EFFICIENCY BRED OF EXPERIENCE

Speaking at the State Executive luncheon in Anzac House on January 27, the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) said that the Commonwealth Government was looking towards the younger generation of officers rather than to the veterans of the last war. To conduct its fighting services Australia would have to produce new men—and it was producing them.

It has often been said that the Army always trains for the last war instead of the next one, and there is some truth in the charge. For several years after the South African War, we in Australia trained vigorously for another Boer War. Even when new drill books laid down a revision to the closer formations, one would frequently hear some veteran exclaim, with apt alliteration but complete lack of vision, "Oh—the book! This is how we did it in South Africa." Nevertheless, the type of training that followed the Boer War had its uses. It fostered that initiative and individual competence which were so characteristic of the original A.I.F. It is not good for an individual, far less a nation, to become thoroughly immersed in the past; but it is even worse for an individual, or a nation, to ignore the lessons of the past or fail to profit from them.

Unfortunately, in our efforts to escape from the worst features of the past, there is a growing tendency to deride everything that has gone before as useless or obsolete, and look for a glorious future amid the marsh-lights of a bizarre futuroism. That, one ventures to believe, is a denial of the value of experience; and no leader in wartime, be he soldier or be he statesman, can afford to do that. It is obvious then that all the public utterances of our politicians should not be taken too literally. The spirit of their remarks may be sound, but the wording often suggests that they are applying the principle of what is called, in remedial gymnastics, "over-correction."

As an instance of what is meant, Mr. Curtin said, in his speech at the State Executive luncheon, that there was no place in the senior ranks of the Army for men imbued with the strategy of Waterloo. Of course we all know what the Prime Minister meant, and many of us realised that he had fallen into the error, so common among civilians, of confusing strategy with tactics. Further, our worthy Prime Minister was rather unfortunate in selecting Waterloo as an example—Balaclava or Inkerman would have served his purpose better. After all, the principles of strategy have remained fairly constant throughout the ages.

Writing of Napoleon, the British military historian, Napier, had this to say: "He so divided his attack as at once to divide his enemy, and to fall with the mass of his own forces upon a point where their division, or the distribution of their troops, left them unable to resist him." That was the essence of Napoleon's strategy, which is the art of planning a campaign and bringing an adversary to battle, as distinguished from tactics, which is the art of handling troops once battle has been joined. That, in fact, was the strategy employed by Napoleon at Waterloo, when he drove a wedge between the Allied forces and tried to defeat them in detail. That also was the strategy of the Germans on the Western front in 1940. The only difference was in the result. The divided Allied forces re-united and crushed Napoleon on the field of Waterloo. In 1940, the Allies were unable to close the gaps the Germans had made in their line, and they were defeated in detail. Again and again, in 1870, in 1914, and in 1940, the German High Command has shown that it has profited from the study of Napoleon's campaigns.

Napoleon himself, like his conqueror Wellington, was an avid reader of military history. "The only right way of learning the science of war," he said, "is to read and re-read the campaigns of the great captains." Napoleon, too, was one of the first modern commanders to appreciate the significance of economic warfare. His Continental System, which might be described as a land blockade of Britain, was far more successful than most English historians have cared to admit. Wellington also read the best of military writers. He made it his invariable habit to give up some hours daily to the study of his profession. His dispatches show the width of his reading and the depth of a knowledge which allowed no new discovery in science or mechanics to escape his investigation. And yet, neither Napoleon nor Wellington could be called a mere academic soldier who worked purely by theory or formula. They made their reading a supplement to practical experience—or, perhaps it would be more correct to say a short cut to experience. It has been well said that an ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory, but the equation is extended considerably when that ounce of practice is reinforced by reading. Lord Wolseley put the matter very clearly, when he said: "A certain amount of reading is absolutely necessary for any man who ever wishes to command troops in the field; and, so far as I know of the study of war, the great thing is to read a little and think a great deal—and think of it over and over again." And if ever a man applied the Wolseley principle to his own study of the science and art of war, that man was our own Corps Commander, Sir John Monash.

It would be very unwise, then, for any battle leader, even in this mechanised age, to neglect the study of past campaigns. It would be still more unwise for any Government to assume that service in an earlier war made a man too old or too stodgy for service in a new one. Admitting that every war has proved the grave of reputations made in earlier wars, the
fact remains that the greatest commanders of history have been men with earlier practical experience of war.

Wellington, though an intensive student of the military art, was a "Scapt General" before he drove Napoleon's marshals out of Spain, and finally sal. Marlborough learnt the art of war on Flanders fields, under the great Turenne. Lord Roberts had had a lifetime of active service before he went out, at the age of sixty-seven, to take supreme command of the British forces in South Africa. At the beginning of any campaign, a nation naturally looks for its battle leaders among men who have already established their reputations in sane British forces in beginning of any campaign, a nation naturally looks for its battle leaders among men who have already established their reputations in previous wars. That is but a natural and sane policy. Even an applicant for a junior's job has to give references as to character and previous experience.

On the other hand, the battle leader should not be one who has become hide-bound by habit, or one who has allowed his studies to interfere with his education. He should be a leader who can blend theory with practice, as Wellington and Napoleon did. Even if one may be a little hypercritical, perhaps, of Mr. Curtin's words, there can be no doubt as to his meaning when he said that Australia looked towards the younger generation of officers. The policy of bringing home men with experience in this war to train the forces here on the most up-to-date lines is one with which we are in hearty agreement; but it should never be forgotten that those very men, those younger senior officers, got their chance to gain added experience in this war, because they had made good in the last war. Similarly, we feel sure that there are still many administrative jobs on the home front that can be well filled by veterans of the last war. We realise the danger of assuming that the man who served in the last war must necessarily know all there is to be known about this one, but it would be both dangerous and foolish to assume that he knows nothing at all, or that there is no way in which he can serve the Army better than to say a university professor or a publican without military experience of any kind.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

MR. CURTIN AT ANZAC HOUSE

It was the privilege of the State Executive to entertain the Prime Minister (Mr. John Curtin) to a luncheon in Anzac House on Tuesday, January 27. Other distinguished guests were the District Naval Officer (Captain C. Farquhar-Smith), the G.O.C. Western Command (Major-General E. C. P. Plant), and Group-Captain A. M. Charlesworth, representing Air Commodore H. F. de la Rue (Air Officer Commanding Western Area), the Past State President (Senator Collett), the Minister for External Territories (Senator Jim Fraser), Brigadier-General A. J. Bessell-Browne, the Managing Editor of "The West Australian" (Mr. C. A. Smith, who is also a former member of the State Executive) and the Manager, Australian Broadcasting Commission, Perth (Mr. Conrad Charlton). The State President (Mr. A. Yeates) introduced the guests and proposed the health of the Prime Minister. In doing so, Mr. Yeates outlined the objects of our League. He said that these were mainly selfish in the beginning. The League aimed at promoting the welfare of all ex-service men and their dependants. But the matter did not rest there. Mr. Yeates mentioned the essential feature of the League's Constitution, which was to uphold the integrity of the British Empire, and to insist in an adequate defence establishment for Australia. Mr. Yeates recalled that momentous State Congress in Anzac House, the first one held in the present home of the League, during which we received the news of Italy's unprovoked attack on Abyssinia. The State President read the resolution immediately passed by that Congress asking the Federal Government to put Australia's house in order by calling for a registration of the nation's man-power and the restoration of universal training for defence. At that time, Mr. Yeates said, the League was able to read the writing on the wall. After two years of war, Mr. Yeates continued, we have now got away from the idea of peace at any price, but the League feels that all Australians are not, even now, doing their utmost for the war effort. The views of members of the League on this issue have been expressed in communications from sub-

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Mr. Curtin said he knew that the problem of equipment had worried the League. It was a tremendous task, he went on. Our factories had not had previous experience of the manufacture of munitions for war, and we had been depending on imports for components. Previous Governments had worked on this problem of war supplies steadfastly, and very ably. It was not a problem of money, but of physical reality. "I was never much concerned at throwing bricks at the previous Government," he said. "I knew better, and I kept them in ouch as long as I possibly could." (Laughter).

Concerning the problems and the difficulties of the future, the Prime Minister said that he was reminded of the text: "He who would conduct an orchestra must turn his back on the audience and face the music.

Should the time come when he felt he was not doing his job for Australia, he would ask to be evacuated. (Applause).

Referring more specifically to the League, Mr. Curtin said he had always been impressed by the League's sense of perspective towards national affairs. "The League," he said "never once in any State embarked on party politics.

Western Command Headquarters has issued another warning against the probable evil results of war gossip. It was stated that, in spite of numerous warnings, many people were still talking and writing of movements of troops and snips. Every phase of the war effort was being acutely discussed, particularly the construction and operations of aeroplanes and munition factories, and the location and disposition of troops. Even the location and strength of defences, and the state of equipment, were being talked about in public places.

Much useful information, it was stated, was also being sent overseas in letters to persons living or serving abroad. "The writers did not seem to realise that their letters might fall into enemy hands. If they did, they would surely refrain from divulging such information. Even seemingly unimportant scraps of service news were pieced together to construct enemy intelligence agents, and each such item might provoke the clue that would give the secrets of service men who were, perhaps, near relatives of the irresponsible persons who provided the clue. This idle chatter and letter-writing was highly dangerous, and would have to stop.

Command Headquarters condemned the rumour-monger, saying that the pernicious practice of spreading rumours was increasing. The persons responsible must be taught a lesson, because the danger to Australia was too real to permit the circulation of rumours, whether spoken or written especially if such rumours were doing unnecessary harm to our fighting men, or causing unnecessary pain to their relatives at home. Officers are warned that steps will be taken to check the practice, and heavy penalties will be imposed on those found guilty.

WHY NOT? The Returned Soldier Printers—IMPERIAL PRINTING CO. LIMITED
AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

It is strange how the imminence of danger has aroused public interest in air raid precautions. Practically ever since the war broke out earnest men and women throughout Australia have undertaken A.R.P. work. They have made themselves efficient at the cost of much leisure and often at personal expense, and they have passed on their knowledge in the training of others as air raid workers. If ever there was a case of the impetus coming from below and the initiative being taken by the rank and file of the public, this is one. Unfortunately, this is a matter in which Australia has had to learn from the experience of others, and that explains, perhaps, why there has been so much delay in formulating a general scheme. Perhaps, also, the old adage “It can’t happen here” has had something to do with the case.

It is now fourteen months or so since the State Parliament placed the Civil Defence Act on the Statute Book. A Civil Defence machinery has been inaugurated, and much useful spadework has undoubtedly been done. No one pretends that even at this eleventh hour, we are fully prepared for an emergency; but there is comfort in the thought that preparations are proceeding towards that desired end. During recent weeks there have been criticisms of the authorities, and many counter-criticisms, but what is needed, most is some concrete plan which can be applied immediately and effectively. Far too many people, without any specialised knowledge, are laying down the law today about the form air raid precautions should take. In most cases, the protests and recriminations are merely the outpourings of funk. In others, one suspects that the voice of the trouble-maker is being heard in the land.

As an instance of the latter, it would be interesting to learn what was actually behind the recent public meeting in the Town Hall to demand the immediate summoning of Parliament to discuss air raid precautions. The meeting soon resolved itself into a series of personal attacks on the Director of Civil Defence. This paper holds no brief for Mr. Shapcott. We believe that when younger men are retired from the Army, the position held by Mr. Shapcott might be filled better by someone younger, and preferably someone with actual war experience. On the other hand, there is this to be said in Mr. Shapcott’s favour: He is doing the job with his customary vigour—and doing it without pay.

Among his detractors at the Town Hall meeting were many people whose pacifism in the past almost drove them into active disloyalty to Australia and the British Empire. One speaker, Mrs. Irene Greenwood, was one of the optimists who had advocated cutting all references to war from school textbooks. Strangely enough it did not occur to her that air raids might be prevented by prohibiting all references to them in the newspapers. Instead, Mrs. Greenwood tried to make the audience believe that “by assenting that only the well-to-do people with cars could find means of evacuation in an emergency.

Fortunately, the Advisory War Council, which is composed of the Parliamentary leaders of all the Federal parties, has declared its opposition to anything in the form of a large-scale evacuation. The Council very sensibly declared that a large-scale evacuation of the civil population would be detrimental to morale, and to war production. It also declared that the evacuation of war industries on any scale that would be worth while would also be quite impracticable. No doubt many of our virulent pacifists will see something sinister in these declarations but they may rest assured that all known trouble-makers will certainly be taken care of in the event of an enemy attack.

So far, all official utterances regarding air raid precautions have been statements of general policy. There are indications, however, that details are being worked out as well. On these details the public wants plenty of guidance. This is particularly true in regard to air raid shelters. When he visited Collie last month, the new G.O.C. Western Command (Major-General Eric C. P. Plant) told the Collie sub-branch that slit trenches were hardly a necessity in Collie, but they could be dug as a precautionary measure. He did not consider community trench-digging was necessary but he was not against the construction of small shelters in back yards. He stressed, however, that slit trenches should not be more than three feet six inches deep.

“Deep trenches are definitely a danger,” he said. “These are the views of a senior officer who has had experience of air raids in two wars. They are also the views of everyone who has spoken officially on the subject, and should, therefore, commend themselves to the public.”

It is understood that the Civil Defence authorities are preparing instructions on various aspects of air raid precautions. Unfortunately people have a knack of skimming through official pamphlets and then throwing them into the seclusion of a drawer. Every effort should be made to drive the instructions home, and this is being done by constant repetitions of instructions in the Press and over the Radio. A minute of such information over the air is worth an hour of wrangling between Mr. Ward and Mr. Spencer.

The Tenth Light Horse is hardly likely to be convinced of the virtues of mechanisation after what followed a recent meeting of the Regimental Association in Anzac House. Colonel Sweetapple, Major Temperley, and the Secretary Roy Perry, were travelling streetwards by lift when the current went off. The three stalwarts of the 10th were interned for quite a while before the position was rectified.
The Punch of Anno Domini

(By A Superfluous Veteran)

Perhaps the saddest verdict in the Courts of Time is the one: "Superfluous lags the veteran on the stage." That verdict seemed all the harder to me on a recent day when I was notified by Western Command Headquarters that my name had been transferred from the Reserve of Officers to the Retired List. Personally, I do not feel so very much older than I did this time last year, when I was still young enough for service, nor do I feel that I have grown more senile in that short time; but one supposes a line of demarcation has to be drawn somewhere, and Anno Domini is a draughtsman whose trial lines are never rubbed out. Nevertheless, one cannot help asking how old has one to be to qualify as a veteran, and precisely when does a veteran become superfluous? The Army has answered that question by prescribing a retiring age for each rank. It is assumed that if a man has not qualified for higher rank by the time he reaches a certain age, he would be better employed in some other walk of life, just as the State law closes the bars at 9 p.m., presumably on the assumption that if a man is not drunk by nine o'clock he's not trying.

But, to get back to the question of retirement. Recently, we have heard much of the policy of retiring senior officers at an earlier age, and appointing younger men to the higher ranks. Most people will agree that the principle is a good one, in principle. An earlier retiring age for the higher ranks not only lowers the dead weight of seniority, but it gives more officers the opportunity of gaining experience in the duties of those higher ranks, to say nothing of giving opportunity for younger men with service in the present war to give the country the benefit of that experience in training and organising the home forces. It is recognised that seniority is not an infallible guide to efficiency; but that has always been recognised in our own Army. Ever since I can remember, and Lord knows my memory goes a long way back, it has been expressly stated in regulations that promotion to field and higher ranks is by selection rather than by seniority. So there is nothing new in this way of opening the way for efficiency to higher rank. The recent lowering of the retiring ages is just another way of implementing this policy.

At the same time, it is not very pleasant for a man to realise that he has been placed on the shelf, especially when such things as health, capacity for further service, mental vigour and general efficiency, are such personal matters. Wellington and Napoleon, the greatest commanders of their own age, and, perhaps of any age, were both forty-seven when they faced each other as opponents for the first and last time at Waterloo. Nelson was forty-seven when he died at Trafalgar. On the other hand, Marlborough was fifty-four when he won the Battle of Blenheim. Dour old Colin Campbell was sixty-five when he was entrusted with the task of suppressing the Indian Mutiny, and Lord Roberts was sixty-seven when he was sent out to wrest victory from defeat in South Africa. When Colin Campbell was raised to the peerage after his successes in India, he remarked regretfully: "It's too late. There's no one left to be proud of it." By which he meant that he had outlived most of his own generation before a grateful country saw fit to honour his services.

Perhaps the most striking example of an army white-antied by senile decay was the Prussian Army which Napoleon routed at Jena. In that army there were regiments in which the average age of captains was near the sixty mark. Recently, local newspapers published a comparison of the ages of leaders in this war with those of the last. It will show that the average age of the men in the higher ranks was younger in the last war than it is in the present. In 1914 the average age of British major-generals was fifty-three, and of brigadier-generals, fifty-two. When Lieutenant-General Sir William Birdwood took command of the 1st Anzacs Corps in 1916, he was fifty-one, and that was the average age of major-generals in that year. By 1916, the average age of brigadier-generals had dropped to forty-six. At the end of the war, Sir William Birdwood, as he was then, was a general, and aged fifty-three. The two Australian Lieutenant-Generals, Sir Harry Chauvel and Sir John Monash, were fifty-three. The average age of A.I.F. major-generals was forty-nine, and of brigadier-generals, forty-one. In 1914 Sir Thomas Blamey was a major, and aged thirty. That was very young for field rank in the Permanent Forces in those days. Sir Thomas Blamey was, therefore, fifty-six when the present war broke out. The average age of major-generals was then fifty-four, and of brigadiers, forty-eight. However, early retirements and rapid promotions may bring the present average below even that of 1918.

We older ones are prepared to give Anno Domini a decision on points, but we refuse to take a knock-out. There are still many ways in which we can serve our country. In the meantime, salute to youth, and congratulations to those who have been more fortunate in the way of advancement than ourselves.

HONOUR AVENUE

The West Perth sub-branch, which over the years has accepted the responsibility of caring for Honour Avenue in King's Park, and seeing that the plates are kept painted, acknowledges the following donations to date from the sub-branches to their recent appeal for funds. Further donations will be acknowledged in our next issue.

Mr. Hawthorn-North Leederville, £1/1/-; Wongan Hills, 13/-; Mundaring-Liston, 5/-; Northam, 5/-; Ballard, 10/6; Armadale, 10/6; Carnamah, 5/-; Returned Army Nurses' Club, 5/-; Claremont, 5/-; Gloucester Park, 10/6; Dalwallinu, 5/-; Dalvally, 5/-; Boyup, 10/6; Cottlesloe, 5/-; Narrogin, 5/-; Midland Junction, 10/6; Wyalkatchem, 7/6; Nannup, 5/-; Kojonup, 5/-; Shackleton-Kwoylin, 11/6; York, 10/6; Melville, 5/-; Wickepin, 5/-; Yarloop, 5/-; Press, 5/-; Kondinin, 5/-; North Perth, 10/6; Marradong-Boddington, 5/-; West Leederville-Wembley, 5/-; Perth, 5/-; Mundijong-Jarrahdale, 5/-; Ravensthorpe, 5/-; Mandurah, 10/6; Railway Workshops, 10/6; Bullsbrook, 5/-; Mt. Magnet, 10/6; North East Fremantle, 5/-; West Swan, 5/-; Subiaco, 5/-, making a total of £26/2/6.

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The Volunteer Defence Corps

With the approach of war to our own shores, many people have shown a belated inclination to do something about it. In Australia, as in other parts of the world, there has been much talk of forming what is called a "people's Army" for local defence. This drew from the Army Minister (Mr. Forde) the very timely reminder that today the A.I.F., the Australian Military Forces, and the Volunteer Defence Corps are the people's Army. While he appreciated the zeal which prompted the desire to fight for Australia, Mr. Forde reminded men who are ineligible for active service, that complete opportunities for service are open to them in the Volunteer Defence Corps, or in A.R.P. work.

The status of the Volunteer Defence Corps, as a part of the Australian Military Forces, has been defined in regulations issued on Monday, February 2. Under these regulations all members of the Volunteer Defence Corps are required to enlist. This is to ensure that they have full status as soldiers in case they go into action and that they will have the same compensation rights as other members of the Army. Mr. Forde explained that members now in the Volunteer Defence Corps will not increase their obligations by enlisting. "The regulations," he said, "simply constitute the Volunteer Defence Corps as part of the Australian Defence Forces, the Commonwealth, and dispel any doubt as to its official status." The new regulations authorize the appointment of officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers. Badges of rank will be set up in the volunteer districts, and these will recommend the appointment of officers. Those called to active duty, the warrant and non-commissioned officers will be appointed. Mr. Forde said that units of the Volunteer Defence Corps will form centres of resistance throughout the Commonwealth, so that, in the event of an invasion, the enemy will be obliged to fight every inch of the way. A number of members of the Volunteer Defence Corps have volunteered for duty as guards at places where their presence has been considered essential. The periods for which their services could be made available varied according to the occupation of the individual. Under the regulations, they will be on the same footing as members of the A.I.F., who are called up for full-time duty. Those in the Volunteer Defence Corps members will not be called up for the duration of the war, unless their services could be made available without disturbing essential services.

Men employed on full-time service will be entitled to leave and allowances at the daily rate specified for the Militia Forces. Payment provisions have also been made for members performing part-time service. No pay will be granted for instructional parades, schools or courses which are being made for payment of fares to authorised schools or parades away from the members' home districts.

Members of the Volunteer Defence Corps, in this State, were considerably worried by a suggestion, published in the Press, that manpower restrictions would apply to the Corps. However, Mr. Forde said, after careful study or so of uncertainty, the position was clarified by the Army Minister. It was announced on February 3 that workers in reserved occupations were required to join the Volunteer Defence Corps, and that any man as between eighteen and sixty, provided he was not in the A.I.F. or liable for militia training, could join. It was stated that the Commonwealth Government had recently set aside £100,000 for training the Corps, and for full-time and part-time services.

Because of doubts expressed by individual members of the Volunteer Defence Corps in reserved and non-reserved occupations, it was explained by the Minister for Defence that all members would be required formally to take the oath of allegiance. Although present members are required to enrol, the explanation continued, they will not, by doing so, increase their obligations to serve, beyond that implied by their enrolment in the Corps. The reason for enrolment is to give members of the Volunteer Defence Corps full status as soldiers. This will make them eligible for the same compensation rights as other members of the military forces.

The agitation in the Eastern States for the formation of a so-called People's Army, to engage in guerrilla operations against an invader, drew a further statement from the Army Minister (Mr. Forde) on Friday, February 6. Mr. Forde said that in New South Wales there had been a persistent demand for official permission to establish what is termed "People's Armies." The Minister repeated an earlier statement that the A.I.F., the Australian Military Forces, and the Volunteer Defence Corps were People's Armies. He appreciated the motives actuating many people who wished to establish other groups, but declared his opposition to the move. The Government, Mr. Forde said, could not allow public meetings at different points in Australia, wherever public meetings might be organised. However, well-intentioned they might be, these groups would develop into irregular bands, without the necessary equipment and potential manpower would, therefore, be dissipated. Those favouring the establishment of People's Armies should join the Volunteer Defence Corps, or some branch of the organised forces.

Referring more specifically to the Volunteer Defence Corps, Mr. Forde said that men in responsible positions, including those in reserved occupations, who desire to give part-time service in the Volunteer Defence Corps, may enlist for non-casual service. The Minister made this quite clear, when he outlined the conditions for service in the Volunteer Defence Corps. He said that, under the old scheme, which was based on enlistment of members of the Militia, a man could resign by giving fourteen days' notice. Under the new regulations, members must either re-enlist, or sever their connection with the Corps. On re-enlistment, they would become part of the military forces and would receive full-time training. No pay had been called up for full-time service, because the majority of the Volunteer Defence Corps, up to the present were in reserved occupations. The Volunteer Defence Corps will accept not only returned soldiers of the last war but also large numbers of those now in reserved occupations, who would not be accepted for service for the A.I.F., the Militia, or the other fighting forces, and who desired special part-time training for some type of military service.

In connection with the administrative side of the Volunteer Defence Corps, Mr. Forde has conferred with Major-General Wynter, the Government Secretary of the Eastern Command. They discussed a number of matters of vital importance to the areas under Major-General Wynter's command, including the position and organisation of the Volunteer Defence Corps. Mr. Forde indicated a complete overhaul of the Corps, to eliminate any weakness of organisation. Because of its importance in the general defence plan, it is essential that the Volunteer Defence Corps should be strengthened from top to bottom as had been done in the Militia. The Government, Mr. Forde said, had approved the expenditure of a considerable sum of money for the appointment of full-time officers to the Volunteer Defence Corps, to train members and put the organisation on an official basis, with its widened scope under the new regulations.

THE PROVOST CORPS IN ACTION

War is notoriously the grave of reputations made in previous wars, but there are times and occasions when a war can rehabilitate a reputation that had been badly besmirched. In years gone by, no one in the Army was less popular than the Provost Corps, but members of that unit have shown a bravery and capacity in the present war which has won the esteem and admiration of members of other units. A statement to the effect was made by the Assistant Minister (Mr. Forde) when he announced that an appeal for recruits for this corps was being made in the Eastern States. Mr. Forde said that if Australia were attacked the Provost Corps would have the dual role of looking after prisoners and military traffic as well as to co-operate with the civil police in the control of civilians, and look after prisoners taken in battle. In the evacuations of Greece and Crete, the Provost Corps had undaunted stuck to the tasks of protecting held-up troops, and kept moving and embarking men in orderly fashion, in the face of dive-bombing and machine-gunning. In the Western Desert campaigns of North Africa, thirty members of the Provost Corps, at one stage, had twelve thousand prisoners to look after.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE EXEMPTIONS

The League recently urged the Commonwealth Government to consider the extension to ensure that no exemption from military training should be given to employees of the Federal Government, except in exceptional circumstances, established to the satisfaction of the Minister for Defence. The Prime Minister's Department has advised that it is the view of the Government that exemption from military service should be sought only in exceptional cases, where it is not practicable to train or produce suitable relief, and that the Department has been advised accordingly, and instructed to exercise the utmost economy in the use of staff, and to arrange for the training of older men and women for relief purposes, so as to release as many men as possible for the forces.
WHAT IS A
“COMMANDO?”
AUSTRALIANS DO NOT LIKE
THE WORD

The word “Commando” is much in the news at present, and no doubt as the war progresses we shall hear much more of it. It is a word of Portuguese origin (commandar meaning command) and was used by the South African Dutch and familiarised in the Boer War. In effect, it is a small raiding party whose success depends upon the dash of its leader and the initiative of the men under him. Courage and mobility are important factors, and Australian troops, both in the last war and in the present, have proved themselves masters in the art of this type of warfare.

The splitting up of the Boer Army into small Commandos was largely responsible for the splendid opposition it offered against the British forces and for greatly prolonging the struggle. Specially selected groups, well mounted and each man a crack rifle-shot, repeatedly threw into disorder very much larger bodies of troops, and after inflicting serious damage, would vanish as mysteriously as they appeared.

Guerilla warfare is somewhat akin to commando fighting. Guerilla groups work more independently, and are not, in the main, attached to central commands. They are generally isolated, wandering bands who harass the enemy when and how they can. The word “guerilla” is derived from the Spanish word “guerra,” meaning war. In 1808-14 guerilla bands fought against France, and some joined service with the Duke of Wellington.

Mr. Ian Fitchett, the noted Australian official war correspondent, in reporting the success of a detached Australian group in Malaya, states that the Australians do not like the word “commando.” It may be that they will themselves coin a word for their unconventional forays.

In the last war, raids on enemy trenches to bring back a prisoner or two for questioning, or for identification of the opposing divisions, were commonplace incidents, and, generally, were successfully accomplished.

In the present war the Australian defenders of Tobruk, particularly the men out on the perimeter, won a well-deserved and wonderful reputation for their nightly explorations in enemy territory which as often as not resulted not only in securing essential information, but in inflicting serious damage on the enemy, before they returned to their trenches. Whatever name may ultimately apply to these highly exciting and extremely profitable excursions, the initiative, resource and valour of the Australian troops will be linked with them. It is the possession of these qualities that fits the Australians for the task.

The stiffest man of the month was the chap with a wife and sixteen children who tried to enlist in the A.I.F. He wanted to go to the war to get a bit of peace, but the manpower people knocked him back. They reckoned he's the sort of man that will be wanted in Australia after the war. Then, on top of all that, a conscientious traffic cop took his name and address for causing a crowd to collect.

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IT IS SWAN CRYSTAL BITTER

that puts the...
“Al’” in the A.I.F.
... and sends them on to victory
Personalities

Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Speckman, of Melbourne, who has been attached to the Headquarters Staff, Seventh Division, in the Middle East, is one of the officers recalled for service on the home front by the Federal Government. He will take up special military duties. Lieutenant-Colonel was serving in the ranks of the Royal Australian Engineers when the Huns ran amok in 1914. He served in Gallipoli, Egypt, France and Belgium, gaining the Military Cross and attaining the rank of Major.

Our sympathies go out to Brigadier-General A. J. Besseil-Browne, who has been notified by the Department of the Air of the death in action of his fourth son, Sergeant John Besseil-Browne. The late Sergeant Besseil-Browne was educated at Guildford Grammar School and the Muresk Agricultural College. After obtaining his Diploma of Agriculture, he commenced farming at Spencer's Brook. While there he joined the 28th Battalion A.M.F. Two years ago he enlisted in the R.A.A.F. and, after completing his courses in the Eastern States, he was posted to an operational station as a wireless operator. Two brothers are serving with the A.I.F. Another brother, Major Ian Besseil-Browne, who commanded the West Australian battery which fired the first shot in the Greek campaign, is a prisoner of war.

Mr. Curtin is the second Prime Minister of Australia to be entertained by the State Executive in Anzac House during his term of office, and, of course, he is the first Prime Minister to be called to that exalted office while representing a West Australian constituency. Mr. R. G. Menzies was a guest of the Executive shortly before the outbreak of the present war. Another distinguished guest in Anzac House was Mr. W. M. Hughes, but, on that occasion, the Digger's old friend "Billy" was entertained as Minister for Health and Repatriation. The last Prime Minister to be entertained in the old premises, now occupied by the Australian Broadcasting Commission, was the late Mr. J. A. Lyons.

Mr. Ernest Turnbull, former State President of the Victorian Branch of the League, has been appointed Managing Director of Hoyts Theatres Ltd. The appointment followed his resignation as Managing Director of the Gaumont-British and Dominion Films for Australia and New Zealand, and Managing Director of Fox Films Corporation of Australasia Ltd. Mr. Turnbull was founder of the British Films Association and established the first all-British theatre chain in Australia. For seven years he was manager of the Port Building, in Melbourne, the headquarters of the Victorian Branch of the League. He was also the founder of the All For Australia League, which was connected with the early days of the United Australian Party.

Mayor La Guardia of New York is a fast-moving man. He shuttles back between New York and Washington by air, sometimes as often as twice a day. In his efforts to run America's largest city and Uncle Sam's Civilian Defence programme as well. In fact, the receptionist (who is something between a janitor and a human enquiry office) of the De Toledano building, Washington, when the office of Civilian Defence is quartered, has come to expect miraculous feats of speed from Mr. La Guardia. Her attitude was reflected by her instructions to the lift-boy the morning after the United States declared war. Evidently, the receptionist expected the tempo of work to speed up considerably, for she told the boy: "The Mayor will be coming up in your elevator, and he'll want a shave and a haircut on the way."

Laid to rest in the Yelbeni Cemetery on January 1, Edwin A. Perks, aged 76, late of the Fourth Division Pioneers. A man of splendid physique and enormous strength, big Ted worked wonders and set a great example to his coppers during a tough period at the Somme in late 1916. He was the holder of a letter from Major-General Sir H. W. Cox, congratulating him on his magnificent work. Until a couple of years ago, the genial old chap still retained his keen interest in our local police, and he was often seen round Yelbeni on a solo motorcycle. Incidentally, he was the father of "Ted," the State's heavyweight champion of a few years ago.

The first V.C. to be won in Malaya has been awarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Groves Wright Anderson. Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson turned forty-five just two days before the award of this honour was announced. He was a giant in civil life, from the Riverina district of New South Wales. He served four years in the last war with the King's African Rifles, having enlisted in Kenya, and won the Military Cross for gallantry in East Africa. He joined the Militia in 1939, and went overseas with the A.I.F. as second-in-command of the 28th Battalion, with the rank of Major, in February, 1941. On January 24 the Army Minister (Mr. Forde) announced in Melbourne that a force under Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson had been cut off by the Japanese, but skilful leadership and dogged courage had enabled the force to fight its way back to our own lines. Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson had been mentioned highly in despatches as a result of this exploit. Thus, in spite of the frosted official view of veterans of the last war, another old soldier has acquired merit in competition with his juniors.

Twenty-nine Victoria Crosses have been won in the present war. Five of these were won by Australians, two of whom came from our own State. Four Australian officers, before Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, were Corporal H. Edmundson (N.S.W.), Wing Commander H. I. Edwards (W.A.), Private Jim Gordon (W.A.), and Lieutenant A. R. Cutler (N.S.W.).

February 15, 1942

Percy Miller, of the West Perth sub-branch, has been a patient in hospital. We wish him speedy recovery.

Old soldiers stand together on the race-track as well as on the home front. Recent race-track activity of Melbourne trainer, T. B. Nooyce, joined the A.I.F. Before he disbanded his team he recommended to Mr. J. McLellan, the harness farmer who races the famous Mildura Milly, that W. Cleary would be a good trainer for the mare. Mr. McLellan himself a returned soldier, took the advice. Heiterman, who saved active service in the last war, took over the mare, and Our Mina scored her first victory when she won at Goodwood a few Saturdays ago.

During his recent visit to Washington, Mr. Churchull and President Roosevelt attended the Christmas service of the Foundry Methodist Church. Although Mr. Churchull may not have been aware of the fact at the time, this famous church "owns" its name m uncetly to the British. The Foundry Church is said to have been built so as to be a meeting place for the American and British forces during the war between the United States and Britain in 1814, when Henry Foxhall, or Georgetown cannon-maker, built its first edifice. The church was built in gratitude for a storm that broke just in time to steer the British invaders away from its foundry.

Of the staff of eighty who accompanied Mr. Churchill to Washington none is closer to him than Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Frederick Algernon Portal, who is known to his intimates at "Pete." One of their chief non-war debates concerns the advisability of teaching Latin in English schools. That is a subject for over a generation now, and one can recall the statement of a leading exponent of "modern education" that the Romans were able to conquer the world because they did not have to waste their boyhood learning Latin. For your information, "Pete" Portal is in favour of teaching Latin to the youngest, according to Winston Churchill, who occasionally interjects a Latin phrase into his own orations, is against it.

When he appeared before the Commonwealth Parliamentary Select Committee on Social Security, Mr. Lionel L. Carter, secretary of the Employers Federation, uttered some solid commonsense. He said that interested organisations that were competent to express their views on post-war reconstruction were too busy with the task of winning the war to think much about post-war social security. Lionel Carter, who was once a member of the State Parliament, served with the 48th Battalion in the last war. He lost an eye during the German push of 1918, and returned to Australia with the three stars of a captain, and the Military Cross.
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COMB OUT THE ARMY

During the last war, when the expensive
and inequitable voucher system was in its
last legs, and all sorts of fantastic devices
were being resorted to as alternatives to con-
scription, the English newspapers persistently
advised the Government to comb out the
civil service, the shops, the factories, and so
on, to provide men for the fighting line.
Horatio Bottomly, the editor of the Daily
Star, applied a douche of cold common-sense
to this hysteria in an article headed “Why Not
Comb Out the Army!” The authorities
und, with the result that the shining buttons and
glistening boots of many a warrior from the
training camps and the barracks were to be seen
on their way to France. One thinks that the
time has arrived for a similar comb to find
men for this war, especially as more aching
men and greater economy than ever are
needed.

A start could be made, one thinks, with
the expensive and somewhat fantastic Educa-
tion Service which is now performing such
quant antics before high heaven. At a time
like this, how does the Government justify
the £3,000,000 the A.F.L.E. is said to have
spent on training for non-combatants? And
what is this expensive service doing that could
not be done better, and at a smaller stage,
by the Kepaatura Department and the
thousands of local training establishments?

Towards the end of the last war, a
very efficient A.I.F. Education Service
functioning in the A.I.F., but those connected
with it were all men who had had hard active
service in the line—men of practical educa-
tional experience, and above all, men who
knew the Digger inside and out. One sur-
vivor of that organisation, Major Buly
Mathieson, is now A.I.F. Education Officer in
New South Wales, and with his appointment
we have no quarrel, assuming, of course,
that such an appointment is necessary or
even desirable just now. What we fail to
see is the necessity or the desirability for ap-
pointing people like university professors,
who can hardly wear a uniform correctly,
and giving them unlimited rank, which entitles
them to a present arms from a real soldier with
war medals, assuming the latter is on sentry
when one of them slouched past.

The incompetence of these people is shown
by the absurd multiplication of jobs and the
appointment of so many assistants. Reverting
again to the experience of the last war, the
authorities realised that the end of the war
was imminent, and that it would be some time
before the A.I.F. could be repatriated. It was
necessary, then, to have some means of
keeping the troops occupied. In this
regard the old A.I.F. Education Service did
good work, but only in that regard. It was
soon found that the average Digger was quite
content to humour himself, and to spend the
intervening period in a rational manner. For
those who wanted something more serious
or more utilitarian, various forms of non-
military employment were found. One need
not be blamed as hopelessly conservative
for feeling that something similar might be done
for the men of this war, and done at a much
later stage.

To show how fantastic the present business
has become, it may merely be mentioned that
a recent newspaper item referred to the grant-
ing of a lieutenant’s commission to a profes-
sional piano-player. This was the result of a
questionnaire which showed that the troops
were interested in music—they wouldn’t be
the countrymen of Melba and Percy Grainger
if they were not. It was assumed, then, that
because many had expressed a wish that they
could play an instrument that the pianist
player was trained through a suit of khaki.
No wonder the average civilian is asking: “Is
it the Army’s business to train men to sight,
or to amuse them with all these amiable
little side-shows?”

Another disastrous venture of the Educa-
tion service was the publication of a quite
unnecessary magazine. This publication was
launched at a time when newspaper was being
severely rationed, and there was a severe
shortage of other types of paper used by
prisoners. It was reported a few days ago
that the A.I.F. Parliamentary Estate Assem-
bles, will be asked to go into the question of
this paper, and to decide whether its con-
tinuance is desirable. Why not abolish it now,
without wasting the time of Parliament? The
publication “Back to Back” lives up to its
useful purpose that is not already being performed far better
by the numerous organs of the League in at
least three States. The articles that have ap-
peared in it, which have been really worth
reading, have been reprinted, or re-
printed in condensed form, from other pub-
cations, and some of the matter for which
the publishers themselves have been responsible, so far from being authoritative, have been
garblingly inaccurate.

For these, and other reasons too numerous
to state in one issue of “The Listening Post,”
we consider that a comb-out of the Army,
and particularly of the Education Service, is
highly necessary. As matters stand at present,
we fail to see the use of this service, except
as a means for finding jobs for all sorts of
people who could be better employed in the
lining line.

The Evergreens

10th GARRISON BATTALION

A cricket match was played recently be-
tween our unit and another that is at present
located near us. Our unit, after a very hard-
fought game, managed to win by 50 runs.
“Picture Night,” here has now developed into
a community concert as well, with the
Y.M.C.A. representative at the piano, to fill
the time before Mackay arrives. Con-
tary to form, a number of men went sick
on the day that they were due for leave.
(Perhaps the shock of getting it was too much
to stand.) A popular officer here regrets that
his father trained him to be an engineer (he
has to spend too much of his time erecting
Wash-houses and things). We have acquired
some conscientious cooks, and the results of
their efforts go a long way towards reconcili-
ing us to the idea that there is still available
at one of those elections that the
previously-mentioned officer adorns the land-
scape with. It is still as unreliable as ever,
but it has its humorous aspects. Fishing is
still a favourite pastime (when we have some
time to spare), but the vent, regretting the
one that got away is still told. Of course
there are some new chaps among us, and the
old chaps may think that they believe them.
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THE LESSON OF CRETE
According to American Service publications officers of the United States Army feel they have many valuable lessons to learn from the battles which have already been fought in this war. Particularly close attention has been paid to the Battle of Crete, during which the Germans counter-balanced their inferiority in sea-power by the large-scale use of parachute and glider troops. An interesting analysis of the conquest of Crete has been given in the United States Infantry Journal by Lieutenant John Minter; and, since Lieutenant Minter is a parachutist himself, his conclusions should command respect, if not complete agreement.

According to his estimate, the Huns dropped no fewer than 13,000 parachutists on Crete. They were dropped he believes, without much planning, and consequently they suffered extremely heavy losses. This Lieutenant Minter contends, was "like pouring dishwater down a drain," since parachute troops are at a distinct disadvantage when dropped on well-defended areas, unless the defences have been reduced by bombardment. However costly though the descent on Crete was to Hitler's air legions, Lieutenant Minter believes it taught the Nazis valuable lessons. For instance, if they contemplate making much use of parachute troops in an attack on Britain, they have learnt that the mere dumping of great masses of men out of aeroplanes is not likely to succeed. Lieutenant Minter maintains that the German parachutists alone outnumbered the British defenders of Crete. In addition, the Nazis had complete control of the air, and the British had lost most of their weapons in the Battle of Greece. Yet, even so, capturing Crete proved a very difficult and expensive undertaking for Hitler and his savages. How much more difficult Britain would be, the Nazis should now understand.

HOSPITALITY FOR OUR FIGHTING MEN
Many sailors, soldiers and airmen on leave in Perth during the week-ends have been found hospitality in suburban houses by the billeting committee of the Citizen's Keption Council; since that committee began to function over a year ago. A report recently submitted to the Council shows that, since August last year, billets were found for one hundred members of the A.I.F., and one hundred and fifty-five members of the R.A.A.F., including a large number from another State. Christmas Day hospitality had been arranged for forty men, but all leave was cancelled, and fifty-five new hostesses, as well as suburban residents whose names were already on the roster, had to be disappointed, because of the ruling of the authorities. However, the service was, on that occasion, extended to convalescent troops. Hostesses have also made their homes available to visitors from abroad.

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BOOKS IN REVIEW

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**A Life of Edward John Eyre**


Malcolm Uren has fulfilled the promise of "Sailorman's Ghosts" by collaborating with Robert Stephens in Albany in "Waterless Horizons." This is the human life of Edward John Eyre, the overland explorer. Malcolm Uren, now editor of "The Western Mail," though born in Adelaide, is to all intents and purposes a Perthen man. His colleagues, Mr. Robert Stephens, was born in Perth, but is now a resident of Albany. Both are indefatigable research students in the field of early West Australian history. Their hard and sincere work, presented in its finished form as a piece of brilliant historical writing, has commemorated the century of Eyre's great overland journey with a biography that is at once a valuable contribution to Australian history and a delight to the reader. Both in style and format, "Waterless Horizons" has been rendered unfinishable by the intrusion of the economist into the drama of history, for, with all due respect to the economist, the material concept of history has been a far greater responsibility of a writer of Eyre's stature than the author of the debunking and literary English as a medium for the description of a period, or the presentation of a life story. The work is a naturalist of some skill, and with more than a dash of historical writing. Only a shade less damnable is the flashiness of the debunking school, whose exponents, like Bunyan's muck-raker, are too busy delving in the slime to see the crown of gold.

Allowing for differences in contemporary style and modern standards of taste, our authors have revived the manner of Prescott and Motley. Their work has all the fascination of a romantic novel, while being as convincing as the most rabid worshipper of facts could demand. The man who made that astounding journey along the shores of the Great Australian Bight to Albany is made known to the reader, not as some shadowy Olympian, but as a man of flesh and blood like ourselves. His life story is a matter of his descent, his arrival in Australia, when only on the verge of manhood, his dogged determination to obtain colonial experience, his admiration of the overlanders, and his earlier essays in inland exploration. The whole story is told with a wealth of detail and even a suspicion of hero-worship, which is never amiss in a biography. But with what realism and profound scholarship have been brought to our story by our authors the romance has been kept in its proper background to their story! The little side-lights, the vignettes of life in old Hobart, Sydney and Melbourne, of life in the bush in the days of the bush-rangers, and the passing references to the trials of men and the land in those days, all make a romantic story which have from the central figure, have considerable historical value of their own. To tell the story of Eyre's life in Australia and to assess his position in our country's Temple of Fame, has been the task of the authors, and they have done it remarkably well. In doing so they have made a strong point that the overland journey, with all its hardships, its dangers, its trials and tribulations, was not Eyre's only claim to fame, and they have vigorously combated the charge that Eyre was one of the explorers who discovered nothing. They show that Eyre's in

journeying along the Bight, was in search of land, not exist in that part of the country. In doing so he saved an infinity of labour and disappointment to others. The authors have stressed the important point that negative contributions are as useful as positive. We found that out for ourselves in 1918, when it was just as important for our scouts—and with the Romans the one word did duty for explorer and scout—to find that there were not holding a certain position, as it was to know they were there in force. One of the features of the book we admired most was this sturdy defence of Eyre and his work.

The authors have also given the story of Eyre's life after he left Australia. They have given a detailed description of the part he played in suppressing the Rebellion in Jamaica, of which island he was governor at the time. He was blamed in England for refusing to reprieve a political agitator, who was hanged by sentence of court martial, after a scrupulously fair trial. The Royal Commission which went out to Jamaica to investigate the circumstances of the trial gave a species of Yes-No verdict. Eyre was praised for his skill, promptness and vigor in bringing the insurrection to a speedy end. The naval and military operations were described as 'prompt and judicious,' but the authorities were blamed for the continuance of martial law, and the punishments inflicted were excessive. Eyre was recalled, but his departure from Jamaica brought forth volumes of praise from all sections of the Jamaican community. The authors have provided a detailed account of the overland journey with the making of the East-West Highway which by one of those fortunate coincidences that are by no means rare in history, was commenced in the centenary year. This book is a valuable addition to the history of Australia. It is a naturalist of some substance, while the latter does not detract from the literary merits of the book, for it is written in capital style. Like the Walrus and the Carpenter, Mr. Barrett talks of many things, from Louis de Rougemont to Japanese sampan ideas. Indirectly, he confirms the stories of sampan snooping along our northern coasts in the guise of peacocks, taking soundings, and corrupting the natives. These clay, oil and tobacco, their flying machines, and their cameras, took full advantage of the age of appeasement to find out more about our northern shores than the average Australian is ever likely to know. However, Mr. Barrett has done much to correct that. He has presented us with a broad sweeping look which should be read and re-read by every Australian who is worthy of the name. It is a book packed with useful and interesting information, and there is not a dull line in the whole volume.

**Tropic Waters**


Our copy from the publishers.

It is a great and happy event for Australia that Messrs. Robertson and Mullens should have published two notable books about little-known parts of Australia in the one year. The one was "Waterless Horizons," and the other "Coast of Adventure." The name which is the title of the latter does not detract from the story by its authors, Mr. Charles Barrett, has bestowed on the Untamed North of Australia. Mr. Barrett has been a professional journalist, and is a naturalist of some standing, as his Fellowship of the Royal Zoological Society indicates. He and Malcolm Uren have much in common. Neither is inclined to accept anything by hearsay, and each makes a point of spending some time in the out of the way places written about. Mr. Barrett has had an adventurous life. He is a Digger who served in the last war with the Australian Camel Field Ambulance. He has written travel books, and books on native study, but he will probably be better known to readers of "The Listening Post" as the editor of the newspaper "Cooee News," which was the official organ of the A.I.F. and the N.Z. forces. He was also substitute editor of "Australia in Palestine." Mr. Barrett is more interested in life as such than in narratives of the past. His approach to "Coast of Adventure" is that of the biologist and the anthropologist rather than of the historian, though he has given many interesting side-lights on exploration and early attempts at settlement. He writes for the intelligent layman rather than the student, but the book covers a wide range of subjects, but the book which might profitably lead to further reading by anyone interested. His descriptions of the aborigines of those northern coast-lands are interesting and deeply sympathetic. He vigorously defends the land and its people against the slinging references of Dampier and other early navigators. What is more, he pays glowing tribute to the work of the missionaries to their self-sacrificing immolation, and their loving care of their dusky charges. Barrett's white associates in his visit to Arnhelm Land are three extremely likeable persons—perhaps lovable would not be too strong a word. They are the Rev. T. Webb of Milingimbi, and his wife, and the sparkling lady called "Helen," to whom the book is dedicated, and who, one suspects, is Mrs. Charles Barrett is private life. He makes these people live. They are folks we would all be glad to know and see much of.

For the rest, Barrett sees his country with the eye of the trained observer, and describes it with the skill of the competent reporter—and to say the latter does not detract from the literary merits of the book, it is written in capital style. Like the Walrus and the Carpenter, Mr. Barrett talks of many things, from Louis de Rougemont to Japanese Ideas. Indirectly, he confirms the stories of sampan snooping along our northern coasts in the guise of peacocks, taking soundings, and corrupting the natives. These clay, oil and tobacco, their flying machines, and their cameras, took full advantage of the age of appeasement to find out more about our northern shores than the average Australian is ever likely to know. However, Mr. Barrett has done much to correct that. He has presented us with a broad sweeping look which should be read and re-read by every Australian who is worthy of the name. It is a book packed with useful and interesting information, and there is not a dull line in the whole volume.

**AKUBRA HATS**

**WHY NOT? The Returned Soldier Printers IMPERIAL PRINTING CO. LIMITED**
The The Executive has decided that the next meeting of the metropolitan sub-branch presidents and secretaries shall take place in the Board Room of Anzac House, on Wednesday, February 27, at 8 p.m.

Details of a type of food container, invented in America, which will heat its contents when portion of the tin is punctured, have been sent to the Army authorities by the Minister for Trade and Customs (Senator O'Keefe). Senator Keane, who has been in America, says that puncture of the container, during which it was explained that the heat was generated by chemicals coming into contact with the air. It is considered that the invention may be of use to the Army in providing hot food for soldiers in the field. Whether the invention will do all that is claimed for it is open to proof, but it cannot make the tucker any worse than the lukewarm stew that used to be carried up to the line in petrol tins during the last war.*

The Executive recently confirmed the previous authority in favour of the West Perth sub-branch to circularise all sub-branches, asking for assistance in the maintenance of Honour Avenue in King's Park.*

There is a urgent need for aluminium, particularly for aircraft construction. Action has not been taken already by sub-branches, or by individual members of the League, sub-branches could rectify this omission by arranging for the collection of all scrap aluminium in their territories. Notice to the State Secretary's office will ensure appropriate advice as to where this scrap should be consigned.

An albany sub-branch recently drew attention to the number of members called up for full-time duty with the defence forces, particularly in the Garrison Battalions, and who failed to renew their subscriptions. The State Executive has decided that in such cases a special circular should be issued, emphasising the necessity of maintaining the League at full strength.

The Wing Commander, No. 5 Cadet Wing, Air Training Corps, recently advised that an Air Training Corps is functioning in this State. Members of the League are invited to visit Squadron Headquarters to see cadets at work. In the Albany sub-branch, interested in this work, may obtain further particulars from the State Secretary's office.

It was recently decided between the Federal Executive and the State Executive that only changes of regulations, which had a direct bearing on the war effort, and vital matters of defence, should, at this stage, be submitted to the Commonwealth authorities.

Letters are reaching the head office of the League every day protesting against aliens availing themselves of vacancies created by men enlisting, particularly in mining areas. The authorities point out that to exclude aliens from gold mines would mean that, as in the case of Younami, the mine would close with resultant hardship to individuals and loss to the country. Furthermore, the Army Minister has decided that aliens most accept responsibility in Australia's defence, on the understanding of course that dangerous aliens will be interred.

The honorary secretary of the Soldiers Dependents' Fund (Mr. F. D. Mather) stated in a report on the committee's work, during the past two months, that it would appear from letters that quite a number of houses are taking advantage of a house-shortage to raise the rents. This is a distinct breach of the National Security (Landlord and Tenant) Regulations. The executive of the Soldiers' Dependants Board has, therefore, threatened legal action in some cases. The executive is determined to see that while the husband is away, the wife is not exploited.

Contrary to general opinion, the mechanism of the forces is not a product of our own age. It was toyed with as far back as 1877. In that year, a tractor known as the "Steam Sapper," figured in a march past of the Chatham Garrison, before the Duke of Connaught. The7-ton Artillery Park stores went by, drawn by traction engines. The first drew 32-pounders on travelling carriages; the second, followed, drawing two 32-pounders and two 12-pounders. The first case illustrated the use of the hinged trestle made of concrete, filled with shot and shell and military stores. According to a contemporary report, "The Steam Sappers" would drag heavy guns up steep slopes, and could steer a long thirty-five-ton gun down a narrow road, the half-shed traction-engines past the Duke of Cambridge marched on foot. The Duke was accompanied by a brilliant staff, which included many foreign attaches.

Bernard Shaw once made fun of British officers because they change into munition when off duty. This fashion, however, has been copied by the American Army, especially those doing administrative jobs. Instead of swanking round like a badly-uniformed Education Major, they go to their offices in "civies"—or if they did until the United States came into the war. Then Uncle Sam's War Department ordered all officers into uniform. Uniforms were supplied in Army stores, and many were forced to brave the December winds without their greatcoats. More than a few officers were caught unprepared, after months of wearing civilian clothes. Many a family has been great-terrified away in moth balls, where it could not be reached on the short notice that was given.*

The first heavy tank built in the United States was put through its paces just before the end of last year. The experts were over-enthusiastic, and the tests were more than satisfactory. This 77-ton all-welded monster is about the size of a street car. It was the first of a fleet of fifty ordered by the United States Army from the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and one of each works out at about $23,000. The speed of the monster was not revealed, but it easily out-manoeuvred medium tanks, rolling along at their top speed of about thirty miles an hour. It was armed with guns, a small cannon, and a large cannon. Apart from its size the most striking thing about the appearance of the new tank was the steel skirt hiding the running wheels, the length of its sides, and its armoured casing. Brigadier-General G. M. Barnes, of the United States Ordnance Department, commented: "This great fighting vehicle exceeds all others in its military characteristics. It represents one of the many new, and previously unheard of, weapons of modern warfare, which are being added day by day to the military equipment of our Army."

It is learnt that the Japanese landing forces in the Philippine were equipped with lighter boats and other vessels that had been given to Japan by American humanitarians after the 1932 earthquake in 1932. That's one thing the wicked armament-makers cannot be blamed for.*

American motor car factories are not the only industrial establishments to feel the effects of conversion. A firm called Vouge, Incorporated, which used to make lipstick holders, is now making bomb primers. The latter are of more use in the present time, and anyway, lipstick spoils the taste of a fellow's beer. The Victory Making Machine Company has switched from computing machines to demolition bombs. Perhaps the biggest gain has been by an American company which trades under the name of Her Majesty's Lace Lingerie Company. That firm is now camouflageing guns with nets. The Huns would call that adding insult to injury.*

Despite the concentration of public attention on the Japanese end of the Axis, the most significant military developments of the past twelve months have been those in Russia. The Russian conduct of the war has, therefore, been a surprise to all, except a very few experts. Not the least surprising feature of Soviet strength has been the extraordinary adaptability of Russia, both in industry and in tactics. The value of retaining the home-based Cossacks in these days of mechanisation, has been demonstrated again and again—especially since the German retirement commenced. Again and again, the Cossacks attacked in the greatest numbers, and were found to be inferior in mechanised equipment had been stalled by winter conditions. Now, at the eastern end of the Kerch Peninsula, the Russians have shown real skill in the use of silent convoys of invasion barges. Drifting in on the shore, a little below the breakers with mines, were demagnetised, and automatic rifles, cleared the way for the landing of artillery under cover of smoke screen. A notable feature of the recent fighting in the Crimea has been the weakness of the German ground troops.**

The recent conversations between representatives of the Portuguese and Spanish Governments provide still further evidence of Portugal's desire to separate herself from these days. The Portuguese Government is doing its best to avoid anything which might provoke an extension of the war to the Iberian Peninsula. However, the situation is critical, as several soldiers, armed with machine-guns and automatic rifles, cleared the way for the landing of artillery under cover of smoke screen. A notable feature of the recent fighting in the Crimea has been the weakness of the German ground troops.**

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Japan's extension of the war to the Pacific will not prevent the supply of materials to China, although the task of supplying Lend-Lease by the trans-Pacific route has been greatly complicated. However, other routes have been pioneered. These new routes lie across the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and the recent success of the British and American Navies in reducing sinkings by submarines makes the use of these routes more realistic than would have been the case six months ago. According to recent announcements by the United States Maritime Commission, the United States has established a very considerable freight service between ports on the American Atlantic coast and the Red Sea. It would seem then that an equal, heavy train might be established between Atlantic coastal ports and India and Burma, especially if we hold Rangoon, and if ships can be made available for the run.

Digger should pass a vote of thanks to Lance Framer, the Australian author. In a spoken book review over the A.B.C. network, Lance Framer deprecated the use of the name 'Aussie,' and rightly pointed out that it was not liked by Australian soldiers in the last war. The truth is quite true. Most of us, and particularly the men from Mr. Palmier's own State, loathed the diminutive, which suggests a cross between a pansy and a larrikin. Unfortunately, although decency was tolerated, and now Australian newspapers are using it. Why such an unmanly diminutive should be tolerated in preference to the manlier and more dignified name 'Digger' is altogether beyond our comprehension.

London "Punch" suggests that Hitler intends to confer a high Italian honour on his Italian accomplice, Mussolini.

An American correspondent tells the story of a Libyan pig chase which ended in the capture of some French sauces, Yugoslav sausages, canned foods, portable typewriters, chocolate, and quite a collection of Hun prisoners. A sergeant of the Black Watch was foraging around for anything worth carrying away from an abandoned German camp. Suddenly he saw a pig, and went after it. Before the pig had covered more than a few yards, the sergeant had hit it. The pig became the quarry for several Germans, who popped unexpectedly but the noise of their shooting and shouting had already began to echo from the surrounding sand dunes, when a British major and two captains, who had been held prisoner by these Germans, managed to break away. They and the sergeant, who had by this time abandoned the pig chase, escaped the Hun bullets and spread the word in a nearby British camp. The next day, accompanied by an armed car and trucks of soldiers, the sergeant returned to the scene. A small band of Germans surrendered shortly after they were discovered behind some dunes. Then, a few at a time, ninety more bobbed up behind other dunes, and surrendered too. A South African journalist, armed with nothing more than a camera, surprised nine more in a cave. They also surrendered. Finally, when the clean-up was ended, more than 200 Germans, with a good haul of supplies, had been captured. There was no further news of the pig.

There is nothing superstitious about our Gloucester Park rats. The members of that sub-branch are holding their annual smoke social in Anzac House on Friday, March 13. The price of admission is 2/6.

Could anything be more despicable than the offence for which an officer of the District Records Office at Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, and two persons described as company managers were convicted in the Brisbane Police Court recently. It was alleged by the prosecution that the Records Officer was supplying his co-defendants with information regarding the whereabouts and financial circumstances of enlisted men, which was not available through proper channels. The men thus "pimped on" were defaulting customers of so-called finance companies. In other words, this bright specimen from the District Records was selling out these poor beggars, at a bob a time, to money-lenders who had already tightened the belts, the rings signed on the dotted line very hopefully. Now, having benefited by the agreement to the extent of Finland's attack on Russia, the Germans have been asked to admit that the proposal of Russia's wheat crop is a circumstance over which the Finns have no control, and in the meantime, the Russian steam-roller is moving northward against the Finns themselves. Unfortunately for the Finns, in addition to losing all hope of the present peace, they are now realising that, in going beyond their original objectives of regaining the territory seized by Russia in the earlier conflict, they have alienated much of the Allies' sympathy. The irony of the position is that, with large wheat-producing countries, the United States and Argentina, all have large surpluses of wheat, which they would have been willing to share with Finland, had that country sided with them.

The recent arguments about air raid precautions lend interest to the following item from an American contemporary. It says: "Windows taped up to avoid splintering have already made their appearance in the United States. However, this art of window preservation is one about which Americans can learn something from the British, who have had plenty of experience in that line. Still, even in Britain, a fully satisfactory compromise between transparency and splinter safety has not yet been evolved. At the time the heavy bombings started in September, 1940, British householder held to the theory that, if strips of paper were pasted on the inside of windows the danger from flying glass would be greatly minimised; but, long before the blitz ended, the lesson had been learnt that this was not enough. In fact, flying glass was the largest cause of minor casualties in Britain. Mr. R. Maillard Stead, the London representative of the Christian Science Monitor, advises that the best results have been obtained by fixing a sheet of adhesive tape to affix mesh fabric to the glass. This has been done with some success on London street cars and omnibuses. However, the authorities were forced to cope with the problem of the adhesive tape, and when the fabric peeling off. To the disgust of the traffic authorities, the process of peeling off was aided by passengers who wanted to see out of the windows. So now peep-holes are provided in the fabric, and several coats of weather-proofing are added, once the adhesive has set."

The American Friends of German Freedom, an organisation which flourishes in the United States, have learnt, apparently through messages smuggled out of Germany, that large numbers of Germans are now listening to forbidden radio programmes by Allied countries. They point out that this situation is so
well recognised that the German Propaganda Minister (Goebbels) wrote last autumn that there are people who can’t help turning on London’s nightly radio at night, after the doors have been locked, so that they can enlarge their political and military knowledge with the lies of the British… These traitors and saboteurs of the struggle for existence of the German nation, by this vulgar and deceitful behaviour, exclude themselves from the national community, and shall be dealt with by the law in all its severity.” This stern warning by Dr. Goebbels was written before the prescient retreat of the German forces in Russia began, or the British advances had started in Libya.

Chile and Argentina will probably be the next countries to be accused by the Axis gangsters of extending the theatre of the war. The two most southern American Republics are reported to have made an agreement for the fortification of the Straits of Magellan, the narrow passage-way from the Atlantic to the Pacific, at the tip of South America. Argentina added only that the matter is being discussed, but the Chilean version is definite. The strategic importance of the Magellan Straits, and the necessity of controlling the link between the Atlantic and the Pacific, have been demonstrated to both Argentina and Chile by the Japanese offensive against Britain and the United States. It also has been taken into account that, in case of an emergency at Panama, American warships would be compelled to use the Straits to pass from one ocean to the other. A treaty signed by Chile and the Argentina in 1881 established the neutralisation of the Magellan passage, opening it to the shipping of all nations. Some amendment of this treaty would be necessary to permit fortification. The greater part of the territory involved is under Chilean jurisdiction, and Chile is the nation which appears most anxious to protect the Straits. The Chilean Navy feels its responsibility at this time, and Chilean warships are keeping a lookout for German and Japanese raiders, which might want to pass from one ocean to the other.

This morning, and “in another place,” as my political friends would say, it was my thrilling experience to sub-edit the story of the exploits for which Brigadier J. Campbell, of the Royal Horse Artillery, was awarded the Victoria Cross. This officer had already gained a bar to his D.S.O., and he had won the M.C. in the last war. The story was a reminder that medals were, from the beginning, a means of commemorating great events, or great exploits.

The practice of striking medals to commemorate important events originated in the mists of antiquity and, even now, whether a medal is bestowed as a recognition of service to the State, or as a prize for academic merit or athletic prowess, the underlying idea of commemoration is still present. Though it is believed that the Chinese issued military medals during the period of the Han Dynasty, which flourished in the first century of the Christian era, it was only in the Christian era that the custom of awarding medals to individuals was a comparatively new one in Western Europe. Greek athletes won crowns of wild olive at the Olympic Games. Similar leafy crowns were awarded to roman soldiers for outstanding gallantry in war. When Napoleon surrendered to the British on board H.M.S. Bellerophon, he was amazed to learn that the members of the marine guard of honour, which received him, had been awarded no medals for their long period of continuous active service. Perhaps the irony of the situation suggested to Napoleon, for, ten years—before, when the Grand Army for the invasion of England was concentrated to the north and south of Boulonge, Napoleon himself had instituted the Legion of Honour, and he had had a medal struck to commemorate in advance the capture of London. In those days, the British Government issued medals with a very niggardly hand, and very rarely to the rank and file of the fighting forces.

Under feudalism, a war leader’s services were commemorated in his amoral bearings. The Black Prince, for instance, won his spurs, and the three ostrich plumes, which have formed the crest of the Prince of Wales ever since, at the Battle of Crecy. Lower ranks looked to their feudal overlords for whatever rewards were on issue, and these usually took the form of money, or lands, or both. During the Renaissance period, the art of making medals was revived, along with the other arts. In the re-birth of Roman and Greek culture, it was only natural that the practice of striking medals to commemorate important events should likewise be revived. The striking of such medals became fairly common in the England of Henry VIII. It has not been definitely established, however, whether the few medals of Henry VIII, which are preserved in collections, were issued as decorations, or were merely commemorative. We are on more certain ground when we come to the medals known to have been issued by Queen Eliza-

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The medals of the seventeenth century were generally oval in shape and, like those of the preceding century, were made both of gold and silver, and in different sizes, according to the importance of the recipient. There was no uniformity in the design of these medals, each, most part, being an individual issue for an individual service. Such was the medal bestowed by Charles I on Sir Robert Welsh, an Irish officer of Prince Rupert's cavalry, who won this distinction and a knighthood for gallantry at Edgehill. In fact, the earliest medals awarded to individuals corresponded more nearly to the decorations than to the war medals of our own age. But it was during the early seventeenth century that the idea of a uniform medal began to take shape. The newly-established Dutch Republic had established a "Medal for Volunteers," as a reward for services during the wars between 1609 and 1621. The Swedish Government awarded the medal to Gustavus Adolphus for distinguished service during the Thirty Years' War. Similarly, in 1643, we find Charles I promoting a Royal Warrant, directing the Wardens of the Mint to make medals for such soldiers as distinguished themselves in forlorn hopes, and others for general service. A distribution wider than usual must have been contemplated, for the King's instructions also ordain that "no soldier at any time to sell, or any of our subjects presume to buy or wear any of these said badges."

During the English Civil War, the Parliament had the power of the purse, and could afford, therefore, to be more generous in the issues of medals. Though the Navy saw little active service during the Civil War, a Parliamentary Naval Medal was struck in 1649. After Blake's final victory over Van Tromp, Blake and Monk were each awarded gold chains to the value of £300. Penn, Viscount Admiral and Lawson the Rear-Admiral, received chains worth £100 each, and the four flag captains, chains worth £40 each. A sum of £2,000 was voted to be expended in medals for distribution amongst the officers of the fleet. A few days after the news of Cromwell's victory at Dunbar reached London, Parliament ordered that all the troops engaged should be awarded medals, gold for the officers and silver for the other ranks. This is the first instance I have been able to trace of the other ranks participating in the general issue of a campaign medal. Charles II issued medals to commemorate various engagements at sea, but the only naval medal being issued by his niggardly brother, James II. In fact, the only military medal of James II of which there is any authentic record was given to a civilian, and a bishop at that. The recipient was Peter Mew, Bishop of Winchester, who, as related in Hutchinson's History of Dorset, "was commanded by the King, in compliance with the request of the gentry of Somerset, to go against Monmouth, and did eminent service at the Battle of Sedge Moor, where he managed the artillery."

In 1692, the Parliament of William III and Mary II passed an act authorising a general distribution of medals to all ranks for "signal and extraordinary service" afloat. This seems to have been the first naval occasion on which medals were awarded to ratings as well as officers. Even so, after the Battle of La Hogue, only officers received medals, while £2,000 prize money was allotted to the seamen. Perhaps those sturdy tar preferred the money to the medals, which they were not allowed to pawn or sell to find the wherewithal to buy grogs. The medal struck to commemorate Lord Howe's victory of the "Glorious First of June" and issued for service in that and subsequent engagements, was doled out very sparingly. For Howe's victory six large and fifteen small medals were presented; for St. Vincent six large and fifteen small; for Nelson's victory at Trafalgar, the decisive naval action of the war, only two large and twenty-five small medals were awarded. Obviously, the intention was to make the medal a decoration rather than a general issue. However, Matthew Bolton of Saxe, the friend and business associate of James Watt, requested and obtained the permission of the Admiralty to present, at his own expense, a medal to every British seaman who fought at Trafalgar.

The Honourable East India Company, a corporation richer than any European Government, could afford to be more lavish in recognition of service in the field. The Company issued medals for general distribution after the campaigns in the Deccan in 1784, and Mysore, 1791-92. After Abercromby's victory at Alexandria in 1801, the Honourable East India Company presented sixteen gold medals and 2,100 silver medals. At the same time, the Sultan Selim III issued a gold medal known as the Order of the Crescent. The practice of issuing a medal to a foreign ruler to British troops. In 1793 Pope Pius VI decorated twelve officers of the 12th Light Dragoons, who were stationed at Civita Vecchia at the time the Pope restored the Papal States, as he was requested to do by Napoleon. In 1797 the Emperor Francis II conferred medals and knighthoods on eight officers of the 17th Light Dragoons, who had saved him from capture by the French at Villers-en-Crouche, near Cambrai, on April 24, 1794.

In contrast with the generosity of the East India Company, the Waterloo Medal was not issued until 1848, and even then it was issued only to surviving veterans. With the institution of the Victoria Cross, and other decorations, the issue of medals became more general. In the beginning, medals were issued for every important engagement. Even during the Crimean War, a separate medal was issued to cover the naval operations in the Baltic Sea. In the meantime, however, the practice of issuing one medal for the war, and bars for each engagement had established itself. It was during the War of 1914-18 that bars to decorations were first issued. Conversely, the medals for that war were first to be issued without bars. In the old days, medals without bars, or "bare-faced medals," as Tommy Atkins called them, were despised by front-line soldiers.

In the light of recent events, it is interesting to recall that before this year, British forces had been only once on active service in Malaya. The occasion was the Perak Expedition of 1875-76. No separate medal was issued for it, but it was covered by a bar, bearing the word "Perak" to the Indian General Service Medal of those days.
Emilio Aguinaldo
Patriot or Quisling?

By "Pip Tok"

It must have been very disappointing to the Japanese invaders of the Philippines that no member of President Quezon's administration, nor any budding local politician, has come forward to serve them as a Quisling. That fact alone is reliable evidence of the sound basis on which the Americans have reared their relations, political, social and economic, with the native races of the islands. In the closing years of the nineteenth century, the Filipinos raised two rebellions to touch them; one against their Spanish masters, and one against their American deliverers; but a new generation has grown up in the Islands since then. This generation has been reared in the American tradition. It has passed through American schools and acquired American methods of business and administration. Further, it has been assured of independence as a sovereign republic, just as soon as the American protectors could conveniently withdraw. In fact, the Filipinos were to have been politically independent by now, and economically independent by 1946, but the menace of an aggressive land-hungry Japan made the Filipinos with their American protectors retake in under the protecting wings of the American eagle. The people of the Islands realised, or at least their political leaders did, that complete independence at this stage would not be realistic but a curse. It would subdue the Islands open to Japanese annexation.

There is little wonder, then, that the Japanese have been unable to find a Quisling among people who are too sensible to exchange assured independence for doubtful protection. In their extremity, the Japanese, assuming the reports published and broadcast as these lines are being written as correct, have held out the tempting offer of the Quisling post to Emilio Aguinaldo, the most noted of the Filipino revolutionaries in the days of Spain. Aguinaldo is an old man now. Born in 1858, he is in his seventy-third year now, and for aught anyone knows, he may be as senile as Marshal Petain. That will depend on whether he accepts the office or not. The Axis criminals cannot help desiring whatever they can try to internationalise against Japan and Japan's targets. If he is the puppet of the puppet government of Nanking, Japan placed the Chinese rice of the influential Soong family, into which Chiang Kai-Chek married. Now, in the Philippines, the Japanese are trying to make another puppet of a man who, in his prime, was honoured by his own countrymen, and respected by those whom he fought against so that a reputation that was admitted by friend and foe alike may now be besmirched in his old age.

Emilio Aguinaldo was born in Cavite in 1870, and was mayor of that place from 1893 to 1896. There he played a leading part in the insurrection against Spain. This revolt was the confluence of two independent conspiracies. One was the plotting of natives, who thought only of a general massacre of the white men and the looting of Manila. The other was maintained by persons of Spanish or mixed descent, who hoped eventually to proclaim the Republic of the Philippines. Aguinaldo, who was of mixed Spanish and native descent, belonged to the second group, which was augmented by former Confederate soldiers from Spain who had made their headquarters at Hong Kong. The suppression of revolts in the Philippines was never an easy task. Time and again, when the trouble seemed to be over, it would flare up again in a new quarter. What was more irksome still, native tribes which had hitherto remained fairly peaceful, although they yielded only a nominal allegiance to the Spaniards, would suddenly throw off their servitude and thus join the field made good reading in the reports sent home to Spain, but they had little effect on the rebellion. In fact, the tactics of the rebels were similar to those of the Maoris in New Zealand. They wereEuropeans in their grip. The Japanese would sooner defend a stockade, just long enough to cause heavy loss to an attacking force, and then withdraw through the bush to improve another fortress.

Just before the war with the United States, Primo de Rivera, the general who afterwards became a dictator of Spain, took command of the Spanish troops in the Philippines. Primo de Rivera tried a new policy, that of buying off the more active and dangerous of the rebel leaders. Even Aguinaldo made terms with the Spaniards. He surrendered and was allowed to emigrate to the Philippines. For a time there was peace; but after the Japanese made the Filipino rebels realize that they were fighting against the Philippines, they tried to rush home to Spain, but they had little effect on the rebellion. In fact, the tactics of the rebels were similar to those of the Maoris in New Zealand. They wereEuropeans in their grip. The Japanese would sooner defend a stockade, just long enough to cause heavy loss to an attacking force, and then withdraw through the bush to improve another fortress.

Strangely enough, the Spanish authorities were ready to accept foreign intervention in the Philippines. For a time there was some fear that Japan would exploit the trouble to her own advantage, but the intervention of the United States was something the Spaniards left entirely outside their calculations. Their own inexperience in dealing with the Spanish Americans was evidenced by the American Press "played up" the Japanese invasion, and the apparent absorption of the United States politicians with the affairs of that distressful island. As a result, when American intervention did come, Admiral Dewey's attack on the Spanish fleet in Manila was a complete surprise. Notwithstanding Admiral Dewey's success, it soon became evident that the fleet alone could not...
reduce the defences of Manila. Troops were landed, and the American commander was instructed to co-operate with Aguilaldo and his rebels. A brief and brilliant campaign ended in the surrender of Manila. In that campaign Aguilaldo played a role which resembled that of the French in the Spanish war. When hostilities ended, he was a bitterly disappointed man. The Filipinos had not been allowed to take part in the actual capture of Manila. Probably there was good reason for this, for their ruthless treatment of former Spanish adherents alienated much American sympathy from their cause. Rightly or wrongly, Aguilaldo considered that the Americans had used him as a tool and then pushed him into the background. Terms of the peace treaty, left the future of the Philippines undecided. In the United States many political leaders were opposed to annexation or anything savouring of colonial existence. Aguilaldo's endeavours to exact from the Americans a pledge that they would inaugurate an independent Republic of the Philippines were all in vain. When these endeavours failed, he turned to the Filipinos and proclaimed a Republic at Malolos on September 16, 1898.

A subsidiary republic was also proclaimed at Iloilo, the chief town of the south-eastern Philippines in the Visayas group. Arms were imported, and the Governor-General said that a good portion of these came from Japan. What has been established is the fact that former members of the Japanese Army appeared in the Philippines at this time, and subsequently they played a part in the surrender of the Filipinos to the Americans. Some of the Filipinos went to America to do propaganda work among United States senators in favour of Philippine independence.

Just about this time stories began to appear in the American Press of atrocities perpetrated by the Filipinos against the American troops. American soldiers, returning home from service in Manila, had their story to tell. During a desperate sortie made by the Spaniards, just before Manila surrendered, Aguilaldo's men withdrew, leaving the American flank dangerously exposed. The American soldiers could not be convinced that this was a blunder. They called it rank and deliberate treachery. Even then, the Senate vote on the future of the Philippines was in the balance; but on the night of February 4, 1899, Aguilaldo's army attacked the American outposts before Manila. The Filipinos were repulsed only after thirteen hours of stubborn fighting, and the consequence of this clash was an overwhelming American vote in the United States Senate in favour of annexation of the Islands.

This second civil war in the Philippines was suppressed only after months of hard and irritating fighting. The Filipinos were led to believe that the American forces a merry dance before they were finally suppressed. In the early weeks of the rebellion, the Americans lost one of their most competent generals. This was General Lawton, a veteran of the American Civil War, and of the campaign in Cuba. American newspapers used to be fond of recording that he died with the name of the Lord on his lips. So he did. His body, covered with a tunic, published a book a few years ago, in which he described the death of General Lawton. His last words were: "By — I'm shot." Aguilaldo was finally run to earth and captured by a hard-boiled Colonel of Kansas volunteers, Frederick Funston. Up to this time Funston's stock had not been particularly high, because he did not carry the hall-mark of West Point. His success in capturing Aguilaldo won him the rank of Brigadier-General in the United States (Regular) Army, Aguilaldo was later killed in March, 1901. A few months later he swore allegiance to the new regime and retired into private life, from which the Japanese are now trying to drag him; but it took the Americans several years longer finally to pacify the Philippines.

THE FAMILY LINK

In these difficult days we have in our thoughts continually the men and women on active service. One of the ways they are helped is by keeping them in touch with their families and friends at home. Mr. Colin Wills, an Australian broadcaster on the B.B.C., has given a graphic description of the atmosphere in the studio when the Commonwealth's messages are sent off.

"Every Saturday evening I turn on a busy London street into a quieter street, and walk through a door and down some steps, and I'm in Australia.

"This place I go to is not a club for the Australian forces; it's a broadcasting studio, literally packed with people for that one performance. The reason why it's 'Australia' for these two hours is that each Saturday evening the B.B.C. broadcasts from there a programme to the Australians in the Middle East called 'Australian Magazine.' And in each of these programmes one of the high spots is a broadcast of greetings by Australians in London to their friends in the A.I.F., R.A.A.F., and the Mediterranean Fleet.

"The messages only take a few minutes (the whole show lasts less than an hour). But there's a rehearsal first that lasts an hour or more.

"While one or other of London's famous dance bands is practising its trills and tricks on the stage, the men who are going to broadcast messages gather in the refreshment room around a big table and rehearse their part in the show.

"Each Saturday a new group of Australians meet at that rehearsal, men who have probably never met before, and may never meet again. But for these two hours of the rehearsal and show, they bring together all the corners of the continent, all the different lives Australians lead."

THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER, AS THE GERMAN SEES HIM

It's a curious fact that in none of the letters found on German soldiers could I find any abuse of the Russians—only a kind of un- willing admiration. Here are some of the comments which I've collected from these letters: Lance Corporal Konrad Dumler: "The Russians are really brave men. Corporal Karl Jufre: "We saw the Red fighting to the last drop of blood, bravely and skillfully." Private Erich Hitzler: "You will have realised by now that the Russians are no cowards, and fight to the last ditch." Corporal Cruber: "As you know, we shoot everybody who walks in our way. But even in Poland you didn't see so many people shooting at you from around corners as in Russia."—Anthony Weymouth, in a B.B.C. broadcast.

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Scabbards Off
By Pip-Tok

The Canberra Commentary recently instituted by the Australian Broadcasting Commission commenced by being an interesting and reliable news bulletin. As such, it was a refreshing change from the stodginess of the stuff that used to be broadcast under the aegis of the expensive Department of Information. Unfortunately, during Mr. Curtin's recent absence from the seat of Government, certain of his colleagues used the commentary for propaganda of the most blatant and offensive type. When people settle down to listen to an official news bulletin on a Sunday night, or any other night, they want to hear news, and not unseemly wrangles between present and former ministers. The Minister for Information (Senator Ashley) tried to explain the matter away by stating that the wrangle was an internal one because both sides were allowed to have their say. That, however, was no answer to the charge that the Australian Broadcasting Commission was forced by the Minister to turn an official news session into a political wrangle, at the very time all decent men in Australia are asking for a united front against a prospecting invader. One sincerely hopes that nothing of this kind will be allowed to happen again.

When he was in Perth recently, Mr. Curtin said, referring to our unpreparedness at the beginning of the war, that it was "a fascinating but futile study trying to find guilty men." As our American Allies would say, the Prime Minister "said a goul," and his statement should be taken to heart by some of his colleagues. Mr. E. Ward and Senator Cameron have found no difficulty, in their own minds, in finding the guilty men. The guilty ones, according to them, are their own predecessors in office — rather a cheery thing for non-retumed soldiers to say about a cabinet that contained many returned soldiers. We don't know what Ward of East Sydney did in the last war, but we all know that Senator Cameron once fled from the wrath of irate Diggers from the Perth Esplanade, and sought safety in a secluded part of the Weld Club. The situation of a shrine of the well-to-do providing sanctuary for a member of the proletariat who had been verbally opposing the war effort of those days, was decidedly Gilbertian.

Regarding those guilty men, the term cannot be applied to the leaders of any one political party. All parties trimmed their sails into the trade winds of pacifism and the soothing zephyrs of appeasement. It was the Scullin Government which suspended compulsory training in Australia, and compulsory training was re-introduced by the Menzies Government in anticipation of a very vehement popular demand. Australia, like the rest of the Empire, was unprepared for war because the virus of peace at any price, and the anodyne of disarmament, had doped all political parties. When the argument is reduced to first principles, we are all guilty men. We must share the guilt of unpreparedness with the politicians we elected to whistle away our defences.

Today we are confronted with two perils— the yellow peril, and the peril of the yellow.
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Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia
The Army Minister (Mr. Forde) struck the right nail on the head when he bluntly informed the public that the A.I.F.

The Minister for Information (Senator Ashley) recently expressed his official approval of a new A.I.F. film, which had been approved by the Director of the Ministry for Economic Warfare. The film was said to be an attempt to justify the use of labour gangs in the war effort. However, the film has not been released to the public, and its content remains unknown.

Mr. De Valera's pathetic plea against the arrival of American troops in Northern Ireland was amusing but for the suspicion that he would like to see a repeat of the American experience in their own country. After all, what business has he in the affairs of a foreign country? Ireland is an integral part of the United Kingdom, and it has always been a matter of regret that the British government has not treated it as such.

The Government of Eire has refused Britain the use of bases in Eire, and the government of the United Kingdom is preparing to use the bases in Germany. This decision has been greeted with the most passionate loyalty throughout the Empire. It is a matter of concern that the Government of Eire has not yet proclaimed the result of its negotiations with the British government.

Croatian soldiers are said to be helping Hitler's armies in Russia. For over a thousand years the Croats have been a subjugated people, and now some of them are trying to subjugate another people who are Slavs like themselves. What matters more is the fact that the Germans have already become ruthless exploiters of the Croats. When they first invaded Italy, they set up a new navy and government at Trieste and the sovereignty of Yugoslavia was lost to the Germans.

The current revelations by the Ministry of Economic Warfare of the type of work the government was doing at the time of their enlistment. The Minister (Mr. Hawke) made it clear that the Government expected all returned soldiers enlisting from Government employment to be re-engaged and to be discharged, each department to be responsible for the absorbing of its own men. It must be expected that there will be special and difficult cases, particularly those suffering from injuries received, and consequently unable to carry on the work they were doing at the time of enlistment. Every such case must be promptly investigated, and every effort made to place such returned soldiers in suitable positions within the Government departments.

The League appreciates the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of State employees who have enlisted for active service abroad.
The British Conquest of Java

By "REMINISCOR"

Since Singapore became one of the threatened outposts of the Empire, much has been published and broadcast about Sir Stamford Raffles, the Empire-builder who brought Singapore under the British flag. It is not generally known, however, that he was responsible for more spectacular success, the unforeseen result of which proved, through no fault of his own, one of his bitterest disappointments. This was the conquest of Java in 1811. Raffles was a man of rare talent, who had been trained in the service of the Honourable East India Company, in an age when this Company was reaching out and bringing all sorts of little-known provinces under British dominion. He succeeded in persuading the Governor-General of India that it would prove a signal land of riches to annex the rich island of Java. He not only agreed to the despatch of a combined force of three vessels, but also paid for the expedition to approach Java. He was the real planner of the expedition, and guided it from the day it left the coast of Batavia to the British forces. The demand that at one time there were no troops on Java proved the success that stood at Cornelis, about two miles further up country. At Cornelis they established a strong position which was occupied by at least 3,000 of their best troops. Some authorities set the number as high as 20,000. Before the position was finally captured. The British casualties were increased by an unfortunate occurrence at the instant of the capture of a Dutch Redoubt. Whether by accident or design, the British batteries blew up with a tremendous explosion, and destroyed a number of British officers and men. The British losses were approximately 900 killed, wounded and missing. The Dutch lost only half their effective strength, as well as 743 cannon. The action broke the back of the Dutch resistance.

"On the 28th of August," says a contemporary, "the day after the bloody battle of Cornelis, the good, the learned, the poet and editor John Leyden, the associate and friend of Sir Walter Scott, the bosom friend of Sir Stamford Raffles, the admired of all who knew him, died of the country fever at Wettevreden." This enthusiastic Scot said he had accompanied the troops as a volunteer, and was the first to land in Java.

Immediately after the Battle of Cornelis, a summons was sent to the Dutch Governor-General of Java, almost a man, and an assistant-surgeon, but the service proved too much for him, and he died in the arms of his friend, Sir Stamford Raffles.


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On August 4, 1811, the whole expedition came safely to anchor, and a landing was effected at a point ten miles to the east of Batavia. For several days Batavia was under the occupancy of the oriental Janissaries less than six weeks the whole fleet was in sight of Batavia. The squadron was in imminent danger on one occasion from a sudden squall of wind and rain. This drove the transports into shoal water, where many of them struck and grounded. Fortunately, the seafloor was soft and muddy, and the ships received no damage.

On August 8, unfortunately, the climate was far from healthy. The hospitals were soon crowded with British soldiers and Indian Sepoys. It is said, that at one time there were no fewer than five thousand sick men on board. The sick left Batavia, to a large extent in the general picture. In theory, Britain was not at war with Holland. The enemy was Napoleon, who had made himself master of the Netherlands, and would have exploited the Dutch East Indies, even as he had done the Axis Powers was now to do. For a time Britain, therefore, had cast herself for the role of liberator, and her troops were in Java, not as conquerors, but as deliverers. And that is why Java was restored to Holland when Napoleon was overthrown.

Sub-branches are again reminded that correspondence for Western Command Headquarters should first be forwarded to the headquarters of the League, the Commander-in-Charge of Administration at Western Command Headquarters advises that some sub-branches continue to address departments of Command Headquarters direct. It is understood that the correspondence is to be returned to the State Secretary's Office. Each sub-branch forwarded a letter direct to the Minister for the Army. In accordance with the existing procedure, such a letter will be returned to the Federal office of the League, and still further, if the Minister's Office will be seen, then, that using what may appear to be a direct approach really causes delay in having correspondence dealt with. The authorised channels are quicker.
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Among several matters recommended was that of holding the next quarterly meeting of sub-branch presidents and secretaries on Wednesday, February 25. The report was adopted.

Visits.—Mr. Edmondson reported on a visit to No. 110 G.H., and mentioned the absence of comforts. The matter was referred to Col. Margolin, who will discuss it with the Red Cross Society. The White President reported on recent functions to distinguished visitors.

Luncheon to the Prime Minister.—The State Secretary reported that an invitation to an Executive Luncheon had been extended to the Prime Minister on a date to be fixed. This invitation had been accepted, and the Luncheon would be held on Tuesday, January 27, 1942, at 1 p.m. The usual invitations and arrangements in such cases were authorised.

Affixing Seal.—Authority was given for the Trustees to affix the League’s seal to documents in respect to army temporarily taking over the “White Hart” Hotel, Beverley.

Collie Sub-branch.—This sub-branch made recommendations regarding the resettlement of a mining embracing men in reserved occupations, a matter which had been previously represented to the Army. It was resolved that the matter again be taken up through the Federal Office, and that the Minister for the Army be asked whether, in view of changed and changing conditions within or adjacent to Australia, the proposal as outlined by the Collie sub-branch is desirable and practicable.

Boulder Sub-branch.—Boulder sub-branch recommended the following to be distributed to all returned soldiers. After the Secretary had explained the existing methods, it was decided to advise Boulder accordingly, and to again mention this matter again in the next head office circular.

 Deferred Pay.—Mr. Lawley sub-branch recommended deferred pay for members of the Garrison Battalions. As this matter, together with similar conditions for all “duration forces” was under consideration, the sub-branch will be advised accordingly.

Aliens and Manpower Requirements.—Maylands, Merredin, Waroona-Hamel, Harvey and Big Bell sub-branches all submitted information and suggestions in connection with the alien problem, and the numbers of men who availed themselves of manpower restrictions. Delegates were impressed with the difficulties in the mining industry where many aliens were employed but it was generally recognized that to exclude aliens would mean the closing of the mines, and consequent hardship. Several of the matters referred to were already under consideration by Government authority, and the Secretary was advised to notify the sub-branches of the position.

Government Employees Enlisting for Active Service.—The Public Service Commissioner advised the League of the Government policy which provided that all men who enlisted from Government employment must be returned to active service in the Army. Special cases were to be dealt with by a special committee, and all cases which could not be absorbed must be reported to the Public Service Commissioner. The Executive considered these conditions satisfactory, and the Secretary was instructed to give the necessary publicity.

Kalgoorlie Sub-branch.—This sub-branch submitted several matters suggesting an early visit by a member of the staff, prisoners of war, and certain privileges at the railway station. The State Secretary was instructed to reply.

Honour Avenue, King’s Park.—The authority previously granted to West Perth sub-branch to circulate sub-branches for assistance to maintain Honour Avenue in King’s Park was confirmed.

Beverley Sub-branch reported in connection with the recent tragic death of a returned soldier, and the Secretary was authorised to make the necessary approach to the authorities concerned.

Subiaco Women’s Auxiliary.—This auxiliary made a recommendation in connection with wages for teachers. A reference was made to the Secretary of the State Executive of the Women’s Auxiliary that a recommendation of this sort was inappropriate, and in any case should not be submitted to congress.

War Savings Stamps Certificates.—The Organising Secretary asked for the support of the Women’s Auxiliaries in respect to suburban areas in an appeal to take place on Friday, February 20. The necessary approval was given and the matter was referred to the Women’s Auxiliary for the necessary action.

At the meeting of the State Executive on February 9 there were present Messrs. Yeates, Olden, Collett, Panton, Cornell, Watt, Kahan, James, Margolin, Thorn, Williams, Fairley, Lapp, Wood, Edmondson, Smith, Warner, Abbotsford, Dewhurst, and a war granted to Messrs. Anderson, Stewart, Fairly, Zeifert, Nicholas, Paton, Whitten, Hilton, Simpson and Johnstone.

R.S.L. Broadcasts.—The following broadcast roster was arranged: February 11, Mr. Paton; February 18, Mr. Watt; February 25, Mr. Zeffert; March 4, Mr. Edmondson; March 11, Mr. Wood; March 18, Mr. Smith.

Badges.—It was explained that only five thousand badges had so far been received. The Executive decided that no new badges should be issued until there are enough in hand to supply all sub-branches.

Welcome Committee.—The secretary of the Welcome Committee reported having met a hospital ship from which men were disembarking from France. Discussion took place concerning the sale of alcoholic drink to men in hospital “blues.” The matter was referred to the Welcome Committee for suggestions.

Visits.—Colonel Olden reported having attended a meeting of the W.A. Sportsmen’s Organising Council.

War Loan.—It was agreed that in the next circular sub-branches should be urged to support the new War Loan, and to purchase War Savings Certificates.

Government Employees and Military Service.—Correspondence on the subject of exempting Government employees from military service was read and discussed. It was decided that Mr. Wood and the State Secretary should wait on the Public Service Commissioner to discuss this matter.

League Overseas Representative.—The Federal Council advised that Mr. J. F. Dowling, who had been selected to represent the League with the forces overseas, was still in Melbourne, and that his services were being utilized by the Adjutant-General in an honorary capacity, pending his departure. It was agreed to support that, in view of the present war situation, the need for an overseas representative seems to have disappeared, at least temporarily, and that Mr. Dowling should, therefore, resume his former position until such time as it becomes desirable to send a representative abroad.

Anzac Day.—A suggestion was received from the South Australian branch that the usual observance of Anzac Day be discontinued, in view of the present grave war situation. Discussion was deferred until the next meeting.

Wheat.—Letters relating to the wheat industry were received from the Pingrup and Collie sub-branches. Pingrup advocated the introduction of a moratorium. This was referred to the Land Committee. Collie expressed concern regarding wheat in trucks at the marshalling yards at Collie, waiting haulage, and asked for assistance to the State Secretary.

Casualties.—North Perth sub-branch asked that the postal authorities be requested to use more discretion in delivering telegrams relating to war casualties. The reply was left to the State Secretary.

V.D.C.—Mr. Lawley-Inglewood sub-branch urged that no appointment for full-time duty in the V.D.C. should be made to other than ex-service men. The matter was referred to the State President.

White Hart Hotel, Beverley.—Approval was granted to the Trustees to affix the League’s Seal to an agreement concerning compensation from the Army Department for the rent of White Hart Hotel at Beverley.

Beverley.—The Collie sub-branch referred to the position of aliens in this country, and their obligation to serve in the forces. It was agreed that full inquiries should be made, and a report submitted to the next meeting.

Coronation Scholarship.—A letter from Mr. Roy Claxton Jones, who was awarded the League’s Coronation Scholarship in this State, conveyed his gratitude to the League for the assistance he had received. He advised that he had now completed a course which extended over four years, for the degree of Bachelor of Science, with Physics as a major subject. He had now received an appointment as Physicist in the Munition Supply Laboratories at Maribyrnong.

Rehabilitation.—Darling Range sub-branch forwarded suggestions made by Mr. W. H. Logie for the rehabilitation of the lighting forces. The suggestions were referred to the Problems Committee.

Red Cross.—Colonel Margolin reported in connection with Red Cross activities.
Brown; publicity officer, Mr. M. B. Kelly. Among matters discussed were the water supply scheme reserves, guards for the reserves, and the release from internment of an enemy alien of dubious loyalty. It was considered that the release of this alien was a direct challenge and an offence. Vigorous support is forthcoming for the appeal for aluminium scrap.

**SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT**

The annual meeting was held on Saturday, February 7, the attendance being good. The main business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. The president (Mr. A. G. Watt) thanked all members for their active support during the year, especially mentioning the secretary and social secretary (Mr. E. B. Cowan); auditors, Messrs. H. McGowan, H. Dunstan; vice-presidents, Mr. Bert Bickbe; trustees, Messrs. A. G. Watt, W. McGowan, H. Laidlaw, M. C. ——?— . Marsh, acting president, Mr. Bert Bickbe; treasurer, Mr. W. McGowan; secretary, H. Dunstan; social secretary, not filled; publicity officer, E. B. Hore. The new president thanked members for the honour conferred upon him. The annual balance sheet reflects the good work done by members during the year, and especially our secretaries. Income totalled over £270, and after expenses and donations, which covered a big field, a balance of £19 was in hand. Social activities will undoubtedly be curtailed this year owing to war conditions, and most members will not have so much spare time. A request from the West Perth sub-branch for a donation of 3d. per member for the upkeep of Honour Avenue in King's Park was agreed to, members donating 6d. each, and a similar total being donated from branch funds. Social activities will commence on March 21, when a social evening will be held in the Swan View Hall at 8 p.m. for members and their families only. The following Saturday, March, the first of the monthly dances will commence in the Hall at 8 p.m. The next sub-branch meeting will be in the Hall at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 7.

**RETURNED ARMY NURSES**

The first monthly meeting of the year was held in the club-room on Thursday, February 13, and was fairly well attended. Miss J. Clifton, president, was in the chair, this being her fourth year in office. We were all pleased to hear that she was elected Matron of Faversham Hospital, York, and in spite of the distance, she still finds time to attend meetings. Several Sisters have returned from overseas, and letters are being sent to them, offering them a cordial invitation to join our sub-branch. Our patriotic efforts are still being maintained, the Seamen's Mission being the last to benefit.

**SHENTON PARK**

Monday, February 2 was the first meeting for 1942, there being a good muster of members. Much missed from this meeting was our popular vice-president, Percy Clegg, who is at present having an enforced rest in the Repatriation Ward, Perth Hospital. Finances are steadily improving, the result of the Goose Club helping considerably. Commendation was expressed for the good work done in this direction by Clif Kleeman and Ernie Bishop, who carried most of the responsibility. Our treasurer Mr. Edmunds, leaves us to take up full-time military duties, so Ernie Bishop now takes the dual role of secretary and treasurer. The sub-branch records its whole-hearted support of the Collie branch's protest concerning eligibles taking up work in the Collie coal mines, thus evading military service. President Bob Ogg (also leader of our V.D.C.) intends spending his holidays in an Instruction School at Guildford as from February 16. It is quite possible that his weight will suffer some reduction, but this will be offset by the mass of knowledge which we expect him to acquire. The Corse finds him a popular and energetic leader. Will all members keep their dues up to date and an eye open for newly-return Diggers as possible members? Also don't neglect to induce any eligible civilian to enrol in the Home Guard — it may not yet be too late to learn.

**CLAREMONT**

The annual meeting of the sub-branch was held at the club rooms, Claremont Oval, on Thursday, January 19, Mr. W. Ford (President) was in the chair and there was a large attendance of members. The business of the evening was devoted chiefly to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the following is the result of the election: President, Mr. W. Ford (unopposed); vice-presidents,
MOUNT HAWTHORN-NORTH LEDERVILLE

The January meetings were noted for the increased interest the members displayed, and the large amount of business dealt with. The nomination of members for the various committees was keen, and it was good to see a lot of new blood nominated for same. It showed increasing desire for progress of the branch, and it is to be hoped that we get a lot of the new returned Diggers to come along with new ideas for the various committees to work upon. The annual meeting went off very smoothly, and business was put through very quickly. The president gave his report in a business-like way, and he never let any activities of the branch escape him, and he hopes that he will continue to get the same support from the members and committees again during the coming year. The secretary gave a glowing report of the branch affairs, and he steered the ship through calm waters, like a good captain does. His report dealing with amelioration, building, and the poppy day sales, were listened to, and the members were satisfied that we have a good one in our Jim. When the treasurer gave his address on how to run up a bank account, some wag said that as long as he was there, we, the branch, will always have good bank "Rowses." He did amaze us all with his figures, and I think he must have seen the figures at Scarborough. Jack Woodhead made a good returning officer, and he declared the elections as follows: President, G. A. Cairnes; vice-presidents, B. Keeley and H. James; auditor, J. Prendergast; secretary, J. Morton; treasurer, W. Rowses; publicity, Ted Nathan; building, T. Damon; L. Vivian; auditor, J. Prendergast; secretary, J. Morton; treasurer, W. Rowses; publicity, Ted Nathan; building, T. Damon; L. Vivian, W. Rowses, T. Campbell, Bill Kay, H. Richardson, B. Keeley, amelioration, Rev. Sturrick, W. Rowses, T. Campbell; social committee, T. Nathan, W. Isaac, G. Black, W. Andrews, H. Richardson, B. Keeley, Bill O'Neill; sports director, C. Richardson.

Two new members in A. Smith of the 11th Battalion, and A. Brims of the 91st Battalion, joined up during February, and were warmly welcomed. During the evening a silver cup was presented for a series of competition during the year. The donor, Mr. Smith, was thanked for same. We have a visit from the Police Sports Club on February 12, but more of that later. Come along to our meetings on February 26 and March 12 and 26.

SUBLACO

The sub-branch slept in recess during January, "not time the summer days were long and 'out'" but woke like a giant refreshed at the February meeting, and gave £1 to charity. It also empowered the hon. secretary to sign cheques in certain circumstances, but the Militia took him away, probably for his own good, and his future signing will be done with a shovel or a curry-comb. A successor has not yet been appointed (at the time of writing), but all business will be expeditiously dealt with in the past. Bridge evenings show signs of reviving, and arrangements have been made for various good members to take turns in conducting them; two points which should not fail to gratify our president (Mr. Williamson), who kept this steady source of income going under what the celebrated Keel mentioned as "no-encouragement." The committee considered black-out arrangements in traditional style by passing it on to a sub-committee which itself is undecided whether to black-out the windows or the tenants.
may be in this hospital from time to time, so an appeal is being made to the Executive to submit names if possible. Members are further reminded that bridge evenings are held every Friday night in the Town Hall, Cambridge-street, and tables are available. Happy evenings are always assured. Our genial secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Newton, carries on, but is finding it very difficult to give his full time to this important work, so the sub-branch is appealing to members to dig up a new secretary, or at least some one who can relieve George.

MAYLANDS

At the fortnightly meeting, held on Thursday February 12, the principle business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. The officers elected were: President, Mr. S. Horton (unopposed); vice-presidents, Messrs. Baker and Cornish; treasurer, Mr. D. Tobin (unopposed); secretary, Mr. A. Cook: minute secretary, Mr. L. King; amelioration officers, Messrs. Hall and Lawrence; liaison officer, Mr. H. Prince; committee, Messrs. Byrne, Kemp, Chapple, Flemming, Fuller and Lockhart; auditors, Messrs. Adamson and Wintle; social secretary and publicity officer, Mr. S. Kanair. The annual smoke social in connection with the above election of officers will be held in the Maylands Lesser Town Hall, on Thursday, February 19. It was with great regret that we learned that our old comrade, Burtonshaw had broken down in health again whilst serving in the capacity as a full-time active member of the Home Guard.

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Women's Auxiliaries

STATE EXECUTIVE

The State Executive is pleased to report that a most enjoyable day was spent cruising on the river on January 29, with a stop at Mosman Park for lunch. Those missing this outing lost a most restful and enjoyable outing. Music on board was supplied by Mrs. Power and Mrs. Prendergast, to whom the Executive extends sincere thanks. Towards the end of the afternoon Mrs. Evans, of Midland Junction, was fortunate enough to become the proud possessor of a valuable steel engraving, and Mrs. Vicary, of Bassendean, of a pair of silk stockings. Our State secretary (Mrs. Hopperton) has been appointed Camouflage Net Organiser by the Defence Department, and she has already twenty groups in operation.
Where at all possible, State Executive members have been placed in charge of the auxiliary group. The necessity for these nets is very evident, and a very large number is wanted. So please, members, cooperate. For many reasons this work has to be confined to metropolitan auxiliaries, much to our sorrow, as our country sisters are eager, anxious and sincere workers for all worthy causes. Members will be pleased to learn that our State president (Mrs. McKinlay) has been again elected on the Red Cross Executive, and Mrs. Stockmin is the chairman of the House Committee of the Citizens' Reception Council Hostel. At our first February meeting it was decided that, owing to prevailing circumstances, black-outs and the possibility of an alert being sounded, the sports competition for the McKinlay Shield should be suspended until further notice; but should members desire, they may still play friendly games. At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. Walters, of Mosman Park, visited the Executive, bearing greetings and good will wishes from our Melbourner R.S.L. sisters, whom she had visited whilst in Victoria. On the afternoon of January 12 members journeyed to Lemnos, and thanks to generous donations from our country sisters, set out an excellent tea for the inmates. This was our belated Christmas cheer, and, according to Matron McDonald, preferable to the usual festive time. Mrs. Pendergast did the catering. Thanks are due to Mrs. Prue, who secured the services of the Gable Williams Dancing Academy, which provided an excellent programme for the afternoon, to the great delight of the inmates. To those artists we are all very grateful.

VICTORIA PARK

The January meeting, held on the 23rd of the month, was well attended. Mrs. Barnett (president) welcomed new and old members. Mrs. McCarthy reported on her visit to the Edward Millen, and handed in baskets made by inmates in appreciation of our visits. Mesdames Haigh and Pratley were chosen to visit the men for the next six months with the usual cheer. A class was arranged for members and friends to learn how to make camouflage nets, meeting Wednesday afternoons in the R.S.L. Hall. Mrs. Anderson kindly instructed. Mesdames Bailie, Cobb, Edwards (Mukinbudin), Haigh, Chandler and Stockton and friend, are all thanked for their cash donations to the wool fund; also those knitting up the wool purchased with these donations. The articles are greatly appreciated by the boys. Members were asked to assist in the War Loan Appeal by disposing of War Loan Stamp Cards. Membership is still maintained in the War Loan Groups as well, but more members are welcome. In future meetings will commence at 8 p.m., as this hour suits members better. The new hour will commence on February 27.

SUBIACO

Despite a very hot day there was a good attendance at the monthly meeting. The Camp Comforts committee reported that bridge is held in the R.S.L. Hall each Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. Anyone wishing to make up tables of rummy and euchre would be welcomed. Five parcels had been distributed during the month. The visiting committee reported having visited the Home of Peace, and distributed parcels there during the month. St. John of God Hospital also is visited by members of the visiting committee each Tuesday. Despite the very hot day, several members visited Lemnos on the 2nd Wednesday in January. Miss. Ester kindly brought along some of her pupils and helped to fill the afternoon very well. Cigarettes and sweets were distributed. At the last monthly meeting it was decided to meet at the R.S.L. Hall and make bandage dressings each Tuesday all day to build reserve stocks at the Hospital Hall. Mrs. Pope is in attendance all day Tuesdays and Thursdays to give instructions to anyone who is willing to make camouflage nets. To date there has only been a fair response. It is hoped there will be a good roll-up in the coming weeks.

F.U.S.W.

At the monthly social of the F.U.S.W. Mrs. Harold Dean, M.B.E., presided over a large gathering. Mrs. Dean welcomed the guests, saying how pleased she was to see them after the new year, and expressed her appreciation of their past work, and of the busy year before them, knowing, she said, all would pull their weight to see that nothing in the Union's power would be left undone. Miss Tozer was the speaker and her interesting address on books was appreciated by all. The musical programme was arranged by Mrs. E. Lynch (musical director), and the artists were: Contralto solo, Miss Carlson; recitation, Miss Thompson; Soprano solo, Miss Shirley Flesfader. The accompanists were Miss Zoe Lenergan and Miss Margaret Hanley. Mrs. T. C. Wilson proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Tozer, which was unanimously received, and Mrs. Moore thanked the artists for their excellent programme.

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## ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

**RATES: £1/1/- PER ANNUM**

<table>
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<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. Bendle, 450 Newcastle Street, Perth</td>
<td>Jack Kenny, 138 Sixth Avenue, Inglewood</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>Mrs. W. James, 19 Marion Street, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th Battalion Association</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly luncheon, 1 p.m. on 11th of month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard’s Avenue, Leederville, Perth</td>
<td>R. W. Blair, 79 William Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex-Machine Gunners' Association</td>
<td>Greigson’s, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>J. Douglas, 13 Kangoo Street, South Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Everest, Swan Barracks, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th Association</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday of Show Week</td>
<td>M. Lewis, 530 Fitzgerald St, North Perth</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield Street, Mt. Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Services Association</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, quarterly</td>
<td>Dr. C. H. Leedman, chairman: R. Rattray</td>
<td>H. W. Bigg, 28 Elizabeth Street, North Perth, Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Battalion Association</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Col. E. L. Margolin, 62 Tyrell Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>E. J. Massey, 41 Harvey St, Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th Battalion Association</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>H. L. Edwards, 37 Hamilton Street, Bayswater</td>
<td>W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruspil Street, West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Battalion Association</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>L. D. Lobashcher, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth</td>
<td>J. Rutherford, 5 Elizabeth Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Light Horse Association</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>February, May, August Monthly</td>
<td>H. Rappertan, 141 Adelaide Hotel</td>
<td>Roy Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th and 52nd Battalion Association</td>
<td>80 Bon Marche Chambers, Perth</td>
<td>1st Pension day of the month at 3 p.m.</td>
<td>W. P. Griffiths, 87 South Street, Bassendean,</td>
<td>A. Cook, 18 Railway Terrace, Morley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**RATES: £1/1/- PER ANNUM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R.S.L. Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armadale.</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Richardson, Albany</td>
<td>I. McLennan, E. W. Wheeler, Gray Street, (West) Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Betti, 50 Belvedere, Ballindu</td>
<td>F. Donnelley, Ballidu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballidu Districts.</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Sat., 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. K. Minchin, 5 Wilson St, Bassendean</td>
<td>H. Fry, 72 Railway Parade, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busselton.</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension days) 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Greaves, Brookton</td>
<td>E. L. Hogan, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brocket.</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>H. C. Pickett, 52 Terrance, Busselton</td>
<td>Bert Scantleigh, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookton.</td>
<td>Bulabrook Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday, monthly, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. F. Gibson, 12 Bankata Street, Busselton</td>
<td>W. N. Foreman, 111 Victoria Street, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunbury.</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. L. Richardson, 49 Stuart Street, Marylands</td>
<td>E. S. Shilling, 49 Stuart Street, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayswater.</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>P. Jones, Wadell, via Busselton</td>
<td>L. M. Powell, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busselton.</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>E. D. Fordham, Gordon Bay, Canning</td>
<td>I. McGill, Roy McKinnon, East Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calingiri.</td>
<td>Calingiri Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Gordon Bay, Canning</td>
<td>John Lang, Canningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canning Districts.</td>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month, commencing June, 1940</td>
<td>W. T. White, Winchester</td>
<td>H. May, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnamah.</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sarre, Clifton Street, Collie</td>
<td>A. C. Bailey, Phone 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collie.</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each quarter</td>
<td>W. J. Russell, Bilbarin</td>
<td>H. T. See, 17 Long Street, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrigin.</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday each month</td>
<td>W. D. Russe, 10 Bond Street, Collie</td>
<td>M. L. Bennett, 117 Long Street, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottesloe.</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad Street</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month</td>
<td>W. D. Russe, 10 Bond Street, Collie</td>
<td>Harvey G. Raw, 1 Thompson Road, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claremont.</td>
<td>Committee Room, Claremont Oval</td>
<td>3rd Saturday each month</td>
<td>W. D. Russe, 10 Bond Street, Collie</td>
<td>M. J. Johnson, Canningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark.</td>
<td>R.S.L. Literary Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month of 6 p.m.</td>
<td>M. G. Baker, Donnybrook</td>
<td>Rev. J. C. Lund, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dongarria.</td>
<td>J. Slade’s Premises, Fort Danthon</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>C. M. Morgan, P.O. Box 29, Donnybrook</td>
<td>C. W. Nicol, Dumbleyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donnybrook.</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in month</td>
<td>A. J. Hiles, Holyrook</td>
<td>C. H. Joyce, Holyrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumbleyung.</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension</td>
<td>E. A. Hiles, Holyrook</td>
<td>A. G. Kirby, Soldiers' Institute, South Tooe, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwellingup &amp; Districts.</td>
<td>Dwellingup Hotel</td>
<td>1st Saturday in month</td>
<td>A. J. Hiles, Holyrook</td>
<td>F. J. Dunn, 40 Ellen Street, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremantle &amp; Districts.</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute, South Terrace</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension</td>
<td>A. J. Hiles, Holyrook</td>
<td>A. C. Bailey, Phone 14, Gjobo, Cottosloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gascoyne.</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>Dr. J. W. Piggot, Cottesloe</td>
<td>G. P. Redman, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraldton.</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Mondays</td>
<td>T. C. Freedman, Fremantle</td>
<td>E. S. Shilling, 49 Stuart Street, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloucester Park.</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Room</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. G. O’Donnell, Fremantle</td>
<td>J. D. Fox, 530 Fitzgerald St, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gnowangerup.</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Room</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. W. Bessant, Gnowangerup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Wray, Gutha</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gutha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Herbert Rd.</td>
<td>J. H. Matthews, c/o Educ Road, Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in month</td>
<td>J. R. Hylton, Great Boulder, Finlim</td>
<td>D. F. Edwards, Kalgoorlie</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>at R.S.L. Hall, Executive, alt. Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>H. Urlich, W. Bailey, Katanning</td>
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<tr>
<td>KALGOORIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. G. Griffin, Kellerberlin</td>
<td>T. E. Robinson, Koorda</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Meet Committee, 3rd Sunday after V.D.C. parade</td>
<td></td>
<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>W. A. Tumber, E. Wood, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Glabrooms, Carow Street</td>
<td>Quarter Friday committee, 1st Friday</td>
<td>S. B. Davey, Manjimup.</td>
<td>M. G. Johnson, Lake King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Komboo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Geo. A. E. Major, Manjimup</td>
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<tr>
<td>KODIKA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Saturday, quarterly (Jan. April, July, Oct.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>L. T. King, 10 Carrington Street, Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Jock Sherriff</td>
<td>C. H. Jacobson, Menzies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KULLA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Institute</td>
<td>2nd Sunday in month</td>
<td>T. O. Chambers, Kellerberlin</td>
<td>R. H. Wilkes, H. P. Koombala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith, Koorda</td>
<td>G. B. Thomson, 7 Lillian St., Cottesloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>J. W. Jordan, Menzies</td>
<td>C. Ryan, Moora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Manjimup</td>
<td>2nd Thursday each month</td>
<td>Jock Sherriff</td>
<td>H. H. Martin, Mt. Magnet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alternate Thursday</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Kukerin</td>
<td>J. W. Morrison, 34 Dudley Street, Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper-room, Town Hall, Noylands</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month</td>
<td>S. Horton, Alta Road, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>G. A. Ashworth, Bond Street, Mount Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>1st Monday in month</td>
<td>E. Henderson, Menzies</td>
<td>Col. Nicholson, Moora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERREDIN</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Johnston Street, Cottage</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>V. Cooper</td>
<td>H. V. Jenkins, Mt. Magnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>I. H. Cole, 36 Harper Street Midland Junction</td>
<td>G. Blah, 14 London Street, Geraldton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORRISON PARK</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meet Committee, 3rd Sunday after V.D.C. parade</td>
<td></td>
<td>F. Pollock, Bencubbin</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (Pension Night, 8 p.m.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>O. J. Williams, 21 Grosvenor Road Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. BARKER</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>Chas. Groves, No. 2 Pumping Station, O'Connor</td>
<td>H. J. Wright, J. H. Bunter, R.S.L. Institute, Nannup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MAGNUS</td>
<td></td>
<td>4th Friday of the month</td>
<td></td>
<td>A. S. Cres, Marvel Loch</td>
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<tr>
<td>MT. LAWTON-NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Sunday in each month</td>
<td>J. Crum, Narrogin</td>
<td>A. S. Graham, Narrogin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEEDERVILLE</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. H. Lawley</td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alternate Thursday</td>
<td>J. H. Lawley</td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. H. Lawley</td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st and 3rd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Lawley</td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>MULLEWA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARVEL LOCH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>NARROGIN</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>NAREMBEN</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>NEDLANDS</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>NEWDEGATE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH EAST FREMANTLE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHERN STATION</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSBORNE PARK</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERTH (Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>PINGELLY</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>PRESS</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>PITHARA</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>QUAIRADING-DANGIN</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>REDDY</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>SHENTON PARK</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>SHACKLETON-KWOLYIN</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>SUBIACO</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRA BANDA-GRANT'S PATCH</td>
<td></td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRAYLING VELBIN</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>YARLEYING</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>YORK</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>WAROONA-HAMEL</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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<td>WILUNA</td>
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<td>T. S. Edmondson, 36 Archdeacon Street, Nedlands, Phone W1111</td>
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