DISCIPLINE: THE FOUNDATION OF VICTORY

Recently the Press of our free and enlightened Commonwealth devoted much space to the announcement that there was to be a general tightening-up of the discipline of the Australian Military Forces. It was stated that the Army authorities would insist on soldiers behaving themselves in public, and that they would appear on all occasions with their uniforms buttoned and worn neatly, and with their hair cut. It was even ordained that officers must be saluted. Columns of new-print were used up in conveying this information to the public, as if it were something new and something very unusual in an Army. Actually, there was nothing new or unusual about it. The regulations governing such matters are as old as the Army itself; but the fact that such an official song and dance has been made about the observance of these regulations is, in itself, not only a reflection on the Army of today, but a scathing indictment of the general public from whose reservoir of man-power the Army is recruited.

One must admit, with a great deal of reluctance, that the insistence of the authorities on what, after all, are the elementary features of discipline, has not been untimely. Such outward and visible signs of discipline can well be attended to by the junior officers and the non-commissioned officers of the forces, provided the right type of men are selected for these appointments; but it is devoutly to be wished that the process of tightening up discipline will not stop there. Throughout the course of history, one of the greatest problems confronting those who have been entrusted with the task of training citizen armies and leading them in action is that the obedience of such troops is founded on reason rather than habit. However, as wars go on, the obedience of habit is acquired, sometimes painfully but always by experience. Leaders conspicuous for their skill soon win the confidence of their men, and then their task becomes an easier one. Even those less fortunate, who endowed only with the less conspicuous qualities of fairness, common sense, and average pluck, can achieve the same result. The quality of ready obedience is a hard one to instil, but it must be instilled if we are to have that efficiency without which men in uniform cannot be more than an armed rabble. In his "Remarks on Military Law" Sir Charles Napier, the conqueror of Scinde, has this to say: "No man—but the commander can judge of what is important and what is not... Soldiers must therefore obey in all things. They may, and do, laugh at foolish orders, but they nevertheless obey, not because they are blindly obedient, but because they know that to disobey is to break the backbone of their profession." It is thus that individual intelligence is best exercised, not in criticising leaders, but in realising and maintaining the important truth that prompt and entire obedience, mechanical perhaps, but none the less powerful, is the mainspring of success.

Much of the lack of discipline in armies hastily formed after the outbreak of war can be ascribed to the habits of peace. A favourite story of the present Bishop of Bendigo, which he told after a State Executive meeting, was of a tactless man who said to a former Archbishop of Canterbury: "We don't seem to be getting the right sort of men in the church today." to which the Archbishop blandly replied: "Perhaps that's because we have only the laity to choose from."

So it is with an army. Every man who dons his country's uniform, whether in peace or war, has the formative period of civilian life behind him, and an army that is born of an undisciplined public begins life with an ugly birth-mark that can be got rid of only by careful treatment.

There are many factors which have been retarding influences on the growth of discipline in the army of today. One is the pacifist propaganda that was so prevalent in the years between the two wars. There was the spate of so-called "war novels" from all belligerent countries, in which the soldier was variously represented as one who lived in a chronic state of fear in the line, and a debauched lout in uniform out of it. Other writers concentrated on the mistakes of commanders rather than on their successes, with the object of proving that brain tissues became ossified once an officer attained field rank. The nauseating drivel one hears about the "old school tie" in these days had for its targets the red tabs and the brass hats of former years. Within the one month, and in the one city, we have had the absurd spectacle of a civilan professor trying to paint the moral of Passchendaele, and another civilian lamenting the survival of saluting. All this cocksureness—an American general once called it "the value of ignorance"—has tended to undermine discipline by disturbing the confidence of soldier and civilian alike in our battle leaders.

The worst offenders, however, have been the"would-be humorists of the comic strips and the papers which specialise in the type of story which perpetuates the entirely erroneous notion
that the Digger of the last war was a cheeky larrikin, who could do a spot of fighting when the occasion demanded it. Time and again, those who knew the Digger as he was have pointed out that only a disciplined force could have achieved what was achieved by the A.I.F. in the last war, and that the "Dag," if one may revive the word of those days, was neither typical of the old A.I.F., nor greatly admired by his comrades. Unfortunately, there are grounds for believing that many of the young troops of today seem to think that the "Dag" is someone worthy of emulation, instead of a figure of fun whose cleverness was greatly exaggerated in the tales that are told. One sincerely hopes that the new insistence on discipline will produce the sober, decent, and unsparing type of Digger that was the levelling influence of the old A.I.F.

One also hopes that the Federal Government will realise that after all the Army is drawn from the ranks of the public, that it is, in fact, a reflection of the public of the country it defends. While Army discipline is being tightened, therefore, it is sincerely to be hoped that the Government will do something to discipline the general public as well, if only in the interests of the Army. The task of those who have to maintain discipline in the Army will not be made easier when their men read of how persistently and successfully the coal industry is flouting a Government that has laws against striking in its Statute Books. Their men, who draw military pay and who have wives to keep on allotments and separation allowances, will not be any the happier for reading how more highly-paid munition workers are allowed to strike with impunity over such a frivolous matter as "morning tea." Comparisons between their own lot and that of a privileged class to whom the illegal strike is conceded as a heaven-born right must inevitably make for restiveness, which is the begetter of indiscipline. Tighten the discipline of the Army by all means, because no Army can carry on without discipline; but discipline the general public also, and then Army discipline will develop as a natural growth.

The month of June is a month of stock-taking for most concerns that are run on a business-like basis. We pride ourselves that our League is such a concern, so a little half-yearly stock-taking on our own work, both as individuals and as an organisation, might not be altogether out of place. Unfortunately, it is neither possible nor desirable to publish all that the League is doing today for the men of the present war. That could not be done without giving away scraps of information that an enterprising and alert enemy could piece together into something of military value to himself. The great story of what the League is doing in the present war for the Volunteer Defence Corps, for the boys who have arrived back in Australia from service abroad, and the host of other things our organisation is achieving in support of the war effort on the home front, will make yet another glorious chapter in the League's history, when that story can be told in full. In the meantime, we would ask readers to appreciate this, and to look forward to the full story at some later date.

But while the League is carrying on its great work, as tirelessly and continuously as it has done since its formation, it is surprising sometimes to meet people who have but the haziest of ideas of what the League means, and what its purpose is. The League as you all know had its origin in the first World War. It was formed at a meeting held in Melbourne on June 3, 1916. June 3, therefore, is the League's birthday, and, as such, the day should have especial significance for us all. At that foundation meeting the ideals and objects, which had characterised the distinct and unrelated returned soldier organisations in the several States, were correlated and summarised to give the aims and objects, which are the very basis of the League's present-day efforts. These ideals and objects are embodied in what is now the policy of the Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia. The statement of that policy is ample evidence of the width and variety of the League's activities, of the broad tolerance of its outlook, and the pure patriotism of its aims. The main planks in the League's policy are the integrity of our Empire, a White Australia, an adequate defence force, a vigorous immigration system, with necessary safeguards to the obtaining of suitable immigrants. Other features of this policy which are only a shade less important are the unification of railway gauges, the nationalisation of main roads, the systematic immigration of industries, re-afforestation, public health, and trade within the Empire.

Broadly speaking, the League's policy, as defined in its constitution, falls into two sections: that which concerns the defence of the Empire and of Australia as an integral part of the Empire, and that which concerns the service members can render to the Empire and, that which concerns the service members can render to the country in peace, as they served it, and are still prepared to serve it in time of war. It was because our League has always advocated an adequate defence force for Australia, that we have consistently opposed the whittling away of our defences, through mistaken
notions of economy, in the years that intervened between the two wars. Rightly or wrongly, we considered that we are no longer had that gruelling experience of active service, should be able and willing to give Australia the benefit of that experience. Many members of our organisation did this in a most practical manner by enlisting to serve in the Australian Military Forces after their return from active service in the former war. Some of those very men hold high rank today in the present A.I.F. Others are doing valuable administrative and instructional jobs on the home front. When the present war broke out, it was indeed gratifying to see so many of the old Diggers finding a place in the ranks of the new A.I.F. and so many hundreds of others being enrolled in the Garrison battalions. In fact, the Garrison battalions themselves were the embodiment of the idea of a reserve of ex-service men, which had been contemplated and advocated by the League months before the outbreak of the present war. Similarly, the Volunteer Defence Corps was the creation of the League. It grew out of the natural desire for service by men who, for various reasons, were not able to enlist in the front-line fighting forces. Through their patient and unselfish service, often in the face of what looked like official discouragement, the Volunteer Defence Corps has gained recognition as an integral part of the Australian Military Forces. Its members have now a definite status as attested soldiers, and they are receiving intensive training for the role they will play in a very comprehensive defence scheme. Again, that training cannot be described any more than the old Digger spirit of friendliness and comradeship will remain the same. That aspect of the League's constitution was wisely devised by its founders, and one can only hope that when the present war is over we will preserve it both in letter and in spirit.

In conclusion we would ask you to ask yourselves the following questions—you may get a better notion of what the League stands for by using the method of reasoning, used so often by dear old Euclid: Supposing there were no League, what then? Who would perpetuate the grand spirit of other years, and fight for and protect the war-scarred veterans? Who would watch over and protect the interests of the ever-increasing number of dependents of deceased and incapacitated soldiers? Who would fight consistently, the long years round, in the interests of returned soldiers, acknowledged to be suffering from war-caused disabilities, and others whose disabilities are not recognised as having been caused by their war service? Where is the hope of the soldier settler and the purchaser of a war service home, labouring under difficulties, if not in the League? There are but a few of the questions that may be asked, but even those few will show what a vital necessity the League is. If there were no League it would become necessary to create one, and work persistently for years to obtain the benefits that exist already, thanks to the League's work in past years. These are things that every Digger, old or new, should remember this month, which is the League's birth-month. Remembering them, you will agree that the League deserves a birthday present, and the best birthday present you can give it is a new member. What about it?

GLOUCESTER PARK PERSISTS

One of the chief aims of the Gloucester Park sub-branch has long been to build up a substantial Amelioration Fund, which has greatly increased now that we are again at war. Regular dances have been run at Anzac House to raise funds for this purpose. When that building was no longer available the committee, in pursuance of their policy, were not long in securing another hall suitable for dancing.

Now one of the bright spots of the week is the Wednesday night dance at the Wembley Hall, Hay Street (East). The music, floor, etc. leave nothing to be desired, and are doing valuable work in the community. I hope that the patrons of these dances, who are realising steadily their aim in steadily building up the Amelioration Fund, will continue to support it in the same manner as others have done in the past.

The great secret of the League's success is its moral and social force in the community, which is enjoyed by no other organisation in the Commonwealth. It is this character which preserves what we used to call the comradeship of the trenches. Positively some more up-to-date term will be used after this war, but the old Digger spirit of friendliness and comradeship will remain the same. That aspect of the League's constitution was wisely devised by its founders, and one can only hope that when the present war is over we will preserve it both in letter and in spirit.
The Digger As I Knew Him

[The following talk was given at a recent meeting of the Friendly Union of Soldiers' Wives by Mr. E. S. Watt. It is a timely correction to the erroneous ideas about the Digger, which people have imbibed from comic strips for the past 20 years. It may also check the tendency of the Digger of this war to model himself on the least desirable types of the former war.]

The Digger as he has been generally described in picture and word varies greatly from the picture that I intend to paint to you of this gentleman this afternoon.

I have watched and studied the boys of the new A.I.F., and I am convinced that the type has not varied with the years. I watched and studied the boys of the old A.I.F. for four years under conditions that exposed the soul of man, and I learned a lot about human nature. I studied them in the training camps, in the heat of battle, when on leave, and in the hospitals. I have watched them passing over life's border, and I have studied them for 23 years as civilians.

If there were a Digger type it certainly is not the long-jawed lounging and bragging oft depicted to us, a wonderful fighter and resentful of authority, cruel in anger and largely devoid of finer feelings. The only truth in this description is that extolling his fighting powers. Contrary to the generally accepted conception the Digger's discipline was of a very high order; and he did not also check the tendency of the Digger of this war to model himself on the least desirable types of the former war.]

He was deeply religious. He liked to create the impression that he was a hard-case devoid of deep feelings, but it was almost invariably a cloak to try and hide the truth that he was actually a sentimental bloke. He had one of God's best gifts: the gift of friendship. Compared with his British comrades, he could not sing for joy, but he was the kind of man who would help another out of a jam.

When new men arrive, they are taught to be honest, above all things. They are taught to be strict in the heat of battle, his British discipline, which he has been imbued with, must not be forgotten. They are taught to be swift, to be brave, to be ready for anything.

Some of them were Russians, but most of them were, I imagine, like those English youths who came into France with the British army. They were young men, and they were not as skillful as the old men. They were not as skillful as the old men. They were not as skillful as the old men.

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LEAGUE MESSAGE TO MR. CHURCHILL

At the recent meeting of the Federal Executive, the following resolution was adopted unanimously: "That the Prime Minister be requested to convey, on behalf of this League, to the Prime Minister of Great Britain, an expression of intense admiration, profound appreciation, and sincere gratitude of the ex-service men and women of Australia for the magnificent war effort and achievements of the Motherland." Mr. Curtin has notified the League that he is arranging for the resolution to be sent by cablegram.

UNNECESSARY WASTE OF BOTTLES

In these days when so much depends on what we can save and what we can convert to war use, we cannot win battles by breaking bottles. The League recently drew the attention of the Army authorities to the widespread destruction of bottles in the metropolitan area. This has been particularly noticeable in recent months. It seemed that much of this destruction has been wrought by service men on leave. The danger to the travelling public, when bottles are thrown from railway carriages—sometimes on to platforms—cannot be over-emphasised. The League pointed out that one of the ingredients used in the manufacture of glass bottles is imported, and if this waste is not checked an acute shortage of bottles might soon be expected. The State Secretary says that the League requested the Army authorities to take some method of drawing attention to these dangerous practices and the resultant waste. The League has now been informed by the Army authorities that instructions have been included in all movements orders that no member of the militia forces, when in uniform, should carry on any train on which he is about to travel, or have in his possession or control, any consume whilst travelling in any train any intoxicating liquor.

PERSONALITIES

At the June meeting of the Shenton Park sub-branch Cliff Kleeman submitted his resignation from the committee as he is taking up full-time military duty. The chairman and several members spoke in appreciation of the services he gave to the organisation, and wished him the best for the future.

One ancient and honourable craft has been put out of action in England by the war, and that is the bell-ringing craft. The L.C.A. has recently drawn the duty of the recently drawn the duty of the Prime Minister of Great Britain, in the manufacture of glass bottles is imported, and the appeal to-day is to workers for peace, worshippers in the year the committee pointed out that the present war is not a war as it was in our day, served with the Army, authorities was engaged in the North Sea trade, and saw active service in the Black Mountain Expedition. Then he had a three-year campaign service, and saw active service in the Middle East. After some service in Ireland, he went to India with his regiment and saw active service in three campaigns on the North-West Frontier of India. These were the Black Mountain Expedition in 1891, the Izzat Expedition in 1893, and the Relief of Chitral in 1895. In the same year he came to Australia, where he joined the Australian Military Forces. He was with the A.I.F. from the beginning of the last war, and was adjutant of the Seventh Legion in 1917. He retired from the Army in June 1918, having reached the retiring age. In the same month he joined the Y.M.C.A., of which he has been an active member ever since. He served abroad with the Y.M.C.A. from August 1918 to February 1919, and over six months of this period he was chief guide for the Y.M.C.A. in London. The Y.M.C.A. sent him to Edinburgh in December, 1919, and while there he organised a Y.M.C.A. post in which the Allied troops on leave in Edinburgh took part. At the outbreak of the present war Captain Buchan again donned the uniform of the Y.M.C.A., and he has done excellent work for that organisation in various camps in the metropolitan area and in country centres. He relinquished that work, having reached another age limit, last November. He is now on the staff of the Perth City Council, the post being made special to him on the retirement of Mr. B. J. W. Miller.

Dr. H. L. Fowler, head of the Department of Psychology in the University of Western Australia, has been appointed D.A.A.G. (Psychology) at Army Headquarters. In congratulating an old friend on an important appointment we know of no one better fitted to the rank of Major, which he already holds in the Australian Military Forces. He held a commission in the 44th Battalion A.I.F. during the last war, after which he returned to his work in psychology, which was then developing more practical side. Major Hugh Fowler is that rare combination of practical man and scholar, which makes him especially qualified for his new appointment.

At the Empire Day reunion of the South African and Imperial Veteran's Association, the Last Post and the "Reveille" were sounded by a veteran who was sounding calls in the Middle East this time last year. This was Drum-Major George Gilmour, formerly of the King's Royal Rifle Corps. He was with his regiment in South Africa after the Boer War, and he saw service in both the last war and the present one.

Lieu.-Colonel Eugene Gorman, who recently resigned from the office of Chief Commissioner of the Australian Comfort Fund, after serving the Commonwealth forces in the North-West Frontier of India and the Middle East, has been succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel R. A. Gowrd, also a veteran of the last war in the United Kingdom. He served with the Indian Army and was commissioned in the 44th Battalion A.I.F. in 1915, and was employed on special service in Egypt. He administered the Australian Comfort Fund in Egypt and Palestine, and served with the M.B.E. in private life. He is the senior partner of a firm of chartered accountants in Sydney.

A local lass has been achieving fame as a trumpet player in the Australian Military Forces, with the late Lieut.-Colonel A. M. Young, who was formerly with the 4th Infantry Brigade, was a veteran of the last war, and has been employed on special service in Egypt. He administered the Australian Comfort Fund in Egypt and Palestine, and was awarded the M.B.E. in private life. He is the senior partner of a firm of chartered accountants in Sydney.
East, the American lady trumpeter who toured Australia a few years ago under the auspices of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Recently Hannah had a charming letter from the American lady, encouraging her to return to the mainland and stay with Hannah Colley is a true Digger's daughter. She is now devoting much of her time to the entertainment of the troops, and her performances are greatly appreciated by all who have the good fortune to hear her.

A contributor who has what the Irishman called a strong weakness for finding out things has drawn our attention to two happy coincidences.

Two local lads, Val Hancock and Alan Walters, have been appointed to the Allied Air Staff. As boys, they were together at the Modern School, Perth, and their present appointment establishes a proud record for one school to have. Alan Walters is the son of Mr. A. F. Walters, formerly of the West Australian Education Department, and now of Kalamunda. He served in the last war with the 28th Bn. When Alan Walters was at Duntroon, he gained the Oswald Watt prize, which entitled him to a year at Point Cook, whence he graduated as Flying Officer in 1928. He was seconded to the R.A.A.F., to which he was transferred after two years at Richmond. While at Richmond he trained and led the Richmont Air Cadets. During the war he saw much active service with the Royal Australian Air Force.

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Mr. F. E. Renner, who succeeds Colonel Denton in command of the Perth Battalion of the V.D.C., is a well-known member of the Claremont sub-branch. Until he received his promotion he was in charge of the Claremont unit of the Battalion. During the last war he saw much active service with the 51st Battalion.

At least two reservicemen are members of the re-constituted Australian Broadcasting Commission. They are Mr. R. J. F. Boyer, who, with the chairman, Mr. W. J. Cleary, are the only members of the old Commission to be re-appointed, and Mr. J. D. O. Medley: though we do not suspect for one moment that the fact that they are ex-servicemen has anything to do with their appointment. Mr. Boyer served with the A.F. in the last war, and Mr. Medley with the British 75th.

Brigadier Francis R. North, M.C., E.D., who is mentioned in this year's Birthday Honours as having been made a Companion of the Bath, was a very young company commander in the 47th Bn. during the last war. He was severely wounded at Bullecourt in 1917, and was invalided back to Australia. He came out again in 1918, and attained the rank of major, and gained the Military Cross. In October, 1918, he was continued to serve with the Australian Military Forces, and is now doing full-time duty somewhere in Australia. Brigadier North was a lawyer in civil life.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Mr. Allan Bird, a member of the Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association. Our deep sympathy is extended to Mrs. Bird and her family. The late Allan Bird was a very fine chap indeed, and his services were greatly regretted by every Digger who knew him.

The originator and foundation president of the Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association was Mr. Walter who, for many years, a committee-man of the Perth sub-branch. It was through his efforts that the Perth sub-branch gave the initial assistance in organising the association. The progress made since then must surely be gratifying to the association's founder. His main duties these days are visiting members in hospital and fossicking for tobacco and other comforts in between his own weekly visits to the M.O.

One of the first to join the T. & P. D. Soldiers' Association was Councillor W. L. McPhail. He has operated in many country centres, including York, Pinjarra, Goomalling, Beverley and Carnamah. As a printer, he is the sole proprietor of 'Bryan's Print', which specialises in printing for racing clubs.

The new chairman of the War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal which arrived in Perth on June 11 is Captain Gerard O'Sullivan. This officer went into the last war as a signaller. He is a barrister by profession, who did his law course at the University of Sydney after his return from active service in the other war. Lieutenant-Commander A. R. Bynse, who succeeded as chairman, is also a law graduate of Sydney.

Syd Coles, who was a gunner for over 18 years, was a very energetic member of the Albany Armoury until war broke out. Recently he was appointed vice-president of the Old Contemporaries' Association, and he is still doing active duty with the Army Medical Services as a corporal. Syd has two lads at sea in the British Merchant Navy. Both these boys have seen and been in many actions during the present war. News came recently that his wife's brother, her only living relative, went down with his ship. Another of Syd's boys has followed in his dad's footsteps, and is a gunner. He has seen much tropical service, was recently injured in an accident, and has had further treatment at Hollywood. A fourth son is expecting to join up, and a nephew has been promoted to Squadron Leader in the R.A.F.

SOLDIERS AND SUPERANNUATION

Early in the year the League approached the State Government on behalf of Government employees who had volunteered for full-time duty in the Home Forces. The League suggested that the Government should pay their superannuation dues. The Premier (Mr. W. J. C. Dwyer) at that time said the League had asked the Cabinet to make a decision on how the superannuation contributions would be paid by the Government on behalf of the old Government servants. He said the Cabinet had decided the superannuation contributions would be paid by the Government on behalf of Government servants enrolled or called up for the Australian Military Forces. Mr. Dwyer said the pay would be less than the individual civil pay, provided the difference in pay was equal to or greater than the amount of the contribution. Where the difference between the military and civil pay was less than the superannuation contributions, the Government would pay the difference to the Superannuation Fund and have the amount of the difference paid, as part of the Government's servant's contribution, and the latter would be responsible for the balance.
COLONEL DENTON RETIRES

Members of the Perth Battalion of the V.D.C. deeply regret the retirement, on reaching the prescribed age, of Colonel J. S. Denton, D.S.O., V.D. When the metropolitan sub-branch units of the V.D.C. were organised into the Perth Battalion a year ago, Col. Denton was appointed Commanding Officer, and his regret at relinquishing this important command was expressed in a recent Special Routine Order. "In relinquishing the command of the Battalion at this stage of our Nation's ordeal and trial," he said, "it naturally grieves me that my age is such that the authorities, under the Regulations provided for the V.D.C., see fit to place me on the Retired List. My training as a soldier, however, enables me to accept the decision of superior authority without resentment. The one great consolation to me is the many true and lasting friendships I have formed within the Battalion which it has been my pleasure to command."

"I desire to place on record my high appreciation and gratitude to all ranks for their devotion and loyalty, under many trying and exasperating difficulties, and am confident that if and when the time comes for them actually to participate in the real defence of our beloved native land, the Almighty will watch over and guard you, and bring you safely through the perils to which you may be subjected. May God bless you all."

I will not be there with you to share your dangers and troubles. To my staff I tender my warmest thanks for their assistance at all times in helping me to build up the Battalion to its present state of efficiency, and ask them to continue that aid and assistance to my successor.

"It is with a heavy heart that I say farewell. I wish you all the good luck possible, and if and when the times comes for you to do your duty in the field in defence of our beloved native land, the Almighty will watch over and guard you, and bring you safely through the perils to which you may be subjected. May God bless you all."
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"Salt," the official publication of the Army and R.A.F. Education Service, frequently fails dismally in its history examinations. For instance, in its last issue the "moners" that they have not so very much to moan about, tells them some of the things their ancestors had to do without. Headed the list is sugar, which was done without in Britain until 1843, while coal was done without until the 14th century.

It comes as a surprising statement that tobacco, in any form, was not known in England until the 16th century. That was certainly bringing tobacco in a century before its time, although perhaps a misprint occurred in this magazine of truebloods, as surprising still is the announcement that puddings were unknown until the 18th century. This probably explains why there are so many references to puddings in Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

It is not surprising that the announcement is not very "factual," if I may be excused for using this damnable word that the Ministry of Information has made fashionable. Still, it must be conceded that moners are more objectionable than bowlers.

For some reason, or other civilians who have never seen military service cannot be restrained from laying down the law on military matters. Recent articles have appeared on the Army authorities' rather belated efforts to tighten up discipline, take exception to saluting, and speak as if the saluting regulations had only just been made. A few days ago one newspaper wrote "It may be asked whether the regulation was dumped during the last war," because it could not be enforced. Such a statement, besides being untrue, shows an abysmal ignorance of the subject. The regulation was not new in a literal sense, but it surprised people outside the Army to hear that the men of the first A.I.F. were not so reluctant to salute as the Digger songs and stories would have us believe. Some years ago there was an amendment to Australian Military Regulations which laid down that the salute might be omitted when soldiers were off duty. The reference was to permanent men wearing mufis when on leave, and Militiamen when they were "on a trip." In these days, when men are doing full-time military duty, a soldier is always on duty while he is in uniform, even when he is off parade or on leave. Incidentally, isn't it rather illogical to describe a Militiaman as a "civilian soldier?" "Citizen soldiers!" they say. A Militiaman, however, can any sort of soldier be at once a soldier and a civilian?

While I am on the subject of discipline, may I relate a story which has reached Australia from the Eastern States. It concerns a highly-educated aborigine who was brought before his colonel on a charge of being A.W.L. When asked what he had to say, this Dinkum Australian blindered the C.O. with science. "Colonel," he said, "I do not think you have the necessary understanding of the case." At this point the colonel's jaw must have sagged. "I am an aborigine," the "bird" continued, "and I have been thrust into an environment which is strange to me. Discipline to me is something new." At this point the colonel looked very dangerous indeed.

"And what," he demanded, "is the Army to do without discipline?" Whereupon the colonel quoted to him the recommendation of Professor A. P. Elkin, who holds the Chair of Anthropology in the University of Sydney. Professor Elkin suggested that an employer should never try to detain an aborigine when he wants to "go walkabout." This particular Abo's defence was that the Professor knew best. The colonel saw the joke, and the informal pleader was let off with a minor reprimand.

If the Huns are unable to make the people of the occupied territories love them, they are at least determined to be treated with the outward forms of respect. In occupied France the use of the term "Boche" is forbidden, and anyone overheard using the French pet name for the Hun is heavily fined. The French, however, with their wonderful appreciation of the niceties of language, have invented a new word for their oppressors "Dorifors." By "Dorifors" they mean one who eats up everything, and indirectly a German. It is a nice example of the use of metaphor. Literally, the dorifors would be called "Sausage Allies" by the Huns.

One of the most amusing features of our free and enlightened democracy is the way all sorts of nonentities are encouraged to write little and tedious articles on all sorts of subjects. One such recently complained of the use of the Latin in the phrase £500 per annum, and suggested it would be more correct to say £500 per year. That certainly shows a bias for Latin, for the suggested substitute is neither Latin nor English. Why not have it all in English by saying £500 a year and be done with it.

An American contemporary suggests that our Allies are on the side of the Pacific may have hard luck with their. pillows. Apparently, the swell way, pillows are going to be harder, because goose and duck feathers must now be used only in defence orders. But then, our Allies have the reputation of being hard-headed business men. Australians, however, are not so slow on the uptake, nor were they unfamiliar with Uncle Sam's Uncle. Before the arrival of the American forces in the Pacific, our word of mouth had seen it in France, and, allowing for personal ent-day alterations, could recognise it again, while the new-comers could be placed in a speech. Even Australians who have never been abroad have the pictures and have seen American soldiers and sailors on the screen. As for the sailors, there have been so many United States warships in these last wars that the average Australian would recognise the Gobs just as readily as he could our own Jack Tars.

The Commonwealth Government rightly refused to withdraw recognition from the Danish Consult-General and Vice-Consul because these officials had been fired by the Danish collaboration Government. Our own rescue work, Lieut. Bulkeley wore a black beard. Dr. Quezon said that Lieut. Bulkeley looked like a Spanish pirate. He was rough and ready, and appeared just the man for a dangerous adventure. Later, the President met Australian Lieut. Bulkeley was then clean-shaven and mustachioed. The President observed: "If I had seen your face, I should never have gone with you." He explained that the Lieutenant looked so young and fresh that he would never have trusted him. Dr. Quezon was encouraged by the Oriental belief that the beard is a sign of wisdom. When the British bombarded Algiers in 1819 the ultimatum to the French Consul was presented by a young naval officer who, like all officers in the Senior Service in those days, was clean-shaven. The Dey scornfully rejected the ultimatum, and expressed his resentment at what he called the "British Majesty's" discourtesy in sending it by a beardless boy. The piece was promptly returned. "Had His British Majesty shown you measured wisdom by the length of the beard, he would have sent you a billy-goat."
Government's common sense in this matter is proved by the pressure the Nazeis are now putting on Denmark, the little country that is sometimes referred to as "the country treated best by the Nazis" because it did not resist Hitler's invasion two years ago. However, the Danish position is far from ideal. Three months ago, Hitler is said to have made demands that Denmark should furnish men for his war against Russia. These demands were easy for Hitler to make, since Denmark was bullied into signing the Anti-Commintern Pact last year. Under German guidance a large-scale anti-Semitic campaign also has been whipped up in Denmark. However, it is rather difficult for even the most rabid Nazi to picture the Jews as a menace to Denmark, since they number less than 1 per cent of the population. The puppet Danish Government, which was willing enough to yield to Hitler in this respect, but at this point the King threatened to abdicate. The "problem" was left in abeyance, and Denmark's few Jews breathed more freely—until the time became.

One of the most astonishing contradictions of the war is that Hitler actually has helped Russia by attacking that country. He did for Joseph Stalin what he had done for the French, and the stroke what the Russian dictator himself had been unable to do in years of intensive effort. The Nazi invasion united Russia's town and country population, and assured the Red Armies of the fullest, possible co-operation from Russian agriculture. Putting Soviet agriculture on a war footing was a long task which was commenced years ago, but it was not completed when Hitler lashed out at his former Ally 12 months ago. Hitler banked heavily on the disruption he believed his attack would cause. He hoped for a rift between the highly Communist faction in the cities and towns on the one side, and the farmers who were not so enthusiastic for Communism on the other. The German attack, however, instead of fanning the flames of dissension between city and farm, extinguished them. The Russian peasants realized that working their farms under communism was a great deal better than working them as serfs under Hitlerism.

This is what a war correspondent had to say about Lieut.-General Stilwell, who personally led the retreat of the Chinese forces from Burma: "Fifty-nine-year-old, iron-haired and gaunt Lieut.-General Stilwell stood the rigours of the war with a near private." And yet, in Australia, a civilian Minister for the Army would have considered him too old for active service.

**SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION**

The South African and Imperial Veterans did a spot of daylight saving by holding this year's annual reunion on the afternoon of Saturday, May 23, the nearest possible day to Empire Day. Like most war-time functions in these days of lighting restrictions the proceedings were more informal than in the past, but the main idea of keeping evergreen the memory of fallen comrades and the Empire itself which they had so faithfully adhered to. Major J. W. Colpitts, the association president, was in the chair. Also present were the General President (Brigadier-General A. J. Bessell-Browne), Major Rose, V.D., and Mr. E. Edmondsen, who represented the State President of the W.A. Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. The old soldiers were in a most happy vein, and a fine musical programme, although more or less impromptu, added to the gaiety of the proceedings. The revered Gunnery Gray, who brought back memories of other days with his rollicking song about the unfortunate boy who was baptised with the names of nearly all the generals and important places in South African War. To add to the child's misery, the surname was Bloggs. Harold Hopperton, and Reg Fisher, who claimed to be the only war reject in the room, also won their medal of well-earned applause. The toast of the Navy, Army and Air Force was proposed by the Secretary, Mr. Alma George, whose recent election gives him a bar to his secretariaship. The General President responded. Then Vice-President Fred Bateson made the visitors another excuse for a drink, and there were various responses, including a well-appreciated one from Tom Edmondsen, of the State Executive. The Chairman mentioned that death had deprived the Association of its patron and true friend, the late Mr. J. M. McFarlane, MLC. Major Colpitts said that he had rung "Mr. McFarlane up the previous Saturday morning, and had been assured that the patron would be present..." Other speeches were demanded from some young visitors back from the Middle East after service abroad with the 2nd A.I.F. The customary calls were sounded by Drum-Major Geo. Gilmore, who was sounding the bugle in the Middle East this time last month. A feature of the afternoon was the Roll Call, during which each man present stood and gave his name and regiment. The oldest veteran present, by the calendar, was Sergeant-Major John Wood, who is 82, and, like another famous Johnny, is still going strong. The most remote war service was that of Sergeant W. Snashall, who served in the Perak Expedition of 1876. Sergeant-Major Wood proposed "The Day We Celebrate." The toast of "Our Association" was given by Captain C. R. Collins, and replied to by General Bessell-Browne.

**HONOUR AVENUE**

On Saturday afternoon, May 30, the committee of the West Perth sub-branch made an inspection of the Honour Avenue, King's Park. As a result of the inspection certain proposals have been placed before the King's Park Road Board. In response to the appeal for funds for the maintenance of Honour Avenue the West Perth sub-branch acknowledges a donation of two guineas from the Nedlands sub-branch.
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In recent months much public interest has been aroused by the Press reports of trials by court-martial in Australia. Contrary to the popular belief, a court-martial is not a secret tribunal, which dispenses justice; or injustice, arbitrarily, according to the caprice of the officer who constitutes the Court. Nor are these officers, as a general rule, mere soldiers who, like necessity, know no law. Except in certain essentials of routine procedure, and that it tries men of the services, a court-martial does not differ materially in its methods from a civil court. Further, whenever and wherever possible, men with legal training are selected to compose the court. Again, unless the court is cleared during the hearing of evidence that might give away information useful to the enemy, the court is open to the Press and the public. The fundamental difference between the British and the Continental systems of military law is that, under the former, a soldier is also a citizen and, as such, is amenable to civil law. In time of peace, it is the policy of the service to send men accused of civil offences for trial by civil courts. The British policy is to try by court-martial only those accused of purely military offences, or, as in the famous case of the “Officer in the Tower,” nine years ago, offences to which trial in a civil court would give an undesired and dangerous publicity. In Continental countries, all persons of military status are tried by courts-martial in time of peace for both civil and military offences.

Thus, charges of treason, treason-felony, murder, manslaughter, etc., are tried before the civil courts, if the alleged offence is committed in the United Kingdom or if committed anywhere else in the King’s Dominions, except Gibraltar, within 100 miles of a place where the offender can be tried by a civil court. Another point that is generally forgotten by omniscient critics of the Army is that an accused person, who is to be tried by court-martial, has the right to be represented by counsel. When the conditions of active service make a civil trial practically out of the question, both civil and military offences are tried by court-martial. Usually, when an officer is accused of an offence, a court of inquiry is first held. This combines the functions of a Coroner’s inquest and a Magistrate’s preliminary hearing, and decides whether or not it will be necessary to send the case on to a court-martial. Wellington, himself, had to face a court of inquiry over his share in the Convention of Cintra, which allowed a French army to evacuate Portugal when the British public was expecting to see it brought captive to England. The finding of the court was so favourable to Wellington that he was immediately reinstated in popular favour.

Military law, as we know it today, did not evolve until after the formation of standing armies. Before the seventeenth century, troops in the field were governed by Articles of War, which were laws made by the Crown of the day, and were executed by the officers in the field. These Articles automatically lapsed on the restoration of peace, when the armies were disbanded. Except for the punishment of desertion, which was made a felony in the reign of Henry VI, the Articles of War were the sole authority for the enforcement of military law, until the Mutiny Act was passed in 1689. Even so, desertion was not the only punishable offence. The discipline of the Ironsides in the English Civil War was strict enough, but Crownwell’s puritan troopers could not have been the army of saints the Whig historians would have us believe. The military regulations of the day prescribe penalties—punishing and dragoon, by the word. On the other hand, cashing was often the punishment for serious offences like joining in a mutiny and insubordination. Only commissioned officers are cashiered in modern times, but in the seventeenth century there was a punishment imposed on all ranks. The offender was simply paid off and told to get home the best way he could. Usually, he went as far as the next regimental—headquarters and enlisted again.

The court-martial itself has inherited the jurisdiction of the old curia militaris of the days of chivalry. In its more modern form, it was adopted in the reign of Charles I, and its procedure was amended in accordance with the “Articles and Military Laws” of Gustavus Adolphus and the Dutch code of Arnheim. It was first recognised by Statute in the Mutiny Act of 1689. After the troubled Stuart era, Parliament remained very clear about the control of the armed forces to the Crown. The Mutiny Act, which provided for the maintenance and discipline of the Army, had to be passed annually. With various extensions and amendments it continued with the Statutory Articles of War to be the source of military law, which courts-martial administered until 1870. In that year they were codified in the Army Discipline and Regulation Act, which in its turn was superseded by the Army Act of 1881. This is re-enacted annually by the Army (Annual) Act.

The administration of discipline in the Navy was left to the discretion of individual commanders, acting under instructions from the Lord High Admiral, who exercised supreme power over both the Royal and the Merchant Navy. There was nothing like a regular tribunal in the Navy until the leaders of the Long Parliament, in 1645, secured the passing of “An Ordinance and Articles concerning Martial Law for the Government of the Navy.” Blake, Monk and Penn, Admirals of the Commonwealth decade, issued instructions for the holding of general and ship’s courts-martials with written records.

Probably the most famous court-martial in the history of the Royal Navy was that which tried and passed the sentence of death on Admiral Sir John Byng in 1757. The year before, Byng had been in command of a
squadron sent to relieve Minorca, which had been a British possession for over 40 years. Neither treachery nor cowardice could be alleged against Byng. The worst that could be adduced against him was an error of judgment. He certainly displayed a singular lack of enterprise and a reluctance to assume responsibility; but the loss of Minorca aroused such a popular clamour that Byng was made a scapegoat. It was conveniently remembered that 8 years before, the Articles of War had been made stricter, especially in dealing with cases like Byng's. At the time, Jacobitism still was active, and a serious dereliction of duty might have been what we should call a nice bit of fifth column work today. Popular feeling against Byng ran so high that even a stronger Government than the one in power at the time might have hesitated before condoning his laxity. The situation called for an example. London mobs howled for a scapegoat, and the unfortunate Byng was thrown to the wolves. He was tried by court-martial and shot on the quarterdeck of H.M.S. Monarch in Portsmouth Harbour. At least one Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral Forbes, refused to confirm the death sentence on Byng. Admiral West, who was at Spithead in command of a squadron on the point of sailing, when he heard of the sentence wrote to the Admiralty begging leave to resign his command, and he forwarded a private letter to Lord Temple, the First Lord, explaining in greater detail his reasons for this action. It was of Byng's execution that Voltaire said: "In England they shoot one Admiral to encourage the others."

Nor did the Army, in the eighteenth century, show greater leniency in dealing with incompetency in high places. In 1807 the British Government despatched an expedition to the River Plate. Monte Video was taken and an attack on Buenos Aires proved a disastrous failure. On his return to England, the commander of the expeditionary force, Lieut.-General Whitlock, was tried by a general court of martial at Chatham. He was convicted of shameful blundering, and the sentence of the court was that "the said Lieut.-General Whitlock be cashiered and declared totally unworthy to serve His Majesty in any military capacity." Whitlock never lived down his unpopularity. Years afterwards a country inn-keeper, on discovering the identity of his guest, refused to drink with him and returned the money the cashiered general had tendered in payment for a bottle of wine. For many years, too, the favourite toast in officers' messes was "Success to grey hairs, but bad cess to White Locks."

The death of Prince Louis Napoleon, son of Napoleon III, in the Zulu War, caused a court-martial which evoked great interest, both in England and on the Continent. The Prince was serving as a volunteer in Zululand, but for diplomatic reasons his military status was left undefined. He was with a small reconnoitring party that was surprised by the Zulus, and the Prince was among those killed. When the party was a Lieut. Carey, though it has never been definitely established that Carey commanded it. A court of inquiry found that Carey did not understand the position in which he stood in regard to the Prince, and in consequence he failed to appreciate his responsibility. It was also held that Carey had shown "a lamentable lack of military prudence." He was tried by general court-martial and convicted of having "behaved in an unsoldier-like manner before the enemy." The Empress Eugenie, the mother of the Prince, intervened on Carey's behalf. She expressed the wish that no one should be made to suffer on account of her son's death. In the meantime, Carey had been sent home to await the confirmation by the Commander-in-Chief of the sentence of the court, that he be cashiered. In consequence of a technical irregularity, the proceedings of the court were declared null and void, and Carey was returned to duty. He died a few years afterwards.

It is popularly supposed that an Australian soldier cannot be sentenced to death by a court-martial. In the last war no death sentence was carried out until the trial was reviewed by the Australian Government; and in every case a milder penalty was imposed. However, towards the end of the South African War two Australian officers were shot by sentence of court-martial; but that is a story for another occasion.

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Larrkinism In Print

A free Press is one thing, but a flippantly offensive Press is an ass of another colour. That being so, we are quite unimpressed by the denial that the non-partisan representatives of certain newspapers have been excluded from the precincts of the Federal Parliament, because those papers published an article that was stupidly offensive in regard to many Senators. We read the very last of this in the middle piece of fifth-form facetiousness, written by a Mr. Richard Hughes, we wonder at the lightness of the Senate’s retaliation. His offence was something that calls for a sheaf of writs for libel, in addition to the official ban imposed by the Senate.

The offending papers, and those who support them, talk very glibly about something they call the freedom of the Press. By that, one presumes they refer to the right of criticism rather than the licensed larrkinism of the article to which the Senate took exception. Had the Senate merely been criticised for any stand its members took on some specific piece of legislation, the action taken against the Senate’s critics might have seemed drastic. However, there was little in Mr. Hughes’s ill-willed article that could be squeezed within the definition of fair comment. It was a string of offensive personalities and childish ridicule. One Senator is described as having “the itchiest nose in the Senate.” Another is said to be “bagg-eyed.” And the writer ends his fantasy with the hope that, “in time of war, the Senate will not be dangerously meddlesome.”

In an article so devoid of common sense and ordinary good manners, it is difficult to see what the writer intends, if not to hold up the Senate to ridicule and be unnecessarily offensive to its members. One acquires the feeling of the writer of any sinister design to undermine a Parliamentary institution which is a safeguard of democracy, because, candidly, we do not think that in anything we have read from his pen, Mr. Hughes has displayed any evidence of the grey matter that is associated with fifth column work. On the other hand, there are times when juvenile flippancy and bad manners can be dangerous. Anything which tends to undermine public confidence in any of the democratic institutions for which we are fighting today is more than mischievous—it is traitorous. That being so, we may dismiss Mr. Richard Hughes and his publishers as people who have got off more lightly than they deserve. So far from the Senate being “dangrously meddlesome,” the Upper House is a House of Review, and it is quite within its constitutional rights in objecting to any piece of legislation sent up to it from the Lower House. So great is the wave of opinion that has been critical of many of the Government’s measures, it has not rejected any of them, so that the advice of a gallery hand not to be dangerously meddlesome seems to us to be absurd.

Mr. Hughes, in another piece written for the National Review, has claimed that the Senate is a non-party Chamber. Even so, does that preclude members of that Chamber from voting in accordance to their beliefs? Is it a vote on party lines necessarily a dishonest vote? A man would be altogether unlucky for a professional life if he had no fixed political beliefs before contesting a Senate election, and the broad outlines of political belief usually coincide more or less with the platform of one party or another. But does membership of the Government or with the Opposition if they are to vote in the House at all, and if we had a House full of Independents it would not be very long before its members began to feel the ill-effects of second-rate Pressman cannot alter this fundamental truth.

SPENDING ON NON-ESSENTIALS

During the debate on the Australian Broadcasting Bill, in the House of Representatives, there were further references to the losses being incurred by “The A.B.C. Weekly.” The references gave figures and data at one stroke and added that the more drastic criticisms were inspired by those behind the commercial radio papers. Only one speaker on the Government side of the House thought it wise while to explain that the Weekly was a service and commercial venture, and no one thought it worth while to mention that one of the Australian Broadcasting Commission’s probable reasons for launching the paper was the hope that it might be a means of upsetting the Government, its programmes, its announcers, and its artists, that it was the policy of certain commercial radio weeklies, before they were encountered opposition. As an example of what is meant by a local paper, a certain commercial radio weekly criticised the prospect of the enumeration of the Commission’s announcers in Perth. The writer was a local journalist who had been “given a go over the air,” but had never been tried again because his view of the new programme got so badly on the nerves of his listeners.

Naturally, no one likes to see good money poured down the drain; but one wonders to what extent “The A.B.C. Weekly’s” losses are due to organised opposition. One wonders, also, why members of the Federal Parliament do not carry their economy campaign to a logical conclusion. For instance, we learn that the Minister for Information has recommended to the Parliamentary committee which recommended the abolition of his expensive and somewhat unnecessary Department. It would be interesting to know what service the Department of Ministerial Information is rendering that could not be performed, and is not being performed, better already, by the existing media of other Government Departments, the Press, the Pilatus and the Radio. For many years now the Department of External Affairs has been issuing a bi-monthly publication, “Current Notes on International Affairs.” This is an extremely authoritative and valuable summary of world events, which is head and shoulders above anything of a similar nature published by the Department of Information. One may admit that when so many activities are working towards the same objective that a certain amount of duplication is unavoidable, but what about duplication?

This brings us to another money-wasting project, the Army Education Service. This extraordinary collection of commissioned civilians issues a monthly called “Salt,” a very poor production which has shown signs of improving under criticism. A comparison between the Defence Acts of the Commonwealth and those of “The A.B.C. Weekly” would be interesting, especially as the weekly is a service and the monthly an overlapping of functions which are already being better performed by the Defence Acts. The close examination will show that all these services, which are not premature or entirely unnecessary, were being performed by the Repatriation Department and other organisations long before profits were put into real form and called Majors and Colonels. Now that the Department of Information has been overhauled, it might pay the Government to carry out a similar and even more sensible plan, and, in the meantime, let the public money and good newspaper are being wasted by the Army Education Service.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMFORTS

The extension of the war to our own shores, and the threat of an invasion to Australia, have been responsible for important changes in the organisation of the work of distributing comforts to our fighting forces. Accordingly, the Australian Comforts Fund, which has already done such valuable work in the Middle East and in Malaya, has completed arrangements for copying its work for our troops in the ships of the Royal Australian Navy. The Fund was last announced a few days ago that Lieut.-Colonel R. S. Coward, the new Chief Commissioner of the Australian Comforts Fund, will have Major A. P. Penman as Deputy Commissioner, and more than a dozen appointed to similar posts. Other appointments will be made soon after a visit to remote stations by Major Penman. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the New York Antz Committee has sent a donation of $25,000 to the Comforts Fund in Australia. At the request of the Army, the executive of the Comforts Fund has agreed that the Young Women’s Christian Association should be recognised as the official representative of the Australian Comforts Fund for work among women in the Australian Comforts.
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INSIDE GERMANY
By EXPLORATOR

Mr. George Earl, former American Min-
ister to Sofia, explains that Hitler still has
two very powerful weapons in his armoury: One is the Nazi propaganda which enables
the Nazi leaders to conceal from the German
people the full disasters of the Russian cam-
paign and to continue to believe in victory.
The other is the fact that the average
German now believes that unless Hitler wins
Germany will suffer a worse fate than after
the last war. Even the Germans are now see-
ing the flaws in the system that backed Hitler,
for fear of Allied vengeance. Interesting
details and opinions of conditions inside Ger-
many have been making their way into Tur-
key, as American Press correspondents and
diplomats find their way out of Europe. A
neutral journalist who arrived in Ankara says
that when the people in Berlin were asked
to give up all their woolen goods, the morale
of the people began to waver; but when
Hitler declared that anyone stealing or con-
verting these woolen goods to his own use
would be shot without trial, the German
people really began to appreciate how serious
the situation on the Russian front had be-
come. One accepts with a certain amount of
Russian declarations that German forces will be
broken this summer, but that forecast is far
from being mere wishful thinking. Neutral
journalists who have left Berlin since the
beginning of the European winter are unam-
hunted in their belief that "Germany has al-
ready lost the war."

The latest reports from eye-witnesses con-
firm that food-rationing conditions have be-
come, had throughout Germany, especi-
cially in Berlin, so far as bread, thanks to
the wheat sent to Germany from the
Ukraine, but the people get only 50
grams of butter a week. Moreover, it is
impossible to obtain any woolen clothing, what-
ssoever in Germany, and so it is necessary for
all wearing clothes to be made of an ersatz material called "zellstoff," which is
made of artificial wool.

Although there is a tendency to become
war-weary and depressed, the newly formed
masses still cling to the Hitler myth of
invincibility, and console themselves with the
thought that somehow the Fuhrer will save
them. On the other hand, educated Ger-
mans feel that the Nazi cause is lost, and
that Hitler and his theories are proceeding under
his own inspirations.

An American correspondent also gives an
interesting sidelight on sabotage in Vienna.
Workers there went on strike in a hanger,
factory. When the authorities tried to
force the men back to work, they set
fire to the factory and completely destroyed it.

An outstanding instance of sabotage oc-
curred when holes were drilled in huge petrol
storage tanks at the port of Memel, on the
Danube. However, the saboteurs were
deprieved of the pleasure of setting it on fire.
If they had done so, half of Vienna might
have been burned.

Apart from the reverses on the Russian
Front, there is evidence that all is not well
with the German Army. Earlier reports hinted
that the German generals are not altogether a band of brothers, besides which
their relations more prominent.

The Gestapo and S.S. Guards were
engaged in Poland during the recent Euro-
pean winter. This, apparently, was the first
to the Nazi leaders that they were so busy already that they could
not possibly be spared for action at the front.

Certainly, these two sinister organisations
have been having everything their own way.
An officer of the Gestapo has said that
bloodshed on helpless Poles rather than face
the exceedingly tough Russians. This is an
privilege which has made the Gestapo and
S.S. ruffians so unpopular with the real
fighting men of Germany. Members of the
Gestapo are handsomely paid. They live on the
best to be had, and are always well dressed.

This state of affaires arouses the envy of other
German officials and soldiers. Why, they ask,
some of the Gestapo, the tough handy men
with a gun, aren't they used where Germany
needs her best fighters—that is, in Russia?

RADIO TEAMS UP WITH R.A.F.

The B.B.C.'s. service for the occupied
countries of Europe is constantly developing
new angles. Now that the "V" army has
been formed and trained, so to speak, that
mystery man, Colonel Beef, has an already
able to use it as a fighting force.

For some time past his broadcasts to Europe
-especially to Western Europe) have been
tied up with the plans of the Royal Air
For. Of course, secret works for General
Renault works in Paris, for instance, Colonel
Britton said: "I repeat, don't work in those
factories or these mines unless you're given
proper protection against bombs. We must
attack targets such as these, and the Royal
Air Force will be dropping many bombs.

Keep out of the way. I mean this most seri-
ously. Don't just put a sandbag in front of
your door. The bombs we drop now are really big bombs, and your home-made shelters
won't protect you. Either get right away
into the country, or demand proper air raid
shelter. In Germany itself the Nazis pro-
vide good air raid shelters. They have them
in Essen for instance, and you ought to have
one. Of course, Colonel Beef has repeated, "get
away from those factories. Get right away
into the country."

A.I.F. and A.M.F.

Most Diggers await with a certain amount of
amused interest some declaration of the
Government's policy in regard to the Aus-
tralian Military Forces. The tendency seems
to be that of avoiding denationalisation at all
costs, while gradually removing all distinc-
tion between the A.M.F. and the A.I.F., ex-
cept the one that really matters. Now that
Australia is threatened with invasion, and is
to become the foremost of our offensive ac-
tion against the Asiatic aggressors, it is highly
desirable that our two Armies should be
welded into one homogeneous force.

The Government is certainly taking steps to do
so, and they are able to include the Militia and
the A.I.F. in one. The Military
its the A.I.F. without
making them shoulder the A.I.F.'s obliga-
tions. Even the latest development, that of
allowing Militia personnel to transfer to the
A.I.F. largely, is the way. The Military
seems to have decided that the powers that be
think it would be unfair to the enemy if we removed
the handicaps imposed by a defensive stra-
tegy which, in itself, was a sop to the paci-
"lishmen of the peace years. As things are now,
one can foresee the Gilbertian situation in
which A.I.F. and Militia would fight side
by side until the enemy is beaten back from
our shores, and the Militia standing at ease
while the A.I.F. continue the pursuit. One
hardly thinks that such a situation would
commend itself to the Militiamen themselves.

The attitude of the Federal Parliament was
the subject of a discussion at the recent
monthly meeting of the Northam sub-branch.
The sub-branch was unanimous in carrying
the following resolution: This sub-branch
considers that the State Executive should
immediately protest against the Federal Gov-
ernment's attitude in not agreeing to the
removal of the territorial limitations upon
the use of the A.M.F.

One speaker said that since the League had been in existence it had strictly maintained a non-political and
non-sectarian policy, and that was one of the
reasons for its strength and its standing
throughout Australia. Also the League had
very definite and decided views on defence,
had, and had always advocated equality of
sacrifice. It had consistently urged that this
should be achieved by total conscription.
Because of this, members of the League must have felt disquiet upon the decision made
at Canberra, that there should not be equality
of obligation as between the A.I.F. and the
A.M.F.

Some time ago, the Government had de-
cided that there should be uniformity of
privileges and pay. Why, he asked, should
there not be uniformity of obligations? If
the Japanese invaded Australia and were
driven out, the A.I.F. could follow them;
but the A.M.F. would have to halt at, say,
Darwin. Members of the Militia would have
to strongly resent the discrimination.

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ITALIAN TROUBLES

An A.I.F. officer, who has been exchanged after about 12 months' captivity as a prisoner of war in Italy, has corroborated reports from neutral sources about the terrible price Italy is paying for Hitler's protection. This officer says that he and his fellow captives could not keep body and soul together on the rations issued by the Italians. Had it not been for the food parcels sent by the Red Cross, many must have starved. He pointed out that the prisoner's rations was practically the same as that of the Italian soldier; but the unfortunate Italian civilians had just to grab up whatever food they could.

Apart from economic aspects, the latest reports from Italy, which filter through neutral countries, suggest that the Fascists are slipping closer to the end of their tether. A very significant straw is the food rationing. Until the end of February, Italian hotels and eating houses were allowed to serve meat twice a day. In March, they were suddenly informed that they would be permitted to serve meat henceforth only once a week. This meat-serving, according to regulations, is to take place on Saturdays and Sundays, and is to be accompanied by two vegetables, when these are obtainable. Tea in Italy is currently fetching £20 a kilogram, with coffee at £10 for an equal amount. This means that both are far beyond the purchasing power of the average Italian. And yet, with all this shortage, the Italians are far better off than people in the occupied countries. As far as clothing is concerned, the coupon system has long since lapsed. Italians are allowed 120 coupons a year, giving them 10 a month to spend. However, a pair of boots costs 80 coupons, which means that if one buys boots, no other clothing can be bought for another 8 months.

Japan's entry into the war seems to have given large spots of bother to theatrical companies staging Gilbert and Sullivan's delightful operetta, “The Mikado.” A recent cablegram from England says that in an English production the words of the opening chorus, which commence “We are gentlemen of Japan,” have been altered to “We are gangsters of Japan.” Previously there were objections to its being played at all in Australia. All this sort of thing seems to be carrying patriotism to absurd lengths. Incidentally, the story is told that the composer wanted the music of the Japanese national anthem for the entry of the Mikado. A British naval officer who had been in Japan, then a little-known country, pulled the composer's leg and pointed on him a tune which in the low haunts of Japanese seaports is on the same level as “She was poor, but she was honest,” or that rollicking sea-song about a sailor named William. Sullivan innocently incorporated it in the score of the opera. Later, when the first Japanese warships visited Portsmouth in the early Nineties, British naval and military bands were ordered not to play The Mikado, lest it give offence to the visitors. To the astonishment of everyone concerned, the Japanese ships steamed into Portsmouth, with their bands blaring out The Mikado as a compliment to their British hosts.

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Conquered Europe Still Fights

By Our SPECIAL COMMENTATOR

If ever a sadistic brute needed killing it was Heydrich, whom the Huns, with that unconscious irony which betrays their psychological defects, called "the Protector" of Bohemia and Moravia. Theoretically, one supposes, his killing will be an additional consolation for our civilised people will prefer to regard it as an execution, a payment in part for the career of fiendish cruelty, mass murder and terror inflicted on conquered peoples. He was a typical exponent of the brute force, which the gangster politics of the Axis nations have brought into being. However, even the largest force is insufficient to subdue a strong and resolute people. That statement was made by an adviser of a German emperor in the nineteenth century, and by a strange coincidence it referred to the Czechs of those days. It was made as a comment on the victory of a small band of Czech patriots over the Imperial forces that were trying to subdue their country and root their religion. The Czechs of these days are no less strong and resolute. The killing of Heydrich was not merely an act of distributing terror by desperate people—it was a striking incident in an underground war, a brilliant example of how conquered Europe still fights.

It is fashionable nowadays for all sorts of people to clamour for a second European front, especially those people who are least likely to fight on any front. Even our own Department of Information knows that a second European front must be established before the Powers of Darkness are finally overturned, and it is obvious to the most obtuse intelligence that such a front will have strong popular support in whatever country is established. Those charged with the direction of the Allied war effort, however, are already fighting on four fronts. There are the most fitting judges of when and whether the second European front is to be established. In the meantime, the United Nations have a Hidden Front in the conquered countries which is doing much to sap the strength of the Gangster Puppets.

The blows struck in this underground warfare fall within three categories: Sabotage and go-slow tactics in the factories of the more industrialised countries, like France, Belgium and Czechoslovakia; interference with, and attacks on enemy lines of communication, as in Poland and Yugoslavia; and open guerrilla warfare, as in Serbia, Greece, and possibly Crete. The transition from one category to the next will occur when the opportunity presents itself, but all three will be blended into a general uprising as the enemy has to withdraw more and more of his armies of occupation to save himself. That general uprising will mean the most terrible war of retribution that the aggressors have ever had to face. The conquered peoples of Europe have suffered so much at German hands that their objective will be that rather than magnanimous mercy. When they are asked to strike it will be better for the Nazi persecutors they had never been born.

Because the larger part of German manufacturers of raw materials were transferred to Czechoslovakia to escape the persistent attentions of the R.A.F., the sabotage of industry has been the greatest weapon in the hands of the Czechs. In September last year explosions and fire wrecked the bomb-filling plant of the Vlastim munition works. In the same month a fire at the Skoda work, Pilsen, was followed by an explosion in the electrical plant of the factory. Damage to other factories and strikes were widespread. The go-slow policy of the Czechs forced the Huns to put unnecessary armed soldiers in the occupied country's factories. The corresponding number of Czechs were sent to Northern Italy. Apart from more active resistance, the Czechs are past-masters of irritation. Their success is due to their clever, courageous, self-controlled, ingenious and passionately democratic, and they are cunning enough to devise all sorts of ways and means of annoying their conquerors. For instance, if a Czech happens to be a Government official, he arranges both with 50 of his colleagues to visit the new German in charge of their division, one after another, to beg him to explain the new regulations. They are angry, excessive relays of "dumb" Czechs have taken their revenge at his official's time for several days, in desperation he revokes his regulations. These, however, are also incomprehensible to the Czechs, and the thirst for vengeance remains unsatisfied. In the meantime, the Czechs have organised their people and disciplined them to act in unison when the time for a general rising comes.

Underground radio stations, and lightning quick-reporting campaigns, direct the people and tell them what to do; and perfect explanation is being maintained between the Czech people and their exiled rulers in London. What is happening in Czechoslovakia is also happening in greater or less degree in other countries. Mass executions have not quelled unrest in France. From the still occupied countries come stories of pot-shots at Hun officers and soldiers, wrecked bridges, burned bridges, and of Nazi guards who are shot without a trial. Allied support is necessary. Every Nazi reverse is awaited as something which brings the day of liberation nearer. Nazi supply trains, crossing Europe to the Russian front, have been derailed. American opinion maintains that the occupied countries have failed to explode them. In Auch, Consignees are frequently blown up. Today, in Greece, according to a statement issued by the exiled Greek Government last January, 24 Axis divisions are struggling in vain to suppress popular resistance. At the beginning of the year, Albania declared war against the Allies, but that declaration was merely a feint of terrorism, neatly performed by Rome. Since it was made the news has reached London that active Albanian resistance is beginning to flare up again. In Poland, there are 2,000 underground organisations which are waging relentless warfare against the conquerors. The Huns have deliberately and systematically tried to prevent the Poles from digging to destroy the last vestige of their culture. The Poles, however, refuse to be suppressed. They are attacking production lines and communications through their conquered country. At Berlin, the Russian army is fighting the Nazis in the east. In Norway way labour groups are practising a new type of labour resistance to oppressive Quislings employers. Norwegian schools have been closed because they instilled the national love of liberty into the children. Slowdowns in French industries have forced the Huns to rush scores of trained "efficiency experts" to the Citroen, Renault and other important works in vain efforts to speed-up flagging production. The Netherlands have persistently refused to "co-operate" with their conquerors. Not so long ago, the Huns threatened to blow Amsterdam to pieces if this co-operation were not given, but the Dutch, like their Belgian and Danish neighbours, continued their active resistance. Dozens of underground newspapers thrive in the Netherlands. Nazi food rationing is disrupted, and agricultural production for Germany is seriously cut. Reports from Belgium contain the sad stories of strikes and sabotage, while a boycott by Belgium's million trade union members has cut the circulation of Quisling newspapers to a fraction.

The Hidden Front is extending even to those countries with whom Germany is nominally allied. Hungarians and Rumanians, despite the despicable part played by their Governments, are helping to strangle the German war effort. Recently, six of Hungary's biggest industrial plants were burned to the ground. These included the country's only rubber plant, which supplies Nazi mechanised equipment, the largest chemical plant, and the biggest textile mill. The flow of oil from the Ploesti oil fields in Rumania has been choked seriously by lead filtered into the pipe-lines. Resistance has not developed so far in places like Serbia, S encour and Lithuania, but the people of these countries are rapidly learning the technique. The three former Baltic States are just three more areas in which German troops are immobile.

Wholesale murder, and the ruthless shooting of hundreds of hostages, have not eliminated this widespread defiance of the Nazis. Those butchered are rightly regarded as among the few heroes of their country. They die for their country, just as their ancestors did in the battle, and they do not die in vain. The resistance of the Hidden Front is achieving two important results: It is slowing down the German war machine, and that of the United Nations is beginning to show results. There is a serious blow to German production at this stage as serious for Hitler as a defeat of his forces in the field. The second result is the production of hundreds of thousands of Axis troops, trained to keep the countries in which the very time they are urgently needed on the Russian front and in Libya. The people of fifteen occupied countries continue to pour sand into the gears of the Axis war machine, and to sap Axis strength in the field by forcing the Huns to have large Armies of Occupation standing idly by for their reprisals. Thus, they are making their contributions to victory, and hastening the day of their inevitable and final liberation.

ELEMENTARY MILITARY TRAINING

Messrs. Angus & Robertson have sent us the new manual "The Instructor's Pocket Book," written by the late A. Smedley, of the Australian Instructional Corps.

It is a small pocket book which offers sound, practical ideas for the instructor.

It is a quick reference to the main current and associated techniques, in consequence, order and method of teaching; general instructional hints and data; useful memoranda, and full details for carrying out exercises, collective lessons, and specimens of right and wrong demonstrations.

It is a handy guide for officers and N.C.O.'s of the V.D.C., and is obtainable at all book-sellers at the price of 1/-.
Those who have ordained clothes rationing in Australia have wisely confined their regulations to quantities and per cents. The United States authorities, on the other hand, are protesting vehemently because, they say, the changes in women's clothing styles were ordered by a committee, composed entirely of men. The American ladies, however, have got even with the steepers. It was a lady business analyst, Miss Florence Swire, who surveyed the field of razor-blade production, and found curtailment advisable. This was what Americans themselves would call a dirty trick, because the only direction of retaliation open to that, that of growing beards, would leave them un- and un-kissed.

American papers reflect the interest being taken by their readers in the bush life of Australia. Recently they reported the story of three Australian aborigines named Don, Henry and Sambo. The dimless three were sent out to hunt for two soldiers who had been missing in the wild Australian bush for three days. The trackers showed no raw haste in going about their work. They spent a full day in studying the topography of the country, but the only direction probably taken by the missing men, they were not long in discovering the tracks. They raced over rough reefs that seemed innocent of even an indication of tracks. They pushed on underground, through small gullies and through dense brush. When they reached the sandy country Don, Henry and Sambo were able to tell their followers the height and build of the lost men by the length of the strides they had taken and the depth of the impression left by the soldiers' boots. When they finally reached the lost men the two at first refused to believe that the aborigines had actually followed their tracks. Twenty pairs of boots and boots of the wrong size and through dense brush. When they reached the sandy country Don, Henry and Sambo were able to tell their followers the height and build of the lost men by the length of the strides they had taken and the depth of the impression left by the soldiers' boots. When they finally reached the lost men the two at first refused to believe that the aborigines had actually followed their tracks. Twenty pairs of boots and boots of the wrong size and through dense brush. When they reached the sandy country Don, Henry and Sambo were able to tell their followers the height and build of the lost men by the length of the strides they had taken and the depth of the impression left by the soldiers' boots. When they finally reached the lost men the two at first refused to believe that the aborigines had actually followed their tracks. Twenty pairs of boots and boots of the wrong size.

Our Russian Allies are still looking to the land as well as defending it. Extensive mechanisation is still one of the great fundamentals of the Soviet scheme of agriculture, but military needs prevent mechanised farm equipment from being replaced at its usual rate. Moreover, some of the machinery available cannot be used because of petrol and oil shortages. Consequently, the horse is coming into its own again on the farm as well as in the trenches.

* * * * * * * * *

Clifford held the appointment of sergeant-major, but his duties were those of the modern adjutant-general. Later, in the days of the English Civil War, a second-in-command of the German war named Skippon, was sergeant-major-general, commanding the forces of London for the Parliament. As the years went on, the designation sergeant-major-general was made just as the other ranks of the Regular Army in the days before 1914, used to refer to the sergeant-major as "the Major." And that explains why the modern major-general is junior to the general, for a major-general is exactly the same as being one of the heads has become the back-bone of the Army.

The arrival of Allied troops in New Caledonia, and possibly in other French Pacific islands, has been marked by the logical sequence of the inhabitants of the French colonies deciding to break with Vichy and remain free. They were out of the danger zone until Japan came into the war, and consequently the French colonial powers have been able to go overseas to join the Free French forces. They are very much in the danger zone, because they lack the vital supplies line from the United States to Australia, and the Allies have had to guard them. The largest of these French islands is New Caledonia, which is also nearest to Australia. It is 240 miles long and averages 30 miles in width. It is valuable, because it has rich deposits of nickel and other strategic raw materials. The administrative centre of all French Oceanic Tahiti. From there the affairs of half a dozen groups of islands are directed. Roughly, these groups lie half-way between the west coast of South America and the east coast of Australia. The French Pacific islands are dwarfed in size by such British territories as New Zealand, Tasmania and New Guinea. Nevertheless, they have considerable strategic and economic value to the Allies.

Japan started on the path of conquest soon after the turn of the century, years before the commencement of the Manchurian adventures, and the more recent Axis aggressions. The first objective was Korea, which was occupied in 1905 and incorporated into the Japanese Empire five years later. Since Japan was one of the Entente Powers in the first Great War, the principle of self-determination was not extended to Korea; but the leaders of the country's more than 20 million persons were inspired by this ideal to sign a declaration of independence at a secret meeting. Ever since then a provisional government has been in existence; today Korea is as much a rebel nation within the Japanese Empire as ever. One of the leaders of the liberation movement is the veteran Dr. Syngman Rhee, who was one of Woodrow Wilson's students. He has been leading a Korean Liberty Conference in Washington, which has asked the State Department to permit the "Free Korea" provisional government, now in Chungking, to submerge the State's objections voiced by the representatives of 26 other nations. Korea is for Japan an important means of access to Manchuria, China and Siberia. As one speaker at the conference declared: "This army must be cut. This can be done by Koreans.

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of the Chairman of the Presidium, Michael I. Kalinin, who warned: "The collective farm that works better does not fulfill its obligations towards the State, is considered the crime of helping the enemy." Still, whatever the future holds for Russian agriculture, the Soviet authorities do not yet consider the farm outlook sufficiently black as to require a reduction of the bread ration.

In the last war American soldiers, like ourselves, grew quite familiar with those palatial railway carriages that were branded "40 hommes, 8 chevaux." Uncle Sam is having none of the "40-and-8" system for his fighting men in this war—at least not in his own country. Today U.S. troops travel and live on standard railway accommodations. That means that for trips of any length large numbers of Pullman sleeping cars must be used. However, the U.S. War Department and the Association of American Railroads believe that this rolling stock is too luxurious, as the standard Pullman car has sleeping accommodation for too few men. Therefore experts are now engaged in making plans for a new type of troop car which will have neither the luxury of the Pullman, nor the crudeness of the "40-and-8" coach. The new cars will be 20 feet steel cars, equipped with bunks, and having four-wheel trucks. As many as 47 men could be provided with beds in each car.

The question of deferred pay for members of the Permanent Military Forces was raised in the Senate this month by Senator Brand. Senator Brand has been a permanent soldier himself, and he can always be relied upon to take up the cudgels for a branch of the service which has never been treated with excessive generosity, either in peace or war. Senator Brand asked the Minister representing the Treasurer if the Government had recently instituted the system of deferred pay for the permanent members of the Australian Military Forces. He also asked if the Government intended to apply the same system of deferred pay to employees in Government-owned munitions factories; and if, if the system has been introduced, it will be found that such pay will allow such deductions to be set-off against Federal and State income tax. The Minister replied that the Government had instituted the system of deferred pay for permanent members of the Australian Military Forces. He stated that it was not the intention of the Government to extend the system of deferred pay to employees in Government-owned munitions factories. With regard to deductions or deferred pay being allowed as a set-off to income tax, the Minister made the following statement: In cases where the drawing-rate of a member of the Forces is reduced as a result of the introduction of deferred pay, it can be shown that hardship results, provision has been made for the payment of income tax from the member's deferred pay, provided that a reasonable sum is retained to the credit of the member.

Recent Press references to the Volunteer Defence Corps have been somewhat misleading. They tend towards an over-emphasis of the disadvantages under which this hard-working and self-sacrificing body is labouring, and give much prominence to the failings of the members, both as individuals and as a body, which has kept the V.D.C. alive and flourishing since its inception. Naturally, in any big show, there are bound to be disappointments, and progress in any national undertaking has rarely been able to keep in step with the first fine careless rapture of enthusiasm. In fact, the war itself has been very disappointing, but the Empire is still carrying on, and the Empire is determined to win. After all, the service is bigger than the individual, and any disadvantages which the V.D.C. has suffered are due to causes that time alone can remedy. Complaints have been made of lack of official recognition by the Army authorities, and the alleged neglect of the Government to state what role the Corps is playing or is to play in the defence of Australia. Surely a brief pause for reflection will be sufficient to show that these complaints rest upon very sketchy foundations. Several times within recent months it has been stated officially that the V.D.C. is an integral part of the Australian Military Forces, and those enlisting in the Corps must be attested, as are the members of other branches of the Forces. There have been changes in the administration, and senior staff officers have been assigned duties in connection with the administration and training of the Corps. What is more, the Army is even now conducting schools of instruction for selected personnel of the V.D.C. The knowledge they acquire in these courses will be passed on to the units in due course. If that is not official recognition by the Army authorities, what on earth is it? Further, the Minister for the Army, or those authorised to speak on his behalf, have at last again and again stated that the Volunteer Defence Corps will be assigned certain duties in connection with the defence of the country. For obvious reasons, it is not possible for the Government to go into details as to what these duties will be, even if it were advisable for the Government to make a detailed statement.

While we are tightening up "black-out" restrictions in Australia, these precautionary measures have become the subject of much discussion, if not actual controversy, in the United States. American authorities have even questioned the usefulness of "black-outs" for large cities. It is contended by some who have had experience of London air raids that "black-outs" do not prevent air raiders from aiming correctly. Rivers and other bodies of water will reflect what dear old Banjo Paterson called the "wondrous glory of the everlasting stars"—"black-out" or no "black-out." Railway lines, highways and other objects which cannot be concealed, some experts claim, always lead the enemy to the target, no matter how well it may be "blacked-out." Those who argue on these lines might be called "light-house" fanatics, whose action is turning on lights instead of turning them off, to fool the enemy. Under this plan, all major lighting facilities would be controlled at one switchboard. In this way, certain sections could be brilliantly illuminated one minute, and plunged into darkness the next. It is claimed that such a quick-shifting pattern would be both misleading and upsetting, for, although finding the city would present no difficulty to raiders, locating specific objects in a pattern that changed back and forth over an area of, say, 10 miles, would be practically impossible. Nevertheless, while such a scheme might be practicable for a densely populated region like the north-eastern seaboard of the United States, it is not to say it would work well in a country like Australia, and particularly Western Australia, where the thinly populated centres are very few and tremendously far between.

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Sub-Branch Activities

WEST LEEDE RVILLE-WEMBLEY

Another successful meeting was held on June 6, with the usual large attendance. The Home Guard is meeting regularly each Sunday morning at 9.30 a.m. at Henderson Park for full day parades. Arrangements are to be made for a combined party bridge and rummy evening to be held on June 24 for Diggers, and our branch members in particular have sadly missed these facilities over the past few months. Our Sick Committee reports practically a clean sheet for the past month. It is expected that when the sub-branch meets on Monday, July 13, that we will have the privilege of entertaining a number of our American friends. The annual appeal of the Woordooloo Progress and Pastimes Club will not fall upon deaf ears as far as this sub-branch is concerned. We have always been very happy to help this worthy institution. Messrs. H. E. Smith and V. E. Troode were selected as delegates for the annual State Congress, which is set down to be opened on September 30.

GLOUCESTER PARK

The monthly meeting was held at Evans Hall on June 4, and was again well attended. The President (Mr. C. Labister) opened the meeting with the usual minute’s silence in tribute to fallen comrades, which was preceded, as is customary, by the reciting of those well-known, impressive lines by Lawrence Binyon: “They shall not grow old... we will remember them.” At recent meetings members have become accustomed to seeing old, familiar faces turning up again; among these, on this occasion, was that of the veteran “Paddy” Whelan, on leave from Darwin, where he has been for some time. Introductions were made by the hon. secretary that his predecessor, Cliff Lambe, has greatly improved in health and has put on a good deal of weight, but has to stay in hospital as a precautionary measure during the winter months. It was arranged that at future meetings, on the termination of business, various games and competitions be held. Trophies will be provided to add interest to these competitions. One trophy has already been promised by ex-president Hudman.

The Guard is meeting attendance.

BOULDER

In spite of the fact that many members have enlisted for service in the Forces, membership is still satisfactory. Amongst new members enrolled of late are several of the younger Brigade who have seen service in the Middle East, and they are very welcome additions to our ranks. Our sincere thanks are due to those stalwarts J. Ellerby,
F. Hadden, W. Kenyon and J. Thomas for their unfailing assistance at the weekly euchre tournaments. Jack Taffe, one of the new Digger-members, is a regular attendant at meetings, and takes a keen interest in the affairs of the Club. We do not think he can do with more like him. The sub-branch has invested the sum of £50 in war savings certificates, and hopes to invest more at an early date. We miss our old stalwart Jack Edwards, who is in camp at Claremont, and Jim Davies, now employed by the wool scouring firm. The worthy president, Ern Bosustow, is a busy man of late, attending meetings of the patriotic fund, etc., but still finds time to attend to the affairs of the sub-branch. Vice-president Bill R. Lord, who returned from a guerrilla warfare school over East, gave a very interesting lecture at the general meeting last week, and was much appreciated by members present.

The monthly meeting was held on May 25. The president, Mr. Tomlin, occupied the chair, and a large number of members was present. Donations were given to the Salvation Army Mobile Unit, and to the Sanatorium Workshop. Eight new members were welcomed by the president, and a very hearty welcome was given to J. R. Freeman, who has just returned from overseas, and who was appointed an assistant manager. He reported on his activities. The president heartily thanked this member for his many efforts in raising funds for amelioration purposes. Later in the evening a motion was carried to the effect that a cheque be presented to Mr. Fredericks. The president reported progress with regard to obtaining a suitable block of land on which to erect a building for the sub-branch. Nominations were received for executive officers for the ensuing year, and the election will take place at the June meeting. The local unit of the V.D.C. is still going strong, so come along and fill up the ranks. There is plenty of room for more. On Sunday, May 21, a field day was held, and was what a pleasant day. See us at the Richmond School every Sunday morning at 9.30.

The meeting was presided over by the president in the absence of Mr. Ogg, whose duties as a company leader of the V.D.C. took him elsewhere. War-time duties are preventing many members from taking more active part in sub-branch affairs. Circumstances over which the sub-branch has no control have made it difficult to keep up the supply of tobacco to Lemnos Hospital. The money is available for this worthy purpose, but the tobacco is not. The annual general meeting will be held on June 29. Nominations for office-bearers should be in the chairman's hands by 8.45 p.m., and the names of those elected will be announced before the meeting closes. Members are reminded that the committee will meet in January to December, so individual members should make the necessary adjournments.

Over 10 members were able to swim to the Dur Dunk, and over 20 during the week following on June 2. The weather that night was at any rate suitable, as it was raining heavily. Only the trench mud was missing to make the picture complete, but this in no way interfered with the fun. At the annual general meeting on June 6, nominations for office-bearers were received. The elections will take place at the annual general meeting on July 7, when the new officers will be installed. The elections will not take very long. Apart from the 12 nominations for eight committee-men the only voting will be for the position of publicity officer, and editor (in suspension) of "The Sniper." It is stated that the balance sheet will be cheerful this year.

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June 15, 1942 Page 23
The same evening several members of an Eastern States unit were entertained by the sub-branch, led by our able pianist, Arthur Hullett and choirmaster Ron Fleming, with secretary Alf Cook ably assisting.

TOTTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. Charles Taylor, the Deputy Commissioner for Repatriation, will visit the room of the association on July 2 and address members on his work abroad with the Red Cross. Wives of members are cordially invited to be present. The darts competition for the president's trophy is in full swing. Twenty-four competitors have nominated, and some interesting contests are expected. The return match against the T.B. Association was won by them. As each association now has a victory to its credit, the final match will be worth seeing. The committee is gratified to note that 12 new members have joined during the past few weeks, but there are still many eligible for membership who have not yet joined the association. Those who have received car licenses through the association are requested to renew them at the office.

FREMANTLE CITY AND DISTRICT

Since the palatial home on South Terrace was taken over the sub-branch has been scrapping around for a resting place. We were assured by Major Hargreaves when negotiating for the transfer that the Military authorities would provide a suitable room, rent free; but up to date this has not been done. Our old friend the Rev. Bill Freeman has temporarily come to our aid by making the Christian Endeavour room available for our meetings. Consequently the sub-branch will forgerather at Wesley Hall, Fremantle, the last Thursday in the month until further notice. At the last meeting nominations were called for the executive positions. Tom Hobb, the new president, is retiring from the chair after 4 years of strenuous service, but so that he will not rust the boys elected him as secretary, and we expect great things from him in his new position. There is some splendid material among the new members who are joining the sub-branch in very encouraging numbers. The weekly dances (Tuesdays) continue at the old King's Theatre under the sole man- ship of Leo Smith, who is ably supported by the women's auxiliary, the South Fremantle Comforts ladies, and a few stalwarts of the sub-branch. Members hope to have some kind of a re-union in the near future.

CLAREMONT

The president (Mr. W. Ford) occupied the chair at the monthly meeting on June 4. A large attendance of members heard the financial statement, which disclosed a satisfactory position. The committee rendered an account of its activities, which were donated to the Woorooloo sports and pastimes club. The effort of Mr. Cairnes on behalf of the Salvation Army Mobile units enabled the club to run

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STATE EXECUTIVE

Members who so generously helped with the catering plans will be pleased to learn that on June 1 a number of convalescent men were entertained at a luncheon by the State executive, after which a splendid programme was given by members of the Victory Variety Company and pupils of Gable and Williams' Studio of Dancing. The music was supplied by Batey's Orchestra. At the conclusion of the programme, afternoon tea was served. Sg.t. Dugan expressed thanks on behalf of soldiers present, and said he had never been to a function of a similar nature before. Mr. H. A. Leslie seconded those remarks, and said this was the best function he had attended. Mrs. McKenzie (president of the W.A. auxiliaries) replied to this gesture, explaining that the State executive was able to do this work mainly through the kindness and generosity of country auxiliaries who often sent funds to entertain the sick soldiers—so it was to our country sisters that thanks were mainly due. Town auxiliaries generally did their own entertaining. War duties have made it impossible for Mrs. Bell (North-East Fremantle) to continue on the State executive. Mrs. Weeks (Mosman Park) has been appointed in her place. Mrs. Prendegast is still amongst us and smiling, and asks all auxiliaries and sub-branches to accept her sincere thanks for kindly thoughts and messages in her recent bereavement.

DUNLEAVY HOSTEL

Mrs. V. Stockin writes: In the April issue of this paper I made an appeal to all R.S.L. auxiliaries to subscribe to a Blanket Fund, whereby we could help to supply much-needed blankets for the Hostel. Many hundreds of sailors, soldiers, airmen and merchant seamen are high in their praises of the wonderful comfort it is to have such a place. It must be a blessing to be able to get a good clean warm bed, hot showers, and kindly conversation when one is so many
miles from home and folks. Auxiliaries, will you please help? The following donations are gratefully acknowledged: Bassendean Auxiliary, £2 2/6; Mt. Hawthorn E.S.I., £2; Maylands Auxiliary, £2 2/6; Mt. Hawthorn Auxiliary, £2; Cottesloe Auxiliary, £2 2/6; Cottesloe Bridge Club, £2 2/6; Bayswater Cheerio Club, £1; Denmark Auxiliary, £1 1/6, and Bullbrook Auxiliary, £2 2/6. Donations to be forwarded to Mrs. V. Stockman, 12 London Street, Mt. Hawthorn, or c/o Anzac House, Perth.

VICTORIA PARK
Mrs. Barnett presided over a large meeting on May 22, and welcomed new members. Mrs. Prue (secretary) reported one bereavement. At the conclusion of the meeting, nominations were taken for the ensuing year, and the election will take place on Friday evening, June 26. On Monday, May 25, the auxiliary was entertained to a social evening by the sub-branch, the occasion being the Seventh Anniversary of the opening of the R.S.L. Memorial Hall at Salford Street, Victoria Park. The auxiliary marked the occasion by handing the sub-branch a useful cheque to help things on a bit. Mr. Matthews provided an enjoyable programme of items and dancing, and a dainty supper concluded the evening. We regret the passing of one of our earliest members, Mrs. Bacon, and sympathy is extended to the bereaved husband and family. Mesdames Thorn and Phillips are thanked for their cash donation of 10/- to the wool fund. Members are again reminded that we have resumed the Wednesday afternoon meeting for roping the camouflage nets. Materials are now obtainable again at the Hall. Please bring along any completed nets so that they can be returned. Mrs. Mead kindly takes them to the proper quarter, for which we thank her.

F.U.S.W.
The monthly social was held in the Burt Memorial Hall. Mrs. H. Dean, M.B.E., presided over a large gathering. This was her first appearance with the F.U.S.W. after her accident. She thanked members for their wonderful gift of a necklace and bracelet, which were sent to her on Mother's Day by the members of the F.U.S.W. Mrs. Dean proposed a vote of thanks from the chair to the gift stall members, and those members who sewed for the stall. The speaker of the day was Mr. E. S. Watt, who talked in a most interesting manner on Diggers, old and new. Mrs. J. R. Moore proposed a vote of thanks. The musical director, Mrs. E. Lynch, arranged the musical programme, to which the following artists contributed: Captain Billy Edwards, Miss Zoe Lenigan, Corporal Eddy Smith, and the boy soprano, master Walter Schlicker. Mrs. B. Peady proposed the vote of thanks to the artist.

SUBIACO
About 40 members attended the monthly meeting on May 20. The president, Mrs. T. Turpin, was in the chair. Mrs. Hand was welcomed as a new member. During the month, soldiers' relatives in the district were entertained at a social afternoon. Mrs. Hay, an old member of the auxiliary, was welcomed back. Members are very grateful to the Waroona auxiliary for sending a monthly donation of sausages. This is a regular contribution towards Subiaco's entertainment for Lemnos Hospital. A letter of thanks was received from Matron McDonald for the very acceptable parcel of cigarettes. On Anzac Day wreaths were placed on the local Memorial by the auxiliary and the junior auxiliary. Later, members of the sub-branch were entertained to tea. A new member, Mrs. Montague, was introduced by Mrs. Hay. Miss Gunning has kindly donated a glass jug for the auxiliary's use.

HOSPITAL VISITING
Another duty which should never be neglected is that of hospital visiting. Here again is something which has expanded with the present war, and the establishment of many more hospitals. In the metropolitan area certain sub-branches have, so to speak, adopted hospitals and institutions which lie within their territories. The State Executive also has its regular hospital visitors, besides being represented on the visiting boards of certain hospitals. Such regular visits are very cheering to Diggers, old and new, who receive them. Most of us, unfortunately, know what it is to be ill, and most of us know how cheering can be the face of a friend beaming into the ward or the sickroom. In the country, in fact throughout the whole State, sub-branches are making hospital visiting an important feature of their work. While on this subject, the work being done by the various women's auxiliaries is worthy of special mention. Before the war, metropolitan auxiliaries used to arrange regular outings for the ex-servicemen in three main institutions. The outings took the form of a car trip, followed by some festive proceeding which the ladies call "high tea," and music, games and dancing. These regular affairs were looked forward to by the guests and greatly enjoyed by all who took part in them. Unfortunately, in these days of petrol rationing and restricted sales of tea, the motor trips have had to be suspended for the time being. Nevertheless, it is wonderful what the auxiliaries are managing to do in spite of increasing difficulties. If trips have had to be cut out, entertainment and comforts can still be provided, although the tobacco problem has become acute within recent weeks. Here again one sees in operation the good old Digger spirit of carrying on, whatever the odds.

SHOP

For VALUE and
Friendly Service!

FOYS
MAY 16

The first of the Saturday afternoon meetings of the State Executive was held in Anzac House on May 16. There were present Messrs. Yeates, Olden, Philip, Denton, Cornell, Jane, Margolin, Williams, Logic, Wood, Patton, Edmundson, Smith, Newton Bateson and Davies.

Welcome.—The State President extended a cordial welcome to Messrs. Bateson, who took their seats as new members for the first time. A welcome was also extended to Mr. T. Stenfaff, a former member of the Executive and a former vice-president.

R.S.L. Broadcasts.—The following roster was arranged for R.S.L. broadcasts: May 21, Mr. H. E. Smith; May 24, Mr. T. S. Edmundson; June 3, Mr. J. Cornell; June 10, Mr. W. F. Bateson; June 17, Mr. R. A. Wood.

Sub-Committees.—Because of changes in the personnel of the Executive, the following adjustments were made in sub-committees: Mr. Davies was appointed to the Welcome, House, Club, Nominations and Pensions Committee; Mr. W. F. Bateson was appointed to the Welcome, Hospital Visiting, Poppy Day, and S.S.L. sub-committees. The question of appointing electorate districts to the new members, Messrs. Bateson and Davies, was referred to the Management Committee. Mr. Edmundson was appointed League's representative on the Army Educational Council, vice Mr. H. K. Kahan, resigned. Mr. Logic was appointed to the Problems Committee.

Leave of Absence.—Mr. R. A. Nicholas was granted two months' leave of absence owing to military duty. It was agreed that the next in waiting should be called up for temporary duty in accordance with the Government resolution.

Finance Committee.—Raising out of the report of the Finance Committee, it was decided to apply for the remission of sales tax to the extent of $72 in respect of the new League badge.

Pensions and Employment.—The Pensions and Employment Committee reported that, owing to transport difficulties, the visit of the Entitlement Tribunal had been postponed indefinitely. A recommendation in respect of the review of war pensions was referred back to the Committee.

Anzac Club.—Approval was given for the expenditure of an amount of £273 for the installation of a clock bar in the Anzac Club. A suitable woman worker will be secured to undertake the necessary duties.

House Committee.—The House Committee reported that an agreement had been signed by the State Government and the League regarding the tenancy of the Ball Room, Supper Room and Committee Rooms. It was also reported that another hall would be required for the holding of this year's annual dinner.

League Board of Visitors.—Colonel Margolin reported on a meeting of the League Board of Visitors, which was held on May 5.

Visits.—On visits were made by Mr. Cornell (Southern Cross), Colonel Olden (several Eastern States sub-branches), Mr. James (Osborne Park and West Leederville), Mr. Edmundson then submitted his report on the recent meeting of the Federal Executive, at which he represented the Western Australian Branch. It was resolved that appreciation of Mr. Edmundson's services be recorded. The State President having attended the presentation of a Mobile Service Unit to the Salvation Army.

State Repatriation Board.—It was resolved that this State's nominations for the State Repatriation Board would be Mr. E. S. Watt, Mr. C. G. Ferguson and Mr. J. W. Andrews.

Sub-branches.—It was agreed that Perth sub-branch be informed of action being taken in respect of war pensions.

The recommendation of the Noongah sub-branch regarding the increased price of news was received, and the action taken by the chairman of the Land Committee was confirmed.

The appointment of Mr. T. Silver as secretary of the Cee sub-branch was confirmed.

V.D.C.—It was resolved that the question of compensation for injuries received by members of the V.D.C. travelling to and from parades, and whilst on duty, be referred to the Pensions Committee for consideration and report.

MAY 30

At the meeting on May 30 there were present Messrs. Olden, Philip, Denton, Cornell, Watt, James, Margolin, Thorn, Williams, Logic, Wood, Patton, Edmundson, Newton, Bateson and Davies.

Executive Vacancy.—Mr. H. T. Berry, who was next on the waiting list for duty with the State Executive, advised that circumstances would not permit his filling the temporary position, and that he was granting two months' leave. It was resolved to communicate with Mr. C. L. Harvey, who is next to Mr. Berry on the waiting list.

Problems Committee.—A report of a meeting of the Problems Committee on May 20 was read, together with a communication from Mr. E. J. Harrison, M.H.R., Secretary of the Federal Parliament Ex-Servicemen's Committee, which was referred to consider and report on the repatriation of ex-service men.

After considerable discussion, the report was adopted with the following addition: "That, before this branch of the League committed itself to any future land settlement scheme, a decision be sought from the various State branches, through the Federal Executive, respecting the decision of the last Congress respecting this form of repatriation. It was further decided that a copy of the Congress resolution be sent to Mr. Harrison.

Anzac Club.—The Anzac Club Committee reported problems with the installation of the proposed snack bar.

Annual Dinner.—The House Committee reported that McNeesh Hall had been booked for two days for the State Congress. It was agreed that an extra day's booking be arranged.

Visits.—Mr. T. S. Edmundson reported having represented the Executive at the annual dinner of the South African and Imperial Veterans' Association. Colonel Olden reported having spoken on behalf of the League at a War Loan Rally. Mr. Cornell will represent the State Executive at Mr. Layton's July 7.

Sub-branch Officials.—The appointment of officials as advised by the following sub-branches was approved: Mt. Marshall and Donnyella.

League Broadcasts.—A communication from the Collie sub-branch in regard to the subject matter of League broadcasts was received. A note had been made of Collie's comments.

Congratulations (Mr. G. H. James).—It was agreed that congratulations should be extended to Mr. G. H. James, a former West Australian Government Representative on the War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal.

(Colonel L. M. Mullen).—It was agreed to extend congratulations to Colonel L. M. Mullen on his being elected President of the Taxation branch of the League for the 21st consecutive year.

A.S.E.C. State Advisory Committee.—The D.A.A.G. Education advised that Mr. T. S. Edmundson's nomination to replace Mr. Kahan on this Committee had been endorsed and recommended for acceptance.

Distinguishing Badge, Men Returned from Overseas.—In a letter dated April 24, Mr. Smith pointed out that publicity should be given to this new badge in that it would be readily recognised by the public.

It was agreed that the local press be asked to print blocks of the badge with an explanation.

Superannuation Contributions.—A communication from the Premier's Department advising that Cabinet had agreed to pay these contributions in certain cases was referred to the Pensions Committee.

Salvation Army, Mobile Service Unit Fund.—The progress report showed that the total of this fund was now $1975/3/5. It was agreed that the list of donations be published in "The Leaguer," June.

Taxation Department and Maupower.—Correspondence received which indicated that the Deputy Commissioner for Taxation was preventing the enlistment in the R.A.A.F. of former members of the League.

It was agreed that a copy of the correspondence be sent to Federal Office with the request that the matter be taken up with the Prime Minister's Department.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

At last month's meeting of the Federal Executive the question of eligibility for membership of the League was discussed. It was decided that only those who had enlisted in the Navy, the A.I.F. and Air Force, service abroad, and have returned from such service, and those who have enlisted in the said branches for service overseas and have returned from such service from time to time, may be eligible for membership of the League. It was decided that consideration of admitting members of the Militia Forces was premature. Other resolutions aimed at tightening control of enemy aliens and of unnaturalised persons of enemy origin. They included the following: That decisions of tribunals in respect of appeals by enemy aliens and internees be referred to the Prime Minister, that the sale of explosives to enemy aliens should be prohibited, and that the granting of a petrol license, and that current licenses be cancelled.

If the Government accepts these resolutions no one will be better pleased than this branch of the League. Many country sub-branches are greatly disturbed by the possible invasion of aliens from enemy countries who im.
### ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

**RATES: £1/1/- PER ANNUM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTILLERY COMRADES’ ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Last Friday each month</td>
<td>W. Beadle, 450 Newcastle St., 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. Powell, 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</td>
<td>R. W. Bate, 79 William Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS’ ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Gregson’s, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>J. Douglas, 13 Karoo Street, South Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Everett, Swan Barracks, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday of the 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>15th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Col. E. L. Marquino, 62 Tyrell Street, Nedlands</td>
<td>E. J. Massey, 41 Harvey St., W. Armstrong, 26 Rupel St., West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>H. J. Edwards, 37 Hamilton Street, Boyswater</td>
<td>J. R. Fordham, 189 Academy Avenue, South Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>L. D. Loboscher, 27 2nd Floor, Economic Chambers, Perth</td>
<td>P. W. Griffin, J.P., 87 South Street, Beaconsfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>A. F. Syd. Johnson, Inglewood</td>
<td>Roy Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th and 52nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>H. Hoperton, 141 Auelde Avenue, Perth</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Meylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALLY and PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>At Office, Room 22, 2nd Floor</td>
<td>1st Pension day of the month at 2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. F. Jones, W. A. Hall, 42 North Street, R. W. B. Stuart, 530 Fitzgerald St., Perth</td>
<td>H. McCallum, East Collie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**RATES: £1/1/- PER ANNUM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARMADALE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Spencer Gwyne</td>
<td>I. Sturrock, Fremantle Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. Richardson, Albany</td>
<td>E. W. A. Bolton, Grey Street, West Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>When called, Sat. 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Paterson</td>
<td>F. D. F. Bland, Bulli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENEAN</td>
<td>Town Hall—Lesser Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension day) 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>H. K. Hinkin, 5 Wilson St., Bassendean</td>
<td>H. Dry, 29 Railway Parade, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Greaves, Brookton</td>
<td>I. L. Hogan, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLSBROOK</td>
<td>Bullabrook Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sat., monthly, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Gus Pickett</td>
<td>Bart Scennlebury, Connolly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>3rd Saturday</td>
<td>H. E. Gibson, Bankside Street</td>
<td>W. N. Freeman, 111 Victoria Street, Bunbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSWATER</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Staff Sergt. Hull, 33 Anzac Street, Elroy</td>
<td>T. Gillingham, 49 Stuart Street, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>F. Jones, W. A. Hall, via Busselet</td>
<td>L. M. Powell, Bassley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Calingiri Hall</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>D. E. Fordham</td>
<td>J. McGill, East Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANNING DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>2nd Sunday, 10.00 a.m.</td>
<td>Gordon Day, Cannington</td>
<td>R. McLean, East Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARNAHAM</td>
<td>Rood Board Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month, commencing June, 1940</td>
<td>W. T. White, Winchester</td>
<td>John Lang, Carnamuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. H. Sarre, Clifton Street, Collie</td>
<td>H. May, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRIGAN</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each quarter, 1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. J. Russell, Bilberris, W. Dunne, 10 Webb Street, Cottesloe</td>
<td>A. C. Bailey, Phone 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarraud Street</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Ford, 13 Shenton Road, Claremont, F1909</td>
<td>H. T. G. Ross, 1 Thompson Road, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Committee Room, Claremont Oval</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. F. Watters, Kalamunda</td>
<td>M. J. Johnstone, Kalamunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms, Canning Road, Kalamunda</td>
<td>3rd Thursday in each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Storrie, T. H. Clark, Donnybrook</td>
<td>H. J. North, Irwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>M. G. Baker, Donnybrook</td>
<td>J. C. Land, Dannybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONGARRA</td>
<td>Dumblyung Hall</td>
<td>Last Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>M. L. W. Poland, Dumblyung</td>
<td>W. E. Nicolou, Dumblyung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Dumblyung Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month, Last Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. E. H. Holyoke, H. E. Hobbs, 57 Oakover Street, East Fremantle</td>
<td>G. H. Joyce, Holyoke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLYUNG</td>
<td>Dumblyung Hotel</td>
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<td>W. E. Moore, Carcarnon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWELLINGUP &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Wesleys Hall, Frementle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F. J. Dunn, 51 Edward Street, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Wesleys Hall, Fremantle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Gowanageup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOYNE</td>
<td>Gascoyne Hotel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>W. E. Moore, Carcarnon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td>Evans’ Hall, Hay Street, East Perth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F. J. Dunn, 51 Edward Street, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Soldiers’ Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S. W. Stewart, Gowanageup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Way, Gutha</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gutha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Herbert Rd.,</td>
<td>D. D. Johnstone, Box 28, Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in</td>
<td>J. H. Hylton, Great Boulder,</td>
<td>D. F. Edwards, Kalgoolie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBERLEY</td>
<td>Clubrooms, Carew Street</td>
<td>month at 8 p.m.;</td>
<td>Finimton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td></td>
<td>Executive, alt.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERN</td>
<td>Tommin, meet quarterly</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Jock Sherritt</td>
<td>H. Ulrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOROA</td>
<td></td>
<td>(committee 1st</td>
<td>Sen., Old, Katanning</td>
<td>W. Bailey, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Katzin Hotel</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>KULIN</td>
<td>R.S.L. Institute</td>
<td>Last Saturday,</td>
<td>T. O. Chambers, Kellerberin</td>
<td>T. G. Griffin, Kellerberin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATE GRACE</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>quarterly (Finimton</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith, Koorda</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE KING</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st January, July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDUMIN</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Manjimup</td>
<td>Last Saturday,</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Kukerin</td>
<td>R. C. V. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>Supper-room, Town Hall, Maylands</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Monday at</td>
<td>C. G. Gordon, Kulin</td>
<td>W. A. T. Tumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Menzies Road Board Hall</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. J. Kinch, Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.L. Branch Rooms, Railway Palatine</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td></td>
<td>M. G. Johnston, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORNAN PARK</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Johnston Street, Cottesloe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Geo. A. E. Major, Manjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Town Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. BAKER</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Moora</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MARGARET</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall, Mt. Margaret</td>
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<td>MT. WHEATLAND</td>
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<td>R.S.L. Hall, Bourke, Rockingham</td>
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<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Institute, Harrogin</td>
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<td>MUNSWEGATE</td>
<td>Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Nundal</td>
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