, or to take any definite action in the direction of securing a revival of interest amongst the ex-service men of Australia, or even to enlist the active support of those best qualified to secure that end.

5. The position was discussed by the W.A. State Congress in 1928 and a resolution carried affirming the desirability of a change of leadership of the League, for the purpose of increasing its membership and improving its status in the community. Subsequently a letter was sent to the Federal President, and to each State Branch, explaining the reasons for desiring a change.

6. It is a matter for regret that very little result has hitherto done the efforts of this branch to bring about the desired reforms. It is true that the Federal Congress of 1928 directed the resuscitation of the Federal Executive, and also authorised the issue of a special appeal designed to reawaken interest in the operations of the League. But that appeal met with only partial success and the membership to-day is still, despite the strenuous and unaided efforts of two or three branches, thousands below the maximum reached in the years immediately following the cessation of hostili-
ties. The form of the appeal was undoubtedly imperfect. It dealt merely with the achievements of the past. It lacked vision. It was not planned so as to reach the individuals likely to be of most use in successfully building up and extending the usefulness of the organisation. It displayed a lack of appreciation of the viewpoint of the great majority of ex-service men and of the attitude of the public towards post-war problems.

7. In our minds there is no doubt that Mr. Dyett has resented the actions of the W.A. Branch in formulating proposals for reform and in persisting in their advocacy in the face of his personal and other opposition. He has resented criticism and even suggested that the branch’s attitude was prompted by unworthy motives and marked by the absence of certain British characteristics. That is unfortunate. Still more unfortunately, the procurement, circulation and publication of certain letters have placed in a false and helpless positions several of our best known men whose aid would have been of incalculable value to us. His conception of leadership does not accord with our views. At the Perth Congress in 1929, when replying to a suggestion that he lacked the creative faculty, he stated that before taking the initiative he preferred to await suggestions from the branches. At the present time, when the gravity of the affairs of the nation is causing concern to all patriots, he will give no lead—will voice no ideas. Such a line of conduct is not, we maintain, indicative of the sound leader, and for what it implies the League pays the salary of a General Secretary and typist.

8. The endeavour to demonstrate that the R.S.L. is, at present, in “a most favourable position as regards membership, when compared with other similar organisations, will not bear the test of examination, when the ‘differences’ in social conditions are considered and it is known that in one particular instance there exist over 200 separate associations dealing with ex-service men and their needs and problems. On the other hand the R.S.L. claims, with some reason, to speak on behalf of all Australians who fought in the Great War and to be recognised as a national institution. And yet it attracts to its ranks barely 20 percent of those eligible to join.

9. Seeking means to effect reforms and a change of the personnel of the Federal Executive, the W.A. State Executive made an analysis of the voting powers of the delegates to Federal Congress and also an examination of the status of the so-called Federal Capital Territory Branch. No mention of the latter, nor any provision for its creation, could be found in the “Constitution, Rules and By-laws,” as issued to delegates to the Federal Congress held at Hobart in 1930. (Rule 50 states “the foregoing are the only Constitution, Rules, etc.”) It was known that at previous Congresses resolutions expressing the intention to give the F.C. Territory Sub-Branch of the New South Wales Branch separate representation and voting power at Congress had been drafted and carried (the good faith of this action is not in question), and that a representative from Canberra had stated that if given the status of a Branch his community would very shortly attain a strength approximating 1,500. It was also known that, the Federal Executive had taken no action to give effect to the desire of the 1927 and 1928 Congresses in the direction of preparing the consequential alterations to the Constitution for submission to the consideration of State Branches in the manner prescribed (Rule 25), and that until those alterations were approved no addition to the six State Branches could have any legal standing.

10. At the opening of the 1930 Congress the W.A. delegates protested against the presence and voting power of the delegate from the so-called Federal Capital Territory Branch on the grounds that “the terms of the Constitution do not provide for either the creation or maintenance of such branch.”

The Federal President thereupon overruled the objection of the W.A. Branch (and, incidentally, avoided a discussion) by stating, or leading Congress to believe, that he had received from the League’s solicitor an “opinion” establishing beyond doubt the right of the Federal Capital Territory Branch to representation and voting power at Federal Congress but that, unfortunately, the document containing the opinion had inadvertently been left behind in the head office of the League in Melbourne.

Subsequent endeavours to obtain from

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Mr. Dyett a copy of this “opinion” were fruitless, and it is now quite apparent that no such document was in his possession at the time that Congress met. He had, however, it would seem, received certain draft alterations to the Constitution prepared by the League’s solicitor and these, it transpires, were subsequently returned to their source with a request to insert a retrospective clause for the purpose, presumably, of seeking to correct the irregularity concerning the admission of the Federal Capital Territory Branch. The League’s solicitor’s comment is: “It is, of course, doubtful whether an amendment of the Rules can be made retrospective so as to cover acts already done.”

11. It is important that some of the provisions of the Constitution should be emphasised:

Rule 12—Vests the supreme governing power of the League in the Federal Congress.

Rule 24—Gives Congress authority to give decisions upon any question of interpretation or upon any matter affecting the League “not provided for by these Rules.”

Rule 46 prescribes that there shall be a State Branch for each Military District in the Commonwealth. (There are only six Military Districts, consequently there can be only six State Branches. There is no room for doubt upon that point.)

Rule 25 lays down the only method by which the rules can be altered.

12. The League’s solicitor, in his letter of the 6th January, 1931, points out that any alterations to the Rules, must, in order to have the force of law, “first be carried by at least one State Branch” and as any alteration to Rule 46, amongst others, has not been so passed, there still remains no provision for a seventh branch within the jurisdiction. Consequently, the Federal Capital Sub-Branch still remains, de facto and de jure, a part of the N.S.W. Branch, because it is within the bounds of the 2nd Military District.

The League’s solicitor, in a later letter, writes that he has re-argued his letter of the 6th January and that it “shows that it is not, nor was it intended to be, an adverse opinion,” (as regards Federal Capital Territory representation), but he goes on to say “in order to make the position technically correct from every point of view the resolutions should be properly passed,” and “I wished to place the position on a proper basis so that it could not be questioned legally or otherwise.”

13. It will thus be seen that the contention of this Branch is upheld, namely, that the admission of the “Federal Capital Territory Branch” was technically incorrect, on an improper basis, and can be questioned legally. Hence the very serious view taken of Mr. Dyett’s reply to the protest lodged on the 10th November last. As a matter of fact, the Canberra delegate’s forecast of a unit of membership approximating 1,500 is not likely to be fulfilled for many years, if ever. The greatest total has been less than 500 and may now, unfortunately, rapidly diminish. An examination of the facts amply demonstrates that neither its geographical position, nor its numerical importance as a community justifies the ex-service men of the Federal Capital Territory being conceded the status of a State Branch.

And yet Western Australia was not unmindful of the necessity for some representation in the case of distinctive minorities, some means for giving expression to their peculiar conditions and requirements, because the 1928 State Congress approved of the alterations to the Constitution in order to allow of the appearance at Federal Congress and the Federal Executive, with power to exercise only, vote each at the Congress, of delegates from the Federal Capital Territory, the Northern Territory, and the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. These proposals, however, were not acceptable to the Federal Congress, which met at Hobart.

14. Mr. Dyett has been known to express his intention of regulating his actions as President strictly in accordance with the Constitution of the League. But incidents of departure from that course have been so frequent and so far-reaching in their consequences, that this Branch has become seriously perturbed. Three items alone came under notice at the Hobart Congress. Firstly, the admission of the Federal Capital Territory representative to full standing as a delegate—despite the protest of the W.A. delegates; secondly, the procedure at the election for the office of Federal President, and his subsequent setting aside of eminent counsel’s opinion on its illegality; and, thirdly, the failure to observe the full provisions of Rule 42. His attention to this last matter was invited during Congress, and, without labouring the point, it was hoped that adjustment would be made at the meeting of the Federal Executive held in March last. The Minutes record no action in that direction.

15. The League as a whole at present lacks cohesion, voice and force. It was founded primarily for the benefit and protection of ex-service men, but if it confines its future efforts merely to promoting these interests then its niche in the life of the community must remain remote, unimportant, and almost unrecognised. On the other hand, the pursuit of a policy of useful public service—setting a high standard of citizenship—
must inevitably secure greater recognition and influence and render it easier to obtain such concessions as our charges are justly entitled to.

16. The W.A. Branch is, it is claimed, an active and efficient unit. (There are, of course, other efficient units.) With the backing of a highly inspired and experienced Federal Executive it could be made much more so. It is a firm believer, in the value of the League and is cognisant of the meritorious work that has been accomplished in the past and of the gratitude due to the founders and early leaders of the organisation. But, nevertheless, it maintains that, with the passage of time, and the changes in social conditions, variations in policy, method and leadership are essential in order to preserve our ideals and give force to our aims and objects. The federal and homogeneous instinct is strongly developed in its members but it regards as of vital importance a closer observance of the Constitution framed in the past and of the guidance and protection, and freedom, within its limits, of choice of leadership.

17. There is, I assure you, nothing personal against Mr. Dyett, except in so far as certain of his acts have obstructed the personal element. We feel that in his time he has performed work of much merit. But the stage has now been reached, after twelve years of office, when he should make way for another leader—a person upon whose choice all branches can come to a common and harmonious agreement—a person who has a greater appeal to the ex-service man as well as a stronger call upon the attention of the public.

18. The remoteness of the W.A. Branch from its sister branches renders intercourse and the exchange of ideas a matter of difficulty, the personal touch is lacking, hence the need to set out at some length the opinions of the State Executive and to invite your serious consideration of the appeal contained in the following motion passed at a meeting held recently:

“The opinion of the Honorary Solicitor being that Canberra has been admitted to representation on the Federal Executive illegally, this Executive desires to express its serious apprehension in regard to the position which has arisen and invites the co-operation of all State Branches in declaring that the position of Federal President has automatically become vacant and that the earliest opportunity be taken to have a Federal President constitutionally appointed.”

19. The branch will be grateful if you will ascertain the views of your Council or Executive and favour us with a reply in due course.

State Executive Meetings
27/5/31

Present: Messrs. Collett, Riley, Yeates, Freedman, Philp, Tyler, Denton, Smith, Lovell, Edmonds, Watt, Tozer, Pady, Panton, Margolin, Olden, Bader and Hunt. Apologies were received from Messrs. Parker, Cartharson and Cooke.

State War Memorial: The President informed delegates that he and the Chairman of the Finance Committee had discussed the matter of a donation received for lighting the State War Memorial, and a letter had been written to the donor.

Reports:

State Secretary's Report.—Received.

Finance Committee: Report of the Finance Committee meeting held on May 25 was received and adopted.

House Committee: Report of the House Committee meeting held on May 20 was received and adopted. The report recommended the sale of one billiard table and the transfer of another to Lennox Hospital.

Land Committee: Report of the Land Committee meeting held on May 19 was received and adopted.

Soldiers' Settlement Board: A request was received from the Premier's Department to submit a panel of names in order that selection could be made for the League's representative on the S.S. Board.

The Management Committee recommended the names of Lt.-Col. J. S. Denton, Mr. W. H. Logie and Lt.-Col. A. C. N. Olden to be submitted.

This was agreed to.

Trustees: Mr. Philp submitted a report on the activities of the Trustees in relief work since the last meeting. — Report was received and adopted.

Prospecting Committee: Col. Olden delivered a report of the meeting held on May 19. The report stated that a meeting was taking place at the Minister's Office on the 28th inst., when it was hoped that some definite claim would be evolved.—The report was received and adopted.

Pensions Committee: Mr. Watt submitted a report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on May 18. — The report was received and adopted.

Empire and Local Trading Committee: Mr. Tozer submitted a report of the initial meeting held by this committee, and stressed the necessity of sub-branches and individual members of the League, and citizens generally, making purchases in the following order of preference:

1. Western Australian products.
2. Goods manufactured in Australia.
3. Articles manufactured in the Empire.

Mr. Tozer also stated that the Subiaco Sub-branch was being approached to arrange a Local Products Exhibition.

Women's Auxiliary: The Women's Auxiliary State Executive submitted a report of their activities in connection with the provision of clothing for indigent cases.

Management Committee—National Crisis: It had been arranged that the suggested meeting of metropolitan sub-branches take place at 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 1.

Farewell to His Excellency the Governor: The Management Committee had arranged for a farewell function to take place at the Soldiers' Institute on June 4, at 8 p.m.

Visits: Calingiri.—Mr. Bader reported having

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visited Calingiri Sub-branch.

Veterans' Dinner: Mr. Yeates reported having represented the Executive at the Veterans' Dinner on May 23. He stated that Anzac Day was referred to and the difficulty old veterans had of attending the Service. He had pointed out that cars were available if the League was advised of the whereabouts of the individual desiring to attend.

On the motion of Mr. Yeates, seconded Mr. Riley, it was agreed that Major Patterson be advised to this effect.

Reparation Ward: Mr. Panton reported having visited the Reparation Ward, and stated that inmates there would appreciate invitations to functions arranged by the League. This was noted.

Federal Correspondence: Correspondence from Federal Executive was received on the following subjects:

Ex-Imperial Men resident overseas: This requested a report from the State Executive Office.

Before submitting a report the State Secretary was asked to get in touch with the Secretary of the B.U.S.A. to obtain his views to further augment the report.

Manufacture of Poppies: This letter indicated that the material used for the manufacture of poppies and poppy wreaths was procured within the Empire.

Expelled Members: This communication requested a list of members expelled from the League in Western Australia. Moved Mr. Edmonds, seconded Col. Margolin, that the request be complied with on the condition that the names be not published. Lost.

Moved Mr. Yeates, seconded Mr. Tyller, that the request be acted upon. Carried.

Resol. 94, 11th Annual Congress: Adequate Defence Force: This communication was a copy of one from the Prime Minister, pointing out that he had discussed the matter of defence with the Federal President. The letter did not contain the desired information required by this branch, and was referred back to the Federal Executive. Resol. 52—15th Annual Congress—Visiting Committees: This correspondence intimated that the request of this branch could not be acceded to, an adverse decision having been received from the Minister. The matter was referred to the next State Congress.

Invitations: Nannup Sub-Branch, June 18: Referred to Management Committee.

Mr. Magnet: June 23—It was agreed that Mr. Magnet be informed that owing to the distance and expense that would be involved, it was regretted that no delegate could be sent.

New Sub-Branch: An application was received for the formation of a Community-of-Interest Sub-Branch in the W.A. Tramways. In accordance with the rules it was agreed that a special meeting be called at 7.30 p.m. on June 3, to consider this matter. Each member of the Executive to be circularised.

Major-General Elliott: A communication from the Queensland Branch concerning certain publications with reference to his death was received.

Art Unions: The Perth Sub-Branch requested the Executive to appoint a deputation to wait on the Minister for Police asking permission for the League to conduct a sweep free from the control of the Art Union Advisory Board.

Moved Mr. Hunt, seconded Mr. Tyler, that a deputation wait on the Minister to discuss with him proposals for the conduct of Art Unions, with a view to conserving the interests of the League. Carried.

Moved Mr. Watt, seconded Mr. Philp, that the amount be allocated for the maintenance of the State War Memorial, and that, together with proceeds from the W.A. Digger Book and other amounts similarly received, it be placed in a special account to be known as the State War Memorial Maintenance Trust Account.

Reports: State Secretary's report was received. The report disclosed that the management of the Prince of Wales Theatre had offered certain privileges for ex-soldiers in connection with the screening of "French Leave." The offer was accepted.

Art Union: Mr. Cook presented a report on behalf of the deputation which waited upon the Minister for Police on Friday, June 5. It was stated that in accordance with the Minister's suggestion an application for an Art Union for Amelioration purposes had been lodged. The report was adopted.

Pensions Committee: The Committee recommended that a special meeting of the Executive be called for the purpose of discussing the pension question. It was agreed that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive be held on Monday, June 11, at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Watt announced that certain alterations had been made in connection with the payment of female dependants' pensions, and that instructions have been received that in future no female dependants' pensions would be continued after re-marriage, and that no agew of pensions would be paid in future by the State Board. Special cases to be dealt with by the Reparation Commission.

Prospecting Committee: The report of the Prospecting Committee meeting, held on June 19, was received and adopted.

Lemons Board of Visitors: Reports of this Board of meetings held on June 2, and also for the quarter, ended April 30, were laid on the table for the information of members.

Management Committee: The report dealt with an invitation from Nannup, and had decided to express regret that we were unable to arrange

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ANZAC Day: The Management Committee reported that copies of the Victorian Act had been received, and that they were awaiting a reply from Queensland.

Employment Bureau: The report of the Employment Bureau for the month of May was received.

Trustees: Trustees' report for the month of May was received.

Soldier Settlement Board: It was reported by the State Secretary that he had received information to the effect that Col. Benton had been appointed the League's representative on the Soldier Settlement Board. Col. Benton was congratulated.

Correspondence: The Annual Report and Balance Sheet was laid on the table for the information of members.

Reduction of War Pensions: At the request of the Federal President telegramms had been sent to the Premier and the Prime Minister, Messrs. J. J. Latham, J. W. Lyons and Sir George Pearce, protesting against any indiscriminate reduction in rates of pension.

Correspondence from the Federal President was also read, and a further telegram from him, advising that a special meeting of the Federal Executive had been called at Melbourne for Wednesday, June 17, at 2.30 p.m.

It was agreed that Mr. A. Yeates be asked to act as this State's representative.

Visiting Committees: A communication from the Federal Executive, concerning the appointment of Visiting Committees to Repatriation Institutions was received, copy to be forwarded to the Press Sub-Branch.

Employment Bureau: Report of the Employment Bureau throughout the Commonwealth for the month of April was received.

Imperial Ex-Service Men: A communication forwarded to the Federal Executive concerning ex-Imperial men was laid on the table.

Invitations: Victoria Park—Monday, June 15: In view of the extraordinary meeting of the Executive being held on that date, it was decided to explain the position to Victoria Park.

No. 1 District Committee: Referred to Management Committee.

Appointment Sub-Branch Officials: Guildford-Bassendean approved, Herne Hill approved, and Marradon-Boddington approved.

National 'Crisis': Communications concerning the circular sent to all sub-branches by the Darling Range Sub-Branch were received from Marradon-Boddington and No. 5 D.G.

Bages: Kalgoorlie: The Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch protested against the alteration in policy in the issue of badges. The matter was left in the hands of the State Secretary.

Mundaring: The Sub-branch wrote concerning the cancellation of Federal Repatriation certificates, Federal Repatriation fees, Federal Pension and public. It was decided to note the reference to the latter heading, and request the sub-branch to refer the other matters to the State Congress.

Repatriation Department: A communication from the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch concerning the method of procedure was referred to the Pensions Committee.

Calendar R.S.L. Band: Advice was received from the Canning Sub-Branch that an unauthorised person was securing money in the name of the R.S.L. for a calendar for the R.S.L. Band. It was agreed that the matter be mentioned in the "Listening Post" and the next circular to sub-branches.

Security of Tenure—Canning Bridge Campers: The South Perth Sub-Branch requested the Executive to approach the State Government to obtain security of tenure for Returned Soldiers at the Canning Bridge Unemployed Camp. It was stated by one member that the matter had now been satisfactorily settled.

Cowaramup: A letter from the Cowaramup Sub-Branch, detailing the difficulties of the settlers in that district, was received. The letter urgently requested a delegation from the State Executive to investigate matters. The matter was left in the hands of the Secretary to advise the sub-branch that a visit would be arranged at a later date.

Unemployment: The Council of Industries requested that three delegates be appointed to a conference on Thursday, June 11, to discuss unemployment from a national standpoint. Messrs. Farquharson, Bader and Hunt were appointed. It was agreed also to ask the Employment Officer to attend.

Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch: A communication from the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch, concerning Executive delegation to its recent Re-union, was deferred, pending the presence of Mr. Birtwhistle.

President—Waroonas: A communication concerning the presidency of the Waroonas Sub-Branch was received.

Absorbing Unemployed: The following resolution was received from the Nedlands Park Sub-Branch:

Group Settlement: "With a view to absorbing the unemployed in productive work, the R.S.L. requests the 'State Government to immediately commence groups in suitable areas for the purpose of development—e.g., dairying, pig-raising and poultry industries, as well as the production of fat lambs for export, also the cultivation of the tobacco leaf."

Moved Mr. Tozer, seconded Mr. Watt, that the resolution be forwarded to the State Government.—Carried.

Imperial Ex-Service Men: A communication signed by D. Tudor Williams, was received, stating that the Imperial Ex-Service Men at Blackboy Hill Camp had decided to form an organisation. They requested the approval and support of the Executive.

Moved Mr. Philp, seconded Mr. Tozer, that the State President, the Trustees, and Mr. E. W. Edmunds and the State Secretary visit the Blackboy Hill Camp to discuss the position of all Ex-Service men. The necessary permission to be sought from the authorities.—Carried.

Public Service Commissioners: The Nedlands Park Sub-Branch forwarded a copy of a letter received by them from the Chief Secretary concerning this appointment.

Reference was made to the meeting between Ex-Service delegates and Public Members of Parliament at Parliament House. It was moved by Mr. R. Freedman, seconded Col. Denton, that the Public Members of Parliament be thanked for inviting the Executive to meet them at Parliament House and in particular to thank the matter of the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner submitted to them by the Executive, and that the Speaker be also cordially thanked for permitting the meeting to be held in the House and in his room.—Carried.

Preference Policy: The Perth and Nedlands Park Sub-Branches both forwarded resolutions requesting the Executive to call a Maid Meeting of Returned Soldiers to discuss the preference policy.

Moved Mr. Hunt, seconded Mr. Pady, that a Maid Meeting of Returned Soldiers to be called for that purpose should be adjourned.

Moved Mr. Hunt, seconded Mr. Nugent, that the Perth Sub-Branch be requested to arrange the meeting.—Carried.

Returned Soldier Pensioners Unemployed: A communication was received from the Department of Industries stating that the various local Government Authorities and W. Clerks in the Perth City Council area had been advised that any Returned Soldier who, through being in receipt of a pension, is precluded from Government System employment, may participate in the scheme of a letter from the Secretary of the R.S.L. to be included in their list so that he will participate in any "pick up" for work.

Amelioration: A communication was received from the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch concerning amelioration, and a conference was requested for certain information concerning the R.S.L. Relief Fund.

Moved Mr. Philp, seconded Mr. Tyler, that the letter be received and that the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch be asked to submit the question to the State Congress.—Carried.

Winter Clothing: The Coolup Sub-Branch Women's Auxiliary had donated £17/4/- to this fund, the amount being proceeds from a dance. Suitable acknowledgment had been made by the State Secretary.

War Service Homes: A communication was received suggesting a reduction in War Service Homes Interests and Rents. The matter was left in the hands of the State Secretary, and he was authorised to make enquiries from the Federal Office as to whether any consideration had been given at the Premiers' Conference in the direction of reducing War Service Homes interest, and also interest on Soldier Settlement loans.

Armidale Day: A suggestion was received that the celebration of November 3 should be transferred to Arvald Day. It was agreed that publicity be given to the suggestion, and that the Executive endorse the sentiments expressed.

Leave of Absence: Rev. C. L. Riley applied for leave of absence from the Extraordinary meeting to be held on Monday, June 15. The necessary leave was granted.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
15th June, 1931

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive held at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, on Monday, 15th June, 1931, at 7.30 p.m.

Art Union: The Secretary presented a letter from the Secretary of the Art Union Control Board, in which the League's assistance was requested to increase the roll of Agents.

Moved Rabbi Freedman, seconded Mr. Birtwistle, that the reply to the letter be left in the hands of the State President and one member of the Executive with the Secretary.—Carried.

Reports: Empire and Local Trade: Mr. Tozer submitted a report of the Empire and Local Trading Committee meeting, held on the 11th June. He submitted a circular for the Executive's approval, to be sent to sub-branches. The report was received and adopted.

National Crisis: A re-pore of the meeting of delegates from metropolitan sub-branches which was held on the 3rd June, was submitted with a list of motions.

It was agreed that discussion on this matter be adjourned until next meeting. In the meantime the motions carried to be circulated to sub-branches.

Council of Industries: Mr. Farquharson submitted a report on behalf of delegates to this Council. He stated that the League was prepared to endeavour to assist in any movement which had for its objective the alleviation of unemployment and distress. ‘The Council of Industries had invited one delegate from the League to serve on its Committee. The report was adopted and Mr. Farquharson was appointed as delegate.

Unemployment and W.A. Products: The Council of Industries requested the assistance of League sub-branches to carry out a week's campaign in this connection.

The letter was referred to the Empire and Local Trading Committee.

Unemployment: A communication from the Council of Industries in this connection was received.

Mass Meeting: Perth Sub-branch advised that a meeting of Presidents and Secretaries of sub-branches had been called for Tuesday evening, 16th June, at 8 p.m. An invitation was extended to all Executive Delegates.

Leave of Absence: Mr. A. H. Panton applied for leave for absence for two months.—Deferred.

State Battery—Laverton: The State Secretary submitted correspondence concerning the efforts of the Laverton Sub-branch to have the State Battery at that centre re-opened. Mr. W. A. Ross, a representative of Laverton, attended the meeting and addressed delegates. He explained the necessity of the Government to take action in this direction, and requested assistance of the Executive by way of a deputation to the Minister.

Moved Mr. Philp, seconded Mr. Nugent, that the Mining and Prospecting Committee form itself into a deputation and wait upon the Minister with Mr. Ross, with a view to pressing for the re-opening of the Laverton State Battery.—Carried.

New Sub-Branch: Approval was granted for the formation of a sub-branch at Lake King.

War Service Homes and S.S.S. Interest: The State Secretary had enquired from the General Secretary if reduction of interest under these headings had been included in the general scheme approved by the Premiers' Conference. A reply had been received that the matters had been brought under the notice of the Government. It was agreed that these matters should be forwarded for inclusion on the agenda paper for the special Federal Executive to be held on the 17th.

Pensions: A discussion ensued on the present position of pensions, and the proposed 20 per cent. reduction. (The resolutions passed are reported elsewhere in this issue.)

Mass Meeting

A mass meeting of returned soldiers and sailors, to protest against the manner in which preference to returned sailors and soldiers has been ignored by the present Government and others, despite the Government's avowed policy of preference, will be held in the Prince of Wales Theatre on Sunday, June 28, at 3 p.m. Mr. W. J. Hunt will occupy the chair, and there will be eight speakers—Messrs. Wilkins, Tyler, Tozer, Rabbi Freedman, Benson, Farquharson, Edmonds and Nye have been invited to speak. Only those who are able to satisfy the doormen as to their bona-fides will be admitted. The meeting has been well organised by the presidents and secretaries of sub-branches, and as we are the people most affected, it is incumbent on all diggers to make an effort to attend.

Soldier Land Settlement Board

Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Denton, D.S.O., has been appointed by the Government as the R.S.L. representative on the Soldier Settlement Board, to replace Captain Hugo Throssell, V.C., who had resigned. Colonel Denton joined the volunteer forces in 1899 and served continuously in the Militia and Citizen Forces until the outbreak of war, attaining the rank of Major in August, 1914, when he enlisted. He left Australia with the 11th Battalion with the rank of Captain, and was promoted to Major in Egypt in 1915. He was at the Landing and was made a Lieutenant-Colonel in 1916, commanding the 10th Battalion, later the 11th. The Colonel later commanded the 70th Battalion, 6th Division, until it was disbanded, and the 49th Battalion during 1917-18. In May, 1918, he commanded the 3rd Training Brigade until the Armistice. On his return he entered into farming pursuits and for a period was a member of the Legislative Assembly. He has been a prominent member of the League and has served for three years on the State Executive, where he has been a valuable member of the Land Committee.

"Jim" Denton is personally popular, has a good grip of his subject, and should in every way prove a success in his new appointment.
War Pensions

The State Executive held a special meeting on the 17th June, to discuss the proposed reduction of 20 per cent. in pensions. In addressing delegates Mr. E. S. Watt, the chairman of the Pensions Committee, said: "In spite of any efforts which may be made to the contrary, it appears that the Government, with the support of all parties, will reduce the expenditure on war pensions by 20 per cent. The League has hitherto resisted all attempts made to reduce pensions, feeling that all avenues of economising should firstly be exploited and exhausted, but to-day there is a very strong public opinion, shared I think, by a large majority of returned soldiers, to the effect that the financial state of the country is in such a parlous condition that all expenditure, including pensions, must be cut, and that every section of the community must be prepared to make sacrifices for the common cause.

"We are, reminded of the, definite promises of the Prime Minister and his Government that they would not countenance any reduction in war pensions. If, however, the Government cannot, owing to the depleted condition of the public purse, see its way clear to adhere to the undertaking given to returned sailors and soldiers, and to the dependents of those who fell in the service of their country, then we should emphatically protest against a proposed 20 per cent. round reduction, as being inequitable and unnecessary. I do not think that a "Hands off pensions" campaign would assist us at present, and it would certainly not be in keeping with the national policy of the League. We should offer our services to the Government in an endeavour to remodel the Pensions Act, and guide the reduction into channels which, in our opinion, are most equitable and would protect the pensioner who is in financial difficulties.

"It will be necessary for us to jealously guard against any flagrant departure from the guiding principle underlying the granting of a pension—that is, that a pension is granted as compensation for injuries received, from or as a result of war service. We must not allow the pension to become a charitable grant, payable only to the needy, but a factor to be considered is that a pensioner out of employment is the more greatly handicapped as a result of his war disability than, if he were working. This introduces an economic factor which cannot be ignored when so many of our pensioners are "up against it" and would suffer severely from a reduction of pension.

"I therefore recommend that if pension expenditure is to be reduced by 20 per cent., that an economic clause be inserted in the Act, granting the Commission power to reinstate all, or a proportion of the cut, to a pensioner, upon proof that such pensioner is in necessitous circumstances. If this were done, the balance of the amount necessary to reduce the expenditure to the 20 per cent. mark could be obtained by the deletion of what may be termed unnecessary frills, which have crept into the Act when the country could, perhaps, afford to be profuse in its generosity."

After considerable discussion the following series of resolutions were submitted by Mr. Watt and carried:

1. This Executive re-affirms its previous resolution which was conveyed by telegram to the Prime Minister and the State Premier on the 4th June, which read: "Returned Sailors and Soldiers of Western Australia emphatically protest against any indiscriminate general reduction in rates of pensions awarded to war veterans, their dependents, or dependents of those who died as result of war service, as they consider such persons have already made great sacrifices for their country."

2. That in the event of a cut in war pensions being determined upon, this Executive recommends as an alternative proposal that an economic clause be inserted in the Act, granting the Commission power to reinstate all, or a proportion of the cut, to a pensioner, upon proof that such pensioner is in necessitous circumstances.

3. That the Repatriation Board in each State be empowered to review all classes of pensions and make recommendations with a view to effecting economies.

4. That the recommendation of the State Repatriation Boards be submitted to a Central Board to be composed of the Chairman and members of the War Pensions Entitlement Tribunal, and the Chairman of War Pensions Assessment Tribunals, which will collate such recommendations and report thereon to the Government, setting out plans for the curtailment of expenditure.

These resolutions were sent to Mr. Yeates, who was representing this State at a meeting of the Federal Executive which was held at Melbourne on Wednesday, 17th June. At this meeting it was agreed to oppose any reduction of war pensions, but the opposition being fruitless, the necessity arose to submit to the inevitable and an endeavour is now being made to guide the cut so that it will be equitable and not adversely affect those in need. In this regard it is gratifying to learn that Mr. Scullin, after a conference with representatives of the R.S.L. and other ex-service organisations, has agreed to a suggestion that a committee be appointed to investigate the position. The members of this committee are: General T. H. Dodds, Adjutant-General, Australian Military Forces; Professor E. Giblin, Acting Commonwealth Statistician; Colonel W. F. J. McCann, President of the South Australian branch of the R.S.L., and Messrs. G. M. Farar, Federal President of the Amniped and Limbless Soldiers' Association; and A. J. Chambers, Federal President of the Above and Below Limbless Soldiers' Association; and Patrick Lynch, Federal President of the Blinded Soldiers' Association. With a committee comprised of such a personnel, the war pensioner may be assured that his interests will be efficiently safeguarded.

State Executive delegates are investi-
gating the position, and their recommendations will be sent across to this committee.

**COL. COLLETT'S SURVEY**

At the meeting of the State Executive held on 24th June, the State President addressed the members on the pension position. He said:

"As a result of enquiries said to have been made of the State Secretary, and of two telegrams received this morning from the Eastern States, I find it necessary tonight to amplify and qualify a somewhat abridged report in the press of some remarks made by me at the Press Sub-branch on Saturday last.

"Rightly or wrongly, I have considered it my duty as State President to endeavour to form some opinion on the different problems likely to confront us from time to time, and to convey that opinion, whatever its worth, in order that you might be assisted in formulating a policy suitable to the occasion. You have been good enough now, to discourage me in that course of action.

"Addressing the State Congress on the 1st October last I used these words:—I ventured last year to utter a warning against possible attempts by financially embarrassed governments to reduce pension rates. Despite denials of any such intention—and those denials are, I believe, genuine—pressure of circumstances may yet force the issue, and we should be prepared with some scheme to meet the contingency when it arises.

"Following the trend of events, on the 8th April, at the Broadcast smoke social, I went a step further and, speaking of the Government, said, 'Unless the economic position improves it must make a cut (in pensions) somewhere. There are some 280,000 war pensions in force in Australia, involving an annual expenditure of nearly eight millions of pounds. We have one of the most liberal schemes in the world, and none of us can honestly say that there have not been instances of its abuse. We are not the people to oppose a legitimate enquiry if entered upon by properly qualified persons, but we would resist any injustice to helpless women and children, and reduction in rates, or any suggestion of taking away a disability pension because the pensioner happens, for the time being, to be in employment.'

"Later on, the Executive, finding that the reduction of war pensions was becoming more and more imminent, telegraphed its protest and asked that such things be considered as sacrosanct.

"Further developments took place, and we found ourselves confronted with the situation that at the Premiers' Conference all political parties had agreed on the necessity for an all-round 20 per cent. reduction in war pensions. Recognising that this decision was not arrived at without very serious deliberation, and would, in consequence, be considered by a large section of the public as being fully warranted under the circumstances, the Executive discussed alternatives, with a view to averting the destructive effect of the general application of the plan. It decided to again protest—this time against an indiscriminate and general reduction—and to recommend the appointment of a board of ex-service men to advise the Government as to where the desired saving could be made without inflicting hardships or suffering on the part of those with whose welfare we are charged.

"This decision was communicated to our representative on the Federal Executive, and he was asked to advocate it in that quarter. I was surprised to learn later that the Federal Executive had decided to ask for the maintenance of existing conditions, without any suggestion as to an alternative. In the absence of further information, this course seemed to me to be fraught with danger to the League, as it would lessen our influence with a Government that was already committed to a certain course of action, and would give the public the impression that we were unwilling, as a body, to assist in re-establishing the finances of the nation.

"In my remarks to the Press Sub-branch I emphasised the fact that the sailors and soldiers of Australia had already made great sacrifices for their country, but that, in view of the very great and general distress prevailing, they would be prepared to give way a little in order, by that very act, to protect those whose interests are the primary cause of the existence of our organisation. In this regard you will need to remember that the Prime Minister said, only the other day, that unless some adjustment was made very quickly it would not be possible to pay more than 12/- in the pound on all pensions.

"I am aware that there are different schools of thought amongst ex-service men. One is against reductions of any kind; another thinks that the all-round 20 per cent. cut is reasonable; a third is of the opinion that those in employment should bear the loss; whilst a fourth has approached me with a view to a general appeal being made to all those who can afford to do so to decline to draw their pensions, whilst reserving the right to them should their circumstances subsequently change.

"On the whole, the Executive has to take the broadest view, and I think its attitude is a fair and right one, because it implies that it is opposed, as I pointed out previously, 'to any injustice to helpless women and children, any reduction in rates, or any suggestion of taking away a disability pension because the pensioner happens, for the time being, to be in employment.'

"Further, I am very hopeful that the considerate act of the Prime Minister in agreeing to the appointment of a committee of our own people to advise him will produce a solution to a troublesome problem both economical and satisfactory to ourselves.'

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PERTH
The Month

Farewell to Sir William Campion

One of the disadvantages of importing our State Governors is that just when we have thoroughly realised their individual good qualities and felt, in each instance, that we have made a good friend, the term of office expires. Everyone who has come into contact with him, however remotely, must have felt this when Sir William Campion left us this month. During his sojourn in this State, Sir William travelled extensively and made himself thoroughly familiar with local conditions. While maintaining the dignity of his high office, he was always a good mixer and did much to strengthen the bonds of good fellowship between Western Australians and the Mother Country upon which we pride ourselves, and which certain crack-brained fanatics in our midst would like to see severed. The departing Governor was a genial personality and a fine speaker. His speeches, though generally delivered in lighter vein, contained sound advice on quite a variety of subjects. As one who commanded a battalion of his own regiment during the War, Sir William maintained a close contact with the R.S.I. His speech on the occasion of the last State Congress was a masterpiece of humour and sound advice which will be remembered by his hearers for many a day. The State has lost a true friend and the League a valuable supporter. While we feel that he must have become rather weary of the long series of public and semi-official farewells that preceded his departure, there can be no doubt as to the sincerity of the good wishes and the regrets expressed by all sections of the community. We feel sure, also, that he will lift up his voice on behalf of Australia whenever our affairs are discussed in Great Britain, for we have passed through difficult times together. This paper wishes Sir William and his family long life and continued prosperity, and assures him that there is always a soft spot in our hearts for him and his.

Mr. Latham and the League

While spreading his smoke screen on behalf of the Ministry during the Preference Debate, Mr. Latham said: "There had been a few meetings, but he had refused to go along. Ministers of the Crown were not going along to be put on the carpet even by the executive of the Returned Soldiers' League." One of the perils of office is that it induces pomposity in a certain type of politician. Mr. Latham's gratuitous defiance of the League is both cheap and unnecessary. The meetings referred to are those held from time to time, when ex-soldier legislators confer with members of the State Executive on matters concerning the welfare of the ex-service man. Their purpose is not to put Ministers of the Crown, nor anyone else, on the carpet. In making such a statement, Mr. Latham is either wilfully misrepresenting facts, or an inflated ego has prevented him from appreciating the idea underlying these informal discussions. It is high time someone informed Mr. Latham that even Ministers of the Crown are not sacrosanct in these democratic days. They are responsible to the public, especially as regards their pledged word, even as ordinary members are. While it is not contended that returned soldiers and their representatives have the right to "cartel" politicians, Mr. Latham is reminded that the digger is a voter who expects promises to be kept. As a digger and one who has been a sub-branch president, it is very difficult to understand Mr. Latham.

A welcome sign is the advent to the Shaftesbury Hotel of Jack Safe, for many years licensee of Young and Jackson's, Melbourne. With such a popular guide this fine hotel is bound to take a lead in city establishments, in addition to becoming a rendezvous for country and inter-State visitors.

Personalities

Mr. Fred Sainsbury, of Nungarin, who died on Monday, June 8, at the age of 45, was born in England, and had been farming at Nukarni. From Nukarni he came to Nungarin, where he was one of the most active workers in the local sub-branch. Though he had not been feeling well for some days before the 8th, his sudden collapse and death came as a surprise to his relatives and many friends in the district. The funeral, which was of a semi-military character, was attended by all sections of the community.

News has been received of the death in Sydney of Colonel S. J. Shillington, after a long illness. The late Colonel Shillington was gazetted to the Australian Army Service Corps about twenty-five years ago, from which unit he transferred to the New South Wales Mounted Rifles. He served with distinction on Gallipoli and throughout the remainder of the War. After his return from active service, he was for a time a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly. The law then claimed him. He qualified and was admitted to the New South Wales Bar, and his legal knowledge secured him an appointment as Resident Magistrate and Acting Judge in the Mandated Territory. The late Colonel, who had many friends in Perth, was a brother of Mr. Shillington, the local Superintendent of Tramways, to whom our sincerest sympathy is extended.

Colonel F. J. Alderson, Director of Physical and Cadet Training, A.M. Forces, who visited Perth during the month to judge the W.A. entrant for the Stewart Shield Competition, has had a long and intimate association with the physical training of the Australian youth. At the age of eighteen, he received his first commission in the lst Australian Infantry Regiment. The age of twenty-six found him a Major, the youngest in the Australian forces at that time, in command of a battalion of Senior Cadets. From 1906 to 1911 he held the appointment of Assistant Superintendent of Drill and Physical Training in the New South Wales Education Department. When the Commonwealth Government formed a Physical Training Instructional Staff in 1911, Colonel, then Major, Alderson was appointed Chief Instructor. Since that time, in addition to administering his own branch of the service, and training the professional instructors under his...
command, he has exercised a helpful supervision of the physical training of boys in schools throughout Australia. In the earlier period of the War, when the need for men was becoming more and more pressing, it was found that many applicants for enlistment, while organically sound, could not measure up to the physical requirements of the A.I.F. Col. Alderson supplied the remedy. These men were put through a specially arranged course of remedial gymnastics, and within three months most of them were able to pass the prescribed physical tests for enlistment. While on active service Colonel Alderson organised and trained a physical training staff for the Australian Corps.

A recent visitor to Perth was Mr. W. A. Ross, of the Laverton Sub-branch, whose mission was to endeavour to secure the reconditioning and reopening of the Laverton State Battery, and for this purpose he addressed the State Executive of the League and obtained the support of delegates. He stated that there were at least 40 soldier prospectors in the district. We are pleased to state that W.A.R. was successful in his quest, and we congratulate him and the Laverton people on their choice of advocate.

There passed away suddenly, during the month, at Bunbury, one of the best known officers of the A.I.F., in Major Jim Croly. Jim was born in Dublin, where his people were well-known and well-to-do. He arrived in Australia a few years prior to the War, after resigning his commission in the Indian Army. At the outbreak of war he joined up and embarked with the 11th Battalion. He was very seriously wounded at Gallipoli, losing the use of his right arm, and was ever afterwards a patient sufferer from his war wounds. For the first five or six years after the war Jim was an official at the Repat. He was a cheerful chap, even in adversity, and was recognised as one of the wittiest men of the A.I.F., and many and various are the stories told of him. Jim was a distinctive personality and his loss will be keenly felt. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Croly and her children.

Ex-Sgt. Henry Smith, of Northern Rhodesia, writes enquiring for his son, William Hy. Smith, who served in the Royal Navy as a Sick Berth Attendant, from 1908 to 1920. He was last heard of clearing for the Government at Tar- dunn. Information received will be gladly forwarded to the enquirer.

The 28th Battalion Association, in their endeavours to obtain evidence in connection with the pension claim of No. 2025, Pte. Leo. O'Donnell, is anxious to ascertain the present whereabouts of the following ex-members of the Association:


Will these diggers please communicate with the President of the Association, Mr. S. Jones, at 170 Cambridge St., West Leederville.

Executive Delegate Harold Nugent, who is also president of the Osborne Park Sub-Branch, has returned from his prospecting trip to the goldfields. He didn't succeed in finding anything payable, but he had an interesting time.

Alex Panton, M.L.A., had a leg badly shot about at the war, and Dr. Juett has ordered him to "go quiet for a bit." This will be difficult for Alex, as he is bubbling over with energy, and perhaps has more honorable public duties to perform than any man in the community. He is a good executive delegate, and pulls his full weight with the team.

The stork is still fluttering around South Perth. On its latest visit, the busy bird called at the home of Mr. "Sailor" Moore. There were two in the parcel.

Heartfelt condolences are extended to Mr. Garnet Philp, of the State Executive and South Perth Sub-Branch, on account of the recent death of his brother in Adelaide, who was also a digger.

For the Blind

To raise funds for the Industrial School for the Blind, a sweep is now being conducted by a committee of well-known public men who have the endorsement of the Hon. Minister for Police. The Blind School is a most deserving institution which provides employment for blind people at reasonable rates of pay, and is doing a wonderful service for the community. Its expenditure on material and wages is not being met by the sales of manufactured goods, consequently it is obliged to appeal for public support. When one realises the plight of the sightless people in our midst and the necessity for providing them with work to enable them to live, and maintain a feeling of independence, one is in duty bound to give this consultation every possible support. Most diggers enjoy a mild speculation, and here is an opportunity to win a valuable prize and to assist a worthy cause. Tickets are 2/6 each, on sale by local agents, or direct from Mr. R. K. Buxcombe, Secretary, 7 Perpetual Trustee Buildings, Perth, W.A.

"I hear your secretary ran off with $2,500 of your money. Are you going to recover it?"

"No, the poor fellow will need it. My daughter went with him."
Varia

There was a distinct Roman flavour about the headings of a column of a recent Saturday edition of "The Daily News." The column was headed:—

"SPORT AT COLLIE.
"Death of Mr. Sandso.
"It reminded us of those charming little Egyptian newboys who used to call out: "The very good news, Ten thousand Australians Killed."

In these enlightened days even a pot-bat wrangle can have its Chesterfieldian aroma. This is what we overheard during the week:—

"Do you doubt my words?"
"No, Bill. I was just wondering what relation you are to Baron Munchausen."
"I've half a mind to crack you."
"Well, double it, old man, and I'll give you a buckshee in the casualty ward."

Disappointment was general in League circles with the attitude of a number of returned soldier members of Parliament on Mr. Panton's motion for the tabling of the papers in connection with the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner. The motion was moved in order to draw attention to the apparent disregard of the avowed preference policy of the Government, and although the motion may not have been to the liking of some members, nothing better was suggested, although executive delegates held two conferences with returned soldier members. The preservation of party harmony evidently is of more importance than the maintenance of a vital principle. This is not so with Messrs. Doney and Thorne, supporters of the Government who voted for the motion, and Jim Mann, member for Beverley, who was unfortunately absent, but who signified his intention of supporting the motion.

The State Executive has applied to the Minister for Police for permission to conduct an R.S.L. art union to benefit the amelioration fund, which is getting very low, and it is hoped that the Minister will make a special concession to the League and enable it to conduct its own consultation, in view of the wonderful successes previously achieved.

Sub-branches are now considering items for inclusion in the agenda for the next State Congress, which will commence on Wednesday, September 30th.

The mining and prospecting committee of the State Executive expect to arrange for the departure of a few prospecting parties to the gold areas at an early date. Arrangements are now being finalised.

The Empire and Local Trading Committee are a particularly active body. All sub-branches have been circularised during the month and the special request is for a wholehearted, vigorous campaign in support of primary and manufactured goods of Western Australian origin. Subiaco and Kalgoorlie sub-branches are going to emulate Nedlands and Fremantle sub-branches in arranging a public display of local and Empire products.

Don't forget to get the wife to parcel up any clothing not being used in the household, so that you can bring or send it to the State Secretary of the League for distribution among the many who are in great need during these cold winter days.

If you can find a job for a digger, there are over 800 to choose from registered at the R.S.L. Employment Bureau.

Two sons of fallen soldiers, both 16 years of age, want jobs on farms. One boy knows how to milk, and they are not expecting high wages. If any digger can help, further information will be supplied from the office of The Listening Post.

Perhaps the hottest appeal ever put over in the name of returned soldier preference was that sent out to sub-branches by a well-known firm of Perth printers, over the signatures of their returned soldier employees. The two principals, the names of whom are incorporated in the name of the Company, did not fight for the Empire in the last or any other war.

As evidence of a business man's faith in the future of Western Australia, one has only to make a tour of inspection (which is cordially invited) of the New Imperial—in its accommodation, appointments and furnishings, one of the finest hotels in Australia. This big establishment is now under the personal supervision of Jack Barry, with Bert Stehn as manager and licensee. This is a popular combination, tending to make visits to the New Imperial quite like old times, with an indication of better times than they were.
# The Diggers' Business Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BREAD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORLETT BROS.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(late A.I.F.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>White or Wholemeal Bread.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sole Manufacturers in Belmont and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Park for</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BERMALINE BREAD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliveries Daily.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Address:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Guildford Road - Belmont</td>
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<tr>
<th>PATRONISE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>‘DAD’ FANNING’S</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Late 46th Batt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and A. A. FANNING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Late 10th Light Horse)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRUIT BARROW</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stationed in front of Commonwealth Bank, in <strong>FORREST PLACE</strong> , Perth,</td>
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<tr>
<td>where he sells the Best of Fruit at</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE LOWEST PRICES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>FRENCH'S BOOT SHOP</th>
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<tr>
<td>Next door Prince of Wales Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JACK LUNNY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proprietor</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Late A.I.F.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALL CLASSES BOOTS &amp; SHOES MADE TO ORDER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical Work a Speciality</td>
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<td>Boot Repairs While You Wait</td>
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<tr>
<th>PREMIER STORES</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MERGENCY, TAILORING, DRAPERY, FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS, HAY STREET, PERTH</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Opp. Toy's)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>M. E. ZEFFERT - Man. Director</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>MOTOR ENGINEERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs and Overhauls to Motor Cars and Trucks</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wrightson &amp; Littleton</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>708 WELLINGTON STREET, WEST PERTH.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A few doors West of Melbourne Road)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone B 5533 (Late 5th A.A.S.P.)</td>
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<tr>
<th>COURT HOTEL</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CON O'BRIEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Late 11th Batt.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BEAUFORT ST. - PERTH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Diggers!</th>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent Accommodation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Tariff</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A HOME FROM HOME</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RAILWAY HOTEL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BARRACK ST. - PERTH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ERNIE LENG, Prop. (late 11th Batt.)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>J. H. LUNNON</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F.S.M.C., F.I.O.O., D.B.O., LONDON</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Late 28th Batt., A.I.F.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Optician</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7, 8, and 9 <strong>MACLAREN’S CHBRS.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>144 William St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Between Wellington &amp; Murray Sts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opposite Royal Hotel.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PHONE B 5507</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>H. M. (Tony) WOLFSON</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Late 42nd Batt.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SELLS QUALITY FRUIT at Cheapest Prices at his</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fruit Barrow</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WILLIAM ST., PERTH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Opposite Wesley Church)</td>
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<tr>
<th>FOR A DINKUM DEAL IN SLIPPERS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>W.A. Slipper Factory</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shops:</td>
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<tr>
<td>680 HAY STREET, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>159 MURRAY STREET, PERTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. TRIGGER (late 11th Batt.),</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proprietor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Factory: 344 Hay St., Perth</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>SADDLERY</th>
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<td>of all descriptions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New and Secondhand Always in Stock</td>
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<td><strong>LOWEST PRICES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Let us Quote You Collars made on the Premises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>G. A. ARNOTT,</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D.C.M. Late 8th Batt.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Metropolitan Markets, West Perth.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>FRUIT &amp; CONFECTIONERY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>For Cheaper and Better</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale and Retail</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brown &amp; Nicholls</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Late 11th Batt.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>127 BARRACK ST., PERTH</td>
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<tr>
<th>D. BELL</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Late 51st Batt.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND ENGRAVER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FOR VALUE IN GOODS AND REPAIRS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Atwell’s Arcade, FREMANTLE</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Phone FM2275</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Andy Davidson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tailor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BRENNAN’S ARCADE, PERTH</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>High-Class Tailoring and Reasonable Prices</strong></td>
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| When in Town—  |
| Secure your Fruit Supply from a  |
| **“JACK” MICHAEL**  |
| (Late 11th Batt.)  |
| Barrow  |
| In front of East End Boans Ltd.  |
| **WELLINGTON ST., PERTH**  |

**Diggers! You Ask For Preference! Give It!**
The Profiteers’ Peace Wail

(London, Nov., 1918)

(By Lillian Hibberd)

Mrs. Bates and her cronies were discussing the Armistice in the parlour behind the greengrocer shop.

"You don't think it'll fall through, then?" queried Mrs. Saunders, the butcher's wife. "It's not actually a declaration of peace, you know.

"I'm afraid it soon will be, though," said Mrs. Green, the grocer's wife. "The papers all seem to think that it means the end. Besides," she added, "I had a letter from my Jim yesterday. He's got his second stripe, and he—"

"Oh, your Jim ought to be ashamed of himself," ejaculated Mrs. Bates. "It's thanks to him and the likes of him that the war is over so soon. Now look at Bates. When it seemed as though he would be called up, 'Look 'ere mother,' says he, 'none of yer front rank game for me. It's too risky. Besides, what's the use of doin' yer bit to kill the goose what lays the golden eggs? It's bin a jolly good war to us, my gal, and I'm not stopping it!"

Mrs. Green sneered, "Oh! we always thought there was something of that when he turned conchy."

Mrs. Bates turned fiercely upon her. "Well! and has he lost anything by it?"

Mrs. Green shrugged her shoulders. "Only the separation allowance."

The other snorted: "Oh that! What's a mealy separation allowance?—Still, it's a jolly lot too much for some of the madams I could tell you of. Livin' in luxury, instead of being glad to earn a couple of bob a day charing.—Scandalous, I call it."

Mrs. Green nodded in sympathy. "Yes, an' they don't spend it with their neighbours neither. I've seen some of 'em trampin' up the street to the stores where they're registered for sugar an' margarine, and then they has the cheek to come and ask me for curdants an' raisins."

"Yes, I know," Mrs. Saunders nodded emphatically, "Make 'em pay."

"You bet," laughed the grocer's lady. "Rather."

Mrs. Saunders rose and shook the crumbs of currant cake from the front of her full length fur coat. "'Enery got his ticket at the munition works yesterday. They said, 'no doubt he'd be glad to get back to business.' It's a shame. I'm quite up to managing myself. Why don't they get rid of the single chaps first, before the family men?"

"Mother, here's a gent as wants a lemon for fivepence." Mrs. Bates' hopeful pushed his head inside the door.

His mother motioned him back and assumed her best "take it or leave it" expression.—"Oh, go on, tell 'em there's a war on."

"No there aint," said Mrs. Saunders, lugubriously.

"Worse luck," murmured Mrs. Green, as she carefully tilted her five-crown Bond St. velour hat to the correct angle, before taking her leave.

In these days of attacks on soldiers' and sailors'—honestly won pensions it is worth while to remind ourselves and others of something that our boys were not doing during the war.

Shrapnel is named after its inventor, Major Shrapnel, of the Royal Artillery, Woolwich, at the beginning of the 19th Century. Before the shrapnel shell was taken into use, artillery used to fire grape-shot, that is, small bags containing a number of bullets, which was effective up to 200 yards. Major Shrapnel's projectile was a shell which—would burst, scattering the bullets it contained, in the manner with which we are all familiar. Its effective range was 5 hundred yards. Shrapnel was first used against enemy forces in 1903, when the British finally took British Guiana, the only British possession on the mainland of South America.
**Preference and Politics**

**SPEECH BY COLONEL COLLETT**

Col. Collett attended the quarterly dinner of the Press Sub-branch, held on 20th June, and in responding to the toast of “The R.S.L.” very eloquently moved by Mr. I. T. Birtwistle, the Colonel had something interesting to say about current League topics.

“Although the League has been founded and has functioned for a number of years for so great a purpose, and has achieved so much,” said the State President, “it still has a great future. Just now there are three things in which all are concerned—politics, pensions, and preference.” He continued that the League had to keep clear of party politics, in view of its history, and to preserve its identity. By its own example it must set the pace and ideas for other people. The preference question was exciting the interest of some members of the League. Returned soldiers had some claim upon the community in return for their service. They should not only claim preference, but also deserve it. They should not make claims for positions or appointments for which they were not qualified. They should demonstrate their qualifications and bona-fides, and then they should have no difficulty in getting their deserts. The question must be handled very carefully now, otherwise they might find themselves further back than they had been for some considerable time.

The Colonel also spoke on the subject of pensions, but his views are published elsewhere in this issue.

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**EX-SERVICE ENGINEERS**

**Annual Meeting and Smoke Social**

On the evening of the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, Thursday 18th June, 1931, about thirty to thirty-five members of the Association of Ex-Service Engineers and Allied Units, gathered together to hold their sixth annual general meeting and smoke social. In view of the general state of finances at the present time, the committee were pleased with the response.

The balance sheet for the previous year was received and adopted, showing a small credit to the Association.

The election of officers resulted in the following:—President, Mr. H. Oldham; Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. Napier and Mr. R. Tyler; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. D. McLennan; Auditor, Mr. D. M. Benson; Committee: Mr. A. E. Poole, Mr. Cavanagh, Mr. W. Cunningham, Mr. P. Ross, Mr. S. P. Wagner, Mr. R. Viner, Mr. J. Allan, Mr. L. Tuckett, Mr. L. J. Strahan, Mr. G. Warden.

As an appreciation of the good work of the ex-President, Mr. G. D. Shaw, the members present passed a vote of thanks and made him a life-member of the Association and member of the committee ex-officio.

The President reminded all present to let their comrades know that, although some may not be in a position to be financial in these times, they are still members of the Association. The annual subscription for 1931-32 is now due and may be paid when members are in a position to do so.

The usual smoke social followed the general meeting with short speeches and harmony. Col. E. J. H. Nicholson, patron, spoke and outlined the position of the Soldiers’ Land Settlement Scheme.

In replying to the toast of the R.S.L., Mr. R. Tyler urged members to wear the R.S.L. badge at all times, also urged non-members to join up with the League, which has done so much for soldiers, both members of the league and non-members.

After expressions of appreciation for the happy evening spent by all present, the social was brought to a close.

---

**BAIRD'S ENSURE YOUR SATISFACTION!**

**MEN'S ATHLETIC SINGLETs, 1/9; WINCEY PYJAMAS, 4/11**

Boys' Pullovers, slightly imperfect — 2/11

**MEN'S PURE WOOL SOCKS, W.A, Knitted (seconds) — 11d.**

Men's Trousers, pure Indigo Albany Serge, 3's to 8's — 16/11

**MEN'S WORKING TROUSERS, Cotton Tweed, 3's to 8's, 9/11**

Black Oilskin Overcoats, half lined, 21/-; fully lined, with cape shoulders and butterfly back, 50 to 58 in. — 29/6

**BLACK RUBBER REVERSIBLE OVERCOATS (2 in 1), 18/11**

Men's Box Calf Balmorals — 13/11

---

**THE BairdS CO. LTD., Wellington to Murray Streets, Perth**
BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSOCIATION

At the Annual General Meeting of the British United Services Association, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. H. Major, P.O. Past President, Capt. W. D. A. Hume; Vice-Presidents, Capt. A. G. Cook and Lt. A. C. Bond; Treasurer, H. J. Ferris, D.G.M.; Secretary, Geo. E. Cattermole, M.C.; Assistant Secretary, Capt. T. James; Committee: J. Lake, T. H. Gillingham, E. A. Bas, J. Wood, A. G. Wag-Horn, H. J. J. Davy, and A. H. Lamb.

The Secretary reported an increase of forty-five in the year’s membership and a credit balance in excess of a year ago was disclosed in the annual balance sheet. The Aid Fund, however, was completely exhausted. A message from Col. Sir Wm. Campion, first patron, and another from Col. H. B. Collett, President of the W.A. Branch of the R.S.L., were received with acclamation.

Important resolutions were submitted and carried unanimously as follows:

Preference Policy.—This Association of Imperial Ex-Service Men and Women regrets the necessity to record its complete loss of confidence in the present Government of Western Australia consequent upon its flagrant breach of faith towards ex-service men in the matter of preference in Government employment, declares its entire sympathy with the R.S.L. in its fight for the rights of returned men and supports the R.S.L. wholeheartedly in their efforts to that end.

£3,000 Imperial Grant.—This meeting of Imperial Ex-Service men and women deprecates the apparent lack of initiative and enterprise, the apathy and want of sympathy in the administration by the Trustees of the £3,000 special fund provided by the Imperial Government for the assistance of Imperial migrants on the land, requests the Western Australian Branch of the R.S.L. to take this matter up seriously and with vigour with the State Government with a view to releasing this fund from irksome restrictions and to make it available more easily for the Imperial settlers for whom it was subscribed.

Federal Exchange.—The British United Services Association in its Annual Conference deplores the Federal Government inaction in connexion with the non-payment of exchange on Imperial Pensions and requests the Federal Government that this elemental act of justice be made immediately operative.

Associate Members: New Rule.—Associate members are now eligible to all the rights, benefits and privileges of the Association, with the exception that they may not participate in the election of officers. The Executive may co-opt two Associates to the Committee.

Congratulations to the Imperials on a successful year of progressive good work.

The Association will hold its Annual Dance Social on Friday, July 3, at 8 p.m., at the Soldiers’ Institute, Perth. The usual popular programme will be submitted with Uncle George as MC. Tickets: Single, 2/-; double, 2/-, from Hon. Sec., 229 Charles Street, North Perth, on July 1st. No entry will be admitted without a ticket. The U.S.A. and the North Perth Sub-branch, R.S.L., are co-operating with the 44th Troop Boy Scouts to run a Dance Social in aid of the Battalion Fund for the latter organisation. Run once, on July 17th, by the U.S.A. Boys, and Uncle George as MC. Tickets 1/-.

The Listening Post

The Iron Duke
His Crowning Victory

(By C. R. Collins)

Earlier English historians of the Waterloo campaign, in stressing the fighting qualities of the British soldiers, have failed to do full justice to the commander of the heterogeneous force which, on June 18, 1815, overthrew Napoleon. They have represented the battle as a soldiers’ battle in which the timely arrival of Blucher’s army saved the British from defeat. The Prussians, naturally, describe the event as a Prussian victory. (Fortunately, there were no Americans present.) Here they are in accord with those French writers, reared in the cult of country a la Napoléon, who see no faults in their idol, attributing his defeat to Ney’s procrastination at Quatre Bras, to the failure of Grouchy’s pursuit after Ligny—to any cause, in fact, except that of superior generalship on Wellington’s part.

Dmitri Merezhkovsky, Napoleon’s latest biographer, asserts that had Ney attacked Quatre Bras sooner he would have thrown Wellington’s plans out of gear; that had Napoleon commenced his pursuit of Wellington’s retiring forces six hours sooner, he would have overtaken the Duke, smashed him, and ended the campaign at one stroke. Even Lord Wolseley speaks of Napoleon being throughout the campaign as “beneath a pall of lethargy.” Later on, he expresses the opinion that had Napoleon been the man he was at Balaklava, he would have been victorious. “If we had some ham,” said the digger, “we could have made eggs—if we had any eggs.” Such assertions are interesting enough as speculations, but futile as arguments.

In a sense, Waterloo was a soldiers’ battle; but it was also a generals’ battle, a clash of will against will. Napoleon opened the campaign with several distinct advantages. He was an autocrat in command of a homogeneous force, and with a united nation behind him. The French writer, Roussay, describes the devotion of the French to the restored Emperor as a veritable frenzy. His evidence is corroborated by that of British agents who were in Paris at the time. Wellington, on the other hand, was the servant of a democracy, and history has shown that democracies are under a handicap when waging war. During the year of peace which preceded Waterloo, the British Government had reduced the country to a condition of military impotence. His army was a heterogeneous agglomeration of British, Germans, Belgians and Dutch. Though the Dutch showed both courage and initiative at Quatre Bras, the Belgians were unreliable, and the only troops in whom Wellington could place confidence were the British and the Germans of the King’s German Legion. Even the British were a scratch force. Only three infantry battalions had served in the Peninsula, and from these most of the Peninsula veterans had been discharged on completion of their term of service. However, most of Wellington’s senior officers had served under him during the previous war.

The political situation, too, left much to be desired. In theory, the Allies were not at war with France, but with Napoleon. Consequently, Napoleon could not be attacked until he had crossed the Belgian frontier, so that the advantage of the initiative was in his favour. Neither Wellington nor Blucher had any
accurate information as to Napoleon’s movements. The ordinary military methods of obtaining information, scouting and reconnaissance into French territory, could not be employed, while for once the English secret service seems to have been at fault. Consequently, the allies, spread over a wide area of the frontier, were surprised by the Emperor’s advance. The Hon. John Fortescue considers that “both Wellington and Blucher were so confident, owing to their numerical superiority, that they did somewhat neglect ordinary military precautions.” The ultimate result justified their confidence; but the immediate result was to give them three anxious days.

Napoleon, too, seems to have underestimated his opponent as badly as he under-estimated the British soldier. With the exceptions of the Siege of Toulon, in 1793, and the few days when he was directing the operations against Sir John Moore, in Spain, he had never encountered the British in war. He had despaired Wellington as a “Seyoya general,” though the forces opposed to Wellington in India were as well armed and as well trained as the Continental troops over whom Napoleon had won his victories. On the morning of Waterloo, both Soult and Reille, who had suffered at the hands of Wellington before, warned Napoleon not to be too confident, but he contemptuously waved aside their advice. To Soult, who had counselled the recall of half of Grouchy’s troops, considering there was a greater need of men for the supreme encounter with the British army, Napoleon said: “Because you were beaten by Wellington, you imagine him to be a great captain. Wellington is an incompetent general, I tell you, and the English—bad soldiers.”

Napoleon’s plan of campaign was to drive a wedge between the British and the Prussians at their point of contact, and defeat them in detail. The plan was sound, but its execution faulty. Napoleon committed both his flanks to general actions, Ney at Quatre Bras and himself at Ligny, while D’Ee lron’s reserve corps, because of indefinite orders, marched and countermarched all day between both battles without taking part in either. Napoleon’s orders to Ney, and to Grouchy, whom he sent in pursuit of Blucher, were far from explicit, and he seems to have shared Grouchy’s opinion that the Prussians were in full flight to the Rhine, instead of hastening to re-establish contact with Wellington by the road through Wavre. Wellington, who had seen the disposition of the Prussians at Ligny, pointed out how faulty they were, but Gneisenau, Blucher’s chief of staff, who was bitterly jealous of the Duke, refused to accept his advice. Accordingly, Wellington, after his successful action at Quatre Bras, withdrew to the position at Mont St. Jean—a position he had surveyed when on a visit to Belgium the year before—and calmly awaited Napoleon’s attack.

Dmitri Merezhkovsky’s contention that a vigorous pursuit after Quatre Bras would have overwhelmed Wellington cannot be sustained. Ney’s force had suffered a bloody repulse, while Napoleon himself had had no walkover at Ligny. The defects of the French supply system, too, made themselves apparent. The soldiers, who lived on the country, were scattered in search of food, and were in no condition to maintain a harassing pursuit. Add to this the fact that, for once, Flanners rain and Flanders mud miltated against Napoleon’s advantage, that they did somewhat under-estimate the British and, accordingly, Wellington, a patient, accurate and decisive military officer with his opponent as badly as he in search of food, and were in no way able to understand his enemy, quite another opinion: “Wellington was an excellent financier. William Pitt, with whom he had several interviews on his return from India, was at a loss which to admire most, his modesty or his talents, and said “he had never met a military officer with whom it was so satisfactory to converse.” Wellington was implicates in certain scandalous trafficking in officers’ commissions, the whole House, many of whose members were personally hostile...
Our Economic Problems
DOUGLAS CREDIT PROPOSALS
(A Resume by R. J. C. Butler)

[The following is submitted in response to a suggestion, recently made by one of our contributors, that an exponent of the Douglas Credit Proposals should place before the readers of the Listening Post an article dealing with the proposals of Major C. H. Douglas, M.I.M.E., etc.]

As a movement the Social Credit organisation has not a party political axe to grind. It stands outside of all political and other factions in society. The proposals will not in any way interfere with the liberty of people to follow any political or religious creed. Their single aim is to bring about certain re-adjustments of the existing monetary system which will, it is claimed, benefit all people.

Let us examine the present situation, with a view to gaining a real understanding of the problem. You will readily admit that the first step towards solving any problem is to thoroughly understand the problem.

We are told, at one and the same time, that we must be more thrifty and saving; that we must spend more; that we must produce less; that wages must be increased; that wages must be lowered; that wages must cease from borrowing; that we must so re-establish our credit as to enable us to raise another loan in London—and so on. The air is full of tight belts and loose talk and the tighter the belts the looser the talk.

The one more or less permanent excuse is that we are suffering because of our past extravagances. How true is this excuse. What is meant by being extravagant. It can best be expressed by saying we have lived beyond our means. Now most people accept the statement that we have been extravagant, or, in other words, lived beyond our resources. Let us examine this excuse. If it is true the proof should be easy to produce. If we have lived beyond our resources we must of necessity have exhausted some of the things we most urgently need. Of what particular thing is there a shortage? Have we eaten so much bread and cakes that our wheat supply is exhausted; or worn so many clothes that there is no more wool, cotton or fibre left; have we eaten so much beef and mutton that our supply of cattle and sheep is exhausted? Have we exhausted our supply of metal and engineers so that we must no more use trains? What particular necessary of life have we exhausted? If we wait until the crack of doom for some of our leaders to answer this simple question, we shall wait in vain. No, the shortage is not to be found, because it is not there.

What then is the trouble? We have an abundance of the gifts of nature, an over-abundance; we have an industrial system capable of supplying us with all our needs from egg beaters to straight-eight motor cars. Our barns and warehouses are overflowing on the one side, and on the other stand the thousands of consumers who are in desperate need of the goods which have been, and can be produced, but the goods are denied to consumers. Why is this, and is there a remedy? The reason why the products of industry are denied to consumers is easy to understand when explained.

There is a shortage of money or purchasing power. It is a self-evident fact. If the three hundred thousand unemployed in Australia to-day had the money to buy the things they need, the depression would lift in 24 hours. Anybody who gives a moment's thought to the question knows this. But the problem would not be solved by suddenly making every body a present of a hundred treasury notes. But if we could 're-adjust the economic system as to ensure' that purchasing power could be sufficient to buy the products of industry, the problem could be solved. We now realise that the problem is fundamentally one of money. Without attempting to follow all the ramifications of the financial system, it is well that we should be clear in our minds as to what is money. The best definition is: Money is a social mechanism to facilitate the orderly distribution of goods and services. Let us illustrate it this way: Here we have standing tim-

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ber, we also have a factory equipped with machinery to convert the timber into furniture, and we also have the consumer waiting to procure and use the product of the factory. Something is necessary to set the energy, and skill available into motion to enable the trees to be felled and passed through the factory and reach the consumer as furniture. The thing necessary is what we call money. Without this social mechanism the wheels of industry remain still. Now, if you take a further step along this line of reasoning you will see at once that if the product of the factory is to reach the people who need it, the people—the consumers—must possess sufficient purchasing power to buy the furniture. If the consumer cannot do this a stalemate occurs, or, in other words, we have a depression. The factory closes down, the timber getters are paid off, the labour of making machines for the factory is dispensed with, and all other activities in the industrial system cease. While the problem is not simple in the way we generally use the word, it does not tax anyone’s intellectual power to understand that the problem we have to face is how to reform our monetary system to ensure the constant flow of products to consumers.

Major Douglas tackled this problem, and has solved it. His solution is known as the Douglas Social Credit Proposals. Douglas made a prolonged study of economic conditions with a view to ascertaining, not only what was wrong, but why it was wrong, and his investigations led him to one outstanding conclusion, which is incontrovertible.

The conclusion he reached is: That never at any given period is the purchasing power of consumers sufficient to buy the products of industry. Douglas proves this by what is known as the A plus B Theorem. Put into general terms, the A plus B Theorem shows that a factory—or any other productive organisation—performs two functions, one the making of the products required, and at the same time is the distributor of purchasing power to the consumers of its products, and in addition to these functions it determines the financial cost of the article produced.

We now divide the payments disbursed by the factory or producing organisation into two parts, Groups A and B.

Group A represents all payments to individuals, wages, salaries, dividends.

Group B represents all payments to other organisations, raw material, bank charges, and other external costs.

Now this factory and all other productive organisations create a flow of purchasing power, which we call A. If the factory is to keep working there must be a steady flow of the products it makes to the consumers, so that it is only common sense to say that the flow of purchasing power must equal the flow of products if the industrial system is to continue to operate.

Now, if you will add the two groups A and B together, you will get the cost of production which must be recovered from consumers in the price charged for the finished article. The financial cost of the article determines the price consumers pay for it.

Where does the consumer get his money with which he is to buy the article produced? His purchasing power or money comes to him from the factory under what we have called Group A, but the price of the article he wants to buy includes the costs represented in Group B, which is cost of raw materials, bank charges, etc. Now you will readily see that if Mr. Brown wants to buy the product of a factory, he finds that while he is given a purchasing power equal to A, the cost of the article he wants to buy is A added to B; therefore, he finds that he is without sufficient purchasing power.

In considering the A plus B theorem, we must always keep in mind the time factor. The industrial system is a thing of flow; there is a constant flow of raw material into factories and a flow of finished products out of factories; there is also the unceasing flow of purchasing power, which also comes from the industrial or productive system. Everybody is aware of this constant flow—you get your wages to-day, and before next pay day they have moved from you into all manner of channels. Your purchasing power consisting of wages, salaries, dividends, etc., is a moving stream, as also a the productive operation of the producing system.

A review of all the evidence, keeping in mind the time factor, will lead us to one conclusion, a fact which must govern whatever attempts are made to remedy the fault, the conclusion is—

At any given period the stream of purchasing power is never as big as the flow of products from the productive system.

Because of this fact we have the sorry spectacle of a huge accumulation of goods on one hand, and thousands of hungry, poorly clothed potential consumers on the other hand. Again, we find ourselves faced with the problem of money. How can we provide ourselves with sufficient money to ensure the movement of goods from producers to consumers.

We must work harder and produce more wealth, our leaders tell us.

Very well. Start the Producing System going at full blast. Make clothes, furniture, motor cars, wireless sets, nut crackers and fishhooks and everything else. No doubt you have cleverly solved the problem. Will you now, Mr. Politician, please tell us how you performed the miracle of setting the producing system at work? We have got to face the hard facts of the situation. When the politician talks about producing more wealth and solving the problems of the present, he expressed a valueless pious hope which can only be realised in one way, and that is by creating more money. Can this be done without the very real danger of Inflation?

Yes! It is possible. Douglas has not only laid bare the fundamental cause of our world troubles, but he has formulated a proposal which according to the differing circumstances of nations can be easily, and without chaotic revolution, adopted. The proposal is known as the Just Price. Before explaining the method of arriving at the Just Price, it should be explained that when you buy an article on account the price you pay for it includes the whole financial cost of the article, and as we have seen by the A plus B theorem the purchasing power of consumers is never at any given period sufficient to buy the goods produced. Our job now is to make up the difference between the financial cost of the article and the purchasing power of the consumer. This must be done carefully and indeed scientifically, or chaos will ensue.

Douglas shows how this may be done, without any of the dangers of inflation and with only good results to the whole people. The method is to determine the Just Price of the products of Industry. To understand the Just Price we must discover what is the actual cost of production. The cost of production is consumption. At first sight you may question this, but a moment’s reflection will make it very clear.

A very simple illustration will make it clear that the real cost as against the financial cost of production is the actual amount of raw material, energy used, and plant depreciation during the process of production. The real cost of producing a table is the tree, food consumed by workmen, and tools worn out during the process of making the table or—in other
words—the real cost of producing a table is the amount of timber consumed, the food consumed, the tools partially or wholly consumed.

Douglas, of course, recognises that in arriving at the Just Price he must reflect realities, and this he does. To arrive at the Just Price he finds what the actual cost of production has been, expresses this in terms of money, under this he places the financial cost—in this way he arrives at the ratio which gives a resulting fraction. If the actual cost of physical cost is, say 50 and financial cost 100, the just price would be 5. Therefore, if an article's financial cost is £1, the price to the consumer would be 10s. The difference would be made up by an issue of credit based on the actual wealth created in the process.

This leads us to examine the question of credit. Many people wonder if it is a safe proposition to issue such credit. What, actually, is the thing which makes our notes of any value? It is your faith in them and if we are honest we will admit that if we lost faith in the notes they would become valueless even if they were backed by 100 per cent. of gold. As things are at present, we are not on the gold standard, but simply a gold basis. We need not labour this point, except to say that the promise to pay in gold which is printed on our Treasury notes is not likely to be honoured.

The point to observe is that, first, credit must have the faith and backing of the community. The one way to ensure such a faith is for the people to know that money is backed by real wealth. Such a knowledge will ensure the necessary faith. The additional money which would be issued under the Douglas scheme would be backed by the actual wealth which, during the period used for determining the Just Price was actually produced. Herein is the safeguard against inflation. If big additional credits are released by the present financial system they pass through the channels of industry and must be recovered in costs, and if the process of issuing such credits is persisted in prices rise and the purchasing power of money decreases. The Douglas proposals would give the consumers the balance of purchasing power which today is lacking, without any of the dangers of inflation because the credit of money issued follows the purchase of the goods and not precedes the manufacture of them.

Another very big factor which must be taken into consideration is the effect of machinery. The orthodox economist fails to realise that the introduction of labour-saving machines has created a new era. The orthodox economist is still living in the age of the rush-light and argues from what are now false premises. We have moved on from the age of handicraft, where the demand for goods exceeded the supply. Our industrial system is capable of meeting all the demands made upon it and it is able to do this without absorbing all the labour available. Why? Because science applied to industry has progressively invented labour-saving machinery. This is a machine age, and to expect an economic system which is designed to meet the requirements of an age of handicrafts to satisfactorily meet the demands of this machine age is absurd.

In the days before labour-saving machinery it was right to say "If a man won't work, neither shall he eat," but if you install a machine and make it impossible for that man to work, are you going to deny him the right to eat? Quite recently Mr. Loveday, the economic expert of the League of Nations, said that when the depression lifted and business again prospered, in England there would be a million men permanently unemployed. Mr. Loveday offers no remedy, and his writings fail to disclose any suggestion that he realises why the unemployed problem exists.

If machinery is not invented for the purpose of dispensing with labour, then as Professor Soddy says, science is mad. The truth is, we have greedily accepted the labour-saving machinery, and while our own job was left untouched, have cheerfully thrown men and women into the ranks of the permanently unemployed; and we have not bothered to face the fact that if machines will do the work of men, the men who are denied work have an undisputed right to share in the financial benefits which science has conferred on industry. We have entered the beginning of the Age of Leisure, which is the logical outcome of an Age of Machinery. To meet this problem Douglas offers the proposal of a National Dividend. He visualises the nation as a big limited company, which distributes to all its members a dividend, based on the wealth created and which is a common heritage.

Such a proposal is viewed by some people as an impossible ideal. If this is so, then we must be prepared to accept an economic system which, with a small percentage of man power, can meet the needs of all the people, and which denies an increasing number of people the right to work or enjoy the material benefits of machinery. Let us face the realities and not hug illusions. If we imagine that millions of individuals are going to continue to tighten their belts and accept a dehumanising poverty when the means of meeting all their requirements is available—if we think this, we are fools and worse. Human ingenuity has solved the problem which for so long dogged the footsteps of man, the problem of supply. The problem now is the distribution of the available supply. There is and can be no question of the power and capacity of our producing organisation to meet any and all demands made upon it. The one remaining question is to reform our money system so that, to use the old
terms so beloved of orthodox economists, the supply may easily and equitably satisfy the demand. Our present financial system makes this impossible. But with reforms which are possible, reforms which are scientific in their application and structure it is possible, and the one great problem facing human kind, the problem of how to distribute for use the products of industry, will be solved.

Let us face this task with courage and determination. The economic system should not be our master, it should be our servant, to do our best-will.

Major Douglas recognises this truth and offers us a reform which will in no way bring a hardship to any individual or class, but will make possible the development of human life along the path of human aspiration towards the highest. Whether we accept the reform offered by Major Douglas or not, this truth remains, that the present economic system is a thing of our own creation and if we permit it to govern us and not be changed to our will, we shall inevitably discover that we have created a Frankenstein monster which will destroy our civilisation. If, after investigating the Douglas proposals, you cannot fault them, but say as some do: "They are too good to be true," go back to the proposals with your knowledge of life as we know it to-day, and you will certainly admit that the present system is too dammably bad to continue.

SUB-BRANCH NOTES

MOROWA

A very pleasant and well attended social and dance was held in the Morowa Hall on May 30, in aid of the Amelioration Funds and Local Hospital. The net proceeds amounted to £17/10/0. During the evening musical items were rendered by Mrs. Lockhart, Messrs. Harman, Solomon and Osborn. The supper arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Sorensen and Hannant. Mr. "Joe" Maddigan was M.C.

Great strides are being made to revive this Sub-Branch, and a bright future is practically assured.

MUNDIJONG

The regular meetings were held at Serpentine on May 21, and Mundijong June 4. Attendance at the Serpentine meetings has been far from satisfactory, and if an improvement does not take place it may be necessary to discontinue them. The circular from the Darling Range Sub-branch was discussed and it was unanimously decided that we could not accede to their request for co-operation in the matters concerned. Mundijong meetings are well attended, the average number present being between twenty and thirty. New members continue to join up, five last meeting, and the total membership is now close on forty. The sub-branch had the Honour Roll of the Mundijong School reprinted, glazed, and framed, and presented it to the head teacher, Mr. H. Jarman (late Wellington Rifles, N.Z.E.F.), to be hung in the school. This Roll, which contained the names of old scholars of the school, who served during the war, was in a dilapidated condition and had been consigned to a lumber room. Phil. Thomas, 30th Batt., now of Victoria Park, made a fine job of the Honour Roll. It is worthy of being hung in any public building. The sub-branch has made every endeavour to assist those members who through unemployment are in necessitous circumstances. Since February a sum of over £18 has been disbursed as wages, and useful work has been done in clearing sites for public tennis courts at Mundijong, and land for experimental agriculture in the school paddock at Serpentine.

OSBORNE PARK

At the branch meeting held on June 20th, Mr. Jack Crawford, an old and lively member of the branch, who is now farming at Muntagin, visited the branch and gave a very interesting report of the Anzac service held at Bruce Rock. Jack has now left the district, and the best wishes of the members for his success go with him.

The branch has held two eucalyptus parties, composed of members and friends, to help the hall fund, and they have proved such a success that a public eucalyptus party is to be run fortnightly, starting on Thursday, June 18th.

Mr. Harold Nugent, the branch president, has returned from his trip to the goldfields. He has returned much improved in health, which is a better find than gold.

That the members of the branch take an interest in the public affairs of the district is proved by the being on the Parents and Citizens' Association, the School Board, Agricultural Society, and the Citizens' Unemployed Relief Committee.

The fortnightly dances are being well attended and are proving a great help to the building fund.

NORTH PERTH

The sub-branch is arranging, in conjunction with the British United Services Association and the local Scouts Building Committee, a dance-social in aid of their building fund. At the invitation of the B.U.S.A., whose idea it was, the matter was given into the delegates, and decided by the general meetings, that this sub-branch should co-operate. It is a worthy object all will agree, particularly as the Scout movement has the entire sympathy of the League and is in accord with the idea of the State President, that sub-branches should take an interest in all local bodies, etc. The dance-social will take place in the North Perth Town Hall on Thursday, July 16; tickets are 1/6 each and can be procured from the secretary. Application has been made for the sub-branch to be represented on the local unemployment committee, but due to date no word has been received from that body. Members generally consider that we should be represented, as there are quite a number of returned

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men, unfortunately, unemployed. We have demonstrated our willingness to help by participating in the recent carnival, and a representative of the sub-branch was certainly of benefit and of further help to the committee.

The fortnightly meetings are a success, and those who are not regular attendants should bestir themselves. Large meetings are indicative of enthusiasm, and now all should demonstrate the solidarity of the League.

Several members journeyed to Neldans sub-branch on Tuesday, 8th, when our sub-branch president was in demand for a lecture. We congratulate Neldans on their gathering and the intense interest in all affairs appertaining to returned men.

Out of the unfinished unemployed members' fund, eight have been placed financial up to date, and funds permit of a few more.

The Women Auxiliary are desirous of increasing their membership, so, members, ask the wife, mother, daughters, and sisters to join up and help along the great work these ladies are doing.

Clothing is still required; several men and families have been supplied, but more is wanted.

Meetings for July—Monday, 6th, yearly report and balance sheet, and election of officers. It is mooted that several sub-committees will be appointed to assist in the general workings of the branch, as our activities are increasing. Also Monday, 20th. Please keep these dates in mind.

NANNUP

The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, May 21st, but, owing to the inclement weather, the attendance was smaller than usual. Opportunity was taken to welcome as a visitor Major Hutchison, late Gordon Highlanders, who is paying a visit to the district. Major Hutchison, in reply, gave an interesting account of the ex-Service Men's Associations of Scotland and England, and promised on his return to convey the greetings of the branch to his own association. The matter of assistance to ex-service men in the district, and their families, was discussed, and arrangements made to render help where needed.

The annual general meeting was held for the 8th, and, if the weather is kind, a true diggers' night is assured. The secretary has arrangements well in hand, assisted by En. Elsegood, who has plenty of spare time on hand since he gave up the poultry farm.

Only a few diggers fared forth from their firesides to attend the monthly meeting, on the 11th June, as the night was extremely cold and frosty. Those present were Messrs. A. Watson (president), N. Buchanan and E. D. Hardy (vice-presidents), L. Rogers (secretary), G. H. Clifton, Charlton, S. A. Hardy, G. Wilkes, and Matron Shields. Messrs. N. Buchanan and Charlton reported on their visit as delegates to the recent meeting of the District Council, and the minutes of said meeting were read and discussed.

The question of the provision of clothing for the families of diggers in strained circumstances was brought up, and members are asked to report any such cases which come under their notice, so that an effort may be made to provide assistance.

It was regretted that the scheme for the formation of a local hard-pressed association, which has been actively sponsored by some of our members, has received a set-back. The announcement, of a 20 per cent. reduction in purchase price of a certain dyestuff by the Government Finance, has rendered doubtful the possibility of Government financial aid to the Association. Nothing definite, however, can be ascertained until the return of the Premier from the Conference.

A large attendance is requested at the next monthly meeting, as motions for the agenda at the Annual State Congress will be heard and discussed.

COLLIE

Mr. S. Plattén has been elected president in lieu of Mr. A. E. Rolfe; and Mr. H. May, vice-president.

A diggers' night was held in the Soldiers' Hall on Saturday night, 6th inst., there being thirty members present. All enjoyed the old time songs and yarns.

It has been decided to strongly support Bunbury sub-branch, with their protest against entertainment being held on Anzac Days for profit or otherwise.

SOUTH PERTH

At the May meeting a number of visitors from the Canning Bridge Camp attended, and through their chairman, Mr. Foxwell, voiced their appreciation of all that Mr. Farquharson had done to assist in making their camps more comfortable and weather-proof. Members took the opportunity of placing on record their appreciation of Mr. Farquharson's outstanding work. Colonel Olden reported that he had conveyed the sub-branch's best wishes to the Goldfields sub-branch and stated that he was the bearer of reciprocal compliments. Mr. Adam of the sub-branch, who was supported by Mr. Perrin, proposed an invitation toast, welcoming the Canning Bridge party, and Mr. Lamb, as visitors, Mr. Barrett, as a new member, and Messrs. Silvester, Burton and Thomas, as members, to the residence. The vote was seconded by Mr. Kett.

A clothing depot has been established at 265 Suburban Road, near Arlington Avenue, under the guidance of Sister Rutherford. Already the assistance of a number of ladies has been enlisted. The depot will be open on the following days: Mondays, 2 to 3 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m. Parcels of clothing, footwear, beds, bedding, prams, household utensils, lamps, etc., will be gratefully received at the depot, or, when that is not open, at the residence of Mr. Redward, 81, Suburban Road. Supplies of mending material, darning wool, patches, etc., will also be welcome, as it is the intention of the ladies to arrange for any necessary repairs to garments. All gifts, whether to the depot or the lady helpers will be very grateful. The prizes for the May bridge evening were won by Mrs. Outtrim (score, 2/694) and Mr. Butler (score, 2/637). The July evening will be held on the second Saturday in that month. The usual charges—gentlemen 2/-, and ladies 1/-—will prevail.

The annual general meeting of the sub-branch will take place in the Matison Hall on Thursday, July 10, at 8 p.m. A full attendance is requested, as there is much formal business to transact, interspersed with items to be rendered by the "Whizz Bangs," the sub-branch's concert party.

No. 5 DISTRICT COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the No. 5 District Committee, held on Monday, June 1, a letter was received from the Darling Range sub-branch, asking for a public meeting to be held on Anzac Day to protest against the sub-branches receiving $2,000 a year is paid by the State branches to H.Q., it is difficult to understand for what purpose such an amount is necessary. Some drastic steps towards economising in administration, the matter being very necessary. The warm discussion of this matter, members asserted that each State should control and administer the whole of its m.otalisation funds, and that it should be very strenuously argued that 50 per cent. of the collection fees be used aside to relieve the position of unemployed returned men during the present times.

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Government Contracts for the Supply of Firewood.—This matter also was being seriously discussed. It was realized that as the contracts for supply of firewood to pumping stations were due to be called for by the Tender Board, the R.S.L. should force the Government to place a proviso in future contracts to the effect that only British or naturalised British subjects be employed. It may be said that in the past the Government has evaded this issue, much to the detriment of the digger and his kith and kin. Contracts affecting the supply of firewood to both pumping stations in this district cover a period of from four to five years; incidentally, the number of cutters employed by the contractors is approximately about 25 throughout this period. Foreigners—usually Italians and Jugoslavs (not British subjects) — are given the preference, and take off about £75 per week, while many Australians, including returned men, are existing on sustenance within the district. It is obvious that the circulation of this money locally would be to the advantage of the community in general, apart from the principle involved.

Re Federal Presidency.—Discussing the controversy re the Federal President, while supporting the contention of the State Executive in this matter, members of this sub-branch do deplore the amount of publicity given by the daily press to this domestic matter, and feel that it serves no useful purpose, in view of the fact that there are those outside the League and its principles who have a capacity for making capital out of such matters.

A very hearty welcome was extended to Bill Duffield, ex-secretary of the Nundah sub-branch, and Denby McKinney, whose sallies some happy reminiscences were exchanged.

SPEARWOOD

The members of Spearwood sub-branch have been feeling a bit skittish, and consequently challenged the Spearwood Soccer Club to a game. The game eventuated on June 2, on the South Coogee grounds, and proved a fitting reward to the hearty ones who turned out. Tom Ingram, the father of eleven staunch young Ingambs, skipped the R.S.L. team and proved a tower of strength throughout the match. Cock Weisman looked astonished when his bit of combination play with "Dag" resulted in a goal. Cock swears that he had no doubt about getting the goal. Despite a severe cold, Albert Folling-Ron put in a dash in 50 minutes, and made it awkward for those who could play. Singey, Hibberd and Poole played a good game, and the rest were not passengers. The trained-boys romped home with 9 to 2. Embrocation was in good demand on Monday and the skittishness is wearing off, but still the heart is sound and another game is to be arranged. Such a splendid afternoon's sport and fun has to be repeated.

MT. LAWLEY

The usual monthly meeting of the Sub-branch was held in Wallish's Hall on Tuesday, June 2, and a good muster of members was recorded, the President, Col. Clifton being in the chair. Some important business was discussed and the President was appointed the representative of the branch at the meeting of the Sub-branch representatives held on Saturday, June 6. After the business was disposed of, Mr. A. G. Eganour gave a very interesting lecture on the Australian War Memorial, and explained what they were doing in the way of collecting war trophies, etc. A hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer ended the meeting.

The next meeting of the Sub-branch will be held in Wallish's Hall on Tuesday, July 6, at 8 p.m., when another interesting lecture will be given.

The Ladies' Committee held a successful Bridge Evening on the last Thursday in May, and everyone enjoyed a good evening's play, also the dainty supper provided by the ladies. The next bridge evening will be held in the Oxford Tea Rooms on Thursday, June 25, when it is hoped all members will make an effort to be present.

On Saturday, July 11, the members are giving the Ladies' Committee and Poppy Day sellers a social and dance in Wallish's Hall. It should be a good night's entertainment as some novelties are being staged by members. It is hoped everyone will make a special effort to make this evening a success.

WEST PERTH

The West Perth Sub-branch members are requested by the committee to give their wholehearted support at the mass meeting of returned soldiers to be held on Sunday, the 28th inst., to deal with the matter of the Preference Policy. This is a vital matter with all soldiers and this branch's members are urged to attend.

The committee desire to draw the attention of members to the fact that the financial year closes on the 30th June, and any unpaid subscriptions should be brought up-to-date as early as possible.

The annual general meeting of the branch will be held in July, and the approximate date is the 24th. All members are urged to make a special effort to attend, and receive the report of their committee, who have had a strenuous year's work in the interest of members.

Items for the forthcoming State Conference to be held in October may be submitted for discussion.

NUNGARIN

The general monthly meeting was held in the Nungarin Hall on June 1, Mr. F. L. Warner being in the chair. Mr. A. C. Andrews gave his report on the proceedings of No. 1 District Council Committee meeting, held earlier in the day at Merredin. The motion passed by this committee were similar to those carried previously by the committee of the Nungarin Sub-branch. Messrs. E. J. Reilly and T. Richardson were elected, in response to a letter from the Toc H, to represent the sub-branch on the Boy Scout Committee. The secretary reported a serious accident to Mr. T. G. Adams, a returned soldier of the district, and it was decided to hold a benefit for him. The president welcomed the following visitors from the Trayning-Yelbeni Sub-branch: Messrs. T. C. Thompson (president), F. N. Graves (secretary), Dewar, Walker, Smeeton and Hayward. After the formal business a concert was held in the Hall, which had been tastefully decorated by members of the Women's Auxiliary. There was a good attendance of ladies, among those present being Mesdames Walker, Smeeton, Dewar and Congrove, of the Trayning-Yelbeni Women's Auxiliary. Musical and other items were rendered by Miss Carlsson, Mrs. Johnson, and Messrs. Thompson (Trayning), Hatton, J. H. Johnson, and G. Finister. The competition winners were Miss Wadsworth and Mr. Thompson. Mr. F. Edwards officiated ably as accompanist.

DARLING RANGE

About fifteen attended the meeting on June 20, and got through a lot of business. Reports were received from delegates to the informal conference of suburban delegates, and to the Perth Sub-branch conference on preference to returned soldiers. The former agreement was adhered to by the latter, that by the excision or turning down of everything of vital importance, it was an evening well wasted. Concerning the latter we are waiting to see the result of the mass meeting.

Strong objection was taken to the singing out of Darling Range district for the Roll of Dishonour in last Listening Post. While we disapproved of the holding of the picture show on Anzac night, the said show was only one of hundreds held the same night throughout Australia. We hope the Listening Post will take counsel officially with the sub-branch, rather than with a disgruntled ex-member, when it wishes to make further criticisms of our district. Ill-chosen criticism does not render easier the task of our digger representative on the Road Board in upholding the interests of the ex-soldier locally.

Change of place, but not meeting, should be borne in mind by all our members.
Women's Auxiliaries

UNITED AUXILIARIES SOCIAL

The quarterly social of the Women's Auxiliaries was held on Monday, 25th May, at the Soldiers' Institute. About 100 attended. Mrs. T. C. Wilson heartily welcomed all members, among whom were Mrs. Dunstan (Southern Cross) and the newly formed auxiliary of Queen's Park, Canning Sub-branch. The evening passed swiftly, with music, dancing and two competitions, Mrs. St. George led community singing. Miss Conolly (Queen's Park) sang, and Messrs. Webster and Marshall entertained on their Hawaiian guitars. A young troupe of singers and dancers, Misses Nankivelle (3), Bouchard, Hansen, and a clever contortionist, Thelma Barry, contributed items. The accompanists were Mesdames Daw and Nicholls, Mrs. J. playing for the dancing. The winners of the competitions were Mrs. Terelink (Nedlands) and Mrs. Grieve (Bassendean). The ladies from the Bayswater Auxiliary were in charge of the supper arrangements.

These united societies are much appreciated by members. They provide not only a pleasant evening, but are becoming a rendezvous for the renewal of acquaintance and interchange of ideas among the metropolitan women's auxiliaries.

NUNGAIRIN

Mrs. E. L. Andrews, hon. secretary, Nungarin Women's Auxiliary, reports: — The Women's Auxiliary held an American tea on April 14, in the Nungarin Road Board Hall, to assist the local Boy Scout movement. During the afternoon Mrs. Johnson gave a recitation, and the president (Mrs. Date) organised some amusing games. A good collection of articles were received and were all disposed of. As the result of a very enjoyable and successful afternoon, the Auxiliary was able to hand over the sum of £2 17s. 6d. to the Boy Scout Council.

The members of the Traying Auxiliary are to be entertained at the next general meeting and social.

NELANDS

At the annual general meeting of the above, held at Neland on June 2, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year: —President, Mrs. G. W. Randall; vice-presidents, Misses D. M. Benson, Mrs. Mason; trustees, Messrs. Sexton, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. L. Hewitt; hon. secretary, Mrs. A. Terelink.

BRUCE ROCK

At the quarterly meeting, held on May 10, the following ladies were elected to office for the ensuing year: —President, Mrs. R. Withall (re-elected); vice-presidents, Misses D. Black and Miss Pollington; treasurer, Mrs. D. Bullimore (re-elected); secretary, Mrs. G. Mansbridge; with Mrs. Dumas Brown, Hawke, Bullimore, Black and Miss Pollington as executive committee; and Messdames Wilkins, Tibbs and Sedgwick, social committee. Discussion turned on the forthcoming R.S.L. annual effort, and it was decided that a concert and dance be held this year, in lieu of the usual military ball. It was also decided for the Auxiliary to co-operate with the Empire Shopping Council in their Empire Week displays, and to this end a comprehensive and interesting exhibition of W.A., Empire and local products was held in the Road Board Hall on May 23, in which they were assisted by local producers and R.S.L. members. The committee have been the recipients of many congratulations on the result of their strenuous work.

After the Anzac service held in the Road Board Hall on April 25, the Auxiliary was entertained by the R.S.L. (together with all service men and their wives and children, also the parents of the fallen), to meet the Most Rev. Archbishop Le Fanu, in Lonsdale's Hall, where afternoon tea was dispensed and the selections played by the Narembeen Town Band were much enjoyed.

NARROGIN

The annual meeting of the Narrogin Branch of the Ladies Auxiliary was held on May 3, in the rest room. Mrs. L. Smith, vice-president, occupied the chair. The annual report and balance sheet were adopted.

It was decided at our last annual meeting to make our afternoon teas our only effort, on account of the financial depression, consequently our income this year has shown a substantial decline. The co-operation of the Country Women's Association on sale days has helped us considerably. We have been able to assist in small ways the Unemployed Fund, Amelioration Fund, Baby Clinic and Building Fund; also to renovate our rest room. The Auxiliary would therefore like to thank all C.W.A. members, as well as other friends, who have so willingly assisted during the past year with donations or service.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: —President, Mrs. V. Doney; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. L. Smith and Mrs. Zerk; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Tob.

STATE EXECUTIVE

The usual monthly meeting of the above was held on Monday, the 15th inst., members meeting at 1.30 instead of 2.30 p.m., owing to the large amount of business to be dealt with.

Correspondence was bulky, and the cases needing investigation and help, numerous. Messdames St. George, Stubberfield, McKinnay, Kirke, Randall, Wilson, Hopperdon, and Coleman promised to attend one afternoon each week to help distribute and pack clothing, attending on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2.30 till 5 p.m.

Messdames Randall (Nedlands), Halliday (Kalumunda), Kirke (Bassendean), and other members brought clothing for distribution, that had been collected; other members bringing in garments they had made up from material supplied to them.

Mrs. Hopperdon, in her report, stated that 19 children and 29 adults had been supplied with garments, and three sacks of clothing had been dispatched to the country districts.

New Auxiliaries: — New branches were formed at Canning Bridge, Queen's Park, and Salmon Gums.

Nedlands: — Mrs. Randall extends an invitation to members of metropolitan auxiliaries to attend a social evening to be held in the Broadway Picture Theatre, on July 7th, at 8.15 p.m. (after their meeting). This will be a ladies' night.

Victoria Park: — On June 15th there was a large attendance of Auxiliary members at the annual rally of the Victoria Park Sub-branch R.S.L. Musical items, dancing, etc., formed part of a very good programme. Mr. and Mrs. Benson, Mr. H. E. Wells, M.L.A., and Mrs. Hoppehorn, and Mr. Hunt, attended; and apologies were received from Colonel H. B. Collett and Mrs. Wilson (State President).

Items for Agenda: — Mrs. T. C. Wilson wishes all Auxiliaries to remember that items for the Agenda Paper for the coming Conference should be sent in as soon as possible. Mrs. Wilson wishes every branch to try and get their motions in speedily to enable the agenda paper to be printed and sent out for the various branches to consider.

MT. HELENA

The monthly meeting was held on May 21st, at 3 p.m. The President, Mrs. H. Walker, presided over a good attendance. Several new members have joined up. After general business, afternoon tea was served.

Much of the energy of members is taken up at present with functions in connection with the Queen of the Hills Competition, in aid of the Unemployment Relief Funds, the candidate for Mr. Helena being one of the members of the Auxiliary.

The Secretary received anonymously, in a very small parcel, through the post, 4/- towards Auxiliary funds, for which sincere thanks is offered. She will be glad to acknowledge any similar small parcels. Let 'em all come!

Perth's Particular Printers Returned Soldiers

Imperial Printing Co. Ltd.
# R.S.L. Sub-Branch and Unit Association Directory

**Rates:** £1-1-0 per annum

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<th>Sub-Branch</th>
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<th>Secretary and Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, P.O. Box 34, Albany</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>C. R. Gillett, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
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<td>BELMONT</td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>4th Tuesday</td>
<td>T. H. Sibbritt, Grandstand Rd., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Epson Ave., Belmont</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>D. Burton, King William St., Bayswater</td>
<td>R. B. Anderson, Roberts St., Bayswater</td>
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<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Tuesdays before pensioned day</td>
<td>A. E. Rolfe, Throne St., Collie</td>
<td>Hugh S. Cramer, Medc St., Collie</td>
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<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. T. Cooke, Cowaramup</td>
<td>C. W. A. Lewis, Cowaramup</td>
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<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE BEACH</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>G. Brown, Cowaramup</td>
<td>Cowaramup</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT-COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Alternately Council Chambers</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>G. Brown, &quot;Scots,&quot; Fairlight St., Cottesloe Beach</td>
<td>W. Burgan, 33 Mason St., Cottesloe Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Kalumunda</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>J. M. King, Kalumunda</td>
<td>H. G. Penrose, Kalumunda</td>
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<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>Rev. J. Lawrence, Denmark</td>
<td>W. S. Ferrier, Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG</td>
<td>Dumbuyung</td>
<td>Quarterly, last Sunday in Jan., April, July, Oct.</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbuyung</td>
<td>H. Greaves, Dumbuyung</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Guns, 1st Friday in Dowak, 1st Sunday</td>
<td>Every two months, alternately, commencing Salmon Guns Friday, December 6th, at 1 p.m.</td>
<td>L. A. Weeks, Dowak</td>
<td>Gerald Andrews, Dowak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>Theo. Brennan, Fothergill St., Fremantle</td>
<td>C. C. Walker, 112 Hampton Road, Fremantle</td>
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<tr>
<td>GASCOWY</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>C. R. Cornish, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>W. J. Firmin, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUILDFORD-BASSENDEN</td>
<td>Council Chtrs., Guildford</td>
<td>1st Thursday, alt. months, commencing January 1st Thursday other months</td>
<td>A. H. Salmon, Geraldton</td>
<td>H. L. Kirke, 6th Avenue, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bassendean</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Geraldton</td>
<td>W. Bagshaw, Geraldton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Memorial Institute</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>C. H. A. Donaldson, 11 Hinemoa St., Kalgoorlie</td>
<td>Alfred J. Knight, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>W. Flanagan, P.O., Kardupur</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel, 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>Charles S. Smith, P.O., Karridale</td>
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<tr>
<td>KELLERBERIN AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>P.P.A. Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>E. de B. Norman, Broome</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>When-called</td>
<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>A. B. Cryer, Broome</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Derby rep., P. J. Graham and S. Waycott)</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>1st Saturday</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>V. B. Sewell, Koondup</td>
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<tr>
<td>KOONUP</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Koondup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Logan, Merredin</td>
<td>Dr. W. B. Fry, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. W. S. Myles, &quot;Merryup,&quot; Mt. Barker</td>
<td>F. A. Law, Merredin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERREDIN</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>When and where-called</td>
<td>Gardener St., Moora</td>
<td>J. P. O'Neill, c/o Shell Co., Moora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>Moora</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. G. Souness, &quot;Merryup,&quot; Mt. Barker</td>
<td>P. R. Gillam, c/o W.A.G.R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>P. P. Le Cras, Bencubbin</td>
<td>H. King, 9 Morrison St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT MARSHALL</td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, Dec., Mar., June, September</td>
<td>W. A. Clowes, Maylands Hotel, Maylands</td>
<td>S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Friendly Societies' Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m. (not pension week)</td>
<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helena</td>
<td>A. J. Mcgregor, Mt. Helena</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring and Mt. Helens</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President and Address</td>
<td>Secretary and Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Rm.</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. Bateson, c/o P.O., Midland Junction Tel. MJ219</td>
<td>R. E. Marsh, Harold Road, East Midland Tel. MJ29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>Wallish Hall, Grovenor Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Hunsdon, 3 Second Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>F. O. Fitzpatrick, 110 Fourth Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
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<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td>Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every 1st Sunday</td>
<td>A. Mackis, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>G. Wilson, Mornington Mills</td>
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<tr>
<td>NANNUP</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. H. Byrle, Nannup</td>
<td>J. Rydings, Box 10, Nannup W. A. Luboldt</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS</td>
<td>Broadway Theatre (Lesser Hall)</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Tozer, Nedlands</td>
<td>G. Rydall, 55 Yarrell St., Nedlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>Avon Bridge Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>K. J. Jones, M.C., Northampton</td>
<td>Rev. J. C. Lund, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Rosemount Hall, Fitzgerald Street</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>N. C. Scott, Northam</td>
<td>G. C. Curlewis, Fitzgerald St., Northam Tel. 174</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>L. J. McDowell, 20 York St., North Perth</td>
<td>H. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth St., North Perth Phone B3994</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUNGARIN</td>
<td></td>
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<td>F. L. Wainer, Red Forest, Kewelkan</td>
<td>L. W. Brockway, Nungarin</td>
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<td>PERTH</td>
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<td>W. J. Hunt, Mary St., Como</td>
<td>Geo. S. Mellor, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
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<td>PRESS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C. F. Smith, c/o West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>I. T. Birtwhistle, C/o The Western Mail, Perth Tel. B1518</td>
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<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Billiard Saloon</td>
<td>Alternate Months, commencing Feb. 1, at 2.10 p.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Elston, Pithara</td>
<td>H. K. MacLean, East Pithara, Tel. No. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>POPANYNING</td>
<td>Yarning and Popanyinning</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month, alternately.</td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yarning</td>
<td>C. J. McGarrigle, Popanyinning</td>
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<td>PILBARRA</td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Ross A. Reesing, Port Hedland</td>
<td>A. E. Clarke, Port Hedland</td>
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<td>RAILWAY WORKSHOPS</td>
<td>In the &quot;Mill&quot; at Workshops</td>
<td>Alt. Tuesday, 12.5 p.m., from 22nd July</td>
<td>R. B. Gibson, c/o W. J. Lovell</td>
<td>W. J. Bell, 91 Sixth Ave., Maylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOUTH PERTH</td>
<td>Masonic Hall, Cr. York and Forrest St.</td>
<td>3rd Monday</td>
<td>H. K. Kahan, 69 Douglas Ave., S. Perth</td>
<td>M. H. Mundy, Cr. Dyson and Vista St., South Perth</td>
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<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Rockeye Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays</td>
<td>S. A. McNamara, Heytesbury Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>W. A. Watkins, 262 Hammersley Rd., Subiaco</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
<td>Palace Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>S. Hammar, Southern Cross</td>
<td>T. S. Anderson, Southern Cross</td>
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<td>TAMBEILLUP</td>
<td>Mr. Markby's Residence</td>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>A. J. Smith, Tambeillup</td>
<td>J. E. Cartman, Box 1, Tambeillup, Tel. No. 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOODYAY</td>
<td>Freemasons' Hotel</td>
<td>Second Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Padre O'Halleron, Fennis St., Toodyay</td>
<td>W. W. Howie, Toodyay</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRAYNING-YELBENI</td>
<td>Traying (2) Yelbeni (1) Library Hall, Albany Rd., Victoria Park</td>
<td>4th Sunday</td>
<td>T. C. Thompson, Traying</td>
<td>F. N. Graves, Yelbeni W. G. Thomas, 62 Temple St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td></td>
<td>Third Friday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Nicol, 35 Miller Street, Victoria Park</td>
<td>R. H. Roberts, Waroona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAROONA</td>
<td>Mr. Haire's Office</td>
<td>1st Friday, 8.30 p.m.</td>
<td>V. Walker, Waroona</td>
<td>P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Tyler, Rivervale</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin (Tel. No. 7)</td>
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<td>WUBIN, BUNTING</td>
<td>Each place alt., commencing Bunting, March 1st</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Day, Bunting</td>
<td>M. Dawson, 266 Railway</td>
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<td>JIBBERDING</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge St., Leederville</td>
<td>1st Monday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>C. W. R. Beechey, 8 Kerr St., Leederville</td>
<td>Parade, W. Leederville</td>
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<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE</td>
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<td>1st Saturday, Quarterly</td>
<td>T. Steen, York</td>
<td>L. Mahoney, York</td>
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**Diggers**

Tell the wife to call at——

**Shirleys**

Perth's Leading Frock Shop

704 HAY STREET, PERTH
The First Reaper

Considerable publicity has been given recently by the Australian press to the claim made in America that the world's first reaper was invented by Cyrus Hall McCormich, U.S.A., in 1831.

A search into history however, throws considerable doubt upon this oft repeated claim, and it would appear that the honour of having originated the reaper rightly belongs to England.

In Volume 3, Part 1, of the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, dated 31st March, 1892, appears the following paragraphs:

"In April, 1812, John Common, a millwright of Denwick, Northumberland, laid a machine before the Society of Arts which embodied all the essential principles of the modern reaper, having reciprocating knives, open finger guards, a swath delivery, and a reel for bringing the standing grain to the cutters. Common made three different reapers in 1811-12, but ceased from working on the problem in the latter year, partly on account of the mechanical difficulties to be overcome, but chiefly because of the machine. This was so great that his popular clamour raised against his early trials were made by moonlight, the Duke of Northumberland, who was greatly interested in them, assisting at more than one of these midnight essays.

In the course of his experiments, Common had recourse to the Browns, father and son, of Alnwick, clever mechanics and founders, who substituted iron for wood in many parts of his machine, and themselves became, later, markers of an improved machine, which was sold in some numbers in 1822. In 1824, the Browns left Alnwick, and shortly afterwards emigrated to Canada, taking with them models of Common's reaping-machines. Ultimately, they removed to Sterling, in Cayuga County, New York State, where the father became a farmer, and so died in 1850. McCormich, the reputed originator of the reaping-machine, lived at Auburn, about twenty miles from Sterling, and knew the Browns well. From them he obtained a model and description of Common's machine, and there is little doubt that the reaper which he competed at the trials of harvesters, held at Auburn by the New York State Agricultural Society in 1846, was the child of those models and the father of the McCormich machine, which obtained such notoriety at the London International Exhibition of 1851.

This is a definite challenge to the American claim, and the facts are so confidently set out as to carry conviction that the honour of having first designed the reaper (the genesis of the modern reaper and binder) belongs to England and not to U.S.A.

From reports and complaints reaching Head Office, a "get-rich" scheme recently launched by a lady visitor from the Eastern States must have shown a good profit. Private householders and business people were approached by a lady arrival from the East, suggesting that something she was selling in the way of calendar advertising space would benefit the R.S.L. or R.S.L. Band. In some cases £3/3/- were secured, whilst in other cases £2/2/- and as low as 30/- was extracted from the sympathetic listener.

Any suburban or country resident approached by this lady should immediately get in touch with the local Police or notify the State Secretary, R.S.L., Perth.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>DAHLIA</th>
<th>SLYVIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 gallons</td>
<td>£ 12 7 0</td>
<td>£ 9 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 gallons</td>
<td>15 13 6</td>
<td>13 gallons Standard Type 8 1 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>44 gallons</td>
<td>21 7 6</td>
<td>20 gallons Standard Type 9 5 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66 gallons</td>
<td>28 5 0</td>
<td>30 gallons Standard Type 10 13 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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