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The Saar and the Future

A general tone of relief pervaded the announcements that the people of the Saar basin had, by an overwhelming majority, decided in favour of reincorporation with Germany. Had the voting gone the other way, or had the opposing factions been more nearly equal numerically, one would not, need the mantle of a prophet to predict grave dangers to the peace of Europe. No other solution would have been acceptable to Herr Hitler's supporters who have consistently maintained that the Saar is German and must remain German, and that, therefore, incorporation with France or continuance under the rule of a commission by the League of Nations, would be a grave injustice, not only to the people of the Saar, but to Germany as a whole. The task which now confronts the League of Nations is that of arranging the transfer of the Saar to Germany as expeditiously and as amicably as possible. One complication that may arise is concerned with the political future of the Saar under German rule, for before the plebiscite and the circumstances which brought it about became into being, the territory had never been a political unit. The question may arise, will the Saar Basin remain a political as well as an economic unit of the Reich or will it be divided again among its former owners?

The Saar Basin, as set up by the Versailles Treaty is an artificial unit not corresponding to any geographical conditions, it has never existed as a historical unit. Throughout the Middle Ages it was divided between a large number of petty feudal lords who owed allegiance to the Emperor, or to the King of France, just as they chose to play off one against the other. The topography of the basin gives it a profound strategic importance. There was a bridge at Saarbrücken in Roman times, and the control of the territory was a preliminary essential to the passage of troops from France into Germany and vice versa. This was recognised by Louis XIV when he seized the territory in the seventeenth century and built his fortress city of Sarrelouis to strengthen his hold upon it. The district was reunited with Germany after the Peace of Ryswick, which compelled Louis to give up most of his conquests. It was again occupied by the French armies in 1792, as a preparation for the invasion of Germany by the Republicans, and did not become German territory again until the final settlement after Waterloo, when the greater part of the territory was handed over to Prussia, Bavaria taking the remainder. To stress further the strategic importance of the Saar, it may be mentioned that Saarbrücken was the scene of the first encounter between the French and German armies in the war of 1870-71.

To this strategic importance may be added the great economic progress, following upon the spread of the Industrial Revolution to Europe, which converted the Saar region into the busy industrial region it now is. That factor affected the history of the region after the Treaty of Versailles. In January, 1920, France took over the Saar mines and worked them to compensate herself for the losses incurred by the northern French collieries, during the period of German occupation. It is claimed by the Germans that up to the end of 1933, France extracted about 166,000,000 tons of coal from the Saar mines, compared with the loss of 66,000,000 tons (again according to German figures) which represents the losses incurred by her during the war through the destruction of the mines in her northern districts.

The advantages to Germany of the return of a district so industrially important cannot be overestimated. Herr Hitler seems inclined to hold out the olive branch and to let the dead past bury its dead. He has promised to make no further demands of France and that there will be no victimisation of those who voted with the minority. But at the same time he insists on Germany's equality with her neighbours in the matter of armaments. There is nothing new in this latter claim, but there is the likelihood that France, keeping in mind strategic considerations past and present, may in her turn insist that the Saar be declared a demilitarised zone, like the right and left banks of the Rhine. Such a contention would hardly march in step with Hitler's demands for equality.

In the general relief at the peaceful atmosphere that has succeeded the clouded issues of the plebiscite, one important aspect of the case is likely to be overlooked. This is the part the international force played in maintaining order. Some time ago, the French, recognising that much of the work of the League of Nations was retarded because the League has no means of enforcing its decisions, advocated the creation of an international army for this purpose. The proposal did not meet with the support of other nations, although the logic of France's conclusions was generally admitted. In the instance

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All advertisements, and matter for inclusion must reach our office not later than the 15th of the month.

The only official League matter contained in this issue is embodied in the published minutes of Executive Meetings, and other items which are acknowledged as such in their text.
The New Agricultural Bank Bill

The Discharged Soldiers' Land Settlement Act was part of a huge scheme of repatriation following the Great War, when the Commonwealth Government, in co-operation with the State Governments, launched a scheme for the civil re-establishment of war veterans which appears to have had no parallel in history. Altogether, 343,000 men were discharged from the A.I.F., and special efforts were made to assist their re-entry into the community life of Australia. For those who had jobs awaiting them, the Commonwealth provided a housing scheme in which building advances were made and existing dwelling houses were acquired. Of this scheme upwards of £3,000,000 was spent in Western Australia. Of the land settlement scheme the Commonwealth permitted the State to raise upwards of £5,500,000 for the land settlement of 5,300 ex-A.I.F. veterans and Imperial soldiers who were resident in Australia before their enlistment with other Dominion forces. For those included in the scheme special interest concessions were made and a special Act of Parliament governed the administration of the scheme. Since the inception of the scheme the Commonwealth has always shown its interest and its responsibility to the extent that nearly £1,500,000 was granted by the Commonwealth Treasury to the State Treasury in remissions of payments in order to provide that the State would deal liberally with the soldiers. This Land Settlement Scheme has always been regarded by every authority as having special claims for many reasons, some of these being stated by Mr. Justice Pike when he reported as a Royal Commissioner on phases of the scheme in each State. Land acquired for ex-soldiers was paid for at big prices, the demand created values quite above the normal, and this is obvious when one considers that so many thousands were clamoring for settlement and urgency was pleaded both by the applicant and the people behind the scheme.

At the time of its initiation it was considered to be in the best interests of Australia to get the many thousands of men out of the city and scattered amongst the broad spaces of Australia as soon as possible, hence high prices were paid both for the land, the machinery, and every item which makes for farm development. Moreover, the bulk of the men were affected physically by the stress of war, and therefore their working capacity was impaired. In every way possible all these considerations were recognised.

Having regard to the factors which were embraced by the Soldier Settlement Scheme, every League Congress and the State Executive of the League have always kept sight of the fact that the Soldier Settlement Scheme should always remain a separate entity from the general land development of the State. This claim was recognised in the Act when it passed the State Parliament, for one of its provisions was that a discharged soldier should always be one of the administration board.

When the features of the new Agricultural Bank Bill were being discussed, the existing Land Committee of the State Executive lost no time in getting in touch with the responsible Minister (Mr. Troy) in order to preserve the soldiers' identity in any new legislation. At first Mr. Troy, without being unsympathetic, confessed that he could not see any reason why the soldiers' representative should continue, and in the early discussions which the Land Committee had with him, the Minister's viewpoint remained unshaken. The Bill passed the Lower House practically as it left the hands of the draughtsmen. However, a number of country sub-branches, particularly the No. 4 District Committee, which operates in the Great Southern area, conveyed their alarm to their parliamentary representatives, and this action, coupled with the fact that the Chairman of the Land Committee (Mr. W. J. Hunt) and those associated with him lost no opportunity of maintaining their insistence with the Minister 'that some provision for a soldiers' representative in the new administrative body should be incorporated in the new Bill. It is pleasing to report to country members that before Parliament closed the
diggers' special claims for a representative were recognised.

In the closing hours of the old year, the Land Committee made another appeal to Mr. Troy, and action was immediately taken on his instruction with the Crown's legal authorities for the preparation of a new clause making provision for a continuance of the liaison between soldiers settled on the land and the Commissioners appointed under the Act. The new clause reads:

"The Commissioners shall appoint and at all times have on the staff of the Bank an officer who is a discharged soldier within the meaning of the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act 1918 to assist the Commissioners and other persons who are discharged soldiers within the meaning of the said Act in transactions between the Bank and such persons."

This new clause was accepted by the Minister before the managers of both Houses went into conference on the controversial features of the new Bill.

Clause 50, which has aroused a good deal of criticism and concern, was also the subject of much discussion between the Land Committee and the Minister, and the Committee had the Minister's assurance that in exercising the powers under this section it was not likely that any hardship would be done or that any hardship would be inflicted on those settlers who could claim the right for sympathetic consideration by the Bank Commissioners.

For the information of League members we publish hereunder an extract from parliamentary proceedings of December 21 (page 2283), which indicates the valuable part played by the No. 4 District Committee in the necessary representations to their members.

**Clause 6—Take over the Bank:**
Hon. H. V. Fiesse: I move an amendment: "That in paragraph (c) the words 'the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act, 1918, and amendments' be struck out." Will the Government grant representation on the board to returned soldiers? I have here a letter from the Great Southern Districts Committee No. 4 of the Returned Soldiers' League, signed by the secretary, Mr. A. W. Ports, from which I will quote a paragraph:

"A meeting held at Wagin on December 2 instructed me to write to you and your fellow Southern District members as follows:—This District Commit-

The Listening Post

of the Minister for Lands regarding the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act, and the representation of soldier settlers on the Board. The Minister has several interviews with the R.S.L. on the subject. His reply has not yet been received. The Bill over-rides existing Acts, and that is not desirable. Mr. Mann referred to the position regarding the Discharged Soldier Settlement Act, but the two measures are not analogous. The Act was passed and a special Board was established to deal with soldier settlement. The Chairman: I must draw the hon. member's attention to the fact that the clause deals with the powers of the Commissioners, not with their appointment. It has nothing to do with the phase the hon. member is discussing.

Hon. A. Thomson: Fifteen branches of the Returned Soldiers' League in my Province are anxious about the position, which they desire, to be clarified. The Chief Secretary should at least give members some information regarding the intention of the Government.

Hon. J. J. Holmes: Their intention is to run the operations on business lines.

Hon. T. Moore: While I favour the object Mr. Thomson has in view, the clause is not the proper place in which to deal with the matter. There are many returned soldier officers in the Agricult-

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Soldier Settlers

The Hon. Jas. Cornell, M.L.C. writes:

No doubt ex-soldier land settlers are viewing with concern the future application of the new Agricultural Bank Bill. Other than who will be the new administrators, and how they will function in regard to ex-service men clients, together with the loss of their direct representative on the Discharged Soldier Settlements Board, which Board will no longer exist, the new Act is practically the old Agricultural Bank Act.

It can be said that contentious Clause 50 of the Bill is now practically a reenactment of Section 37A—statutory lien clauses of the old Agricultural Bank Act, and it can be confidently assumed that this new clause will not be applied any more stringently than the old section cited. Ex-service men working under I.A.B. conditions will not be affected by this new provision.

In lieu of the direct representation previously held by ex-service men on the S.S. Board, the new Act provides as follows: "The Commissioners shall appoint, and at all times have upon the staff of the Bank, an officer who is a discharged soldier within the meaning of the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act, 1918, to assist the Commissioners and other persons who are discharged soldiers under the meaning of the said Act in transactions between the Bank and such persons."

I incline to the opinion that ex-service men will be no worse off under the new law than was the case heretofore. Their future welfare lies in the hands of the new Bank administrators, who I am certain will be both rational and reasonable in their sphere of duty towards all concerned.

Announcement .

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The late Colonel Tom Flintoff

The League lost a good friend and an active member when Colonel Thomas Flintoff, of Second Avenue, Mt. Lawley, passed away on January 15. The deceased officer was born at Grafton, New South Wales, on October 31, 1876, and came to this State before attaining his majority. He was a dentist by profession, and, in the old pre-war days was a keen, citizen soldier, having been connected with the Australian Military Forces since 1900. At the outbreak of the Great War, he held the rank of Major in the 88th A.I.R. and left Australia with the 32nd Battalion, A.I.F. After arrival in Egypt he was transferred to the 47th Battalion, a unit composed mainly of Queenslanders, with one company of Tasmanians and a sprinkling of Western Australians. Colonel Snowden of Tasmania, the first Commanding Officer of the Battalion, was transferred to other duties after Mouquet Farm, being succeeded in the command by Colonel Flintoff, and the latter was severely wounded in the shoulder and upper thorax at Flers, in November, 1916. After a long period in hospital he was transferred to the Sixth Division and then to a training camp in England, where he served until after the Armistice. After returning to Australia, he suffered considerably from the effects of his wounds and about two years ago underwent a serious operation in the Repatriation Ward of the Perth General Hospital. The late Colonel Flintoff was an active member of the Returned Soldiers' League and for some years has been president of the Mt. Lawley Sub-branch. In his spare time he was a very enthusiastic gardener.

The funeral took place in the Church of England portion of the Karrakatta Cemetery on the afternoon of January 16, and was attended by hundreds of old comrades, brother Masons, and others. Padre H. V. Vine officiated at the graveside and spoke in eulogistic terms of Colonel Flintoff's services as a soldier and a citizen. Former members of the 32nd Battalion and representatives of the Mr. Lawley Sub-branch, preceded the cortege in columns of fours and formed a circle at the graveside.

The late Colonel TOM FLINTOFF

AN APPRECIATION
(By Quarante-Sept.)

It was nearly midnight on a star-jewelled autumn evening when I and another reinstatement officer, from the apple-blossom land of Tasmania reported for duty at the headquarters of the 47th Battalion. We had misgivings as to the reception we should receive. Reinforcement officers reporting to fighting battalions were, at that time, as popular as the proverbial pork chop in the Synagogue. To my own shortcomings were added the facts that I was a permanent staff officer, a native of New South Wales, embarked from Tasmania and joining a Queensland battalion. We alighted from the car that Brigade had placed at our disposal—or was it a means of placing us under escort?—and were immediately surrounded by a bevy of our future brother officers in varying degrees of hilarity. Having stated our case, we were taken before a genial square-shouldered C.O. who welcomed us with the information that we were just in time for a double birthday and that he hoped we would be very happy in the Battalion. We had arrived in time to see the end of the celebration of the birthdays, coincident as to date, of Colonel Flintoff and the junior Major. Arriving as strangers, we found ourselves among friends straight-away, and that night marked the beginning of a friendship with Colonel Tom Flintoff which the shears of Fate have only just severed. I slept with the Adjutant that night, and in the morning I was posted to the junior Major’s company. Inspite of our previous misgivings, the Cassandra prophecies we had had dunnied into our ears during the passage from the Leewin to the Front Line, we had fallen among friends, but I think that the bonhomie of the Colonel had much to do with the cordiality of our reception.

Then followed a couple of days of route-marching. The Battalion was moving up to show Fritz that we were still winning the Battle of the Somme. The one permanent impression in my mind left by these days of approach—and surely the first entry into battle is the most indelible impression that can be left in any man’s mind—was the almost fatherly solicitude of Tommy Flintoff for the men under his command. At every halt, at every nightly setting down into billets which were little better than bivouacs, the Colonel was on the job with, “Captain Soando, are your men all right?” or “Mr. Soando, have you been round your platoon yet? How are the—men?” With him, it was always the men first, and heuirned well saw to it that officers also adopted that attitude. That, I think, was why the 47th was always a band of brothers, and, during the all-too-short time Col. Flintoff commanded this Battalion, was built up the esprit de corps that enabled the unit to acquire itself creditably and not let him down in the eyes of his successors.

Never shall I forget our taking over from the 11th in front of Flers. In the afternoon, we received the tidings that the Bragadier had been killed. Then, in the November mink we passed through the grisly horror that was Delville Wood, by Cheese Road, to the line. And, all the time the Colonel was there, cheering up the homesick ones, gingering up the faltering, and inspiring everyone with his unfailing good humour. Then came the day when the junior
Major, who was still my Company Commander, came into our little funk-hole, looking as if Fritz had won the war.

"Bloody wars and quick promotion," he said, using the old-time soldier's favourite expletive. "The Colonel's been hit?"

"Badly?" we asked.

"Badly enough; I'm afraid," he replied.

And so it was. Colonel Flintoff was invalided to England and after his long convalescence the Army found other employment for him.

Our next meeting was in Perth, eight years afterwards when a valued friendship was renewed. The service given to the country in war was given to the R.S.L. in peace. Tom Flintoff was a man who, in sickness or in health, could not helping pulling his weight. We know now what a very sick man he must have been during the past few years when Anno Domini commenced to accentuate the ravages of severe war wounds, yet he faced Fate with the same genial smile and the same uncomplaining temperament. The only consolation his former comrades can find is that death must have eased an intolerable burden of physical suffering. Peace to his ashes. He was a very gallant gentleman.

Sambo was asked what kind of chicken he preferred.

"Well, sir," he replied, after a few minutes' consideration, "all kinds has der merits. De white ones, is de easiest to find in de dark, but de black ones is de easiest to hide aftah you gets 'em."

The Dairying Products Marketing Act, recently placed upon the Statute Book by Parliament, has aroused a great deal of interest amongst all those associated with this industry, and the producers are indebted to the Minister for Agriculture for his effort to place the industry upon a sounder footing.

In the Act recently passed one can recognise a genuine attempt in this direction. A great deal has been said about control, and it is well to realise that, as with the Agricultural Bank Act, so it is with the Act under discussion, a great deal of its success will depend upon its administration. The Minister will need to give very serious consideration to the appointment of suitable persons to fill the positions as set out in the terms of the Act. It will require men of foresight, business ability, marketing experience, together with an intimate knowledge of the difficulties of the producer, in order that the Act may be successfully administered.

That the Act is long overdue is the general opinion, but a tendency to avoid interference by means of legislation with marketing, is perhaps one of the reasons for the delay. It is interesting to note that in the report of the Royal Commission of 1932 on the Dairying Industry, of which Mr. Yeates, our State President was chairman, the Commission stated that "to keep the local market steady and preventing glutting, any surplus must be exported."

"Export demands that nothing but the best quality should be sent away, and this involves certain sacrifices. It is, therefore, imperative that some authority should be provided to compel each producer to take a share of the export trade, and ensure to him his proportion of the local trade. To achieve this, some form of control is necessary. Controlled marketing implies the proportional sharing of local and export trade, using the necessary middle man to the best advantage, getting efficient service and value for monies spent, obviating profiteering and speculation, and organising producer, manufacturer and selling agent, as well as transport, to secure the most effective and economical service."

Further, the report stated that "the work of the Board would be to organise the producers, to see that they acted in accordance with regulations, control the erecting of new factories by license, ensure into complaints that may arise regarding weights, tests, payments, etc."
issue reports on markets, etc., and do all things necessary to educate the producer and ensure that the manufacturing and marketing methods were up to date. It would in fact be self-help paid for by the producer in his own interests, with due regard being paid to the rights of the middle man, who should give satisfactory services for the payment he receives. In view of the above statement it is pleasing to say that to a great extent, the recommendations put forward by the Commission are about to be given effect to.

It is a matter of regret that the voluntary system of equalisation, already in existence, has to some extent broken down, so much so that it ceases to be an efficient remedy. This fact necessitated the passing of legislation as set out in the Bill. The scheme should be beneficial to producers, as it will compel the production of butter of a standard that will permit of storage. The percentage of butter produced under existing conditions, of a quality good enough to permit of storage, is unfortunately very low. It is claimed that the reason for the low standard of our butter, is that the cream has in the past been graded at too high a standard. If the proposed new Board ensures, by a vigorous inspectorial system, the production of butter of a higher grade, suitable for storage, then the local market could be fed over a much greater period, with a consequent benefit to the producers.

It is a fact that on every pound of butter exported, a loss of 7d. a pound is incurred, whereas the cost of storage is estimated at 1½ a pound. What better contribution could be made to fit in with our Local Products Campaign than that our butter could be made available for local consumption over a greater period, to the exclusion of butter from other states, with consequent benefit to our producers.

One outstanding fact is certain: the Board must have the loyal co-operation of all who will be able to claim representation.

The industry has been in so poor a condition that it will require a good deal of work to effect better conditions, and in that regard, we do extend to members of the new Board, whoever they may be, our best wishes for their successful handling of the problems which will face them.

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**Thirty-Seventh Battalion History**

Dr. J. Smythe Yule, who served as R.M.O. of the 37th Battalion, writes from Melbourne:

As any ex-member in W.A. will testify, the 37th Battalion was a worthy unit of the A.I.F. A committee has been formed to endeavour to publish an adequate and personal record of its career from formation to disbandment. This committee has two present objects, the collection of the requisite funds for publication, and the securing of personal anecdotes and memoirs to make the history not a record of dates but an epic of achievements.

Mr. N. S. McNicol, an officer of the 37th Battalion, and editor of the proposed work, is by his position as Chairman of the School Teachers' Association of Victoria, qualified to deal with any literary matter submitted. Letters to 6 Pretoria Street, Caulfied, Victoria, will find him. But I may be pardoned for emphasizing the financial aspect: there are three "Macs" on the committee, and, naturally, they want to see "the baw-bees." Subscribers will receive copies of the history in exchange for their subscription, or one copy, and the balance returned from subsequent sales of the book. A rough estimate of cost works out at 7/6 a copy, but this may be lessened by a big demand. Subscriptions up to £5 have already been received, and about half the amount needed is in sight. I know of a few old 37th men in W.A., and there may be many unknown supporters there. Send along, any subscriptions to Mr. J. C. Todd (former R.S.M. and Adjutant), c/o Metropolitan Gas Co., Flinders Street, Melbourne, C.I., Victoria, who is Hon. Treasurer of 37th Battalion History Trust Fund.

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**The Duke's Message**

A wireless message received by Sir Gilbert Dyett, Federal President, from His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, soon after he left Australia, reads:

"I deeply appreciate your message of farewell and good wishes. Please tell your members how very much I enjoyed meeting ex-service men and women throughout the Commonwealth and how deeply impressed I was by the ceremonies at the State War Memorials in Melbourne and Sydney and at Anzac House, Perth."

Signed, Henry.

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A NEW YEAR'S PHANTOM
(By "A GRAVE DIGGER")

It was New Year's Eve at the Edward Millen Home, Victoria Park, and I was one of the unfortunate individuals unable to leave the institution to take part in the revelry of the festive season, thanks to war disabilities. I am what you may term one of the Legion of the Lost, beyond medical help, and on this particular evening, despite the comforting words of the Matron, and the kind administration of creature comforts by the ever-helpful Sisters, I became dispirited, mopy, and introspective. Events of the past floated along with panoramic clarity: my early days, my war experiences, my return to civilisation, and the assenst to the perpetual torture of a permanent cot case. The night wore on, the radio became silent, the day Sister's cheerful "good night" observed, the distant noises from the city became fainter and fainter, the street lamps extinguished and the excruciating silence of the ward followed. The Night Sister had completed her nocturnal vigil for the time being, and this lonely inmate, others having obtained temporary leave of absence, was left amidst quietude similar to the calm and eerie silence experienced on the Egyptian desert. Soon after the time "when churchyards yawn and graves give up their dead," the sound of nimble feet passing on the spacious verandah in front of the ward disturbed my unhappy meditations, nocturnal noises were heard and the doors leading to the billiard room seemed to open without any visible agency, accompanied by what I imagined was the rustle of unseen garments and other supernatural manifestations. I had reached a pitch of tremendous excitement when a spectral form—distorted, uncouth—frightful in its ghoul-like hideousness, appeared at the window opposite my domicile. I have seen the pink snakes of Njookenbooroo, green elephants promenading Hay Street, other delusions in the shape of goblins of untraditional shapes, but this spectral form appeared to be a huge bat with elongated wings, a distorted face with a prominent hooked bill, glittering eyes, and two horns. It beat anything I had seen or read about in the history of supernaturalism. Up and down it marched like a sentry on duty, peering at times amongst the paraphernalia of the basket makers and frequently halted in front of the window opposite my bed. Dramatically it raised the huge wings towards the sky, then downwards to the earth, and then with a sudden stride pointed to the west. Naturally I took this performance as an omen; a presentiment that the apparition was indicating my future domicile, and that without doubt I was going west. I was shaking with fear, speechless, wishing that night sister would come along and rid me of this metaphysical terror. Then as the dawn approached I heard unnatural noises on the verandah, the ghostly gesticulations became more subdued, the apparition appeared to be prinking and preening its feathers, or fur, or whatever its covering was, and it faded away in the direction of the Can-

ning. I became somewhat tranquil, and there on the verandah in place of the unwelcome visitor was little Stumpy, our pet magpie and mascot, carolling out a New Year's greeting. I have been told that I was suffering an overdose of Xmas cheer, had enlargement of a distorted vision.

I detailed my experience to the staff and subsequently the Matron, in an interview, decided that if I continued "seeing things" she would consider the advisability of recommending to Dr Saxby a transfer to Lemnos. I am known as Patient Bill, but since that night inanimate objects on the verandah or the clanking of the windmill chains bring back visions of the eventful New Year's Eve, and for the time being thoughts of fashion and frivolity have no place in my daily curriculm.

Tenth Light Horse

In the absence of the president of the Tenth Light Horse Association, Major Tom Kidd, who is unfortunately on the sick list, Vice-President Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Sweetapple writes:—

"When H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester was in Australia, it was announced officially that the '10th Light Horse, Western Australia's own cavalry regiment in the war, had been allied to the Duke's own regiment, the Royal Tenth Hussars, an honour which is greatly appreciated by all members of the Association. To mark the occasion, and in order to provide a link with the senior regiment, it is suggested that the 10th Light Horse present its ally with some token of purely Western Australian origin and significance. An appeal is made to every man of whatever rank to partake in the suggested gift. It is hoped to raise from £30 to £50 for this purpose and subscriptions will be gratefully received by the secretary of the Association, Mr. R. H. Perry, Department of Repatriation, Perth. It is expected that Major Sam Greenwood, who intends visiting England early in April, will convey our presentation to the Royal Tenth Hussars. No subscriptions will be considered too large or too small."

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At the suggestion of the Matron in Charge, it is likely that Mr. Walter Lindrum, the world champion billiardist, will play a game at Lemnos Hospital for the entertainment of the patients, soon after Mr. Lindrum's return from the Goldfields.
PERSONALITIES

All returned men know Mr. James Styles (better known to diggers and cricketers as "Jimmy") who now is quite a "big gun" in the picture world. Jimmy took over the Princess Theatre, Fremantle, a couple of weeks ago, and all the boys at the Port were free to congratulate him on an auspicious start. What with the Grand Theatre and the Royal, in Perth, the Princess at Fremantle, and the Gaiety Theatre, and the Hurlingham Gardens in South Perth, to look after (and a new indoor theatre, side by side with the Hurlingham now building) our friend Jimmy will not have as much time as of yore to spend watching, would-be Bradmans or Grimests, and giving them a few tips towards attaining that end.

Madame Bennett Wilkinson, who has been busy during the month of December visiting Edward Millen, Repatriation Ward, and Lemnos Hospitals for the purpose of entertaining patients and delivering Christmas parcels, desires us to tender thanks to the following donors: The Managers of the Economic Stores, Ahern's, Cole's, Wyper Howard, Felton, Grimwade and Bickford, Messrs. Percy Holmes and Cottrill, of Falk and Co., Mills and Ware, Placestows, Foy and Gibson, Burhler, Musgrove, Baird's, and Bateman's, and the following performers for concerts in the Repatriation Ward: Mrs. Howard Birt, Miss Joan Bird, and Miss Barrow.

Jimmy Morgan, who for some time has been head teacher and specialist in modern languages at Spearwood, has been transferred to White Gum Valley, where he will take up duty after the holidays.

The Hon. A. H. Panton, M.L.A. (Speaker of the Assembly) and a Trustee of the League, is at present on a visit to the Eastern States, where Rabbi D. I. Freedman's headquarters are also temporarily situated.

Amongst distinguished visitors to Anzac House recently was Hon. T. W. White, Minister for Customs, who, with his wife, was informally received by Colonel Olden (acting for the State President), and other members of the Executive and shown over the building.

Colonel White, who saw service in the Near East, and was for a time a guest of the enemy, was also entertained to luncheon at the fortnightly meeting of the Press Sub-branch, where he delighted the gathering with racy reminiscences of his experiences and of the gallant company, amongst whom were many Australians, who fell into the hands of the Turks during the Gallipoli and Palestine campaigns.

A welcome visitor to the first January meeting of the State Executive was Otto Berthold, treasurer of the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch. Otto was a footslogger during the big stoush and towards the end, transferred to the Air Force. At present he is a schoolmaster in the service of the Education Department.

Brigadier-General Sir Carl Herman Jess, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., p.s.c., who has just been knighted, acquired a well-deserved issue of popularity while he was in Western Australia a few years ago as District Commandant. General Jess was born at Bendigo, Victoria, on February 16, 1884, and, like many another distinguished officer of the Australian Military Forces, he commenced his career as a teacher, entering the service of the Victorian Education Department, while still in his teens. He joined the permanent forces and was a sergeant-major, aged twenty-three. He attained commissioned rank in 1909, and was transferred to New South Wales. He was a captain at the Landing on Gallipoli, and for a time commanded the 7th Battalion. When he took over the command of the 10th Brigade, General Jess was one of the youngest Brigadiers in the whole of the British forces. Since the war he has had various staff appointments, and was successively commanding in Tasmania and Western Australia. His best recent big job was that of organiser of the Melbourne Centenary celebrations.

Western Australia and entered the service of the local Education Department as a teacher, and in this capacity became associated with the old voluntary cadet movement. He joined the Cadet Instructional Staff of the Permanent Forces in 1906, after which he transferred to the Administrative and Instructional Staff, now the Staff Corps. General Blamey, then a Major, had just returned to Australia after completing a course at the Staff College, Quetta, when the war broke out. His rise in the A.I.F. was rapid. He was mentioned in dispatches no fewer than seven times, and after commanding the 2nd Battalion for a time, he held various staff appointments, and, as Brigadier-General, General Staff, he was Sir John Monash's right-hand man throughout the campaigns of 1918. After his return to Australia he was second in charge of the General Staff, and has commanded the 3rd Division A.M. Forces since 1932. He is now Chief Commissioner of Police in Victoria.

Alf. Esnouf, who succeeds Harold Hopperton as president of the Perth Sub-branch, was born at Footscray, Victoria, on October 29, 1890. Before the War he was employed in the State Shipbuilding Yards at Williamstown, and since the war he was interested in various selling campaigns in Victoria until he was transferred to Western Australia on November 15, 1930, in charge of the Australian War Memorial activities in this State. He enlisted for the war as a gunner in July, 1915, and left as sergeant with the 2nd Divisional Artillery (16th Battery). Alf. was wounded on the Somme in November, 1916, and after a long spell in hospital and convalescent depots, he returned to France with

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commission, joining the 106th Howitzer Battery. After the war he spent several months in the Channel Islands—like Colonel Collett, he belongs to an old Channel Islands family—and returned to Australia in November, 1919. He is now, as one would infer from his new office, a very active member of the R.S.L. in this State and has attended Congress as a delegate on at least two occasions, besides being a playing member of the cricket, quoits, ping-pong, and shooting teams of the Perth Sub-branch.

**Vale, Ted Hardey**

The funeral of the late Edward Alec (Ted) Hardey, late of Karrinyup, and formerly of Kojonup, took place in the Church of England Cemetery, Karrakatta, on Friday, January 4, in the presence of a large gathering, the Rev. E. G. Jaquet (Rector of Mt. Hawthorn) officiating at the graveside.

Mr. Hardey was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, and as a very young man, arrived in Western Australia just before the outbreak of the war in South Africa. He enlisted and went overseas with the first West Australia contingent. Returning to West Australia after that war, Ted, as he was generally called, decided to return to South Africa, and spent a number of years in Cape Colony and Rhodesia. Australia recalled him, and he arrived back in the West about eighteen months before the Great War. He was "outback" when he heard the news and hastened to Kalgooerie, where he enlisted early in September, 1914, and was drafted to the 11th Battalion, then in course of formation at Blackboy. He embarked with the original 11th, and attained the rank of sergeant-major. During service on Gallipoli he contracted an illness which necessitated his return to Australia.

Mr. Hardey was one of the original members of the Repatriation Staff in Perth, and continued with that Department till he decided to go on the land at Kojonup in 1921. He returned to Perth about eighteen months ago, and was appointed to a responsible position with the Karrinyup Country Club. Unfortunately, his war illness accelerated an attack of pneumonia, and after about three weeks in St. John's of God Hospital at Subiaco, he passed away on the morning of January 3.

As a younger man Ted excelled in many classes of sport, and his records show that as a rower, footballer, swimmer, cricketer, and tennis player he was generally classed amongst the leaders of his particular club. He always took a deep interest in matters pertaining to the welfare of returned soldiers and their dependents, and was a very active member of the Kojonup and Nedlands Sub-branches.


At the conclusion of the service the "Last Post" was sounded by Mr. G. S. Mellor, of the R.S.L. Memorial Band. A large number of beautiful wreaths and floral tributes were placed by the graveside.

**The Listening Post**

25th January, 1935

C. G. Woods (brother-in-law), Mr. F. Pryke (uncle), and Mr. F. Godfrey. The pall-bearers were Messrs. C. Taylor (Deputy Commissioner, Repatriation Department), W. W. Meiklejohn (A.M.C., and late of Kojonup), H. C. Newman (President, Nedlands R.S.L.), Arnold Hodder (11th Bn.), J. Brownrigg (11th Bn.), and M. J. Ryan (Repatriation Department and 16th Bn.).

Amongst the many present were, Col.

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A soldier's mother's badge has been found at Cottesloe Beach. The owner may recover it by applying to Mrs. H. Hopperton, Anzac House.

A branch of the Old Comrades' Association of The Border Regiment has been formed in Sydney, New South Wales. Former members of the regiment may obtain full particulars as to membership by writing direct to Captain K. H. Morris (late 6th Battalion, The Border Regiment), Commerce Buildings, Ash Street, Sydney.

The following tentative itinerary has been arranged for representatives of the State Executive, but before finalisation it is to receive the endorsement of the No. 2 District Committee:

March 19: Afternoon, Dowerin; night, Wyalkatchem.
March 20: Morning, Training; afternoon, Kununoppin; night, Nungarin.
March 21: Afternoon, Warralackin; night, Mukinbudin.
March 22: Afternoon, Yordaning Rock; night, Bencubbin.
March 23: Afternoon, Kulja; night, Koorda.

At the last named place a big reunion dinner is to take place under the auspices of the District Committee.

The Management Committee is engaged on preparing another itinerary to embrace Quairading, Narembeen, and Ardath, some time in February.

Recent donations to the Anzac House Building Fund include North Perth Sub-branch, £16 10s.; Koorda Sub-branch, £10; Kondinin Sub-branch, £10; Cardiff Sub-branch, £1 1s. A further £142 16s. was received from the Gymkhana Committee as the proceeds of the Building Fund from the "Buy a Brick Campaign."

The House Committee reported recently to the State Executive that demands for bookings in the building were most encouraging, and, if the Committee is permitted to allow continuous bookings throughout the year, the estimated receipts therefrom would show a very substantial profit after meeting the interest commitments.

The State Secretary in a recent report stated that great interest had been displayed by country members visiting the city over the holiday period, numbers of whom had been made honorary members of the Club. This privilege appeared to be much appreciated. He points out that any members of the League visiting the city from country districts for a holiday, or on business, could, in a few minutes, by reporting to himself, Mr. Ferguson, or the Club Secretary, be duly nominated and accepted as honorary members of the Club during their stay in the city.

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H. J. Young (late Sig. 533, "B" Coy, 16th Bttn.) writes from Bunbury:

The enclosed is an account of a trip by the old 16th Battalion to the island of Imbros after the strenuous fighting of May, June and July, 1915. This account was written by me 20 years ago and its publication may revive fading memories of many interested Diggers. It reads:

"On the 5th July, 1915, the 16th Battalion marched down to the newly-erected jetty in Anzac Cove and were conveyed in barges to the Kedival mail steamer 'El Kahira' under a desultory shell fire from Gaba Tepe, without, however, any loss of life. During the night we proceeded to the island of Imbros, some 15 miles from the Peninsula, and arrived in the bay 6 a.m. Tuesday morning. From the deck of the steamer I could see that the harbour was crowded with battleships being loaded with ammunition from huge transport ships. On shore there was a crowd of Egyptian Engineers building a quay. They looked more like convicts than soldiers.

"Arriving on shore we proceeded to our camping ground, which appeared to be a small town of canvas. Our surroundings were very picturesque. Behind us the hills rose in rugged confusion, telling of some mighty upheaval in the past. Before us stretched the cultivated lands, as far as the low ridge of sandhills that separated it from the sea. The cottages of the inhabitants, mostly perched up on the sides of the hills, are built of stone plaster and are rather hard to distinguish, from a distance, from the surrounding hills. The inhabitants, mostly Greeks, dress in the wide pantaloons and jackets common to this part of the world. They are very industrious, though their methods are very primitive. Their corn is threshed by being trampled by oxen and the island ponies, and is winnowed by casting the grain into the air. The island is prolific in the production of fruit. Here you find the fig, walnut, grape, olive and all fruit common to this climate. The water, drawn from wells and springs, is excellent, having no

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Writers who build verbal Utopias or forecast the future of the race, like H. G. Wells, usually commence with the premise that civilisation has advanced and will continue to advance until the world arrives at a state of perfection. The chief evidence they advance for their contention is to be found in the mechanical progress that has undoubtedly been made during the past hundred years or so, the gains in technical efficiency which certain of our economists consider responsible for the economic chaos the world is in today. The lessons of history, on the other hand, show that civilisations have arisen, breeding the germs of their own destruction, and have eventually fallen. Who knows but what the Greek legend of the Golden Age and a rational interpretation of the story of Eden might not be racial memories of civilisations older than Knossos and Troy.

The authors of "Whither Away?" John Boottcock and L. Jarvis Nye, of Brisbane, approach the problem of race safety from the standpoint of "the experience of history and the immutable laws of evolution." Quoting Spengler, by way of a text for this interesting and well-reasoned monograph, they remind readers that "World history is the world court, and it has ever decided in favour of the stronger, fuller, and more self-assured life-decreed to it, namely the right to exist regardless of whether its right would hold before a tribunal of waking-consciousness. Always it has sacrificed truth and justice to might and race, and passed doom or death upon men and peoples in whom truth was more than deeds, and justice than power." Spengler's was the typical German political philosophy which was elaborated more fully by Nietzsche and von Bernhardi. Our authors do not labour the point like extremists, and while they do not adhere to the doctrine that might is right, they endeavour to show that necessity knows no law, and that historical evolution is a matter rather of events than of systems of ethics. As they say in their preface, they have neither social nor political axe to grind. Their views, they claim, are the result of many years of careful observation and are a frank and fearless expression of opinion upon some of the social and psychological problems confronting our own people today.

Australia, in the authors' opinion, is now manifesting all the signs of racial and national degeneration that were apparent in Egypt, Babylon and Greece, that were exhibited by Rome when the Goth was knocking at her gate. And what they say of Australia is true of the rest of the Empire. They contend that misguided altruism and slappy humanitarianism is responsible for declining marriage and birth rates and for the survival of the unfittest. They show that such phenomena were present in the older civilisations before their fall, and that the menace of the under-man, or, as Sir John Fortescue expressed it, the government of "A" Class intellects by "C" mentalities has eventually destroyed civilisation in all ages.

Their remarks on declining birthrates are instructive and well worth reading. The table of statistics they quote, and their references to increased childlessness in spite of prosperity are a direct refutation of the older Malthusian conclusions on the relationship between population and subsistence. They combat the smug complacency which would assert that we are breeding only from the superior classes, and the conclusion they draw from their statistical tables is that "a rising tide of inferior humanity is gradually submerging the better classes, and that birth control, instead of operating for national betterment, is producing the opposite result." "In the past, by the process of the survival of the fittest, evolution has worked consistently for the constant production of a finer and better species; but man has now taken a hand and is depriving evolution of its destructive powers against the weaklings of the race."

So much for the biological aspects of...
the question. On the psychological side, the sturdy independence of past generations is contrasted with the modern wholesale charity which is degrading to the recipient and penalises the thrifty. The cause of unemployment and the legislative remedies designed to cope with it are traversed and criticised and analogies are drawn between modern circumstances and ancient civilisation.

Perhaps, the parts of the book that will interest ex-service men most are the authors' views on war and anti-war agitation. They agree that war is opposed to reason, but point out that civilisations which have arrived at the age of reason have, throughout history, been flanked by others more vigorous physically, and with different, if not inferior, ethical standards. "It is disturbing to consider," they say, "that although modern methods of warfare are becoming increasingly complex and therefore can only be mastered after months of intensive study, the defence of Australia is entrusted to a handful of part-time volunteers, many of whom soon tire of the novelty of wearing a uniform and leave before understanding the rudiments of the subject." They believe with "The Listening Post" that "however terrible a new war may be to con-

(Mr. W. H. Carson, of the Albany sub-branch, who was captured by the enemy during the 4th Division's disastrous attack on the Hindenburg Line, near Bullecourt, on April 11, 1916, relates some of his experiences for the LISTENING POST.)

After the repulse of the 4th Brigade, only two courses were open to the survivors, to surrender or to retire. About 800 commenced to retire, and of these only 96 succeeded in getting back. Large numbers remained in shell holes, hoping to make their withdrawal under cover of night; but Jerry did not wait. He made a strong counter-attack, capturing about 180 of us. After capture, we were taken behind the Hindenburg Line, and the wounded received treatment from the German doctors, who showed no discrimination between friend and enemy. Discrimination of this kind was to come later, but I must say that the first German doctors we met were gentlemen. We were then taken further to the rear where, in contrast with the villages on our side—all destroyed by the German artillery—we found villages hardly damaged.

Line after line of strongly fortified entrenchments were passed, each as strong as the original front line of the Germans. To the number of about 600, we were parked in a church and "fed," a small loaf of rye bread—deep brown. We were then searched, knives and
razors and such like dangerous implements were taken from us, and then began the usual questionings, but the knowledge reaped was nil. Supper came later, a cup of coffee—of unknown make. No further food or bedding was issued and no blankets. The time was winter, the worst that had been experienced for many years, so it is left to the reader to gather what had to be endured, by fit and wounded alike.

Next day we were divided up into parties for work on the roads leading to the line, housed in a barn, still no bedding or blankets, wet clothes and only one-third of a loaf of bread and a cup of coffee. This was stated to be reprisal for what we know to be a wrong statement—the working of German prisoners behind the front line. My party consisted of 32 men, but after two weeks it had decreased to 20. The remainder had died off in the night, frozen. It may be wondered how we slept at all, but it was the sleep of utter exhaustion, due to shortage of food and long hours of work. Some of us used to take it in turns to walk about for an hour and then wake the others to have their turn, and so on through the night. After the two weeks had passed we were removed, to a concentration camp with other parties who had been similarly treated, and whose numbers had decreased in the same way. We were then entrained to Fortress Macdonald, at Lille, and there placed in dungeons, 10 to a cell, each cell about 15 ft. by 40 ft. The men, about 400, were kept here for twelve days, but the bread ration was reduced and they were not allowed to leave their “homes” for any reason whatever. The reason, as stated, was a reprisal on the British and the Hfnn interpreter told us that we were allowed to write home and make as many complaints of our treatment as we wished. Pencils and paper were provided, but we refused to write the letters, thus denying the enemy that satisfaction. When the twelve days were up we were taken out into the open air. The effect was peculiar, each man reeling about as if he were drunk. We were allowed to lie on the ground until we recovered. We were then removed to another barn, still without bedding, but there was a roof over this one. The first had only had half a roof. The weather also had improved a little.

The party remained here about three months, still as hard worked as ever and as poorly fed. The local French and Belgian women, although strictly rationed and illtreated, often gave the prisoners leaves from their own meagre store, risking untold dangers in doing so. In time we again returned to Fortress Macdonald, but after 24 hours were taken to the German Prisoner of War Camp at Dulman. Here, for the first time since we were captured, we were officially registered as prisoners of war. Up to this time we had been simply “missing.” The fate of hundreds can now be determined, those who had died from neglect and ill-treatment will never be accounted for. We were here inoculated for all known and unknown diseases.

From now on matters began to improve somewhat, and at last we were given permission to write to the Red Cross in London. Our relatives were notified. That suspense was over. We were alive—though only just—and prisoners, and our names were placed on the ration list at headquarters for parcels. No amount of talking would ever convey the extent of the gratitude felt by the men when their parcels began to arrive.

A move was now made to a camp at Gustrow, and a proof was received there of the spirit which united all men, from U.K. or Dominions. They found on their arrival at the camp some British prisoners of war, captured at Mohs and shortly after. These, hearing that a batch of prisoners was due who were badly off and half-starved, had been saving portions of their Red Cross parcels, and by the time the new arrivals came had got a real feed ready. To the gratification of the new arrivals, a really Mark I type of army stew awaited them. I never thought the time would come when an army stew could taste so good. We ate till we could eat no more—like pigs—and we were glad no one was there to see us.

After we were filled, we lay down, with some bedding now. The Tommies placed at the side of each man a basin of soup and we kept waking up in the night to make sure that no one had taken our food. This was the effect a good English feed had on us. The consequences were bad next day, however, for many of us—the writer included—were taken to hospital suffering from the effect of the first decent feed for weeks.

On recovery the prisoners were detailed for work on farms near the camp, and conditions became better. The open air work, the parcels from Blighty (A.I.F. Red Cross), all improved matters, even though the parcels were locked up at night with a sentry to take care of them.

However, one bad interlude occurred, which was not to the credit of the civil doctors of Germany. It was a rule of the camp that in case of an accident to a prisoner, the nearest civil doctor was to be sent for. I had the misfortune to break my leg, and the civil doctor, who had a proper Hun hatred of all men and things British—set it in such a manner as to convey the impression that he did not intend it ever to get right again. I bore it as long as I could, but in the end got recalled to camp. The camp doctor regretfully informed me that he was not allowed to use an anaesthetic on a prisoner except in very extreme cases. I therefore had to lie and have my leg re-broken and properly set. After recovery I was appointed an orderly to interpret.
for the doctor, having rubbed up my slight knowledge of the "German language during my period of farm work, etc. This was all right for a time, but the strain of the sights and sufferings soon began to toll and matters finally came to a head on the arrival of 150 Italian prisoners. These had undergone similar starvation treatment to that meted out to the Aussie prisoners at first. They were placed into two huts, and I, with the aid of many articles of food from Red Cross parcels that had been left and stored up, had prepared for them a real meal. It was, however, too later; through their sheer exhaustion the food did no good. Next morning of the 130-only four were living. That finished it. Another prisoner, looking for a cushy job, and with a knowledge of German, was introduced to the doctor, and I got back to farm work again.

It was while the prisoners were at Gustrow Camp that parcels began to arrive. I never knew so many things could be put into tins. Cheese, butter, soup, tobacco, cigarettes, tooth paste, spuds, vegetables and many other things besides. The parcels also contained socks, clothing, towels, and everything that could be desired. The total weight was 60lb. per man, per person and in addition white bread was sent to us from the nearest neutral country. This was, to us, "it," but soap was a very runner-up. The latter was absolutely unobtainable in Germany, because all fats were required for explosives. The blockade was at this time feeling felt strongly, and food of all kinds was greatly restricted.

On my return to farm work I was sent to another farm. At the new place I was the only prisoner working, quite "posh" too, with a sentry all to myself. However my work proved so satisfactory that the German women—no men being there except such as were incapacitated or too old to fight—thought it was great, and applied for another British prisoner of war for work. The answer came that no other British man was available, but she could have two Frenchmen. This was not "according-to-plan." Eventually the matter was got over by her taking the two Frenchmen and the writer going back to the farm at which he first worked. Matters went steadily on until the abdication of the Kaiser, which was known in Germany some days before it got abroad. Then followed the Armistice, and at once the change occurred.

All sentries were removed, the gates of the camp were thrown open and a British Naval Officer placed in supreme command. Delay, of course, was inevitable in repatriating the large number of prisoners. They were given two alternatives until such time as they could be recalled to sail for the United Kingdom. They could remain at work on their farms or remain there on holiday. The latter alternative was selected for a while, but this did not suit for long. They then decided to put in a few hours work each day. Even this wore out eventually, and they decided that the next day they would walk back the 30 odd miles to the camp. The next morning, however, they received the welcome order "to rejoin, and there was no delay; they went while the going was good. As before mentioned, the gates were open and the "ex-prisoners"—as they now were—were at liberty to roam at will, only being placed on their honour to keep out of trouble. The result of this was that in no case was any trouble caused.

Eventually we were shipped off to Copenhagen, where we arrived on Xmas Eve. We had a very good time during our enforced stay in Denmark. The inhabitants seemed as though they could not do enough for us. English was spoken on all sides and we were invited into the houses and made as welcome as friends. After a few days we again embarked for Hull and the care and attention we received soon helped to clear away the effects of our long incarceration.

The Listening Post.

If I were Dictator
(By T. G. Retallic)

Nearly everyone is talking politics nowadays, and nearly everyone is suffering from them in some form or other. Usually it's in the shape of too much politician and not enough policy.

Of course it must be admitted that quite a few "slim" men get into politics just naturally with the result that Parliament expands their waist-line even if it does not broaden their minds.

Recently we had a politician in our village, and I strolled along with a few of the lads (and one of the lasses) to have a "looksee." A regular lad he was, too.

You would never credit the things he did during the three years he was in the House. He started the Secession movement (and he also said he would see it through when he went back), he threatened at least twice to upset the Government. No! his name is not Guy Fawkes—besides being cheeky to the Leader of his party. I began to wonder whether it really would be fair to the others to send him back again.

He was a bad lad!—He told us all the old, old story and got caught once or twice when it got too tall. Which was all very well and quite amusing until he was well and truly bowled by an inquisitive admirer of Trotsky who asked him: "What would you do to lift W.A. out of this depression if you were a dictator?"

Now a really wily politician would have glanced that one neatly to leg by remarking: "Oh, well, I think to start with I would have the latest thing in Fords," thereby proving himself a real democrat.

But not this bright lad. We at least

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expected that he would slam the door when he left the office and so on—but no.
He really couldn’t say.
So now we poor old cooks are left to solve the problem alone. Of course, cooks have plenty of spare time—I nearly wrote cash, would you believe it!—and just after the harvest some of us would like to be dictators.
I know I would. I think all the things a dictator ought to think, particularly when I am answering business letters from “friends” in the city, which begins by asking me whether my intentions are strictly honourable and generally end up by giving me seven days to make up my mind. Or, after interviewing my bank manager, I come away fully convinced that I know how to be a dictator, having just had a most convincing demonstration gratis.
Of course, when I answer my business letters I don’t reply like a dictator. Oh, dear, no. That would never do. I reply in the tone of a dictatee or one of the new poor, and even though the gnashing of my teeth may disturb the window panes, my letter reads like the cooing of the dove.
This, mark you, is diplomacy, but there are people who would uncharitably describe it as hypocrisy, whilst others would dismiss it with an airy wave of the hand and a vague murmur of “Business, you know.”
As a real dictator I would naturally be beyond the reach of such mean spirited criticisms, and would have hordes of civil servants to wreak my vengeance and attend my commands. They are not really civil at all times, this being merely the term by which they are known to their employers. Outside their employment they are called names which no self-respecting dictator could possibly repeat. They are known to their immediate superiors as “officers,” and can usually be seen in any Government building, rushing along corridors or riding in the “life” with their “swords” behind the right ear and plans of the latest “evasion” in a neat bundle under the left arm.
Being now equipped with civil servants to prove my power and a “Ford” to prove my democracy, I can now proceed to “dictate.”
Let me first observe, however, that this particular office being a monopoly at the moment (there are signs of competition, however), I cannot avoid becoming very wealthy. Monopolies invariably bring in oodles of oof, like the sugar or galvanised iron ones for instance.
However, as those “purple cows” will have to be milked pretty soon, I had better make the most of my time as a dictator, so I will spend a buck and ring up Joe Lyons.
(a) Advertise that I need a capable brain to organise the banking—no, I will send for Douglas—or my bank manager, and get my own back.
(b) Reorganise railways, posts and telegraphs, and make them truly a service. Fast motor coach for all passenger trains, steam for freight and express work.
(c) Establish adequate defences (thank you, Sir George, that will be all. Sorry you have been tr-r-oubled), army, navy and air force. Army, voluntary short service, men between 18-25, cadet training for unemployed lads 15-18, re-leasing to work as found for them. Naval, ditto.
(d) Establishment of dockyards at Fremantle, Albany, and Bunbury or Geraldton, with coaling stations at Bunbury or Busselton, Wireless station at Esperance and Wyndham. Air bases at Kalgoozie (civilian subsidised), Wyndham, Geraldton, and Albany (both military and naval).
(f) Establish bulk-handling facilities for wheat under State control and management.
(g) Establish State homes and hospitals for children and the aged, also training schools on Pinjarra lines.
(h) Compulsory insurance of every worker and retirement at 55 years of age. 30 hour working week, using labour-saving machinery. Reversion to the Treasury of every profit over 10 per cent. after all just charges have been deducted.
(i) Taxation of $0 per cent. on all salaries over £2,000 per annum.
(j) Compulsory registration of every commission-gaining individual and business.
(k) Overhaul all legal charges and practices, criminal and divorce laws. Take every possible means to make the State support itself populisation at least in comfort if not in affluence.
(l) Revision of all pensions in non-military and police services, abolition of long leave, etc.—Complete re-organisation of all State administrative services which are showing a financial loss.
(m) The establishment of a new domestic currency for internal use, payment of workers, etc., using all products, wheat, wool, gold, etc., to build up credits in London and pay overseas debts.
Ypres—The First Battle Battle Thereof
“IN THE YEAR 1658”

The “First Battle of Ypres” took place—not in October, 1914: far from it. Two hundred and fifty-six years before that, an army of “Old Contemptibles” landed in Flanders and mixed things with the Spanish troops of Don John of Austria in front of the ancient ramparts. They captured that venerable town after an attack which excited the admiration of the great Marshall Turenne, commander of the Anglo-French armies, and the Ferdinand Foch of his day.

Ypres Unchanged
The old cathedral, the Cloth Hall, the narrow streets, the ramparts and the moat, familiar to Australian and Imperial troops in the earlier days of the war, were in existence back in 1658. Indeed the town had changed little from those far-off days when the forerunners of the B.E.F.—Cromwell’s glorious 6,000—routing Don John’s Spaniards at the Battle of the Dunes, near Dunkirk, laid siege to Ypres.

The Original B.E.F.
These old 17th Century Contemptibles were a hard-boiled lot. Having campaigned in the English Civil War and against the Scots they were a seasoned crowd of old salts who would sooner fight than talk. When they landed in Flanders in 1658, togged out in the bright red coats with which the Cromwellian armies had just been issued, they created a sensation—just like their offspring in 1914. However, they differed in some respects from the 1914 model.

For example, Hon. John Fortescue, historian of the British Army, says that the old redcoats complained bitterly about their rations and shouted loudly for beef and beer. “In the Great War the troops, of course, never did anything like that. Again, when the famous 6,000 were not engaged scraps the Spaniards they used to keep in practice by taking occasional wallops at their allies.

In fact, the only reason why Turenne tolerated them was that he needed “storm-troops” the worst way out; and the B.E.F. just filled the bill nicely.

Battle of the Dunes
In Cromwell’s 6,000 were regiments that later secured definite identity in the British Army. The Royal Scots were among them, known then as the “Regimental Douglas.” So also were the East Kent Regiment—the Buffs. There was an Irish unit, the “Regiment Dillon.”

But, opposing the Buffs and the Royal Scots—to employ the modern nomenclature—were, in addition to Don John’s Spaniards, some English royalist troops. The Duke of York’s cavalry formed part of Don John’s army. And the Duke’s horsemen in later years were incorporated as the 2nd Life Guards. Fighting on foot was the regiment which constituted the personal bodyguard of the fugitive King Charles II—in other words, the unit that eventually became the Grenadier Guards.

So, at the Battle of the Dunes, the Buffs and the Royal Scots were stacked against the Life Guards and the Grenadiers and licked them. In fact, at the end of the day, with Don John’s defeated army high-tailing for home, the Grenadiers, who had fought right valiantly, were cut off and surrounded. There then ensued a courteous interchange of messages.

The Commander of the victorious 6,000 informed the Commanding Officer of the Grenadiers that his Spanish allies were “fini la guerre.”

What May Have Ensued
“Gadzooks and Odd’s Blood!” or words to that effect “How cometh it?” demanded the Guardsman. “The pikemen of the good Don John hath laid thy foot-sloggers across the barrel and are paddling them most mightily.”

“By my troth,” sneered the Cromwellian commander “sez you—eh? Even now, the malignant Spaniards are dusting down the back trail for home and, behold, they are hitting on all six.”

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The O.C. Grenadiers was astounded. "Thou pullest my leg," he snorted.

To settle the argument, the two Commanders proceeded to the summit of one of the sand dunes, where they beheld the destruction and rout of the Spaniards.

"Odds bodikins!" said the Guardsman, "Don John hath buzzed off, at the high port. Dost that not give thee a pain in the neck?"

"Thou hast said a mouthful," remarked the Cromwellian Commander. "And what art thou going to do about it?"

"I'faith, but we are trimmed for a fare-thee-well, good Sir. Thou canst bet thy boots we know when we are licked.

And the Grenadiers straightway laid down their arms.

THE SIEGE OF YPRES

After the Battle of the Dunes, Turenne campaigned on the coast, capturing the Channel ports one by one, and then he laid siege of Ypres, which was garrisoned by the Prince de Ligne. Meanwhile Don John had had some new drafts, apparently, for he turned up again about nine miles away, intending to take another whack at the allies. His army outnumbered that of Turenne, and things were beginning to look black when the Cromwellian commander, Major-General Thomas Morgan, decided the best way to capture Ypres was to attack it.

He and Turenne made a reconnaissance. A reconnaissance in those days was a grandstand show. None of that business of detailing the Scout Sergeant and three bombers. Turenne turned up with three lieutenant-generals and eight noblemen; and, with Morgan, the party went out on patrol. They reconnoitred the approaches to the moat, and found a place that looked likely. It was a forlorn hope, and Turenne turned the business over to the old B.E.F.

THE ATTACK

And this is the story, as reported by Morgan.

"The Major-General made the English stand to their arms, and divided them into bodies; a captain at the head of the (50) pioneers; and the Major-General and a Colonel at the head of two battalions (300 men each). He ordered the two battalions and the pioneers, each man to take a long fascine upon their dons. The Major-General lodged the musquets and pikes, and then there were three small groves of wood.

"Immediately the Major-General commanded the two Majors-to go to their approaches (Assembly Areas); and that they should leap out so soon as they should see the Major-General march between their approaches.

"The Major-General did order the two battalions, when they came within three-score of the stockades, to ship their fascines and fall on (attack). But so it happened, the French never moved out of their approaches, till such time as Major-General Morgan had overpowered the enemy.

"When the pioneers came within sight of the stockades they slipped the fascines down and fell on. The Major-General and the other two battalions were close to them, and when the soldiers began to lay their hands on the stockades, they tore them down for the length of six-score, and leaped pell-mell into the counterscarp amongst the enemy.

"Abundance of the enemy were drowned in the moat and many taken prisoners, with two German princes, and the counterscarp cleared.

"The French were in their approaches all this time.

"Then the English fell on the half-moons (outworks), and immediately the redcoats were on top of them, throwing the enemy into the moat, and turning the cannon upon the town; thus the two half-moons were speedily cleared."

When the show was over, Turenne's troops horned in but, says the report, "they were beaten off." The B.E.F. seeing the perilous plight of their allies, canvassed ways and means of helping them out.

The report continues:

"The redcoats cried, 'Shall we fall on in order, or happy-go-lucky?'

"The Major-General said, 'In the name of God, at it happy-go-lucky.'

"And immediately the redcoats fell on, and were on top of it, knocking the enemy down and casting them into the moat. When this work was English on the counterscarp. They were no sooner lodged but Marshal Turenne scrambled over the ditches to find out the Major-General; and, when he met with him, he was much troubled the French did no better, for indeed they did just nothing."

Next day, Ypres surrendered.

The casualties of the B.E.F. in the assault were one officer and nine other ranks killed, and 25 officers and six other ranks wounded. Major-General Morgan himself was "slightly hurt by a shot in the calf of the leg."

And so ended the First Battle of Ypres.
The Listening Post

Scabbards Off!

(By "Pip Tok")

We saw quite a lot of our girl friends during the heat wave.

No layman would presume to tell a surgeon how to perform a major operation, or an engineer how to build a bridge, but every politician who writes war memoirs feels competent to tell the world how Haig should have fought the Battle of Passchendaele. Mr. Lloyd George is neither engineer nor doctor, but he is certainly a great "I" specialist.

When University Professors, eminent nobodies and noisy nonentities were flogging themselves into a frenzy lest Australian liberty should suffer through the exclusion of Herr Egon Kisch, the president of the local Anti-War League ridiculed the suggestion that the Aunties are Communists. During the month, the Melbourne Aunties circulared various unions asking for endorsement of their "anti-war aims," which included the prevention of attacks on, Holy Russia and defined defence as the right of Australia to break away from the British Empire. Evidently there has been bad

Information supplied by the Federal Executive reveals that the total enlistments in Australia for service overseas was 416,819, and the total discharges, 264,154. The number of discharges represents those discharged in Australia who had service overseas. Altogether, 343,250 had embarked for service overseas.

staff work somewhere, and men who can view public questions, with both eyes open can be excused for smiling when they realise how maladroitly the Melbourne Aunties have let the cat out of the hamper.

The genial Melbourne schoolmaster who broadcast the Scouts' Jamboree said, one day, "This is the day of the Chief Scout. With all due respect to Their Excellencies the Governor-General and the State Governor who visited the camp, they are the Governor-General and the State Governor, but the Chief Scout, well—he is the Chief Scout." Nothing like being explicit. Without this information some of us might have thought that he was the Pipe-Major.

During the week, a friend told me something which I find hard to believe. His son, who is attending the local free and enlightened University, was compelled to join the undergraduates' anti-war league. Evidently the Professors were too busy playing Kisch in the Ring to protest against this interference with individual liberty.

A Tasmanian doctor says that his investigations lead him to the conclusion that January is the favourite month for suicide and June the least popular. One can hardly wonder at it after the heat we have been experiencing, but the trouble is the wrong people take direct action against themselves.

The Bishop of Goulbourn stated that the old capitalist system is breaking down and that we must revolutionise

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State Executive Meetings

December 19, 1934

At the meeting on December 19, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Riley, Philip, Denton, Hunt, Aberle, Freedman, Margolin, Bryan, Lovell, Pady, Ross, Wilkins, Wells, Mellor, Collins, and Farquharson. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Olden, May, Collert, Panton, Warner, Lamb, Watt, Edmonds, and Cornell.

The motion left over from last meeting, dealing with the proportion of the Club Manager's salary to be paid by the R.S.L. and the Club, was carried.

A leather calendar made by members of the Collie S.S.L. and forwarded by them to the Executive was received with thanks.

Condolence.—The condolences of the State President and Executive were extended to Mr. F. Aberle on the loss of his father, and to the Lord Mayor of Perth, on the recent loss of his wife.

Christmas Greetings. — Christmas greetings from Sir William Birdwood, other branches and organisations were received and tabled. Colonel Denton read a letter of greeting from General Maclagan.

Visitors.—Messrs. H. L. Roche and A. Potts (Kojonup), and H. Jay (Yarram) attended the meeting, and were formally welcomed by the State President.

Land Committee.—The report of the meeting of the Land Committee on December 8 was submitted by Mr. Hunt, Messrs. Henning (Waroona), and Jay (Yarram) had been present at the meeting, which had been called for the purpose of reviewing the Bill to stabilise the butter industry. At a later stage, Messrs. Potts and Roche addressed delegates on the provisions of the Agricultural Bank Bill.

Visits.—The following visits were reported: Tramways (Mr. Lovell), Carlisle (Mr. Farquharson), Merredin, Wongan Hills, and Dongarra (Archdeacon Riley), Claremont (Dr. C. Bryan), and Wannanup (Mr. Potts).

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State War Memorial.

Tarlton Memorial.

The Listening Post

25th January, 1935

The Listening Post

23

Subiaco, Herrie Hill, North Perth, and Upper Swan (the State President).

Efficiency Trophy.—The State President reported having presented the R.S.L. efficiency trophy to Colonel Foxworthy and the officers of the 44th Battalion on December 6.

War Service Homes.—A telegram from the Federal Office stated that the Minister for Repatriation had introduced into the Federal Parliament a Bill providing advances for sewerage in cases where applicants had previously received full advances.

The Federal President had requested this Branch's approval of his action in approaching the Minister and suggesting the appointment of a Judge to formulate the principles, and later the appointment of a Board in each State to review cases of hardship amongst War Service Homes applicants. The State President reported that he had replied endorsing the proposal, but reserving the right to review any principle pronounced by the Judge appointed.

Yealering.—The annual balance sheet of the Yealering Sub-branch was received.

General.—It was agreed that the message as requested by the Maylands Sub-branch be forwarded through the Federal Office to the Duke and Duchess of Kent. Approval was given of the action taken by the State President and State Secretary to ensure that the Executive would incur no liability in connection with the erection of a hall for the Victoria Park Sub-branch.

A request from the T.B. Sailors' and Soldiers' Association for accommodation in Anzac House was referred to the House Committee.

Information about the Women's Auxiliary funds, Claremont and Cottesloe, was received.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Executive be held on January 16. Leave of absence from the next meeting was granted to Rabbi Friedman and Mr. Farquharson.

16/1/35

At the first meeting of the year there were present: Messrs. Yeates, Riley, Olden, Collert, Hunt, Aberle, Margolin, Watt, Morton, Pady, Ross, Wilkins, Wells and Collins. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. May, Philip, Panton, Denton, Freedman, Lamb and Farquharson.

Airing out of the Management Committee's report, the attention of the Bunbury Sub-branch will be drawn to the new rule concerning sub-branches desiring incorporation. It was decided that the State President, Mr. Hunt and the assistant State Secretary attend the annual reunion of the Collie Sub-branch.

It was agreed that the Minister for Lands be approached with the request that he arrange the withdrawal of the conditions imposed by the Cottesloe Municipality in connection with a grant of land to the Cottesloe Sub-branch.

Lease of Club Premises.—It was agreed that a clause be inserted in the conditions of the lease of the club premises, prohibiting the presence of women on club premises and the serving of liquor to women, except on special occasions when League functions are being held.

Condolence.—It was agreed that the State Secretary convey to the relatives of the late Colonel Flintoff, and of the late Mr. Ted Hardy, the sincere sympathy of the Executive in their recent loss.

Land Committee.—Mr. Hunt verbally reported that the Land Committee and the action being taken by the committee to maintain the soldiers' identity in the new Agricultural Bank Bill. The report was received, and the committee congratulated on its efforts.

House Committee.—During the discussion of the other matters, a special meeting of the committee was held in the ballroom on the 4th January, 1935.
Great Southern District Committee, No. 4

At a meeting held at Wagin, on December 2, 1934, there were present Messrs. F. Knight, W. George, A. Keet (Pingrup), R. Booth, H. G. Piesse, C. G. Lloyd, M. Noonan, H. C. Ainsworth (Wagin), R. C. Austin, S. W. Stewart (Gnowangerup), J. G. Finlay, R. Fryer Smith (Kojonup), H. H. Wildock, D. John (Boddington), E. F. Mouritz (Katanning), the acting Chairman, H. L. Roche, and the action Secretary, A. W. Potts.

Mr. Lloyd, on behalf of the Wagin Sub-branch, entertained delegates at lunch at the Federal Hotel.

Ball.—The Acting Chairman reported on the Committee’s share in the ball at Kojonup in honour of Sir Wm. Birdwood. Austin, Gnowangerup, eulogised Kojonup’s effort, and a hearty vote of thanks and congratulations was carried.

Kojonup reported the nomination of Sir Wm. Birdwood as a Foundation Member of Anzac House, and the yearly Xmas gift of a fat lamb, which the sub-branch hopes will be a reminder to Sir William of happy days in the Great Southern district.

W. George (Pingrup) moved: “That where a returned soldier client of the Agricultural Bank has affected permanent and vital improvements to his farm at his own expense during the currency of any one year, that his registered statutory lien be reduced by the capital amount of such improvements.” This measure is in accordance with a press statement made by the Minister of Lands over a year ago. We believe that this practice is already adopted by woolgrowers and group settlers. This was seconded by Mr. Keet (Pingrup), who explained that any equity existing should be secured to the settler, and after discussion, the motion was carried.

Other motions carried were: “That the distributions of the Poppy Day Appeal should be on the basis of 4d. to the aged, 1d. to the poor, and 1/2d. to the sub-branch Amelioration Fund.”

“This Committee consider that the recent ‘Buy a Brick Appeal’ should be investigated in the interests of the R.S.L., as to why finality has not been reached and in future that any appeal on behalf of the R.S.L. should be made by the State Executive and controlled through their offices.”

On the statement by Mr. Mouritz, that Katanning Sub-branch desired the honour of running the next annual re-union in March, it was decided that Katanning be thanked and the offer be accepted.

The Secretary was instructed to ask the Press Sub-branch to assist in possessing reports into the State Executive about the meeting.

Agricultural Bank Bill.—Discussion on Clauses 10, 40 “L”, “L” (54) (b) (6) and (6) (1) resulted in the appointment of a committee consisting of Messrs. Roche, Austin, Stewart, and Potts, to draft resolutions covering these clauses, to be communicated to our representatives in the Upper House.

Resolutions.—(1) Incorporation of a representative of the Soldier Settlers in the Agricultural Bank Bill.

(2) The Clauses 40 "L", (b) (6) and (6) (1) to be amended in the interests of the R.S.L., as to why finality has not been reached and in future that any appeal on behalf of the R.S.L. should be made by the State Executive and controlled through their offices.

The meeting adjourned.

The Listening Post

25th January, 1935

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The meeting adjourned.

For the Majority

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Sub-Branch Notes

MIDLAND JUNCTION

The Midland Junction Sub-branch held its annual meeting in the Town Hall Room on January 17. The officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, Mr. Bob Vickery; vice-presidents: Len Wilkinson and Ben Cohen; Secretary, Bert Stephens (re-elected). Much business was transacted and the discussions on the various items were very keen. It is hoped that the members will take more interest in their sub-branch and attend meetings. The social committee is working hard to put a bit of life into the sub-branch and needs every support. The first scheme is to run jaunts to the various beaches during the summer.

The sub-branch cricket club is to be congratulated on their performance this year, having won all six games played. We are looking forward to winning the second premiership and pennant which also includes a shield, presented by the Executive.

Sub-branch members are reminded that rearrangements are being made to take a bus to Cottesloe on Sunday, February 17, to see the country diggers' versus metropolitan diggers' cricket match. Help the R.S.L. Cricket Association to make the fixture a social success.

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SUBIACO

At the first monthly meeting on Thursday, January 3, 1935, there was a large attendance. Increased interest has been shown in sub-branch doings during last year, the A.R.S. Competitions providing much entertainment for those who played against other sub-branches. Suby and Osborne Park tied for lowest score, and the latter challenged us to decide rearguard position, so the Park holds that.

The following officers were nominated and elected for 1935—President, Mr. Bert Congden; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. P. J. Clegg and J. E. Mitchell; Secretary, Mr. Ben Williamson (re-elected); Treasurer, Mr. C. Wears (re-elected); Committee, Messrs. Harvey, A. E. Beatt, Bennett, Burgess, Goodby, Skinner, Spencer, Cribb, and E. Congden; Auditors, Messrs. Shand and Eastwood (re-elected). Mr. P. J. Clegg was appointed publicity officer.

COLLIE

Here we are again, still keeping our attendances up at the meetings, interest in all the activities of the sub-branch being well maintained. The Women's Auxiliary is working very hard to finalise the Flower Queen Carnival by December 21. The annual Xmas Fete was held on December 19, when all the children of members and deceased soldiers had a day out. A benefit card evening was held recently to aid the families of two ex-soldiers who are in hospital. The annual trip to Duramin and Mooldirrup took place on the 18th. Some six car loads of diggers left Collie for the two days' trip. Arriving at Mooldirrup, they were welcomed by all the folk gathered there, and what a time they had. A splendid tea was soon dispensed of, and then the fun commenced. Our pianist was very much to the fore in providing the music till the early hours of the morning, interspersed with items and community singing, some of the old soldier choirs being up with great gusto. The next day was spent in sports near the very fine river alongside the hall. Afternoon tea was served, when the opportunity was taken of thanking the good friends of Duramin and Mooldirrup, and also of explaining the activities of the League. Thanks are due to all who helped to make the trip so enjoyable, and all who went are looking forward to another trip in the very near future.

We wish the Compliments of the Season to all our members, wherever they may be. Unfortunately we still have to report that there are three of our members in the Repatriation Ward, and we wish them a speedy recovery to good health and strength.

Unfortunately pension cases are still rolling in, showing quite clearly that the disabilities not apparent when the diggers returned are now making themselves felt in no uncertain manner.

May the coming year bring forth a year of prosperity and good health to all.

MAYLANDS

This sub-branch will hold its next meeting on Thursday, February 7, in the supper room, Maylands Town Hall, when the election of officers for 1935 will take place. The following meeting night, February 21, will be set aside for the annual smoke social. All members and intending members are urged to be present on both occasions. Roll up and make the 1935 year a bumper.

CARLISLE

On December 27, President Nichol invited the members of the committee to his residence, to complete the year's business. Members sat down to a delightful supper, the tables being most tastefully laid out. During the musical items a presentation was made to the leader, who has been at the head of affairs since the inception of the sub-branch.

On December 31, the sub-branch held a New Year Eve social. The hall was packed to its full capacity. One member was heard remarking, that if another couple were present one would not be able to move. Dancing, harmonies, refreshments were kept up till the wee sma' hours. On January 3, there was a fair muster of members, Mr. Nichol presiding. The busyness put the balance sheet for the past year showed a very favourable increase. The officers of the sub-branch were congratulated on the energetic work done by them. The election of officers for this year was proceeded with, the following being elected—President, Mr. L. Gillen; vice-presidents, Messrs. McKinnay and Stenning; secretary, Mr. G. Groves (re-elected); treasurer, Mr. T. Powell. Mr. Nichol, on vacating the chair, gave a resume of the year's business. He congratulated the officers and committee on their work during the past year, and besought every member present to bring along a new member during the coming months. The new president, Mr. Gillen, was then introduced, and took the chair. In his opening address he asked members to take an active part in the affairs of the sub-branch and not leave the work to the committee, as without their assistance the reputation of the sub-branch could not be maintained.

ARDATH-BABAKIN

"Chitter" writes.—We are dead unlucky in this sub-branch. I was telling you last month that the mob was bropy about rabies and things like that, and blow me, if Alf. didn't turn up at last meeting with his hand done up in a bonzer fix. The bunch reckoned Alf wasn't having treatment for dog-bite unless he bought it himself, but said Alf said he had been badly burnt. There wasn't any dog-bite about it, and, anyway, the one that...
The Listening Post

25th January, 1935

bit Arthur died a few days later. Arthur is still alive.

Talking about dog-bite and the whisky cure, I notice Birney has a few dogs round the pub these days. I wonder why.

However, to get back to Alf, it was hard luck because Alf couldn't play his usual game of pak-a-poo, and he is just off on holidays, so I suppose he will have to pay his own expenses now. Tough luck!

The mob wanted to know who won the "brick" appeal, and Alf made inquiries but had no information. I reckon the Duke must have won it, as he was the only bloke who got a free trip to Melbourne. Someone was telling us that along with the bricks that were sold there was one or two heavy ones "dropped" when the Duke was here. Is that dinkum?

The dance held by the sub-branch was a huge success, the local folk turning up in full force, so the funds will get a good kick along.

What do you know about old Basil? Doesn't want the ladies to have too much to do with the dance business, etc. Oh, dear! No! You ought to have had an eye-full of our Basil all dressed up with a posy apron, and a tea-cloth, going for his life, doing a dish-washing fatigue. His colleague, Harry, was there, too, and they were two stout mess orderlies. But I reckon Basil was getting a little bit of practice on a job that Harry already knows. Still, those two polished off the cups and saucers just as quickly as they do the mops. Shows what you can do with practice!

There is a rumour that we are to have a new Post Office in Ararat, and Alf suggested it might be a job for a returned man, as the postmistress is shortly to be married. The mob agreed, and then Alf put up another one. Felt sorry there wasn't a permanent residence for the railway station, and considered the sub-branch could do a little in that direction. A man bringing a family into the district was worth the consideration—and Alf will get an assistant when he gets up more kiddies attending school. The assistance, of course, is required in the scholastic business, so don't go getting me all mixed up when you print these notes. Alf can still use his left.

The sub-branch discussed the question of a Zone Committee, and generally considered that the present zone boundaries are rather too widely flung, and areas too large. Alf was instructed to put it up to the Executive with a view to having some kind of re-organisation to obtain more compact areas, which will make it easier to organise the necessary Zone Committee.

Some little discussion took place re annual social, but it was decided to leave that matter until next meeting. Alf's hand ought to be quite well again by then, although his left was useful when we had our usual pub in. I am willing to bet it will be a good shivoo when it comes off—the social I mean—so don't expect any report about it in case Birney's dog gets in first.

I don't think I told you about poor old Bert Howe. He had a bad knock last year, and hasn't quite recovered. *He was helping the banks to do a repair job on a harvester and accidentally got his head in the way of a sledge hammer, collecting a nice little punch. Now he suffers from loss of memory. On New Year's Day Bert worked all day getting the ball ready for our dance, and he can't forget about the pub being next door. Then when he did remember the pub, he forgot where it was, and between remembering the pub and forgetting the way, he never had a single pot all day! If some of the mob hadn't remembered to "have a heart," Bert would have died of thirst on us. That's suffering from loss of memory all right, and Birney reckons it's a common complaint at times. He ought to know!

PERTH

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for rectifying the omission from the November issue. Members who blamed me for not having sent my notes along are now very apologetic.

Well, our "annual" took place on January 8, and was fairly well attended, that is, for Perth. We had a good crowd, including the irrepressible "journaliste," who, after a few "jugs," surprised the natives by rattling off some popular ditties on the piano. The proposal to finance a few prospectors has had to be abandoned because of lack of support. This is a great pity, because they had much to commend it to.


The Auditor's, President's and Secretary's annual reports were received with acclamation, all reports showing a year of activity. Resolutions of congratulation were unanimously carried for Mary, Mesers and Company, all of whom gained distinction in the New Year Honour List. The Perth Sub-branch is proud of both of these stalwarts. The evening concluded with a "ten" and everybody seemed to have had a good meeting.

WEST LEEDEERVILLE

After the December meeting, the annual smoke-oh took place, a very large gathering being present. At the gathering the opportunity was taken by Mr. F. Gulley to present to the sub-branch, on behalf of the citizens of Leederville, a vellum folder containing a short history of the War Memorial and the names of the fallen. The folder is a splendid piece of work, and will be used at future Anzac services. The remarks made by Mr. Gulley regarding League membership were most impressive and worthy of being broadcast throughout the State.

At the January meeting the following officers were elected for the year—President, Mr. H. E. Smith; vice-presidents, Messrs. W. H. Harries and C. Woods; secretary, Mr. H. J. Hains; auditor, Mr. C. Taylor; committee, Messrs. E. Flanagan, Forester, Hughes, Joe, Lehman, Smith, Timmell, Tyndale, with president, past presidents, vice-presidents, and secretary, ex officio. The members took the opportunity to thank Messrs. Peters and Smithers for past services. Both have been staunch members, and have spent a considerable amount of time in the interest of the sub-branch. New members welcomed to the sub-branch at the meeting were Messrs. Fred Newby, Harry Millward, and Nev. Young. A picnic has been arranged to take place at Mossmans Bay on Monday, January 28. The Committee has arranged for the necessary food supplies. All members and their families are welcome. The Committee request any member who was not present at the January meeting to notify the President or Secretary if he intends to be present.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDEERVILLE

The Xmas meeting passed off in song and story, but very sedately; there seemed an absence of the usual sparkle so evident at previous meetings of this nature. The Xmas raffle was drawn the following week and provided prizes for descendants of Auld Scotia, two McGregor and a McKenzie being the lucky winners.

The President (Ted Danon) and Secretary

The MOST REMARKABLE SUCCESS of the Season

ALEXANDER RACKETS

win Championship of Queensland, N.S.W. and Victoria

against World's Best Players

Wholesale Only—GOODE, DURRANT AND MURRAY LTD.

26

The Listening Post
The Listening Post

25th January, 1935

YANMAH

At the annual general meeting on January 9, with Frank Hunter in the chair, several com- mended were nominated for the president’s job, but all declined. Therefore, Frank, after a few well-chosen choice words, accepted the post himself. That 'staunch friend of the' sub-branch, Les Verrier, was elected secretary. Other officers elected were, vice-presidents, Messrs. Hodgson and Jay; social committee, Barry, Caligiari, and Hodges; auditors, Barry and Cooper. It was resolved that the executive function as local Distress Committee.

The sub-branch lost two presidents during the year, Tim Stahl leaving in March, and Bill Reynolds, who succeeded him in November. Both are now residing in the metropolitan area. Messrs. Hodges, Smith, Taylor, Hawsham, Burges, and McDonald also left the district during the year.

With the ranks so depleted, the incoming executive has a stiff job in front of it in building up the sub-branch membership, and all returned men in the district are invited to rally round and help keep the flag flying.

The action of the Agricultural Bank is giving all those settlers whose wives possess stock thirty days’ notice to dispose of them (the stock, not the wives), or alternatively to give a Bill of Sale over them, is causing grave unrest throughout the district. Once again those settlers who helped themselves and incidentally the Government, by purchasing their own live stock, are getting it in the neck, and those poor fools of husbands who persuaded their wives to invest in a cow or two are sorry men to-day.

CLAREMON'T

The seventeenth annual meeting was held in the Parish Hall, on January 3, 1935, and was presided over by the President, Brigadier A. M. Martyn. The attendance, as usual, was quite satisfactory, especially in view of the fact that the holidays were not finished. The president’s report showed a financial membership of 126 at the end of 1934, as against 99 the previous year, and when it is taken into account that during that period fourteen members had left the district, the next increase is surely something to be proud of. The finances of the sub-branch are also sound, there being an increase of £13 in the General Fund. There is certainly no reason why the coming year should not be a prosperous one, if everyone will do his small share.

Arrangements for the annual smoke social, to be held on Thursday, February 7, 1935, in the Parish Hall, are well in hand, and tickets may be obtained from all members of the committee, and Mr. Reg. Hedges, Tobacconist, Bay View Terrace. Members are asked to bear in mind that only ex-service men will be admitted to this social. A strong social committee has been elected, and is already working on the preliminary arrangements for the coming occasion.

The programme as drawn up has received the endorsement of a general meeting of the sub-branch, so it rests with members themselves as to the success or failure of these functions.

Before these notes go to press the S.S.L. Sub-branch will have held the first annual meeting, and, therefore, will be working for the first year under an executive from its own ranks. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Davies, who was the president for the past year, for his untiring services in the work he undertook at the beginning of 1934. Although otherwise a busy man, no call in the interests of the boys has been neglected by him, and any suggestion for the welfare of the S.S.L. has received his full support. Mr. Liddbury has very kindly donated a set of parlor bowls to the sporting equipment of the boys, which gift has been greatly appreciated. This will enable them to enter for the Colonel Collett Shield with a good kit of gear. It now only remains for a few of the members of the R.S.L. to devote a little time to the coaching of the different teams. Will a few enthusiastic members please volunteer?

New Year greetings have been received from Captain Ball in Brisbane, who sends the best of wishes for a prosperous year to both the R.S.L. and S.S.L.

ALBANY

The monthly meeting was held in the Institute on Tuesday, December 18, with Mr. E. Y. Butler, R.M., in the chair. Several visitors were welcomed from places as far distant as Mount Lawley. An attendance of 37 was registered, which is a record for monthly meetings.

Letters were received from—Mr. H. Haines, conveying the information that a sucking pig had been donated by Mr. Stone, of Needup (to be acknowledged); the State Secretary, R.S.L., forwarding badges for the Sons of Soldiers’ League, and conveying the best wishes of the State Executive, and suggesting February as a suitable month for a visit from the Executive; and Mr. W. J. Day, with regard to Xmas cheer parcels.

The report of the Sons of Soldiers’ League Committee was received, and approval given to the following suggestions—(1) A list of games and sports gear required be prepared by the Secretary, S.S.L., and submitted to the President of the parent sub-branch for approval and purchase; (2) That members of the P.S.B. turn up for the inaugural meeting and give the S.S.L. a social evening; (3) That the President of the P.S.B. attend the opening meeting officially.

Members are asked to remember the healthy appetites of the young and provide accordingly.

The report of the Xmas Tree Committee was adopted. With reference to the forthcoming exhibition of war souvenirs, members who have exhibits are asked to get into touch with the Committee. An effort will be made to secure the loan of some souvenirs from Headquarters, Perth. The Xmas tree will be for the entertainment of all children in Albany between three and twelve years of age. It was expected that 700 children would be catered for.

Kids, more kids, and then hundreds more! Methinks all the children in Albany turned up to inscribe fresh history for both the R.S.L.

PETEts

ICE CREAM

A W.A. PRODUCT

The health food of a nation

EAT SOME EVERY DAY!
and Albany as a whole. Donations in cash and kind were received from our friends and the business people of the town. The estimate was for 700, but an estimate of the number of tickets present is 1,200. This makes our thanks to all the more necessary to those who gave the cash and goods. It may be realised that chaos ensued. To make it better, trumpets, squeakers, etc. were given—early, and the noise was remissent of peace night. Did the bairns enjoy themselves? I should say they did. The idea of the scheme was excellent, and Daddy Christmas, after many rather interesting adventures, arrived in due course. He should have been armed with a loud speaker. His great trip arose from the deeps to the joy of the multitude at large. Toys were soon distributed, and owing to some double rushing and the excess numbers present, some of the bairns were disappointed; still, the young ones enjoyed themselves on the whole. Our difficulties were largely increased by the adults crowding into the space intended for the children, some of the blame for the breakdown must rest with them. It was a pity, too, that some of the adults were so spiritated as to digit the ice cream meant for the young ones, and their having done so would be a shortage. Still, on the whole, it was a great success, and—the war days—the lesson learned will be of great assistance on the next occasion. It is hoped to make this an annual affair. The next meeting is to be held when those who helped, carried with their trucks, friends with cakes, etc., and all the others, far too numerous to mention here. One little incident is worth passing on: A son said to his father, "Daddy, this trumpet won't blow." "Thank God," said father. Adults were admitted, and it is estimated that about 500 were present.

While many said the shed—kindly lent by Messrs. Elder, Smith & Co.—would be far too large, it proved barely large enough. However, the affair is the talk of the town, and once again the R.S.I. has scored.

The monthly meeting was held on January 19 at 8 p.m. with Mr. E. Y. Butler, R.M., in the chair. He briefly welcomed, Mr. J. Potts, our ex-president, who is spending his holidays at Albany, and a visitor from Narrogin, who is being transferred. The secretary was instructed to forward to the Town Clerk the name and particulars of an ex-R.A. Naval man whose name had been omitted from the Honour Board at the Town Hall, with a request that the name be placed thereon. The report of the golf club was received and a vote of thanks passed to Mrs. S. Roots, who had looked after the pig and turkeys for some time before the draw was made. A letter was received from the King River Cricket Club asking for a permit with the R.S.I. on January 26. The secretary was instructed to point out that this clashed with Katanning's day and suggest Saturday, February 9. Instead, the report of the entertainment committee suggesting that picnics be held during the summer months instead of social evenings was adopted. The first picnic will be held on Sunday, February 2, at Eum Point. The exhibition of war souvenirs in aid of the amelioration fund is postponed until Thursday, January 24, so that it should not clash with the Health Week appeal. It was resolved that another letter of appreciation be sent to the A.V.F.B. Band for services rendered on many occasions during 1934.

UPPER SWAN

A goodly roll-up of members, bronzed and breezy after the holidays, attended at the Memorial Hall for the annual general meeting on January 17. President Eric Harrison, in his address, referred to the many activities of the past year and expressed his thanks to the secretary and members for their co-operation. Secretary Bob Lawson, in his financial report, disclosed the happy fact that in spite of frequent calls on the cash box the position was very sound. Most of the credit for this is due to the sub-branch ladies, who, realising that the funds were at low ebb, organised a bazaar and social evening and by a wonderful effort were able to hand over an amount of nearly £22. In appreciation of this great effort, the members tendered the ladies a complimentary evening. Songs, games and novelties were followed by a bainty supper during which each lady received a small present. Carpet bowls competition was arranged for the ladies, Mrs. Lin Thorn winning first prize with Mrs. Sid Wilson as runner-up. Mrs. Sid Harrison held the winning ticket for the tea set donated by Lin. Thorns, Mrs. Feutrell, m., in handing over the cheque, wished the sub-branch every success, and Mrs. Bob Lowson, on behalf of the ladies, expressed their pleasure in being able to help so worthy a cause. State President Alf Yeates and Lin. Thorn, M.A.A., together with President Eric Harrison, congratulated the ladies and the residents, of the district, their thanks for the help, so cheerfully given, and hoped that the event might be an annual one. Before the election of officers for 1935, Alf Yeates and Lin. Thorn warmly thanked the president and secretary for their efforts during the year and the president welcomed a new member in Bob Hills.

Eric Harrison was re-elected president unopposed, as was Bob Lowson to the position of secretary. Ernie Vine's retirement brought forth three names for the position of vice-president, and the resulting ballot saw Neil Lamont elected. The job of caterer, in which he excels, was Monty's also without question, and the election of a strong committee ensures the success of the sub-branch during the year. The auditor, Roy Haining, was thanked and re-elected unanimously, and a membership drive of the district in the near future was agreed upon. The refreshments were adequate and the fishing yarns so good that one can only hope that the spirit of comradeship increases like the size of the fish that keep getting off the various members' hooks.

Women's Auxiliaries

AUSTRALIA IN STORY

Loyalty to Australian goods—does not end in the purchase of Australian products and manufactures. There has been a remarkable development in the realms of Australian literature, but as with general commodities, it has taken the public a very long time to appreciate this.

Many Australian novelists have received recognition abroad. These authors have always written of their own country, using local colour for their romances and weaving stories around the sheep and cattle stations, the goldfields, and the never-never. Pen-pictures of the aboriginals, the early pioneers and the present settlers find a place in their writings. Untold delight awaits the reader who has yet to become acquainted with the
The value of this course is advocated annually at our conference. It is available to town as well as to country women, and is much appreciated by all housewives who attend. There are lectures in cooking, dietetics, poultry rearing, gardening, first-aid, dressmaking, and upholstery. All the lecturers are well-known experts in their own subjects.

As last year, the State Executive is organizing a river picnic, which will be held during the second week of the course. The Rural Science students will be the guests, but in order to make the afternoon a financial as well as a social success, tickets for all auxiliary members and their friends will be available at 1/- each.

Further arrangements will be made known to auxiliary secretaries at an early date.

GERALDTON

At the December meeting the attendance was very good and quite a lot of business was transacted. The President (Mrs. McGillonvray) occupied the chair. Deepest sympathy was extended to Mrs. Warren in the loss of her father, and Mrs. Butterfield (Treasurer) and Mrs. Whittall in the loss of their father. Councillor Kendall spoke of Mr. Brien, a member of our Society, and Mr. Brien and Mrs. Butterfield also spoke in the memory of their fathers, Councillor Kendall.

The President then took the chair and called on Miss Alice Simpson, who spoke on the West Australian outback. Miss Simpson, who has written several books on the subject, spoke in a very interesting manner and gave many humorous stories of life in the outback.

The meeting ended with the singing of "God Save the King."
"Watchman! What of the Night!"

(Under the heading, "Watchman! What of the Night?" the Rev. A. G. B. West who was for many years at St. Augustine's, Unley, Adelaide, and is now Rector of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, London, has issued the following Armistice Day message to his parishioners. The copy we reprint has been forwarded through the courtesy of Colonel C. W. H. Birt of Tambellup.)

I was asked lately by one of the London Daily Papers, what my views were on the League of Nations plebiscite and the necessity of keeping Great Britain out of any possible European embroilment. My answer was, and is:

That a League of Nations armed itself from 1914-1918 to defend the world against lawless militarism—and succeeded in its aim.

Armistice Day is our Annual Remembrance, first of all, of the high selfless aims for which so many millions of our friends laid down life, health, career or fortune—with success—in that titanic struggle. Nothing less than a high ideal of duty could have heartened them to such a peril and toil. And nothing that has since been said, by defeated peoples as to their innocence in forcing the conflict, has convinced us that we were wrong. The last thing we wished, or were prepared for, was that Ordeal by Battle. The last thing they believed was, that free men could unite in such a League to save themselves from being slaves.

The cost—in blood, in treasure, in public confidence—which that decision of ours involved, is being brought home to the elders of us more terribly year by year. The world has never yet been settled again.

That League of Nations, which defeated the forces of misrule, did not cease to work after the first Armistice Day of 1918. It continued in existence with a different membership—for the Great United States declined to continue with us, and for a number of years, could have broken Germany or Soviet Russia be admitted. And its aims were necessarily different, when War had ceased. Its business was to heal wounds, to start again machinery that was damaged, to inaugurate peace and preclude violence in all National disputes by calm counsel. It has done much to heal wounds. But always it has lacked that without which it is incompetent for its main task. It has never been armed. It has never been able to enforce its will for peace. The Supra-National Police Force, which we, who favoured the continuation of the League of Nations in 1918, always desired as a necessary condition of the continuance of the League, has never been supplied. The Peace of the World will ever be in real jeopardy until that lack is supplied. This, as I claim, is true Pacifism.

Civilisation, even in the most advanced of communities, such as our own, depends upon the policeman. While there are mad dogs and burglars in our midst, they must be restrained by force. Our children and women must be protected by the policeman. It is no love of violence which compels us to protect the weak. It is love of peace. That is true of every township and country and state. It is no less true of that Humanity—now recognised as one—compact of the dissimilar states and peoples of the world. If they can meet in a Parliament of Peace at Geneva—if they can arrive at common conclusions on debatable points—they must, in the fullness of time, have their appropriate means for enforcing their decision.

You and I are resolute for Peace. We resent the suggestion that another Great War is inevitable, will come in the nature of things. We say that it can be stopped, if men will that it shall not come. But it is idle to think that force may not be needed to compel that stoppage. It may be the only way. And I, for one, desire less hesitation, by our Statesmen and our Neighbours, in calling this Supra-National Force into be-
Twenty Years Ago
WAR ANNIVERSARIES
January, 1915.

Jan. 1—H.M.S. Formidable torpedoed in the English Channel with the loss of 800 lives. Two officers and 60 ratings were rescued by the Brixham fishing smack, Providence.

An Army Order defined the new organisation of Armies each consisting of three army corps.

Jan. 2—Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, was imprisoned in his Palace by the Germans for issuing a Pastoral urging on the Belgians the duties of “Patriotism and Endurance.”

H.M.S. Fox and Goliath carried out

An Armistice Day which moved men in this direction would verily have done something for mankind. It would have acted in harmony with the men whose lives were given up that we might live. It would have put the last laurel leaf upon the Cenotaph of our dead, for this is how their works must follow them. Mere sentimental repining for the past is useless; in the present, for the future, we are bounden to act, to enforce our will, that Armistice be a standing state for ourselves and all mankind. With the make-up and direction of such an International Policeman the mere Layman is none concerned. That must be left to the experts. Our business is to urge that it must be adequate and impressive. That will go far to ensure that it need not be used. With the contention that the creation of such a force would prevent other branches of the English speaking people from joining our effort for the Peace of the World I cannot agree. The fear of disasters which would leave none untouched must, in the end, compel common measures of safety. The League of 1914-18 was able to unite most diverse breeds of men, within the Empire and without, for the ends of freedom. It could, and should, unite all men of sense and goodwill, for purposes of Peace.

The best thing ordinary men can do, perhaps, for Peace, is to fight for just this. We detest it that National jealousies and enmities should continue to kill that thing which, alone, can secure us. Of envy, jealousy, hatred and all uncharitableness, we know enough—in our own ranks, among our own leaders and great services—during the War. We know the hindrance and weakness which that jealousy made. We protest against it being continued on a National scale in the sacred search for Peace among Men.

There are those who shout their views that never again must Great Britain be mingled in European conflicts. I trust we never may be. But sure I am, of this, that we cannot abdicate from our position. We cannot avoid being the Power most looked up to, considered and respected. And, long, as we are for Peace, for turning what those lads who died and fought to obtain, we shall not win that for mankind, if we abjure our leadership.

Our voice today would compel the establishment of such a Supra-National Force as would visit condign, immediate restraint or punishment, upon any nation which recklessly violated the considered judgment of Europe. Let that voice go out from this Church and City to our rulers, demanding that the surest and soundest insurance against the horrors of War be at once made.
# R.S.L. Sub-Branch and Unit Association Directory

**Rates:** £1 ls. 0d. per annum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARDATH-BABAŽIN</strong></td>
<td>Ardash Hotel</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. W. Wheeler, Babakina</td>
<td>A. T. Lay, School House, Ardash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALBANY</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Y. Butler, R.M., The</td>
<td>F. T. Evans, Serpentine Road,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Residency, Albany</td>
<td>Albany</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BUNBURY</strong></td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>N. C. Ryder, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BAYSWATER</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. E. Batey, Railway Cres.,</td>
<td>J. M. Hextall, 52 Glade St.,</td>
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<td>Bayswater</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BROOME</strong></td>
<td>R.S.L. Club Rooms</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>S. V. Ogilvie, Broome</td>
<td>E. Stainton, Broome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUSSLINGTON</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>W. A. Smith, Busselin</td>
<td>J. H. Atkinson and G. B. Vincent,</td>
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<td>Busselin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BRUNSWICK JUNCTION</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays</td>
<td>A. Sagar, Brunswick Junction</td>
<td>C. Piper, Brunswick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUCKLAND HILL</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Thursday in each month</td>
<td>C. Nixon, Tew St.,</td>
<td>C. Averty, 1 Grange St., Claremont</td>
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<td>R. V. A. Bush, Cowaramup</td>
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<td>Brig A. M. Martyn, C.M.G.,</td>
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<td>D.S.O., Swan Barracks, Perth</td>
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<td>R. I. Tanner, Kalamunda</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CARLISLE</strong></td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers’ Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>H. J. North, Denmark</td>
<td>H. G. Greaves, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLIE</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers’ Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleyung</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COWARAMUP</strong></td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. W. Wegner, Salmon Gum</td>
<td>Alan Morton, Salmon Gum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLAREMONT</strong></td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>G. F. Palmer, Donnybrook</td>
<td>A. V. Self, Donnybrook</td>
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<td>J. W. Lynch, Hampton Rd., Fremantle</td>
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<td>C. A. P. Gustelow, Carnarvon</td>
<td>S. P. V. Harrison, 65 Bellevue Tec., Fremantle</td>
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<td>R. C. Austin, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>W. S. Appleyard, Council Chin, Carnarvon</td>
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<td>Dr. H. E. Clarke, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Nadelup</td>
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<td>B. H. Lighthouse, Wokalup</td>
<td>E. Shepherd, Gwalia</td>
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<td>Phone Harvey 108LM</td>
<td>R. Irvine, Harvey</td>
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<td>R. R. Gibbs, Bank of N.S.W., Hanan St. V. Monti</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DARLING RANGE</strong></td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion) Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>C. P. A. G. Kettje, Kalamunda</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DENMARK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DUMBLEYUNG</strong></td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Quarterly, last Sunday in Jan, April, July, Oct.</td>
<td>H. J. North, Denmark</td>
<td>H. G. Greaves, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOWAK</strong></td>
<td>Salmon Gums</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>T. Brown, Dumbleyung</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DONNYBROOK</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. W. Wegner, Salmon Gum</td>
<td>Alan Morton, Salmon Gum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PREMONTLE AND DISTRICTS</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>Alternate Thursdays (Pension Nights), at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. F. Palmer, Donnybrook</td>
<td>A. V. Self, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GASCOYNE</strong></td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>C. A. P. Gustelow, Carnarvon</td>
<td>S. P. V. Harrison, 65 Bellevue Tec., Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GNOWANGERUP</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers’ Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. C. Austin, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>W. S. Appleyard, Council Chin, Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GWALIA</strong></td>
<td>State Hotel</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. H. E. Clarke, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Nadelup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HARVEY</strong></td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Tuesday</td>
<td>B. H. Lighthouse, Wokalup</td>
<td>E. Shepherd, Gwalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KALGOORLIE</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. R. Gibbs, Bank of N.S.W., Hanan St. V. Monti</td>
<td>R. Irvine, Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICTS</strong></td>
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<td>Bi-monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KIMBERLEY</strong></td>
<td>P.P.A. Room Derby</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m. When called</td>
<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
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<td>J. Knopp, Derby</td>
<td>A. Gwilling, Derby</td>
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<td>H. W. A. Tyler, Katanning</td>
<td>W. Bailey, Katanning</td>
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<td>Joash Norrish, Kojonup</td>
<td>L. E. Treasure, Kojonup</td>
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<td>Chas. H. Smith</td>
<td>R. C. Wood</td>
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<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>Lindsay K. Joy, Lake Grace</td>
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<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>C. Verrup, Lake King Tel. No. 1</td>
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<td>T. G. Summert, &quot;Meierup,&quot;</td>
<td>S. Reeves, Mt. Barker</td>
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<td>Mt. Barker</td>
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<td>P. R. Allen, 20 Coode St., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>W. J. Lovell, 98 Sixth Ave, Maylands</td>
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<td>H. Walker, Mt. Helens</td>
<td>H. Patten, Mundaring</td>
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<td>J. Shanahan, Lindsay St., Perth</td>
<td>H. B. Stephens, 19 Amherst Road,</td>
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<td>F. H. Boyce, Moora</td>
<td>W. L. Miller, West Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maylands**

- Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands
- Alt. Midlandaring and Mr. Helens
- Town Hall Committee Room
- When called

**Mundaring and District Midland Junction**

- Road Board Room, Moora
- When called
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branche</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT MARSHALL</td>
<td>Road Board Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Third Sunday, alt. month</td>
<td>E. H. Rjab, Bencubbin</td>
<td>V. M. Creagh, Bencubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT LAWLEY</td>
<td>William Hall, Greyward Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. T. Flintoff</td>
<td>J. K. Craze, 118 Central Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td>Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every 4th Sunday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>A. Turner, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>G. Wilson, Mornington Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE</td>
<td>Artillery Barracks</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>Major G. P. W. Meredith, Artillery Barracks</td>
<td>Sergeant G. McMurray, Artillery Barracks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Railway Hotel, Northampton</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>L. F. Ash, Northampton</td>
<td>A. Glance, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN PERTH</td>
<td>Northam Bowling Club House, Wellington St.</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month</td>
<td>J. F. Robertson, c/o Court House, Northam</td>
<td>G. C. Carlewis, Fitzgerald St., Northam, Tel. 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH (Office hours 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Gile St. (Off View Street)</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. J. James, 21 Marian St., Lederville</td>
<td>A. J. Hawkins, 24 York St., North Perth, Tel. B1240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESS</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Hoppsen, 10 Waterloo Cres., East Perth</td>
<td>C. S. Mellor, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Billiard Saloon</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>K. Henderson, c/o West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>R. Biggs, C/o West Australian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOWANING</td>
<td>Yorunnai and Fowaining</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 10:10 a.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Elston, Pithara</td>
<td>H. K. Maclean, East Pithara, Tel. No. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILBARA</td>
<td>Port Hedland Quairading and Yorunnai</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month, alt.</td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yorunnai</td>
<td>C. I. McGarigal, Fowaining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUARADING &amp; DISTRICT</td>
<td>Quairading Hall and Dan-gin Hotel, alternately</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland</td>
<td>E. J. Gregan, Pt. Hedland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAVENSTHORPE</td>
<td>Miners' Arms Biggins, Morgan St.</td>
<td>First Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>John J. Murphy, Quairading</td>
<td>Neil A. Fraser, Quairading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH PERTH</td>
<td>Public Hall, Swan Street</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>H. Stockdill, Ravensthorpe</td>
<td>T. F. Smith, Ravensthorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Rokey Rd., Subiaco</td>
<td>4th Thursday</td>
<td>P. J. Aberle, 10 Rose Ave., South Perth</td>
<td>H. S. Thompson, 98 Coode St., South Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAMBELLUP TOODYAY</td>
<td>Town Board Lesser Hall, Toodyay Newsagency</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. A. Wilkins, 262 Hammerly Rds., Subiaco</td>
<td>S. V. Roenheld, Tammellup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING-YELBENI</td>
<td>Town Board Lesser Hall, Toodyay Newsagency</td>
<td>4th Sunday</td>
<td>M. Collins, Tamellup</td>
<td>N. H. Millar, Box 41, Toodyay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAMWAY</td>
<td>Town Board Lesser Hall, Toodyay Newsagency</td>
<td>Every 3rd Wednesday from January 10, 1934</td>
<td>R. A. Johnstone, Toodyay</td>
<td>F. N. Graa, Yelbeni, W. F. W. Saunders, 146 Albany Road, Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>Library Hall, Albany Road, Victoria Park</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>A. C. Shadegg, 13 Gallipoli Street, Victoria Park</td>
<td>C. J. Chandler, 51 McMillen St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>M. J. Offer, Taxation Dept., Perth</td>
<td>P. Li Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth</td>
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<tr>
<td>WUBIN, BUNTINE, JIBBERDING</td>
<td>Each place alt., commencing Buntine, March 1</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Day, Buntine</td>
<td>W. A. Cawdwallader, Wubin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE</td>
<td>Toowoomba, Cambridge St., Victoria Park</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>H. E. Smith, 186 Railway Parade West Leederville</td>
<td>H. J. Hains, 124 Northwood St., West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEALERING YORK</td>
<td>Commercial Hotel, Yealering</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. B. Lawton, Yealering</td>
<td>Roy J. Kerr, Yealering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYALKATCHEM</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday alt. months</td>
<td>J. Baseden, York</td>
<td>C. Vernon Harris, P.O. Box 99, Yealering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAROONA</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday Quarterly, June, Sept., and Dec.</td>
<td>B. O. Read, Korrellocking</td>
<td>Hugh A. Leslie, Yealering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

| DONNYBROOK        | Memorial Hall                                      | First Saturday, monthly               | Mrs. MacCrowley, Blackwood Road, Mrs. O. Taylor, 54 State Street, Victoria Park |
| VICTORIA PARK     | Library Hall, Albany Road                           | Fourth Friday, 7:30 p.m.              | Mrs. V. T. Miller, Donnybrook, Mrs. D. Pilk, 39 State St., Victoria Park |
BERCHTOLD, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, resigned and was succeeded by Baron Stephen Burian. The French, though they were driven from the eastern side of the spur of Hill 132, north-east of Soissons, succeeded in establishing themselves between Croy and Missy. The South African forces occupied Swakopmund in former German South West Africa.

Jan. 15—The Zouaves brilliantly carried German positions to the north of Arras. German bridges across the Meuse were destroyed by the French and the enemy was driven back in the Vosges. The transfer of the German ship Dacia to American ownership was discussed by London and Washington.

Jan. 16—The price of wheat increased considerably in Great Britain.

Jan. 17—The French retook the foundry at Blangy which had been seized by the Germans. Paris followed the lead set by London in darkening the streets at night.

Jan. 18—A statement was published in which the German losses to date were estimated at 2½ millions.

Jan. 19—An important British financial decision was announced, prohibiting companies from inviting fresh capital and declaring that no new company should be formed without the approval of the Government. No capital was to go abroad unless under Government control. The Germans made a Zeppelin raid on the east coast of England.

Jan. 19—Russian torpedo boats commenced operations against Turkish shipping which resulted in the sinking of 26 Turkish supply ships between Batum and Trebizond.

Jan. 20—The French Government announced the loss of the Submarine Saphir, which had been engaged in patrol work in the Dardanelles.

Jan. 21—British airships dropped 27 bombs on the German submarine base at Zebrugge. German airships dropped 66 bombs on Dunkirk.

Jan. 22-23—M. Millerand, the French Minister for War, visited London and Aldershot and was received by King George.

Jan. 24—In the Battle of the Dogger Bank, the German warship Blucher was sunk by a squadron under Vice-Admiral Beatty.

Jan. 25—In an interview published in New York, the German Chancellor essayed an explanation of the "scrap of paper" allusion. His explanation evoked a prompt reply from Sir Edward Grey. Mr. Bryan issued a statement proving that the United States had not broken the spirit of neutrality in favour of Germany's enemies.

Jan. 26—King George decorated the first Indian soldier to be awarded the Victoria Cross. The Turks commenced their advance against Egypt.

Jan. 27—The British Government made a loan of £5,000,000 to Rumania.

Jan. 29—The loss of H.M.S. Viknor was reported.

Jan. 30—The Japanese ships, Takamatsu, with New Zealand supplies for suffering Belgians, and the Ikaria, was torpedoed in the English Channel, and towed into port by French torpedo boats. The Emperor of Japan presented a sword of honour to Albert, King of the Belgians.

Jan. 31—The National Relief Fund reached £4,500,000.
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Set of three—1914-15, General Service, Victory, and any
two of the decorations noted below ............ 22/-
Set of two—General Service and Victory, and any one of
decorations noted below ......................... 15/-
Set of two—General Service and Victory, and any two of
the decorations noted below ..................... 20/-
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