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The Blithe New Year

As certain original thinkers have been reminding us during the past fortnight, Christmas is as far away as ever, and if the sharp and sudden weather changes, from heat-waves to storms and back to heat-waves again, are to be considered as omens, our fortunes during the next twelve months will be very varied. But, even as there has been an underlying burden of heat throughout the changing weather, one may not be unduly optimistic that there will be a steady increasing prosperity throughout the year's ebb and flow of fortune. Just at present, most of us are experiencing the "back to work" feeling and secretly envying the youngsters who are still vociferously enjoying their holidays.

Youth is a glorious period and during the youth of the year we feel more strongly than ever that the moulding of the world's future is in the hands of youth. One hears and reads much, these days, of the conflict between age and youth, and of the insurmountable generation which is, perhaps, the leading characteristic of the post-war years. We are told on every hand that age has made an unholy mess of things, and that age should retire gracefully, leaving youth to take the helm. Above all, we are told that the old men make the wars, leaving to the young men the tragedy and the risks of fighting them. One school of war fiction has covered this aspect of the case from every possible angle. There is much truth in all these contentions, and the generation which attained manhood during the war years and was suddenly pitchforked from the schoolroom into the firing-line, has been aptly called "the lost generation."

Those who were young in 1914 are middle-aged, even prematurely old, now. Cicero, and a host of writers since his day; to the contrary notwithstanding, the approach of age is not a pleasant thing to contemplate. Physiologically, it is accompanied by a hardening of the arteries and a stiffening of the joints, to say nothing of other symptoms of physical deterioration, which in our own cases have been vastly accelerated by war service and aggravated by the worries attendant upon those years of depression. Psychologically it is accompanied by restrictions of the thought processes, a growing suspiciousness of change, an impatience with opposition, and that general querulousness which is supposed to have its seat in the liver. Man does his best thinking and his best work generally when his health is at its best. Unfortunately under our present complicated social system, men attain the status, or rank, in their various professions, which entitles them to be guiding forces in the community only when they reach the age at which physical degeneration begins to set in. Of course there are glorious exceptions everywhere but that does not refute the general truth of the statement, a general truth which is responsible for most of the world's past failures. This being so, one cannot help feeling that in the ideal State, the retiring age should be an earlier one than it is at present, so allowing all our legislative, judicial, executive and administrative functions to be exercised by men still in the prime of life. This does not mean that the older ones need be thrown on to the scrap heap, with all their physical and mental defects, they still constitute a great reservoir of experience, and in the ideal State they could be pensioned off, but be still available for consultation and advice.

Something like this already happens in certain businesses and certain public services. Such a policy gives practical expression to the ideal of co-operation between youth and age, and suggests that the alleged conflict between youth and age is as fictitious as the so-called class war. At its best, it is another aspect of that national team work which won the war. Applied properly it could win the peace and make the world truly safe for democracy.

With all its defects, age has provided modern youth with greater educational facilities, if nothing else, than was the case a century ago, or even a generation ago. It is not for us to dogmatise on what should be the right type of educa-

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them, let them occasionally lecture us. Such a course will stimulate thought and exercise pure reason on a scale which should be productive of much national good. Apart from this, it would be a means of translating the great camaraderie of the trenches into a camaraderie of life in general. The world needs more of the bigger spirit to-day, and needs it more than ever it did in its whole blood-stained history. Let us ever maintain it. By doing so we will help to make the world a happier place, and by setting about it now we will make for that Happy and Prosperous New Year which we cordially wish all readers.

R.S.L. Relief Fund

During the month of December the trustees of the Relief Fund received 632 applications for relief, 447 being from ex-A.I.F. men and 185 from ex-Imperials, 600 of which were approved, and 32 declined. The amount involved was £273/14/9 (£194/17/9 ex-A.I.F., £82/17/1 ex-Imperial). Of the 600 assisted, only 120 were members of the League, and 58 were widows. The figures show a slight falling off from those of December, 1932, when the number assisted was 639, involving an expenditure of £419. £5 was donated to the fund by Mr. H. Gregory, M.H.R., and £16/17/7 was received from the Australian War Memorial Committee on sales of war pictures.

McIntosh Memorial Scholarships

Applications are invited from the sons and daughters of fallen and disabled soldiers for the above Scholarship. Applicants must have qualified for admission to the W.A. University, and must state the course they intend to take. The value of the Scholarship is £52 p.a., and the tenure is for the duration of the particular course chosen. Applications, which must be in writing, are to include full regimental particulars of the father, and must contain a brief history of the scholastic career of the applicant.

Applications must be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Soldiers' Children's Scholarship Trust, Mr. J. R. Fitzpatrick, Box K765, G.P.O., Perth, not later than February 14, 1934.

The War Against War

Dr. H. L. Fowler, of the teaching staff of the University of Western Australia, who saw front-line service as an officer of the 44th Battalion, writes:

"I have read your leading article in the December issue with much interest and considerable regret. You say in the course of it: 'The Government's defence policy has aroused the usual shrivels from those peculiar people who cannot differentiate between precaution and aggression, or between a fire insurance policy and incendiarism. Altogether too much hysterical nonsense is now being said and written about preventing war, which may tend to produce the effect least desired. Even one or two of our own sub-branches have shown a tendency to become sub-branches in this respect; but for the most part, the anti-war diatribes are emanating from altogether the wrong type of person.'

"Knowing from personal talk with you, your intense desire for peace, I have hesitated to write this letter; but I feel that the tone of your remarks, and your attitude towards some of those who have the same desires as yourself, is likely to be seriously misconstrued. Had you confined your attention to attackers of the Government's defence policy you might have had some case, but when you included in the sweep of your attack general anti-war arguments, I fear your position is liable to serious misconstruction.

"A number of talks have recently been given over the air on this question, and I should be surprised to hear any of them labelled, 'hysterical nonsense.' There are also a number of books on the same subject, written by scholarly and capable thinkers. These authors have presented many weighty arguments in favour of peace, and have suggested different measures that might be taken to bring it about; and I feel they deserve more generous treatment than has been given them.

"It is probable that your remarks were not intended to refer to these particular opponents of war, but in the absence of some more definite statement from you, it seems reasonable to apply your remarks generally to all anti-war arguments recently put forward in Western Australia.

"It would be damaging to the prestige of the League, if the general public got an impression, however unfounded, that the League was categorically against anti-war propaganda. Perhaps you will be able to assure us that this is not your intention.

"Anticipating that, in your courtesy, you will publish this letter, may I draw the attention of those interested to the recently published broadcast talks of Professor Murdoch, entitled, 'A Challenge to the Churches, and Other Broadcast Talks'; to 'An Intelligent-Man's Way to Prevent War,' edited by Leonard Woolf; and also a number of pamphlets published, after careful review of the available evidence, by the League of Nations. In these I think your readers will find no evidence against all of 'hysterical nonsense.'
"Little is to be gained from what may be construed as unfriendly attacks on one another; and this question of war is of such importance that it deserves the careful and considered investigation of every member of the community."

Dr. Fowler is right in suggesting that the remarks he quotes from our December leader were not intended to refer to those particular opponents of war who have been broadcasting their views recently. Nor did they refer to certain books on the same subject. Unfortunately stress of work—or perhaps the necessity of simulating the appearance of a worker—has prevented us from listening to any of these talks, except a couple by Professor Murdoch, which seemed to us to be special pleading on behalf of a new system of economics. In a general survey of the League's activities during the year, as was intended in the leader, there was not sufficient space available to be more explicit than we were, but we do not agree with Dr. Fowler that, even on the internal evidence, apart from the League's known policy in these matters, it would be reasonable to apply our remarks generally to all anti-war arguments recently put forward in Western Australia. On the other hand, we believe that it would be damaging both to the prestige of the League and to the cause of world-peace were we to allow the public utterances of certain opponents of war to pass without comment, or to seem by our silence to agree with them.

Here are a few samples of the sort of utterances to which we, in common with prominent citizens outside the League, take strong exception, and which we consider come within the scope of our remarks:

(a) The recent remarks of a Perth clergyman who, in describing war as a crime, overstepped the bounds of propriety by stating, in effect, that those who took part in them were also criminals and murderers.

(b) The remarks of another Perth clergyman, who has, on several occasions, blantly branded as jingoes all those who, in common with the R.S.L., advocate an adequate defence policy for Australia.

(c) The amazing statement of one Thomas Hartrey, of the University of Western Australia about "propaganda masquerading under the name of defence, which has for its object the stirring up of a militaristic sentiment in Australia."

(d) Certain expressions used just before Christmas by Assistant-Professor Fox who, according to the newspaper report of his address, advocated degrading soldiers from the high position they occupy in the esteem of the public and considering them necessary evils like scavengers and street sweepers.

We hope for the sake of Professor Fox's own reputation that he was speaking in a humorous vein, but his remarks on this occasion aroused widespread indignation in the ranks of the League and robbed his general argument of much of its force.

(e) The frothings of various non-descripts, described as communists, whose obvious aim is the disruption of the British Empire and whose anti-war utterances are coloured by the knowledge that the armed forces of the Crown are the last bulwark against civil disturbances.

Space, and a disinclination to afford these people further publicity, prevents us from giving fuller details, but if the instances cited above cannot be described as hysterical nonsense, under what heading do they fall?

The personal talk, to which Dr. Fowler refers, occurred some months ago. During its course, unless the writer's memory is at fault, Dr. Fowler suggested that ex-service men should join in with any one and with any organisation which is in opposition to war. With this view we disagreed, believing that the League should walk warily and choose its company. In meeting the overtures of a local pacific organisation by merely "receiving" its letters, the State Executive of the League seems to have adopted this attitude, although the question has never come before the Executive as a matter of policy.

Where the League stands in the war against war has been made sufficiently clear by the resolutions passed by the various State Congresses and the last
The Dogger Bank Action

Had ordinary luck favoured the British Navy in the middle of December, 1914, not one of the German raiders who bombarded Scarborough, Hartlepool, and Whitby would have been able to scurry back to the shelter of their harbours. The British battle-cruiser squadron was in position off the southern end of the Dogger Bank ready to intercept their retreat. It had been possible for the Admiralty to arrange this, as it had obtained possession of a Germany Navy cipher which enabled the British to interpret enemy wireless orders for forthcoming operations. How this cipher came into our possession has never been revealed. There is extant a romantic story to the effect that the code, with other books, was found on the dead body of a petty officer of the German warship, Madsberg, but like most romantic stories of real life it must be viewed with grave suspicion.

It was in the morning twilight of a grey December day that the British squadron, though it was unaware of what lay beyond, engaged the screen of the German High Seas Fleet, which immediately turned at full speed for home. The British battle-cruisers then stood shored to meet Admiral Hipper's raiders who were now left unsupported. Twice the British caught glimpses of the enemy, and once they were able to open fire, but it was a morning of squalls of rain and tumultuous seas, and the German raiders were able to get clear away through the mist.

Their success on this occasion enticed the German warships to sea again on January 23, but now the British Ad-
miralty was able definitely to forecast the stroke. At 7 a.m., Sunday, January 24, battle cruisers from the Forth and light forces from Harwich sighted the enemy and gave chase. A 8.30 a.m. Admiral Beatty's flagship, Lion, opened fire at 20,000 yards. Soon after 9.30 a.m., the flagship was able to engage the leading German battle cruiser, Seydlitz, at 17,000 yards. By then the German battle cruiser, Blucher, had been severely handled. Her two after funnels were disabled and there were over two hundred casualties among her ship's company. The vessel next ahead, Moltke, was enduring heavy punishment from Princess Royal, and now the stern of Seydlitz and two turrets were set ablaze.

It was afterwards ascertained that every man in that part of the vessel, from the turrets to the bilges, 80 feet below, perished. The flagship, Lion, had been hit fourteen times, but so far the only damage done was one gun out of action. At 10.52 a.m., Lion was hit again and her port engine disabled. Soon after this, what looked like a periscope, was sighted to starboard, and Admiral Beatty ordered a turn away to the north-eastward. His subsequent signals were misunderstood, with the result that the destruction of the Blucher was completed, while the rest of the Germans made good their escape.

Because of her injuries, Lion was taken in tow and arrived in Forth at dawn two days later. Though the action was inconclusive, the Germans again found that they were outwatched, outnumbered at the decisive point, and outfought. For a long time they refrained from aggressive action.
Germany and Rearma- 
ment 
(By C. R. Collins)

If the World War did nothing else, it bred in men's hearts the fervent hope that all wars should cease, the general agreement that war, as an implement of international policy, is futile, and the desire that it be abolished by the process of the nations getting together and devising schemes for its abolition. One outstanding feature of the growing peace-consciousness is the general belief that universal disarmament will prevent future war, and the corollary thereof that the existence of armaments will make war not only possible but inevitable. Disarmament schemes have been tried from the dawn of history, but those who have been disappointed at the lack of success of the Disarmament Conference may take heart of grace from the fact that, while previous disarmament schemes have aimed at the disablement of potential enemies, it was left to our generation to strive for a means to effect universal disarmament in the interests of universal peace.

Classic instances of the futility of material disarmament, unaccompanied by that spiritual disarmament without which universal peace is impossible, have been supplied by modern Germany. No State with proud military traditions could have been so decisively beaten in the field and so humiliated by the subsequent peace treaty as Prussia after the Battle of Jena. Under the terms of the Treaty of Tilsit which ended Napoleon's campaign against Prussia and Russia (Russia as usual proved the broken reed) more than half the dominions of Prussia, with a population of about five millions, were left away, and the portion west of the Elbe was formed into the puppet kingdom of Westphalia, under Napoleon's brother Jerome. The establishment of the Prussian standing army was fixed at 42,000 of all ranks. With all the arrogance of an Asiatic conqueror, Napoleon showered insults upon the Prussian Queen Louise. He carried off historic trophies from the tomb of Frederick the Great, the only Hohenzollern who acquired a reputation on his own merits. He even shattered and laid low the obelisk at Rossbach which commemorated Frederick the Great's crowning victory over the French in the Seven Years' War. Germany, as a whole, was treated as a country which existed only to minister to the glory and aggrandisement of France. For this sole object, German territories were parcelled out, redistributed, and puppet kingdoms and confederations were created, in total disregard of all historical and national sentiment.

REVIVE PRUSSIA

Such was the humiliation wreaked by the Treaty of Tilsit that it seems incredible that within seven years' time Prussia should have taken the lead in consolidating for effective action that spirit of revolt which spread throughout the German States and eventually found expression in a United Germany. Fortunately for Prussia she was, at this time, ably served by men like Blucher, Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Stein, who, although natives of other German States, were attracted to the Prussian service.

While Stein was carrying out his social reforms, Scharnhorst, assisted by Gneisenau, were remodelling the Prussian army. Under their guidance, the professional army of Prussia was turned into a national force based on universal service. The clause of the Treaty of Tilsit which forbade Prussia to maintain a standing army of more than 42,000 men was adjitely evaded by the institution of the short service system whereby the man-power of the State was trained in arms and discharged when trained. Officers were obliged to work hard and master their profession, while brutal and degrading punishments for the men in the ranks were prohibited—but so was a diet of apples in the Garden of Eden. The success of the innovation may be judged from the fact that within seven years of Jena, Prussia was able to put into the field a force large enough and efficient enough to bring about the discomfiture of Napoleon.

POLICY OF PHYSICAL TRAINING

The work of the army's chiefs was ably reinforced by that of the educational authorities. The Prussian system of national education was thoroughly re-organised, and here one cannot ignore the work of Friedrich Ludwig Jahn, the founder of the modern German system of gymnastics. He extolled the value of bodily exercises and seized upon the idea of making physical training a dominant force in national regeneration. In the spring of 1811, he opened his first...
"turnplatz," or gymnasiurn, in a pine forest on the outskirts of Berlin. Vigorous and warlike games provided a leading role in his system of physical training, and special costumes were adopted. John's pupils wore a diamond-shaped badge, bearing the word "Turnkunst," with the figure 9,919 above and 1719, 1811 below. These figures served as reminders of Hermann's route of the Roman legions under Varus in 9 A.D., the introduction of the tournaments to Germany in 919 A.D., the last of the German tournaments in 1519, and the revival of "turnen" or gymnastics in 1811. In less than a year there were over 900 similar organisations in various parts of Germany, which John organized into a union, the first Turnenverein, hostile to foreign rulers. The movement gained strength in the German universities, and during the War of Liberation against Napoleon the members of the union were the first men to enlist in two corps of cavalry. During the reactionary period which followed Waterloo, student societies and the Turnenverein were suppressed as hotbeds of Liberalism.

Much has been said and written about Prussian militarism of late years, but during the mid-nineteenth century struggle between Prussia and Austria for the hegemony of the German-speaking race, this militarism was forced upon a reluctant people by Bismarck and Von Roon, in spite of the king, Wilhelm of Prussia, who became Kaiser Wilhelm I. Prussian militarism served its purpose in creating a German nation and in frustrating the military ambition of Napoleon the Less. In its turn it was overthrown by the blood and sacrifice of the Great War.

When the Treaty of Versailles was signed, the world breathed freely once more, imagining that militarism was a thing of the past and that a disarmed Germany could no longer endanger the world's peace. But the Germany after Versailles became the Germany after Jena, a Germany of reconstruction and of thwarted military ambitions that could easily be translated into schemes of national-physical training. For the past ten years, persons who have visited post-war Germany have been struck by the attention German youth has been giving to physical perfection. Without arms or armament, German youth has been going through the motions which form the basis of effective military training. In short, present day Hitlerism bears a strong family likeness to the liberation.

**Broadening the Broadcast**

(“Ready O’Listener” ends a discussion to make room for one which promises to be bigger and more interesting): I notice that my comments on Professor Murdoch’s broadcast talk have been criticised by Messrs. A. H. Lamb and David G. Johnstone. Mr. Lamb does me the honour of agreeing with my main contention and then rambles off into bypaths of economics. It is not my intention now nor at any other time to engage in an economic controversy with Mr. Lamb or anyone else. Mr. Lamb’s suggestion that I devote a daily period to the reading of economic theory is no doubt profited in all kindness—if it movement that succeeded the Treaty of Tilsit. Let us hope that it will not be succeeded by another era of blood and iron.

On former occasions, I have read Mr. Lamb’s contributions to the Listening Post with great interest and a certain amount of sympathy, but he is nothing if not nubatory. I do wish he would get down to hard-tack and let us know what he would substitute for the present monetary system. Were he less reticent he might find me in greater agreement with him than possibly he.

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imagines. At the same time, I do not agree that the economic was the sole, or even the main cause of the World War; neither do B. H. Liddell Hart and other eminent historians of the war.

Raising the spectre of another war as the only alternative to substituting something unspecified for the present monetary system, or lack of system if Mr. Lamb will have it that way, may be acute prosecting but it savours to me of intellectual blackmail.

Mr. Johnstone describes my former contribution as “an unwarranted attack.” I suppose to the ardent devotee any form of criticism of what he favours is an attack, but why “unwarranted” in the name of common sense? When a man in a public position makes statements publicly which are open to criticism he must expect criticism. No publicist is sacrosanct these days, Mr. Johnstone’s other statements contain nothing new. He merely repeats what Professor Murdoch said over the air, which in its turn was a rehash of certain overseas publications. Personally, I hold no brief for armament-making (which I consider should be a government monopoly) nor for big business of any other type on the international scale. But I do not, like Mr. Johnstone, accept suspicion as evidence or vehement assertion as proof. Incidentally, both Professor Murdoch and Mr. Johnstone would look very foolish if they were called upon to prove their statements as defendants in a libel action. They would then learn that a sensational book by Beverley Nichols or a League of Nations report is not in itself proof. Incidentally, what

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Solomon was a Jew, and looked it. Ernie was a digger who owned a wristlet watch and lived in the same ward. One night we were talking of all those things diggers do, souveniring, &c. Said Sol: “You can have the souvenirs for mine. I never robbed a man alive or dead. I once held up a Hun with a bayonet while a sergeant took off him a lovely gold watch.”

One of the chaps said: “Look at his nose, you blokes, and tell me if you believe him?” The rest of Sol’s remarks were drowned with laughter. Next day “Sol” was discharged, and Ernie hasn’t on earth does Mr. Johnstone mean by “glorification of the past war?” I thought the LISTENING POST had killed that stupid cant phrase long ago as far as this branch of the League was concerned. I hope for the sake of his own sanity that Mr. Johnstone is not in agreement with another University Professor who told a gathering of ex-service men that, instead of being proud of the part we played in the last war, we should be ashamed. Such a statement by a university professor seems to me to be pretty thick even for a university-ridden community like our own and, though I realise that freedom of speech should be encouraged everywhere—except in the pages of the LISTENING POST—statements like these incline me to a reluctant sympathy with Mr. Somerville.

seen his watch since. Morals never trust the man who wouldn’t “souvenir.” The wily Sol had evidently told us this with the idea of inspiring us with confidence and deluding us into leaving our valuables about.

“Ex-private Billy Fineday was up for medical examination, and in reply to a question by the “quack” as to where he lived, replied, “Njookenbooroo.”

“That’s swampy land, bad for your punctured lung; get a change of atmosphere.” Billy is now a labourer in the Perth Fish Market.

Host Harrington, ex-10th Light Horse, now liquor dispensing at the Osborne Park Hotel, has a collection of parrots which he duly parades before visitors. He was, as usual, acting as cicerone to a guest, and spoke highly of a large white cockatoo. “Why?” exclaimed the visitor, “he has no tail! How did he lose it?” “He lost it during the war,” replied Ernie.

“During the war! Well, how was that?” “Well,” said mine host, “You’ll remember what a demand there was for white feathers by girls in Perth. The supply was exhausted, so two of them tackled cocky and denuded him of his tail feathers. Since then, as a mark of remembrance for the glorious dead, he has refused to grow another tail. Listen!”

Cocky: “Hello. Lest we forget.”

Digger was retailing his numerous visits to the Repat and explaining to the M.O. how the medicine given him was governing his corporeal capacity. “You know, doctor,” he explained, “your concoctions don’t seem to effect any relief, so the old duchess gives me a dose of Mussol Eno’s Fruit Salt, and I get quite O.K.” Back to France.
MacAnzacs
(By MacPom Dig)

The re-introduction of the kilt into our attenuated defence forces may be a tribute to the pertinacity of certain organisations of transplanted Scotsmen in the Eastern States, but much as we admire the Scots, it seems to us that the money required for this expensive change might be spent more profitably on the more practical aspects of military training. Of course, the idea underlying the change is that a more attractive uniform will naturally attract recruits, but a little resume of what happened in the past may not be out of place at this juncture.

In the old days of voluntary enlistment, there were many crack volunteer corps which perpetuated the dress and endeavoured to perpetuate the traditions of the various parts of the United Kingdom. There were kilted Scottish regiments in most of the States, Irish regiments who proudly wore the green, and in Sydney there was at least one English rifle regiment which committed the incongruity of topping the scarlet jacket with the rifleman’s busby. Scottish, Irish or English birth, or descent, was the main condition of enlistment, but when even attractive uniforms failed to keep the regiments up to strength no commanding officer examined the genealogical tree very closely when accepting what recruits were offering. The writer well remembers the disgust of the late Brigadier-General Forsyth (then a major) when he inspected a company of Scottish rifles in a Central Queensland town. It was in the days of the old eight company organisation. The captain was a Welsman, one lieutenant an Australian born of German parents, the other an Englishman, while the colour-sergeant was a Syrian.

When universal training was adopted in 1911, the Military Board decided that the Australian soldier’s uniform should be uniform and the kilt and other overseas distinctions were discarded. Actually, there are only five kilted regiments among all the Scottish units of the British Regular Army. It is the garb of the Highlander and not of his Southern initiators. There were no kilted regiments in the A.I.F., a point worth remembering when people tell us that its re-introduction will foster valuable traditions. The uniform of the A.I.F., with its effective simplicity and its characteristic headgear, was the admiration of all the Allied forces.

On the other hand, neither in South Africa nor in the mud and slush of France and Flanders was the kilt a suitable garb for campaigning. There were more pleats in it than there were folds in a pair of strides, and those pleats were favourite shelters for the minor horrors of war with the conversational name. Strides and puttees did afford a measure of protection against mustard gas—not always an effective one, certainly, but what I once saw mustard gas do to the wearer of a kilt cannot be described in the chaste pages of the LISTENING Post. If we must have a defence force, let it be an Australian one. If we must foster traditions, and I would be the very last to deride tradition, let the young army keep alive the traditions already established for it by the A.I.F., and not imported traditions accompanied by needlessly expensive frills.

The late Lieut.-Colonel
J. E. Mott, M.C.

Some time ago, this paper published a request for knowledge of the whereabouts of Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Mott, M.C., formerly of the 48th Battalion A.I.F. The paragraph had hardly been printed when the news of his death in England arrived here. “Johnny” Mott was one of the most interesting figures of the A.I.F. While serving as a captain with the 48th he was taken prisoner at Bullecourt. In captivity he made a key which enabled him to escape from the prisoner-of-war compound with a fellow Australian. Hiding by day and travelling by night, they made their way towards the Dutch frontier, but were fired on by sentries. The other Australian was recaptured, but after many narrow escapes Mott succeeded in reaching Holland. He was returned to England by the British Consul, eventually joining the 48th in France at the beginning of 1918.

His Military Cross was won during the advance to Proyart in August 1918, while in charge of a section of tanks. As stated in the official gazette the award was “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on August 8, 1918.” He was in charge of tank garrisons and went forward under fire of all descriptions to select the routes for the tanks.

In the attack he was in front directing the tanks to commanding positions from which to drop their garrisons and assist the infantry advance. The success achieved was due to his judgment and disregard of danger.”

Later in the campaign Mott won a bar to his Military Cross. In 1919 he had command of a Graves Detachment in France and his appointment with the Australian Imperial Force terminated in 1920.

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Personalities

A. R. (Bert) Dancer was appointed treasurer at the last meeting of the Darling Range Sub-branch, at Kalamunda. Bert served throughout the war with the famous Coldstream Guards, being wounded three times, at Loos in 1915, Ypres in 1916, and Arrmentieres in 1918, where he was taken prisoner. He came to Australia in 1920, and was engaged in business until eighteen months ago, when, with his wife, he took over the St. Elmo Guest House at Kalamunda, where they have a special welcome for ex-service men and their families.

We join with the Baywater Sub-branch members in expressing sympathy with one of their good members, Mr. L. A. Brown and his good wife in the tragic loss of two of their children, Lesley, aged 11 years, and Raymond, aged 8 years, on January 15. The children were bathing in the Swan River at Baywater, when they got into difficulties. Their mother bravely endeavoured to rescue them, but when they were brought to shore they were beyond recovery. Mr. Brown served abroad with the 10th Light Horse.

State Executive delegates were delighted to welcome at their last meeting Mr. Fred Warner, M.L.A., who took his seat on the Executive for the first time. Fred appears to have completely recovered from his injuries caused by a serious motor accident some months ago.

Claremont Sub-branch reports the death of a member, S. Savage, who passed away in the Perth Hospital on Christmas Eve. We join with the sub-branch in extending condolence to the bereaved relatives.

Harry J. Topal, formerly of the staff of THE LISTENING POST and of Shipping Newspapers, and an active member of the Press sub-branch, is now, owing to business arrangements, taking up his residence in Kalgoorlie where he intends to join with the local sub-branch. "Tope" served his time in the Royal Navy before coming to Australia and left these shores in 1914 with the Army Medical Corps. Among some of his interesting experiences were the Messina Earthquake and post-war appointments, in former German East Africa and former German New Guinea.

The school vacation has brought many bigger teachers to town. Fred Albrecht, who teaches the young idea how to shoot up at Mullewa, has been renewing his friendships with his old 51st pals. It was noticed, one day early in the New Year, that he decided "You must say 'Yes' to Mister Brown" when Roy of that ilk asked him could he keep one down.

Genial Tom Towers has brought his infectious laugh with him from Dumble-yung, where he is a tower of strength to the local golf club. Tom, by the way, is a man who has fought in three wars, the Yanko-Spanko War in Cuba, the South African War, and, of course, the last unpleasantness. In his younger days Tom was a keen rugby football player.

Fred Clayton, president of Nannup Sub-branch, took advantage of the holidays to commit matrimony. He has our sincere congratulations and best wishes for future happiness. Wherever he has been he has pulled his weight in the local sub-branch. He tells us that he is for a transfer, and will, after the vacation, take charge of the Herne Hill school.

Dave Barnes, the Moora headmaster, and member of the local sub-branch, was seen with his wife and two children defying the waves at Cottesloe.

The Toodyay Road Board are to be congratulated on their strict adherence at all times to the policy of preference to returned soldiers. Recently they appointed as secretary of their Board Mr. S. R. Hardwicke, who was a dispatch rider at the war. He was a useful member of the committee of the West Perth Sub-branch.

A welcome visitor to Perth is Mr. Alf. Anderson, the Country Vice-president of the W.A. Branch. Alf is also president of the Geraldton Sub-branch, and apart from being a press-man, he is a jolly good fellow. Although unable to attend State Executive meetings, he is doing big work for the League in the northern areas, and reports that finality has just about been reached for the erection of a soldiers' institute in Geraldton, which, when completed, will be worth over £4,000.

Returned soldiers of the North-West, and the Pilbara District in particular, will hear with regret of the passing away after a short illness of Walter Wallis, the Secretary of the Pilbara Sub-branch. "Big Wally," as he was generally known, was an indefatigable worker for the sub-branch, and was always to the fore in assisting sporting and other organised bodies in Port Hedland. He was genial and always ready to lend a helping hand, and will be greatly missed by his comrades and fellow townsmen.

We have also to record the passing away within a day or so from the same

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sickness of another soldier, Henry Morgan Jones. Of a quiet and unassuming type, he was not so well known as W. Wallis, as he has not been a resident of Pilbara for so long. Jones, who hailed from the Eastern States, served as a gunner during the war. His end was hastened through sickness, which he contracted on active service, lowering his resistance to his last illness.

The members of the Pilbara Sub-branch arranged the funerals, which were carried out with military honours, and attended by a large proportion of the residents of Port Hedland.

We have received an interesting letter from C. L. Bishop, a prominent member of the Perth Sub-branch, who left for England about last August. "Bish" writes: "I have been busy settling down again at home and paying visits after twelve years' absence. There is not much change in the Old Country since I left, except great changes in buildings. The same old calm and secure spirit is here which makes one feel you can gamble on her keeping her prestige through anything." "Bish" sends New Year greetings to all friends.

Mr. D. M. Benson is at present enjoying his annual leave with his family at Rottnest. It is nine years since Mr. Benson was appointed State Secretary, and every year, even during the depression, has been one of progress for the W.A. Branch, and for this Dave must take his share of credit.

A useful member of the League is Mr. J. H. Lang, who served abroad with the 11th Battalion. He is prominent in the North Perth Sub-branch, public officer for his Battalion Association, and president of the Printers' Union of W.A.

Boyup Sub-branch reports the death of its vice-president in the person of Mr. H. S. Jones (54 years), who died after an operation at Bunbury on January 1. They seem to be unlucky of late; it is only a little while back when they lost their secretary. Mr. Jones (ex 28th Battalion) was very popular in the district, and helped in all activities towards charity and for the advancement of the district generally. The secretary of the sub-branch (Rev. A. C. H. Lerpiniere), who is also the rector of St. George's Church of England, conducted the funeral service, which was well attended. The deceased was a bachelor and a native of England.

A visitor to the Capital during the month was Captain Bill Logie. The goldfields climate evidently agrees with Bill, for he is looking fitter and younger than we have noted since the war. Bill's mine at Wilson's Patch near Leonora, which is called the Pilcotas Gold Mine, has recently been floated into a company, and Bill has been appointed manager.

The principle of preference to returned sailors and soldiers was not ignored in the issue of New Year Honours. Admiral Hyde became a K.C.B., a knighthood was awarded to the Federal President, and C.M.G.'s to the General Secretary and to Captain F. Marriott, M.H.A., of Tasmania. In honouring the Federal President and the General Secretary, due recognition has been given to the importance of the League and the value of its work.

Captain Marriott is a genial, slim six-footer, who served with the Tasmanian portion of the 26th Battalion. Though he lost his eyesight as the result of wounds in action, he entered politics on his return from the front, and has been a member of the Tasmanian House of Assembly for many years. Captain Marriott has always taken an active interest in League affairs. He has been a delegate to a B.E.S.L. Conference, and was a delegate to the last Federal Congress but one held in Perth.

The news that Mr. W. J. Hunt was appointed by the Government to the Lotteries Commission was very pleasing to his host of friends. Bill saw service with the 44th Battalion, where he attained his captaincy. He has for years been a valued member of the State Executive, being chairman of the House Committee. Prior to the depression Bill had a flourishing furniture manufacturing business in Perth, and the depression hit him hard, and at the time of his appointment he was unemployed. A splendid fellow of undoubted integrity, no better choice could have been made.

The visit of Major Douglas to Perth was certainly the outstanding social event of the month. However we may wrangle among ourselves over the system of economics with which the distinguished visitor's name is associated, there can be no two opinions about the Major himself. He is an officer and a gentleman to his fingertips, and during his short stay among us his charming personality won him many friends, not adherents, and those who heard his address came away fully convinced that he can speak as well as he can write.

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SWAN BRAND ONIONS ARE FIRM AND CRISP
At the last State Congress of the R.S.L., a resolution was carried that a press report of the B.E.S.L. Conference be printed in the LISTENING Post. We have extracted from the delegates' report the items which we think are of most concern to our readers, excluding the items of a social character. Australia's delegates were Mr. L. A. Robb and Rabbi D. I. Freedman, assisted as associates by Lieut.-General Sir Talbot Hobbs, Captain J. F. Robins, and Mr. E. H. Pike.

The opening was attended by a large number of prominent representative citizens of England and the Dominions, as well as by the delegates' wives.

At the opening of his address, the Grand President, Earl Jellicoe, expressed regret at his inability, on account of illness, to take the Conference to Australia this year. He stated quite definitely that the next Conference should and must, be held in Australia, and if he himself was unable to lead that delegation, it must be led by another Grand President.

On the motion of Canada and Australia; Colonel John Brown, Chairman of the British Legion, was elected Chairman of the Conference. Earl Jellicoe was unanimously re-elected Grand President of the British Empire Service League, and in replying, he stated that he would carry on as long as his health permitted.

After other formal business had been disposed of, resolutions and other matters were proceeded with and dealt with as follows:

Moved by Lieut.-General Sir Percy Lake (Canada), seconded by Lieut.-General Sir Talbot Hobbs (Australia): "That this Conference, having had brought to its notice by 'member' organisations the unfortunate effect of certain types of anti-British films at present being exhibited in various parts of the Empire, records its appreciation of the work of the constituent organisations in their efforts to counteract this propaganda, and supports the League and its constituent members in their work."—Carried.

This resolution was opposed by the Irish Free State in view of the fact that their delegates had not seen an anti-British film, but Australia represented the need of it, and it was carried by a large majority.

Moved by Lieut.-General Sir Percy Lake (Canada); seconded by Captain P. Clemens (Sierra Leone): "That this Sixth Biennial Conference of the British Empire Service League, representing all ex-service men throughout the British Empire who realise the horrors and futility of war, from which they desire to save future generations, again records its determination to support all legitimate and proper means for the maintenance of world peace, while, at the same time, realising the importance of maintaining the safety and welfare of the British Empire."—Carried unanimously.

Moved by Lieut.-Colonel W. Calder (South Africa); seconded by Lieut.-General Sir J. J. Talbot Hobbs (Australia): "That this Conference of opinion that the constituent organisations should approach their respective Governments and private concerns in order to obtain special facilities and concessions for, and in connection with, travelling arrangements for disabled ex-service men, with satisfaction the very considerable facilities and concessions which have been afforded in the Commonwealth of Australia, and trusts that by the efforts of other constituent organisations similar concessions may be extended to disabled ex-service men throughout the Empire."—Carried.

The Australian delegates were able, under this resolution, to explain to the other delegates the many concessions granted by the Commonwealth and State Governments to disabled ex-service men. Many expressions of appreciation of these concessions were made by delegates present.

Conference was adjourned to allow a deputation to wait upon the Minister of Pensions, and before him matters of vital importance to British ex-service men resident in the various Dominions.

Mr. Robb, on behalf of Australia, placed before the Minister the following:

1. The extreme and urgent need for a prominent officer of the British Ministry of Pensions to be domiciled in Australia, pointing out that this would materially hasten the finalising of all claims of British ex-service men in Australia.

2. The evidence of hardship, the Minister, whilst unable to give a final reply, stated he was impressed by that need and would give the matter his urgent personal attention.

2. Treatment.—It was pointed out to the Minister that many making first application for pension were not entitled to any treatment until such time as the claim had been finalised—approximately four months' delay. The Minister promised to go into this question immediately, and asked that, where absence of treatment had materially aggravated the disability, the claim be submitted to him in support of Australia's contention.

3. Benefit of Doubt.—It was pointed out to the Minister that the basis of determining entitlement in Australia was entirely different to that of England, and it was felt by our organisation and many ex-Imperial men that they were not getting the full benefit of any doubt that might exist. It was especially asked that where the Commissioner of Reparation had recommended a pension, that same recommendation should be agreed to.

The Minister promised to submit a reply in writing, through Captain Donald Simson, on the various points raised.

Major G. C. Tryon, the Minister of Pensions, then consented to receive Rabbi D. I. Freedman and General Sir Talbot Hobbs in his office for a private interview to obtain the claims of an ex-Imperial man resident in Fremantle. He also directed his most responsible officer to consult with Mr. Robb on eight special cases sent forward by the New South Wales Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A.

That this Conference is of opinion that the policy of the British Empire Service League, as declared, since its foundation, namely, the unity of all ex-service men who have served in the Forces of the Empire, is best ensured by the maintenance of one 'member' organisation in each constituent part of the Empire, recognised by the British Empire Service League, and thereby resolved that this policy shall be continued and is essential in the best interest of all ex-service men, in pursuance of that policy urges all constituent organisations to make every effort to secure the unity of ex-service men in their part of the Empire, by bringing all such ex-service men into one organisation.

"That this Conference, whilst sincerely appreciating all that has been done by the constituent members of the League in endeavouring to amend the lot of ex-service men from other parts of the Empire, appeals to all constituent organisations to aim at the ideal of treating as equal...

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members of organisations all British ex-service men who have fought for the Empire and moved from one part to another, and to endeavour to remove as far as possible all barriers both of the letter and of the spirit that make for separation instead of consolidation."

"That this Conference urges that all ex-service men resident in a constituent part of the Empire shall be admitted to full membership of the constituent organisation, with all rights and privileges of such membership."

The above resolutions were grouped together and moved as one resolution by Lieut.-Colonel G. R. Crosfield (England) who, in the course of his speech, stated that the British Legion had received a number of applications from new ex-imperial organisations in Australia to become affiliated with it, but that he had refused in every case.

In view of the importance of the subject of ex-imperial organisations in Australia, and the fact that the British Legion had some time back appointed a Special Committee to consider the matter, it was agreed by Earl Jellicoe that it would be very advisable if the members of that Committee were present during the debate on that subject only.

The Special Committee referred to consisted of Mr. T. F. Lister, late President of the British Legion; Lieut.-Colonel G. R. Crosfield, and Mr. A. H. Franks.

Mr. Lister regretted his inability to attend, Colonel Crosfield was already a delegate, and Mr. Franks was, therefore, asked to attend.

Mr. Franks delivered a very fierce attack on Australia for not widening the eligibility clause of our Constitution, and for the alleged ill treatment of ex-imperialists in Australia. He spoke at considerable length, and the conclusion of his address further discussion on this resolution was adjourned to allow Rabbi Freedman and General Sir Talbot Hobbs to interview the Minister of Pensions on behalf of a claim of an ex-imperial in Fremantle.

Later, all the Australian Delegates spoke in turn as follows:—Mr. L. H. Pike, General Sir Talbot Hobbs, Rabbi D. I. Freedman, and Mr. L. A. Robb, all confining their remarks to a simple statement of facts, emphasizing firstly, the eligibility under the Constitution, secondly, the great number of British ex-service men occupying high positions in the State and sub-branches of the R.S.S.I.L.A., thirdly, the assistance rendered to B.E.F. men who had fallen upon evil days. Fourthly, the efforts made by the various R.S.S.I.L.A. Labour Bureaux of the various States in finding employment for British ex-service men.

It was emphasised by all that there was absolutely no discrimination at all as the R.S.S.I.L.A. Labour Bureaux of the various States in finding employment for British ex-service men. It was emphasised by all that there was absolutely no discrimination at all as the R.S.S.I.L.A. was concerned between any member of His Majesty's Forces, provided always that they came within the scope of our Constitution.

In spite of the many provocations contained in Mr. Franks' speech, no personal atmosphere was introduced into the debate by the Australian delegates.

The Australian delegates hesitated to give their assent to the resolution shown above, on account of the wording of the last of the three in the group.

Colonel John Brown, the Chairman, pointed out and explained the term in that resolution that all ex-service men resident in a constituent part of the Empire was subject to the definition of the term "ex-service" by the member organisation concerned. Thereupon Australia voted for the spirit of the resolution on the understanding that such resolutions were to be referred to a special Drafting Committee for submission in an amended form to Conference.

The Drafting Committee consisted of Major J. S. Roper (Canada), Lieut.-Colonel E. R. Wayland (Canada), Rabbi D. I. Freedman (Australia), and Mr. A. H. Franks (England), and considered these resolutions.

The first two were left as printed, but the third was amended to read—

"That this Conference urges all ex-service men resident in constituent parts of the Empire shall, so far as the Constitution of the constituent organisations will allow, be admitted to full membership of the constituent organisation with all rights and privileges of such membership."

The Drafting Committee framed a new clause for submission to Conference as follows—

"That this Conference appreciates the efforts made by the R.S.S.I.L.A. on behalf of ex-imperialists in Australia, and asks that organisation to continue its good work on behalf of the unity of all ex-service men in that Dominion."

The foregoing was agreed to unanimously by the Drafting Committee, and on submission to Conference was accepted by that body unanimously and without discussion.

It was resolved:—"That this Conference records with appreciation the fact that a Royal Commission has recently completed its work and reported upon the position of settlers, many of whom are ex-service men in the State of Victoria, Australia, under the scheme operated between the Dominion and the State Governments."

"This Conference thanks with pleasure that a meeting is now being held in Melbourne, consisting of representatives of the Australian and Victorian Governments with a representative of His Majesty's Government, and expresses the earnest hope that these negotiations will result in a satisfactory agreement in regard to the ex-service settlers in Victoria."

The above resolution was adopted without discussion after a statement had been made by Mr. L. H. Pike (Australia), pointing out that the matter was under discussion by representatives of the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, together with a representative of the British Government.

 Moved by Lt.-Col. W. Calder (South Africa), seconded by Mr. D. Howell Griffiths (Wales):—

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"That this Conference requests constituent organisations to accept as Life Members of their organisation, without further payment, the Life Members of other constituent organisations of the League."—Carried.

It was resolved:—"That this Conference records with pleasure and satisfaction the success which has attended the efforts of certain constituent organisations to promote 'Trade within the Empire' days and 'Empire Shopping Weeks' and urges all constituent organisations to encourage branch and local activities in support of efforts such as these with a view to encouraging and augmenting Empire Trade."—Carried.

That this Conference urges the constituent organisations to do all in their power to impress upon the branches and members their responsibility in the matter of Empire Development, and to support and advance economic unity by
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educating public opinion to the advantage to all members of the Empire through the development of Empire Trade."

Moved by Lt.-Col. G. R. Crossfield (England), seconded by Major J. S. Roper (Canada) — "That this Conference, whilst placing its recognition of the many difficulties which surround the question of ex-service men and their families migrating from the Home Country to settle in other parts of the Empire, hereby records its belief that the best interests of the Empire as a whole will be served by ensuring that immediately properly regulated schemes of migration are again opened, preference in all schemes shall be given to ex-service men and the dependants of ex-service men and their families."

Carried.

It was resolved — "That this Conference, being impressed by the necessity of inculcating the ideals of the British Empire Service League and its constituent organisations in the minds of the sons and daughters of ex-service men, is of opinion that such organisations should make arrangements for the attendance of the sons and daughters of ex-service men as often as possible at official parades and ceremonies organized by the constituent organisations."

Moved by Rabbi D. I. Freedman (Australia), seconded by Lt.-Col. N. MacLeod (Scotland) — "That this Conference, having in mind the need of perpetuating the ideals of the British Empire Service League and its constituent organisations and with this aim in view the necessity of bringing into close contact with the constituent organisations the sons and relatives of those who served, urges upon the constituent organisations to consider the advisability of extending their present constitutions to include such relatives in their membership or of taking steps to bring them within an auxiliary organisation working with close association of "member" organisations."

Carried.

Opportunity was taken under the above resolutions to tell Conference what had been done by Australia in this regard. It would appear that the R.S.S.I.L.A. has gone further in this respect in bringing into actual being an association of the sons of ex-service men than any other "member" organisation.

Moved by Mr. L. A. Robb (Australia), seconded by Lt.-General Sir Percy Lake (Canada) — "That a further grant be made from the United Services Fund (England), for the relief of British ex-service men in Australia, such grant to be administered by trustees appointed by the R.S.S.I.L.A., and that a grant of £6,000 be made available from the King George's Fund to the League in Australia for assisting ex-Royal Naval men who are in necessitous circumstances, and that all future grants from this fund be made available through the R.S.S.I.L.A., which is the constituent member of the B.E.S.L."

"An amendment to the above resolution was — Moved by Colonel H. Stewart (New Zealand), seconded by Lt.-Col. G. R. Crossfield (England): — "That this Conference approves the suggestion that the various patriotic bodies established in Britain be asked to consider sympathetically the grant of annual or periodical contributions to a Central Fund to be administered by the British Empire Service League Council and allocated by the Council, under conditions approved by it, to the various parts of the Empire, for the assistance of ex-imperial service men and their dependants overseas, and that the League Council be requested to convene a meeting of the organisations concerned to discuss this matter.

"In view of the amendment being more comprehensive, and evidence showed that such a resolution was likely to meet with a greater amount of success, the Australian Delegation withdrew their motion and accepted the amendment, which was carried.

It was resolved — "That this Conference, having regard to the continued sacrifices made by ex-service men throughout the Empire and their continued difficulty in obtaining employment through normal industrial channels, again places on record its conviction that preference in employment for ex-service men throughout the Empire shall be maintained and urges constituent organisations to do all in their power to secure such preference as has been accorded in the past is continued."

It was resolved — "That this Conference is of the opinion that throughout the Empire there are large numbers of ex-service men who, although not directly disabled through war service, are, as a result of such service, prematurely aged, and in this connection desires to draw the attention of all constituent organisations to the legislation operating in Canada, and the special scheme inaugurated in Great Britain under the Prince of Wales' British Legion Pension Fund for dealing with such men, and urges the constituent organisations to give consideration to this subject in order to arrange that adequate provision may be made for such men."

It was resolved — "That this Conference requests the Empire Council to make all the necessary enquiries as to the advisability of requesting the Imperial War Graves Commission to accept the responsibility for the upkeep of all War Graves throughout the Empire, in addition to Great War Graves, and empowers the Empire Council, having made such enquiries, to take such action as they might think fit."

Moved by Rabbi D. I. Freedman (Australia), seconded by Mr. L. A. Robb (Australia) — "In view of the fact that most large ships make the passage of one portion or another of the Suez Canal at night, thus depriving the passengers of the opportunity, perhaps the only one in their life, of viewing the three War Memorials erected on the banks of the Canal, this Conference urges the respective Governments responsible for the erection of the Memorials, to arrange, either conjointly or separately, for the flood lighting of the Memorials on such nights as large ships are passing up or down the Canal."

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SWAN BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES ARE PIQUANT
Complimentary Smoke Social

Members of the State Executive and representatives of several metropolitan and country sub-branches foragethed in the Institute on the evening of January 22, to welcome home our two delegates to the B.E.S.I. Conference, Rabbi D. I. Freedman and Lieutenant-General Sir Talbot Hobbs. The State, President proposed the toast of the guests, expressing his pleasure at seeing them back again, and stating that all were proud of the delegates from this State. He was supported by the immediate Past President, Colonel Collett.

In a happy little speech, the Rabbi told the gathering some of his experiences while travelling. The Australian delegation dominated the conference for the greater part of the time. "Any motion which they opposed was lost, and any which they supported was carried," Sir Talbot Hobbs throughout the conference attained a standard which was higher than I have ever seen him reach before," said the Rabbi, "and every speech he made was with the greatest possible effect."

Both the Rabbi and Sir Talbot outlined the work that had been accomplished at the conference, and by the B.E.S.I., including the various ex-service men's organisations throughout the Empire. It was emphasised that one organisation only would be recognised in each Dominion, and in Australia that organisation is the R.S.S.I.A. Unles unforeseen circumstances intervene, the next B.E.S.I. Conference will be held in Australia.

Brigadier Martyn, in proposing the toast of the R.S.I., said that he was pleased to be there as president of Claremonth Sub-branch, and not as District Commandant. The toast was responded to by the Country Vice-President, Mr. A. E. Anderson.

Messrs. W. Talbot and A. C. Fisher, as entertainers, were in excellent form, and their songs and recitations were highly appreciated. The function was a very enjoyable one, but it is a matter for regret that so few of the metropolitan sub-branches were represented.

Through the post, anonymously, the following little joke was sent to one of our magistrates this week and he has passed it on:

Magistrate: I'll let you off with a fine this time. Next time I'll send you to jail.

Defendant: A kind of weather forecast, your Worship.

Magistrate: What do you mean?

Defendant: Fine today—cooler tomorrow!
Varia

The following is a sample of the bilge with which one type of pacificist writer inundates the press of the Empire, and which does his cause more harm than good. Writing in the Cambridge Daily News on October 16, 1933, an anonymous libeller of better men who uses the pen-name of "Audi Alteram Partam"—his Latin is a rocky—as his reasoning—declared: "I don't think it would be an unfair estimate if I said that 75 per cent. of the men who won decorations during the war won them when they were under the influence of drink. Their minds were in such a muddled condition that they did not realise what they were doing."

Fortunately for the soldiers' fair fame the English people are not so squeamish about squashing such libellers as we are in Australia. General Sir Frederick Maurice, the President of the British Legion, promptly replied: "I have no hesitation," wrote General Maurice, "in saying that if "Audi Alteram Partam," who has not the courage to add his name to this libel says that, it is a lie. I would ask your readers to look at the published records of the deeds which won the Victoria Cross, and ask themselves how many of them could have been performed by men in such a muddled state that they did not realise what they were doing."

The local governing body in this State with, perhaps, the smallest ex-service representation, is the Perth City City Council, Tom Tandy, of sauce and pickle fame, being the lone digger councillor. The Fremantle Sub-branch proudly boast six of their members as councillors of Fremantle, and many road Boards throughout the State are controlled by men who gained added wisdom from their war service overseas. What's wrong with the diggers of Perth?

The Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. has added another book to its local publications having just released "Winjan's People" written by J. E. Hammond. This book is the story of the south-west Australian aborigines and is intensely interesting. Mr. Hammond lived alongside the natives in the early sixties and learned their language, customs and habits, and it is fitting that the result of his keen observation should be written about a period before the natives were spilt by contact with our civilisation. The book is on sale for the moderate sum of 2/6.

Sir Talbot Hobbs told a new one at the State Executive welcome. While abroad he was about to be presented to the Prince of Wales, and the Prince was asked, "You've met General Hobbs before?" "Oh, yes," replied His Royal Highness. "He's the man I used to have to ask for leave when I wanted a run into Brussels." The Prince was referring to the time he visited and stayed with the Australian Corps, which General Hobbs was then commanding.

There appears to be much confusion as to how the ex-State President should be addressed. On active service, after order-ly room (and not in his hearing), we have no doubt that he was alluded to in various well-known endearing terms, but we are not referring to such pleasantries. Don't call the Colonel "Senator-Colonel" or "Colonel-Senator." He should be referred to either as "Senator" or as "Colonel," and as he has been Colonel Collett to us for years, our advice is to continue to call him so. We know that is the Colonel's wish. Anyhow, quite ordinary people can be senators, but to be a colonel—well, we ask you.

The Scots are candid as well as canny. During the month the notice board outside a Perth Presbyterian Church, giving the details of a special Scots' Commemoration service, gave particulars of the special music, which included this warning: "Be Not Afraid," "Lament by the Pipe-Major."

Who Understands Turkish?

A Corrigin Leader writes:—Looking through some old war souvenirs a few days ago, I found an old Turkish officer's diary which I would like to have translated. The writer's name was Moustaf Fethis, and the diary is for the last twelve months of the war.

Can any reader put us on to a translator? Other ex-service men's publications, please copy.

Anzac House

With the steel work in position, Anzac House is beginning to assume material form, and ex-service men may rest assured that the League's new home will be an edifice of which we may all be justifiably proud. It is now definite that the foundation stone will be laid by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir James Mitchelli), on Sunday, March 25, and reasonable hopes are entertained that His Royal Highness, Prince George, will be available to perform the opening ceremony. The Anzac House Committee has still much hard work before it, and is tackling its job in the spirit which cannot fail to ensure success. Several of the sub-branches, too, are pulling their weight in the direction of raising funds. This is where sub-branches can help most, and no doubt when they have all done their bit and their more affluent members have joined up as foundation members, the worst of the financial hurdles will be scaled.
Book Reviews


When so much is being said and written about the treatment of the Australian aborigines, and now that a Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire into the conditions under which they live, the publication of "Winjan's People" is timely to say the least of it. The book is the story of the South-West Australian Aborigines, written by Mr. J. E. Hammond, a gentleman who has lived many years among them, and edited by Mr. Paul Hasluck, of the literary staff of The West Australian. All concerned, author, editor, and publisher have done their work faithfully and well. The natives with whom Mr. Hammond deals principally are those living between the south-west coast and a line drawn roughly from Perth to a little east of Albany following the line of the hills. "This," says the editor in his preface, "was probably at one time the centre of the heaviest aboriginal population of the State, for it was rich in the natural foods which the natives used. The coming of the whites, however, started the gradual extermination of the race, and, to-day, there are few full-blooded blacks left in this region, and those that are left are so contaminated by contact with the whites that they are no longer to be relied on to give a true account of their people. Luckily, Mr. Hammond's experience with them was largely in a period when settlement was still very rare and the white man's customs had not had so great an effect on them as they have had since.

There is probably no one else left alive to-day who can write of them from the particular angle from which he writes.

The book is a mine of information on the every-day life and social customs of a vanished race. The author describes with a wealth of detail the way they built their camps, the food they ate, and the way they prepared it, their hunting, their corroborees, their weapons, their marriage customs, their family life, and concludes with an interesting list of native words. It is well supplied with illustrations, diagrams, and maps.

"The Grey Battalion," by M. Tilton, the story of an army nurse's experiences in the war, published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney, will be reviewed in our February issue.


Sir Philip Gibbs, the veteran journalist, who has had fleeting glimpses of more than one war, is one of the few living novelists who can point a moral and adorn a tale without losing the thread of the story in a labyrinth of didacticism. In his last novel, "The Cross of Peace," he elaborates a theme suggested in an earlier book, "The Middle of the Road." Starting with the premise that war can be prevented by taking thought for the future, he takes for his hero a French captain of Chasseurs who has run the whole gamut of experience in the field, wounds, decorations for gallantry, and eventually captivity as a prisoner of war in Germany. While serving with the Army of Occupation, he meets again the Jewish fieldwebel who saved his life when a diarkum Hun tried to bayonet him as he lay wounded in No Man's Land. He also wins the friendship of a German youth and the love of the lad's sister, though the girl dies shortly afterwards. The bereaved lover returned to his native Avignon with a permanent limp and a strong determination to work for the prevention of another wholesale butchery of youth. As the popular history master of a lyceum his influence induces several of his pupils to join in an international league of youth for fostering world peace by promoting friendship and mutual understanding between the young of all nations.

Then comes marriage with Yvonne, the beautiful sister of his favourite pupil, and the daughter of an old military family. Neither his colleague, nor his wife's family are in sympathy with his ideals and the like-work he has undertaken.

The climax comes when his brother-in-law is sentenced to imprisonment for refusing military service under the French law. He loses his position in the lyceum and Yvonne picks up her baby and goes home to her mother. The crowning disappointment arrives with the rise of Nazism in Germany. The international bonds he has striven to forge are broken. He goes to Germany to try and retrieve the situation, but loses his life trying to save that of his old friend the Jewish fieldwebel.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with Gibbs, he has written a capital story, and his descriptions of the occupation of the Ruhr and of the rise of Hitlerism are of immense historical value. His characterisation throughout is excellent. Describing the clash of ideals, he states the conflicting points of view fairly and dispassionately, and, in the denouement, tacitly admits that international agreements, though relatively easy to arrive at, are difficult to maintain amidst the heat of popular passions. Apart from its excellence as a novel, the book is thought-provoking if not always convincing, and should be a welcome addition to sub-branch libraries.

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SWAN BRAND PICKLES GIVE ZEST TO A MEAL
Bluffs—Ancient and Modern
(By H.J.W.)

The first bluff of which there is any record dates back to Eden. Adam was alone upon the premises and was exceedingly restless. He had trimmed all the fruit trees and had sprayed the orchard, and—was lonesome to talk to somebody. So he was given an anæsthetic, a major operation was performed to the starboard of his midriff and a cutlet extracted therefrom. Result—Eve.

Considering the crookedness and cussedness of the raw material used, it was the best job ever performed. When Adam came out of the ether he saw his first Peach. Then the bluffing started and it has continued ever since. For, no sooner had they eaten the No. 1 Pippin, labelled Knowledge, than they became wise—too wise—and tried to bluff the Almighty. And, however often Eve has since turned over a new leaf, she is still the same in fig leaf or chiffon; while the genus homo has remained sons of apple-eating Adam, prone to fall.

That first bite off the apple still sticks in the throat of humanity. Adam bit off more than he could chew, from which it is concluded that the male of the species has bluffed the hardest and has been the least successful!

History records many bluffs—some good, some mediocre and some intolerably bad: When the courtiers of good old King Canute would have had him believe that he was invincible he placed his throne beside the sea and had him forbid the tide to roll in. But the English Channel proved that "time and tide wait for no man," and so this unwilling bluff was called.

When Edward the Third, at a court function, noticed that a fair lady had dropped her garter, which immediately became an object of speculation among the debutantes, dowagers and bald-headed satyrs of those days, with courtly grace he bluffled the embarrassing situation, into an Order of Merit. Thus was established the Order of the Garter with its motto—"Honi soit qui mal y pense." It needs no revision yet.

THE GREATEST BLUFF IN HISTORY

The most pernicious bluff in all history was that of the "Divine Right of Kings." This tragic combination of gall and bluff has left a well-defined mark all down the corridor of Time. It was decided, temporarily, at Marston Moor, where Cromwell stopped the Royalists. Its sequel occurred on a scaffold outside of Whitehall.

Then, Louis XIV was indiscreet one day in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles and remarked, quite casually. "L'état c'est moi." The people of France remembered this presumption and established the guillotine to head off, or rather, behold, such tendencies.

Quite recently an egomaniac with a shrivelled soul announced a partnership "mit Gott." The royal weinirwurst insisted on—being the senior partner, but his dream to rule over even this slightly lop-sided world was shattered at Spa. To-day he is putting in an apprenticeship sawing wood in a Dutch backyard.

Modern bluffing is not very different, essentially, from the same old game that has always been played by a large part of humanity. There are certain matters which of their nature seem to afford perennial and facile opportunities for bluffing. Among these may be mentioned ancestry, religion or piety, politics, social status, income, knowledge or education, prohibition, dress, complexion and cheap cigars. One could go on almost indefinitely but space will only permit a brief analysis of a few of these pet bluffing agencies.

THE ANCESTRY BLUFFER

Perhaps the most fallacious bluff is that of ancestry.

Some people do like to uproot the family tree or grow one to bluff their friends. This type does not belong to such an aristocratic lineage as Edens. It is quite likely that they were discovered by Darwin's researches as swinging from branch to branch by their tails. They must have lost those tails in the Ark when Noah slammed the door on them. One usually finds these bluffers tracing back their ancestry as far as it is safe. They quit when they succeed in finding an ancestor who was hung for sheep-stealing. Such a discovery is a social deterrent, for a cross-roads gibbet rampant and a sheep couchant does not make a very impressive heraldic device!

Back of nearly every title there is a sardonic skull. There was a time "when knighthood was in flower." In this materialistic age, knighthood is in flour, bacon, steamships, newspapers, banks, whiskey and politics.

THE RELIGIOUS BLUFFER

Another well-known bluff is that of the religious fakir. In exposing such, one is attacking a creature who poses behind the obsolete theory that anyone who

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dares to say anything against him is insulting the Creator. Be it known that there is no greater fraud on earth than the religious fraud—these wandering peddlers of a rag-time religion. They are fast becoming extinct because they cannot "put across" their maudlin mawkish stuff. But in their place is arising a new jazz type of revivalist—the sensationalist. The religious fakir is one who will keep the Ten Commandments on Sunday, but who generally breaks or dislocates more than ten on every other day of the week. They attend church and offer up prayers on Sunday; that's piety. They grab all they can get out of a shady transaction on Monday; that's business.

Even our educational system is not free from a certain degree of bluff, and is in need of further revision. True education consists, or should consist, of the acquiring and applying of useful information, with the emphasis on the "useful." Too much stress is laid on training for a professional career and not enough in equipping, those so inclined, for fitness in technical pursuits. Of what profit is it to try to instil the dry formulae of the arts and sciences into a dense head, perhaps destined, by an all-wise Providence to direct a scavenger cart? Better far to impart to such, while in school, some knowledge of a useful trade, such as plumbing. Did the ability to recite in order the emperors of Rome, or the battles of the first Punic War, or a knowledge of Greek roots ever place many meals upon a plate? It is time to omit from the curriculum much of the excess ornaments of education. There are many university graduates who have been ushered out into the world as educated incompetents. They may be able to write a treatise on the flora and fauna of Zanzibar, but they have no use for a lot of their alleged learning when it comes to rustling for a living.

**SOCIETY**

Of all the pitiful bluffs in existence, the most pitiful is that practised by Society. The devotees of Society will spend all their time and money in the science of dress or in "Keeping Up With The Joneses." They will starve their bodies in order to be plumed, or plucked, like the Queen of Sheba. They will mortgage their homes in order to buy a car. They will bedeck themselves in furs (on credit) or in a vulgar display of jewellery while in debt to the butcher and the grocer.

But—when you see some hand-painted symphony in furs or very sheer georgette applying the lip stick and rouge in public, that is not bluff. That is an invitation! She is not bluffing and she fools nobody but herself. Yes, she may fool one other—some simpering idiot whose mental apparatus is worn to a frazzle in a study of neckties and spats. Closely allied to the above is the bluff about not revealing one's age.

**THE COURAGEOUS BLUFF**

However, there is a form of bluffing that commands respect and admiration.

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How often there are unknown and un­known examples of courage—smiling courage that puts up brave front in the face of adversity and circumstance. Some little mother, struggling with poverty or with a useless husband who has neglected to die, and rearing a family by the moral force of cheerful and worthy example—is the gamut bluffer in the world. There was a transcendental quality in the final act of Lieut. Oates. This officer of the British Guards was with the ill-fated Scott expedition to the South Pole. He was dying from scurvy and hunger, yet rather than encumber the gaunt party he staggered out into a blizzard one night and, deliberately and without fuss, waited for death. In the recent testing of civilization, how often was witnessed the impressive and lofty example of blasphemying and uncouth common clay rising to god-like heights of sublime abnegation, on equal terms with the best in the human spirit, and died dimly realizing their Ideal. Such unselfish Idealism will never, never be understood or valued by this generation, although it has increased the faith in humanity of those whose privilege it was to be in comradeship with such a breed of manhood.

What carries with it more of awe and majesty than the sight of an uncon­quered, unconquerable soul of man battling against odds with defeat as a sure result—bluffing out the issue with Fate to the last card? Without such bluffing, human nature would be spineless.

WHERE BLUFFERS ARE "SHOWN UP"

A man’s true self is revealed in his home, and not in office, factory or church. In his home one may learn whether he is an earthly edition of Gabriel or a first cousin of the devil. If his children or his wife dread his home­coming, then his life is a lie, no matter if in church or business he has an odor of sanctity that would weaken the kneejoints of an archangel. But if his children rush to greet him and his wife is gladdened by the sound of his footsteps, then one may generally take it for granted that he is true gold and that his home is his heaven.

State President and Party TO VISIT SOUTH-WEST SUB-BRANCHES

Accompanying the State President, Mr. A. Yeates, on a tour of the South­West Sub-branches next month, will be Colonel Collett, Archdeacon Riley, and Mr. Benson. The following is the proposed itinerary, and it is hoped that ex­cused men in this area will turn up in large numbers at the various meetings.

Thursday, February 15.—3 p.m., Bunbury; 8 p.m., Busselin.
Friday, February 16.—11 a.m., Cowaramup; 3 p.m., Forest Grove; 8 p.m., Augusta.
Saturday, February 17.—8 p.m., Nannup.
Sunday, February 18.—8 p.m., Bridgenown.
Monday, February 19.—3 p.m., Manjimup; 7.30 p.m., Yanamah.
Tuesday, February 20.—1 p.m., Northcliffe; 7.30 p.m., Pemberton.
Wednesday, February 21.—4 p.m., Walpole.
Stay at Normalup the night.

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"Very Ancient History"
AN OLD SOLDIER'S TALE
(By Ernest A. Parsons, in "Our Empire")

"You may not believe it," said Papa Benson, "a lot wouldn't. It all began when I was with Lieutenant Percival Blenkinsopp. At the time I came across him, he'd been over a year dodging the barbells between Ypres and Poperinghe; he was well known among the barrows on the Infantry B Track, and had been warned off the course at Wychatte. Believe me, I hadn't polished his Sam Browne a day before I discovered that he was 'beaucoup malade' in his thought box. I didn't mind censoring the letters of the Company for him, or even writing him lectures on the spirit of Corps, or the stuff to give the troops, but when he got to asking almost every day for loans of five-franc notes, I had to be a bit firm with him.

Shortly after that, the battalion got so run down with drinking Y.M.C.A. tea that they sent us for a spell to one of those health resorts off the Menin Road, and we were that near to old Jerry that we could hear him praying of a night. Beaucoq fresh air, shower and mud baths at every step, and the only drawback was that it was a bit too hot in winter.

"It was there that I had a dream. I dreamt that instead of us fellows being in the line, we had a platoon of parrots trained to cuss like British soldiers. Some of the parrots were put out into 'No Man's Land' in camouflage cages and taken in as 'stand to,' and the others were in the front line, while the lads were making themselves chesty in the rear. Of course, Jerry didn't know they were parrots, and when on a dark night he heard such a barrage of language that made the Crown Prince blush, he got the wind up and lost his morale and a few miles of his front line as well—see—in the dream he did, anyhow.

"When I woke up, I was that struck with the idea that I mentioned it to Percival Blenkinsopp, and before an hour had passed he'd been and seen the Old Man, and was on his way to Brigade Headquarters. The Brigadier took a bit of persuading; he said that it would soon cause trouble if he got known that poor parrots were dragged about in cages and stuck out in 'No Man's Land' and kept in the trenches on cold rainy nights that only human beings could stand; and if the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals got to know it, we might have Lady Astor on our track. Besides, he said, speaking as a father of a family, it wasn't the thing to teach poor innocent parrots to swear in English, to say nothing of German. But, in the end, Percival painted such a picture of the effect it would have on the morale of Jerry—sat up all night having parrots swearing at him—that the Brigadier gave his permission.

"When I saw Percival's face when he returned from Brigade I knew that the hens had laid.

'Beson,' he says, 'the Brigadier was greatly struck by my idea. We're on a good thing—a very good thing,' he says. 'So long as we don't have to crawl out into 'No Man's Land' with them blasted parrot cages,' I says.

'Of course not,' he snaps, 'we shall have some long poles with hooks on. I've got permission to pick twelve good men, and take them back to some quiet village and train the parrots. I'm inclined to the opinion, Benson,' he says, 'that the birds will take some training.'

'I should hope,' I says, respectfully, 'that we'll get 'em drawing proficiency pay by the time the duration finishes, sir. The chief thing, sir, is to get parrots which don't know a word of English or German.'

'What do you mean?' he says.

'It would give the game away to Jerry, sir,' I says, 'if one of the parrots yelled out 'Pretty Polly' while it was in 'No Man's Land.'

'True,' he says. 'I shall make you my sergeant-major, Benson.'

"I rather be the Quarter, sir,' I says, 'I know a bit about feeding parrots and their drinks. What at giving the birds—'

'Drinks,' he says, twitching his eye-brows.

"Well, you'd hardly expect, sir, that the birds would cuss very auspiciously on water—a ration of rum or bird seed soaked in rum would work wonders amongst the birds. And then there's celery, sir, parrots are very fond of celery.'

'Have you ever been on a parrot course, Benson?' he says.

'I ain't, sir, but since I was sentenced to three years or the blinking duration, my old woman has got a parrot for company's sake—she says it's as good as having a man in the house.'

'Well, we must have all that gone into, Sergeant-Major,' he says, 'I mean Quarter. Proper regimental orders drawn up—rations and a time-table for training the birds—intensive training,' he says. 'What took 'em three years to the Regulars, we'll do in three months—or at any rate nine. The first thing is to pick out twelve good men to train the birds to swear. Most men swear,' he says philosophically, 'but few are really good at it.'

So the next day it was in orders that twelve volunteers were wanted immediately for special duty—only men with good characters and with a good knowledge of oaths need apply, an' I'm hanged if practically the whole of the batt, barring the chaplain, didn't volunteer. They thought some bucko sergeant-majors were going to be made! It took...
Percival and me three solid days putting them through their oaths, and at last we decided on twelve bright lads—eight of them in civil life had been clergyman's sons; one a barman, one a policeman, and two of them Coronation Programme sellers.

"And we paraded back down the line to a place where the Roses of Picardy bloomed on every mad'melle's cheeks. when they saw us, and we'd time to write home. Here we waited a month before the first supply of parrots came—I say the first lot of parrots 'cos we had to send 'em straight back. Every blessed bird had 'Pretty Polly' off—they'd picked it up from the men as they came across. So I suggested to Percival that I should go and fetch a fresh lot over from Blighty—I thought the change would do me good.

"But Percival shakes his head.

"'I believe, sir,' I says, 'I could pick up some handy birds in Rouen or Amiens.'

"'I believe you could,' he says thoughtfully, 'but I think I'd better go myself—I'll try Paris—that's the best place in the world for birds,' he says, putting his tie straight.

"And Percival left me in charge of twelve of the hardest swearers in the jass, but I will say they gave me no trouble. I always knew where to find them, as there were only four estaminets and twelve vin shops in the place.

"In a month Percival returned with the choicest collection of parrots that you could wish to see. We started training them straight away, and what with the celery and the rum ration, the air of that Commune was fairly incandescent.

"By this time Brigade were getting a bit anxious about us—they thought we'd forgotten there was a war on, and used to send us nasty urgent wires if we didn't report progress every week. When the tenth week of training passed, believe me, the nerve strain of living with them forty-eight birds, wearing all day in English and German, laid half-the training staff up, and the rest were writing home for Phospherine and Glaxo. We finished off with an inspection from the Brigadier, parrot-cages at the 'Present'—and talk about silence in the ranks! You would have thought the birds were getting their own back to hear 'em.

"'Wonderful!' says the Brigadier, who'd served his apprenticeship in India, and was a bit of an epicure himself.

"And have the birds all numbers?' he says.

"'Every one, Your Excellency,' I says.

"'And gas masks?' he continued. 'The birds must not go up the line without gas masks,' he says sternly.

"Two nights later we were off up the line—and Jerry sent it down—hard, too. Talk about an R.E. fatigue. I felt sorry for them twelve men staggering down them narrow communication trenches carrying two camouflaged parrot cages apiece, their rifles slung, and what made it harder for them that they couldn't hear themselves sweating for the parrots. I carried the birdsseed, celery and the parrots' rum ration, an' Percival staggered along in the rear with a heavy ash plant an' a wristlet watch.

"'Well, just put them cages out into No Man's Land for an hour as an experiment,' says Percival. And we did. The effect was wonderful—the birds thought of everything they'd been told, and Jerry didn't half get the wind up. Fireworks. Machine guns, stick-bombs, took emmas and some light stuff from the guns—till we began to wish we'd never seen them parrots. When you see the cannibals gathering parsley it's time to go, and Percival agreed with me and we brought the cages in quick—besides, it was cruelty to dumb animals to leave 'em out there.

"We had just got into the communi-

cation trench with everything quietening down, when a sentry challenged us, and before we'd time to say 'San Fairy Ann,' one of the parrots yells 'Schweinhund' and forty-seven other blinking parrots yells 'Schweinhund' parrotlike. That was enough for that poor iggerant sentry, who thought Hindenburg and the whole of the Watch on the Rind were rushing him, and he lets Percival and me have two quick from his bondhukh. The bulletin entered Percival's epiglottis and richochoted through his larynx, and I stopped a 'Blighty' in the flesh of my tibia.

"That was the last. I saw of that cursed Parrot Platoon, and the last time I saw Percival Blenkinsopp he was riding with Mad'melle from Armentieres in a Staff car, an' wearing a brass hat; I don't know who his batman was, but I reckon he was a good one, to get that job—and keep it.'

MT. LAWLEY

The annual general meeting of the Mt. Lawley Sub-branch of the R.S.L., was held in Wallish's Hall, on January 16. Last week the reports of the president and secretary had been received, the election of office-bearers for 1934 was carried out with the following results:—President, Col. T. Flintoff; vice-presidents, Mr. L. L. Robinson and Mr. F. R. Lidbury; secretary, Mr. J. K. Craig; assistant secretary, Mr. H. R. Woods; treasurer, Mr. E. Allwood; Committee, Messrs. H. E. Styles, J. E. Hyllett, T. Tetterington, F. Chambers, E. F. Slavin, L. Skinner, W. O. Williams, and R. W. Annear. Owing to pressure of work, the treasurer was unable to furnish a detailed report, and this, together with the auditor's report, will be submitted at the next meeting. It was decided to run a goose club at Easter in order to assist the general funds of the branch, and Mr. Skinner donated 100 tickets towards the project.

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Fritz Decided to Transfer

I had come off the guns and was making my way back to the billets at Maroc. On the outskirts of the village a man stepped from behind a heap of broken masonry. It was almost dark, and I naturally thought he was one of my battery; so I called out, “Hello, Gunner!”

To my surprise I received the following answer: “Pardon, Herr Officer”—(I’d one “dog’s leg” up)—“Can you please tell me yer Ist mein regiment?”

It was a Fritz, and a very small one at that, as I could see when I put a torch on him.

“Hello!” said I, “what the devil are you doing here?”

“Please, I haft mein regiment lost,” replied Fritz.

“Who do you belong to?” said I: “the Prussian Guard?”

“Nein,” said the Kaiser’s last hope; “Dis morgen I vos der Saxon Regiment, but ve-fight mit you Englanders, so I transfer to der Phimp Northumberlant Vussillers, yah.”

I chewed this information over for a second; then it dawned on me: “Oh! you’ve been taken prisoner by the Northumberlant Fusiliers, eh?”

“Yah, Herr Officer, I transfer meinself a prisoner. Yer ist mein regiment, dank you! I loose him.”

Just at that moment up came a private of the 5th Northumberlands (a real fruity Cockney, by the way). “Well, I’ll go to ‘ell,” said the Northumberlander from Mile End. “There you are, yer! Wot d’yer mean by a-going of yerself lost like this? Blinking fine time I’ve ad of it, a-chasing yer all over France this last alf-hour. Come on, we’ll have to hop it quick to catch up with the others.” Then to me: “’Ow did yer get ‘old of im, Bomb?”

“Oh! I just found him knocking about spare,” I replied.

“Well, fanks for keeping ’im safe, Bomb,” says the private.

“Ave a pull of this.”—Yes, it was rum, a whole water-bottle full. I had a pull. “Good luck to the Fifth,” I said.

The private took a pull. “Good luck to the gunners,” he toasted; and then, “Ere, Fritzie, you can have a swig.”

The German’s eyes sparkled. “Prosit,” he cried, “to mein regiment, der Phimph Northumberlant Vussillers.”

“A FEW GEMS FROM AUSSIE.”

My Battalion’s got the champion hardcase. Recently he decided to have a short holiday and broke adrift for several days. On his return he was duly hauled up before the C.O. He was found guilty and the C.O. asked the regulation question before passing sentence: “Will you take my punishment, or be remanded for a Field General Court Martial?”

The hard-case took a quick, deep think and replied: “I think we’ll let the matter drop, Sir!—“Dope.”

A bright new War Baby recently trolled into a reinforcement camp in France where he was kept on camp duties, although eager to go up the line. But being anxious to impress his people in Aussie with the idea that he was playing an important part in the war, he wrote them this: “Although I am not yet classed as a proficient bomber, still, I am doing useful work pulling the pins out of the bombs and placing them on the parapet ready for the bombers to throw.”—W.B.

As we were marching painfully at case, loaded to the roof with the usual marching order collection of war material, along a water-logged road, we passed a working party endeavouring, without much success, to sweep the water and slush off the road. One of them was particularly persevering with a series of puddles. He would painstakingly sweep the water and slush out of the holes and into the gutter, but each time he returned they were full again. He did this several times, and then stood and looked at the accumulated slush hopelessly. The battalion dog forgot the trouble he was having with his mud-encased boots and sodden pack. He stepped out of the lines, and, taking the deserted-looking sweeper gently by the arm and regarding him with a sad and sympathetic air, enquired: “Did yer ever try blotting paper, digger?”—F.W.

Digger (reading from the morning’s Writ): “I see that this is the anniversary of the day Vlamingh discovered the Swan.”

Digger’s Kid: “Who discovered the Emu, daddy?”
State Executive Meetings

December 20, 1933

At the meeting of the State Executive on December 20, 1933, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Riley, Olden, Collett, Philp, Watt, Edmonds, Nugent, Hunt, Pady, Aberle, McDowell, Margolin, Collins, Ross, Mellor, Lamb, Farquharson, and Warner.

Leave was granted to Messrs. Anderson, Freedman, Tozer, Lovell, Wilkins, and Denton.

House Committee.—The House Committee’s report of a meeting held on December 20 dealt mainly with the matter of accommodation for the practice of the R.S.L. Band. The report was adopted with the exception of this portion, which was referred back to the committee for further consideration.

G. D. Shaw Committee.—Colonel Margolin reported that after examining all the files in connection with the case of G. D. Shaw, and interviewing Mr. Shaw, the committee unanimously agreed that Mr. Shaw had good grounds for complaint. The report after being considered in committee was received and adopted.

Visits.—The following delegates reported on visits to various sub-branches:—State President (Kalgoorlie, Boulder), Colonel Margolin (Armadale), Mr. Nugent (Osborne Park), Mr. Philp (Murray), Mr. Collins (N.E. Fremantle), Mr. Watt (Nedlands and West Leederville), Archdeacon C. L. Riley (Calingiri, Koorda, and Wongan Hills), F. Aberle (North Perth).

The State President welcomed Colonel Collett, who had just returned from Canberra.

Kojonup.—A communication from the Kojonup Sub-branch referring to evidence to be submitted to the Royal Commission on the Agricultural Bank was referred to the Land Committee.

Federal Correspondence.—A communication referring to the proposed World Peace Conference was referred to the Management Committee, the Federal Office being advised that a reply would be forwarded early in the New Year.

A communication concerning the transfer of a War Service Home to a widow was received and the State Secretary asked to reply in accordance with the wishes already expressed in this regard. A communication with respect to the sale of the League badge was received, and it was decided to disseminate sub-branches asking them to report to the Executive cases where the badge is not illegally worn.

Anzac House.—The matter concerning the trusteehip of the Anzac House Mortgage Redemption Fund was referred to a special meeting of the Anzac House Committee for consideration, investigation, and report.

A motion moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Aberle, that the Anzac House Committee be asked to take into consideration the provision in the main hall of Anzac House for receiving and installing certain statutory carriage was carried unanimously.

Sub-branches.—The appointment of officers as advised by the Victoria Park Sub-branch was approved.

In answer to Fremantle Sub-branch’s request for advice on a question of control of meetings, it was decided on the motion of Colonel Collett and Mr. Farquharson to direct the Fremantle Sub-branch’s attention to the rules of the W.A. Branch with the information that the sub-branch has the necessary machinery for control in the matter referred to.

Messrs. Watt and Riley agreed to attend the inaugural meeting of the S.S.L. at Claremont on January 23.

Correspondence from the Pemberton Sub-branch with reference to victimization on the groups at Pemberton was referred to the Land Committee.

Madame Bennett Wilkinson.—The President of the Women’s Auxiliary at the Executive wrote asking that the League acknowledge its gratitude in a practical way for the work done by Madame Bennett Wilkinson. During discussion it was pointed out that the League had conducted a benefit for this lady some years ago.

It was agreed that the State President of the Women’s Auxiliary be advised that whilst this Executive appreciates the splendid work performed by Madame Bennett Wilkinson in the interests of sick and wounded soldiers, it regrets that it is unable to give consideration towards assisting in the direction suggested.

Mr. Nugent recorded his vote against the motion.

General.—A communication from the Secretary of the Royal Commission, Agricultural Bank, requesting that a copy of the evidence be forwarded was referred to the Land Committee.

Letters of appreciation were received from Mr. Ian L. Idriess, the Sandstone Sub-branch, and Mr. H. D. Neilings.

A report of the unveiling ceremony of the Koorda War Memorial was received.

A communication from Mr. F. A. Law, advising that Major Douglas would be visiting Australia, was received.

Christmas greetings from organisations and individuals were received and laid on the table.

January 3, 1934

At the meeting on January 3, 1934, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Riley, Olden, Collett, Philp, Panton, Denton, Watt, Edmonds, Nugent, Hunt, Pady, Aberle, McDowell, Margolin, Lovell, Collins, Mellor, and Farquharson. Leave was granted to Messrs. Anderson, Tozer, Ross and Lamb.

Land Committee.—The Land Committee’s report, presented by Colonel Olden, referred to the desire of the Kojonup Sub-branch to submit to the Royal Commission evidence on behalf of the small wool-growers. Approval was given to this request. The report further intimated that a copy of the preliminary evidence to be submitted by the chairman of the Land Committee, Colonel Olden, was being forwarded to the Royal Commission, and that the Committee would, later on, prepare additional evidence as representing the views of the R.S.L.

Management Committee.—The State President submitted a report of this committee, which contained the recommendation that congratulations be forwarded to the Federal Office on the recognition by His Majesty the King of the League’s good work. The report was adopted and a draft reply to the Federal Office concerning the suggested Peace Conference was approved.

Birthday Honours.—It was decided to send a telegram of congratulation to Captain J. F. Marriot, of Tasmstia.

General.—Mr. Pady reported on a visit to the Cottesloe Sub-branch. Consideration of the welcome to be given to Rabbi Freedman and Lieutenant-General Sir J. T. Hobbs, was deferred until after the return of Rabbi Freedman to this State.

The State President mentioned that the matter of an itinerary through the South-Western Sub-branches was received consideration. It was decided that copies of the reply from the Minister for Defence to a request that an Air Force Unit be provided for Western Australia be forwarded to the Press Sub-branch and the Aeroclub.

A reply from the Federal Office in connection with the opening of Anzac House by a Royal visitor was referred to the Anzac House Committee.

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SWAN BRAND SAUCE IS THE BEST THE STATE CAN SUPPLY
by His Excellency the Hon. Sir James Mitchell, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of Western Australia, on the 27th day of March, 1934.

Opening Ceremonies—The reflections of the past were immediately opened with the Premier in order to ensure that the Royal Visitor perform the opening ceremony at Anzac House.

Foundation Membership.—The Foundation Membership Fee of $3 carry with it twelve months membership of Anzac House Club.

Drive for Funds.—That the scheme of the Mt. Marshall sub-branch which aimed at a figure of £2 a member be proceeded with. It was resolved that sub-branches be circularised and the scheme be submitted to them as a suggestion for their consideration.

Visits.—Reports of visits were received from Messrs. E. S. Watt (Fremantle), A. E. Pady (Spencer), and C. R. Collins (Perth).

The following invitations were accepted:—Ardaith, January 25, Mr. Hunt; and Waroona, February 10, the State President, Colonel Collett and Mr. Wilkins.

Condolence.—The Secretary was requested to convey the sympathy of the Ilbilbar sub-branch on the loss of its secretary, the late Mr. W. Wallis.

Land Committee.—Colonel Olden advised that he would be submitting evidence on behalf of soldier settlers to the Royal Commission on the Agricultural Bank on Tuesday, January 23.

Ruling.—West Leederville sub-branch requested a ruling as to whether a member who had apologised for non-attendance at a meeting could recover his vote. It was ruled that a vote under such circumstances would not be admissible.

The Parish sub-branch requested an opinion from the League's solicitor as to whether the Town Planning Commissioner had the authority to prevent the distribution of a leaflet of a fellow socialist interest. It was agreed that an opinion be sought from Mr. Leake.

Congress Resolutions—

(a) Temporary Employment of Unemployed Pensions.—The Town Planning Commissioner had the authority to prevent at ex-soldier from engaging in leaflet advertising. It was agreed that an opinion be sought from Mr. Leake.

(b) Price Fixing Commission.—The Premier's Department advised that the appointment of a Price Fixing Commission for districts outside the Metropolitan area could not be made. Previously, difficulty had been experienced in drafting legislation in this direction. It was agreed that the Kalgowere sub-branch be so advised.

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**SUB-BRANCH NOTES**

**TORBAY**

At the last meeting of the Torbay Parliament the following bills were dealt with: Bush Fire Brigades Bill, Torbay Drain Amendment Act, Marketing of Potatoes, Debating Society, Working Bee for Sick Soldiers. All these bills were dealt with in one and a half hours, and allowed time for a hot exchange between President "Buckie" and the "Marquis," and although the brilliant repartee of the Federal Parliament, when such exchanges as "You're ex-rat," "Well, I look like one," were lacking, the speeches were brief and to the point. More bills would have been dealt with, but the "Old Boom" successfully moved the adjournment, as many of the members had a meeting to deal with a dispute over the local "Shepherd Shield."
Committee, Messrs. Noble, Neville, and Taylor; Trustees, Messrs. Saunders and Noble; Auditor, P. C. Neville.

Royal Commission Agricultural Bank—The sub-branch requested that evidence be taken at Yellowmanooka, and a reply has been received that the matter was being considered by the Commissioners.

It was decided that the arrangements for Anzac Day be as last year, and that a grand ball be held during May.

COTTESLOE

On December 19, about 150 children of the members of the Cottesloe R.S.I. were entertained at a Xmas treat by the ladies of the Women’s Auxiliary. This function, as usual, proved a great success.

Much credit was due to the Auxiliary, which, under the able leadership of its President (Mrs. B. May), spared no time or energy to make it the function of the year for the children.

The Secretary of the sub-branch (Captain A. G. Cook) performed the duties of Father Christmas.

The monthly meeting of the sub-branch took place on Tuesday, January 2, and notwithstanding the holidays, a very good attendance was recorded. The President (Mr. C. L. Harvey) took the chair.

On conclusion of official business a very enjoyable evening was spent playing cards, mingling with the usual refreshments. The President wished all members of the sub-branch a happy and prosperous New Year.

Members were very pleased to see Mr. A. Paddy present, and quizzed him to have a glimpse of Mr. E. S. Watt at the meeting. Anyhow, we hope to see him at the next, which takes place on Tuesday, February 6.

The Secretary reminds members that subscriptions are now due.

The sub-branch’s cricket team played Fremantle on Sunday, January 7, and no doubt Fremantle will let you know the result. A very good display of hitting was given by our twelfth man, "Snowy" Thomas, who had to be included in the team owing to an accident to an original player. He was the last man in to bat, and hit up a score of 45 in a very short time.

At the time of going to press we regret to learn that Mr. J. M. Smith is in hospital, and sincerely hope he will soon recover from his ailments and be with us again. Cheer up, Harold!

WEST LEEDERVILLE

This sub-branch reports a very successful year under the presidency of Mr. V. Troode. The annual re-union took place on December 11, and was all that could be desired. Among the visitors was Mr. Millington, Minister for Agriculture, and the Speaker, Mr. Panton. The Executive was represented by Messrs. Watt and Benson.

The annual election of officers took place on January 8, Mr. Troode not standing. Mr. Hugh Peters was elected president. Other officers elected were Messrs. W. H. Haimes and H. E. Smith, vice-presidents; W. H. Smethers, secretary; C. Taylor, auditor, and Peters, Haimes, and Smethers, trustees.

Before relinquishing office, Mr. Troode was presented with a Certificate of Service by Mr. Benson, the State Secretary. Mr. Troode has served three years as president.

COLLIE

The Floral and Industrial Exhibition held by the Collie Sub-branch on November 16 and 17, was a huge success. A member of the State Executive, Mr. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., was in-

vited to open the show. He was met at the railway station by the President and Treasurer of the Sub-branch. A car was made available by a member and a motor tour of the district was undertaken. The "new weir," power station, public hospital and war memorial were visited in turn. The mayor of Collie, among whom was the President, Mr. F. W. Paterson, tendered the visitors a civic reception, and in the evening the mayor introduced Mr. Panton, who thereupon declared the show open. The committee wishes to be congratulated on such a successful undertaking.

Pension cases still continue to occupy a large amount of the time of the sub-branch, and another successful case was reported at the last meeting.

New members are still rolling in and a lot of old members are rejoining.

A cricket team from the Collie Sub-branch visited Brunswick, and after a very enjoyable day, Collie ran out winners by one run. It was a very exciting match, and the first innings, both teams scored 81 runs, and it was agreed to bat for an hour each for the second innings. Brunswick put up a great score of 8 for 127 runs; but Collie won the last over with a score of 8 for 124. Collie Sub-branch desire to thank the Brunswick Sub-branch for the hospitality provided, most especially do they wish to thank the ladies who provided afternoon tea.

The annual Xmas fête for the children was held this year on December 20. They had a great time.

A sad event took place recently. A returned soldier who was without relatives of any kind passed away. The sub-branch executive took charge and made all the arrangements necessary for the funeral, the cortege leaving the R.S.L. Hall. All the pall-bearers with one exception were members of the sub-branch, and members of the sub-branch gathered at the graveside. The undertaker is also a very active member of the local sub-branch.

Strong endeavours are being made to form a local branch of the S.S.I., and it is hoped to have it going in full swing at an early date. The sub-branch is becoming more active; the new members joining up are bringing in a lot of new schemes for the sub-branch to carry out. A movement is on foot to hold a monster carnival of log-chopping, cycle racing, etc., details of which will be announced later. The date for the annual trip to Duranilin is drawing near. This is always a welcome event and as it is necessary to make the trip. The annual meeting, at which a new President and other officers must be elected, is also drawing near.

CLAREMONT

The Annual General Meeting was held on January 30, when a gratifying attendance was presided over by Brigadier A. M. Martyn, C.M.G., D.S.O., the President. In an excellent report, the President gave the members a resume of the doings of the sub-branch for 1933. The number of financial members showed an increase of 20 for the year, the December return being 99. There are still plenty of ex-service men in Claremont who have not yet identified themselves with the local sub-branch. The balance sheet disclosed an increased credit in both the general and the amelioration funds. The social activities are likewise on the up-grade, but it is still difficult to induce members to take the interest necessary to make them fully successful. Mr. Woodland, the sports director, has an attractive schedule of games drawn up for the forthcoming season, and is desirous of having one evening monthly set aside solely for the carrying out of his programme, which undoubtedly deserves the fullest support.

The hall committee has received instructions to get in touch with various other bodies interested, with a view to raising sufficient funds for the erection of a hall in Claremont, which is badly needed. The executive of the sub-branch feels that until we have a home of our own we shall not regain the interest of a large number of our members as we should do.

The annual smoke social will be held in the Parish Hall, on February 1, and a cordial invitation is extended to all ex-service men in the district to be present.

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ADELAIDE ST., FREMANTLE
On November 30 a most unique function was held at the Carlisle Hall, which was the first of its kind in W.A. connected with digger socials.

This social took the form of a smoko given to the Women's Auxiliary, Carlisle, by the R.S.I. Sub-branch, and the Sons of Soldiers' League, Carlisle, in appreciation of their efforts during the last twelve months. Among the visitors were Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Hopperton (State President and Secretary respectively), and Messrs. Abele and Philp, representing the State Executive, who were received by those present.

The Carlisle Diggers' Concert Party gave a splendid entertainment. The artists were Messrs. B. Green, A. Hayes, G. Russell, D. and G. Vickers, and the Sons of Soldiers' Ballet, under the direction of Geo. Vickers. President H. Nicoll ably filled the chair and the catering was a credit to Mr. S. Wills, whose setting-up of the tables would leave a first-class dining room in the shade. The numbers present were 35 Sons of Soldiers, 20 Returned Soldiers and 15 Ladies of the Women's Auxiliary.

**BAYSWATER**

(By "Jinghie")

During the holidays many of our local Diggers' wives and families have packed all their troubles in their old kit bag and gone camping in the country and at the seaside. One of our great poets spoke:

"There is pleasure in the pathless woods; There is rapture on the lonely shore."...So a very pleasant holiday seems assured.

The sub-branch held their usual annual "Smoko" on December 20. Our genial president, Mr. A. Ratcliffe, appeared to be in excellent form. There was not a dull moment during the evening. Our one and only "Smithy" didl the beer out in no mean manner. Jim Revel and Joe Hopwood sang some old songs, the beer received and most pathetic amongst the diggers being "Darling I am Growing Old." Tom Hepton, with his foot on the loud pedal, played the accompaniment, whilst "Blue" Spencer drew forth, sweet strains from his old violin. Next morning Jim reckoned the loud pedal, and the straining of his vocal powers were entirely responsible for a sore head.

During the old year, this sub-branch sustained the loss of three respected members, viz: E. Russell, J. Cornell and J. Cavey. Each succeeding year the aftermath of war still claims its victims. Members of this sub-branch and Women's Auxiliary recently conveyed their sincere sympathy to Mr. V. Fairs, on the loss of his wife. Three small children are left to mourn the loss of a good mother.

Mr. J. Hopwood who believes in doing a bit for his country is the proud possessor of a baby daughter, who is doing well. Congrats, Joe.

We are pleased to relate that Hazel, daughter of Mr. Q. Sims, is home again after a long serious illness in the Children's Hospital, and we sincerely hope before these notes appear in type that she will be among us.

Mr. Roy Henshaw recently met with a nasty accident by fracturing a small bone in his foot. Results: hoof in plaster; "Hendo" on stilts. He also survived a narrow escape from being burnt out by bush fire.

**WONGAN HILLS**

The annual meeting was held on the evening of the 10th inst. Election of officers for the coming year resulted as follows: President, Allen Venton (manager of the Wongan Hills State Farm and Sub-branch); 2nd Vice-President, Frank Kemp; 3rd Vice-President, G. F. Edwards; Secretary, A. R. (Pop) Lindsay (local Postmaster) (late Divisional Signallers); Assistant Secretary, G. F. Edwards (late 28th Battalion); Treasurer, Past President, Frank Kemp.

The following is an outline of the sub-branch's activities since the reforming in March 1933.

At the present time the sub-branch has fifty fully paid up members. During the last nine months the sub-branch has held a re-union "Smoko" July when Messrs. J. Cornell and Benson were present. In October a Back to Cairo ball was held (the most successful ball of the season) to augment funds for the proposed Memorial Hall. The sub-branch having a gift sent to them of $100 in lieu of the first prize. Early in December a Smoko was held to entertain Archdeacon Riley. On the evening of December 21 a Christmas tree was the order of the evening, when approximately 240 children received presents and spent a most enjoyable evening, N6 being collected by the members to ensure a good evening for the kiddies.

**VICTORIA PARK**

The annual meeting of the sub-branch was held in the Library Hall, good number being present. The principal business held the election of President and officers for the ensuing year. The retiring President, Bob Alexander, desiring a spell from office, refused nomination. keen interest was taken in this office, Messrs. Gibbs, Gray, Cox, Matthews and Shadegg being nominated. The ballot resulted in Mr. Shadegg being declared President, Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Gibbs were elected Vice-president; Committee: Messrs: Jenning, T. Taylor, Tucker, Colley, J. Matthews, J. Matthews, H. Taylor, Hildebrandt, and J. M. Smith. Messrs. Fitzsimmons and J. Smith were also appointed for the Victoria Park unemployed relief committee. Appreciation was expressed to Bob Alexander for his services to the sub-branch during his term of office, also to the Women's Auxiliary in their assistance on Poppy Day and for their help in the branch's efforts to acquire a memorial hall. The past Secretary, Tom Chandler, was re-elected unopposed. The final arrangements for the river picnic to be held on February 4, were left in the hands of Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Smith, Colley, in conjunction with the Women's Auxiliary.

**CORRIGAN**

A period of lean times has apparently ended for this sub-branch. Passive resistance has given place to active war. This month the Mothers of Australia being harrassed and bombarded by our genial and persuasive Secretary, Joe Campbell; till finally it drops into the bag, bringing some nine coppers with it, and in honour thereof a new name is added to a fast-growing list of members.

Sub-branch meetings are now held once monthly and after those deep and weighty discussions, diggers adjourn to the bar where a bob-in produces sufficient refreshment, liquid and solid, to enable most, if not all to remember a good yarn or song.

Thursday, January 11, being the night chosen for our annual general meeting, advantage was taken of the occasion to tender a social evening to non-solder members of our concert party. Most on-be-joyable evening, gentlemen.

Friend Larry Arneson, after rendering enjoyable sea chantesies, demonstrated to the boys that he at least is only as old as he feels, by walking on his hands almost the full length of the hall and turning handsprings that would be the envy of Percy Bottoms. Let's all be approaching the sixty mark, too. Items rendered by Frank Connolly, Bill West, Bob Wright, Dad Elwick, Jack Bremner, Sam Efferd and Jim Linnane were thoroughly enjoyed. Duties at the piano were divided be-
tween Harry Chestell and Ted Donohoe.

The sook went dry at about 11 o'clock, and as most of the boys had wives or relatives to rescue from the pictures, the hall gradually emptied of its occupants, only isolated groups of "old heads" being left. Discussions within these said "groups" were of an order that would fill the minds of the world with awe and wonder.

The writer had an idea to expound concerning the suggested rise in price of petrol, but through lack of an audience forgot all about it before reaching the door. It's a pity that so many flashes of brilliant inspiration should be lost to the world in just this manner. Our next sub-

branch meeting will be held in the R.S.I. Hall, Corrigin, on 10th February, 1934, where something special in the way of entertainment is being arranged.

Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year were: President; G. A. White; Secretary, J. W. Campbell.

NORTH-PERTH
A DIGGER'S DIARY
(With profound apologies to the shades of Samuel Pepys)

December 19th.—This evening the weather was warm, and, I wishing to take what little cool air there is, did walk to St. Hilda's Hall. There I watched the fire and frollick of the children at the Christmas party, of our Women's Auxiliary. A merry crowd they be, and pay but little attention to the heat of the weather. Bye and bye I to the ale house near by there met Mr. McDowell, Mr. P. Loffman, a short, plump Jewish gentleman, Mr. W. Godden, and Mr. A. Hawkins. We all drink ale together with much merry talk. Mr. Loffman did challenge Mr. Hawkins to race him... at the sub-branch picnic to be this February come. Mr. Hawkins takes up the challenge with much gesture, which caused much sport to all. Back to the children's party while, thence home.

22nd.—This night Mr. C. Western and I did go abroad with Mr. Simmonds and Roberts, in their motor wagon, and assist at delivering of prizes won in the Christmas goose club of our sub-branch. So, thereby, all might have their prize for Christmas day.

23rd.—The weather mighty sultry. I abroad and drank a little ale to quench the dryness of the east wind put in my throat. Met Mr. A. H. Evans, who told me how he had been a very sick man since the month of May last. This I was sorry to hear. He now much better, he said, and in hope to become himself again very soon. This night I fall in with Mr. H. Rigg and Mr. C. Jago, and have a merry Christmas drink with them. Mr. Jago did drink but small beers, which I was surprised at. Methinks, by study, I observe the effects of many cups that cheer, he have this day, with other friends.

28th.—To Perth City. Meet Mr. Jack Green, a builder's plasterer by quality, but in want of employment just now, which I hope he will soon get. A gentleman of nice quiet manners, whom I am always pleased to meet. This evening I meet Mr. Jim Lang, Mr. L. McDowell, Mr. L. Hetherington and Mr. Alf. Hope, a very tall gentleman that, sometimes, suffer from gout of the foot. All travel by Mr. Hetherington's private motor coach to Mr. Lang's home, he being, just now a grass-widower, and drink ale and have much discourse on the present sad condition the world be in, but methinks, with all our talk did find no illusion to better it. Home after 11 by the clock, and find my wife plainly dissatisfied with me, that I spend so much time pating with others, and could never take the pain with her.

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PERTH

LESLEY K. MCDONALD - BRANCH MANAGER

Capital - £2,950,000
Total Funds exceeded - £48,500,000
Total Annual Income exceeds £20,000,000

FIRE :: MARINE :: ACCIDENT

SWAN BRAND FIG CONSERVE HAS NO SUPERIOR
The Listening Post

In a whisper the "Listening Post" man asked what was wrong and he informed that he had been over an endurance test, that he had conducted matters in the context so that a Scotch Presbyterian meeting would appear a riot of frivolity and iniquity.

"But what have I done?" quizzed out R.E. "Well, you see, our Secretary, Jim O'Malley, was hard up for a man to represent the fox in the man hunt at 6 o'clock. He picked you. Being in clerical uniform and not being a member of the society, it would be difficult to associate you with the photo on the sports programme."

"Oh, that accounts for the great number of men asking me. 'Are you the missing man?' Of course, I said 'no.' I was only missing the canteen, and of course, you know the result. I had to go, and under the banner of the Swan and Emu, we came to mutual explanations and congratulations."

Our R.E. then staggered into the cool night-air of Osborne Park, and as he tried to mount his motor cycle, he considered the advisability of rewarding the man who would invent a beerless booth.

CARLISLE

The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, January 4. There was a large attendance of members. The election of officers for 1934 took place with the following result:—President, Mr. H. H. Nield; Secretary, Vice-President; Treasurer, Mr. H. Glead. The usual business of the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m. Refreshments followed, and a very pleasant time was enjoyed by the large crowd present. Great interest was taken in the game of bowls, some very close contests were fought, and our members are practicing every opportunity and are most enthusiastic over the game, as there are rumours of challenges from far and wide. Our boys are determined to prove worthy of their foemen so let them all come!

The usual weekly dance was held on Wednesday the 10th and a good night's dancing was enjoyed by a large and happy crowd. Supper was served at 10 p.m. The music was supplied by the Nield's Orchestra and was much appreciated.

Diggers!

Moss can't cut your pension down but he CAN cut a wonderful suit

MOSS THE TAILOR

(Successor to Fred Gould)

111 MURRAY STREET

Remember,

If it's Moss-made it's Well made

GROUNDED in mental distress. He had wandered on to the ground on which the annual agricultural festival of Osborne Park was in progress. His one consuming desire was to slack a thirst, born of his tremendous efforts to gain inspiration and the words. "Refreshment Booth" which was forced upon his perception brought back to memory days of the old war.

From long and painful experience he knew that one thing was necessary for his peace of mind and body, and that was beer, in glasses, pots, jugs, buckets and dixies; cool beer; beer that would put the nectar of the gods to the blush. Throwing his lately acquired scruples to the four winds and strolling resolutely the still, small voice to make itself heard, he strode to the counter.

An elderly ex-soldier, by name Ernie Harrington, of the 8th Light Horse, manager of the local hotelisy, starved eyes at the apparition in clerical attire and glanced over—his shoulder for the ways and means of making a strategic retreat should the exigencies of the occasion demand it. Passing along, the awe-inspiring customer saw the Lieut.-Governor and greeted him with the usual Government House salute, then he participated with Tom Kihell, and in reply to questions re health, the godly enquirer gasped "Beer," with a roundness of intonation and a pathos that would have melted a heart of stone. Dairymen, gardeners, screenmen, stewards, judges and Idiot collapsed as completely as the proverbial castle in the air. Behind the bar Ernie assumed a Courtier-like posture and the crowd reached gigantic proportions to witness the extraordinary scene—

"You get no beer here. Not on your crimson life. I leged a carry-shielding urchin of tender years, who attracted by tumultuous excitement, and encircled by a green string from which depended a good imitation of a pre-war penny trumpet: "You want tea, cocoa and buns. So to the Silver Chain stall."

"But that word 'Booth';" he gasped "suggests beer and plenty of it."

However, it was a festive day, the crowd was in hilarious mood and saw no reason why the ecclesiastical editor should not have his pot as well as the Ministerial and Agricultural parties and so he joined in.

Hours passed and when the righteous scribe came to himself it was night. Garish lights lit up a scene of tensest excitement. There was an assembled multitude, half stifled with the executions and here was our R.E. surrounded by Old Bill the Scribe, Harry Millar of the Navy, Dave Miller and his merry men from the branch, the boy from Lancashire, known as "What-You-Call-R," I heard distributor Gillett, the boss of the Day's "Dang," "Jeebury..."

"Purpul" the man who says you should not throw stones because my name is glass; the man who sells papers by the dozen, Cranston, and the milkman from Niookenbooro, who seq receiving a complaint from a customer that the liquid was not up to standard, and tasted too much of water, exclaimed that, he had unintentionally omitted to put in the milk, and others.

OUR RELIGIOUS EDITOR VISITS OSBORNE PARK

"Gruesome Details"

The staff of the "Listening Post" received an S.O.S. for copy for Christmas and, sad to relate, the religious editor, who goes under the column, in search of a story, strayed from the path of rectitude and virtue. The R.E., was at his wit's end, for his reputation as a newspaper sleuth, was in peril. Deep in a brown study he wandered away from the city; he did not notice where his footsteps strayed until he was brought to himself suddenly and completely by the howling of the cattle, the cackling of poultry and shouts of rhabd-laugher and the banging of drums and clattering of torture. A firing sight pierced his sensibilities, and imprinted itself in letters of fire. Some forgotten impulse stirred his being, impulses which had lain dormant since the wild days of his youth swayed him and he

DIGGERS!

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SWAN BRAND GHERKINS ARE GROWN IN THE STATE
### R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH AND UNIT ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

**RATES: £1 1s. 6d. PER ANNUM**

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<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
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<th>Secretary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARDATH-BABAKIN</td>
<td>Ardath Hotel</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. W. Wheeler, Babakin</td>
<td>A. T. Lay, School House, Ardath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARMADALE</td>
<td>Armadale Hall</td>
<td>2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. G. F. Madden, Armadale</td>
<td>A. B. Bone, Armadale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, P.O. Box 14, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>N. C. Ryder, Stephen St, Bunbury</td>
<td>E. A. Murray, Stephen St, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. Raciliffe, 22 Slade St, Bayswater</td>
<td>J. J. Paine, 17 Hamilton St., Bayswater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOME</td>
<td>R.S.L. Club Rooms</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>S. V. Olgivie, Broome</td>
<td>E. Stainton, Broome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday</td>
<td>H. Willmot, Busseeton</td>
<td>J. H. Atkinson, Busseeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRUNSWICK JUNCTION</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays</td>
<td>A. Sugar, Brunswick Junction</td>
<td>R. Hardwick, Brunswick Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUCKLAND HILL</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Thursday in each month</td>
<td>C. Nixon, View St., Peppermint Grove</td>
<td>A. Sills, 126 Glyde St., Buckland Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>H. Nicol, 31 Millar St., Vic Park</td>
<td>H. H. Stuchbury, Hawthorne Av., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. W. Paterson, Swanston St., Collie</td>
<td>C. W. A. Lewis, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.</td>
<td>A. T. Cooke, Cowaramup</td>
<td>W. W. Halliday, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Claremont</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>Brig. A. M. Marsyn, C.M.G., D.S.O., Swan Barracks, Perth</td>
<td>W. H. Halliday, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion) Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>H. J. North, Denmark</td>
<td>H. G. Penrose, Kalamunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleying</td>
<td>F. Bayley, Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Gums</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>F. C. Dallow, Donnybrook</td>
<td>Alan Morton, Salmon Gums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. W. Lynch, Hamilton Rd., Fremantle</td>
<td>A. V. Self, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE AND DISTRICT GASCOWNE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays (Pension Nights), 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. R. Cornish, Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>P. S. Jane, Carrington St., Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>W. S. Appleyard, Cown Cres, Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWAIA</td>
<td>State Hotel</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. T. Kingdom, Gwaia</td>
<td>S. Foster, Gnowangerup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>B. H. Lothfouse, Wokalup Phone Harvey 106M</td>
<td>E. Shepherd, Gwalia, Alfred J. Knight, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Thursday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. R. Gibbs, Bank of N.S.W., Hannan St.</td>
<td>T. C. Fairley, 49 Campbell St., Kalgoorlie, Tel. 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>P.P.A. Room Derby</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. L. Olgivie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>W. J. Cox, Karridale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Knopp, Derby</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOJONUP</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Josiah Norrish, Kojonup</td>
<td>A. Gwilliam, Derby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>Fourth Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. G. Rhind, Koorda</td>
<td>L. E. Treasure, Kojonup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>Lindsay K. Joy, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. G. Sonness, &quot;Merryup,&quot;</td>
<td>C. Verdon, Lake King, Tel. No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT MARSHALL</td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, alt. month</td>
<td>E. H. Rice, Bencubbin</td>
<td>S. Reeves, Mt. Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>P. R. Allen, 20 Coode St, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>R. F. Breakell, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring and Mt. Helena Town Hall Committee Rm.</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helena</td>
<td>W. J. Loll, 98 Sixth Av., Maylands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SWAN BRAND SAUCE IS THE BEST THE STATE CAN SUPPLY**
Sub-Brench | Place of Meeting | Date of Meeting | President | Secretary
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
MOUNT LAWLEY | Wallish Hall, Grosvenor Rd., Mr. Lawley | 1st Tuesday, 8 p.m. | Col. T. Flintoff, Second Ave., Mr. Lawley | J. K. Craze, 118, Central Ave., Maylands
MORNINGTON MILLS | Mornington Mills | Every Alt. Sunday | A. Turner, Mornington Mills | G. Wilson, Mornington Mills
NARROGIN | Soldiers' Institute | 2nd Sale Day, Monthly | J. Clunas, Butler Street, Narrogin | T. Hogge, Flour Mills, Narrogin
NORTHAMPTON | Railway Hotel, Northampton | 3rd Saturday, 9 p.m. | A. Glance, Northampton | John Roberts, Northampton
NORTHAM | Avon Bridge Hotel | 1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m. | A. S. Chidlow, Fitzgerald St, Northam | G. C. Carlewins, Fitzgerald St., Northam. Tel. 174
NORTH PERTH | St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe St. (Off View Street) | 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m. | W. J. James, 21 Marius St, Londerville | A. J. Hawkins, 24 York St., North Perth. Tel. B1269
PERTH | Soldiers' Institute, Perth | 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m. | W. J. Hunt, Mary St., Como | Geo. S. Mellor, Soldiers' Institute, Perth
PRESS | At Luncheon, Soldiers' Institute | 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 p.m. | C. Longmore, c/o West Australian, Perth | R. Biggs, c/o West Australian
PITHARA | Billiard Saloon | 1st Saturday, 10.30 a.m. | W. E. Elston, Pithara | H. K. MacLean, East Pithara. Tel. No. 10
POPANYINNING | Yornaning and Popanyinning | 1st Saturday in month, alt. | T. Cowan, Yornaning | C. J. McGarrigle, Popanyinning
PILBARA | Port Hedland | When called | R. W. Peacock, Pt. Hedland | W. Walls, Port Hedland
RAVENSTHORPE | Billiard Saloon | When called | H. Stockdill, Ravensthorpe | T. F. Smith, Ravensthorpe
SOUTH PERTH | Public Hall, Swan Hill | 4th Thursday | He. E. Day, 18 Hensman St., South Perth | H. S. Thompson, 28 Coode St., South Perth
SUBIACO | Branch Rooms, Rokeby Rd., Subiaco | Alternate Thursdays | R. M. Craig, Bagot Road, Subiaco | W. A. Wilkinson, 262 Hammerly Rd., Subiaco
SOUTHERN CROSS | Palace Hotel | 3rd Saturday | S. Hammer, Southern Cross | L. A. Brown, Southern Cross
TAMBELLUP | Road Board Lesser Hall | 2nd Wednesday | M. Collins, Tambellup | A. E. Wilson, Tambellup
TOODYAY | Toodyay Newsagency | 1st Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m. | R. A. Johnston, Toodyay | N. H. Miller, Box 41, Toodyay
TRAYNING-YELBENI | Trayning (1) | 4th Sunday | R. V. Walker, Yelbeni | F. N. Graves, Yelbeni
TRAMWAY | Soldiers' Institute, Perth | Every 3rd Wednesday from August 16 | W. B. Hudson, 18 Oswald Stree, Victoria Park | W. F. W. Saunders, 146 Albany Road, Victoria Park
VICTORIA PARK | Library Hall, Albany Road, Victoria Park | 3rd Friday, 8 p.m. | A. C. Shadggett, 13 Gallipoli Street, Victoria Park | T. Chandler, 31 McMillen St., Victoria Park
WEST PERTH | Soldiers' Institute, Perth | 3rd Thursday, 7.30 p.m. | P. G. Miller, Taxation Dept., Perth | P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth
WUBIN, BUNTINE, JIBBERDING | Each place alt., commencing Buntine, March 1 | 1st Sunday, 3 p.m. | J. Day, Buntine | W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin. Tel. No. 7
WEST LEDERVILLE | Town Hall, Cambridge St., Lederville | 2nd Monday, 7.30 p.m. | H. Peters, 57 Woolwich Street, Lederville | J. W. Smethers, 22 Wodwich St., West Lederville
WILUNA | Mine Boarding House | First Sunday, monthly | A. Paterson, Yandil Station, Wiluna | L. L. Cruickshank, c/o. Wiluna G.M. Ltd.
YEARLING | Commercial Hotel, Yearling | 3rd Saturday, 8 p.m. | J. H. B. Lawton, Yearling | Keith J. Jones, Yealing
YORK | | 1st Saturday, Quarterly | T. Sten, York | C. Vernon Harris, P.O. Box 99, Phone 3
WYALKATCHEM | Town Hall | 1st Saturday Quarterly | B. O. Read, Korrelkocking | Hugh A. Leslie, Wyalkatchem
WAROONA | Memorial Hall | 1st Friday, 8.30 p.m. | C. Henning, Hamel | R. H. Roberts, Waroona

R.S.L. Sub-Brench Women's Auxiliaries

DONNYBROOK | Memorial Hall | First Saturday, monthly | Mrs. Harding, Donnybrook | Mrs. V. T. Miller, Donnybrook
VICTORIA PARK | Library Hall, Albany Road | Fourth Friday, 7.30 p.m. | Mrs. O. Taylor, 14 State Street, Victoria Park | Mrs. D. Pike, 15 State St., Victoria Park

SWAN BRAND GHERKINS ARE GROWN IN THE STATE
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

<table>
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<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Soldiers Inst., Perth</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion St., Leserville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEVENTH BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly Luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td>R. W. Blair, 79 William St., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-NAVAL MEN: Fremantle Sub-Section</td>
<td>His Majesty's Hotel</td>
<td>2nd and last Wednesdays</td>
<td>J. A. Main, 10, Wray Ave., Fremantle</td>
<td>A. J. Rate, Royal Oak, 223 Mary St., Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORTY-FOURTH ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Col. D. M. McWhaie (Chairman, R. Rattray, Public Works Department, Perth)</td>
<td>J. H. Grawick, G.P.O. Box 444, 99 St. George's Ter., W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth St., N. Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Third Thursday, monthly</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. I. E. Dunckley, 86 Angove St., N. Perth</td>
<td>Phone B 8394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>G. Abjornson, 19 Esplanade, South Perth</td>
<td>W. C. Armstrong, 50 Bussell St., West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Annual Re-union, July 24th, 1934</td>
<td>J. A. B. Philp, Agricultural Bank, Hay Street, Perth</td>
<td>L. D. Loboscher, 26 Second Floor, Economic Chst., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td></td>
<td>R. W. Perry, c/o Repart. Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women's Auxiliaries

STATE EXECUTIVE

The first meeting of the year was held on the 15th of January. After the silence, the members joined in wishing Mrs. Wilson a "Happy New Year." In thanking them, Mrs. Wilson expressed the hope that the work of the Executive and all the auxiliaries would this year be most successful and very happy.

Mrs. Harding, Country Vice-President, was present. During the afternoon tea interval, Mrs. Haines, of Merredin, paid a surprise visit. In reply to the President's welcome, Mrs. Haines spoke of the recent doings of her auxiliary and of their gift of two easy chairs to the Memorial Ward of the Merredin Hospital.

Three months' leave of absence from her duties on the State Executive was granted to Mrs. Stubberfield. Although very much improved, she is under medical orders to rest for a period.

Nungarin Auxiliary reported having held a gift evening at their last meeting. On Boxing Day, a sports picnic took place, followed by a dance in the evening, in aid of the Soldiers' Hall.

The cheque, donated annually by the R.S.I. Trustees towards Christmas Cheer for the soldier patients in the civilian ward of Perth Hospital, was this year handed to the Hospital Committee, to be spent at their discretion. Handkerchiefs, dried fruits and nuts, sweets, Wigleys and cigarettes were purchased and parcelled up. The packages, bearing gay cards of greeting were addressed to each of the 12 patients and sent to the hospital for delivery on Christmas Day.

During their weekly visits the committee have heard many expressions of thanks from the patients for the unexpected and welcome parcels.

River Picnic

To entertain the Rural Household Science Students this year, it was decided by the State Executive at their meeting, that a River Picnic should be held. This will take place on Thursday, the 8th of February. The "Perth" has been chartered for the afternoon. Sailing from Barrack Street Jetty, it will call at Point Walter. After a picnic tea, there will be a cruise on the river as far as Fremantle and thence back to Perth. The Rural Science students from the country will be the guests of the Auxiliaries. For auxiliary members and metropolitan students the charge will be 1/-.

A meeting of the State Executive and delegates from auxiliaries has been arranged for 2 p.m. on Monday, the 29th of January, at the Institute, when final arrangements will be made for the river trip.

VICTORIA PARK

Members of this Auxiliary are reminded that the first and first committee meeting, after recess, will be held at the home of our President, Mrs. Taylor, 14 State St., on Friday, the 9th February, and the General Meeting will take place at the Library Hall, on February 23rd, when it is hoped all members will roll up.

On February 4th (Sunday) members and their families are also advised that a River Picnic will be held by the local sub-branch and auxiliary members to share the profits or otherwise. This is open to all members and friends.

Tickets can be obtained from either of the secretaries (Mr. Chandler or Mrs. Pike) and it is hoped that a record attendance will be made.

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