JAPAN'S FIRST YEAR OF WAR

The outlook for the Allied cause as the year draws to its close is certainly brighter than it was at the beginning of the war. A year ago, Japan's entry into the war gave it a touch of grim reality for all Australians. We saw the enemy gain a series of spectacular successes that his own treacherous attack, and our own inability to be prepared at every point, had made possible. Australian ports were bombed; Australian territories were invaded; and we who had watched the battle from afar were suddenly thrust into the front line. Today, we may take pardonable pride in the fact that timely assistance from a powerful Ally and the valour of our own fighting men have halted the Japanese advance southward, and forced the enemy on to the defensive in New Guinea and the Solomons. Perhaps the hardest knock we have given the Niaponese is the destruction of the myth of their invincibility.

For fifty years before the outbreak of the present unprovoked war against China, the Japanese had sedulously built up a reputation as a people who were irresistible in war. That reputation was based solely on their successes against the corrupt Governments of Imperial China and Tsarist Russia. Without troubling to investigate the causes of those successes, the world calmly adopted an exaggerated belief in the efficiency of the Japanese Navy, Army and Air Force. Within the past five and a half years, many things have happened to tone down that belief to impressions more logical. The Chinese have proved that the Japanese soldier, though he knows how to fight and die, is formidable rather than invincible. Australian and American soldiers have since proved the same thing once more in New Guinea and Guadalcanal. During the Malayan campaign, want of opposition in the air enabled the Japanese Air Force to wreck disaster on the Allies. Critics of an earlier period who cast doubt upon the efficiency of the Japanese Air Force were pilloried as wishful thinkers. Subsequent events, however, have proved that those critics were correct in their estimate. Everywhere our airmen have met the Japanese, they have proved their superiority, even when numerically inferior. For example, the enemy was not strong enough in the air to protect their warships trying to relieve Buna and Guadalcanal. Severe naval losses, which the enemy could ill afford, compelled them to bring their over-taxed air force into action again, with the familiar disastrous result to themselves. In the early days of the war in China, when American and British gun-boats were shelled in the Yangtze River, a British naval officer said that the Japanese gunnery was deplorably inefficient. American naval successes over Japanese fleets would seem to reinforce that view, and the whittling down of Japan's naval strength has made possible the turn of the tide in the Pacific.

Japanese merchant ships whose aggregate tonnage is between one million and two-and-a-half million, have been sunk in less than twelve months of war. There is no evidence that ship-building in Japan has been able to catch up with these losses, so that it may reasonably be assumed that Japan has lost about one-third of her merchant navy. This is a very serious matter for a Power that must supply its armies by sea at such distant points as Wake Island, New Guinea and the Dutch East Indies. In the days when we had a more flattering opinion of the Japanese, newspapers used to refer to their country as "The Britain of the East." That phrase, if it had any meaning at all, meant that Japan, like Britain, depends on her sea communications for her very existence. No country has a more artificial economy than Japan. She must import raw materials to keep her workshops going, and re-export them in the form of manufactured goods.

Japan had hoped to maintain her war effort with supplies of much-needed raw materials, such as rubber, oil and iron, from the conquered countries; but her territorial gains will be of no use to her, assuming they can be held, without shipping. Japan's shipping facilities are stretched very thinly and every ship an Allied bomber sinks off Rabaul or Guadalcanal, and every tanker that an Allied submarine sends to the bottom off Java, draws the string tighter. There will come a time, and it will come very soon, when lack of shipping communications will compel the Japanese to withdraw their more remote garrisons, or leave them to their inevitable fate. Once these back-
ward steps begin, they will be difficult to stop, even although it is generally agreed that the Japanese will continue to fight desperately before the withdrawals become a rout.

According to American official opinion, Tokio is well aware of the shipping danger. One of Japan's most prominent textile men said last February: "Many Japanese spinning men think our idle spindles should work overtime now to produce goods for sale in the newly-acquired regions of the south. That is not so. Every piece of metal we can lay our hands on should be put into the manufacture of ships. If the ships are not built, we will not have to think of selling goods in the south, or elsewhere." To meet the increasing Allied threats to their sea-borne commerce, Japanese already are using rail transportation on land, wherever possible. A recently finished tunnel links the two main Japanese islands by passing under the intervening strait. Plans have also been studied for the construction of a 120-mile tunnel between Japan and the Asiatic mainland. This strenuous undertaking, even if decided upon now, would take years to complete.

The plight of Japanese shipping, however, will have to grow much worse before it will begin to have a decisive effect on the general position, but even as it is today, it adds to the prospects of a successful general offensive against the enemy in the Pacific theatre of war. That offensive may be nearer than most people think, but, like the operations in New Guinea, it must be preceded by careful planning and strenuous preparation. That our offensive will be strenuously resisted is a foregone conclusion. The average Japanese is convinced that the war has been won and that the defeat of the United States and Britain is due shortly. Frederick Oppewall, former Shanghai correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor, who is now in America after internment in Japan, reported in the overwhelming majority of Japan's 75 million people are conditioned to accept complacently such statements as the boast of a Japanese Army Officer that Americans would soon be working on the docks of Yokohama as stevedores. Only a relatively small handful of the Japanese people consider the possibility of an ultimate defeat. Mr. Oppewall said that even a civilian prisoner, twisting painfully from a bamboo-pole beating he had just received, declared: "By next May we will control the whole of Africa, except for a small portion we will give temporarily to Germany and Italy." It is obvious that the Japanese are fighting for their own hand, and that they regard the European end of the Axis only as a friend of convenience.

Only the actual occupation of Japanese soil will convince these people of the inevitability of their defeat. With all their disadvantages, they are likely to hold out longer than the Axis partners, whom they are already beginning openly to despise. There is now no danger of a Japanese victory, but there is a terrible danger of a premature peace. Japan would have nothing better than a peace that would leave for her a few years in undisputed possession of her present ill-gotten gains. A few years of such a peace would give her a much-needed breathing space to prepare for the next war of aggression. Fortunately, the United Nations have pledged themselves to drive the enemy out of all occupied territories in every part of the world and, if peace after the present war is to be enduring, the downfall of Japan must accompany that of her fellow gangsters in Europe.

FEDERAL PRESIDENT
An Australian Charter
The annual re-election of Sir Gilbert Dyett as Federal President has become more like a standing order than a news item. This year's Federal Congress is elected Sir Gilbert for his 25th year of office. That in itself is a great compliment. It is only an outstanding man who can hold and retain the confidence of a national organisation like our own to consistently and so consistently. Sir Gilbert Dyett was a very young subaltern when he was severely wounded on Gallipoli and invalided back to Australia. Throughout the post-war years, he has devoted his life to the service of his fellow Diggers and, as Federal President of the Australian ex-servicemen's organisations, he has become a national figure. Physically, he is tall, slim and actively built. His appearance is that of a man whose great reserves of energy are always ready to overflow into action. He is a good mixer, with a charm of manner that has the gift of winning and holding friends. Many a politician would give much for Sir Gilbert's gift of oratory. He is a fluent and forceful speaker, with a wonderful command of good English; but he is rather a difficult speaker to report, because his tempo is just as brisk and vigorous as his personality. Seasoned veterans among Pressmen have placed it on record that they would much rather enjoy listening to him than get writers' cramp taking him down word for word. At the same time, he is well worth reporting, because his speeches read as well as they sound, and that, after all, is the acid test of a public speaker.

At this year's Congress Sir Gilbert put forward a recommendation for an Australian Charter, which Congress adopted as the League's policy for recommendation to the Federal Government. In recent months, many individuals and representatives of many organisations have had much to say about post-war reconstruction. Members of the League have felt that our own organisation should give a lead in this matter, as it has often done in other matters of national importance. While opinions vary as to what should be done after the war, there seems to be universal agreement that there is no time like the present for planning for the future. Sir Gilbert Dyett put it this way: "I would like to see post-war problems tackled now. If the war ended suddenly, a serious difficulty might arise. I feel that the immediate promulgation of an Australian Charter, embodying principles and defining proposals for the rehabilitation of the fighting forces and post-

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war reconstruction would strengthen the morale of the nation."

Congress was unanimous in adopting the following statement of policy:

"With a view to ensuring the successful re-establishment in civil life of members of the fighting forces, it is considered that—

1. The personnel should be retained on their respective strengths until reinstated in pre-war positions; absorbed in commerce, industry, professional, agricultural and pastoral pursuits, public works, constructional and developmental projects, for which avocations they could be trained in the annexes and instructional camps available in their own States.

2. A permanent Army of 100,000 should be established from such personnel for the future defence of Australia.

3. A national building scheme to meet the shortage of houses, estimated by experts to be 250,000, and an additional 30,000 (consequent upon war and early post-war marriages) should be adopted forthwith.

4. The unification of railway gauges should be commenced without delay.

5. Preparations for extensive reforestation should be expedited.

6. The building of dams in central, northern and other parts of Australia should be undertaken.

7. A plan for soldier land settlement, rural development and decentralisation should be formulated immediately.

Much important business was transacted at this year's annual Federal Congress, business that was not only important to the League, but of profound national interest as well.

The State President of the Queensland Branch (Mr. R. D. Hush) said that there should be a very quick announcement of what guarantees were being given to the men fighting today. Men, without exception, were asking what would happen when they got back. The Postmaster-General (Senator Ashley), who represented the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin), said that the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Repatriation, appointed by the Commonwealth Government, had presented its first report. It was hoped that the proposals based on that report would be submitted to Parliament early in the new year. The committee has not yet finished its investigations. "I hope," Senator Ashley said, "that from the Constitutional Convention, now sitting in Canberra, there will be conceived a plan which will prevent any possibility of a repetition of the sad plight of soldiers who returned from the last war and who feared so badly during the subsequent depression.

"The question of preference, which is such an important plank of the League's platform, was considered by the Federal Congress in the light of present-day needs. Congress decided to send an urgent telegram to the Constitutional Convention, urging preference to returned personnel in employment after the war. Here is the text of the telegram: "On the motion of the Federal President (Sir Gilbert D'yet), delegates to the 27th Annual Congress of the R.S.L. unanimously resolve that members of the Constitutional Convention be earnestly urged to take action on this historic and appropriate occasion to ensure that those who served Australia in a theatre of war shall receive first preference in employment."

It was also resolved that each State Branch should formulate a draft Bill, aimed at preference in employment to returned service personnel. These draft Bills will be forwarded to Federal Headquarters for submission to all States, and a special meeting of the Federal Executive will consider them with a view to attaining uniformity in legislation.

The State President of the New South Wales Branch (Colonel A. W. Hymann) outlined the provisions of a draft Bill for New South Wales. He said it provided for preference for returned nurses and merchant navy, as well as for members of the Royal Australian Navy, A.I.F., and R.A.A.F.

Another resolution provided that representatives of the land settlement committees of each State Branch should meet in Melbourne to formulate a policy to be submitted to the Federal Government. A further resolution was that Congress considered that all industries created by the Government, or taken over by the Government, for the purposes of repatriation, should be specifically reserved for ex-service men and women.

While so much attention was given to the question of preference, the kindred subject of eligibility for membership also came up for discussion. The Federal Congress adhered to its previous decision that only enlisted R.A.N., A.I.F., R.A.A.F. and Merchant Navy personnel who did service overseas, or in specified parts of Australia, or its territories already defined as theatres of war, would be admitted to membership.

Among the defence resolutions was one which asked the Army Minister to act th...
regulations so as to permit of voluntary enlistment in the A.I.F. at the age of 18 years, and that whether men are called up for service or reaching the age of 18, they be given an opportunity of enlistment immediately for service overseas. Congress also reaffirmed its belief in the principle of total conscription of man-power, wealth and national resources.

Other resolutions affirmed:
1) that Class A men, who are not returned soldiers from service abroad, still holding clerical and other positions in military centres, be transferred to field service immediately, and their places filled by B and C Class men or, where convicted, by women; (2) that a committee of three, including a returned soldier, be appointed in each centre to deal with applications for exemption from military service; (3) the need to tighten exemptions from military service; (4) military training of exempted men; (5) greater consideration of applications by partially disabled men for employment and retention in the service and the Government departments, to enable them to be used more efficiently in the war effort; (6) that males refusing to take the Oath of Allegiance when called up for the Army, and describing themselves as conscientious objectors, be conscripted to work as non-combatants at the same rate of pay as men called up for service in the fighting forces; and (7) payment of interest on accumulated pay of Australian prisoners of war.

Many other resolutions were passed seeking an increase in pension and sustenance rates, and a widening of the scope of reparation benefits. Other resolutions passed were that the Commonwealth Government be asked to increase the pay of the fighting forces by two shillings a day, and to increase dependents' allowances by 50 per cent. of their current rates; that all members of the Naval forces, A.I.F. and R.A.A.F. be exempt from taxation on their pay from the date of their enlistment until 12 months after the date of discharge; that no man be finally discharged from the service until his accounts are definitely finalised. Congress also resolved to ask the Commonwealth Government to re-establish compulsory military training for youths between the ages of 16 and 18, and to restore the senior cadet system to all primary and secondary schools.

Our own delegates were well to the fore when Congress discussed motions demanding more drastic measures in regard to the treatment of enemy aliens. Items submitted by the W.A. Branch declared that foreigners were obtaining control of all the best farming land by taking it up in the names of young children; that aliens were enjoying highly-paid jobs in the mines from which white Australians had been called up; and that foreigners had held a celebration the night of the loss of H.M.S. Prince of Wales was announced. Our own State President (Mr. T. S. Edmondson) said: "While Australians are away fighting for their country, these foreigners are buying up all the best land that we shall need when our men come back. That position in the West is becoming intolerable." In the Big Bell mine, he was told, 50 Australians had passed through into the forces since the war began. Their places have been taken by foreigners. Eighty per cent. of the men now working are foreigners, and their average wages are £14 a week. Seventeen resolutions stemming from the tighter control of aliens were passed. Motions asking the Commonwealth Government to make the death penalty mandatory for enemy aliens caught in possession of explosives; deport after the war all enemy aliens interned, and against whom there is definite evidence of disloyalty; the confiscation of
properties of those found guilty of subversive activities; the imposition of a curfew on enemy aliens between sunset and sunrise; and the imposition of a penalty on enemy aliens who speak other than English in public places, were all agreed to.

The most comprehensive resolution from the Queensland Branch was that while appreciating the valuable work done to reduce the incidence of enemy aliens and other fifth column activities, Congress should ask the Government to impound all shortwave wireless sets situated on the premises occupied by naturalised or unnaturalised enemy aliens, permit the removal, periodically, of Government notice to be printed in any language of an enemy alien, prohibit enemy nationals from holding liquor or wine licences, ensure the immediate collection of all rifles and other arms from enemy aliens, cancel all certificates or permits issued to enemy aliens naturalised or unnaturalised for fishing boats and other craft, and ensure that no such certificate or permit be issued to such enemy alien in future.

Resolutions also called for the taking over of fishing boats owned by enemy aliens and now laid up and their leasing to Australian and Allied nationals for fishing purposes, the internment or calling up of all enemy aliens for the Labour Corps, the forming of persons of enemy origin in the Labour Corps into a separate body with a distinguishable uniform, continuation of the present restrictions on enemy aliens, transferring money or remittances outside Australia for five years after the war, paying no more than army rates of pay to enemy aliens who replace Britons in the mining industry, and that in the interests of the fighting services approval should be given for no further transactions of land other than in towns and cities except to natural-born British subjects until after the war.

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PATRIOTIC

(By F. J. SPARK)

If everybody saved their dough and never spent a penny
How would the poor shop keeper live? I fear there would be too many
A waiting to the heavens above for grub to fill the tummy.
If saving dough makes others starve, to me the whole thing's aummy.

II

And when you've anted up the dough for rent and living expenses,
You have to scratch around for more to pay the Federal taxes.
If any's left (this is a scream) Curt, orders you to save it.
A microscope you'd have to use. I'll take my affidavit.

III

My wife has given birth to twins. No coupons here were needed,
As population's all the rage. I'm glad we have the kids.
And we have named them (two fine boys) in deference to Curtin,
Austerity and Rationing. 'Twill give him joy I'm certain.

IV

And should, in time, a girl appear to wit, a little daughter,
We'll call her W insome Coupon (for nickname Coupon—it's shorter).
Thus Coupon will play with Rationing, Austerity,
A pattern for you Aussies all to show you're law abiding.

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An American Looks at Singapore

Many foolish things were said and written about the impregnability of Singapore—before its fall—and much of the would-be wisdom after the event has been equally wide of the mark. The Singapore disaster was recently summed up by an American officer, Major T. H. Thomas. Writing in "The Christian Science Monitor," Major Thomas says that the description of Singapore as a "fortress" and a "mighty bastion" was inaccurate. At no time was Singapore intended to serve as a defensive point. Nothing in the location of the island, or in its elaborate development as a naval base, prepared it in any way to stand out against an attack from the mainland. Indeed, it was never imagined that such a contingency would ever arise. Singapore's dockyards and workshops, and other apparatus of the naval base, as well as the main air base, were laid out logically and sensibly on the land side, in the sheltered waters of the Johore Strait. Thus, when the Japanese appeared, these positions, which were Singapore's only important military installations, found themselves directly in the front line. Correspondingly, the long-range naval guns which defended Singapore were situated so as to cover approaches from the sea. These guns were, of course, heavily protected by concrete and armour. But, Major Thomas points out, this type of gun is of little use against a methodical advance by land. Moreover, in one of an overland attack, these guns were located behind the points they were defending. Major Thomas does not believe that this failure to prepare Singapore's land defences was a mere British oversight. The engineers and naval officers who laid out the whole position, he says, were not so stupid as to plan it inside out. They planned a sound naval base. The fact that it was subjected to attack was not the fault of those charged with its defence. It was rather the inevitable consequence of the course pursued by the British and American Governments. Ever since Japan took Indo-China in the summer of 1940 it has been clear, says Major Thomas, that the American position in the Pacific was seriously threatened. The Roosevelt Administration pressed this point in support of its preparedness policy, before Pearl Harbour. Having recognised the situation, he continues, Washington might well have set to work to cope with it by disposing of American naval, air and military forces where required. Even if there was no responsibility for supporting the Dutch and the British before Pearl Harbour, there was the responsibility of not exposing the American position to a crushing blow at the outset.

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HEROIC MALTA

September 8 has been Malta's National Day ever since 1665, and it was celebrated with a deeper meaning than ever this year. The day marked the end of the six months' siege, during which the Maltese successfully held out against the Turks, who were attacking the island by land and sea. It was on September 8, 1665, that the defenders of the island finally repulsed the enemy and forced them to abandon the siege. At that time, Malta was held by the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who had been driven out of Rhodes by the Turks 35 years before. As a reward for the bravery and fortitude of the men and women of the island, the Grand Master of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem decorated the white and red flag of Malta with the Cross of the Order, which has been called the "Maltese Cross" ever since. Malta now heroically witnessed unceasing attacks from the air for over two years. Death and destruction have been rained upon the island from the sky. Innocent men, women and children have been killed, and the survivors have seen their houses and shops laid in ruins; but they have been steadfast and brave throughout this terrible ordeal by battle. They have never wavered in their loyalty to King and Empire, or in their determination to hold their island until the day of victory dawns; and they have had the grim satisfaction of seeing the air and land defences of their island take a heavy toll of the enemy. His Majesty the King recently rewarded the courage and fortitude of the people of the island by decorating their flag with the George Cross. You will remember that the George Cross was instituted during this war as a means of rewarding civilian bravery.

If you look at a map of the Mediterranean you will see that Malta is only a small island, 17 miles long and 9 miles broad. Nearby are the tiny islands of Gozo and Comino, which help to make up the small British colony of Malta and give it a total area of 118 square miles. Within that small area, about a quarter of a million people reside in peace and contentment before the war. Its geographical position, however, gives Malta an importance out of all proportion to its size. The possession of Malta and the rock fortress of Gibraltar enables Britain to control the Mediterranean at its centre and western end, in spite of Mussolini's boast that the great inland sea is an Italian lake. Long before aircraft came into general use Malta was an important coaling and naval station. Now it is an important air base.

Since the dawn of history the island has known the clash of arms. It is now strongly fortified and garrisoned, and is considered one of Britain's most important naval and air bases. Long ago the great English statesman, Disraeli, referred to the capital, Valetta, as "The Little Military Hot-house," because it was so strongly fortified. Valetta is built on a rocky projection more than a mile and a half long. It has an excellent harbour on each side.

Malta was originally inhabited by the ancient Mediterranean race, whose great stone monuments are still visible. It was colonized by the Phoenicians, perhaps 5,000 years before the Christian era. In the 6th century B.C. the Carthaginians, an offshoot of the Phoenician race, ruled there. Then in succession through the centuries came Romans, Byzantines, Greeks, Saracens, Normans and Spaniards. The Romans called the island Melita, and it was here that St. Paul was wrecked while on a voyage to Rome. In this connection, the tune to which the hymn "For Those in Peril on the Sea," and Kipling's Recessional Hymn are sung, is called Melita. In 1530 the Emperor Charles V gave Malta to the Knights of St. John, who had just been driven out of Rhodes by the Turks. The Knights maintained their rule of the island until they had to surrender to Napoleon in 1798.

Notwithstanding its importance, Malta became a British possession by accident. In June, 1798, Napoleon, while on his way to Egypt, seized the island. Three months later a British fleet, aided by patriotic Maltese, sieged the French garrison which Napoleon had left behind. The siege lasted two years, but finally the French had to surrender. When Britain made peace with Napoleon, at the beginning of the 19th century, it was agreed that Malta should be restored to the Knights of St. John. Napoleon, however, soon showed that he was using the peace as a breathing space, and that he had no intention of fulfilling the terms of the treaty. Accordingly, Britain refused to give up Malta, and the war broke out once more.

The Knights of Malta still exist as an honorary order, with headquarters at Rome.

The climate is temperate and, except for occasional outbreaks of Malta fever, which is caused by a germ found in goat's milk, the island is healthy. Many Australian troops were sent to hospital there during the Gallipoli campaign of the last war. The country people cultivate tiny farms which are terraced up on the hill-sides and, in normal times, ship-loads of soil come to Malta to replace earth that has been washed or blown away. These country people are largely descendants of the early Phoenicians. They speak a language which is a mixture of Phoenician, Arabic and Latin. The population contained a mixture of Italians, Greeks, Turks, Jews, Arabs and all other races which traffic up and down the Mediterranean. English is taught in the schools, but the official language of the law courts is Italian. Malta is ruled as a British Crown Colony by a British Governor, assisted by an Executive Council. There is also a Legislative Council with members nominated by the Governor and others elected by the people. A few years ago a former Governor of Western Australia, Sir Gerald Strickland, was Premier of Malta.

The chief products of the colony are cotton, potatoes, onions, grains, and tropical fruits, but food has to be imported every year up to the limits of the population. The capital, Valetta, is called after Jean Parisot de la Valette, a French knight who was Grand Master of the Order and who defended the island against the Turks during the great siege of 1565. Valetta has a population of about 25,000. It contains many interesting buildings, the most notable of which are the Grand Master's Palace and St. John's Cathedral.

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Mr. Anderson was also foundation president of the Osborne Park sub-branch of the League, and took an active part in the erection of the Soldiers’ Memorial Hall. He was also honorary secretary of the Executive Council of Progress Societies, and he has been prominently associated with all public functions for the welfare of the district. His reminiscences of early Press history of the Western Australia of 55 years ago would make interesting reading. We hope his health will soon allow him to resume local activities.

We regret to report that Mr. Joe Datchens, the popular boniface of the Osborne Park Hotel, who served with the 48th Bn. in the last war, has had to go into hospital for an abdominal operation. Joe served abroad for four years in the last war. Before taking over at Osborne Park he was manager of the Victoria Hotel at Subiaco, and the Newdegate Hotel. He has long been a useful member of the Osborne Park sub-branch, and members hope that his stay in hospital will not be as long as his compulsory retention by the Kaiser.

The Biennial Election for the Growers Members of the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Control Board will take place in January. For 18 years Mr. Alf Yeates has been the representative from this State, and has done a great job. Alf knows the industry inside and out, is possessed of sound common sense, a sincerity of purpose, and ability to state and push his case. He is being opposed by an agent, and we feel sure that the growers will stick to their tried and proved friend, whose experience will be invaluable in the post-war reconstruction period.

A good Digger, Wally Maskell, of the old 16th answered the Last Call as the result of long-and intermittent illness early in the month. For many years the late Wally Maskell had been caretaker of the Perth Literary Institute, where he was popular alike with members and staff. His three boys are serving in the present war. One is in the Navy, another a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, and one has returned to the State after being seriously wounded in New Guinea.

Roland Alfred Mellor, son of Bandmaster George, has had a spot of ill health recently, and when last heard from was in the Flinders Base, Naval Hospital, suffering from malaria. He decided to run in double harness lately, but the malaria supervened before the honeymoon had been completed. George Mellor’s elder boy was, by inadvertence, christened Roland Samuel Leopold. However, despite the duplication of the first name, the elder son has the distinction of having the initials R.S.L.

North Perth sub-branch is jubilant over distinctions and mentions that have been earned by relatives of members. The proud distinction of being the first soldier to be decorated for gallantry in his own country is Bogadajler Dick Rankin, 22nd A.A. Battery. He is a nephew of J. Rankin, assistant secretary of the North Perth sub-branch. He distinguished himself during a Japanese air raid. After his A.A. gun ceased to fire, he manned a machine gun and carried on. He is believed to have brought down an enemy plane. Dick Rankin has two brothers in the Army, one of whom has been in Timor. Another North Perth uncle, who has been turning it on lately in honour of a gallant nephew, is the sub-branch president, Eric O. Davies, the nephew, Sergeant K. A. O. Davies, was wireless operator of the crew of a Wellington bomber which had a very narrow escape when returning from a raid.

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raided “All Over Deutschland.” The plane was blown upside down by a burst of flak. Its wings and petrol tank were shot through, and it lost height to within 50 feet above Wilhelmshaven. However, it was righted and managed to reach its base. Young Davies has taken part in 23 raids over Germany since he was a guest of the North Perth sub-branch in August last year. He used to play cricket for North Perth, and was cox of the C.B.C. rowing crew.

A number of very encouraging stories have reached Head Office about individual efforts on Poppy Day, amongst them being that of Gus Lange, an old member of the 16th Btn. who sold 1,000 poppies in a camp near Perth. Another splendid effort is reported from Wyalchfern, where Mrs. W. Thomas, whose husband is in a Garrison Battalion and who served with the Imperial Army in the last war, accounted for all the poppies sold in Wyalchfern, amounting to 250 in all. Some of them were sold and re-sold. The League is grateful to have in its ranks such splendid workers.

A message from Sydney announced the death of Brigadier-General Gerald Ross Campbell, one of the pioneers of the movement for universal military service in Australia. In association with Mr. William Morris Hughes, M.H.R., the late Brigadier-General Campbell was the prime mover in establishing the National Service League, which did so much to make universal training an accomplished fact. He was a prolific writer and a fluent speaker on national defence, and one of his pamphlets on the subject was an outline of the amendments to the Defence Act which established universal training in 1911. Brigadier-General (then Colonel) Campbell advocated the creation of a citizen army on the Swiss model, and it was on this foundation that the Australian Military Forces, as we know them now, were built. He was also the founder and first Commanding Officer of the Sydney Scottish Rifles, which were raised in 1885. He afterwards commanded the Volunteer Brigade in which the Scottish Rifles were a unit which formed the infantry of the force entrusted with the task of the defence of the post of Sydney. During the last war, he was officer in charge of troopships going between Australia, Egypt and England. He was 84 when the final call sounded.

We extend condolences to Mrs. Hopperton, the State Secretary of the Women’s Auxiliary, on the loss of her father, Mr. E. C. Poole, who died in Perth last month. The late Mr. Poole was born in Peebles, Scotland. He enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders when 19 years of age, and served in the Zulu War as regimental sergeant-major. He was a member of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch until coming to Perth a few years ago.

Among those present at the December meeting of the Gloucester Park sub-branch was a member of the R.A.N. who has just returned from three years’ service overseas. He reported that Miss Ethel Campbell, of Durban, whose hospitality will be remembered with gratitude by thousands of members of the “Old Brigade,” is still going strong, and is still doing all in her power for Australians calling at Durban. He expressed a wish that she be thanked for her good work. It was suggested that the thanks of all W.A. ex-servicemen be expressed through the “Listening Post” on this occasion, and that suggestion was accepted.

I wonder if any old Digger still has a copy of Miss Campbell’s poem, which commences: “We stand on the shores of Durban, And watch the troopships go From England to Australia, Hurrying to and fro . . .”

DECEMBER 15, 1942 Page 9

It should make good reading in the “Listening Post” if available.

Mrs. Morrison has the very appreciative thanks of the Maylands sub-branch for her generous gifts of cakes and the like on various occasions.

It has been noted that our old comrade, “Dick” Field of Maylands, is back from the Middle East. He is a veteran of the last two wars, and is now doing essential work. Recently he found time to go to Lemnos Hospital with a concert party to assist in entertaining Digger patients.

The famous “Pat” Hanna has nothing on the officiating parson at a recent “mock wedding” at Maylands. No names, no pack drill! One is almost inclined to say he missed his vocation; but in the opinion of the writer, such is not the case. At times he is very sedate. On the whole one was given the impression that he had been a regimental sergeant-major in his day. However, on the night, “Ron” Fleming looked the part and carried out the job of master of ceremonies equally as well as when he is in his usual role of choirmaster.

On Thursday, December 3, that State Executive had the pleasure of tendering a reception to the Minister for Repatriation and War Service Homes (Mr. C. W. Frost) and to the Principal Medical Officer of the Repatriation Commission (Dr. K. Smith). The State President (Mr. T. S. Edmondson), who had just come back from the Federal Congress, was in the chair. In proposing the health of the Minister, Mr. Edmondson naturally had much to say about repatriation matters, and the items concerning repatriation which had been discussed by the recent Congress. He stressed the friendly relations that had always existed between the League and the Repatriation officials in this State. An

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**SUBVERSIVE RADIO PROPAGANDA**

At the meeting of the State Executive on November 14, delegates were unanimous in carrying a resolution expressing the concern of the Executive at the subversive nature of many of the broadcasts put over by one Beeby from a commercial station in this State. It was decided that this matter be taken up with the proper authorities. In regard to an article on the subject, which appeared in our October issue, we have received showers of congratulations from League members and others in every walk of life. All were convinced that something should be done about subversive propaganda over the air. We were expecting to hear something from Mr. Beeby himself, and were quite prepared to defend any action he might bring; but no action so far has been forthcoming. Mr. Beeby evidently realises that it is wiser for him to keep out of court. The only reaction has been an attempt to white-an a sub-branch, which will not have the slightest effect on "The Listening Post." There was also much favourable comment on the contention in our article that there is no need in Australia for the so-called Anti-Fascist League that Beeby is striving so hard to found. The only anti-Fascist leagues that have any effect on the present or future situation in this anti-Fascist news that already exist—the three fighting services. The members of those three are doing something to win the war, which is more than can be said for the futile fools who make rounds under the cover of darkness and paint childish notices on pavements. We warn readers against allowing themselves to be duped by a high-sounding name into linking up with something subversive. At the same time, there is no reason against them putting up a year to Beeby and the air, if they are foolish enough to do so.

One of the most objectionable features of Beeby's rants is the nauseating assumption of intellectual and moral superiority—by Beeby of all persons. Actually, there is no reason for him to be on the air at all, and if his daily stunt is regarded as a protected undertaking, it is high time that protection should be removed. That, however, is a matter for the Man-power authorities.

What the League cannot do is stop Beeby. It has allowed such preferential treatment by the State Publicity Censor. There have been occasions when the script of talks by spokesmen of real political parties were hacked about by the Committee of Censors, but Beeby's hacking takes place with Beeby's scripts, all we can say is that the originals must have been pretty shocking. Again, censorship instructions have barred reference to industrial disputes in radio news session. Despite that general instruction, Beeby recently dwelt at length on a dispute in the State Implement Works, and wrongfully accused the Minister for Works of refusing to meet a deputation. Mr. Millington gave the accusation the lie direct, when he met the deputation a few days later —and that meeting did not take place in consequence of anything Mr. Beeby had said. Nevertheless, it is pretty thick when an irresponsible mountebank of the microphone can infringe a censorship instruction and make defamatory remarks about a Minister of the Crown at one and the same time.

Reluctantly, we are beginning to believe that something we heard from a semi-official source. Months ago, Beeby was put off the air for pentent breaches of censorship instruction. Then a spate of political wiretapping took place and he was put back. According to what we were told, a high Commonwealth authority has given instructions that Beeby must not be interfered with as "no matter what Beeby's commentator on the air." Precisely what is a "people's commentator"? and what fits Beeby for that role? The inference is that Beeby and Beeby alone speaks the truth over the air. In our October article, we hinted that Beeby had used state documents as deliberate and poisonous lying. Apart from this, why should it be assumed that everybody is suppressing truth but Beeby? It is within the bounds of common sense to assume that it has been an infor mation that are denied the daily papers, or the highly-organised staffs of news-gatherers that supply them with news? One has only to listen to a Beeby broadcast to wake up to the fact that it is nothing new to the distortion of something he and you have already read in the newspapers.

Our October article has certainly done some good. Beeby has toned down considerably in recent weeks. Now, having achieved that result, we insist on knowing who it is that is seeing that he gets preferential treatment from the Censor.
BUY RAINFALL

When a settler contemplates buying land suitable for bringing into pastures for the production of export lambs, his first thought should be for a district with a high average rainfall. Bearing in mind the fact that science can improve the soil, but science cannot improve the rainfall, the best advice to the intending settler is to 'Buy Rainfall.'

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The territory for which the port of Albany is the natural outlet constitutes part of the South-West and South-East electoral provinces from Narrogin south, and contains large areas specially suitable for mixed farming, dairying, potato- and fruit-growing. Many sound propositions, well situated in good rainfall areas, are still available to prospective settlers.

The districts immediately adjacent to Albany were, until lately, looked upon as being unsuitable for growing stock; but the Kalgan, Napier and King River districts, with an average rainfall of 36 inches, are showing wonderful results and up to six sheep per acre are being carried on pastured land.

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**"VETERANS"**

By MAX ARTHUR

Under a dazzling, scorching sun veterans of the South African War, led by the Coastal Scottish Pipers Band, marched from the Bellevue Terrace to the Memorial in King's Park on November 15 for the 41st Annual Memorial Service.

The veteran Padre, Canon Collieck, conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. Jenkins, and padre for the last war. It was an inspiring service, there was the dignity and ceremonial of the Victorian age. These men were bent; their eyes dimmed, but their minds were alive with memories of good comrades. They were back in South Africa—-with Roberts, Methuen, Baden Powell, Kitchener. They were in Mafeking; in Lady-smith; in Standerton.

There were the good old hymns; the Lesson, prayers—but prayers for the lads fighting side by side with sons of the old foe.

There were reminiscences from Padre Canon Collieck. He asked: "Why do we meet every year? We meet as good comrades who were friends together.

We were fewer every year; we still meet and talk of hours spent together in the sun; our day is closing, but today our hearts we can bring in the world.

It was Tony Forrest, a lad from Hale, about me; look whole him wounded and he said, 'Don't worry about me; I'll look after the boys.' A bullet went through his stomach; he died.

He went on: "The future holds little for us; our day is closing, but today our hearts are with our men in North Africa—men basking the trail. We can still help them; we can give up our old ties, our longings, and we can put everything into the War Loan to keep them in supplies; we can help them build a road to peace; we can dedicate our last days helping to bring security and a decent standard of living for the peoples of the world.

"The Boer War taught us the decency and value of the people against whom we fought. They never stopped to teach them what we brought in the wounded; we tended the sick and dying without fear of a stab in the back.

"We remember, too, good comrades. There was Tony Forest, a lad from Hale School, killed at 16 years of age. There was the Rev. Stanley Read, Presbyterian minister of Bou der—a wonderfully brave man. I found him wounded and I asked him not to worry about me; I'll look after the boys.' A bullet went through his stomach; a second bullet cut across the same wound. We stood with him; we carried him to safety, and the whole column halted several days, keeping watch day and night, hoping to save him. (His brother, a doctor, travelled with us.) He died; we could not save him.

"We remember today too, a friend who unfortunately was too ill to be with us. A man who won the admiratiom of every soldier in South Africa was the "Brigadier-General Besslem-Browne; a good man.

"There was a sergeant—we found him body hot. I asked: 'Have they got you, old man?' He got a smile. 'I'm no an outer; but I'm damned if they could get a bull!' So they shot them both."

The Colour Party faced the Memorial while wreaths were placed. The Last Post trailed its notes, echoing in memory among the kopjes of an African battle ground. There was a silence, then the awakening call of the Reveille. From the pipes of a young lad emerged "The Flowers of the Forest" in remembrance of soldiers who fought bravely, inspired by the wild urge of this Scotch national music.

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**VICTORIA PARK BUILDS FOR VICTORY**

Anyone who has visited the Victoria Park sub-branch in their home at the Memorial trail in Salcombe-street is immediately impressed by the large and handsome building. The lounging picture is of superior, decoration, and particularly of their pictures, many of which have been painted by a local artist. The most striking of his works is a faithful copy of the portrait of Sir Talbot Hobbs in Anzac House.

The Victoria Park sub-branch was formed in 1928 as a result of a meeting called by Captain J. Smith, who is now serving with the forces. The sub-branch president was Mr. H. E. Wells. His successors have been W. Nichol, R. Alexander, A. Shadgott, J. Cox, F. Matthews, H. Taylor, E. Lloyd, H. Nicol (for six months), F. Matthews (from 1940 to 1942), and T. J. Fitzsimmons, who now occupies the chair.

For seven years the sub-branch held its meetings in the Library Hall. The first group Jubilee photograph of the committee was taken in 1928, while the branch banner, hanging in the committee room in the Memorial Hall in Salcombe-street, is a lengthy item which was sub-branch, was painted by Mr. T. J. Barker, senior. During the first seven years committee meetings were held in a room made available by Mr. J. Gibbs. Then it was decided that the sub-branch should have a home of its own. One of the big stunts put over by the sub-branch about that time was the Trench Night. Colonel Coote was present, and the boys were blown out of the trench. The first rally organised by Mr. F. Matthews was held in the Amsden Theatre, kindly lent by Mr. J. Johnson for the occasion. This led to the foundation stone of the sub-branch's strength. Early in 1953 the sub-branch formed a building committee, on which the women's auxiliary was represented. At the first meeting Mr. T. J. Fitzsimmons was chairman. Mr. F. Matthews brought forward a proposition for the purchase of a block of land, which was bought for £125 cash from A. Norton, of Albany-road. This was a good investment, as the block included a tennis court, which brought a fair amount of revenue to the building fund.

The women's auxiliary, now the largest in the State, was formed in 1928. The auxiliary—a call which echoes in the blood of Scotch descendants still.

Then there was the offering of the Metropolitan Gleemen, voices hushed in a benediction:

Every rustling tree is a peace,
The whispering breath may cease;
And no sound is heard.

The birds are all sunk in slumber,
Wait awhile—soon thou, too, shall rest in peace.

The R.S.L. Band rendered the music for the service, and a collection was taken for the Children's Hospital.

Every year their numbers grow less; but their memory of remembrance is watched by the young soldiers who are privileged to take pride of the noble work they are doing in the Army. Their flag will be woven, in golden threads in the tapestry of Australian life when so much that is selfish and artificial will be forgotten, and all that is worthwhile in a nation is remembered and honoured.

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**THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL HEALTH**

George Pogson writes from South Perth:

For a considerable time past I have been much concerned in regard to the post-war position, and particularly of the attitude of the League on this question. It was gratifying to me to read in the Daily Press recently that the League's attitude has been defined in the form of a Charter. I was disappointed, however, to find that we could not pronounce upon the vital question of National Health and its importance. Since the war we have discovered the extent we are behind other nations in the treatment of this question. Some nations have considered it the basis of their national planning, and are reaping a benefit, particularly in these troubled times. We have said a standing peace-time army of 100,000 men, and of course the most modern of equipment, is necessary; but surely to be consistent we should insist that the post-war millions of the highest possible attainment. Under existing conditions of a semi-government, plus sectional interests, together with the people's charitable consciousness, this is not possible, and I rejoice that the post-war million of the highest possible attainment is not possible, and I rejoice that the League's attitude has been defined in the form of a Charter. We are all agreed that the League's attitude has been defined in the form of a Charter.
It will be remembered that this year’s Annual State Congress directed the State Executive to launch an immediate appeal for funds to assist our men who have been unfortunate enough to fall into the hands of the enemy. The International Organisation of the Red Cross Society is authorised by the German, Italian and Japanese Governments to despatch food and other comforts to prisoners of war in enemy countries. To assist this work, and by direction of Congress, the League has now inaugurated a Prisoners of War Fund, for which subscriptions are invited. Already two substantial donations have been received: one of £61/13/6 from the Kojonup sub-branch, and one of £25 from the Kellerberrin sub-branch. Where special functions are organised for the League’s Prisoner of War Fund, it will be necessary to act under the general authority of the local patriotic committee. Needless to say, all donations will be promptly and gratefully acknowledged.

There will be no general distribution of comforts to unemployed and distressed families at Christmas time this year. The main reason is that the Committee, usually associated with Christmas cheer are almost unobtainable, besides which deliveries in the metropolitan area cannot be arranged. However, if special cases arise where dependants of ex-service men are in distress, and if the sub-branches will not permit relief in the ordinary way, full particulars of these cases should be sent to the Head Office, where they will be considered by the Relief Fund Trustees.

A number of sub-branches have submitted their proposals for future soldier settlement. The Land Committee of the State Executive will consider these proposals very shortly. Afterwards a full meeting, including country members, will be called.

Again it is stressed that receipts and badges must not be issued to members of the Mercantile Marine until their claims have been investigated by the Federal Office.

A Belgian woman, who had recently escaped to England, had this to say over a B.B.C. microphone about Brussels being once under martial law. The Gestapo were hunting high and low, she said, for the “mysterious voice” that called across the spaces to tell the world how Belgians live and die for their country under the German aggressors. This, she said, was the third time a heavy fine of millions of francs had been imposed on the people of Brussels. On the first occasion, she had been in Belgium. This is her description of what happened: “The Germans had ordered the Burgomaster van den Meulenaere to resign. This he refused to do. He would not leave his people’s fate in the hands of any Quisling. For this act of revolt, the Germans fined the city of Brussels five million francs, and the fine had to be paid within a stipulated time. Two hours after the fine had been imposed, an envelope was handed to the German General von Falkenhaisen. The envelope bore this inscription: ‘We Belgians pay our debts. But the Germans would do well to remember the millions they still owe us—since 1918.’ Inside the envelope was the five million francs.”

The State Secretary has received a letter from a young soldier in Queensland expressing gratitude at the stand taken by the League in connection with the tender treatment of aliens in this country. The writer had before him a cutting from the Toowoomba Chronicle describing a League meeting in Perth, at which the State Secretary (Mr. Benson) said: “It is galling to Britishers to see enemy aliens swaggering about demanding high wages from British producers, when our men are serving for six shillings a day.” The writer of the letter congratulates the State Secretary on this statement, and declares that these aliens must be made to understand that this is our country. Very soon we will be back again, enjoying peace, but we don’t want that peace working for aliens who became fat and rich from profits made while we were making Australia safe for them.” The writer suggested that something should be done to curtail alien labour and prevent aliens from capturing the production market.
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Senior Cadets

At the Annual State Congress a resolution was carried urging the restoration of the Senior Cadet System in all primary and secondary schools as an important element not only in the defence of Australia but in preparing youth to meet the obligations of citizenship.

Upon this matter being referred to the State Government, the Minister for Education (Mr. W. H. Kitson) has advised the League that if and when the Commonwealth Authorities introduce a system of Senior Cadet training or its equivalent, his Department will be only too pleased to co-operate in every possible way. This recommendation has also been included in the Agenda for the Federal Congress of the League.

Headstones for Soldiers' Graves

The League has been advised by the Army that no memorial headstones will be erected on war graves until after the cessation of hostilities. This suspension of operations applies to personnel of this and the last war who died of war causes.

Armistice and Poppy Day — The report of the Armistice and Poppy Day Committee indicated that this year's sales had exceeded all previous records, and that the observance of Armistice Day had been carried out in a proper manner. A luncheon had been tendered to hospital patients. It was agreed that letters of appreciation should be sent to the Women's Auxiliary for their great help in connection with the sale of poppies, and to Mr. Gus Lange, of the Perth sub-branch, who personally disposed of 1,000 poppies.

Visits — The following visits were reported:
- Mr. Bateson (Hospitals)
- Mr. Williams (Woorooroo and the annual Y.A.L. Memorial Service)
- Mr. G. W. Zeffert (Y.A.L. Memorial Service, Mr. Hawthorn, Ltd.)
- Mr. T. Forbes
- Col. Mansbridge (State War Memorial Change-over Ceremony, Greek Church and Memorial Service)
- Mr. Smith (Ex-Naval Men's Association)
- Mr. Watt (Geradton sub-branch)
- Mr. Yates (Armistice Day
- War Loan Demonstration, Nurses' Hostel Fund meeting, R.A.A.F. Recruiting Drive committee)
- The State President (Gloucester Palace, Old Men's Home Ex-Service Men's Section, Wt. XI, North Perth Memorial Service, Change-over Ceremony State War Memorial)
- State Secretary (Sportsmen's Council).

Miniature Badges — The Neddans sub-branch stated that some people consider that the League badge was a miniature badge and came within the regulations gazetted recently by the Commonwealth Government prohibiting the manufacture of miniature badges. It was agreed that a protest statement should be made by the Secretary in connection with this matter.

Preference to Returned Soldiers — The Carilsle sub-branch referred to the question of preference to returned soldiers in munition works. The reply was left in the hands of the Secretary.

Senior Cadet System — The Minister for Education advised that if and when the Commonwealth Authorities introduce a scheme of Senior Cadet Training or its equivalent, his department would be only too pleased to co-operate in every possible way.

Headstones, 1939 War Personnel — Information was received from the A.D.E. Service, W.A. L. of C. Area, concerning the erection of headstones.

Service Stripes — The Cottesloe sub-branch drew attention to the fact that overseas service stripes are being purchased by men from private concerns without any standard set on charge. They contended that these stripes should be issued by the Army, so that the wearers of them could be properly controlled. It was agreed that this matter be referred to the Commander, W.A. L. of C. Area.

Short-wave Broadcasts — A suggestion from the Maylands sub-branch concerning the inauguration of short-wave broadcasts of personal messages from Australian relatives to prisoners of war in Japanese hands was received and referred to the Federal Executive.

Sub-Branch Officials — The appointment of officials as advised by Pemberton sub-branch was approved.

Subversive Propaganda — It was resolved that this Branch of the League is concerned at the type of propaganda that is being broadcast by one Beeby 'Iron Stations 6AM/PM on behalf of the so-called Anti-Fascist League, and that the attention of the authorities be immediately drawn to this. It was resolved that the authorities be advised that Jehovah Witnesses are still touring the country distributing this propaganda and that this Executive considers that some immediate action should be taken to ensure the non-continuance of these activities.

NOVEMBER 28

At the meeting of the State Executive on November 28 the Senior Vice-President (Mr. O. J. Williams) occupied the chair in the absence of the State President. In addition to the chairman there were present Messrs. Anderson, Denton, Margolin, Collett, Cornell, James, Thorn, Zeffert, Mansbridge, Paton, Logic, Smith, Wood, Collins, Harvey and Barton.

Leave of Absence — A number of apologies were received and leave of absence for on month was granted to Mr. Philp (Trustee).

Letters — Letters were received from Brig. O. V. Hoad, acknowledging recent congratulations; Miss Ethel Campbell of Durban; and the Australian and New Zealand Association of Durban.

Land Committee — The report of the Land Committee dealt with a meeting held on November 17, at which a number of official replies to Congress items were received. Recommendations in respect to future soldier settlement were submitted. It was decided

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PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

A meeting of the W.A. Branch will be held in Room 33, Bon Marche Buildings, Barrack Street (the T & P I. Assn. Rooms) on Monday, January 4, at 8 p.m., when all partially blinded soldiers are urgently requested to attend. There will be many important matters to be discussed, and much useful information available which has been received from the Eastern States. Anyone interested can obtain full information from the hon. secretary, Mr. McKay, 51 Hardie Street, Hollywood, or better still, roll up to the next meeting.

EX-MACHINE GUNNERS’ ASSOCIATION

Ex-Machine Gunners swapped yarns and ideas once again at their annual get-together meeting on November 6. Through many of the members being on National service one way or another, the attendance was not large. The main discussion centred around the necessity for recruiting members for the League. The old Vickers gunners considered that the League will play a very important part in the “new” or any other kind of order which will be the job of work in hand soon. After the formal business an election of officers took place, the rest of the evening was devoted to social and entertainment. Refreshments were served as usual. Office-bearers for 1943 are: President, W. H. Bartlett; vice-presidents, Messrs. A. Glass and R. L. Hafner; committee, Messrs. W. Gregson, C. G. Courtland, L. J. Parks and A. Glass; visitor to sick, C. G. Courtland; hon. auditor, S. M. Gorton; hon. treasurer, P. Linden; hon. secretary, E. S. Everett.

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BOULDER

We had the pleasure of entertaining our State President (Mr. T. Edmondson) at the general meeting of the branch held last Wednesday, and his address to members present was worth going a long way to hear. That was the verdict of all present. Our representatives on the Scrap Metal Committee (Mr. J. Thomas and Mr. Joe Coffee) are doing a great job. They both give every Sunday morning to the loading of scrap, and several patriotic organisations have benefited as a result of their labours. Stan Maynard and his small co-trainers are stalwarts at our weekly euchre tournaments. These tournaments are proving a great success. Our new president (Bill Rourke) has the object in view, and that is a new building on Sunday lines to Birdwood House at Geraldton, and one that our returning boys will be proud to enter.

WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY

A representative gathering was present on the occasion of the monthly meeting on December 7, the principal business being the receiving of nominations for the position of office-bearers for 1943. Elections will take place at the January meeting. Reports were received on visits to the Subiaco sub-branch, and also the Manchester Unity Lodge, East Perth. The sub-branch has some good friends in the Lodge, and for many years there has been an interchange of visits. We thank the Lodge once more for entertaining our half dozen members on this occasion.

We certainly did enjoy ourselves. It was decided to support the Ex-Servicemen’s Group of the League of Service, and Mr. V. E. Troode was appointed the sub-branch’s representative for the coming year. It is with much regret that we record the death of Captain John Henry Jose. He was one of the foundation members of the sub-branch, and was a consistent supporter for many years, and also at one time served a period in the presidential chair. Captain Jose also took part in the South African Campaign. The sub-branch invested a further £30 in the Austerity-War Loan. An all-time record was established on Poppy Day. Our sales were nearly doubled, and members expressed much satisfaction. Again we thank the many ladies who helped, especially those who consistently come along year after year, and do their bit. A further reminder is given regarding the V.D.C. Our local unit meets at 9.30 unless otherwise advised on the weekend Press, and new members are always welcome. The monthly sick report indicated an almost clean sheet, and we are now pleased to report that we record the death of Ernest Tonkinson. Although he is not quite in form yet, and we also understand that Joe Kidd is well again. A new member was welcomed in Mr. J. C. Rowlands, ex Royal Navy. The weekly bridge evening continued to be held each Friday in the local Town Hall, and the attendance is improving. There will be no meeting on Christmas Day. On December 14 the annual smoke social was held. The attendance was a record, and the gathering was a very happy one. We had the privilege of having several distinguished visitors from the Allied Forces, and many compliments were exchanged. Our best thanks are extended to the Western Command for making Leeder-
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Thirty-six members attended the December general meeting. Les Gilsenan presided and handed the agenda in his usual breezy and business-like style. Vince Huckstep (secretary) reported rapidly selling Guose Club tickets, and presented the final balance sheet including weekly dances. finance, etc., were received.

The following month, and that the November issue had not arrived at all! It was resolved to inform headquarters. Games and community singing filled the rest of the evening very pleasantly. The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 7, 1943.

As a slight token of appreciation for the magnificent work done by the Carlisle women's auxiliary over a number of years, the Carlisle Diggers tendered them a Complimentary Social on Saturday, December 5, 1942. About 140 people sat down to a dainty repast set out on tastefully decorated tables. The sub-branch president, Les Gilsenan, presided, and the president of the women's auxiliary, Mrs. Gilsenan, sat on his right at the executive officer's table. Excellent artists entertained the gathering. Later in the evening Mrs. Gilsenan (president) and Mrs. Crofts (secretary) principal executive officers of the auxiliary for many years past, were presented with beautiful floral tributes. The great surprise of the evening came when Mr. Gilsenan was asked to accept from the sub-branch a beautifully mounted cup, in appreciation of services rendered by the auxiliary over a number of years. The names of the president, secretary, and best worker (the latter to be decided by members of the auxiliary by ballot each year) will be engraved on the cup or on a silver shield at the base. On behalf of the auxiliary, Mrs. Gilsenan expressed the delighted surprise and pleasure occasioned by this unexpected but very welcome tribute from the men. After reviewing the many activities of her ladies, Mrs. Gilsenan appealed for more and more members to assist with the good work. The toast "The Returned Soldiers' League" was ably put by Mr. McLean Roberts, Digger Joe Deacon, representing the League, suitably responded. Other toasts given included Albert, Friends, the Artists, and the president thanked the various helpers who arranged the social. The supper and table setup was left to Mrs. Gilsenan and a great little band of workers. The great success of the function was a tribute to their efforts. Music and dancing rounded off a particularly delightful evening, which also marked the end of the first 10 years of existence of the Carlisle sub-branch.

NORTHAMPTON

The annual reunion on November 11 was well attended. Those present included visitors from Geraldton and Upper Chapman sub-branches and members of the fighting services who are on service in this war. Official guests included Col. Mitchell, Capt. Miles, Padre Slater, Cpl. Cavanagh, Dr. Webster, the Rev. Dixon, Mr. R. Bond, and Mr. F. Porter. The excellent dinner and following refreshments were provided by the women's auxiliary. The toast of the League was proposed by the sub-branch president (Mr. C. F. Fraser) who spoke of what our organisation is trying to do for the men returning from the present war. The speaker read a letter from the State Secretary regretting that the State President could not be present. Mr. Fraser congratulated Mr. S. Freeman on his election as Country Vice-President. He said that both the League and the country sub-branches were fortunate in having Mr. Freeman in this office. Mr. Freeman, who is president of Geraldton sub-branch, responded on behalf of the League. Mr. C. Box proposed the toast of the Navy, Army and Air force, to which Col. Mitchell responded. The secretary of the Geraldton sub-branch (Mr. E. A. Gummery) proposed the toast of the women's auxiliary. He was supported by Mr. Ash, Mrs. A. W. Ash, president of the Northampton auxiliary, replied on behalf of the auxiliary. The local governing body was proposed by the Rev. Dixon and responded to by the chairman of the Northampton Road Board (Mr. F. Porter).
The visitors and other associations were proposed by Mr. A. Barlow. It was responded to by Mr. G. Simson and Mr. R. Bond. Other speakers were Capt. Metcalf, D.S.O., Capt. Miles and Sgt. Archibald.

FREMANTLE CITY

In wishing yourself and staff the compliments of the season, and through you to the State President, Executive and all our old comrades, we trust that the New Year will see us well on our way to the victorious termination of this disastrous conflict. Peace will bring greater responsibilities to the League in affording help and protecting the interests of our younger comrades. The monthly meeting of November 26 was bright and snappy, with the president (H. Q. Wilson) in the chair. New members were welcomed. The president spoke at length on the future of the League, and the aim to build a super League by incorporating as new and wirle members our younger comrades of this war on their return. He pointed out, by virtue of our added strength, and a proportionate voice in shaping the future destiny of Australia, we should be a big factor in building a new order, keeping with the desires of humanity. He asked members to attend meetings in the future so as to establish a brains trust and with their support to bring about the consummation of our ideals.

Reports were received by the sub-branch of a visit to the Plaza Theatre, Perth, according to disabled returned men or their dependants by the directors of Hoyts. The visit was facilitated by the Fremantle Tramway Board, who kindly placed a motor bus at their disposal to make the trip. It was good to see the old boys who so rarely get out at all enjoying themselves at the preview of "A Week-end in Havana." We hope they did not get bad ideas. Letters of appreciation were sent to Hoyts directors and the Fremantle Tramway Board. Donations passed were £10 to the Wesley Hostel to provide a bed for Allied troops on leave; £2 2/- to the Salvation Army Red Shield Hut at Fremantle, and £2 2/- to the ladies committee of the Wesley Canteen. On the motion of a young Digger of the new Army, now a member of the sub-branch, a congratulatory cablegram was sent to Sir Leslie Monsees, who recently received the K.C.B. from the King. A motion was carried (after a member had complained of alleged victimisation) asking the State Executive to inquire into the case, and that the member and the president attend the Executive meeting to answer questions if necessary. The President of the F.O.S. by Mr. Wilson permission to address them on the matter, which was referred to the State Secretary for action.

WEST SWAN

Our usual monthly meeting was held on December 7. President R. K. Knappman was in charge of the usual good attendance of members. Secretary Frank Adams produced his report on Poppy Day, and reported a very fine effort. Our quota of poppies this year was 1,000, and all were sold by lunchtime on the day of the appeal. Thanks are due to members for their use of the motor vehicles to convey the sellers to Perth and return. The only discordant note was that we could not get any more poppies to sell.

That worthy cause, the Prisoners of War fund, was discussed at the meeting, and you can rest assured that the members will see that it is not forgotten. We note with much pleasure that post-war problems such as land settlement and repatriation are being looked into by the State Executive. Let us hope that the results will be more than beneficial to all concerned. It is in matters such as these that sub-branches will have to pull their weight.

MERREDIN

The monthly gathering of "Old Soldiers" at the Town Hall coincided with Canon Bell's lecture on "Post-War Reconstruction," so all agreed to adjourn to absorb knowledge tenetted from such an authority on ethics of civilisation and evolution. It was considered parallel with views expressed at our previous meeting, at which the citizens were invited to air views on "The World to be." The Chairman went further to point out the moral issues at stake, emphasising that basic Christian principles must form the nucleus of any scheme, and education for the future would prepare a changeover as painlessly as possible. Otherwise chaos would ensue, with possibly serious repercussions, Co-operative action with goodwill principles was necessary. The meeting was resumed at 9.30 p.m., and owing to the late start we were unable to conclude. After expression of opinions on various items such as Poppy Day, which was very successful owing to the wonderful work by the women's auxiliary and a number of excellent hosts and school children generally. Condemned a motion of opinion regarding recent debates on post-war problems was approved an forwarded to the Executive. Rehabilitation of soldiers and primary industries problems were deferred until later meeting. A special meeting was held at the Hotel to decide the date of the annual meeting, which will be decided, when election of officials will be determined and a social evening spent with plenty of refreshment. So rally round the barrel of your comrades!

NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE

The November meeting was well attended. Thirty new members were welcomed by the president (Mr. Tomlin). To such an extent the membership increased during recent months, that it is found necessary to obtain more spacious accommodation, and so the November meeting was held in the Stanley Hall, Canning Road, East Fremantle (next to the Plympton Hotel). The women's auxiliary will also hold their meetings in future at these premises. Appreciation was then extended, and thanks given to auxiliary for the record sale of poppies this year. It was 125 per cent. over and above any previous year. The sub-branch received many congratulations on the unique and successful methods adopted at their annual dinner held in the Fremantle Town Hall on November 16.

OSBORNE PARK

There have been fairly good attendances at meetings during the past month. Several new members have been enrolled, and financial members number over 60. This year's Poppy Day was one of the most successful yet conducted by the sub-branch. Another record was established, and thanks have been accorded to the ladies and others who worked so hard to put up a new record. An esteemed member, Mr. Thomson, is at present seriously ill in the Mount Hospital. Hopes are entertained that he will soon be attending meetings again. There was a large attendance at the Halloween, organised by Scottish members of the sub-branch. The traditional games were indulged in, and Doug Foreman conducted the old-time
dances. Doug's knowledge of north country legends enabled him to guide the dancers in the right direction. A well-appreciated musical performance was contributed by Mrs. A. Glass. At midnight the lights were lowered and a party of witches with the traditional broom-sticks, and mischievous goblins, gave a weird dance. The witches' cauldron was in operation, and many prophecies were distributed amidst the sulphuric fumes. Consternation was caused by the appearance of the Loch Ness Monster, who seemed quite at home on land—there he would be in the Nookenbooro Canal, which is alleged to be his present abode. There were many visitors from other sub-branches, and the general opinion was that Osborne Park had staged an novel and very diverting entertainment.

MT. HAWTHORN NORTH
LEEDERVILLE

The meetings during November were attended by more than usual, and the increase is a reward for the untiring work of the social committee and the wonderful enthusiasm and energetic work of Cuth Richardson, the good old sports director. No doubt he has got all the members well handled in the various games, and has brought to light a lot of new champions. It looks as if it is going to be very hard to hold a place in the teams. The event of the month was the presentation of the trophies won during the sub-branch championships, and also of the S.S.L. It took the form of a social night, in conjunction with the S.S.L. and the women's auxiliary, and it was pleasing to see such a large crowd present. Amongst the visitors was the Lord Mayor (Dr. Meagher), who enjoys coming amongst the boys. He presented the trophies won by S.S.L. as he has always done in the past. Mr. M. Zeffert was another who was present, and the sub-branch was very pleased to see him and to thank him for his donation of trophies for sub-branch and the S.S.L. Members will be pleased to keep and win the Zeffert trophies next year. The sub-branch thanks all other donors for their kind offer of the trophies just won. The proudest man of the night was the baby of the sub-branch—Bill O'Neill—when he walked up to receive his trophy. We congratulate Sid George in celebrating his silver wedding just recently. Two new members—H. Whitehouse and Bill Ludgate—joined up. Bill will make the bowling team stronger, and Bill O'Neill will have to look to his laurels. We wish all the members the compliments of the season. The meetings in January will be held on the 14th and the 28th, and the annual meeting on January 28. So turn up for the elections, and let us have another bumper year.

SHENTON PARK

The monthly meeting was held on December 7, when the attendance was only fair. Committee meetings are held on the Friday preceding the first Monday in the month. Members are indebted to Tom Starchan, of Nicholson Road, for his courtesy in making available his home as a meeting place for committee members, and to his good wife, who never fails to provide supper at the close of business. Poppy Day sales show that all stocks were sold out, realising a better credit balance than last year. The sub-branch tenders its thanks for assistance to Mr. Taylor's boy scouts, and to Madame Clegg. Taylor, Gibbs, Manson and Winton, who all assisted to make the day a success. Members are reminded that the financial year commences on January 1, and to see the secretary to renew their subs. The next meeting is on January 4, 1943.

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MANJIMUP
On October 12 the sub-branch decided that an ambulance was badly needed in the district, and decided to provide one. Only £700 was required. Our secretary made a thermometer about 6 feet long and put it in one of the principle shop windows. Visitors as well as locals watched the temperature as it went up. By the end of November the £700 was blown off, the overflow giving a total of £800, with more in view. Our president, secretary and four other members paid a friendly visit to the Pemberton sub-branch on December 1. It was a very pleasurable trip, and it is hoped that the sub-branches will make a practice of exchanging visits.

SUBIACO
The “Smoko” and December monthly meeting were outstanding successes. A Merry Christmas to the Orderly Room Corporal. Harry Dohnt 71 not out. Congrats., “Smoko” was blown off, the overflow giving a further sum of £100 in War Savings Certificates. As members of this sub-branch are not satisfied that it should remain the fifth largest in the State, a drive is to be made to increase the present strength of 216 fully financial members. The sick report was very favourable, except in the case of Morry Woods, who is still suffering a good deal. When it was suggested that there was room for more members on the sick-visiting committee, Bill Green, Ian Douall, Cliff Lambe and Doug Chitty promptly volunteered to assist in this good work. This gives further evidence of the enthusiasm of the young Diggers. Members, Douall and Chitty are members of the Second A.I.F. At the conclusion of over two hours of solid business, seasonal greetings were exchanged, and the president’s health was drunk with musical honours. The final games for 1942 were keenly contested.

MAYLANDS
The Seasons Greetings in the good old familiar Digger fashion is extended to all members of the Fighting Forces, far and wide, of the past and present strife, trusting that the year 1943 will see us all together again as in the piping times of peace. It is business as usual in respect to our very popular dances held every Friday throughout the year in the Maylands Town Hall. The various patriotic funds are benefiting greatly from the proceeds. A social evening has been arranged in honour of the ladies of the auxiliary. On Thursday, December 17, the fortnightly meeting will be held. After brief business has been attended to, this will be the Christmas social meeting. Members of the Fighting Forces, both past and present, of the Maylands district, wives and families, are cordially invited to a Cheerio (Christmas) Party to be held on the Lower Park, behind the Maylands Town Hall, Saturday afternoon, December 19. There will be no fortnightly meeting on December 31. The next meeting will take place on January 14, 1943, when nominations will be called to fill the various offices for the ensuing year. One of the many ways of procuring votes for the Maylands R.S.L. representative in the Perth Road Board Popular Lady Competition was

GLoucester Park
The keenness of members was again in evidence on December 3, when the president (Mr. Cecil Labster) opened the meeting to another “full house”. The report submitted by the Poppy Day committee was most gratifying. It was a credit to the band of willing workers, who increased last year’s total sales by nearly 1,000. The best individual effort was that of the president, who sold poppies, etc., to the value of £32. The old stalwarts were, on this occasion, ably supported by a number of the younger members — young Diggers of the present war, who did much good work. As a result of Poppy Day, the Allied War Savings Fund trustees were enabled to invest a further sum of £100 in War Savings Certificates. As members of this sub-branch are not satisfied that it should remain the fifth largest in the State, a drive is to be made to increase the present strength of 216 fully financial members. The sick report was very favourable, except in the case of Morry Woods, who is still suffering a good deal. When it was suggested that there was room for more members on the sick-visiting committee, Bill Green, Ian Douall, Cliff Lambe and Doug Chitty promptly volunteered to assist in this good work. This gives further evidence of the enthusiasm of the young Diggers. Members, Douall and Chitty are members of the Second A.I.F. At the conclusion of over two hours of solid business, seasonal greetings were exchanged, and the president’s health was drunk with musical honours. The final games for 1942 were keenly contested.

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HAY STREET (CENTRAL)
Next to Ambassadors Theatre
in the form of a "Mock Wedding," which took place in the Maylands Town Hall on November 18. It was a very entertaining event, and a great financial success. As a result of the competition our representative (the president of our women's auxiliary, Mrs. Wynne) secured well over 7,000 votes, which brought in approximately £350 as a contribution to the Prisoners of War fund. Incidentally, the participants in the "Mock Wedding" we drawn solely from members of the auxiliary and members of the sub-branch, all of whom staged an excellent performance.

Women's Auxiliaries

BOULDER

On November 18 a further step was taken in the activities of this auxiliary when the Boulder Buffet was opened in the R.S.L. Rest Rooms by the Mayor of Boulder (Mr. Coalt) who was accompanied by the Mayoral wife, Mrs. Hele. Some months ago the Buffet committee was formed at a meeting inaugurated by the auxiliary. There are now nine organisations working harmoniously to better the lives of service men who visit the Fields or who may be stationed here. Besides the Women's Auxiliary, there are the Girl Guides committee, Mothers' Union, R.A.A.F. Comforts, Red Cross, C.W.A., Catholic Women's League and Salvation Army. Each organisation takes a number of days according to the members they have. Of course the auxiliary, whose membership now is 68, takes a very big share in the work. The men who visit the Buffet are served with tea and sandwiches, cakes and scones, free of charge. There are reading and writing facilities, bathroom, and all kinds of games, including billiards. The auxiliary has now sent 1,056 parcels overseas. Many letters come each mail day from the grateful recipients of the parcels. The card afternoon each Wednesday is still proving as popular as ever.

NEDLANDS

The Nedlands auxiliary members after a strenuous year's work concluded their activities by inviting their husbands to be guests at a bridge and rummy party on Tuesday, December 1, at the Broadway Hall. Prizes for bridge were won by Mesdames Biggs and Kenny, the men's prize going to Mr. G. Randall. A delicious supper was served. The president (Mrs. G. Randall) welcomed the gentlemen and wished everyone the compliments of the season. She also thanked her band of hard workers for their support throughout the year. Mr. Perry, president of the sub-branch, responded on behalf of the menfolk, and congratulated the ladies on their efforts in selling poppies for the sub-branch. Sales amounted to £210/4/6—a very fine effort for the Nedlands R.S.L. He regretted his wife's absence through illness. Mrs. Reg Wood was also absent, having recently been in hospital. Both ladies were missed from the function. An iced Christmas cake, the gift of Mr. Durrant, was won by Mrs. Lummis in a competition, the competition resulting in a nice little sum to the funds. Mrs. Randall thanked Mrs. Tweedie for her fine support of the auxiliary throughout the year. Mrs. Tweedie has made and donated the amount of the sales of dozens of crocheted bags, bringing in a regular income. Mrs. Tweedie has given her services freely at canteens and in bed-making also. Members were reminded of the bridge party on December 9 at the Phyllis Dean Hostel for the Citizens' Reception funds. Presentations were made to Mesdames Thatcher and Richie for very fine work done over a long period. Both ladies gave their services to the auxiliary in many capacities, always with a smile. Every member appreciates their quiet, efficient work in canteens and other spots of hard work where their helping hand the Nedlands auxiliary to attain that success it achieves throughout the years. Both recipients warmly responded.

SUBIACO

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting on November 18. Early in the meeting members stood for one minute's silence as a mark of respect for Mesdames Sefton, Rowden and Edwards, who had recently suffered bereavements. Poppy Day was an outstanding success, £147/15/3 being collected. A letter of thanks was received from Mr. W. Thomas (president of the sub-branch) for the help of auxiliary members on that day. Other appreciative letters were received from Sunset, Mrs. Jackson, Sister Grey (Lemnos), and Major Healy (Salvation Army) who acknowledged £35/- as a donation from the auxiliary to the Red Shield War Services. A donation of 10/- was received.

Popular with the Fighting Forces

MACKAY'S

★ REFRESHING
★ SPARKLING
★ WHOLESOME

★ AERATED WATERS
16 Delicious Flavours to choose from!

Sole W.A. Agents for PASSIONA

"Often Imitated . . . Never Equalled"

DECEMBER 15, 1942

Page 27
DINNER DANCE between 7 and 9 Saturday nights ... Floor Shows
by Rene Esler Friday and Saturday Nights . . . Mayfair Swing Orchestra

OPEN NIGHTLY

THE MAYFAIR CLUB
THE NIGHT CLUB OF DISTINCTION
860 HAY STREET, PERTH (up from King Street)

Dinner a la Carte. Phone F 3277 and B 7871 for Reservations

THE GRAND
THEATRE presents as a Christmas Attraction . .
“KLONDYKE FURY”
(Edmund Lowe, Lucille Fairbanks)

Also—“SAILORS ON LEAVE”
(Wm. Lundigan, Shirley Ross)

Just for fun . . .

Scoota Cars

HAY STREET, PERTH (Opp. Foys)

Open Every Night

Page 26 DECEMBER 15, 1942

Peggy Bren, as usual staunch supporters. Enjoyable afternoons were spent during the month at Sun- set and Lemnos. The auxiliary birthday party was held on November 17, and a very pleasant evening was the result, thanks to the pianist. The birthday cake was made by one of the members, and top tier was handed to the president of the sub-branch, who intends keeping it for the annual srnoko. There was a moderate number at the bridge and rummy afternoon held in Boans Lounge on the afternoon of November 23. Mrs. Strue was the winner of the highest number at bridge, while Mrs. Hughes won the rummy. “Boys” from Hollywood and Davies-road Hospitals were entertained by the auxiliary on Friday afternoon, November 20. The time passed very quickly and enjoyable with musical items, conjuring tricks, and afternoon tea.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDESVILLE

Night meetings are well attended, although there are a few on the sick list, and we wish them the best of health. We are still sending out few soldiers parcels with the wool we had on hand, and very nice letters are received and read. The Poppy Day effort this year beat all previous records, and the ladies were congratulated on their good work. The Old Diggers at Sunset are still registered and visited regularly. We also had our turn at the buffet lately. War Savings Groups are going well. Quite a lot of Certificates have been given out up to date. Several new members have joined up with the auxiliary. A raffle is being run for a £5/5/- parcel of linen. It will be drawn at the next meeting.

CARLISLE

We have had our ladies on all the patriotic street appeals and, members have been busy at camouflage net-making. Others are in constant attendance at the Buffet, Sportmen’s House, and Town Hall on collecting days. We had a very successful sale of work which added £22 to the funds. We have made donations to Wooroloo Hospital, Old Men’s Home and have given the Diggers a good outing, followed by high teas. We also subscribed to the various patriotic funds, and for a small auxiliary we are well to the fore. Members are always to be relied upon when wanted. An SOS to the Carlisle women’s auxiliary receives an immediate response.

F.U.S.W.

The Christmas Party was held at the Burt Memorial Hall. Mrs. H. Dean, M.B.E. (president) presided over a large gathering. There was no Christmas cake for the first time for 26 years as money was sent to the Prisoner of War fund. The Lady Mayor (Mrs. Meagher) was present, and addressed the meeting, thanking them for their year of splendid work and wishing them the season’s greetings. She presented Mrs. Hughes with a large quantity of linen. It was handed to a needy seaman from the 11th General Hospital. The president (Mrs. A. Chidlow) was the winner of the Christmas Club’s £22, which was handed to the auxiliary. The auxiliary has had an interesting talk on Girls and War (especially in factories. She urged the members to accept these girls, who are mostly country girls, in to their homes. Mrs. T. Wilson thanked Miss Moray for her splendid address; she felt sure, she said, that many homes would be made available. Mrs. E. Lynch arranged the programme. The artists were: The Lydian Singers: soloists Medaimes S. Carty, C. Lewis, T. Tate, T. R. Howard, N. Yend, D. Arnold and Miss Peggy Brennan; accompanist Mrs. R. A. Robinson. Mrs. Rigg thanked the artists. Col. Cohen and Mr. G. Nelson called in during the afternoon to thank the members, saying it would be impossible to carry on without the women, who were doing excellent work. The annual picnic of the F.U.S.W. is to be held on Thursday, December 17, at King’s Park.

VICTORIA PARK

The general meeting was well-attended, and Mrs. Barnett (president) warmly thanked all members for their generosity in contributing to the success of the recent Thrift Afternoon, especially the stall-holders. The annual Goose Club was drawn on December 16, when a social evening marked the occasion. Various amounts were passed for payment in the way of Christmas cheer, including a donation to the Diocesan Nursing Home. Ex-Servicemen in civilian wards, and our friends in the Wooroloo Sanatorium, as well as members who are unfortunately on the sick list. A letter was received from the sub-branch secretary (Mr. F. Matthews) thanking the auxiliary for co-operation on Poppy Day, especially in canvassing the district. The auxiliary War Loan Group is still flourishing, and to date the sum of £260 has been contributed since its inception. Unfortunately, the auxiliary has had to discontinue the wool fund owing to coupon difficulties; but we have distributed the balance of the fund to the Prisoners of War and the Blanket Funds—£2/2/6 each respectively. All remaining articles were handed to a needy seaman from the “Canberra” who has gratefully acknowledged them.

NORTHAM

The president (Mrs. A. Chidlow) was in the chair at the monthly meeting on December 1. It was decided to donate Christmas cheer to the patients in the Government and Military Hospitals. It had been intended to donate a special couch to the 118th General Military Hospital. The president reported that such a couch is, at present, unprocureable in the State. However, if the material can be obtained, a good friend in Northam has consented to make the couch. Auxiliary members disposed of nearly 600 poppies on Anzac Day. The final bridge party of the year was held on December 18, in aid of improvement funds.
## 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>ARTILLERY COMRADES' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Last Friday each month</td>
<td>W. Beadle, 450 Newcastle Street, Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly luncheon, 1 p.m. on 1st of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Grogan's, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Friday before Anzac Day and 2nd Friday in October</td>
<td>W. H. Bennett, &quot;D&quot; Flat, Stirling Court, 48 Stirling Highway, Nedlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday of Show Week</td>
<td>M. Lewis, 335 Fitzgerald St, North Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>C. Edwards, 17 Hamilton Street, Baywater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>L. D. Dobosch, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Minor J. W. Colville, Anzac House, Pennin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>At Office, Room 33, 2nd Floor</td>
<td>1st Pension day of the month at 2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Hopperston, 141 A (Aus)daicc Terrace, Perth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th and 52nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Bon Marche Building, Barrack Street</td>
<td></td>
<td>W. P. Griffiths, J.P., 87 South Street, Bassendean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

**Rates: £1/1/- Per Annum**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARMADA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Spencer Gwynne</td>
<td>Fremantle Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Richardson</td>
<td>Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Sat. 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Patchell</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENEAN</td>
<td>Town Hall—Lesser Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension days)</td>
<td>H. K. Minchin, 26 Kenny St.</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Stevenson, Brookton</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLSBROOK</td>
<td>Bullbrook Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sat., monthly, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. P. Pickford</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday</td>
<td>S. T. Lowth, 8 Gibson St, Bunbury</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. Jones, Wanganui, via Busselton</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>D. K. Fordham</td>
<td>Tennyson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Calingiri Hall</td>
<td>When called, 2nd Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>L. R. Giles, 46 Gars St., Claremont</td>
<td>Mayland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANNING DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>G. H. Falconer, Claremont</td>
<td>Mayland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>ickford Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sarre, Clifton Street, Collie</td>
<td>Mayland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each quarter</td>
<td>W. P. Overhead</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRIGIN</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Dunsie, 19 Webb Street, Cottesloe</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jardad Street</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>W. Ford, 34 Shannon Road, Claremont</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Committee Room, Claremont</td>
<td>3rd Sunday each month</td>
<td>A. F. Walters, Kalambur</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>f. L. Clubrooms, Canning Road, Kalamunda</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>E. Starke, Burspath</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK DONGARRA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Literary Institute</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 3rd Sunday each month</td>
<td>T. C. Crook, Canning</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>J. Slope's Premises, Port</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each quarter</td>
<td>A. H. Clarkson, Dongarra</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>M. G. Baker, Donnybrook</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNKLINGUP &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>A. R. Carruthers, Donnybrook</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dwellingsup Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>A. H. Myles, Holyoke</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOYNE</td>
<td>Wesley Hall, Fremantle</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. G. Wilson, 116 Marion St, East Fremantle</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>When called, 2nd Monday</td>
<td>Dr. J. W. Pickles, Carnarvon</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Evans' Hall, Hay Street, East</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>C. W. Freeman, c/o Great Northern Hotel</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Perth</td>
<td>22nd and 4th Mondays</td>
<td>E. S. Beadle, Fremantle</td>
<td>Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>H. B. Drummond</td>
<td>Collie</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>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Way, Gutha</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gutha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R.S.L. Memorial Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Herbert Rd.</td>
<td>D. D. Johnstone, Box 28, Harrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in month</td>
<td>I. R. Hylton, Great Boulder, Fimitorn</td>
<td>D. F. Edwards, Kalgoorlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>3rd Monday, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Jock Sherritt</td>
<td>W. Ulich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clubrooms, Carrow St.</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Les. Old, Katanning</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Tammin, next quarterly</td>
<td>Quarters (committees 1st Friday)</td>
<td>T. C. Chambers, Kimberlin</td>
<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Kimberlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAUNING</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month</td>
<td>E. H. Smith, Koorda</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
<td>Last Saturday, quarterly</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Kukerin</td>
<td>T. G. Griff, Kimberlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>W. A. Tumber</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KULIN</td>
<td>Lake Grace</td>
<td>1st Monday, 4 p.m.</td>
<td>C. G. Gordon, Kulin</td>
<td>M. G. Johnson, Lake King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday in month</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>Geo. A. J. Man, Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE MANTUMUP</td>
<td>Manjimup Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Thursday each month</td>
<td>Lou Thompson</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Maysland, next quarterly</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday, 7.30 p.m. (penisden)</td>
<td>S. P. Farner, Alma Rd, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>Mr. J. C. Scottrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MECKERING-CUNDERIN</td>
<td>Meckering and Cunderin Hotel, alternatively</td>
<td>First Wednesday in month, at 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. F. Kessel</td>
<td>B. Munday,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Menzies Road Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month</td>
<td>B. Henderson, Menzies</td>
<td>C. H. Jacobson, Menzies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERREDIN</td>
<td>Railway Park</td>
<td>1st Monday in month</td>
<td>J. A. Jameson, Merredin</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch Rooms, Railway Park</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>J. H. Newnes, Midland Junction</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOOSMAN PARK</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Johnston Street, Cotteloo</td>
<td>Last Thursday in each month</td>
<td>Eric Henderson, Midland</td>
<td>Len Wilkinson, 32 Brockman Roa, Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>Cotteloo</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>C. G. Gordon, Moora</td>
<td>H. G. Thomas, 7 Lillian St., Cotteloo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURDOCK</td>
<td>Lesser Hall, Mt. Magnet, Sultan</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in month at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>H. V. Jenkins</td>
<td>C. L. Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURDOCK</td>
<td>South Westminster Hall, Oxford Street, Leederville</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>S. A. Stacey, Moora</td>
<td>J. F. Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURDOCK</td>
<td>Mt. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>K. A. Aldridge, Moora</td>
<td>H. A. Morphet, Mt. Magnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUKINBUDDIN</td>
<td>V.D.C. partner</td>
<td>Quarterly, 1st Friday in the month</td>
<td>F. P. Feulner, Busselton</td>
<td>E. M. G. Wills, 40 Oxford Street, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Alternately, Mundaring, Darlington, Parkerville</td>
<td>4th Friday of the month</td>
<td>J. W. Ishmael, Mundaring</td>
<td>W. A. E. Nightingale, Mundaring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NARROGIN</td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute, Narrogin</td>
<td>1st Monday in month</td>
<td>J. Hanley, Narrogin</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS</td>
<td>Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Nedlands</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>W. H. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWDEGATE</td>
<td>Newdegate</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE</td>
<td>East Fremantle Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>Railway Hotel, N'hampton.</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>R.S.I. Clubrooms, Gordon Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>St. Hilda's Hall, Globe Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRA' BANDA-GRANT'S PATCH</td>
<td>Orca Bands and Grant's Patch, alternately</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSBORNE PARK</td>
<td>R.S.I. Memorial Hall, Main Street, Osborne Park</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH (Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.)</td>
<td>Progress Hall, Onslow Road</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINGELLY PRESS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>At Lunchtime, Y.M.C.A., Murray Street, Pithara</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUADRANT-DANGIN</td>
<td>Quadrant Hall and Dangin Hotel, alternatively</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEDY</td>
<td>T. Fraser's Buildings</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
<td>R.A.C. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHENTON PARK</td>
<td>Progress Hall, Onslow Road</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHACKLETON-KWOLYIN</td>
<td>Kwohlyin Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, 61 Townshend Road, Subiaco</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAVING-YELBNI</td>
<td>Traving Hotel, Memorial Hall, Subiaco</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>Traving Hotel, Memorial Hall, Subiaco</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY</td>
<td>Town Hall, Cambridge St. Leederville</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUBIN</td>
<td>Wubin Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYALACKEME</td>
<td>Lesser Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAROONA-HAMEL</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST PERTH</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Perth</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WICKEPIN</td>
<td>Wickepin Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEALERING</td>
<td>Commercial Hotel, Yealering</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>Yourmi Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUMANI</td>
<td>Woolriess Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILUNA</td>
<td>Woolriess Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. W. Penny, Nedlands</td>
<td>(in)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>