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The Great Leader

A few days after Sir William Birdwood arrived in Perth, an old gentleman asked the writer, "What is there about 'Birdie,' as you fellows all call him, that makes you worship him so?" It was like being asked to define a gentleman, for it is far easier to rattle off the thousand and one things a gentleman is not than to sum up in a single sentence what a gentleman is. Sir William Birdwood is too big a man, there are too many facets to his personality, for the reply to such a question to be couched in a few words. The inquirer expected an answer, and was given a panegyric.

In his essay, "The Great Captains," John Buchan wrote, "There never has been a very great soldier who was only a soldier," and he goes on to say that "in the great captains genius cannot be divorced from character. A fine artist may be a trivial fellow apart from his art, but in the profession of arms a major talent involves some, at any rate, of the major virtues." It was not his success as a soldier, alone which made Sir William Birdwood so popular with all ranks. Success undoubtedly does win for commanders a place in men's hearts, but history can show many instances of commanders, uniformly unlucky in the field, who, could, nevertheless, retain the confidence and affections of their men. Such commanders were Washington, McClellan, and Lee in the American Civil War; and Buller in the South African War. In every instance character more than compensated for lack of material success. It was Sir William Birdwood's personality which contributed in no small measure to his success, and which won the heart of the digger to an extent that success by itself could not have achieved.

The qualifications of the great captain, as enumerated by John Buchan, are high powers of organisation, an orderly memory, the ingenuity that comes of a trained readiness to appreciate and use new methods which the occasion may provide, a trained eye for landscape, and the moral qualities of courage, patience, and resolution. All these qualifications Sir William Birdwood has in a very marked degree. He had had a distinguished military career in India and South Africa before Lord Kitchener selected him to command the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Probably only a few senior officers in this country had heard of him before he took over, his command in Egypt, but it was not very long before his personality impressed itself on all who served under him. A general's courage, even as a private's, is taken for granted, but when it is shown consistently in action, it affords a source of inspiration, which cannot be overestimated. There was no more familiar figure in the front-line trenches on Gallipoli, than that of the Corps Commander. When he was wounded, in May 1915, he remained on duty. In every sense of the term a front-line soldier, Sir William Birdwood never failed to encourage men with kindly word and cheery sympathy. It must have been tremendously stimulating to the men's morale for them to recognise that their general was cheerfully enduring the risks and hardships that confronted themselves. The very stories told of him, some of which have a foundation in fact, and some which are apochryphal, all hinge on the fatherly interest he took in the man in the ranks. He is ever represented inquiring after their health, their comfort, and their welfare. The tales of diggers scoring off him in these chance encounters redound to the General's credit rather than that of the private.

Sir William is still interested in the welfare of the troops. He had hoped to visit men in their homes, on their holdings, and to judge for himself how they are re-adapting themselves to civil life. His message to Australia, over the air, showed an appreciation of this country's difficulties, and was an inspiration to the courage with which they should be faced. Above all, he is impressed with the work of the R.S.L., and of its kindred organisation, the Legacy Club.

We wish him a speedy recovery and a very happy birthday next month. He has revisited us at a very opportune time. The sight of our old battle leader, cheery and alert despite his illness and the passing years, cannot fail to revive flagging courage and to stimulate diggers to work for the good of the country in this crisis of peace as they did in the hour of battle. To this paper, at least, his visit seems a happy omen for victory over depression. When he leaves us for Cambridge, he will carry with him all our loyalty and devotion for, if we may quote John Buchan once more, "loyalty and devotion will never be accorded to a small man or a selfish man or an inhuman man."

Heckler (to orator): "Hi, guv'nor; do you support early closing?"
Orator: "Certainly I do, my friend."
Heckler: "Then shut up!"

A Builder of the Empire be,
Pile high the Empire's walls,
Serve well the land that keeps us free,
And hearken when it calls.

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INSPECTION INVITED

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Our Birdwood Story Competition

This month's competition, no doubt owing to the popularity of the subject, brought forth a greater response than we anticipated. Every effort is not being published, as several yarns were double-banked. Apparently we should have banned more than we stated in last issue. The guinea prize goes to the Listening Post's old friend and valued contributor, Bill Anderson, of Osborne Park, whose well-told story in verse, we feel sure, will win the votes of readers as well as our own.

JEALOUS OF BIRDIE
(By W.M. Anderson)
The following was picked up near Villers-Bretonneux, in 1918:

"Dear Jim, it is fine in Sydney, a sunny and windy spring
Is playing with trees and blossoms, and
the little birds mate and sing;
And it's oh! but my heart is weary
for a boy that is far away.
His letters are all the spring song I
have in my heart to-day;
But I doubt if my boy is faithful who's
fighting far over the sea;
There's a terrible lot about Birdie in the
letters he writes to me.
Not that I care a hang for your Birdie,
or whether she's dark or fair,
But you left one girl in Australia, and
you weren't long getting one there.
Of course, you'll do as you like, Jim,
but you swore that you loved me true;
And a little bit less about Birdie would
come very well from you.
It is 'Birdie came to our dug-out,' and
'Birdie stayed in the trench.'
Well, it sounds pretty hot to me, Jim,
but I s'pose it is only French.
I am sick of your talk of Birdie, 'a
winner, a prize, a peach';
And it's plain that you're not the only
small pebble upon the beach.
Not a general in the Army can black
Birdie's boots, says you;
And from what you say of her habits,
she seems pretty general, too.
You know that I don't mind surfing,
but it's over 'the palings, Jim,
When a thousand Australian soldiers
and Birdie go in for a swan;

But I know it is no use kicking; you
seem to be like the rest;
No matter what you have promised,
it's Birdie who's now the best.
But you needn't have kept on praising
the one you are ratty about;
You could have said like a man, Jim,
you wanted to cut me out;
For what I think of your Birdie, she's
a flirt and a fast-cat thing!
And I wish you joy of your bargain,
and -- I'm sending you back your
ring."

WHEN BIRDIE WENT INSPECTING

"O'Mrah" writes from Mullalyup:-
"If it were not for the engineers we
would never have hung on so long at
Anzac."
"It was due to the infantry that we
hung on so long at Anzac."
"The A.M.C., solely, made it possible
for us to hang on at Anzac."
"Had it not been for the Pioneers
we would have been driven into the sea
at Anzac."
"Our hopes were centred in you artil-
lerymen at Anzac, and you never failed
us."
Thus spoke Birdie when inspecting,
separately, various units after Gallipoli.

A LUCKY ONE
(By F.J.H.)
On May 25, 1918 (my 20th birthday!), I was lying in 14th Field Ambu-
lance somewhere behind Villers-Breton-
neux, having carelessly walked under a
high velocity shell the previous evening.
"Birdie" was inspecting the unit that
morning, and came into the tent which
sheltered other unfortunates and myself.
He spoke to most of us individually, en-
quiring after the nature of our wounds,
etc. On being informed of my ex-
perience, he asked if I'd been buried
when blown up. Hearing I had been,
he said: "Oh, you were one of the
lucky ones!"
"How so, sir?" I queried.
The reply came: "The lucky ones
are buried alive; the unlucky ones are
buried dead!"

PLUCKED
(By H.W.)

One particularly hot day on Gallipoli,
"Bill," a notorious hard-case, famed for
his flow of language, was one of a fatigue
party lumping cases of bully, biscuits and
such like luxuries of the Anzac diet.
Seeing many of his coppers enjoying a
dip, moved him to flights of oratory
hitherto unknown, until he was inter-
rupted by one of his coppers of the fati-
gue party. "Cut it out, Bill, can't you
see who that bloke is," said he, as an
individual in scant attire made his way
to the beach.
"Who is he, anyhow?" growled Bill.
"That's General Birdwood," was the
answer.
"Oh, is it," said Bill. "Then why
the flaming blankety hell don't he wear
his feathers like any other Bird-wood."

THE IDEAL BEVERAGE
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THE SENTRY
(By J.H.)

One day General Birdwood was passing through the back of a camp in Egypt, where he noticed a digger sitting on the ground, calmly smoking a cigarette, as he leaned back against a stack of baled hay. His rifle leaned beside him, his tunic was unbuttoned, his belt loosened. As the General approached, the digger looked up; not recognising the infrequently seen insignia of a general, he stayed where he was.

"And who are you, my man?" the General asked.

"Oh, I'm supposed to be a — sentry, I am," the digger replied. "Who are you?"

The humour of the situation overcame the General.

"Oh, I am supposed to be a — general," he shot back.

The digger stared for a moment, then got to his feet, buttoned up his tunic, tightened his belt, picked up his rifle, and brought it to the slope.

"If you are a general," he announced, "I'm supposed to give you a salute, so here goes." Whereupon he presented arms.

MISSED THE POST
(By S.R.)

The orphan digger received notice of fourteen days' leave. Being, as all diggers usually were, broke, he asked his cobber where he could get hold of a few quid. The answer promptly came, "God, of course." The digger wrote to God thus:

"Dear God, please send me a tenner, I've fourteen days' leave, and I'm broke." Having addressed his letter to G.H.Q., it duly reached General Birdwood. The General, in his usual sporting way, sent round the hat, which realised £7/10/-.

The digger was highly delighted, and wrote in acknowledgement: "Dear God, thanks very much for the money you sent, but next time send it direct to me, as 'Birdie' pinched £2/10/- of it."

THE BELL
(By "Nemo")

Scene: Site of Wytescate Church. R.E. and Australian building-concrete O.P.

General Birdwood arrive, and says to sergeant in charge:

"And who are you?"

"I am Sergeant —, of the — Coy. R.E., sir."

The General's reply was: "Oh, my name is Birdwood, General, Sir William."

Never to say, this style of introducing himself appealed to the humour of the troops.

After introducing himself, the General said that he would like to have a piece of one of the large church bells, which had to be moved out of the way of the building operations.

On being told this I sent up a fitter and cut a piece out of one of the bells, and sent it to Sir William. I wonder if he still has it in his possession.

Memories
(By M.M.)

General Sir Wm. Birdwood's visit has been an inspiration to all those whose destinies were affected by the war. The coming amongst us of such as he brings back many memories of the days when discomforts and danger were lightened by the cheeriness and friendliness of one's comrades.

We women dare not forget these times. To do so would be to forget when every digger was somebody's hero, and when the women gave of their best to keep the homes fires burning.

When peace came it was vainly hoped that the world would soon be normal. But the re-adjustment was slow; the setbacks were many. At this early post-war period all energies were directed towards the settling down process in both home and business. The experiences of the war years were not easily dispelled from the memory, and the desire to meet again and talk over old times with former comrades grew stronger.

"God's greatest gift your cobber, Who stood by you, day by day. Diggers who were solid bricks, Not made of common clay."—(P.H.)

The result is that the membership of the League increased, unit associations have been formed, and re-unions gain each year in popularity.

What of those who returned not? They are well remembered by their loved ones, their friends, and their comrades. Each district has its memorial, the commemoration services for Mons, Anzac, and Armistice Day grow more impressive with the passing of years, and our great white beacon of remembrance shines out into the darkness for "At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

But what of those still in hospital, sick or incapacitated, and the diggers down on their luck? They must not be forgotten. Cannot we do just a little more for some of them, and remember to give them at all times the benefit of the doubt? In trade and commerce it is argued that the younger men must have a chance. What chance would have been for them had there been no Anzacs?

The inspiring motive in the formation

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of so many Women's Auxiliaries R.S.L. in recent years is the memory of these war years. It is the women's desire to do for the wife and family of the digger what they did for him, and to uphold the objects of his R.S. League. And there exists in auxiliaries the same big-heartedness, sympathy, and zeal to help others which was so apparent when they were left to keep the home fires burning eighteen long years ago.

Sir William Birdwood's Message to Men of the old 16th Battalion

Colonel Margolin, the President of the 16th Battalion Association sent to Sir Wm. Birdwood a letter of welcome and sympathy on behalf of his Association, also a copy of the 16th Battalion History. In reply, Sir William sent the following letter to "Margie"—

"A great pleasure to hear from you again and so many thanks for your letter which I can assure I much appreciate; also so many thanks for the copy of the War History of the old 16th Battalion, which I am very glad to have and take as a reminder of old days from the time the 16th Battalion, under Col. Pope, joined us in Egypt—and then those days later on at the head of the Valley.

"I shall be very grateful if you will kindly convey to all old comrades of the 16th my grateful thanks for their very kind message. You can imagine what a disappointment it is to me to be thus tied by the leg at the very wrong moment and so prevented seeing anything of all my old friends—but the doctor's orders are strict and have to be obeyed—I'm so sorry. I so well remember giving you your command and watching your career with interest later on. Glad to know you are now doing so well."

Ode on the Visit of Field-Marshal Sir William Birdwood

(By C. R. Collins)

I

Arthur in Avilion, stirring in his sleep,
Drake's drum throbbing over storm-lashed seas,
Night-fires blazing out, on crag and keep,
Turning rain and mist to jewelled traceries,
New stars gleaming in the wastes of night,
Steel men's hearts and banish pallid fright.
Magi on their tower-tops, peering through and through
The limitless immensities of midnight blue,
Market-places simmering with ancient prophecies,
Strained their troubled eyes and ears for signs like these:
But ne'er was nation heartened so, in time of stress and strain,
As we who see our leader's face and hear his voice again.

II

Through the days of horror and the nights of frozen pain,
His cheering words would help us to endure
The torment of the fiery hurricane—
The night's stark serenade, the morn's grim overture.
His was the kindly thought that could instil
Fresh courage in the failing heart and will;
General and commander, second to none,
Father and brother, and comrade all in one.
We had our share of glory and we won our meed of fame,
And on the fence of history we carved an honoured name;
But, given such a leader, how could ev'n a rabble quail?
With such a man to lead the van, could any army fail?

III

New patterns, now, are woven in the looms of time.
(Our ranks are thinning sadly, day by day.)
Pale neurotics call our deeds a crime,
And the older, sterner virtues fade away
As softer, looser creeds usurp their place:
But newer fashions never will efface.
The glory of the comradeship, forged in blood and flames,
The teamwork welded in the bloodiest of games.
The leader's voice is heard again, a ringing trumpet call
That wafts away the chills of doubt, inspiring one and all
To swell the ranks again and, in the good old Anzac way,
Stand foursquare to the future, let the odds be what they may.

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(late 11th Batt.)
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WELLINGTON ST., PERTH

Diggers! You Ask for Preference! Give It!
The Man with the Donkey

Andy Davidson writes.—In your April issue you stated that Simpson, “The Man with the Donkey,” enlisted in Queensland. This is not so. As a great many mis-statements have been made here and elsewhere about this man it would be as well to have the facts. John Simpson Kirkpatrick was born in South Shields, England—(where a monument to his bravery now stands). He was a stoker on a ship in Fremantle when the call came for men in August, 1914. He left the ship and enlisted, dropping the latter part of his name for this reason, and was known as Jack Simpson and picked for A Section stretcher-bearers, 3rd Field Ambulance, under the Command of Capt. (now Lt.-Col.) D. M. McWhae. He did his training at Blackboy and left with the 1st Division, sailing on the Medici. After training in Egypt (Mena Camp), he left for Mudros on the T.S. Malda. After about six weeks on various ships he sailed for the Anzac Landing on the Devanha (on this ship also were A Company and H.O. 12th Batt.), transferring to H.M.S. Ribble, being towed ashore in boats to Anzac. The orthodox system of stretcher bearing did not agree with Simpson’s personality; so, very early, he commandeered a donkey and carried on individually for a long time. He did wonderful work, but this part is too well known to need any elaboration or comment from me. He was killed on the morning of May 19, in Shrapnel Gully and buried by his mates of C Section the same evening at Hill Spit, and a cross erected over his shallow grave. Capt. Fry, of B Section, unsuccessfully tried to get a decoration for him.

The man whose photo is in the Soldiers’ Institute and the War Museum then carried on with the donkey, but for reasons unknown to me, gave up after only one day.

The little animal was then taken and cared for by the 22nd Mountain Battery Indian Mule Train.

These few facts, which can be verified by Col. McWhae, or any original member of C Section, 3rd Field Ambulance, may help to clear the air, as even in the W.A. Digger Book mis-statements have crept in. The small photo inset in the Perth Soldiers’ Institute is Simpson.

Subiaco Local Products Exhibition

Monday, August 8, in the King’s Hall, Subiaco, the second exhibition of locally manufactured goods was officially opened by the Minister for Industries (the Hon. J. Scaddon). There was a very large attendance, including Mr. C. Perry (President), and Mr. A. Nisbet (Secretary) of the Chamber of Manufactures, the Mayor of Subiaco (Mr. H. L. Downe), Mr. W. Richardson, M.L.A., Mr. S. A. Macnamara (President Subiaco R.S.I.), and Councillors J. George and T. Tandy (Perth City Council). The Minister, who was introduced by the Mayor, thanked the Subiaco R.S.I. for organising the exhibition, the manufacturers for their ready response with exhibits and congratulated the exhibition officer of the Department of Industries (Mr. R. Anderson) on his splendid arrangement of the displays. The Minister urged upon all the necessity of purchasing locally-made goods, because, though Western Australia was mainly a primary producing State, we had to have a full proportion of secondary industries to give employment and by the supporting of these local manufactures the present difficulties would more easily be overcome. Mr. Scaddon issued a warning in regard to some unscrupulous traders who at times represented imported goods as being of local manufacture, and advised purchasers to become conversant with local brands and demand them. Referring to traders the Minister stated that during one of his recent tours he had been advised that when orders had been sent to some local merchants they had continually refrained from supplying locally-made goods even when such were available and desired by clients; should this continue he (the Minister) would not hesitate to name such firms who flatly refused to assist the State by pushing Westralian-made articles. The address by Mr. Scaddon was supported by the President of the Chamber of Manufactures (Mr. C. Perry), and Mr. W. Richardson, M.L.A., moved and carried a hearty vote of thanks to the Minister. The exhibition comprised 44 exhibits covering a wide range, well displayed and brilliantly illuminated. The attendance throughout was a credit to the organising work of the Subiaco Sub-branch.

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(A. B. Digger)

September, 1914, and the Old Soldier, on a visit to Blackboy Camp, throughout the long afternoon had acclaimed the superiority of the "Army in my days." At the station he proved at least one of his contentions by slipping through the dense crowd of men proceeding on leave, and scrounging a corner seat. Close behind, I shouldered in and slid along until opposite: four hundred boisterous soldiers-lads jostled and packed into ours and the other carriages.

Bill, on my left, adjusted his long leg to suit local conditions, lit a cigarette, appraised the sole civilian present—the old soldier, to wit—and with the confidence that is twenty-one, proceeded to enlighten him on various phases of military life—more especially as to its hardships.

"An' lars' week," Bill impressively plunged into the second half-hour of his discourse to a (by this) most restive old gentleman. "Ole Tip marched us out twenty-seven miles, an' nex' day took a short cut back to Blackboy that put another three mile on the home, trip. No blankets, mind yer! An' the transport broke down. But y'gotta go through—it's to know what it's like mate!"

The clouds darkened the brow of the old soldier who had marched three-hundred glorious miles with Roberts in '80—and the lightnings threatened from eyes which had looked upon the stark slaughter of Khandahar:—

I caught his eye—and winked. He knew I knew, and was appeased. Perth and relief at last: "Yes," concluded Bill, before he was swept away in the khaki flood, "I can take it from me, mate, this soldierin's real, hard toil! G'night!"

In 1914 the A.I.F. termed its Bills "Dags" (preceded by the Great Australian adjective, of course). Later it styled them, "real rough Diggers" (insert G.A.A. before "rough"). Bill well-merited the conferred titles, also the strip of plum-and-blue ribbon likewise conferred before the Armistice released us, both war-worn veterans of twenty-five.

Occasionally I see Bill: more often he sees me. And later, much later, my wife prefixes the evening's lecture with: "The War! I thought so! Why you don't avoid that disreputable, etc.—and the tea waiting for the past—" Ah, well!

Last Wednesday, in Hay St., Bill won. He was accompanied by a miniature Bill. "Jus' rooin in to get the kid and melsel some boots. Come on in, and then we'll liquidae!"

The small son knew what he wanted and got it despite some opposition from Bill. A shrapnel splinter has made it more difficult to meet Bill's requirements in foot-ware, thus twenty minutes passed, a vast litter of boxes and boots accumulated, but still the customer remained unsuited. A contemplative pause, then inspiration! The shop-assistant dashed away to return with a pair of the thickest soled, most fearfully reinforced boots that ever shoe-maker designed or fashioned.

"These," said the shop assistant proudly, "are shooting boots. Made to order for a customer who has never claimed them. Under the circumstances, we could do those at—thirty shillings!"

Bill pondered, handling and eying them critically. "Gee! There's decent marching boots, they are!" a voice startled in. "Give us a look at them," and without further ceremony, the monstrosities were removed from Bill's unresisting grasp by a youth of nineteen.

"Tell y'what," he continued, addressing the shop assistant to the total exclusion of Bill (after due inspection of the articles), "You keep 'em till I draw me nex' military pay an' I'll take 'm alright!"

"Hey!" Bill broke in, shaken somewhat by the youth's closure on the alleged bargain, "Whatter you want boots like that for?"

"Us blokes in the military need 'm," returned nineteen-year-old. "You ain't any idea what it's like foot-sloggin' over them sandhills at Swanbourne of a Sat'erd'y, lad! You pull it on an' you'll know what it's like!"

Disdaining further conversation with civilians, mildly belligerent, he strode out of the shop and was gone.

At length an awe-stricken William breathed, to enquire: "Well! Whatter y'know about that?" And to demand fiercely, as we made our way down the street, and indignation swept him, "Whatter y'know about that, eh?"

"Hey, Dad!" shrilled the miniature, clinging tightly to Bill's coat the while, "that was a soldier in the shop, that was, Dad! You was a soldier like that once, wasn't you, Dad?"

"What? Me?" gritted Bill, stopping dead before a pair of most conveniently situated swing-doors, "Me? Not on y'
sweet life, son. An' another thing, Don't you go away while me and Snow 'ere goes in t' see the doctor. A man needs it after that!"

Seventh Brigade Reunion

Writing to Colonel Collett, from Sydney, Mr. E. A. Sparshott says: "I am sure you will be interested to know that the first re-union of the Seventh Infantry Brigade, A.I.F., was held in Sydney on June 22. About 40 members of the old brigade were present, including Colonels Norris and Travers, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. I was asked by the re-union to communicate with you and send greetings from your old comrades. Probably you may be attending re-unions of the battalion, and the members of the Brigade who attended have asked you to convey to our old members best wishes for the future."

Proposed Metropolitan District Committee

The Metropolitan District Committee was definitely formed at a meeting held at the Soldiers' Institute on August 8. The affiliated sub-branches are Victoria Park, North Perth, Carlisle, Nedlands, Tramways, Mount Lawley, Subiaco and Perth. The following office-bearers were elected:—President, Mr. Sadler (North Perth); Vice-president, Mr. Hopperston (Perth); Treasurer, Mr. Saunders (Tramways); Secretary, Mr. Mellor (Perth). Application has been made to the State Executive for official recognition, and the next meeting will be held on September 12. Any sub-branch desirous of affiliation with the Metropolitan District Committee may obtain 'information from the Secretary at the Soldiers' Institute.

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Visit of Sir William Birdwood

Much greyer than when we knew him first, and obviously still suffering from the effects of his illness, Sir William Birdwood, nevertheless, is still trim and active, and retains all that mental alertness which carried him to the front rank of war leaders. The old charm of manner is still apparent. The marvellous memory of persons, places and incidents still manifests itself, and here, we may mention that those remembered and recalled during the course of conversations are not always senior officers. The one thing that seemed to trouble Sir William, was not his physical condition, which, if neglected, might have more serious results than we would care to contemplate, but the fact that this indisposition is preventing him from getting around and seeing the soldier as he really is, with the uniform off. The period of rest with his son-in-law and daughter, Captain and Mrs. Colin Craig, enabled him to recover sufficiently to attend three important functions. These were the opening of the Avenue of Honour at Ballingup, on Saturday, August 20, the Mons Parade in Perth, on Sunday, August 21, and the subsequent reception tendered by the ex-service men of the State, in the Prince of Wales Theatre.

AT BALLINGUP

The Ballingup ex-service men paraded at the local railway station at 11.45 a.m., under the command of Colonel Noel M. Brazier, with Major R. A. Geddes, M.C., second in command. At the bridge the visitors were met by the Chairman of the Road Board (Mr. W. M. Jenkins), the Country Vice-President of the R.S.L. (Mr. C. R. Gillett), the President and Secretary of the Sub-branch (Messrs. L. McBride and F. Hawcroft), and Parliamentary representatives (Messrs. Edwin Rose, M.L.C., and A. A. Wilson, M.L.A.). After the inspection of the guard of honour, the troops marched to the District Hall for the diggers’ luncheon, for which a special programme was arranged. At 2.30 p.m., the troops fell in and marched to the Memorial site. The President formally welcomed Field Marshal Sir William Birdwood, who addressed the gathering, and formally opened the avenue. Trees, one each, were planted by Sir William Birdwood, Mrs. Leslie Craig (for woman’s sacrifice in war), Mr. C. R. Gillett (for the R.S.L.), and Mr. C. Russell, Vice-President (for fallen comrades). Name plates were placed in position by relatives of fallen soldiers and by sub-branch members. After the dedication of Honour Avenue, Mr. C. R. Gillett gave an address, expressing appreciation for the attendance of Sir William Birdwood and party. A trowel made of Western Australian wood was presented to Sir William Birdwood, and a bunch of roses to Mrs. Leslie Craig by Miss Nora Mayger. A grand ball and social was held in the District Hall that evening.

On the way to Perth Sir William Birdwood was received by a party of light horsemen and 28th Battalion veterans at Waroona.

THE MONS PARADE

Led by Colonel Byron (late Leicestershire Yeomanry), a parade of ex-Imperial men and those who served in other units marched from Forrest Place to St. George’s Cathedral. One of the two flags carried at the head of the march was the blue banner presented by the British War Museum to the British United Services Association, a flag which has graced the London Cenotaph on several Armistice Days. The parade state showed an attendance of 581 of all ranks and services, including, besides the ex-Imperials, nine men from each A.I.F. unit in the Fifth Military District, under the command of Colonel F. McLean, M.C., a detachment of ex-members of the R.A.N., commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Davidson, and ratings from the Royal Navy, commanded by Lieutenant L. Kaye Perrin. Mr. H. L. Harris (B.U.S.A.), assisted by Mr. G. E. Catermole, M.C., was chief marshal. The service was attended by Sir William Birdwood, accompanied by Lieutenant-General Sir Talbot Hobbs. Commander

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An inspiring address was delivered by Archdeacon C. L. Riley. After the service the troops paraded past Sir William Birdwood, who took the salute with bare head. The parade then marched through St. George's Terrace and William Street to the Prince of Wales Theatre.

AT THE PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

A large and enthusiastic gathering of ex-service men filled the Prince of Wales Theatre and gave Sir William Birdwood a rousing welcome as he entered the building. The reception was presided over by the State President (Colonel Collett). Others seated on the platform were the Minister for Lands, Mr. C. G. Latham (representing the Premier), the Archbishop of Perth (Dr. Clune), the Senior Chaplain (Archdeacon C. L. Riley), other chaplains, the District Commandant (Brigadier A. M. Martyn), Lieutenant-General Sir Talbot Hobbs, Brigadier-General Bessell-Browne, the members of the State Executive, the ex-Naval Men's Association, and other ex-service men's organisations, a party of V.C. winners, and Mr. A. C. McCallum.

Seats in front of the stalls had been reserved for blind, sick, aged, and maimed returned soldiers, and war nurses. For an hour before the reception began, community singing of war-time songs was led by Mr. W. A. Wilkins, the orchestra consisting of returned soldiers.

The State President's Address

Colonel Collett, in his address of welcome to Sir William Birdwood, stated:—

I have a most pleasant duty to perform in extending to you, on behalf of the ex-service men and women of Western Australia, and even of Australia, a most hearty and sincere welcome. And yet this task of mine is not an easy one. Knowing this audience, as you do, and knowing me, as I'm afraid you do—(laughter)—you will appreciate my difficulty.

But there is one acknowledgment. I must make before I go further, one that I'm sure you will approve of, and that is to Sir Thomas Coombe for placing this theatre at our service and thus making this meeting possible. (Applause.) We are most grateful to him.

Now, sir, your keen perception will have enabled you to estimate the worth and meaning of this gathering. Your ready eye will have detected the presence of that body of estimable ladies to whom we all owe so much—the Army Nursing Service. Then there is a goodly number of those fine warriors of South Africa who will persist in saying that in the last war we were overfed. It is evident that they have misunderstood the meaning of the term "fed up." (Laughter.) The Navy is also here in strength; likewise the Air Force. The bulk of the remainder are just plain A.I.F.—a little older since you saw them last; some of them somewhat battered, unfortunately, but all still possessing those characteristics for which they were sometimes criticised but which you so thoroughly understood and knew the true importance of.

Then there is another section of the audience that I'm sure will also appeal to you—the ex-members of the Old Navy, and the Old Army, of which you have been, and still are, such a brilliant part. They have attended also to do you honour. We are especially glad to have them here because they and we come of common, stock; because of the great traditions which we share; because of what they did before and after we arrived, and because they have come to make their homes amongst us. The League appreciates their co-operation and regards their interests as inseparable from its own. We sincerely hope that they will continue to work with us and will not encourage the endeavours of those well-meaning but misguided people who are planning for separate organisations.

One word more about the League. It is strong in this State. It needs to be stronger. In a memorandum, issued just before the troops began to embark for home, you gave some advice. You said that our real work for Australia was only just beginning. Well, "the things that men do live after them," and your words and your example have not been forgotten. The rank and file have been carrying on. They have done great work for their comrades in distress. They are anxious to also serve the State. For that they require all the encouragement possible. They want the help, up till now withheld, of many able comrades who have hitherto confined themselves to their own affairs. But, above all, they need in peace, and throughout Australia, that guidance—that genius in leadership—that you gave them in war. They maintain, as regards our former leaders, that the work that cost a life—many thousands of lives—is worth a lifetime's work in order to bring it to completion.

And for this great effort, sir, you will observe, if I may use a phrase not altogether strange to us, that "the spirit of the troops is excellent." And, I would like to add, many of them still write home to mother. (Laughter.)

Concerning yourself, sir, like all great characters in history—and you will al-

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ways be great in Australian history—many stories have been told. Some of
to your ears. (Laughter.) But about
time they all is that atmosphere of respect
and affection which your leadership
and treatment of us has engendered.
(Ap-
plause.)

For his great services to the Empire,
Lord Kitchener's name will be ever re-
membered in Australia. (Hear, hear!)
One of his most important acts, and one
having far-reaching consequences, was
his selection of yourself to command the
Australian and New Zealand Corps. The
material you found there needed—but your
magic touch to bring it to life and sup-
reme usefulness. Sir Ian Hamilton, a
man with the mind of a poet and a knowl-
dge of psychology, spoke truly when
he described you as "the Soul of Anzac." (Ap-
plause.) Through you Australian men
came into their own. For that, and
many other reasons, it gives us infinite
pleasure to meet you again. We feel that
we share with you the many additional
honours that a grateful Sovereign has
bestowed upon you during the past de-
cade, and we rejoice that to all appear-
ces the passing of time is making little
impression upon you. We regret, indeed,
your recent indisposition and hope that
the rest of your stay amongst us will be
most pleasant. May the many years ahead
of you contain all that Lady Birdwood
and yourself consider most desirable.
And lastly, sir, on the occasion of
your future visits, perhaps even to see
your great-grandchildren, may we all be
here to receive you. We are honoured
and delighted with your presence. (Ap-
plause and cheers.)

The Field-Marshal's Reply

Sir William Birdwood (received with
musical honours and cheers):

Colonel Collett, General Hobbs, and
do you my old comrades, I am sure
must be entirely unnecessary for me
to tell you how much I appreciate
the welcome you have given me here to-
day, and all the kind words which you,
Colonel Collett, have just used regarding
my services and my association with
my old comrades during the war. I think you
have seen since the war how, in speeches
I may be called 'upon to make in the
Old Country and elsewhere, I think and
hope, I have never failed to state exactly
what my views were during the war and
still are regarding all of you, my old
comrades. (Applause.) I am afraid it
Can only be a small idea of what I felt
and thought with regard to you. There
are very few of us mortals who have the
privilege of being able to express in words
what we feel, and I am not one of those.
But I have the greatest feelings of ad-
ministering and affection for all of you.
When I use the phrase "my old com-
rades," I am sure you will believe I can
do so with a feeling of certainly, and
not simply as an ordinary and common
expression, for if you take your minds
back it is getting on for eighteen years
since a good many of you here—and I—
began serving in Egypt, towards the end
of 1914. Eighteen years is a very big
slice in the lives of any of us, and those
years (certainly the first part), were
years in which a very great deal hap-
pended to draw us much closer together
than frequently happens in the lifetimes
of most men. We went through much
experience, and I believe every one of
us can look back with real pleasure to
the fact that we served together during
that war. We would not forget those
years for anything. That may in a way
sound hard-hearted, but human nature is
so constituted that we do naturally
forget most of the evil which comes
across our path—the dangers and
troubles; but we don't forget our old
comrades who gave their lives. We've
forgotten the evil, but we remember the
good things and the thoughts of our
great comrades. Those thoughts have al-
ways been in my mind since the war and, I
hope, in yours too. (Hear, hear.)

You who are here now—and I think
and hope most of you belonged to those
magnificent West Australian units—have
much to remember. There was the 10th
Light Horse, of whom I am sorry to say
many fell on the field in August, 1915.
There was the 8th Battery—no better
battery had we—throughout Gallipoli or
France. (Applause.) There was that old
11th Battalion. The 11th and part of
the 12th were West Australians, forming
part of our advance guard in that memo-
rable landing on the 25th. They were
in that magnificent 3rd Brigade. I hope
there are many in those two units here
today. Never can I overcome my feel-
ings of delight and admiration when I
think of the behaviour of our advance
guard on that occasion. Then the 51st
Battalion was formed when we got back
to Egypt. It took over half the remain-
ing men of the 11th; and I purposely
arranged it so that they could carry on
the great traditions with the same spirit
of the 11th. The 16th Battalion came
along the same day of the landing, and
went ashore in the evening. They had a
difficult time for weeks after, in Pope's,
Quinn's and Courtney's.

After that we had the 28th Battalion,
which came to Egypt with the 2nd Divi-
sion. Part of the 32nd also belonged to
Western Australia. Then there was the
44th—"Eggs-a-cook." (Roars of
laughter.) Those were the main West
Australian units we had. Of course,
I know many of you belonged to other
corps. A better lot of men I never wish
to have. Western Australian has kept up
that reputation she gave during the war
now that the times of peace have come.

The Cool Hand

I remember, about the first week in
May, 1915, when we were just a few
yards off the Turkish trench, and ma-
chine-gun bullets were chipping into
the bank about six inches above our heads,
I spoke to one of our boys. We had been
making jam-pot bombs in our corps
workshop down on the beach. The in-
genuity of our engineers had enabled us
to manufacture quite respectable bombs.
This man had a little pile of bombs, and
I said to him, "What sort of bombs have
they been sending you lately?" "No
damn good at all!" he replied. (Laugh-
ter.) "I will show you," he said. He lit

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August 26, 1932
The Listening Post

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A fuse, and I heard it splutter suspiciously, going “Fit, fit, fit!” I thought the thing would go off, so I turned around and hid my face. “Bang!” the thing went, and I got some chips through my clothes. He said, “Just look at that, now! It’s the first bomb that’s gone off properly to-day!” (Laughter.) I believe it was the very same man I met much later in France, one sweltering hot day on the Somme. He was wearing a magnificent brand-new Australian overcoat. “What the devil are you wearing that thick coat for on a blistering day like this?” I asked him. He said, “I got it only two days ago, and I don’t want to throw it away yet!” (Laughter.)

The Typical Digger

I feel for the rest of my life I shall often see before me the figure of an Australian soldier climbing up those steep, rugged hills of Gallipoli, or going through the muddy fields of France. I always thought of him as that brave, great, honest fellow determined to see things through. Having been with you through the war, I don’t think you want me to talk about war-time now. (Cries of “Yes!”) War is over, and we have come to the times of peace. One of my primary objects of this visit was to go around as much as I could and see how you were all settling down. When I came out here in 1919-20 you were just settling into many new positions, and I hoped to have a chance to see how you were getting on later. I wanted to go to the outer centres. You will therefore realise my disappointment that at the last moment ill-health prevented me doing so. You who were with me on Gallipoli and in France will remember that I used to be an extraordinarily fit man, as most of you were. Perhaps I was one of the very fortunate ones. I landed at Gallipoli on April 25 and didn’t leave it for a single day until the middle of January, 1916, when I evacuated the troops from Helles after I had evacuated ours from Anzac and Suvla. (Applause.) I am one of those people foolish enough to ignore the doctor’s orders. Many of us do that when we are in good health. When the doctors told me on this occasion that I would be endangering my life if I knocked about, however, I obeyed their advice. I am glad that a fortnight in Australia, with its lovely climate and food, has made all the difference to me.

These Present Hard Times

Everyone of us knows what extraordinarily difficult times we are going through... Up to 1928-9 everybody was on the upward grade. We thought we had come to a new heaven and everything was going beautifully. Then the depression came; and since then I know what really bad times you have had. I may say only that I personally feel you are better off than they are over in the Old Country. I know there is a lot of unemployment here, but there is more in the Old Country. When I returned to England from India, where I had served for many years, it was heart-breaking to me to go along the road and find enormous numbers of unemployed tramping backwards and forwards, looking for work. I don’t think the same thing has happened in this country. Your Governments are doing their best to meet it, and I believe that the time will come when we shall find the whole lot going down the other side of the hill in times of prosperity. Though I say I think you are better off than the people in the Old Country, I believe there is not one of you who will not have been filled with feelings of admiration and delight at the way the Old Country has met her difficulties. (Applause.) On all possible occasions, time after time, it looked that we were turning the corner, but the difficulties returned. The Old Country has tried to carry out the straight course and meet her obligations.

Mons Day

I have just come from the Mons Memorial service at the Cathedral. I wish you could all have been there, though I know there were some from every contingent. I wish you could have heard the sermon from the son of our beloved Archbishop. (Applause.) He was able to put it in a way I cannot, but he was able to show what the men of the Old Country had done. He spoke of them from the time of 1854, after which the old soldiers had to come out here to help develop this country; and how, year after year, men had come forward bringing the spirit of the Old Country; showing that those in the Old Country were an absolute unit in the Empire. I am quite certain that many here would welcome an opportunity to read Archdeacon Riley’s words.

The League

When I came to Australia in 1920, the Sailors’ and Soldiers’ League was in its infancy, and I think there were a good many who were doubtful whether it would be a success. They even said it was unnecessary. They said, “What do we want to have an organisation for, anyway?” I think I may take it that the League was formed, not only to ensure the interests of our returned soldiers, but also so that the dependants of those who lost their lives would be looked after. We all recognised that during the war there had been inculcated throughout the A.I.F. a real spirit of comradeship. We were determined that that spirit should not be allowed to die, but rather that it should be expanded into a feeling of real citizenship. Those are the main objects for which I believe the League exists. I believe the League has fully attained its objects. There must be hundreds of men here who will be able to say that the League has helped them in thoroughly looking after their interests.Politicians and others would tell us that none had proved themselves better than the returned soldiers. I believe the necessity for keeping up this League is fully recognised, but from what I gather from Colonel Collett’s remarks there are many returned soldiers who don’t belong to the League. If there are any present I hope they will join at once. I would urge you who belong to the League to bring any pressure you can to bear on every returned man to get them to join as soon as they can. As we soldiers know, unity is strength, and the more ammunition you can give to your leaders in the way of membership the better opportunity will your leaders have of fighting your battles when the time comes.

Unity and Leadership

I would like to say how glad I have been to find that, in Western Australia at all events, there is unity. Colonel Collett has just mentioned that subject. Before
he spoke. I had not realised that there were any feelings about having two leagues. I hope that the members of the two leagues will regard themselves as members of one. That, I believe, is the case here. Don't have any distinction between A.I.F. men and ex-Imperial men. Let them all be as one. Some men go about saying that Governments have not kept their promises to the men. Perhaps in some cases the Government could not carry out all details what it hoped to do—the promises it possibly made in its anxiety to do all it could for the returned soldier. Those men, I think, if you go into their cases, were more often doing so because they were egged on by agitators and red-raggers. (Hear, hear!) If you follow up their cases, you find generally that such men got real satisfaction. Their cases are treated with sympathy, and things are often put right. I hope you have found that part of the value of the League is this: it does show how essential it is to take advantage of your war experiences, and particularly the value of real leadership.

I wish to apologise for the absence of my wife and daughter. Both wanted to come, but my wife is not so strong as she was, and I have had some longish days, travelling from Williams to Balging-up and here in two days. She could not have stood it. My daughter was a sister of those nursing sisters of whom I am pleased to see so many sitting here now, for they did so much during the war. She was too young to be an actual nursing sister, but she was a V.A.D. in France and was most anxious to be with you here now. At the end of the war she was taken prisoner by one of your West Australians. (Applause.) I remember that, at the wedding, one of your boys came to me and said, "General, we are proud that one of your daughters has come to marry Colin Craig. It's such a nice termination to your career!" He must have thought, "There is that poor old general, about 100 years of age. How nice of him to marry off one of his daughters to one of us!" (Laughter.) Anyway, she has got a man for whom I have the greatest affection and respect—Colin Craig. (Applause.) They presented me with this small Australian grandson. Come here, Colin! (The boy stepped forward amid a storm of cheering, and the Field-Marshall placed his arm affectionately around his neck.) I have thoroughly appreciated speaking to you today. I do wish I could go around and have a word with you all.

Before coming here I had the privilege of placing a wreath on the War Memorial on behalf of all of you. It is a beautiful memorial, and I can think of nowhere in the world where there is such a commanding site as that memorial has over the Swan River; and at night, to see it lit up, is most beautiful.

League Headquarters

At the request of the Hon. the Premier (Sir James Mitchell) and the Government of Western Australia, I have pleasure in announcing that they present to the Returned Soldiers' League these deeds for a block of land in St. George's Terrace, on which to erect a building as a permanent headquarters of the League. (Prolonged cheers.) I am happy indeed to be able to hand these deeds over now to your president, Colonel Collett, knowing that he will safeguard them in building those headquarters. (Applause.)
great aptitude for our leading summer and winter games—cricket and football. As a boy attending Perth Boys' School, he captained teams in both these domains of sport. The promise so early shown, of great sporting ability, quickly developed, and it was not before Jim was taking his place with the leading teams and players of both games in this State.

In the early days of his career, Jim played cricket in the Matting Association with the Henley Park and Belvidere Clubs. He greatly distinguished himself with these clubs, winning a club trophy for the best all-rounder on three occasions, and Association trophies for batting and bowling.

Jim Everett

His first experience of turf cricket was with the old Corinthian team before the present District Scheme came into vogue. This period of the State's cricket history witnessed the advent of some wonderfully fine cricketers, and it is a compliment to Jim's prowess that he recorded many sterling performances against powerful adversaries. On one occasion against the Wanderers Club he secured the remarkable bowling analysis of seven wickets for seven runs.

Jim attained inter-State honours when he was chosen to play for W.A. against Victoria. Following this, he was a member of the North Perth and East Perth Crickety Clubs when these teams gained "A" Grade Premierships.

Upon his return from the war, Jim played with the Fremantle Turf Association, and in one match captured the whole of the ten wickets for 35, the last five wickets falling for three runs! His last active association with the summer game was with the Subiaco District Club, giving splendid service, until war injuries compelled him to retire from the game he loved so well. Jim was best known as a bowler, sending down a very difficult "swerve," particularly when conditions were suitable. He was always a "branny" bowler, and was never easily collared by the batsman. As a batsman he was of the type that kept the crowds on their toes, being a fearless hitter, and very entertaining when making runs. He was also a splendid fieldsman in almost any position, and it is little wonder, therefore, that he gained many trophies as an all-round cricketer.

As an Australian Rules' footballer, Jim distinguished himself no less than as a cricketer. He first played senior football in 1901 with West Perth, which team he captained in 1910. He represented W.A. in the Jubilee Football Carnival in Melbourne in 1908, and filled the position of vice-captain of this team. His very successful football career ended in the year before war broke out. He is even now referred to as one of the best half-backs the West has produced.

Jim holds the honour of being the first West Australian-born sportsman to represent W.A. in cricket and football. He played his games for the sheer love of sport, and, if on the losing side, knew how to accept defeat.

On the administrative side of both games, Jim has had a great deal of experience. He has served as Club delegate to the W.A. Cricket Association, and was chosen as a State Cricket Selector. He is at present a member of the Selection Committee of the West Perth Football team, and has great hopes of his team finishing on top.

Jim embarked with the 44th Battalion as C.S.M., and obtained his commission whilst in camp at Salisbury Plains. He was rather badly wounded towards the end of the war, his injuries proving a detriment to his sporting activities upon his return. He was very popular in the battalion, particularly with members of "B" Company, to which he was attached. He takes an active interest in the welfare of the West Perth Sub-branch of the R.S.L.

A STIRRING GAME

One of the most exciting games of Australian Rules football in the history of the 44th Battalion took place at Locre, near Mont Kemmel, during one of the battalion's rest periods. Returning from a full morning's route march, tired and leg weary, the troops were advised that a challenge had been received from the 3rd Field Ambulance team, desiring a match to be played that afternoon. The skipper of the 44th team, Bill Sullivan, after a lot of persuasion, managed to place a team in the field, which, however, was not the best, many prominent players being disinclined to turn out, as they were still feeling the effects of the march.

The F.A. boys arrived with their pockets full of francs, prepared to back themselves heavily, but they met with no response on this occasion, as the 44th realised that their team was not at full strength. The match took place, and resulted in a win by 6 goals for the Field Ambulance boys.

This defeat stirred the W.A. boys to great activity. Skipper Sullivan rounded up the strongest team available, informed the players that a challenge had been issued for a return match with the F.A., and collected about 2,000 francs from all and sundry in the battalion. These francs were put in the custody of a well-known member of the 44th, who usually acted as the battalion bookie, with instructions to back the 44th at the best odds available. These instructions were satisfactorily carried out, and the 44th entered the field with vengeance writ large on every face.

The scene was an inspiring one, the battalion turning out to a man to urge
Personal

The members of the Trayning-Yelbini Sub-branch, feeling assured of a good season and realising the proximity of State Congress and the Royal Show, which would naturally take quite a few of their number to the city, decided to send a scout down to make sure Perth would be a safe place to visit. Also, whether Dave and company were prepared to act as hosts, guides, etc. This stupendous task was allotted to their active secretary, Mr. F. N. Graves (R.N.V.R.), whom we met in Perth, and judging by his manner it is very apparent he will report “all’s well” on his return. Trayning-Yelbini are to be congratulated on the vigorous manner in which they acquit themselves on the football field.

The indomitable spirit of the old Imperial regiments which gives them such driving force, and methodical exactitude is personified in the active secretary of the Maylands Sub-branch (Mr. H. King). To his untiring efforts and loyal co-operation with the “higher command,” the outstanding success of this live sub-branch is due. “Kingy” knows a thing or two about soldiering, having served with the colours from 1907 till the end of the big stoush, and campaigned in, besides France, India, the Soudan and Egypt. It is certain that Edgar Wallace, Capt. Bean and Sapper would write many interesting volumes from his experiences. It is now quite apparent why the affairs of Maylands are attended to with such dispatch.

Mr. E. S. Watt, managing editor of The Listening Post, leaves for Brisbane on September 3 to attend the annual convention of the Master Printers’ Association. During his absence the September issue of The Listening Post will be edited by the associate editor, Captain C. R. Collins.

Mr. Oscar Walters, of the Westralian Worker, on the day of his departure to manage of the Kalgoorlie affairs of the paper, was the recipient of many good wishes at the luncheon of the Press Sub-branch, of which he is a member. Oscar is a quiet chap who writes splendid verse and has the gift of winning lasting friendships. We wish him every success in his new venture.

Going flat out to make the present appeal for equipment to fight the great cancer scourge an unqualified success, in the RAY competition at present being run, Mrs. H. L. Downe, A.T.-N.A., is contesting as the “Motor Ray.” Mrs. Downe is one of our own ex-A.I.F. Sisters, who saw service with the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, and since her return has always been to the fore in assisting distressed diggers. During the present depression Mrs. Downe has devoted hours to unemployment relief works, and takes a particularly keen part in child welfare organisation. Mrs. Downe is the first “diggeress” to attain Ligh municipal honours, she being the Mayoress of Subiaco. Both the Subiaco and the Nedlands Sub-branches realise her sterling qualities, as she is an active member of both branches. Hubby Les is well known round League circles, and keeps up the prestige of the R.S.L. in all his mayoral activities. Sub-branches generally might consider practically assisting Sister Downe to outshine all the other Rays. Her private address is 137 Derby Road, Subiaco.

Colonel Collett’s announcement at a recent State Executive meeting that he would again accept nomination for the position of State President of the League

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resulted in spontaneous manifestations of joy by the delegates, which have been echoed and re-echoed throughout the State. The Colonel, in agreeing to carry on (there will be no opposition) for another year is doing so at great personal sacrifice, and only agreed to do so on the earnest requests of members throughout the State to guide their important movement through this period of difficulty. The Colonel possesses to a marked degree the qualities of leadership, and diggers feel grateful to him for his continued service on their behalf.

General Sir William Salmond, who has succeeded his brother, John, as Air Chief Marshal, is well known to many Australian airmen. He commanded the aerial forces of Egypt and Palestine during the war.

During the month there passed away in the Prince of Wales Military Hospital, Sydney, Captain George A. Burkett, who was for a number of years a well known figure in Perth, where he was associated with mining and financial interests. When war broke out he enlisted and was the original officer in charge of No. 1 Troop A Company 10th Light Horse Regiment. He was badly wounded at Gallipoli and invalided home. He was later appointed to the recruiting staff in the State. After the war he left for Sydney, where he resided up to the time of his death.

A good digger passed away last month at an early age in the person of Mr. E. J. Limbourn, of Merredin. Mr. Limbourn enlisted early in 1916, and served in France for over two years. He joined the staff of the Merredin Experiment Farm in 1919; taking over the position of cereal breeder. In addition to the breeding of new varieties of wheat, much valuable work was done in testing varieties in regard to their resistance to disease, also in the pure line selection of the varieties already grown for seed purposes. The two most outstanding varieties produced by Mr. Limbourn are "Bencubbin" and "Tocadgen," whilst "Noongaar" is another variety for which he could claim a fair amount of credit, for although he did not actually make the cross, he was mainly responsible for fixing the variety. Like all other wheat breeders, the results of his work will be apparent long after he has gone, and at the present time there are many very promising unpixed crosses under test which may yet add increased wealth to our agricultural industry. In regard to wheat diseases, much has been done to test the susceptibility of the various varieties, and as a result flag smut, which at one time was such a menace to the wheat grower, no longer causes him concern, as many varieties have been produced which prove immune to this disease.

In the production of pure seed, Mr. Limbourn has had the pure line selection under his control, which is the foundation of the seed produced and supplied to the farmer.

"... Oop and Died"

The old Dutchman who trained his horse to go without eating, and the man who trained his business to go without advertising—both had what would have been a good idea if horse and business hadn’t "oop and died." Every living, working thing must have its "food." In a business this means effective advertising. We know that a large percentage of the Eight Thousand readers of the LISTENING POST give preference to businesses that advertise in its pages. Live and Grow... Advertise in

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Phone B4750
The work done in the test rows and breeding plots is well-known and appreciated by the many farmers who visit the farm on the annual field day.

Mr. Limbourn’s work has been of great value to farmers, and we join with others in extending sympathy to his bereaved relatives.

Speaking at the big reception, the Field-Marshall paid a fine tribute to our own W.W. I war leader, Lieut.-General Sir Talbot Hobbs. He said: “As you will all remember, General Hobbs came out with the A.I.F. and commanded the artillery. He passed from the command of a brigade to that of a division. I never wish to have a more able and competent, really loyal, hard-working and conscientious commander than General Hobbs. (Applause.) It may not be known to you that, when the German push in 1918 was coming close to Amiens, he, with his 5th Division, put himself in front of Villers-Bretonneux and fought the Germans back. That was the big turning-point in the attack on Amiens, and he deserves the greatest credit.” (Applause.)

An old Western soldier in Colonel Jack de Castilla is at present visiting this State. The Colonel went with a West Australian contingent to the South African War, and has remained there ever since, having filled important positions in the Union.

Old 28th Battalion diggers will regret to read that Lou Marshall, who was severely wounded in the shoulder and taken prisoner in France, has had to take a trip to Perth by “plane” for treatment of the old wounds, which have broken out again rather seriously. Lou was given up as hopeless by the German doctors until one took him in hand, by way of experiment, saved his life and patched him up in a wonderful manner. Lou, as a pastime, follows the pelting game. He has kept afloat through these hard times and Broome diggers wish him the best while in Perth.

Mr. J. L. Price, M.H.R., of South Australia, who was a visitor to the local products exhibition held by the Maylands Sub-branch during the month, commended the League in this State for the excellent work it was doing for the local manufacturers. He was delighted to know the League was so strong and had such great influence on local and national affairs. It is of interest to know that Mr. Price’s brother, Walter, was for a number of years State President of the South Australian Branch of the League.

The North-Westers are in a class by themselves. Major H. Buck, of Nullagin, travelled 150 miles to attend the re-union of the Pilbara Sub-branch at Port Hedland, and wrote a report of the proceedings for the Listening Post.

Pilbara Sub-branch has just sustained a severe loss. Ross Keesing is leaving the district to take over the management of a business in Claremont. In the meantime Sam Acton will run Ross’s show at Port Hedland.

Of great interest locally was the wedding on July 20 at Cowaramup, between Mr. P. Hughson and Mrs. T. O’Brien. “Peter,” ex-digger of the 16th Battalion, is a very popular member of the sub-branch and Mrs. O’Brien has helped in no small extent in the social activities. Comrades provided the customary guard of honour at the church, and the happy couple left to the strain of “Old Soldiers Never Die; They Simply Carry-on,” lustily sung by all.

Some 400 guests were present at the dance held in the evening, and all joined in congratulations, and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Hughson happiness and prosperity. On the previous Saturday evening “Peter” was the guest of the sub-branch at an impromptu “smoko” held at the Institute, when congratulations and toasts were honoured with great gusto—this, despite lack of practice in these difficult times. It was evident that old soldiers can still rise, or rather, “down,” to the occasion. Peter was unanimously elected “Mayor” of Cowaramup, and will be “at home” to all ex-service men in the “parlour” at the Institute on the first Saturday in the month, at 8 p.m.

Judging by reports, Sid Longmore (President of the Preiss Sub-branch, and “Non-comm.” of the Western Mail) will soon have to come back to work to recuperate from his annual leave. He was well received by the troops in the North-West, and spoke well on all occasions. Over a hundred years ago Tom Moore wrote “Lalla Rookh,” now Longmore has visited Lalla Rookh. Before leaving for that poetically named village, he was officially welcomed to the Port Hedland district by the Road Board. After the festivities he was packed off in good hands for a ten days’ tour, during which he will visit the Bamboo Creek gold mines, the Moolyella tin fields, and the Woodgina tantalite fields. He will also see shearing, and visit Repatriation pastoralist propositions. The Marble Bar Road Board has arranged to give him an official welcome the day he strikes the Bar.

Padre Hardy, senior vice-president of the Osborne Park Sub-branch, has been on the sick list. The soldiers in the Park wish him a speedy recovery, and hope to see him back at meetings soon.

The recent death of Mr. W. E. (Ted) Robinson has cast a gloom over Osborne Park diggers. He was a true and faithful supporter of the local sub-branch, and of the R.S.L. Movement. A great and noble-hearted citizen who put every ounce of his energies into the various organisations he belonged to in the district and throughout the State, dear old Ted will be missed by all who knew him.

Rev. A. C. Foyster, M.A., B.D., arrived from Hamilton (Victoria) a fortnight ago to take charge of the Ross Memorial Presbyterian Church, in West Perth.

Mr. Foyster was on active service as chaplain with the 31st Battalion, and served under Col. V. W. Freeman. He is still a chaplain in the Permanent Forces. The padre was 16 years in Hamilton, and was actively associated with numerous public bodies in that town.

For two years he was president of the Hamilton branch of the R.S.L., secretary of the unemployment relief committee, president of the University Extension
committee, secretary of the chess club, and a member of the hospital committee, all of which activities he carried on in addition to his pastoral work.

Mr. Foyster knows the digger, is a typical Aussie, and a good mixer. He is an old journalist, and we are pleased to hear that he has linked up with the Press Sub-branch.

Colonel Collett once again “did himself proud” at the Birdwood reception. The Field-Marshal paid our president a fitting compliment. During his address he said, “You know what Colonel Collett stands for. During the whole of the time that he has been your president he has devoted himself wholeheartedly to the interests of returned soldiers. (Applause.) He has never ceased his labours in your interests.”

Membership Campaign

The membership campaign is now in full swing, and all five branches have organised special drives to increase their membership. A number of new sub-branches have been formed and a few sleeping ones have awakened to some purpose. The success of the campaign can be gauged by the fact that the addition of membership, which always increases as the year progresses and which has normally about 200 per month, amounted to 650 for the month of July.

Individually, members can give considerable help by personal canvass, apart from the sub-branch efforts. Many non-members who were present at the Birdwood reception were so pleased with the League’s effort that they resolved to pull their weight with their comrades in the R.S.L.

The State Executive programme for the month of August included the well-arranged programme broadcast from 6ML on August 27; the Diggers’ hike on August 28; and the slogan competition, which closes on August 31.

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**THE LISTENING POST**

Varia

They say it with flowers in the apple lands. Towards the beginning of the month we received the following communication from the Secretary of the Mount Barker Sub-branch:

“At a general meeting of this sub-branch, I was instructed to write a letter of appreciation to you for your great little paper, The Listening Post. Its assistance to country members is invaluable.” The message closed with good wishes to the editor and staff, and a hope that the paper will carry on its good work.

Overheard in Barrack Street, outside the window containing the war souvenirs lent for the exhibition of Typical Digger sketches:

Mrs. Mount Street: “What are they looking at in the window?”

Mrs. Malcolm Street: “Oh, only some returned soldier things.”

Mrs. Mount Street: “Oh, are they?”

How soon the dear darlings forget!

Relative to the membership drive, being conducted by the League, and even before it has reached its full momentum, it is gratifying to hear of such good results already having been obtained by two local sub-branches in Maylands and North Perth, each of these having registered within a fortnight eighteen and twenty new members respectively.

At a recent meeting of the Perth Sub-branch a member suggested that, in order to encourage the use of wool, which is of such vital importance to the State, and to provide some lucrative employment for the dependants of many diggers, who are at present passing through difficult times, an exhibition should be arranged and an offer made to dispose of all classes of woollen work, which can be knitted by Returned Soldiers’ dependants. The idea seems to be a good one and will be readily taken up by the Perth Sub-branch if sufficient quantities of woollen goods are made available. The Secretary of the Perth Sub-branch would be pleased to hear from any person, and particularly other sub-branch secretaries, who would care to interest themselves in this matter, and so help the State and many of our workless comrades to enjoy some avenue of income.

The Secretary of the Perth Sub-branch R.S.L. has received a letter from the Brisbane Sub-branch, asking for information in connection with insurance. It appears that in Queensland certain insurance companies would insure ex-service men, and in many cases on their death have disputed the claim on the grounds that disabilities incurred on active service were not disclosed on examination, and therefore the claims have lapsed. The Brisbane Sub-branch maintains that it was a sheer impossibility for any returned soldier to detail every disability from which he had suffered during his service. They are asking if any similar occurrences have happened in this State, and if so, what action was taken, and with what result. The Secretary of the Perth Sub-branch would be pleased to pass on any information in connection with this matter.

H. H. Marshall (ex-Scots Guards) writes from Noongar—Knowing the results of attractive posters in England during the early part of 1915, I respectfully suggest that posters be prepared and issued to country sub-branches for distribution and exhibition on the roads. Such posters could be worded as follows: “Join the League!” “What League?” “Why, the R.S.L.” “You volunteered in ’14, volunteer now, Join the R.S.L.” “You need us and we need you, Join the R.S.L.” Also others as the fancy suggests and which, no doubt, would be forthcoming from other members. The best slogan could then be picked out.

As an ex-Imperial I am never tired of telling the tale of what the League has done for me. When I was in trouble they helped me out in 1928, and I am still on the farm.

That shows the value to ex-service men of such an organisation. They listen to
your tale of woe, the worthy Secretary (than whom there is none better) gets busy and, Hey! Presto! your troubles have vanished. Excuse the length of this letter, but I could fill pages of paper showing the good the League has done to others as well as to myself.

Keep your paper going; it is a treat to read it.

To Correspondents

(Particularly those who forward Sub-Branch Notes.)

Correspondents are reminded that:

1. There are now 139 sub-branches in this State. Therefore, be as brief as possible, so that each sub-branch may receive its fair average of space.

2. In making reports please give the exact date of the function, putting these figures after the name of the month, as "The annual general meeting was held on June 1." Never use expressions like "the 26th inst.," as the 26th inst. may become the 26th ult. before we go to press. By giving the exact date possible confusion is avoided.

3. Please avoid overloading your copy with such details as "in the capable hands of Messrs., etc.," and "our energetic secretary." We and our readers know that these chaps are capable and energetic, otherwise they would not be office-bearers.

4. The official designation of those organisations of devoted women who are such a tower of strength to the League is "Women's Auxiliaries" and not "Ladies' Auxiliaries." We know they are composed of ladies, but please give the official designation. After all, in a democratic age like this, why should we be afraid to call one another "Men" and "Women"?

A Nation of Shopkeepers

Mr. A. H. Lamb continues the discussion:

In replying to your answer to my criticism of "A Nation of Shopkeepers," might I first of all make clear two points which may, possibly, have created wrong impressions.

You state that you hoped that my letter would be the means of opening up an interesting discussion, and such was my intention in writing previously. I had, however, to bear in mind the limitations of space.

With regard to your comment on my implied disqualification of Lord Riddell, might I point out that my remarks were directed against his typically English viewpoint, which was both conservative and insular, qualities which are indelibly associated with the average Englishman.

Dealing with your reply to my criticism of the activities of the Empire Shopping Council, Wool Week Committee, etc., your remarks do not affect that criticism. I am not decrying the League's part in the matter—I am perfectly aware that whatever it tackles is done well—I do, however, stress the futility of the action of this and similar efforts. As I have already shown, with the limited incomes we all receive, spending more in one direction must, of necessity, mean curtailment in another. For instance, the campaign now being conducted by the Railway Department will, if it meets with the success that is anticipated, affect all other competing forms of transportation, according to the measure of the success obtained.

Concerning my remarks on the economic position of one nation or group of nations at the expense of another nation or group of nations being the chief cause of war, and the accusation that I fenced with it, may I agree to differ with that statement; my phraseology was direct. The following extract from a speech by the late President Wilson, in September, 1919, at St. Louis, confirms my previous remarks. He said: "Peace? Why, my fellow citizens, is there any man here, or any woman—let me say is there any child who does not know that the seed of war in the modern world is industrial and commercial rivalry? The late war was a commercial and industrial war. The seed of the deep-rooted hatred was hot, successful, commercial and industrial rivalry." Other equally authoritative opinions could be quoted, but the foregoing will suffice.

War is an inevitable consequence of the present system, and further, is also the most expeditious method of disposing of unsold stocks. It should be evident that the world's foreign markets are just home markets, looked at from a different angle; they certainly are not additional markets. So, if, therefore, the home market of Australia, which to France, America and Germany is a foreign market, cannot absorb all the goods which are available for consumption, neither can those markets, which to us here are designated as foreign. The significance of my statement lies in the obvious, if we will just think, and that is that not one of the nations now busily engaged in jostling the others, to try and capture more trade, appears to have realised this fact or its truth. They are, however, aware that they must get markets from somewhere, by hook or by crook—or go under. To this fundamental fact can be traced most of the international antagonisms, imperialistic expansions, concession hunting, etc., with economic compulsion as the driving force behind all these activities, and not abnormal wickedness on the part of any one nation.

With regard to your implied question that I do not state what is wrong with the existing system, I have previously pointed out that the cause of the present depression is a chronic deficiency of purchasing power, and in your reply you admit that this is so. In order to still further stress this point, I would put to you the following question: Will the sum of total purchasing power available be increased by a series of "stunts," as you seem to suggest? Stanley Baldwin, the leader of the Conservative Party in the House of Commons, admitted recently that, whilst production had increased during the last six months, so also had un-
employment. Thoughtful consideration of these facts will disclose why purchasing power generally is gradually, but none the less surely, becoming more and more restricted, in spite of increasing production.

Relative to your comments on the system I dislike so much, I would point out that it is not a question of like or dislike, but rather, does it fulfill the reason and purpose for which it exists? The present trouble is world-wide, as we all know, for we are all suffering from its effects in varying degrees. In view of its international nature, the disease, then, is also international. Therefore all the various methods now being employed as an attempt to alleviate matters and, in their totality, to make a real contribution towards recovery, could be most fittingly described as "industrial futilities."

May I, in conclusion, quote still further authorities in support of my statement that the present system is dying?

The Governor of the Bank of England, Mr. Montague Norman, in a letter to the Governor of the Bank of France, which he wrote in late August or early September of last year, stated that "The existing capitalistic system would collapse within twelve months. He wished it to be placed on record that he had said so."

Finally, Sir Auckland Geddes, an ex-British Ambassador to the United States, during a lecture tour of that country, stated: "In Europe we know that an age is dying. Here in America it would be easy to miss the signs of coming change, but I have no doubts that it will come. The aimlessness of a life, lived to labour and to die, having accomplished nothing, but merely avoided starvation, and the begetting of children who were also doomed to this weary treadmill, had seized the minds of millions."

We have also received a cheery and humorous letter from Mr. C. H. Thompson, who gives his address as Humphrey Bluey, Mumballup. Mr. Thompson agrees with Mr. Lamb that there are deficiencies in the present system; that reform is necessary and urgent, in order to prevent a tragedy, infinitely more horrible than the one we were in last. Mr. Thompson's letter contains many personal matters and a couple of cheery postscripts which we regret we cannot publish in full. However, we have omitted nothing essential. In support of his argument, he cites his own case of diminished earnings and the frittering away of savings during the present depression, a case which, by the way, is on all fours with that of the writer of the leader under discussion. In common with other workless men, he does not want charity, but the opportunity to earn a decent living. "The people who offer charity as a remedy would put a linedoul poultice on a broken leg, hoping to effect a cure." As to remedies, Mr. Thompson makes some suggestions which, he says, go to the root of our present troubles:

1. The limitation of interest on Government loans to 2 per cent.
2. An Act that will make it impossible, under any process of law, or by deed, contract, or any other instrument, to collect a greater rate of interest than 3 per cent.
3. A rationalisation of our debts.
   "We contracted the major portion of our debts," Mr. Thompson explains, "when wheat was 2s. to 3 bushels to the £1. At the present time it is 7 bushels to the £1. In other words, by a manipulation of values, our indebtedness has been more than doubled as the same rule applies to all our primary produce."

Yet another point of view is expressed by a reader who uses the pseudonym of "Mr. Ned Lands." He writes:

As one who read your May leader, and Mr. Lamb's subsequent comments upon it, I, too, am disappointed that Mr. Lamb has "censured a system, without suggesting a remedy. Let me first state that I hold no brief for any political party, nor any school of economic thought, though I try to take an intelligent interest in what is happening. Like Mr. Lamb, and like the LISTENING POST, too, I can see many defects in the present system, but am not in favour of scrapping it until something better can be substituted. I have quite an open mind on the subject, but, like the man from Missouri, "I've got to be shown." Unless I have entirely misread him, Mr. Lamb has stated only what every schoolboy knows, that depression has limited purchasing power. But when he goes on to deduce that, therefore, the various recent activities on behalf of Empire and local trading are futile, and when he flourishes the spectre of a hypothetical war in the pathway of the economic unity of the Empire, I find him less convincing. Purchasing capacity is not something fixed and static; it depends, I should think, upon earning capacity, and no form of activity calculated to provide work, however temporary its nature may be, should be the object of the economist's lordly scorn. It was never suggested that these things are ends in themselves; they are efforts to deal with a dolorous situation as it is, and not with the world as it ought to be. Failing these, what are we to do? Wash our hands of the situation, as Pilate did, and stand aside? Surely Mr. Lamb does not favour a policy of doing nothing, the policy of despair? If not, what does he suggest?

Admitting that commercial rivalry is the most likely cause of war in the present age—if Mr. Lamb will read the first chapter of B. Liddell Hart's "The Real War," he will see that a whole host of things other than commercial rivalry combined to bring about the Great War—why should it be assumed that Imperial economic unity is to the detriment of other nations or that an effort to make our State-owned railways, to support which we are all taxed, pay their way, inflict injury upon the community as a whole?

According to English papers which have just reached me, the advocates of the Ottawa Conference believe that the development of the world along the lines of a few well-defined economic units is an evolutionary process, and that the British Empire is now about to become one of those units. There is nothing to prevent the organisation of other units in America, Europe and Asia, or the making of trade agreements between the units thus created. The development of the Empire's economic unity will, of course, be the work of years, but it is not necessarily anti-foreign. If foreigners do not like it; they have the remedy in their own hands, that is, not war, but the formation of similar units. The Empire's economic unity does not involve the utter expulsion of all foreign trade, and it is impossible for the Empire to conduct a flourishing trade within itself without conferring some benefit on outside nations. In a recent speech, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald summed up the situation as follows: "At Ottawa, I believe, we can lay the foundation of an economic policy which will be mutually helpful to the members of the Commonwealth (i.e., the British Commonwealth of Nations), but which will not be paralysing to general world commerce. We can create freer trade conditions over a vast area of the world."

In conclusion, may I point out that this is neither the first, nor the worse, depression that the world has experienced, though it may be the most widespread. Pharaoh had his fat years and his lean
Most Interesting Man
"OLD FLANNEL FEET"
(By F.P.)

All the interesting characters of the Australian Army during the war were not confined to the fighting units, nor were they all included in N.C.O.'s and other rank.

The subject of this article was O.C. of a small supply unit. He was an ex-English cavalry man, and had a very upright carriage despite his six feet or more. He was buckled at the knees, had large flat feet, suffered from corns and bunions, and dyed his moustache and the hair of his head, which always had a very woebegone appearance when the effect had worn off.

Let the foregoing should indicate malice on my part, let me say that I bore him none whatever. As a matter of fact, I received my first stripe in the unit, and while I had no great respect for him generally, his behaviour under fire was a good deal better than that of some of those under him. As he was 62 in 1915, the chance of his reading this is negligible.

Let us give him the official title of Lieut. Tom Thumb. The rank and file sometimes referred to him, not in his hearing, as "Old Flannel Feet."

His penchant was for getting well "blithered" whenever we were due to march out. Not that he couldn't carry his liquor! He could sink as much as two ordinary solid drinkers and walk straight, but his fish's eyes, flushed face, and thick speech would indicate unmistakably that he had swallowed as much as was humanly possible and still stand.

Our first experience of this was when we left Broadmeadows camp to embark for Egypt. The embarkation officer spotted his condition, and we were nearly sent back to Broadmeadows. Our O.C. promptly accused another lieutenant of telling tales. "You're a liar, sir!" came the answer from the other man, who was about 5 ft. 6 in. (To prevent "soldiers from being misled, the above b— does not stand for either beautiful or brilliant.) The young lieutenant's voice could be heard fifty feet away.

At Zeitoun the sergeant criméd the laziest and cursliest man in the unit. When the crime sheet was handed in, the O.C. and the sergeant walked towards the ration depot. On the way they met the accused, who was there and then "tried" and cautioned. No more crime sheets were ever filled in in our unit, and the old bird was occasionally heard boasting to outsiders that none of his unit had ever been criméd.

After three months in Egypt, orders came to embark for France. We marched out of camp at 9.30 a.m., by which time "Old Flannel Feet," had sunk about half a bottle of whisky, yet such was his carrying capacity that he was able to keep pace with the rest of us, and march as unright as a pine tree.

He had a sense of humour, though! One day at Rouen one of our corporals (call him Popoff) came into an office at the Base Supply Depot and said, "Anyone seen the old-man about?" Nobody had, but about five or ten minutes later the O.C. walked out of the adjoining office and said, "Have you seen the old-man about, Popoff?" and the corporal didn't see the joke until it was explained to him later! (He had simply answered "No, sir.")

Just before Christmas 1916 the Queen Alexandra greeting cards were sent to the troops. Our staff-sergeant issued ours, and being a full-blooded patriot, I promptly mailed mine home. When the O.C. knew that the cards had been distributed without his knowledge, he had them called in. When told that I had sent mine away, he started to tell me off about it, which annoyed me a bit, so we "exchanged the season's greetings." He threatened to have me court martialed, but, of course, he never did. He wasn't going to have a crime in his unit!

While in Rouen, all except one applied for transfers to a fighting unit. Apparently the old man ignored the lot, as no more was heard of them. (To digress: By the strange irony of fate, the one who did not apply at Rouen applied about two years later—successfully—and was killed first time over.)

We were moved to various railheads at different times to issue supplies. When the day's work was finished and everything was comparatively quiet in the men's tents, a loud voice would sometimes suddenly break the silence, wafted from the O.C.'s hut: "The old squire has been most foully murdered. Hal! hal! hal!"

On the occasion of one of his infrequent outbursts of bad-temper, he roared at one of the unit who was wearing acting-corporal's stripes (no pay) to "take off those b— stripes."

One night the sergeant got his own back for the Zeitoun criméd incident. A message came through by phone from Doullens (about ten miles from where we were stationed), to say that the O.C. of our unit had over-taxed his carrying capacity, and had been wheeled in a wheel barrow to the station and put aboard a goods train coming our way. The sergeant, sensing a golden opportunity, took unto himself sundry rums, and when the train arrived, proceeded to unburden his mind regarding what was and was not the proper conduct of an officer.

On another occasion we were in charge of a coal dump about three miles behind the line. The troops occupied a large "Nissen," but, with the O.C.'s small "Armstrong" hut alongside. One night the old man had a Tommy officer visitor. Between them they made the wellkin ring. The noise of the carousel so annoyed the troops that at about two or three a.m. the W.O. was deputed to remonstrate. The hint was taken. It was afterwards rumoured that the Tommy officer collapsed and died when he reached his camp. Whether true or
not, it was quite possible if he kept pace with old "Flannel."

The last I heard of him was some time after demobilisation. He had evidently previously written to the D.S.S. of the 5th Army, to which we had been attached in France. The reply, of which I received a "certified copy," ran something like this:

"At the request of Lieut. 'Tom Thumb,' I am writing to state that the 'Umph Supply Unit' served under me for a considerable time, and carried out its duties in an excellent manner under very trying circumstances." Very trying circumstances! An occasional shell and bomb!

The Captain

(By "Rifleman."

One of the most interesting men I met during the war was Captain X. at a training camp near London. He was one of the real old-type of peace-time soldiers, having been a R.S.M.

I was told that he held a job as commissioned in London when war broke out. He was certainly a soldier to the finger-tips and I heard he had revised the Infantry Training Book. It was his attitude and his very correct words of command on parade that interested me, and many a laugh we had about him both in England and, later on, in France, where, perhaps while on the march or out at rest, we would meet 'other men who had trained under him.

He was quite an ordinary-looking man, with, as far as I can remember, rather a red face and a short waxed moustache, which he would chew when angered. He never told us to "Shut up!" It was always "Atten-shun!" and "Stand-at-ease." He would usually tell us what we were going to do for the morning's work in this manner. "Now lads! We are going to do a little arm drill, and if you do this well, we will take off our accoutrements and pack off and line up for company drill, but only if you do it well, mind! Sergeant Smith, you will take the leading platoon. I'm putting great trust in you, mind. These men have never handled a rifle before to-day! March away."

I well remember once we were told to take off our tunic, and the man next to me had on his cardigan. It was a pretty warm day, about July, and of course Captain X. spotted him at once. He came tearing up on his horse, shouting: "Hey! Sergeant-Major! here's a man with a blanket around him. What's he want a blanket on a day like this for?

Just take his name and find out what's wrong with him."

Another time we were instructed: "When I say 'Ranks, right and left turn,' I want the front rank to its right and the rear rank to turn to its left." Hardly was the command given when the Captain says, "What's the XYZ that man doing there? You're not in the front rank, you're in the rear rank," and then, in a voice from the pit of his stomach, audible only to the man and those near him, "And you will always be in the b——y rear rank."

Once we were doing battalion drill, and he had us in two long lines. "Now," he says, "I can call you anything I like. I can call you Battalion, I can call you Column, I can call you Line; in fact, I can call you anything!" He had on parade to assist him a 2nd Lieut., Mr. Sweedlepipe, who was a short, pasty-looking individual, with a flowing moustache, not a bit like a soldier.

One day, after a "Stand easy," Captain X. informs us: "Mr. Sweedlepipe will take you now. Mr. Sweedlepipe!"

"Yes sir, yes sir, yes sir."

"You can take my horse, Mr. Sweedlepipe."

We watched in amused anticipation. Mr. Sweedlepipe did not look a horsey man, and the men roared as the captain shouted "Not that side man. Damn it. Get around the other side and mount!"

Then he would give a command, and we would hear the captain's voice from the rear, "You can't do it, man, damn it! You can't do it."

He would always give us credit for good work. When it was time to go off parade, he would say, "Now lads, a smart slope and we'll go home." After the movement I always waited to hear his comments. It would be, perhaps, "Pretty fair; I've seen better," or else, "Good, damn good."

Sometimes on the march we would be just about all in, not being used to the pack, and he would ride along, and say, "Stick to it, lads, you're marching well now, you know," or "a bit of good marching." I was very much surprised when my draft left for France one morning about 5 a.m. to see our captain waiting at the gate to wish us good-bye, and I'll swear there were tears in the old chap's eyes as he shook hands with every man he could as we passed by. I heard afterwards he had lost his only two sons early in the war.

Digger's Kid: "What's the war news this morning, daddy?"

Digger: "The master bakers are having another meeting tonight."

Digger's Kid: "I don't mean the Bread Price War, daddy. I mean the war in China."

Digger: "That's not a war, my son. That's a grave situation. Don't you read the newspaper headings?"

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A.M.C. Association

At the meeting arranged during their annual smoke night members of war time medical units, both Australian and Imperial, elected officers for the following year as follows:—Patron, Major General A. T. White; President, Colonel M. McWha; Vice-President, Doctor C. H. Leedman and J. R. Donaldson; Chairman, Mr. W. J. Eddington, Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. P. Clarke; Minute Secretary, Mr. E. R. Rattray; Publicity Officer, Mr. A. Hood; Committee, Messrs. C. W. Beechey, C. W. Brick, A. White, J. Donaldson, R. Daley, S. Dyson, Geo. Brown, and R. Baylis.

Meetings will be held quarterly, the next taking place at the Institute on Thursday, October 20. Subscriptions are 2/6 per annum, and for unemployed members, 1/- per annum. Judging by the enthusiasm displayed at the meeting, the Association may soon be up to full strength. The Secretary (Mr. H. P. Clarke) may be communicated with at the Agricultural Bank, Perth.

State Executive Meetings

20/7/12

At the meeting of the State Executive on Wednesday, July 20, 1932, there were present Messrs. Collett, Riley, Yeates, Freedman, Philip Olden, Tozer, Lovell, Edmonds, Panton, Watt, Farquharson, Pady, Birtwistle, Margolin, Bader, Cornell, Walker and Mann. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Gillers and Meline.

Imperial Ex-Service Men.—In his report, the State Secretary (Mr. D. A. Benison) said that the question of forming a British Ex-Service League in Australia had again been revived by a person claiming to represent the league in the Eastern States and he had evidence that people were being approached for assistance to members of that organisation.

"I think it would be as well for the general public and public organisations," said Mr. Benison, "to make inquiries before accepting any approaches made on behalf of this proposed organisation, the need of which does not really exist in this State. The Returned Soldiers' League is carrying out its functions and obligations to all ex-service men, whether members of the League or not, and irrespective of what Dominion a sailor or soldier enlisted from. Furthermore, the British Empire Service League will only recognise one soldiers' organisation in any one Dominion and in view of what has been done in this State and the existing happy relations between all ex-service men, the aims and objects of this so-called British Ex-Service Legion are hard to understand. Actually, the League is extending, where desired, the scope of its organisation to our comrades from Britain, and while there is talk of forming other ex-service organisations, the Returned Soldiers' League will carry on as in the past."

Membership Campaign.—Colonel Olden, reporting on behalf of the membership campaign committee, requested the approval of the expenditure of £1 for a trophy to be donated as a prize for the best sub-branch effort in the membership campaign, the closing date to be September 21. A further £1 was requested for a prize for the best slogan. This competition will be open to the general public and closes on Aug. 8. The necessary approval was granted.

Visits.—Mr. W. E. Pady reported having visited the Beverley Sub-branch, Rule having interviewed officials of the Brookton Sub-branch. In connection with the Brookton Sub-branch, he stated that there were still funds in the bank which could not be operated upon. The matter was left to the Rev. C. L. Riley to explain to those concerned.

Mr. Yeates reported having taken the chair at a debate between the Perth and the North Sub-branches, in connection with the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield Competition, and after having represented the State President at a reception given by the Flying Corps Association to Captain Hans Bertram.

Mr. Edmonds reported having visited the Maylands Sub-branch, and Mr. Bader the North Perth Sub-branch.

Digger's Sketches.—Mr. Pady reported on behalf of the Trustees that it had been arranged to exhibit sketches submitted to "The Western Mail" in that paper's Typical Digger competition in the Industrial Hall, Barrack Street, from August 8 to 13. An admission fee of sixpence would be charged, the proceeds to be devoted to the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund. The report was received and adopted.

Sub-branches.—Annual reports were received from Narrogin and Wiluna Sub-branches. Both reports were clearly set out and reveal spirited working on behalf of the organisation by the officers concerned. Narrogin is to be especially congratulated upon the resolute manner in which the sub-branch's monetary obligations have been tackled, particularly in the matter of lifting the debt owed upon the hall.

The appointments of officials in the following sub-branches were confirmed:—Southern Perth, Wiluna, Narrogin, Campion, Herne Hill and Karridale. Approval was given for the formation of a new sub-branch at Serpentine.

Federal Presidency.—On the motion of Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Tozer, it was resolved that Brigadier General C. H. Brand be nominated by this Executive for the office of Federal President.

Sons of Soldiers' League.—Midlands Sub-branch reported the formation of the first sub-branch in this State, of the Sons of Soldiers' League and requested Executive representation at a meeting arranged for July 25. The State President accepted.

Mr. Watt gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting that it be a recommendation to the General Congress that Rule 2 of the objects and aims of the Sons of Soldiers' League be amended by the deletion of the eligibility age of 15 years and the substitution of the eligibility age of 13 years.

Chamber of Manufacture.—The Chamber of Manufactures advised that it was desirous of appointing a Committee to represent certain country towns. Permission was requested for secretaries of sub-branches to act in that capacity. It was agreed to suggest that the Chamber of Manufactures communicate with sub-branches, and that sub-branches be advised of the position through the Secretary's circular.

Westrallians!

DEMAND LOCAL PRODUCTS...

SWAN Bitter

BETTER THAN IMPORTED

Imperial Printing Co. Ltd.
Perth's Particular Printers Returned Soldiers
\textbf{Wheatgrowers' Union.}—The Wheatgrowers' Union advised that they were prepared to collaborate with the Land Committee on matters of interest to farmers. The letter was referred to the Land Committee.

\textbf{Mons Week.}—A communication from the B.U.S.A. suggested that an endeavour be made to organise a rally of Imperial ex-Service Men in the metropolitan area during Mons Week.

On the motion of Rabbi Ederd, seconded by Mr. Panton, the State Executive approved of the idea, but considered that it should be carried out by the Norwood Sub-branch.

\textbf{Appreciation.}—A letter of thanks was received from an ex-soldier on whose behalf the Executive had endeavoured to secure promotion.

\textbf{Claremont-Cottesloe Auxiliary Funds.}—Correspondence in connection with the funds raised by the Claremont-Cottesloe Women's Auxiliary was received. On the separation of the sub-branch and the formation of the Cottesloe Sub-branch the latter claimed fifty per cent. of this fund. The matter was referred to the Management Committee.

\textbf{Increased Charges for Water.}—The Kalgoorlie Sub-branch wrote requesting information concerning this matter, which a resolution was passed at last Congress. The relative correspondence was read in conjunction with a report of the position appearing in "The Kalgoorlie Digger."

It was agreed to advise the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch that the Executive does not propose to take further action in view of the definite loss sustained by the Government as pointed out in the sub-branch's own official journal.

\textbf{Price-Fixing Committee.}—The Kalgoorlie Sub-branch also requested further information in this regard. It was agreed to communicate again with the Premier's Department, asking if the Government proposed to take any action.

\textbf{Visit of Sir William Birdwood.}—Details in connection with the entertainments of Sir William Birdwood were arranged.

\textbf{Gold Bounty.}—On the motion of Colonel Olden, seconded by Mr. Farquharston, the State Executive re-affirmed its attitude concerning the Gold Bounty and protested against the suggestion that it be abolished.

\textbf{Leave of Absence.}—The Rev. C. L. Riley was granted leave of absence from the next two meetings.

\textbf{USE FLORIDA OR MT. LYELL SUPERPHOSPHATE AND \ldots MIXED MANURES...}
Sub-Branch Notes

BRUCE ROCK

On Wednesday, July 13, in the Bruce Rock Road Board Hall, the annual effort in aid of the Amelioration Funds was held.

Owing to unsuitable weather conditions and other causes only about 120 persons attended. The music for the dance was supplied by Coyle's Bahanik Orchestra, the extra being played by the Misses E. David and M. Lester and Messrs. C. David, E. Wood and J. Baxter. The duties of M.C. were carried out by Mr. F. W. Dean in his usual able manner. The buffet supper arranged by the Women's Auxiliary and catered for by Mr. Dean, was fully appreciated, the tables being prettily decorated. During the evening a number of Novelty Dances were indulged in and the winners of prizes were as follows:—Statue Fox Trot, Mr. E. Cummins and Mrs. D. France; Spot Waltz, Mr. R. Cummins and Miss Sheila Cummins; Monte Carlo Dance, Mr. H. Gray and Miss Z. Evans.

During the evening the President (Mr. Harold W. Wilkins) thanked all present for their attendance and wished the assistance towards the Amelioration Fund. The sum of twelve pounds was taken.

PEMBERTON

At the monthly meeting it was decided to take no further action in the matter of district games. On the treasurer's motion it was decided to transfer the bank account to the Commonwealth Bank, thereby saving bank charges and benefitting by getting interest on current accounts. It was decided to hold the annual picnic for financial members and their families only. The annual report disclosed that the sub-branch has a credit balance of £3 3s. 6d. By cutting out refreshments and taking advantage of the offer of Mr. Johnson's billiard room for meetings, a further sum of £2 had been saved. Consideration is being given to the effect to increase membership, and, for the first time in its history the sub-branch is a contender for the Newgate Cup. The sum in the Development Fund has a credit balance of £1 8s. 6d. The total receipts from various sources amounted to £63 2s. 6d., of which £61 14s. 1d. has been disbursed.

A larger crowd than was expected turned up to the monthly dance on July 27. It went with the usual swing and the atmosphere was favourably commented upon by many of those present. The raffle for the pegged heart rug was won by Miss J. Rann. This rug was made by a member of the Auxiliary and donated for the raffle. The sale of tickets at 26, tickets being sold at the price of three for a billling. A total of 91 11s. 1ld was realised.

KOJONUP

Past Saturday 14 in your and your ladies’ hats, all you Kojoneph and Great Southern troops. It is the night of the Fancy Dress and Masquerade Ball in aid of our Amelioration Fund. Except for Poppy Day, this is the only day in the year when we ask the public for money, and as they will get a seven-piece orchestra and a bumper raffle for money, we confidently look for a bumper crowd.

The 6th August re-union smoko was quite a breezy little hop-over, with over sixty in the raid: No casualties and income just above expenditure. One may be particular of the army of布置 Australia as a whole could pull her weight with the same spirit that a mob of ex-troops can.

One of the sub-branch stiffs in Levi Treasure is laid up with a bad arm—have noticed myself that if I don’t bend my arm occasionally it gets stiff; however, cheery, Levi. Also admitted to the C.C.S., but Kiwi, heavy weight, Tufsy McPhail. Mac pushed the Hun so badly in France that he jarred his “G” string and has got to the smith to retemper it—good luck, old man.

Pat Roche has got tired of growing wool at a loss and has gone to Perth to tell the Roads Board and P.P.A. conferences all about it. When Rochey and Jack Finlay and Arnold Poits get talking business there’s such an accumulation of guff matters said and done, optimism, that the writer gets spots before the eyes—you know, like the digger told dear old Gutter Ryan, and G.R. reckoned they were tramps.

Great Southern troops have lost an enthusiast in Jimmy Morgan, and we wonder what Spearwood have done to deserve this thunness.

MT. BARKER

Messrs. Listening Post & Co.

Dear Sirs,—

I have acknowledged the non-receipt of your letter in which you also forget to enclose that 2/- I’d like to keep her going like this because since they put me on the Board of Directors of our new Talkie Picture Coy. J. Pierpont Morgan, Jimmy Morgan, Wall St., or the League of Nations, anything. So...

...I got the start of this letter off a page of a book Bernie Hickling lent me—but, just like him! the bottom’s missing. I asked four of the other ‘shred-heads on the Board how to finish up. Three of them side-stepped and Alef Martin says “Try scree.”—Bernie says there ain’t such a book.

Sorry we didn’t have time to drop a line earlier but all us literary blarbs down here have been flat out after this R.S.L. slogan prize.

I manufactured a “beau” and sent it along to Dave, but he dropped it all about not having a fire-proof-safe to store it in. That’s his idea of evening up things over that time I put you wish to him and Carl. Cripes, they’re really
wild about that. I ran into them soon after and they said they wouldn't have a drink—not if I asked them to. Well, you can take it from me, they're not men of their word—yes, you can.

But Ab. Townsend made me laugh though. He started his slogan off good-oh—"Dig! Come aboard Collett's ligger"—and then got stuck for a rhyme in the next line. I put him on to Tom's new book.

Dinkum, though, "L.P.', we've been up to our eyes lately. First this change over from silent pictures to talkies—well after sitting out a few of the Committee meetings, you'll think it was waste of time adding another talking machine to the outfit. Then there was a couple or four trips to Perth and Karratha inspecting machines, and judging, next day, by the look of the crowd that went, it must be terribly strenuous work, inspecting machines. Just the same, we're going to have the talkies. Capital over subscribed by diggers—machine order on, and the sub-branch keyed up to make a success of the business, 'which goes to show the mob down here are living up to their old reputation.

On top of all this, Goldie said we could have an annual general meeting, and in the Lower Hall, as the club-room is on the small side. There was a decent muster, and the meeting started prompt on time—or it would have if it had been called for 5.45 instead of 7 p.m.

After wading through the minutes of the correspondence, the Balance Sheet, showed we're not too flush, still there was enough to buy a photo of General Monash, and give Goldie a fiver. Building up the new team followed. Tom Sounnett took on "President" again, and between you and me, the day that Tom's cigarette gets unstuck and goes down the wrong way will be a real tragedy for the sub-branch. Doc. Clarke was elected Vice-President. As for Secretary, well, as you know, you've got to have a blode with plenty of hide, a good show of language, a bit of tact, and more than a bit of go in him, so we picked Sid Reeves. Sid had a crook spin in him, very early youth, being born a "Pom," but he's practically lived that down now, and you can bet your life he'll stir things up with the help of Sid, Keninnis, P. Revett, Percy Gillett, Sam James, and Arthur Reed as his Committee.

That reminds me. I heard from Perth that Mac and Edgar Swain were celebrating Mac's long deferred release from hospital. The just up there will stand anything if they'd stand for that.

Getting back to the meeting. There were a few bouquets handed out to you, Mr. "L.P.', and a couple of funny speeches were let go about your "invincible assistance—secretary." And I will say I don't think it was all bush either.

After the meeting, Mrs. Martin and Jack set out a first-rate spread, and we proceeded to farewell Jim Morgan. From what he told me, I understand he was going up to stay to take over "Tad" Davey's job, but I hear he's still annoying kids at Spearwood.

I blew along to the first meeting of the new Committee last week, and, like Jimmy Mitch, they were finding it hard to carry cash, especially a few of the diggers are up against it. On the other hand, Sid reported a number of fellows who had been off the books for some time were now "financial." He'll raise the wind alright even if he's got to carry out a daylight raid on Checkman.

Yours,

A. B. DIGGER.

BOYANUP

The annual general meeting was held on July 27. The report and balance sheet which was presented showed a satisfactory position financially.

The President, Mr. E. P. (Joe) Eccleston, who was re-elected to office, thanked the diggers for their renewed confidence in him. He regretted the falling off of attendance at the monthly meetings, attributed largely, he contended, to lack of comforts in the two bleak agricultural halls, where the meetings were held. Tonight, he explained, there is a wonderful transformation; you sit in a semi-circle around a bright machine burning fire, and his subsequent meetings, would also have an opportunity of appreciating these additional comforts provided. He wished to thank the Secretary, Mr. H. Evans, for his unfailing efforts on behalf of this branch. In order that a crowd would turn up at any meeting of the club of every event, he would still attend meetings, and go on from town to town, you can kill the fatted pig, and had brought along, gratuitously, a ham for sandwiches.

The following officers were elected or re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. E. P. (Joe) Eccleston; Vice-President, Rev. A. C. H. Lennepinette; Secretary and Treasurer, H. Evans; Committee, Messrs. G. H. Smith, H. Tigwell, and G. Timewell, the latter digger to act as Auditor. Mr. S. W. A. Kilpatrick was elected Press Secretary.

At this meeting the Secretary was instructed to make arrangements to secure full control of the Soldiers' Memorial, from the Capel Road Board, and also to enquire into certain anomalies alleged in connection with requisition stock sales. It was agreed also that at the next meeting, intending members of the S. & S.S. League would be invited.

This concluded the business, and a most enjoyable smoke social followed. There was no lack of provisions, which, apparently, were provided wholly by the president and secretary. The proverbial bob-in secured the liquid refreshments.

Digger stories were the order of the evening, and time passed quickly. Harry's ham having been consumed, the genial stationmaster (Mr. Phillips), was noticed with an improvised toasting fork, toasting slice after slice of bread, which was duly plastered with butter.

NORTHAM

The first monthly luncheon of the Northam Sub-branch of the Returned Soldiers' League was held at Scott's Restaurant, on Wednesday, August 3. The decision to hold monthly lunches in the sub-branch's meeting days, the first Wednesday in every month, was made at the July meeting as a result of a recommendation by the Executive Committee. In view of the fact that the venture was being attempted for the first time in Northam, doubts were felt as to the success of the initial luncheon, but these were dispelled early by the evident popularity of the idea, as evidenced by the satisfactory attendance recorded.

In the absence of the president (Rev. Schroeder), Dr. F. T. Brooke, (vice-president) conducted the meeting. Mr. Clift Sadler, V.C., attended as the guest of the sub-branch.

Mr. Sadler thanked the sub-branch, for its invitation, and for the welcome extended him. He conveyed greetings from the government and members of the Regiment Sub-branch, and said the monthly luncheon inaugurated at Northam was an admirable idea, and one on which the sub-branch was to be congratulated. The gathering dispersed shortly before 2 o'clock, all expressing the opinion that it had been most enjoyable.

Monthly Meeting.—The monthly meeting of the sub-branch was held on Wednesday evening, Dr. F. T. Beamish (vice-president) being in the chair.

It was decided at the September meeting to be the annual meeting of the sub-branch.

GERALDTON

Although the activities of the Geraldton Sub-branch have not been noticeable through these columns for some time past, we hope to see them occasionally from now on. This sub-branch for a considerable time past has been reckoned as a leading factor in the Port's activities. With combined efforts recently the branch have been successful in assisting various efforts for the general good of the community. Geraldton for some time past was without a brass band, but with the help of the men of the town in the R.S.L. Band and Orchestra. The band has proved of great assistance to the branch in their social functions, and their services are greatly appreciated, and are given without reward at any decent function. The branch decided to throw in their weight in assisting to raise funds for the District Nursing Scheme, and have been successful in raising the amount of £221/10/6 towards this deserving object. Their candidate for the Nursing Queen (Miss. Linda Marsh) was successful in gaining first place with four candidates in the field. The total amount raised in all was £222, and the effort of the branch is indeed creditable, and we are proud to be able to be of service to the general community and deserving cases.

Three branch members are councillors in the Geraldton Municipality, so here again the branch is represented by a third of the number of members, and it is seen that activities are spread wherever good citizenship is required. The branch is housed in a large, commodious building, containing in all 34 rooms, known as the Soldiers' Institute, situated in the main street, but it is felt that a smaller and more convenient building would be more suitable, and when opportunity offers we may be more comfortably housed. It is of interest also to note that this property is vested in perpetuity in trustees on behalf of the branch, and is clear of all encumbrances.

Associated with the branch is the Women's Auxiliary, another very active link, whose work...
is often done so unostentatiously that the public see little of it, but is greatly appreciated where their efforts are expended. It would be hard to find in Geraldton two other bodies where such results can be achieved than by the combined efforts of the Women's Auxiliary and the R.S.L. 

Diggery's Night was devoted more of his time to this, and it promises to be the best kiddies' show produced here. Renn is all out where branch matters are concerned, and the fund should benefit considerably through the efforts of himself and his good wife.

Notes in Passing—Returned men, remember the concert on the 20th. Mr. Murray's conjuring at the smoko was a huge success. George and Mick say they have never seen such a variety of colours, shapes and figures projected on a small screen. Gaston Todd has gone—a like a bird of passage—“Ever remembered?”

The great competition, Andy of Len, takes place soon. Orders for fish now being booked. Members, what are you doing toward fulfilling our ideal—100 per cent. membership?

**CLAREMONT**

At the regular monthly meeting held in the Parish Hall, on Thursday, 7th ult., the President, Mr. C. P. Smith, presided over an attendance of between 60 and 70 members. He had arranged for Captain Bertram to meet the members, and was very pleased to get a good attendance. After the meeting business was com- pleted, the President introduced Captain Bertram, when the members sang “The More We are Together.” Captain Bertram then gave a short review of his and his comrades’ misfortunes after stepping ashore from a vessel, and Captain Bertram expressed his gratitude for all that had been done for him and his comrade, and said he looked upon Australia as a second Fatherland, and, if their sufferings were the means of drawing the two peoples together, they would be proud to have suffered for such an end. In mentioning the war, Captain Bertram said he was only a school boy at the time, and he recollected the misery, suffering, and hunger caused by the blockade, and said that signs of this were still noticeable among the German people, who were too young to take part in the war. He hoped there were no feelings of animosity and resentment existing to-day over the war.

On leaving Australia he would by the Aus- tralian cockatoo to Australia, the national flag, and would never fail, throughout his travels, to tell people what the Australians had done for him and his comrade.

Captain Ball moved a hearty vote of thanks, and assured Captain Bertram that, as far as the British race was concerned, there were no feelings of resentment or animosity, such feelings having no place in the British character. As an illustration he explained how, immediately after the Armistice was signed, and the British troops were billeted in Colac, the troops immediately fraternised with the local inhabitants, and exchanged food-stuffs with them, even though the Higher Authorities issued orders prohibiting fraternising. Captain Ball, on behalf of the sub-branch, thanked Captain Bertram for his interesting account of his hardships, and wished him the best of luck for the future. The hearty thanks were carried with the most

**NORTH PERTH**

A Digger's Diary

*(With profound apologies to the Shades of Samuel Pepys)*

July 21st.—Mr. Rankin, who, last night to Osborne Park to play bridge and draughts, do not play the way was very late, but worst news of all, that North Perth team did lose, which did vex me.

July 28th.—I meet Mr. Hetherington, he telling me how Mr. McDowell and he did, last night, go to Osborne Park Sub-branch, smoke dinner, and was very merry there. He told me, among other things, how some speakers did promise to say but a few words only, but did take half hour to say it, which caused much speaking from the board, and from Mr. private motor coach, with other members, to Mr. Hawthorn-Leederville Sub-branch, there to see quiet teams at play. Come there before games start, so I with Mr. Sadler and other company to Leederville Ale House, there met Mr. Billy James and company. Had essence in pool to a pot of ale, the cost being too great against one to pay for all, very merry and much talk, Mr. Sadler telling me he has great scheme for getting money against our funds, in which I hope he will succeed mightily. To the games, and find North Perth winning from Osborne Park, and now to play Hawthorn-Leederville, but Lord! it did put me in a pretty twittie to see Hawthorn-Leederville throw so well, to win handsomely, to putting North Perth out of the Archibald Riley Shield, much to our ill content, a good supper, and so home to bed.

July 30th.—News from Mr. Sadler of our Women’s Auxiliary winning handsomely at tennis from Nedlands Auxiliary, which is very good news.

July 31st.—Up betimes and attend my sweet peat, of which I am in hope to win a prize as the sub-branch show next month. Then to general committee meeting, a good attendance, being only one absent, much business, and sub-committees formed against the coming year. Home to dinner.

August 1st.—To St. Hilda’s Hall, the sub-branch card evening. Pleased to see so good a company, the weather being cool, more wind and rain as I did see for many a day. By and by, giving of card prizes, then Mr. Hopkins did draw the suit club. A good supper, and home in the rain, Lord! was ever such a cold, wet night.

August 4th.—This night I to the shooting (Archibald Riley Shield), a brave contest, North Perth to win Mr. Hawthorn-Leederville by one point, but of no use, we being out the competition by losing at quotes, which I am sorry for.

August 7th.—All the talk is of Sir William Birdwood, come to Fremantle, and improved in his health, at which all the diggers are very glad, and take liberty to name him “Birdie” as great favour.

August 8th.—To Social Committee, much discourse of Sweet Pet Show, it to be on Monday, 5th September (St. Hilda’s Hall). Nominations close 31st August.

August 15th.—Fall in with Mr. Turner, he bade me drink with him, then to the sub-branch, much business done. Mr. Hawkins telling us, among other things, of 20 new members already to this year. Anon presentations, to Mr. McDowell a very pretty tea tray, and Mr. Rigby a very fine dinner set, much praise to both for their services while in office this year past, drinking of their health by all the company, which was very handsomely done. So home to bed in good content with this month's work.

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Best of Liquors Stocked

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Phone B 4502
The annual meeting of the Nedlands sub-branch took place on Thursday, August 8, when over 200 members and many visitors were present. Amongst the guests were the State President (Colonel Collett), Colonel Flinnoff, and Captain "Dick" Collins. The annual report disclosed a very satisfactory financial position, and a particularly praiseworthy nominal roll, there being over 300 members in this sub-branch. The branch has had a very interesting year, and handled several national, State, and domestic problems with success. The branch is the winner of the Newdegate Cup for best results amongst W.A. branches in securing members. The branch also inaugurated a series of games to be played amongst members of the League, under direction of State Executive, and presented to the State President a shield for the sub-branch gaining the highest points in these games, the shield to be named the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield. The elections of officers for the year resulted: President, Mr. C. L. Langford; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. H. Lewis, E. A. E. Andrewartha, and J. M. Anderson; Secretary, Mr. T. F. Kendall (re-elected); Treasurer, Mr. J. Morgan; Auditors, Messrs. Barblett and McClarity; Committee, Messrs. Randall, Kettreer, Chappell, Loughrey, Ryan, Newman, Dean, Riley, Mockridge, and Dodds. "Garies" Director, Mr. J. Tozer. At the conclusion of business a social was held, during which the retiring President, Mr. G. Thompson, presented the Archbishop Riley Shield to the State President. Messrs. H. Lewis, G. Randall, and J. Morgan were the recipients of League's certificates for constant services to the branch. The evening's proceedings were enlivened by community singing and items from talented local entertainers.

WEST PERTH

The annual meeting of the West Perth Sub-branch took place at the Soldiers' Institute, on July 22, and was well attended. The annual report of the retiring President (Mr. G. H. Philp) disclosed a very healthy financial position, and average good attendances, which both spoke well for the energy of the officers, particularly that of the Secretary (Mr. P. L. Ross). The officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, Mr. H. B. Haynes; Vice-President, Messrs. F. G. Miller and J. S. Everett; Secretary, Mr. P. L. Ross; Treasurer, Mr. W. L. Boyd; Auditors, Messrs. G. H. Cooper and W. Greenwood; Committees: Federal Service, Messrs. M. J. O'Farrell, A. E. Smith, J. V. Farrell, W. J. Earnehaw, and L. A. Robertson; State Service, Messrs. F. J. McDadam, E. V. Knight, C. W. Eichler, T. E. Meyer, and A. V. Barrington.

At the conclusion of business a very successful and entertaining programme was carried out, the boys of the "services" being in particularly good form. The principal guests were Mr. T. S. Watt, representing the State President, R.S.I., Colonel A. S. Denton, Mr. Bond (Imperial Service), and Mr. Hubert Packer. The toast list was comprehensive yet concise, which was greatly appreciated. "Musical Items dispensed by the Big Four will be long remembered as a really class act. The catering staff are to be congratulated on their untiring efforts.

DARLING RANGE

Though some time since we told the world about our doings, Darling Range Sub-branch is going well. In addition to the monthly meetings, over which Jack King holds aces away, a monthly social in conjunction with the Ladies' Auxiliary pays tribute to the enthusiasm and organizing ability of officers of both organisations. Lately we had been clocking the branch orators in order to get some games into the menu on meeting nights; so the Riley Shield competitions came as the equivalent of a rump issue, and the trouble was to restrain the volunteers offering to go over the top in any capacity. The meeting following the announcement of the competitions broke all records for attendance. Despite the falling through of two groups which we were in turn allocated, our "blood lust" is unabated, and we look forward to giving (or taking) the knock in the next round. And if the shield does not decide to root for a year in Kalamunda, well, Darling Range will be there to cheer our competitors. Having no sub-branch handy to try our prowess on, we have been trying to show the local ToC H group that we are not yet in the veteran class.

OSBORNE PARK

Though a cold night things began to warm up when members commenced to have a "pick or two" at the fortnightly meeting on August 10. The temperature rose rapidly, but soon fell to normal. The report of the "Smoko" was well received. The sub-branch has been unlucky in the Archibald Riley Memorial Shield competition, coming last in the quads and the shooting contests. Favourable progress was reported in connection with the fancy dress 'ball arranged for Saturday, August 20. Jack Crawford is on parade again, having come back to the district for a while. The new membership committee is putting in good work and satisfactory results are expected.

PILBARA

A unique re-union of the Pilbara Sub-branch was held at Lalla Rookh Station on the 6th and 7th of August, 1932. The shearing shed and other accommodation at the station were placed at the sub-branch's disposal through the generosity of Mr. E. J. Jeffreys, late 5th Battalion and Senior Trustee of the sub-branch. Thirty-four diggers and their guests sat down at the table punctually at 6 p.m. to commence what was to prove a most enjoyable and memorable function.

After tea, whilst the guests were being entertained at the homestead by the wireless, the diggers got down to the business of their thirteenth annual meeting. The President (Mr. Ross Keening) welcomed members who had arrived from all parts of the district, some travelling 150 miles to attend the gathering. He also welcomed Captain Longmore ("Non-Com") of the "Western Mail," and President of the Press Sub-branch, who had arrived in Hedland a couple of days previously by aeroplane, specially to represent the State Executive. Balance sheets, library and social reports were read and adopted, and the varied activities of the sub-branch explained. Captain Longmore addressed the gathering and bly spoke of the services being rendered by the State Executive. After the future social activities of the sub-branch, especially those relating to Port Hedland, had been discussed and other business disposed of, the President (Mr. Keening) called a cloud on the meeting by announcing his inability to stand again for the office of President, owing to his impending departure from the district.

Many members expressed their keen regret at the loss to the sub-branch and the district, caused by the departure of their President. Mr. A. Lamonde, M.I.A., and Mr. H. Green (Chairman of the Marble Bar Roads Board), who had been invited to attend the meeting, also expressed their regret, stating that Mr. Ross Keening had formed the sub-branch in 1919, and had been its mainstay since its inception. Mr. Ross Keening, in his reply, set an example to other members by stating that, although his activities in the R.S.L. would now extend to other sub-branches, he was fully determined to retain his membership.
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noon refreshments, which were greatly appreciated, were supplied by Mrs. Jeffries at the home-
stead.

Owing to the distance many had to travel the gathering began to break up during the after-
noon, all voting the novel function a huge suc-
sess, and one which will live long in the mem-
ories of those attending.

**BROOME**

The annual ball was boused on July 27. Wives of diggers formed a committee and looked after the supper and decorations. The wonder-
fully successful ball which resulted is considered the best for many years. For this, the credit is due to those who interested themselves in the arrangements. The one hundred and twenty dancers present included charmingly dressed ladies, old diggers and other whom a sumptuous supper and drinks, too not heady, left in good trim until 2.30 a.m. After supper a flashlight photograph was taken, which unfortunately proved a failure. The President, Bercansford E. Bard-
well, in a short speech, thanked the ladies' com-
mitee for their excellent supper and assistance, the Broome Orchestra, the "Bang Boys," and Reg Bourne with his panoptoc, for their lively music, and the electrical staff for the lighting arrangements. A large Commonwealth badge, which, when illuminated, proved most effective, was made and presented to the sub-branch. Coconut-palm, flags, unit colours and poppies were the main decorations. The three hanging lamps were ornamented with gold, and yellow sunflowers and roses formed the shades of the standing lamps on the supper tables.

Ernie Stanton, the hard-working Secretary, was most indefatigable and contributed materially to the success of the ball. The old diggers pre-
sent were Tom Caskey (Vice-President), Viv. Oglydie, Rod Hornby, Harry Mackee, F. Lee, Ted Norman, Billy Hill, Billy Ward, Bert Miller, Bill Griffin, Dr. Hayes, Don Murphy, and Lon Martin. The songs were represented by Jack Cryor, Joe Pratt, "Snowy" Chapell, Jack Typherleigh, A. A. Webbe and T. Mareon.

**SANDSTONE**

The July meeting of the local sub-branch was well-attended, some of our members travelling 60 miles to be present. For years returned soldier affairs in this district were in a moribund condition but during the past months or so a different tale can be told. Practically every returned man in the district has joined up. When it is taken into consideration that 90 per cent. of the members have to travel over 25 miles to atten-
tend a meeting, it is very heartening to the vari-
ous officers entrusted with the pleasant duty of building up the local sub-branch.

This district exists by primary production—wool and gold; consequently an exceptionally keen interest is taken in reports of the League's Land Committee. At the recent meeting several resolu-
tions of major importance to men on the land were keenly discussed, and after being carried unanimously were forwarded to headquarters for comment and action.

Tambellup

Some months ago the Tambellup Public Hospital was closed down principally owing to lack of interest by the public. The R.S.L. stepped into the breach and offered to carry on. This offer was accepted at a public meeting in face of a good deal of opposition by another local body, and a committee of returned men, with Mr. Ross Steele as its President, and Mr. Wally Cadd as Secretary, duly, had the hospital opened and, incidentally, have been kept very busy ever since. Money was badly needed for an additional ward and other purposes, and the Women's Auxiliary, assisted by a fatigue party of diggers, threw themselves into the job with enthusiasm. A hospital Queen Carni-
vale was carried out with the result that the sum of £173 was raised towards a building fund. The fatique party mentioned did its job nobly, particularly hospital President Ross Steele, whose contraptions for raising the filthy lucre were weird and wonderful, but highly successful. Speed for Tambellup must also be made of Ede Dood-
dow, who ran himself as poor as the proverbial drover's dog chasing the nimble spurt; Bunny Hammon and Jerry Geiner pulled their weight by taking advantage of the local constabulary to run ye old game of housey-housey, and President Arthur Green was the chief of police. The Secretary, also did a job of work, which must have come pretty hard on the pair of them. Altogether the whole effect and the public support it received goes to show that where the R.S.L. gives a lead a fair number of people are prepared to follow and support it. The membership cam-
paign is progressing favourably, eight new mem-
bers being roped in since the offensive started, and as many more prospects are being chatted, dunned, circulated and worried generally.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE

Well attended meetings were held on July 21 and August 11. At the former meeting business was transacted to allow visiting teams from Mt. Lawley, North Perth and Osborne Park to compete with our team at peg quotes, in connection with the A.R.M. Shield. Although uncanny skill was displayed by the visitors, the home team turned in a brillant performance. When the local bridge and draught teams have been successful and the shooting failed to equal the winner's score by
one point. The position at present is that the sub-branch has won the first round of the competition.

Steady progress is being maintained in the drive for new members. The competition for the trophy in connection with this comes on August 31. The membership on the books now stands at 173. The second century is within sight.

Recently President I. R. Morton tendered his resignation on account of urgent private business during the next six months. Needless to say it was accepted and leave of absence was granted to cover the period. In the meantime Vice-President Len Vivian will carry on. Members are requested immediately to bring this matter to the attention of the State Congress. Another subject for consideration is the advisability or otherwise of forming a Sons of Soldiers League Branch. Secretary Fred Charles, will be pleased to hear from intending members.

**MOUNT LAWLEY**

The members of the Sub-branch have been taking part in the recent exhibition of the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield games. Teams representing this sub-branch failed to put up any sensational performances, but are confident that they will show improved form during the competition next year.

Recently the Secretary has received instructions to graft towards having darts included in the games, so as to give our marksmen a chance to do their stuff. At this month's general meeting Mr. C. Suckling delivered an interesting lecture entitled "The Submarines in the A.E.S." This story of submarine warfare proved a very gripping one and on scanning the faces of more than one of the hard-bitten veterans who made up Mr. Suckling's attentive audience, one gained the impression that new music and hair standing on end. However, all good things must come to an end; as did this lecture, all too soon; and the lecturer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

With the promise of assistance from the local ladies' auxiliary the social committee are leaving no stone unturned. Chillied to make the bride evening a success, the Masonic Hall, Grovenor Rd., on September 22, commencing at 8 p.m., a big success.

We would very much like to see members of other sub-branches attend the function. A ring on the program is the Secretary will secure a table and an assured enjoyable evening, with the chance of winning a valuable prize.

The next general meeting will be held on September 6, after the business arising is put through games will be indulged in.

**SOUTH PERTH**

The July meeting marked the first occasion on which our new President, Colonel A. C. N. Olden, officiated as Chairman. Several important matters were dealt with, including the suggested District Rally of returned men. For this purpose Mr. J. Stiles, manager of the Gailey Theatre, kindly offered the use of his theatre, and also promised to supply an appropriate picture free of cost. Community singing and selections by the Whizz-Bang Orchestra should contribute to a very successful evening. The Rally is being organised by a sub-committee comprising Messrs. A. C. Bond, F. Aberle, F. Arquat, and W. Mundy and is being held in conjunction with the State membership drive.

The "War Picture," "Tell England," was screened at the Gailey Theatre on July 26th, to a packed house. Through the generosity of Mr. Stiles, the sub-branch Auxiliary was benefited considerably as a result of the screening of this picture.

Women's Auxiliaries

New Auxiliaries have been formed to Kentdale and Norwood Sub-branches.

Some time ago one of the Trustees were asked to send several yards of wincey to an elderly lady who wished to sew some baby garments for our layettes. The parcel was returned later with the information that the old lady had since passed away. The garments were beautifully sewn and trimmed with crochet and buttonholed edgings, A loving legacy for a little stranger.

The Trustees are grateful to those auxiliaries who have assisted them by sewing or knitting and by forwarding parcels of new and second-hand clothing. Since last month Wyulacthen, Bruce Rock, and Darling Range Auxiliaries have sent handsome donations of clothing, most of which will find its way to other country districts where distress is still with us.

The Secretary's report showed that during the month 17 adults and 17 children had been provided with clothing. Three layettes had also been given as well as 64 yards of new material.

On St. John Ambulance Day the Executive were represented on the auxiliary stand by Messrs. Hopperston and Stockman.

An interesting letter from the Secretary of the Bankstown, N.S.W. Women's Auxiliary, R.S.L. has been received by one of the members. The voting for delegates to the State Congress resulted in Mrs. R. Findlay and Col. Olden being appointed. This is a happy choice as these gentlemen are experienced in the habit of taking a stand on the question. The Secretary will be a sure of a table and an assured enjoyable evening, with the chance of winning a valuable prize.

The next general meeting will be held on September 6, after the business arising is put through games will be indulged in.

**Pemberton**

In the work of amelioration, it has been the policy of the auxiliary to cater as far as possible for the mother and children. The chief aim is to look after the sub-branch. The auxiliary has collected, since its formation, a sum of £514 from the sub-branch, 23 parcels from residents of the district, and two from outside. In all, 18 families have been assisted, all except two being the families of ex-service men, of whom only one was a member of the sub-branch. Expectant mothers have been helped with parcels of nourishing food, meat, vegetables, etc.

The auxiliary has made and bought up members. These layettes are retained at the hospital, primarily for the use of ex-service men's wives and new arrivals, or for such cases as are approved by the matron, who thanks all concerned.

**NORTH PERTH**

The new year has commenced with great promise. Some enthusiasts are hoping to hold a children's plain and fancy dress ball on September 10. Another very interesting letter has been received from Mrs. Job, the Secretary of the Narrogin Auxiliary.

At the meeting on August 3, the President (Mrs. Richmond), and Secretary (Mrs. Middleton) were each presented with a very beautiful set of cushion in recognition of their services during the past year. Another is being given to the prefects as a token for each year party each month. The Sub-branch Sweet Tea Show will be held on Monday, September 1, in St. Hilda's Hall. It is hoped that the Auxiliary will win most of the prizes.

**SWEET CORN**

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# R.S.L. Sub-Branch and Unit Association Directory

**Rates: $1.50 per annum**

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<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 14, Albany</td>
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<td><strong>BUNBURY</strong></td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
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<td>C. R. Gillett, Bury St., Bunbury</td>
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<td><strong>BELMONT</strong></td>
<td>Belmont Hall</td>
<td>4th Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sibbritt, Grandstand Rd., Belmont</td>
<td>J. J. Mann, Epson Ave., Belmont</td>
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<td><strong>BAYSWATER</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. R. Castle, 22 Slade St., Bayswater</td>
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<td>H. Willmott, Busselton</td>
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<td><strong>BRUNSWICK JUNCTION</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Berridge Ford, Badwell, Broome</td>
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<td><strong>CARLISLE</strong></td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall</td>
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<td>G. P. Manners, West St., Carlisle</td>
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<td><strong>COLLIE</strong></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 Ave., Collie</td>
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<td><strong>COWARAMUP</strong></td>
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<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. T. Gooch, Cowaramup</td>
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<td><strong>COTTESLOE BEACH</strong></td>
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<td>Last Wednesday in each month</td>
<td>C. Nixon, View St.,</td>
<td>A. Sills, 126 Glyde St.,</td>
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<td><strong>CLAREMONT</strong></td>
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<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>Peppermint Grove</td>
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<td><strong>DARLING RANGE</strong></td>
<td>Claremont</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. M. King, Kalamunda</td>
<td>R. Dry, 115 Claremont Crescent, Swanbourne</td>
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<td><strong>DENMARK</strong></td>
<td>Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Rev. J. Lawrence, Denmark</td>
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<td><strong>DUMBLEYUNG</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DOKAW</strong></td>
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<td>H. Greaves, Dumbleyung</td>
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<td><strong>GUILDFORD-BASSENDEN</strong></td>
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<td>W. W. Anderson</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgooilie, Tel. 290</td>
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<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>P.O. Kellerberrin</td>
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<td><strong>Kooora</strong></td>
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<td>W. E. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
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<td><strong>Lake Grace</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>A. Gwilliam, Derby</td>
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<td><strong>Lake King</strong></td>
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<td>H. Day, Lake Grace</td>
<td>V. B. Sewell, Kojonup</td>
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<td>E. Logg, Merredin</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Koorda</td>
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<td><strong>Moora</strong></td>
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<td>Dr. W. S. Myles, Gardner</td>
<td>T. W. McDougall, Lake Grace</td>
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<td><strong>Mount Barker</strong></td>
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<td>St., Moora</td>
<td>G. Verden, Lake King</td>
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<td><strong>Mount Marshall</strong></td>
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<td>T. G. Souness, &quot;Merryup,&quot;</td>
<td>F. A. Law, Merredin</td>
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<td><strong>Maylands</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>J. P. O'Neill, Tel. No. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mundaring and District</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>W. P. Le Crois, Bencubbin</td>
<td>J. N. Goldsmith, Mt. Barker</td>
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<td><strong>Mount Pleasant</strong></td>
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<td>W. A. Clowes, Maylands Hotel, Maylands</td>
<td>S. N. McKenzie, Bencubbin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nedlands, Rocky Gorge</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helena</td>
<td>H. King, 11 Rankin Rd.,</td>
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<td><strong>Perth</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Vasse</strong></td>
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<td>H. Patton, Mundaring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Rm.</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>F. Bateson, e/o P.O., Midland Junc. Tel. MJ219</td>
<td>R. E. Marsh, Harold Road, East Midland. Tel. MJ39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>Wallish Hall, Grosvenor Rd., Mr. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Finch, 3 Second Ave., Mr. Lawley</td>
<td>H. H. Ferguson, 121 Rookwood St., Mr. 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, Northampton</td>
<td>2nd Sat. Day, Monthly</td>
<td>J. Barron, Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>T. Hogg, Flour 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>John Rohr, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Avon Bridge Hotel</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Rev. A. Schroeder, Northam</td>
<td>G. C. Curlewis, Fitzgerald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe St.</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. Sadler, 13 Knutsford St., North Perth</td>
<td>St. Northam. Tel. 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. J. Hunt, Mary St., Como</td>
<td>A. J. Hawkins, 24 York St., North Perth. Tel. B3260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESS</td>
<td>At Luncheon, Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>C. Longmore, c/o West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>Geo. S. Meller, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Billiard Saloon</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 10.30 a.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Elston, Pithara</td>
<td>R. Biggs, C/o West Australian, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPANYNING</td>
<td>Yarning and Popanyinning</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month, alt.</td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yarning</td>
<td>H. K. Maclean, East Pithara. Tel. No. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILBARA</td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Ross A. Keen, Port Hedland</td>
<td>C. J. McGarrigle, Popanyinning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAVENSTHORPE</td>
<td>Miners' Arms Hotel</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>H. Stockhill, Ravensthorpe</td>
<td>A. E. Glade, Port Hedland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH PERTH</td>
<td>Masonic Hall, York and Forest St.</td>
<td>3rd Monday</td>
<td>F. J. Aberle, 10 Rose Ave., South Perth</td>
<td>T. P. Smith, Ravensthorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Rokeby Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays</td>
<td>S. A. Macnamara, Rokeby Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>Frank Orgill, &quot;Euryalus,&quot; Mary Street, Como</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
<td>Palace Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>S. Hamer, Southern Cross</td>
<td>C. J. Foneeza, 11 Seddon St., Subiaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAMBELLUP</td>
<td>Mr. Markey's Residence</td>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>A. J. Smith, Tambellup</td>
<td>T. S. Anderson, Southern Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOODYAY</td>
<td>Freemasons' Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday in each month, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Padre F. G. O'Halloran, Fennel St., Toodyay</td>
<td>T. P. Markey, Police Stn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING-YELBENI</td>
<td>Trayning (2), Yelbeni (1)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. C. Thompson, Trayning</td>
<td>N. H. Millar, Toodyay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>Library Hall, Albany Road, Victoria Park</td>
<td>3rd Friday in each month, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Alexander, 82 Shepparton Rd., Victoria Park</td>
<td>F. N. Greaves, Yelbeni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. R. Hayles, Police Court, Perth</td>
<td>T. Chandler, 31 McMillan St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUBIN, BUNTINE</td>
<td>Each place alt., beginning Buntine, March 1</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Day, Buntine</td>
<td>P. L. Roon, Workers' Homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEMBERING</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge St., Leederville</td>
<td>1st Monday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>V. E. Tyode, 10 Harbours, St.</td>
<td>Board, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE</td>
<td>Mine Boarding House</td>
<td>First Sunday, monthly</td>
<td>A. Paterson, Yandil Station, Wiluna</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin</td>
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<tr>
<td>WILUNA</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Saturday, Quarterly</td>
<td>T. Sten, York</td>
<td>Tel. No. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td></td>
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<td>J. W. Smethers, &quot;22 Woolwich St.,</td>
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<td>West Leederville</td>
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<td>L. L. Cruickshank, C/o. Wiluna</td>
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<td>G. M. Ltd.</td>
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<td>C. Vernon Harris, P.O. Box 99</td>
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<td>Phone 3</td>
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R.S.L. Sub-Branch Women's Auxiliaries

**DONNYBROOK**
- Memorial Hall
  - First Saturday, monthly
  - Mrs. Harding, Donnybrook

**VICTORIA PARK**
- Library Hall, Albany Road
  - Fourth, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
  - Mrs. O. Taylor, 14 State St., Victoria Park

---

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ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

NORTHCLIFFE
Northcliffe, one of the youngest auxiliaries, reports a successful beginning. A white drive and dance were held on the 8th Aug. in Mrs. Johnson's tea rooms, kindly lent by her for the occasion. Prizes were given by the tradespeople and the refreshments by the members of the auxiliary. Mrs. Howarth was M.C. and the R.S.L. also assisted. The financial result was £2 10s. 6d. These dances will now be held monthly. There are nineteen members in the auxiliary.

GUILDFORD-BASSENDÉAN
Less distress in the district has brought fewer appeals for help. New material, wool and shepherds' wool for rugs have been given to several families. Three wool eiderdowns were made by members for distribution. Mesdames Carter and Watkins organised a Euchre party which was so much enjoyed that another has been requested. A visit was paid to Edward Millen Home where the small party of eight patients thoroughly appreciated the songs by Miss Clohessey and Mr. Folley, the recitations by Mrs. Webster and piano numbers by Mrs. Irvine.

NARROGIN
The annual meeting was held in the Rest Room on July 21. Mrs. Doney, who occupied the chair in the absence of President, welcomed several new members. The annual report and balance sheet were adopted. At a small Paddy's Market held in August the sum of £8 5s. was made. The amount made from afternoon teas was more than last year. Membership had also increased. Poppy Day was a huge success, 400 poppies being sold by members of Auxiliary and one of the lovely baskets of flowers given by Mrs. Roberts to Narrogin. The Memorial Building Fund and the Amelioration Funds were helped considerably. Books were provided for Library and cups and saucers for the Institute. The Women's Auxiliary arranged the supper for the wool ball. The Auxiliary would like to thank all C.W.A. members for their usual splendid cooperation, and other friends for past donations and services.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. East and Mrs. H. Smith; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Job (re-elected unopposed); Assistant Secretary, Mrs. May.

VICTORIA PARK
A very successful card evening was spent at the residence of Mrs. Bacon, in Leonard St.—on July 16. First prizes went to Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Pike, and second to Mr. Bacon and Mrs. Smethurst. A dainty supper was served, and a happy evening terminated with a vote of thanks being passed to Mr. and Mrs. Bacon. The proceeds went to swell the Building Fund.

The general meeting of the branch was held on July 22. Mrs. Pike submitted the Secretary's report, and the Treasurer, Mrs. Tolmie, submitted her balance sheet. Both reports were received with acclamation.

The usual social and dance followed, when a programme of competitions, games, and dancing followed by a nice, little supper brought the evening to a close.

On July 23 a social and card evening in aid of the Building Fund was held at the home of Mrs. Hunter in Albany Road, near Dane Street.

The weekly card evenings held under the guidance of the auxiliary still continue to be well patronised, and in this way the Amelioration Fund is kept going. Play commences at 8.15 and the meetings held at the Broadway Letter Hall. The price of admission is one shilling.

NANNUP
Recently a meeting of ladies was arranged by the local sub-branch to form a Women's Auxiliary. President: Clayton, assisted by Secretary J. Ryding and V. P. Sholl, outlined the objects of such an organisation, and at the conclusion of their remarks, the suggestion was heartily endorsed. All officers were forthwith elected as follows:—President, Mrs. A. B. P. Higgins; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. V. Sholl; Vice-Presidents: Bow and Mill; Mrs. J. Mountford; Settlement, Mrs. W. Hall (Juno); Auditor, Mrs. G. Chipper; Committee: Mrs. King, Mrs. J. Elsegood, Mrs. M. Higgins.

Meetings are held every fourth Thursday at Mrs. Sholl's house.

Up to date a large quantity of materials has been purchased and made up for the use of returned men's families, who are unemployed, but the difficulty is to get sufficient for all, so that if any auxiliary has anything to spare in the way of cast-off clothing, will they please remember Nannup, where the unemployed on a sustenance over 105s. and approximately 40 per cent. of the population are returned men and their families.

On August 20 the sub-branch holds a children's concert to get some money for themselves and the Auxiliary; the dressing is being done by the Auxiliary.

SOUTH PERTH
Good work is still being done by the Relief Committee. During the month many applications for clothing were received. Many members, having learned the art of wool scouring, are now engaged in making quilts, which will be sold to augment our Amelioration Funds.

So successful was the Old Time Dance held on August 7 that a similar function is to be held at the Masonic Hall on Saturday, September 12. Admission, 1/-; the assistance rendered by the sub-branch orchestra is appreciated.

Interest is being shown in the arrangements for our birthday party to be held on Friday, September 9. Members are reminded to come along in plimul or fancy dress and to assist in cutting the cake and blowing out the candle.

The usual monthly meeting held on August 19 was well attended, 32 members being present. Colonel Olden, the new President of the local sub-branch, was introduced to the members by Mrs. Philp. He stressed the necessity of keeping Anzac Day sacred, and urged all members to strongly oppose any commercialising of it. He also appealed to members to give their wholehearted support for Poppy Day. The latter part of the evening was a most enjoyable social, arranged by Mesdames Bream and Murphy.

DONNYBROOK
The usual monthly meeting was held on Saturday, Aug. 6, in the R.S.L. Room at Memorial Hall. Mrs. Harding presided over a good attendance of members. Since the last meeting three cases have been assisted—maternity, sickness and distress. One dozen oak chairs have been donated to the R.S.L. Room, also nine supper cloths, for use on bridge and euchre evenings. The entertainment committee held old time dances, and euchre parties on each alternate Thursday evening for amelioration and general funds.
## Tennis Racquets Reduced!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Sunshine&quot;</td>
<td>37/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Vantage&quot;</td>
<td>45/-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Gold Medal de Luxe&quot;</td>
<td>55/-</td>
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<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Speedwin&quot;</td>
<td>65/-</td>
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<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Kro Bat&quot;</td>
<td>75/-</td>
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<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Top Flite&quot;</td>
<td>75/-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;O'Hara Wood&quot;</td>
<td>80/-</td>
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<td>&quot;Top Flite&quot; (Regd)</td>
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<td>Spalding</td>
<td>&quot;Victory&quot;</td>
<td>82/-</td>
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<td>Alexander</td>
<td>&quot;Topsin&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Speed Win&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Marathon&quot;</td>
<td>95/-</td>
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<td>Alexander</td>
<td>&quot;J. O. Anderson&quot; (Spec.)</td>
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<td>&quot;Hyspede&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Cressy de Luxe&quot;</td>
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<td>Alexander</td>
<td>&quot;J. O. Anderson&quot; (Super)</td>
<td>77/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander</td>
<td>&quot;Signal.&quot; (Made exclusively for Boans Ltd.)</td>
<td>55/-</td>
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<td>Slazenger</td>
<td>&quot;Player&quot;</td>
<td>30/-</td>
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<td>&quot;Eclipse&quot;</td>
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<td>Slazenger</td>
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<td>Slazenger</td>
<td>&quot;Cavalier&quot;</td>
<td>80/-</td>
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