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Futilities and Fallacies

Armistice Day, as usual, gave opportunities for the Communists and their unwitting allies, the Pacifists, to denounce war. Among the many fallacies reiterated were statements concerning war as an institution, and of the Great War in particular; assertions that disarmament and pious resolution will automatically establish peace on earth for evermore; and the pleasing suggestion that we who did the fighting were deluded, into taking the supreme risks. No one has yet shown with any degree of plausibility how Great Britain could have kept out of the war without incurring grave danger to her spiritual, and even her material, welfare. Our nation did not make the war, nor want it. That is proved by our unpreparedness in 1914. A greater degree of preparation would have shortened the duration of the struggle and lessened the appalling butcher’s bill. Indeed, had the Empire’s land forces, in 1914, been proportionate to her navy, and had she not been exhibiting symptoms of internal disintegration, it is extremely doubtful if Germany would have gone to the extent of forcing her to unsheath the sword. We came into the war to honour our pledged word to an inoffensive little State, and to protect ourselves; not to “make the world safe for democracy,” nor to fight a “war to end war.” These pieces of pacifist claptrap are not new. They have been used in connection with wars before 1914, and few of us, if any, and if we are honest with ourselves, had any such bees in our bonnets when we enlisted. Consciously or subconsciously it was recognised that our national existence was at stake, and that it was up to every man worthy of the name of man to play up for his side.

The Reverend N. Richards to the contrary notwithstanding, it is open to argument that our nation is any more morally degenerate now than it was in the first decade of the century, or in the decade that preceded the South African War. Moreover, the assertion that peace gives us great facilities as war for the display of heroic qualities is one of those ex-cathedra statements that are ineffably silly and of no service to the cause of universal peace. From its very nature peace cannot give such facilities. Individual and isolated acts of heroism do certainly occur, but most of the virtues of peace are the virtues of necessity, while the guiding force that can stimulate a nation to concentrated effort, collective self-sacrifice, and Spartan endurance, to say nothing of courage and fortitude under fire, is entirely lacking. Peace has her virtues, but she has also her tragedies and her casualty lists. Where now, excepting among ex-service men and women, is that spirit of mateship, that ideal of team work, which made men and women stick it and suffer for the common cause, and which made them, in the stress of circumstance, achieve the almost impossible? Do we find it in politics? In the industrial sector? Or in big business? Or even in the churches? Not on your sweet middle-aged lives. Again, was the war, except in its intensity, any worse than this peace many of us are experiencing now? Of course, the pacifist will argue that the war caused the depression. It may have hastened it;
most probably it did hasten it; but it must be remembered that there have been world depressions that were not immediately preceded by wars. Anyone who can obtain access to the files can see where the Sydney Bulletin, over twenty years ago, deplored the universal policy of "boom, borrow, and bust," and predicted the depression that must be its inevitable consequence.

The war, like the devil, was not as black as it is painted. It was terrible enough, but it had its compensations. On the other hand, peace is the more normal condition, and we embrace her, even with the knowledge that she is no better than she ought to be. Her cause cannot be advanced by railing at the Great War, and, by implication, the men who fought in it. In a recent essay, B. H. Liddell-Hart, pointed out that the old adage, "If you desire peace, prepare for war," no longer finds acceptance everywhere. He proposes to substitute for it, "If you want peace, understand war." No one can fully understand war except the men who have experienced it. They can advocate measures for the preservation of international peace without having their motives misunderstood; others cannot. As has been said before, the greatest stumbling blocks in the path of peace are its most vociferous advocates. The time has not yet arrived when the ex-service man can accept the crank and the coldfoot as terms of mental and spiritual equality. As these lines are being typed there comes the news of how communists in other parts of the world have endeavoured to make war shrines pegs for their propaganda, while in Geneva itself has arisen the Gilbertian situation of the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference being protected by machine guns against mob violence. It is the old, old story. We can resolve not to go to war till we are black in the face; but how the devil can we prevent war from coming to us?

W. G. Willcox, M.B.E., the National Organiser of Poppy Day, tells the following story of this most famous of wartime poets.

Colonel MacCrae, at the outbreak of war, was a Professor of Medicine at the University of McGill, Montreal. In the Boer War he had served as a gunner, and in 1914 he made strenuous efforts to serve as a gunner once more. The exigencies of the Medical Service forbade it; however, and October, 1914, found MacCrae in France with a Canadian medical unit. He wrote "In Flanders Fields" during the Second Battle of Ypres in 1915, and sent the verses anonymously to Punch. With unerring instinct, Punch published them in that heavy leaded type that it only rarely uses. In May, 1918, MacCrae was brought as a stretcher case to a large hospital on the French coast. The evening of his arrival he asked if his bed might be wheeled on to the balcony of his room so that he could look over the sea to the Old Country. The cliffs of Dover gleamed like a silver belt. To the doctor by his side he said: "Do the people over there know the hell the boys are going through?"

"Tell them," he went on; "tell them this. If ye break faith with us who die, we shall not sleep. Tell them this, doctor, and don’t forget." Not many hours later MacCrae went himself to join that million in whose memory we now wear poppies on Remembrance Day. MacCrae’s poem, and the Haig Fund poppies, are known now the whole world over. Every British community, however small, has its poppy sale on Armistice Day.

Sgt. Major "Jock" Nestor

J. W. Cruthers writes from Kalamunda:

Colonel Wally Robinson’s character sketch of that fine old soldier, Jock Nestor, which appeared in your last issue, will be applauded and appreciated by every soldier who reads it—except Jock himself.

I am sure that good fellow Wally Robinson will forgive an old comrade for endeavouring to set him right on two points which he makes in his article, not in any carping spirit, but solely with the object of correcting impressions which I know will hurt the feelings of the man he seeks to honour. My association with Wally Robinson commenced long ago, many more years ago than we either of us like to look back on now—Boy Scouts, Senior Cadets, Militia, and in 1914 the A.I.F., Wally sacrificing his commission to enlist—and I feel sure that he will give me credit for good intentions; I know that he would not willingly hurt anybody.

Possibly nobody is in a position better to understand and appreciate the character of the erstwhile camp S.M. than myself. His regiment was No. 1 on the list: the Royal Regiment (the Royal Scots), with a list of battle honours as long as your arm; not a kilted regiment, but they wore tartan trews. He served with them for nearly thirty years, taking his discharge as colour-sergeant. But undoubtedly he has also served in cavalry, which was on active service either in

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Origin of Poppy Day

The first Poppy Day appeal was made in 1921. This annual sale of poppies for the welfare of distressed ex-service men and their families is ever associated with the name of Colonel John MacCrae, the Canadian soldier-poet, who wrote "In Flanders fields the poppies blow." In the October number of Our Empire, Captain
Egypt or the Soudan. I suspect he deserted this arm and joined the P.B.I. Most of his time was spent on foreign service, and his "fairy whisper" has scattered the crows in many strange places—Malta, Egypt, India, Burma, Africa, etc. Nothing pleased him more than to get a willing listener in a comfortable corner, with pipes going like furnaces and a couple of "pots" handy, and talk about his experiences all over the world. Many and many a time I have listened to him for hours on end, and hope to do so again.

Now this brings me to the point where I seek to set Colonel Robinson right. During a close association with Jock Nestor spread over more than twelve years *never yet* have I been able to persuade him to relate a single battle experience; nor has he ever been known to wear medals or ribbons in this country. Indeed, he has been "crimed" in his regiment for failing to wear his decorations. Garrulous he is on all military subjects save, as regards himself, these two. As a matter of fact, he appears to have a certain contempt for these outward signs, and of all his medals only two now remain. He gave these to my two sons, who wear them with pride on Anzac Day. I think his sister, last heard of in Canada many years ago, has the others.

Jock was a martinet of the Imperial school, and recruits, old hands, bad bargains—yes, and young officers, too—trembled in his presence. Nothing missed him. His keen eye picked out the slightest detail, and his brief remarks to the offender on these occasions sunk in and rankled, and we didn't forget. But if he was a disciplinarian he was also very humane, and I happen to know of men having been "sent up" to the orderly room who got off through a little hint from him anent King's Regulations. Jock's memory was prodigious and I verily believe that he memorised King's Regulations. Many an N.C.O., many a budding officer, he has helped over the stile—and many a malingerer will never forget him. But he was there to make fighting soldiers out of civilians, and results show how well he did that job.

He volunteered for the A.I.F. on the average of once a month, and each refusal soured him for days after, rendering him an easy mark for "booze artists" who knew his little weaknesses. But, though fond of his beer, he never allowed it in any way to interfere with his job; and he was invariably first man astir in camp each morning.

Who's Who in the League

LAURIE McDOWELL

Mr. L. McDowell, the new delegate co-opted to fill the vacancy in the State Executive caused by the resignation of Mr. H. Walker, was born at Albany on February 14, 1890. He had a fine scholastic career at the Christian Brothers' College, Perth, passing the Junior and Senior examinations of the University of Adelaide. During the war, Mr. McDowell served with the 28th Battalion, and, after the Armistice, spent twelve months on Records work at A.I.F. Headquarters, London. Always a great upholder of the League, he was president of the highly efficient North Perth Sub-branch for two years. In private life he is an officer of the Royal Mint, where he has been employed, with the exception of the years of war service, since leaving school.

Another local publican has been fined for supplying drink to a person under twenty-one. Youth will be served.

Hoodlums in Dublin tried to snatch the poppies out of men's buttonholes on Armistice Day. But you ought to see what happens to the chaps who wear orange blossoms on St. Patrick's Day!

The Mirror waxed personal and impolite over Alex. Pantin's speech on the State Lotteries Bill. Holding up the mirror to ill-nature.

Consult Your Own Interests

A modest half-crown is not an excessive sum to pay for a chance of winning £1,000. It is the price of a ticket in No. 10 Consultation on the Perth Cup, conducted by the W.A. Charities Consultation Committee. The bulk of the profits of this consultation is to go to the R.S.I., whose Executive has undertaken to sell 30,000 tickets. The first three horses will bring the lucky ticketholders £1,000 each, and there is an additional £500 to be divided among those who draw final acceptors. The tickets have been distributed among the sub-branches and can be obtained from secretaries or their deputies.
Soldier Settlers' Annual Conference

The Conference opened at 11 a.m. on September 26, and after the State President addressed delegates, the Chairman of the State Executive Land Committee reported on the work of his Committee for the year.

The following resolutions were carried:

Distribution Necessities.—That the Agricultural Bank Trustees be urged to declare their policy in respect to their distribution of soldier settler proceeds, sustenance and farm necessities, not later than March 1 of each year.

Valuation Farms.—This soldier settler's Conference strongly protests against the continued high valuation of farms, and urges an immediate adjustment.

Mortgages' Rights Restriction Act.—That the State Executive press for the extension of the Mortgages' Rights Restriction Act, or some similar legislation, within a further period of five years.

Experimental Schemes.—That no new experimental scheme should be considered by the Government at the present time and that there should be any funds available, such funds should be used for the benefit of present settlers.

Agricultural Bank.—That the Conference advocate the reorganisation of the Agricultural Bank on rural bank lines by operating current accounts and proper banking facilities.

Evasion of Settlers.—That a deputation wait on the Premier to ascertain the Government's intention towards settlers threatened with eviction, and further to find out if it is the Government's intention to compensate them for any private capital sunk in their locations, owing to the unsuitability of the land, and, where desired, to repatriate them.

Royal Commission: Dairying.—That the report of the Royal Commission on dairying be, fully considered by Congress, and it is a recommendation to the Executive to urge the Government, to give effect to such recommendations as it considers would be beneficial to the Dairying Industry generally.

That Congress regrets that the word "agitation" was used in the report of the Royal Commission on dairying in the South-West.

Royal Commission.—That the Executive request the State Government to give early and earnest consideration to the report of the Royal Commission on farmers' disabilities with a view to providing substantial relief.

Arrears of Interest.—That when it can be proved that a settler suffers any special disability caused through circumstances beyond his control, he shall not be liable for current arrears of interest until such time as such disability is remedied by Government experts.

Re-purchased Estates.—That Congress considers that interest on re-purchased estates should be reduced correspondingly with the interest reduction on period of settlers' accounts with the Agricultural Bank.

Interest.—That the Government be urged to give effect to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Dairying in every particular set out in para. 19 of the Report, para 4 (b), and (c).

Re-purchased Estates.—That the Executive request the Government to extend all terms of leases of re-purchased estates and spread all arrears of land rents and interest for such extended period.

S.S. Interest.—That the Executive approach the Associated Banks and Agricultural Bank that all returned soldiers on the land be under one rate of interest, namely, 4½ per cent, as now charged by the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

That the elevation rates of interest apply to soldier settlers not included within the provisions of the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act.

That Congress re-affirms the resolutions of last Congress, and that all arrears of interest be deferred for a period of five years, such arrears to be free of accommodation interest.

Re-purchased Estates.—That the Executive approach the Minister for Lands to have, in the case of re-purchased estates, accounts issued showing clearly what is due for principal, and what for interest, and that receipts for payment show same accordingly.

Sustenance to Farmers.—That the Executive approach the State Government that early legislation be introduced guaranteeing sustenance to farmers, to the amount of £100 a preference claim against proceeds of season's workings, ranking prior to all liens and mortgages.

Sales Tax.—That the imposition of taxation in the form of duties and sales tax on chemicals and other essentials used in the manufacture of sprays and fertilizers and other requirements of the primary producer, is economically unsound, and in effect delays the rehabilitation of Australia.

Morgan's Trust.—That the Market Trust.—of Associated Auctioneers be approached with a view to a reduction of all charges on sales of primary products.

Railway Freight.—That the State Government be approached to reduce the capital value of the railways and so bring about relief to the primary producer on the present excessive freight charged.

Marketing.—That the attention of the Premier be directed to the need which exists for the organisation of markets, particularly in respect to the difficulties faced by those engaged in primary production, and that he be asked to use the full powers vested in the State, to call for the establishment of overseas markets for the Western Australian producers, and that Congress asks the Government to open the market of settlers' produce with the object of relieving their interest.

Trading.—That the setting up of fruit-connected to the Metropolitan Markets is necessary in regards to fruit fly, immature fruit, overripe and undervisual fruit, and topping of cases and vegetables.

Fruit Fly Control.—That the W.A. Government be asked to enforce regulations as regards fruit fly control, and amend Act so as to make registration of orchards an annual fee, proceeds to be used to combat orchard pests, including fruit fly.

Registration.—That Congress may make further efforts to obtain water reticulation for South Mooree.

Bulk Handling.—That Congress confirms the principle of bulk handling owned, controlled and financed by the wheat-growers themselves.

Cost of Fertilisers.—That a review of the cost of fertiliser in W.A., other States and countries, be taken, and that the Government should endeavour to bring down the cost of fertilisers in W.A.

Land Committee.—That the Executive Land Committee submit a report to the S.S. Conference each year covering the last twelve months activities of their representative on the S.S. Board, together with an expression of opinion as to their satisfaction or otherwise, with the existing personnel, and any suggestions they have for improvement.

Infectious Diseases.—That the Government enforce the Act re Infectious Diseases, especially in cases of tuberculosis, lumpy jaw, and contagious abortion.

Experimental College.—That Congress request that an experimental Agricultural College be founded at Manjimup.

Lime Deposits.—That Congress urge the Government to immediately open up any lime deposits in the interests of settlers.

Railway Freight.—That in view of the unsatisfactory position of the farming industry and the poor returns the farmer is getting for his produce, that railway freight should be revised, especially class B plus 15 per cent.

Milk Bill.—That Congress give urgent consideration to Milk Bill now before Parliament with a view to granting proposed legislation the whole-hearted support of the R.S.L.

Supply of Meat.—That Congress be asked to form a committee to inquire into future supplies of manure to A.B. clients, i.e. Group Settlers.

A number of committees were appointed, and reports were submitted as follows to the full Congress:

Special Committee.—The Committee, consisting of Colonel O'dee, Messrs. A. P. Nugent, H. L. Roche, E. Randolph, J. G. Finlay, H. C. Ainsworth, met to consider matters as affecting soldier settlers in the terms of Item 6, Notice of Motion of the Perth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

That a committee of six be appointed representative of the wheat and wool growing settlers to co-ordinate the matters affecting them.

Mr. B

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and define a policy for Conference to approve having as its object legislative action to place the settlers in a position giving some hope for the future.

The Committee decided to approach this task and to make recommendations to Congress as a definite policy of the League, under the following headings:— (1) Principal, (2) Interest, (3) Revaluation, (4) General.

Principal: Arrears of principal repayments.

That such arrears be placed in suspense account and remain in abeyance for five years.

Interest: 2. Arrears of Interest.—That arrears of interest be also placed in suspense account and remain in abeyance for five years, and that interest on such arrears of interest be suspended for that period.

Current Interest: 3. (a) Where it can be shown that further development is necessary in order to bring a soldier settler’s holding to a stage of production which will afford him a reasonable prospect of eventually meeting his obligations, and giving some outlook for the future, the policy of deferment of payment of current interest, provided a proper proportion of such interest be expended in further developments of the settler’s security, be pursued.

(b) Where, through circumstances beyond the control of the settler, proceeds are not sufficient to pay current interest and provide sufficient to carry on, current interest be deferred.

Revaluation: 4. At the end of five years a revaluation of all holdings was to be made by a special revaluation board consisting of a representative of the Agricultural Bank, a representative of the Soldier Settlers with an independent chairman; the settler to be given an equity in his holding, such equity to be determined by the revaluation allowing for any repayments made by him in the past.

We recommend that the subject matter of this report be placed before an all-party committee of both Houses of Parliament, with a view to impressing upon them the necessity for immediate legislative action being taken to give effect to this policy.

Re Items 40, 41, and 44 on Agenda.—In view of the inability of the Committee in the short time at its disposal to formulate a definite policy with regard to railway freight, it is recommended that this matter be left to the incoming Executive to thoroughly enquire into and take such action as it may think fit.

Moved by Colonel Olden (Perth), seconded by Mr. Nugent (Campion), that the report be adopted.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Fry (Corrigin), seconded by Colonel Nicholson (Moora), that as the finances of the Soldier Settlement Scheme are on a distinct footing from that of general land settlement, the report of the Land Settlement Committee be confined to those under the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

After a lengthy discussion of the motion and amendment it was decided on the motion of Mr. Hunt (Perth), seconded by Mr. Randolph (Meredin), that the discussion be adjourned until 4 p.m., when copies of the report should be handed to the delegates.

The adoption was eventually moved by Colonel Olden, together with the amendments moved by Mr. Fry, seconded by Colonel Nicholson (above), which was accepted by Congress as an addendum to the report. The report was adopted.


Delegates.—M. Stahl, Johnson, Powell, Hand, and Henning.

In the absence of the General Manager the delegates placed their views before the Secretary for Group Settlement, for submission to the General Manager on his return, as under:

1. The delegates considered that the Bank and Department of Agriculture should display a more active interest in this matter, and made suggestions:

(a) Supply of wire for further subdivision, fencing to be erected by settlers supplying posts and labour.

(b) Investigation of suitable perennial grasses, bearing in mind climatic conditions and feed value of produce. Suitable grasses developed at a value to be made available (with manure) to settlers. Special attention to be directed to pest resistant varieties.

(c) Top dressing. Use of lime urged to cure sourness and possibly make stilt soil friable and free nitrogen and phosphoric acid in soil. Efficacy of super and desirability of using nitrogen manures for dressing were discussed.

(d) Assistance in summer and other cropping for ensilage.

(e) Special grasses, e.g., Giant Colonial Cow Grass, (f) Ploughing up pasture to establish Kikuyu (Northcotea inzisifolia) in set."m."

(g) Encouragement of lucerne growing on suitable land.

2. Pets and Control.—Assistance to establish and control pet flocks. More vigorous action wanted, as pets are taking control while investigation proceeds. Grasses immune to attack wanted in preference to clovers readily attacked. Yannah State School experiments in resistant plants to be investigated.

3. Implements.—Binders and/or threshers wanted for cereal crops to supply seed and grain, to be worked co-operatively, to be supplied from abandoned wheat-belt farms.

Mowers.—Mitchell mower considered too heavy for one horse and faulty in castings.

M.B. Ploughs wanted for Northcote in place of disc ploughs.

Drills wanted for manuring and to put in cereals, as giving better results than broadcasting.

4. Stock Loans.—Two horses necessary for transport and working of farm. Ten infected horses to be examined with view to cure on removal, in view of alleged spread through them of contagious abortion in cows.

Hire purchase horses.—Delegates protested against bank lien over these (under B/S) when full purchase off.

5. Shelter.—Delegates suggested issue of iron to provide shelter for stock, which Colonel le Souëf is stated to have said is essential, and for hay (say, 40 tons) and implements. Margaret River-Augusta were changed from Guernsey to Jersey zone, the latter cannot stand climate.

Shelter of stock will enable more extended use of cow manure.

Rugging impracticable and deleterious in wet weather.

6. Nesting.—Required particularly for rabbits. Suggested that farm boundaries, or groups of fences, be netted, and Vermin Act be enforced, or as a minimum that intense culture areas be netted.

7. Sale of Surplus Stock.—Delegates considered that with limited pasture areas, carrying capacity does not keep pace with natural increase. Surplus stock must be got rid of, and settlers must keep profit stock, losing grade heifers. They suggested:

(a) Better adjustment between repossessions and re-issue values to be advantage of the settler.

(b) Progeny sales—25 per cent. to be made available first for sale of cattle, sheep, seeding, etc.

(c) Better methods of disposal to get reasonable values.

(d) Exchange between Agricultural Bank clients in the wheat-belt and south-west, e.g., heifers for horses, or wheat and oats, with special railway freight.

(e) Agricultural Bank to take over stock, hold and sell or re-issued at valuation, giving settlers the benefit of enhanced values. Specific sale results at Midland Junction and Manjimup were quoted, to show that prices realised were too low, and that dealers were getting bargains on which, after a few months, they made huge profits.

(f) Commonage to be provided, on which settlers could raise stock, to be fenced, cleared, and used with bull and stockman, at an agistment charge of, say 1/- per head per month. It was stated that the Forests Department was preparing a commonage at Manjimup.

8. Special Disabilities.—It was suggested that supervision of weights and tests at factories be provided.

The Bank's practice of taking in stock at valuation and re-selling at fresh valuation was working against settlers.

Report Dealing with Wheat Growers.—Mr. Nugent (Campion) submitted a report in connection with farmers' questions expressed by Item 72. The Committee had interviewed Mr. Grogan re assurances of prompt supply of essential parts to commence harvest.

2. Re liens now being submitted to settlers for signature.

As regards No. 1, Mr. Green stated that he would take the necessary steps to see that those parts were supplied and guaranteed that there would be no hitch in arrangements.

2. As far as he was concerned, he knew nothing about them, but would have enquiries made as to what they were and where they emanated from, as no authority for such liens had been issued by the head office of the Bank.

Mr. E. A. McLarty.—The Controller of the Soldier Settlers Scheme, Mr. E. A. McLarty, addressed delegates. He stated that interest reduction on Soldier Settlers' accounts consequent upon the drop from 6% to 4½ per cent. amounted to £62,311. Only eight soldier settlers' properties had been repurchased during the year, and these were considered hopeless cases.

Minister for Lands.—The Minister for Lands, Mr. C. G. Litham, M.L.A., addressed delegates.
In the Repat. Ward
(By Wm. Anderson)

"In connection with your war pension, it is desired that you should enter the Repatriation Ward of Perth Hospital in order that your condition may be clinically investigated, and for this purpose it will be necessary for you to remain in hospital approximately fourteen days. It is desired that you refrain from making any arrangements until you are informed that accommodation in the Ward is available." Such was the order I received on September 22, and on October 3, the beginning of Show Week, I attended for admission. At the entrance, opposite the Cathedral, is a small office, and through here every man passes both inwards and outwards. A desk, a chair, a typewriter, and numerous pigeon-holes and cupboards face you and a notice stares you in the face that the office is not open on Saturdays.

"Jimmy" Campbell is soon hard at work on your papers. He does not keep you long; he has seen service in the field and learnt speed and efficiency in his regiment. He knows exactly how many vacant beds there are, how many surgical, medical, convalescents and out-door patients there are, and also he has up his sleeve (unfortunately, he has only use for one) a place where he can fix a stray dog up with a shakedown for a couple of nights after discharge.

"Right-o!" he says, and your name, regimental number, rank, unit, age, religion, address are noted, and you are hustled off to Ward 11. Here an orderly in uniform, looking anything but the personification of hustle, conducts you to the bathroom and subsequently grabs your various garments. You change; a list is taken of your wearing apparel; you collect what is left, follow him along the verandah, and he hands you over to the nurse. You have been admitted.

In the ward there is a row of neatly made white beds with lockers down each side; above them, wide-open windows; highly polished floors, and tables decorated with flowers. Scattered about are numerous chairs, designed to keep patients off their beds during the day, but don't. Lolling on beds is a peculiarly Australian habit, and, you'll agree, much more comfortable than sitting erect. Then there is Sister Jones's sacred corner, screened from the vulgar gaze, where are to be seen bottles, basins and queer-shaped dishes. Of the verandah is the pantry, the domain of nurses and undermaids. All culinary utensils and dishes are arranged in cupboards and on shelves round the walls. Here all meals are served out to bed patients and those littleainties concocted which tempt your appetite when your "temp" is 104 (mostly when it is over that you've got no appetite).

Under this pension cut drive all sorts of men are treated—clergymen and cabbies, bankers and butchers, school teachers and suburban trammen, barristers and billsticker, labourers and those who labour not, all temporarily on the same footing.

Early morning and coffee is served at 5 o'clock, after which there is no more sleep. Cigarettes are lighted, all the best yarns are told (good, bad, indifferent, etc.), family skeletons revealed, war-time memories recalled, and the principal topic of all is this move to find out if a man in his early years had had the measles or the whooping cough, or had he a war-caused disability. There were a large number of elderly men, many having served in the South African and the Great Wars, undergoing this special examination; men from all over the colony, as far as Broome in the north and Esperance in the south; and the expenses of travelling are paid by the department.

Those who have been on the "list" have doleful tales to tell. Sputum, blood and urine tests are made, several visits are made to the X-ray dept., and here a patient has to undergo a system of torture that is very trying, to those who have suffered disablement at the front. Blood samples are taken, and after a two days' interval he is subjected to the tuberculin test, similar to that adopted by the Stock Dept. for the discovery of T.B. in cows. Three "needles" are given at intervals of 48 hours, the third test being a full measure of the vaccine. This last dose affects the patient in various ways; he gets into a state of morbid drowsiness, apathetic, and during the 48 hours he is under the effects of the drug his temperature is taken every two hours. For days afterwards some patients feel ill-effects and ultimately become sufficiently convalescent to be discharged. I had 21 days, and even now, surrounded with home ties, I feel a stupor caused by this powerful narcotic.

In addition to the above, I was diagnosed by a specialist, throat examined, and nostrils twice punctured by needles. All these investigations to ascertain if microbes are carried in my blood stream, or if my disabilities were hereditary, after a lapse of fourteen years, savour of persecution and cause one to think that the greatest crime we committed was in returning from the war—we should have remained in France, "under the sod." What time, trouble and expense would have been saved!

The results of these medical tests have the same effect on some men that a highly-coloured cloth has on the delicate sensibilities of a certain animal found in a dairy herd. Men are being subjected to this treatment who have been located at Wooroloo for years, and also many who have been under medical supervision for over fourteen years. I have been examined by over two dozen doctors, have been an inmate of Wooroloo and Kalambura institutions, and an out-patient for some years. Why were we not subjected to this strenuous scrutiny before enlistment?
The Digger-Erant
JOE MAXWELL, V.C.: THE MAN AND HIS BOOK
(By C. R. Collins)


It is just about nine years since Bede Kenny, V.C., brought Joe Maxwell into Victoria Barracks, Sydney, where I was then stationed, and introduced him to me. I called it a day, and we three went to communion—in the mess. Between Kenny and myself, both men of unusual length, Joe might have had the appearance of being under escort, but it was not long before he was dominating the situation. Rarely have I met a more vital personality, one more keenly alive or more pronouncedly likable at first sight. The impression first formed of him was that he would be the ideal companion for a night out, or to have at one's side in a scrap. Everyone who had heard of him knew him to be a born fighter, but it soon became evident that he was also a born writer, and I was not surprised to learn that he had secured a job on the literary staff of one of the Sydney dailies—the Telegraph, unless memory fails me. Like most press men, he was a bubbling fountain of good stories, and again like most press men, of junior rank at least, he found relief from the strain of writing good English in frequent lapses into swarthiness. Throughout a pleasant morning that passed all too quickly, he kept up a running fire of shrewd and humorous comment on persons, places, and things, and through the veil of cynicism, which most diggers affect, there flashed occasional glimpses of the knight errant soul, just as it still leaps at one from pages of the book he has made.

Reading "Hell's Bells and Mademoiselles" recalled the picture of Maxwell as he was that morning, gay, humorous, and insouciant; a man who had done big things, and who was still capable of squeezing the last ounce of enjoyment out of each fleeting second. He certainly exhibited none of the post-war disillusionment which is the opening chord of his book. I had long wanted to meet him, for we had many mutual friends, and I was not disappointed. Lieutenant-Colonel George Murphy, who commanded the 18th in 1918, and who has written a scholarly and candid foreword to the book, is an old friend who was in my year at Sydney. So also (if it is the same man) was the Padre Tugwell mentioned in these pages. Captain George Walklate, M.C., whom Maxwell frequently mentions, is an ex-member of the Royal Marines, who rejoined the colours in Australia. Just before the Armistice, Walklate and I were fellow instructors at the Australian Corps School. It was Walklate who informed me that Maxwell had been awarded the V.C. Never shall I forget the pride with which he informed me that his battalion had annexed this coveted decoration, and his unfeigned, almost delirious delight, that Maxwell should have been the recipient. I also knew that serious and efficient little man, the schoolmaster-captain, who boomed out his words at intervals, like a battery firing a royal salute. These and many others mentioned in the book are personally known to me, so that its first reading gave the impression of listening in to an old comrade's reunion.

In "Hell's Bells and Mademoiselles," Maxwell has done for the infantry what Ion Idriess, in "The Desert Column," did for the light horse. It is the Australian war book of the Western Front. It is a tale of moving adventure by flooded trench and boggy No Man's Land, told in language that is both simple and picturesque by one who combines the soul of the artist with the trained journalist's powers of observation. That is not to say that the book has no defects, great and, all though it undoubtedly is. Occasionally the literary artist is overlaid by the journalist. Certain passages are marred by the sham sentiment which other reviewers have noticed. The story opens on the correct note of disillusionment. Again, referring to the exploit which won him the V.C., the author states that if any man there was more frightened than he was himself, God help him. This, of course, as Euclid used to say, is absurd, but it is the right thing to say. The main difference between the literary artist and the journalist—and Maxwell, be it remembered, is both—is that while the former is concerned with the use of the right word, the journalist, at all costs, even at the expense of the eternal verities, endeavours to say the right thing. One cannot stifle the suspicion that, in the passages referred to, Maxwell, if he is not exactly pandering to the prevalent anti-war hysteria, is trying to tickle the senses of the groundlings by taking the advice attributed to the late Dame Nellie Melba and "singing muck to them."

The narrative, too, is interspersed with a number of tales that will be the delight of those editors who run bigger columns in their papers, but one cannot help feeling that the tales have lost nothing in the telling. Some of them are old friends. That digger, for instance, who told Sir William Birdwood that his father was still dead, must have belonged to every battalion in the A.I.F. It has never been my good fortune to meet an English A.P.M. so readily susceptible to flattery as he whom Maxwell encountered in Flanders; but, if ever there was a subaltern in the A.I.F. who could reduce blustering authority to complacent friendliness with a few judiciously chosen words, that subaltern was Maxwell.

But such defects are, after all, merely superficial blemishes which do not detract from the general excellence of the book. When Maxwell ceases to think of pleasing his public, the journalist in him stands at ease and the literary artist is in

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the saddle. He is sane and vigorous, full of human sympathy, and with an artist's eye for colour and contrasts. The book is a series of sketches rather than a connected narrative, but it contains many passages of vivid and inspiring description. The account of the taking of Garter Point and Anzac House is a noble piece of prose—to my mind the finest of the many fine passages in this well-balanced book—which is worthy of reprint in any anthology of war stories. Consider, too, the delightful vignette at its close, of the watery sun sinking in the west with a few stray human figures silhouetted against the skyline. He passes with facility from gravity to gaiety. The estaminet scenes are inimitable; his characters are well portrayed and not overdrawn. While he is full of sympathy for wounded comrades and wounded foes, and even for those weaker vessels whose nerves betrayed them at crucial moments, the note of maudlin self-pity which forms the motif of "All Quiet" is conspicuous by its absence. The language of his characters is often Elizabethan in its robustness, but he never mistakes filth for realism nor nastiness for strength. Sometimes he does not see eye to eye with higher authority, but, unlike Robert Graves, he is no carping egocentric conscious of his own eternal rightness in a world gone wrong. His essential sanity and instinctive modesty are apparent throughout. He gives life-size pictures of his comrades, but, apart from his own little romance with Germaine, very little about himself. The exploits which gained him well-merited decorations are mentioned in passing, but not dwelt upon. One learns more about Maxwell's outstanding achievements in the short foreword by Colonel Murphry, than in the whole of the main narrative. The book is a sheer delight from start to finish; there is not a dull line in it, and it should appeal to soldier and civilian alike.

Reading it, and re-reading it, convinces one that the age of chivalry is not yet dead. Although the author did not intend it to do so, it gives the reader a new appreciation of the man, Maxwell. He is the modern knight errant, the digger errant, courteous and sometimes, perhaps, a little more than courteous to women, sympathetic to the less fortunate, ready to fight or drink on the slightest provocation, a leader of men, and a capable handler of hard cases. A sane, vigorous, and noble book; and worthy of the gay and gallant little soldier who wrote it.

Personal

According to London Truth, General Sir Alexander J. Godley, who commanded the A. & N.Z. Division on Gallipoli and the II Anzac Corps in France, and who is now Governor of Gibraltar, has passed the preliminary examination as an interpreter in Spanish. This shows creditable energy on the part of one who is now sixty-six years of age. Members of the Fourth Brigade sincerely hope that he will not be asked to do it again "at the double."

Died in Brisbane at the age of 52, Colonel H. K. D. Macartney, C.M.G., D.S.O. The deceased was a native of Central Queensland, where, for years, his family have been station people. He was a grandson of the late Dean Macartney, of Melbourne. A commissioned officer of the permanent forces, he went to the front in command of an R.A.A. battery, and finished the war as C.R.A. on Corps Headquarters. He resigned from the Staff Corps about nine years ago.

Mr. J. W. Bateman, who has just been appointed Warden of the Fremantle War Memorial in succession to Mr. F. E. Gibbon, is well known in business circles as a director of the firm of J. & W. Bateman Ltd. During the war he threw himself heart and soul into every movement for the benefit of men on active service. Ever since he has carried on the good work, being foremost in helping the widows and dependents of deceased soldiers. Mr. Bateman is also actively interested in the work of Toc H and took a leading part in making the Fremantle memorial an accomplished fact. No better choice for the office of Chief Warden could have been made. One who has been such a constant and unobtrusive worker in matters of amelioration can be relied upon to see that the memorial is properly maintained and proper respect shown it. In congratulating Mr. Bateman on his appointment and thanking him for giving his services in yet another sphere, the League can congratulate itself on its good fortune in inducing Mr. Bateman to accept this office.

Mr. F. A. (Dick) Law, of Merredin, was recently holidaying in Perth. Dick, who is an ex-Imperial soldier, is one of the League's best workers. A keen student of economics, he spent most of his holidays extending his knowledge in this direction. We understand that Dick is a candidate for parliamentary honours. If his electors desire a studious man of integrity, with ability and courage, Dick Law is that man, and we wish him success in his venture.

There are several ex-service men among the visiting English cricketers. The cheery and debonair Maurice Tate saw active service abroad with the artillery. Leyland, thought he must have been quite a youngster at the time, took the sporting way to a commission through the ranks. Sutcliffe also smelt powder in France. "Plum" Warner, the veteran manager of the team, was a captain engaged in very important home service work. On the other hand, a famous batsman, who is a popular idol with everyone but ex-service men, thought of military age, saw no service of any kind.

Mr. J. H. Holliday, who has held the position of State Secretary of the Queensland Branch of the League for the past six years, has resigned. Whilst in Queensland recently, the writer spent a few hours with Mr. Holliday, and was impressed with his ability and sincerity.

Perhaps there is no municipality throughout Australia so well managed, and where such contentment exists among the ratepayers as at Guildford. Largely the reason for this happy state of affairs is that Calder Crowther has been Mayor, and Leonard Gibbons, Town Clerk for years. Calder was a gentleman of the 10th Light Horse, and is the proprietor of Dobbie's Engineering Works in Perth, and Len served with Collett's 28th, having the misfortune of losing a leg "over there."
Mr. M. J. Offer, of the Taxation Department, a member of the West Perth Sub-Branch Committee, is dangerously ill in the Mr. Karenya Private Hospital, St. George's Terrace. Members wish him a speedy recovery.

A recent recipient of the League's Certificate of Service is Mr. Alfred Sagar, of the Brunswick Sub-branch. The presentation was made at the sub-branch's recent Poppy Ball, at which Mr. Sagar, who had been kept in the dark as to what was intended, was so busy about sub-branch matters in the hall, that sergeant-major tactics had to be employed to get him on to the platform. The presentation was made by the President, who, supported by Mr. W. Noakes, gave a resume of Mr. Sagar's work in steering the sub-branch through its initial difficulties.

No one could be more worthy of this honour than Mr. Sagar, whose deep loyalty to the sub-branch, and whose wise wisdom have made him a very present help in time of trouble. He extends the helping hand to all diggers who need it, but his kindly deeds are done so unostentatiously that they usually pass unnoticed. He also plays a prominent part in those other local activities which aim at making Brunswick people happier and better citizens.

This is the second Certificate of Service that has come the way of the Brunswick Sub-branch.

Mr. 'Ted' Knight, who is a popular number of the State Surveys Department, has been elected Vice-President of the West Perth Sub-branch (vice "Jimmy" Everett, resigned).

Mr. Knight joined the 10th Light Horse Regiment in October, 1914, at Geraldton, at which town he was then stationed. After about four years of excellent service with that unit on the Peninsula and in Palestine, he was early in 1918 attached to the Field Engineers. Eventually returning to Australia with the rank of lieutenant, Mr. Knight, who now fills the position of examining draftsman in the Survey Department, was stationed at Albany, where he continued his association with his old comrades by taking an active part in the local R.S.L. and military affairs. He was for a time Officer-in-Charge of the 24th Heavy Battery, Albany, which unit, by the way, on one occasion, gained 1st place, and later 2nd place, in the Commonwealth competitions between batteries. Since returning to Headquarters, he has found time among other things to continue his R.S.L. activities with the West Perth Sub-branch, and to direct the destinies of his old unit, the 10th Light Horse Association, as President.

Mr. W. Cooper, of Mount Barker sub-branch, recently underwent a severe operation. His many friends in the district and elsewhere will be pleased to learn that he has terminated his convalescence and is now back at work.

Vale—Jack Arnold
Passed away at Caulfield Hospital, Victoria, aged 58, Jack Arnold, South African veteran, a sergeant of the original 11th Battalion, and an old pioneer of the goldfields. Jack was returned wounded to W.A. early in 1916, but, after doing

a term at the Officers' Training School at Dunrobin in October, 1916, left this State in October, 1917, as O.C. 27th Rfts. 11th Battalion.

Jack was in fact the founder of the League in this State, as the following will show:-

In May, 1916, the 44th Battalion was in camp at Claremont, preparing for embarkation. Several ex-members of the 11th Battalion were returning to active service as officers and N.C.O.'s of the 44th. Jack inserted an advertisement in the West Australian newspaper convening a meeting of members of the 11th Battalion then in Perth, the venue being a parlor at theCriterion Hotel, Hay St. About ten or eleven turned up to the meeting and arrangements were made to give a fitting send-off to old comrades going away with the 44th. (This took place at Fremantle and was a great success.) The meeting also decided to form a 11th Battalion Association. A few days later members of the 12th Battalion were successful in getting this Association turned into a 3rd Brigade Association, and a little later its membership was extended to embrace all ex-A.I.F. men. It then became the Returned Soldiers' Association (R.S.A.). Before the 44th left Fremantle its C.O., Lieut.-Colonel Mansbridge, was given all information regarding the R.S.A. and he promised to tell the troops across the water what was being done.

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The writer was one of those who attended the meeting at the Criterion, so this information is first-hand; he was also Jack's assistant with the 27/11th on Board H.M.A.T. *Aeneas*. During the writer's absence from the State in 1917-1920 the R.S.A. became merged with branches of the League in the Eastern States and its name altered to the R.S.L. The claim made that Jack Arnold was the father of the League in W.A. stands on solid ground.

League Honours Mr. F. E. Gibson

The Federal Congress, which assembled in Melbourne recently, unanimously decided to grant the League's Certificate of Merit to Mr. F. E. Gibson, the Mayor of Fremantle.

The Annual Re-union of the Fremantle Sub-branch was held on Armistice night. It was largely attended, and, on being called upon to make the presentation, the State President said:

"We gained many pleasures through our association with the A.I.F. I myself have had much solid enjoyment since I have been a member of this League, but there have been few occasions when I appreciated my position more fully than I am able to do tonight.

"To be permitted to make this presentation on behalf of the League is a great honour. To be allowed to hand it over to Mr. Gibson, who happens also to be the Mayor of the City of Fremantle, is an additional honour.

"There are many people, too many in fact, and for that we are ourselves somewhat to blame, who associate this League only with a matter of pensions, or with a collection made on Armistice Day. Those things, of course, in their way, of great importance.

"There are other folk who recognise, with proffered respect, that our numbers are made up of the somewhat worn survivors of a great conflict.

"Others, again, with clearer vision, see in our organisation a strong prop to the social institutions and a potent impetus to the moral and material progress of the State.

"These last admit our other claims readily, and are our true and active friends. To that class Mr. Gibson belongs.

"He has worked on lines parallel to ours. His help and example during the war years had infinite value. His assistance, given in various ways, to distressed members has greatly relieved anxiety and suffering. His encouragement to the local sub-branch has made its task easier, and his share in the erection and completion of the splendid memorial on the adjacent highland calls for the warmest expressions of gratitude from all assembled here this evening.

"Were that all, and it is a great deal, he has more than merited this Certificate, but the greatest of all his qualities is that he himself is the embodiment of good citizenship and the things I have recited are but the hall marks of such a man."

Turning to Mr. Gibson, he continued:
"The ex-service men of Australia have looked upon you in the position of eminence you have attained. It is in their power to confer a certain distinction upon worthy individuals whom they consider goodly in appearance and sterling in character. This Certificate, which I now present to you, is meant to represent their gratitude—more than due to you—and to convey their best wishes for your future happiness and prosperity, and that of your wife and family. We are proud to be associated with you."

The Old Contemptibles

Those ex-service men who were under light gun fire between August 5, 1914, and the night of November 21-22, 1914, are requested to get into touch with Captain A. C. Bond, at-Darlington, or at his postal address, Box 1650, G.P.O., Perth, and join the Old Contemptibles' Association. This is a Federal Organisation, which was organised about a year ago by Padre E. E. Hayes, of Merinda, Victoria. There are already branches in each of the Eastern States, and it is desired to form a West Australian branch. So far, Captain Bond has received over forty applications for membership, and an inaugural meeting will be held at the Institute—at 8 p.m., on Monday, November 28.
enough to report the progress in the local R.S.L. circles.

Pingrup was reached after the dinner arranged had commenced. An opportunity was given Messrs. Hunt and Benson to address the gathering. Later in the evening they attended the annual meeting. The following morning the journey was continued to Lake Grace. Many fine crops were passed and grass everywhere was in abundance.

On arrival at Lake Grace at about lunch time, it was quite evident that the diggers’ day was in progress in the town, and a very fine sports meeting programme had been arranged for the afternoon, commencing at 2 o’clock. This was officially opened by the Executive delegate, Mr. W. J. Hunt. Some idea of the success of this function may be gathered from the fact that the gate receipts amounted to approximately £66. The diggers also control a diggers’ show in this town, and a programme had been secured for the show, which commenced at 8 p.m. to a full house. At 9 p.m. a break in the show was made in order that the Executive delegate could present the prizes on behalf of the local sub-branch. Following that, the soldiers adjourned to a neighbouring hall for the smoke social—a highly-successful function.

Delegates were present from Kojonup, Katanning, Narrogin, Pingrup, and Wagin. The speeches generally were of a high order, and were appreciated very much by the assembly. Excellent harmony was provided and generally a splendid spirit was in evidence during the whole of the function. The following morning the serious side of the business was in evidence. No. 4 District Committee met at 9 p.m. and adjourned at 9.30 p.m. to join the combined Memorial Service conducted by the Anglican and Methodist ministers. During that service a wreath was laid by Mr. Hunt on the Memorial. The service was attended by all the delegates to the District Committee.

Following the service, the meeting was resumed and the whole question of the Kojonup proposals was thoroughly discussed. The Committee was anxious that a proposal be submitted by the meeting to parliamentary representatives in order that their support could be secured in the endeavour to place a proposal before the members of the Government, in order to ensure as far as possible their acceptance. During the meeting the Williams delegates arrived. The debate confirmed the impression of the parlous state of the sheep and wool industries in particular.

Some remarkable figures were submitted showing the return to farmers for their products. Matters were left in the hands of the delegates to submit to the land committee, with the earnest hope that some remedial measures might be found that will be helpful in the near future. The meeting expressed their appreciation of the evidence of the visitors from Perth. The organisation and the team work under the president, Jack Colenson, was very commendable and very pleasing to watch—everybody seemed to have a job and everybody did it.

Not a hitch occurred during the weekend. A graceful tribute was paid by Mr. R. Carruthers, the Chairman of the Road Board and the pioneer of the district, to the local sub-branch, and there appears to the visitor not the slightest doubt that the diggers rank very high in the regard of that community. The outstanding impression of the trip appears to be in the motion of appreciation shown to visitors from the State Executive. There was ample evidence that country diggers hold the League in very high esteem, hence the warmth of the welcome extended to the delegates, which was deeply appreciated by them.

**Sustenance and Relief Work**

Following the submission of Congress resolutions, on the question of sustenance and relief work, to the Unemployment Board, the League has been advised—

1. An ex-soldier who requires sustenance must first apply to the local police constable. If he considers the case genuine, a recommendation will be made to the Unemployment Board for sustenance and work. Instructions have been issued from head office that all married ex-soldiers with pensions may register for work.

2. Equal treatment is given to ex-group settlers, whose holdings have been re-possessed by the Department, and to those who have had to leave the holdings, owing to sickness. Sustenance and work is withheld from ex-group settlers, who have holdings without authority from the Department. Sustenance, however, may be given if someone is found to take over the holding.

3. In connection with a further resolution to increase the amount of /1 paid to men travelling the country in search of work, it is notified that, at the present time, the Government cannot increase this amount, owing to the shortage of funds.
Digger Sporting Recollections
(By M.H.M.)

The Empire-wide interest being taken at present in the game of cricket leads one to reflect on the part played by cricketers, and even the game itself, during the war years. Thousands of diggers sought relaxation from the horrors and misery of trench life in friendly competition with bat and ball whenever opportunity offered. Billiard table wickets were never met with, and recourse to "covering" was unheard of. Behind the line cricketer was invariably played in a field, more or less (usually considerably less), yet how keenly were these games contested! Some of the world's leading cricketers took part in active service cricket, and must have experienced many rude shocks to their cricketing systems. The writer well remembers twice playing against the great G. G. Macartney in the Armentieres sector. Fully expecting the little champion to pile up the runs quickly despite the Flanders mud wicket, it came as a great shock to see him dismissed for 4 and 0. The shock was also shared by G.C.M., particularly as one dismissal was per the lbw route, and Macartney's looks reflected the trend of his thoughts.

At the conclusion of the war, the Great A.I.F. team was formed, which included such wonderful cricketers as Jack Gregory, Oldfield, Kelleway, Collins, and Taylor. Digges generally can be proud of the records of these players in the international sphere of cricket, although their runs have almost disappeared from the playing arena, it is pleasing to know that Oldfield is still on deck, and even yet enjoys the reputation of being the world's foremost wicket-keeper. England, too, has her share of ex-soldier cricketers, two of whom are with us now as part of the visiting Test team. Sutcliffe, whose name is a household one, and Leyland, both served with the Imperial Army and received commissions. These players enjoy great reputations as sportsmen, and their deeds on the cricket field need no recapitulation here.

Time is taking its toll of ex-digger cricketers in the leading local teams. Last season a fair sprinkling of ex-service men were able to keep their positions with "A" grade clubs, but with the introduction of the province system, most of them have been forced to revert to the lower grades. Writing from memory, only two returned men are now playing in the top grade, viz., Jim Hanley and Andy Meek. The latter player is wonderfully keen on the game, and has played a prominent part in local cricket history.

ANDY MEEK—CRICKETER

The list of local ex-digger cricketers who have achieved Interstate honours is not a very long one. A few names springing to memory are, Ernie Parker (killed in action), Bob Blundell, Jim Everett, Billy Stokes, Jim Herbert, Les Renfrey, and Andy Meek. The late Ernie Parker is still considered the most brilliant batsman who has represented W.A. Many good judges of the game consider that he was little, if any, inferior to the leading Eastern States cracks of his day.

From the above list, we are briefly outlining the career of a well-known and very capable all-round cricketer, viz: Andy Meek. Andy is one of those cricketers whose enthusiasm for the game never wanes, despite the passing of time. He still retains his place in one of the local Province teams, and always contributes something useful to his side's tally.

In the early days of his career, Andy played on the mat with a team called The Cliftons. This team won the Premiership in their competition four years in succession. During this time Andy's batting average never went below 52 and his bowling never more than five. His highest score was 217 not out, and being a brilliant field, he was naturally considered a valuable member of his team.

An invitation from the East Perth Club to play on the turf was accepted by Andy, following his wonderful success as a matting cricketer. In his first "A" grade match with East Perth, he was paid a great compliment by being opening bowler and batsman. His figures on this occasion were 3 for 27 and 27 run out—a promising beginning in the higher circles.

When District Cricket was introduced, Andy played with West Perth, and was a consistent all-round performer in club games. His fast-medium length bowling was always a menace to opening batters, the ball making great pace off the wicket. Being gifted with the proverbial "eye of a hawk," he was an ideal opening batsman, possessing a sound defence, and punishing strokes for the loose ball. He was a fast runner between the wickets, and in one match, in his early days, he was presented with a bat by Mr. G. W. Miles, M.L.C., for his proficiency in this art. Playing for West Perth in a premiership match after the war, Andy topped the century when runs were badly needed, capturing a number of wickets, and fielding well in the same match, he emphasised his ability as an all-round cricketer.

Inter-state honours soon came Andy's way, and he played against visiting English, Australian, and Eastern States elevens for a number of years. His all-round services were an asset to the State sides on these occasions.

Andy enlisted in 1916, and served
with the 54th Battery 5th Divisional Artillery, coming through the war unscathed. Playing for the 5th Division in one match in France against the 5th Division A.C.C., he enjoyed the distinct pleasure of clean bowling the great Australian Eleven Captain, H. L. Collins, for 1 run. With the bat in this match, Andy made 49, and despite the fact that his side was beaten, it was through no lack of effort on his part. He was approached later by Collins to make application to join the A.I.F. team, but had to let the opportunity pass.

Andy is a representative of Armstrong's, the well-known city sporting firm, and is always pleased to welcome any old-time war comrades, or offer advice to ex-diggers in anything pertaining to sporting requisites.

Proposed State Battery at Leonora

Following the decision of the recent Congress, urging the erection of a State Battery in the Leonora-Gwalia-Malcolm district, the Minister for Mines, Mr. J. Scaddan, has advised the League that the suggestion had been investigated, but there was no justification for the erection of a State Battery in the districts mentioned. At the present time, examination showed that there was only about 182 tons of ore at grass over an area of 30 miles from Leonora.

The Minister states, however, that he is proceeding further with the drawing of plans and collecting data regarding a plant to enable the Department to proceed with the erection immediately the capital expenditure is warranted, and the position improves. This, of course, will depend a great deal on the prospectors themselves.

In the meantime, the Department is arranging to have all the ore in the districts handled at the Laverton and Coolgardie State Batteries.

The Speaker's Handbook

(Our copy from the publishers; price, sixpence.)

We have received from the publishers a copy of "The Speaker's Handbook," a comprehensive little volume which has been compiled by the Victorian Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A. to give members a knowledge of the aims and ideals of our own organisation, and to arouse in them an appreciation of the work carried out and being still carried out by past and present office-bearers. The booklet contains the constitutions of the R.S.S.I.L.A., rules and standing orders of the Victorian branch, and information concerning League activities and procedure, and repatriation benefits. It should commend itself to sub-branch officials and others, especially at a time like this when so many new sub-branches and kindred associations are being formed. It is not the desire of the Victorian branch to make a profit from the sale of the book, but to place a copy in the hands of every ex-service man.

28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting of the Association will be held in the Board Room, Soldiers' Institute, on Wednesday, December 14, at 8 p.m., when the annual report and accounts will be presented and office-bearers for the ensuing year will be elected. The retiring office-bearers are hopeful of a large attendance as a demonstration of renewed interest in the work. To those who are doing their best to foster the traditions of the old battalion it is difficult to understand the lack of interest displayed in the past by the majority of ex-members, and the hope is expressed that the next meeting will prove members realise that attendance at social functions is not their only obligation. After the business of the meeting has been disposed of, refreshments will be available, the expense of which will be met by a "bob in."

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Mr. R. Purnell writes from Denmark to inform us that there were no R.G.A. men in Scarborough at the time of the bombardment by the German fleet. He is right. Scarborough was an unfortified town. It was at Hartlepool that coastal batteries, though hopelessly outmatched, exchanged shots with the raiders.

During the week a casual joker strolled into the office and asked us do emus enjoy a special emu-unity from lewis-gun fire. We understand that he is now on the road to recovery and hope that this type of facetiousness will not be emu-lated.

After the results of the Cup had come through we met a thick-eared, twisted-nosed gentleman in the Terrace and asked him had he backed Peter Pan. “Peter Pan,” he repeated, in bewilderment. “Never heard of him. Who was he fighting?”

History records many marches on Rome from the time of Lars Porsenna of Clusium down to Mussolini. Old Lars was the tough old bird who swore by the nine gods. There were more gods than one in those days, so Lars was just putting in good staff work by this piece of heavyweight swearing. Unfortunately, there were no reporters present, so we have no means of comparing his fluency with that of the dinkum digger. The march that the Italian community of Perth celebrated a few weeks ago was that of Mussolini and his merry men.

Italian ex-soldiers paraded and laid a wreath on the State War Memorial. Rabbi D. I. Freedman, B.A., V.D., who represented the League on the occasion, reported on the proceedings at the meeting of the State Executive on November 9. The Rabbi also attended the official dinner and enjoyed himself very much. We have learned from other sources that his presence at these functions was greatly appreciated for more reasons than one.

The Perth Sub-branch are holding a unique function at the Soldiers’ Institute, Perth, on the afternoon and evening of December 7, 8 and 9, at which a doll show is to be held, the proceeds being donated to the Christmas Tree Fund. Valuable prizes are offered for the best dressed dolls, in which there are nineteen sections, particulars of which are available at the Perth Sub-branch office. Mrs. Craven Griffiths donated a large Eskimo doll named Cuddles to the Sub-branch, which is being raffled at £6, a ticket.

The Listening Post is anxious to hear from all returned soldier candidates for parliamentary honours, as we desire to assist, quite irrespective of party.

The visiting cricketers Sutcliffe and Hobbs, together with the joint managers of the English team, Messrs. Warner and Palairet, visited the Repat. Ward during their stay in Perth. Mr. Hobbs gave to each patient an autographed photo of himself.

We have been requested to remind members of the 11th Battalion Association that the annual general meeting will be held at the Soldiers’ Institute, Perth, on Monday, December 12. An informal social will follow the business.

A report, furnished by the Trustees of the Central Relief Fund to the State Executive, showing the dealings of the Trustees for October, stated that 69 approvals had been issued for the month, with an expenditure of £89/2/2. In addition to this sum, £11/17/6 was paid for material purchased by the State Women’s Auxiliary. Of those assisted, nine were A.I.F. members, five Imperial members, 39 A.I.F. non-members were assisted, and twelve Imperial non-members, with four widows included in the successful applicants.

In reply to the League’s request for
the appointment of a Price Fixing Commission, following the decision of the recent Congress, Sir James Mitchell has advised that this matter has been frequently considered in Western Australia, and in other parts of the world, and he knows of no instance where the experiment has been tried and proved successful. There is little likelihood of introducing it into Western Australia at the present time.

Following the lead of the League in this State, the Queensland Branch has launched upon an intensive campaign having for its object a more marked respect for the fallen chiefly as relating to war memorials. It is a standing disgrace that such action should be necessary. Australia cannot afford to forget her war dead.

It is the earnest desire of the proprietors of the Listening Post to increase the size of the journal and include more features of interest to the ex-service man. Candidly, we are having a struggle to maintain it on its present basis. The life blood of a paper is its advertising, and it is here where every digger can help. The circulation of this journal is a particularly large one, and we have plenty of convincing evidence that it pays to use it as an advertising medium. You can place or influence advertising with us with every confidence. All can assist by purchasing from our advertisers, who give preference to the soldier journal, and by mentioning the Listening Post when doing so.

A.S. writes:

On Armistice Day I wended my way round viewing some of the honour boards in various Government buildings and business houses, and it was good to see the way in which they are tended and looked after. One of the best I saw in my wanderings is that in the public room at the Lands Department, on which is inscribed the names of all those who enlisted from the department, many of whom did not return. This year, as in the past, the board was bedecked with electric lights on either side, and an abundance of beautiful fresh cut flowers, and also a large poppy wreath—it certainly presented a fine sight. This board is tended by the ladies employed in the department, and great credit is due them for the attention bestowed upon it, and for the wonderful way they carry out their self-appointed duty on the anniversary of the death of a soldier whose name appears on the board; it is lighted up and strewn with flowers, also a photograph of the deceased one is placed on the board. It is certainly one of the best kept honour boards in this State.

In making his report to the State Executive on the Employment Bureau, on November 9, the State Secretary mentioned that many ex-service men with good qualifications find difficulty in obtaining employment because they do not register at the Bureau. He mentioned an instance of a private firm which approached the R.S.L. in order to secure a man for a position demanding special qualifications. An ex-service man was eventually selected from a number of applicants, and he has since filled the position to the satisfaction of his employers, but the Bureau had to go to the

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expense of advertising in the press before his services could be secured.

Several metropolitan sub-branches have been entertained recently with an account of the exploits of the famous Australian submarine, the AE2, graphically described by Mr. C. Sukling, late R.A.N., who is a member of the ex-Naval Men’s Association. Mr. Sukling was one of the original crew of the craft, and served on her from the time she was commissioned in 1914. On the outbreak of hostilities, the AE2, with her sister submarine, the AE1, went to Rabaul, where the AE1 was lost. The AE2 carried on to Fiji, crossing the 180 meridian, or half way round the world, the longest distance traversed by an under-water craft. On returning to Australia, she escorted the second contingent of the A.I.F. to the Mediterranean, and on April 25 (Anzac Day), traversed the Dardanelles and operated in the Sea of Marmora for three days before capture. Mr. Sukling remained a P.O.W. in Turkey till 1918, and returned home in 1919.

Sub-branch should take the opportunity of hearing this section of the history of the silent service.

Our Contributors

Once again we regret having to hold over some excellent copy until next issue, included in which is another interesting article on our economic problems, by Mr. A. H. Lamb, and one by our old friend, E. St. Ives Bilton, on “Why Join the R.S.L.” If given the opportunity we could fill a journal double the size with interesting and instructive contributions, and we always regret having to disappoint those who try to help us.

A striking example of Chinese courtesy has been provided by the editor of a Peking paper, who recently wrote to a would-be contributor in the following terms:

“With our respect, we would like to extend to you a cordial invitation to contribute to our paper. We believe that your article is of great interest to our readers. Please submit your article in the near future.”

State Executive Meetings

October 26, 1932

In the absence of Colonel Collett, Rabbi Freedman took the chair at the meeting of the State Executive on Wednesday, October 26. There were the present Members—Philip, Denton, Nicholson, Nugent, Watt, Lovell, Tozer, Pady, Edmonds, Farquharson, Zeffert, and Aberle. Leave of absence was granted to Colonel Collett, Messrs. Riley, Yeates, Fairley, Olden, Hunt, Margolin, and Cornwell.

Discussion on the report of the Anzac House Committee was deferred pending the report of the Chairman, Colonel Olden. Mr. Philip was appointed to this committee.

Pensions Committee.—The report of the Pensions Committee was received and adopted. Members of the committee interviewed Colonel Tilney (soldier’s representative on the Repatriation Board) on his recent visit to the State, and had emphasised complaints concerning certain medical decisions. The report said that the committee was confident that the position would be rectified as a result of Colonel Tilney’s visit.

The figures obtained by Mr. Gregory, M.H.R., in connection with pensions in Western Australia were submitted by the State Secretary. They seem to show that ex-soldiers in Western Australia are being more harshly treated by the medical officers than in the other States.

The number of ex-soldiers’ war pensions affected in Western Australia during the past two years as a result of medical reviews was 2,530. Of these 392 were cancelled outright. 1,237 were reduced, the amount thus saved being £1,593/10/6 a fortnight. In the same period 97 fresh pensions were granted, and 77 were increased, the sum involved being £889/11/7 a fortnight. The net amount lost to pensioners was £709/19/6 a fortnight, or over £18,000 a year.

The report was adopted, and it was decided to suspend further action until the result of Colonel Tilney’s recent visit was definitely established.

Poppies.—The committee reported on the meeting of the Metropolitan sub-branches on October 17. It was stated that the Perth Sub-branch was compelled to participate in the ballot for a city area. The Poppy Day Committee recommended that in future years the Perth Sub-branch be excluded from the ballot for selling stands, and that definite stand be allotted to the Perth Sub-branch by the Poppy Day Committee. The report was adopted.

Memorial Services.—The S.A. and Imperial Service Association extended an invitation to executive members to be present at the annual memorial service held in King’s Park, on November 11.

Carnarvon Sub-branch reported on its recent re-union, at which the State Executive was represented by Colonel Nicholson. A report concerning the observance of Armistice Day was submitted by the State Secretary.

with a sorrow unbearable, to return your divine manuscript.”

The contributor was over-joyed by this editorial commendation; but, when he showed the letter proudly to a fellow journalist, he made a disquieting discovery. His friend had just received a “rejection slip” from the same editor, couched in identical terms.

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**Diggers! You ask for preference? Give it!**
to Fingrup and Lake Grace Sub-branches, in company with the State Secretary, and Mr. C. Longmore. That part of the report which referred to the desperate plight of soldier settlers was referred to the Land Committee. Mr. Parry reported on the remembrance service he had attended at Fremantle.

Colonel Collett reported on a visit to the Lake King district, where he had met a number of ex-service men. The report on the Colour.—Rabbi Freedman referred in appreciative terms to the manner in which the 44th Battalion carried out the ceremony of trooping the colour at Claremont Oval, and moved successfully that the State Executive offer its sincere congratulations to the 44th Battalion on its winning the R.S.L. Efficiency Trophy for this year, and especially on the ceremony of trooping the colour, which it conducted with a dignity and impressiveness that won the admiration of the large concourse of the general public, and further, that the thanks of the Executive be extended to Captain Tozer for presenting the Efficiency Trophy, and for the appropriate address he delivered on this occasion.

Management Committee.—Colonel Collett, on behalf of the Management Committee, reported that the recently elected Sub-branch of the Bruce Rock Sub-branch concerning its Women's Auxiliary had again been under review. It was recommended that the request of the sub-branch be acceded to, and that the Bruce Rock Women's Auxiliary be deemed to be in recess. The report was adopted.

Consultative Council.—Messrs. Edmonds and Aberle were appointed as the League's representatives on this Council.

Employment Bureau.—During October, 47 positions were filled and 1,263 men were still registered.

Relief Fund Trustees.—Mr. Philip's report showed that 69 persons had been assisted during October, and the total expenditure amounted to £89/2/2. During the same month the donations received were £40, and the refunds, £14/5/6.

Federal Correspondence.—A report from the Federal Secretary informed that the Light Horse Memorial, which was unveiled in November by Mr. W. M. Hughes, P.C., M.H.R., who is now on his way back to Australia, A report of the B.E.S.L. Economic Conference at Ottawa was received, and it was decided to forward a copy of the report to the Norwood Sub-Branch.

Appreciation.—A letter was received from the Royal Acting Vice-Consul for Italy, expressing appreciation of the League's connection with the Italian ex-soldiers' tribute of remembrance at the State War Memorial on the anniversary of the March on Rome, and of Rabbi Freedman's attendance at the subsequent dinner. The Rabbis report appears in another column.

Resignation.—Mr. H. Walker tendered his resignation from the State Executive on account of the pressure of private business. The resignation was accepted with much regret, and it was decided to appoint Mr. L. J. McDowell to the vacancy thus created.

Wheat Bonus.—A letter was received from the Northern Sub-branch requesting the Executive to support strongly the move made to the Federal Government for some assistance to the wheatgrowing industry. It was pointed out that unless immediate help was given the main industry of the State would be in danger of collapse, with disastrous results to the community.

Colonel E. J. H. Nicholson moved, and Arch-

deacon C. L. Riley seconded, that the Executive considers that arrangements now being made by the Commonwealth Government to assist wheatgrowers are inadequate, and urges the granting of at least the same conditions as were accorded last season.

Colonel Nicholson said that, in effect, no assistance was being given towards the cost of the present harvest, which, at ruling prices, would, on the average, be produced at a loss. The assistance offered in the form of a reduction of the cost of super was simply an inducement to farmers to produce next year. Last season's bonus was a godsend to every farmer, in many cases providing the only free money available for living expenses. A majority of wheat farmers had had a reduction this year by means of loans against the season's harvest, and would be further in debt in consequence. There were 1,600 soldiers settlers cropping an average of 300 acres, which, on the estimated State yield, means over 6,000,000 bushels from 1,800,000 acres. He thought that the League was fully justified, therefore, in supporting the protests made by other organisations. The motion was carried. A further motion by Mr. Zeller, that the resolution be telegraphed to the Federal Executive for transmission to the Commonwealth Government, was also carried.

Bulk Handling.—A letter was received from Mr. J. Muleynea, urging the views of the recent Committee on bulk handling be referred to the Select Committee of Parliament now sitting. On the motion of Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Nugent, it was decided that a copy of the Congress resolution be forwarded to the Chairman of the Select Committee, Mr. Nörbert Keenan, K.C., M.L.A.

Harvey River Diversion Sub-branch.—A letter setting out the distressing conditions being experienced by members of this sub-branch in connection with the allotment of work for unemployment was received. It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch.

Sugarcane and War Pensions.—A further letter was received from the Collie Sub-branch, suggesting that representatives attend a meeting of the sub-branch on Tuesday, November 11. The Executive's views on the subject had been conveyed to the sub-branch on November 1, and delegates were unanimous that the problem could not be solved, nor the interests of ex-service men advanced by any postponement at the present time, and that the reply to the sub-branch's letter be left to the State Secretary.

Sub-Branch Notes CORBIN

Increasing activity is noticeable within the sub-branch, due, no doubt, to the approaching wheat harvest, for which it is expected to be early. November 17. A particularly pleasing aspect of these functions is the growing tendency of neighbouring sub-branches to make up visiting parties, not only to provide pleasurable and entertaining company, but also help full ideas of mutual interest in promotion of sub-branch matters.

This year we hope to welcome diggers from Beverley, Quairading, Kondinin, Yealering, and possibly Narrogin, (the latter necessitating a 140 mile trip), not forgetting Central Executive members.

Imperial Grant.—Letters from Mr. Crutchley and Mr. McLarty were received with satisfaction, particularly as the desires of Congress in relation to the modification of conditions had practically been acceded to.

Edith Cowan Memorial.—A letter from the Lord Mayor and the organisers was received. It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Watt, to refer the matter to the Management Committee, which was further unanimously agreed to, on the motion of Rabbi Freedman, that the form of the memorial proposed by the committee, namely, the erection of a monument, is calculated to serve the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the late Mrs. Cowan, and of making her services to the community, including ex-service men and women, an inspiration to all.

General.—The appointment of Mr. W. J. Cox as secretary of the Karridale Sub-branch was confirmed.

A letter from the Subiaco Women's Auxiliary, concerning the West Subiaco Trust Fund, was referred to the Management Committee.

A letter was received from the A.S.L. Cricket Association, declining the loan for the purchase of material on the conditions specified.

A letter from the Collie Sub-branch, dealing with matters of sustance and settlement, was referred to Mr. Scadden and Mr. Arthur Wilson, M.L.A.

Mr. Pantan reported on certain conditions connected with the Perth Hospital Clinics. At his suggestion it was agreed that he and the State Secretary wait upon the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Atkins.

Leave of absence from the next meeting was granted to Archdeacon Riley.

After a report on the State War Memorial, by Mr. Hunt, representing the Sub-Wardens, it was agreed that the matter of erecting notices at the State War Memorial be referred to the consideration of the Management Committee.

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The diggers comprising this sub-branch, although comparatively few in numbers, are certainly not lacking in energy. Having taken over the control of the local hospital, and established it as a going concern, and elected a few energetic representatives to the local Road Board, they are now looking for fresh fields to conquer. At a meeting on November 2, it was decided that if the Keystone Comedy outfit, known at the North Pallarenda Boating Club, did not show some signs of coming over to the member winter sleep, the diggers would seriously consider running the next annual regatta for the hospital. At present members of the branch are aiding the Women's Auxiliary in organising a "Paddy's Market," and a dance for November 10, in aid of that institution, and as the usual "faithful dozen" hard workers are hopping in, success is assured. At the last meeting, President Arthur Smith gave the hospital committee a few well deserved pats on the back, courtesies being reversed by Committee Secretary Wally Cadle in, the absence of his President, Ross Steele, who is in dock with a recurrence of old war disabilities.

NARROGIN

The monthly meeting held last month, shows good progress is being made again by our hard-working secretary to keep the prestige of the local branch and branch to its full strength. The soldiers' Memorial Park is a pride to any city, and is a blaze of colour with flowers at present, and can justly be called one of Narrogin's beauty spots. Having been the last meeting held by Mr. Hunt, Captain Longmore, and the State Secretary, D. M. Behson, passing through Narrogin to Lake Grace.

It is pleasing to note that the Narrogin branch won the membership drive. They are always out to help the State Executive in any movement to help the League to increase its membership. The branch have called a special meeting to deal with the membership position. Every branch should help to stop the drastic cut in positions of men who have sacrificed health. It is only right for the governments in power to remember their promises to us.

MUNDEARING AND DISTRICTS

Convincing evidence of the pronounced trend towards a renewal of confidence and interest in the activities of the League is obviously instanced by the increased membership. In this regard this sub-branch is in a happy position. Many factors, of course, are attributable to this new condition. The value of proper organisation, and proper administration is vital. These qualifications are necessary to overcome unconcern and general apathy. The digger wants practical proofs of the progressiveness of the League in the furtherance of its aims and objects. Fortunately, this evidence has been apparent to even the most casual of critics. This sub-branch, like others, has not striven in vain. Every possible effort is made to carry out the principles and objects of the League by those entrusted with the general management, and the results, apparently, reflect the renewed confidence of so many ex-service men who previously remained outside the ranks.

Last meeting night was October 21, at Mt. Helena. Among the visitors were the ever-green Geo. Meller, with his "silver melody maker," Bill Harrison, pianist, and Jack Downey, from Nella, whose popular Irish songs pleased the company. Among the talented artists were "Cock" Smith, who, in first class style, put over several meritorious renditions. The inimitable "Scot" Fowler was in excellent form, and in addition to some very original humorous tittibes, gave a very creditable display of muscle control. This old "jerks" instructor possesses the goods; his contribution to the programme was very well received. Captains Sheffield related various humorous stories. Jim Whishen, and Billy Prad, also pulled their weight in making the programme very acceptable. The troops had Geo. Meller working overtime on the old campaign songs. The usual toasts, visiting, and singing was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and singing responses were made by Geo. Meller and Bill Harrison.

MURRAY

This sub-branch held their usual Armistice Service in Memorial Park in the morning, and held sports for the children of the district on the recreation ground. There were about 260 children present, representing eight different schools, in all thirty-two places were run, and the players thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the evening there was a 9.30 ball for the adults. The members of the branch are looking forward to Archdeacon Riley's visit on December 5, when a social evening will be held.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH

LEEDERVILLE

A well attended meeting was held on November 2, at which the Past President, W. Rowsell, occupied the chair, in the absence of Vice-President L. Vivian, who, unfortunately, had to enter the Repatriation Ward of the Perth Hospital for a period of observation. It was moved and seconded that members will be well enough to preside at the next meeting.

A very able report on the proceedings of the State Congress was given by A. H. Panton, M.L.A. Decisions arrived at by Congress of special interest to the sub-branch were dealt with at length. The vote of thanks tendered on behalf of the sub-branch at the conclusion of the report was well merited, and it is to be hoped that the services of the same delegate will be available for next Congress. The annual picnic will be held on December 2. "Moorin Sub-branch" will be pleased to hear from all who are interested, as he has a number of books to dispose of in connection with the picnic fund.

The regular meeting set down for November 7, has been cancelled to allow the members to attend the carnival at Sadler Park, held under the auspices of the Women's Auxiliary. The next meeting, on December 1, will commence at 7.30 p.m., and conclude at 8.30 p.m., as a social is being tendered to the Poppy sellers.

The cricket team is once again in hard training (Richmond), under the captaincy of Charlie Heaton. The first match in the R.S.I. Pennant series resulted in a three point victory over the North. The official "hurricane" (Billy Rowsell) is requested to take a few lessons on voice production, as the discordant tone of his voice is not quite dignified.

NORTH PERTH

A Digger's Diary

(With profound apologies to the shade of Samuel Pepys)

October 25.—News of Mrs. "Billy" James being taken ill and having gone into hospital. This I am sorry to hear, but in great hope she will be, herself, again very soon.

November 1.—Came home to my home, Mr. George White, of Moora Sub-branch. This

BE SURE YOU GET

NATSONIA

HAMS and BACON
did please me and my wife, we not seeing him this three years past. By and by I away to a combined meeting of General Committee and Auxiliary, there set to the business of Poppy Day, and Lord! how those women did talk and all together, and none at a single time, hardly, which put me in a pretty twit of understanding it all. The business done, I away home.

November 6.—With Mr. Bert Garland in his motor coach to Westminster and Square to see the first match of the District Sub-branch cricket: North Perth play Mr. Hawthorn-Leederville. North Perth, only 30-7 out when Mr. Harry Axford go. Lord! how he do strike the ball, three times for four and three times for six, and 41 in all. All the crowd make merry and acclaim him Don Bradman in disguise. North Perth out for 115. Hawthorn-Leederville go in and bat so well that I in a mighty awe that they pass our number, which they did and then declare, and in the end have a two point win. North Perth make me mad at their rotten fielding, running like old ducks, and drop the ball as if it a hot brick, a mighty lack of practice the cause, me thinks. Home by motor coach.

November 7.—To sub-branch meeting, come the sporting teams from Nedlands Sub-branch, we all set to playing at games, Nedlands do win the quoits, table-tennis, and shooting, which did vex me. North Perth to win at bridge only, Lord! was ever a sub-branch so unlucky at sport. Very merry at supper and drinking of Nedlands' health. Mr. B. Hopkins saying Mr. B. F. (Kanger) Brooks did point and say to me, "There is a good tail for a kite," which methought great wit, Mr. Brooks being so tall and thin. Home in good content at meeting such merry-company.

November 8.—This day did hear a story, how last year, Mr. Les Hetherington, while carrying home some company, and the empty "pig" and coffee urn, in his motor coach, did spark a fire near the city and make fog it, but could not find it, which was a matter of great sport to all the company. This told me as a great truth, but in secret.

November 9.—By appointment to Mr. C. Sadler's home and help at making of poppy boxes, by and by a very nice supper of prawns and ale. Home in good content.

November 10.—T'aw Mr. A. Hawkins, come this day from a country trip, he just as fat and all ruddy with being in the sun. November 11 (Poppy Day).—Up mighty betimes and away to sell poppies and stickers. I meet auxiliary ladies at every corner, almost, who do stop all, coachers and people afoot. It's a fine pleasant sight to see how the people do willing buy a poppy and wear it. To the city by Mr. Mcllwraith's motor coach. Anon the bugle sounds for two minute silence and the world did seem to stand still, it being an impressive fine sight, to see all the people stand bare headed in memory of our dead soldiers. Home to dinner, thence to Mr. C. Sadler's home, there with a company of ladies and gentlemen, see all the money boxes opened, Lord! I never did see so much wealth before in all my life. Mr. McDowell and Mr. Middleton to count it all before our eyes, and declare it to be £115. All the company did cheer with delight, it being very handsome reward to all their hard work. A fine supper, thence home to bed, tired and sleepy, but full of great content at so successful a day.

November 13.—Up and to general committee, all the talk of Poppy Day success, a vote of thanks passed to all the ladies and gentlemen for their good work. The committee did decide to give a social evening to the ladies, at appreciation, on Monday, December 6, at Mr. C. Sadler's Hall. Mr. A. Hawkins (Secretary) did burst with joy, almost, when telling us North Perth did sell 2,000 and more poppies and stickers, we all mighty proud at it. Mr. Bill James did tell us good news of his wife being home from hospital and getting well, which all the company was pleased at. Home to dinner.

BRUNSWICK

On Armistice Day the sale of poppies broke all previous records in Brunswick. From an early hour an energetic band of lady helpers carried on an offensive, which allowed none to escape. At the Poppy Ball a goodly number of couples danced to the strains of an orchestra, whose music was really first rate. At this function the League's Certificate of Service was presented to Mr. Alfred Sagar.

OSBORNE PARK

The fortnightly meetings were held on November 2 and November '16. It was decided to form cricket club, which shall soon be in full swing. The program included the invitation from Vice-President Padre Hardy to attend an Armistice service on Sunday evening, November 13, and over fifty per cent. of the members answered the call. The sports and social committee, led by Mr. Sommerville, did a good turn, and the sub-branch is beginning to find some recreation after strenuous endeavours to clear the debt off the hall. A library is being formed, and forty books have been donated to date. Peg quints, cards, &c., are also becoming popular. The fortnightly dances are again in full swing, and some good evenings are being held. The President (J. J. Nicol) and the energetic Secretary (Jack Garner) reported on the Poppy Day Appeal; praising the good work of the lady helpers and men outside the R.S.L. for their great assistance, and the working bee formed by r.m.bers. The takings for the day were well over £23.

All members should endeavour to come along to these meetings and see the harmony that exists. An open day and visit to other sub-branches, or even some Executive member would be welcome. Digger Nugent can show them the way if they can't find it.

WADSWORTH

On November 5, a streamer dance was held at the No. 3 School. About seventy people attended, and a very enjoyable evening was the result. There were various novelty dances. The waltzing competition was won by Mr. E. Jones and Mrs. O. S. Wright. In the tea dance, Mr. V. Miguel and Miss M. Lumsden, the Monte Carlo, waltz and jazz by Mr. R. Griffin and Mrs. J. Ogden, and Mrs. and Master Hunter respectively. Thanks are due to the dance committee, Messrs. Wheatley, Altridge, and Bridgeman, and to Mrs. Wheatley, Altridge, and Tomsett, who ably carried out the supper arrangements. Music was supplied by Messrs. Hunter and Cole, whilst Mr. Pullen officiated as M.C. The proceeds of the dance went into a Re-union Fund.

WEST PERTH

The monthly meetings of the committee are held on the third Thursday in each month, at 7.30. All members of the branch are invited to attend these meetings, after which cards, games, and refreshments are indulged in. On the same day, at 1 p.m., the monthly luncheon is held in the Institute. The attendance at these functions has not so far come up to that which is desired.

Several matters affecting members are at present receiving the attention of the Committee. These include the appointments of ex-soldiers in the Commonwealth Service under Section 89/4/c., being anti-dated; the delay at the Perth Hospital in the issue of medicine to ex-solders who have to attend there, and the non-issue by the Repatriation Department of a medical certificate to ex-solders who are compelled to submit themselves for a period of observation at the Repatriation Hospital. This has been overcome in the Commonwealth Service under S.1.20. On receiving a letter from the Repatriation Department in lieu of a certificate, and it is intended to submit this to the P.S.C. to act in the same way in regard to State Civil Servants.

The sale of poppies on Armistice Day amounted to £54, and after deducting expenses, the net result will be £46, to be divided between the Sub-branch Amelioration Fund and the Aged
Sailors' and Soldiers' Fund.
The half-day's smoko special will be held in the Institute on December 16, at 8 p.m. Members should keep this in mind, as a good attendance is desired.

MT. BARKER
The sub-branch tried to run a half on October 19, to raise funds for the distressed soldiers of the district. The secretary reported having sent out one hundred notices to returned soldiers; and eleven turned up. Conspicuous by his absence were the President and four members of committee.

The first talkie will definitely be here on November 26, when an all British programme will be shown. The Mr. Barker Pictures Ltd. held a meeting on the eighth of this month. About thirty diggers were present. Mr. T. G. Southee was appointed director for shares held by this sub-branch. The following gentlemen were also elected:—C. Candy, A. U. Martin, E. C. Green, L. Stanley, F. Goundry, O. A. K. Southee.

All returned diggers interested in new landscape schemes should get in touch with the Secretary, who will give them full particulars. The scheme is briefly this: Two pounds a week, wire, implements, seed, fertiliser, timber, and iron are all found. The men are under a fortnight to reach the sub-branch limit at least two pounds worth of work a week. A school is to be erected there in January.

Any digger who wishes to try his luck in No. 10 Charity Consultation run on the Perth Cup, can purchase tickets from the Secretary of this sub-branch.

The following are mentioned in dispatches:—A. Reid, for selling twelve poppies on show day; Dr. Clark, for being third man in the ring at the big fight on the same day; and B. Clarke, for being third man round the ring.

BRUCE ROCK
Armistice Day was observed here with all due solemnity at the Honour Board in the Road Board Hall. The children from the State school marched up to the hall and sang the "Recessional," after which the two minutes' silence was observed. By the courtesy of one of our members, W. Dean, the wireless was played over the "Last Post" and "Revelle" calls. Returned men then paraded in front of the Honour Board, and wreaths were placed by the President (Mr. H. W. Wilkins), the President of the Women's Auxiliary (Mrs. Withall), and by Mr. J. J. Lethlean, on behalf of the Road Board. The children filed past and laid several beautiful floral tributes at the Board. Later on in the day these were taken out to the cemetery by members of the Women's Auxiliary and Sub-branch, and placed on the graves of deceased soldiers.

Before the luncheon, Mr. Wilkins, with Mr. J. J. Lethlean, Chairman of the Memorial Hospital Committee, and Mr. W. J. Lockhead, a member of the sub-branch, went up to the Memorial Hospital and placed a wreath on the newly erected Honour Roll, which recently was presented to the Hospital by the sub-branch. This Memorial Roll was made by a member, Mr. J. Spalding, and is a work of beauty and love, reflecting great patience and care, on Mr. Spalding's part.

On Monday, November 14, 1932, the last quarterly general meeting for the year was held in Durham Hall. After the usual business of the meeting had been completed, Mr. Wilkins was presented with the League's framed Certificate of Service. Mr. Brown, in a brief speech, eulogised the work done by Mr. Wilkins, and made the presentation. Mr. Sherlock supporting the remarks of Mr. Brown. The election of officers was then proceeded with, and the following were elected:—President, Mr. H. W. Wilkins; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. D. B. Black and W. Dean; Secretary, Mr. Fred Bullimore; Treasurer, Mr. Rees J. David; Auditor, Mr. G. H. Sherlock.

Songs and recitations were given by several members, Mr. W. H. Hood officiating as accompanist.

WEST LEEDERVILLE
The West Leederville Sub-branch wishes to advise its members that the next monthly meeting, which was due to take place on December 5, has been cancelled, in view of the fact that the annual smoke social has been set down for December 12 in the Town Hall, Cambridge Street, West Leederville, at 8 p.m. The smoke social will be preceded by a business meeting at 7.15 p.m. and this meeting, although short, is most important, and members are asked to make a point of attending. On that occasion, nominations for office-bearers for 1933 will be received. The financial year of the sub-branch ends on December 31. Tickets for the smoke social are now available from the President or Secretary, and are asked to get in touch with either of those officers. Colonel Connell has promised to be present at the smoke social.

PILBARA
On Armistice Day, 11th November, remembrance was observed by the returned soldiers of the sub-branch at the Honour Roll in Port Hedland. A full muster of the returned men in the town was present at the Mechanics' Institute at 11 a.m., and the school children were also assembled under their headmaster.

A wreath was placed on the Honour Roll by the President of the sub-branch, and the "Last Post" and "Revelle" were sounded. In the afternoon, a school child's picnic, given by the sub-branch, was carried out, and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the island, being transported there by motor launches belonging to members of the sub-branch.

The evening turned out delightfully cool and moonight, and a large number of adults availed themselves of the opportunity of a trip across to the island, where an enjoyable time was spent until the last launch returned home about midnight.

Women's Auxiliaries

FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The presidential address will be published in full next issue. Agenda items covered a wide range of subjects. Among the resolutions carried were the following:

Amelioration.—That cases of distress in their districts among mothers, wives, and children of returned men be investigated confidentially, and dealt with by the sub-branch Women's Auxiliary, thus relieving the R.S.I. Sub-branch of that responsibility, as well as defining one of the leading objectives of the R.S.I., which comes under the sphere of the Women's Auxiliary work.

That any country auxiliary may have a special fund to help cases of distress at its discretion.

Poppy Day.—That, if an R.S.I. Sub-branch is not inclined to make any effort on Poppy Day, the Women's Auxiliary may send for poppies if they so desire, and use funds, after paying all dues to the League, for amelioration work in their district.

On being submitted to R.S.I. Congress, the motion was discussed and subsequently lost.

Street Appeals.—Several auxiliaries requested that auxiliaries only be asked to assist officially in street appeals as the Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, and the R.S.I. Keep discussion en- sue, and the matter was left to the discretion of the incoming executive.

Pensions.—Certain alterations in the Constitution of the Women's Auxiliary were desired. These were passed at the R.S.I. Congress for endorsement, but there it was decided that the following changes in the Women's Auxiliary Constitution be submitted to next Congress:

1. The Committee be enlarged to ten members.
2. That soldiers' or sailors' daughters be eligible for full membership on reaching the age of 18 years.
3. That "sailor" or "soldier" be inserted before "宁波市" when returning in the rules.
4. That authority be given to the Women's Auxiliary Executive to disfranchise from voting at Conference and any other privilege such as time duties remain unpaid to that Executive.

Auxiliary Interests.—To provide other interests beyond the alleviation of distress, a proposal was made.

BOTTLES!

JACK HARVEY
(late 15th and 82nd Battalions)
MARINE DEALER

41 NARBERRA STREET, JOLIMON
Phone 2280
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, P.O. Box 34, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>C. R. Gillett, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELMONT</td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>4th Tuesday</td>
<td>T. H. Sibbritt, Grandstand Rd., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Epson Ave, Belmont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. Ratcliffe, 22 Slade St., Bayswater</td>
<td>J. J. Paine, 17 Hamilton St., Bayswater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOME</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Beresford Bardwell, Broome</td>
<td>E. Staino, Broome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Tuesday</td>
<td>H. Wilmott, Busselton</td>
<td>J. H. Atkinson, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRUNSWICK JUNCTION</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays</td>
<td>A. W. Dedman, Brunswick Junction</td>
<td>S. Bowers, Brunswick Jct. Tel. 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>G. P. Manners, Weston St., Carlisle</td>
<td>L. Mason, Plane St., Carlisle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. W. Paterson, Swanston St., Collie</td>
<td>H. H. Stuchbury, Hawthorne Av., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. T. Cooke, Cowaramup</td>
<td>C. W. A. Lewis, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE BEACH</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>C. Nixon, View St., Peppermint Grove</td>
<td>A. Silla, 126 Clyde St., Buckland Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>Brig. A. N. Martyn, C.M.G., D.S.O., Swan Barracks, Perth</td>
<td>R. Bewar, 155 Claremont Crescent, Swanbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>Rev. J. Lawrence, Denmark</td>
<td>W. S. Ferrier, Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleyung</td>
<td>H. Greaves, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Gums</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>J. E. W. Harding, Donnybrook, Phone 87</td>
<td>F. C. Dallow, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYSBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Theo. Brennan, 74 Mary St., Fremantle</td>
<td>P. S. Jane, Carrington St., Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays (Pension Nights), 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. R. Cornish, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>R. W. Gratwick, Customs House, Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOWYNE</td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>Major H. G. Palmer, Harvey</td>
<td>Alfred J. Knight, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. De Pasey, 13 Boulder Rd., Calg.</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel. 290</td>
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<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bi-monthly</td>
<td>V. Monti,</td>
<td>W. J. Cox, Karridale</td>
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<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>P.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></td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Knopp, Derby</td>
<td>Bayswater</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>A. Gwilliam, Derby</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>V. B. Swell, Kojonup</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Koorda</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>T. W. McDougall, Lake Grace</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. Logan, Merredin</td>
<td>C. Verden, Lake King, Tel. No. 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Moora</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. W. S. Myler, Gardener</td>
<td>F. A. Law, Merredin</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr. Barker</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Moora</td>
<td>J. P. O'Neil, v/o Shell Co., Moora</td>
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<td>T. G. Souannes, &quot;Merryup,&quot;</td>
<td>S. Reeves, Mr. Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Barker</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MOUNT MARSHALL</td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, Dec., Mar., June, September</td>
<td>P. P. Le Cras, Bencubbin</td>
<td>S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>W. A. Clowes, Maylands, Hotel, Maylands</td>
<td>H. King, 13 Rankin Rd., Subiaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Run.</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helens</td>
<td>H. Patern, Mundaring</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F. Bateson, v/o P.O., Midland Junc. Tel. MJ199</td>
<td>R. E. Marsh, Harold Road, East Midland, Tel. MJ19</td>
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### The Listening Post

#### November 25, 1932

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<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>Wallish Hall, Grosvenor Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Fjortoft, 3 Second Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>H. H. Ferguson, 121 Rockwood St., Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td>Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every Alt. Sunday</td>
<td>A. Turner, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>G. Wilson, Mornington Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NANNUP</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Fred Clayton, Nannup</td>
<td>J. Rydings, Box 10, Nannup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NARROGIN</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sale Day, Monthly</td>
<td>H. Devenish, Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>T. Hogge, Flouir Mills, Narrogin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>Railway Hotel, Northampton</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>A. Glance, Northampton</td>
<td>C. analogue, Fitzgerald St., Northam. Tel. 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td>Avon Bridge Hotel</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. Sadler, 11 Knutsford St., North Perth</td>
<td>A. J. Hawkins, 24 York St., North Perth, Tel. B2800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe St. (Off View Street)</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. J. Hunt, Mary St., Como</td>
<td>Geo. S. Mellor, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>C. Longmorne, c/o. West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>R. Biggs, c/o. West Australian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESS</td>
<td>At Luncheon, Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Elston, Pithara</td>
<td>H. K. MacLean, East Pithara, Tel. No. 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| PITHARA | Billiard Saloon | 1st Saturday, 10.10 a.m. | T. Cowan, Yarning | Mr. McGarrigal, Pithara,
| POPANYINNING | Yarning and Popanyinning | 1st Saturday in month, alt. | Popanyinning | P. Milia, Popanyinning |
| PILBARA | Port Hedland | When called | Ross A. Keeling, Pt. Hedland | A. E. Clarke, Port Hedland |
| RAVENSTHORPE | Miners' Arms Bldgs., Morgan St. | When called | H. Stockdill, Ravensthorpe | T. F. Smith, Ravensthorpe |
| SUBIACO | Branch Rooms, Roeby Rd., Subiaco | Alternate Thursdays | S. A. Macnamara, Heyesbury Rd., Subiaco | Mary Street, Como |
| SOUTHERN CROSS | Palace Hotel | 3rd Saturday | S. Hammer, Southern Cross | J. C. Burgess, 171 Park St., Subiaco |
| TAMMELLUP | Mr. Markley's Residence | 1st Wednesday | A. J. Smith, Tammellup | T. S. Anderson, Southern Cross |
| TOODYAY | Freemasons' Hotel | 2nd Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m. | Padre F. G. O'Halloran, Pennsylvania St., Toodyay | J. P. Markey, Police Stn. |
| TRAYNING-YELBENI | Trayning (3) | 4th Sunday of each month, 8 p.m. | Mr. H. R. Craike, Trayning | N. H. Millar, Toodyay |
| VICTORIA PARK | Library Hall, Albany Road, Victoria Park | 3rd Friday in each month, 8 p.m. | R. Alexander, 82 Shepparton Rd., Victoria Park | P. N. Graves, Yelbeni |
| WEST PERTH | Soldiers' Institute, Perth | Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. | H. B. Hayles, Police Court, Perth | T. Chandler, 33 McMillan St., Victoria Park |
| WUBIN, BUNTINE, BADGERING | Each place alt., commencing Bunting, March 1 | 1st Sunday, 8 p.m. | J. Day, Buntine | P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth |
| WEST LEEDERVILLE | Town Hall, Cambridge St., Leederville | 1st Monday, 7.30 p.m. | V. E. Troode, Town Hall, Cambridge St., Leederville | W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin |
| WILUNA | Mine Boarding House | First Sunday, monthly | A. Peterson, Commercial Hotel, Yealering | Tel. No. 7 |
| YEALERING | Commercial Hotel, Yealering | 3rd Saturday, 8 p.m. | J. H. B. Lawton, Commercial Hotel, Yealering | J. W. Smithers, 22 Woolwich St., Yealering |
| YORK | | 1st Saturday, Quarterly | T. Steen, York | M. R. Cruickshank, C/o. Wiluna G.M. Ltd. |

**R.S.L. Sub-Branch Women’s Auxiliaries**

**DONNYBROOK**
- Memorial Hall
- First Saturday, monthly
- Mrs. Harding, Mrs. M. Hope, Mrs. G. Giggs

**VICTORIA PARK**
- Library Hall, Albany Road
- Fourth Friday, 7.30 p.m.
- Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. D. Pike, Mrs. C. Harris

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- Address: 704 Hay Street, Perth
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

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<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. I. E. D. Dunkley, 86 Angove St., N. Perth</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>W. W. Blair, 79 William St., Perth</td>
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<td>EX-NAVAL MEN'S ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Sports Club, King Street</td>
<td>Alt. Tuesdays</td>
<td>L. Kaye Perrin, 100 Melville St., S. Perth</td>
<td>Wm. Robins, 122 Lake St., Perth</td>
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<td>EX-NAVAL MEN: Fremantle Sub-Section</td>
<td>His Majesty's Hotel</td>
<td>2nd and last Wednesdays</td>
<td>J. A. Main, 10 Wray Ave., Fremantle</td>
<td>A. J. Rate, Royal Oak, 223 Mary St, Fremantle</td>
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<td>TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>I. E. Dunkley, C/o Lynas Motors Ltd., 960 Hay St., Perth</td>
<td>J. V. Pascoe, 26 Second, Economic Chrs., Perth</td>
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<td>THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Annual Re-union, July</td>
<td>R. Alexander, c/o Government House, Perth</td>
<td>L. D. Lobascher, Major S. E. Grimwood, New Zealand Chambers, St. George's Ter., Perth</td>
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<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>R. W. Perry, c/o Repay, Department</td>
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The Listening Post
November 23, 1932

made by the Executive, that we discuss the possibility of R.S.L. Women's Auxiliaries having an annual industrial, art, and horticultural exhibition, encouraging members to compete in jams, pickles, preserves, cake-making, and sweets—also garments, fancy work, knitting, flowers, vegetable tables, and fruit, with an idea of encouraging thrift and a love of the beautiful; any profits from same to go to general funds.

The idea was welcomed by delegates. Arrangements and the date were left to the incoming Executive. South Perth's proposal, that inter-branch social activities be held, was also well received.

For country branches outside a 25 mile radius of the city, it was moved that a certificate or cup be presented at conference to the branch with the best work and membership for the year, the same to be awarded on points. Wagg suggested also that delegates attending future conferences assemble on the opening morning at the State War Memorial to lay a wreath.

Finance—Realising that the Executive have little, or no, more of raising money for their general fund, it was agreed by Congress that the subscription fee be raised to 6d.

In order that more auxiliaries beyond the metropolitan area may have the opportunity of a visit from the President, it was passed, that 10/- be paid annually by each auxiliary towards the president's or her representative's travelling expenses.

Country—Bruce Rock again stresses the great importance of better supervision of dairy herds and milk distribution, as the Government has taken no action.

That the Department of Agriculture be approached with a view to making available to women the farmer's course at Murray during the winter vacation, or some other suitable time.

That this Conference protests against the excessive high cost of frights and fares, which presses so heavily upon the primary producers especially, and the public in general.

Other Items—That the price of auxiliary badges be reduced, as it is, very hard on new members to pay both for badge and subscription during these hard times.

That in view of the times, all tram fares be reduced and that workers' return tickets at 3d. be issued as in the past.

That as Wool Week was such a success, both financially and socially, we suggest that similar events be held yearly, which might include other primary products.

That Congress make emphatic protest against marriages being performed in picture theatres and other strange places, being of opinion that the surroundings are not suitable for such sacred ceremonies.

That knitting be taught in all schools.

South Perth—that a fund be established and controlled by the Trustees of the Executive for women or girls, dependants of soldiers or sailors in necessitous circumstances, during convalescence.

BRUCE ROCK

During the last few weeks the Auxiliary held a social and dance for returned men and their wives and families, which was so much appreciated that requests have been received to make it a regular event. On November 9, the annual Poppy Night dance was well attended, and much enjoyment was derived from a well sustained "On Our Selection" set, and another of "Hard times and Pierron." Poppy sales totalled £11/7s., and after attending the Armistice service at the Road-Board Hall, floral tablets were taken to the graves of soldiers in the local cemetery. As a result of this visit, at the meeting on November 14, a motion was carried offering to give, from the working account, for plates showing the names and regiment on each soldier's grave. It was also resolved that members who for reasons of depression may be financially and socially be held yearly, which might include other primary products.

That Congress make emphatic protest against marriages being performed in picture theatres and other strange places, being of opinion that the surroundings are not suitable for such sacred ceremonies.

That knitting be taught in all schools.

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NORTH PERTH

Mrs. Job, the Secretary of the Narrogin Auxiliary, was the guest at the last meeting. The Treasurer (Mrs. James) has unfortunately been an inmate at St. John Hospital. It is hoped she will be back in time for the next meeting. Mrs. Rendle and Nurse Jones have also been indisposed during the past few weeks.

The Poppy Day achievement was a wonderful one. All members and other helpers worked splendidly for the cause.

On Friday, November 18, the Auxiliary joined with Perth Auxiliary at their meeting in their home town. All are looking forward to the evening.

At our last meeting the Auxiliary celebrated its fourth birthday. The President, Mrs. Richmund, kindly made the cake, which was decorated with four candles and the Australian flag. The cake was cut by Mrs. Stubberfield, the oldest member.

VICTORIA PARK

On the 28th October, this Auxiliary held its usual monthly meeting in the Library Hall. Nominations for officers were taken for the ensuing year, and may be sent to Mrs. Pike, the Hon. Secretary, 38 State Street, until November 24.

Three delegates from the sub-branch were present in connection with Poppy Day, and Mr. Alexander made an urgent appeal to all members to do their bit, even if it were only in the street they lived in, as it would all help a deserving cause. Poppy Day money had met its time at their disposal were asked to take up stands either in town or in the Park. A special meeting was called for Thursday, November 3, to make final arrangements.

After the meeting the usual social followed, and a pleasant innovation was a visit from some of the Legacy Club girls, accompanied by Legate Glauert and Miss Ducat, who gave a display of singing and elocution. Mr. Alexander (President of the Sub-branch), in thanking the girls for their visit, made a few suitable remarks, and hoped the visit would be a forerunner of others in the near future. Miss Gentle, the daughter of a member, also sang some amusing songs. The Statue Waltz was won by Mrs. Ottaway and partner, and the shopping bag, made and donated by Mrs. Appleton, was won by Mrs. Coleman. Mrs. Stanley played the dancing, and supper was served by the Committee.

Poppy Day—There was a good response to the appeal for sales. The next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 27th November, when the election of officers will form part of the business, finalisation of arrangements for the children's annual Xmas party, etc.
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