From Versailles to Vichy

"The peace of Versailles is on its deathbed... A policy based on the League of Nations, collective security and mutual assistance is out-dated and old-fashioned."

—M. Flandin, on the eve of the German invasion of Austria.

It is one of the tragic ironies of history that in the month containing the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, British and Free French forces should be invading Syria, one of the mandated territories created by that treaty, to prevent it from being used against us by the enemy whom we had beaten to his knees in the last war. The reasons are only too apparent and too numerous. When the history of the second episode of the Great War against Germany is written, they will fill a large and important volume. But, perhaps, when all is said and written, it will be realised by future generations that the recurrence of war was brought about, not by any wrongs inherent in a treaty that has been so much discussed, so much vilified, and so little understood, but by the pacifism which passeth all understanding and the torpedoing of every part of the treaty that was framed to make future wars impossible.

During the 20 years' truce between 1919 and 1939, German propagandists sedulously propagated the legend of a beaten and impoverished Germany, kept in a state of economic and political bondage by an iniquitous treaty that was dictated at the bayonet's point. Even before the Peace Conference that arranged the treaty had commenced its sittings, secret agents of impoverished Germany were trying to bribe British and French politicians—to blackmail them in some instances—into forcing their Governments to grant lenient terms to Germany. After the treaty was signed, successive German Governments missed no opportunity of evading or abrogating its principal terms. They did so with the tacit consent and often with the connivance of the British and French Governments.

The main charges levelled against the treaty are that it brought about a dictated peace, that it weighed too heavily on a beaten opponent, and that, in short, it helped to germinate the seeds of a future war. The suggestion that the Treaty of Versailles was the basic cause of the present war must wilt into nothingness under the searchlight of historical truth. In all essentials, it was practically a dead letter over two years before Hitler's attack on Poland precipitated the present conflict. What was conveniently forgotten by German propagandists, and those of our own race who can see good in every country but their own, was the plain fact that every major war in history has been ended by a dictated peace. It is not contended that the Treaty of Versailles was a perfect document, nor that its framers were models of foresight and political wisdom. They came to the conference chamber imbued with two ideas—that of preventing the recurrence of another similar period of human agony, and that of punishing the war criminals and making Germany pay for the wanton damage inflicted on the countries that had been flayed by the scourge of war. But they were actuated by the ideals of justice for smaller and weaker peoples, so that they listened readily to the academic Wilson, and gave adherence to his principle of self-determination and his other ideals that were as remote from reality as Aldebaran is from Earth.

Versailles was the first treaty that attempted to beget the new world order about which so many people are talking today. The Covenant of the League of Nations, which was embodied in the treaty, represented an honest effort to secure this new world order, with its principles of justice for all, arbitration in international disputes and collective security. It contained provisions for its own revision, for the limitation of armaments, and for the eventual admission of a new Germany prepared to live peaceably within its orbit. Perhaps it did not go far enough, but it certainly mapped out a course whose distant prospects were too far away to be reached by the generation that followed.

It was soon seen that it was impracticable and impossible to make Germany bear the whole costs of the war she so wantonly provoked in 1914. The reparations issued were modified in accordance with events, not always dissociated from German evasions, and finally dropped. As early as 1919 Germany raised the bogey of Bolshevism. It was claimed that a beaten and despairing Germany might be forced to turn Red. At the same time, a considerable body of economic thought in all countries realised that the burden of reparations would prevent the economic recovery of Germany and adversely affect the trade of the victors. The abandonment of reparations for the damage Germany had inflicted, not so much for military reasons as to hinder the economic reconstruction of France and Belgium, encouraged Germany to whittle away further parts of the treaty. Germany was allowed to re-arm, at first secretly and then openly. Britain actually entered into a naval agreement with Germany. France connived at the remilitarisation of the Rhineland. The half-hearted sanctions against Italy exposed the weakness of democracies, were pious feelings towards
a new world order that vanished just as soon as nations felt themselves strong enough to defy the League with impunity. Herricot hoped to achieve his ideal by means of a disarmament campaign and concessions to the Weimar Republic, which was then the Government of Germany. Germany was admitted to the League. Hitler left it and banished the dream of disarmament by tearing up Part V of the Treaty, as he did in March, 1935, when he imposed universal military conscription in Germany.

With each breach of the treaty, Hitler protested that he had no further territorial demands to make, but even the apostles of appeasement were eventually convinced against their will that this sort of thing could not be tolerated forever. In 1939, with the exception of Alsace and Lorraine, two small districts in Belgium, Danzig and the Corridor, and the former German colonies, which only a little time before he declared were not worth the bones of a single German soldier, all the clauses of the Treaty of Versailles which might have weighed heavily on Germany had been thrown into the discard. And every concession invited further acts of aggression. Most of these were made possible by the dissensions he succeeded in sowing between the French political parties and the suspicions of the Popular Front Government he and his agents created in Britain and France. The age-old antagonism between France and England, which was little more than dormant on the French side of the Channel during the years of truce, also provided a fruitful field for German propaganda. German agents had commenced to drive the wedge between the two former Allies, long before Hitler came into power, just as they turned the instability of internal French politics to their advantage. The powerful parties of the French Right feared Bolshevism more than they feared Nazism. The awful result was that, to use Mr. Churchill's telling phrase, "a great nation was rooted from within before it was assaulted from without." The capitalistic Governments of Paris have now been replaced by the capitalisation Government of the Viellards of Vichy. So we see the strange spectacle of a new campaign to prevent mandated territory created by the Treaty of Versailles being used against the former victors in terms of a secret agreement of Vichy.

The moral to the sorry story, if there is one, is that, unless we support our men at the front by a determined mobilisation of every fibre of our strength on the home front, the fate of France might be our own. We have faith in our cause and confidence in our ultimate victory, but faith without works can only prolong the present agony.

THE HOME GUARD

The expansion of the R.S.L. Volunteer Defence Corps into a Home Guard that will include men other than those who served in the last war is proving a satisfactory modification, especially as regards recruiting. For over a year, now, ex-service men who were unable to serve in any other capacity were able to use this channel for giving the country the benefit of the experience acquired during their services abroad. They cheerfully gave up Sunday mornings and other portions of their spare time to bring themselves up to date, and fit themselves for the duties of a Home Guard. Some attended courses of instruction under instructors provided by the military authorities, and it should be remembered with gratitude that these instructors were voluntarily giving up their hard-earned leisure hours. As far as the old Diggers were concerned, they carried on in the true traditions of the A.I.F., regardless of delays and what sometimes seemed meagre encouragement from the authorities. They will continue to do so as an integral part of the armed forces of the Commonwealth, and under better conditions as regards uniform and equipment.

It is only the improvement in organisation that is likely to make any difference in relation to the service of League members, and the organisation of which Army Headquarters has approved was already in process of solution. In many remote country districts, where sub-branch memberships are relatively small and distances are more than comparably great, in these days of petrol restrictions, the expansion of the organisation to include suitable civilians had been anticipated. Service in The Home Guard has made an appeal which has been enthusiastically answered by men who have reached what might be called the difficult age. By that is meant those men who were just too young for service with the first A.I.F. and who are now too old for service abroad in this war. Add to these the numbers of men in reserved occupations and essential services who want to do something for their country.

In the early days of the war, men without military experience, but with specialised knowledge of other things, were asked almost frantically: "What can I do to help win the war?" The Home Guard has supplied the answer, and the way that answer is accepted will distinguish the man who wants to serve from the fellow who is merely after a home service job. Those who are willing to serve can bring into service with them much specialised knowledge that will be of use in the defence of the localities in which they reside. The response has been particularly gratifying and the widening of the eligibility for enlistment has brought into the ranks many very fine types who have been able to find no other outlet for service. In the meantime, many old Diggers in the metropolitan area have just completed a special

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Empire Shopping and the Trade Barrier Blither

For many years now, the League has been wholeheartedly behind the Empire Shopping Week movement. The League's support to the movement has been so unstinted and so effective that, about nine years ago, our organisation was entrusted with the important duty of organizing and directing this annual appeal to the public of Western Australia. The aims, objects and ideals of the campaign have been stated so often and so comprehensively that further elaboration would seem unnecessary were it not for certain criticisms which have been made of the movement.

Broadly speaking, such criticisms have fallen into two classes. In the first place, there has been criticism of the Empire Shopping Week appeal as such; in the second, there is the view that such annual appeals should be left in abeyance until the war is over. One cannot better emphasise the reasons for conducting the annual appeal, even in this time of grave anxiety and danger, than by answering the objections, even though they have not been made by any very large or influential body of public opinion within the League or outside it. It is indeed strange that any member of the League should, at this late stage, take exception to something that has been a plank of the League's constitutional platform for so many years. However, one country member objected to the appeal on the ground that the Empire leaders had promised the removal of trade barriers after the war, and added the statement that trade barriers were a major cause of war. It was also asserted that the annual appeal was an implied insult to our Allies, the Poles, the Free French, the Greeks, "and chief of all America." One can only think that such exceptions and such statements are based on a failure to understand the principles of the movement, and an imperfect understanding of the international situation in general.

To start with, the reference to trade barriers, whatever one may understand by the term, is beside the mark. Empire leaders have not made any specific promise to remove trade barriers after the war. The suggestion that trade barriers are the major cause of wars, and the corollary that their removal is an essential condition of future peace, rests on an imperfect understanding of history, and particularly of recent history. The Empire Shopping Week appeal is not a movement for the erection of trade barriers, as will be shown later on. The Balkan and other neutral countries did not erect any trade barriers against Germany or Italy. In fact, many of the Balkan States had barter agreements with one or both the Axis Powers; and those barter agreements operated greatly in favour of the Axis Powers and to the detriment of the small States. These factors, however, did not save the smaller States from being overrun by ruthless aggressors. It is also a fact that, a few years before the war, the appeasement policy being pursued by the British Government was responsible for an offer to throw open the world's stores of raw materials to Germany and other Have-Not nations. That offer was not accepted, for the simple reason that its acceptance would have shown the German people and the rest of the world the hollowness of Hitler's demands for colonies. Right up to September 3, 1939, the gangster Powers had the same access to the markets of the Empire as other foreign nations. Added to this, both Germany and Italy had trading agreements with South Africa, and there is a trading agreement between Australia and Japan still in existence. There were also agreements between Australia and Greece and Australia and Belgium, and this effectively disposes of the fear of any implied insult to gallant Allies, who are—not in a position to trade with us in any case. It does not require any great effort of memory to recall the acceptance of the principle that the United States should be brought within the orbit of the Ottawa agreements, and therefore, within the sphere of Empire trading. It was the outbreak of the war which interrupted the negotiations for Anglo-American and Australian-American trade treaties, and not any desire on our part to erect trade barriers. Britain also had trade agreements with many of the countries that are now under German domination. Surely there is no one insane enough to suggest that those agreements should be honoured now for the benefit of the steel-helmeted gangsters who are riding roughshod over our unfortunate Allies.

The trade pacts referred to were all concluded during the period of the Empire trading movement. So far from erecting trade barriers, the Empire trading movement did not prevent us or Britain from obtaining essential goods which we could not produce for ourselves from other countries, nor did it interfere with our friendly relations with those countries. Neither did it lessen the cordiality of our relations with the United States, which continued to supply us with such a volume of manufactured goods that, for years before the war, our trade balance with that great and friendly country was decidedly adverse to ourselves. And, while this was going on, it should not be forgotten that the United States remained, and is still,
probably the most economically self-contained country of the world. Had there been any suspicion of Empire Shopping Week creating a trade war with the United States, it is likely that such a far-sighted statesman as President Roosevelt would have been so spontaneous or so generous in his moral and material help to the British cause.

The Empire Shopping Week appeal is simply a request to the public to give first preference in their buying to goods produced in our own State. When the goods required are not produced here, it is asked that they should be bought from the Eastern States, and finally, if they are not produced in Australia at all, the request is that they be bought from other Empire countries where they are produced. Those are the three main principles of Empire Shopping Week, and it is surely heart-splitting to suggest that they contain anything even remotely savouring of advocacy of trade barriers. These three principles were enunciated once more by the Minister for Industrial Development (Mr. A. B. G. Hawke) in the speech with which he officially opened this year's Empire Shopping Week. Mr. Hawke pointed out that these principles do not postulate a policy of selfishness, but one of self-reliance as far as the people of Western Australia are concerned. "They call upon the people of this State," Mr. Hawke said, "to play their part in building up the secondary industries of Western Australia. If we, ourselves, do not build up our own factories and workshops they will never be built up. In the past, the people of this State have thoughtlessly and carelessly neglected their plain duty towards their own secondary industries."

People of this State, and particularly members of the League who have taken an active and intelligent interest in this question for so many years, do not need to be reminded that an average amount of £12,000,000 is spent every year in bringing goods from the Eastern States to Western Australia. Allowing for West Australian goods sent to the Eastern States, we have an adverse trade balance with the East of £10,000,000. We could not afford to send £10,000,000 a year in cash to the Eastern States for manufactured goods in time of peace. We can even less afford to do so in time of war. Had we expanded our factories and workshops in the past, we should be in a better position to-day to profit by the tremendous industrial revolution that has gone on throughout Australia during the past twelve months. If we neglect to take advantage of the opportunities that are being presented now, the post-war reconstruction period will be full of unemployment problems and other unnecessary difficulties. The problems that are bound to arise will not be nearly as difficult of solution if we build up our secondary industries now and by building them now we shall be putting ourselves in a better position to play the fullest possible part in the war effort.

In a message to the people of the State, Mr. Hawke disposed of any possible objection to conducting the annual appeal during the present difficult and dangerous times. He pointed out that the success of the movement, and the support it had received from the public in past years, had rendered the Empire capable of withstanding the shock of furious attacks by Powers who had been openly preparing for war for the past eight years. Had it not been for the policy underlying the movement, which is after all merely a policy of preference in buying, we should have succumbed to ruthless aggressors, part of whose policy was that of making themselves economically self-sufficient in their preparation for wars of aggression. The thanks of the League are due to the sub-branches, the women's auxiliaries and all other organisations, whose unstinted and enlightened support has again been forthcoming this year, and whose efforts in the past have contributed so largely towards the success of a movement that is a very important part of the League's own constitutional policy.

12th/32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President H. Hopperton presided over a fair attendance at the monthly meeting on May 30. The secretary (A. Cook) reported on the turn-out last Anzac Day, when the Association parade was well attended, despite the fact that many members were prevented by defence duties from attending. The secretary stated that the number of financial members was greater than last year. Messrs. Hopperton and Shadgett were appointed delegates to the proposed National Service League. Deep regret was expressed at the death of the late Captain E. Y. Butler, who was an original officer of the 12th Battalion and a foundation member of the Association. Another comrade whom we mourn is the late Peter Gahan, who passed on after a long spell of indifferent health.

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10 Garrison Battalion

The battalion has now settled down comfortably in the new huts, and everyone can laugh at the bad weather which has now set in, in earnest. Of course there is still the problem of the trip to and from the mainland, but it is noticed that no one forgoes their value in the fact that they are tedious, however well modern methods of warfare are accompanied by films interesting to keep alive.

The battalion is undergoing at the present latency, as explained that business had been very slack making crime enticing. It was one day as the same till this has had in the quarters. The quarters were taken over some weeks ago. They include a new and the most comfortably finished rooms in the hotel. Cafeterias, suburban stores, country stores and now again Australian Military Camps and Royal Australian Naval Units have selected Evergreens, Ridsdale and Allen are now in the taxpayers' class.

Our C.O. (Lieut-Colonel H. A. Kuring) returned from annual leave during the month. All ranks welcome him back and hope he enjoyed his holiday. Captain I. M. Macleanman, M.C., also returned from leave. C.O.M.S. Hunter, of "A" Coy., comments that his company eats more "bergoo" than either of the others. In future only an officer whose name begins with "Mac" will be appointed to command "A" Coy.

The battalion bid good-bye with very much regret to our second-in-command (Major E. Robertson) who has been transferred to Northern. The Major was very much liked by all who came in contact with him, and he is very much missed by a good many in the battalion. He leaves us to command an A.I.F. training battalion.

19 (Reserve) Garrison Bn.

"There's something about a soldier," so runs a song I seem to have heard somewhere at some time. In this case it was really true. There was something about a soldier, about a number of soldiers complete with motor transport, all about them around, over, inside, Dust. Dust rich and red. Swirls and waves of dust; sifting in and covering up; disfiguring those to whom nature had been kind (facially) and covering up the deficiencies of those less fortunate ones. This is not an epic of the Western Desert but a slight impression of the great trek of the 19th H.Q. to attend camp at Geraldton last month, on that section of the road which has not yet received its clothing of tar. But the discomforts were offset by the pleasures of the journey, even a trip of over 300 miles in a 30cwt. truck has its compensations. The joy of seeing green things growing after the first rain had fallen was one; not to be compared, of course, with that of the first sight of the
mushroom-spangled paddock, over which the entire crowd was soon scattered "while the billy boiled." It really does seem as if man's chief pleasures are stomachic.

But all good things come to an end and some 114 hours after leaving H.Q. we found ourselves at Journey's End—a huge barn-like structure at the Utkarra showgrounds. With no lights but the ubiquitous kerosene hurricane lamps, and not many of those, the first voyage of exploration showed much to dismay and little to encourage, but a meal, good, plentiful and greatly appreciated, added a rosy film to the lamp glasses or induced a benign mental reaction, at any rate things did not look so bad that hard work would not make them possible, if not indeed ideal.

From then to the opening of camp the feverish activity of a bee hive in full spate was allied to the spirit of the pioneers; scheming, planning, contriving, making do with the bits and pieces which thoughtful predecessors had left lying around achieved the seemingly impossible—a habitable and usable set of kitchens, offices and stores.

"D" Coy. entered camp with becoming lightheartedness; explorers in entirely new country filled with zeal and the desire to discover anything and everything. Generally speaking, they are a younger crowd than the other companies, and very few have had previous service. It is worth recording that they did not lose their lightheartedness, or their zeal, or their desire to know and do. And very, very many things were discovered; some grave, many gay, all enlightening. One very important discovery was that tents with several men in are apt to get littered up; and a state of little or even slight untidiness does not find favour in the eyes of the camp staff. So Dusty, or whatever his appellation might be, learnt to do what, perchance, he would have scorned to do at home—tidy-up after himself—and do it well for the greater glory of his tent and the gaining of a little bit of bunting. From what noble motives do we do ignoble deeds!

Visitors' day added to footnote to this when Mrs. Dusty, with a "glint in her eye," took note of the blanket folding and chambermaid efforts for future reference, maybe with a view of "tent" inspections in another sphere. But I wonder! Anyway, there was a full attendance of relatives and friends at the visitors' day parade on the first Sunday, so ample opportunities for reflection along these lines were offered.

Drill, instruction, route marches, exercises, musketry practices, all were carried out in their turn and place; interest and keenness were roused, or increased, and maintained, and in order that the scaling of one small peak of training should not produce satiety or the inclination to stay put, a great deal of unconquered peaks ahead was presented, theirs for the scaling. All were keen to get on with the job of soldiering, usually meaning parade work and the strong meat of instruction; in their keenness forgetting or on partly realising how much care and thought, effort and planning, staff work in reality, and by how many people, has to be done if a show is to be run with precision, efficiency, to have that little something extra, which will carry it to a successful conclusion. In that respect also camp has proved a wonderful eye-opener.

The two days' field exercise was conducted by Major Snr. McKenzie, Brigade Major 5 Garrison Brigade, when many things were attempted "somewhere in the bush"; here again much was learnt and many preconceived ideas scrapped.

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The march through Geraldton was a great success, those members in camp being joined by the Northampton platoon (who had previously done a 14-days' camp); and all agreed that “D” Coy. put up a good show. The salute was taken by Colonel W. B. Robinson, D.C.M., and Wing-Commander P. G. Hefferan (R.A.A.F. Commandant, Geraldton), Major A. L. B. Lefroy, M.C. (Commanding Officer 19 (Reserve) Garrison Battalion). The Mayor of Geraldton, the Bishop of North-West Australia, the Mayor of the Borough of Geraldton and other notabilities were present on the dais. Colonel W. B. Robinson also inspected camp and addressed “D” Coy. on parade. The real keynote of the camp, I feel, was the enjoyment, taking everything, even the hard work (and to those who have spent the bulk of the day in a sedentary billet parade work is hard), the guard duty when back from a march, and on, with a smile. I believe that not one but would have been delighted if the camp had been going on, regretted that it had come to such an untimely end. A fine tribute both to the men who attended and the staff who were responsible for their training.

5 Garrison Battalion

We deeply regret the passing of Private “Jimmy” Kay, who died in Lucknow Hospital on May 20. His last parade was well known and well liked, and his death came as a shock to a host of friends in and out of camp.

We have with us for training purposes a number of The Home Guard (V.D.C.). Good trenchermen, they appear to be thoroughly enjoying the life.

Lieut. A. E. J. Mayhew and his guard of “A” and “Support” Companies returned recently from having a chance of at the Commonwealth Government’s expense, looking very fit.

W.O.II, C.S.M. Jim Streeter, was allowed by his family to return off A.R.L., he having completed all the spare jobs at home.

R.Q.M.S. “Herb” Armstrong and C.Q.M.S. “Wully” McKee rejoined us from school, bursting with knowledge on “Q” matters.

Our second-in-command (Major A. L. Smith, also Sergt. W. G. B. Thompson and Sergt. C.R.) are aiming their sojourn amongst “other sides.” They give glowing accounts of their reception and entertainment during the visit.

Lieut. Wally Horsfield, who accompanied the party, has gone A.R.L. to rejuvenate.

We welcome Lieut. M. J. Poster, who has been posted to “A” Coy.

The boys are eagerly awaiting the opening of the new canteen, where we shall be able to purchase meals much easier than we can in the present building. A good muster is expected at the opening ceremony.

With the advent of winter and its attendant outbreaks of influenza, the 5 Garrison Aid-Post has come in for its fair share of issuing out the various dopes to combat it. Under the able supervision of the popular R.M.O. (Captain Anderson), recovery is usually rapid and pleasant. Thanks to the efforts of Medical and non-medical men, the aid-post has now a very nice electric kettle and various games. At the moment the six patients in hospital are all well on the way to recovery.

We congratulate the following members of “A” Coy. on their promotions: Sergt. “Reg” Harrison, to W.O.II C.S.M.; L/Sergt. E. J. McCormick, to Sergt.; L/Cpl. H. S. Truran, to Cpl.; and L/Cpl. W. C. Miller to Cpl.

Cpl. F. W. Stockden of H.Q. has been promoted to Sergt.; also L/Cpl. J. Loxton of the same company to Cpl.

Private O. S. W. Belcke, a very able man at his job, has received recognition and made armourer Sergt. (R.O.II).

The dances at the Myola Club, Claremont, are proving a great success. It is said they are the merriest functions held in the metropolitan area. On June 20 we are embarking on the “Myola Club special.” The committee has worked very hard to make it a success, and it is up to us all to show appreciation of their efforts to assist the battalion welfare fund by rolling up to Anzac House at 9.30 p.m.

B. & C. (Militia) Companies

Training has been strenuous of late, with three full Sundays in five weeks, in addition to many voluntary parades in between. Still that is what these companies go on parade for. One of the compulsory Sundays was devoted to work relating to earthworks at Looneys Hill, and to save time each member brought his own banjo (adult size). Between the two companies, which has a combined strength of about 200, several tons of sandbags were given at about 4 o’clock to fill in the trenches again. Several hundred sandbags were filled and emptied in constructing the M.G. and Bren gunpits. The instruction was carried out by Captain McMahon (Cadets’ officers) and a staff of three N.C.O.’s. This quarter is keen, and a month later came along to Swanbourne with a series of sketches for each section relating to breastworks, rifle pits, machine-gun posts and anti-tank gun pits. Again several hundred sandbags were filled and emptied. Luckily during the week previous there had been heavy rains, so that the sand on this hills held together to a certain extent. The intervening Sunday was spent at Western Command Training School, where Captain Graham had established a bull ring, which kept the troops going until just about 5.30 p.m. This day proved most instructive and all hope that it will not be too long before each school is again visited. For this parade, all were dressed in their Sunday best, and at the conclusion of the day’s parade Captain Graham and his instructors took the salute from the companies as they marched out to the C.A.A. grounds led by Captain Reg. Wood ("B" Coy.) and Lieut. Bob Sanders ("C" Coy.).

No. 5 Platoon "C" Coy. on one of the Sunday parades took leave of Lieut. "Sticky" Clayton, who has been selected for draft duty. All wished him the best of luck, and congratulated him upon wearing a third pip.

No. 1 Platoon ("B" Coy.) has been taken over by George Lenox, who has recently been given such promotions as will allow him to wear two pips. At the conclusion of the 1914-18 show George used to wear three, but the present one is as good as any.

Quite a few of the platoons have provided themselves with gear and training equipment, such including sand trays, bayonet sticks and bags, haversacks, belts and bayonet frogs. It is rumoured that one platoon even contemplates the erection of a miniature range.

The strength of these two companies remains just about the same, approximately 220. There were a few recruits on the last Sunday parade, and there are vacancies for a few more. The companies are still keen and anxious to learn and become thoroughly efficient in their job. Although training is the main job, it is antici-
Personalities

West Leederville-Wembley sub-branch has a great enthusiast in Geo. Warden, of Water-fame. This is the chap who stops your water supply when you don't—or can't—pay your rates. George will be remembered in the 6th Field Engineering Coy. and was away for four years. He is also known on Sunday mornings as the chap who swings his arms in the wrong direction and puts everyone out of step. He has a flair for good music and has helped many charitable objects. He formed a choir in the local sub-branch some time ago, and members are now wanting to get down (or up) to practice. Make it soon, George.

It is not often that Diggers of the last war have wedding notices nowadays, but Cyril Musgrove, president of Subiaco sub-branch, was recently married to Mrs. Elsie Thompson, well and favourably known as a good worker and bright personality in the women's auxiliary. Members of the sub-branch made a presentation to Mr. Musgrove and evening was held in his honour. A dance and social evening given on the day of the wedding was well attended by sub-branch members, and they and the host of other friends had a particularly enjoyable time. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Musgrove all the best for future happiness.

Lord Birdwood's grandson is now soldiering. Robin Craig, son of Captain Colin Craig, and grandson of the Soul of Anzac, is now a subaltern in his grandfather's regiment of the Indian Army. When last heard from, he was stationed on the North-West Frontier, hoping soon to be sent on more active service.

Mr. Robert Whiting, the oldest soldier in the State, died last month at the age of 97 years. He was a bugler in the South Australian Light Horse, and was a member of the 2nd South Australian Light Horse Mounted Rifles. He served in the South African War, 1899-1902, and was mentioned in the dispatches.

Mr. Robert Whiting served in the Boer War, and was awarded the O.B.E. for services rendered. He was a member of the 2nd South Australian Light Horse Mounted Rifles, and was mentioned in the dispatches.

Colonel Sir George Bell, one of the six new Australian knights included in this year's Birthday Honours list, is a native of Sale, Victoria. He was severely wounded during the South African War, but was twice mentioned in dispatches and came home with a commission and the D.S.O. He left Australia with the Tasmanian squadron of the 3rd Light Horse in 1914, and served at Gallipoli, in Egypt and in the Palestine campaign. He was again mentioned in dispatches. He was awarded the C.M.G. in 1918. He is now a Knight Commander of that order. Sir George Bell has represented the Tasmanian constituent of D.M.R. in the House of Representatives for several years. He became Chairman of Committees in 1932 and was Speaker from 1934 to 1940.

Only three residents of our own State were mentioned in this year's Birthday Honours. They are Colonel C. H. Lamb, Mr. Charles Taylor and Mr. J. M. Monger. The last-mentioned, Mr. Monger, is well known in the public and business life of Western Australia. In August last year, he presented his family home, Parnall's House, at York, to the Army, to be used as a convalescent home for soldiers. Like Colonel Lamb and Mr. Taylor, he has been awarded the O.B.E.

Colonel Lamb, who was awarded the O.B.E. in this year's Birthday Honours, needs no introduction to ex-service men. He served in the last war with the 3rd and later with the 44th Battalion. In 1918 and 1919 he was Staff Officer, 2/11th Battalion. Colonel Lamb continued his services with the forces after the last war, and, for a period, Commanding Officer of the 13th Infantry Brigade. Since recently, he was Camp Commander at Northam. He has served many years on the State Executive and was foundation president of the Perth Legacy Club.

Mr. Charles Taylor, the third recipient of the O.B.E. in this State, is well known to Diggers as Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation and chairman of the Repatriation Board in Western Australia. He served throughout the last war with the 16th Battalion, took part in the Landing on Gallipoli, and was wounded later in the Gallipoli campaign. Mr. Taylor is again serving overseas in an honorary capacity as Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Red Cross In-Quiry Bureau for Prisoners of War, Missing and Wounded Soldiers.

We regret to report the passing of Peter Gahan, a valued member of the 12th/52nd Battalion Association, after a long spell of indifferent health. We join with the Association in extending deepest sympathy to his relatives.

Major J. W. Colpitts, a veteran of the South African War who served with the 10th Light Horse in the last war, is to be congratulated on being re-elected unopposed as president of the coastal branch of the South African and Imperial Veteran's Association. Few men in Perth know South Africa better than the Major, for he served in the B.S.A. police in various parts of the Union during the years between the wars. At present, he is adjutant of the Corps of Commissaries.

A. E. Carleton, who is well known in the business life of Perth, served in the South African War with the Oxfordshire Light Infantry (now the Oxford and Bucks) and the 8th M.F. In 1914, he joined up again with the 1st King Edward's Horse (the King's Overseas Dominions Regiment), but was soon commissioned and gazetted to the 1st Battalion, Duke of Edinburgh's Volunteer Regiment. Four of his sons are serving now, two of them in the A.I.F. One in the 11th Battalion is wounded and has been expected up for the A.I.F., and a daughter is a V.A.D.

Our deepest sympathy with Captain Les. Challen, M.C. (48th Battalion, A.I.F.), staff officer, Western Australian Home Guard, whose brother has been reported missing. We sincerely hope that better news will not be long arriving.

As we go to press we learn with deep regret that Jim Lang, an esteemed member and former secretary of North Perth sub-branch, has been reported ill in Alexandria Military Hospital. Jim is having his second helping of active service, this time with the 2/11th Battalion.

We deeply sympathise with General Newman and family on the death of Mrs. Newman. Mrs. Newman was the daughter of the late Colonel L. E. Tilney, who so affectionately known to us, and she had the same kindly disposition as her father. George is a good member of the West Leederville sub-branch.

Mr. Norm Fletcher, the well-known licensee of the Royal Hotel, Perth, has joined the A.I.F. Good luck, Norm, and a safe return.

A VALUABLE CONCESSION

In the early part of April, the State Secretary approached the Premier with the suggestion that the men of the fighting forces who have returned wounded and sick, and for whom out-patient treatment is required, free tram and rail travel concessions should be granted. In a recent letter to the League, the Under-Secretary to the Premier's Department has advised that the matter had received Cabinet consideration, and it has been decided that the concessions granted during the last war would again apply, with the proviso that each particular case should be reviewed at three months or upon discharge whichever is the sooner. The concessions in force during the last war and which will again apply are:

(a) Free travel between stations within the metropolitan suburban area.
(b) Return tickets, 2nd class only, at two-thirds of the ordinary return fare between stations outside the metropolitan lines on production of a duplicate leave pass endorsed by the Base Hospital authorities.
(c) Free travel on Government trams between Perth and suburbs on presentation of a pass issued by the Defence Department.

A.R.M.S. COMPETITIONS

Since our last issue the following games have been played in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Draw</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Osborne Park</td>
<td>4</td>
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The position of the teams is as follows:

West Leederville 12-0
Mt. Hawthorn 12-0
Nedlands 12-0
Subiaco 12-0
Gloucester Park 12-0
Mosman Park 12-0
South Perth 12-0
Osborne Park 12-0

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EXEMPTION BADGES

In a response to a letter from the Federal Secretary of the League, the following advice has been received from the Prime Minister's Department:

The Commonwealth Government has approved the issue of two kinds of exemption badges—the Exemption Badge (medically unfit) and the Exemption Badge (reserved occupation). The medically unfit badge is issued to volunteers rejected on medical grounds, and is under the sole control of the Department of the Army. Volunteers rejected as medically unfit by the Navy or Air Force are required to be certified as medically unfit for the A.I.F. before receiving the medically unfit badge.

The reserved occupation badge is issued only to persons in reserved occupations who volunteer, unconditionally, to serve overseas with any service when called upon at any time during the war, and who are medically fit and within the approved age-limits for enlistment.

AN AIR FORCE RECEPTION

On June 5, the State Executive tendered a reception to Air Commodore H. F. de la Rue, Commanding Officer of the R.A.A.F. in the Western Area, the Director of R.A.A.F. Recruiting (Mr. M. L. Cobby, Deputy Recruiter of the R.A.A.F. in the Western Area (Flight-Lieut. de C. Matalich). In welcoming the guests, the State President (Mr. A. Yeates) said that Group Captain Cobby was doubly welcome. He was an Australian ace during the last war and had held office in the Gauifeld sub-branch of the League. In his reply, Group Captain Cobby acknowledged that great reliance had been placed—and not misplaced—in the old soldiers in connection with R.A.A.F. recruiting, and thousands of them had come into the force. The Gauifeld sub-branch, with which he was associated as a member of the League, was probably the biggest sub-branch in Australia. It had a membership exceeding 3,000, and ran its own club. He struck a note of joy when he mentioned that the club had a license and £26,000 had been taken over the bar in one year. The glasses placed end on end, would reach 26 miles.

SOUTH AFRICAN VETERANS

Annual Reunion Social

They sang "Old Soldiers Never Die," but the virility displayed at the South African and Imperial Veterans' Reunion on May 24, crowned with the vigorous vigour of Anno Domini, and the genial spiritiveness of John Wood, show that they simply-refuse to fade away. This most enjoyable reunion was presided over by the president of the coastal branch of the association (Major J. W. Colpitts), on whose right side sat the General President (Brigadier-General A. J. Bessell-Browne). Also present were the G.O.C. Western Command (Major-General J. G. Cobby, D.A.C.), Surgeon Commander Field-Martell, R.A.N.R., the State President H. S. A. I. A. (Mr. A. Yeates), the Lord Mayor of Perth (Dr. T. W. Meagher), the Hon. J. M. Macfarlane, M.L.C., the Minister for M. A. H. Health (the Hon. A. H. Panton, M.L.A.) and representatives of kindred associations. Special guests were two veterans of older Empire wars, Messrs. Smillie and Pearce, who had fought in Zululand and Burma and who, with their comrades of war up to the year 1916, were formerly entertained by the Commonwealth Government every Empire Day. In welcoming the guests, Major Colpitts said that the association had been pleased at the news that the King had promoted General M. A. Durrant, who had fought against them in the South African War, to the rank of Field Marshal. This announcement, which had "come over the air" during the morning, was vigorously cleared by the new Field Marshal's former opponents, but then, South Africa was the last of the gentlemen's wars. The president also made reference to the splendid work done for the association by the vice-president, Mr. John Wood, who, he said, was probably the oldest soldier present. John Wood enlisted in 1887. He is 81 years of age, but like another famous Johnny, he is still going strong. He is rendering useful and vigorous service in the R.S.L. Volunteer Defence Corps. The president then formally proposed the "Day We Celebrate." Kindred Associations were proposed in a vigorous fighting speech by Fred Bateson, who made no bones about declaring that the age limit for service should be raised. The State President (Mr. Yeates) and Mr. Mackenzie replied.

Proposing the toast of the association, the Lord Mayor of Perth, Field-Marshal Lord Meaphurst, denounced the defeatist spirit and pleaded for a stimulation of the patriotic spirit. In his response, Brigadier-General Bessell-Browne advocated a determined outlook. The reverses Landmg. had suffered were, he said, part of the ebb and flow of the fortunes of war. We had had worse reverses in previous wars, but we had won in the end. The toast of the Navy, Army and Air Force was ably proposed by Mr. D. H. Maloney. Surgically Commander Field-Martell responded for the Navy. Mr. A. H. Panton responded for the Army. The secretary of the association (Mr. A. E. Stephens) proposed "Our Girlfriends." This was responded to by the Hon. J. M. Macfarlane and Captain C. R. Collins. The remaining toast of the Artists was in the hands of Mr. M. Dillon, and Mr. Jack Samuels responded. A very fine programme of entertainment included items by Miss Ethel Cripp, Miss Beryl Beron and Messrs. F. Barry (piano), Bert Thompson (guitar), E. Jones, Jack Samuels and Harold Hopperton.

THE LATE MR. E. Y. BUTLER

Members of the League and of the general public alike must have experienced genuine sorrow and deep regret at the passing of Mr. E. Y. Butler, Stipendiary Magistrate of the Albany district, who died on June 1, in the Narrogin District Hospital as the result of injuries received when his car overturned near Newdegate on May 15. At the time of the accident he was returning from Ravens-thorpe on circuit duties.

The late Mr. Butler was born in Victoria on January 28, 1877. He joined the Public Service of this State in 1897. After passing through various grades and holding many important positions, he was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate in 1933. During the last war, Mr. Butler served with the 12th Battalion (A.I.F.), in which he attained the rank of captain. He was with the 12th at the Landing.

After the war he closely identified himself with the League in various parts of Western Australia, and particularly in Albany, where he was president and immediate past president of the Albany sub-branch. It was this unselfish interest, and the kindred sympathy which won the late Mr. Butler the election to the coveted office of Country Vice-President at the State congress of 1939. No better choice of a Country Vice-President has ever been made. Mr. Butler knew the State. He was a man of judicial mind and wide human sympathies, a genial personality and a good mixer. His loss has left a deep gap in the ranks, and will be keenly felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him on the State Executive and meeting him in sub-branch circles.

Deep regret at Mr. Butler's death was expressed by the Under Secretary for Law (Mr. W. T. Flinders) and by the State President (Mr. A. Yeates). The warmest sympathy of the League and of all Diggers is extended to Mrs. Butler in her sorrow.

The narrow 90-mile channel between Sicily and Africa still remains what it has always been during the war: a marine "No Man's Land." This naval fact is too little known. It is a peculiarly unattractive feature but it is one of the keys of the German strategy in the Mediterranean. The Huns believed they could send an entire army to Africa when the time came, and we have had to face the unpleasant fact that they did have these mechanised forces in Libya. The question is How did they do it? The explanation is comparatively simple. On the day a convoy was to leave, German air scouts covered the entire Mediterranean, together with the Libyan coast from Alexandria to the Suez. German airmen spotted the position of every British warship in that area. When they found no dangerous warships within steaming distance of the Sicilian Channel, the German warships returned for covering purposes.
A bulletin, issued by the Red Cross Society in this State, describes novel methods which have enabled farmers in Britain to raise over £62,000 in nine months for Red Cross funds. Much of that sum was secured from the sale of stock, farm produce and land girls sold kittens for £5, and the right to take them out to tea for thirty shillings. One stock salesman sold himself by auction for £300. There was also an interesting variation of the endless chain letter, which gave up the tea, organised on this principle by one lady, was responsible for raising more than £200.

According to reports from London, brain specialists have made remarkable progress in the treatment of head wounds. Ninety per cent. of the patients treated for serious head injuries at one London County Council hospital were cured. The work of one surgeon is described by the medical correspondent of "The News Chronicle," "For hundreds of stricken people," the correspondent says, "he uses a local anaesthetic. Instead of replacing missing pieces of skull with silver or celluloid plaques, the surgeon puts bone taken from another part of the patient's body, or so-called dead bone. A plastic surgeon co-operates when there are also face injuries." Most of the patients are front-line civilians who were air raid victims. Some are paralyzed.

Albany sub-branch has adopted a system of establishing and maintaining contact with the men who have volunteered for service in the fighting forces abroad. The object of the system is to demonstrate to these men that the League will be friendly to them. The sub-branch explains how the work of the League for men on service and their dependants is started. Then a correspondent invites the volunteer to inform his dependants that the League is waiting to be of assistance. Each volunteer is given a nomination form for honorary membership of the sub-branch. The letter conveys the news to the soldier's friends that the League's door is thrown open to the men when on leave. A copy of the sub-branch organ is sent to the men and, when letters of appreciation arrive from time to time, from soldiers at the front, they are handed to members, who give one copy of each to a man sent a printed copy of a letter from an old Digger to his enlisting son, containing warm encouragement and sound advice of use to the soldier in camp, on a trip, or at the front, or on leave. An official of the sub-branch is able to devote his whole time to this work. He meets all trains, and when a man arrives on final leave his particulars are taken and arrangements are made for him to receive a supply of swell presents from the local women's auxiliaries. All departing trains are met, and a final greeting is given to departing soldiers on behalf of the sub-branch.

The following letter has been received from a New Zealand Digger of the last war. He writes: "As the parents of one of the boys serving overseas, his mother and I feel we must write and thank the two returned men, whose names we now, with their afternoon in showing New Zealand soldiers the sights of Perth, and so generously entertained my boy and his companion. By his letter just received, he thoroughly appreciated their kindness, and I can assure you we did also. Best wishes and good luck to all old and new Australian Anzacs.

At a meeting held on May 1, the Manjimup sub-branch resolved that Mr. Allan Jones was thanked in public for his general assistance, according to the request that he observe Anzac Day as a memorial day to fallen comrades, and refrain from showing pictures on that day. Mr. Jones' action entailed great inconvenience and financial loss to himself, and the sub-branch members have placed on record their sincere appreciation.

During the past month, 85 applications for assistance under the Soldiers' Dependents' Appeal scheme have been received. Of the cases dealt with, 33 families reside in A. metropolitan area and the others in country districts. All but six of the applications were approved. Assistance by provision of clothing, linen and bedding was given to 33 families, and layettes were given to five expectant mothers. Hospital attention was provided for 12 families, medical aid for 11, dental treatment for 16 and optical attention for two. Four families were helped with funeral expenses, and removal expenses. During the month, many legal difficulties have confronted soldiers' dependants. With the assistance of the Law Society of Western Australia, the majority of these have been satisfactorily adjusted.

Here is a hint all the way from the United States. Do you remember the Field Service Post Cards of the last war—"Whiz Bang"? The Diggers used to call them—on which were a number of alternative messages, and the sender could choose one and send it... The Americans have evolved a tele-gram system on the same lines. It was started by Mrs. Roger L. Putnam, wife of the Mayor of Springfield Massachusetts. She recalled those ready-to-send holiday greetings the American telegraph companies had printed, and got the American veterans of the last war to help her adapt them to military use. Between them they concocted a series of five typical messages such as "My old feet sure do get tired in this man's army, but every step is in the right direction. Feeling swell. Sleeping like a top." With a few amendments to meet the necessities of military life, the new system was placed on record.

Members of the old 11th Battalion are reminded that they should immediately purchase the story of their famous unit, "Legs Eleven," so excellently written by Captain Jock Belford. The price is 5/- or 11/- postpaid from Wally Lightfoot, 1 William Street, Perth, or Imperial Printing Co., Ltd.

Subiaco sub-branch has on its premises a large and handsome case known as the War Museum, in which repose souvenirs of the last war. A case from this museum was inaugurated some years ago by Mr. H. A. Lightfoot, who has since held the office of hon. curator. Recently a couple of most interesting additions were received, in the shape of an Italian flag and a cloth on which is woven a map of Italy. These are the gift of Ern Congdon, past president of the sub-branch, now somewhere in the Middle East with the 2/7th Field Ambulance. A photograph of Ern was recently placed in a most appropriate position in the general meeting room, and we trust the day will not be far distant when we will be able to say "bello" and shake hands with the original.

We used to hear wonderful stories of Russia's achievements in the air, but in this respect Russia presents one of the world's biggest questions marks today. Lately there has been much speculation over the 65,000-lb. Russian planes said to be flying in the world. More than three years ago, it was placed aboard an American freighter for shipment to Russia. As far as the Glenn H. Martin Company—the clipper builders—know, the giant ship has never been seen in flight since that day in January, 1938. Did the clipper ever reach her destination? Was she ever assembled and sent rocking through Soviet skies? If not, what happened? These are the questions which pose the mystery of aviation comparable with the sea mystery of the Marie-Celeste.

When we were very young, a popular Australian saying was "Yankees are devils for patents." The term "Yankee" of course embraced all Americans, even though the embrace was not always popular. The Americans are living up to the reputation for inventiveness in the produce of the most modern devices reported from the United States is the use of a locomotive as a portable and temporary heating camp for a U.S. army camp. Twenty-two units of a new 1,000-bed military hospital have been heated in this manner to provide a locomotive boiler, and the hospital was supplied with heat. The locomotive was an unheralded gift from the War Department.

**ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

**A Discussion at Collie**

At the June meeting of the Collie sub-branch, a discussion concerned essential services and manpower. The sub-branch had carried urging the retention by the Government, for the duration of the war, of all employees who reach the age of 65 years. This, it was claimed, would release for enlistment a large number of young men in the Government services. It was decided to forward the proposal to the State Executive.

During the discussion, the local recruiting officer (Mr. W. Rickerby) said: "At present we are getting it has been necessary to meet the required number of recruits. On the railways, there are a number of young men who are eager to enlist, but they are not allowed to do so because they are in an essential service. However, if the Government retained all the men who reach the age of 65 years, instead of retiring them, these young men would be released for service. That, I think, should be done for the duration of the war in all Government departments.

Mr. Keogh complained of what he called a "parochial attitude" in regard to recruiting. Quotas, he said, were set down for the States and districts, and only those numbers were accepted. He considered that it was not desirable to put restrictions on the numbers from each district.
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The old Digger, reviving memories of escapades long past, returned son: "And what are the Jacks like in this war, son? Are they tough?" "Tough, Dad!" the young warrior exclaimed. "I'll say they're tough! Why in Cairo, they're that fierce that they pinch one another for practice."

A sea-faring gentleman who signs himself "Matelot" writes me concerning an item in this column last issue. "I'm glad to see," he writes, "that you registered a protest against the high price of high quality rank to a low comedian who has done much to perpetuate the legend of the undisciplined A.I.F. While I don't want to come to the Senior Service, I'm sure you will agree with me that the Navy does things so much better by making the designation of rank indicate the officer's job. For instance, in the Navy there are Commanders, Engineer Commanders, Paymaster Commanders and Surgeon Commanders. Why can't the Army label these Captains or Colonial Captains and be done with it?"

In the last war, we were not the only people who sometimes put square pegs in round holes. The Americans added to the gaiety of nations when they appointed a distinguished brain specialist to take charge of an establishment which was the American Division Post Office. He said, "Philosophically, when he saw he would have to accept the detail, "if I am doing nothing else I am certainly making the undersea world safe for democracy."

It was Mendelsohn who composed "Songs Without Words." Tin Pan Alley has carried the process of musical evolution a stage further. It is turning out songs without music.

One of the best forms of publicity that can be used by any man is to have a number of yarns tagged on to him. This has happened to William S. Knudsen, President Roosevelt's Director-General of Defence Mobilisation. He is an arch politician in the true R.A.A.F. Perhaps it is the changed outlook that results from mixing with men which is worrying those who would like the Government to modify its present policy

While people were talking about the fate of H.M.S. Hood, some straight talking on the subject was indulged in by Admiral of the Fleet (Lord Chatfield), a former First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, and in 1939 40 Minister for Co-ordination of Defence. Lord Chatfield scornfully repudiated the suggestion that the Hood was sunk by a lucky shot. "The Hood was destroyed," he said, "because she fought a ship 22 years more modern than herself. It was no fault of any British seamen, but the direct responsibility of those opposing reconstruction of the British fleet until 1937."

History nearly repeated itself in Bagdad this year. In olden days there was a Caliph of Bagdad named Haroun Al Raschid. This year, there was a Califf of Bagdad named Raschid Al. He ran.

It did not take people long to circulate a crop of spy stories about Crete. The best one to date is about the young Hun who was fatally trapped through his defective knowledge of the British soldier's way. This Hun joined among some Diggers who were defending a position against odds. As he was wearing an Australian uniform the Diggers thought he was one of themselves. "What do you know?" they asked him and the masquerader replied: "I don't know—nothing." Then followed an in-out-on guard, which would have gladened the granite heart of any Aldershot instructor.

THE WORK OF WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

Within recent weeks, the Press has published many accounts of the magnificent work being done abroad by the Red Cross, the Y.M.C.A. and the Australian Comrades Fund and other worthy organisations. It is gratifying to know that there are also many splendid organisations in this country who saw service in the last war. They are therefore in a position to profit by that experience, for they can anticipate the needs of the troops and avoid the pitfalls of the past.

In a recent letter from Egypt, Mr. Chief Commissioner made a tour of inspection of field distributions and services clubs in Palestine and Egypt. He found the organisation proceeding smoothly, despite the changing conditions. The Special Services Club in Alexandria, during the month of March, 6,060 beds were used by men, whilst more than 18,000 meals were served. In addition, 10,700 free showe,
THE READERS' FORUM

[This portion of the paper is given over to expression of the views of our readers on matters of interest to service men and ex-service men. The views expressed are not necessarily our own, and we accept no responsibility for them.—Editor, L.P.]

MAN-POWER EXEMPTIONS

A correspondent writes:

We are told that men who join the Air Force Reserve, and later find that they are unable to leave their businesses, may be man-powered and granted exemption. Surely this policy is a wrong one. It seems to offer a shield to the worst type of citizen—the man who deliberately plans to cultivate the impression of being a conscientious objector, while all the time he is scheming to avoid it. There may be a few men, here and there, who quite honestly find that they have miscalculated, and that enlistment would entail unfair handicap. But the danger of allowing others deliberately to exploit this condition is something that needs looking into.

Of all the people who take advantage of a soldier after a war, there are none so persistent and active as the men who have placed themselves in the position of being able to say: "I tried to enlist, but could not." There is altogether too much latitude given this type of man in the R.A.A.F. He is expected to study until called up, but he can deliberately fail to do this and thus delay call-up; and, eventually, when a call-up seems inevitable, get himself man-powered. Sometimes this man-powering may be brought off by the help of an accomplice, who indignantly applies for his release, implying that the reservist was keen and willing to serve his country but was stopped from doing so, whereas it is a simple case of collusion, and the reservist had no such intention.

Surely the gallant young men who are so nobly responding to the nation's call, deserve to be protected from having to share their hard-won honour with men such as these?

V.D.C. UNIFORMS

R.F.L. writes from Ardath-Babakin: It is satisfactory to those who have been supporting the Volunteer Defence Corps, since the proposal to form such a corps was mooted last year, to learn in the May "Listening Post" that it is now being organised in a proper manner.

But in your report, as in other notices in the Press on the subject of uniform, no mention is made of the issue of overcoat, a most essential item of a soldier's uniform equipment.

Can you imagine a battalion of the corps parading on a wet, cold day in privately-provided overcoats or raincoats, in all types of colour, shape, style and pattern?

And what would be the position of a soldier on active service whose uniform was hidden in a hutted writing paper and envelopes, and the A.C.F. placed some cake in each truck, then they were for a well-earned rest.

What the boys abroad need as much as anything else is news from home. The cry of many letters is: "We are starved for news."

When writing send them the newspapers, or if that is not convenient clippings from papers. They are not so much interested in political news as in sporting events, and above all, news of the old home town. Let them have the local paper. When writing them from a hospital and unimportant news to you at home is often of tremendous importance to the lad who is away fighting for you.

by a civilian overcoat? Would he be regarded by the enemy as a civilian carrying arms and dealt with summarily?

And would a sentry, say, of his own side's militia regard him as a parachutist from the enemy, wearing an Australian hat and a civvy overcoat and shoot first and challenge afterwards?

It appears to me to be a point of some importance that is being overlooked.

SOLDIER AND CIVILIAN FARMERS

A correspondent writes: The position of ex-settlers and their sons by comparison with the civilians in "soldier-settlers" farms, and the sons of these civilians would make an interesting study if it could be followed out in detail. The civilian did not want the soldier's place in the last war—not in the front line—but he was quite willing to take the soldier's farm after the war and always managed to get it at a reduced price—a privilege he had never earned. Now, when the call comes again, we find that many of the brave old soldiery have hung aside malice, and offered their service again—and so have their sons. But what of the civilians who were allowed to take over these soldier-settler's farms at the reduced prices (a chance, incidentally, denied to soldiery who yesterday? Exempt. And the sons of these civilians, where are they? Probably all exempt, too. In many cases the soldier's farm was taken over by the civilian, as a speculation, and to-day he has added a solid margin from his point of view—of getting his son man-powered as manager. And later on, if everybody is nice and tolerant, perhaps these civilian's sons may be able to unload at a nice profit to the soldier's sons. And the whole sorry history will repeat itself. But will it? They say things can happen in 20 years. Perhaps the claim that some are fighting for industry and some are working for industry may raise the question after the war—who, then, is to own industry.

THE TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION (W.A. Branch)

At a general meeting held on May 8, a report of the Congress was held in Melbourne. April 21 was made by the W.A. delegate (Mr. W. H. Carr-Boyd). The delegate advised that Victoria, N.S.W., Queensland, South Australia and W.A. were represented.

Mr. J. R. Haigh (Victoria) was elected to the first Federal President, and Mr. H. Stevens the Federal Secretary. The following members were elected to the executive: Victoria, the president, vice-president (Mr. Lou Critchley) and the secretary-treasurer (Mr. H. Stevens); New South Wales: Messrs. A. W. Williams and Eddy; South Australia: Messrs. Roy Baynes and Roy Klein; Queensland: Messrs. Utteridge and Eddridge; W.A.: Mr. W. H. Carr-Boyd. Mr. Roy Baynes was also elected vice-president of the Commonwealth Council.

For the year 1941 the capitation fee of £1.25 was made by the W.A. delegate (Mr. W. H. Carr-Boyd). Mr. Roy Baynes was also elected vice-president of the Commonwealth Council.

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TERMS MODERATE
 Internment of Enemy Aliens

The belated reply of the Prime Minister's Department to a Federal congress resolution, on the subject of a proposal to intern all unnaturalised aliens, prompted some letters to the Editor of "The West Australian." One was by Professor A. C. Fox, of the University of Western Australia, who seems to have constituted himself counsel for the defence of aliens. This is the same Professor Fox who once publicly compared soldiers with scavengers, and who was one of the signatories of a letter protesting against the Federal Government's action in suppressing subversive publications that were deliberately trying to interfere with the nation's war effort. The letters oppose the attitude the Government has taken on humanitarian grounds, and utterly ignore the principle of safety first, which actuated the Federal congress in passing the resolution referred to. In fact, the whole issue has beenclouded by a smoke-screen of sentimentality and pseudo-humanitarianism which, like the flowers that bloom in the spring, have nothing to do with the case.

The members of this League are fully cognisant of the ideals of democracy, humanitarianism, and even of the dictates of that very uncommon quality, the common sense which the Professor prescribes as an ally to bolster up his case for the foreigner. The members of the League went abroad and risked their lives for these ideals. Professor Fox did not. One of his objections to the internment of enemy aliens is on the grounds of "common sense." He sees in every alien a refugee from totalitarian tyranny, but apparently has not read of cases of alleged refugees in England trying to escape to Germany to fight for the very country that is supposed to have cast them out. In short, he doubts whether their escape would have had much useful information to give Hitler and Co. Professor Fox also thinks that the subversive activities of enemy agents, which helped to undermine the resistance of small countries in Europe, could not happen here. Admittedly, the "tourist trick" is not likely to be worked in Australia, and one hopes we have no Quislings or Lavalis here, though this is something that remains to be proved. But the commonsense which Professor Fox invokes does not permit us to believe that the enemy is wedded to one method of white-anting. At the same time, commonsense would be strangely dormant if we permitted white-anting to happen here.

The Federal congress resolution, which has been the subject of the discussion, was passed and forwarded to the Commonwealth Government last December in an effort to ensure that this country's war effort is not impeded by people within the country. Critics of the resolution apparently forget that we are at grips with a ruthless opponent who wages total war; and the only answer to total war is total defence. We cannot afford to allow abstractions to weaken that defence, and we believe that any potential enemy should be interned, no matter what is the country of his origin. The Federal congress resolution requested the immediate internment not only of all unnaturalised enemy aliens, but also of all unnaturalised enemy aliens. It also requested that no enemy aliens be employed in the Censorship or other Government War Departments; that the sustenance paid to internees be not higher than that paid to British subjects; and that the immediate closing of enemy alien schools. There is nothing unusual or harsh in any of these requests. The Government has simply been asked to take a number of precautions that are not aimed at any particular alien groups taken in enemy countries, and which were taken as a matter of course in this country during the last war. It is all very well for people to contend that we should not copy the enemy. That is not the question. The point at issue is that we are at war, and to a total war we must oppose a total defence.

The Federal congress resolution was conveyed to the Government on December 12 last. The reply which reached League Headquarters in Perth was dated May 16. In answer to the request for the immediate internment of all enemy aliens, it was stated: "The present policy of the Government is that all enemy aliens who are regarded as likely to be a danger to national security, if left at liberty, should be interned. It has been directed that the benefits of the doubt shall always be given in favour of national interests, and not to the individual. Close co-operation between the Commonwealth authorities and the various State Police Departments is expected of all officers, who are charged with the duty of internment, to ensure that no enemy aliens are employed in the Censorship or other Government War Departments, it was stated that appointees to the Commonwealth must be natural-born or naturalised British subjects. No enemy aliens are employed as censors. The Prime Minister's Department replied to the request that the sustenance paid to internees be not higher than that paid to British subjects. By pointing out that sustenance is paid to indentured dependants of internees at the same rates and under the same conditions as are applicable to indentured Australian citizens. The closing of enemy alien schools and colleges has not hitherto been deemed necessary, but the matter is at present receiving the consideration of the Government.

As stated previously, there is nothing harsh or immoderate in the League's requests to the Government. The only surprising feature of the case is that they should have to be made, after more than a year of war, by the ex-service men of Australia, through their accredited representatives. The Government's reply cannot be construed into a rebuff to the League by anyone who takes the trouble to read it. Obviously, the Government's task is that of making the dictates of expediency march in step with those of national security and, one thinks, most Diggers will accept the official explanations given.
PHYSICAL FITNESS
PREPARED FOR MEMBERS OF THE V.D.C. BY S. M. WATT

If an invader set foot on our shores, and we were forced to repel him, every conceivable device and every ounce of physical energy would be needed. We know of the fatigue and hardships our soldiers overseas are undergoing, and part of their preparation for such an ordeal is a thorough dril in physical training. We must also prepare ourselves in case we have to do active service.

To do this efficiently it will be necessary for every man in the V.D.C. to rise ten minutes earlier every morning and work through the prepared syllabus. It is important to follow the table of exercises fully, as it is prepared to harmonise mind and body to attain the best results. It will be easy to find an excuse to stay in bed, such as the weather being too cold or too wet. Show a determined spirit and overcome these minor tribulations. If it is raining, then do the exercises indoors.

Here are four points that must be understood before commencing individual training:
1. Physical training should not cause undue fatigue, and in a unit such as the V.D.C., consisting of men of such varying ages, it is obvious that the same effort cannot be exerted by all, but some portion of each exercise should be completed in order to reach the highest possible physical condition. For instance, strenuous jumping or jerking exercises should not be undertaken by the older men. Every individual should assess his own capacity and exercise accordingly. Where a younger man might repeat each exercise, say 12 times, an older man may find half this number sufficient, but the number should be progressively increased with fitness. It is emphasised that where a weakness in constitution is known, any exercise having the effect of aggravating it must be omitted.

Here is a brief explanation of the sequence adopted in physical training:
- MARCHING AND RUNNING.
  - Commence by doing some simple and easy exercises requiring little effort, which helps to tone up the body.

  INTRODUCTORY GROUP (Leg, neck, arm co-ordination).—It has a general effect on the whole body, stimulates circulation and prepares the system for the more strenuous exercises to follow.

  GENERAL GROUP (Heaving, lateral, balance, abdominal (stomach muscles) and dorsal (back muscles)).—These exercises are of a more strenuous nature, so designed to develop harmoniously every part of the body.

  AGILITY GROUP (Jumping and vaulting).—Very vigorous exercises requiring strong muscular power.

  FINAL GROUP (Leg, neck and arm).—Quiet and easy exercises to enable the body to return to its normal temperature.

- CORRECTIVE EXERCISE (Deep breathing).—To develop the chest and to assist bringing the action of the heart and lungs back to normal.

The following comprehensive exercises are submitted to, cover the complete physical body:
- MARCHING AND RUNNING.—(a) A hundred skips with a skipping rope or one or two minutes of doubling on the spot. Start slowly and gradually increase the speed; (b) Deep breathing.

  LEG.—Heels raising and knees bending. Starting position: Hips firm (four times).

  NECK.—Head circling. Three to the left and three to the right. Make the head pivot the largest circle possible without moving the shoulders. Take care with the neck muscles, as they are the tenderest in the body and are more liable to stiffness. Starting position: Attention.

  ARM.—Arms stretching forward, sideways and upwards (change the sequence). Starting position: Arms bend (five times).

  CO-ORDINATION.—Astride jumping with arms raising sideways (later with a rebound). The idea of the co-ordination movement is to have control of mind over muscle, i.e., doing two movements in one and working in harmony (ten times).

- HEAVING.—Double arm punching upwards slowly with a slow return. Make a deliberate effort of this as though you had a heavy weight to be lifted to the full-arm extent. Starting position: Arms bend (three times).

- LATERAL.—Trunk bending sideways. Then trunk turning. Starting position: Feet astride, hips firm (four times each).

  BALANCE.—Leg raising forward, sideways and backwards, with toe pointing to the ground. Starting position: Hips firm (four times each foot).

  ABDOMINAL.—Trunk rolling. Small to large circle. Starting position: Feet astride, hands above the head clap (three clockwise and three anti-clockwise).

  DORSAL.—Touching the toes. Do this exercise rhythmically, counting to yourself: "Knees, toes, knees up." Straighten up and square the shoulders after each movement. Starting position: Hips firm (ten times). If you cannot reach your toes, do not strain yourself. Go down as far as you can.

- FINAL.—Finish off with 50 slow skips.

- CORRECTIVE.—Arms forward raise. Deep breathing with arms parting.

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MADE IN W.A.
THE WAR CAME
A Trait of British Character
BY T. H. BOLTON

The British, according to European military conceptions, have probably lost this war about three times already. To most of us, the most striking thing about the present grave situation is found in the fact that the reaction of our friends and acquaintances is very much the same as our own. Despite the misfortunes which have overtaken our arms in the war areas, and that we seem to be getting smarter hips and thighs almost everywhere, it is remarkable how the general run of people maintain confidence in ultimate victory and, in each bad phase that occurs, manage to find some feature which can be made of them of final triumph. It is, for all the world, just how we go on about a Test match until the last wicket falls. In reality our faith in ultimate victory is simply that trait in British character which refuses to accept defeat until the last man is out. No doubt things may be worse before they improve; and, no doubt, in spite of foreign assessments of our military situation, we shall just go on in our own peculiar way, making triumphs out of our failures and, in the eyes of the rest of the world, regaling ourselves with the inconsequence of each fresh enemy success. It is this habit of ours that frightens our foreign friends and makes them apprehensive for us, whilst among ourselves—it is merely a matter of taking heavy punishment and making light of it, and in this spirit we eventually win. This is, in fact, just that British principle or characteristic in which we have always carried on our wars.

Some of our idealists, or "the Innocents," as Sir Robert Vansittart describes them, have become almost lyrical in broadcast talks and newspaper articles about the faith and hope the free doms they say we are fighting for. The men who are doing the actual fighting, however, in this war as in the last, are (99 per cent. of them) fighting because the Empire is at war and for the survival of the nation and the British race. "Tradition and discipline," as Sir Archibald Wavell has it, "anyway so far as the British are concerned, are the real root of the matter." From first-hand knowledge one can safely say that the fighting men are not fighting for the furtherance of those unpractical idealisms which began with Gladstone, were implemented by Asquith and were largely consummated by Ramsay McDonald as a result of which the British Navy was reduced from a 3:1 standard to the perilous pre-war level; and produced an independent republican Eire, Egypt and Iraq, to say nothing of fostering all sorts of disruptive trouble in India. In their opinion, some of the idealised "freedoms" would be better described as treachery, license, chicanery and the like. No, we are fighting the aggressor in order to survive, because we are British to the backbone and we just won't be beaten.

As for our peace aims—of these it may be said that those who fought in the last war, no less than those who are doing the fighting to-day, will tolerate neither an armistice nor a peace treaty similar to those futilities of 1918. Concensus of opinion in those quarters is that the close of this war must leave Germany cut to ribbons; her cities and towns everywhere left without one brick or stone standing upon another; and so shall the predatory instincts of the Germans be suppressed; not only by an object-lesson on the unprofitable nature of war, but by giving them ample rebuilding to occupy their energies for the next 100 years.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISCHARGED SOLDIERS

There is one matter in which the League and its members have been keenly interested ever since the outbreak of the present war—that is the absorption of sailors and soldiers returning from the new war in civil life as speedily as possible. That goal can best be attained by providing them with suitable employment as soon as they are discharged from the fighting forces, and that has been done and date can be described by repeating a question that was asked in the Senate by Senator Brand on May 29, and the answer given by the Assistant Minister in Charge of Repatriation (Senator Collett). Both Senators are well and favourably known to all Diggers. As Brigadier-General Brand, Senator Brand commanded the 4th Brigade of the A.I.F. in France and Flanders, while Senator Collett needs no introduction here, having been for many years State President of our own branch of the League.

Senator Brand asked what percentage of men returned from overseas for discharge had been found employment by the Repatriation Department, and did these receive any allowances or other consideration whilst in employment. Senator Collett referred here to a statement he had made recently, and the report of his remarks which appeared in the Press. Up to the end of April, 411 discharged returned soldiers had registered for employment in the different branches of the Repatriation Commission, and at that date all had been placed in employment with the exception of 51.

Since the inception of the scheme for assisting these men, the sum of £3,146 has been expended by way of assistance to them while awaiting suitable employment. This measure of assistance is extended to men discharged after service abroad with satisfactory service records. The measure of assistance ranges from £2 2s. per week in the case of a single man, to £4 7s. 6d. per week in the case of a man with a wife and three or more dependant children. In addition, the Repatriation Commission may provide up to £10 for the purchase of tools of trade by way of gift. In special cases, the Commission may advance an additional amount, up to £40, by way of loan for the same purpose. It is considered that the great majority of men placed in employment will continue in their positions either permanently or for lengthy periods, subject, of course, to the usual percentage of changes common to the particular occupations in which they have been placed; but, as far as practicable, every endeavour has been made to secure for these men classes of employment which will afford every opportunity of permanency.

The Repatriation Commission is to be highly commended for the enthusiasm it has displayed in this branch of its work. It desires to secure suitable employment for these discharged soldiers with the minimum of delay. To this end, the Deputy Commissioners' report that considerable success has resulted based on the normal index with the men themselves. With the encouragement held out to them, they look upon the Commission and its officers in all the States as genuinely desirous of doing everything possible to enable them to lead the threads of their normal civil lives. For whatever reasons, it is not always easy to place certain individuals in employment. Generally, however, the position is satisfactory.
NEWS FROM BISHOP "TOM" RILEY

The following are some brief extracts from a letter written by the Bishop of Bendigo, our "Tom," to Mrs. Riley, evidently from somewhere in Libya.

"I have had an early service each morning in the little chapel of the hospital here, and yesterday we were half-way through the service when the warning went... There is no difficulty in getting the men to wear their tin helmets all day, and if Germany thinks she can break our fellows or the Tommies merely by bombing hospitals plainly so marked and killing and maiming staff and patients, then she has another think coming. It simply makes them all fighting mad, and determined to see things through. Any nation that thinks this sort of thing cannot ever hope to rule let alone conquer a sane world. It is sheer retrogression on their part."

"...The fellows are very cheerful, wonderfully confident and staking to be at the enemy... Today I went out to one unit to see some of the men I came over with, but it was a work of art getting there in the dust storm. You could see only a few yards, so you can get some idea of the difficult conditions under which we are living and working. We are quite confident about doing the main job, the whole thing is in our hands. As the team of padres here are all on their job, I found that my most useful occupation was to help in the theatre and actually had eight hours of it. In carrying wounded in and out of the wards, also I could say a few words to the fellows in the wards as they waited for their turns. The next day I had four hours. Mostly German wounded, which speaks for itself. The doctors and surgeons are taking as much care over them as over our own fellows. A general feeling of confidence is in all our fellows. They have been fighting splendidly and our losses are very slight. The new A.I.F. is living up to the tradition and playing the game well... Early yesterday morning we had a heavy raid for a whole hour. It finished with a salvo of bombs falling 100 yards from the cement drain in which six of us were sleeping. They were big ships so we slept elsewhere last night... I changed my shirt this morning, which I had worn for twelve days and slept in ten nights. It was somewhat grubby."

Since the letter, from which the above extracts were taken, was written, Mrs. Riley has received a cable stating that the Bishop had returned from the desert and was quite well.
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National Security Exhibition.—The Commissioner for Police forwarded a list of articles which were shown at the National Security Exhibition in Sydney.

Eligibility V.D.C.—Aising from a communication, received from a non-ex-service man concerning enlistment in the V.D.C., it was agreed that information be sought regarding eligibility of non-soldiers.

No. 2 R.S.L. Amelioration Fund.—Delegates were advised that an application had been made to the War Funds Council, Chief Secretary's Department, for permission to create a No. 2 R.S.L. Amelioration Fund. The action was endorsed.

Uniforms V.D.C.—Colonel Collett forwarded a communication he had received from the Minister for Supply and Development regarding to the supply of uniforms for the V.D.C.

Recruiting, Bunbury.—A communication received from the Bunbury sub-branch in regard to recruiting and conscription of wealth was received, and a reply left to the secretary.

Increased Allowances.—A communication from the Subiaco sub-branch urging increased allowances for dependants of soldiers serving abroad was referred to the Pensions Committee.

Enlistees, A.I.F.—Melville sub-branch suggested that each sub-branch take action to circularise members enlisting in the A.I.F. in the various districts, the object being to express appreciation for their action in enlisting and to offer the facilities of the organisation. The idea was approved as one for the attention of individual sub-branches. The State Secretary will refer the matter in his next circular.

Anzac Day, Kalgoorlie.—Reference was made to a leading article appearing in “The Kalgoorlie Miner” in connection with Anzac Day.

Leave of Absence.—Major W. J. Hunt and Colonel C. H. Lamb, both of whom had accepted appointments as A.I.F. Draft Conducting Officers, were granted extended leave of absence whilst on military duty.

Sympathy.—Delegates expressed sympathy with Mr. Nicholas in his recent accident and expressed their best wishes for his speedy recovery.

May 28, 1941

At the meeting of the State Executive on May 28 there were present Messrs. Vettes, Olden, Anderson, Margolin, Kahan, James, Nicholas, Williams, Watt, Zeffer, Newton, Keesing and Smith. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Dodd, Collett, Philp, Patton, Denton, Hunt, Cornell, Thorn, Cole, Warner, Gibson, Bissett, Boujost, Johnstone and Lamb.

Empire Shopping Week.—An interim report on Empire Shopping Week was received. It was agreed that the honorary organiser (Mr. Hastings) be invited to attend the next meeting of the executive to make his report on this activity.

Visits.—The following reports on visits were received: The State President, R.A.A.F. branch and South African Veterans' reunion: Colonel; Olden, military ball and Collie V.D.C. unit; Mr. Zeffert, Victoria Park sub-branch.

New League Badges.—Correspondence regarding new league badges was received and referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and necessary action. The Finance Committee will also be asked to consider the question of the charge for the issue of the new badge.

Sub-Branches.—The appointment of officials as advised by the Mt. Marshall and Brookton sub-branches was approved.

Approval was granted for the reformation of the Walpole sub-branch. Approval was given for the formation of the Gwalia-Leonora sub-branch.

Appreciation.—Mr. Marshall sub-branch advised that Mr. V. Creagh, who had been secretary for a number of years had been transferred from the district. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. Creagh, expressing the executive’s appreciation of the services rendered by him to the League over a long period of years.

Midland Railway Croy.—The Midland Junction sub-branch asked the executive to urge the Midland Railway Croy, to grant to its employees the same privileges in regard to leave as were enjoyed by employees of the W.A.G.R.

The matter was referred to the Pensions and Employment Committee.

Mons Day.—The Old Contemporaries’ Association asked the executive to again undertake the organisation of the Mons Sunday parade and service. It was agreed to accede to the request.

Yeaiering Sub-Branch: Patriotism.—The Yeaiering sub-branch forwarded a resolution which viewed with concern the lack of instruction in schools on the true meaning of Anzac Day. The matter be taken up with the Education Department.

The reply was left to the State Secretary.

Yeaiering sub-branch in another communication expressed appreciation of the executive’s action in dealing with another resolution previously forwarded.

Representations Political Organisations.—The Kalgoorlie sub-branch asked that the State Executive communicate with various political organisations in Canberra, suggesting that when any of their members pass through Kalgoorlie the sub-branch should be notified in order that a meeting could be arranged to exchange views on matters of present-day activities.

During discussion, it was suggested that the sub-branch should put this request through its own Federal member. The reply was left in the hands of the secretary.

The branch forwarded a resolution received from the Kalgoorlie sub-branch urging that the Commonwealth Government utilise the services of p.o.w. in the construction of the East-West road so as to release any of our own men who may be fit for active service.

It was agreed that this suggestion be sent through Federal Executive with the W.A. Branch’s endorsement.

Sir Talbot Hobbs’ Memorial.—The Nedlands and Menzies Branches protested against the use of the Sir Talbot Hobbs’ Memorial as a vantage point from which to view marches. This was noticed on Anzac Day and also during a recent march of the R.A.A.F.

It was agreed that a letter be referred to the Perth City Council, who are custodians of the Memorial, with the suggestion that a suitable ornamental protective rail be erected round the Memorial.

Control A.I.F.—The South Perth sub-branch asked that the State Executive circularise all sub-branches seeking an opinion concerning the control of the A.I.F. The secretary was instructed to advise the sub-branch that the executive does not agree with the suggestion.

British Ex-Service Women.—South Perth sub-branch drew attention to the fact that the British Ex-Service Women's Association preceded the Imperial ex-service men in the Anzac Day march. At this procedure was requested by the Imperial ex-service men, it was agreed to advise the sub-branch accordingly.

Appointment Examiners Defence Work.—Correspondence in regard to this matter was referred to the Employment Committee.

Vocational Training.—The secretary was asked to ascertain the actual position in regard to vocational training for members of the Second A.I.F. who would responsible for the administration of this and who would be eligible.

Radiator Accidents

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Sub-Branch Activities

WEST SWAN

The V.D.C. unit, which comprises 90 per cent. of the sub-branch, has had a Lewis gun course and is now receiving training in the Vickers machine gun. Thanks are due to the instructors of the Western Command School, who have given up so much of their private time for the necessary instructional work. Upper Swan and Herne Hill have now formed a composite unit with West Swan under the leadership of Alf Guy. The sub-branch has a war savings certificate scheme to which each member contributes two shillings a month. At the end of the April the sub-branch gave a send-off for overseas. A canteen order fund has been established on their behalf.

BASSENEAN

A meeting to enrol members in The Home Guard was held on May 26. The C.O. of the Swan Battalion (Colonel Sweetapple) addressed the meeting, which was under the chairmanship of Mr. R. A. McDonald, chairman of the Bassendean Road Board. Mr. McDonald stressed the fact that the organisation is a vital necessity, and assured the meeting of the road board’s co-operation in making facilities available for their training. It is regrettable that the attendance was very poor, and it is hoped that more members will enrol on future Sunday parades.

ARMADALE

The monthly meeting was held on May 14. The principal business of the evening was to consider a proposal that the sub-branch approach the local road board with a view to the erection of new clubrooms, estimated to cost £1,008, on a site in the Memorial Park, which is held in trust by the road board. The Armadale sub-branch is one of the largest in the State, and the present rooms are too small for the expected future members. At the meeting the proposal was well received and adopted unani­mously by the members present. A delegation, consisting of Messrs. Spencer Gwynne, A. Egan, G. McCarthy and the hon. secretary, were appointed to interview the road board. At the meeting an inscribed fountain pen was presented to the hon. secretary (J. McLennan) as a token of appreciation of his services to the sub-branch during a hard-working year. Jock, as he is known to everybody, is a dour Scotman, and as a financial expert in keeping members aware of their membership date has no equal in the history of the sub-branch.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

Wallish’s Hall was crowded on April 12 when the sub-branch put on “Back to Cairo.” All present went away with the same opinion, and that was that the show reflected great credit on those responsible. Musical items, speeches and dancing were the orders for a very enjoyable evening. The sub-branch received a sad blow at the May meeting, when the president (Olley Williams) definitely refused to nominate for re-election. Olley served with the good old 11th Battalion in the last stunt. On the death of the late Tom Flintoff, Olley because president (1935) and, apart from a period of six months, has continually occupied the chair. Needless to say, he has been the ideal chairman and has done valuable work for the League and the sub-branch in particular. Another stirring worker in Ken Grace succeeds Olley, and all join in wishing Ken a successful term of office. The games competitions have commenced. On May 2 Subiaco visited Mr. Lawley and had the satisfaction of winning 8-4. On May 8 Mr. Lawley journeyed to Mosmans and defeated Mosmans 8-4. Both evening were enjoyed by all competitors and friends, as the games were very keenly contested. The sub-branch held its first monthly social and dance on May 10 and the evening was a financial and social success. We hope the evenings prove equally successful during the forthcoming months. At present there are about 40 members in “C” Coy., 3 Garrison Battalion, and about 80 in the V.D.C. Both numbers should increase as there are about 350 financial members. One member, Captain Les. Challen, M.C., is staff officer of the V.D.C. in this State.

PERTH

Just at present we are concentrating on The Home Guard and feel certain we shall obtain our quota. The City Council has granted us the use of a section of Raebold Hill for a rifle range. At our Home Guard dinner cabaret evening the president handed a cheque for £100 to the Lord Mayor to invest in the Federal War Loan on our behalf. Monash House is a hive of industry these days, and Sunday afternoons and evenings the Citizen’s Telephone B1521 Estimates Invited

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Reception Committee entertain the troops with dancing and community singing, also providing light refreshments. Many expressions of thanks from the boys on leave have been recorded. Queen Mary, of the Patriotic organisations are taking advantage of the committee room for committee meetings, etc. All our functions are drawing large crowds, and the increasing popularity of the sub-branch is something we are very thankful for, as this means that we are able to do much good and also build up funds for the new Diggers' future needs. All members and their wives are specially urged to attend a special cabaret evening, to be held on the last Wednesday in June.

BUNBURY

The call to arms for home defence has somewhat dislocated routine monthly meeting nights. Bivouacs, and the 14 days Easter-tide camp forced a retreat during the last three months to the fourth Saturday. The June meeting, however, is to be held on the usual third Saturday, June 21. Attendance improves, although there are still many whose torchlight of R.S.L. comradeship glimmers but faintly—some even who are fathers of sons now overseas with the gloriously re-born A.I.F. The highlight of the March meeting was the wonderful rally to welcome Bunbury's first returned soldier from the present conflict, Lieut. George Roberts, whose experiences in camp in England during the early blitz, days and on the eventful return voyage home furnished No. 1 event for the evening's programme. George possesses much of his father's (the late Captain Fred Roberts) geniality, sense of good humour and easy style of a successful raconteur. April occasioned special arrangements for an unusually big muster for the Anzac Day parade, which this year was conducted on the recreation grounds. The parade in which Light Horse troops, the local garrison company, V.A.D. unit, Girl Guides and Boy and Sea Scouts joined forces with the R.S.L. body was admirably marshalled by the leader of the local garrison company (Captain Frank Slee). On May 11 the sudden death of Mr. Stan Bradshaw left another gap in the ranks of our foundation sub-branch members. As Q.M. sergeant in the garrison, Frank was always most painstaking in carrying out his duties efficiently. The erection of Westralian Farmers' modern offices and supplies depot on the adjoining block is architecturally dwarfing our sub-branch headquarters, suggesting that at no very far future date President Bob Gibson and committee will be confronted with the problems of modernising and enlarging the Bunbury sub-branch hall.

WAROONA-HAMEL

The Spitfire Patriotic Ball was a huge success on May 31, being a united effort by the sub-branch and the women's auxiliary. The ladies are to be highly commended on the supper arrangements. It was a really pleasant evening, about 400 people dancing to the strains of Ron Jenkins' orchestra. Mr. Claude Burgess, in the capture of Tobruk, cut down the last Italian flag and forwarded it to the sub-branch. This was taken round the hall by four khaki-clad figures and the people responded generously. The excellent result of £111 was raised for the Spitfire fund, which with the result from the ball made a grand total of £60. A very worthy effort.

MANJIMUP

Among the minor horrors of war are the disruptions of executive. In that regard, Manjimup has suffered several casualties already, and now we have President Laurie Sims and Vice-President Dave Crombie leaving to join the garrison battalion. This will necessitate an emphatic reshuffle of portfolios. Luckily, our new secretary, having got his teeth firmly fixed in his duties, is not likely to be dislocated. He is George Major, ex of the Pay Corps, Manipur, and India, who has a passion for doing things thoroughly. Home Guard training and exercises are attracting increasing attention, very fair musters of promising youngsters, sturdy "old sweats" and business men taking part.

Still, there is room for many more before our quota (60) is filled. Commandant Jack O'Shea and Doug. Fouracres have gone down for week's instruction course, and others hope to attend later courses.

WEST LEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY

At the monthly meeting held on June 9, it was revealed that the local unit of The Home Guard is being well supported. At the present time we have 87 members on the list for any duty that is called for.

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A.R.M.S. team have added a further scalp to their belt, after defeating South Perth. It was a 12-pointer. Our immediate ambition is the final four, and this can be done provided members will practice and practice right. Readers of these reports are particularly requested to support any move in connection with the State Red Cross appeal. There will be certain local functions, and it is earnestly hoped that every possible assistance and support will be forthcoming. Members gave some consideration to items to be submitted for the next State congress. A further discussion will take place at our July meeting.

GLENCENT PARK

The sub-branch has done very well in the A.R.M.S. competitions up to date. The match with Maylands was won with full points. We must take our hats off to the Maylands sub-branch for the way they entered into the spirit of the game. The sub-branch has done very well in the State competitions up to date. The sub-branch has done very well in the State competitions up to date.

SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT

The monthly meeting was held on June 4, Mr. Alec Watt presiding over a fair attendance of members. Motions for the inclusion in annual congress agendas must be submitted at the next monthly meeting. The last monthly dance was the most successful of the season. The next dance will be held on June 28 at S p.m. in the Swan View HalI. The local V.D.C. continue the weekly parades every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. Members are about to start on a machine-gun course. Two instructors are coming over from the Ordnance Corp at Midland, so it is hoped that members will endeavour to attend as regularly as possible.

SUBIACO

The monthly meeting was held on June 4, Mr. Alec Watt presiding over a fair attendance of members. Motions for the inclusion in annual congress agendas must be submitted at the next monthly meeting. The last monthly dance was the most successful of the season. The next dance will be held on June 28 at S p.m. in the Swan View Hall. The local V.D.C. continue the weekly parades every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. Members are about to start on a machine-gun course. Two instructors are coming over from the Ordnance Corp at Midland, so it is hoped that members will endeavour to attend as regularly as possible.

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Perth Battalion. Up to date recruiting in connection with this has been encouraging. Civilians are well represented in the squad that goes through its paces on Sunday mornings. After a very creditable effort, Colonel Goadby has relinquished command of the unit and nominations are being received for a successor. With an artillery unit and a platoon of infantry contemplated there should be plenty of scope for aspirants. On the 9th we followed our old comrade Bill Menz to his last resting place. We are deeply grateful to our comrades at Mt. Magnet sub-branch for their kindly interest in Bill whilst he was in hospital at that centre, and also later, in his wife who proceeded there at very short notice. Their solicitude exemplifies one of the things our organisation stands for. Our position in the A.R.M.S. competitions is now 26-22 against. The spin of a coin at South Perth to decide who would take the points for draughts put us behind. All games to date have been interesting. Next meeting night (June 26) is nomination night, and a full house is expected. Much has to be accomplished during next year and the keenness of members is expected to provide an interesting meeting.

PRESS
Lunch meetings held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Y.M.C.A. continue to attract a large attendance. The addresses given recently have been particularly interesting. The Press unit of The Home Guard has grown from the consistant 50 members to close on 200. The new recruits are a splendid type and are tackling their job with enthusiasm. Captain John Chappell the sub-branch president, is the leader. He knows his job and has the confidence of all. Parades are held each Sunday and each alternate parade takes the full day, when a tactical exercise is undertaken. In addition, there is a Friday evening class at the drill hall.

CLAREMONT
The last monthly meeting took the form of a visit, at the invitation of Major Norris, to the fixed defences. The evening developed into a harmony night in the recreation hut, where the old Diggers interfused with the young soldiers. A moving picture and the orchestra of the garrison were the main features of a delightful programme. Refreshments were provided, and the outing was a truly enjoyable one. New members are being enrolled for The Home Guard, and the sub-branch unit will be permanently organised into platoons in the course of the next week or so.

POMBERTON
Mr. G. B. Todd presided over the monthly meeting. It was noticed with regret that J. South was absent from his usual corner. He has been appointed to the new commission to study flax growing. Members are reminded that congress items must be sent in for the next meeting. The late T. D. Golding was included in the silent tribute to departed comrades. A further batch of parcels and cantrone orders has been sent forward for the boys abroad. This is the fourth issue from the sub-branch. Letters received show that the parcels are greatly appreciated, as they usually arrive at an opportune time.

RETURNED ARMY SISTERS
There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting on June 5. Miss Clifton presided. The two bridge evenings run in connection with the Red Cross Month of May Appeal enabled the sub-branch to hand over £8 5/- to the secretary. It has been decided to establish a memorial to the late Sister E. A. Watts, who served in the South African and the Great Wars. A fund is being opened with the object of furnishing a room in the proposed Home for Aged and Incapacitated Nurses. Donations to this fund may be forwarded to the treasurer, Miss Ashton, of 14 Dumbarton Crescent, Mt. Lawley.

ALBANY
When members stood for the "silence" at the meeting on June 3, the president (Mr. Richardson) asked for special thoughts for the late past president, Captain E. Y. Butler, whose funeral he had attended that day. During the meeting, it was resolved that members of the R.A.A.F. at Albany be given the chance of accepting honorary membership of the sub-branch, and that 13 men of the A.I.F., whose names were read out by the Scout, be accepted. The work of the scrap metals and paper collections will be continued as a mark of esteem to the late Captain Butler, who inaugurated the local collection. A suitable photograph of the late past president will be acquired for the Institute. Congress items were also discussed. The nominations of office-bearers for the ensuing year caused no ballots, so the following were elected: President, A. H. Richardson (third term); vice-presidents, S. T. Coles and E. S. Healey; secretary, E. W. Wheeler (third term); treasurer, D. McNaughton. During the evening the son of the secretary, young Ted Wheeler, who is in the R.A.A.F., was presented with a money belt on behalf of the Albany Camp Comforts Fund.

MT. HAWTHORN-NTH. LEDERVILLE
Recent meetings have been both interesting and well attended. The committee is working hard now to make the annual smoke a success. The A.R.M.S. team is in hard training. Members of the rifle team are having a keen contest for the trophy. On June 7, "Whis" Sinclair and Jim Morton took their team of bowlers to the Old Men's Home, Claremont, and gave the residents an afternoon on the rink. During the afternoon the visitors discovered some new talent which may be heard of later. The second team under Bill Parker and Con Masters are thinking of challenging them. A bet is on

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with Bill O'Neill from Wigan that Ted Nathan can drink more than Bill Andrews. This will be settled at the annual smoke. Stocky still has his lads of the S.S.L going strong, and hopes to win the Collert Shield once more. The auxiliary dances on Monday nights are still running merriely.

CARLISLE

There were 19 members at the recent monthly meeting, over which Mr. H. Crofts presided. The sub-branch unit of The Home Guard has doubled its strength during the past month. The sub-branch extends greetings to a new member, Mr. T. Hoddie. The next meeting will be held on July 3.

SHENTON PARK

The first annual smoke social was held on June 12. The annual business meeting takes place on July 10, when new officers will be elected. The ladies of the auxiliary have held several successful dances in the Scouts’ Hall, and the proceeds are gradually building up the amelioration fund. The sub-branch is now active in enrolling members for The Home Guard. The leader (R. W. Ogg) and his assistants are busy men these days.

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Women's Auxiliaries

McKinlay Shield Competitions

The following are the results to date:

Round 1
Subiaco beat West Leederville ... 8-2
Victoria Park beat North Perth ... 8-2
Nedlands beat Maylands ... 10-0
South Perth beat Mosmans Park ... 8-2
Cottesloe beat Fremantle ... 8-2
Mt. Hawthorn: bye.

Round 2
Cottesloe beat Mt. Hawthorn ... 6-4
South Perth beat Fremantle ... 7-3
Mosmans Park beat Maylands ... 8-2
Nedlands beat North Perth ... 10-0

Round 3
Subiaco drew with Victoria Park ... 5-5
Nedlands beat West Leederville ... 8-2
Mosmans Park beat North Perth ... 6-4
Maylands beat Fremantle ... 6-4
Mt. Hawthorn beat South Perth ... 6-4
Cottesloe: bye.

Round 4
Cottesloe drew with South Perth ... 5-5
Mt. Hawthorn beat Maylands ... 8-2
North Perth beat Fremantle ... 8-2
Mosmans Park beat West Leederville ... 6-4
Nedlands beat Subiaco ... 8-2
Victoria Park: bye.

Round 5
Nedlands beat Victoria Park ... 6-4
Subiaco beat Mosmans Park ... 8-2
West Leederville beat Fremantle ... 8-2
North Perth beat Mt. Hawthorn ... 6-4
Cottesloe beat Maylands ... 6-4
South Perth: bye.

Position of teams at end of sixth round:

Team Played Won Lost Comp. Points For Against
Nedlands ... 5 5 - 10 42 8
Cottesloe ... 5 4 1 7 27 19
Mosmans Park ... 5 3 2 6 24 26
Victoria Park ... 4 2 2 5 25 15
South Perth ... 4 2 2 1 5 24 16
Subiaco ... 4 1 2 5 27 17
Mt. Hawthorn ... 4 1 2 4 22 18
North Perth ... 3 3 1 4 20 30
West Leederville ... 5 1 4 2 18 32
Maylands ... 5 1 4 2 14 36
Fremantle ... 5 - - - 13 37

Canteen Work

With the advent of the winter months, Anzac House and Monash House have been made available on Sunday evenings to the Citizen's Reception Council for the entertainment of the fighting forces on leave.

It is now necessary for each organisation on Sunday duty to staff these two halls, in addition to the buffet at Barrack Street. As the R.S.L. auxiliaries were rostered for May 25, they were the first to take over this new appointment. The evening's hospitality was greatly appreciated by the lads in uniform.

If any country member is visiting in town and is desirous of information regarding the Citizen's Reception Council buffet, she gets in touch with Mrs. V. Stockman, 12 London Street, Mt. Hawthorn, who is the auxiliary representative on the council.

The Fremantle Citizen's Reception Council also do excellent work in dispensing hospitality, not only to visiting troops but to those taking part in naval and military parades.

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through the streets of the port. All Fremantle women's organisations are invited to assist on the council. On busy days the Town Hall and other halls in the district are open in welcome.

Just after the inception of the council the Fremantle R.S.L. women's auxiliary decided to lighten the burden for them by staffing their headquarters, the R.S.L. Soldiers' Institute, South Terrace, and contributing the entire cost of the catering whenever overseas troops were in port. Refreshments are available all day with entertainment from the afternoon onwards, with perhaps a dance at night. Many tokens of gratitude have been received by Mrs. Kirby and her ladies for their motherly interest in the boys from the Eastern States.

BOULDER

The weekly dances are still proving a great success. A big night is being arranged for July 4. It will repeat the "Night in Honolulu," which was so successful last year. The auxiliary was gratified at receiving a donation of £100 for the comforts fund from the St. John Ambulance Association. This will provide quite a lot for the boys overseas. We have had numerous letters of gratitude and thanks from those who have already received parcels. The first prize at a recent knitting competition in Kalgoorlie was won by one of our members, Mrs. O'Grady.

SWAN VIEW

About 60 were present at the auxiliary birthday party on April 7. The guests included the auxiliary State president (Mrs. McKinlay), the State secretary (Mrs. Hopperton) and members of the Bassendean auxiliary. Dancing, games and competitions contributed to the enjoyment of the evening. Mrs. Hammer presided at the piano and Mrs. Laidlaw gave several items. During the evening a small token of appreciation was given to the secretary (Mrs. Bickle). A wire was read from the past president (Mrs. Williams), who regretted her inability to be present.

MT. HAWTHORN

A social evening was given to the poppy sellers, their husbands and members of the auxiliary and sub-branch generally. It was a very happy affair. During the evening our esteemed members—Mesdames Lee and Morton—were presented with Certificates of Service. Members are still knitting well. Mrs. Fletcher's son, Bob, is home on final leave from the Air Force. During the meeting he called for a few minutes with his wife to personally thank the auxiliary for his parcel of knitted goods. He was well received. Mrs. Beven wished him all the best on behalf of the ladies. The auxiliary is still holding its own in the games, and hopes to get in the finals. A letter was received from Lemnos thanking members for the recent outing. The men from the Old Men's Home always enjoy our visit, and the good things taken for their tea. One of our members noticed a request by a new 28th Bn. soldier for a cornet. Having a beautiful instrument which belonged to an old 28th man, she sent it along with all good wishes on behalf of the auxiliary. It was a very splendid gesture. The soldier sent a very nice letter of appreciation.

WEST LEEKERVILLE-WEMBLEY

The monthly meeting was held on May 28, with the president (Mrs. Haines) in the chair. The sub-branch president (Mr. H. Holland) and secretary (Mr. G. Newton) of the sub-branch were welcomed to the meeting. It was decided to hold a bridge evening in aid of the local Red Cross May effort. The expenses will be borne equally by the sub-branch and the auxiliary and the whole of the proceeds will be handed over to the local Red Cross branches. The date decided on is June 24. A series of social dances will be held in the Lesser Town Hall on the third Wednesday in each month, June 18 being the date of the first one. A nominal charge of 6d. will be made, and proceeds will go to the auxiliary funds. The sports committee report having met Mt. Hawthorn and Freemantle recently, and spent very happy evenings in competition with them.

NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE

Members gave an outing to returned soldiers from Edward Millen Home, Lemnos,
Heathcote. The Eventide Home, Home of Peace and the Old Men's Home. During the afternoon a picture programme was shown at the Beacon Theatre, through the courtesy of Mrs. McKershaw. Tea was served in the R.S.L. Hall, Fremantle. The president (Mrs. E. E. Bell) welcomed the guests and assured them of the auxiliary's earnest desire to continue its activities on behalf of all returned soldiers. The vice-president of the sub-branch (Mr. S. M. Lane) and the recently-retired secretary (Mr. Tugby), who is now in the A.I.F., supported the president's remarks. Mrs. Hopperton, the State Secretary of the auxiliary, and Mrs. Randall, of the Motor Outing Committee, also spoke. Several of the guests thanked the auxiliary members on behalf of the various institutes. A short musical programme was then enjoyed, the contributing artists being Mrs. G. Briscoe (pianiste), Mrs. Turvan, Miss Seastream, Miss Swain and Miss Kathie Hackett; Mr. J. H. Oxton officiated as compere.

**VICTORIA PARK**

On May 18, the auxiliary entertained ex-service men from the Edward Millen Home, Home of Peace, Heathcote and Old Men's Home, as well as returned men of the present A.I.F. From Fremantle and Claremont Military Hospitals, and the Lady Mitchell Convalescent Home. There were approximately 100 guests. The president (Mrs. Barnett) welcomed the visitors. During tea, bright music was provided by the Girl Bandits Orchestra, under the leadership of Carmel Burrows. The enjoyable programme included songs by Aubrey Pennell, trumpet solos by Hannah Colley and varied items by 12th State Police. Art songs by Aubrey Pennell, trumpet solos by Hannah Colley and varied items by 12th State Police. Art songs by Aubrey Pennell, trumpet solos by Hannah Colley and varied items by the pupils of Gable Williams. The evening proceeded in excellent style. Mrs. Hoff- man was at the piano. Mr. Fred Mathews acted as M.C. and the secretary (Mrs. Prue) excelled herself in the concert arrangements. The auxiliary did the catering. Among the official visitors was the State President (Mrs. McKlinlay) and Meredades Stockman and Randal, who represented the Outings Committee. The flowers, which were arranged by Mrs. Harry Taylor, were afterwards given to the guests to take back to the various hospitals.

On May 26, the auxiliary joined with the sub-branch in celebrating the sixth anniversary of the opening of the hall. There was a party on May 29, to raise funds for the Navy, and a jumble sale on May 30. An A.R.P. class was formed on June 3. Lectures will commence on Tuesday, June 10, and will be continued each week from 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

**R.U.S.W.**

The Friendly Union of Sailors, Soldiers' and Air Force Wives, Mothers, Sisters and Daughters held the annual meeting recently. This organisation has functioned for 26 years and has more than 2,000 members. The president (Mrs. H. Dean) introduced the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Dr. T. W. Meagher) who congratulated the union on its splendid work during the year. Dr. Meagher spoke hopefully of the final result of the war, but stressed the necessity for curbing defeatism. He referred to one of the union's activities which was near his own heart, the Citizen's Reception Council. He said that, in almost every mail, he received letters from soldiers overseas, who had been looking after during their short stay in Perth. He has also received numerous letters from relatives in other parts of Australia and New Zealand. In her opening address, Mrs. Dean spoke of the many new activities in which the union was engaged. These include the formation of an Emergency Service Company and a Younger Set composed of wives of soldiers now on active service. The annual report, read by the secretary (Mrs. Cleary) disclosed an increase of membership, the formation of a war savings group which has already bought 137 certificates. There has been a great increase in the number of articles prepared for the services. Special days each month are set aside for work for the Navy, the Red Cross and for garrison troops. Parcels have also been despatched for prisoners of war. The Minister for Mines and Health (Mr. A. F. Wood) said he was pleased to hear that over 100 girls had joined the Younger Set. They would be able to carry on the work their mothers had begun. He suggested that, in addition to providing comforts for the men on service, this and similar women's organisations might be able to have the production of equipment speeded up. At the election of office-bearers, all executive and committee members were returned unopposed.

**SUBIACO**

Boxes of comforts were distributed at the Old Men's Home last month. The Bunbury auxiliary is thanked for the splendid box of home-made biscuits donated for this purpose. A happy afternoon was enjoyed by patients in the occasion of the monthly visit to Lennox. The programme of dancing, community singing and vocal items was arranged by Mrs. Struc, and Mrs. McMahon kindly supplied the music. Warrona auxiliary sent a generous donation towards the monthly supply of sausages. The auxiliary was well represented at the Empire Ball this year. An Empire Products Set, headed by "John Bull," gained first prize. Individual prizes were also won. A tuck shop has been held in the markets to raise funds for the entertainment of troops. The auxiliary concert party and junior auxiliary ballet gave a splendid concert to raise funds for the Jolimont Red Cross in the Jolimont Hall. The Camp Comforts Fund Committee has sent a parcel to the boys overseas. Many letters from grateful recipients have already reached the auxiliary. Parcels of woollen goods are also given to local boys and husbands and sons of members in all the forces. The Visiting Committee makes regular visits to the Home of Peace and to sick members in hospitals or at home. The junior auxiliary held a dance on June 18 to raise funds for the entertainment of troops.

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**ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN**

**RATES: £1/1/- PER ANNUM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTIL. COMRADES' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday</td>
<td>W. Beadle, 450 Newcastle Street, Perth</td>
<td>Jack Kenny, 138 Sixth Avenue, Inglewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLIND EX-SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion Street, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly luncheon, 1 p.m., on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Ave., Leederville</td>
<td>R. W. Blair, 79 William Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSN.</td>
<td>32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>J. W. Lynch, cr. Hampton and Fothergill Roads, Fremantle</td>
<td>E. S. Everett, Temple Court Garage, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday of Show Week</td>
<td>Col. G. C. Lamb, Victoria House, St. Geo. Terrace, Perth</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield Street, Mt. Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, quarterly</td>
<td>Dr. C. C. Leedman; chairman: R. Rattray</td>
<td>H. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Col. E. L. Margolin, 62 Tyrell St., Nedlands</td>
<td>Phone 89394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>E. Moss, 72 Second Ave., Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>E. R. Keynes, 51 Harvey Street, Victoria Park</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>W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruspil Street, West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, November, February, May, August</td>
<td>E. W. Arundel, Como</td>
<td>R. G. Hummerston, 106 Salisbury St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th &amp; 52nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>H. Hopperton, 115 Adelaide Terrace, Perth</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARMADALE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Spencer Gwynne</td>
<td>J. McClenan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Richardson, Albany</td>
<td>E. W. Wheeler, Grey St. (West) Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Saturday, 8</td>
<td>R. Petchell</td>
<td>F. Dorizzi, Ballidu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENDEAN</td>
<td>Town Hall—Lesser Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension days), 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. K. Minchin, 5 Wilson Street, Bassendean</td>
<td>H. Fry, 72 Railway Par., Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>H. T. Boultbee, Mulya</td>
<td>B. Sturmer, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLSBROOK</td>
<td>Bullsbrook Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday, monthly, 8</td>
<td>Gus. Pitchett</td>
<td>B. Sturmer, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>H. E. Gibson, Banksia St., Bunbury</td>
<td>B. Sturmer, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. G. O’Halloran, Murray Street, Bayswater</td>
<td>W. N. Freeman, 111 Victoria Street, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. Jones, Walsall, via Busselton</td>
<td>T. Gillingham, 49 Stuart Street, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Calingiri Hall</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>D. K. Fordham</td>
<td>L. M. Powell, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANNING DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Gordon Day, Cannington</td>
<td>M. Gill, Cannington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARNAMAH</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month, commencing June, 1940</td>
<td>W. T. White, Winchester</td>
<td>W. J. Lang, Canningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sarre, Clifton St., Collie</td>
<td>H. May, Collie (acting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad St.</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mr. W. Dunne, 10 Webb Street, Collie</td>
<td>A. G. Cook, “Lilydale,” 4 Kean St., P’mint Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Claremont</td>
<td>3rd Thursday in each month</td>
<td>A. P. Walters, Kalamunda</td>
<td>Harvey G. Rae, 1 Thompson Road, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>Kalamunda Hotel (unlicensed portion)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>E. Storrie</td>
<td>A. W. Findlay, c/o P.O., Kalamunda, Phone 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>R.S.L. Literary Institute</td>
<td>3rd Thursday in month</td>
<td>M. G. Baker, Donnybrook</td>
<td>H. J. North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. D. Morgan, P.O. Box 29, Dumbleyung</td>
<td>Rev. J. C. Lund, D’brook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hall</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. A. Hills, Holyoke</td>
<td>C. W. Nicolson, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRELLINGUP &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (penion night), at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. E. Hobbs, 77 Oakover Street, E. Fremtle</td>
<td>C. H. Joyntson, Holyoke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOSCOYNE</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. V. Fowler, 12 Pennant Street, North Perth</td>
<td>C. J. Lambe, 40 Eton St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Anzac House</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>S. H. G. Dolley, Gowan-angarup</td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Gowan-angarup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Room</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>E. Way, Gutha</td>
<td>A. E. Matthews, Gutha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Rev. J. C. Lund, Uduc Road, Harvey</td>
<td>J. R. V. Irvine, c/o Uduc Road, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. R. Hylton, Great Boulder, Pineton</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>S. S. Waycott</td>
<td>W. Bailey, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>Jas. Old, Katanning</td>
<td>H. Sullivan, Kellerberrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Tammin, meets quarterly</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith, Koorda</td>
<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>Quarterly (committee 1st Friday)</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Kukerin</td>
<td>W. J. A. Tumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
<td>Last Saturday, quarterly</td>
<td>R. Davies, Kulin</td>
<td>J. Wood, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>A. Hastings, Manjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>L. Sims, Manjimup</td>
<td>L. T. King, 10 Carrington Street, Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Manjimup</td>
<td>2nd Sunday in month</td>
<td>S. Horton, Alma Road, Mr. Lawley</td>
<td>C. H. Jacobsen, Menzies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper-room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday, 7.30 p.m. (penion week)</td>
<td>R. Lightfoot, Menzies</td>
<td>R. H. Wilks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Menzies Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month</td>
<td>Eric Henderson, Menzies</td>
<td>J. W. Simpson, 44 Dudley St., Mid. Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERREDIN</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday in month</td>
<td>L. S. Walden</td>
<td>R. G. Thomas, 7 Lillian Street, Cottesloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch (Rooms, Railway Parade)</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>J. H. Cole, 16 Harper St., Midland Junction</td>
<td>C. Ryan, Moora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOSMAN PARK</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Johnston St., Cottesloe</td>
<td>Last Thursday in each month</td>
<td>G. A. Ashworth, Bond St., Mosman Park</td>
<td>J. Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>Road Board Room, Moora</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Col. Nicholson, Moora</td>
<td>H. A. Morphet, Mt. Magaret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. BARKER</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. S. Dawson, Mt. Magnet</td>
<td>J. Morten, 344 Oxford Street, Leederville,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MAGNET</td>
<td>Lesser Hall, Mt. Magnet</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Blah, 14 London St., Mt. Hawthorn</td>
<td>W. G. Appleton, B’cubbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. HAWTHORN</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Memorial Hall, Oxford St., Leederville Rd. Bd. Hall, Bencubbin</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (Penion night), 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. T. Amos, Bencubbin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS/MULLEWA</td>
<td>Alternately, Mundaring, Darlington, Parkerville R.S.L. Hall, Mullewa</td>
<td>4th Friday of the month: 1st Sunday in each month, at 2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. J. Wilhusen, Mundaring</td>
<td>Mr. A. L. Dent, 69 Stanley St., Nedlands, Phone WM1764 S. A. Crisp, Marvell Loch F. J. French, Narrogin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARVEL LOCH/NARROGIN</td>
<td>South Yilgarn Hotel R.S.L. Institute, Narrogin</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month 2nd Thursday in each month Quarterly</td>
<td>A. S. Graham, Narembeen S. B. Clark, Narembeen</td>
<td>Mr. A. L. Dent, 69 Stanley St., Nedlands, Phone WM1764 S. A. Crisp, Marvell Loch F. J. French, Narrogin A. S. Graham, Narembeen Mr. A. L. Dent, 69 Stanley St., Nedlands, Phone WM1764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAREMBOEN/NEEDLANDS</td>
<td>Narembeen Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Needlands</td>
<td>Quarterly, 3rd Friday, March, June, September, December</td>
<td>G. Caldwell, Newdegate</td>
<td>W. W. Reid, St. John's Hall, 23 King Street, Perth M. Sargent, Pinelly M. P. Shepherd, Pinelly R. Biggs, c/o &quot;West Australian&quot; L. G. Browning, East Pithara R. W. Graham, Port Hedland H. L. Stonach, Bank N.S.W., Dangin J. F. Evans, Compound, Reedy J. M. Beckwith, Box 7 Southern Cross F. L. Flicker, 2 Hopetoun Ter., Shenton Park J. Jamieson, Shackleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWDEGATE</td>
<td>Newdegate</td>
<td>Quarterly, 3rd Friday, March, June, September, December</td>
<td>G. Caldwell, Newdegate</td>
<td>J. H. Kane, Newdegate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>Artillery Barracks, Burt Street, Fremantle Railway Hotel, Fremantle</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 3 p.m.</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday in each month, 1st and 3rd Saturday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday in each month, 1st and 3rd Saturday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubhouse, Gordon Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Sunday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland</td>
<td>E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Glebe Street (off View St.)</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>W. G. Hood, 26 Thompson Road, Claremont</td>
<td>F. Archer, East Pinelly J. Chappell, Pastoral Hse., Perth E. T. Roberts, Pithara L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
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<td>PERTH (Office hours: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>Monash House, 23 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Last Saturday in each month</td>
<td>P. Archer, East Pinelly J. Chappell, Pastoral Hse., Perth E. T. Roberts, Pithara L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
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<td>PINGELLY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesday, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>J. Chappell, Pastoral Hse., Perth E. T. Roberts, Pithara L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
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<td>PRESS</td>
<td>At Luncheon, Y.M.C.A. Murray Street</td>
<td>3rd Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. T. Roberts, Pithara L. E. Taplin, Pt. Hedland E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
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<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>Pithara</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading E. J. Johnston, Quairading</td>
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<td>PILBARA</td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>W. E. Sanders, National Bank, Southern Cross</td>
<td>W. E. Sanders, National Bank, Southern Cross R. W. Graham, Port Hedland H. L. Stonach, Bank N.S.W., Dangin J. F. Evans, Compound, Reedy J. M. Beckwith, Box 7 Southern Cross F. L. Flicker, 2 Hopetoun Ter., Shenton Park J. Jamieson, Shackleton</td>
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