The Situation Brightens

At the beginning of the fifth year of the war, many comparisons were made between the situation today and the position at the corresponding period of the last war. A general improvement has set in, and things were century ago, too. Allied armies on the Western Front had captured key points in the German lines, and the enemy were fighting on the defensive in the Balkans, Palestine and Mesopotamia. In fact, the general Allied offensive on all fronts was achieving important measures of success. Newspapers in Paris estimated German losses in the second Battle of the Marne at nearly a million men. The Italians, then on our side, continued to advance in their own country and in Albania. Herbert Hoover declared in London that the food crisis for the Allies was over.

Now twenty-five years later, the Russians are driving the German invaders before them. They are seizing key points, and German losses in men and material are mounting hugely. This time, the Italians, who have been on the other side, have surrendered unconditionally, and the bulk of their fleet is in Allied hands. Both in Europe and in the Pacific, the Allies have established and exploited an aerial supremacy, which has struck heavily at enemy land communication, shipping and war industry, and heralded worse things in store for the Axis partners.

The recent events in southern Europe and, in the South-West Pacific were all foreshadowed in Mr. Churchill's broadcast from Quebec. In fact, they must have been in preparation when that broadcast was made. Nevertheless, the Quebec conference seems to have been the signal for a recrudescence of second front propaganda which was perilously akin to fifth-column work. Much capital was made out of the fact that Stalin had not been invited to the conference, and a lot of the stuff published and mouthed before the microphone, both in America and Australia, was distinctly subversive, insofar as it was calculated to sow dissension among the Allies. Fortunately, once again the civilian strate-

In his broadcast from Quebec on August 31, Mr. Churchill predicted more vigorous action against the Axis gangsters, both in Europe and the Pacific, and looked forward to the day when the so-called second front in Europe could be established. "But," he said, "whatever great blow is struck, you may be sure that it will be because we are satisfied that there is a good prospect of continuing success, and that our soldiers' lives will be spent in accordance with military plans, and not squandered for political considerations of any kind."

That contention was borne out in a recent statement in the Russian paper Pravda, which declared that the Sicilian front could not be regarded as a second European front. In London, on the other hand, the invasion of Sicily was accepted as the real opening of the big Allied assault on Europe. At the time, English observers emphasised the obvious interdependence of the Sicilian and Kursk fronts. The Sicilian invasion was launched just as the Axis had centred its attention on Russia. Its extension into the toe of Italy completed the knock-out of an enemy who had already been battered into helplessness. The fact that the operation succeeded with relatively small loss is sufficient refutation of office-chair strategists, who have not sufficient military knowledge to enable them to make a complete appreciation of the situation. Whether the invasion of Italy through Sicily is regarded as the opening of a second front or a valuable diversion matters little. The fact remains that one leg has been knocked out of the Axis tripod. Not only have German divisions and aircraft been diverted from Russia for the defence of Italy, but a far bigger strain has been imposed on the German armies of occupation in the Balkans and Western Europe. The end may be a long way off yet, but the collapse of Italy is the beginning of the end.
Congress Agenda

Congress has rightly been named the Parliament of the League. It is the one time of the year when the representatives of the sub-branches get together for the better part of a week and discuss matters concerning our organisation. Congress is the final court of decision on matters concerning policy and administration of the State Branch, and the attitude to be adopted by delegates from this State to the Federal Congress. Congress week, therefore, is the one time of the year, above all others, when the League, through its sub-branches, can show what service men are thinking, not only about the problems that most intimately concern them, but also about the wider issues that the nation and the world must face during the post-war reconstruction period. Apart from this, Congress is a grand annual reunion of Diggers from all parts of the State. They meet for the common cause, renew old friendships, and generally refresh their memories of how League business is conducted.

The route march of the years has taught the League and its members many things. It has enabled them to develop the wider outlook, and to distinguish between sane and unreasoning thinking and crying for the moon. Experience has developed a live-ly sense of what is practicable and what is not. In past years, Congress has been noted for the prevailing good sense that detect the nigger in the wood-pile and reject carefully camouflaged attempts to exploit the League by outside interests. The wisdom that comes with years and experience is certainly reflected in the agenda for this year's Congress.

Many of the heart-inalms that cropped up Congress after Congress in former years, have no place in this year's agenda.

In all, there are 109 items, with the possibility of more being added under notices of motion. They cover a wide range of subjects, and, in seeking to plan for the future, the past and present obligations of the League have not been overlooked.

As in former years, Land Settlement matters will be disposed of before the meeting of the general Congress. There are 20 items in this section. Some seek to implement various phases of the Land Settlement Policy adopted by the State and Federal Executives. They deal with such matters as interest, sales of suitable land, debt adjustment, and abandoned farms. Rates for water supplies and wool appraisal will also provide material for discussion.

Among the 11 items relating to the constitution are two concerning the League's attitude to party politics, two which seek to change the official designation of the League, one advocating a change in the present system of electing the State Executive, and two about the length of time of office should be held. The question of eligibility for membership is likely to prove the main topic for discussion at Congress this year. It will be recalled that Congress last year, and the year before, decided to leave the question of eligibility to be decided when an appreciable number of men have returned from the present war. This year, the tendency would seem to be in favour of an earlier decision. There are 34 items relating to eligibility—the greatest number devoted to any one subject on this year's agenda.

Many of them are similar in intention and, no doubt, the practice of previous years will be followed, in grouping such items, and letting the main item dispose of the others.

One item favours encouraging the formation of parallel organisations among all persons not covered by the constitution, and inviting them to organise their own branch in con- formity with the charter of the League, or forming an Australia Service League, with the same general objects as our own League. Eighteen items relate to defence:

One asks Congress to reaffirm its policy of Ours for Australia. Another refers to the number of apparently fit men of military age in protected industries. Others deal with the retention of men in the forces until employment of a suitable nature can be found for them. Other matters relate to discharge of call-up, the disposal of surplus stores, and conscientious objectors. Items concerning administration also number 18. Among them are requests for the opening of the social facilities of Anzac Club, after the closing hour of the bar. There are no fewer than four items relating to this matter.

In contrast with former years, there are only seven items dealing with preference and pensions. At least one urges the elimination of preference from the policy of the League, or the ground that preference is the negation of Freedom from Want, one of the Four Freedoms which are mentioned in the Atlantic Charter. When one remembers the battles that have been waged over the preference question in the past, an item disapproving of it will come as a surprise to many members.

After eligibility, repatriation matters, concerning which there are 21 items, will take up most of the time of Congress. The matter of providing a Repatriation Hospital in this State, and the provision of convalescent homes for service men, has obviously given food for thought to several sub-branches.

Other items advocate the extension of medical and other repatriation benefits to service categories who are not eligible for such benefits at present. Shorter sections deal with aliens and prisoners of war, War Service Homes, the VBC, Canteen Funds, and Anzac Day.

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Mr. S. P. B. M., the well-known English writer and broadcaster, said in a recent broadcast from London that it is typical of Englishmen that their patron saint, their King, and any unknown stranger should all be called George. When an Englishman greets any, he almost invariably says: “Good day, Dig’” or “Hello Buddy.” He simply says: “Hi, George”

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**Enemy Aliens and Naturalisation**

The question of the naturalisation of enemy aliens is a matter to which the W.A. Branch of the League has long given careful consideration, especially in view of complaints that the authorities have been lenient in granting naturalisation certificates in many cases. A recent protest, emanating from this Branch, has been sent to the Minister for the Interior, and this is what the Minister has had to say in reply:

"The war-time policy which has been adopted, in relation to the naturalisation of enemy aliens, provides that such persons shall not be granted certificates of naturalisation unless they can show that they are in an individual case which would warrant its being given special consideration. As evidence that this policy is strongly adhered to, I may state that, from the date of the entry of their countries into the war, up to March 31, 1943, approximately 550 enemy aliens have been granted certificates, out of a total of over 5,000 persons naturalised. The great majority of these 550 were British-born women, who had lost their British nationality through marriage with aliens. During the same period, over 2,700 applicants of enemy nationality have been refused naturalisation.

Careful consideration has been given on several occasions to the question of whether all persons of enemy nationality should be debarred from naturalisation. It is considered, however, that the imposition of a total ban would not be justified as, in many cases, it would result in undeserved hardship. Such a policy would, for instance, debar British-born women, who are wholly British in origin, upbringings and sentiment, but who had lost British nationality and acquired an enemy nationality through marriage, from regaining their British nationality. That privilege was especially included in the Nationality Act, as the result of the experience of the last war. It would also prevent the naturalisation of refugees from Nazi oppression, who had served, or are serving, in the British fighting forces, or have rendered exceptional service in furtherance of the Allied war effort. A further class, who would be adversely affected by such a rule, are persons of Greek origin from the Dodecanese Islands. These people are technically Italian, because the islands were ceded to Italy after the last war, but they are definitely hostile to Fascist aims and aspirations, and have clearly demonstrated their pro-Allied sympathies.

The fact that sub-branches of the League have received notices in local papers by enemy aliens of their intention to apply for naturalisation does not imply that the restrictions placed on the naturalisation of this class have been modified. All such applications are being dealt with, strictly in accordance with the policy laid down, and naturalisation is granted only in cases where exceptional features are presented, and after very careful inquiries have been made, to ensure that there is no National Security objection to the granting of a naturalisation certificate."

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**Sub-Branches and War Loans**

Many sub-branches are doing everything possible to assist our war effort, and no better job could be undertaken than to assist in the raising of money which is so essential to prosecute the war. The League stands for compulsory contributions, but the Government has just been returned by an overwhelming vote of the people. This Government's policy is to raise money by voluntary means, and as good democrats it is the duty of all to swing in behind the majority and give their maximum help.

The West Leederville-Wembley Sub-Branch has taken the initiative in their district and has called a meeting of representatives of the people, with the object of forming a strong War Loan and National Savings Committee. Other sub-branches intend to do the same, and we strongly urge all sub-branches, with their women's auxiliaries, to explore the ground in their own district or suburb and see that a strong, active committee is formed and functioning. The War Loan organisation at Commonwealth Bank Buildings, Perth, will assist with all the necessary information, and when possible will send representatives to assist. This is a matter for urgency, as the £125,000,000 loan will be launched on October 5.

By the way, the West Leederville-Wembley boys issue a challenge to get more subscribers and money per head of population than any other suburb.

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**Honour Avenue**

At the annual meeting of the West Perth Sub-Branch on August 17, the retiring president (Mr. L. W. A. Carter) mentioned that the recent appeal for funds for the maintenance of Honour Avenue had met with a hearty response. As a result, 416 plaques along May Drive, and a small portion each of Forrest Drive and Lovekin Drive, had been re-painted, and broken plaques were repaired. The work was carried out in a very creditable manner, under the supervision of the King's Park foreman (Mr. Titchell). With the accomplishment of this work, and the planting of new eucalypts, to take the place of the oaks, the greater portion of the Avenue is now considered...
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Bullbrook........5 0 0
Total...£9,954 13 1
Paid direct to Red Cross
Society by Sub-Branches....712 5 4
GRAND TOTAL...£10,666 18 5

Re-afforestation in Britain

By C. R. COLLINS

Re-afforestation is one of the items of the League's policy, as laid down by a recent meeting of the Federal Executive. The importance of planned forestry work has not been over-stressed in Australia. Until comparatively recent years, very little attention was paid to it, and the commercial aspects of the work were almost completely ignored. This was not for want of expert advice. Years and years before the last war opinions expressed in Eastern States papers that droughts would be fewer and of shorter duration, if so many acres, and acres of timberland were not so ruthlessly cleared for farming. At the time, the Bulletin suggested that the New South Wales Government should apply the French policy of making it illegal to cut down a tree unless another was planted to replace it.

It is interesting, also, to recall that Nelson's Flag Captain, Hardy of the Victory, was very perturbed, after the Great War of his day, at the rate English oak forests were being cut down for fuel and other purposes. He was afraid that if the English oak disappeared from the landscape, the Royal Navy would also disappear, because the warships of that era were built of oak. Britain is once more paying attention to forestry work. Early in the war forestry units from the Dominions went to Britain. Little has been published about what they have been doing, but they have done valuable work.

Great changes have been coming over the British countryside lately. Green park lands and woodlands have been ploughed in many places to help Britain to raise more of the country's food. Golden grain has been waving in what were once pasture lands, and often it is not even necessary to plough them up first; they can be left to grow a crop of roots, and then the land is ready for other crops. This is a wise and practical policy, as it does not disturb the soil too much, and it is economical of labor.

The present is not for want of foresight. The British Government has appointed a Forestry Commission, and that commission has prepared a plan for re-afforestation of large nullahs or dry streams to make good the destruction of trees in this war, and in the last war, too. The plan is not built on the idea of building up Britain's reserves of timber, but is designed to provide employment for returned sailors and soldiers and airmen, and to enrich the lives of the British people by providing more national parks for recreation, complete with Youth Hostels, and other features of that kind. In England, timber has not been regarded so much as a crop, as it has been for years in thrifty France. In France, for instance, picturesque charcoal burners are often associated with the systematic cutting and replanting of woodlands. Under the present scheme, however, timber will be viewed more in the light of a crop. The idea is, in fact, to make Britain fill about 35 per cent, of her own timber needs, rather than the 4 per cent, of pre-war days. Timber is a slow crop, and will take almost a century to complete the plan now proposed: but the greater part of the work will be carried out in the first 10 years after the war. The scheme provides for the employment of 50,000 men, and the raising of 200,000 in forestry industries. At present, there are about 3 million acres of woodland in Britain. Under the new scheme that acreage will be doubled, and timber is expected to be produced in about the first 10 years after the war. The scheme is being worked out in the Ceramic, and the plan is to use the timber as it is cut to provide employment for returned sailors and soldiers and airmen, and it must be remembered that timber is a slow crop, and will take about a century to complete the plan now proposed: but the greater part of the work will be carried out in the first 10 years after the war. The scheme provides for the employment of 50,000 men, and the raising of 200,000 in forestry industries. At present, there are about 3 million acres of woodland in Britain. Under the new scheme that acreage will be doubled, and timber is expected to be produced in about the first 10 years after the war.

Disability Veterans Jobs in the U.S.A.

Questions concerning rehabilitation and employment are matters which vitally concern members of the League. It may therefore be of interest to see what is being done in the United States, especially in regard to finding employment for disabled veterans. In this respect, we may plume ourselves on the fact that Australia's is still in advance of most other countries in the re-patriation of service men. There is one interesting statement in the report of what is being done in the United States, especially in regard to finding employment for disabled veterans. It is stated that the knowledge that there is a useful place waiting for him in civilian life, does much to aid in the re-patriation of the disabled veteran. This is the view of American hospital authorities, and it agrees with experience in Australia. Only recently, it was pointed out in similar results from such knowledge have been observed in Australia, while, conversely, the cure of men in hospital, notably TB cases, has been in many cases attended upon the economy situation.

For months now, in the United States, a Veteran's Employment Service has been registering men in naval hospitals for jobs. This system has been successful, and the programme has now been extended to the army hospitals as well. The United States Government is taking hold of this job of fitting disabled veterans happily back into the pattern of civilian life. It is a pattern that it did not in the last war, and the task is being tackled in a more comprehensive way. Already notable results have been won. Here are a few examples.

A St. Louis manufacturer is using blind veterans to do wrapping, packaging, and similar work, and to operate simple machines. A motoraccessories concern in Georgia took on a legless veteran less than six months ago, and he has already earned in increase in salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary. A Denver relative concern in Oregon has taken on a legless veteran, who has done such good work, that he has received a large increase in his own salary.
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One of the more pleasing features of this war is the enthusiastic hospitality the people in all parts of the United Nations extend to service men of their Allies, who may be serving or stationed for training in their country. British air force men in South Africa are having as good a time as Americans are having in Australia, and A stralians in Britain, Canada and the United States. General Smuts—he prefers to be called General, even though he is the first Dominion soldier to be made a British Field Marshal—often gives lifts to soldiers whom his car overtakes. He had picked up two British officers on the Pretoria Road. When they got out of the car, one of them said to the driver: 'Who’s that nice old bloke inside?’ Leaning out of the window, the South African Prime Minister chipped in: ‘Sorry I didn’t introduce myself—my name’s Smuts.’

At the August meeting of the West Perth Sub-Branch, particular reference was made in the president’s report to the recent serious illness of Mr. Bob Tyler, a past president and stalwart of the West Perth Sub-Branch, and a former member of the State Executive. Bob’s illness was more serious than his many friends had imagined, but all are pleased to learn that he is over the worst of it. West Perth members showed their thankfulness in no undecided manner when they were told that Bob had recovered to such an extent that he was able to leave hospital and return to his home to complete his convalescence. We join with the sub-branch in wishing him all the best for a speedy recovery.

With what pride and concern many old Diggers are watching the exploits of their sons in the fighting services. One in particular must be Mr. Joe Fisher of the Maylands RSL, who served with the 6th Railway Operating Company, when he read of his son, Flying-Officer W. N. (Bill) Fisher, taking part in the recent big raid over Munich as an air-gunner. This lad is not yet out of his teens. No doubt we old blokes will have to take a back seat when the boys come home. Mrs. Joe Fisher is vice-president of the Maylands women’s auxiliary.

Major James Rose, VD, who died on August 30, was for many years prominent in the old volunteer defence forces. With the rank of captain, he left for South Africa in May 1890, in command of the 4th Imperial Bushmen’s Contingent. He was wounded at Bethlehem (Orange Free State) on July 8 of that year, during the operations around Lindley. Major Rose left a widow and five sons, three of whom served in the Great War. He was 81 years old when the last call sounded.

Cliff Sadler, VC, has just been elected president of the Subiaco Sub-Branch. This is a case of history repeating itself for 25 years ago, Cliff was Subiaco’s first president. Cliff won his VC while serving as a lieutenant in the 51st. He led his bombing section against a strong enemy machine-gun post at Villers-Bretonneux. At this point, the enemy was holding up the advance, but Cliff and his section killed the crews and captured two of the guns. By this time, his party were all casualties, but alone he attacked the third gun, killing the crew of four, and taking the gun. His outstanding gallantry and determination were the means of clearing the flank, and allowing the battalion to move forward.

At the recent meeting of the 12th-32nd Battalion Association, an apology was received from Jack Harvey, who recently lost his mother. Members extended their sympathy with their old comrade in his bereavement, and to that we add our own.

Sergeant W. O’Neill, of Western Australia, must be one of the very few soldiers in any army to have trodden on a land mine—and lived to tell the tale. He and two other men were creeping up on a Japanese position in the Mubo area, when O’Neill touched the mine with his foot. Leaping aside, he shouted to his mates, and all three threw themselves down in the scrub. The mine blew up, but the men escaped unhurt. It appears that the moist jungle air had affected the mechanism sufficiently to delay the explosion for just those few moments that made all the difference. Sergeant O’Neill has since been awarded the DCM, not for stepping on the mine, but for killing...
single-handed 12 Japanese" whom he met on another jungle foray.

This is a word picture of Hitler's face by the Australian caricaturist, David Low: "Der Fuehrer's face is the face of Germany," says Goebbels. "Well," David Low asks, "what would you call that? Poetry or tripe? Listen: 'The furrows of hardness, determination and all deep suffering for the people, and, in a broader sense, for humanity, of endurance and sacrifice; of bitterness and of strain, have become manifest for ever eye," says Goebbels. "Now this is certainly pure bosh," Low continues "I'm a caricaturist. Faces are my business; and we have been following this particular face around for

20 years now—ever since it made its first putch into politics in 1923. Laterly, with the aid of excellent photographs, Hitler is fond of having his photograph taken. By his latest photograph the face has gone distinctly puffy and flabby. The tretful little mouth has become more fretful, and the eyes are more anxious, which is not to be wondered at. Otherwise, it is the same pretty ordinary dial."

David Low, by the way, stepped into the carriage of Billy Hughes during the last war.

We join with members of the Woollong Sub-Branch in tendering sympathy to their president (Mr. Ted Westley), his mother, and Private B. Westley (missing overseas) on their recent sad bereavement.

Our Osborne Park correspondent writes: A wave of sickness has spread over members of the sub-branch during the last month, and while several recoveries are reported, there are others still under medical attention. It is regretted that an old comrade and member, Cr. W. Menkens, is a patient in the Repat Ward, and many expressions have been made by members for his return to sub-branch activities. Another member, Mr. Joe Datchens, the popular host of the Osborne Park Hotel, has been compelled to enter hospital. Joe has been an active member of this and other sub-branches. Sympathy has been extended to him and his wife, who, under the difficult circumstances, is carrying out the duties of hostess with satisfaction to all.

Mrs. Pope, president of the Subiaco Auxiliary, has been on the sick list. She was unable to attend the auxiliary's monthly meeting on August 18, when her resignation from the chair was received with deep regret. We join with the ladies of the Subiaco Auxiliary in the hope that she will soon be restored to better health.

Mr. J. Patterson, who has been secretary of the Trayning-Yelbeni Sub-Branch on and off for seven years, has decided that he needs a spell. As he is the local constable, the sub-branch could not obstruct the police, but had no option except to abide by his decision. Accordingly, at the meeting on July 25, his resignation was accepted with great regret. The secretaryship has been taken over by Mr. R. V. Walker.

Traying-Yelbeni Diggers are fortunate in having the co-operation of a strong and energetic women's auxiliary in all their efforts for the cause. Members of both bodies have expressed regret that Mrs. F. Smeeton did not seek re-election as auxiliary of the auxiliary. She has been president of the auxiliary for six years, and her creditable performance in that office well deserves the sincere thanks of both auxiliary and sub-branch.

V A R I A

After more than two years, the result of clothes rationing in the United Kingdom is that a quarter of a million tons of shipping space yearly is saved, and that 600,000 workers have been released for direct war production and that enormous sums of money have not been spent on needless items, but have gone into war savings instead.

The former chief of Sicily's air defences, Field Marshal Kesselring of the Luftwaffe, said in a raid on Malta: "The air arm must decide the issue. I regard the Luftwaffe's aim as achieved when military occupation can follow more or less without fighting." Today the aim which Kesselring failed to achieve against the British Isles has been achieved against the island of Sicily by the inventive daring and brilliant planning of the British Air Chief Marshal, Sir Arthur Tedder. Of the latter's use of air-power against Sicily, Col. Nigel Brass, war reporter, records: "It was the most perfect example yet of what air strength can achieve in preparing an offensive. The air preparations—on a scale which the world has never known, in which each pinpointed bombing had some planned objective—made the invasion not only possible, but successful."

RAF parachutes are now being made from synthetic silk obtained from ordinary wood charcoal. This synthetic material is now almost universally used. There are 64 yards in each parachute, and
commissioned officers, who had returned from active service in the Middle East, were likely to be reduced in rank. The League asked the proper authorities for a more equitable arrangement. It was suggested that, rather than asking a man who had held his rank on active service abroad to step down, that he should be discharged with his rank, especially when such rank had often been earned in the field. The Army Department has advised very careful consideration has been given to the disposal of warrant and non-commissioned officers, who had efficient service, sometimes overseas, and who became available for re-posting. Such re-posting may be necessitated by one of a number of circumstances. These would include re-organisation of units, medical reclassification, and unsuitability for continuance in a particular appointment or posting. If the warrant or non-commissioned officer concerned is medically Class A, the needs of the service are such that he must be retained and, after the possibilities of re-posting the member concerned in his present rank have been exhausted, it may become necessary to consider his reduction to a lower rank to permit of his re-posting. For instance, a soldier may be fully qualified as a sergeant in a field artillery unit, but he may not be qualified for posting as a sergeant in an infantry battalion. Accordingly, if no vacancy can be found for him in the artillery, he must be considered for other postings. It is in his own interest that, at this stage, he is sent to a special school to enable him to qualify for posting elsewhere under his present rank.

In the case of a non-commissioned or warrant officer, who is down-graded medically, every effort is made to re-post him under his present rank, and if such posting cannot be effected, he is allowed to elect whether he will be discharged or be re-posted at a lower rank.

It was announced recently that the King had approved a proposal to issue an African Star, and a 1939-43 Star. Numerous inquiries have been received by the Department of the Army, and by the League, regarding eligibility for these medals. The District Records Officer, W.A. L. of C. Area, has now been informed that the procedure to be adopted is tentative.

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The action in which damages were claimed by Raymond Camille Bowers, (who contributes to "The Sunday Times," using the nom de plume "John Diggle") against the proprietors of the "Listening Post," was heard during the month before Mr. Justice Wolff and a jury. It resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff, and he was awarded one shilling damages. The Judge would not make his costs. Naturally we were pleased with the verdict, and sincerely thank all those good friends who sent telegrams and letters extending their congratulations. We have thanked many hundreds for their personal messages.

Some extraordinary stories of the war behind the war have been coming back from North Africa, especially now that the transfer of the desert, still has lifted the veil of censorship. Quite a volume of stories will one day be written around the exploits of the Long Distance Reconnaissance Force. What the men of this force did compares more than favourably with what Lawrence of Arabia did in the last war. They were the privates of the desert. Their job was to go out in small parties and smite the enemy hundreds of miles to the rearward. Indeed, they operated so far behind the German and Italian lines that, for a long time, Rommel's men just could not believe they were British troops at all. All the men of this reconnaissance force grew beards. Their headquarters were concealed in an oasis in the desert, where there are still to be seen the tombs, and the skeletons covered with armour, of the Roman soldiers who fought in that desert two thousand years ago. That oasis must be one of the world's most remarkable spots called Sivuca. Its inhabitants are a mysterious race, not Arabs, but people who are believed to be descendants of a garrison placed there by Alexander the Great, long before the Roman era. The men are over six feet in height, and have blue eyes and red hair. If that theory as to their origin is correct, it is strange that the descendants of Alexander the Great's soldiers should meet in their native desert the victorious warriors of another great Alexander.

For some time the League has been endeavouring to get the Repatriation Commission to pay pensions by cheque, or into a banking account. The State Secretary has now received advice that, in the opinion of the Repatriation Commission, it would be impracticable to pay war pensions by cheque. However, in an effort to meet the requirements of those concerned, the Commission has made arrangements whereby, if a war pensioner, or a trustee for a war pensioner, so desires, periodical payment may be made. The payment will be made in arrears, and each payment will cover a period of 12 weeks, to the credit of the pensioner's account with any trading or savings bank in the Commonwealth. Such banks will include the General and Savings Bank Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. The first pay-day under the scheme will be in respect of the period of 12 weeks ending on December 15, 1943. Any pensioner or trustee desiring to change from fortnightly payments in advance, through a post office, to payments in arrears, covering a period of 12 weeks, to a bank account, should communicate with the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation in the capital city of the State in which the pensioner resides.

This arrangement will not apply to service pensions, nor to pensions paid on behalf of overseas administrators.

The "Listening Post" has always cherished a high sense of its obligations as the official organ of the League, and of its duty to the country which the League continues to serve at home, as its members and active service abroad. As an official organ, we have consistently upheld the League's constitution, and especially those planks of it which uphold the integrity of the British Empire, and advocate an adequate defence policy for Australia and general preference for returned service men. We have never refrained from criticising any one who speaks or acts in a manner derogatory to any of these principles, irrespective of the position or political affiliations of the speaker; and that policy will continue as long as this paper is the official organ of the League. During the present war, this paper has consistently endeavoured to keep up public morale, and stimulate public support for the war effort.

One tendency which war as a service men's paper have determined to fight is the tendency to sabotage the war effort by spreading propaganda likely to upset people's faith in those charged with the duty of conducting and directing the war. At the beginning of the war, before Russia came into the battle-line, there were quasi-political elements in this country who had no hesitation in branding the war as "imperialistic war," and in describing as war-time dangers political leaders of all parties, who insisted on all our national resources being used to defeat the enemy. After Russia came into the war, these subversive elements changed their tune. To them, the war became
a holy war over night, but the sabotaging activities did not cease. Instead, they took another form—that of an agitation for a so-called "second front." The attempts to prod the Allies into starting a new European war, I think, may become more and without regard to the war position as a whole, were more than ill-timed. They came perilously near to being subversive activities.

**Scabbards Off**

By Pip-Tok

The most misused words in the world today are "capitalization" and "capitulate." How many times, in the past week or so, have we read of the capitulations of Italy, and the reasons why Italy had to capitulate? Actually, Italy did no such thing. She surrendered unconditionally. A capitulation, on the other hand, is an agreement to surrender on certain specified conditions. In older wars, when the garrison of a fortified place capitulated, it was allowed to march out with drums beating and colours flying. The troops retained their arms, and marched off to fight somewhere else, leaving the town, fortress or strong-point in the hands of the enemy.

The unfortunate Badoglio was scarified by a frenzied Hitler during his recent speech. Hitler spoke of base treachery and ingratitude, and threw in his usual whine about democratic war-mongers. There is a curious lack of humour about these political gangsters. Hitler apparently did not realize that every time he said about Badoglio must have rubbed salt into the wounds of Petain and Laval.

It was one of Fate's ironies that placed Marshal Badoglio in the position of having to ask the Allies for an armistice, because it was he who presented the Allied armistice terms to the Austrians on November 3, 1918. Since then, the military terms of the armistice have been published. They provide a complete refection of the stupid clamour of people in other countries, and their parrot-like echoes in Perth, that the Allies intended to grant the Italians lenient terms in return for their acceptance of a reactionary government. Badoglio's Government was a stop-gap, but it was the only Italian Government with whom the Allies could treat. The so-called "People's Government," about which there has been so much prating, has not yet come into existence.

An old Wiltshire shepherd, who is a member of the Home Guard, was up all night at the time of the expected invasion attempt, after the collapse of France. When the news came through that he could knock off, he said to his leader: "Bain't 'em comin', Sir?" "Not this time," was the reply. "Ah," said the old fellow, "just what I thought. There bain't no dependence on them Germans. Here I've been up all night, hanging about for nuthin'!"

Mosquito planes are Britain's twin-engined fighter bombers, the fastest ones in the skies today. Their pilots have flown to Russia for lunch, and back to England for tea. The Mosquito is the triumph of private enterprise, and of a little group of men, headed by Captain Geoffrey de Havilland, who has been designing planes since 1908. They were given a free hand to work without any official specifications. The Mosquito was designed in 1939 and was in action just 22 months later. Everything possible about it is made of wood. The fuselage, for instance, is made like the two halves of an Easter egg, with the shell made of two layers of ply-wood, with balsa sandwiched between. For the benefit of newspapermen, Mr. de Havilland recently put a Mosquito through its paces—power diving, rolling, looping, and so on. Then he repeated the performance with one of its two engines cut out.

Papers recently reported the wedding in Edinburgh of a lady whose bridal dress, bag and shoes were made of spun glass. Both bride and bridgroom are specialist in glass technology. It is not known whether or not they will carry their devotion to glass to the logical conclusion; but if they do they will doubtless remember the old advice that people who love in glass houses should pull down the blinds.

Americans now call Britain the "unsinkable aircraft carrier," and the Germans call Goering "Mr. Meyer." It will be remembered that, when the war began, Goering promised the German people that their cities would be immune from aerial bombardment. "If a single English bomb drops on German soil," he said, "my name's Meyer." "Meyer of course is a very common Jewish name. Goering's luckless countrymen, in the Ruhr and other bombarded centres, have now taken him at his word. To them, he is always "Mr. Meyer" when there are no Gestapo ears to overhear them.

Britain has been called by many names in many countries; but American ingenuity has invented a new name which is both striking and complimentary. They call the "tight little island" the "Unsinkable Aircraft Carrier." Americans recall just what Goering did to try to sink this threatening carrier. In 1940 he began by trying to destroy its air cover. The plan was to shoot down RAF fighter
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squadrons in daylight combat; but the result was disastrous to the enemy. Then Göring changed his tactics. He began the daylight bombing of airfields and factories to destroy RAF power on the ground, just as the RAF today bombs U-boat secret yards and bases in an effort to keep the "sub" off the seas. Again the enemy suffered disaster. Then Göring gave up daylight shows and turned to the night blitz of England's industrial centers. It was several months before Britain could detect planes right across the road, and by the time it came to an end, as a definite phase of the war, the提倡 is the unsinkable aircraft carrier from which our planes and those of our American Allies are operating to knock the very devil out of Hitler's war industries.

During the final stages of the Tunisian campaign, a British soldier was driving a truck along a new route. He did not know whether it had been cleared of mines, and so, when all at once, he came upon a laid-out patch of grass beside the road, he pulled up. The patch was a thick strip of dandelions, three inches wide, stretching from one side of the road to the other, and coming to a point towards him. The dandelion was such a likely source of a load of trouble under these flowers. He saw three little French boys coming towards him from a house in an olive grove just off the track. He hailed them and asked, in his best French, whether the road ahead was free from mines. The boys said yes, it was. "Well then, what are those for?" the soldier demanded, and pointed to the flowers across the road. The boys looked pityingly at him. "Pour Victoire," they said. It was simply the V sign, only they had said it with dandelions.

In a recent article Peter Batten described how unmercifully an Army concert party was "chipped" over an unfortunate choice of sleeping quarters. The party had put on a show, "Somehow in Australia," and had to remain in the town overnight. The matron of the local hospital came to light with sleeping quarters, and put the entertainers in the maternity ward, which happened to be vacant at the time. A party of Australian officers had an even more intriguing experience in England. They were billeted in a girls' school that had been taken over by the Army. There was great hilarity when they went up to the dormitory to inspect their sleeping quarters. The authorities had neglected to remove the notices which had been put on the walls for the benefit of the schoolgirl's. One of them was: "If you want a mistress during the night, press this button."

Soldiers in all ages have cursed the bad weather, which increased the privations of war, and made operations more difficult. There have been times, however, when sudden weather changes have proved such unexpected benefits that they seemed like acts of Providence. In a desert sandstorm, more recently a desert sandstorm, blowing in the faces of the enemy, effectively silenced the flanking movement that turned the Mareth Line. Going back to the last war, the most striking case of what seemed to be Providential intervention, was connected with the first use of poison gas. We are told that the Germans waited for a weather forecast promising a wind in the direction of the Allied lines for at least 36 hours. Finally, their meteorological department gave the word, and, on April 22, 1915, at 5 o'clock on a lovely spring afternoon at Ypres, "two curious greenish-yellow" clouds came drifting slowly across No Man's Land. Our men were caught napping, and suffered severely; but then, in an entirely unexpected local movement of air, the wind changed. It blew the heavy chlorine gas back on the Germans themselves. An official German report said: "In 40 years of meteorological records of the German Government, the wind never acted so strangely before."

The day was saved for the Allies. After that they were able to prepare protection against gas attacks, and the vital element of surprise had gone.

The present war has altered the map of the world from the top and bottom, as much as the world in more ways than one. World airways, especially the great circle route from Canada to India and Australia, by way of Alaska, has caused people to look at the world from the sides. More and more maps are now appearing, showing the world as northern and southern hemisphere, centres round the poles, instead of eastern and western hemispheres, giving prominence to the American and Asiatic land masses. The reason is that great circle air routes between centres of population in the different continents are apt to run over regions which shipping cannot.

Contemporary history has shown the wide gulf between the Concentration camps and those of our own people. However, we need not look back 41 years to find real evidence of Axis barbarity. Whining Italy's German masters were the first to bomb cities from the air, just as they were the first to use poison gas. In Abyssinia, when the Italians could not defeat their ill-armed opponents, they sprayed them with mustard gas, again from the air. Mussolini's own son rhapsodised in print on the joys of bombing defenceless Abyssinians. Later, after the attempt to assassinate Graziani, the panicky Italian troops ran amuck in Addis Ababa and massacred 6,000 Abyssinians. And now, when they are suffering the bullets of the war they entered so treacherously, they have the gall to squeal about atrocities.

Desert warfare! Sand! A friend of ours has told us about that sand. He said: "They say Death is a great leveller. But sand comes a close second!" And he went on to talk about that sand. To hear him you'd think the stuff had not only life, but intelligence, and a hell of a spin against the whole human race.

According to a report from South Africa, there's such a acute shortage of glasses at some Durban hotels now, you either drink your beer straight out of the bottle or have it served in a jam jar—but it's still beer.

Before the war the big Italian broadcasting station at Bari and the German station at Zeessen made considerable mischief with their scurrilous anti-British propaganda in the Middle East. Our own people were slow at using this potent medium of publicity, but, as in many other activities connected with the war effort, they have established a good lead from a delayed start. The Nazi ringleaders have no illusions about the potency of Allied radio which is now directed at Europe, 24 hours a day, by the BBC. The grim list of executions of clandestine listeners to these programmes is proof enough that the Nazis fear this great Allied weapon. In the mountains and forests of Norway, Yugoslavia to the Atlantic, the cellars of western Europe, brave men and women take down the information given in these broadcasts. It is then printed in about 500 separate newspapers and distributed as newspapers. The BBC's Europe Service is doing much to marshal the underground forces in Europe, ready to march to the surface, when the time of invasion comes. In fact, it is often described as one of the most
important weapons in Allied hands. A striking tribute to its worth was given by the French Socialist Deputy, Andre Phillip, who managed to escape from France to England in the July of last year. He said "If we have resistance in France, it is because of the BBC. Its influence has been tremendous possibly one of the greatest influences in French history."

**Sub-Branch Activities**

**NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE**

The question of eligibility was the main topic discussed at the August meeting. Members generally favour the policy of "hasten slowly." The five delegates who will represent the sub-branch at Congress are Messrs. E. J. Tomlin, D. W. Paton, A. E. Dougst, G. F. Brown and F. D. Finlay, with Messrs. A. J. Jagga and W. P. Griffiths as deputies.

The president welcomed 18 new members, of whom nine are men returned, from the present war.

**WOOROLOO**

At the annual meeting on August 25, Mr. Ted Westley was re-elected president. He now enters his ninth year in that office. Other officers elected were: Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Fred Hall and J. Clayden; secretary, Mr. Frank Hayden; social secretary, Mr. T. Cross, with Mr. H. Naraway as assistant. Mr. B. Cornford, who had ably filled the position of vice-president for the past five years, received the thanks of members for his services. Mr. Naraway, the assistant social secretary, was also thanked for his many services during the year. Membership has increased, and finances are in a healthy condition. This has enabled the sub-branch to make substantial donations to various patriotic funds.

**VICTORIA PARK**

The August monthly meeting was well attended, two new members being added.
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(Late 92nd Battalion)
to the register. Mr. F. Matthews and Alf Nicholls were appointed to represent the Keppel and Central State Congress. We decided to enter for the Newdegate Cup competition, and are hopeful of being in the running when the numbers go up this year. There was a long discussion on the Cook case and it was resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the president and secretary for further investigation.

The question of the Victoria Park tramway service's stopping places was discussed at length, and a motion that tram services on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday be arranged. This was carried.

Harry Taylor, vice-president of the sub-branch, has been on the sick list—ill, with influenza, but is now back at work again looking after the soles of his customers. He is the local bootmaker.

Members are reminded that the meetings of the sub-branch are held on the third Friday in each month.

The committee meets on Tuesdays, fortnightly.

MOSMAN PARK

During August the sub-branch held its annual smoke, which was an unqualified success. Some 170 ex-service men attended, and besides being well attended to with the means necessary to produce conviviality, they were splendidly entertained.

Our last general meeting was not as well attended as has been the practice of recent months. Opinion was expressed that the falling-off was due to the discontinuance of sending out monthly notices, and in order that we might get back to the time-honoured and time-respected custom of sending out regular notices.

Jim Strickland and Frank Harrison undertook between them to produce and distribute monthly notices. Another sports might in the process of being arranged. This time with the Headquarters officers. Members, who took part in a similar evening during last year are looking forward keenly to the engagement.

The usual evening meetings have been well attended, and the fortnightly functions are largely patronised. An enjoyable evening was spent on September 2, the occasion being a celebration by the Italian members on the downfall of Mussolini.

ARMADALE

Social and games evenings were held at Byford on August 18 and Kelmscott on August 27. At the August meeting Mr. A. J. Egan was elected delegate to Congress. At the meeting on September 8 vice-president Albert Egan was elected in the absence of the president (Spence Gowland). Mr. Gowland, who is serving at Darwin, has been enrolled as a new member.

Two other new members—Messrs. Trigg and Bladen—were welcomed at the meeting. Members are grateful at the way men returned from the present war are joining the League. Finances for August were in credit.

BULLSBROOK

VDC members were the guests of honour at the smoke social on July 3. Important guests included Mr. L. Thorn, MLA, who represents the district in Parliament, and Captain Gay (OC "D" Coy, Swan Battalion) who was the main speaker.

BULLSBROOK

Our usual meeting was held in the "dug-out," nearly 100 members being present.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

The usual monthly meeting was held on September 2, at the house of Mr. R. Oglg. The branch president (Mr. R. Oglg) will represent the State Congress, but will be absent from the meetings. The next regular meeting will take place on the first Monday in October.

WESTERN PARK

The usual meeting was held last Saturday night, and the committee have been very busy preparing for the forthcoming State Congress. It was decided to amend the name of the sub-branch to "Western Park" from "Western Sub-Branch." The meeting concluded with an enjoyable social function.

SHEPHERD PARK

The sub-branch has decided that its committee shall take care of all business likely to arise during the quarter, while the monthly meetings are in abeyance. This course was decided upon because business and the business of the members. Meetings of the sub-branch are held on the second Monday in October. As this will probably be the last meeting of the year, all members are urged to attend.

The president (Mr. R. Oglg) will represent the State Congress, and other duties will prevent him from being there the whole time. Membership is showing a slight increase, and the financial position is very sound. The POA Fund has benefited by a further £20/- collected from the sub-branch.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

The usual monthly meeting was held in the "dug-out," nearly 100 members being present.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting was held on September 3, at the State Congress building, and the following officers were elected:


The following officers were elected at the annual meeting on August 17: President, Mr. H. H. Baggs; vice-presidents, Messrs. C. A. Stephens, (senior) and T. J. Nicholls; Hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. L. Boyd; assistant secretary, Mr. N. Beckley; auditors, Messrs. G. H. Cooper and J. W. Walton; committee, Commonwealth Service, Messrs. F. E. Smith and G. W. Gowan, State Service, Messrs. H. Long, R. Round, and G. Brown, W. M. Johnson, W. Brown, and W. Round.

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FREMANTLE CITY

The meeting on August 26 was well attended. Congress delegates were chosen. They are Messrs. H. G. Wilson (President), Alex Bracken (Vice-President), with Marcus Anderson as proxy. The President reported that, before returning to his battle station in New Guinea, Gunner Holden called on him and expressed deep gratitude for the work the sub-branch had done for his invalid child. He was going back from anxiety, knowing that the sub-branch would make all the necessary medical arrangements while he is away. He could not say enough in praise of the sub-branch and the good League propaganda work with his mates in the present war. There was a large gathering at the annual reunion on September 2. The State Executive was reported to the State President, the Senior Vice-President, and Col. Mansbridge. The visitors included the Mayor and Councillors, the Hon. W. Kitson, MLC, Mr. J. Tonkin, MLA (who responded to the toast of Parliament), and Ensign Angel, USN (who responded for the Allies). Many sister sub-branches sent representatives. The women’s auxiliary is to be congratulated on the excellent decorations and festive arrangements. The chair was occupied by Hon. W. K. W. K. President, who replied. The women’s auxiliary was presented by the women’s auxiliary, who is now doing a good job with the Air Training Corps. The year’s work of the sub-branch was outlined by Dr. Wilson. He mentioned that the sub-branch had been in operation for various reasons, and concluded with a tribute to the men. The men are thankful to Dr. Wilson. The women’s auxiliary is ably given the toast of the State President and Executive. The State President replied. Members are reminded to submit their applications on September 9, general meetings will be held fortnightly.

BOULDER

The annual meeting was well attended, and very few changes took place in the executive committee. In spite of the existing conditions, the sub-branch has had a record year, thanks to the number of stalwarts who have worked very hard during the year to build up the funds. A building fund has been inaugurated, and it is hoped that in the not distant future the sub-branch will be able to build decent club rooms of their own. A number of the young soldiers have been enrolled, and we are indeed pleased to welcome them to our ranks. The weekly euchre tournament has proved a great success, and is still going strongly, thanks to a few willing assistants. President Bill Rourke, although a very busy man these days with the local VDC, still finds time to attend to the affairs of the sub-branch, and is very popular with the boys. Ted Lennon is not enjoying the best of health of late, but he is looking forward to a speedy recovery. Vice-president Fred Hadden has taken unto himself a wife, and the boys all wish the happy couple all that they wish themselves for the future. The President and members of the sub-branch send a hearty cheerio to all our comrades in the forces, as well as to all out-back comrades. We are sorry to report that...
PARK

Pace.1e

قاء section the .funeral arrangements carried out by the sub-branch.

WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY

The September meeting was well attended, and new members continue to be enrolled. The numerical strength of this sub-branch has now broken all records. Staff-Sergeants R. G. Thompson and K. W. Vallis were welcomed on the occasion of their first appearance. They are both returned men from the present war, and are ex the 3rd Aust. Corps. Members stood to attention in memory of one of our valued friends in Mr. W. A. Sabine, who passed away recently. President Bill McCullough reported concerning a recent committee meeting in connection with the new war loan, and indications are that the sub-branch will play an important part in making a strong local effort to ensure the loan's success. This sub-branch has for some time been considering the advisability of erecting its own premises, and a committee has now been elected to devise ways and means. One of our members, Mr. C. H. A. Bolton, again presented the sub-branch with a cheque for a substantial amount, representing collections he effects in his business establishment. These moneys are donated to the POW Fund. Members are sorry to note the absence from our meetings of recent date of Matt Epis, who has not been enjoying the best of health.

Women's
Auxiliaries

STATE EXECUTIVE

Mrs. J. McKINLAY writes: Mr. D. M. Benson attended a recent executive meeting and received a cheque of £30 for the Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Trust Fund. This was the proceeds of the bridge party at Boans, together with a few pounds collected by the State Executive in past months. In thanking the Executive, Mr. Benson added that there would be an urgent need of this fund when the garrison service of the older ex-service men ceased, and they had returned to civilian life. Mr. Benson also expressed appreciation of the assistance given by the auxiliaries in bringing the POW Fund up to £16,500. It was hoped that cards would soon be included in some of the parcels, indicating that the RSL contributed to this Red Cross service. Lennos was visited on Sunday, August 22, by the State Executive and friends. Mrs. G. W. Randall acted as hostess for York. Mrs. Robertson, honorary secretary of Bunbury Auxiliary, was also present. The afternoon was spent in dancing, with musical items by Miss Pendergrast and several of the patients. Executive members prepared and set out high tea before leaving. South Perth held their 11th birthday party on September 10. Many auxiliaries were represented by their office-bearers. Mrs. J. McKINLAY conveyed the good wishes of the State Executive for another successful year. We regret that Mrs. H. Scott, vice-president of the State Executive, has had to resign this month owing to ill-health. Many thanks to all the secretaries who sent such concise, yet interesting, annual reports for Conference. Your action will greatly facilitate their presentation to Conference.

VICTORIA PARK

The August meeting was well attended, with Mrs. Barnett in the chair. The agenda paper for the coming conference was read and discussed, and delegates were instructed as to members' wishes regarding the various items. Mesdames Barnett and Matthews will represent the auxiliary at Conference, and Mrs. Tolmie is proxy delegate. Final arrangements were made for the 14th birthday party of the auxiliary, which will take place on Wednesday, September 29, at the RSL Hall, Salford Street, Victoria Park. Delegates and their husbands have been invited; also representatives from other auxiliaries. Mesdames Ralgh, Tillson and Coleman have been chosen to visit the Edward Millen Home for the next six months.

F.U.S.W.

Mrs. T. C. Wilson took the chair at the monthly social in the Burt Memorial Hall until the arrival of the president (Mrs. Dean). Mrs. E. Wiltshire gave an illuminating address on prisoners of war. She has had practical experience of internment in an enemy country, having been captured at sea, on her way out to

AT THE GRAND THEATRE Commencing Friday, 24th September

HOPALONG CASSIDY in

"Twilight on the Trail"

Also "MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH"

SHOP

at FOY'S

For VALUE and Friendly Service!
Australia. She was taken to France, and then to Germany, where she was interned for two years. Mrs. Wilshire spent three weeks on a pocket battleship before getting to France. During those weeks she was allowed on deck only 19 hours in all. They were issued with needles, pins, and cotton, and they took curtains from the ship, and other things that they could turn into clothes, as they had only what they stood up in. They spent much time sewing, and making the most of everything available. Food was scarce, and few would have survived had it not been for the flow of parcels from the Red Cross. Mrs. Dean thanked the speaker. The musical programme was arranged by Mrs. Collins and Miss Nell Shortland-Jones. They were assisted by Mrs. Griffiths, Miss Faith Court, and Mr. John Frederick. Mrs. G. R. Moore thanked the artists for the services.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE
One new member was enrolled during August. The following donations, making a total of £70, have been paid out:

- Women's Hospital Piano Fund, £1
- Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund, £1.

and an additional £20 was given to the sub-branch as a contribution to the POW Fund. The gift of a rug, made from woollen squares and presented by Mrs. Maywood, of Flinders Street, was taken to Edward Millet Home by Messrs. Snook and Tovey. It was very much appreciated by the matron and patients. Sympathies are extended to Mrs. Williams, of Hobart Street, and to Mr. and Mrs. Kay, in their recent bereavements.

BULLSBROOK AND DISTRICTS
Monthly meetings and dances have been held as usual. The dances show profits which go to deserving causes. In July and August £1 was donated to the "Adopt a Digger" fund, and £2/2/- to the No. 1 Lucknow Women's Military Hospital.

SUBIACO
Mrs. Strue, the senior vice-president, presided over a well attended meeting on August 18. The Camp Comforts Fund has made the following donations: POW Fund, £2/5/-; Merchant Seamen, £2/5/-; and from auxiliary Lucknow Piano Fund, £2/2/-; Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Fund, £1/1/.

At the meeting of the State Executive on August 17 there were present Messrs. Edmondson, Yeates, Williams, Anderson, Margolin, Cornell, James, Zeffert, Olden, Mansbridge, Patton, Smith, Collins, Baker, Bateson, Cornish and Davies.

POW Fund. The POW Fund committee reported that the entertainment at the Plaza Theatre on August 8 had been an outstanding success. A sum of £126 had been realised.

Membership.—The Membership Committee reported that the number of financial members, as at June 30, had increased to 9,600.

Visits.—Visits were reported by the State President (Gunner's Day, with Col. Margolin), Subiaco Auxiliary at Lemnos Hospital, Midland Auxiliary Sub-Branch, with Mr. Williams and the State Secretary; Sunset Home; unveiling of Memorial Plaque to HMAS Perth, with other members of the Executive; and Education Council; State Secretary (Salvation Army) Fortescue Meeting; Mr. Williams (Nedlands); Mr. Bateson (Perth Hospital).

28th Annual Congress.—Advice was received that the 28th Annual Congress would be held in Hobart, commencing on November 15, 1943. The question of the appointment of delegates was deferred until next meeting.

Canteen Funds.—At the instance of the Collie Sub-Branch, the Department of the Army was approached with a request that canteen funds should be made available for the provision of amenities for army personnel. A reply was received from the Department of the Army, indicating how canteen funds are distributed. It was resolved to forward a copy of the letter to the Collie Sub-Branch. It was also resolved that the Minister of the Army be approached with the request that organisations which are at present providing amenities for the entertainment of troops should be subsidised from canteen funds.

Gunner's Day.—A statement concerning the origin and tradition of Gunners...
Day at Guildford, prepared by Brigadier A. J. Bessell-Browne, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., was received.

Appointment.—The appointment of Mr. A. Ross as secretary of the Kellerebin Sub-Branch was approved.

Resolutions, Subiaco Sub-Branch.—The Subiaco Sub-Branch submitted several resolutions dealing with the employment of soldiers. It was resolved to ask the Subiaco to submit them as notices of motion to Congress. It was decided to refer them to the Problems Committee as well.

Repatriation, Sanatorium.—The Deputy Commissioner for Repatriation asked that a committee from the League meet him with other officers in order to discuss the Edward Millen Home.

It was decided to accede to this request, and the Sub-President, with Messrs. Watt, Panton and Margolin were appointed as a committee.

Taxi Licenses.—A returned soldier from the present war advised that he had applied for a taxi license, but had been refused. It was resolved to take this matter up with the Premier's Department.

Proposed League Premises, Fremantle.—A communication from the Fremantle Sub-Branch concerning this matter was referred to the Problems Committee.

War and Post-War Policy.—Correspondence from the Merredin Sub-Branch on this matter was received.

Fishing Boats—Delegates were advised that as the result of League representations, at least one fishing boat had been acquired by two returned soldiers who were now engaged in that industry. It was resolved to advise Federal Office of the circumstances.

Civilian Local Police.—A communication from the Armadale Sub-Branch regarding deferred pay was received.

Wreath-laying, State War Memorial.—The Salvation Army advised that a wreath-laying ceremony would be conducted at the War Memorial on August 22 at 3 p.m. They proposed that their band would play at the Memorial for half an hour or so. It was resolved to draw attention to the established practice of conducting only silent ceremonies at the Memorial.

National Power Scheme, South-West.—The Collie Sub-Branch urged the Executive to support a proposed national power scheme in the South-West, details of which were contained in a pamphlet, also submitted.

It was resolved that inquiries be made from the Government, and if necessary, that the matter be referred to the Problems Committee.

Wubin Sub-Branch.—Advice was received that the Wubin Sub-Branch was to go into recess. Delegates expressed regret that this step was necessary, and urged that all possible means should be investigated to continue the activity of the sub-branch in that area.

Rabbit-Proof Fence, Burracoppin.—The Merredin Sub-Branch submitted a resolution relating to the removal of the fence on the rabbit-proof fence east of Burracoppin, advising that the sub-branch refer the matter to the road board concerned, and to the local member of Parliament.

Certificate of Merit, J. F. Thorn.—Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch recommended that the League's Certificate of Merit be awarded to J. F. Thorn, Esq., general manager of the Lake View and Star Ltd. It was agreed that the necessary action be taken.

Christmas Hampers.—The Australian Cottages Fund sought assistance to raise funds for their Christmas Hampers. It was resolved to publish this request in the "Living Post," and to include it in the next circular to sub-branches.

Preference, Army Inspection Branch.—The North Perth Sub-Branch suggested that all particulars concerning the non-observance of preference to returned soldiers in the Army Inspection Branch should be referred to the Executive for their action. It was pointed out that the manpower authorities had already been approached, and certain information submitted. No reply had yet been received.

It was resolved to await the result of the representations made to the manpower authorities before taking further action.

Government Tenancy, Anzac House.—Advice was received that the State Government found it impracticable at the present time to vacate that portion of Anzac House now being used as Government offices. After discussion, it was resolved to refer the matter to Parliament, that the Governor, if necessary, be asked to join a deputation from this Executive to the Premier, with a view to having Anzac House vacated by the Government.

SEPTEMBER 2

At the meeting of the State Executive on September 2 there were present Messrs. Edmondson, Williams, Anderson, Panton, Margolin, Collett, Cornell, Watt, Thorn, Zeffert, Mansbridge, Smith, Collins, Harvey, Baker, Bateson, Cornich and Daniel.

RLS Broadcasts.—The following roster was arranged for RLS broadcasts: September 2, Mr. H. E. Smith; September 9, Mr. C. E. Baker; September 16, Mr. E. Davie; September 23, Mr. C. W. Mansbridge; September 30, the State Secretary.

League Trophies.—A recommendation by the Management Committee, that Col. Olden be asked to continue to act on the Synthetic Committee, as some difficulties arise in the appointment of a president for League trophies was adopted.

President's Congress Address.—It was resolved that the Australian Broadcasting Commission be asked to broadcast the State President's address to Congress.

Federal Congress Delegates.—With reference to a resolution carried by last year's Congress that one delegate to the Federal Congress should not be an Executive member, it was recommended that the resolution be referred back to Congress, and that if it be pointed out that machinery is available for the appointment of any delegate outside the Executive, then it would be recommended that the Executive consider the matter.

Pensions and Employment.—The report of a meeting of the Pensions and Employment Commission on August 27 was received and adopted. The question of the treatment of mental patients arose from the report, the Repatriation Commission having stated that, when the necessity arose for increased accommodation for this purpose, it would be provided, but, up to the present, the necessity had not arisen. It was resolved that, in the opinion of the Executive, the necessity for additional accommodation for the treatment of mental patients has arisen, and that accommodation that should be provided at Lemnos Hospital.

Visits.—Visits were reported by the State President with Messrs. Williams, Anderson and Davies—to the RAAF Technical School, and to Mr. William (Wooroloo Sanatorium); Mr. Bateson (Perth Hospital); Col. Mansbridge (Kembscott); Mr. Cornich (Lake Grace, Newdegate and Ravenshorpe).

Nomination, Federal Officers.—A discussion followed on nominations submitted from the Federal Office for nominations for the offices of Federal President, Federal treasurer, and Hon. Federal solicitor and Hon. Federal auditor. It was resolved that no nominations be submitted from this State Branch.

State Congress.—Advice was received that His Excellency the Lieut-Governor would be pleased to open Congress proceedings at 11 a.m. on September 28.

A letter from the Clerk advised that the City Council would be prepared to tender a civic reception to Congress delegates at 5 p.m. on September 28. The Executive's wishes were sought in regard to refreshments. It was resolved to advise the council that on this occasion the function should not be a "dry" one.

Clerical Employees, Munitions Branch.—Advice was received from the Deputy Director-General Munitions Manager that action had been taken to call on certain eligible employees now engaged in the Ministry of Munitions.

Taxi Licenses.—The question of the refusal of a taxi licence to a member of the Sub-Branch was referred to, and delegates were informed that the whole of this question was now before the Premier.

Official Visits.—It was resolved that in the annual report to Congress only official visits to meetings or buildings and functions should be reported on, and that they should be grouped with the exception that special reference should be made to the number of visits paid by the Premier.

Suggested Farm School.—The Baldhu Sub-Branch suggested the inauguration of a farm school, such as Fairbridge. It was resolved to advise Baldhu to instruct their delegate to Congress, to submit the matter as a notice of motion to the Soldier Settlers' Conference.

Daylight Saving on Behalf of Farmers.—Yarloop Sub-Branch expressed the opinion that the State Executive should protect the farmers by the introduction of daylight saving. It was resolved to advise the sub-branch to place the matter before the local member of Parliament.

Church Parade, September 3.—Previously, an offer had been made by the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch to Police the Hobbs Memorial to prevent it being used as a sight-seeing stand when parades were held on the Esplanade. The City Council requested the Mt. Lawley members to make a protest in this way on September 3 during the Church Parade, which would be held in commemoration of the outbreak of war. Delegates were advised that the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch had made arrangements to do this.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.I. Hall</td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Way, Gutha</td>
<td>E. A. Matthews, Gutha</td>
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<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.I. Memorial Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>T. W. D. Smith, Herbert Rd, Harvey</td>
<td>D. D. Johnstone, Box 29, Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>KALGOORIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Tuesday in month at 8 p.m.; Executive, alt. Fridays</td>
<td>J. R. Hylton, Great Boulder, Finister</td>
<td>D. F. Edwards, Kalgoorlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Clubrooms, Carey Street</td>
<td>Monthly, 3rd Wednesday, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Jas. Old, Katanning</td>
<td>S. A. Seward, Katanning</td>
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<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Kellergar and Doolakine</td>
<td>Quarterly committee (1st Friday)</td>
<td>Frank Nicholls, Doolakine; phone</td>
<td>Allen Ross, Doolakine; phone</td>
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<td>KOODA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Chas. H. Smith, Koorda</td>
<td>E. W. Robinson, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Kukerin</td>
<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KULIN</td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>T. M. Kulin</td>
<td>W. A. Tumber, C. Smith, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANCE</td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in month</td>
<td>R. D. Allen, Lake King</td>
<td>M. G. Johnston, Lake King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEEUWEN</td>
<td>Lake King Hall</td>
<td>2nd Thursday each month</td>
<td>Lou Thompson</td>
<td>Geo. A. E. Motor, Monjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>Road Board Office, Boddington</td>
<td>Last Saturday, quarterly</td>
<td>H. O. Pollard, Bannister, v.d.</td>
<td>F. E. O'Bourke, Boddington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRADONG BODDINGTON</td>
<td>Supper-room, Town Hall</td>
<td>Thursday, 7.30 p.m. (pension week)</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td></td>
<td>First Wednesday in month, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mr. F. Kessell</td>
<td>Mr. J. C. Scoullar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEEKERING-CUNDERDAIN</td>
<td>R.S.I. Branch Rooms, Railwatch, alternately</td>
<td>1st Sunday in month, at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Wm. Skuhor, Menzies</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O, Manjimup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENZIES</td>
<td>Council Chambers</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>W. S. Lamb, 24 Clayton St., Bellevue</td>
<td>Len Wilkinson, 22 Brockman Road, Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>R.S.I. Branch Rooms, Railwatch, alternately</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>G. A. Ashworth, Bond Street, Mundaring</td>
<td>R. G. Thomas, 7 Lillian St. Cooloona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOOROH</td>
<td>R.S.I. Hall, Johnston Street, Corinella</td>
<td>2nd Thursday in each month</td>
<td>Col. Nicholson, Moorooduc</td>
<td>C. Ryan, Moorooduc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. BARKER</td>
<td>Road Board Room, Moorooduc</td>
<td>1st Monday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. J. James, Moorooduc</td>
<td>W. J. Towers, Murtowage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. MOUNTAIN</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Thursday in each month</td>
<td>A. Carpenter, Mt Magnet</td>
<td>C. Richardson, 15 Finders Street, Mt Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT. HAWTHORN</td>
<td>Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Oxford Street, Leederville</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>G. B., Blox, 14 London St., Mt Hawthorn</td>
<td>V. T. Hamance, 105 Mount Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute, Narrogin</td>
<td>2nd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>M. S. Williams, Narrogin</td>
<td>S. E. McKenna, Dungarvan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NARRAOGIN</td>
<td>Picture Theatre Building, Broadway, Narrogin</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>J. Logan, Narrogin State School</td>
<td>P. O. G. Murray, 20 Northwood Street, Narrogin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEDLANDS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quarterly, 3rd Friday, March, June, September, December</td>
<td>R. W. Perry, 82 Cooper St., Nedlands</td>
<td>J. E. Jefferson, 4 Thomas Street, Nedlands, Phone WM9171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWDEGATE</td>
<td>Newdegate</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday in each month</td>
<td>G. Caldwell, Newdegate</td>
<td>L. H. Rose, Newdegate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>East Fremantle Town Hall</td>
<td>4th Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. J. Tomlin, 36 Winson Rd, East Fremantle</td>
<td>A. E. Doust, 8 Harris Street, Palmyra, Tel. 12738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td>Railway Hotel, N'hampton</td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 9 p.m.</td>
<td>C. J. Fraser, Northam</td>
<td>A. W. Ash, Northamptaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td>R.S.I. Clubrooms, Gordon Street, Northam</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. H. L. Throckmorton, Gordon St., Northam, Phone 91</td>
<td>G. C. Curlew, 154 Fitzgerald Street, Northam, Phone 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>North Perth Bowling Club Rooms, Woodville Reserve</td>
<td>2nd Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. O. Davies, 77 Mabel St, North Perth, Phone 87947</td>
<td>J. C. Stratton, 16 Knutsford St, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAM</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every 4th Friday</td>
<td>O. J. Parker, Grant's Patch</td>
<td>E. F. Fitzgerald, Grant's Patch Lon andon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fortnight (alt. Pension Week)</td>
<td>A. Dans, 149 Carr Street, North Perth</td>
<td>W. Ashdown, 75 Malton St, Mt Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Thursday in each month</td>
<td>W. G. Hood, 25 Thompson Road, Claremont</td>
<td>W. M. Reid, &quot;Monash House,&quot; 23 King Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Sunday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>F. Archer, East Pinigley</td>
<td>C. Ford, Pinigley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Monday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>I. T. Birtwhistle, c/o &quot;West Australian,&quot; Perth</td>
<td>C. M. Garnett, 15 James Street, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Saturday in each 3rd month from June, 1st, at 8.15 p.m.</td>
<td>E. T. Roberts, Pithara</td>
<td>G. G. Browning, East Pithara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Saturday in each 3rd month from June, 1st, at 8.15 p.m.</td>
<td>H. M. Crowden, Quairading</td>
<td>T. J. Meek, East Trigg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. Lowe, Reedy</td>
<td>J. F. Jones, compound, Reedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every 4th Sunday</td>
<td>R. Ogg, 266 Nicholson Road, Subiaco</td>
<td>E. F. Bishop, 55 Aberdare Road, Shenton Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Friday in each month</td>
<td>D. F. Barr, Shackleton</td>
<td>J. Jamieson, Shackleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Saturday, each monthly, April, June, August</td>
<td>Cliff Sadler, V.C.</td>
<td>I. H. Lester, 122 Hay St, Subiaco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. R. Riley, Traralgon</td>
<td>I. W. Patterson, Traralgon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. T. Fitzsimmons, 37 Rathay Road, East Fremantle</td>
<td>Mathews, 3 Manchester St, East Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Monday, 7.45 p.m.</td>
<td>William McCulloch, 75 Kimberley St, West Leederville, Phone BM5766</td>
<td>Geo. H. Newton, 14 Ruspital Street, West Leederville, BM5766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Sunday, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>R. D. C. Blake</td>
<td>E. R. Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 8 p.m., bi-monthly</td>
<td>R. W. Cashmore, Wyalkat worm</td>
<td>N. F. Mosel, Tel, 10 Box 7, P.O., Wyalkat worm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>B. C. Chambers, Waroona</td>
<td>S. W. Boyd, c/o Agricultural Bank, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Tuesday</td>
<td>H. H. Bagnall, Water Supply Board, Perth</td>
<td>G. H. Elyea, Wickepin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Friday each month</td>
<td>E. R. Biddell, Wickepin</td>
<td>L. A. Sweeney, Stuff Quartermaster, Wiluna Gold Mines Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Saturday</td>
<td>Geo. McFadyen, Red Hill, Wiluna</td>
<td>J. H. South, Yarloop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Eastcott, Yarloop</td>
<td>E. Fraser, York</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Printed and published by Edwin Stanley Wext for the IMPERIAL PRINTING CO. LTD., 397 Hay Street (East), Perth