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Give it!
Annual State Congress

The delegates constituting the fiftieth Annual State Congress, to be held in the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, commencing on Wednesday, September 30th, 1931, will be faced with a strenuous task. Many suggestions, wise and otherwise, have been put up for their consideration. There are two hundred and ten items on the agenda paper, besides other matters which the State Executive has referred to Congress since the agenda paper was printed.

A considerable amount of time will be devoted to consideration of the fifty-eight items dealing with Land Settlement and Marketing. Yandandooka desires the Executive to appoint a committee to take evidence as to soldiers' disabilities, and by deputations, place same before the Government, with their best proposals as to ways and means to relieve same.

Moora's motion, "In view of the prevailing public opinion that soldier settlement has been a costly failure, Congress should consider the statements issued by Mr. Justice Pike, the Auditor-General, in his report to June 1930, and the general return of production by the farmers' section of returned soldiers on the land, so that the erroneous idea may be corrected, and the benefit to the State by farmer soldiers' work be made generally known," should evoke an interesting discussion. Other items, of which Moora has sponsored two, deal with the expenditure of public funds set apart for land settlement. "The question of re-valuation and interest reduction will also be discussed. Mundaring and Districts will move that the Forestry Act be amended to read, 'That only natural born and naturalised British sub-

jests be allowed to register for employment in the timber industry." A motion by Dowak reads: "A deputation wait on the Government to obtain a promise that where a returned soldier is transferred from a salted block to another improved block, he shall receive again all the advantages that were available on the original block, i.e., five years free from land rents, two years free from road board charges, land at half price, and a soldiers' concession truck. Also that stock, plant, and house be taken, over from the old block and priced at the value placed on the new block.

Items under the heading of "Trade" show that the sub-branches throughout the State have a lively sense of the necessity for stimulating production by giving preference, in this order, to Western Australian products, goods manufactured in Australia, and goods manufactured within the Empire. Fremantle and the Press Sub-Branch have both tabled motions opposing the dumping of Russian goods in Australia.

The existing constitution of the R.S.L. will come in for a good overhauling. There are six motions on the agenda paper concerning the Federal Constitution, and thirty, the State. Victoria Park considers that "no sub-branch shall be allowed more than one member to sit for the State Executive." Cottesloe Beach would exclude all members of Parliament. Osborne Park is of the opinion that any person tendering, contracting, or interested in any contract shall not be entitled to sit on the Executive. Other motions deal with the reduction of subscriptions and capitation fees.

It would seem that a portion of Congress' time is to be devoted to a heresy hunt. Under the heading of administration is a motion by Osborne Park that, "all members of the Executive should wholly support the R.S.L. and its policy." It is difficult, at this stage, to understand what exactly is behind such a motion, but no doubt the Osborne Park delegate will shed further light upon it when it is moved. Two other motions under the name of Mundijong and Perth deplore the apathy of certain ex-members of Parliament, and the action of others in a certain place in connection with the recent fight over the preference policy. Questions dealing with repatriation, amelioration, war service homes, Anzac Day, Poppies Day, employment and sustenance, ex-Imperial soldiers, prospecting, and the cost of living will also come up for discussion. Certain decisions which the Executive has made, with regard to the position of unemployed unfinancial members, await the approval of Congress; and the formation of a Sons of Australia League is mooted.

Naturally, the defence of Australia is a matter of vital interest to ex-service men. Fremantle wishes Congress to affirm the principle of "International Declaration on World Disarmament." Press and South Perth, on the other hand, are not satisfied that the Commonwealth Government is sufficiently recognising naval and military obligations. Darling Range will move that all political questions which are not confined to the platform of one political party should be fit subjects for discussion at Congress. This, at first sight, seems reasonable enough, but the desire is probably explained by another motion brought forward by the same sub-branch, that Congress supports a referendum in favour of secession.

As we expected from the campaign which has been launched against the
LISTENING POST by interested parties outside the League, this paper will be under fire at Congress. The good old hardy annual, moved this time by Trayning-Yelben, protesting against "political articles constantly appearing in the LISTENING POST," is again on the agenda paper. The annual consideration and rejection of this motion is becoming part of the regular routine of Congress. Perhaps, this year, Trayning-Yelben will favour us with an acceptable definition of what constitutes a political article. Two other items which deal with the business and editorial side of producing the paper, might well have been referred to the editor before being made the subject of motions before Congress. Darling Range asks for a review of the position of the LISTENING POST, and wants the Executive to establish a paper "entirely an official organ of the League." This motion, no doubt, will be ruled out of order, as unnecessary, as the League already possesses a journal which is entirely its official organ. As these motions are more or less sub judice, we have no further comment to make upon them at present, but we may have something to say at Congress.

The LISTENING POST welcomes delegates, and trusts that their stay in Perth will be both pleasant and instructive.

The League and Art Unions

A deputation from the State Executive and introduced by Messrs. Ross McLarty, A. H. Paxton, H. Parker and H. E. Wells, M.S.L.A., was recently before the Acting Premier, Mr. C. G. Latham. The purpose of the deputation was to secure approval for an R.S.L. Art Union to be conducted for amelioration purposes, and to be run by the League itself. The State Secretary, Mr. Benson, in submitting the League's case, quoted figures which clearly showed that the League's organisation of consultations had been excellent, and public support generous. He claimed that the R.S.L. had been unfairly treated by the Minister for Police (Mr. Scaddan), who had practically placed the conduct of this sort of business in the hands of one organization. The R.S.L. Art Unions in the past had returned 50 per cent. of the proceeds back to subscribers. The Minister's Committee in the Art Union now before the public, and conducted in aid of the Maimed and Limbless Association and State Orphanages, was returning only 40 per cent., yet this committee had continuous authority, and could reduce its costs owing to the fact that its advertising was continuous. For each 1/6 subscribed by the public, only 1/- was returned. Tattersall's paid 71 per cent. prize money, Queensland 64 per cent., and the new N.S.W. Lottery, 61 per cent. Of the total subscription of £12,500 which Mr. Scaddan's committee would get if the present sweep is full, £7,500 will stay in the hands of the promoters. Mr. Benson claimed that it was the duty of the Government when handing its authority on to any committee, to see that the greatest efficiency was secured. The times demanded it. Monopolies were dangerous at any time, and this monopoly created by the Minister for Police destroyed the initiative of others, and offered to the West Australian public something at least 25 per cent. lower than Eastern States' ventures. Mr. Scaddon, who was present with Mr. Latham, replied on behalf of the Government, and flatly rejected the League's request. He said that his committee would run the business for them, and the League would not lose by it. He would guarantee that the R.S.L. would get £2,000 out of its sweep. He admitted that in the past the League had probably been the best organizers of Art Unions, but it must bring itself down to the level of others who did not have State-wide organizations. He agreed to let the League have his proposal and guarantee in writing.

Since the deputation, it is learned that the proposal is to approve of Mr. Clydesdale's Art Union Committee running a sweep for the R.S.L., and £2,000 profit will be guaranteed provided the League sells 30,000 tickets at 2/6 each; 10 per cent. commission on sales will be allowed. This 10 per cent., of course, will have to be passed on to selling agents. Mr. Clydesdale's committee would collect 15 per cent. on the 30,000 tickets sold by the R.S.L. or approximately £650. From this amount the only deductions would be for advertising. Mr. Scaddan's Art Union Committee is very modest in asking the League to sell only 30,000 tickets, upon which it would secure the overhead commission allowed to it by the Government, without doing any of the work. Anyhow, the written proposal has not yet been received by headquarters, and no doubt, Congress delegates will have an opportunity of discussing its merits.

B.E.S.L. Congress

AN INCORRECT STATEMENT

The British Empire Service League Congress was opened by Earl Jellicoe, at Toronto, on September 3. On September 5, the "West Australian" published a cable report which implied that the R.S.L. of Australia excluded ex-Imperial soldiers. The State Secretary immediately wired to the Federal Secretary, and was told that Australian delegates were fully informed before leaving Australia, and attributed the incorrect statement to the "Press." On September 8, the "West Australian" reported Mr. Robb, one of Australia's delegates, as having said that the R.S.L. of Australia admitted only Australian veterans. Mr. H. Franks, a delegate from the British Legion, said that this was unfair, since the veterans from any part of the Empire could join the British Legion. The State Secretary protested again to Federal Headquarters, and requested that cable advices be despatched to Mr. Robb, as apparently he did not know the true position in Australia. The Federal Secretary thereupon had the true position broadcast to the leading journals of Australia. As the statements made have been misleading, even in Australia, and are likely to be most damaging abroad, the headquarters of the W.A. Branch has wired to Toronto, Canada, asking to be supplied with the newspaper reports of the discussion which took place on this question.

Group Settlement Earnings

The Group Settlement Department has notified the League that the following scale is now fixed concerning the monthly earnings of group settlers:

No family, limit £6 per month.
One child, limit £7 per month.
Two or more children, £8 per month.

No deduction will be made for milk and butter consumed in the house, if a reasonable amount only is used, nor for interest on stock and plant unless the officer in charge is satisfied that settler can afford it.

Officers are also empowered to vary the scale where special circumstances justify it, e.g., private income or sickness in family.

The amounts above are inclusive of farm revenue.
State Executive Meetings


Apologies were received from Messrs. Denton, Watt, Parker, Parfham and Cooke.

Unemployed Unfinancial Members.—The State President reported that this matter would receive the consideration of Congress and sub-branch delegates would have the opportunity of placing their views before Congress. The Sub-branches which had written on this matter were advised.

Governor-General.—Delegates were informed that the Governor-General would visit Western Australia shortly. It was agreed that the League tender him a reception.

Report.—The State Secretary’s report was received. It dealt with a meeting which was to take place at Serpentine on Tuesday, 8th September, in connection with the installation of lighting for the local hall. The Sub-branch requested Executive representation. Messrs. Wells and Bader agreed to attend.

Art Union.—The State Secretary reported in connection with Art Unions and recommended that the deputation which previously saw the Minister now wait upon Mr. Latham. Moved by Mr. Nugent, seconded by Col. Margolin, that the report be adopted.

House Committee:—The House Committee reported in connection with the arrangements for entertaining Congress delegates, and on their recommendation it was agreed that the lessee of the dining room be asked to cater for afternoon and morning teas, if it was decided to provide such refreshment.

The, Pensions, Trustees and Finance Committees submitted reports.

Visits.—Rev. C. L. Riley reported on his visit to the Busselton Sub-branch; Mr. H. Yeates to Bunbury, Mr. W. J. Hunt to Murray Sub-branch, and Mr. Lovell to Maylands Sub-branch.

Local Products.—The State President reported having visited an exhibition of local products organised and supervised by the Subiaco Sub-branch. He informed delegates that the exhibition was a distinct success and a credit to the Sub-branch.

Sub-branch Visits.—Mr. Hunt conveyed to delegates his impressions concerning sub-branch visits and thought the full advantage should be taken of the expenditure permissible since the recent economy report was adopted. He believed that visits to country sub-branches were an essential activity on the part of the State Executive.

Federal Correspondence.—Financial Clips: Quotations for Financial Clips for 1932 were received from the Federal Executive. It was agreed that tenders be called locally.

Light Horse Memorial, Egypt.—Information concerning the completion of the Light Horse Memorial in Egypt was received.

16th Annual Congress:—The Federal President advised that the N.S.W. Branch had asked that the Annual Congress be held on the 16th November to allow delegates to the 5th Biennial Conference to report. He also asked if the W.A. Branch agreed to full representation by South Australian Branch being allowed at Congress in view of the fact that registration fees were in arrears.

It was agreed to elect the delegates to the next Federal Congress at the next meeting of the State Executive.

Invitations.—Wellington September 12. In view of the distance and time involved, the Executive regretted that no representation could be arranged.

Claremont.—September 3. The State President, Messrs. Pady, Smith, Toger and Philip agreed to attend.

Sub-branch Election of Officers.—Election of officers as advised by the following sub-branches was approved: Northam, Wyalkatchem and Nedlands.

New Sub-branch.—An application for the formation of a sub-branch to be known as the Victoria Plain Sub-branch with headquarters at Mogumber, was received. The constitution had not been compiled with and the Secretary was instructed to advise those concerned that this was necessary before permission could be granted.

Preference.—The Mt. Hawthorn Sub-branch wrote concerning a case of preference in the newspaper industry. Enquiries had been made by the Secretary who stated that the position could not be altered. It was moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Col. Margolin, that the sub-branch be informed of the result of the State Secretary’s enquiries.—Carried.

Old Age and Invalid Pensions.—A communication from the Perth Sub-branch relating to War Pensions being, considered as income in the granting of Invalid and Old Age Pensions was referred to the Pension and Employment Committee for information and report.

State President.—The Upper Swan Sub-branch recorded their unanimous appreciation of Colonel Collett’s decision to again nominate for State President.

Group Settlement.—Cawramup Sub-branch submitted a letter concerning Group Settlement problems. The Secretary was instructed to point out to the branch that the whole question would be discussed by the Soldier Settlers’ Conference and their letter would be placed before that body.

Representation at Congress.—The Yarram Sub-branch requested assistance from the Executive to allow their delegate to attend Congress. The reply was left in the hands of the Secretary.

Retrenchment.—Tramways:—The Tramways Sub-branch forwarded particulars of ex-servicemen who had been retrenched from the Tramways and requested the Executive to take action on their behalf. The Chairman of the Pension and Employment Sub-Committee had interviewed the General Manager of the Tramways with the State Secretary, and in a report intimated that it would be extremely unwise to proceed as desired by the sub-branch. It was agreed that the report be referred to the Pensions and Employment Committee for discussion with the President and Secretary of the Tramways Sub-branch.

Group Settlement Earnings.—Information was submitted that the following scale had been fixed as a limit to monthly labour advances to group settlers:

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Announcement

GIBB & CO. FUNERAL DIRECTORS have removed to 283 ALBANY ROAD VICTORIA PARK THE DIGGER UNDERTAKERS Special quotes for Returned Soldiers in need of our services Phone BS 534 C. GIBB, (late 3rd Tunnellers A.I.F.) Manager

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Dewars

THE WHISKY
The Seven Years' Time Limit

A few items of interest to ex-Imperial men culled from the August "British Legion."

The Pensions Committee has been very busy lately dealing with matters arising out of the Annual Conference, and in connection with the seven years' time limit the Committee felt that the best way to test the issue in the House of Commons was to ask some Member of Parliament to introduce a short Bill under the Ten Minutes Rule, for the abolition of Section 3 of the 1921 War Pensions Act. If there is one Member of the House of Commons who has consistently endeavoured at every opportunity to have this time limit removed, it is the Vice-Chairman of the British Legion, and it was, therefore, fitting that the

Imperial War Pensions

LISTED MISLEADING STATEMENTS AT THE B.E.S.I. CONFERENCE.

Blackboy Hill: A further communication from Mr. D. Tudor Williams. Agreed to express appreciation of the Ex-Imperial Men's position at Blackboy, and it was agreed to discuss matters with a delegation of three. Sub-committee appointed to consist of the President, Messrs. Edmunds, Philip and Panton to meet delegates from Blackboy.

B.U.A. expressed appreciation of the action of the League and its staff on all matters throughout the year. Letter to be submitted to Congress.

District Committee No. 2. Agreed to inform the District Committee that the subject of communication was covered by Congress items.

Management Committee. This Committee was empowered to deal with any matters of urgency until the assembly of Congress.

Council of Ex-Service Organisations. The President reported that favourable communication had been received from all units and he would be in a position to report to Congress.

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CORRESPONDENCE INVITED

PRICES QUOTED ON APPLICATION
Bill should be introduced by Major J. B. Brunel Cohen.

On Tuesday, July 21st, Major Cohen asked leave in the House of Commons to introduce the Bill.

Leave was granted without a division, and the Bill was introduced. In addition to Major J. Cohen, the Bill is backed by Viscount Elmley, General Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston, K.C.B., C.B., D.S.O., J.P., Mr. W. Lindsay Everard, Lieut.-Colonel D. Watts Morgan, C.B.E., D.S.O., Mr. C. J. Simmons.

Final Awards.—As a result of the decision recently made by the Pensions Appeal Tribunal sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, it would appear that certain disabled officers and men who were awarded gratuities or weekly allowances between April 1st, 1919, and August 19th, 1921, and who did not appeal against the amount of such award within the time limit laid down in the Final Award Regulations and Amendments, i.e., February 7th, 1924, still have the right to appeal to the Assessment Tribunal.

The case was one in which an officer had been awarded in February, 1920, a small gratuity based on an assessment of less than 20 per cent. for a disability accepted as due to War Service. This award automatically became a statutory final award by virtue of section 4(4) of the War Pensions Act, 1921, and Regulation 3 (1) (D) of the War Pensions (Final Awards) Regulations, 1922, as amended by Regulation 2 (2) of the Amending Regulations of 1923. The period of one year during which the officer had a statutory right of appeal to the Pensions Appeal Tribunal against the Ministry’s decision commenced on February 7th, 1923, as provided by Section 4 of the 1923 Regulations, and the right of appeal therefore lapsed on February 7th, 1924.

Section 14 of the 1922 Regulations provides that the provisions of the Regulations should be brought to the notice of officers and men to whom a grant of a pension or of a gratuity or final weekly allowance or of an award (other than the grant of an additional pension) was made before August 19th, 1921, and notice of the right of appeal should be published in three successive issues of the British Legion Journal, and six successive issues of the principal daily and weekly newspapers circulating in London and the provinces.

In the case referred to above, the officer did not lodge an appeal within the statutory time limit, and the Court was asked to decide, in the first instance, whether the requirements of Section 14 of the 1922 Regulations mentioned above had been complied with.

The Court decided, on the information supplied by the Ministry’s representative, that the requirements of this particular section with regard to publication of the necessary notice had not been complied with.

This decision may have very far-reaching effects, and the matter is being brought to the notice of the Ministry in the House of Commons by Major Cohen.

Pensioners and Right of Appeal.—Attention was drawn in a previous issue to certain cases where a pensioner had been notified by the Ministry that his award would be continued until further instructions. But was not advised what rights of appeal were still open to him if at any time in the future he became dissatisfied with the rate of assessment.

The Ministry have now agreed, as a result of representations made by the Legion, that in all such cases the pensioner will be advised in writing of his right to appeal to an Appeal Board on grounds of dissatisfaction, or to claim review on the score of deterioration.

State Executive Delegates

At the conclusion of the last meeting of the State Executive, held on 16th September, Colonel Collett, in a happy speech, thanked delegates and the staff for their assistance during the past year, which had been a very strenuous one. The delegates and staff certainly deserved all the kind things said about them by their President, for although their positions are honoured ones, they carry a big responsibility, and few members of the League are aware of the tremendous amount of time and thought given to the movement by these gentlemen. Their compensation is the knowledge of the useful service rendered, and the warm comradeship existing around the Executive table, which stands the test of what is often strongly stated differences of opinion. The Colonel expressed a desire that there should be an absence of lobbying for position at the forthcoming Congress. This advice was timely for the 1930 Congress was marred to some extent by this regrettable element. Congress delegates should be permitted to make their choice unaided by the over-

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tures of interested parties, who may have some particular personal axe to grind.

Senior Vice-President Padre Riley, speaking on behalf of the delegates, thanked the Colonel for his wonderful leadership, his patience and guidance, and his friendship to all delegates.

Mr. Benson spoke of the loyalty and efficiency of his staff, and of the great help the President and all delegates had been to them during the year.

“Syd” Longmore, erstwhile Executive delegate, who was present in a new capacity, that of reporter for the “West Australian,” was welcomed and congratulated on his new appointment. No doubt Syd must have experienced some difficulty in concentrating on his job when his impulse must have been to rise to a point of order or to move an amendment to the motion.

Colonel Olden and Jack Tozer, who had lately distinguished themselves, were forced to listen to many unnecessary comments on their pluck, capacity, and optimism, etc., etc. Both reported that their respective “digger” infants were 101 per cent. value.

On leaving the board room, many delegates were seen to be looking at their chairs with a look of interrogation on their faces.

The British Legion

An action of great importance affecting the right of clubs to use the name, “British Legion,” was recently tried before the High Court of England.

It appears that there existed a club in Somerset using the name, which was not connected in any way with the British Legion, and all requests to get the principals to change the name had failed. The judge granted an injunction to restrain the use of the name.

During the hearing much interesting information regarding the Legion was given in evidence. It was stated that “The objects of the Legion are to promote the unity of all who have served in His Majesty’s Forces, and to educate public opinion to the view that the maintenance of the disabled, and the welfare of ex-service men and women and their dependents is a national duty, and to assist ex-service men and women and their widows, children, and dependents in various ways.”

“By the rules of the British Legion, branches were established in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world. There are now 3,441 branches in the United Kingdom, apart from branches formed elsewhere.”

In ten years nearly £4,000,000 had been contributed by the British public to the funds of the British Legion, of which the Prince of Wales was patron. A subsidiary company had been formed by making the Flanders poppies the sale of which nearly £500,000 was raised in each year. About 25,000 officers and men of other ranks had been placed in work, and £500,000 had been granted in loans to set up officers and other men in business. More than £2,759,000 had been expended in grants, and more than 10,000 persons had been assisted in emigration.

A Question of Rank

The visit of a distinguished clergyman, who was an army chaplain during the war, has been the cause of some laughable blunders on the part of the local press. He has been referred to, in print, as “Major, the Reverend—” while “The Sunday Times” blundered even more egregiously by publishing the gentleman’s photograph, giving him military rank without any reference to his clerical capacity. This error against military etiquette and ordinary good taste is all the more glaring when one remembers that, a week or so ago, “The Sunday Times,” in one of its headlines, committed the deliberate discourtesy of referring to a former officer of the permanent forces as plain “Mr.,” ignoring altogether the rank he still holds on the Reserve of Officers. Ignorance cannot be pleaded as an excuse here, for this officer is well-known to “The Sunday Times” as a former contributor; in fact, two of his stories and two articles were published in that paper, while he was still serving on the headquarters staff at Francis Street.

As a matter of fact, the Padre is the only man who accompanies the troops into action and has no rank at all. The medical man, though a non-combatant, is an officer of the Army Medical Corps, in which he holds substantive rank; but the Padre is shown, in every official document in which his name appears, as Chaplain, Class so and so. An army chaplaincy is an appointment, not a rank. For the purposes of pay, and seniority among themselves, padres are graded in four classes. They wear the uniform and the badges of rank of corresponding military ranks, but it is radically wrong to address them as Captain, or Major, so and so. It is really straining courtesy too far to force upon a man an army rank to which he is not entitled, and which he probably would not be bothered with in any case.
A Gratuity Bond Deal

AN 8TH BATTERY MAN'S TRANS-ACTION

"There are dealings—and dealings," was the sage and profound comment of an old Comrade of Sergeant Syd King, one time a popular member of West Australia's own Eight Battery of Artillery. They were the closing words of a discussion on a transaction with a War Bond, and with a shrewd lift of the eyebrows, these final weighty words were spoken and really there was nothing more left to be said.

As many another digger had done, Syd King had transferred all right, title and interest in his bond for a cash sum. He was in need of money, as most diggers were, but, unlike many of such deals, he did get value for his bond. As everyone knows, many of the dealings in bonds constituted one of the gravest public scandals of this century, but Syd King's deal was not one of them. Indeed, his family have had good reason to congratulate themselves that there were some reputable people with whom such transactions could be entered into.

Syd King chose to go to the A.M.P. Society where he received a cheque for 80 per cent. of the face value of the bond and a policy with premiums paid on it for four years. He paid very little attention to the policy part of the transaction; in fact, it is certain that he soon forget every word about it. In all probability he regarded the policy as a "catch"; the consideration for the accommodation.

Syd King married, and in time, with the need of providing for a young family, the cash from his bond was gradually used up. In this, of course, he was no exception; it can be fairly claimed that it was the story to be told in thousands of cases. But he fell on hard times—his war service claimed an ultimate sacrifice. His health declined and gradually he became less able to meet the strain of work and for more than two years he was scarcely able to earn anything either for himself or for those dependent upon him. Syd King died on the 24th June, 1931.

His widow had reason to despair of her position with three young children and their financial resources exhausted.

All memory, if there were any, of the policy part of the Bond business passed with him. It was at this extremity that there was for Mrs. King an amazing development.

Within a day or two of the publication of the death notice, Mrs. King was advised by the Company, with which the bond was cashed—a matter of eleven years ago—that she would benefit by the transaction to the extent of £215/4/3. Now for seven long years the late Syd King had not paid one penny towards his policy; doubtless he had forgotten about it. If he had not, he certainly gave no thought to it. Indeed, the document was lost.

His policy originally was for an amount of £200 0 0
There were added bonuses of 47 16 0

The amount of overdue premiums with interest was 32 11 9

The balance now payable to Mrs. King £215 4 3

The amount which purchased all this benefit was a deduction of £17/18/- from the Bond, when it was cashed. The amount to be paid to Mrs. King is about twice the amount of the total amount of the Bond.

The Company not only took all the necessary steps as prescribed by the Life Assurance Amendment Act for the issue of a new policy, but arranged collection of the documents required. Mrs. King was put to very little trouble, but some trouble was gone to by the Company to expedite the settlement of the claim under the policy.

It was the revelation of the sequel to the deal which caused an old member of Eighth Battery to say with much emphasis that—

"There are dealings—and dealings."

The A.M.P. Society has a record of national service, both in time of war in giving a financial protection to the dependents of soldiers as a very small extra premium, and in times of peace in enormous purchases of Commonwealth Stocks and in granting accommodation to thousands of returned soldiers by cashing their War Gratuity Bonds.

If you should have any doubt as to the efficacy of this service you might ask the widow of the late Sergeant Syd King, No. 1904 of the Eighth Battery.

Local Products and Manufactures

SUBIACO EXHIBITION

The State President (Col. Collett) submitted the following report at a recent meeting of the State Executive:

On the 26th August I attended at Subiaco in order to take some part at the opening of an Exhibition of Local Products organised and supervised by the Subiaco Sub-branch of the League.

I am glad to be able to report another distinct success gained in the endeavour to promote interest in our own produce and manufactures with a view to assisting in the development of the State and the provision of employment. Mr. Scaddan, the Minister for Industry, in his speech, made a very strong appeal for the support of the public and he was ably backed up by the President of the Chamber of Manufactures, who fittingly acknowledged the great assistance received from the League throughout Western Australia.

The Exhibition was largely attended and I would like, on your behalf, to thank the President- (Mr. McNamara), the Secretary (Mr. Wilkins), and the Organiser (Mr. Edwards)—in fact, all the members of the Subiaco Sub-branch for good work-done, and the practical interest shown in one of our most important activities.
The Month

Financing Fritz

With characteristic shrewdness, Germany seems to have turned her financial difficulties to good account. According to an informative article by Mr. G. Ward Price, in the London Daily Mail, of August 8th, 1931, the stars in their courses have been fighting for Germany's financial rehabilitation. As a consequence, he thinks, great Britain will find in Germany a fiercer commercial rival than ever.

As no German foreign debts are being repaid, no fall in the mark has taken place in the international exchange quotation. The old pre-moratorium quotation still remains in force. Germany, like France, Russia, Australia (to a certain extent), and other countries in economic travail, is operating on a double currency—a fiduciary paper currency for internal use, and real money for foreign payments. Her surplus of exports over imports amounts to about £7,500,000 a month. As these exports are sold for foreign currency, they will pay for all the imports Germany requires, and leave a bit over for stabilising the mark.

In connection with this must be considered the policy of the German banks under the new combination, which begins when they open for full payment of all demands of their depositors. The leading German banking authorities state that no more advances of whatever kind, not even of raw materials, will be made to customers. The provision of industrial capital will be limited to the discounting of bills, and those only of a short term character. By refusing to provide capital for holding up stocks of goods with a view to possible increases of price later on, the banks will thus force on to the market all stocks at present held in Germany. This will bring prices down. A fall of twenty per cent. in prices is expected, and wages and salaries are expected to suffer a similar reduction this European autumn. As a result, Germany will be able to manufacture more cheaply than ever before for the export market, and she will be able to dump her goods in every quarter of the world. Thus British altruism has laid the foundations of a situation which must inevitably lower the standard of living in British communities.

If Germany is ever to discharge to Great Britain the indebtedness she has incurred, mostly in the form of short term loans, Great Britain must, say the Germans, help Germany to increase the latter's favourable trade balance—in other words, Great Britain must continue to nourish a competitor, which may eventually prove her ruin.

To get back the money borrowed from France, which our international discount houses rashly advanced to Germany, writes Mr. G. Ward Price, and a great part of which, upon Germany's default this year, the Bank of England has had to return on demand to France by drawing on British gold reserves, the people in the Old Country will have to make up their minds to share the hard times with Germany.

The money advanced was used by the Germans partly to repay reparations, partly to refit themselves so completely that now they are the best equipped nation, industrially, in the world next to the United States, and part of it was wasted in socialistic experiments. The money has all been expended, and if Great Britain wants repayment, she must help Germany to earn it.

Germany got rid of her internal indebtedness by a system of inflation, which, at the same time, relieved German industry of all its debenture and other prior charges. Though inflation meant a loss of working capital to industry, it brought about a redistribution of wealth under which investment incomes disappeared, but German industries were freed from debt. The Hoover Plan proved another boon by relieving Germany of her international political indebtedness by way of reparations. In Germany, to-day, no one thinks for one moment of ever paying another penny under this head. With the moratorium on foreign payments, Germany is now in the happy position of being able to get rid of her international commercial debts by forcing Great Britain to help her to become a strong and prosperous trade rival before she can repay British loans.

This Morning's War

As these lines are being typed the news has come through of fighting between Japanese and Chinese troops in Manchuria. As there has already been a recurrence of the Chinese civil war, the Chinese seem to be adopting a passive role as far as the Japanese will let them.

For over forty years Japan has looked upon the eastern Asiatic mainland as an...
outlet for her surplus population and a field for the investment of her capital. A dispute over the old kingdom of Korea led to war between Japan and China in 1894. Thanks to her policy of westernisation, Japan was easily victorious over her more conservative opponent. The Chinese were driven out of Korea and the ports of Port Arthur and Wei Hai Wei were taken after long sieges. The Koreans, whose country was the bone of contention, were not consulted at all in the matter. They were just a people, with moral scruples against war, who had set the world an example in the direction of disarmament. Ten years later, for similar reasons, war occurred between Russia and Japan.

After the suppression of the Boxer rising at the beginning of the century, the Russians virtually annexed Manchuria, and commenced a policy of peaceful penetration in Korea. Since the days of Peter the Great, Russian foreign policy has been largely determined by the necessity of securing an outlet to the sea which is neither ice-bound nor capable of being blocked up by a potential enemy. In Port Arthur she found such a seaport. Again this place stood a siege, one of the great sieges of history. The result of this war was to make Korea definitely Japanese territory, and to give her the economic control of Manchuria. Japan has never submitted to any humbug where her own nationals are concerned; she has consistently preferred affording them adequate protection to avenging their deaths. This would account for the presence of Japanese troops in the neighbourhood of the inland city of Mukden, the scene of the decisive battle of the Russo-Japanese war. So far no reason has been assigned for the outbreak of fighting, but it is more than probable that the spread of red Russian-propaganda has compelled Japan to adopt strenuous measures for the protection of her business interests and the lives of her subjects. Whatever the cause and whatever the result, the whole business does not augur well for the success of the world disarmament conference next February.

The Utter Lack of an Adequate Defence Policy

Everyone, except those who have allowed personal prejudices to blind them with regard to the verdict of history, will welcome the action of two vigorous sub-branches, P&O and South Perth, in again drawing the attention of Congress to the Commonwealth Government’s less-de-
lia's, maintain larger numbers of regular troops than Australia can ever hope to; and that New Zealand prefers to develop her air force, as the R.A.N. is always available for her sea defence, and, until two years ago, she could make use of the Royal Military College at Dunroon for the training of her professional military officers. Another Secessionist apologist ponderously implied recently that it is the business of the R.A.N. to prevent earthquakes, or at least to be on the spot to render first aid after earthquakes have occurred. It is surprising that the loud speakers of a movement which claims the support of the majority of returned soldiers should be so ill-informed of the very rudiments of the principle of national defence. Of course, the idea is to discredit the Commonwealth at all costs, even at the cost of common sense and the larger loyalties than transcend parochial grievances.

Another critic of entirely different type is Commander (we understand the gentleman is a retired commander) Charles McCulloch, R.N. In a letter to the Editor of the "West Australian," he drew attention to the utter lack of any definite policy in defence matters on the part of the Commonwealth Government. Unfortunately, Commander McCulloch's ably-written letter was robbed of half its value because the writer made no tangible suggestion as to what our defence policy should be. He stated that because the R.A.N. did valuable service in the last war, there was no guarantee that its services would be as valuable in the next. There was also a senseless gibe at the military forces, of which Commander McCulloch's first-hand knowledge can be little, if any. The letter ends with the statement that if the British Empire goes under, Australia goes under with it—something which everybody knows and nobody disputes. If Commander McCulloch wrote his letter for the sole purpose of arriving at this conclusion, he was, like the horse that swam across a river to get a drink, giving himself a deal of unnecessary trouble. The people who think that a locality is not defended unless a battleship is anchored outside the front gate, naturally enough, cannot conceive of any role for Australia in a future war other than a passively defensive one. Rightly, or wrongly, the R.A.N. was founded with the enthusiastic concurrence of the British Admiralty. It may have to play a less spectacular part in a future war, but, if such a thing should happen, it will enter the conflict, a service which has already established a tradition or two, and it must be remembered that the proud traditions of the parent navy were not made in a single day.

The maintenance of these ships is a saving to the British taxpayers as well as a definite gain to Australia. After all, the money voted for the R.A.N. is largely spent in Australia and mostly remains in the country. To scrap the ships and pay Britain a subsidy for our sea defence is not the most virile suggestion in history. The shores of history are strewn with the wreckage of nations who paid other people to undertake their defence. The present unfavourable rates of exchange, in any case, preclude the idea of any cash contribution towards Empire protection.

The fact is, defence matters, like other matters of national import, invite careful study on the part of civilians as well as navy and army men. As things are at present, no layman would presume so far as to dictate to a physician in matters concerning the practice of medicine, but any ass with an axe to grind and buoyed up by what an American general once called "the value of ignorance," feels it incumbent upon himself to lecture professional soldiers in questions of strategy and tactics. A study of military history, and of the principles of strategy, which can be read through in half an hour, would awaken the voter to the dangers of tinkering about with the country's defences; would make him realise the fallacy of trying to bring about universal peace by rendering one's country impotent in the military sense; and might cause a general revival of the spirit of Anzac which would operate for the national good in every walk of life.

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**Personalities**

Albert E. Leane writes from Burton Street, Lane Cove, Sydney:—I have been trying to get in touch with ex-Pte. C. Alderman, No. 2338, 2nd Pioneer Bn., last known address in 1918, 24 Myrtle St., North Perth, who was a mate in the Pioneers. An advert in "Smith's Weekly" failed to bring any news of him, so I would be glad if you could give me any information that might help to locate him. I last saw Alderman at Weymouth, England, late in 1918, where we were awaiting embarkation for home.

Congratulations to Mr. T. G. Sounness, the President of the Mount Barker Sub-branch, on his election as Chairman of the Plantagenet Road Board.

The stock has again visited Mount Barker, leaving behind another digger. Mr. and Mrs. T. C. St. Jack are the lucky parents.

On August 20, G. Jarrick, of Jarrahdale, one of the 10th Light Horse, was accidentally killed when his motor bike collided with a truck driven by Mr. G. Lister, an old comrade of the same regiment. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Jarrick, and also to Mr. Lister. It was one of those unavoidable accidents, and happened on a blind corner. Both vehicles were travelling slowly at the time.
time, but the field of vision was so limited that it was impossible to avoid one another. At the funeral, on August 22nd, over 30 returned men marched and paid their tributes to their late comrade.

Messrs. W. J. Hunt and G. H. Philp have been appointed to represent the W.A. Branch at the next Federal Congress which will meet in Adelaide on November 16th. Both delegates were heartily congratulated by the State President and Executive members on their election and at the last Executive meeting. Mr. Philp has been a "Trustee" for years, and is President of the West Perth Sub-branch. Mr. W. J. Hunt has been a member of the State Executive for some time, and is President of "Perth" Sub-branch. They are good speakers, and being well informed on soldier topics, this State's items for Congress entrusted to their care, will be well handled.

Congratulations to C. "Syd" Longmore, on securing an appointment on the literary staff of the West Australian Newspapers Ltd. Syd served with distinction as a captain with the 44th Battalion during the dust up, and since his return has served with greater distinction with the R.S.L. We understand that Syd has given up as a bad job his old hobby of losing parliamentary elections.

Mr. Peter L. Ross, the energetic Hon. Secretary of the West Perth Sub-Branch, has had a busy time since he took up that onerous duty in 1927. In appreciation of his services, the last annual meeting of members decided to ask the Executive to grant him a Certificate of Service. The presentation of this well-deserved token for duty done was made at a pleasant function at one of the committee meetings during the month. Complimentary remarks were expressed by the President, and both Vice-Presidents for the valuable work done by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Ross) in carrying out a duty which had occupied a very considerable portion of his spare time. Mr. Ross expressed his deep appreciation for the token, the kind remarks, and the good feeling extended towards him by members. For 25 years prior to going overseas with the 5th A.B.C., R.O.C., Peter was employed in the Railway Department, and on his return he entered the War Service Home Department. He is also a member of the Civil Service Council.

Mr. F. J. McAdam has been appointed to the Committee of the West Perth Sub-Branch, to fill the place of Mr. Moss, who was unable to attend. F.J.M. is an ex-President of the branch, and was for a number of years a member of the State Executive; he had to resign from that body owing to his official duties compelling him to be out of town a great deal. It is hoped he will soon find his way back to his old place on the State Executive Committee. He is also a Lands Department representative on the Civil Service Council.

Wally Tomlin (late 44th Bn.), Treasurer of Victoria Park Sub-Branch, and a real live wire, has just returned from a trip to the Goldfields. He speaks very highly of the manner in which the goldfields sub-branches attend to diggers' interests. While there, Wally chased the elusive nugget, but did not meet with the success which his digger comrades would have wished, and which he so richly deserves, he being a hard gratter in all matters relating to the welfare of his comrades in Victoria Park. We wish him the best of luck in the near future.

Stuart Temby of Tambellup is still on the map, though his health has not enabled him to take an active part in R.S.L. affairs of late. His good wife, who recently underwent a successful operation, is now on the road to recovery.

R. Carlisle of Cranbrook is a patient in the Tambellup hospital. The "Listening Poet" joins the Tambellup Sub-branch in wishing him a speedy return to normal health.

The ubiquitous stork has been having a busy time in the Tambellup district. He left a parcel at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tilbury. We wish the little digger many happy birthdays. A son also arrived by stork transport, at the home of Mr. George Hodby and his wife. George's local friends advise him not to make a farther of the wallah, but to put him into the Government service.

At this year's State Congress, Harvey will be represented by Mr. T. W. D. Smith, who will also represent Donnybrook. "Tom" Smith, who fought the good fight with the 51st Battalion, is a man of many activities. Besides being President of the Harvey Sub-branch, he is President of the Harvey Branch of the P.P.A., Chairman of the Harvey Milk Prices Committee (he represented Harvey at the recent conference with distributors in Perth), Chairman of-Directors of the Harvey Co-operative Stores, and Harvey Sub-branch delegate to the S.W. District Committee. When not attending to these functions, or directing the Harvey "Diggers' Concert Party" (Harvey Sub-branch's own), he finds time to grow potatoes and milk cows. His altruistic spirit is shown by the fact that he has consistently refused reimbursement of his expenses incurred in representing Harvey on various deputations, committees, and at Congress.

Item 163 of the State Congress Agenda

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**Don't Fail to Read**

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"Pots with a Poet" formed the theme of the quarterly dinner of the Press Sub-Branch on Saturday, September 19. As the evening fell on the anniversary of the opening of the final campaign against the Turks in Palestine, a cavalry touch was given to the proceedings. Mr. Wilkins (secretary of the Subiaco Sub-Branch) and Captain C. R. Collins brought the violin and piano into action with Von Suppe's "Light Cavalry" Overture and "With Sword and Lance." The guest of the evening, Colonel A. C. N. Olden, 10th Light Horse, gave an interesting resume of the final operations in Palestine.

"A very strenuous period of about six months," said Colonel Olden, "had been experienced by the cavalry in the Jordan Valley, a place 1,100 feet below sea level, in which even the Bedouin inhabitants could not, or would not, stay during the summer months. Several attempts had been made to establish the cavalry in the Moab Hills, but superior strength of the opposing forces denied those hills to us. We could not evacuate the valley, and a long sojourn there was thus necessitated, so that we could maintain our bridge heads and strategic positions, so essential to the protection of our right flank. Doubtless the Turks were in a similar position higher up the Jordan, but they had the advantage of being able to move freely into the hills at will. It was, therefore, with feelings of great relief that the cavalry left the valley and, marching through Jerusalem for the last time, moved by night near to the Mediterranean coast, 38 miles away. It was well-known that a great offensive on our part was being planned, and, as September approached, it was obvious that these plans had crystallised.

"The great success which followed this offensive was primarily due to the perfect staff efficiency at that time. Lord Allenby was not only a great soldier, but also a great picker. In the selection of his staff outside influences, such as politics and high birth, weighed with him at all. If an officer of his staff did not display the necessary qualifications according to his inflexible standards, he had to go and another take his place. In a mess tent, near the olive trees of Ludd, about September 17, 1918, divisonal, brigade and regimental commanding officers gathered to meet the Commander-in-Chief. After greeting each officer personally, Lord Allenby addressed us as follows:—"I have come, gentlemen, to wish you good-luck, and to tell you that it is my opinion that you are on the eve of a very great victory. Everything depends—well, perhaps not everything, but nearly everything—on the secrecy, rapidity and accuracy of the cavalry movement." He then went on to detail the plans by which he hoped to deal the final crushing blow to the Turkish forces under General von Sanders. He indicated that by various means von Sanders had been hoodwinked into believing that the offensive, if any, would take place on the other flank. He concluded his terse, soldierly address by saying: 'You have trained hard and devotedly at a time when you might well have been resting after your terrible sojourn in the Jordan Valley, but I hope, and feel confident, that you are now about to reap the reward of your devotion.'

"No orders were committed to writing, but all were communicated by word of mouth from senior to junior officers, and thence to the sergeants and rank and file. He trusted the men, and by the time the offensive was ready to begin the men knew practically everything that was in the Commander-in-Chief's mind. They received the orders without noise. In fact, one of the things that impressed me was the silence which seemed to pervade the troops. It seemed as though..."
they realised that at last the time had come, in the words of Mr. Jorrock, to 'cut the cackle and get to the horses.'

"Owing to the excellent performance of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade in the Salt operations in April and May, it had been decided by the Divisional Commander that that brigade would lead the advance to the Plain of Armageddon. As commander of the 10th Regiment at the time, I experienced an intense thrill when I was informed by my brigadier that my own unit would constitute the vanguard. Silently on the night of the 18th the men leaped to their horses, armed, accoutered, and ready. At dawn on the 19th began the great enterprise which was destined neither to pause nor to look back until the resistance of the Turk was finally shattered, his armies captured or destroyed, and Damascus, the dazzling Pearl of the Orient, safely in British hands." (Applause.)

Every gathering of the Press Sub-branch is marked by some special type of entertainment. On this occasion various gentlemen were detailed to weigh in with an effort of original verse. Peter Hopegood gave a detective story in rhyme, which was a clever skit on the present-day standardised detective fiction. Captain Collins's contribution was a poem depicting the grief of a Light Horse trooper on leaving his horse behind in Egypt (we publish it in another column). Oscar Walters read his Crown and Anchor poem, from "Shrapnel Green." Colonel Fitzgerald, in responding to the toast of the Sub-branch, gave a few topical limericks. In view of the Sunday Times' indignation at the tone of a recent students' publication, the Colonel sub-edited his limericks beforehand. They went well, and contained many shrewd thrusts which evoked merriment. Reg. Bigges rose to the occasion with a versified story of billot life, in which good Australian and digger French were mixed with humorous effect. The chairman, Mr. C. P. Smith, gave an interesting little discourse on "furphies," detailing the origin of the term, and describing some of those typical newspaper furphies which crop up from time to time. "Sid." Longmore, who now runs the "Diggers' Diary" in the Western Mail, read out some highly diverting items that had been contributed to his page. They had been strongly censored, but one can imagine what a sheer joy they must have been in the original Doric. Other items were a recitation by I. Tolchard, and a few violin solo stunts by Mr. Wilkins that were an evening's fun in themselves.

New Lamps for Old
(By Peter Hopegood)

(For the subject of this protest, see the report of the Serpentine Memorial Hall public meeting, printed in this issue in Mundijong Sub-branch Notes.)

We who are left, how shall we show to men Of alien sympathy and insight small The inner poignances that move us when We enter what, to them, is just a hall, A shed in which to dance, orate or dine— To us, a living symbol and a shrine?

Time was when shields and helms of patriot shades Were hung on oaks within some sacred glen, In wayside grottos or in forest glades, The sylvan temples of unhasting men. That winds, with eerie clang and solemn toll, Might wring some echo from the pilgrim soul.

Time is. Utilitarian our need, Our shrines re-echo to the pursey drone!

Of guardians in whose narrow "business" creed No room for such "weak sentiment" is shown.

How shall we pierce those hides, we ask again, Save in their own insensate, cynical strain?

"Take, lasses and lads, French leave of your dads And off to the meeting slide, And crowd the hall To admire our gal And a fine, free dance beside. And all you'll have to do Is hand the raspberry To all who with the chairman's business methods disagree. Yes, all we ask is you Uphold our dignity And prove that Cash and Jazz alone rule this community."

Re-union Song
(Tune: "The Stein Song")

The following was written by Captain C. R. Collins for the Press Sub-branch quarterly dinner held on 19th September:

All for one, and one for all, As in the day of battle, We the digger spirit recall While voices ring and glasses rattle. War, and all its ways unclean, Down memory's byways shrink. Comradeship is evergreen, So charge your glasses, rise, and drink: Chorus.

To the King, to the flag, To the Land that is dearest of all to us; To the rum, to the fag, To the extra fats that would fall to us, To the cold, to the blue Dismal feeling we had just before the raid, To the hearts, ever true, Of the women who waited and prayed.

Repeat
All for one, and one for all, etc.

2nd Verse
Miles we marched, through rain and shine, With mates who will march no more; Fail them not. Forever enshrine Their memory in the heart's deep core. Make the Land for which they died Better from coast to coast. Let her service be our pride, Remember, as we drink this toast.

32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION
A general meeting will be held on Thursday, 1st October, at 8 p.m., in the Returned Soldiers' Institute. Business: Election of Officers, Notice of Motion and General Business. Light refreshments will be served. Members are requested to make every effort to be present on this occasion. Subscriptions are now due, 2/6.

Mr. F. Bullimore, Hon. Secretary of the Bruce Rock Sub-branch, R.S.L., reports the finding of the following War Medals issued to No. 2654, Private R. Smith, Middlesex Regiment: 1914 Star, General Service and Victory Medals. The owner may have some on proving his identity to Mr. Bullimore, Bruce Rock.

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DIGGERS! YOU ASK FOR PREFERENCE! GIVE IT!
A Trooper’s Farwell to His Steed

(By C. R. Collins)

(After the Armistice an order came out that the Australian Light Horse were to leave their horses behind. Many of the animals were taken on the strength of Indian Cavalry regiments.)

So you’re leavin’ me, old mate, Sorter changin’ yer estate,

Been promoted to the dinkum cavalry,

You’ll be groomed and polished nice

By some beggar called a “sycce,”

When I’m brandin’ poddies, back at Jigdabe:

And I wonder if the work
Of this fancy-soldier lark,

Of this ‘peace-paradin’ under foreign skies,

Will appeal, at all, to you,

After puttin’ Abdul through,

For we’re just a pair of civvies in disguise.

‘Struth! It’s tough, old yarraman,

That they couldn’t find some plan

To ship us both together, home again,

Where the golden wattles dream.

By each little crooning stream,

And the spinifex is baking on the plain.

How I’ll miss your tireless stride

When, once more, I’ll have to ride

And chase the wild scrub cattle through the trees,

While the stockwhips crack and ring.

Like the bullets, used to ping,

When we made old Abdul hit the ruddy breeze.

Mid the thuddering of hoofs,

I’ll recall the distant rooks.

Of Damascus, a-shimmering through the groves,

When we galloped through their line

Till we herded them like kine,

And saw the cows surrendering in droves.

Faith, we shared the toil and fun

Till the hardest day was done.

From work or risk, old horse, you’d never shrink.

When the grub was up the spout

An’ the water pittered out,

I’d stir the tharst so’s you could have a drink.

They can talk about a cove

And his cobber, or the love

A man is said to cherish for a maid;

Tommy Atkins for his “hipe,”

Or a smoker for his pipe—

There’s fancy likes in every sorter trade.

To help the game along,

An’ you keep going strong;

But I reckon what’ll knock ’em all in spots

Is the love a dinkum bloke.

Can’t help feelin’ for his moke—

Hell! I’d like ter drench them Staff covers fer the lots.

You can thack yer dear old ears.

Will you miss me through the years?

When the trumpets sound the ‘Boot and Saddle’ call,

Will you neigh an’ toss the reins

For a gallop o’er the plains,

With a blue Australian sky spread over all?

When you’re wearied out an’ spent,

Will you hunger fer the scent

Of the gum-leaves, borne from rolling ranges far?

Arrgh! What’s the bloomin’ use?

Me heart’s just one big bruise.

I feel as if we’d lost the bleedin’ war.

28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

The 28th Battalion Association will hold its annual re-union “smoke social at Keough’s Hall, car. Stirling and Newcastle Street, on Tuesday, 6th October (Show Week) at 8 p.m. Tickets have been fixed at 2/6 each.

The Committee has made a special effort to ensure a very successful function. Excellent musical programmes has been arranged and diggers should roll up in large numbers to meet old pals. During these times of depression this gathering should prove a welcome deviation, so please roll up.

10th LIGHT HORSE RE-UNION

On Tuesday, the 6th October (Show week), the 10th Light Horse and members of other mounted units who served in Palestine, will hold their annual re-union in the R.S.I. Institute.

The retiring President, Major George Rosevear, M.O., realizes the acute situation to-day, but sincerely hopes every effort will be made by old comrades to be present. The Light Horse Re-union is held only once a year, show week being considered the most convenient time for all, and a good roll up is looked forward to. Old friendships will be renewed, and a jolly night will assist to destroy any feeling of depression that may exist.
Varia

A wallet with private papers belonging to William Thomas Henry Golding, 7746 16th Bn., has been found, and the owner, on proof of identification, may have same on application to Mr. Tucker, Repatriation Department.

Ex-Dig: Are you going to Fremantle to see the fleet arrive?
Ex-Pom: What, are they both coming?

Said the Dig. to the stock
"Pray, what are you holdin'?
Oh, it's just a small parcel
To give Colonel Olden."

Digger's Kid: Dally, what does a man do when he's at a loose end?
Digger: He gets tight, my son.

An article in the "West Australian" on the origin of the word "boycott" reminds us of the mistake once made by the cable editor of a certain Australian paper. A strike which occurred in England provoked an effective counter-offensive. The cable announcing this read, "Boycott ends strike." Expanding this item in the usual way, the cable editor informed the paper's readers that "the strike was ended by a boy named Cott."

The Canadian Pensions Act was recently amended to provide for the widow of a member of the Forces—who at the time of his death, and for ten years previously had been in receipt of a disability pension of, or exceeding, 80 per cent., or who would have been in receipt of such pension if he had not been receiving pay and allowances whilst under treatment—irrespective of the cause of the death of her husband, to be entitled to a war pension as if the husband's death had resulted from an injury or disease or aggravation attributable to, or incurred during military service. This amended legislation means that if a soldier in receipt of pension for chest or head, dies of some other form of disease, the pension is paid nevertheless to the widow.

Soldier settlers will meet in Conference on Monday, September 28th, at 10 a.m. Two days will be given to the discussion of items under Land Settlement and Marketing, and this Settlers' Conference will submit reports for the consideration of the full Congress, which commences on Wednesday, September 30th. Immediately preceding the opening or at 9.30 a.m., all delegates are invited to assemble at the Queen Victoria Statue in the Main Drive of King's Park. From there they will march to the State War Memorial, forming up in front of the Memorial facing east. On behalf of the Congress delegates, Col. Collett, the State President, will deposit a wreath in memory of fallen comrades. Mr. Geo. Mellor, Secretary of the Perth Sub-branch, will sound the "Last Post."

The Commonwealth Government has agreed to pay exchange rate on Imperial Pensions forthwith, with arrears back to January, 1930.

Nedlands Sub-branch R.S.L. has offered to donate to the W.A. Branch of the League a competitive shield, to be known as the "Archbishop, Rilev Memorial Trophy." Such in-door games as quoits, miniature rifle shooting, cards, etc., are mentioned as suitable subjects for the competition. The State Executive decided to thank Nedlands Sub-branch for its offer, and to submit the proposal to... Those who have had experience of tea and dining rooms in other cities of the world will recognise that The Cabin (opposite Boat's, Murray Street) is up-to-date in accommodation, refinement, quality, and service. It is pleasing to note that Perth is so excellently served in these respects by the present management of The Cabin, which also caters for soda fountain patrons and shoppers who wish to take home table delicacies. In addition, afternoon visitors may get an increase of entertainment by having their fortunes told in the cups.

Melbourne Cup Sweep
£2,000 for 2/6

A sweep on the Melbourne Cup has been launched by the W.A. Charities Consultation Committee. Five thousand pounds prize money is being offered at the usual price of 2/6 per ticket. There is a first prize of £2000, second £500, third £200. Other final acceptors divide £600, and there are numerous prizes of £20, £10 and £5. Net proceeds are in aid of the Returned Servicemen's Association and the orphanages of the State. The committee conducting the sweep have just successfully concluded a big sweep on behalf of the blind in which the prize money was paid in full. Investors in this sweep, therefore, may invest their half-crowns with every confidence, and may have the added satisfaction that their money is remaining in the State.

British United Services Association

The Association will hold a dance social at R.S.I. Headquarters on Friday, October 31st, at 8 p.m. Refreshments, prizes, orchestra, etc. Admission: Single, 1/3; Double, 2/-; Children, 6d. Everybody welcome.

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The Squadron Leader

(By Pip TeK)

The sun was beginning to flood the Mesopotamian plain with orange-crimson light, making vague shadowy masses stand out with a certain distinctness, so that it was already possible to distinguish men and horses from trees. A trumpet sent forth its silvery notes to greet the new-born day; a little distance away, another, and then another repeated the call; and then, like far-away echoes, came similar trumpet calls from the enemy camp. Two armies, one vast and cumbersome, the other relatively small but highly efficient, were facing each other in that cradle of the human race, about to engage in a death struggle for empire, where, already, empires had spent their spangle of existence and passed away.

Early as it was, a squadron of catapults, the heavily armed cavalry upon which Alexander set such store, was returning from watering its horses. They filed past the bivouac of some Greek footmen, when a voice hailed the leader.

"Hol' comrade, is it you?"

"Ay. And how is the good Eumenides?"

"Well, and, like our Alexander, recovered from the wound I received at Issus. Zeus, my friend, had not your squadron come thundering down at the right time that day, I and many others would have been feeding the vultures. Tell me, how fared it with you in Syria? I'll walk part of the way with you. I've not seen you since the day of Issus."

"We fared well, as you know," replied the Squadron Leader. "There was not much work for cavalry besides escorting provision trains and keeping the roads open; but our King took Tyre and laid siege to Gaza. The Egyptians hailed him as deliverers. But my most extraordinary experience was when our King entered Jerusalem. You know, he swept into Syria to punish the Phoenician allies of our Persian foes. He could not have the flank of his advance exposed to their men and our communications with Hellas cut off by their shipping. He made the sea routes safe by capturing the sea-ports, as he also did in Asia Minor. At the beginning of the campaign, he called upon the Jews for assistance, thinking that they might like to pay off old scores against the Phoenicians. They replied that they were subjects of the Great King and would not act against him and his allies. I was with Alexander when we approached Jerusalem. The old men of the city came out to offer submission, but instead of putting their city to sack, the King dismounted and walked in with them, made a great fuss of them, in fact. It is said that he even visited their temple. They are a strange people who worship a god made of air. At least that is how it seems to me. With my squadron/I guarded the city for three days against plunderers, and in all that time I saw no image of their god."

The Greek smiled sardonically.

"Good work for the cavalry, policing a city against plunderers."

"The cavalry can win battles also," the Squadron Leader retorted. "It's all very fine for you fellows in the phalanx to talk. See here. I am just the same age as our Alexander. I was with him at Chaeronea, in his father's time. You Greeks were able to respond to the tactics of the phalanx by that time, but it was by charging home with his cavalry at the right moment that Alexander was able to snatch victory from defeat. It was the same at Granicus, and the same at Issus. I tell you, my friend, that the phalanx does not win Alexander's battles. Neither does this new-fangled artillery of his, though I grant you that catapults mounted on chariots, which can gallop into action, and hurl darts and stones three hundred yards, have their uses."

"You Macedonians set too much store upon your horses," the Greek answered. "Do not forget that before the days of the phalanx the Greek infantry had beaten these Persians again and again. Why, a noble Greek would scorn to ride a horse when he could fight on foot. If his wealth compelled him to furnish a mounted man's equipment, he paid a substitute to ride the horse for him. We are an athletic people who despise cavalry."

"That is because your country does not lend itself to horsemanship. Well, I must along. We'll see who will win today."

The advance signal had been given. The cataplarctachs set the butts of their lances to the earth, and vaulted into their saddles. This was the method of mounting in those days, as stirrups were not invented before the 4th Century A.D. Soon the earth resounded to the tread of marching men and horses' hoofs. Young as he was in years, the Squadron Leader was old in service, but going into battle always gave him the self-same thrill as on the day of Chaeronea, when he had first galloped into action. He had immense faith in himself, in his men, and in his commander. He had already seen that a smaller and better disciplined army can invariably rout a large untrained force. The very evolutions carried out in the face of the enemy by the infantry-men of the phalanx, and the cataplarctachs of the cavalry squadrons, overawed that enemy and disturbed his morale. The Persian king himself—this Darius Codomannus, who called himself the Great King, was personally afraid of the all-conquering Alexander. He fled ignominiously from his presence at Issus. It was rumoured that he would do so again.

The advancing army, with its masses of cavalry on the flanks and two columns of infantry, heavily massed in the formation known as the phalanx, in the centre, was now in sight of the foe. Drawn up in three dense lines, with cavalry in the centre and on each flank, the Persian host seemed to overwhelm the plain. The Squadron Leader set his horse to the trot as the squadron began to form echelon, but as they moved a flurried mass seemed to detach itself from the Persian left. These were chariots armed with speythes, sent out to break up the advance of the cavalry and throw the enveloping movement into confusion. The squadrons would have to scatter and wheel to avoid those hamstringing scythes. Then a new
sound attracted the Squadron Leader's attention. It was like the twanging of many bows, but deeper, as the note of a bass viol is deeper than that of a violin. Something struck the foremost chariot and crumpled it into a ruin of mangled men and kicking horses. Then another went down, and another. The Squadron Leader had not seen the new catapult artillery in action before, and he had no time to marvel at its precision now, for the battle had joined all along the front.

At the head of his men he rode over what remained of the scythe chariots, and found himself galloping and hacking through a wave of cavalry. On came these waves of enemy cavalry, one after the other, like waves of the sea, and like a vessel riding the storm the Macedonian cataplatcs cleaved their way through them. He had struck often and struck hard, and was now conjuring up visions of his share of the loot of the enemy camp. His bridle was seized and a voice shouted in his ear.

"Turn, fool! Turn your men. Our centre is broken."

He looked into the flashing eyes and strong if somewhat petulant face of a young man of his own age.

"Immediately, O King," he shouted back, and raised his arm, signalling his men to halt.

There was no mistaking Alexander's magnificent person and dazzling equipment. His face was that of a leader and a conqueror, though the coarse lips and puffed eyelids, were already signalling the inroads that over-exertion and dissipation were making upon his system. His famous charger tossed his head and pawed the ground impatiently while his master waited for the squadron to re-form. This done, Alexander gave a signal, and the whole mass wheeled and galloped on to begin a new action against the mounted horse which had broken the phalanx in the centre and cut them off from the rest of the army.

With a crash like that of an earthquake, the battle was joined again, and Alexander and the Squadron Leader rode knee to knee. By common consent they were hewing their way to a richly caparisoned chariot, that of the Persian king.

"Leave him to me," commanded Alexander; but before the victor could reach him, the chariot of Darius had burst through the disorganised infantrymen and had gained temporary security in flight.

"Escaped me again," said Alexander, testily. It was said that Alexander bitterly blamed Parmeno, the commander of his left wing, for the escape of Darius.

As in the previous battle at Issus, Alexander had been forced to turn and rescue his left flank, just when complete victory was within his grasp. Darius fled into Bactria, where he was murdered by a treacherous subordinate who wished to curry favour with Alexander. Alexander married the daughter of Darius and crucified his murderer. But these things were yet to come.

The battle was over and the Squadron Leader was re-forming his men, when Alexander rode up to him.

"I think, my friend, you parried more than one knock that was meant for me to-day."

"Any of your soldiers would have done the same, O King."

"What age are you?"

"The same age as my King."

"And you have seen much service?"

"My first battle was also Your Majesty's first."

"And how long have you been a Squadron Leader?"

"Since Granicus, O King."

"Then it is time you were promoted. This shall be attended to. In the meantime give your men an hour's rest and be ready to ride with me in pursuit of that recreant who calls himself the Great King."

11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

Ex 11th Battalion A.I.F. members are reminded that the annual reunion will be held at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth on Monday, 5th October. Arrangements are well in hand and as usual a big gathering of old 11th diggers is assured. Be there and enjoy a good evening.

The attention of sporting readers is directed to Chas. Watson & Co.'s announcement in this issue in connection with Tattersall's Consultations. Chief interest at this time of the year centres round the possibilities in the Caulfield and Melbourne Cups. May good fortune smile on Listerning Post investors!

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Women's Auxiliaries

NARROGIN

A very successful Paddy's Market was held by the above branch on August 27th. Through the untiring work of the helpers, and the generous public, gifts of all kinds were received. The ladies dare to thank one and all who helped to make the market such a success. The prizes won by raffling were--Mrs. L. Smith, dressed lamb; Mrs. G. Moore, dressed turkey; Mrs. T. Hallett, cake; Mrs. Moonbray's free ticket to Mr. Menzies' Picture Show.

STATE EXECUTIVE

On August 31, members of the above entertained the Metropolitan Auxiliaries at a united social, in the Soldiers' Institute, Perth.

Mrs. C. T. Wilson (State President) presided, and about 160 ladies attended. Dancing, musical items, and a guessing competition, all contributed to a very happy evening.

Nedlands Auxiliary ably took charge of the supper arrangements, and the music for the dancing was supplied by Mrs. Dow. At this function Mrs. Wilson gave a brief report of the activities of the Women's Auxiliary R.S.I. State Executive, during the last quarter.

The artists who gave their services were Messrs. St. George (singers), Mrs. Hibber (recitations), the Missouri and Ruth Mortimer (dancers), Mr. H. Hopperton (singers), and selections by the Main Hawaiian Team, all of whom were greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Wilson announced that a social would be held during conference week, and she wished all members possible to attend to welcome the delegates from the country.

Welcome to Country Delegates--Being unable to obtain the Soldiers' Institute, our secretary had to hunt round and book a hall elsewhere. We are pleased to say that we have been able to engage St. George's Hall, in Hay Street, Perth, for the evening of September 28th.

All auxiliaries are asked to keep that evening free, and come along in good numbers at 8 o'clock to welcome the delegates from the country auxiliaries. The usual attractive programme will be arranged.

The supper arrangements are in the hands of the Victoria Park Auxiliary on this occasion.

Conference--Delegates for Conference are requested to attend at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth on Monday, the 28th September, 8-10 p.m.

Personal--We were all pleased to welcome Mrs. K. Hopperton back again at our social on the 31st August. Mrs. Hopperton has been ill health for some time, and has just completed a much needed rest. She is still far from strong, but we must all do what we can to help.

WAGIN

The annual meeting of the Waging Sub-Branch of the Women's Auxiliary, R.S.I., was held on July 31st, in the Fire Brigade Hall. Mrs.
Holland (President) occupied the chair. The annual report and balance sheet were adopted. A 'Ladies' Night' was held during the year, average attendance at meetings, eleven, financial members, 25. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. E. Holland (re-elected); Vice-President: Mmes. Wilson, Starr, Murphy (re-elected), Tank; Treasurer, Mrs. Muller (re-elected); Secretary, Mrs. Weldon (re-elected).

On Anzac Day's service was held at the War Memorial in the park, when a large gathering attended. A wreath, made by the Women's Auxiliary, was placed on the memorial by the President. On June 10th, the Auxiliary provided the tables and attended to one table at the welcome tea extended to Commissioner Mackenzie ("Flying Mac"). Several eucharistic parties have been held by the Auxiliary during the past two months, the proceeds being used to alleviate distress. The Auxiliary has been distributing clothes to the needy, and up to date about a dozen cases have been attended to. These eucharistic parties are now being held every Saturday night in the First-Brigade Hall.

The Auxiliary has been under many difficulties during the past year, and has not been able to do its duty as well as it would have liked, but it hopes to do better this year. It had the misfortune to lose the books, a quantity of cameras and other gifts when the Secretary's residence was destroyed by fire last February.

The Auxiliary would like to thank all friends who so willingly assisted during the past year with donations and services.

STATE EXECUTIVE MEETING
21/9/31.


The Assistant-Secretary (Mrs. Coleman) reported for the Trustees, and the State Secretary (Mrs. Hopperton) on the result of the Committee meeting, in which she stated that a copy of the Agenda had been sent to 45 Auxiliaries. Arrangements are well in hand for the annual meeting of the Auxiliary. The Secretary has been kindly lent by the Friendly Union of Soldiers' Wives. Mmes. Kirke, McKinlay, Reilly and Marshall are taking charge of a "potato race," and a guessing competition will be arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Tank. The extra on this occasion will be Mrs. Banks and N. N. T. Four musicians have promised Mrs. Hopperton their services, and the President, Mrs. C. T. Wilson, will preside. Victoria Park Auxiliary will take charge of the supper arrangements. All members of Metropolitan Auxiliaries are asked to keep this evening free, and roll up in goodly numbers to welcome the Delegates from the country. It is intended that this is to be entirely a Ladies' Night.

Mmes. Wilson and Hopperton will represent the Auxiliary at a Children's Ball at Maylands on the 23rd September. M. Morin Rock Sub-branch kindly forwarded a donation of 10/-.

Colonel Collett has accepted an invitation to address Delegates at Conference at 3 p.m. on the 28th September.

Mrs. Hopperton reported that 35 returned.

FOUND, in Victoria Park, one War Service Medal, belonging to one named Mr. W. Treacy, 16th Battalion. Same can be obtained by applying to 82 Hopperton Road.

Soldiers in civilian wards were visited during the month, and cigarettes donated by the State Executive, and literature, were distributed. Parcels were supplied to three patients, and the needs of others sent to the right quarter.

The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were read, Mrs. Hopperton being complimented by Mrs. Wilson.

Sublaco Auxiliary sent in some beautifully made woollen garments which they had donated, and Darling Parish, and the Auxiliary donated a large parcel of all kinds of baby clothes.

The Agenda Paper, consisting of 35 items, was read over and discussed.

Delegates for the Conference are requested to attend at the Soldiers' Institute at 10 a.m. on Monday, the 28th, and Tuesday, the 29th September. The Conference will be held in the Reading Room at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth. Executive Members are requested to be present at 9.30 a.m., if possible.

VICTORIA PARK

The monthly meeting of this auxiliary held at the Library Hall, was well attended. Mmes. Taylor and Jordan were chosen to represent Victoria Park at the conference. Business being finalised, the meeting was followed by the usual social and dance, when the husbands and friends of members were entertained. Dancing, games, competitions, etc., made up the programme, and supper was served by the ladies auxiliary.

Whist Drives.—Every Wednesday evening Whist Drives are held to help swell the distress fund. The following are taken:

Thursday evening—Whist Drives held to help the distressed families.

Mr. Cannon, 11th Broadway Hall, Albany Road. Play commences at 8.15 p.m., and these evenings are well patronised.

Benefit Social and Dance.—On September the 11th, the Victoria Park Married Men's Organisa-

ned by the local sub-branch R.S.L. and Women's Auxiliary, combined efforts to raise funds for Don. Cummins, a digger who met with a mishap while helping others. A very successful evening was given in the form of a social and dance, held at the Amalgam Theatre. The hall was well filled, the music was supplied by Miss Goodwin's Orchestra, Mr. Canning entertained his hand shadows, and Mr. Vickers, assisted by his wife and little son, gave some magic turns. Supper was served by a committee of ladies, representative of both organisations. Mr. Nicol, President of the local sub-branch, and Mr. Fortune, chairman of the Married Men's Social Committee, in a few brief words, thanked the musicians and artists who kindly gave their services, the remarks being supported by Mr. Raphael. There were two lucky spot waltzes, one in each half of the programme. Mr. Gardiner and partner winning the first, and Mr. Tom Chandler and partner the second. The ladies each had a supper cloth, kindly donated by Boans, with which they were greatly pleased.

NEDLANDS

Nedlands Ladies' Auxiliary had their most successful meeting for the year last Tuesday evening (4th September), when over fifty ladies and their friends attended. After business ended, the ladies took the form of a faint evening, when quite a lot of members attended in fake costumes, some of the costumes showing great ingenuity and originality and causing much merriment. Messrs. W. Richardson, Iddleston and McNamara had the arduous task of judging the costumes. Mrs. Bader and Mrs. Staff and Mrs. Atwell sang, and Miss M. Malone and Miss Bloomfield accompanied the artists and played for the dancing. Prizes were donated by Messrs.

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Nankivelle, D. M. Benson and G. Randall. Mrs. Rickie secured first prize as "Topsy Turvey." Other prize winners were Mrs. H. Lewis, "Lucky Number," and Mses. Fitzgerald and L. Atwell, novelty prize.

SPARROW AND HAMILTON HILL

A Spring Fete was held in the Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall on Saturday, September 5, to provide funds for a Christmas Tree to be given to diggers' children. Mrs. Wayman introduced Mrs. Willson (State President), who opened the fete. Stall holders were:-Producer, Mrs. Wayman; Cork, Roberts and Lecce; Refreshments, Mses. Medamis Winsfield, Ingram and Lockwood; Fancy: Mrs. Hislop and Diggers Hislop and Blackwood; Fortune Telling: Mrs. Ducan; and Lucky Dip: Mrs. Ellement.

A cooking competition, in which a prize was given for the best entry not costing more than one shilling, was judged by Mses. Medamis Wilson and Kirby. As a result of the effort £20 was raised.

CLAREMONT

Keen interest has been evinced amongst women supporters of the R.S.L. at Claremont, and a meeting called to elect officers for the revived Women's Auxiliary resulted in Mrs. A. Mansbridge being appointed President, Medamis Trengnan and Gladish, Vice-Presidents; Miss Bryant, Hon. Secretary; Mrs. Millar, Treasurer; and Medamis Bryant, Vinden and J. C. Foreman Trustees. Poppy Day Committee: Medamis Bannister, Manhir and Connett. Press Correspondent, Miss Bryant. It is the intention of the Auxiliary, in co-operation with the members of the sub-branch, to organize a combined social at the end of November.

"Yes," sighed the old gentleman, "women were always wanting new bonnets in my young days."

"My wife wants one now," sighed the young husband, "one with a lousemine behind it."

Sub-Branch Notes

TRAYNING-YELBENI

This sub-branch held its annual meeting at Trayning, on July 21st, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. C. C. Thompson; Vice-Presidents: Mses. H. R. Crake and T. McGrath; Treasurer, Mr. N. Cuthbertson; Secretary, Mr. F. N. Grave; Auditors, Mses. Thompson and Crake. All the above were re-elected, the President entering in his sixth year of office.

The membership of 35 to June 30th, is the strongest it has ever been, showing an increase of 39 over the previous year.

On September 5th, the sub-branch held its annual picnic and children's sports at Waddouring Rock. This was well attended, in spite of unsettled conditions in the weather. Over a hundred attended besides the children, and everybody spent a most enjoyable day.

VICTORIA PARK

At the monthly meeting of the sub-branch, held in the Library Hall, H. R. Nicol presided over a well attended meeting. During the year, it is pleasing to note, the sub-branch has not lost ground, in spite of hard times. Mainly responsible for this are Mr. P. Matthews and Alf. Shadgets (joint organisers), who keep the ball rolling socially. Also, with the co-operation of the Woman's Auxiliary, we are striving hard to find ways and means to relieve the distress of our comrades. The Chairman spoke of the shortage of clothing and asked all members to assist with parcels of clothes for the depot. Many thanks to Jack Gray for donating a basket, and introducing the American auction by way of raising funds and disposing of the basket. The procedure caused great amusement.

A visit to the sub-branch by Mr. Farquharson was greatly appreciated. He gave the members a short address on the pension reduction and preference question. Election of delegates to Congress took place, the result being Mr. Matthews and Gibbs elected. The meeting ended with thanks and refreshments, which ended a most enjoyable evening.

FREMANTLE

Pension cases and all the other little troubles that beset the digger are being capably attended to by the Secretary, Charlie Walker, who is a valuable acquisition to the Sub-Branch. A miserable night kept many people from hearing the excellent performance put up by the Whizz Bangs when they visited Fremanal, and lost the profits which otherwise would have been appreciably larger. Still, the Amelioration Fund could do with a further increase. The £2 to a penny sweep, suggested by a live member, was a profitable venture. Jack Barfield, a blinded soldier who rarely misses a meeting, drew the winning ticket. Jack, by the way, is a wireless enthusiast, and handles his set, changing valves and fixing short waves, with marvellous skill. He knows more about wireless than hundreds who are blind, and Jack is always an optimist, has an affair of the American dances, arranged by Fred Baker, Alf. Wilde and Tom Ellement, are being held every Monday in the R.S.L. Ballroom. Their success has been a source of great encouragement to the promoters.

They have also had a stimulating effect upon the billiard room, as the Secretary-Manager of the Institute, A. G. Kirby, smiles again.

KOJONUP

A Kojonup correspondent writes:-It irks my gall when reading my "Listening Post" to see, so help me God, any Kojonup notes aboard the lugger. What for? and if not, why not? No knowing, can't say—so here goes. You know, Mr. Editor, the depression's simply awful in our district—so much so that George Anderson, I suppose the sub-branch's most handsome ornament, has given up hope per the jugular and now only orders pots. He says it's terrible to contemplate what depths of misery Ostralia's coming to. Pat Roof, a lengthy optimist of ours, and a staunch purveyor of grey matter and stout on R.S.L. matters, has also been hit by the wool collapse—now has to absolve Dewar's instead of Swan—which shows to what lengths of sacrience even a Secessionist has to go to in these lurid times. You will be pleased to know that we Max Hubbe our genial and demure President, has handed over the hammer to a massive oil-painting of the clan Anderson—only the latter, unlike George of that ilk, is a tee-totaller—living, as he does, a long way out of town. Our annual dance, which is in connection with an Open Day of the Southern Hemisphere—and is our chief source of replacement for the Amelioration "kittey," comes off on September 14, and you like, I will go up in the supporter's gallery, and take some notes of other digger personalities that revolve in our local oblate spheroid, but whose physiognomies through lack of space do not appear here.

Upper Swan

The meeting of the Upper Swan Sub-Branch held on Aug. 20, was well attended, President Lin. Thorne, M.L.A., occupying the chair. Several matters of importance were dealt with and it was decided to defer discussion on the forthcoming general conference pending receipt of the agenda paper. Mr. Bob Lowson has again

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The Listening Post

September 25th, 1931
been appointed delegate to the conference with the Secretary, Mr. S. E. T. Richards, or Mr. Howden as secretary. As a result of the usual business, the meeting resolved itself into a smoke social for the purpose of congratulating Mr. Alf. Yeates upon having recently become a grandfather. Every member present spoke in support of the toast to the "venerable" guest of the evening, and a social toast to the instant arrival and his proud parents was duly honoured. Mr. Yeates' response was particularly bright, considering the fact that he had just returned from paying his last respects as chief mourner to Sir John de Preston at Baldivis. Several choruses interspersed with minstrelsy were kept up by the dandies to the end of the evening and the usual fun and frolic brought a pleasant evening to a close.

PITHARA

The annual meeting of the Pithara Sub-branch was held last Saturday and the officers following were re-elected: W. E. Elston, President; W. J. Cleaver, Vice-President; H. K. MacLean, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The balance sheet showed a credit of £1 19s. 3d. general fund, and 3s. 6d. amelioration fund. It was decided to hold meetings on September and October evenings, for the next two months, commencing on October 3. Up to the present our year has ended on June 30. We have decided now to fall into line with the usual procedure and only six months' subscription is to be collected now.

WELLARD

The Wellard Sub-branch held a dinner in the Wellard School on Saturday, Aug. 22, in aid of the local amelioration fund. It was well attended and was in every way a success. On Aug. 8 members were invited by the Mundijong sub-branch to a smoke social. Those who were able to come back full of it—the unbounded hospitality of their hosts—and the outing was thoroughly enjoyed.

TAMBELLUP

A meeting was held at Mr. Markey's house on 2nd September, when the roll was signed by the usual regular attendants. The President, Mr. A. J. Smith, occupied the chair. The forthcoming annual reunion dinner was decided as a matter of interest to the committee, and it was decided that members intending to be present notify the President early, so that Mr. Barker Secretary may have time to arrange for guests. The date of reunion is fixed for 19th September and the No. 4 District Council Conference will take place concurrently. Messrs. F. J. Markey and J. E. Trathen were appointed delegates. If enough members decide to attend a truck will be provided to take the party down.

The Secretary, Mr. J. E. Trathen, was appointed delegate to State Congress, to be held on 30th inst.

Arrangements are in hand for an old-time dance to take place at Bobalong in October, to augment the amelioration fund, which is getting low, and the date will be duly advertised. Mr. Fred Daddow, with his R.S.I.L. Band, will provide the music, and as these functions have always proved popular, a bumper house is confidently anticipated. A motor truck will be available to take Tambellup visitors out to Bobalong on that evening.

The property of the sub-branch will be safely guarded by President A. J. Smith and Vice-President P. J. Markey, who have been appointed Trustees.

A review of Major LeFevre's book, "Scientific Disarmament," was read to an interested audience and it was considered by members that if those of the general public who have not experienced "guns, shells and gas" in the trenches were to read this book, their interest in world disarmament would be stimulated.

WEST PERTH

The West Perth Sub-Branch have appointed Messrs. G. H. Philip, P. L. Ross, and R. E. Tyler as delegates to the annual congress, for which several items have been submitted by the branch.

A full report of the duties carried out by Assistant Wardens for the State War Memorial was dealt with by the Committee, and submitted to the Warden (Sir Wm. Lathlain) for his information before submitting to the Executive Committee. The Warden had not replied, it was decided at the last meeting to forward a copy to the State Executive for its perusal, it then to be submitted to Congress.

The Hon. Secretary has arrangements in hand for the renovation of the name plaques in Honour Avenue. Pension anomalies affecting deceased soldiers' widows has received attention, and it is found under the Financial Emergency Act little can be done; they have been passed on to the proper quarter for action. The services of Messrs. C. F. Smith and H. S. W. Parker, as investigation committee, are again offered by those gentlemen, and appreciatively accepted for the coming year.

The membership drive now being conducted gives an appearance of being very successful. The "Tay-bie" fund inaugurated by the past President is not forgotten at all meeting of the Committee, and is commended to all other soldiers' meetings for the assistance of distressed funds.

The Branch Cricket Club has been revived, and is open to receive challenges from other sub-branches. Last year trouble arose through the inability to procure playing grounds, but the Secretary, this year, already made arrangements with the Town Clerk, Cotterloe, for the use of the oval on the following Sundays—November 29th, 1931; January 31st, 1932; February 28th, 1932. While also on the last Sunday in October a match will be played at Roleystone. A good team is being arranged, members are enthusiastic, and good games and entertainment is anticipated.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE

An important meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., with the President (Mr. J. Morris) in the chair, and the Vice-President (Mr. H. P. Markey) in charge. The regrettable illness of the senior Vice-President (Mr. L. Vivian), who is now an inmate of the No. 11 Ward, of the Perth Hospital, members sympathised with Mrs. Vivian and family, and expressed the hopes of Mr. Vivian's speedy restoration to the enjoyment of good health. The Chairman welcomed at this meeting a new member, in the person of Mr. Read, who suitably responded. It was decided to send a letter of thanks to the State Executive for their successful efforts in approaching the Government and having one of our members reinstated in their employ.

Mr. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., a member of the State Executive, who is also the delegate from this sub-branch to the State Congress, then opened a general discussion upon the following two subjects:—(a) Re. Notice of Motion regarding Pensions for State Congerss; (b) Re. Agenda for State Congress.

Mr. Panton dealt concisely, and comprehensively with these two subjects, especially in their relation to the new positions regarding pensions and the reductions brought about therein by the Federal Government in their anxiety to honour the spirit and letter of the Rehabilitation scheme, recommended to be made effective by the recent Premiers' Conference. At the conclusion of Mr. Panton's remarks, questions were invited and answered by the speaker, and, subsequently, several members aired their personal opinions upon this contentious subject effecting the ex-service-man, and a very pleasant and interesting evening was brought to a conclusion by the customary vote of thanks to those responsible for the arrangements.

KENTDALE

On August 27th, Mr. Wansbrough, M.L.A., visited Kentdale at the request of the sub-branch. He was met at the agency by Messrs. Balcombe, Poyser, Firth, and Keeble, who conducted him over two miles of rough bush track which serves nine settlers. He then went over several holdings, and during the evening, met the members and discussed their disabilities. On the same day No. 5 District Council was formed in Denmark, Messrs. Martin and Leader being delegates. It is hoped that the new Council will be a live wire. The monthly meeting was held on September 2nd, an attendance of a hundred per cent. being recorded. A dance will be held in the school on October 16th.

NORTH PERTH

At the general meeting, held on 7th September, it was decided to change the place of meetings, etc., and arrangements have been completed to hold all future meetings at St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe Street, near the Anglican Church.

It has been evident that such arrangements should be made for some time. When all become used to the new premises, which are most convenient, the change will be much appreciated.
Mr. Sadler, reporting on the "euchre social," and "picture night," expressed satisfaction on results obtained. The Social Committee are to be complimented, and many are the queries as to when the next is to be held. Mr. Hawkins, who is enthusiastically working with his Committee, prepared a large list of local non-members, and organised a drive for the 14th inst., which, from all indications, points to a large success.

It is interesting to note that fifteen new members have been enrolled since July 1st. At the last meeting of the Membership Committee, four members were placed financial out of the fund run for that purpose, and all are asked to help the scheme in vogue to increase the fund by at least procuring one ticket.

The sub-branch meetings are well attended, but it is pointed out that attendance should be larger, and as particularly Congress is at hand, many important things are open for discussion, and the delegate should have a good knowledge of the views of members on such an important occasion. It is only at sub-branch meetings that the ex-service man can get his ideas and aims, utilised and forwarded on to the right quarters.

Meetings for October, Mondays the 5th and 19th, at St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe Street.

MUNDIjong

German Lamps Light Honour Board

The regular meeting usually held on the first Thursday of each month at Mundijong, was in August, deferred until the following Saturday, August 16th, in order that Mr. D. M. Benson could attend. Proceedings took the form of a social evening. Mr. C. Piper moved the toast, "The State Executive," and asked particularly that the appreciation and thanks of the sub-branch be conveyed to President and members for their strenuous efforts to alleviate the lot of unemployed ex-service men. Mr. Benson, in replying, outlined the work of the League, and stressed the fact that the outstanding need was increased membership. At present, with a membership of 6,000, the R.S.L. was looking after the interests of 20,000, besides widows and orphans of fallen comrades. Mr. A. W. Thompson welcomed the visitors, and particularly Mr. Ross McLarty, M.L.A., and our old friends of the Wellard Sub-Branch. In his reply, Mr. Scottland, of Wollard, threw out a challenge, that at the end of six months his sub-branch would have more members than ours, and, needless to say, it was taken up with enthusiasm.

The losers about a "social" evening.

At the Serpentine meeting, held on August 20th, the principal theme of discussion was the action of the Hall Committee in installing German lamps. Mr. W. Davenport moved, and Mr. A. W. Thomas seconded. That the Progress Association be asked to call a public meeting to discuss the matter. A letter of protest was also sent to the Hall Committee.

The hall, which contains the district Honour Board, with a list of twenty-five names, ten being those of men who gave their lives, also has a memorial front, and it was felt that the installation of German lamps was an affront to every ex-serviceman in the district. The State Executive was notified, and Messrs. Wells and Bader attended the public meeting to assist the sub-branch.

Mr. C. Piper moved the following motion: That the Hall Committee be asked to remove the German lamps and replace them by ones of British manufacture. He appealed to the people to support the motion, and pointed out that the hall was really a memorial shrine. On behalf of the R.S.L., he assured the Chairman of the Hall Committee that if he would consent to do as requested, the R.S.L. would guarantee that his committee would be at no financial loss over the transaction, and, in fact, it would not cost them a single penny. Mr. Wells, M.L.A., made a strong appeal, and Mr. C. Bader pointed out that lamps of greater candle power, and manufactured in Melbourne, could be obtained for the same money as had been paid for those installed. The Chairman of the Hall Committee, Mr. Steele, stated that there was no friction in business, and read a telegram from the relative of four brothers whose names are on the Honour Board, and a letter from the father of one of those who gave his life. These communications did not disapprove of his action, but he was careful not to read some of the matter relative which he did. This was typical of the tactics employed throughout.

No consideration whatever, was shown for the relatives of the other twenty men, some of whom were strong objectors. Nothing definite could be got from the Chairman, or any of his committee, all of whom were present.

Mr. Steele spoke of his objection to being dictated to by the R.S.L., and was wildly applauded by a section largely made up of irresponsible young people, but a perusal of the motion makes it clear that he was confronted by a request and a very generous offer. The motion, to any intelligent person, had now resolved itself into a question of preference—German or British—and Mr. Watkins, Chairman of the Serpentine-Irrawaddy Roads Board, and Mr. C. Piper, ex-Chairman, at the meeting, strongly urged the people present and the Hall Committee to accept the R.S.L.'s offer. A certain section, however, ignored both appeals, and on the motion being put, it was lost by a majority of 78 to 39. It was a sad but extremely interesting example of mob psychology. No doubt the young people thoroughly enjoyed the free dance afterwards, a reward generously promised and given by the Hall Committee as some recompense for their attendance and support.

BUNBURY

The Annual Re-union of the above branch was held on Wednesday August 19th. On this occasion about 190 returned men sat down for the annual function with the President, Mr. C. R. Gillett, in the chair. The State Executive were represented by Messrs. Benson, Bentin and A. Yates. Amongst the visitors present were the Mayor, the Lord Bishop of Bunbury, Rev. Father Hayes, Rev. H. Moore, Town Councillors and various sub-branch delegates. The evening amusement commenced at 7.30 p.m. by a fancy-dress procession, making a funeral march, and having for its object the burial of Mr. D. Preston. The very elaborate coffin arranged by Mr. Jack Levy and his host of supporters and accompanied by eight stalwart bearers, was carried through the

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streets on a decorated tip tray. A coach following contained the most intimate friends and relations of the deceased. Mr. T. Downes acted as undertaker, and immediately following him was the band in fancy dress, the incomparable, of which are only known by returned soldiers.

Arriving at the hall, and prior to the supper the Rev. Archibald Whiteley read a most pathetic service and committed this notable character to everlasting nothingness. On the call of ten the poor fellow was "outed" through the back door, amidst the dirge of "cheerio." An orchestral programme, promoted and conducted by Mr. F. D. Slees, late of the Air Force, was enabled to produce some "wind" effects. A particularly welcome item was rendered by four male voices (no names, please), whilst a delightful scene was prepared on the stage for the entry of the musical honours of three Chinese jugglers, who "showed up," particularly well the art of "stakedown." Even dinner was bamboozled. Still, the audience had perhaps remained, too long at the wine, which assisted materially in the dazed scene. The whole evening was spent in enjoyment, and the many visits were loud in their praises of the conduct of the whole show. The out-of-work diggers were able to attend in the evening by virtue of a fund established to meet their cases.

The next big hit will be on September 6th, when in a debate on "Prohibition, R.S.L. v. Toc H." The diggers will have as advocate-general for Prohibition Mr. F. D. Slees, assisted by Mr. Norman Ryder, and Mr. A. F. Parham. How these gentlemen (no other ranks) will put up a case against their own convictions remains to be seen. It will be interesting also to hear how the Toc H. proposes and agrees to supply free beer to all and sundry. Since the re-union, our President had to take a spell in hospital (not from ill-effects).

CANNING DISTRICT

LO—A NEW STAR SHINES EVEN UNTIL A SUB-BRANCH CALLED THE CANNING DISTRICT

In the year 1910 a number of care-worn soldiers belonging to the Nation called "Aussie," (paradventure this name was given unto them on the field of battle) did congregate together in a little village called Queen's Park, hard by the waters of the Canning. Lo, did one of the house of "Peel" speak unto the assembled brethren, saying: "Think ye not that it is wise we should join together and become a branch of the Great League of Returned Soldiers." As with one mighty voice the multitude cried, "Yeau!" Then straightforward was one Robert, of the house of "Peel," made chief priest. He then called for ten good and true disciples to contain ten pieces of silver each for the establishment of this "forsaken sub-branch." The scribe did gather together the one hundred pieces of silver, half being placed to the brethren's credit, and then the other half having been given to the special messenger to the great high priest, by name "Dave" of the house of "Benson." Then it was thought fit that some of the chief priests and elders should go forth to the village of Queen's Park and give instructions unto these ex-military soldiers about the great league of brotherhood. There came from the environs of the city the high chief priest called "Bert," he of the house of "Colletts," and of the elders, Wells and Parquharon, when the brethren had assembled together in the "Hall of Memorials," after lengthy discourse, the high priest said: "I give unto you a message: Strengthen the bond of brotherhood that was cemented on the fields of battle, by uniting your sympathies with the great league of brotherhood, and in the name of order, we ask you to join. Then did both the elders acclaim the words of the high priest, saying the words were good, and it was so. Many meetings and gatherings have the brethren held, chief among them being a sacred day set apart for the re-union of those immortal warriors who passed the Rubicon a day which ye shall always remember—the 23rd day of April, and from all the four centres did the people come to behold and offer their beautiful tokens of respect—not only in floral tributes but in the hallowed prayer and tear-dimmed eyes. Also did the chief elders and laymen, of the sub-branch give goodly assistance to the last appeal made to the people for the benefit of the sick and suffering, "The Hospital Appeal," wherein did our stately queen of the land, Mary, get much in her heart among the whole brotherhood; from the village by the waters of the Canning were sent to the paper of "News" moneys amounting to four hundred and thirty three pieces of silver—yes, a goodly collection. Through the new branch, brethren, has been, is it not good that we should give unto the younger generation a shield of merit, to perpetuate throughout the ages the grand league of warriors? Yea verily, this shall be done. Counselled the chief priest and elders in this wise: our branch is a most ancient governing body of cricket, and it shall be among the schools of the district who will participate. A piece of land thou shalt own from the worthy Roads Board, hard in the recreation reserve, and it shall be of regulation size; and lo the Board did grant unto us this land, saying it was good to have such a league in their midst. And great was the rejoicing of the brethren. As with tapes did they measure, and who had learned the art of cementing, did mix of a goodly number and throughout a junior-sized cricket pitch. Great has been the rivalry throughout the first season among the four schools of the district—peradventure for the coveted-shield, which is of polished jarrah, having thereon ten small shields, being one for each school, and around the year the school gaining a number of shields at the tenth year shall become the owner of the "Canning District R.S.L. Secondary Schools — Cricket Shield." And it shall be so. After much communing the chief priest and elders did say after twelve months had passed, we shall indulge in sight festivities. What Oh, go too, i.e., a Smoko. Then was the scribe counselled to send forth tablets unto many chiefs and elders of other villages that they might come into in the sanctuary, and partake of good cheer and do it all and all. Greatly stone the beholding countenance of one "Dave," the chief scribe from the citadel, who, after quaffing much of the flowing bowl, did give unto us this goodly toast, holding high the amber fluid in medium-sized glass. He spoke, "Then did I come amongst the brethren, after a conscientious and brimming event, did depart into the morning. And when it had come the evening of the 28th of May, 1911, a great sadness came upon the little band of brotherhood, for out of their midst had passed their grand chief priest, he, "Rebert," of the house of "Peel," passed on to that glorious western front. No tribute can we find more fitting: A noble duty finds happiness. Albeit: Winter evenings among the brethren are most pleasingly engaged, greatly do the captains interest their teams in debate, and from this cometh the heat to keep us warm. Herein the scribe endeth the first chapter according to the Canning District R.S.L.

NEEDLANDS

This sub-branch held their monthly meeting on Tuesday 11th, when they entertained the Ladies Auxiliary, as a slight recognition for the valuable work and assistance this energetic body have done. All members and the last four years. All members were cordially invited to be present, and about sixty ladies attended, despite the unkind weather. The Social Committee had charge of the social programme. Our President, when welcoming the ladies spoke of the wonderful performance put up by our Ladies Auxiliary, and mentioned that they had been responsible for raising funds to the total of £440, a most creditable effort. Mrs. G. Randall, President of the Ladies Auxiliary, made a very pleasing response, asking our new members to join us in the good work. Mr. Gordon Thomson, our President, then presented the retiring President, J. C. Tozer, with a certificate of service. In doing so he mentioned the sterling qualities of our ex-president, and the wonderfully successful year the sub-branch had enjoyed under his charge of the yield. As is known, Jack has been presented with another son, so the President handed Jack a little something on behalf of the sub-branch for the latest addition.

In accepting the certificate, Mr. Tozer seemed to feel the honour conferred on him very keenly and sincerely thanked the sub-branch which he contended, was second to none in Australia. He mentioned in passing, that this seemed his lucky year, as last meeting night he had a son presented to him and at this meeting he is presented with

BOTTLES!

JACK HARVEY
(late 28th and 2nd Batttn.)

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NANNUP

The usual monthly meeting was held on Aug. 26th, there being another fine attendance of members. Business was chiefly confined to Congress matters, and three motions were forwarded for agenda in the name of the sub-branch. These dealt with soldier settlement and other land matters which concern the majority of returned men in this district. Mr. V. Sholl was appointed sub-branch delegate to expound our views.

At the conclusion of business the usual monthly debate took place, the subject this time being "Secession versus Unification." A Unification was led by Len Elsegood, backed by Bob Wakefield, while "Secession," led by R. V. Sholl, had numerous reserves upon which to draw for support. "Unification" held its position for a while, but "Secession," rushing in its reserves at the critical moment, completely overpowered Len and Bob with arguments causing those two heroes to retire beaten, but not disgraced. A splendid hour enjoyed by all.

Next month, Mr. G. H. Walker will talk on "Early Exploration of the S.W. Coast," so another fascinating evening is assured. "All returned men welcomed.

MOORINE ROCK

The sub-branch monthly meetings continue to be well attended by members.

The matter of introducing stud stock into the district took up a great deal of the time of last meeting, therefore the debate on "Secession" was postponed until next meeting.

"Mobs" was most suitably commemorated on Aug. 29, in the form of a smoke social, which was well attended, the big attraction being the ten of amber liquid kindly donated by the Big "K" Brewery, Merredin.

The Amelioration Fund recently opened has helped several ex-service men (not members of the sub-branch). The parcel of military tunics sent by the State Secretary have been issued and appreciated by members.

The Hon. Jas. Corrall, M.I.C., will be our delegate to the State Congress.

CLAREMONT

Executive Delegates' Visit

Colonel Collett reported as follows to the State Executive: In company with Messrs. Paddy and Tomer, arrived apparently from the Claremont Sub-Branch to be present at a meeting held in the Princess Theatre, Claremont, on the evening of the 3rd instant. Formerly this unit was known as the Claremont-Cottesloe Sub-Branch, but, as you will remember, the State Executive decided for the formation of a separate sub-branch at Cottesloe, which has now been duly established.

In consequence there has been a transference of portion of the membership, and a perfectly amicable and satisfactory arrangement in regard to property, funds, etc.

"The immediate purpose of the Claremont meeting was to endeavour to revive interest in the League amongst the ex-service men of the district. To that end a great deal of spade work had been done by Mr. Smith, and the result was a gathering of some seventy potential members. An election of officers to fill vacancies was carried out, and returned Dr. D. R. C. Tregonning, A.A.M.C., as President; Commander B. L. Vinden, R.N.R., and the Rev. Canon H. H. Harper, late attached to this district, as Vice- Presidents, and a strong Committee. Mr. R. G. Dewar, of the Instructional Staff, A.M.P., is the Hon. Secretary.

"Your representatives were permitted to address the gathering. From what we witnessed, we are hopeful that a strong and valuable addition to the branch is now assured!"

No. 5 DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Annual Reunion

Colonel Collett reported as follows at the last Executive meeting: On Wednesday last, Mr. W. J. Hunt and myself proceeded by road to Bruce Rock, to be present at the Annual Reunion arranged by No. 5 District Committee.

We were on arrival by the President of the local sub-branch (Mr. Wilkinson), and by the Ven. Archdeacon Riley, our Senior Vice-President, who had come over from Merredin. The gathering took the form of a dinner, in which the members of the ladies' Auxiliary also shared, as well as representatives of other local public bodies.

It is a matter for regret that the recent heavy rains had so affected the roads as to render the attendance of some of the more distant sub-branches impossible. Nevertheless, about one hundred members were present and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The function was excellently arranged and presided over by Mr. Logan, the Chairman of the Committee. Amongst the principal guests were the Hon. G. G. Latham, the Deputy Premier, and Mrs. T. C. Wilton, the President of the State Executive of the Women's Auxiliaries.

This lady was spending some days in the country in organizing, and I was glad of the opportunity of paying, on your behalf, some tribute to her for the work she has done and is still doing for the League.

"Your representatives were invited to address the gathering and were most courteously received and hospitably entertained. We were convinced that, despite the anxiety felt by all sections of the public at the present time, and particularly by country residents, the right spirit still prevails and is markedly helpful to the community.

"From what we were able to gather during our short stay in Bruce Rock, the local sub-branch is functioning efficiently under a good team of officers, and contains amongst its members several who belonged to the Home Forces. No complaints were made to us and I am of the opinion that the occasional visits of Archdeacon Riley to this quarter have proved to be of considerable value.

GUILDFORD-BASSENEDEAN

On Friday, September 18, the Bassendean Town Hall was comfortably filled when the N.Z.P.F. Co-Optimists, under the auspices of the New Zealand Perpetual Forests Ltd., presented a grand concert in aid of the R.S.I. popular lady, Miss Kennedy, for the benefit of the unemployed.

The programme was long and varied, every item being a masterpiece in its own class. The whole show went with a swing from start to finish, evidencing careful preparation and conscientious rehearsals. The audience was a representative one of the town and very appreciative which was only to be expected as the entertainment was easily one of the best ever seen in Bassendean.

Great credit is due to Mr. Rex Stewart, the producer, and assistants, for the smooth running of the whole show.

After the show the company were entertained at supper, when the President of the Sub-branch conveyed the best thanks and appreciation of the Sub-branch for the very valuable assistance rendered to a good cause.

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Straight from the Shoulder
(By Peter Hopegood)

Did you leap to claim the privilege of spilling out your blood
For soil you swore no alien hooves should ever stodge to mud,
And all to find--that certain hogs, snug bedded in their pen,
Got out and rooted up the gardens left behind by men?

Have you wakened to the fact that just
A year or two of war
In modern style can spare your life but precious little more,
Can sap the strength that toil or vice
Would take long years to drain,
And fling you on the scrap-heap where you never count again?

Have you gone a-hunting jobs with
Foolish faith in your old skill,
Quite confident, with any luck, you're sure to fill the bill,
And all to meet the cynic smile, the
"Sorry--too old!" sighs,
We've only room for youngsters. Competition's far too high.

Have you known the weary bitterness of years of dying hope,
As you come to realise success is fled beyond your scope,
And, though you've still the guts to fight, you haven't got the neck
To kid the misssus any more you're not a useless wreck?

Have you scraped to give your kids a treat once every little while,
Upon a pension figured on the bare existence style?
Have you undergone, in fact, the double cuts imposed by laws
Of Nature and of man upon the relics of man's wars?

You haven't? Well, just take a spell--
And ponder! You won't fret
Too hard upon examining the princely dole we get.
Then if you want to play at "cuts," why circumcise the swabs
Who occupy the trenches still, they dig in diggers' jobs.

We know that progress has a price all nations have to pay,
And no one could forestall this "slump," though some foretold its day.
We know we're but a portion of that ever-growing price
(We're proud we served at sixes in a costly game of dice),
But what we're forced, since some forget,
To ask you to recall,
If that we didn't haggle over "cuts."
We offered all.
We took the three-per-cents you handed back for smokes and beer,
And gave the other ninety-seven of life
And ease and cheer,
And hope of winning home again to future health and wealth
With open hands and hearts that held no guile concealed with stealth.
We didn't play to lose or win a pension for our age.
We hoped to earn our keep when free,
After our pilgrimage.

We didn't envy those who stayed behind
to scheme and stall.
We counted ourselves lucky to get taken on at all,
And luckier--yet to see the sorry business to its end--
And still we didn't grudge the stay-at-homes their dividend.

We'd form ourselves this very day into another corps,
If doing so would help to win the peace,
as once the war,
If only our example would arouse the world to make
As big an effort lives to save as formerly to take.

But where's the use?--Our dole is small
Of health as well as cash.

We stood our "cut" in Fortune's wages,
And youth and strength and dash,
But, now that progress calls for "cuts"
in cash and nothing more,
Where is the rush to volunteer from those
Who dodged before?

---

Humour

It's funny how doctors generally manage to order us to eat things we don't like when it comes to dieting. Little Jones had been told to eat fish always, when he could get it, in preference to meat.

He loathed fish. The first day of the new scheme he went into his usual restaurant for lunch.

"Waiter," he said, "bring me a nice middle cut of whale." "Sorry, sir, we haven't--"

"Then, how about swordfish?"

"No, sir." "Goldfish? Octopus? Sharks?" "No, sir." "Then bring me a nice steak and onions. Heaven knows I've tried hard enough to get fish."

"Some employers are no different," sighed Topsy. "The one I work for now is a real gentleman. I've been with him six months and he's never even tried to make love to me."

"Cool!" said sophisticated Sally, "why don't you leave?"

---

Editor: "That fellow Scribes sent in a paper this morning entitled 'Why do I live?'"
Friend: "What did you do with it?"
Editor: "Returned it with a slip saying 'Because you posted this instead of bringing it personally.'"

A social climber, very pretty, but decidedly low-brow, found herself at a select house party. A dance was in progress, and the girl, lonely and uncomfortable, and looking like a fish out of water, was leaning against the wall, framed against the dark oak panelling.

Presently the hostess, who had seen her plight, took pity on her. "My dear," she said, kindly enough, "you look just like an old Rembrandt."
The girl blushed, but quickly corrected.

"Well," she said sharply, "you don't look too darn snappy yourself."

---

Judge: "You've charged with throwing your mother-in-law out of the window."
Accused: "I did it without thinking, yer Worship."
Judge: "I realise that, my dear man, but don't you see how dangerous it was for anyone passing at the time?"

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<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President and Address</th>
<th>Secretary and Address</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALBANY</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Evans, P.O. Box 34, Albany</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BUNBURY</strong></td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>C. R. Gillies, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BELMONT</strong></td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>4th Tuesday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sibbritt, Grandstand Rd., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Epson Ave., Belmont</td>
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<td><strong>BAYSWATER</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Burton, King William St., Bayswater</td>
<td>R. E. Anderson, Royal St., Bayswater</td>
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<td><strong>BUSELTON</strong></td>
<td>Weld Hall</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Willmott, Busselton</td>
<td>L. Taylor, Busselton</td>
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<td><strong>COLLIERS</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Tuesdays before pension day, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. E. Rolfe, Throssell St., Collie</td>
<td>Hugh S. Cramer, Medic St., Collie</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COWARAMUP</strong></td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. T. Cooks, Cowaramup</td>
<td>C. W. A. Lewis, Cowaramup</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COTTESLOE BEACH</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>Cowaramup</td>
<td>Cowaramup</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CLAREMONT-COTTESLOE</strong></td>
<td>Alternately Council Chambers, Claremont, and Wells Hall, Cottesloe</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>J. M. King, Kalamunda</td>
<td>W. Burridge, 33 Mason St., Cottesloe</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DARLING RANGE</strong></td>
<td>Parish Hall, Kalamunda Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 1st Monday</td>
<td>Rev. J. Lawrence, Denmark</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, 12 Dalgety St., Cottesloe</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DOWAK</strong></td>
<td>Salmon Gum, 1st Friday; Dowak, 1st Sunday</td>
<td>1st Monday, 2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>C. R. Gillies, Cowaramup</td>
<td>W. S. Ferrier, Arrow, Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICTS</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 2nd Thursday (Pension Night), 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Salmon, Geraldton</td>
<td>H. Gresnas, Dumbleyung</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GASCOWNE</strong></td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday, 2nd Saturday</td>
<td>C. R. Cornish, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>Gerald Andrews, Dowak</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GUILDFORD-BASSENDEN</strong></td>
<td>Council-Chbra, Guildford</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 2nd Saturday</td>
<td>C. F. Gauld, 4th Avenue, Bassendean</td>
<td>C. C. Walker, 132 Hampton Rd., Fremantle</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GERALDTON</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bassendean</td>
<td>1st Monday, 2nd Saturday</td>
<td>W. J. Firmin, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>W. Bagshaw, Geraldton</td>
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<td><strong>HARVEY</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Memorial Institute</td>
<td>1st Monday, 2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>H. L. Kirke, Geraldton</td>
<td>Alfred J. Knight, Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KALGOORLIE</strong></td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 2nd Saturday</td>
<td>A. H. Salmon, Geraldton</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel. 290</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KARRIDAL AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Salmon, Geraldton</td>
<td>Charles S. Smith, P.O., Karridale</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>P.A. Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
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<td><strong>KIMBERLEY</strong></td>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>E. de R. Norman, Broome</td>
<td>A. R. Gray, Broome</td>
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<td><strong>(Derby rep., P. J. Graham and S. Waycott)</strong></td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>1st Saturday</td>
<td>H. H. Rochas, Derby</td>
<td>V. B. Sewell, Kojonup</td>
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<td><strong>KOJONUP</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>L. J. Catt, Koorda</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KOODA</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>Friday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>T. W. McDougall, Lake Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAKE GRACE</strong></td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Day, Lake King</td>
<td>G. Verden, Lake King, Tel. No. 1</td>
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<td><strong>LAKE KING</strong></td>
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<td>Last Sunday</td>
<td>E. Logan, Merredin</td>
<td>E. A. Law, Merredin</td>
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<td><strong>MERREDIN</strong></td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
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<td>Dr. W. S. Myles, Gardener St., Moore</td>
<td>J. P. O'Neil, c/o Shell Co., Moore</td>
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<td><strong>MOORA</strong></td>
<td>Moora</td>
<td>When and where called</td>
<td>T. G. Sommerville, &quot;Merryup,&quot; Mt. Barker</td>
<td>I. N. Goldsmith, Mt. Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOUNT BARKER</strong></td>
<td>Mr. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>P. P. Le Crea, Bencubbin</td>
<td>S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOUNT MARSHALL</strong></td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, Dec., Mar., June, September</td>
<td>W. A. Glowes, Maylands Hotel, Maylands</td>
<td>H. King, 9 Morrison St., Maylands</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAYLANDS</strong></td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>&quot;Merryup,&quot; Mt. Barker</td>
<td>A. J. McGregor, Mt. Helena</td>
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<td><strong>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring and Mt. Helena</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>F. Bateson, c/o P.O.,</td>
<td>R. E. Marsh, Harold Road,</td>
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<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
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<td>Fred Clayton, Nannup</td>
<td>J. Ryding, Box 10, Nannup</td>
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<td>Parade, W. Leederville</td>
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<td>L. Mahoney, York</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>Broadway Theatre (Lower Hall)</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>K. J. Jones, M.C.,</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Avon Bridge Hotel</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Northhampton</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Rosemont Hall, Fitzgerald Street</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>L. J. McDowell, 20 York St.,</td>
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## Associations of Ex-Service Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British United Services Ass'n</td>
<td>Executive at 229 Charles St., North Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m. (monthly)</td>
<td>A. H. Major, 131 Seventh Avenue, Maylands</td>
<td>Geo. E. Cattermole, M.C., 229 Charles St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinded Soldiers' Association</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. T. E. Dunkley</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, “19 Marion St., Leederville.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eleventh Battalion Association</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly Luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard’s Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td>R. W. Blair, 79 William St., Perth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex-Navy Men’s Association</td>
<td>Sports Club, King St.</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>L. Kaye Perrin, 41 Douglas Ave., S. Perth</td>
<td>F. S. Harrison, 270 Wellington St., Perth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twenty-Eighth Battalion Ass'n</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly Luncheon, 1 to 2 p.m., 28th of month or nearest weekday thereof</td>
<td>W. Jones, 179 Cambridge St., West Leederville</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. M. Davies, 42 View St., Cottesloe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sixteenth Battalion Ass'n</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, Perth</td>
<td>General Meeting, October 25th, 1929</td>
<td>Colonel E. L. Margolina, Nederland</td>
<td>V. Ketzer, C/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-Second Battalion Ass'n</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. D. Stone, c/o West Australian Newspaper Office</td>
<td>R. Alexander, c/o Government House, Perth</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Light Horse Association</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Major G. Rosevear, M.C., St. Leonard’s St., Cottesloe Beach</td>
<td>R. V. Perry, c/o Repat. Department</td>
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## Pasture Harrows and “Take-All” OR WHITE GRUBS

(By L. J. G.)

Dairymen and pastoralists throughout the Commonwealth have suffered considerable loss through the ravages of “Take-all,” or white grubs. The grubs are stout, with a long wrinkled body of a whitish colour. When disturbed they curl up into a crescent shape, the end of the body being swollen and dark. The adults of these grubs are commonly referred to as cockchafer beetles, which may be seen in great numbers after dark during the summer months.

The grubs burrow through the soil, feeding on the roots of grasses and pulling out large patches, frequently in the best pastures on the farm. In the Terang district this year, it was impossible to drive a car over some pastures owing to the grubs having killed the grass, and causing the ground to become porous and waterlogged. One of the enemies of this grub is the flower wasp, the female of which burrows into the soil, and when it finds the grub stings it into insensibility by striking at its principal nerve centres, and then lays its eggs in the paralysed body. In this way the food supply for the larvae when they hatch is kept fresh and well preserved.

According to some farmers, these grubs come out on the surface at night, and by rolling the paddocks with a heavy iron roller, thousands of the larvae are destroyed. Fumigants, such as carbon-di-sulphide and calcium cyanide, have proved effective on small areas, but these are quite impracticable if large areas are affected.

The chief enemies of the grub are insectivorous birds, such as magpies, starlings and crows, and it is a common sight to see literally hundreds of these following a plough or a cultivator when pasture is being broken up for cultivation.

Many farmers have realised the value of drastically harrowing their pastures with a view to spreading animal manure, aerating the soil, pruning the roots of the grass, and pulling out matted dead grass and moss, thus renovating and freshening their grass land.

While, in King Island recently, the writer saw flocks of birds following a team pulling pasture harrows, and eagerly snapping up the fat white cockchafer grubs as they were unearthed by the blades of the harrows. Thousands of these grubs must have been destroyed every day, which must have checked materially the destruction which they were causing.

While pasture harrowing is becoming universally recognised as beneficial, it will carry out another very important function if it will check the spread of these “Take-all” grubs.

If some perennial rye grass and clover is broadcasted over the patches after harrowing, and the areas are rolled with a heavy iron roller, both mechanical operations will destroy many of the grubs and check the damage done by them, while seed will be sown under ideal conditions to encourage the re-establishment of a pasture, possibly superior to that existing before the grass was eaten out.

While on circuit a famous judge once returned to the house where he was staying rather late, and as he was wearing a cap, he was not recognised by the constable on duty outside, who seemingly mistook him for one of the servants.

“Has the old blighter gone to bed yet?” inquired the policeman of the judge, who replied that he thought he had not.

A short while later he opened his bedroom window and put out his head. “Constable,” he called down to the street below, “the old blighter is just going to bed now.”

“Don’t you think we’d better buy the boy an encyclopaedia now he’s going to the secondary school?” asked the fond mother. “His master asked him if he had one.”

“I don’t think anything of the kind,” replied the nouveau riche father. “Let the lazy young devil walk, the same as I had to.”

A saleman who had been travelling on a railway in Ireland for years found to his surprise that the train came in on time one day. He therefore went to the guard and said: “Have a cigar; I want to congratulate you. I have travelled on this line for fifteen years, and this is the first time I have caught a train on time.”

“Keep the cigar,” said the guard; “this is yesterday’s train.”
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CASH PRICE LIST.

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<th>Capacity</th>
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<td>All Prices subject to Sales Tax</td>
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