MONUMENT AT BOULOGNE COMMEMORATING THE LANDING OF BRITISH TROOPS IN FRANCE, AUGUST 10, 1914

THE LISTENING POST

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AUGUST, 1939
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Perhaps the most pathetic of all the outbursts on the eve of the Great War was that of the German Chancellor, von Bethmann-Hollweg, when he exclaimed tearfully to the British Ambassador, “Would you fight over a scrap of paper?” The question, and the aggrieved tone in which it was asked, amply illustrate the Teutonic inability to understand the mentality of others, which was the main cause of the Great War, and is to-day the most probable cause of further war. The issues in August, 1914, were clear-cut, and the immediate causes of the war are well understood, so well understood that, if they were what mathematicians would call a constant, they could be legislated against and prevented from causing future wars. But the more remote causes, the determining factors that had been operating for 44 years, were as complex as the issues facing and disturbing the world to-day. Moreover, they were so similar that whatever differences exist, were differences in degree rather than in kind. Britain unseathed the sword in 1914, not for a scrap of paper, but to honour a pledge which was equally binding on Germany. She fought, not as Dr. Beneš stated, to establish small nations in Central Europe, though that objective developed as the war went on, but in defence of the rights of a small neighbour whom she was bound by treaty to protect and in support of a larger neighbour whose downfall would have been the prelude of her own.

Allowing for geographical differences, similar conditions exist to-day. Long before the outbreak of the Great War, Bismarck, whose policy it was to keep France in a state of isolation, called every counter-move on the chessboard of European politics an iniquitous attempt to encircle German. His classification of the nations into the “sated” Powers and the “unsated” Powers was the nineteenth century equivalent of the present division into the “have” and the “have-nots.” He desired, above all things, to retain the friendship of the Mistress of the Seas, just as Hitler would retain it to-day, provided Germany was allowed to become the dominant partner in that friendship. In this policy, Bismarck was aided by Britain’s own “splendid isolation” and the French anglophobia which almost flared into war at the time of the Fashoda incident in 1898. The arch of Bismarck’s foreign policy was crowned by the Triple Alliance between Germany, Austria and Italy, which completed the encirclement of France. When Kaiser Wilhelm “dropped the pilot” and undertook the direction of Germany’s foreign policy, the results of Bismarck’s statesmanship were strangely undone. Wilhelm’s Englisch-hasser, the German equivalent of anglophobia, was the direct cause of the Entente Cordiale, which eventually linked Britain with the Franco-Russian pact.

The Kaiser’s complete misunderstanding of the British character, his indiscreet utterances at the time of the Jameson Raid and subsequently his constant demands for a place in the sun and his efforts to build battle-ships for battle-ships with Britain, exasperated Britons the world over. It was obvious that the growing German navy was a threat to Britain and when, a few years before the war, Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, suggested a naval-building holiday, the Kaiser and his advisers took this for a confession of weakness, just as Hitler to-day sees in every gesture of conciliation an act of surrender. Perhaps in 1914 there was some excuse for believing that Britain would not fight. There was unrest in India and South Africa; Ireland was on the verge of civil war; Canada was supposed to be on the verge of seceding from the Empire and joining the United States; while Australia and New Zealand were almost unknown quantities. Surprise was mingled with indignation in Potsdam when the component parts of the Empire reconciled their differences, or sank them for the time being, and united for the common cause.

The danger in 1914 was the unpreparedness of the Empire for war, and the superficial symptoms of disintegration that tempted Germany to strike while the striking appeared good. It has often been said that, had Britain made it clear as early as 1912 that she would fight in honour of her treaty obligations to Belgium, the war would not have happened: To-day, the British Government has, at long last, made it clear that she will forcibly resist aggression; and she has effected two revolutions in her policy at home and abroad. For the first time since the Napoleonic wars, she has undertaken commitments in Europe, and she has imposed a modified form of conscription on her people. Since September last, she has accelerated her rearmament, organised her air defences, her man-power and her resources for the production of war material and the conservation of food supplies. to a degree unprecedented in the history of any nation. She is guarded against surprise attacks from the air, and against the dangers of starvation by a submarine blockade. On the other hand,
Alleged Anomalies in Repatriation Act

At least one sub-branch has failed to approve of Sir Gilbert Dyett’s action in stating to the Federal Government that the League would not support a motion which was being sponsored by a private member for a Select Committee to investigate anomalies in the Repatriation Act. Sir Gilbert’s action had the approval of all State Branches. In a recent letter Sir Gilbert stated:

The motion before the House was for the appointment of a Parliamentary Select Committee, to investigate anomalies in the Repatriation Act. No suggestions had been made as to whether any particular anomalies were to be investigated, and the inquiry strictly confined to those matters, or whether such inquiry was to result in an overhaul of the complete ramifications of the Act, and all its anomalies, including those which operate in favour of soldier pensioners.

If this committee of parliamentarians were to commence an investigation of anomalies in the Repatriation Act without any limitation as to the particular anomalies to be investigated, the whole proceedings were fraught with very great danger to present soldier pensioners and their dependents.

As you are aware, the present Act provides for the pensioning of incapacity arising from service in the Great War, regardless of economic factors. The League has always maintained that a pension should be paid in respect to war disablment, without taking economic factors into account. If a committee of men not fully acquainted with this vital principle of the League were to conduct an investigation, it is not inconceivable that a revolutionary change may be recommended. The adoption of such a recommendation would prove detrimental to many thousands of returned men who are at present drawing pensions for their war incapacity, but at the same time are able to carry on their occupations.

It will be remembered that Professor Giblin, who was a member of the Soldiers’ Commission which investigated possible savings in 1931, resigned from such commission, as he strongly held the view that economic factors should govern the question of war pensioning. Incidentally any other system would bring the war pension under the heading of a charitable grant to which, of course, the League is uncompromisingly opposed.

It is well known that the British Ministry of Pensions’ figures have fallen tremendously since 1921, and that the Australian figures have, on the other hand, increased. The numbers of soldiers being pensioned, together with their dependents would, no doubt, be compared, with the possibility of unwelcome if not serious repercussions. It is unnecessary to add that benefits operating in Australia compare more than favourably with those overseas. For instance, the control by the Commission of its own hospitals does not operate to the same extent anywhere else, and the method of investigating claims for pension includes, in many cases, hospitalisation, together with X-ray and pathological tests (doubtless an expensive process) whereby the soldier’s condition is diagnosed. Even if the disabilities found are not accepted as due to war service, the investigation is of inestimable value to the soldier for treatment purposes. Furthermore, whilst the soldier’s condition is being investigated, he is paid sustenance for himself, wife and children, regardless of his other income. This provision does not obtain in any other Dominion.

It is understood that the ultimate objective of the mover of the motion for a Select Committee was to have accepted as due to war service all cases of pulmonary Tuberculosis arising in ex-soldiers, but it seems quite evident that this is not a matter which could properly be considered by a committee of members of Parliament; and even assuming that such committee reported favourably on such proposal, one has to consider what action the Government was then likely to take. Obviously a Government must be guided by the best medical opinion obtainable, on a matter of this kind, and therefore it would have had the question referred to a further committee of medical experts and, as in Canada, there is a grave risk that such a committee, established here, might bring in a report totally unfavourable to the acceptance of any further cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

In addition to these matters, an investigation of anomalies under the Repatriation Act would compel consideration of all those matters which operate in favour of the soldier, and which are regarded as anomalies by prominent legislators. Some people, and many of them in high places,
feel it definitely anomalous that a man can receive 100 per cent. pension and be engaged in more or less constant work. They also say that it is anomalous that any man who has ever suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis is to receive, for all time, a minimum pension of 100 per cent., notwithstanding the fact that he has now no sign of the disease at all, engages in constant work, and in many cases makes a handsome private income.

Many other matters which might be regarded by this committee of laymen as being anomalous could be mentioned. It has been stated that there are many people who have had no real opportunity of expressing their views on repatriation and soldiers' matters generally. An inquiry of the nature suggested would enable them to object to the continuance of some of the prevailing conditions. Figures would be quoted and statements made which would, it is considered, react to the detriment of soldiers and their dependents.

However, as the League can approach any Government and ask for its consideration of any reasonable request for enlargement of benefits under the Repatriation Act, the continued observance and maintenance of this procedure would ensure that existing benefits would not be imperilled.

Sir Gilbert also stated in his letter the unexpected and unfortunate consequences to ex-service men in Canada as a result of two Select Committees appointed by that Dominion's Parliament to investigate features of Repatriation legislation.

11th Batt. (A.I.F.) History

Within the next two or three weeks it will be necessary for a definite decision to be made as to the number of copies of the History to be printed, and all ex-11th Diggers and others interested are appealed to to make immediate subscription in order to guide the committee and at the same time ensure reservation of a copy for themselves. Advance subscriptions (10/-) to R. W. Blair, 79 William Street, Perth.

Lord Gowrie at Wyndham

When he visited Wyndham, Lord Gowrie graciously consented to meet the boys in their "dug-out" at the residence of the secretary ("Bobby" Harrison). To the great joy of the members, he accepted honorary membership and was duly installed by the president (Bob Walker).

At Lord Gowrie's request, the League badge was pinned on his coat lapel to the accompaniment of musical honours.

His Excellency's face radiated his thoughts, and when he told the Diggers how much he prized their thoughtfulness and the honour they had conferred and that he would treasure their gift and always retain pleasant memories of men who were carrying on the good work of the R.S.L. in this veritable outpost of the Empire, he meant every word he said.

His sincerity greatly impressed those present and was a predominant feature of the whole evening's programme, the keynote of which was the absence of formality.

Lord Gowrie arrived unattended, and this gesture was taken as a great compliment by the Diggers assembled. He had come to be one of themselves.

As each member present was introduced and presented his credentials, His Excellency recalled incidents and memories of the various units mentioned with such keenness and accuracy that many of the Diggers began to wonder if they had really been to the war at all.

Fraternal greetings were extended to Lady Gowrie, which his Excellency gratefully accepted on her behalf.

So much so did His Excellency enter into the spirit of the gathering that he did not notice that he had remained one hour over schedule. Quite a compliment!

Even then he did not depart until he had expressed, in no uncertain manner, the happiness he had experienced that evening.

"Little had he thought," he said, "that Wyndham possessed such a live organisation," and he went on to relate many of his war-time experiences with the Australian Diggers.

His speech was punctuated with spontaneous applause, alternating with merri-ment on all sides.

Manufacture of Defence Requirements

The following letter has been received from the Prime Minister's Department in answer to a request sent on June 20:

With further reference to your letter of June 20, 1939, regarding the utilisation of facilities available at the Railway Workshops, Midland Junction, Western Australia, for the manufacture of defence stores, I am directed to inform you that the practicability of utilising these workshops in the direction indicated has received consideration by the Government.

Certain technical and organisational factors, coupled with difficulties involved in the transit of raw materials and the return of empty components to Victoria for filling, preclude the establishment in Western Australia of an annexe for shell-making on economic grounds.

The Government has given consideration to other directions in which the Western Australian shops might be advantageously employed on the production of defence stores. The first matter reviewed was the conversion of artillery vehicles to pneumatic tyres. Negotiations with the Western Australian Railways in regard to the manufacture of (a) parts required for, and the conversion of, vehicles in stock in Western Australia; and

(b) the parts required for the conversion of the vehicles in other States were unsuccessful.

I am to add that the Government has given lengthy consideration to the part which these railway workshops might fill in connection with defence plans and, whilst it is of opinion that they could not economically fulfil such requirements as have been sought to date, their potentialities will be borne in mind in connection with future requirements considered to be within their compass. At present, however, no work is in sight which could suitably be allotted them.

A message from London announces the engagement of Miss Judith Birdwood, the younger daughter of Field Marshal Lord Birdwood and Lady Birdwood. The man of her choice is Mr. Roger W. Colville-Wallis, a graduate of King's College, Cambridge. Miss Birdwood has paid two visits to Western Australia with her parents.
Comparative Sub-Branch Membership

AS AT JUNE 30, 1939

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| Bullyr

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Norsemart ..... 69 64 78
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Northampton ..... 24 23 26
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North-East Fremantle ..... 84 82 102
North Perth ..... 104 81 126
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Yokine ..... 25 14 23
York ..... 55 37 50
Youammi ..... 9 22 21

*Defunct.  †Not started.

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We have passed the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War, and instead of the old question, “What did you do in the Great War, Daddy?” one frequently is asked, “What were you doing when the war broke out?” Well, here is what the world’s best known people were doing.

On August 4, 1914—

King George VI, then Duke of York, was a midshipman of the middle watch on H.M.S. Collingwood, with the British Fleet at Scapa Flow.

Queen Elizabeth, then Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, celebrated her fourteenth birthday party at a theatre party in London.

The Duke of Windsor, then Prince of Wales and afterwards Edward VIII, was a special student at Magdalen College, Oxford, and a full-fledged corporal in the Oxford O.T.C.

Mr. Chamberlain was in mourning for his father, the famous Joseph Chamberlain, who died on July 2, 1914.

Mr. Anthony Eden was still at Eton, while Sir Oswald Mosley, the leader of the British Fascists, was at Sandhurst.

Eamon de Valera was a commandant of Irish volunteers.

Brigadier-General John Pershing was at El Paso, Texas, in command of the 8th Brigade of the United States Army. Across the border was a 19-year-old lieutenant in the Mexican revolutionary forces named Lazaro Cardenas. He is now President of Mexico.

Richard E. Byrd, Antarctic explorer, was an Ensign, aboard U.S.S. Washington. He was already a hero to his countrymen, having saved a seaman from drowning barely a month before.

Joseph P. Kennedy, United States Ambassador to Great Britain, was then 25, and America’s youngest bank president.

Jack Johnson was still heavyweight champion of the world. Joe Louis, or Joe Louis Barrow, was chosen to hold the title since Johnson, was barely three months old.

John L. Lewis, the American militant Labour leader, was then a 26-year-old orator, organizing the steel industry for the American Federation of Labour, the organization to which he is now so bitterly opposed.

Miss Mae West was then a comparatively unknown music hall singer.

Admiral Horthy, Regent of Hungary, was a captain in the Austrian Navy, in command of the cruiser Novara in the Adriatic.

Stalin was a political exile in Siberia, close to the Arctic Circle.

Mussolini was a revolutionary socialist leader and editor of l’Avanti, in Milan, under police surveillance because of reports that he had received a large sum of money from abroad to foment revolutionary disturbances in Italy.

On August 4, 1914, King Leopold III of Bavaria graciously granted a pale young Austrian, picture postcard painter and beer garden orator, permission to enlist in the 3rd Company of the 16th Bavarian Reserve Infantry Regiment. That lad’s name was Adolf Hitler.

A 17-year-old cripple, named Paul Joseph Goebbels, was the holder of a Catholic scholarship at the University of Bonn. He was specialising in art, literature and history.

In Paris, Edouard Daladier, then Professor of History at Lycee Condorcet, had just been mobilised.

Also mobilised at Mulhausen, Alsace, was Lieut. Hermann Goering, of the Mulhausen Regiment, who was then a handsome youngster of 21.

Near Tetuan, in Spanish Morocco, a diminutive 21-year-old lieutenant named Francisco Franco, was in command of a detachment of Moors, fighting against Rif tribesmen.

An obscure young man named Chiang Kai-shek, who had been a political exile in Japan, was in Manchuria, instigating a revolt against the Chinese Government of that day.

A Diary of the Fateful Weeks

June 28.—The Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his morganatic wife were murdered in the Bosnian town, Sarajevo, by a young Serbian named Gavrilo Princip. It was the fourteenth anniversary of their wedding. It was also St. Vitus’ Day.

July 2.—The German and Austrian Press declared that there was sufficient evidence to indicate that Serbian officials knew of the plot to kill the Archduke. The Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, Count Bertchold, believed that now was the time to settle accounts with troublesome Serbia, provided that Germany would stand by. He sent word to Berlin that Serbian plotters would attempt to assassinate Kaiser Wilhelm, should he attend the Archduke’s funeral. Berlin papers announced that an attack of lumbago would prevent the Kaiser from going to Vienna for the funeral. The octogenarian Emperor Franz Josef said: “I see a dark future.”

July 6.—The German Foreign Office issued the following statement: “Austria must decide what to do about Serbia. Whatever she decides, Germany is her friend and ally.” Germany thus gave Austria a blank cheque, but did not fear that Austria would go to extremes. The Kaiser, who is reported to have said “Now or never,” left for a three weeks’ yachting cruise of the Norwegian fjords.

July 9.—Count Bertchold secured the approval of the Emperor Franz Josef and Count Tisza, the Premier of Hungary, to issue demands on Serbia, short of an ultimatum. Bertchold favoured, however, the stiffest demands and said that Serbia’s acceptance would be “very disagreeable to him.”

July 14.—Count Tisza was persuaded by Count Bertchold to agree to military measures against Serbia. It was decided to postpone the despatch of an ultimatum to Serbia until after the Russian visit of President Poincare, of France.

July 18.—Russia warned Austria that she “would not be indifferent” to any attempt to humiliate Serbia. Expecting no crisis, Major-General Ferdinand Foch, commanding a French army corps at Nancy, left on a fortnight’s leave of absence in Britain.

DIGGERS...

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The Listening Post, 15th August, 1939

July 20.—In the working men’s quarter of St. Petersburg, Cossacks charged a crowd that was singing the Marseillaise. Almost simultaneously President Poincare landed for a three days’ visit of State to Russia and the Marseillaise, played by the band of the guard of honour, was heard officially for the first time in Russia since 1812, when Napoleon’s bands played it in Moscow: President Poincare told the Austrian Ambassador in St. Petersburg, “Serbia has friends in the Russian people, and Russia has an ally, France.”

July 21.—Austria-Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia. Asserting that the Serajevo murder plot was hatched in Belgrade, it demanded a public display of humiliation by Serbia, and the dismissal from the Government and military service of all persons deemed hostile by Austria-Hungary. Serbia was given 48 hours to reply.

July 22.—Austria-Hungary notified other Powers of the terms of her ultimatum to Serbia. President Poincare was at sea; so was the Kaiser. Sir Edward Grey, who was then Foreign Secretary, pronounced the ultimatum “the most formidable document addressed by one State to another that is independent.” He termed it “very disturbing,” and approved of orders for the partial mobilisation of the Russian army. Between protracted British Cabinet meetings over the vexing Irish question, Sir Edward Grey tried to mediate between Austria and Serbia.

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July 25.—Austria-Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia. Asserting that the Serajevo murder plot was hatched in Belgrade, it demanded a public display of humiliation by Serbia, and the dismissal from the Government and military service of all persons deemed hostile by Austria-Hungary. Serbia was given 48 hours to reply.

July 26.—Austria-Hungary termed Serbia’s conciliatory reply “unsatisfactory” and severed diplomatic relations. Serbia mobilised. Germany continued to try to localise war between Austria and Serbia. Sir Edward Grey tried to mediate between Austria and Serbia.

July 27.—Austria-Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia. Asserting that the Serajevo murder plot was hatched in Belgrade, it demanded a public display of humiliation by Serbia, and the dismissal from the Government and military service of all persons deemed hostile by Austria-Hungary. Serbia was given 48 hours to reply.

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July 29.—Austria-Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia. Asserting that the Serajevo murder plot was hatched in Belgrade, it demanded a public display of humiliation by Serbia, and the dismissal from the Government and military service of all persons deemed hostile by Austria-Hungary. Serbia was given 48 hours to reply.

July 30.—Belgrade was bombarded by Austrians, Russia mobilised. Germany called upon Russia to suspend mobilisation within 24 hours, demanded that France indicate whether she would be neutral, and informed Britain that, in the event of war with France, she “might be forced” to march through Belgium. On this day the Kaiser wrote: “The clumsiness and stupidity of our ally (Austria) has been made a hangman’s noose for us.”

August 1.—At 3.45 p.m. France ordered mobilisation. Germany’s mobilisation was a quarter of an hour later. At 5 p.m. Germany declared war on Russia.

August 2.—Germany gave Belgium 12 hours to allow German troops to pass through her territory to the French boundary.

August 3.—At 7 a.m. Belgium rejected Germany’s ultimatum.

August 4.—At 2 p.m. Britain sent an ultimatum to Germany. Berlin was given until midnight (Berlin time) to make a satisfactory reply to the demand that German troops keep out of Belgium. “That evening,” Sir Edward Grey wrote, “some of us sat with the Prime Minister in the Cabinet room in 10 Downing Street. I was there in touch with the Foreign Office to certify that no satisfactory reply came from Berlin. Churchill also was among those present, ready to send out at the appointed hour the war order that the Fleet was expecting. Midnight came. We were at war.”

GUNNERS’ DAY AT GUILDFORD

Gunner’s Day at Guildford, the annual Artillery Memorial Service, was again well attended this year. Closely associated with the Gunners in this annual ceremony are the 10th Light Horse, who also trained at Guildford. This comradeship is symbolised in the Memorial Gates erected at the western entrance to Stirling Square, in honour of the fallen of those units of the A.I.F. The column marched through these gates on the way to St. Matthew’s Church, where the memorial service was conducted for the tenth year in succession by the Rev. Padre Vine. He was assisted by Mr. J. Lawrie Ford. The parade assembled outside the Guildford railway station on the arrival of the 3.10 p.m. train from Perth. The march was headed by the R.S.L. Memorial Band and led by Brigadier-General A. J. Besse-Browne. Immediately behind him were three members of the Junior Legion, sons of artillerymen who fell in the Great War. Then followed 88 members of the Artillery Old Comrades’ Association and a party of the 10th Light Horse (A.I.F.). The column included 130 militia artillerymen and a party of the militia light horse. The salute was taken by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor (Sir James Mitchell), who was accompanied by Lady Mitchell and attended by Colonel Manning, Wing-Commander R. J. Brownell and the Mayor of Guildford (Mr. E. A. Evans). The church was packed, and many of the public who could not gain admittance waited in the park for the later ceremony at the Fallen Soldiers’ Memorial.

After the service, the parade formed up around the memorial, with the public behind them. While the band played the Recessional, wreaths were laid by Councillor W. H. D. Beadle (Artillery Old Comrades), Mr. R. Perry (10th Light Horse Association), Lieut.-Colonel Olden (R.S.L.), Mr. W. N. Opie (Legacy Club), Mr. C. L. Dix (R.S.L. Memorial Band), Lieut. R. L. Curtis (10th Light Horse, Militia) and Colonel A. J. Hobbs (R.A.A., Militia). Appropriate calls were sounded by artillery trumpeters. The proceedings were arranged by the secretary of the Artillery Old Comrades’ Association (Mr. J. H. Kenny). Lieut.-Colonel J. E. Mitchell was marshal of the parade.

The tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey, London, is to be built in a far more stately form. For some time past the simple black stone has been accounted too humble a covering for the symbol of the nation’s greatest sacrifice. Many strangers who have gone as pilgrims to the shrine have passed it unaware. The advice of leading artists and architects has been sought and a design has been approved which will include the retention of the existing stone, and a feature is the provision of a niche wherein will burn a flame perpetually, which will symbolise all that is eternal in mankind—the spirit of courage, of faith, of willing sacrifice and dauntless hope. The monument will be in keeping with the architectural character of the nave of the Abbey.
THE FALL OF WARSAW

By H. W. Dunning, Editor "Fidac"

When the Von Mackensen battering-ram had driven the Russians out of Galicia, General Von Hindenburg, the German commander-in-chief in the East, resolved to carry this victory to a yet larger success. He hoped to break the Russian power completely. For this purpose he launched his own forces from Prussia southward into Poland; while Mackensen attacked it from Galicia, marching north. Between them, they hoped to entrap in Warsaw the main Russian armies.

The chief defences of the Russians were a series of strong fortress cities. The main ones, naming them from north to south, were Riga on the Baltic coast, Kovno and Grodno on the Niemen River, which in part separated Russia and East Prussia, Ossowiec and Lomzo defending Poland from East Prussia, Novo Georgievsk directly in front of Warsaw and guarding the junction of the two great Polish rivers, the Vistula and the Bug. Further south upon the Vistula lies Ivangorod.

The fortresses to the south fell first, Ivangorod and then Warsaw.

The manner in which they fell is described as follows by Margarete Munsterberg in condensed accounts from the popular German periodical Kriegs-Rundschatz.

"On July 20, 1915, German troops forced a crossing over the Narew River. Meanwhile Austrian-Hungarian and German armies captured Kostrzyn and Radom, and after bitter fighting pressed onward from the south, between the Bug and Vistula Rivers, towards the Vistula Fortress Ivangorod. This was closely hedged in by the allied (Teuton) troops on July 21, after the opponent had made vain efforts to hinder our forward march towards the north and towards the east. In the early morning of July 28, General von Woyrsch forced the crossing over the Vistula at several points. The Mackensen army, after a short interruption, resumed its attack on July 29 and broke through the Russian position to the west of Wieroz. This success as well as the attacks of Austrian-Hungarian and German troops just east of the Vistula, of Prussian guard troops near Kruke and of other German troops in the region of Wojslawice made the Russian front give way between the Vistula and the Bug.

On July 30 the enemy evacuated his positions along the whole line....

During the pursuit we captured Lublin and passed through Cholm.

An exceedingly obstinate defence of the Russian positions round Ivangorod ensued, but on August 3, the Austrian-Hungarian troops of the Woyrsch army took possession of the western part of Ivangorod. Meanwhile Mackensen once more drove to flight the Russians who were fighting desperately to the north-east of Cholm and to the west of the Bug. On August 4, Ivangorod fell into the hand of the allied Austrian-Hungarian and German troops.

On the same day Warsaw was conquered.

After the Russians on August 3 had been thrust back to the outer line of defense, Prince Leopold of Bavaria had his army start the attack on Warsaw. The announcement of victory from the great headquarters on August 5, 1915, read thus: "The army of Prince Leopold of Bavaria broke through and yesterday and to-night took possession of the outer and inner lines of forts of Warsaw, in which the Russian rearguard still offered stub-

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born resistance. This morning the city was occupied by our troops."

The Russian command dismissed the fall of Warsaw in the official communication of August 6 in the following words:

"As a result of the conditions brought about by the general situation, our troops to the west of Warsaw were commanded to fall back on the right shore of the Vistula. According to the report which has arrived, this command was carried out. The troops that covered Warsaw returned, without being attacked by the enemy, to the new front marked out for them, after they had blown up behind them all bridges over the Vistula."

At a stormy session of the Duma on August 1, the Russian War Minister (Polivanof) said in a long speech:

"At this moment the enemy has concentrated unusually strong forces against us, which step by step are encompassing the territory of the military district of Warsaw, whose strategic boundary lines have always been the weak spot on our western border. Under these conditions we may leave a part of this district to the enemy, and fall back upon positions where our army can prepare once more to take the offensive. This is the end which crowns the tactics tried in 1812. To-day we may leave Warsaw to the enemy, as we evacuated Moscow at that time, in order to insure final victory."

"In the papers of Germany the conquest of Warsaw was celebrated as the "crowning event of the first war year.""

32nd BATT. REUNION

There was an attendance of 95, nearly all of whom were members of the unit, at the annual dinner of the 32nd Battalion on July 22. The 32nd have established the custom of holding the annual reunion on the Saturday nearest to the anniversary of the disastrous battle of Fleurbaix, which was the 5th Division's first big show in France. It was not surprising, therefore, that members of that famous unit travelled amazing distances to greet old comrades once more. One came from Marvel Loch, and others from Manjinup. One pleasing feature of the evening was the restriction of formalities, to give the maximum opportunity for fraternising. The toast of the Old Battalion was proposed by Colonel Athol Hobbs, and responded to by the president of the association (Mr. Lou. Lobascher). Major Dick Geddes proposed the health of Allied Associations, to which Mr. R. Stevenson (Maimed and Limbless Men's Association) replied. The toast of the League was capably dealt with by Past President George Abjersen and the reply by Colonel Olden. During the ceremony of remembrance, the appropriate bugle calls were sounded by Mr. C. Hewens. During the speeches, reference was made to the interstate reunion of the battalion, which was held in Adelaide three years ago. That reunion was attended by a contingent from Western Australia and the band and a colour party of the 32nd Militia Battalion from Victoria. It was then announced that a similar interstate reunion would take place in Perth next April. During the evening musical items were given by Messrs. Maurice Jaffey, Fred Moore and Horowitz.

On the afternoon of Sunday, July 23, 50 members of the battalion paraded at the State War Memorial, where the parade was met by the warden (Mr. A. W. Jacoby). A wreath was laid by the president and the Last Post and the Reveille were sounded by Mr. C. Hewens.

REUNION OF 48TH BATT.

The annual reunion of the 48th Battalion on August 5 was a most successful and enjoyable function. The president of the association (Mr. L. McKenzie) was in the chair and 55 members with several guests were present. An appeal was made to members to attend the parade on Monday August 3, not only out of comradeship with Imperial ex-service men, but also in recognition of the worthy manner in which Imperial ex-service men regularly attend the Anzac Day commemoration. The assembly decided to send a greeting to the 47th Battalion, whose reunion took place in Brisbane on August 17. The toast of the Battalion was given by Captain C. R. Collins (47th Battalion), who referred to the strong bonds of comradeship that had existed between the 47th and the 48th throughout the fighting in France. He recalled that his only brother was Regimental M.O. of the 48th for nearly 18 months in the field, and that it was to the 48th that most of the survivors of the 47th went, after that battalion was broken up in 1918. Captain Collins said that the 48th was a battalion of outstanding men, not the least of whom was the Commanding Officer, Brigadier-General Leane, who eventually commanded the 12th Brigade, and who is now Commissioner of Police in South Australia. It was a battalion that had helped to make history, and it was only fitting therefore that it should have had capable historians. Two of the outstanding war books published in Australia, "The Story of a Battalion," by the late Father Devine, and "Backs to the Wall," by Captain Mitchell, were the epics of the 48th. The toast was responded to by the president and Mr. Edgar Logan who proposed the 47th. Community singing was interspersed with items given by Messrs. H. Hopperton, Fisher and Bladen. Late in the afternoon, members visited the State War Memorial, where a wreath was laid in honour of fallen comrades. The warden (Mr. A. W. Jacoby) was present.

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The news of the retirement of 15 senior staff officers of the Australian Military Forces is an indication that the Hore-Belisha policy of giving younger officers the chance of a career, by pulling down the dead wall of seniority, is being applied in Australia. It is regrettable, for many reasons, that so many distinguished veterans of the Great War have been affected by the lowering of the retiring age; but it is gratifying to know that they are being retired under conditions with which they, themselves, have expressed satisfaction. The conditions will have to be ratified by the Federal Parliament, but no difficulty is expected in that quarter.

* * *

It is learnt from Melbourne that the modernisation of H.M.A.S. Australia will be completed by the end of the month, at a cost of £650,000, and her steam and gunnery trials will take place off the New South Wales coast next month. A belt of armour has been added to the sides of the cruiser, which will enable her to withstand heavier gun fire, and to the decks, which will give protection to vital machinery. A similar modernisation will be commenced on the sister ship, H.M.A.S. Canberra, about the end of the year. The H.M.A.S. Australia is the second of her name in the Royal Australian Navy. The first was the original flagship of the squadron which was towed outside Sydney Heads, after the war, and sunk in accordance with the Washington Treaty. That agreement limited the strength of the contracting parties in capital ships, and allowed Japan a ratio with Britain and the United States, which Japan's geographical position soon turned into a superiority.

* * *

When Lord Gowrie attended the Diggers' reunion at Wyndham, he applied the Birdwood touch to a well-known member of the sub-branch, Dan Blake.

"Blake," said His Excellency, "My wife asked me to ascertain if you had carried out the promise you made to her, that you would write to your dear old mother in London."

Now Dan is a rough diamond of typical Cockney stock, a "stoker" during the war, a true and loyal heart. Earlier in the week he admitted to Lady Gowrie that he had not written to his mother for four years, although she (his mother) wrote to him regularly once a month.

Lady Gowrie admonished Dan, reminding him that his mother, to him, was and should be regarded as the kindlest and greatest living soul, and that neglecting to write on his part was poor repayment for her loving thoughts, her sighs and her tears (spread throughout her life) for someone she loved better than herself.

Dan stood up to his gruelling from Her Ladyship, something he would hardly stand from any man—not even the King, to use his own words—and a tear fell from his cheek.

"Promise me you will write this mail, Blake, and make your mother happy. If you do, it will also make me happy."

"Yes, Mum," said Blake. "I promise." By now that letter has reached England, and when this appears in print there will at least be one more happy mother in London.

His Excellency, assured of such, smiled in pleasant satisfaction, and it is a well-known fact that Lady Gowrie's first inquiry upon His Excellency's return to his hotel was, "Did Blake write to his mother?"

Receiving an assurance that he had fulfilled his promise, Her Ladyship expressed her sincere gratification.

* * *

The annual report of the president of the Albany sub-branch last month gave a noble record of work done by Albany Diggers on behalf of the returned men's ward, established by the sub-branch in the Albany District Hospital. The furnishing and equipping of the ward was completed at a cost of £35. The equipment consists of a radio, radiator, crockery and other items which the matron considered necessary for the comfort of the patients. The sub-branch has even taken the trouble to provide interpreters for foreign patients. In addition, the sub-branch has donated £30 to the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund, distributed £50 in local amelioration work and sent supplies of boronia and fruit to ex-service men's institutions.

One readily acquires such a distinguished Admiral as Sir Barry Domvile and other eminent Englishmen belonging to the organisation known as "The Link" of anything beyond a sincere desire to reconcile the British and German people. But the outcry caused by the Home Secretary's revelations in the House of Commons should convince them that their organisation is considered unnecessary, and even dangerous, by the majority of their countrymen. There is no need for any organisation to present "The Case for Germany" to Britons. That has been done already by Nazi propagandists abroad. It is also hard to believe that Hitler would tolerate the existence in Germany of any organisation for the presentation of the British point of view. Unfortunately, when it has been proved beyond all doubt that the Axis Powers are spending money like water on propaganda within the British Empire, it is only natural that the aims and the activities of "The Link" should be viewed with grave suspicion.

* * *

We have received many letters complaining that the platform of the hall at Anzac House was used recently as a forum for the dissemination of anti-British and seditious utterances. It may be explained that when the hall was let to Mr. C. O. Barker, it was understood that the hirer wished to make an explanation of his political intentions. He seems to have taken up the greater part of the evening in spouting other men's views on the international situation. Neither the League nor The Listening Post is very interested in Mr. Barker and his reasons for resigning the Irwin-Moore seat. Neither his political future nor his views on the international or any other subject interest us in the least; but we agree with our numerous correspondents that it is more than a little thick when a political exhibitionist gets up in a hall under the control of the League and asserts, among other things, that the mobile force recommended by Lieut.-General Squires is being formed for the purpose of shooting down workers "when the revolution occurs in 18 months time."

A statement like that bears a strong family likeness to sedition, or it would, if it were not so palpably false and so egregiously silly. We think we are in a position to assure correspondents that the hall at Anzac House will never be let to Mr. Barker again.
For Men

Many men have the impression that a Savings Bank Account is suitable only for women and children, and that it is neither convenient nor dignified enough for business men.

Certainly those business men who have many payments to make over a considerable area need cheque accounts, but even those, in common with all other men, will find the Savings Account a most useful and convenient aid to money accumulation.

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NEW ZEALAND TOUR, 1940

We publish a circular issued to sub-branches recently from Head Office in which, no doubt, many League members will be interested. The original proposal for chartering the Maunganui and the Monowai proved too costly, as both boats would have been required to make the trip from New Zealand to Sydney and back in ballast. The proposal now is to charter the Katoomba and for those desirous of making the trip immediate notification to Head Office is necessary, and fares from Sydney to Wellington would be—

213 1st class: £25 return.
195 2nd class: £20 return.
136 3rd class: £13 return.

These fares to include bed and breakfast on board during the stay in the Dominion (approximately five days). Passengers restricted to men only. Application (with £5 deposit) addressed to the State secretary from members of the League to be included amongst the Katoomba are now invited. Applications will close on September 20 next, but passages on the Katoomba are not guaranteed to any applicant. Passengers on the Katoomba must return from New Zealand by the same boat at a time specified.

Fremantle to Sydney

Return fares are: Railway, 1st class, £29/1/-; 2nd class, £17/1/-; interstate boat, special concession by Associated Steamship Owners: 1st class, £20; 2nd class, £16 (3rd class, limited number of berths).

If the Katoomba accommodation is booked out, passengers could travel from Sydney on the Wanganella on April 19-20 (fare: approximately £20). Special boat concession from Fremantle to Sydney applies to any adult nominated by the League and any interstate boat leaving Fremantle prior to the Westralia about April 10.

Thomas Cook and Son Travel Service has been made available to the League, and points out that a person may travel privately to New Zealand for Anzac Day, 1940, accompanied by wife and other members of the family, the cost being (for a period of six weeks) £38 per head and under other conditions, £34 per head.

All ex-service men interested are advised to get in touch with Head Office immediately, and for those who desire to travel by the Katoomba full particulars of the applicant with £5 deposit is necessary.

It will be observed that passages by the Katoomba are limited to 544, and preference will be given in order of the receipt of applications at Head Office, Perth.

Applicants should state, if unsuccessful with Katoomba passage, whether it is desired to make arrangements for booking through Thomas Cook & Sons.

THE LATE PHILIP SIDNEY WATSON BEQUEST

The late Mr. Philip Sidney Watson, of Kew, Victoria, and formerly of the Gulf Country, Queensland, who died on July 8, 1936, bequeathed one-seventh of the residue of his estate for the relief and benefit of soldiers who enlisted in the State of Queensland, conditionally upon the distribution being carried out by such commission or body, as is empowered by the Commonwealth of Australia, to deal with funds in terms of those specified in the bequest. The necessary authority has been vested in the hands of the trustees of the A.I.F. Canteen Funds and arrangements have now been made for the receipt of applications from those eligible.

Such applications should be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation of the State in which applicants are now resident. Those eligible for consideration are—

(a) children, in necessitous circumstances, of deceased sailors and soldiers;
(b) children of incapacitated sailors and soldiers in necessitous circumstances, whose personal war pensions do not exceed the 25 per cent. rate;
(c) children of incapacitated sailors and soldiers not in receipt of a war pension and in necessitous circumstances.

The foregoing conditions shall apply only to children who have attained the age of thirteen years, and who are not in receipt of, or eligible for, assistance under any other scheme of relief.

FREE RAILWAY TRANSPORT

The following is from a wartime newspaper report dated July 26 (we don't know the year) and will, no doubt, recall memories of the less serious escapades of many who to-day are pillars of society and patterns for emulation. It reads:—

Blackboy Hill camp presented a lively scene this morning.

For some considerable time the railway authorities have been endeavouring to prevent soldiers travelling without paying fares, and have been trying all kinds of ruses without much success. Another solution was tried to-day, but proved even more disastrous than any that have been previously tried.

The latest official scheme was duly chronicled in camp orders last night, and announced at this morning's early parade. The official plan was that every soldier due for leave to-day should pass in a shilling as he prepared to leave the camp, and in return receive a return ticket from Helena Vale to Perth.

Three railway inspector clerks, with a bag of tickets, visited the camp and, protected by an armed guard, started to serve out tickets to a queue of uniformed leave men. As the pile of shillings on the railway men's table grew, however, so also did the clamour of those waiting to be served. Presently a rush was made from the rear, and despite the efforts of the guard, the table was rushed and someone threw a bag of tickets in the air.

There were about 500 tickets left, and a huge crowd of soldiers quickly scrambled for their possession.

When additional guards were summoned, it was found that, although the cash that had been previously taken by the railway people was intact, not a vestige of a ticket was to be seen.

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THE LOST BATTALION

BY BRIGADIER-GENERAL E. F. MARTIN, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.

I have chosen the above title because so few people to-day remember the force that left Australia on August 19, 1914, and yet at the time everyone thought that we would be the only Australians, apart from the Navy, to see active service abroad. But to-day, if people were asked, even in Sydney, for particulars of the 1st Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force, most would give a negative answer. The greater things that happened in Europe and Gallipoli, and so many thousands of Australians who served overseas during the war of course caused people to forget about New Guinea and how Australia came to occupy it.

On August 20, 1914, the following news item appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald:

OUR TROOPS MARCH THROUGH THE CITY

Splendid Volunteers

Cheer Upon Cheer

"Sydney yesterday had the first glimpse of the 1st Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. The soldiers marched through the city, amid the enthusiastic plaudits of tens of thousands of citizens."

"It was a splendid turnout and the fine physique of the men and their soldierly bearing won the warmest commendations from critical observers. Half of them had already seen active service and the vast majority were trained militia men."

Well, all this happened 25 years ago. Out of the 1,000 who marched that day, how many are left with us to-day? When Britain declared war on Germany on August 4, Australia also was at war with Germany, and she was asked to send a force to occupy the German islands in the Pacific, excluding Samoa; New Zealand was asked to occupy Samoa. The late Major-General Holmes, who was then a Colonel, commanding the 1st Australian Infantry Brigade in New South Wales, was offered the command of a mixed force to do this. He accepted and got to work at once. The late Brigadier F. Heritage, then Major Heritage, was appointed Brigade Major, the late Colonel W. R. Watson to command the infantry and the late Major-General Howse, V.C. (then a Major) principal Medical Officer. Recruiting commenced on August 11, 1914, and went full speed ahead. As there was no time to design a uniform, the rank and file were clothed in the uniform as issued to the trainees—web equipment and rifles came from Ordnance. The medical examination was strict, perfectly fit men being rejected for minor ailments, such as a hollow tooth or one or two teeth missing. The men who were passed as fit were drafted to the Sydney Show Grounds, where the battalion was being enrolled.

The battalion was then under the eight-company organisation. As soon as the company commanders were appointed—I was given "H" Company—the companies were formed. The two half-company commanders were also appointed at the same time as the company commanders, and the C.O. and his officers then had to select the N.C.O.'s. There was not much time for training beyond squad drill, rifle exercises and physical drill, as most of the time was occupied in fitting out the men in uniform and equipment and putting in requisitions for stores, etc. There being a goodly percentage of trained men and reservists from the Imperial Army, we were able to get N.C.O.'s who had had service in the several ranks. My colour-sergeant had been a sergeant in the Indian Army. By August 17, the infantry were fully equipped and ready to move. The order to move on the following day was issued and last leave for all troops was given. Early next morning all were astir, packing kits and loading on transport, then cleaning the lines. All was completed by noon.

The orders were that the infantry would proceed to Fort Macquarie by route march, there to embark on a ferry boat for Cockatoo Dock. The march through the streets was one never to be forgotten. We were the first troops to leave for overseas since the South African War, and the ovation we got was tremendous. When we arrived at Cockatoo Dock we found the P. & O. branch liner, t.s.s. Berrima, was being fitted out to take us. After marching the men to the troop decks and depositing their arms and equipment, the companies were told off into fatigue parties to load stores which were stacked on the wharf. The Berrima had just arrived on her maiden voyage from England, and the Admiralty took her over and converted her into an auxiliary cruiser, mounting two 4.7-inch guns forward and two aft. The forward hatches were fitted as mess decks for troops. She was renamed H.M.A.S. Berrima, and flew the White Ensign. It was quite late when all the stores were stowed and all were tired. As it was the first time many had slept in hammocks, I do not think they slept too soundly. Next morning the ship moved out of the dock and steamed to Farm Cove, where we waited for despatches from Melbourne. In addition to the troops, 500 Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserves from Victoria and Queensland joined us at Cockatoo Dock. This made the force 1,500 strong. The crew of the Berrima, excepting the captain, who was kept as navigating officer, and the engine room staff were replaced by officers and men from the Royal Australian Navy. About noon the despatches arrived and we got under way—to where? That was the question nobody could answer.

As we proceeded, every boat hooted and tooted and made a great noise. Outside the Heads it was very choppy and soon quite a number began to look green and very unhappy. All we could do that afternoon was to try and make the men as comfortable as possible. Next day it was fine. The sea had dropped, and we began putting the men through rifle exercises and lectures on musketry, etc. This day the gun crews of the 4.7's fired a few rounds to test the mountings, and although we were out of sight of land and did not see any ships, the firing was heard by some ship or lighthouse. We were told afterwards that the papers came out with big headlines reporting that a big naval engagement had taken place off the coast as heavy firing had been heard out at sea. We had an un-
eventful run up the coast to Moreton Bay, where we anchored to await more despatches. Here we made the acquaintance of the H.M.A.S. Gunyah. She was patrolling the bay. By this time, as the sea had been smooth and the weather fine and warm, the men had settled down and those suffering from seasickness were on their legs again. Despatches came aboard in the afternoon and we proceeded up the coast. Before leaving, we took on board a pilot, Captain Bruce by name.

He was a great character. When we left Sydney all thought we were off to the big noise in Europe via Panama, but now the wiseacres said we were going round the north of Australia via Suez. When we arrived somewhere off Townsville, we could just see the outline of the coast. We anchored near an island called Palm Island. Here we stayed a little over a week and practised landings from boats, built a small rifle range and did some target practice, also held sports and boat races in the big life-boats. We were joined by the two submarines A.E.1 and A.E.2 and the H.M.A.S.'s Sydney and Encounter, and a naval supply ship. Being inside the Great Barrier Reef the water was smooth and the weather fine and warm, and all were very happy. The only fly in the ointment was a nasty smell that began to invade every quarter of the ship. This was found to be some rotting onions, so we had to overhaul them and throw the bad ones overboard.
We were soon on the way again, and all thought for Europe; but it was Port Moresby. Here we found another ship, one of the interstate boats with 500 trainees from Queensland on board. These had been sent hastily—far too hastily—to Port Moresby to defend the wireless station. The troops had no mess decks or proper sleeping accommodation, and were short of food and water, so short that we had to go alongside and give them some. The next day when we left they also left, but back to Queensland. Our next halt was off one of the islands south of Papua. Here we met the H.M.A.S. Australia. She had been escorting the New Zealanders to Samoa; apparently our slow progress had been due to that fact. Colonel Holmes went on board the Australia and had a pow-wow with Admiral Patey. The plan agreed upon was for the naval volunteers to be transferred to the H.M.A.S. Sydney and Melbourne and go full speed for the wireless station as Bita Paka. The Berima was to follow, escorted by the H.M.A.S. Australia, Encounter and the French ship Montcalm at best speed. The Melbourne and Montcalm were with the Australia when we met the latter. It was now, of course, known what our job was and all about it. The Berima arrived off Kaba Kaul, where the naval men had landed about ten o'clock, and learned that the landing party was having a fight. Some reports were that they were heavily attacked. About noon the first casualties arrived in the shape of Captain Pockley (one of our medical officers) and two seamen badly wounded. Pockley died soon after.

As the situation was obscure, Colonel Holmes decided to land the left half battalion of the infantry at Herbertshohe, a settlement a mile or two further on, where the naval detachment had made its headquarters. We were on shore by about three o'clock. We were to move round the right flank of the naval force and come in behind the wireless station. "H" Company was detailed as the advance guard. We had no maps, just a rough sketch not to scale, showing a track through coconut plantations. Orders were issued before moving off that, if we did not reach our objective before dark, the column was to turn about and return to Herbertshohe. On account of the land having been cleared and coconuts planted, the country was fairly open and we had no difficulty in keeping direction. It was late in the afternoon when we moved off and we did not get far before nightfall. Although we listened very carefully we did not hear any firing. As soon as it was dark, word came from the main body to turn about and form the rearguard on the march back to Herbertshohe. That night we just bivouacked on the bare ground near the landing stage. The officers and men lay down where they halted and tried to go to sleep, but the ground was hard, and the sentries posted round the settlement by the naval reserve kept firing at every rustle in the jungle near their posts, bullets often wizzing over us, so all were glad when day broke.

(To be continued)

Mrs. E. Pope, of Subiaco auxiliary, and widow of the late Jack Pope, has written thanking all kind friends for the very valuable help afforded her in her recent sorrows. "Words fail to express adequately my feelings," she writes, but the wonderful spirit of comradeship and sympathy extended shows that the Anzac spirit still exists in sub-branches and auxiliaries alike.

* * *

A very enjoyable function was held in the Training Hall when the local sub-branch and auxiliary combined to bid farewell to Mrs. L. M. Milne, who has been secretary of the auxiliary for the past fifteen years. The stalwarts of the sub-branch formed a guard of honour for the guest of the evening, who was presented with a Certificate of Service by the President. The president of the auxiliary presented Mrs. Milne with a handbag on behalf of the ladies. Then, on behalf of the townsfolk and residents of the district, Mr. T. Craigie (representing the chairman of the Road Board) presented the lady with a beautiful travelling case, suitably inscribed, and spoke highly of her work as a trained nurse throughout the district. During the evening, musical items were rendered by Mrs. W. J. McGarry, Mr. J. Felgate and Master H. Morton. Dancing also added to the evening's enjoyment.

* * *

Our Mt. Hawthorn correspondent forwards the monthly sick state: Tom Jackson is about again. Bill Skates is making no progress and may be sent to Darlington to see if a change of air will help. Tom May is still in bed, but cheerful as ever. Billings is going along very nicely and Charlie Randall is out of the Rept. ward. M. Clarke is out at Edward Millen Home. Jock Moffat is back at work, but we are sorry to report that Ted Flanagan was smashed up in an accident on the Causeway and that Bill Kay got one of his fingers caught in a machine at work. We also have to express our sympathy to Ted Nathan on the loss of his wife. The late Mrs. Nathan was a foundation member of the women's auxiliary.

* * *

Members of the Mundijong-Jarahdale sub-branch spent a very enjoyable evening on July 17, when they were the guests of Dick Walsh, a popular member of that fraternity, who is leaving the district. Members spoke highly of their host's services to the sub-branch and to the district in general. The president (Tom Tait) presented Dick with a fountain pen and pencil on behalf of the sub-branch, and said how Dick Walsh would be missed by all members. He wished Dick and Mrs. Walsh all health and happiness. Dick responded, and said he would always treasure the gift.

* * *

At the meeting of the Gloucester Park sub-branch in July, members bade an
official farewell to a former president and secretary, Albert Wilkins, who is now at Liverpool, New South Wales, undergoing an intensive course of instruction to qualify for appointment to the Australian Instructional Corps. Vice-president B. Watson, who was in the chair, pointed out what an asset “Wilkie” had been to the sub-branch since he first became its secretary. At that time, there were only 16 members, but by his untiring efforts he had succeeded in bringing the effective strength to 200. The guest of the evening had also occupied the presidential chair for a term, and was a tower of strength in assisting the sub-branch to win the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield. Apart from his services to the sub-branch, “Wilkie” had rendered valuable service to the League as a member of the committee of the Anzac Club. He was presented with a Certificate of Service and a set of military brushes. In his response, “Wilkie” manifested his habitual breezy optimism by detailing Secretary Clift Lamb to send him a wire in November to say that Gloucester Park had again won the shield.

We regret to report that Digger F. A. Stevens passed away rather suddenly last month after being ill only a week. He was a member of the Carlisle sub-branch who extend sympathy to his relatives and friends in their sad bereavement.

Carlisle Diggers were pleased to see Harvey at the meeting again after having a bad spell in Repat. Ward. The State secretary is endeavouring to get in touch with Sergeant McKenzie and Mr. William Barker, both of the 16th Battalion. It is desired to locate these people for the purpose of securing some evidence to assist a widow in a claim for the acceptance of her husband’s death as due to war service.

Congratulatory messages from ex-service men’s organisations all over the Empire were received last month by Sir Gilbert Dyett on the completion of 20 years’ service as Federal president of the R.S.S.I.L.A. Among them were greetings from H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester (patron of the League), Lord Milne (Grand President of the British Empire Service League), Field Marshal Lord Birdwood, Generals Sir Ian Hamilton and Sir Alexander Godley, Sir Donald Simp-son (Grand Secretary, B.E.S.L.), the President of the British Legion, the Canadian Legion, the New Zealand Returned Soldiers’ Association, the South African and Rhodesian branches of the B.E.S.L., the Newfoundland War Veterans’ Association, the ex-service men’s associations of Burma, Malaya, British Guiana, Ceylon, Mauritius and Nyasaland, and the presidents of all the Australian State branches. The Federal president, who was born in Bendigo on June 23, 1891, served on Gallipoli as a lieutenant in the 7th Battalion. After being severely wounded in the attack on Lone Pine in August, 1915, he was returned to Australia and discharged as medically unfit for further service. He was appointed Organising Secretary of the Victorian State Recruiting Committee, and in July, 1919, was elected Federal president of the R.S.S.I.L.A. As such he attended the inaugural conference of the B.E.S.L. in South Africa in 1921, over which the late Field Marshal Earl Haig presided. The following year he represented the League at the fourth annual convention of the American Legion at Los Angeles. In 1923 he attended the biennial conference of the B.E.S.L. in London, and acted as chairman of the third B.E.S.L. conference in 1927, the year in which he was awarded the C.M.G. Seven years later he was once again chairman of that conference, this time in Melbourne, on the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Gloucester to Victoria’s centenary celebrations. That year also he was created a Knight Bachelor. In 1937 he again visited London as representative of the R.S.S.I.L.A. at the eighth biennial conference of the British Empire Service League.

The Federal president (Sir Gilbert Dyett) has received cable advice that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confer a Knighthood of the Order of the British Empire (K.B.E.) upon the Grand Secretary of the British Empire Service League (Captain Donald Simson). Sir Donald Simson was appointed Grand (honorary) Secretary of the B.E.S.L. and he is still carrying out the duties of that position. He has been present in such capacity at the biennial conferences of the B.E.S.L., including, needless to say, the 7th Biennial Conference held at Melbourne in November, 1934, when Lord Milne deputised for the late Grand President (Earl Jellicoe). Sir Donald attended the inaugural con-ference of the ex-service men’s organisations throughout the Empire, held at Capetown, South Africa, in February, 1921, on which occasion, at the instance of the late Earl Haig (the first Grand President) the formation of the British Empire Service League was unanimously decided upon.

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Percy Bower, past president of the Dowerin sub-branch, is now a resident of the metropolitan area. He has thrown in his lot with Nedlands.

We regret to report that George Randlell, the senior warden of the Nedlands sub-branch memorial, is in the Tressilian Hospital. A hurried operation for appendicitis was necessary. We join with his Nedlands friends in wishing him a speedy recovery. The Nedlands sick state includes the names of Harry and Charlie Hoare, Jack Carlson and Arthur Jarrett, who have all been victims of influenza. It is regretted that Alf Gailley and Alf Ashford have also been very ill. The latest bulletins disclosed that they were progressing favourably.

Congratulations to Tom Kidd, of the Nedlands sub-branch, upon his appointment as head warden, under the A.R.P., for the Nedlands district.

As we go to press, we learn that about 15 senior officers of the Australian Staff Corps have been retired, through the reduction of the retiring age for brigadiers and colonels from 60 to 57 years. One of the first-mentioned was Major-General J. L. Hardie, who held that rank temporarily while commanding the 1st Division in New South Wales. He had two terms of service in Western Australia. As Captain Hardie, he was appointed G.S.O., 5th Military District, in 1911, and as Colonel Hardie, he was Base-Commandant here from 1925 to 1928.

North Perth reports the death of Mr. Frederick Arthur (“Buzz”) Hopkins who served in the war with the 1st Battalion. He answered the last roll call on July 15, 1939. He was a very gallant little gentleman who fought a long battle against ill-health which resulted from his war service. To his bereaved widow and family and sorrowing comrades we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mr. T. P. (“Tom”) Hunt, a worthy member of the North Perth sub-branch, is again in Ward XI undergoing repairs. Poor old Tom has had more than his share of sickness of late. All wish him a speedy restoration to better health. He took ill suddenly on Friday, July 28, and would appreciate a visit from fellow Diggers.

Our North Perth correspondent is responsible for a somewhat cryptic news item about Russ George, who is famous for his portrayal of the Gyppo guide in a recent North Perth show. Though not particularly interested in astronomy, Russ agrees that it is possible to look at the constellations in his own back yard, when the atmospheric conditions are favourable. Those conditions were obtained recently with a piece of wood and an axe. Through that medium the heavenly bodies revealed themselves to Russ in such a manner that the atmosphere became distinctly audible and amazingly blue.

“Back to the Army again” seems to be the cry of many eminent Englishmen these days. A recent cable from London announces that Mr. A. Duff Cooper, former Minister for War and First Lord of the Admiralty, who resigned from the Chamberlain Cabinet in disgust after the Munich agreement last year, has rejoined the Grenadier Guards as a subaltern. Mr. Duff Cooper, who is now 49, gained the D.S.O. in the Great War. He has been a member of the House of Commons since 1931. He is the third former War Minister to return to the active list. The others are Lord Mottistone, formerly Major-General Sir John Seely, and Mr. Winston Churchill, both of whom also served in the Great War. Recently, English newspapers gave prominence to pictures of Major Anthony Eden, the former Foreign Secretary, marching at the head of his territorial regiment on the way to the recent manoeuvres.

Archie Pincott, an Old Contemptible, who was once a Blue Marine, has now happily recovered from the broken arm which has kept him off the active list since last December. He intended to celebrate his recovery by a sacrificial rite in which a blind pig will feature at the Anzac Club on August 27, and his sympathetic cobbers are cordially invited to be present. One or Archie’s best cobbers is Pemb Flanagan, who is still one of the best shots in the South-West.

Scottie Wilson, of the 28th Battalion, who is now president of the Darling Range sub-branch, and Assistant State Government Statistician in his official hours, has now happily recovered from a recent short illness.

Before the war, Herr von Ribbentropp, the German Foreign Minister, was in Canada, where he had worked as a navvy with the idea of becoming an engineer, on the building of a bridge over the St. Lawrence. He rose to be a clerk and then opened a small business of his own. Four years later, he was a fully fledged engineer, with ambitions of taking an active part in Canadian politics. Even in those days, von Ribbentropp could exhibit his incurable habit of saying and doing the wrong thing. At a meeting of the Ottawa Debating Society in 1914, he earnestly declared: “England will never join in the European War.” Next day, Britain declared war on Germany. Von Ribbentropp managed to get away on a Dutch freighter.

There passed away on August 7 a good Digger in Ernest Rockingham Collinge, of the accounts branch of the Public Works Department. “Rock,” as he was popularly known to his friends, was a foundation member of the West Perth sub-branch and served abroad with the 44th Battalion. He was the first male child born at Rockingham Beach and was a past president of the Civil Service Club.

A cheery soul blew into Perth at the end of last month, under engagement by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. This was the popular comedian Bert Harrow, who gave the best Digger ses-
sion we have ever heard, while he was with us. During that little unpleasantness we had with the Kaiser, Bert did his whack with the Royal Naval Air Service and with the Royal Air Force, after the two flying services had been amalgamated. When you hear a comedian over the air, or see him on the stage, it is hard to realise that even mirth-makers have their private lives. Bert Harrow is a member of the Theatrical sub-branch.

When the two flying services had been with the Royal Naval Air Force and with the Kaiser, Bert did his whack with the Royal Naval Air Force, after the two flying services had been amalgamated. When you hear a comedian over the air, or see him on the stage, it is hard to realise that even mirth-makers have their private lives. Bert Harrow is a member of the Theatrical sub-branch.

The League's old friend, Brigadier A. M. Martyn, is probably the best known of those now serving in other States. He was here as a captain, when the war broke out, and he was a very popular District Commandant before his transfer to his present appointment in South Australia. Brigadier Martyn is a soldier of pre-Duntroon vintage. He is an engineering graduate of the University of Sydney and entered the service from the University about 33 years ago. He is also one of the original Members of Convocation of the University of Western Australia. Major Dobson, another victim of the lowered retiring age regulation, was formerly stationed at Fremantle. He is a Tasmanian by birth, and so is Major-General J. L. Whitham, the retiring Victorian Commandant. Major-General Whitham left for the war in 1914 as a company commander in the famous 12th Battalion.

The only senior officer in Western Australia to be affected by the Army reorganisation is Lieut.-Colonel George Frederick Wieck, D.S.O., O.B.E., who has been D.A.A. and Q.M.G., 5th Military District, since 1924. A native of Queensland, he joined the Royal Australian Artillery in that State in 1898, and eventually transferred to the Instructional Staff. Colonel Wieck served with the Queensland Mounted Infantry in the South African War and attained commissioned rank in 1912. During the Great War, he served with the 9th Light Horse, the 15th Infantry Brigade and the 3rd Division, from 1914 to 1919. Colonel Wieck, unfortunately, has been on sick leave since April last. We wish him a speedy recovery and many years of health to enjoy that leisure with dignity, to which a good soldier is justly entitled after 40 years' service.

The war claimed another victim at Menzies recently when Lui Marlo, an ex-A.I.F. soldier, took his own life in tragic circumstances. Lui was born in Italy and had been resident in Australia for 25 years or more. He had very honourable service with the A.I.F. in one of the tunnelling companies extending for nearly four years. Officials at Head Office first met Lui about three years ago at Sandstone, where he was in trouble in consequence of an argument with another man to which he pleaded guilty at the Court, and was remanded to Perth for sentence. The State secretary of the League (Mr. Benson) came to the conclusion that the plea should have been "not guilty," the previous plea being a wrong one. The League official appeared before the judge at the Criminal Court and was successful in securing an amendment of the plea to one of not guilty; and coming before the jury the following month, Lui was discharged as not guilty and thereby proved his own innocence. Many Diggers on the Goldfields will have kindly memories of Lui Marlo as a good soldier and a good comrade.

NEW SMOKE SOCIAL SONGS

The Imperial Printing Coy. Ltd. has issued a revised edition of their Smoke Social Songs, containing 60 songs. Many of the popular community songs are now included. No social should be without them. The price is retained at 12/6 per 100 booklets, post free.

BRITISH EX-SERVICE WOMEN

The second annual general meeting of the British ex-Service Women's Association was held at Anzac House on July 13. Mrs. H. Lewis (president) was in the chair, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. H. Lewis; vice-presidents, Mrs. R. H. Moore; Miss I. Birt, Miss Morgan, O.B.E.; secretary, Miss A. M. P. Davis; treasurer, Mrs. G. Horne; committee, Mesdames I. M. Tierney, M. S. Grump, Miss G. Collins; trustees, Miss G. Riley and Mesdames M. Smart and B. Wilkinson. The secretary's report showed that the year had been successful and that the membership was steadily increasing. A programme for the ensuing year was discussed and it was decided to hold socials on the third Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Overseas Club, William Street, Perth. All women who served with the British Forces during the Great War may join the association. They are invited to communicate with the secretary, Miss A. M. P. Davis, 36 Montreal Street, Beaconsfield, W.A.
A.R.M.S. COMPETITIONS

The games are approaching the final stage. In zone 1, the old competitors, Nedlands and Mt. Hawthorn, are certain to be included in the final four, but other teams have shown marked improvement during the year. In zone 2, Gloucester Park looks safe with either West Leederville or Mt. Lawley filling the second place with the odds favouring Mt. Lawley.

Mt. Hawthorn continues to hold pride of place in the shooting, although in the sixth round they shot as low as 134. In the seventh round they put up the wonderful score of 149 out of 150, which is the highest for the season, and equaling Nedland's record of last year.

Results:

SIXTH ROUND

| Zone 1 | Nedlands beat South Perth | 10-0 | North Perth beat Osborne Park | 10-0 | Mt. Hawthorn beat Maylands | 8-2 | Subiaco beat Darling Range | 8-2 | Victoria Park beat Cottesloe | 6-4 |
| Zone 2 | West Leederville beat Bayswater | 8-2 | Yokine beat Claremont | 6-4 | Gloucester Park beat Perth | 6-4 | Mt. Lawley beat Mosman Park | 6-4 | West Perth: bye |

SHOOTING (Sixth Round)

Nedlands, 147; Bayswater, 143; Mt. Lawley, 144; Yokine, 144; Mosman Park, 143; West Leederville, 142; Perth, 142; Gloucester Park, 141; North Perth, 141; Subiaco, 140; Darling Range, 139; Cottesloe, 136; Mt. Hawthorn, 134; Victoria Park, 134; South Perth, 132; Osborne Park, 131; Maylands, 128; Claremont, 127.

SEVENTH ROUND

| Zone 1 | Subiaco beat Osborne Park | 10-0 | North Perth beat Maylands | 8-2 | Mt. Hawthorn beat South Perth | 6-4 | North Perth beat Maylands | 6-4 | Nedlands beat Victoria Park | 6-4 |
| Zone 2 | Claremont beat Bayswater | 9-1 | Mt. Lawley beat Yokine | 8-2 | West Leederville beat Perth | 8-2 | West Perth drew with Mosman Park | 9-5 | Gloucester Park: bye |

Shooting (Seventh Round)

Mt. Hawthorn, 149; South Perth, 148; Mt. Lawley, 147; Subiaco, 147; North Perth, 143; West Leederville, 143; Darling Range, 142; Mosman Park, 142; West Perth, 138; Yokine, 137; Cottesloe, 137; Claremont, 136; Osborne Park, 135; Victoria Park, 135; Nedlands, 135; Bayswater, 133; Perth, 132; Maylands, 127; Gloucester Park, bye.

SHOOTING Averages (Maximum 150)

Mt. Hawthorn, 142.8; Nedlands, 141.7; Gloucester Park, 141.6; Subiaco, 141; West Leederville, 141; Mt. Lawley, 140.3; North Perth, 140; Darling Range, 139.7; Yokine, 139.3; South Perth, 139.1; Mosman Park, 138.7; Perth, 138.5; Bayswater, 137.2; Cottesloe, 136.5; West Perth, 132.8; Victoria Park, 132.8; Osborne Park, 131.1; Maylands, 131; Claremont, 128.3.

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"We are opposed to compulsory training, for that would mean military service overseas."
"We are ready to defend Australia when it is invaded."

—Marvellous Gospel.

Asprawl, the darkened village lay,
The midnight hour had struck and past,
Tired with the labours of the day,
The sleepers from each cot and bed.

Their structures, built of lath and reed,
Held in the flimsy walls of them
A folk whose inconsistent creed
Denied a simple theorem.

Then, high upon the sombre night,
The cry of “Fire!” awoke to dread,
To sudden terror, panic, fright,
The rescuers groaned in despair
Beneath the smoke’s funereal pall.

Unhinged the stricken minds of men,
Undisciplined, disorganised—
None had a plan for where or when
Salvation might be methodised.

No salvage corps, no hoes there,
No ladders that might scale a wall!
The rescuers groaned in despair
Beneath the smoke’s funereal pall.

The morn on desolation dawned
Where was the village by the sea?
Where were the lives that had been
Panned asunder and all

To superstition and tragedy?

Midst death and ruin there they met,
Men, now with sorrow over-laid.
"Our views," they wept, "are overset—
We’ll start, and train, a fire brigade!"

—JOHN BARR.

A MOTHER OF MEN

A link with early West Australian history was broken last month by the death of Mrs. Fanny Lavinia Cunningham, the mother of six good Diggers to whom our heartfelt sympathy is extended. The late Mrs. Cunningham’s grandmother was Mrs. Burkenshaw-Cox, who arrived from England with the first settlement in 1829. She brought with her the necessities to start a store at the Swan River Settlement, as Perth was then called. A true pioneer, she erected her own shelter, with her blankets and other gear. Her youngest daughter married James Mortimer in St. John’s Church, Fremantle. Mrs. Burkenshaw-Cox returned to England in 1851, and the Mortimer couple went with her. After the old lady’s death, they returned by the ship Dido and their child, Fanny Lavinia, was born while crossing the Equator. The late Mrs. Cunningham lived the first 15 years of her life at the Swan River Settlement. Then she went to Adelaide, where she met her husband, George Cunningham. They were married in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Adelaide, on July 1, 1874. Eventually they returned to Perth, and Sergeant George Cunningham was for many years orderly at Government House. Two of their elder sons, Jim, and Ted, saw active service in the South African War. Jim was actually the first West Australian to be wounded in South Africa. They were reinforced by four younger brothers during the Great War. Ted served with the 10th Light Horse, but Jim and his younger brothers, Bill, Fred, Jack and Alex, were in the artillery. The Cunninghams are a most united family, and we feel deeply with them in the loss of a mother who was not only a grand old lady but a mother of men.

SONS OF SOLDIERS’ LEAGUE

Colonel Collett Shield Competition Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
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<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Points For</th>
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</table>

Position of Teams at end of 10th Round:

The following had drawn games: Cottesloe, 1; Perth, 1; and West Leederville, 1.

The teams which will participate in the semi-finals are Mt. Hawthorn No. 1, South Perth, Cottesloe and Darling Range. In accordance with past practice, No. 1 team will play No. 3, and No. 2 team will play No. 4. Therefore, the first semi-final will be between Mt. Hawthorn No. 1 and Cottesloe, and will take place in the supper room of Anzac House on Monday, September 4, at 7.30 p.m.

The second semi-final will be played between South Perth and Darling Range, and will take place at Monash House on Tuesday, September 5, at 7.30 p.m.

The final will be played in the supper room of Anzac House on Friday, September 8, at 7.30 p.m. If a challenge match is necessary (Mt. Hawthorn No. 1 having that right), this will be played in the supper room of Anzac House on Monday, September 18, at 7.30 p.m.

Artillery Comrades’ Assn.

The annual smoke social reunion of the Artillery Comrades’ Association was held in Keough’s Hall on Tuesday evening, August 12. The president (Mr. W. Beadle) presided over a large attended of members and visitors, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. A tribute was paid to the late secretary of the association, Mr. J. L. Smythe, who passed away recently, by the gathering observing a short silence out of respect of his memory. The president also paid tribute to the Artillery Comrades’ Association (Brigadier-General Bessell-Browne) delighted the gathering with his reminiscences of a lifetime of soldiering, covering a period of almost 40 years, embracing active service in two wars—the Boer War and the Great War. The esteem in which the General is held was shown by the demonstration by the gathering on the conclusion of his remarks, and when he retired from the hall later in the evening. An excellent musical and instrumental programme was contributed by the following: Messrs. W. Bernard, Ted Scott, Lord Douglas, Johnson (W. Lucas & Co. Ltd.), C. Roberts, Fisher, Jones, Hopperton, Hall, Merrifield, Heals and Berriman. Mr. Jack Cunningham made a very capable accompanist. The arrangements were in the able hands of the hon. secretary of the association (Mr. Jack Kenny).
ARMY CHARACTERS

The Sergeant-Major

BY COL. F. C. CURRY

Before tackling the discussion of so important a man as the sergeant-major, I thought I would look up the oldest military book in my possession and see what they thought of him in those days.

Well, away back in MDCCLXXIX (1779 to you), one Bennett Cuthbertson, who evidently shook a wicked pen, wrote a book on "The Economy of a Battalion of Infantry," and this is what Benny has to say about our old friend the R.S.M.:

"Besides being a complete sergeant in every respect he must be above conniving at the least irregularities committed by the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, with whom he is to observe a becoming distance." And a little further on, "In his temper he must have a certain degree of coolness to give instruction and bear with patience the stupidity of the recruits and sometimes of the older soldiers."

Times haven't changed much, though I can't say I remember any R.S.M. who was famous for his degree of coolness. Quite the contrary, in fact; but, even to this day, the poor R.S.M. has to drink alone in his own corner of the canteen and leads rather a sorrowful life.

When a sergeant-major was found who had the happy gift of being able to impart instruction without scaring the average militiaman to death, he was speedily promoted to the rank of sergeant-major instructor. The Kingdom of Heaven may not be composed of such men, but the A.I.F. was.

It is said that a certain General, reading the lesson in church, read out: "In the beginning, God created Heaven and Earth—and the First Division!" If that is true, sergeant-major was the means he used; though the idea of the late John Collins as a ministering angel is sufficiently quaint to make even an adjutant smile.

Just before the war, when England realised the German Army wasn't being raised for fun, the Army Council decided to increase the supply of sergeants-major. The ordinary processes of nature being a bit slow, they created the company sergeant-major, doing away with our old friend of those days, the colour-sergeant. We had hardly time to get calling these lads by their new name when August 4 came around. But the idea was sound, and I don't recall any of them who didn't live up to the crown on their sleeves.

But, in spite of that, there was only one real sergeant-major in the battalion and that was the regimental. It is said he got this name from an ancient time when a colonel foolishly wanted the battalion formed up in a new way for staff parade. When he came out to look his men over, he was astonished to find them in the usual mass formation, with every man in his place. So he said to the S.M.: "Look here, Major, I told you I wanted them columns of half companies at fifteen paces interval," etc. The S.M. tucked his can under his arm, saluted, and replied: "Sorry, sir, we would have done it that way, but it wouldn't be Regimental!"

From then on, of course, there was no more trouble with colonels or anyone else, and the R.S.M. became the most feared man in the battalion. Even the subalterns, who checked the Colonel in the mess and sent a ribald note to the Adjutant when he inquired why he wasn't on P.T. parade that morning, wore a worried look when he was told the S.M. was after him. Few of them defied him twice. The Adjutant was supposed to keep the duty roster of officers, but the R.S.M. seemed to know a good deal about it and the leave book, not to mention his withering remarks on the square!

Our friend Benny the book-writer hit the nail on the thumb properly when he described what the officers' position with regard to the R.S.M. should be. Benny says, in his quaint spelling, "To make the consequence of the sergeant-major the greater among the non-commissioned officers, and that the soldiers may be taught to look on him in a higher light of respect, the officers should, on all occasions, treat him with the utmost civility, else it will be difficult for him to support his authority, let him be ever so well inclined to do so."

This advice must have been passed down a verbal message through the years as we never met an R.S.M. who didn't recognise and apply these principles thoroughly.

There is no doubt at all that a good R.S.M. made a good battalion. I never saw any exceptions to this rule; but, although warrant rank was supposed to be a step toward a commission, I saw very few ex-sergeants-major who made good officers. I think this was the experience in the Germany Army, too, from accounts I have read. And yet, many a good officer was made from non-commis-
July 12, 1939

At the meeting of the State Executive on July 12, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Aberle, Philip, Hunt, Lamb, James, Watt, Margolin, Paton, Potts, Sten, Cornell, Mitchell and Colebatch. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Olden, Butler, Collett, Panton, Denton, Nicholas, Anderson, Thorn, Warner, Keeling, Fairley, Legge, Cornish, Lawton, Austin, Johnstone and Dinan.

Welcome.—The State president welcomed Mr. H. C. S. Colebatch, who was a member of the State Executive in previous years, and who was appointed in succession to the late Rabbi Freedman. Mr. Colebatch suitably acknowledged the welcome.

Acknowledgment.—Letters of acknowledgment of congratulations were received from Messrs. F. W. Leake, K.C., J. F. Durack, K.C., and H. W. Rigg.

New Zealand Tour.—A telegram from Mr. Thorn intimated that no guarantee would now be required for the New Zealand tour next year. A new scheme involving the s.s. "Katoomba" only was adopted. It was agreed that further action be deferred until after Mr. Thorn's return from Melbourne.

Relief Fund.—The report of the Relief Fund trustees indicated that, during the month of June, £107 had been expended, the individual approvals numbering 89. Of these, 15 were members of the League.

United Service Fund.—The report of the president showed that, during the month of June, £33/0/2 had been expended on 34 cases, of whom two were members of the League.

Visits.—The following visits were reported: Messrs. Philip and Olden, Mundaring; Messrs. Potts and Anderson, Mr. Luxley-Inglewood; Messrs. James and Benson, Maylands; Mr. Nicholas, South Perth; Colonel Margolin, Lemnos.

Congratulations.—It was agreed to extend congratulations to Mr. Donald Simson on the honour recently conferred upon him by the King.

National Register.—Perth sub-branch recommended that suitable action be taken on behalf of W.A. ex-service men who had received appointments in Melbourne on the National Register, and who had been called upon to pay their own fares. It was agreed that the matter be taken up with the Federal Executive.

Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund.—The secretary announced that a magnificent donation of £200/0/6 had been received from the North women's auxiliary, and that he had conveyed the executive's appreciation. This action was confirmed.

Sub-Branches.—The appointment of officials as advised by the Norseman and Albany sub-branches was confirmed. It was resolved to send a letter of appreciation to Mr. S. T. Coles, the acting-secretary of the Albany sub-branch.

Appointment.—Mr. Colebatch was appointed a member of the Land and the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund Committees.

July 26, 1939

At the meeting of the State Executive on July 26, there were present Messrs. Yeates, Olden, Collett, Denton, Lamb, Watt, Thorn, Margolin, Paton, Sten, Cornell, Fairley, Mitchell, Johnstone and Colebatch. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Aberle, Butler, Philip, Panton, Hunt, Nicholas, Anderson, James, Warner, Potts, Keeling, Legge, Cornish, Lawton, Austin and Dinan.

Appreciation.—A communication was received from Mr. C. Freedman, expressing the family's appreciation of the many tributes paid to the late Rabbi Freedman.

Broadcast.—The following broadcast roster was arranged for the remainder of August: August 22, Col. Fairley; August 29, Col. Olden.

Agenda Committee.—Colonel Olden and Messrs. Aberle and Cornell were appointed Provisional Agenda Committee for this year's State congress.

B.E.S.L. Delegate.—Advice was received that Colonel Moller, one of the League's delegates to the B.E.S.L. conference, would be present through on Monday, August 31. It was decided that an executive luncheon be tendered to him.

Soldiers' Children Scholarship Trust.—It was agreed that Colonel Olden should be appointed to represent the League on the Soldiers' Children Scholarship Trust, vice-Rabbi Freedman, deceased.

Pensions and Employment.—The report of a meeting of the Pensions and Employment Committee, held on July 25, was adopted. It recommended that an interview be arranged with the Director of Commonwealth Works, to discuss cases of alleged non-observance of the preference policy.

Visiting Committee.—The visiting committee reported having visited the soldiers ward of the Old Melbourne Hospital during the visit of Sir H. H. Kneale, the chairman of the visiting committee, was presented to Mr. J. J. Murphy, a former secretary of the Quairading sub-branch.

Federal Executive.—Mr. L. Thorn, M.L.A., reported on the meeting of the Federal Executive, which he attended in Melbourne on July 10 and July 11. The report was received and Mr. Thorn was thanked for his services.

Visits.—Visits to sub-branches, etc., were reported by the State president (Melville, Thornhill, Mann, Philp and Aberle sub-branches and North Perth), Colonel Olden (32nd Battalion reunion), Colonel Collett (Kalgoorlie). The State president also reported on an interview with the Minister for Defence, the reception to the Governor-General, the Boy Scout, the luncheon to the Prime Minister and a reception to the Governor-General at the Naval and Military Club.

Colonel Collett also reported having made contact with various soldier institutions and organisations in the North-West. The State president formally welcomed Mr. D. Morrell, vice-president of the Mandurah sub-branch, to the meeting.

Certificate of Service.—Mr. C. A. P. Costelow, formerly president of the Gascoyne sub-branch, was presented with a Certificate of Service by the State president. Mr. Costelow suitably responded.

Mons Sunday.—The State secretary reported that the Old Contemporaries' Association had been offered the League's cooperation in the organisation of Mons Sunday, and that advice concerning their arrangements was now awaited. It was agreed that we should approach them again to ascertain the present position in view of the short time now available for the necessary organisation.

Settlement North-West.—Colonel Margolin stated that Dr. I. Steinberg had offered to address the executive on the proposal for settlement of the North-West. It was agreed that Dr. Steinberg be invited to address delegates at the next meeting, August 9, at 8.30 p.m.

Ex-Service Men's Session, National Station.—Advice received from the Australian Broadcasting Commission that this session has been transferred from Thursdays to Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund.—Gnowangerup sub-branch sought information concerning the distribution of the fund. The letter was referred to the trustees of the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund.

Certificate of Service.—Boulder sub-branch reported that the Certificate of Service for the senior vice-president, Harry Jennings, recently deceased. It was agreed that this be issued subject to the usual compliance with the constitution.
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DONGARRA

The annual meeting was held on July 1, when the following officers were elected: President, T. H. Clarkson; vice-president, F. Prater; secretary, Ted Vincombe, who also aids the president in controlling the finances of the sub-branch; committee, J. Sloper, F. Brady and F. Prater (convenor).

TRAYNING-YELBENI

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting on July 23: President, F. Swallow (Trayning); vice-presidents, R. V. Walkin (Volbeni) and H. Riley (Trayning); secretary, E. Dyson (Trayning); auditor, J. Martin (Trayning); orderlies, F. Pigg and T. Kay (Trayning).

ARMADALE

The monthly meeting was held on July 12 before a good attendance, when mostly routine business was conducted. The Byford section of the sub-branch carried out a successful dance at Byford on July 8, Messrs. Porters' swing band supplying the music. The proceeds went to the general funds.

Kendall has been busy during the past few months. He has only one match to the Maylands' ladies. Frank Kendall is back again after a long break, playing at the North-West sub-branch.

The weather is improving, gardening enthusiasts will be able to get on with the job for the approaching competition. The local defence league is making a name for itself and is taking the lead in W.A. with provisions for the well being of the public in the event of an emergency. The district has been divided into approximately 10 sections, a chief warden and five sub-wardens elected and plenty of enthusiasm is being shown throughout the whole district. Any suggestions that may be of use to the sub-branch would be welcomed. The matter of a memorial light is receiving the attention of the committee appointed and designs are being obtained. Further details will be submitted at next meeting. The ladies' games team has done very well this year, having lost only one match to the Maylands' ladies. Frank Kendall has been busy during the past few weeks with his sick visiting, as a number of the sub-branch have been down with the 'flu, and the usual visits have been made to the Old Men's Home.

No. 2 DISTRICT COMMITTEE

At a meeting held at Trayning on June 23, the following officers were elected: President, Mr. E. H. Rice (Wyalkatchem); vice-presidents, Messrs. R. Walker (Trayning), Smith (Koorda); secretary, Mr. J. Hubbeck (Nungarin). Motions for congress were submitted by the Mt. Marshall, Wyalkatchem and Koorda sub-branches, which were duly endorsed by the committee. It was decided that the Wyalkatchem sub-branch should hold the annual reunion dinner on November 11, and it is hoped that this will be well attended.

MUNTADGIN-TOTADGIN

Captain Hooper presided at the monthly meeting on June 26. The business included several motions which were considered for inclusion on the agenda for this year's congress by the district committee in Bruce Rock on July 20. Mr. Ross Keesing was appointed delegate to congress. A committee, appointed by congress to welcome the new members of the district, met intending members on July 9, Mr. Seabrook read a paper on army reform, which covered many aspects of army life not usually considered by the average Digger.

CALINGIRI

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting on July 26. Mr. H. Hill presided. There was considerable discussion regarding congress motions. A motion was passed urging that soldier settlers support other farming organisations in their demand that sustenance and medical services be first charges on proceeds. Other motions included one favouring conscription of wealth and industry in the event of man-power being conscripted in an emergency. Further motions dealt with the position of unsecured creditors as compared with the very favourable one of secured creditors, and urged that some equality of sacrifice should be made, and with the necessity of farms being re-valued on a basis of earning capacity. Regarding the reserve, Mr. Hill stressed the need for careful consideration of the position. He wished members to understand that any decision arrived at would be a purely personal one. He asked only that members give the matter earnest thought. The League's letter urged an immediate and ready response. Roll books are now available and rolls will close on September 15. The sub-branch decided to support the nomination of Mr. Yeates for the position of president of the League. It was decided to hold the annual ball on August 19. Mr. Hill moved a motion of condolence to Mr. J. King, secretary of the sub-branch, on the death of his father. He was supported by

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Mr. W. Campbell (vice-president). The next meeting will be held on August 23.

MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT ASSN.

At the annual meeting on July 20, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Patron, Major-General A. T. White; President, Dr. Chas. H. Leedman; vice-president, Mr. E. Aberle; chairman, Mr. W. J. Edington; vice-chairman, Mr. R. Rattray; secretary, Mr. H. W. Rigg; general committee, Messrs. O. Daly, R. Borstal, C. Brack, W. Barton, E. Bate, R. Bostock, M. Brown, L. Hough, E. Laycock, G. Barker; hospital visitor, Mr. R. Robinson; auditors, Messrs. R. Rattray and S. Dival. The annual financial statements, both general and library funds, show a healthy condition. The membership could be much improved. During the evening it was decided that an invitation would be forwarded to the South Australian A.M.C. to be present at the next Anzac Day anniversary (1940) held in this State. The general committee will make arrangements for the annual luncheon. Members are requested to watch for the date.

PEMBERTON

The monthly meeting, presided over by the president (Mr. E. Smith) was attended by 11 members, the flu trend having taken toll of ex-service men as well as the civilian population. Business was brief. The chief items, apart from usual routine business, was a decision to purchase a flag. Members thought it was time we had one, so it is to be a nine-footer. It was also decided to hold a dance on Armistice night, the details to be discussed at a later meeting. Bridge and rummy were played after the meeting.

COTTESLOE

The monthly meeting was held on August 1. The chairman (Mr. Arthur White) presided over an attendance of 41 members. After the meeting, a very enjoyable evening was spent in various games, not forgetting a very nice supper. The president welcomed two new members—Messrs. J. J. Ashton and M. J. J. J. Trestid-Intyre, as he affectionately called, reported favourably on the success of the Bridge evenings conducted by the social committee. These are held every other week and the last one was held on August 3) at the Hostel Manly. The prices are good and the supper excellent. Fred Spencer (the treasurer) was given a hearty cheer when he made his report on the sub-branch's finances. Fred, unfortunately, has been forced to miss quite a number of meetings, he having been laid up with illness for the past four months. The secretary desires to remind members to "listen-in" for the Diggers' session on 6 W.N. every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. Great was the interest shown in the Eric Isaachsen Skotch-octant competition so capably run by Bill Eddy. The first round has been completed and quite a number of the games in the second round have been decided. The matter of the national reserve was brought up again and to those members who have not yet completed and returned their forms are requested to do so early. Harry Myatt, it was reported, although still very ill, still manages to keep smiling when his coppers pop in to say "how do?" A very hearty invitation was extended to all ex-service men in the district to come along and have a merry night at the Council Chambers, Jarrad Street, Cottesloe, on August 25.

SUBIACO

The great work of knocking the new home into shape proceeds apace (and a snappy pace at that!). On Sunday night, a very enjoyable evening was held, it is no doubt we have a great sub-branch of workers, carpenters, electricians, plasterers and paper scanners. The painters are rolling up their sleeves and fixing bayonets for the grand finale. We have had two very enjoyable A.R.M.S. evenings, a memorable expedition to Kalamunda and a visit from our old friends of Osborne Park. At the general meeting on August 3, we were glad to see with us again our past president (Percy Clegg) and Charlie Tranter, after a bout with old man ill-health. Both looked well and cheerful, though perhaps not yet ready to resume training for League football. President Emm. Congdon, together with Cyril Southcott, were elected delegates to congress. With a flash of inspiration, a chagrin-laden, the secretary stated that it is quite possible that the sub-branch may not be able to play at the Townshend Road on Sunday mornings has caused inquiries to be made as to whether the pool Club has moved into Subiaco. Bridge evenings continue on their way though the heavens open (which they did on the last few occasions) and a steady profit is doing the building fund no harm at all. Coming evenings: August 26 and September 9.

RETURNED ARMY NURSES

The monthly meeting was held at Anzac House on Thursday, August 3. Present: Miss Clifton (in the chair), Mrs. Langley, Mrs. G. Brown, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Tressid-dier, Misses Hayes, Grover, Borwick, Homan, Connelly, Simons, Ashton and Perkins. Members stood in silence in memory of Sister Armstrong (Mrs. Davern), a member of the sub-branch, who passed away on August 2. It was decided that members would represent the sub-branch at her funeral and that flowers be sent. Miss Nicholson's resignation of the secretaryship was accepted with regret. Miss Perkins was elected secretary. A welcome was extended to Mrs. G. Brown, of Kalamunda.

WEST LEDGERVILLE-WEMBLEY

Harold Ingle presided at the monthly meeting on July 10, and considering the wet weather, there was a good attendance. Two new members were introduced—Messrs. J. J. Quelby and P. Christie—and heartily welcomed. Bill Kirton and Mr. B. M. P. Thomas, the junior secretary, is still smiling and all hope he will continue. Somebody said Father Christmas threw a "crook" quoit or two in a recent A.R.M.S. game. Our secretary's report was read, with exceeding gratulation on a diarrhoea season of great volume of local work, the secretary's report was read, with exceeding gratulation on a diarrhoea season of great volume of local work. He is to be congratulated on a fine job. Since last issue, we have had several meetings, with an opulent-looking English car parked in Townshend Road on Sunday mornings has caused inquiries to be made as to whether the pool Club has moved into Subiaco. Bridge evenings continue on their way though the heavens open (which they did on the last few occasions) and a steady profit is doing the building fund no harm at all. Coming evenings: August 26 and September 9.

THE LISTENING POST, 15th August, 1939

MOSMAN PARK

The July meeting of this sub-branch was held on July 25, and Geo. Ashworth presided over an attendance of 32. Many of our stalwarts were conspicuous by their absence which was probably due to the heavy weather encountered on the high altitudes of Anzac House during the respite in our games with West Perth on the previous evening. The meeting was a good one and much business was disposed of. The wise policy of reducing our liability on the wall with as big an instalment as possible found favour with members. The healthy condition of our finances indicates that this year's payment will exceed our earlier anticipations, the consequential interest reduction will be helpful in the ensuing year. The secretary's report was received and favourably commented upon. Once again it indicated the great volume of business that passed through Chris's hands during the year's operations. He is to be congratulated on a fine job. Since last issue, we have had several meetings, with an opulent-looking English car parked in Townshend Road on Sunday mornings has caused inquiries to be made as to whether the pool Club has moved into Subiaco. Bridge evenings continue on their way though the heavens open (which they did on the last few occasions) and a steady profit is doing the building fund no harm at all. Coming evenings: August 26 and September 9.

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Shimensen Cup shoot takes place on August 29 at our general meeting. It is a handicap event and every member has been nominated, so the search for talent is on. Punctual attendance at meetings enables the disposal of business before the stipulated time of closure, namely, 9.15, and members are requested to be on the job and ready at 8 o'clock sharp. Further nominations are required for our quota towards the reserve. Forms are available at the hall and everyone is requested to do his job in this direction.

NORTH PERTH

Outstanding organisation, initiative and energy by the retiring president (Mr. W. L. "Bill" Menkens) resulted in what was undoubtedly the best sub-branch meeting in the history of the North Perth sub-branch on July 17 last. In an atmosphere of cordiality and comradeship, surrounded with well-laden tables and the "amber fluid" gaily flowing, President Bill Menkens opened the proceedings with a splendid and eloquent address of welcome to members, visitors and guests, and everything ran smoothly from start to finish. The musical items and speeches were well received by the big crowd present and the ovation given to Mr. W. L. Menkens on the conclusion of his retiring presidential address was indeed a well-deserved tribute to one who, in the short space of twelve months, has lifted the sub-branch on to the road of stability and progress. The hall, which had been tastefully decorated by Messrs. Menkens and Rapley, presented a festive appearance. Visitors and sub-branch officials occupying one table running the whole length of the room, whilst the balance of the seating accommodation was taxed to absolute capacity by sub-branch members. An impressive guard of parliamentarians was visible proof of the degree to which returned soldiers are serving their country in peace time as well as in war. The installation of officers was performed by Mr. A. Yeates (State President of the R.S.L.), who presented to the retiring president (Mr. W. L. Menkens) a framed certificate of appreciation of services rendered during the year and also a silver-mounted supper tray on behalf of the sub-branch to serve as a reminder of the esteem in which he is held by sub-branch members. Presentation speeches were made to retiring Vice-Presidents Messrs. H. Davey and F. Stahl and to the retiring treasurer (Mr. G. Jago). Mr. H. Rigg was made a life member of the League. During the evening, Mr. W. L. Menkens made cricket presentations to Messrs. G. Treasure, H. L. Alsopp, J. A. Faulkner, R. Rapley and S. V. Dival. The new president was inducted into office for the ensuing twelve months by the State President (Mr. A. Yeates). Mr. James suitably responded and asked Mr. Menkens to carry on for the rest of the evening. Outstanding responses to toasts were made by Messrs. F. Stahl, S. V. Dival, A. J. Hawken, L. J. McDowall and T. Brown. A memorable evening was spent by all, and special thanks are due to the artists who rendered some pretty first-class entertainment. Mr. Menkens wishes to extend his thanks to all those generous friends of the sub-branch who contributed in either cash or kind towards the success of the evening.

CARLISLE

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting on Thursday, August 4. Mr. W. H. Crofts was in the chair and extended his usual welcome to old and new faces. The sub-branch is running a raffle of a Lucas cycle (ladies or gents). The secretaries would be pleased if every member would dispose of a book of tickets. It was with regret that the resignation of the secretary was accepted. George has been a sterling worker since he has been in office and all are sorry he could not see his way clear to continue. We certainly appreciate the work he has done in the past, and we know his heart will be with us in the future. Mr. C. Finch was elected secretary, and in responding thanked members for placing their confidence in him. The general appearance was noted to "Curly" on his latest edition, a bonny daughter, we believe. Best of luck, "Curly," may all your troubles be little ones. After the meeting closed, members enjoyed light refreshments and a sing-song with the piano. The next meeting will be held on September 7.

MIDLAND JUNCTION

Despite unfavourable weather, meetings have been well attended. The S.S.L. is forging ahead, with meetings every Monday night. Their warden is Bill Morton, with Val Reeves (president) and Alex. Latto (secretary). Such parties are held in the S.S.L. room every Monday night to the usual members of the sub-branch combines with the auxiliary and S.S.L. Quite a number of members have been suffering from either flu or bad colds. Among those who have been missed at recent meetings is George Bond. A good old-stager is Tommy Gill, who attended the last meeting at Bellevue, although it was wet. The sub-branch extends congratulations to the newly-elected office-bearers of the auxiliary.

KUKERIN

The president (Mr. J. C. A. Pike) presided over a well-attended quarterly meeting recently. An notable absentee was Mr. Adam Watson, who was unable to repel the prevailing flu. The annual balance sheet disclosed a healthy financial position. Reference to the wheat situation showed that members were hard hit. "All agreed that some form of stabilisation was both necessary and urgent. Membership remains about the same. The secretary would be glad to meet recruits. The scattered nature of the sub-branch makes big musters out of the question, but the combined support of members is highly appreciated by the executive.

YOKINE

The annual meeting was held at Tuart Hill on July 26. The president (Mr. Frank Gillett) before vacating the chair thanked all officers and members for their co-operation during the past year. He also expressed the sympathy of the sub-branch with the widow of our late member, Mr. Bob Bayliss, who had been a great worker in the interests of the R.S.L. The election of officers resulted as follows: Patron, Mr. W. Fister; vice-patron, Mr. Reg. Cooper; president, Mr. J. Fannigan; vice-presidents, Messrs. G. Ville, A. Mitchell, T. Harr; secretary, Mr. A. E. Egan; assistant secretary, Mr. M. Fisher; treasurer, social organiser and publicity officer, Mr. G. V. Guest-Sanderson; sick officer, Mr. W. Pitch; auditors, Messrs. F. Pratt and T. Brown. After the meeting the members settled down to a convivial evening.

MT. HAWTHORN

The fortnightly meetings have been well up to the average, despite the weather. Two new members in W. Wenn (28th Battalion) and G. Shaw (4th D.A.C.) joined up on August 5 and were both welcomed in the usual manner. Bill Bowles reckons we will soon have all the artillery in the sub-branch. A lot of discussion took place over the "B" class reserve, and it is expected to see a few more enrolled before very long. Congratulations were extended to Vern Stockman on his charge, the S.S.L. having two teams in the semi-final, and no doubt the boys are a credit to the parent sub-branch in the way they conduct themselves and the spirit in which they play the games. They also have a team in the inter-branch competition and are doing very well in that too. The teams in the A.R.M.S. competition have reason to be elated over the last two games. The crackling that Tom Campbell gave them the past few weeks put more ginger into their efforts. They beat Perth and then to show it was no fluke, beat Nedlands after a very good contest. Both teams were entertained in the usual way we have in the Mount of making every one feel at home.
and going away feeling they have had a good night. Our next opponents are Victoria Park, and we will renew acquaintance with our old friend "Skeeter" Tempest. We expect all members to turn out for the night. The shoot for the most consecutive number of bulls is interesting. Bill Kay still leads with 14, Roy Peterson 12, Bill Rolles and Tom Campbell 10 each. The team in the Debating League had a victory over the Young Labour League, and Mr. Koclely (the captain) has some good talent in hand.

SPEARWOOD AND HAMILTON HILL DISTRICTS

At the annual meeting on July 10, Mr. G. C. Sudlow was re-elected president. Other officers elected were: Vice-presidents, Messrs. Abertie and Blackwood; secretary, Mr. A. Bailey; treasurer, Mr. N. March; auditors, Messrs. Hibbert and Joyce; solicitor, Mr. Statter; counsellor, Mr. M. Goodwin; and publicity officer, Mr. W. G. Deler. A committee was formed to call upon the returned men who live in the district and who are outside the League, with a view to getting them to join up with the sub-branch. The September meeting was held at the office of the Mouley sub-branch.

Claremont

The monthly meeting was held in the Parish Hall on August 3, the president (Mr. C. H. Briggs) being in the chair. The president welcomed Mr. Welfare and interviewed them as a new member. Messrs. Brown and Millard are again with us. In the A.R.M.S. games, we met Yokine at Yokine. They won the games, but they gave us a hearty welcome and a good supper. We met Baywater at Claremont. We were all a splendid lot of chaps! They came to us for a good evening and we hope we were able to give them a good time. We have also met Perth on their home ground. They won, and they gave us a splendid time. Mr. Briggs presented Mr. I. Storey with a Certificate of Service, speaking highly of the services rendered by Mr. Storey to the sub-branch.

 Gloucester Park

The fortnightly dances are proving a great success and doing much to bring members and their wives and sweethearts together. They are held at Anzac House every second Wednesday, so don't forget to turn up with your best girl. At the last meeting a good deal of discussion took place about making the meeting nights more popular. It was resolved to invite suggestions in writing from members, so members put your heads together and help to popularise your sub-branch's meetings. We have only two more games to play before the semi-finals of the A.R.M.S. competition, and our team, in particular, is still undefeated, members are keener than ever and take every opportunity to practice. The bridge team is now setting down nicely and playing well together, while the table tennis players remind us of Australia's 6.4 cups team.

Mundijong-Jarrahdale

In spite of the rough weather and sickness of members, the monthly meeting held in the Jarrahdale Hall on Wednesday, July 12, was well attended. Important business was dealt with, including nominations for State president and items for the congress agenda paper. Mr. A. Yeates, O.B.E., was again nominated for position of State president. A resolution was passed, that the monthly meetings of the sub-branch be held on the second Wednesday of each month in the future at Mundijong and Jarrahdale alternatively, the August meeting to be held at Mundijong on Wednesday, August 10. Members of the sub-branch journeyed to Kelmscott on Sunday, July 2, to present the sub-branch cup (which was donated last year) to the winning sub-section of the Kelmscott Troop 10th Light Horse Regiment. Members were received by Lieut. Donaldson, who put the troop through mounted drill, at the conclusion of which the cup was presented to No. 1 sub-section by Vice-president Mr. F. Berthold. Corporal J. Thresher received the cup on behalf of his sub-section. After a parade, members were entertained at the annual dinner of the troop at the Kelmscott Hotel. Toasts were made and the cup filled. Mr. W. G. Lyster represented the 10th Light Horse (A.I.F.). Members returned home at 6.30 p.m., satisfied with a good day. All members will be pleased to hear that Mrs. England is now home after her sojourn in the Jarrahdale Hospital.

Bunbury

The annual general meeting held on Saturday, July 22, was easily the best attended for some months. The president, in his report, appealed for more members to help the committee in conducting affairs. He stressed the valuable work performed by the women, and he asked any ex-servicemen who, in addition to innumerable other efforts, had handed over £500 to the sub-branch. The magazine "Cherio" had been a great success, and great thanks were due to the editor (Mr. K. Mulligan). Finances were in a fairly healthy condition. Members included Mr. H. E. Gibson, in the face of opposition, was re-elected president for the sixth successive term, Messrs. Woodley and Mulligan vice-presidents, Mr. N. Ryder hon. treasurer and Mr. W. N. Freeman secretary. The annual renewal was fixed for Saturday, October 28. The possibility of making a croquet green out of the block adjoining the hall was mooted, and the committee were instructed to investigate the question.

Boulder

The general meeting held on August 9 was well attended and old members were pleased to see Ern. Buswat once more occupying the chair. Ern. is a man who inspires confidence and the sub-branch should prosper under his wise guidance. Pleasure was expressed at the thought that out of the series of concerts conducted by Dave Howard, the Paularis Bros. in aid of the distress funds of both Kalgoorlie and Boulder sub-branches, and the sincere thanks of this sub-branch is due to Kalgoorlie for their kindly gesture in allowing Boulder to co-operate with them in these functions. The position on the Goldfields at present in regard to employment is acute, and ex-soldiers are warned that many local men are unable to secure employment here. Applications to join the Army Reserve are not coming along as well as expected, but when the members are made aware of the particulars of service we hope that all who are eligible will enrol. Lieut.-Colonel C. T. Fairley attended the meeting and was most warmly welcomed. Clarrie gave members present clear details of the conditions of service under the Army Reserve and answered many questions. His presence at the meeting will do much to stimulate members to enrol in the Reserve and Boulder is grateful to him for attending the meeting. There is no doubt that Clarrie is an ardent worker in the interests of the League, and never fails to visit Boulder sub-branch when on the Goldfields. Mr. Shooter, an ex-South African veteran, was also welcomed by the president, and gave members present a very interesting lecture on the Boer War in Northern Rhodesia, for which he was warmly applauded. It is the intention of the ladies' committee to form

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WATSONIA
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ourselves into a women’s auxiliary, and a meeting for that purpose was held on August 10.

ALBANY

At the annual meeting in July, the following officers were elected: President, A. H. Richardson, J.P. (unopposed); secretary, E. G. G. Wright; treasurer, T. Bennett, M.B.E. (unopposed); vice-presidents, S. Roots and D. McNaughton; management committee, J. E. Page and H. Lever; editor of “Wizbang” and auditor, L. S. Barnett (unopposed). All the following officers were re-elected (unopposed) for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. P. Fuller; vice-presidents, Mesdames P. Guylle and P. Powell; hon. treasurer, Mrs. L. Lee; hon. secretary, Miss F. E. Bryant; cooperation of amelioration committee with sub-branch, Mesdames Fuller and Lee. The Chamber of Commerce was adopted.

CLAREMONT

The seventh annual meeting took place in the Claremont Council Lesser Hall on July 6, and the following officers were re-elected (unopposed) for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. P. Fuller; vice-presidents, Mesdames P. Guylle and P. Powell; hon. treasurer, Mrs. L. Lee; hon. secretary, Miss F. E. Bryant; cooperation of amelioration committee with sub-branch, Mesdames Fuller and Lee. The meeting on July 6 was of more than ordinary importance. It was attended by Mr. W. James, of the State Executive, and the State secretary (Mr. D. M. Benson). The first important business of the meeting was the presentation of a Certificate of Service to the past president, Mr. Harry Woods. The presentation was made by Mr. Benson who eulogised Mr. Woods for his continuous good service and the work done on behalf of the League and the sub-branch. He was briefly supported by Mr. W. James. The president (Mr. Sep. Horton), supported by the treasurer (Mr. Dave Tobin), then presented Mr. Woods with an electric reading lamp as a further token of his fellow members’ esteem.

OSBORNE PARK

On July 17 members met the ladies’ committee and other helpers of the recent military ball. The balance sheet revealed that thanks to generous donations, the cost of the supper was reduced to 17/-6. The nett profit for the night was £19/10/-11. After formal business had been transacted the ladies were waited upon by the men at tea. Bert Dalziel and his wife received humorous congratulations on the arrival of a daughter, after six sons. The rest of the evening was spent in song and dance. Attendances at the football games have been heavy, despite the inclement weather. At the meetings on July 19 and August 2, much business was transacted, and arrangements were made for the visit of the Darling Range A.R.M.S. teams.

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On July 27 the Bayswater boys visited Claremont in quest of points in the A.R.M.S. competition. We got the point in number, our opponents got the other nine, but we have no regrets as Claremont gave us an enjoyable night. On August 8 we received Mr. Lawley in the same competition. Mr. Lawley turned up in force and beat us 10-0. We have not won a match yet, but are we downhearted? Not likely, as we still have a chance in our last match on August 23, when we meet North Perth at Anzac House. The Monday night dances are still proving popular. The euchre parties are now held on Fridays.

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The June meeting saw the re-election of all the office-bearers. The date of this meeting coincided with the birthday of a foundation member, who is also the oldest member, Mrs. Granny Baxter, mother of the redoubtable Warren. The birthday cake was "awfully cut up" and we join with members in wishing Darling Range's Little Old Lady all the best for the coming year—her 84th.

**CARLISLE**

Mrs. Gilsenan presided over a good attendance at the meeting on July 10. Social activities for the coming season were discussed at great length, and the ladies have some hard work ahead. The dates of these functions will not be finalised until the next general meeting. The sick visitors reported spending an enjoyable afternoon serving afternoon tea and cigarettes to our sick men at Edward Millen Home. We were pleased to welcome back one of our old members, Mrs. James, after a long absence.

**MT. HAWTHORN-NTH. LEEDERVILLE**

Despite unfavourable weather, the July fortnightly meetings have been well attended. Mrs. James presided. We are very sorry to report the death of one of our members, Mrs. Nathan, who had been ill for a long time. Before opening the last meeting, members stood in silence to the memory of Mrs. Nathan. Sincere sympathy is extended to her relatives. Hospital visitors for the month were Medans James, Lee, Fletcher and Williams (Reparation ward), Stokem in and Ritchie (Old Men's Home). A presentation of a very nice fountain pen, with her initials engraved, was made to the secretary (Mrs. Lee).

**VICTORIA PARK**

The July meeting was presided over by Mrs. R. Barnett, but through the inclement weather the attendance was smaller than usual. We have had two very pleasant evenings with sister auxiliaries—one at Mosman's Park, the occasion being a sports night, and the other at Bassendean, on the occasion of a farewell party to a member who is returning to the Old Country. Nursery charades and a mock wedding, also a very dainty supper, were part of Bassendean's contribution to the evening's entertainment, and our members went in their back to childhood costumes by special request. Dancing and games filled in the gaps of a most happy evening. Members are reminded to get their doyleys prepared for the Auxiliaries' Exhibition and their entries for the various sections. A special meeting was called to arrange for our own bazaar, which takes place in November. We are running a busy time ahead of us all. Members are reminded that the next meeting and social will take place on Friday night, August 25, at 7.30 p.m.

**WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY**

The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, July 26, 24 members being present. Miss McLaren, late of Marvel Loch, was welcomed as a new member by the president (Mrs. Haines). The Subiaco's women's auxiliary offered to repeat their concert to aid our funds in the near future. The offer was unanimously accepted and October 17 has been suggested as a probable date. Preparations for the children's ball, to be held on September 23, at West Leederville Town Hall, are well in hand. Members are also very busy working for the various stalls for the fete to be held in the Town Hall, West Leederville, on September 16.

**COTTESLOE**

The annual meeting was held on July 14 at the residence of Mrs. Scott. The balance sheet for the past year was presented, and in reviewing the work of the auxiliary the result was most gratifying. Several new members had joined and were welcomed by the president. Various donations have been made by the auxiliary in the past few weeks, including blankets, lounges and cushions for the returned men of the M.C.L. Home, Cottesloe. Several cases of distress have also been investigated and assisted. A vote of thanks for services rendered by officers of last year was passed with acclamation. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Scott (unopposed); vice-presidents, Medans Newsom and Cook; secretary, Mrs. Brenmer (unopposed); treasurer, Mrs. Croft (unopposed); amelioration officers, Medans Scott, Howell, Rooke; publicity officer, Mrs. Younnow (unopposed); sports director, Mrs. Newsom; social committee, Medans Hounslow, Lynch, Moate, Howell, Carbanne, Curtis, Younnow.

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**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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTIL. COMRADES' ASSN.</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday</td>
<td>Lieut-Colonel J. W. Findlay</td>
<td>Jack Kenny, 138 Sixth Avenue, Inglewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLINDING SOLDIERS' ASSN.</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion Avenue, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TION EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSN.</td>
<td>Gregson's, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Quarterlly on 11th of month</td>
<td>L. J. Parks, c/o Government Tourist Bureau, Forrest Place, Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Everett, Temple Court Garage, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday, 4th October</td>
<td>Dr. C. H. Leedman: chairman: W. J. Eddington</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield Street, Mt. Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Third Thursday, quarterly</td>
<td>Colonel E. L. Margolin, 62 Tyrell Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>H. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As arranged</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. F. Walters, Heath Rd., Kalamunda</td>
<td>Phone B8394 E. J. Massey, 41 Harvey Street, Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>A. F. Walters, Heath Rd., Kalamunda</td>
<td>W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruislip Street, West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>L. D. Lobascher, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth</td>
<td>J. Rutherford, 5 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>R. R. Redshaw, Suburban Road, South Perth</td>
<td>R. G. Hummerston, 106 Salisbury St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th and 52nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As arranged</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>H. Hopfert, Waterloo Crescent, Perth</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.B. SAILORS' AND</td>
<td>As arranged</td>
<td>As arranged</td>
<td>W. Chaloner</td>
<td>J. Smyth, 11 Traralgon Buildings, 90 King St.</td>
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<td>SOLDIERS' ASSN.</td>
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<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARDATH-BABAKIN</td>
<td>Ardath Hotel</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. R. B. McMeakin, Babakin</td>
<td>A. W. Wheeler, Babakin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. H. Carson, Vancouver Street, Albany</td>
<td>Sydney Coles, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. W. Hart, 4th Avenue, Bussendean</td>
<td>A. Wishart, 71 West Rd., Bussendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENDEAN</td>
<td>Town Hall Basement</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension days, 7:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>H. E. Gibson, Banksia Street, Bunbury</td>
<td>W. N. Freeman, 111 Victoria Street, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>D. Scott, 20 Copley St., Bayswater</td>
<td>T. Gillingham, 49 Stuart Street, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Murray St.</td>
<td>Alt. Tuesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>L. N. Weston, Busselton</td>
<td>M. W. S. Greatorex, Road Board Office, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>H. Hill, Calingiri</td>
<td>A. J. King, Calcarr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Calingiri Hall</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>H. R. Crofts, 10 Moorgate St, Victoria Park</td>
<td>G. Greaves, 34 Mars St., Carlisle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Bickford Soldiers' Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>J. K. Forrester, Calingiri</td>
<td>W. G. Mulligan, Carnamah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARNAMAH</td>
<td>Hotel Lounge</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. H. Sarre, Clifton St., Collie</td>
<td>H. H. Stuchbury, Hawthorne Ave., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. White, 110 Broome Street, Cottesloe</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, &quot;Lilydale,&quot; 4 Keal St., Peppermint Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad St.</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. Frohawk, Cowaramup</td>
<td>E. A. Holben, Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COWARAMUP</td>
<td>Cowaramup Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. H. Briggs, 15 Walter Street, Claremont</td>
<td>W. Ford, 13 Shenton Rd., Claremont F1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Claremont</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>W. L. Wilson, Kalamunda</td>
<td>Alex. Findlay, c/o P.O., Kalamunda &quot;Phone 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>Tom Towers, Dumbleyang</td>
<td>C. Nicholson, Dumbleyang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG</td>
<td>Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Last Wednesday, monthly</td>
<td>J. W. Wegner, Salmon Guns</td>
<td>Alan Morton, Salmon Gums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWAK</td>
<td>Salmon Gums</td>
<td>3rd Friday</td>
<td>H. W. Wood, Donnybrook</td>
<td>D. M. Ferguson, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in month</td>
<td>A. A. Hills, Holyoake</td>
<td>C. H. Joyson, Holyoake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWELLINGUP &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dwellingup Hotel</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension night), 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. E. Hobbs, 58 Oakover Street, East Fremantle</td>
<td>E. Tincombe, 7 Little Howard Street, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>C. A. P. Gostellow, Carnarvon</td>
<td>W. S. Appleyard, Council Chambers, Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCONEY</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>O. W. Strang, Albany Road, Victoria Park</td>
<td>C. J. Lambe, 40 Eton Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Antzac House</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>Norman Skewes, Gnowangerup</td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Gnowangerup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Way, Gutha</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gutha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. H. E. Clarke, Gwalia</td>
<td>E. Shepherd, Gwalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWALIA</td>
<td>State Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>B. H. Lofthouse, Wokalup</td>
<td>D. D. Johnsonne, Herbert Road, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Phone: Harvey 108M</td>
<td>D. F. Edwards, Kalgoorlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>V. Monti</td>
<td>J. Whooley, Karridale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARRIDALE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>Bi-monthly, alt. Fridays</td>
<td>S. S. Waycott</td>
<td>E. C. West, Derby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Club Rooms, Carnew Street</td>
<td>1st Thursdays</td>
<td>H. W. A. Trol, Kating</td>
<td>W. Bailey, Karridane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Alternate Kellerberrin and Tammin</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. R. Hall, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>J. J. Hannah, Kellerberrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonup</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. G. Finlay, Kojonup</td>
<td>D. C. McPhail, Kojonup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOJONUP</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>Quarterly (committee, 1st Friday)</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Saturday, quarterly (Jan., April, July, Oct.)</td>
<td>J. C. A. Pike, &quot;Falcondale,&quot; Kukerin</td>
<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>G. Marley, Kuker</td>
<td>W. A. Tumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. Collins, Lake Grace</td>
<td>E. Wood, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>M. P. Johnston, Lake King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>Town Hall, Manjimup; Jardie No. 1 State Mill</td>
<td>2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. L. Mackenzie, Manjimup</td>
<td>B. Beer, Manjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>Mt. Barker</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>H. V. Jenkinson, Mt. Barker</td>
<td>B. Hickling, Mt. Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Sunper Room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>Mr. S. Horton, Alma Road, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>L. T. King, 10 Carrington Street, Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Menzies Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month</td>
<td>R. Pugh, Menzies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>J. Sheppard, Brookman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOSORA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Johnston St., Cottesloe</td>
<td>Last Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>G. A. Ashworth, Bond St., Mosman Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>Road Board Room, Moora</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. H. Boyce, Moora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MAGNET</td>
<td>Lesser Hall, Mt. Magnet</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. W. Edwards, Mt. Magnet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MARSHALL</td>
<td>Rd. Bd. Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, monthly</td>
<td>W. H. Wright, Mandiga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. LAWLEY - INGLEWIND</td>
<td>Wallish Hall, Gosnervor Road, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>Q. J. Williams, 21 Gosnervor Rd., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUKINBUDIN</td>
<td>Commercial Room, Mukinbudin</td>
<td>Every fourth Saturday</td>
<td>T. B. Conway, Mukinbudin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Altemately, Mundaring,</td>
<td>Every fourth Friday</td>
<td>R. H. Rutherford, Mundaring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNINGTON MILLS</td>
<td>Darlington, Parkerville, Mornington Mills</td>
<td>Every alternate Sunday</td>
<td>J. M. Loudon, Mornington Mills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAREMBEEN</td>
<td>Narembeen</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>A. S. Graham, Narembeen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS</td>
<td>Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Nedlys</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>J. M. Anderson, 33 Tyrell St., Nedlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWDEGATE</td>
<td>Newdegate</td>
<td></td>
<td>D. G. Kinlock, Newdegate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH - EAST FREMANTLE</td>
<td>Artillery barracks, Burt Street, Fremantle</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Bunderock, Artillery barracks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH HAMPTON</td>
<td>Railway Hotel, Northampton</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>C. McEwen, Northampton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms, Gordon Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. C. S. Colebatch, Fitzgerald Street, Northam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe Street (off View Street)</td>
<td>Last Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. L. Menkens, 30 Redfern St., North Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH</td>
<td>Monash House, 23 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. O'Farrell, 223 Fitzgerald St., Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>F. Archer, East Pingelly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINGELLY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. S. Watt, c/o Imperial Print, Hay St., Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESS</td>
<td>At Luncheon, Y.M.C.A., Murray Street</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. T. Roberts, Pithara</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Pithara</td>
<td></td>
<td>T. Cowan, Yorning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPANYNINGNING</td>
<td>Yorning and Popanyning</td>
<td></td>
<td>R. W. Graham, Port Hed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILBARA</td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. C. Johnston, Quairading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUAIRADING - DAN GIN</td>
<td>Quairading Hall &amp; Dan Ginn Hostel, alternatively Warden's Court</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. T. Newton, Ravenson's Thorpe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAVENSTHORPE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>K. Jones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHHER CROSS SUBLACO</td>
<td>Branch Rooms, Rokeby Road, Subiaco</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 a.m.</td>
<td>E. R. Ingles, 223 Cambridge St., Wembury</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAMBELLUP</td>
<td>R.S.L. Club</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Lawton, Yealering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOODYAY</td>
<td>Town Hall, Toodyay</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. McGarrigal, 17 Ord St., West Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING - YELBENI</td>
<td>Trayning</td>
<td>3rd Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>K. Somers, Toodyay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Salford St.</td>
<td></td>
<td>F. Smeeton, Trayning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUBIN</td>
<td>Wubin Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Eric F. Lloyd, 29 Esperance St., Victoria Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge Street, Leederville</td>
<td></td>
<td>A. B. Dinnie, Bunting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEMLEY</td>
<td>Comal Hotel, Yealering</td>
<td></td>
<td>H. J. Ingle, 223 Cambridge St., Wembury</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEALERING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>J. H. B. Lawton, Yealering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>Youanmi Hotel</td>
<td></td>
<td>C. R. Hearne, Station House, Tumbellup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUANMI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E. J. Wright, Toodyay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYALKATCHEM</td>
<td>Lesser Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>F. E. Dyson, Trayning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAROONA HAMEL</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Padbury House, &amp; St.</td>
<td></td>
<td>C. S. Shaw, 1 Manchester Street, Victoria Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>George's Terr. &amp; King Street</td>
<td></td>
<td>T. Bailey, Wubin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILUNA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F. J. Stout, 43 Cleaver Street, West Perth</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Some names and dates are redacted for privacy.
AGENDA FOR THE 23rd ANNUAL STATE CONGRESS

LAND SETTLEMENT

GENERAL

1. KARLIGARIN.—Congress is of the opinion that all lands held by returned soldiers should be granted as a free gift from the Lands Department, i.e., that no further charges for rent should be imposed. This is to be subject to the usual conditions of occupation and also subject to the condition that the lands be in occupation for primary production. This motion is intended to apply solely to the purchase of land from the State and to have no bearing on mortgages or other encumbrances.

2. NORTH PERTH.—That, because of the number of cases of bovine tuberculosis in Western Australia, congress urges the Government to undertake a thorough examination of all dairy herds in Western Australia.

3. CALINGIRI.—Conference oppose any increase in interest rates and press for reduction, and request all associated banks to notify customers of any change in overdraft rates.

4. ROSA BROOK.—Rosa Glen.—That congress views with alarm the dearth of the dairying industry of contagious abortion and that the Government be urged to take immediate steps to deal with this question.

5. HARVEY.—That the State Government be asked to introduce and enforce an Act compelling all margarine in Western Australia to be distinctly coloured as apart from a resemblance of butter.

6. KOJONUP.—That this congress recommends that the Commonwealth Bank should take over all mortgages on rural lands.

7. CALINGIRI.—That conference support other farmers' organisations in making sustenance and medical fees first charge on proceeds.

8. CAPEL.—That the Government be asked to establish two agricultural colleges and research stations in the South-West, one for irrigating areas and one for non-irrigation areas.

9. MUNTADGIN.—That, as a measure of defence, the Federal Government be asked to subsidise stallions for public use in a more general manner than in the past.

AGRICULTURAL BANK

10. YORK.—That, where and when a returned soldier client of the Agricultural Bank pays two-thirds of the capital cost of his property in interest, such interest charges to cease from that date and the client continue his annual payments and such be credited to his account. Should the client default for one full year, interest charged while in default. In the event of the death of an ex-service settler, the above terms to apply, provided the property be bequeathed to either the wife or children.

11. WUBIN.—That congress press for an amendment to the Farmers' Debt Adjustment Act in order to make it more equitable for all participants.

12. NORTH PERTH.—That congress protest against the action of the Agricultural Bank in dispossessing ex-AIF men and replacing them with foreigners.

13. KONDININ.—That preferential crop liens should embrace superphosphate, cornstacks and stores.

14. CAPEL.—That, when any ex-service settler dies leaving a will, or in the event of intestate estate, his widow or issue receive his property on the same terms as was held by deceased and without the consent of Agricultural Bank being necessary.

15. WILUNA.—That congress stress that help be given to returned soldiers and soldiers regarding interest on their farms, and that financial assistance be given.

16. WYALKATCHEM.—That congress is of the opinion that the Farmers' Debt Adjustment Act needs amending to bring into line with similar Acts operating in other States; that assistance given to applicants shall not be repayable in view of the fact that the money made available to the State by the Commonwealth is a gift and not a loan.

17. CALINGIRI.—That conference urge that all farm properties throughout the State be re-valued on the present earning capacity of the farm and present economic conditions. This valuation to be the basis of adjustment of mortgage.

MARKETING AND TRANSPORT

18. KUKERIN.—Congress support the wheat stabilisation scheme as propounded at the Primary Producers' conference.

19. MUNTADGIN.—That this League enter a strong protest against the manner in which the Federal Government has handled the question of wheat price stabilisation.

20. LAKE GRANGE.—That congress strive for stabilisation price of wheat of 4/- per bushel at sides.

21. PINGRUP.—That no bounty be paid by the Government on wheat sold on local market, and that the purchaser pay equivalent to bounty as now paid by monies raised by flour tax at a minimum of 6d. per bushel.

22. PINGRUP.—That bounty payments be paid approximately in full, immediately deliveries of wheat are known.

23. CALINGIRI.—That this congress take up the same line of action on wheat matters as was adopted by the Federal Producers' Organisation recently formed at Canberra.

24. KONDININ.—That, failing the payment by the Commonwealth Government of a stabilised price for wheat on a basis of 4/- per bushel for the 1939/40 harvest, returned soldiers use every endeavour towards the organisation of a no-cropping campaign.

25. CALINGIRI.—That conference bring pressure on the Government to abolish the railway freight surcharge on bulk wheat.

26. YORK.—That congress do all in its power to bring about a guaranteed price for wheat and wool in accordance with the cost of production.

27. MARRADONG.-BODDINGTON.—That congress is of the opinion that the Commonwealth Government be urged most strongly in the interest of national economy, to fix a minimum price for wool above the cost of production, thus forcing the manufacturer to relieve the growers of some of the accumulated burden.

28. CALINGIRI.—That conference support the Primary Producers' Association in their efforts to get the tare reduced on chaff bags when sold with wool.

29. CALINGIRI.—That, in the interests of the people on the land, conference request the executive to approach the Government in the matter of cheap freights regarding exchange of wheat for fruit in country districts.

30. LAKE KING.—That this congress urge the Government to co-ordinate the rail and transport services to the Lakes area to enable settlers to have the benefit of through railway freights instead of the present dual freight of rail plus transport charges.

GENERAL CONGRESS

ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY

31. WEST LEEDERVILLE.—That the State Executive appoint a visiting committee to assist ex-soldiers at the Claremont Asylum.

32. DWELLINGUP.—That Clause 9, Rule 13, be deleted and the following inserted: "That sub-branches may circulate other sub-branches on any important question relating to the League from a national viewpoint, and a copy to be sent to the executive."

CONSTITUTION

33. GLOUCESTER PARK.—That no delegate to congress be allowed more than one (1) proxy vote.

34. GLOUCESTER PARK.—That any member with League membership of ten years or over and reaching the age of 60 or over in receipt of old age or service pension be granted free membership for life.

35. YARLOOP.—That District Council representative to State Executive be allowed travelling expenses when on State Executive business, the same as a State Executive member.

36. YARLOOP.—That District Council representatives to State Executive have equal rights, privileges and powers as an elected executive member.

37. NORTH PERTH.—That the number of the executive be increased by five.

38. MARYLANDS.—That no delegate to congress shall vote for more than one sub-branch on any motion unless he possesses written authority from the different sub-branches he represents on the particular motion being discussed.

39. KOORDA.—That all men who enlisted for active service but were prevented from going overseas on account of the Arm's list be eligible for membership in the R.S.L. on the production of his discharge.
40. FREMANTLE.—That when elected members of the executive are appointed to certain areas, it shall be mandatory for them to visit sub-branches in their districts at least once in every two months.

41. KOJONUP.—That the office of State President shall not be held by any one man for more than three years in succession.

42. MT. MARSHALL.—That the date of congress be altered to correspond with the August school holidays and Country Women’s Association congress.

43. CARLISLE.—That a candidate for election to the State Executive who represents a sub-branch as a proxy delegate shall not be permitted to cast more than one vote in any ballot for the election of the State Executive.

44. ALBANY.—In view of unsatisfactory decisions given from the chair on the voices as evidenced by the number of reversals made following a show of hands at past congresses, all subsequent congress decisions be taken on a show of hands.

45. SUBIACO.—Congress resolves that the Constitution be added to as follows—

21 (a) The W.A. Branch shall be and is hereby authorised to acquire for and on behalf of and/or to hold land as trustee for any sub-branch.

21 (b) To borrow money for and on behalf of the sub-branch for which any land may be held on trust and for the purpose of securing any monies so borrowed with interest or any monies borrowed or to be borrowed by the sub-branch concerned with interest with the consent of the Federal Executive, provided that no such mortgage shall contain any personal covenants on the part of the W.A. Branch. This rule shall operate retrospectively.

To Rule 22 add the following proviso: “Provided that in lieu of appointing trustees to hold land under this rule or of vesting any land in trustees already appointed any sub-branch may request the W.A. Branch to exercise the powers contained in Rule 21 (a).”

IMPERIAL EX-SERVICE MEN

46. CORRIGIN.—That congress instructs executive to make an effort to obtain an understanding between the Australian Repatriation Department and the Imperial Ministry in regard to Imperial ex-service men seeking admission to the Repatriation Ward, Perth Hospital, or other

47. ESPERANCE.—That a permanent Imperial pension tribunal resident in Australia be appointed to deal with all matters affecting ex-Imperial sailors and soldiers.

48. ALBANY.—That the Federal Executive be requested to consider the possibility of the taking of a referendum amongst ex-members of the A.I.F. as to whether the time is not ripe for the admission of ex-Imperial and Dominion members to be admitted to the benefits of the Public Service Act in connection with the question of employment.

49. NORTH PERTH.—In view of the extremely unsympathetic treatment the ex-Imperial men resident in Western Australia receive from the British Government, congress expresses by petition, to the British Government, its disgust at the inadequate treatment of their services rendered to the British Empire and its failure to carry out its promises to these men, congress urges the position of these men that a doctor be appointed to each State to deal with matters pertaining to pensions and treatment of ex-Imperial men resident in Australia.

50. BASSENDEN.—Congress resolves that Imperial men who have been members of the League and die in indigent circumstances shall not be buried like paupers.

ANZAC DAY

51. MANJIMUP.—That an intense campaign be instituted with a view to a stricter observance of Anzac Day, particularly in country districts by direct appeals to sporting and kindred organisations to refrain from conducting functions having a tendency to detract from the sacredness of this national “Holy Day.”

52. BRUNSWICK JUNCTION.—That country ex-service men, women and families be granted half fare concessions on railway on Anzac Day.

53. ALBANY.—Congress resolves that the spirit of Anzac Day be accorded more prominence in school curricula and that children be urged to sign and keep a pledge on the following lines:

Believing Australia to be really a land of the free, I pledge myself to cherish justice, freedom and tolerance without regard to rank, party or creed, and in so doing to make myself worthy of citizenship in the nation bequeathed by the men of Anzac.”

54. BRUNSWICK JUNCTION.—That ex-service men who served on Anzac proper be granted free rail pass to any service they wish to attend in their own State for the 25th anniversary of Anzac.

55. BRUNSWICK JUNCTION.—That the Government be requested to advise the Railway Department to curtail railway services, if necessary in order to be able to release all ex-A.I.F. men on Anzac Day.

56. PEMBERTON.—Congress resolves that action in conjunction with the Federal Government be taken with a view to bringing about uniform observance of Anzac Day throughout the Commonwealth.

57. PEMBERTON.—Congress instructs the incoming executive to press the Government to grant free Government transport to all ex-service men wishing to take part in the Anzac Day services.

58. PEMBERTON.—That all ex-Imperial returned men be granted the same privileges on Anzac Day as ex-A.I.F. men enjoying.

59. BRUCE ROCK.—As Anzac Day originated from the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, consideration be given to having a New Zealand flag flown on Anzac Day.

60. BRUCE ROCK.—That the Government be approached regarding special concessions to returned men to enable them to attend the parade in Perth next Anzac Day, the 25th anniversary.

61. LAKE GRACE.—That congress, in dealing with the motions of the 4th of June of the resolution passed by the A.I.F., agree to the giving of the red cross flag on Anzac Day.

62. YOKINE.—Congress instructs executive to press the Federal Government to grant free Government transport to all ex-service men wishing to take part in the Anzac Day services.

63. YOKINE.—That the Executive be asked to make Anzac Day uniform throughout Australia.

64. GUILDFORD.—That the position of Imperial ex-service men in the Anzac Day march in Perth be inquired into with a view to a more forward position being given to them.

65. ESPERANCE.—That a holiday on full pay be granted to all ex-Imperial sailors and soldiers on Anzac Day and the same privileges that are accorded to the A.I.F.

66. MURRAY.—That the Government be asked to declare Anzac Day a public holiday on pay or otherwise.

67. RAYLANDS.—That Anzac Day be declared a public holiday throughout the State.

68. NORTH PERTH.—That the same privileges be extended to ex-Imperial men as is given to ex-A.I.F. men as regards Anzac Day being a paid holiday.

69. KENDALL.—That Anzac Day be declared a national holiday.

70. BRIDGETOWN.—That Anzac Day continue to be observed as a close holiday.

71. KOORDA.—That all men working in the Railway Department eligible for membership in the R.S.L. be granted a holiday with pay on Anzac Day.

72. DOWERIN.—That Anzac Day be declared a national holiday.

73. WEST LEEDEERVILLE.—That the method of observing Anzac Day be reviewed, allowing for solemn observances until 12 noon and organised games and amusements in aid of the Aged Soldiers’ Fund after that time.

74. COOMBEE.—That Anzac Day be observed as a national day, the morning commemorative and the afternoon given up to sport and other entertainment of a national character.

75. YORK.—Congress favours the alteration in the method of commemorating Anzac Day, and suggests a close holiday until 1 p.m. with all hotels closed and organised sport banned, and from 1 p.m. onwards a general holiday with hotels open and all be licensed.

76. NORTH PERTH.—That a ballot be taken of all financial members of the League throughout Western Australia through their respective branches to decide in which manner Anzac Day in future will be observed: the issue being a full day of mourning as observed in the past or a half day of mourning and a half day of reunions and recreation.
MINING AND PROSPECTING

79. NORSEMAN.—That the Government grant to returned soldier prospectors, who are in receipt of a pension, the right to share in the financial benefits of the State prospecting scheme.

WAR SERVICE HOMES

80. NEDLANDS.—Congress urges the Commonwealth Government to have portion of the War Service Homes Insurance Fund made available to the W.A. Aged Soldiers’ Fund and similar funds in other States of the Commonwealth.

81. FREMANTLE.—Congress urges the Commonwealth Government to amend the War Service Homes Act so that the widow of a deceased occupant may be allowed to realise on the value of the equity in the house if for personal reasons she wishes to vacate same.

PREFERENCE TO EX-SERVICE MEN

82. MT. MARSHALL.—Congress resolves that preference of employment to returned soldiers, promised during the war time, be extended to the children of deceased soldiers, and that the executive make endeavours to secure the agreement of as many employers as possible to this principle.

83. BRUCE ROCK.—That the question of amending the existing by-laws in country hospitals’ constitutions so as to provide for appointment of a secretary by the zone council for discussion with the suggestion that vacant positions be advertised and preference be given to ex-service men if they are qualified.

84. MAYLANDS.—That Congress requests the Government to reaffirm preference to returned soldiers, especially in regard to Midland Shops and rifle ranges.

DEFENCE

85. PRESS.—Congress reaffirms its previous decisions that the re-introduction of universal military training at the earliest opportunity in the best and most urgent interests of Australia.

86. PRESS.—Congress urges that, in view of the emphasis laid in other countries on the physical well-being of their peoples and the bodily condition of many volunteers for the Australian militia, compulsory physical training should be instituted in all recruiting without delay or the physical fitness movement should be placed before the public with vastly more energy than hitherto.

87. COLLIE.—This Congress confirms the policy of the R.S.L. in its efforts to have established an adequate defence force for the protection of Australia.

88. COLLIE.—Congress agrees that the League should now give a lead to ensure that those who give service to their country are suitably recompensed. From the cases examined it is evident that guaranteed a flat rate pension of at least £14/10/- per week for life in each case. Compensation for war-caused disabilities should be assessed and paid for over and above the proposed flat rate pension. Free medical attention for life.

89. COLLIE.—Congress agrees that no rearmament or defence programme be complete unless provision is made to give effect to Item 88 which could be provided, if by any other means, by striking a special tax, to be known as “The Price of Liberty Tax,” on similar lines to the present Financial Emergency Tax. Such tax to be paid into a trust fund to be drawn upon only when the necessity arises.

90. ALBANY.—Congress resolves that the Commonwealth Government be requested to consider the status of Albany as a naval port in view of its importance as a port of call and its nearness to the main steamship routes from England and South Africa. Further, that it receive early recognition as a suitable place for the bulk storage of oil supplies.

91. ALBANY.—Congress resolves that the Defence Department be requested to consider the question of forming a training centre at Midland Junction for the purpose of giving training in the repair of tanks, armoured cars and other mechanised vehicles to some of the many mechanics in country centres.

92. ALBANY.—Congress endorses the apparent advance that has been made in connection with the adequate defence of Australia and of W.A. in particular, and the resulting loss of enthusiasm for the young manhood of the nation.

93. YEALERING.—Congress resolves that a scheme of compulsory national training be instituted embracing educational, social, vocational and military training.

94. YEALERING.—Congress agrees that plans should be made and an Act placed on the Statute Book that, Should this country or the Empire be involved in war, the man-power and the whole wealth of the country, the capital, the profits and the earnings of all individuals, associations and/or companies be conscripted.

95. MT. LAWLEY.—That Congress urges the Commonwealth Government to allot a greater amount of defence expenditure and contract work to this State, and to form and station on this western coastline a strong fleet of high-speed armoured patrol motor launches and air force units.

96. MT. LAWLEY.—That Congress urges the Federal Government to pay each and every fit recruit who may offer for enlistment, irrespective of his chosen unit being over strength or otherwise, and to give greatly increased opportunities to learn to shoot with all small arms.

97. MUNTADGIN-TOTADGIN.—Congress agrees that, owing to the lack of qualified instructors to the Permanent Forces, ex-service men with requisite qualifications should be given every opportunity of employment.

98. MUNTADGIN-TOTADGIN.—That Congress resolves: (1) That, in the event of invasion or imminent danger thereof, the service of every man, woman and child be conscripted for what ever work they may be capable of; (2) That the conscripted nation be divided into three parts: (i) general labour armies; (ii) munitions; (iii) fighting force; (3) That the pay and advantages should increase in numerical order of sections, i.e., the fighting force to have the best pay and advantages.

99. PERTH.—Congress congratulates the Commonwealth Government on its efforts in defence and urges further consideration to the “Commando” system in country districts as the most efficient way to ensure our defence.

100. MT. MARSHALL.—Owing to the apathy shown by the Defence Department to offers of service by the young men of the outlying country districts, Congress call upon the Federal Executive to approach the Defence Department with a view of rectifying this matter.

101. MANDURAH.—That Congress resolves that an auxiliary to the R.S.L. be formed, to be composed of members of the serving forces and militia in Australia, thus linking the R.S.L. with the defence forces.

102. BRUNSWICK JUNCTION.—That Congress considers that experienced ex-service men should be attached to local militia units for the purpose of giving trainees practical instruction on active service conditions.

103. NORSEMAN.—That Congress urge the Defence Department to take the necessary steps for the creation of defence units in country towns throughout Australia. Also that ex-service men anxious to again serve be given the opportunity of attending refresher courses.

104. NAREMBEEN.—In the opinion of this conference, the defence Department is not making the best use of the country sub-branches of the R.S.L. and the special knowledge gained by members under war conditions, and that this conference recommends that their services be invited to assist in the Narembeen sub-branch’s memorandum to the executive or similar plan, especially as it had the approval of Brigadier McFarlane, then District Commandant, and also as there would be very little extra expense to the Defence Department other than the loan of guns.

105. CUNINGH. That in any plan of defence where conscription is introduced, preference is of the opinion that wealth, man-power, primary and secondary industries should all be conscripted.

PENSIONS AND REPATRIATION

106. GLOUCESTER. PARK.—Congress resolves that all ex-soldiers in cases of illness be admitted to the Repatriation Ward whether war disability or not.
107. WYALKATCHEM.—Congress is of the opinion that all banks, insurance offices and private trading concerns, having a
pensions scheme, should make full allowance to returned soldier employees to compensate them for the reduced anticipacy of life
caused by war service to the extent of 24 years for every life served overseas, without penalty or reduction of pension rate
payable to the employee at full retiring age.

108. CARLISLE.—Congress resolves that the Commonwealth Government substantially increases the provisions of the service
particular, in the case of those incapacitated or chronic disease
which may not be accepted as war caused.

109. BRUCE ROCK.—That sustenance or a special pension be granted to any ex-soldier retired from work at 60 years of age
until he is eligible to receive the old age pension.

110. WICKETTIN.—That the provisions of Division 5 of Part 3
of the Australian Soldiers’ Repatriation Act be further amended
so as to apply to members of other Empire forces who have resided
for 20 years within the Commonwealth, and who fulfil the necessary
qualifications contained in the Act as amended and assented
to on December 6, 1935.

111. COLLETT.—That congress disagrees with the action taken
prevent an inquiry into certain alleged anomalies in the Australian
Soldiers’ Repatriation Act.

112. MT. HELENA.—That all war pensioners who so desire
should have their pensions paid by cheque through the post.

113. KONDININ.—That the authorities be requested to
re-store pension rights to ex-sailors and soldiers and their dependents,
which were withdrawn on June 30, 1938.

114. PRESS.—That congress supports the Repatriation
Department in its endeavours to obtain provision in the scheme of
re-building of the Perth Hospital for adequate accommodation for
returned soldier patients, having in mind future requirements such as
(a) Increasing disabilities owing to age; and (b) Possible change
of policy in the Repatriation Act; and expresses the opinion that an
endeavour should be made in the above scheme to bring
together all returned soldier patients, irrespective of whether their
disability is war caused or not.

115. NORTH PERTH.—That action be taken for an amendment
of the Repatriation Act to bring all soldiers’ disabilities on
equal footing in respect to medical treatment and pensions.

116. PERTH.—Congress reaffirms that the Repatriation
Department shall provide new dentures in cases in which soldiers
have had all their teeth extracted by order of the repatriation
doctors.

117. PERTH.—Congress resolves that the provision cut
of wives during the financial depression should be restored at once.

118. QUEARING.—That it be not necessary to give proof
of war cause by a returned soldier before being admitted to the
Repatriation Ward.

119. MUNDIJONG-JARRAHDALE.—That all doctors at the
Repatriation Department should be returned soldier doctors.

ANZAC HOUSE

120. ARMY NURSES.—Congress agrees that the returned
sisters be granted the same privilege as other financial members of
the League by having the use of their clubrooms free of rent.

POPPY DAY

121. YARLOOF.—Congress agrees that poppies be sold so that
they may be worn on Anzac Day.

122. BASSENDAN.—Congress resolves that poppy tabs
applied for by sub-branches be not issued until the day poppies are
issued.

123. MT. LAWLEY.—Congress recommends that only sub-
branches or associations affiliated with the League be allowed to
participate in Poppy Day sales.

ALIEN IMMIGRATION

124. KOJONUP.—In view of the undesirability of aliens
settling in communities, congress is of the opinion that the language
difficulty being responsible for this, it be recommended to the
Federal Parliament that, “To overcome this and enable aliens to
be more expeditiously absorbed, all aliens arriving in Australia with
the intention of making it their permanent home be notified that,
at the end of two years, they must pass a test of at least 4th standard
in writing, reading and English or be deported forthwith. No
schools, except in English, to be permitted and aliens at the end of
two years be eligible to join the defence force.”

125. NORTH PERTH.—That congress urges the Federal
Government to prohibit all aliens (including Jews) from taking
employment in industrial or metropolitan areas for a period of
three years from time of arrival. That condition of entry be that
they must speak English. Furthermore no newspapers or circulates
or printed matter in foreign languages be allowed to be printed or
circulated in this country. All aliens to be naturalised within a
period of three years or be deported.

NATIONAL HEALTH

126. PRESS.—Congress agrees that the League actively assist
in the national fitness campaign in any way that might be acceptable
to the State council of that campaign.

127. MAYLANDS.—That congress use its utmost endeavours
to have immunisation against diphtheria made compulsory.

EMPLOYMENT

128. ALBANY.—Congress urges the State Government to give
greater and more sympathetic treatment to those men on sustenance
who being medically unfit for work, are still thrown on to hands of local charitable organisations for help.

129. ALBANY.—Congress agrees that the time has now
arrived for the slackening of the rigid rule between “absolutely
unemployable men” and those who are, in many cases, only just
outside it, and that more sympathetic treatment be accorded them.

130. DWELLINGUP.—Congress resolves that all returned
men in employment are at least entitled to the basic wage and that
the League use all its powers and influence to obtain that objective.

131. NORTH PERTH.—Congress requests that the Federal
Government be asked to investigate the position of all unemployed
ex-servicemen, with a view to establishing their chance of employment
in industry, and if necessary, provide for these men.

132. MANJIMUP.—Congress resolves that the Electoral
Department be asked to appoint ex-service men when qualified to
official positions at election times, and that that department obtain
the names of such men from sub-branches.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION

133. GLOUCESTER PARK.—That the Education Department
be asked to standardise West Australian Readers throughout the
State schools.

134. ALBANY.—Congress endorses the request made by
Albany sub-branch for the erection of a shelter shed at the Albany
infants’ school.

135. NORTH PERTH.—(a) That the Government be re-
quested to establish in the metropolitan areas free kindergartens
for children between the ages of two and six. (b) That the grant
from Government be increased from £900 to £1,000.

136. NORTH PERTH.—That the where the children of parents
whose income does not exceed £5 per week desire to further the
education of their children, the Government be requested to institute
some kind of child endowment. This endowment scheme to operate
until the children are 18 years of age.

137. NORTH PERTH.—That the Government be asked to
increase the expenditure on University and Technical schools.

138. MAYLANDS.—Congress resolves that the Governments
should suppress the shop betting evil, on the grounds that from a
moral, social and military defence point of view it is a menace to
the youth of Australia.

139. KIRUP.—That the Lottery Commission be approached
and asked to establish a fund to assist parents of children who have
won a scholarship and who are otherwise unable to pay the
balance of expense required to send such children to high school.
The fund to be available to British-born children only.

140. KIRUP.—That the R.S.F. take steps to prevent children
of unnaturalised parents becoming school teachers.

141. PRESS.—That the State Governments be urged to provide
in the State schools’ curriculum a more intense system of physical
training amongst school children than is at present possible,
and that whatever training is at present being given be extended.

142. PERTH.—Congress urges greater effort in the S.S.L. as
our portion of the youth movement.
MEMBERSHIP

143. MT. LAWLEY.—That congress directs that more strenuous efforts be made to increase the membership of the League by: (a) Causing to be inserted in each copy of “The Listening Post” a four-page recruiting folder (such as now is in the hands of the Mt. Lawley-Inglewood sub-branch) but to be brought up to date by current information. (b) Supply to every sub-branch a quantity of such folders for personal issue by members to prospective members. (c) Holding in future A.I.F. and Imperial ex-service men’s and nurses’ “smokes” during Christmas, 1939, when the influx of country residents takes place, or Royal Show week, 1940. The biggest hall in the city to be engaged and the organisation carried out by a committee from metropolitan sub-branches. (d) That greater publicity be given to everything pertaining to League matters likely to increase membership.

144. ALBANY.—Congress agrees that a financial member unable to follow regular employment be employed as a travelling “recruiting sergeant” for the purpose of visiting sub-branches throughout the State and enrolling new members for the League. Also that he be placed in contact with members who have lapsed membership with a view to their rejoining the League.

145. FREMANTLE.—Congress resolves that steps should be taken to eliminate the misuse of League badges by unauthorised persons, which is so prevalent at present, and tends to bring the R.S.L. into disrepute.

QUESTION

146. GOWANGERP.—Will the trustees of the Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Relief Fund make a comprehensive statement to congress, outlining the policy they recommend as to the operation of the fund when sufficient money has been raised?

CIVILIAN DEFENCE

147. PRESS.—That this congress deplores the delay in organising air raid precautions in Western Australia, and urges prompt action by the Government. It also commends to the Federation of States the establishment of a Civilian Defence Board. (a) To consider the advisability of inviting Federal assistance. (b) To consider the possibility of giving local authorities in the States the responsibility of formulating a Civilian Defence plan for their districts. (c) That the Federation of States write to the Federal Government conferring the power to make the necessary arrangements.
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