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SPURRING THE ACHILLES HEEL

The Commonwealth Government is commencing the New Year Year well. It is formulating plans for stimulating migration from Britain to Australia, setting itself a tentative objective of 7,000 Britons a year; and, at long last, something is to be done about the defence of the unguarded North, which has long been the Achilles Heel of our defence system. Both policies are in accord with resolutions repeatedly passed by State and Federal congresses.

One of the latest to suggest measures for the development of Northern Australia is Lady Apsley, who knows our island continent far more intimately than the average globe-trotter, who sees it through the club windows of a few State capitals and then goes home to write a book about it. Unfortunately, Lady Apsley’s criticisms are based on conditions she observed when she was in Northern Australia twelve years ago, and which have been vastly improved, if not entirely eliminated since then. If she has done nothing else, she has provoked Federal officials into producing evidence in rebuttal, by telling the country what has been done to develop the tropical north. Her recommendation in favour of indentured labour is not likely to find acceptance in this country, though it may appeal to the type of Englishman who must have his nigger to boss. The experience of Queensland before Federation, and of Fiji and Natal in more recent years, have done nothing to convert the Australian into an admirer of the pioneering qualities of the cheap coloured labourer.

Lady Apsley’s criticism will nevertheless be helpful in centring attention on the urgency of speeding up the development of the north. It came just after Signor Gayda’s characteristic outburst of Italianate insolence, in which he referred to the “right” of Japan to develop the empty spaces of Australia, a right, which, by the way, Japan has never claimed. Lady Apsley’s letter to The Times was published on the very day that reports of Japanese activities in the Gulf of Carpentaria appeared in our own Press. One hopes that its reception will evoke something more than indignant denials, for her suggestions, if unacceptables, were well-meant, and she has rendered Australia a valuable service by pointing out that something must be done about the North, and done very quickly if this Continent is to remain British and white.

Of late, it has become fashionable to blame Governments, past and present, for all sorts of sins of omission and commission in their administration of the tropics. Adverse critics sometimes forget that Australia is barely one hundred and fifty years old, and in that brief span of existence she has accomplished far more than either Canada or the United States achieved during their first one hundred and fifty years of settlement and expansion. Critics also forget that, throughout the ages, the current of settlement has flowed quite naturally from the more hospitable parts of a country to those less accessible and less inviting. Given another hundred and fifty years of peace and natural development, our northern problem would solve itself, but with every swashbuckling gangster nation threatening war if it is not the right to reap where others have sown, development must be speeded up as the first essential of any adequate defence policy. In the words of the advice that has been tendered to Australia, we must populate or perish; and we must populate with people of our own British stock, people imbued with the ideals that will preserve the healthy young democracy they have produced. Australia has accomplished much, but she must achieve far more during what years of peace still remain.

Sitting round like a gaggle of deacons contemplating the wrath to come, and painting gloomy pictures of the future in the waning light of past errors, are futile as policies; almost as futile as the notion that peace can be preserved by braying for it. Therefore, it has been gratifying to read this month, that our Achilles heel is to be strengthened. Naval authorities have recommended enlisting the co-operation of the aborigines, whose smoke signals could give warning of the approach of chivalrous foes who strike before declaring war. We have also read with interest and appreciation that missionaries in the far north have agreed to aid in this means of co-operation. The authorities might profitably adopt, also, a recommendation put forward a few years ago by a former officer of the permanent forces, who was at one time a member of our own State executive, that of organising the white men of the North on the lines of the Boer Commando, for the effective harassing of an invader, and the evacuation of the territory when resistance is no longer possible, leaving the enemy a country as barren as that which Massena found before the lines of Torres Vedras.

Such measures are an urgent and necessary part of any defence scheme, but the ultimate safety of the Far North must depend on its effective occupation. That essential is now threatened by the Japanese plans for a wholesale exploitation of the pearl beds of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Darwin pearlers state that this exploitation, if permitted, will sound the death-knell of the Australian pearl industry, which so far has provided the only real outposts of settlement in these lonely lands. The Commonwealth, by building new vessels and keeping the Larrakia at sea during the dangerous monsoonal season, it strengthening the northern patrol; but the best that can be said of the methods adopted to date is that they are a beginning. The Gulf is a great expanse of waters land-locked by Australian territory, but timorous souls in our midst have already suggested that our control over our own inland sea does
not extend beyond the three-mile limit. If we accept that view, we must tamely submit to the depopulation of the North through the incidence of Japanese competition; but why should we? During the history of the United States' experiment in prohibition, that country induced other Powers to recognise an extension of the three-mile to a twelve-mile limit, in order to help America enforce domestic legislation that her own people refused to obey. Surely then, Australia should insist on the control of the whole of the Gulf, and an extension of the three-mile limit along the north-west coast as the first condition of any trade agreement between the Commonwealth and Japan. The latter will protest, but a country which, with others, has persistently pointed to the empty north as evidence of the alleged selfishness of the White Australia policy, cannot logically insist on a course of action that will hinder the development of those empty spaces by rendering them absolutely untenable, and so weakening measures adopted for the defence of the whole continent.

The safer and the manlier way to tell the gangster nations that this bit of the world belongs to us, and what we have we hold; recognising, at the same time, that words unbacked by deeds are little more than idle boasts.

R.S.I. CRICKET TOUR

Phil Allen and the cricket team are back from the Adelaide tour, and all speak highly of the wonderful hospitality they received and of the spirit in which the matches were played. The local lads beat Victoria, but met their Waterloo when the South Australian captain, the veteran C.E. Pellew, sent them in to bat on a bad wicket. Western Australia scored only 46 in the first innings, and South Australia replied with nine wickets for 214, before declaring. At the end of the second innings, Western Australia lost eight wickets for 116. The only mishap to mar a most enjoyable trip was the illness of the organiser and manager of the Western Australian team (Mr. W. Menkens). Bill worked hard to make the tour an accomplished fact, and there was no prouder man in the State when this was assured. On the last day of the Match against South Australia, he became ill and was admitted to the Keswick Military Hospital. According to the latest report received by this paper, he is now on the road to recovery.

RESPONSES TO CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

Official replies to some congress resolutions are printed hereunder:

N.M. 11 (Quairading), "That the Rural Relief Act be amended to allow a creditor to appeal against a decision of the Commissioners under Section 6."

The Minister for Lands (Mr. Troy) replied:

I have to state that if the Act were amended as suggested, the Trustees would lose the one and only means of obtaining relief for a farmer from excessive debts, on which the Trustees have offered a composition, but which has been refused by the creditor concerned.

The section referred to places the Trustees in the position of a Board of Appeal to which a farmer can apply for consideration if his meeting of creditors has proved abortive, and I do not think that the suggested amendment would be in the best interest of soldier settlers who may desire adjustment of their debts.

The resolution quoted above is somewhat surprising in view of the fact that other farmers' organisations favour an amendment to the Act to vest in the Trustees much more drastic powers than those contained in the present Act. In fact, as you may be aware, there is a private Bill now before Parliament which proposes a great extension of the Trustees' powers.

Resolution 27 (Narembeen), "That all wheat be sampled at weighbridge and not at bins."

The secretary of the Co-Operative Bulk Handling, Ltd., states:

I cannot agree with the suggestion that bulk wheat should be sampled at the weighbridge.

Undoubtedly, the most satisfactory point at which to sample growers' deliveries is at the point of discharge into the hopper, when a fair sample representative of all of that load can be taken.

Certainly a more representative sample of the load can be obtained at that point than at the weighbridge before the load is discharged.

N.M. 4 (Harvey)

This resolution referred to the matter of scientific research into the causes and treatment of contagious abortion in dairy cattle, and after representations were made to him, Mr. Wise (the Minister for Agriculture) advised the League that—

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has been carrying out at the Glenfield Research Station, New South Wales, an intense investigation into this disease since 1935, and as the contagious abortion problem is similar in all States of the Commonwealth, it is not considered either advisable or necessary to duplicate the work by carrying out an investigation in this State.

I wish further to state that our veterinary branch is in close touch with the latest developments regarding the investigation referred to, and is, therefore, in a position to treat affected cattle with the latest known methods.

The following resolutions, carried at the Soldier Settlers' Conference, were submitted to the Commissioners of the Bank and the General Manager's replies are shown:

N.M. 1 (Mount Marshall), "That banks, in arranging farmers' finance for the year, make provision for medical expenses."

When a client has met his statutory claim the whole of his surplus proceeds are at his disposal, and it is suggested, therefore, that he make his own provision for medical expenses.

It is realised that there may be cases where, through drought conditions, provision is not possible. These will be dealt with as they arise.

N.M. 2 (Mount Marshall), "That returned soldiers, who have been transferred from condemned properties granted to them under the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act be given similar privileges to the holdings which they have been transferred."

New advances under the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act have long since ceased. The Commissioners are therefore unable to grant the concessions requested.

N.M. 3 (Wubin), "That the policy of the Agricultural Bank in regard to widows of ex-service men left on farms be ascertained."

There can be no general rule which will fit every case—no two cases are alike.

A widow who is the sole beneficiary of a soldier under his will still retains the soldier's concessions.

N.M. 5 (Muntadgin), "That an advisory board be created in each Agricultural Bank district, comprising the district branch manager, a prominent successful farmer and an independent business man, to function in all matters of enquiry and complaint with present settlers and those desiring of taking up properties in the district concerned."

The Commissioners thank congress for this suggestion, but they cannot entertain it.
N.M. 6 (Kojonup), “Conference considers that the provisions of the new mortgage agreement of the Agricultural Bank are harsh and unjust, and requests the executive at all times to maintain this point of view in any discussion or negotiation with the authorities and Agricultural Bank Commissioners.”

I am afraid that some settlers create bogies which in reality do not exist. Settlers who are prepared to stand up to their obligations have nothing to fear.

Will you please tell me in what way the provisions of the Agreement are harsh and unjust?

N.M. 9 (Moorene Rock), “That congress deplores the inactivity and lack of interest shown by the Agricultural Bank and Lands Department in their failure to co-operate with the farmers in the Moorene Rock district to combat the grasshopper menace on abandoned properties in that area, and that a letter of protest be sent to these departments.”

There was no lack of interest by the Lands Department or the Bank—we ascertained that ample poison bait was being sent by the Department of Agriculture.

It was obviously impossible to bait up every block in the State.

Resolution 32 (Katanning), “It was resolved at the instance of the Katanning sub-branch to record the opinion that the practice of the Agricultural Bank in preventing clients from purchasing tractors should be discontinued, as it is unjust and places a severe handicap on settlers.”

We do not prevent clients purchasing tractors. How can we? We are only too pleased to know that they can do so.

Resolution 25 (Kondinin), “Congress considers that country storekeepers should be entitled to participate in the protection afforded under a preferential lien to cover advances for food and reasonable working expenses for these farmers.”

The Bank is constantly waiving its claim to enable settlers to finance necessary cropping operations.

Resolution 8 (Gnowangerup), “That an appeal board be constituted to enable a soldier settler dissatisfied with the writing-down of the capital debt by the Commissioner of the Agricultural Bank with respect to a revaluation of his property, to have the right of appeal to same.”

This request cannot be entertained.

Resolution 14 (Mukinbudin), “That the Agricultural Bank be asked to make provision for transfer and other fees to be capitalised when an ex-soldier settler is forced by circumstances beyond his control (such as salt) to transfer to another holding.”

No general ruling can be given—each case must be dealt with as it arises.

Resolution 15 (Busselton), “That when any settler is forced to vacate his property he should have the opportunity to take it up again at the price equivalent to any tender which the Agricultural Bank is willing to accept.”

This will depend on the circumstances which cause vacation, the settler’s past record and his willingness to comply with the Bank’s usual conditions.

Resolution 16 (Cowaramup), “That the Agricultural Bank be approached with a request that proved existing settlers be allowed to take up second holdings without payment of a deposit where the existing holding is too small for settler to make a living.”

Where the Bank considers that an additional holding is necessary, requests will receive favourable consideration.

Resolution 18 (Koorda), “That as soldier settlers are caused considerable inconvenience owing to the delay of the Agricultural Bank and Industries Assistance Board in stating the amount of assistance to be granted for a year’s operations, the executive be asked to approach the Agricultural Bank with a view to having the following procedure adopted: (1) That assistance be granted to the settler on the basis of acreage to be sown for the coming year. (2) That the settler be advised on the amount of assistance available not later than February 15 in each year.”

(1) Any assistance given is based, as far as possible, in the acreage to be sown.

(2) Date of advice of approval of assistance depends on the settler himself. Many settlers have not even completed arrangements with their merchant for the supply of superphosphate by the 15th February.

As Government assistance for next season will be of a very limited nature, settlers should complete their arrangements with their merchants early.

Resolution 19 (Cowaramup), “That the Agricultural Bank, in the event of repossessing cattle from settlers vacating their holdings, be requested to either sell, castrate or destroy them within 14 days, owing to the damage, annoyance and inconvenience caused to settlers’ properties by these animals.”

On holdings being vacated, bulls are immediately removed to Bank depots, where they are under control.

Resolution 20 (Cowaramup), “That the Agricultural Bank supply each of its clients with a copy of contents of every Bill of Sale.”

Settlers can obtain copy of their Bill of Sale on application to head office and payment of the necessary fee.

Resolution 21 (Ross Brook-Rosa Glen), “Congress considers that as the danger of fire, owing to dry feed on vacant holdings in the Group area, will be much greater than usual next summer, the Agricultural Bank be asked to make arrangements for such holdings to be depastured before Christmas.”

We are unable to meet this request, as we must retain a supply of feed to maintain stock which is awaiting issue to clients.
PREFERENCE TO RETURNED SOLDIERS

We are indebted to Colonel Collett for the following important extracts from the 1937 Report of the Commonwealth Public Service Board:

The Public Service Act provides that in the making of appointments to the Commonwealth Service from among persons who have successfully passed the prescribed examination, the Board shall give preference to returned soldiers; it also provides that in making appointments under certain sections of the Act which permit of appointments without examination—Sections 38 and 39 relating to the Fourth Division and Section 47 relating to other Divisions—preference shall, subject to competency, be given to returned soldiers. A further provision in the Act—Section 84 (9)—sets out the order of priority as amongst returned soldiers in the making of appointments to positions of a non-clerical nature.

Paragraph (c) of Section 84 (9) provided for a preference in appointment to non-clerical positions being accorded returned soldiers after two years continuous temporary employment in such positions, subject to the Chief Officer certifying that their duties had been performed in a satisfactory manner. The Crown Law authorities advised to the effect that this provision applied only while temporary employment continued, and those returned soldiers whose temporary employment had been terminated for reasons such, for example, as curtailment of staff during the depression, therefore lost their preference, which could only be again acquired by a further two years continuous employment.

When it became possible, as conditions improved, to recommence making appointments, the Board submitted the matter to the Government and it was decided to amend Section 84 (9) (c) to restore preference to any returned soldier still within the prescribed age limits, who had at any time given two years continuous satisfactory service. This was done by amending legislation which took effect from December 7, 1936, and since that time over 300 appointments of returned soldiers to the permanent staff have been made.

The total number of appointments of returned soldiers made to the permanent staff during the financial year 1936-37 was 406, the appointments being to Fourth Division positions of Lineman, Mechanic, Postman, Assistant, &c., and to clerical and professional positions.

In addition, a considerable number was employed on the Temporary and Exempt staffs, the available figures showing that 3,578 returned soldiers were employed temporarily or under exemption on June 30, 1937, as compared with 3,348 on the corresponding date in the previous year. In all cases where eligible returned soldiers with the necessary qualifications are available they are selected for employment in preference to other persons.

The total number of appointments of returned soldiers made to the permanent staff of the Commonwealth Service up to June 30, 1937, was 6,028.

Prompt attention was given by the Board to the amendment made in December, 1936, of Section 84 (9) of the Public Service Act, which included in the order of preference of returned soldiers in the making of appointments to positions of a non-clerical nature the additional category of returned soldiers who had not passed the prescribed examination, but who had since becoming returned soldiers, and prior to December 7, 1936, been temporarily employed continuously for not less than two years. Any such appointment is restricted to a position the duties of which are similar to those which the returned soldier has been performing or performed. As indicated elsewhere in this report, a considerable number of returned soldiers have been appointed to the Service in pursuance of this new provision.

Wonderful testimonials have been received by the R.S.L. TRADING COMPANY since their new Digger cutter has been cutting their suits.

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AGED SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' FUND

The fund now totals £7,537/2/3. The biggest donation since the last report is that from the Teachers' College Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Fund, amounting to £332/17/7, a cheque for this amount being handed over by Mr. W. J. Rooney, late principal of the Teachers' College, to the State president at the last executive meeting. Mr. Rooney was the wartime principal of the College and he and his committee decided that the balance remaining in the Memorial Fund should be paid into the Aged Soldiers' Fund, which will act as a practical memorial to those who are dead and those who survived the Great War. The State president conveyed to Mr. Rooney and members of his committee the keen appreciation of all ex-service men and women for the committee's kindly thought and generosity.

Gnowangerup sub-branch staged a three-act play, which proved a tremendous success and yielded a nett amount of £17 to the fund.

Donations received for the month are an increase of £687/2/3, amongst them being: Press sub-branch, £8; Mr. Lawley sub-branch, £27/11/5; Press auxiliary, £2/2/-; Katanning sub-branch £5/0/3; Wyalkatchem sub-branch £4/9/10; Upper Swan sub-branch £5/5/-; Tingledale sub-branch 8/7; Gabin sub-branch £1/12/6; Gnowangerup sub-branch and auxiliary £34/4/5; Rose Brook-Rosa Glen sub-branch £20; Col. Collett £3; H. J. Quick, 10/-; J. R. Bell, 10/-; Colonel Margolin, £5/3/-.

The Central Committee has been bucked up with some encouraging reports. Ted Rice (hon. secretary Wyalkatchem) has circulated all sub-branches in the wheat belt district committee, calling a special meeting in April next to discuss ways and means of further increasing the fund. He has predicted at least £15 from the wheat appeal. Mr. H. Hemingway (Cottosloe sub-branch) has issued a special circular to all members reminding them that the 12s. per year required from each member is less than one half-penny per day. Mr. Fred Archer (president of Pinjelle sub-branch) sent along £5/3/4 as a result of a special collection which included sheep and cash.

Further stewards announced are the following: Pingrup sub-branch, Mr. H. C. Newman (Western Australia), P. F. Andrews and E. D. Pinkard (Tasmania), E. H. Marshall-Wood (Federal Capital Territory), Major-General T. H. Dodds (honn. Federal treasurer) and E. V. Raymont (general secretary). Also in attendance were R. C. Lloyd (State secretary, Queensland), J. Black (State secretary, New South Wales), C. Sanderson (representing State secretary, Victoria), J. F. Dowling (State secretary, Somerville of the R. F. E. (State secretary, Tasmania), F. H. Dawkins (State secretary, Federal Capital Territory), J. Webster (Repatriation Commission) and H. H. Richardson (War Service Homes Commissioner). Congress was officially opened at 10.30 a.m. by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania (Sir Ernest Clark, K.C.B.).

A pleasing note in the opening remarks of the Federal president was a reference to the fact that the occasion—November 17—was the 46th anniversary of the enlistment for service in the Forces of the British Empire of Mr. A. Yeates, the State president of "Western Australia." Mr. Yeates received the hearty congratulations of all delegates.

Captain Sir Gilbert Dvett was re-elected president unopposed for the twentieth successive year. As a complete record of the minutes is appended, it is proposed to comment only on the matters submitted by this State. The art item brought before congress was that submitted to the State congress by Harvey sub-branch.—No. 35: "That where a motion passed by a State congress is lost at the Federal congress or Federal executive, a precise of the debate on the matter be furnished to the State executive of origin, and furnished by the said State executive, without alteration or amendment, to the sub-branch of origin." This item was unfavourably received, and several delegates pointed out the impracticability of the proposal. The motion was lost.

State resolution No. 67 from Bunbury.—No. 67: "Congress urges that in the case of a widow of a returned man, who was receiving a pension and re-marries a returned man and again becomes a widow, the children of the second marriage be taken into consideration when assessing pension or allowance." Received no support from congress and was lost.

No. 107 (Collie): "That this congress of ex-service men emphatically asserts that insufficient attention is being given to the aftercare of those men who are suffering as a result of their war service, and requests the Commonwealth Government to urgently investigate the methods with which the Repatriation Act is being interpreted, particularly in regard to 'Entitlement,' 'Hospital Treatment,' 'Assessment of Pensions' and the 'After-Care generally of all ex-A.I.P. men, as it is firmly of the opinion that it is not being interpreted as intended by those who originally framed the Act.' This resolution received a hostile reception, although definite cases were quoted by your delegates. Speakers considered it a complete censure of the Repatriation Department and tribunals, all of which are returned soldiers.
It was pointed out that returned soldiers generally enjoy many privileges due to a liberal interpretation of the Act by the Commissioners, which they would undoubtedly lose if a Royal Commission was appointed to enquire into the interpretation of it as suggested by the resolution. Mr. J. Webster undertook to make a personal investigation of the cases quoted by Collie sub-branch, and will furnish a report on each. The resolution was lost, only the W.A. delegates voting in favour of it.

No. 59 (Collie): "Owing to many instances being discovered of disabilities which happened to ex-service men whilst serving with the A.I.F., which are not recorded on medical history sheets, congress urges the Federal executive of the League to make representations to the Minister for Repatriation, to have fuller enquiries made in respect of statements of ex-service men when applying for acceptance of disabilities claimed to have been caused by war service, particularly in regard to hospital treatment whilst overseas."

This item was fully discussed, and it was urged that more credence should be placed in the statements of applicants for acceptance of disabilities. Carried.

No. 73 (Nedlands): "In view of the fact that many ex-soldiers, through weakened constitutions, are susceptible to other illnesses, congress urges that all ex-soldiers who are receiving pensions for a war disability of 50 per cent. or more be eligible for admittance to the Repatriation wards when such ex-soldiers are ill, irrespective of the nature of the illness."

Numerous items dealing with this matter were submitted by other States and, although this item was moved as an amendment to item 24 of the Federal congress agenda, the latter was carried. This item asks for free hospitalisation at the expense of the Federal Government for all ex-service men, whether or not their disabilities are war caused. In the opinion of your delegates, the motion which was carried was too sweeping, and that the one submitted by W.A. was more likely of fulfilment; but, as stated, the New South Wales item was carried.

No. 64 (Collie): "Congress again urges that ex-service men who are in receipt of war pensions should not have some deducted from Service, Old Age and Invalid Pensions."

Carried.

N.M. 13 (Perth): "That Federal congress be asked to urge the Federal Government to pay maintenance for all Service Pension inmates of State-kept institutions."

An item of great importance to the W.A. Branch was that urging the Federal Government to pay maintenance for all Service Pension inmates of State-kept institutions. The position as it exists in W.A. was fully explained to congress, and to the resolution was added the words: "as is done in the case of Invalid and Old Age Pensions." This resolution requires an amendment of Section 45 A.O. of the Act, which at present provides that on admission to an institution the Service Pension should be reduced to $4 per week. Although there is no provision in the Invalid and Old Age Pensions Act or Regulations, relative to the payment of the institutional allowance, the deletion of the section above quoted will enable a similar arrangement to be made in the case of ex-service Pensions, hence the additional wording of the resolution. The motion had the full support of congress and was carried as amended.

No. 61 (Collie): "Congress urges that where ex-service men are temporarily totally incapacitated as a result of war service, the pension rate of permanently and totally incapacitated soldiers should apply for the period of temporary total incapacity."

This motion was lost. Delegates pointed out that a man temporarily totally incapacitated receives $3 per week and permanently totally incapacitated $4. This they consider, is equitable, and the motion was not supported by other delegates.

No. 69 (Kellerberrin): "That all pensions granted be made retrospective to date of original application."

Motion was lost. As it is worded, it would mean that a man may apply for a pension in 1925 and his claim be rejected. In 1935 he again applies and is successful. Under this motion he would receive the pension for the previous 10 years, even though his case had only just developed sufficiently to warrant a pension.

No. 58 (Collie): "Congress requests the Federal executive of the League to urge the Minister for Repatriation to instruct those responsible officers of the Repatriation Department to the effect that where cases accepted by the Entitlement Tribunal are automatically submitted to the Assessment Tribunal for final decision as to rate of pension to be granted, such rate to be made retrospective to date of granting the original pension."

The wording of the motion was amended to read: "Congress requests the Federal executive of the League to urge the Minister for Repatriation to instruct those responsible officers of the Repatriation Department to the effect that where cases accepted by the Entitlement Tribunal are automatically submitted to the Assessment Tribunal for final decision as to rate of pension to be granted, such rate to be made retrospective to the date of the operation of the tribunal's decision respecting the acceptance of the disability." Carried.

No. 70 (Morawa): "Congress considers that no pension be reduced after being in force for 20 years, as after such period no cure is likely to be effected."

Lost.

No. 174 (Carlisle): "That, in order to facilitate the payment of War, Old Age and Invalid Pensions, the Commonwealth Government be urged to establish an official post office at Carlisle, W.A."

The Federal president ruled that this is a local matter and purely one for action by W.A. as a State.

No. 125 (Bullfinch): "That Congress endeavour to adjust the inequitable rates of pension as applied to Australian ex-service men and Imperial men, and that efforts be made to increase the Imperial soldiers' pension to a point consistent with high costs of bush living."

Lost.

No. 121 (Guildford): "That the W.A. Service Branch request the League to communicate with the British Empire Service League, suggesting that the 'Home Authorities' be urged to make the same provision in the case of ex-Imperial soldiers dying in Australia in indigent circumstances as is made by the Australian authorities in the case of ex-Service of the A.I.F. dying in similar circumstances."

After a discussion on this item, it was amended to read: "That congress requests..."
the British Empire service to urge the Minister of Pensions to make the same provision in the case of returned soldiers in Australia in indigent circumstances as is made by the Australian authorities in the case of ex-members of the A.I.F. dying in similar circumstances.

The motion was then carried and covered itself by Queensland and New South Wales on the same subject.

No. 162 (Melville): "That the Commonwealth Government be asked to provide more money under the War Service Homes Act for the purchase of homes by returned soldiers or for assisting returned soldiers by taking over mortgages on properties owned by them."

Carried.

N.M. 12 (Fremantle): "Congress earnestly requests the Commonwealth Government to amend the War Service Homes Act, so that no more evictions shall take place to distressed occupants of War Service Homes when unable to meet their obligations due to unemployment or sickness."

Carried.

Item 30 of the Federal agenda, regarding evictions from War Service Homes, was withdrawn in favour of No. 8 as amended, which reads: "That representations be made to the Government that no notice of eviction of occupants of War Service Homes be served or proceedings be instituted against a War Service Homes purchaser without first referring the case to the State Branch of the R.S.I.L.A."

No. 161 (Collie): "Congress is of the opinion that the capital cost of War Service Homes is too high and calls upon the Federal executive of the League to approach the Minister concerned with a view to having a revaluation of all War Service Homes."

This was covered by item 16, page 22 Federal agenda (Tasmania), which reads: "That this congress request from the Federal Government that the necessary action be taken for a reduction of the price of War Service Homes to their true value."

Carried.

N.M. 8 (Bassendean): "That the preliminary work (i.e., levelling, excavations, drainage, etc.) on any State and Federal Public Works be done by day labour by the Commonwealth Public Works Department, thus ensuring ex-service men at least a start on any future works."

Lost.

No. 118 (Kojonup): "Congress considers that greater consideration should be afforded aero clubs for the training of pilots suitable for admission to the Air Force in time of emergency."

This resolution was amended, as follows, and carried: "Congress considers that further consideration should be afforded into clubs for the training of pilots suitable for admission to the Air Force in time of emergency."

No. 110 (Yealering): "That a scheme of compulsory national training be instituted, embracing social and vocational training and physical and military training, which would be the means of raising the general standard of the youth and landing and instilling that national pride which is essential to a progressive country."

This item was amended as to its wording, and was carried as an amendment to items 7 and 8 of the Federal agenda, pages 30 and 31. It now reads: "That a scheme of national training be instituted, embracing social, vocational, physical and military training, which would be the means of raising the general standard of the youth of the land and instilling that national pride which is essential to a progressive country."

No. 114 (Press): "Congress wholeheartedly supports the Federal Government and the Defence Department in the campaign to stimulate recruiting for the Militia Forces of the Commonwealth and urges all able-bodied men to qualify for the defence of their country."

Carried.

Nos. 47 and 107 (Gascoyne and Press): "This congress, as the result of the collective experience of the members of the League, acquired during the years 1914-1918, expresses its utmost abhorrence of war as a means of settling disputes amongst nations, and for that reason, if for no other, records its approval and admiration of the efforts of the League of Nations, and particularly the Government of Great Britain, to promote and maintain peace and a better understanding amongst the races of the world."

No. 109 (Collie): "That Commonwealth Government be asked to take over mortgages on properties owned by returned soldiers."

This motion was then carried and covered itself by Queensland and New South Wales on the same subject.

In view of the delicate situation in Europe at the present time, and the efforts being made by Great Britain to maintain peace with foreign powers, the Federal president suggested that it would be unwise to discuss matters such as this at the moment; and he further suggested that the matter be referred to the Federal executive for action. Congress agreed with the suggestion.

No. 111 (Press): "Congress considers that in the interests of the safety of Australia (1) from aggression, and (2) from a check in the White Australia Policy, a serious and well-planned attempt to occupy the North effectively and to settle it should be made immediately."

Carried.

N.M. 4 (Gascoyne): "Congress desires to express its concern at any proposal for discontinuing or curtailing the North-West Air Service."

Carried.

No. 10 (Fremantle): "That the Defence Department be asked to offer facilities to rifle clubs for providing machine gun sections."

Carried.

N.M. 10 (Fremantle): "That this congress, recognising the urgency of all defensive measures, urges the Government to consider the necessity of the standard gauge railway between Fremantle and Kalgoorlie."

This resolution was amended, as follows, and carried: "That this congress, recognising the urgency of all defensive measures, urges the Commonwealth and State Governments to co-operate and consider the necessity of the standard gauge railway between Fremantle and Kalgoorlie."
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As an access of good-will, Wiluna sub-branch commits what is a base—or perhaps it is a baritone—betrayal. The Wiluna Diggers deeply regret the transfer from their golden neighbourhood of Mr. Frank Himister, who goes to Fremantle. He was generally proclaimed the Diggers’ cober; but, says our Wiluna correspondent, the bashful old blighter did not display his prowess as a musical conductor until the eve of his departure. Wiluna now gets even by asking us to recommend him, in this capacity, to the Fremantle sub-branch.

We join with Mundijong Jarrahdaile Diggers in extending deepest sympathy to a fellow member and jolly good sportsman, Wally Wright, on the death of his son, Bernie. Bernie was also a member who fought the good fight with the 10th Light Horse.

Joe Deacon, of the Carlisle Diggers, is still an inmate of Ward X, Perth Hospital, and will be glad to see any of his cobbers with the time to visit him. Although Joe has had a foot amputation, he remains as cheerful and courageous as ever, an example and inspiration to those of us more fortunately circumvanted, and the Carlisle Diggers’ one hope at the moment is that he will be able to attend their February monthly meeting.

Sympathy was expressed at the Carlisle sub-branch January meeting at the unfortunate accident which befell Mrs. Zindahl, necessitating a long stay at St. John of God Hospital, Belmont. Bill and his good lady were on their way to an R.S.L. function at the Carlisle Hall when she badly lacerated her knee, thus finishing up the evening rather differently than anticipated. Best wishes for a speedy return to health were also expressed on behalf of Mrs. Charlie Stenning, the wife of a good Carlisle Digger.

Mr. T. P. Chataway, of Murunnger, Victoria, is compiling an official history of the 15th Battalion, and asks the address of Jack Rae, M.C., M.M. Will anybody knowing this address, or able to supply any other information that may be helpful to Mr. Chataway, kindly send it to him.

The Queensland State Branch asks for information to support a pensions claim on behalf of Colin McAlister, No. 5187, 15th Battalion. He was stationed at Perham Downs from January 11, 1917, to February 10, 1917, when he was transferred to Wareham for health reasons. He was then suffering from chest trouble. Recently his case was submitted to the Entitlement Appeal Tribunal. Evidence was produced to establish a continuity of treatment from the date of his discharge, but further evidence of an incident on service for the origin of the condition for which he is now claiming, is essential before the claim can be admitted. The Queensland Branch wants to know of anyone, preferably medical or other officers, who were at Perham Downs or Wareham when McAlister was there, who can provide the much-needed evidence.

T. Bailey, the new secretary of the Wubin-Buntine-Jibberdang sub-branch, is another ex-Imperial who is pulling his weight in League affairs. He served with the Royal Fusiliers from 1911 to 1922, being in France and Flanders from 1914-1918, after which he was with his regiment on the North-West Frontier of India and at Aden. He went out with the original British Expeditionary Force in 1914 and was promoted to commissioned rank for services in the field. His war medals include the Military Cross.

Mosman Park reports that former secretary and popular worker, Arthur Sallis, is still in hospital, where he has received regular visits from members of the sub-branch. Readers will be pleased to learn that Arthur is cheerful, in spite of his enforced spell in dock, and he is now on the road to recovery. At a recent meeting of the sub-branch, appreciation was expressed regarding the interest shown in the patient, by the State executive and the South Perth sub-branch.

Mr. Lawley-Inglewood sub-branch were well represented at Waterman’s Bay during the holidays. This haunt of those who go down to the sea in ships (even if they are only dinghys) had the pleasure of putting up with no fewer than six experienced knights of the long line and tall tales.

Arthur Wood was savagely attacked by a five-inch trumpeter, but escaped to tell the tale. Ike Thomas (the wheat inspector) was dragged out to four feet of water by a huge Baroota Wonder or Ghyas Early stringray. Cut himself free with a wheat sampler. Reg. King (of Castro(1) fame) had a ding-dong go with a tunny on a light line which broke just as Reg. started to gaff his catch.

Bill Whitworth (of the corner drapery) had charge of the anchor ready to haul in, in case a whale had hooked on.

Charley Plunkett not being a fisherman strictly adheres to true yarns and sat in the stern sheets and related Olly Williams for crown corks.

Owing to disinclination to provide “burly” again this year, Bill Newick took his holidays up where bush fires provide all the pleasure.

Other members known to be contemplating fishing have kept their destinations quiet, so they will not be in this year’s news.

Sincere sympathies are tendered to Mr. T. P. Bennett, the secretary of the Albany sub-branch, on the loss of his wife. The late Mrs. Bennett was the centre of a small circle of genuine friends who will sadly miss her from their gatherings. Representatives of the
sub-branch acted as pall-bearers at the funeral, which was largely attended by members. Wreaths from the sub-branch and the auxiliary were among the large number of floral tributes sent by sorrowing friends.

The League lost a good friend when Bob Buscombe, the secretary of the Lottery Commission, passed away during the month. Bob's work in the Ugly Men's school for returned soldiers, which he organised just after the war, was outstanding. At the last State executive meeting, a motion of condolence with Mrs. Buscombe was carried. After fifteen years of continuous yeoman service, George Mellor has resigned the secretaryship of the Perth sub-branch. During his period of service, George has piloted the sub-branch through fair weather and stormy. He was secretary through the transition periods of the changes from the old Institute to Anzac House, and from Anzac House to the sub-branch's present home in Monash House. George is also well-known as a musician and bandmaster as was his father before him. It was in this connection that we heard George make one of his rare and serio-comic complaints. The move to Monash House took place about the time the national wireless station was transferred from Milligan Street to the old Institute. George, who plays the trumpet in the Perth National Wireless Orchestra, confided to a pal, "When my office was in Anzac House the studio was at Milligan Street, and now that my office is only a block from Milligan Street they've gone and shifted the studio to the Institute." George has also served a few terms on the State executive, and on the committee of the Anzac Club. He was quite a youth when he went to the War, but it was not long before his personal efforts gave the 51st Battalion one of the outstanding bands of the A.I.F. At the annual meeting of the Perth sub-branch, the State president handed him a well-earned Certificate of Service. His place as sub-branch secretary has been taken by Bill Holder, the editor of the sub-branch organ, The Babbling Brook.

Tenth Light Horse Association
A.I.F. and Allied Units

Members of the 10th Light Horse Regiment A.I.F. and those who served in other units during the Desert Campaign are here with asked to make a note to reserve Monday, March 21, on which date a special general meeting will be held in Anzac House to discuss important business matters in connection with the association.

A DIGGER POLITICAL ASPIRANT

Lou. Lobascher, president 32nd Battalion Association writes:-

Holidaying in Busselton, and have been fortunate in meeting a very enthusiastic member of the 32nd Battalion Association, W. H. Willmott, who has a dairying property some miles or so from the town. "Henry," as he is generally called, tells me that he intends to stand for election for Parliament for the seat recently become vacant through the death of his (Henry's) uncle, the late Mr. Brockman. Now I feel sure that our old comrade carries the best wishes of 32nd and other ex-service men throughout the State. Henry has played a prominent part in League affairs in this district and has served in many official capacities in the local sub-branch.

A native of this district, Henry has worked all his life (apart from his A.I.F. service) in this corner of the State. Still the same unassuming chap, Henry has a capacity for making and holding friendship, as we who took that memorable trip with the 32nd's 21st birthday contingent to Adelaide will remember.

Should the electors favour Henry's candidature, they will receive as their representative in the House a man who may be depended upon to give sincere, hardworking service in the interests of the people of this district.

Go to it, "Henry," and the best wishes of your old comrades go with you.

METROPOLITAN STREET DIRECTORY

Clearly set out and even more comprehensive and detailed than its predecessor of four years ago, the revised edition of the Imperial May Directory for all thoroughfares in Perth, Fremantle and suburbs, from Tuart Hill to Rivervale and from Bellevue to South Fremantle, will be found a handy guide by all who are concerned in any way with metropolitan street names and localities.

The revised directory, which has just been issued by the Imperial Printing Co., Ltd., to make provision for many street additions and alterations since the original issue, contains 23 informative district maps prepared by Hope and Klem, surveyors, and an alphabetical index to the total of about 3,000 streets contained in them. An efficient system of cross-reference facilitates rapid location of any street in the maps, to each of which a page is devoted.

A copy of this useful directory may save pounds in wasted petrol and energy hunting for elusive streets.

The Imperial Map Directory is available at 5/- a copy from newsagents or from the publishers.

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MONARCH LAUNDRY LTD.—DYERS AND CLEANERS
A popular New Year honour was that conferred upon Field-Marshal Sir William Birdwood, who was created a Baron. In accordance with custom, the selection of the remainder of the title was left to the new Baron himself. Those who served under him, and hosts of others who have come into contact with him, will appreciate the compliment paid to Australia in the announcement that the title selected was Baron Birdwood of Anzac and Totnes. Lord Birdwood has followed the example set by predecessors in identifying the title with the service recognised and the family residence. The Anzac portion needs no explanation. Lord Birdwood was born in India, but Totnes has long been the family head-quarters. The present tradition was established by Nelson who became Lord Nelson of the Nile, when he was raised to the peerage. Earl Roberts was Lord Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford. Kitchener, his Chief of Staff and successor as Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, was Earl Kitchener of Khartum and Aspell. On the other hand, Lord French was simply Earl of Ypres, and Allenby was Viscount Allenby of Megiddo.
11TH BATTALION A.I.F. HISTORY

The following subscriptions have been received during the month to the History fund. Members of the old unit are asked to subscribe 10/- per copy (or at least 5/- in advance), so that the record which has been written by "Jock" Bedford can be published in book form. Subscriptions to Wally Blair, 79 William Street, Perth.

Precedently acknowledged £42/11/6, J. E. Worthington (Kojonup) 10/-, W. L. Fathers (Adelaide) 10/-, C. Buttle (Kalgoorlie) 10/-, G. A. Woodman (Jardee) 10/-, Stan Bennett (Boyup) 10/-, E. Condon (Bunbury) 10/-, C. Barnard (South Perth) 10/-, F. G. Medcalf (Albany) 4/1/-, H. V. Lake (Nedlands) 10/-, F. W. Chapman (West Leederville) 5/-, Dr. G. Robinson (Mellbourne) 10/-, H. Holley (Gosnells) 10/-, Julian Boyd (California) 10/-.

Total: £49/9/6.

CHRISTMAS AT THE HOSPITALS

The way Christmas was spent in Repatriation Hospitals was described in a report submitted to the State executive by Mr. R. A. Nicholas, at the meeting on January 12. The lads at Edward Millen enjoyed a very quiet day, after about ten days of continuous festivity. They had received visits from nearly every woman's auxiliary in the metropolitan area, and many who came in a private capacity, and no visitor came empty handed. Bright and gay decorations for the Home were provided by V.A.D. workers, under the direction of Miss Mary Meares. On Christmas Day, Mr. Nicholas found 19 patients in the Home, 22 others had been granted leave to spend the day with their own families. The Red Cross Society gave the patients of Ward XI a Christmas dinner and concert on December 22. The ward was beautifully decorated for the occasion by V.A.D. workers and men of the Militia Forces, under the direction of Miss Mary Meares. Most of the patients were able to come to the table. They included six from the Convalescent Home at Cottageloe. Her Excellency Lady Mitchell was the principal guest at the function, and Sir James himself arrived later. The speeches were brief and bright. The State president kept to the three essential points, when replying to the toast of the League. Some of Perth's leading artists provided an excellent programme.

THE LISTENING POST, 18th January, 1938

The happiness of the atmosphere was increased by the presence at the table of Mr. Kelly, a very popular patient from Manjimup. He had had a very bad turn during the preceding week-end. On Monday, little hope was held out for his recovery. The next day he made a marvellous recovery, and was able to sit up and take his Christmas dinner with the rest of the boys.

ADEQUATE DEFENCE OF AUSTRALIA

The following resolution was carried at the recent Federal congress at the instigation of the W.A. Branch:—

"That this congress, as the result of the collective experience of the members of the League, acquired during the years 1914-1918, expresses its utmost abhorrence of war as a means of settling disputes amongst nations and for that reason, if for no other, records its approval and admiration of the efforts of the League of Nations, and particularly the Government of Great Britain, to promote and maintain peace and a better understanding amongst the races of the world. Nevertheless, recognising the facts that there is still, through various causes, elements involving the risk of aggression and conflict, congress agrees with the action of Great Britain in rearming and urges the Government of Australia to persist in the completion of such measures as are necessary to maintain inviolate our shores, cities and people."

The following reply was received from the Prime Minister's Department:

The Commonwealth Government has consistently associated itself with the efforts of the League of Nations to settle international disputes by peaceful means, and has whole-heartedly co-operated with the British Government in the task of maintaining world peace and achieving a better international understanding.

At the present time, however, membership of the League is not universal, the international situation is one of difficulty and tension, and the nations of the world are spending vast sums on armaments. In these circumstances, Great Britain and other members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, including, of course, Australia, have been compelled to re-arm. The Commonwealth Government is fully aware of its responsibilities in this regard and is taking all possible steps to ensure that Australia's defences are adequate.

The new Digger London Diploma cutters of the R.S.L. TRADING COMPANY, LTD., is now making splendid suits to measure.

MONARCH LAUNDRY LTD.—DYERS AND CLEANERS
The colours of the 1st Battalion, Royal Suffolk Regiment, said to be the oldest in the Army, left England during the last week in November, when the Battalion sailed for Malta. They date from 1849, and are of the older dimensions: six feet by ten feet.

A New York paper reports the death of Mr. William W. Thomas, who claimed to have been the first man to raise the American flag in Europe during the Great War. He served in the Spanish-American War of 1898, and hopscotched across the border and joined up with the 19th Canadian Regiment in the early days of the Great War. On Independence Day 1916, while in the trenches near Ypres, he produced a small American flag from his pack and hoisted it on a stick raised above the parapet. He was in his sixty-eighth year when he received the last movement order.

At the meeting of the State executive on December 16, information was received from the Federal executive concerning royalties from the paintings Menin Gate and The Immortal Shrine. The Federal executive advised that £1,000 had been distributed, of which £75/18/2 was allocated to Western Australia.

Just before the holidays, the energetic Collie sub-branch took a little time off, from the preparations for the monster R.S.L. carnival, to pass a resolution supporting the State executive's proposal that all sub-branches do their utmost to encourage enlistment in the Militia Forces. During the discussion, the chairman (Mr. J. Giblett) mentioned that he had endeavoured to form a light horse unit in Collie, but the Government had not been able to supply the necessary funds. Since then, he said, an infantry detachment had been formed at Bunbury. Other speakers emphasised the value local lads would receive from some form of military training. Incidentally, everyone who knows anything about the history of the Australian Military Forces knows full well what splendid soldiers these mining communities can produce.

E. G. H. writes: Being a strong adherent to the British Empire and good old West Aussie, I took a stroll in company of my better half and had a good look at the Royal Robes and Standards. All went well till we reached the Standard of the Commonwealth of Australia. I began to wonder if my eyesight was wrong, but it was not. The figure representing our glorious black Swan was all wrong according to my teaching and what I saw in the Zoo. The genuine article has red bill and eyes—that on the Royal Standard has white eyes and black bill. Who is right, Mr. Editor, my teachers or the artist responsible for the Standards?

Picturesque Albany is a breezy place, both socially and geo-physically; perhaps that is why members of the sub-branch and their good wives are such good hands at raising the wind when occasion calls for it. Some of their recent efforts in this direction have secured £75 for the Blind Appeal and over £70 for the Free Milk Council.

It happened on that excessively hot Friday, when the sun's fierce rays fell on the just and the unjust alike. A Digger shouldered his way up to the bar of the Service and made his wants known to Ted. As he was about to find a good home for something cool and amber, Ted, whose mind was trying to keep pace with the mounting mercury asked: "Is it a hundred yet?" "Give us a chance," the customer expostulated. "A hundred! Blimey, I've only just come into the bar."

This is how they do it in France. An announcer who was finishing a broadcast in English said: "And now we will close, with ze band of His Majesty's Coldstream Guards playing 'God Rescue King George VI!"

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MONARCH LAUNDARY LTD.—DYERS AND CLEANERS

General Smuts' defence of the League of Nations evoked the usual spate of hysterical abuse from the German Press, which referred to Smuts' own "attack on the German colonies," which, the Germans declare, was not carried out in accordance with the ideals of the League, an organisation that had not yet been formed, but to satisfy motives of aggression and greed. The East African Campaign, of course, was after the Belgians committed their brutal assault on honest German soldiers who only wanted to walk through Belgian territory to attack Belgium's friend and neighbour, France. One fine day, some of these German apologists will be telling us that Archduke Franz Ferdinand wasn't murdered, and that there wasn't a war at all.

COMING A "SUCKER" 

( BY "HUMMER")

A particular trooper always found it necessary to parade "sick" on the night before a "stunt" was due to be pulled off, and always got away with it, until one day the Major of "A" Squadron had an idea that all was not fair.

Walking over the regimental M.O.'s tent the Major said: "Look here, Doc, so-and-so will try and put it over you before we move out to-night. What he's likely to try this time I do not know, but you see that he does not miss this stunt, will you?"

Sure enough that night up walked the trooper to the M.O.'s tent.

"Well," said the M.O., "what's the trouble?"

"'Ook 'ere, shir," mumbled the trooper through his toothless lips and displaying his top plate of artificial teeth in two pieces, "I can't go out on this stunt, because I can't eat anything hard."

"Oh, that's alright," said the M.O., "you needn't worry over it."

"Oh yes," mumbled the trooper, "I won't be able to eat the - - - biscuits; they're too hard."

"Well," said the M.O., "you can well suck them, can't you?" as he ordered a return to duty.
"THE IMMORTAL HERITAGE"

We have received from the distributors a copy of "The Immortal Heritage," an account of the work and policy of the Imperial War Graves Commission during twenty years—1917 and 1937—by Sir Fabian Ware, with an introduction by Edmund Blunden. The book, which is excellently published by the Cambridge University Press, is a slim volume that tells how and where a million dead soldiers of the British Commonwealth are commemorated. The report it contains is the first full and authoritative account of the gigantic task, undertaken in 1917, by the Imperial War Graves Commission, and was originally presented by H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester to the Imperial Conference of 1937. It describes, with a wealth of detail, the painstaking efforts to identify thousands of men who had been posted "missing, believed killed." It tells how the ground for the war graves was acquired in so many countries, both Allied and former enemy, and how these eternal reminders of the greatest struggle in all history are maintained. The book is illustrated by thirty-two photographs of war memorials and cemeteries in many lands. Bereaved ones will owe a debt of undying gratitude to the Commission and to Sir Fabian Ware, who has presented this record of service to the Empire in such an unusually capable manner. The retail price is three shillings.

MCINTOSH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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

Applications must be forwarded to the hon. secretary of the Soldiers’ Children’s Scholarship Trust, Mr. J. R. Fitzpatrick, Box K769, G.P.O., Perth, not later than February 15, 1938.

ANSWERING A WHIZZ-BANG

One of the bright innovations at the annual reunion of the Press sub-branch was the installation of a Field Post Office at which Field Service Postcards might be stamped and posted on the spot. It was mostly spot, for the special postcard designed by the Press Gang read:

PRESS SUB-BRANCH R.S.L. CHRISTMAS SMOKO December 23, 1937

SENTENCES AND WORDS NOT REQUIRED MAY BE DELETED

I am quite well. Time
I am sober and properly dressed. Time
I am not quite well. Time
I am a lot better. Time
I am full of joy. Time

(Last two words may be deleted if necessary.)

I am singing like a lark. canary.
crow.
emu.
swan.

I hope to head homewards at

Please arrange transport as under:

Train. Wheelbarrow.
Bus. Taxi.
Motor car. Ambulance.

I left my car parked at

(Please retrieve if I go home without it.)

If not home by 3 a.m. please enquire at Police Station, Perth Hospital, Anzac Club.

(Signature)

One was posted by the State (we almost printed Stout) secretary to George A. McFayden, the secretary of the Wiluna sub-branch. We are privileged to publish his reply.

Your card from the Press sub-branch "soak smocial" to hand and the refreshing whiff of your beery breath in the midst of the after-Christmas drought was like a breeze straight off a pub.

Was glad to realise that you were well and full and hope that by now you are sober enough to get home.

Your appeal for assistance to get home caused a special meeting of the local blokes to be called, which was held on the lee side of the Wiluna Pubbery, and your possible whereabouts were thoroughly gone into.

Your suggestion of transport by wheelbarrow was instantly dismissed, as a bloke like you fully loaded would be too great a strain on a vehicle of that description.

Your suggestion as to your possible whereabouts were thoroughly discussed, and the following resolution adopted: the police station instantly dismissed; Perth Hospital, not a possibility, as a drunk has nine lives; Anzac Club? not likely; Yvonne’s joint? unanimous! That would be your whereabouts and ways and means of getting you home from there was gone into thoroughly. The final motion was: That this meeting wire Folkard and Finister, asking them to arrange transport for you from Yvonne’s joint to your home; but it lapsed for want of a seconder. A wise crack pointed out that they were both respectable married men, and if their good wives got to know of their being round such a place, well, this meeting wasn’t going to be termed home-wreckers; and anyhow, it would have to be held over till after the first pay in the New Year before we could raise the two bob.

Hope that you are recovering and that a couple of Swans survived to help you along the track to the next soak.

I remain,

Your Drought-Stricken Cobbler.

ANZAC DAY

Railway Employees

Referring to the resolution carried at the State congress—

"That the matter of railway wages employees, who are returned soldiers, being granted Anzac Day as a holiday with pay at their home station be represented to the Commissioner of Railways, and as an alternative, should any wages returned soldier employees be called on to work on Anzac Day or be away on duty from their home station on that day, they be paid penalty rates for the day in the same manner as for Christmas Day, Good Friday and Labour Day; or as a further alternative, that a day in lieu thereof be granted extra on the annual leave."

The following reply has been received from the Premier’s Department:

Returned soldiers may be allowed a holiday without deduction from their pay on Anzac Day, provided they can be conveniently spared from their work and proper approval is obtained for the leave. No day in lieu or extra payment is to be allowed to any employee working on Anzac Day unless the contrary is specifically provided in an award or agreement applicable to such employee.

Every effort is made to release returned men on Anzac Day, the administration having every sympathy with the object for which the leave is provided, and heads of branches are fully seized of the policy of the department in this regard.

The leave in question is undoubtedly given for the purpose of enabling returned soldiers to attend memorial services and parades and not as recreation.
leave. It is not, therefore, considered that there are any justifiable grounds for the granting of a day in lieu to those whom, owing to the exigencies of their work it is not possible to release for the day, or for the payment of penalty rates in such circumstances.

**REDUCTION: INTEREST RATE**

Resolution 1: "That, as W.A. is essentially a primary producing State, and in the interests of the State as a whole, and with a view to settling the present abandoned farms, Parliament be approached and pressed for a reduction in the interest rate to 2½ per cent. lent on monies or to be lent on agricultural land development."

This resolution was submitted to the Premier on October 25.
The Premier replied: I have to state that it is not possible to grant the request contained in the resolution conveyed in your letter.

You are no doubt aware that the Government has already substantially written down the indebtedness of settlers, the cost of which has to be borne by the general taxpayer. To grant further concessions would either impose a burden on the consolidated revenue fund, which it could not stand, or necessitate increased taxation which could not reasonably be justified.

**FINANCIAL EMERGENCY TAX ACT OF 1937**

The Commissioner of Taxation (Mr. H. H. Trebilco) notifies for public information the following alterations in rates of tax payable on wages and salaries paid on or after January 1, 1938.

**Married Persons or Persons with Dependents.**—The rate of 4d. in the £ will apply to all payments at the rate of £3/17/- to £4/19/11 per week.

**Persons Without Dependents.**—Fourpence per week is payable on payments at the rate of £1/10/- to £1/19/11 per week. The rate of fourpence in the £ will apply to all payments at the rate of £2 to £3/17/- per week. The rate of fivepence in the £ will apply to all payments at the rate of £3/17/1 to £5/19/11 per week. Otherwise the schedules under the previous Act are unaltered.

A schedule of all rates payable may be inspected at any post office or railway station, or may be obtained upon application to the Taxation Department, Box A19, G.P.O., Perth.

Bill: You know, this is the shortest book I've ever read.
John: That so?
Bill: Yes, it contains only one word.
John: What's the book called?
Bill: "Who's Who in Italy."
WESTRALIAN CAVALRY IN THE WAR

By Lieut.-Col. A. C. N. Olden, D.S.O.

CHAPTER XIV

PREPARING FOR ROMANI

The remaining period of our occupation of the Serapeum Railhead camp was devoted to training and preparations for operations which, it was felt, were not far distant.

The heat was intense, and heavy work at this time was restricted to early morning and evening. Daily rides to the Great Bitter Lake by a large proportion of the Regiment’s personnel, with the consequent bathing of horses and men in the lake, did much to maintain the high standard of physical fitness for which this camp had become noted. It was a six-mile ride to the lake, and during each trip, both going and returning, mounted manoeuvres and tactical schemes were practised. In this way business was combined with pleasure, the men kept fit, and the horses wound up like thoroughbreds.

The Great Bitter Lake will be always gratefully remembered by the Regiment for more than one reason. Apart from its cool, refreshing waters and its generous beaches, it was known to contain a huge quantity of fish. One of our officers (Lieutenant J. Norrish) got in touch with the owners of a fleet of fishing boats and a mutual arrangement was made, with permission from the Admiralty, whereby these boats were enabled to fish in the lake.

In short, the 10th Regiment supplied a guard, commanded by Lieutenant Norrish, at Fayed—a small station on the western shore of the lake which formed a sort of “fishing base”—to ensure that the operations of the natives were confined to fishing alone, not mine-laying.

In return for this service, the native fishermen handed over daily to our party one-third of the fish taken. A quickly organised scheme whereby the fish were transported to the Regiment was soon in full swing. The catches were invariably made at night, and the boats back to Fayed before dawn. The fish would be apportioned and ferried across the lake in the early morning to Deversoir, where a limbered wagon, specially fitted up for the purpose, was waiting to deliver it to the Regiment.

It was a very welcome addition to the daily rations, and the supply seldom, or never, failed. On many occasions more than half a ton of fish would be delivered, and Colonel Todd always saw to it that Headquarters of higher formations within range were supplied. Thus the 10th Regiment guard was not relieved.

An incident which recalled pleasant memories occurred one day whilst the Regiment was bathing in the lake. A steamer was pursuing its slow, stately course down the Canal—quite a common site, by the way, and one which usually attracted no attention—but to the old originals of the Regiment this particular steamer had a familiar look about her although the paint work seemed strange. Glasses were turned on to her bridge, and the number “A47” was discernible. It was the Mashobra, the ship which had brought the original Regiment to Egypt, camouflaged, and on her way to Australia for more troops.

The men rose up out of the water and, running around to the Canal bank, lined up to give the vessel a cheer. As she came within hailing distance, Captain Brookes was seen on the bridge and Chief Engineer MacKay leaning out from the after deck. Warm greetings were exchanged, and the good ship faded from view. It turned out to be her last trip, as she was torpedoed in the Mediterranean not long after.

Towards the closing days of July it became certain that the enemy was about to make his second great attempt to seize the Canal. The affair at Qatia had, amongst other things, strengthened his idea—sedulously fostered by his German masters—of moral ascendency over our troops. Consequently, it was in good heart that he came to the attack.

CHAPTER XV

ROMANI TO BIR-EL-ABD

For some six months past the principal sphere of Turkish activity had been the northern, or coastal, sector of Sinai Peninsula. Here the desert was much less hungry and inhospitable than elsewhere. For a distance of roughly twelve miles inland from the Mediterranean the wide expanse of loose, shifting sand was relieved at numerous intervals by the presence of hods, or oases, dotted over its surface. These hods were invariably alike in character, being merely very marked depressions in the sand and full of growing date palms. In most of them water of a kind could be found not far from the surface, and the tall palm trees afforded grateful shelter, in addition to carrying, in the season, heavy crops of luscious dates.

As far back as March the enemy were known to have a large force, estimated at 10,000, in the vicinity of Bir-el-Abd, while many smaller bodies of Turks were scattered amongst the hods and energetically developing the water supply, in the more important ones. Patrol encounters were of almost daily occurrence during the whole period, and several daring enemy raids had taken place. But it was not till the beginning of August, 1916, that the Turk-German attack was launched.

At the time, the British line in this sector was based on Kantara, on the Canal, and ran from Mahamdiya—the ancient camp of Chabrias, on the Mediterranean—south covering Romani to Kabib Cannit, thence bearing back in a kind of half circle in a series of strong posts to protect the light railway from Kantara to Romani.

On August 4 the Turks attacked this line frontally, and on the right flank, in a determined effort to seize the Railhead at Romani. At the outset they made fair progress, so fierce was their onslaught. But it was not for long. The records of the New Zealand Mounted Rifles and the 1st and 2nd Light Horse Bridges will show how gallantly and how skilfully the Turks were met. By nightfall their attack was broken, and they had retired and were attempting to reorganise.

On this first day our Brigade had taken no active part. It had left Serapeum Railhead on July 27, marched via Ismailia, El Ferdan and Ballah, and taken up a bivouac position in the front line, about six miles east of Ballah, called Ballubun.

Whilst at Ballubun, the 10th Regiment had carried out reconnaissances in an easterly direction, as it appeared that the role of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade, in case of an enemy attack, would be to attempt a wide outflanking movement, jumping off from its present position.
But whether or not it was intended, this movement was not carried out. Hurried orders arrived on the morning of August 4 that the Regiment would move with the Brigade to Hill 70, about six miles east-north-east from Kantara.

Saddling up with all speed and travelling very light, the Regiment marched out. Hill 70 was reached by mid-day, and here rations and forage were issued and horses watered. The sound of heavy gun fire grew louder and nearer, and told of the desperate efforts the Turks were making. Towards evening the Brigade marched to Dueidar, where it bivouacked for the night.

Shortly after daylight on the 5th, a situation report showed that the enemy were retiring, and the Brigade moved forward—the 9th Light Horse Regiment in advance—in a due easterly direction.

Bir-en-Nuss, which the Turks were reported to be holding, was reached without opposition, and found unoccupied. The advance was pushed on with speed, and on approaching Bir Hamisah the advanced guard was engaged by the enemy, who were holding a series of low, entrenched sand hills covering the hod.

The 9th Regiment took up a frontal position and vigorously replied to the heavy enemy machine-gun and rifle fire, delivered at a range of 500 yards. But although casualties were inflicted on the Turks, they were not to be easily dislodged.

"A" Squadron of the 10th Regiment was sent forward to reinforce the 9th, and shortly afterwards the remainder of the 10th Regiment moved up, dismounted and occupied a position on the right flank. The 8th Regiment was held in reserve. A brisk fire fight was maintained, supported by two guns of the Inverness Battery. Gradually it became evident that we were gaining the upper hand, and on the appearance of a troop of scouts under Captain Wearne and a troop of "A" Squadron under Lieutenant Lyall, threatening their left flank, the Turks surrendered, hoisting numerous white flags on their rifles.

This was our first crossing of swords with the Turk since the Gallipoli days, and all ranks were elated with their success. Over 300 prisoners—including several Austrian machine-gunners—seven camels, four machine-guns and much ammunition were taken, besides which the enemy lost many killed. Our casualties in the Regiment were small in number, though some good men were lost to us.

For some unknown reason—probably obscurity as to the position elsewhere—the Brigade did not immediately exploit this success by continuing the advance. Instead, the unit were withdrawn to Bir Nagid—a distance of about two miles west from the scene of the fight—and held in that vicinity until next day (August 6).

The prisoners were sent back under escort, and the 10th Regiment as advanced guard moved on Hod es Sagia, the rest of the Brigade following.

Aeroplane reports showed that the Turks were retiring as rapidly as possible and we now had our first experience of their wonderful mobility on foot. They marched through the heavy sand at a surprising pace, and their rearguards were always well placed and fought determinedly.

As the leading troops of the Regiment approached Hod Sagia at dusk they were met with a burst of shrapnel, machine gun and rifle fire. The failing light made it impossible to locate the enemy position or discover his strength, so an outpost line was taken up for the night.

Our Brigade was now on the right.
flank of a general advance by the Anzac Mounted Division—of which we formed a unit—under Major-General Chauvel. Communication had been established with the unit on our left, and was maintained throughout. The following morning, August 7, the 8th Light Horse Regiment engaged the enemy, who were located holding a ridge about half a mile north-east of Sagia. The 9th Regiment was in support and the 10th Regiment in reserve.

The Inverness Battery opened fire on the enemy position early in the morning and the 8th Regiment made a determined attack, but the enemy held on grimly and maintained his position till darkness set in. At dawn, on August 8, the 10th Regiment moved forward to attack the Sagia Ridge, to find, on occupying it, that the Turks had again retreated during the night.

Touch here was obtained with the 5th Light Horse Regiment (2nd Brigade) on our left, and the advance continued. Hod Hassaniya was reached during the afternoon, and occupied as our outpost line for the night. The enemy was reported in force, occupying a redoubt and ridges in the vicinity of Mushafat—about three miles east of Hassaniya; and this report was verified early the next day (August 9), when the 8th Light Horse Regiment, moving in advance of the Brigade, was held up here.

A reconnaissance disclosed the fact that the Turkish position at Mushafat was one of considerably greater strength than any hitherto encountered by our people. It had been admirably selected as to terrain, and contained a formidable trench system. It was also clear that the enemy intended to offer increased opposition. His line was shorter, but the prospects of our outflanking him did not appear bright.

The sand became immeasurably heavier and more difficult to negotiate, whilst the horses, which had performed wonderfully well on scant forage and poor water, could not be expected to go on indefinitely under such adverse conditions. Consequently our attacks had of necessity to be delivered more or less frontally, and in these the Inverness Battery rendered substantial aid. With a couple of heavy horses extra per gun, the Highlanders had struggled along through the desert, and were never far behind the horsemen. Great credit is due to Major Fraser and his men for their fine effort.

On this day the Battery harassed the Turkish defences unceasingly, firing over 500 rounds of 18lb. ammunition, whilst the 8th and 9th Regiments carried on a brisk fight. But the Turks, apparently in much superior numbers to the attackers, held their ground. Indeed, towards evening they made a determined counter-attack with the bayonet, and for a time it appeared that things would go hard with the 9th Regiment. The timely arrival, however, of “B” Squadron of the 10th Regiment, under Major H. C. H. Robertson, and later on “C” Squadron, under Major S. E. Grimwood, turned the scale, and they were driven back, leaving many dead. At 2 a.m. the next night two troos of “A” Squadron under the Regimental-Second-in-Command (Major T. A. Kidd) moved out to reconnoitre the Mushafat redoubt, with a view to finding out if it was still occupied or whether the Turks had followed their usual custom of retiring under cover of darkness.

The party moved through our outpost line and approached close to the redoubt. When suddenly from three sides blazed the fire of between 30 and 40 rifles, at point-blank range. The party turned and galloped back at top speed! As one man said afterwards: “It was a true-run race! They were all tries!” Men and horses fell headlong over the dunes, but by a miracle neither a horse nor a man was hit.

August 10 and 11 were devoted to continuous shelling and sniping on both sides, whilst the New Zealanders were attacking Bir-el-Abd. During the morning of the 11th a thrilling duel in the air took place over our lines, the first that our troops had witnessed, and to our dismay our machine was shot down by the German, apparently with the greatest ease. The superiority of the German plane was very marked, and for many months to come we have to have the humiliation of seeing our splendid flying personnel suffering under this unequal combat.

The comparison of the British machines to the German during the campaign in Sinai was as a draught-horse to a thoroughbred. Our pilots were bold, daring and skilful beyond praise. There was nothing they would not attempt, no danger they would not face, in standing by and helping their comrades-in-arms on the ground below; and it was no fault of theirs that our vaunted air superiority—as advertised by the daily communiques of that period—was a myth. And so were many fine men lost to the service in attempting to carry an impossible handicap.

On the morning of August 12 a report indicated that a force of several hundreds of Turks was moving in the direction of Hod Bayud, several miles south of Bir-el-Abd, probably with the object of counter-attacking our right flank. The Regiment moved towards Bayud in a wide echelon of squadrons, but on approaching the Hod it was found unoccupied, and shortly afterwards the advanced troops of the 11th Light Horse Regiment and the Imperial Camel Corps appeared in sight moving from the west. The 10th Regiment was recalled and marched in a northerly direction of Bir-el-Abd, the Turks having evacuated.
Mushafat during the previous night. El-Abd fell that day, Salmana shortly after, and the Turks retired to Mazar.

As it was deemed inexpedient by the High Command to push further east until the line of communication was better established, the pursuit now ceased for the time being. The units of the Brigade were withdrawn and hods allotted to each in which to form bivouacs.

Thus ended the first phase of the campaign in Sinai. The Anzac Mounted Division under General Chauvel had not only repelled the Turkish effort to seize the great waterway, but had pursued the enemy through blinding summer heat and scorching sand until the only Turks in Sinai Peninsula, for a distance of nearly 60 miles from the Canal, were prisoners in our hands.

That the attacking army was not wholly destroyed was chiefly due to the amazing mobility and stamina of the Turks, combined with their determined and skilful rearward actions. Nevertheless, upwards of 3,500 prisoners and much material had been taken.

A captured document contained a theatrical exhortation to the Turkish Army from Von Kress—the German Commander-in-Chief on the Sinai front—to “drive the English into the sea as at Gallipoli.”

Whether Von Kress himself or the German High Command either intended or deemed this possible is open to doubt. The broad issue from the German point of view seemed that the more Allied troops that could be held on this front to guard the all-important waterway—in other words, the more the Canal was threatened—the less troops would be available for the Western theatre of operations.

That this crafty scheme failed in its purpose is a matter of history. Not only did the British forces hold the Canal. This first phase was but the beginning of a great Crusade, destined to produce a profound influence on the whole course of the War.

(To be continued)

Teachers who had been in the service of the New South Wales Education Department were to be found in all ranks of the A.I.F. Many of them paid the supreme sacrifice, and many of the survivors won important decorations. The present generation of New South Wales teachers seems to have become whitened by the C.S. intellects, who think the British Empire is something to be ashamed of, and that the larrkin Powers will refrain from attacking us if we cut all reference to war from Australian youngsters’ history books. This pretty pansy attitude is amply reflected in a resolution passed by the recent conference of the N.S.W. Teachers’ Federation, in favour of abandoning the policy of supporting the social classification privileges for returned soldiers because of war service. According to a Sydney weekly, the comment of a Digger delegate to the conference was, “I was ashamed to hear the conference turn down the Diggers. Are we to talk propaganda to the children and teach them to be afraid to defend their country? Are we to ask them to be ashamed of the Diggers?” It is not known what will be the attitude of the New South Wales department on this question, but, fortunately for the Digger pedagogues in the Mother State, there is a strong branch of the R.S.L. and there is still a State law insisting on preference to returned soldiers. It has almost fallen into desuetude, certainly, but I have never heard of it being repealed.

FROM FAR YORKSHIRE

Mr. H. Battye, of 13 Claremont-terrace, Lamefield Lane, Wakefield, writes:

I have been reading the “Anzac” and June issues of “The Listening Post,” and they have recalled happy memories of days spent amongst Australian and New Zealand men-at-arms.

My niece, who lives on a farm at Gabbin, Western Australia, sends me your paper, as she knows I am interested in all things that concern Gallipoli. I was 47 when I sailed in the Empress of Britain from Devonport for an unknown destination. I was a private in the Labour Battalion, A.S.C., and after landing at Anzac about November 6, 1915, we were attached to the immortal 29th Division. I remember saying to one of our men when I heard shells bursting: “They’re having bonfire late here!” He replied: “It’s no place to make a joke.”

He got away early—V.D.H. I shall never forget my first night at Anzac or my last night at Cape Helles; the evacuation; the march at nightfall to board a lighter after passing through the River Clyde, but it was safer than the first landing—I have a picture of that in our room!

I was one of the first to see Lord Kitchener land at Anzac; we had just finished unloading a boat, November 13. An Australian told me that K. of K. said we should all be away before Xmas, and we were, thank God. I made a bet on it and won 10/- from one of our chaps. I wonder if the Aussie is alive who took a whole lot of notes to change? We never saw him again. We were 3/- a day men; your men got 6/-, and so got those cakes from the tent.

The Australians and New Zealanders were very generous with tobacco, matches, etc.—good pals at Anzac, Mudros, Egypt and France. They were real lads to be sure, and played “Hamlet” near Mustafa Camp, Egypt. What a lot of your boys got “put out” on the Beach at Anzac! We lost a good few men too, and had to move further up the beach.

Your boys used to ask me to give them a tin of milk when I was carrying cases up to the beach. They waited until I got into a gully or sap. “Don’t give single tins away,” I said. “Here, take the blooming case!” and they did.
THE LISTENING POST, 17th December, 1937

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By "Pip Tok"

To save their eyes from the glare of windscreen, policemen on traffic duty in Perth have been issued with tinted glasses. And for a dry throat, experience induces me to recommend tilted glasses.

In a recent leading article, "The West Australian" contrasted the position of the Australian birthrate with that of Germany, which the Nazi regime has been at such pains to stimulate. It was stated that Mr. Lyons is not likely to prove so persuasive as Herr Hitler. All the same, our Joseph has set a much better example than Germany's Adolf, who is still a bachelor.

It has been stated that Herr Hitler neither smokes nor drinks, and he does not like women. I suppose I should start an international complication if I were to ask, "What does he like?"

It was recently reported that in private conversation with his friends, Signor Mussolini always refers to Herr Hitler as "the sniffer." This does not appear to be much love lost between the two dictators. After Mussolini's visit to Berlin, Hitler is reported to have said, "I'd have rather had the King of England sitting beside me than that fat Italian."

In his book on the war in Abyssinia, Vittorio Mussolini, said that dropping bombs on an enemy was the greatest of fun. But it might not have been so funny had the target been able to hit back. Vittorio made himself so unpopular during his visit to Hollywood, by his b mongous ways, that his father had to recall him. The story is told that on one occasion he blew into a studio and said down the law so emphatically that a harassed producer, who did not know him from Adam, said, "Anyone would think you were Mussolini. To which Vittorio replied, "I am."

A quaint instance of academic arrogance is related by Douglas Jerrold, in his recently published "Georgian Adventure." He states that, in 1876, Oxford's pacificist Professor Carrod was given a white feather by a woman who asked, "Sir, are you aware that in Flanders young men are dying for civilisation?" With all that modesty which characterises the academic pacificist, Carrod replied, "Are you aware, Madam, that I am the civilisation for which they are dying?"

One becomes heartily sick of "My country's always wrong" type of altruist who would be prepared to give Germany the Bank of England if Herr Hitler insisted that only the gift could prevent another war. Within the past few weeks, the German whine for the return of the lost colonies has been accompanied by incidental references to the growing strength of the German Army. What of it? Britain is far from being as unprepared as she was in 1914, and the present German army is no more invincible than the highly trained organisation that commenced the invasion of Belgium in that year.

It is high time Britain said to these swashbuckling dictators, "We've offered you peace and cooperation, and that offer is still open, but if you want the other thing, well that is open also." The same attitude yet expressed on the great peace blackmail is that voiced recently by Mr. Winston Churchill. Sa'd Washington: "There is a strange doctrine abroad in the world today concerning 'have' and 'have not' nations. It is said that because they have mismanaged their affairs for a good many generations and quarrelled among themselves, or had not happened to win the different wars in which they indulged—while all the time our ancestors, and not only our ancestors, who were prudent, built up our Empire bit by bit—they should be compensated at our expense. I have never been able to see the force of that argument."

One of Mr. Churchill's political opponents, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. C. R. Atlee, who was a Major in the Big Stouch, and who is said to have talked out of his turn during his recent visit to Spain, has also counselled greater resolution in high places. "If a thistle of the resolution shown in regard to British shipping in the Mediterranean were used in regard to the far East," he declared during a debate in the House of Commons, "this invasion of China could be stopped." But if Mr. Atlee and others had not forced disarmament on Britain in the past, the demand for resolution need not have become necessary.

A thought for the month: "It ain't the yeat, it's the yewmidderty."

Speaking at Windhoek, South-West Africa, Colonel Hamman, chairman of the United Party of the Mandated Territory, said that the talk of negotiations for the former German colonies was all rubbish. All Bosche, in fact.

The German whine for colonies must have impressed a dear old soul who calls occasionally to do the family washing. Admiring The Western Mail's picture of the Cameron Highlanders in colour, she exclaimed: "Ah, they're a splendid body of men, the Camerons. I do hope the British Government won't be silly and give them back to Germany."

Thanks to the efforts of the type of pacificist who believes that peace can be maintained by disarming the only countries that can be trusted with arms, the Englishman may now be defined as a man who lets a Jap. punch him in Shanghai, and a Dago kick him in Naples, but who does not hit back for fear of committing a breach of the peace.

Now, withstand'g awful examples to the contrary, the British Government maintains a pathetic faith that treaties are regarded as sacred obligation by the larrkin Powers. The story of the interview between Sir Edward Goschen, who was British Ambassador in Berlin in 1914 and the German Chancellor, is now a matter of history. We have all read
of the German Chancellor's indignation when he learned that, "just for a scrap of paper" Britain was going to take up arms in defence of Belgium's neutrality. It was explained to him that the "solemn compact simply had to be kept, or what confidence could anyone have in engagements given by Great Britain in the future?" With characteristic Teutonic obtuseness, the Chancellor replied: "But at what price will that compact have been kept? Has the British Government thought of that?"

This was in 1914. Now let us see the point of view in 1938. When Britain and France remonstrated with Rumania on the treatment of the Jews, and reminded Rumania that she was still bound by the Minorities Treaty of 1919, there was a howl from the German Press against the unfairness of expecting Rumania to be bound by a contract she entered into nearly twenty years ago. Obviously the German has not altered with the years.

Isn't it nearly time ill-informed persons ceased telling us that we fought in a war to end war? That slogan was foisted on the faint-hearted by political phrase-makers after the War had lasted nearly three years. Britain's war aims were set forth clearly enough by the Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith in the House of Commons on August 8, 1914. "If I am asked what we are fighting for I reply in two sentences," he declared. "In the first place, to fulfil a solemn international obligation, an obligation which, if it had been entered into between private persons in the ordinary concerns of life, would have been regarded as an obligation, not only of law, but of honour, which no self-respecting man could possibly have repudiated. I say, secondly, we are fighting to vindicate the principle that small nations are not to be crushed in defiance of international good faith, by the arbitrary will of a strong and over-mastering Power."

One Raymond Watt, who, as the Sydney Bulletin puts it, was given a trip to Geneva at the taxpayers' expense and was there photographed exchanging grins with Litvinov, is reported to have told the New South Wales Teachers' Federation conference, that if war came to Australia he "would look for a hollow log to hide in." Mr. Watt's physical appearance leads me to believe that he would be as good as his word.

The new Digger cutter of the R.S.L. TRADING COMPANY, LTD., holds a London Diploma of cutting, and was an instructor at the Perth Technical School.

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THE ELUSIVE "LIBRE BELGIQUE"

There has just been published "Burgomaster Max," relating to the famous burgomaster who encouraged his nation and thrilled the world by his refusal to be browbeaten by the Germans when they were in occupation of his city in 1914. In its review of the work, the Daily Telegraph says: Nothing in the book is more delightful than the section which is devoted to the publication of the clandestine newspaper which the Germans failed completely to suppress. It provides one of the finest stories of the war.

In spite of all the Germans' efforts to stop La Libre Belgique, the little paper came out, and with unfailing regularity a copy of each issue was mysteriously delivered to the office of the German Governor-General of Brussels.

By means of an astonishing organisation that was headed by a veteran journalist—an organisation in which the leaders remained unknown to one another—the paper was produced. Copy intended for the secret printer was hidden in the tubes of a harmless looking radiator at the slightest sign of danger and was conveyed from one point to another in a hollow walking-stick.

Thousands of papers were circulated under the noses of the puzzled authorities. Women carried parcels in the well of a perambulator; girls secreted others in music sheets; a paper-hanger camouflaged thousands of copies as rolls of wallpaper.

Once the printing press had to be removed. It weighed more than a ton, but was taken down and was re-erected bolt by bolt in a small chamber which had been built by a man who carried all the bricks and cement in small parcels.

No one did more audacious things than a lawyer, M. Vander Kerckhove. He rivalled the Scarlet Pimpernel in his cool courage and resource. On seven different occasions he entered the Governor-General's private office with an accomplice disguised as a German officer, and once he even opened the safe in order to place within it a copy of the banned newspaper's latest issue.

Furious Germans worked desperately to track down those who were making them a laughing stock, and at last they broke the organisation by numerous arrests. Just as everything seemed over, and the prisoners were being brought to trial, the paper reappeared!

It continued to do so, and at last elab-
orate plans were made to ensure complete suppression. A special brigade of intelligence men was drafted in from Berlin. They were hard at work when a new issue of the paper was published, and it contained a half-page photograph of all the members of the brigade.

The humiliated secret service men went on grimly. The paper, containing articles that made the German authorities writhe, continued to appear, but suddenly there was a carefully planned swoop. Wholesale arrests were made of all concerned in the publication and the printing press was seized. There seemed not the slightest doubt now that no one had been left to carry on. A highly relieved Governor-General, feeling happier than he had done for months, gave a dinner in honour of the victorious special brigade.

And just at the end of it a fresh issue of the paper, its ink still wet, was brought into the room!

THE NEW ARMY

Now that Mr. Hore-Belisha is making the Army so attractive, the university-type of young man frequently enlists. One such had a terrible first day on the parade ground and was quite exhausted by hours and hours of marching up and down.

"Stand at ease!" ordered the officer at last.

"How wonderful is death," murmured the recruit.

The officer turned like a flash. "Who said that?" he demanded.


The battle was going against him. The Chinese commander sent a man to the rear, ordering another regiment to be brought up at once. Minutes passed but it didn't come. Then the soldier came tearing back.

"My regiment! My regiment! Where is it? Where is it? shrieked the commander.

"General," answered the other, "the regiment started all right but there was a couple of intoxicated Englishmen down the road and they won't let it go by."

"Smith certainly is a foxy fellow. He's drawn up his will in such a way that the lawyer's can't get more out of it than his own heirs."

"How's that?"

"Why, he left half his fortune to one of the best lawyers in the country, provided he saw to it that the other half went to Smith's children intact."

A CERTAIN Petrol and Time Saver

It is an expensive pastime and poor sport hunting for elusive streets. (It is certainly false economy not to possess a copy of the revised issue of the IMPERIAL MAP DIRECTORY, containing 23 metropolitan district maps and an alphabetical index of 3,000 streets with cross reference facilities enabling quick location. (On sale for 5/- from all metropolitan newsagents or from the publishers:

IMPERIAL PRINTING COMPANY, LIMITED

397 HAY STREET, PERTH. TELEPHONE: B4750
HOW EXPENSIVE WERE YOU?

The appended account appeared in the London Evening Standard and was made out by a former member of the Royal Fusiliers, under the heading “The Most Expensive Soldier.” On a similar basis of calculation, there must have been many an Australian soldier, with his higher rates of pay, war gratuity and re-patriation benefits, who was a great deal more expensive. We publish the account for purposes of comparison.

I do not of course claim to be Britain’s youngest disabled soldier of the Great War, though I am probably one of the youngest, having joined the Army at 17 and been discharged at 18.

I do claim, however, to have been the most expensive soldier in the ranks.

For my effective war service (i.e., for the period I was actually in the Front Line) the cost was at the approximate rate of £1,000,000 per annum.

I base my claim on the following calculation. I entered the Front Line and went over the top around midnight on August 23-24, 1918, and again at 4.30 p.m. on August 25. On the latter occasion I was first wounded in the left arm, and later my left leg was smashed to bits by a 9.2 shell. Thus “effective” service equals one and three-quarter days!

For this one and three-quarter days my cost to the country has been or will be approximately £4,700! i.e.: £ s. d.

(1) Training and upkeep in England, including attention, transport, instruction, etc., say ....... 30 0 0
(2) Equipment, clothes, arms, etc., say ...... 20 0 0
(3) Transport, etc., to the front line, including food and ammunition ...... 10 0 0
(4) After wounds: Hospitals (C.G.S. Peronne, Rouen American Hospital, Gosham, Hayling Island, Woolwich, Roehampton), including transport, food, nursing, attendance, three surgical operations (not to mention my “special food of cream and port wine, etc., at Hayling Island V.A.D.1), say ...... 250 0 0
(5) Artificial limbs (approximately a dozen at, say, £200 average) ...... 240 0 0
(6) Other attendances for repairs and treatment (including “in-patient” periods) during the last 18 years ...... 75 0 0
(7) Eighteen years’ travelling and subsistence and “lost time” allowances, Roehampton and elsewhere, say .. 50 0 0
(8) Army pay and gratuity ...... 60 0 0
(9) Estimate of annual cost on a “pro-rata” basis for recurring items (5, 6 and 7) for the next 30 years, say ...... 500 0 0
(10) Disablement pension (for 50 to 60 years) I have already drawn it for 18 years and I am now only 37 and in good health, say ...... 3,500 0 0

Total ...... £4,735 0 0

Thus £4,700 for one and three-quarter days’ service is equal to an annual rate of roughly £1,000,000!

S. C. GIDDINS,
(late 1st London R.F.)
Great Eastern Avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WHEN DISCRETION WAS NOT THE BETTER PART OF VALOUR

(BY “HUM”)  

WHilst the 10th Light Horse were temporarily occupying a “city” in Palestine by the name of Ludd, the regimental M.O. became very concerned with the health of the sick troopers, owing to lack of vegetables in the rations. Mentioning the matter to Major Timperley, orderly officer of the day, that officer promptly thought of a certain “hard-doer.” The thought was both father and mother to the deed and the “hard-doer” was told off to go into town and procure vegetables and have them delivered to the hospital. Proceeding through the town it was not long before the trooper spotted a heavily laden barrow of vegetables on its way to market.

Stopping friend Arab, he told him to take the whole concern direct to the hospital. Delighted with such a sudden and wholesale disposal of his produce, Farmer Arab wasted no time delivering the goods in company of the trooper.

His job nobly done, the trooper quietly turned and walked off, but had not gone far when a hand touched his arm and a whining voice said: “Filuce, Australia, gibbit filuce.” Whoosh, bang—and Farmer Arab suddenly draped himself over the Lud roadway with more haste than elegance, while the trooper nonchalantly proceeded on his way happy in the knowledge that he had provided his sick mates with free vegetables.

ROMANCA, Vol. XXIV, No. 3, July 1919

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Read the advertisement of the R.S.L. TRADING COMPANY, LTD., in this issue on page 22.
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WM. E. McILWAINE — MANAGER W.A. BRANCH
23 BARRACK STREET PERTH
December 16, 1937

At the meeting of the State executive on December 16, there were present: Messrs. Yates, Olden, Keesing, Philip, Denton, Anderson, Aberle, Lamb, Margolin, Hunt, James, Newman, Watt, Sten, Paton, Nicholas and Potts. Leave was granted to Messrs. Riley, Collett, Panton, Thorn, Warner, Cornell, Fairley, Freedman, Mitchell, Noakes and Austin.

Reports: Management Committee.—A rising out of the Management Committee's report, the following matters were referred to:

Sleepers: Government Railways.—Representations to be made to the Premier's Department concerning sleepers for delegates to Federal congress.

New Rules.—Authority was granted for these to be printed and circulated.

Sub-Branch Representation Executive.—The following alterations were made to the list already circulated: Mr. Aberle to include Maylands sub-branch, which was deleted from Mr. Nicholas's list; Colonel Fairley to add Coolgardie, Laverton, Yarri, Menzies and Gwalia-Leonora sub-branch; Mr. Cornell to delete Coolgardie, Laverton and Yarri sub-branch; and Mr. Watt to delete Gwalia-Leonora and Menzies sub-branches.

House Committee.—The House Committee reported that a deputation had waited upon the Minister for Lands with regard to the land east of Ansac House. The result was that the League's tenancy had been continued until September next.

Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund Committee.—A report was submitted on behalf of this committee and showed that donations up to December 6 amounted to £2200/11/11.

Sons of Soldiers' League Committee reported the postponement of the second annual picnic.

Coronation Scholarship.—It was reported that application forms had now been prepared and sub-branches had been circularised.

Visiting Committee.—The Visiting Committee reported on visits to the Old Men's Home and Edward Miller Home.

In regard to special diet for certain patients in the Old Men's Home it was agreed that this matter had been referred to the Health Department.

Mr. Wells reported having visited Heathcote Reception Home; Mr. Nicholas reported on visits to Ward XI.

Federal Congress.—Mr. Newman and the State president submitted their report on Federal congress, which was received, and the delegates were thanked.

Visits.—Reports on visits were submitted as follows: Soldiers' Bowling Carnival, State president; Midland Junction sub-branch, State president; New South Wales, Leederville-Wembley sub-branch, State president; Friendly Union of Soldiers' Wives, Colonel Lamb; Mount Lawley-Ingoldsway sub-branch, Colonel Lamb; Margaret River sub-branch, Colonel Olden; Nanango sub-branch, Colonel Olden; Spearwood sub-branch, Mr. Paton; Osborne Park sub-branch, Mr. Paton.

Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund.—Correspondence was read from the secretary of the teachers' College Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Fund. This indicated that members of the committee had agreed to donate the balance of their fund, £332/7/7, to the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund.

Mr. W. J. Rooney, the late Principal of the Teachers' College and chairman of the committee, together with the secretary (Mr. E. C. Stewart) Mr. Clayton and Miss Johnson, attended to present the cheque.

The State president suitably acknowledged the donation on behalf of the executive and extended grateful thanks to Mr. Rooney and members of his committee.

Mr. Rooney addressed delegates.

Donation Hospital Christmas Cheer.—A donation of £1 was received from the Preparatory Section, Wesley College, for Christmas Cheer to ex-service men in hospital.

The secretary was instructed to suitably thank those responsible for the donation.

Appointment Sub-Branch Officials.—The appointment of officials, as advised by the following sub-branches, was confirmed: Moorine Rock, Lake King, Wubin-Bunting-Jберding.

Appreciation.—Manjimup sub-branch forwarded a letter of appreciation from a member, whose case had been satisfactorily finalised with the Agricultural Bank.

New Sub-Branch.—Correspondence from Mr. R. E. Marsh, concerning the formation of a new sub-branch at Swan View-Greenmount, was received, and the secretary was instructed to request the application in accordance with the Constitution.

Iron Ore, Yampi Sound.—Correspondence from Mr. N. Herstatt was referred to the Management Committee.

Representative British Ministry of Pensions.—Brunswick Junction sub-branch requested the State executive to approach the Governor-General, through the Federal executive, and request his influence towards the appointment of a representative of the British Ministry of Pensions in Australia.

The secretary was instructed to reply that the matter had been dealt with by the British Empire Service League conference.

Material for Handiwork, Government Schools.—Albany sub-branch advised that the question of material for handiwork was available in Government schools had been discussed, and it was found that this was most inadequate. The sub-branch requested that representation be made to the Education Department.

The executive endorsed the principle and agreed that approach should be made as requested.

Pensions.—Delegates were advised that the recent legislation passed by the Federal Government, rendering wives married and children born since October 1, 1931, eligible for pensions, did not include service pensioners, nor did it include step-children and adopted children.

It was agreed that the Federal executive be communicated with to ascertain if this was the Government's intention.

Sub-Branch Representation Executive.—The secretary was instructed to advise each sub-branch of the name of its representative on the State executive, and also to ascertain when the sub-branch meets.

Leave.—Leave of absence from all meetings during the month of January was granted to the following delegates: Colonel Margolin, Mr. Nicholas and Mr. James.
SUB-BRANCH ACTIVITIES

CARLISLE

The New Year was commenced in good style by the Carlisle sub-branch on Thursday, January 2. Three new members were welcomed by the president (Harold Crofts). It is understood that the increase was due to the “shivoo” on New Year’s Eve when the sub-branch entertained their women’s auxiliary, which, by all accounts, was a very good one and, again, shows recruiting value, indicated the appreciation of the Carlisle Diggers of the splendid co-operation and assistance of the Carlisle women’s auxiliary over a number of years. A little routine business was quickly disposed of and the stews dispensed sugar-needed cool refreshments. Temperatures reduced, energy rapidly returned and the usual extemore programme left nothing to be desired. Songs—both solo and community—were well rendered and received, the accompanist, Harold Crofts, excelling himself at times with pleasing twiddly-bits which called for a digital dexterity usually associated with sleight-of-hand merchants and professors of legdermain. A specially dancing act was put on by Frank Nye and Bill James, a turn which sublimely conveyed the graceful artistry of Pavalova, combined with the wonderful leaps and bounds of Nijinsky, the greatest ballet dancer of pre-war days. It is claimed that Nijinsky’s leaps through the air were never equalled by any other dancer, but one prodigious bound of Frank Nye’s must have come very close to—but since nobody could find a tape measure, what’s the use of going on with a claim? Harry (alias Bill) Colley essayed the intricate points of the sword-dance, but owing to his favourite horse having tipped him continually out of his cart and on to his head the day previously, and to the absence of the sword-dance accessories (McTootle having pawned his bigpipes over the Christmas season), it was decided that the item be kept in cold storage until after Bill (alias Harry) had seen the M.O. Other Diggers who were prominent on the programme include Marsden, Westcott and “Curl” Macrone with his trap-drummer outfit. The Carlisle sub-branch will have the honour of entertaining the Bayswater lads at the next monthly meeting on Thursday, February 3, and other distinguished guests will include Councillor Tommy M. Meagher—the popular Victoria Park-Carlisle member—Mr. H. S. Raphael, M.L.A., Mr. Fred White, Colonel Clarrie Fairley, etc. The programme is receiving special attention and will probably be under the capable direction of past president Harold Nicol, and Ernie Bowkett will arrange the tables and chairs suitable to the occasion. All members, intending members and all ex-service men should make a note of the date—the first Thursday in February—and remember Les Glencoe’s apt summary of the last “shivoo session.” If anybody didn’t enjoy himself, then he didn’t want to!

COLLIE

The month of December is always a very busy month for the sub-branch, as great preparations are made for their annual sports carnival, which was conducted this year for three days: Saturday, Sunday and Monday. On the Sunday, January 2, a grand swimming carnival was held at the Minninup pool on the Collie River. Percy Oliver gave exhibition swims accompanied by Miss D. Green. A large crowd attended to see these two in action. People came from all over the State to witness the carnival and enjoyed three full days of all branches of sport. The annual meeting is drawing near, and the secretary is hard at work on his report. The activities of the sub-branch over the past 12 months have been of a wide and varied nature, so all are looking forward to something extra in the annual report this year. The Christmas fete went off very well as usual and a large number of kiddies sat down to an excellent tea provided by the help of the women’s auxiliary. A report is to hand of the functioning of the Birdwood Girls’ Club, and judging by it they also have been having a very active year. It has not been formed very long and already they have done great work and have been of great assistance to the sub-branch. Our correspondent concludes with a wish that the New Year will bring forth greater prosperity to the League right throughout Australia. Ex-service men are aware of the benefits of the League, and it is hoped that the New Year will bring in a greater increase in the membership so that the good work can go on with greater support than hitherto. The Collie sub-branch wishes all its members wherever they may be the very best of good luck in the coming year.

MUNDIJONG-JARRAHDALE

After a very successful year the prospects for 1938 are very bright. President Tom Tait and secretary Tommy Dunkley have been a tower of strength and all praise is due to them for such a good year. The Jarrahdale branch of the A.N.A. entertained members and their ladies at a social evening on December 15 and, as is usual with all A.N.A. functions here, the evening was a great success. The young fellows of the A.N.A. and local Diggers are the best of pals and have spent some good evenings together during the year. The annual smoke social was at Mundijong on December 18. The State executive was represented by Roy Potts, Jim Anderson and Olve Newman, and we also entertained Mr. Green, president of Serpentine sub-branch, and representatives of all other organisations in the district. Members were particularly pleased that three members of the State executive should visit us, and we heard some very good speeches from them regarding operations of the League. We extend to your staff and yourself, Mr. Editor, and to all fellow Diggers, the best of good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

WILUNA

The sub-branch has inaugurated community singing concerts, which are held on the Recreation Ground every Sunday evening. On December 5, under the capable baton of Mr. Frank Fenner, a crowd of approximately 400 people joined harmoniously in singing the rousing choruses and songs. On December 12, Dr. A. L. Johnston wielded the baton to a larger crowd than the previous Sunday, which indicates that these concerts are growing in popularity. The committee is grateful to those artists who came forward to assist in launching the venture.

MOUNT LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

The Christmas Tree went off with a swing, there being approximately 90 children of members and several of Diggers who have “passed over” receiving toys and gifts. It was freely commented on the highly satisfactory nature of this year’s gifts as compared to previous years, and the numerous helpers who assisted with the event were given a hearty round of applause by the kiddies at the conclusion of proceedings. Many members of the committee are holidaying at the seaside trying to hook one which will bear telling of when meetings start again, while others have gone “bush” to help their country coppers over the last of the harvest. Proceedings will start with a river trip per the good old ship “Emerald” on the night of Friday, February 4. Landings and evacuation will be made at Point Walter for those who prefer an evening “far from the maddening..."
crowd," while those desiring to go "down to the sea in ships" will proceed to Rocky Bay. The annual elections will be held on the 3rd February, and heavy nominations have been received for the various jobs other than officers. It is hoped to have a record roll-up at this meeting and may elect their fancies to the various committees at the same time procure their tickets for the boat trip.

KATANNING

Once more Katanning has to report the loss, through transfer, of yet another energetic worker in the person of Ron McEwen. Ron, who like all his fellow Katanningites holds no other handle but just plain "Mac," was a popular officer of the National Bank, and during his residence in Katanning devoted most of his spare time to the interests of the sub-branch, and it was only fitting that members should meet next week to wish him well in the big, bad city. The gathering was surprisingly representative, considering that many of the members are away on holidays and quite a number of others are up to their necks in work, sneaking on their wheat crops with harvesters before the last glimmering ray disappears. Ted Goodchild essayed a journey of 100 miles and several others came long distances to be present, so that it was a genuine tribute to Mac's popularity that these good fellows were at the gathering. Katanning is always pleased to welcome its rural members at the meetings, and to date their record of attendance is the envy of quite a number of town members. Keep it up, lads, you are entitled to every excuse for those hot days, and we only have to mention that Ted Franklin, well known to members at the meetings, and to date their record of attendance is the envy of quite a number of town members. Keep it up, lads, you are entitled to every excuse for that extra one these hot days, and we only have to mention that Ted Franklin, well known to members at the meetings, and to date their record of attendance is the envy of quite a number of town members. Keep it up, lads, you are entitled to every excuse for that extra one these hot days, and we only have to mention that Ted Franklin, well known to members at the meetings, and to date their record of attendance is the envy of quite a number of town members. Keep it up, lads, you are entitled to every excuse for that extra one these hot days, and we only have to mention that Ted Franklin was elected president unopposed. Harold Ingles and Bill Haines being elected vice-presidents again.

BASSENDAN

The annual smoke social on December 21 was an outstanding success. The official guests included the State President (Mr. A. Yeates), the Chairmen (Mr. M. Benson), Rabbi Freedman and Mr. R. Peck of the State executive, the chairmen of the Basendean Road Board (Mr. McDonald) and members of the Road Board, past presidents H. Vine and Harry Griev and representatives of neighbouring sub-branches. The president of the sub-branch (Mr. J. Cloughston) was in the chair, and thanks are due to ladies of the auxiliary (Mesdames Sharpe, Riley, Carter, Hicks, Leng, Glen, Perkins and Weston) for the splendid way they laid out the tables, and the good things they placed on them. The orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Purvis, kept the boys in good spirits with their bright numbers. Thanks are due to Mr. Ron Lovelock for his capable rendering of "The Last Post." Mr. Ron Lovelock had a good programme of artists. The singing of Mr. Harold Smith was well received. Stewards under the command of Mr. McNeil then did their work efficiently, as did the doorkeepers, Messrs. Hart, Parker and Summerton. During the evening, the State President presented Mr. Harry Griev with a Certificate of Service, and Padre Vine with a cigarette case. Mr. Yeates spoke highly of the personal services rendered by both members.

BOULDER

Invitation to social, and did wonder at such as the New Year brings good cheer, but did don the glad rags hied along to see what was doing. On entering, did find several of the ladies' committee playing a game of billiards, and all right, light, stylish shots did they make. A peep into the main hall, and did spy tables loaded with all good things, and also a plenty of the cup that cheers. At 8 o'clock the president (Mr. J. Sheridan) acted for the good lady and daughter did arrive to welcome the guests assisted by the secretary (Vic O'Grady)—may his shadow never grow less—then when all be seated the president gave the order for long drinks and short speeches, which we did applaud to, especially the former. Items by all and sundry, community singing made things go with a merry swing, and unfortunately owing to sickness in his family, the president had to leave at an early hour, wishing everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. So we all wish him the same. All the leaves of that great and doughty Dick Slater to take the chair, and the social carries on with great fervour. But first the ladies must crown the chairman with bamboo and fern leaves, which he carries and passes on his great distinction, and orders all flagons to be refilled to the health of the ladies' committee. The typical secretaries perform on the mouth-organ and emphatically he hath kept this talent hip too long. Then the mighty Jack Edwards produces his tin whistle, and a melody from same made me think of home and moments. Next comes the member in charge, who in great voice recites "Murphy Shall Not Sing to-Night." When the laughter and cheers subside, the R.S.I. Quartet obliged with "Did Your Mother Come From Ireland." At the conclusion, it was all over and everyone was ready for a quiet night in. Ted Mc Duff.
**WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES**

**44TH BATTALION AUXILIARY**

Guests and patients donned fancy costume when the 44th women’s auxiliary held their annual Christmas party at Lemnos. Items, interspersed with dancing and the distribution of gifts to each man, passed a happy evening. The president (Mrs. Thrum) wished all present the compliments of the season, to which Mr. McKevor responded on behalf of the patients, thanking the ladies for gifts, concerts, sweets and a dainty supper. The social arrangements were in the hands of Misses Clark and Cutts. Christmas visits were also paid to the soldiers patients at Lucknow, Edward Millen Home, the Repatriation Ward and Old Men’s Home, where gifts, sweets and reading matter were distributed.

**VICTORIA PARK**

On December 21 the auxiliary paid their Christmas visit to the boys at Edward Millen Home, providing a short programme and afternoon tea. Items were given by Hannah Colley (cornet solos and recitations), and Patricia Farrell (songs and dances), interspersed with community singing. Mrs. Farrell obliged at the piano. At the conclusion of the programme, each patient was handed a small gift by the little girl artists, on behalf of the auxiliary, and the visitors were thanked very heartily by Mr. Foster, on behalf of the matron and the inmates, and as a token of appreciation of the regular visits of the auxiliary to the Home, Mrs. Tolmie (president) was presented with a very nice basket. Regret was expressed at the absence of Mrs. Caldwell, who has been a frequent visitor to the Home, but who is unfortunately in hospital. We all wish her a speedy recovery. We gave our usual New Year’s Eve party to members and their friends and very amusing entertainment was given by the auxiliary Nigger Minstrel Troupe, with Massa Johnson (Mrs. Prue), Mammy Johnson (Mrs. Orricks), Massa and Mammy Bones (Mses. McBride and Wilkinson), Massa and Mammy Jeff (Mses. Chandler and Farrell), Massa and Mammy Rastus (Mses. Bach and Colley), Poor Old Joe (Mrs. Lamb), “Pellaca” (Mrs. Fraser), “Sally” (Mrs. Ware) and “Sambo” (Mrs. Starkey), Picannies: Ruth Horwood (“Topsy”), and Pat Farrell (“Dinah”). Community singing, games, dancing and items by Hannah Colley (cornet solos and elocution), with a pleasant interlude for supper, brought a very pleasant evening to a close with the singing of “Auld Lang Syne.”

**NORTH PERTH**

The last meeting for the year was held on December 8, 38 members being present. New members, Mses. Storeman, Hoff and Thomas, were welcomed. A handsome cloth, made by Mrs. Jago, was raffled, and realised £10/5/6. It was won by Mrs. Norwood-Anderson with ticket No. 69D. Many thanks are due to Mrs. Jago for her wonderful effort. She was responsible for raising 75 per cent. of profits. Ward XI, the Old Men’s Home and the Home of Peace were visited, and the patients were supplied with sweets, cigarettes and matches. A high tea was taken to the Old Men’s Home and afterwards a cheque was handed to Mr. Brick for extra comforts at Christmas time. Afternoon tea was also taken to Edward Millen, where about 40 men partook of a very enjoyable repast. The next meeting will be on March 9, the auxiliary going into recess for three months.

**BULLS BROOK**

Before the New Year the auxiliary entertained patients from Lemnos, Edward Millen and Ward XI. The party motored to the Bullbrook aerodrome, around which they were shown by Mses. Jones and E. Taylor. High tea was then partaken of in the Bullbrook Hall. The strawberries and cream provided by the members of the auxiliary were greatly appreciated. The vice-president of the auxiliary (Mrs. S. Haslem) and the president of the sub-branch (Mr. Devonshire) welcomed the guests. The housewives were thanked by the State secretary of the auxiliary (Mrs. H. Hopperton) and the car-drivers by the chairman of the motor outing committee (Mrs. Stockman). Mr. Woodward, of Sydney, replied on behalf of the drivers, and Mr. McKevor for the patients. Cake and fruit were served to the hospital. The following are thanked for lending their cars: Mses. C. H. Smith and Co., S. G. Dunstan, Bill Bates, Woodward, McAskil, Sutton (T. & G.), W. T. Lidbury, R. Cook.

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**ALBANY**

The Poppy Day appeal raised £12 for the Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Fund, and £10 for the sub-branch amelioration fund. At the December meeting, the entertainment committee was instructed to co-operate with the Mr. Barker sub-branch in arranging a combined picnic, to be held at Emu Point on New Year’s Day. It was decided to order four copies of “The Immortal Heritage,” one for the sub-branch and one each for the Albany High, the Senior State and St. Joseph’s Convent schools. Framed photographs of the unveiling of the memorial plaque in the R.S.L. Gardens have been presented to the Nurses’ sub-branch and to the nurses of Menai House. Thanks were extended to Mrs. H. Richardson for the donation of a photograph, which was formerly the property of the late Sister Richardson. It was resolved that the annual smoke social be held on January 29.

**GLOUCESTER PARK**

The stocktaking raffle conducted by this sub-branch was drawn at Anzac House on December 23 and was won by “Diamond,” c/o. Mrs. Toussaint,” Etwell Street, Victoria Park. Country members please note: when in Perth you can park your car in perfect safety at the Gloucester Parking Area, next to Anzac House. This parking area is run by our sub-branch and a returned soldier is always in attendance. Sub-branch activities are quiet at the moment, owing to the holidays, and after our president’s absence in Adelaide with the cricket team, he took the part of loud speaker for the team.
MOUNT HAWTHORN

On November 29 the auxiliary presented "Carnival Capers" at the monthly social of combined auxiliaries. The revue proved an outstanding success, the main feature being the appearance of the "Quintuplets," who showed great fear at the appearance of "Gipsy." The combined singing of Irish melodies and Gipsy songs was greatly applauded; many solos were also sung well. At the conclusion of this happy hour of melody Mrs. McKinley unveiled a beautiful replica of the State War Memorial, presented by Subiaco. A presentation was made to Mrs. Hayes, who was responsible for the success of "Carnival Capers." On behalf of Mt. Hawthorn ladies a presentation was also made to the pianist (Mrs. Boyle), who was a great asset to the concert. On Monday, December 20, "Carnival Capers" was again presented to the inmates of the Old Men's Home. It was very gratefully received, and the members enjoyed it thoroughly. After the concert was over, the ladies visited all returned men and presented each with a toast parcel for their Christmas cheer, after which they departed amid good wishes for the coming season. On December 22, the ladies met for the last meeting in the year. A very tasty supper was spread on decorations tables, after which dancing was indulged in till the playing of Auld Lang Syne, when everyone parted with wishes and compliments of the season. Mt. Hawthorn extends to all sub-branches and women's auxiliaries the heartiest compliments of the season.

SOUTH PERTH

The auxiliary have been very busy of late entertaining at the Repatriation Hospital. Members recently gave the returned men at the Old Men's Home and Heathcote a most enjoyable afternoon driving around the hills and later entertained them at high tea at the Swan Street Hall, some of the men giving enjoyable items. The auxiliary concert party did their best to make it a success. Each soldier was presented with a linen handkerchief. The tables were tastefully decorated with carnations and roses, also streamers and caps. The old boys had a jolly good time and thanked Mrs. Beer (president) and the auxiliary for the good time given them. At the Christmas Tree on December 17 quite a number of members were present. Mrs. Downe and Miss Houghton also attended. Father Christmas presented each member with a gift from the tree. After dancing and games, the Christmas hamper was drawn, Mrs. Richardson, of York Street, being the lucky winner. All enjoyed a tasty supper arranged by the committee. The tables were daintily decorated and our usual Christmas toy (made by Mrs. Smith) completed the supper. There will be no meeting in January; the first for the New Year being on February 18. All are getting busy to help our R.S.L. at Cairo City, to which we invite one and all. It is for a good cause, helping to build our baby clinic. We are having our family picnic on February 13 at Keanie's Point. All the children are looking forward to the day's outing, the river trip and sports. At our recent exhibition of cake making, Mrs. Bramald was presented with a Certificate of Service, she having been treasurer of our branch for three years in succession.

F.U.S.W.

The annual picnic of the above was held at Point Walter on December 20, the s.s. "Emerald" leaving Barrack Street jetty at 10 a.m. and returning at 5 p.m. The weather was perfect and the outing a most enjoyable one. Members were in happy mood and war-time songs and Christmas carols were enthusiastically sung while on the journey. Games for young and old, very capably organised by Mrs. H. Riggs, occupied most of the afternoon. Mrs. T. C. Wilson (vice-president) presented Mrs. H. Dean (president) with a beautiful amber cocktail set as a Christmas gift. Expressions of gratitude were heard on all sides to the organizers who made the picnic possible.

WEST LEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY

Business of the December meeting included the allocation of Christmas cheer to the Old Men's Home, Lemnos, Wooroloo, etc. The annual Christmas Tree was a happy function, organized by the sub-branch, assisted by the auxiliary. The toys were well chosen and graded, and with a jovial Father Christmas unlimited ice cream and ginger beer, the kiddies had a wonderful time. 1938 has been a very busy and successful year for the auxiliary, with increased activities and membership. New members are requested to note the date of our first 1938 meeting: February 23, Lesser Hall, Cambridge Street, 8 p.m.

ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion Street, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.</td>
<td>Wentworth Hotel, Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday each month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. J. Garner, 59 Bourke St, West Perth</td>
<td>Geo. E. Cattermole, M.C., 229 Charles St, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Ave., Leederville</td>
<td>C. Pillon, c/o Vetter &amp; Co., Murray St, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS’ ASSN.</td>
<td>Gregson's, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Wm. Gregson, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Everett, Temple Court Garage, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PONY-FOURTH ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As advertised</td>
<td>Annual Reunion, Monday, 4th October</td>
<td>Col. C. H. Lamb, Victoria House, St. George's Terrace, Perth</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield Street, Mt. Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, F., 8</td>
<td>Third Monday, quarterly</td>
<td>Dr. C. H. Leedman, chairman: W. J. Eddington</td>
<td>H. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIXTEENTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Colonel E. L. Margolin, 62 Tyrrell Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>Phone: B394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>Lieut-Col. I. E. Dunkley, Acorndale Street, Applecross</td>
<td>E. J. Massey, 41 Harvey Street, Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>L. D. Lobscher, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth</td>
<td>W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruislip Street, West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Roy W. Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>J. Rutherford, 5 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42nd and 72nd BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. Chaloner</td>
<td>R. G. Hummerston, 46 Leake St, North Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. B. SAILORS AND SOLDIERS’ ASSN.</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. Chaloner</td>
<td>Fred Ash, 11 Tranby Buildings, 90 King St.</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH AND UNIT ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

### RATES: £1 1s. 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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARDATH-BAKABIN</td>
<td>Aradth Hotel</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. G. Retailc, Bahakin</td>
<td>A. F. Cant, Ardath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Y. Butler, R.M., &quot;The Residency,&quot; Albany</td>
<td>T. P. Bennett, 57 Perth Road, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Petewell</td>
<td>W. H. King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENDEN</td>
<td>Town Hall Basement</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (penion days, 7.30 p.m.)</td>
<td>J. E. Claugton, 4 Scaden St., Bassendean</td>
<td>F. J. H. Long, 85 Parker Street, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>H. E. Gibson, Banksia Street, Bunbury</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen Street, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Murray St.</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Bradford, 32 Murray Street, Bayswater</td>
<td>J. J. Paine, 23 Burns gate Street, Bayswater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>L. N. Weston, Busselton</td>
<td>M. W. Greaves, Road Board Office, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRUNSWICK JUNCT.</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>First Friday in month</td>
<td>C. J. Piper, Brunswick Junction</td>
<td>S. Chamberlain, Brunswick Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>H. R. Groffes, 10 Mooregate St., Victoria Park, Collie</td>
<td>G. Geaves, 34 Mars St., Carlisle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tues., 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Giblett, c/o. Forestry Department, Collie</td>
<td>H. H. Stuchbury, Hawthorne Ave., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad St.</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. L. Harvey, 18 Dean St, Cottesloe</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, &quot;Lylsdale,&quot; 4 Kea St., Peppermint Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. Frohawk, Cowaramup</td>
<td>E. F. Holben, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Claremont</td>
<td>First Thursday in each month</td>
<td>C. H. Briggs, 15 Walter Street, Claremont</td>
<td>W. Ford, 13 Shenton Rd., Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>A. J. Walters, c/o. P.O., Kalamunda. 'Phone 83</td>
<td>A. E. Findlay, c/o. P.O., Kalamunda. 'Phone 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG</td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Tom Towers, Dumbleyung</td>
<td>C. Nicholson, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Gums</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>J. W. Wegner, Salmon Gums</td>
<td>Alan Morton, Salmon Gums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday</td>
<td>H. W. Wood, Donnybrook</td>
<td>D. M. Ferguson, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE &amp; DISTRICT</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (penion night), at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Jack W. Lynch, Hampton Road and Fothergill Street, Fremantle</td>
<td>E. Tincombe, 7 Little Howard Street, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOYNE</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>A. C. Maddaford, North Beach Rd., North Perth</td>
<td>W. S. Appleyard, Council Chambers, Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Antac House</td>
<td>Every Monday</td>
<td>T. Wilkinson, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>A. J. Wilkins, 43 Lord Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Haig, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>W. Adshead, Gnowangerup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. H. E. Clarke, Gwalia</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gatha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWAILA</td>
<td>State Hotel</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>B. H. Lofthouse, Wokalup 'Phone: Harvey 108M</td>
<td>E. Shepherd, Gwalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>War Memorial Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. R. Gibbs, Bank of N.S.W., Hannan Street</td>
<td>D. D. Johnstone, Herbert Road, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in month at 8 p.m.; Executive alt. Fridays</td>
<td>C. A. Parkinson, Carnarvon</td>
<td>F. Berthold, Government School, East Kalgoorlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>V. Monti</td>
<td>J. Whooley, Karridale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>8th monthly</td>
<td>S. E. Waycott</td>
<td>E. C. West, Derby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Club Rooms, Carew Street</td>
<td>1st Saturday</td>
<td>H. W. A. Tylor, Katanning</td>
<td>W. Bailey, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Alternate Kellerberrin and Tammin</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>F. R. Hall, Shackleton</td>
<td>H. Sullivan, Kellerberrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOJONUP</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. C. MacPhail, Kojonup</td>
<td>L. E. Treasure, Kojonup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>Quarterly (committee 1st Friday)</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith</td>
<td>R. C. Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>E. Wood, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday in month</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>C. Verdon, Lake King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>Town Hall, Manjimup; Jardee No. 1 State Mill (alternate months)</td>
<td>2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. L. Mackenzie, Manjimup</td>
<td>Telephone: No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>Mr. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. H. Pearce, Mt. Barker</td>
<td>B. Beer, Manjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>H. Woods, 51 Seventh Avenue, Maylands</td>
<td>K. Williamson, Mt. Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Menzies Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>Mr. R. Pugh, Menzies</td>
<td>L. T. King, 10 Carrington Street, Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>Les Wilkinson, Midland Junction</td>
<td>C. R. Jacobson, Menzies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOSMAN PARK</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. A. Ashworth, Bond Street, Mosman Park</td>
<td>H. B. Stephens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>MOORA ...</td>
<td>Rd. Bd. Hall, Moora</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. H. Boyce, Moora</td>
<td>R. A. Lindsay, P.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MARSHALL ...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Wednesday, monthly</td>
<td>F. P. Le Cane, Bencubin</td>
<td>W. H. Wright, Mandiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD</td>
<td>Commercial Room, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>O. J. Williams, 21 Grevener Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>J. K. Craze, 118 Central Ave., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUKINBUDIN ...</td>
<td>Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every alternate Sunday</td>
<td>T. G. Adams, Mokinbudin</td>
<td>H. D. Cairns, Mukinbudin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T. E. King, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>W. J. Fulton, Mornington Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAREMBeen ...</td>
<td>Narembeen</td>
<td>Quarterly, by notification</td>
<td>A. S. Graham, Narembeen</td>
<td>J. H. Wylie, Emu Hill, via Narembeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NARROGIN ...</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td>T. Sten, Schoolmaster, Narrogin</td>
<td>T. Hogg, Soldiers' Institute, Egerton Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS ...</td>
<td>Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Neldads</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>R. A. Wood, 81 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>A. L. Wilson, 30 Clark Street, Neldads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWDEGATE ...</td>
<td>Newdegate</td>
<td>Quarterly, 3rd Saturday</td>
<td>D. G. Kinlock, Newdegate</td>
<td>J. H. Kane, Newdegate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH - EAST FREMANTLE</td>
<td>Artillery Barracks, Burt Street, Fremantle</td>
<td>4th Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Budock, Artillery Barracks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON ...</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>NORTH ...</td>
<td>R.S.L. Club Rooms, Gordon Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>P. T. Prince, Fitzgerald Street, Northam</td>
<td>G. C. Curlew, 145 Fitzgerald Street, Northam Tel. 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH ...</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe St. (off View Street)</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. Dival, 453 Fitzgerald St. North Perth. Tel. R8 438</td>
<td>B. N. McIlwraith, 21 Dundas Road, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH ...</td>
<td>&quot;Monash House,&quot; 23 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesday</td>
<td>J. O'Farrell, 223 Fitzgerald Street, Perth</td>
<td>Geo S. Mellor, &quot;Monash House,&quot; 23 King St, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH (Office hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Last Saturday in each month</td>
<td>F. Archer, East Pingelly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINGELLY ...</td>
<td>At Luncheon, Anzac House, Pithara</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesday, 3rd Sunday, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Reg. Nicholas, c/o, Government Printing Office</td>
<td>R. Biggs, c/o, &quot;West Australian&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESS ...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E. T. Roberts, Pithara</td>
<td>E. G. W. Browning, East Pithara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA ...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yarning</td>
<td>C. J. McCarrigal, Popanining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POOLYNINGNING ...</td>
<td>Yarning and Popping</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month, alt.</td>
<td>L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland</td>
<td>E. J. Gregan, Pt. Hedland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILBARA ...</td>
<td>Port Hadland</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>V. D. Fallon, Yarning</td>
<td>J. R. T. Keast, Yarning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUARRADING &amp; DISTRICT</td>
<td>Quarrading Hall and Dangin Hostel, alternatively</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. P. Newton, Ravengers</td>
<td>T. F. Smith, Ravengers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAVENSTHORPE ...</td>
<td>Warden's Court</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>E. Trathan, Tambling</td>
<td>E. R. Congdon, 65 Hensman Road, Subico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAYBERG ...</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Roeby Road, Subico</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. W. Trathan, Tambling</td>
<td>J. E. Trathan, P.O. Box 1, Tambling. Tel. 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAMBELLUP ...</td>
<td>R.S.L. Club Room</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. Smeeton, Yelbeni</td>
<td>J. W. Patterson, Traying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOODYAY ...</td>
<td>Town Hall, Toodyay</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Taylor, State Street, Victoria Park</td>
<td>J. Jennings, 57 Leonard Street, Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING - YELBENI</td>
<td>Traying (1) Yelbeni (1) Memorial Hall, Salford St.</td>
<td>4th Sunday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Day, Bunting</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin. Tel. No. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK ...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin</td>
<td>W. A. Cadwallader, Wubin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUBIN, BUNTINE, JIBBERDING</td>
<td>Each place alternatively</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>G. E. Timmel, 34 Harbourne St, Wembley</td>
<td>H. J. Hains, 97 Blencowe Street, West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE - WEMLBELEY</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge Street, Leederville</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. B. Lawton, Yealering</td>
<td>P. G. Riegert, Yarloop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YARLOOP AND DISTRICT</td>
<td>Yarloop Hotel</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Colin Thorn, York</td>
<td>Roy J. Kerr, Yealering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEALERING ...</td>
<td>Comm'1 Hotel, Yealering</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Johnston, Youami</td>
<td>S. Hardwick, York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YORK ...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, alt. months</td>
<td>B. O. Read, Korrelocking</td>
<td>G. M. Maley, c/o. Y.G.M., Ltd. Youami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUMANMI ...</td>
<td>Youanmi Hotel</td>
<td>Fortnightly (Friday)</td>
<td>T. Crockan, Hamel</td>
<td>Hugh A. Leslie, Wyalketchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYALKATCHEN ...</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, quarterly, June, Sept. and Dec.</td>
<td>B. O. Read, Korrelocking</td>
<td>R. H. Roberts, Waroona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAREONA ...</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. Crockan, Hamel</td>
<td>R. H. Roberts, Waroona</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VICTORIA PARK ...</th>
<th>R.S.L. Memorial Hall, Albany Road</th>
<th>4th Thursday, 7.30 p.m.</th>
<th>Mrs. E. Tolmie, 88 Teague Street, Victoria Park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. E. Prue, 64 Basinghall Street, Victoria Pk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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