Frequently in our history a war has been the grave of reputations made in previous wars, but a feature of the present war is the way big figures of the past have returned to the centre of the stage with enhanced reputations. A notable example is Mr. Churchill himself. Even in September, 1939, betting men would have laid heavy odds against Mr. Churchill succeeding Mr. Chamberlain as Prime Minister. Between the wars, it was often a subject for Press comments that the Empire Prime Ministers of the former war against Germany had so rapidly fallen from power. Today, in South Africa, Field-Marshall Smuts is again Prime Minister, having been carried into office on the wave of popular indignation that swept away the anti-British administration of Herzog. In Australia, Mr. W. M. Hughes, though still in opposition, has been a member of recent Cabinets. He is still in the Federal Parliament and the old fire still flares up from time to time in mordant criticism of political opponents, or traducers of our country. On the other hand, increasing age and failing health have compelled David Lloyd George to retire from public life.

Lloyd George has not been ennobled by the Earldom that has been conferred upon him. Only too frequently, the great commoner is obscured by the title. That was so in the case of the elder Pitt, and many another senior statesman since his day. Old soldiers of an earlier generation remembered Col. Campbell, long after their sons were confusing Lord Clyde with Lord Clive of Plassey. In our own day, the news value of the fiery Commander Kenworthy slumped in the eyes of the Press gallery immediately he inherited the family title and became Lord Strabolgi, in spite of the fact that the Strabolgi Barony is one of the oldest of the Scottish peerages. Nobility, as Walter Bagehot points out in his work on The English Constitution, is a symbol of the mind. Instead of a peerage adding to the prestige of Lloyd George, he, as so many others have done before him, will add to the prestige of the peerage. To cite Bagehot once more, the strength of the British peerage has lain in the ease with which it can be reinforced from the rank of politics, industry, the services, science and the professions. Every batch of recruits brought in by New Year or Birthday Honours brings new and more vigorous blood to a socio-political institution, and enriches it with wider experience and greater intellectual force.

Few English statesmen have had a more spectacular rise to power than David Lloyd George; and few have had to overcome greater handicaps. The story of his life is one that would have delighted the author of Self-Help. It has much in common with the life stories of self-made men in our own country and the United States. It is the tale of an orphan boy making himself a lawyer and entering the House of Commons at the early age of 27. He has been called extremist and opportunist, but neither term is quite fair. A man of the masses, reared in an atmosphere of poverty, not unnaturally adopted the outlook of the Radical. Further, the politician, like the general in the field, must take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves. To this extent, Lloyd George, like every other man in public life, was an opportunist. To the extent that he fought injustice, as he saw it, wherever he found it, he was an extremist. But he was no frenzied doctrinaire, nor did he allow circumstances to become his master. Not once, nor twice, during his rise to fame, did he become a leader of unpopular causes, that might have become lost causes, had it not been for his ungrudging service and his fervid eloquence. As a speaker, the House of Commons knew no equal, and in the country he was alone in his power to move the masses. In controversy, he was merciless, but seldom merely malicious, and always witty.

He gained notoriety and unpopularity by his opposition to the South African War, but he had the courage to go to Birmingham, the stronghold of Joseph Chamberlain, to address an anti-war meeting. That the meeting was broken up, and Lloyd George had to escape in a policeman's uniform, did not detract from his courage in going there at all. Five years later, he was President of the Board of Trade, and in this office he showed that he was as capable an administrator as he had been an advocate. His social legislation before 1914 earned him the name of demagogue, but it included many items which, though revolutionary then, are accepted as commonplace today. They included sickness and unemployment insurance, free medical service, payment of partial wages during disablement, hospital and maternity benefits, that no one would cavil at during the present decade. Had he retired then, he would have gone down to history as a great champion of the working classes.

As the crisis of 1914 approached, Lloyd George was at first in favour of neutrality, although his Mansion House speech at the time of the Agadir Crisis, a few years before, had had the effect
WAR SERVICE HOMES

A news item published a few days ago suggests that something is to be done about building war service homes, at long last. It was stated an agenda on war service homes will soon be submitted to the Federal Cabinet by the Minister for Repatriation (Mr. Frost). It was stated that Mr. Frost is anxious to get the scheme into full swing as soon as possible. The department already has the machinery, the architects and the land. All that is needed now will be manpower and materials. Mr. Frost said that the ex-service-man will not be asked to accept a standardised home. Plans have been prepared to suit conditions in every part of Australia. For example, there are 200 different plans in the Sydney office alone. If a service-man so wishes, he can have his own architect and have his own plans prepared. If he has his own block of land, the department will be prepared to build a house on it to the design that he specifies. Because of the high cost of labour and materials, the department is thinking about increasing the grant of £910, which is made at present towards war service homes. This organisation, it is understood, suggested that the allowance should be £1,250. Consideration is being given to reducing the interest rate of four per cent. at present being charged on advances for war service homes.

EDWARD MILLEN'S GRATITUDE

The patients of Edward Millen Home have asked us to convey their thanks to all auxiliaries. They have received regular visits from the auxiliaries throughout the year. From Carlinle auxiliary they have received cakes every Sunday, through Mr. Sweetman, Victoria Auxiliary made fortnightly visits, the official visitor being Mrs. Cragh. During Christmas week, the men had a really good time. Victoria Park and Maylands gave concerts and gifts. There were gifts from the 44th Bn. auxiliary, cigarettes from the Busselton auxiliary and a visit and gifts from the State Executive. The Red Cross Society gave a high tea, Christmas boxes and some sweets. Not one patient was forgotten, and the grateful recipients now have some idea of the time given by the ladies on arranging for visits and preparing the parcels of gifts. The men at Edward Millen are also fortunate in having an efficient staff of nurses and aids. With Sister Bailey in charge, they all do their best to make the patients' stay in Edward Millen as pleasant and comfortable as possible. We join with the patients in wishing them all the best for 1945.

A PREFERENCE MATTER

Last October, the State Executive protested to the Commonwealth Government against the appointment of an alien to a job in the Patents Office at Canberra, which, it was claimed, could be filled by a young man from the present forces. The salary ranged from £406 to £598 a year.

The person selected is said to have come from Germany about 1934, but was only naturalised three or four months ago. In addition to forwarding a protest through the Federal Office, the League also asked Senator Collett to raise the matter in Parliament. On this being done, the Minister representing the Attorney-General said that the person appointed was not an enemy national until a few months ago, but was "Stateless." The Minister pointed out that applications were invited in the daily papers and in the Commonwealth Gazette, and intimated that preference would be given to returned soldiers.

The League in reply has asked Senator Collett to point out that hundreds of young men graduated in Science from 1939 onwards at all Australian universities. The great bulk of these were in the forces and many of them would have been keenly interested in this job of examiner in the Patents Office. Furthermore, men on active service would
making parachute canopies and cords for the R.A.F. is claimed to be the strongest in the world. Fabrics made from it weigh as little as .85 ounces per square yard. Bicycles of rustless steel alloy will be made in England after the war. This alloy has been developed in aircraft manufacture. It is much lighter and more durable than steel. The bicycles will be planned on completely new lines, and

Would have such features as five-gear hubs and "pump" pumps which will inflate tyres in fifteen seconds.

These are but a few facts about Britain's war effort, and they should serve both as a reminder and a rebuke to thoughtless people who would like us to believe that the Old Country is sitting back and letting others win the war for her.

BRITAIN'S WAR EFFORT

When Father Time makes his annual change over of the years, the occasion is always considered an appropriate one for a little stocktaking or, at least, a comparison of past efforts with the achievements of the coming year. During the past fortnight or so, we have heard and read much of what has been done by various people to further the cause of victory. Therefore, it may not be amiss for us to remember a few facts about Britain's war effort.

The part that the "tight little island" played in standing alone against the Teutonic fury, while strength was being built up at home, and help was being prepared overseas, is already a matter of glorious history. Here are some more facts about the later aspect of Britain's war effort.

About 9.25 million men is the present strength of the British and Empire forces. If all who have served since the outbreak of the war are included, the total is well over ten millions.

Seven-tenths of the total supply of munitions for the entire United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and Empire forces was produced in Britain. In other words, Britain has been able to equip armed forces totalling more than seven millions. One in every 7.5 of Britain's total population, men, women and children, has been mobilised for military service. On "D" Day, more than 5.25 millions of people from the United Kingdom were actually in the armed forces, or in full-time civil defence which, since the country is constantly under air attack, may fairly be reckoned on the same footing as the armed forces. If casualities, prisoners of war, and releases (mainly on medical grounds) from the services are included, approximately another million have served in the armed forces since the war began. In addition, the Home Guard was about 1.75 million strong on "D" Day. Fifty-four per cent. of the total British Commonwealth and Empire forces under arms on "D" Day were from the United Kingdom. Sixty per cent. of the total British Commonwealth and Empire casualties have been suffered by personnel from the United Kingdom. Seventy-two per cent. of the total fatal casualties among British Commonwealth and Empire forces have been suffered by personnel from the United Kingdom.

The Royal Navy has moved more than ten and a half million troops, reckoned in man-journeys, since the beginning of the war. Fewer than three thousand lives were lost through enemy action during these movements by sea.

A new British spraying machine, used in the manufacture of 21-pounder shells, has achieved 1.300 per cent. saving in production man-hours. A new form of insulation, developed by an English firm, which was used in the special fire-proof-installations in a warehouse, remained totally undamaged when a fire, so fierce that even the steel girders were destroyed, swept through the building. A new British synthetic fibre for
APPPOINTMENT OF TECHNICAL OFFICER

The Department of Labour and National Service is inviting applications for the temporary appointment of a Technical Officer (Building and Allied Trades) for its Industrial Training Division, which is in association with the Department of Post-War Reconstruction, is concerned with the training of ex-service men and women. The position carries a salary ranging from £62 a year to £96, inclusive of cost of living adjustments. The duties of the officer appointed will be to assist with the organisation and supervision of rehabilitation training facilities for the building trade and allied callings, and to carry out investigations into such training. The technical qualifications required include a knowledge of building trades, practice and experience in training apprentices and tradesmen. Applications must be forwarded to reach the Secretary, Department of Labour and National Service, Box 2817 AA, G.P.O., Melbourne, not later than January 31, 1945. The following particulars should be shown in the application: full name, address, date and place of birth, present employment (whether protected or otherwise), liability for military service, war service if any, and full details of educational qualifications, previous training and experience. Copies of recent testimonials and two personal references should be furnished.

PRICES OF SHEEPSKINS

No. 2 District Committee, Wyalkatchem, submitted an item about the pegged prices of sheep skins to this year's Soldier Settlers' Conference. The contents were referred to the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. F. J. S. Wise), who has advised the League as follows:

As far as my enquiries indicate, the price of sheep skins is not pegged as indicated in the motion. Sheep skins are sold by auction at which export packers and fellmongers compete for the skins which are available. The skins purchased by packers are sorted and appraised by the Central Wool Committee for consignment to the United Kingdom Government. The skins purchased by fellmongers are treated as the fellmongery works, the wool ultimately being purchased by the central wool committee on appraisal, whilst the skins are sold for various trade purposes.

It is understood that the largest purchasers of sheep skins before the war were French firms, and that a very serious position developed after the fall of France in that sheep skins might have accumulated in Australia and become unsaleable. To overcome this, the Commonwealth Government entered into an agreement with the British Government to purchase surplus skins upon an appraised value, and because of the large numbers of skins available for export, this appraisal value has tended to influence the prices paid for skins purchased locally. It is probable that it is this influence which is referred to in the motion as a "pegged value," but the influence to this appraisal value should be considered in conjunction with the unprofitable prices which undoubtedly would have been received unless the British Government had arranged to purchase surplus skins.

I am, however, referring your motion to the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture, who is responsible for the administration of the central wool committee.

"THE OLD GUARD"

(An Extract from "Religio Militis," by Austin Hopkinson)

The New Age, then, is no golden age of peace and material prosperity, but still another iron age of stern self-discipline and of war. We soldiers, once thought we had made the world a kindlier and a happier place for those who shall come after us. But now we understand how far this was from the truth, and perhaps we begin to know in our hearts that it is better so. For a life of toil and struggle would seem to be the only life which is worth living. Who, indeed, would wish to live in a world wherein there are no wrongs to right, no dragons to slay, nor any fair ladies to rescue? Yet the New Age will doubtless be one of transition from the actual clash of arms and the struggle for mere physical existence, to that greater battle of ideas in which we shall be held excellent according to the measure of their real progress gauged by an absolute standard. We have sought that absolute standard, and our quest has been rewarded to this extent, that in war we seek the things of the tangible, so that we know that only through service comes love, and only through love comes knowledge of the truth which makes men more than men. To those who come after us we leave a world torn with war and revolution, a world filled with hatred and greed, a world apparently devoid of purpose or ideal, and overshadowed by an organised wickedness which must be utterly destroyed. We leave to them our sad record of faults and follies and failure of noble aims abandoned and opportunities which we have missed. But we leave to them also a torn and blood-stained chart which, if they follow it faithfully, will bring them at last clear from the swamp in which we wandered, and full sight of towering peaks which we can never view. That is our legacy to those who will be the men and women of tomorrow; and, if they think that we have done anything for them, they can repay us by succeeding where we have manifestly failed.

And what is left for us before we die, now when the new generation strikes its tents and rides out from the bivouac of youth clad in its shining armour? Some say our task is over, and we never thought that the years we have wasted and our advancing years a bar to fresh adventure. Yet for my part I will not think that comrades who toiled and fought with me through all those years on the sea and land will ever be content to rust in idleness. Our labour was not in vain, nor at least a claim to yet another fight before the end.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

R. F. Crowe, Manjimup.—We see no point in publishing the whole of your very illegal and somewhat stilted letter of December 16. You deny that a letter you wrote to the Editor of "The West Australian" distorted resolutions passed by the last State congress, urging a stricter control of enemy aliens. We would point out that the policy of the League is expressed in resolutions passed by State and Federal congresses, and not by what might or might not have been said by individual delegates during debates at congress resolutions which tend to have annoyed you and other letter-writers were carried in the interests of our own security, and of the men who are away fighting for that security. What is more, and this is something that you and others like you consistently ignore, most of the resolutions referred not to "non-British residents" but to enemy aliens, whose conduct and utterances have rendered them suspect. In your later effusion you state, among other things, "if it is not true that a superior race suggestion appeared in what was said by delegates, then it may be claimed that my letter did give rise to distortion." Thus, you convict yourself, because there is not a scintilla of truth in the implication of any such
THE LISTENING POST FOR JANUARY, 1945

Superior race suggestion" in any resolution carried by congress. On the other hand, the letters in criticism of the congress resolutions were so similar in tone and subject matter that one cannot escape the suspicion that they were all dictated from the same source. They had one thing in common—the naive and knavish attempt to side-track discussion by suggestions of race hatred. There is a curious lack of logic in your assumption that because, according to your story, nobody bothered to correct your statements in "The West Australian" they must have been right. It was very nice of you to explain for us the meaning of—"Scabards Off." As soldiers, we knew that long ago, but who told you? Again, why in the name of common sense do you think "we must admit that army training and discipline sometimes discourages political awareness in a soldier?" The answer to that is the number of ex-soldiers still taking an active part in the political and parliamentary life of every State. The rest of your letter is platitudinous and beside the mark. Neither we nor our readers need any lecture on democracy from you, nor from those you represent. It is your final paragraph which we find most childish and amusing. You seem to think that your letter in "The West Australian" was the only anti-League spasm that was criticised by our contributor with whom, by the way, we heartily agree. At the risk of deflating what seems to us your colossal ego, may we inform you that there were letters in the same strain in other papers, and that the contentions therein were replied to, so you did not go uncorrected. You say "The Listening Post" is not read by the general public, but it is read by a large and growing section of that public. Your arguments that every reply to criticisms of League policy should be made in other papers is merely foolish. Further, your implication that the publication of the item you refer to, or of any other item, in "The Listening Post" represents "a tendency to avoid the public eye and appeal only to a cure" is a lie, and a very stupid lie at that, but quite on a par with the general tone of your letter.

16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

The committee held their usual monthly meeting on December 20 with a good attendance of members. The president reported good progress, and with the help of the social committee arranging card and house parties, etc., we are now in funds. Brigadier-General Arnold Potts, of the Old 16th and later the 2/16th, is reported home on leave and holidaying in the South-West. We wish him a happy holiday and prosperous times ahead. The Old 16th is proud of the young Brig, and his good record. A letter was received and read from T. A. Hitchcock, who is quite well and happy with his job. He reports the whereabouts of Joe Carey, Evan Davies and Frank Tinnervil. They are all well in the Fremantle area. Jack Lochlan, of "B" Co., visited Perth during the month. He hails from Boddalin, looks well. Bert Lyons, who was a big rip in 5 Platoon, was seen at the Cup. He has no complaints and looks to be running in a good paddock. We will be glad to hear from any of the old battalion. The association may be able to do something for you, or you may be able to help the association. The address of the president is: W. Lilleyman, Hairdresser, 66 Barrack Street, Perth.

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PHONE L2288
The last month of the year saw several casualties in the ranks of the Osborne Park Sub-branch. The president (Mr. A. Dans) was in hospital suffering from war disabilities. Soon after his return home, Mrs. Dans passed away on December 1. Although she had been ill for a long time, her death came as a great shock to all her friends. The late Mrs. Dans was a prominent and esteemed worker for the sub-branch, and her death has left a vacancy in the social centre that will be hard to fill. The sympathy of the sub-branch and residents of Osborne Park have been conveyed to her bereaved husband, son and daughter.

Osborne Park has had another casualty through the death of Mr. Joe Datchins, the popular host of the Osborne Park Hotel. He was one of the energetic members of the sub-branch and a staunch worker for all patriotic movements. His last big efforts was for the Red Cross. He displayed a huge cardboard on which a Red Cross was painted, and patrons of the hotel were invited to contribute silver coins of each denomination, from the smallest piece down to the humble "tray," which were gummed in rows on the card. Over £20 was obtained by this effort. The late Mr. Datchins was a prisoner of war in Germany during the last war, and he had many good stories to tell of his experiences while a compulsory guest of the Kaiser.

Osborne Park's December sick state included Roy Smith (convalescent after an accident on December 15) and Jimmy Harris (now recovering from an attack of pneumonia). The sub-branch's active social worker, Alec Groat, has not enjoyed the best of health. We join with their fellow members in wishing these patients a speedy recovery and the best for 1945.

Our veteran Osborne Park correspondent, Bill Anderson, has received Christmas greetings from E. Hancock of Geraldton. They were in the same camp in Australia as a Digger and injured in a shrapnel attack, but have both recovered. During the war and since then they have exchanged Christmas greetings every year. Our William has also received a letter from the Wanneroo Road Board, conveying the Season's Greetings and expressing the hope that he will soon be reporting the board's monthly meetings and inspections. For many years, Mr. Anderson has attended functions in the district as a representative of the Press, and several members declare that he was responsible for the "wills of Wanneroo" being placed on the map. And to all these greetings and good wishes, we add our own.

The doubt concerning the fate of a good Digger and a brave and competent officer was cleared up by the official notification that Lieut.-Colonel Michael Joseph Anketell had been killed in action on February 4, 1942, when the hospital in which he was lying as the result of wounds taken two days previously was bombèd. The official notification, which came to his wife at the beginning of the month, was the first definite report of the death of the Major. Anketell had had of her husband's death. He was previously reported missing, then missing believed killed in action, and for nearly two years, his near and dear ones lived in this shadow of doubt and uncertainty. Lieut-Colonel Anketell left Australia in December, 1941, to command the 44th Bn. Lieut.-Colonel Anketell was in command of the 28th Bn. (C.M.F.) and he received the command of the 2/4th Machine Gun Bn. when that unit was formed in December. Everyone who knew him will feel his loss as that of a personal friend, and will join in our extending deep but hearty sympathy to Mrs. Anketell and her son and daughter.

The highlight of the November meeting of the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch was the presentation of a Certificate of Service to Dr. Alan B. Webster, a former senior vice-president. President J. R. Hylton, in making the presentation, referred eulogistically to the great services rendered by the recipient to the Diggers. Mr. Hylton's remarks were ably supplemented by Mr. S. Wright and others and loudly acclaimed by all present. In his reply, the Doctor thanked the sub-branch for the high honour conferred upon him and declared that it would always be his privilege and pleasure to work for the welfare of returned men.

During the social meeting of the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch on December 21, Mr. J. R. Hylton, the senior vice-president, referred to the great services rendered by the recipient to the Diggers. Mr. Hylton's remarks were ably supplemented by Mr. S. Wright and others and loudly acclaimed by all present. In his reply, the Doctor thanked the sub-branch for the high honour conferred upon him and declared that it would always be his privilege and pleasure to work for the welfare of returned men.

A most interesting feature of the Popular Girl finale at Victoria Park on December 19 was Major P/eed's plan to present the winners with their trophies. Major P/eed was overseas with the 2/6th Fld. Amb. and was taken prisoner with most of the unit in Greece. He was detained in Salonika, Italy, and then transferred to Germany. The Major gave a very hearty welcome and praised the Red Cross for its wonderful work. He said that the Red Cross parcels instead of being supplementary to the German ration were the staple diet. Without them many lads would have been in a sorry plight.

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Lieu.-General R. Mack Scobie, who is now engaged in the thankless task of preventing armed gangsters from using their peculiar brand of democracy on the west of Greece, had some little part in giving form to the Personalities section. As a young man he was a noted rugby half back. In person, he is a long, dour Scot. During the war in North Africa, he had seen the fruits of his work at Duntrone. It was he who led the van of the force which broke through the perimeter of Tobruk, when the place was relieved in December, 1941.

An example of the muddled thinking and wild assertion which brands as fascism everything likely to restrain mob rule was presented during the House of Commons debate on the Greek situation, when W. A. Leeper, the British Ambassador to the Greek Government was described as "the evil genius of the Balkans" and accused of acting in "an extraordinarily hysterical way." Actually, Leeper is a good Australian. He was born in Sydney, educated in Melbourne Grammar School and the University of Melbourne, in which his father was a Professor, and afterwards at the University of Oxford. He joined the British Diplomatic Service on leaving Oxford and has been in the Legation at Warsaw, Riga and Istanbul. He is a scholarly, friendly man, with a flair for languages, and a wide tolerance. He is an accepted authority on Polish and Near Eastern affairs.

Present at the Victoria Park Sub-branch annual smoke social last month was Able Seaman Duncan, representing Bondi-Waverley Sub-branch, Sydney. Mr. Duncan is serving with the R.A.N. and responding to a welcome message was pleased to be associated with such a fine body as the R.S.I.E.

The highlight of the evening at Victoria Park's annual smoke social was provided by Mr. Wiseman, an ex-P.O.W. in Germany for 34 years, who addressed the audience at Melbourne Park Sub-branch reports the death of Mr. Alex Tadjianich, who passed away in Edward Mills, Home on December 16. He had been transported with the Merchant Navy, and this experience resulted in a serious chest complaint. Members of the sub-branch attended the funeral and Mr. Seager, of Osborne Park Sub-branch, sounded the Last Post and Reveille.

Executive delegate Bill Reece arrived late at the State Executive meeting held on December 32, and apologetically excused himself to the President, saying that he had been unavoidably detained. He thought that his excuse was a legitimate one, as his wife was a little late in presenting him with twins.
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The apology was accepted with applause, and regret was expressed that the early closing hours precluded waving the baby’s head.

There were many expressions of regret at the State Executive table, and among the sub-branches, when it was learnt that ill-health has compelled Mr. D. E. Keogh to resign from the post of Pensions Officer. During his all-too-brief term of office, he did an excellent job and won many golden opinions. It is the hope of everyone who has met him, that he will soon be restored to normal health. His successor is another young returned man of the present war, Mr. R. E. Brown, who has already proved himself a very efficient and keen sub-branch officer. Like his predecessor, Mr. Brown enlisted in the A.I.F. as a Digger, and rose to commissioned rank during his active service abroad. His wife, who went away as a V.A.D. is also a member of the Victoria Park Sub-branch. She comes from New South Wales and served with the 113th A.G.H. Mr. Brown, who enlisted in Victoria, served with the 2/3rd Pioneer Bn.

32nd BATTALION ASSN.

The president of the association (Mr. R. A. Geddes) was able to make the trip up from Manjimup for the social held on December 21, where he presided over a large gathering, which included a good many members of the 2/32nd. Among the latter were two recently repatriated prisoners of war, Reg. Dickey and Syd. Shaw. Although it was known that the publicity man had been on the job amongst members and ex-members of the 2/32nd, the attendance at the social exceeded all expectations. Our old friend, Jack Cunningham, again presided at the piano, where he accompanied community singing and other vocal items. All present spent a most enjoyable evening, and were looking forward to the next social, which is to be held, as usual, on April 24.

Artillerymen’s Comrades Association

Mr. T. Garth presided over a good attendance at the December meeting. Three new members and several visitors were among those present. Mr. Broadwith presented a vase made from a shell. It was beautifully made, and the donor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. The disposal of the vase will be left to the decision of the committee, but the proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund. Frank Dvoretzky, who is running a dance to help the association along, will have the help of the dance committee. A very successful dance was held at the Isaac House Ballroom on December 27. Two visitors donated 10/6 each to the association. Mr. Snow received some Flanders Poppies seeds. It was decided to hand the seeds to the Guildford Council gardener, to be planted around the memorial, as this is the Gunners Memorial. The assistant secretary (Mr. E. Henley) reported on the scholarship fund and the dance. The first meeting for 1945 will be on the first Saturday in February. The president wishes all members the best for 1945.

One of the highlights of the discussions connected with the Adult Education Summer School was the presentation of the policy of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. in regard to preference in employment for returned service men and women. Mr. Anderson said that, in war, the young men had borne an intensely rigorous part of the sufferings, dangers and hardships of severe campaigns. Many of them would be maimed, broken in health and greatly disturbed in mind and nerves. They would have to carry these burdens into civil life. The burden of loss of civilian efficiency must be spread and shared by the whole nation. It would be morally wrong to accept this load of preference on behalf of our lads, and all great employment authorities must be made to arrange their recruitment plans so as to ensure that these young men will be given a special and honourable place in the post-war years.

“Proper control and effective preference can only be given by collective action,” said Mr. Anderson. “There must be some definite Governmental action to ensure that the patriotic citizen who gives preference is not the victim of the unsympathetic and unpatriotic competitor.” Mr. Anderson drew an analogy to the home an intensely rigorous part of the system of rationing. He also referred to the desire of the R.S.L. after the last war for a system whereby an employer was to have been subsidised by the Government to encourage employment of the incapacitated. The system of rationing might be a model of the care of the unions in cases of necessity, because of the fear of the unions that it might be exploited by some as a means of obtaining cheap labour. However, the unions would probably have been prepared to assist with such proposals, had they been properly controlled. It should be made to every employer is compelled to employ a certain percentage of incapacitated ex-servicemen, according to his capacity. Another point made by Mr. Anderson was that many lads joined the services at eighteen. Many were well educated, but had never had a job. These men required more help on discharge than only vocational training.

Referring to civilians in industry, Mr. Anderson asserted that there was a complex in which civilians desired to retain all the advantages gained during the war. The opposition to preference was from the men who had gained these advantages and had not suffered the ravages of war. “War has meant to many man-powered personnel accelerated progress in their careers, and preference only even up the chances of returned service men—and women.” Mr. Anderson said that the man who had stayed at home on civilian wages and overtime had the benefit of his home, higher rates of pay and strength to prevent, as far as possible, his exploitation. The aim, therefore, seems similar, but it is the means of attaining that aim on which there are differences. Mr. Hegney suggested the possibility of an attempt to drive a wedge between the unions and ex-servicemen. That bogey has been raised before by the opponents of preference, but we can assure Mr. Hegney that no such attempt has been made, or is likely to be made, by the R.S.L.

On the other hand, those of our members who are unionists are just as decided upon the question of preference as those who are not. It would also appear that the principle of preference is preferred by political leaders of the Labour movement—men who have

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graduated from the trade unions—in more than one State. Labour Governments in Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania have all introduced legislation to implement the preference principle. When he was in Perth last October, Mr. Curtin stated, at a reception tendered by the State Executive in Anzac House, that a Preference Bill would be introduced in the Federal Parliament early this year. At the time, Mr. Curtin said that the repatriation of returned servicemen was a national responsibility which should never be made an issue of party politics. Mr. Curtin said, as Mr. Anderson said on January 8, that war service takes a certain toll of physical and mental vigour, and the normal development of returned servicemen has been retarded by their war service. "They are far behind scratch as civilians," Mr. Curtin went on, "and those whose physical and mental powers have been impaired require more than gratitude for their war service. The nation is under an obligation to provide them with some adequate preference."

Mr. Curtin declared himself entirely in agreement with the suggestion that there should be such a measure of preference in employment for returned servicemen as would compensate them for their war service and the civilian disabilities resulting from it.

Those are the views of the Prime Minister and leader in chief of the political wing of the Labour movement in Australia. As Mr. Heeney pointed out, the implementation of preference will be difficult, and anomalies are likely to arise, but those handicaps are not unique. As Australians, we have stamina enough to overcome difficulties, and brains and administrative capacity enough to remove anomalies.

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**Scabbards Off**

*By Pip Tok*

According to an American contemporary, a university professor is one who spends his time telling students how to face the facts of life which he side-stepped by becoming a university professor.

Hitler, the arch liar of history, was unconsciously truthful in at least one respect in his New Year broadcast. He said that Germany would never capitulate. Of course, Germany will not. A capitulation would be a contradiction of the unconditional surrender which alone, according to the oft-repeated statements of Allied leaders, will bring the war to an end. Few words have been more misused during the present war than the word "capitulate." Possibly this is the fault of the present generation of war correspondents who, while competent enough as reporters, lack the highly specialised knowledge of the older generation of special correspondents, of whom the men of the last war—Philip Gibbs, Beach Thomas and Ashmead Bartlett—were but a few. These men had either the experience of more than one war on which to form their standards of comparison or, like our own historian Bean, they had given years of study to military history and strategy. None of these giants of the past would have made the egregious blunder of making "capitulate" synonymous with "surrender." A capitulation is a surrender on terms, and it was frequently made when a fortified place could no longer be defended. In that case, the garrison was allowed to march out with all the honours of war, leaving the empty position to be occupied by the enemy. For instance, when the citadel of San Sebastian capitulated to Wellington in 1813, the French commander who had defended it so gallantly was allowed to march out with all the honours of war, with drums beating and colours flying, saluted by the British troops. The survivors of the siege and assault did not even become prisoners of war. Such a well-merited compliment to a gallant foeman is somewhat very different from the fate that awaits Hitler and his fellow gangsters.

The news that Hitler had broken a long silence in a New Year broadcast promptly gave rise to the question "Which Hitler?"

Long before the war, it was openly asserted in more than one publication that Hitler had a number of doubles, one or other of whom represented him on occasions when the party was likely to become rough. Later on, a book thinly disguised as fiction was written, suggesting that the fellow we call Hitler today is actually the third Hitler, and his successor having being liquidated as they became too drunk with sight of power. In regard to the midnight broadcast at the beginning of the year, the London Daily Mail declared: "The voice was unmistakably Hitler's, but the scratching needle made it obvious that the speech was recorded." Most British authorities agree with the Daily Mail.

On the other hand, Louis Lochner, who was chief of the American Associated Press Bureau in Berlin from 1928 to 1942, expressed a different opinion. Lochner said: "To avoid obvious error, I heard Hitler's voice for years as I did, his early morning broadcast awakened grave doubts whether the man at the microphone was really the Fuehrer. If he was, he is a totally changed man." Lochner does not accept the theory that the recording of a recorded speech should have accounted for the difference. Even in that case, he said, the effort was that of a feeble old man, rather inarticulate, indifferent and disinterested in what he was saying.

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**EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSN.**

Former machine gunners are reminded that their old friends would like to see or at least hear of them again. The attention of machine gunners who have done their part in this present war is particularly invited. We hope that they will join the association at the earliest possible opportunity. If they do so, as many of their comrades have done already, we feel confident that they will have no regrets. The nominal subscription of 5s. per annum enables members to entertain guests and also to disburse modest benefits if or where needed. Ordinary meetings are held at Oregon's Arcade, 32 King Street, Perth, on the Friday preceding Anzac Day, and on the second Friday in October. The president is Mr. A. Glass, of Main Street, Osborne Park, or our secretary, Mr. E. S. Everett, 156 Suburban Road, South Perth, will be pleased to hear from intending members.

Answering a question asked in the Senate by Senator Collett, the Acting Minister for the Army (Senator Fraser) said that there was immediate intention of issuing a commemorative medal for members of the Volunteer Defence Corps. Other than awards for operational service, awards of a general nature, such as the Distinguished Conduct Medal, would be in mind of an opinion on the conclusion of the war. No doubt the position will then be examined, in conjunction with the British and other Empire Governments, with a view to a uniform policy in regard to any award for home-service personnel, such as the British Home Guard, and our own Volunteer Defence Corps.
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Members of our organisation have all been thrilled by the somewhat belated news that Australian troops in large numbers are cleaning up the Japanese garrisons that have been by-passed in the Solomons, Bougainville, New Britain and New Guinea, and perhaps other islands to the north of Australia. The earlier reports have generally been gratifying. Big results are being achieved for very little loss, though it must not be expected that these operations will be short or inexpensive in the final count. One factor that is likely to prolong the campaign is the difficulty nature of the terrain. There is every reason to expect that the operations to be carried out this winter will be better planned and of a more limited nature. If the air cover stage is not too long, the operations will be of great value in clearing out the pockets of enemy positions. The operations on Bougainville are not without their humorous side. A "ghost" plane which rises from the sea every few months, is the only Japanese aircraft which gets any attention from Australians and New Zealanders on Bougainville Island. Here, it may be mentioned in passing that Australians and New Zealanders have resumed the old comradeship which exists between Australians and Balilopoli and was interrupted when the Australians were withdrawn from the Middle East. This "ghost" plane—a Zeke, or a Jake—was shot down during the battle for Guadalcanal, two years ago. It fell on a sandbank offshore from Kuriat Island, on the west coast. Every few months, the sandbank rises and exposes the plane to the view of a pilot who, not knowing the plane's history, peels off and strafes it. That happened again a week ago. An Australian commando patrol went toward Kuriat to investigate the plane from the beach. There was no sign of it. It had retired under the waves. One night, in the early stages of the Australian operations in the Atuape-Wewak area of New Guinea, Japanese were noticed moving against an Australian position. One village headman was calling to another across a valley, asking for latest information about the Japanese. Suddenly, breaking into their own conversation, came a third native's voice from another direction. In his own dialect he hurriedly urged them to get off the air, there were two native collaborators with the enemy who might understand the dialect. The "Talk-Talk" closed down immediately.

The resumption of fighting on a big scale in the south-west Pacific will not be without its effect on the membership problems about which we have all been arguing so much in the past few years. It will have been border-line cases, or who might, through no fault of their own, have remained ineligible for membership under the present constitution and the official interpretations thereof, will now get the long desired opportunity of getting in with the membership. That experience will qualify them for membership of the League. In the meantime, we wish them all the best, good hunting and a safe return.

At a recent meeting of the State Executive instances were stated where men recently discharged had purchased businesses which had little value or opportunity, also that houses had been bought in the City of Perth which may be condemned as unfit for human habitation. Where doubt exists, it would be wise to contact officials of local governing bodies before completing arrangements to purchase and in all cases it pays to get expert advice before signing on the dotted line.

Just before the New Year, the State President (Mr. Anderson) drew attention to representations of black markets in badges of the Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia. The abuse seems to be more flagrant in New South Wales than in other States, but that is not to say it will be confined to the Eastern States. The State President of the New South Wales Branch said, some time ago, that there had been instances of as much as £1 5s being paid for illegally purchased badges. He also mentioned that the premises of a sub-branch had been burgled but, although there was money in the safe, only membership badges had been taken from it. This unauthorised traffic in badges is illegal from two points of view, it is an offence against the Defence Act for anyone, not being a discharged service-man, to possess any badge which represents him as such. Further, the badges are the property of the League and may be recalled at any time under circumstances set out in the Constitution and the rules founded on the Constitution. The current badge is a striking illustration of the esteem in which the badge is held by the general public. However, there is a more sinister side to the question. The badge forms a good shelter for a defector or other type of defaulter. As it is legally worn only by a financial member of the League who has had an honourable discharge from one of the services, it gives the unauthorised wearer an unfair advantage when applying for a job, possibly in connection with national service. So far, no cases of black marketing have been reported in this State, but the utmost vigilance should be observed by all concerned in detecting these cases should they make their appearance here. What the Head Office has had to complain about is an occasional case of a man who has been issued with a badge turning up a few days later and reporting that he has lost it. In these days of wartime restrictions, it is hard enough to get the full supply of badges, without having to replace those lost by carelessness.

The legal service bureau of the Federal Attorney-General's Department has reported in favour of amendments to the War Service Moratorium Regulations, to meet cases similar to one submitted by the State Executive, through the Federal Office. A soldier, on his return from active service desired to repossess himself of his home, and get his family together again, immediately after his wife received her discharge from the A.W.A.S. The occupation of the home, however, did not give it up. The case was brought before the local court, but was adjourned indefinitely. There the matter might have rested had it not been taken a step further by the R.S.L. A statement of the case was put before the Federal Attorney-General (Mr. Evatt) and his department is going into ways and means of amending the regulations which will cover such cases. Soldiers who let their houses during their period of active service, and who now desire to regain them, will be able to get full advice on the matter in the near future from Anzac House.

An unusual Christmas Day commemoration took place in Sydney. Wreaths were laid on the Cenotaph in Martin Place on behalf of the Government of Hong Kong.
and other organisations to commemorate the third anniversary of the fall of Hong Kong, which occurred on Christmas Day, 1941. The official wreath was laid by the Finance Liaison Officer of the Hong Kong Government (Mr. G. W. Reeve). Another wreath was laid on behalf of former residents of Hong Kong, now living in Sydney. It bore the inscription: “In memory of our glorious dead, who made the supreme sacrifice courageously defending the colony.” Many former residents of Hong Kong attended the ceremony. The colony of Hong Kong, which comprises the island of that name and a strip of the Chinese mainland opposite it, was a British colony for just a shade over one hundred years. It was ceded to Britain “in perpetuity in terms of the treaty that ended the Opium War in 1841. What its future will be after this war is something yet to be decided. In all probability it will be restored to China, as a token of the happier relations and the valuable alliance that exist between Britain and China today.

Answering questions asked by Senator Collett, the Acting Minister for the Army (Senator Fraser) said it was not true that members of the Army who are found to be suffering from malaria are charged with an offence, as if for a self-inflicted wound. At the peak period in 1942, the maximum rate of malaria among troops in operational areas was about 120 per thousand per week. The rate at the present time in field formations in New Guinea is less than one in every thousand a week.

**WHY NOT THE RETURNED SOLDIER PRINTERS — IMPERIAL PRINTING COMPANY LIMITED**

German resistance has been overcome on the island of Walcheren, and the old fortress town of Bergen-op-Zoom is in Allied hands. Both places had been the scenes of military operations in former wars, and Walcheren, in particular, had been a name of ill-omen to the British services. It was in 1809, when Napoleon was pre-occupied with the campaigns in Spain and eastern Europe, that a strong and well-equipped army, supported by an equally strong and well-found fleet, was sent to blockade Antwerp. The sequel was a bad example of everything that combined operations should not be. The troops were commanded by the Earl of Chatham, son and heir of the first William Pitt, and younger brother of young Mr. Pitt, who had died three years earlier. The fleet was commanded by Admiral Sir Richard Strahan. Instead of pressing on to Antwerp, the troops were landed on Walcheren, and much time was wasted in laying siege to Flushing. What followed may best be described in the words of the contemporary satire:

“The Earl of Chatham, with his sword drawn, Stood waiting for Sir Richard Strahan. Sir Richard, longing to be at ‘em, Stood waiting for the Earl of Chatham.”

The troops sickened in the unhealthy climate and died in hundreds, until the wretched survivors were brought home.

Far more glorious was the story of the storming of Bergen-op-Zoom, in 1747, during the War of the Austrian Succession. The Allies, under Count Lowendahl, laid siege to this great fortress and the succeeding operations cost France nearly 20,000 of her finest troops. Count Lowendahl was sent, with 36,000 men, to besiege the strongest fortress in Dutch Brabant. Bergen-op-Zoom had never yet been taken, and enjoyed the reputation of being invincible. Situated on an eminence in the middle of a morass, and about a mile and a half from the eastern branch of the Scheldt, Bergen-op-Zoom had communication with that river by means of a navigable canal. It was a place of great strength; by art and by nature. The fortress was the favourite work of the great military engineer Cohorn, and the place was well garrisoned. The siege was pushed ahead from July 15 to September 17, and the loss of life among the French in the trenches was terrible. During all that time, 50 pieces of heavy artillery and 24 great mortars had been raining an incessant shower of iron on the town. The bullets were frequently red hot, so it was not long before much of the town was in flames. Desperate efforts were made to break out. Mines were sprung with the most dreadful effect. The town was laid in ashes, and the carnage in the trenches was indescribable. The besiegers also lost heavily. Eventually the place was taken by storm. Conspicuous among the defenders for their gallantry were two battleiions of a Scottish brigade in the Dutch service. They were stationed in South Brabant when the French occupied Bergen-op-Zoom, and they obtained permission to take part in its defence.

A later British attack on Bergen-op-Zoom was less fortunate. This was in 1814, when a British force was sent to

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Holland, under the command of Sir Thomas Graham, afterwards Lord Lyd- 

onden, the victor of Barrosa. The force included six companies of the Coldstream Guards, the 2nd Bn. of the Scots Guards and other-troops of the Line, which were afterwards joined by the 4th Bn. of the 1st Royal Scots, who had marched through Holland from northern Germany and endured great hardships on the way. The march was carried out in mid-January, during an unusually severe winter. On the way, no fewer than 127 men perished in a snow storm. Graham could muster only 4,000 troops for his attack on Bergen-op-Zoom, but he divided his command into four columns and attacked at different points on the night of March 8. One column fought its way into the town, but the men became confused after the fall of their leader. The centre column was driven back. It reformed and advanced cheering to make a junction with the left column on the ramparts; but daylight broke, and the French turned their guns on the attackers, who were without cover on the outworks. The Guards were ordered to retire, which they did in good order, but a great dis- 

aster befell the Royal Scots, which formed part of the fourth column of at- 

ack. They succeeded in crossing the Zoom and forced an entrance by the Water Port. Having gained possession of the ramparts near their gate, they were exposed to heavy fire as soon as it became daylight. They fought gal- 

antly for hours. Eventually, when they were between two fires, with a high palate on one flank and the muddy Zoom fast filling with the incoming tide on the other, they were forced to surrender; but before surrendering, the colours were sunk in the river, to prevent them from becoming trophies to the enemy. The battalion capitulated, upon condition that the officers and other ranks should not serve against the French until they were exchanged. The failure of the attempt to storm Bergen-op-Zoom cost the British 2,100 of all ranks, killed, wounded and taken. General Graham and the French commander agreed to a suspension of hostilities. On the following day the captured battalion of the Royal Scots marched out of Bergen-op-Zoom with drums beating. On April 8, the battalion embarked for England, whence it was sent to America.

The Danes put up with a lot without complaint, said the veteran English writer on international affairs, Vernon Bartlett, in a recent B.B.C. talk. But when the Tivoli, their famous amusement park, in the middle of Copenhagen, was partly destroyed, and when they were told they must be in their houses by 8 p.m., they decided they had had enough. They broke the German dom- 

ination by the simple expedient of explain- ing that they could no longer work on Fri- 

days because they must have some time to cultivate their „victory gardens.“ The Ger- 

mans were in a dilemma, because they could not afford to feed the Danes well enough to keep the factories in full production; and yet they must have the products of those factories. Within a week they had accepted all the conditions for resuming work that were put forward by the underground re- 

sistance movement.

That bosom pal, „the chat,“ has been described in a text-book as one of the minor

horrors of war. In the present war he has been made an ally in the task of sabotaging, the German war effort, through the ingenu- ity of Greek workers in Vienna. German troops on route for the Eastern Front are

examined in Vienna forlice. One house de- 

lays the departure of the unit for two or six days and presumably longer. The Greeks have worked up a tradition of supplying the German forces by sending them with „collaborators.“

A woman who left Yugoslavia some months ago, and eventually reached Brit- 

ain, has vouched for the truth of this story. Two small children were found playing with their heads under the carpet. A closer view showed that they had a cardboard box under the carpet. Asked what they were doing, they said they were „playing at Daddy, listening-in to London.“

Two Bavarians who surrendered to the British troops south of Caen told their cap- 

tors how they themselves had devised a new secret weapon. They took shelter in a trench during a thousand-bomber attack by the R.A.F. When it was over, one said: „Well, there is only one answer to this—V5.“ The other asked: „What is V5?“ „V5,“ was the reply, „is a very large white flag on a very long pole.“ The two Bavarians are now quite happy, and if anyone mentions V5, they both burst into laughter.

NEW BOOKS

We are pleased to note that publishing firms in Australia are now producing a number of books of merit written by Australian authors. Regretfully we lack space to include us reviewing them in this issue, but we recommend to our readers the following publications:

„WE WERE THE RATS“ 

By Lawson, from Cassell A 275- page historical novel of this war. From Angus and Robertson Ltd, Price 9/6.

„AUSTRALIA’S TOMORROW“ 

By Sir Gerald Musscn A well-written survey of Australia’s possibili- 

ties; 122 pages. From Robertson and Mullens Ltd. Price 4/6.

„FLESH IN ARMOUR“ 

By Leonard Mann A Great War Novel; 228 pages. One of the best of its type. From Robertson and Mullens Ltd. Price 1/9. (Remarkably low price.)

„DISCOVERING AUSTRALIA“ 

By Charles Barrett Largely a story of exploration in the ex- 

ploer’s own words. Every school student should have a copy; 316 pages. From Robert- 

son and Mullens Ltd. Price 2/6.

„LOOKING FORWARD“ A post-war policy for Australian industry, prepared by the Victorian Institute of Public Affairs. All interested in post-war problems should read this. From Robertson and Mul- 

lens Ltd. Price 1/-. 

„I MET THEM IN CHINA“ 


„WE BREED THE PLATYPUS“ By David Fley This is a valuable scientific record and a story of human interest. From Robertson and Mullins Ltd. Price 2/6.

„THE PLATYPUS“ 

By Charles Barrett (once a Gentleman of the Light Horse) Another very interesting story of the world’s wonder animal. From Robertson and Mullins Ltd. Price 2/6.
The Returned Soldier Printers — Imperial Printing Company Limited

State Executive

At the meeting of the State Executive on December 30, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Edmondson, Watt, Yeates, Mansbridge, Leslie, Ferguson, Olden, Mitchell, Ferguson-Stewart, Cornwell, Zelfert, James, Davies, Collett, MacGregor, Craig, Barson, Harvey, Sneddon and Reece.

The State President welcomed Mr. John Chappell, who was recently appointed Acting Assistant State Secretary.

R.S.I. Broadcasts.—Following upon the roster approved at the previous meeting, which concluded with Mr. Wood on January 18, the following additions were made: January 25, Mr. Harvey; February 1, Mr. Ferguson; February 8, Mr. MacGregor.

Resignation.—The report of the Management Committee meeting of December 11, referred to the resignation of Mr. D. Keogh, Pensions Officer, on grounds of ill-health. The resignation was accepted with very great regret. It was decided to record appreciation of Mr. Keogh's services on the executive minutes.

Veterans' Homes.—The Management Committee submitted a report on proposals from New South Wales, in regard to a scheme to link up with other State Branches in an Australia-wide appeal which, in this State, would be for the Veterans' Home Scheme. A committee consisting of Messrs. Watt, Olden and Cornwell were appointed to examine the scheme, and to confer and cooperate with the Legacy Club.

Preference.—The State President reported that action had been taken to preserve the interests of servicemen in the provisions of the Promotions Bill now before Parliament. After a discussion with the Public Service Commissioner, representations were made to the Premier.

Membership.—The report of the Membership Committee showed that, at the beginning of December, membership of this State Branch totalled 15,159.

Pensions and Employment Committee.—Arising out of the report of the Pensions and Employment Committee, it was resolved that returned soldier members of both Houses of Parliament be invited to meet the State Executive to discuss any further action to secure Statutory recognition of the principle of preference to returned soldiers.

Rehabilitation Conference.—Mr. Zelfert reported on a conference with departmental officials and others.

Conference.—The Federal Office advised that a special conference on pension and general repatriation matters would be held in Melbourne on Monday, February 19, at 2.30 p.m. State presidents and one other representative of each State Branch was invited. The communication was referred to the next meeting of the State Executive. It was also stated that a meeting of the Federal Executive would be held immediately after the conference.

Uniformity on Preference.—A letter was received from the Premier (Mr. Willcock) suggesting that there should be uniformity in the application of preference. Mr. Willcock said that the State Government was awaiting the Bill to arrive before consideration by the Commonwealth Government before making a final determination in regard to preference. The letter was received.

New Sub-Branch.—A request for the formation of another sub-branch, to be known as the Greylands-Swanbourne Sub-branch, was referred to the Membership Committee.

Ashburton Road Board made further representations in respect to the local memorial hospital. It was decided that a copy of this letter be forwarded to Mr. Roberts, M.L.A.

Sunset.—The State Secretary submitted a detailed list of electrical fittings, required for additional lighting in the soldiers' ward at Sunset. It was decided that an effort be made to secure these from one of the electrical contractors.

War Service Moratorium Regulations.—The Secretary reported to a matter mentioned at the recent State congress in which a discharged member of the forces endeavoured to secure accommodation in a house which was occupied by a tenant. He had collected his children from different boarding schools, but was unable to gain possession, and an unsuccessful appeal was made to the court. The matter was then referred to the Commonwealth Attorney-General, and a report recommended that an amendment to the regulations would be made to meet such cases.

Estate of Late Kathleen Ledger.—The Secretary reported that the house in Hayebury Road was now occupied by a tenant. An authority was required for the payment of committee recommended that an amendment to the regulations would be made to meet such cases.

Freemantle and North-East Freemantle Sub-Branches.—Approval was given for the appeal for funds for the proposed building to contain headquarters and club in Freemantle.

Maylands Sub-Branch.—Approval was given for the appeal to the State Secretary to sign the necessary documents in respect to the purchase of land for a memorial building.

Albany Sub-Branch suggested that a series of subjects should be prepared for discussion by sub-branches. It was decided to refer the matter to the Members of the Committee.

Patents Office Appointment.—A letter was received from Senator Collett notifying that in consequence of a recent appointment of a non-soldier to the Patents Office, he had written to the Attorney-General, Prime Minister requesting that the Public Service Board be instructed to advertise all future vacancies in the service journals, and that notifications also be made in the routine orders of the three services.

Mr. Lawley-Inglewood Sub-Branch wrote in connection with a number of matters. It was decided that any necessary information be given to the sub-branch.

The compliments of the season were conveyed by a number of sub-branches and heartily reciprocated by the executive.

Fighting Services Association.—A letter from the organisation was received. It was decided to notify the association of the League's policy in respect to future soldier settlement.

Under general business, reference was made to the necessity of warning discharged personnel taking any action to purchase homes, businesses, etc., until proper advice had been obtained, and referred to one recent case which was added to a case quoted by the Secretary.

It was decided that the matter be referred to in circulars and that publicity be given.

Y.M.C.A.—It was agreed that a further donation of £100 be made to the Y.M.C.A. special fund.

January 3, 1945

At the meeting of the State Executive on January 3, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Watt, Yeates, Mansbridge, Watt, Leslie, Ferguson, Olden, Mitchell, Ferguson-Stewart, Davies, Collett, Zelfert, Elliott, Bateson and Sneddon.

War Veteran's Home.—The State President reported that on a meeting on December 11, when certain proposals and an outline of a scheme to raise funds were adopted. It was decided to inquire from the New South Wales Branch in regard to an Australian-wide scheme being launched from that State. The committee recommended to the League that the conduct of its own appeal and that the allocations of proceeds be on the basis of 50-50 with the Veteran's Home Scheme and additions to Anzac House. The report was adopted.
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Staff.—The State President reported in connection with successful efforts made to secure extra staff accommodation, and that Mr. R. Brown had been appointed Pensions Officer. The report also referred to a visit to the G.D.D., where it was noticed that extensive medical reviews were carried out before men were discharged.

Visits.—Subiaco Sub-branch reported on a Christmas visit to Hollywood Hospital. Other visits were reported by Mr. Bateson (Perth Hospital and Mt. Lawley Sub-branch), Mr. Yeates (War Nurses Hostel), Mr. Anderson (Anzac Buffet and Christmas time). Mr. Wood conveyed greetings from a number of League identities and State Branches in the East. Mr. Leslie conveyed greetings from the Mt. Marshall Sub-branch.

Federal Executive.—The following were appointed to attend the special conference and meeting of the Federal Executive: The State President, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Zeffert.

Narrogin.—The appointment of a secretary, as advised by the Narrogin Sub-branch, was confirmed.

Transport.—It was decided that inquiries be made into statements made by the Kalgooerie Sub-branch in connection with the transport of Allied personnel.

P.O.W.—Information was submitted in regard to withholding of efficiency pay from repatriated prisoners of war. It was decided to refer the matter to the Federal Office.

Service Chevrons.—Swan View-Greenmount Sub-branch referred to the discrepancy in the issue of service chevrons. It was resolved to notify the Federal Office that there should be a uniform policy in the issue of chevrons to the three services.

University Conditions.—It was pointed out that, under existing conditions, no preference is shown by the University authorities to the children of deceased soldiers. After discussion, it was resolved to write to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Australia, requesting that, before the year's quota of students is allotted, a measure of preference be given to the children of servicemen, particularly the children of men who have lost their lives in active service. It was also resolved to seek the cooperation of Mr. J. Dumas, a returned soldier on the University Senate, and request that a similar move be made with the Universities Commission.

Suits.—Reference was made to the difficulty of discharged personnel securing tailored suits, and the hardship caused thereby. It was decided to ask the Federal Office to approach the Minister for War Organisation with a request that either an adequate service issue be expedited or that additional facilities be made to the tailoring trade.

Tokio radio often gives some quaint samples of unconscious humour. When the Allies were driving the routed Germans before them from the Normandy front, Tokio radio informed the British and American troops that the British and American soldiers were to be withdrawn into the interior of France. More recently, the Tokio radio announced that a rare tea dish for Hitler had been presented to the German Ambassador to Japan. The Japanese tea-drinking society, which made the gift, innocently hoped that Hitler would become addicted to the gentle art of tea drinking to soothe his nerves.

The attempt of escaped German prisoners of war to get off with a Marauder from an American airfield in the north of England was daring, but it missed the good luck that attended the efforts of a 21-year-old Danish Army officer, several weeks previously. The young officer could not fly, but he stole a Heinkel III and safely reached Sweden. He started off from Copenhagen's airfield, where he had been working as a mechanic. While he was overhauling the machine, he calmly got in, started up and took off. He had no idea of navigation, but somehow he got to Sweden, where he was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. After his crash, he cheerfully emerged from the wreckage and said: “Going up is all right. It's coming down that's difficult.”

**Sub-Branch Activities**

The sum of £150 was paid to the War Patriotic Fund, being the proceeds of a gymkhana held in Wickepin on November 11. This is the largest sum paid in by one organisation to this fund, and is a credit to the sub-branch. The effort was wonderfully assisted by the public, especially by Mr. Woodbury (headmaster of Wickepin school) and Mr. Maurice Iles, of hotel fame, who has since gone to Pemberton, and by all the ladies of the district, including soldiers' wives. Mr. Jack Strapp, of Yealering Sub-branch, made the afternoon more enjoyable by bringing and operating the loud speaker. The annual meeting on December 15 was well attended, and the balance sheet read out by the treasurer (Theo McCracken) showed a good, healthy balance on the right side. The same officers and seven new members were elected to all positions, namely: C. G. Russell, president; F. Z. Ebsary, secretary, and T. J. McCracken, treasurer. A few new members returned from this war were enrolled. One hundred per cent of the old soldiers in this district are already members.

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FREMANTLE CITY

Welcome, 1945, and may you bring us peace again! Let us review the "Balance Sheet" of conscientious endeavour for the period ending December, 1944, and see if we have a credit in our favour. Amongst the efforts on the credit side are investments in War Loan, large sums raised for P.O.W., endeavours to bring cheer and assistance to members, zealous work on behalf of others requiring help and assistance, increased financial membership and a sound financial position. Then the deficits, which consist of lack of general attendances at monthly meetings with its sabotaging effects, mainly; the regular active members "come a come-back and make the sub-branch worthy of their inheritance. Last meeting on 28th found the old regulars reinforced by ten returnees not afraid to use their voices. Welcome, boys, you've a big job ahead in spite of the Utopian lullaby we are expected to lap up. Next meeting January 25, in the Red Shield Rooms, High Street. Try to make it.

GLOUCESTER PARK

Thursday, January 4, saw the installation of a new president, Mr. Cliff Lambe, with a set of junior officials containing quite a lot of new blood, several being returned from the present war. The retiring president (C. Isbister) in a well-fitting speech wished Cliff every success and promised all assistance possible. His season greetings were also conveyed to the members present. Mr. G. Owen recalled the time, several years back, when Cliff took over with hesitancy the secretaryship. All knew what a great job he had done, and he (Mr. Owen) had no doubt of the advancement of Gloucester Park under the able control of its new president, Mr. Lambe. Suitably responded. Vice-presidents installed were W. Fisher and Geo. Bill Reid. The former was, of course, unopposed as secretary. A large crowd was installed. Again the Reaper made a claim. This time the highly respected Geo. Robinson. It was a well conducted and busy meeting. Mr. W. Fisher, amongst other matters, pointed out the increasing tendency by heads of many local firms to use the League in furtherance of their political aims. Another matter that will undoubtedly be heard of frequently in the future was brought forward by that old stalwart of the sub-branch, Albert Wilkinson. He frowned, in a telling speech, on the necessity of combating political aspirants who are not returned men. There is every probability of this sub-branch with its 520 members holding fortnightly or even weekly meetings in the near future.

OSBORNE PARK

There was an excellent attendance at the meeting on November 29, at which Mr. Gill took the chair in the absence of the president (Mr. Dans). Among those welcomed to the meeting were two old friends, Bob Hendren, from New Guinea, and Mr. Wilkinson (R.A.N.) and four new members. L. Webb, in the Repat. ward, is on the way back to health. Messrs. Bill Ashdown and Jack Mackay reported an excellent night at the West Leederville-Wembley smoker. Members' wives did splendid work in the soft drinks and ice cream bar at the Osborne Park garden fête.

ARMADALE

A record attendance of more than 50 was a feature of the meeting on December 13. The president (Mr. Spencer Gwynne) gave a review of the progress made in regard to the building of the new club rooms in Memorial Park. It is expected that all negotiations for the transfer of the land and title from the road board will soon be completed and a start will be made with building operations as soon as the present restrictions are lifted. The building committee has a substantial amount of cash in hand, and it is proposed to complete the financial arrangement by the sale of debentures. Many returned men of the present war have joined the club recently and accommodation is severely taxed. Mr. R. A. Beal, of the War Loans Committee, addressed members on the future of war loans. He urged all present to join the local committee and assist in every way possible the financial aspect of the national war effort.

MANJIMUP

The president (Lou Thompson) presided over a good meeting last month. Members were glad to see the popular secretary back after his recent illness. It is hoped to combine the monthly meeting with a social evening in future, and some members feel that the annual reunion, which has been in abeyance for the past few years, should be revived. Two new members were welcomed - John Christie, who has just been discharged from the forces, and Jack Speak, R.A.A.F., on leave. It was decided to express gratitude to the auxiliary for the work these ladies have done during the past year. The secre-
tary reported that membership was 203, and that 62 new members had joined during the year. The financial statement also showed a healthy position. The following amounts were paid out during the year: Invested in War Loans, £30; Navy Appeal, £67/11/6, and P.O.W. Fund, £259/11/8. Seven hundred and seventy-five poppies were sold this year.

The president and several members visited the Bridgewater Sub-branch recently, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE

The outstanding feature of the December meeting was the large attendance. The president (E. J. Tomlin) accorded 35 new members a hearty welcome. We are hoping at the next meeting to bring in something entirely new and vitally important to the majority of us, that is the education of our children. Mr. Bray is bringing a personal friend whose subject will be the Teachers' Union scheme of education, so if you are interested or have any ideas about this matter don't fail to turn up and support this motion. Fremantle Hospital was visited Christmas Eve and all ex-servicemen were approached, various comforts being distributed. Thanks to Alf Doust and members who supported the visit. It was gratifying to notice that there were not as many patients as expected, especially during the festive season, when all families like to be reunited. Members, make a 1945 resolution. Attend all the meetings.

KALGOORLIE

Mr. J. R. Hylton presided over a good meeting on December 21. General business was reduced to the minimum and the rest of the proceedings took the form of a social evening. The president reported greatly increased membership during the year. This included many returned men from the present war. The Trees of Honour at the Kalgoorlie Government Hospital ground were also remembered. Just praise for the planting and nurture of these trees was accorded to Mr. Jack Burgess, for his very fine work and for his devotion, as hospital visitor, to the sick Diggers of both wars. For the social side of the evening, the sub-branch was greatly indebted to Mears, Lashbrooke and Charlie Paul. Mr. Lashbrooke presided at the piano. Later, with the assistance of "Hobby," he offered several items which were greatly appreciated. Community singing helped to swell out an enjoyable programme. For many years past, it has been the custom of the Kalgoorlie and Boulder Sub-branches, in conjunction with the South African and Imperial Veteran's Association, to escort Father Christmas on a visit to the Kalgoorlie Government Hospital. The first call was made on the children's ward, where each little patient received a gift off the Christmas tree. Mr. Shooter, of the Veteran's Association, spoke to the children on the meaning of Christmas. Mr. S. W. Wright (Kalgoorlie Sub-branch) and Mr. H. Golding (Veterans' Association) also spoke. Mr. J. R. Hylton handed each of the nurses a Christmas gift and Mr. Johnson, secretary of the hospital, returned thanks. Visits were then made to the children's ward, where parcels were presented to Diggers of both wars. Another call was made at the West Sub-branch and was observed at St. John of God Hospital. The organisations concerned are indebted to Mr. Jack Manley for preparing the Christmas tree, to Mrs. W. Pearce for making the biscuits, and to Mr. Chris. Letch for his valuable assistance.

SUBIACO

Although our sub-branch did not hold a meeting in December, the members were active in many other ways. On December 6 we held a children's party on Saturday afternoon and an adults dance at night. Both functions were to raise funds for our building fund. Our Christmas gathering for members which was held on December 20 was a great success. Many of the old-timers were present to drink the health of our president and to wish all the greetings of the Christmas season, and we were delighted to see so many of our new members present. Our sub-branch was allotted Ward 3 at Hollywood Hospital for a visit on Christmas Eve, and Alf Buggins, who was in charge, wishes to thank all those members who attended to this very worthy cause, particularly those who brought flowers. There is no doubt the ward looked beautiful when it was decorated by our members, and the Diggers in the ward were most appreciative for the Christmas cake and other little luxuries. We are all looking forward to our visit on January 14, when our sub-branch will do the whole hospital, when we expect a good roll-up. We are looking forward to a large attendance at our January meeting, which falls on January 31.

ALBANY

The monthly meeting was held in the Institute on Friday, January 5, 1945. The attendance was, for the first meeting of the year, very poor, but was helped by apologies from not less than ten members. The organisation of the Exhibition of Arts and Crafts reported that all arrangements were well in hand. Two letters of thanks for assistance given by the sub-branch were read. It was pleasing to note that one very difficult pension case had been brought to a successful conclusion after some time. Greetings and subscription was received from Mr. W. McKenna, of N.S.W. Christmas cards were received from the junior W.R.A.N.S. and Gnr. Coles of the 2/6th Fd. Regt. Appointment of Mr. Syd. Livesey to the Lands Sub-

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Committee was approved. The membership report for the month showed a further increase, and is now 327 with only 18 unoffi-
cial. Many sub. will be falling due now, and
members are requested to contact the 'Scout.' Card
evenings.—A suggestion that
card evenings could be run during the sum-
mer season was agreed to, and the social com-
mittee are to get busy. Greetings from Clare-
mont Sub-branch were conveyed by Mr. R.
Hall. Collection in aid of the War Veterans'
Home realised £1/6/-. After the meeting
had been declared officially closed, Messrs.
Camp and J. McDougall gave some very
interesting reminiscences of their experiences
in New Guinea, etc. They were warmly
thanked by the president. A donation from
Mrs. M. B. McCready, of Narrabup, of £1
for the P.O.W. fund was acknowledged with
thanks.

VICTORIA PARK
The November meeting took the form of
an annual smoke social. Mr. Alf Nicholas
was in the chair, and those present included
the State President, State Secretary, Senior-
Vice-President, Major Delvis (representing
the GOC, Western Command), Mr. Eric
Davies (North Perth), Mr. Morrie Zeffert,
Mr. Ollie Williams (Mt. Lawley), and rep-
resentatives from Mount Hawthorn-Leer-
derville, Carlisle, Gloucester Park, South
Perth, Perth and Claremont Sub-branches.
Invitations were also extended to and
accepted by Cr. R. Read, Messrs. Rosset-
ter, Hadley and Ashbolt. A pleasant sur-
prise was springing up around the State Presi-
dent (Jim Anderson) on the occasion of his
21st birthday. Mr. Nicholas, on behalf of
members, presented Mr. Anderson with a
fountain pen. A sprinkling of repatriated
P.O.W. members were also present. It is pleasing
to find them taking an interest in our affairs.
Thanks are due to all members who worked
hard to make the evening a success. Former
secretary, Fred Matthews, capably took charge
of the catering and table decorations. Joe
Barrett and his helpers were very busy clean-
ing the tap on and off. Guessing the con-
tents of a bottle of money (proceeds to the
P.O.W. fund) brought good response and
the nearest correct guess was £3/9/6, haz-
arded by Mr. T. Sullas. Actual contents
of the bottle was £3/9/4. Compare Billy
Edwards saw to the musical side and assisting
him were Messrs. Savage, Ward, Farley and
Jones. Special thanks are due to Mr. Seager,
of Gloucester Park Sub-branch, who gave his
services as bugler so generously. Members
were upstanding for a few seconds to observe
the death of Captain Mick Raphael, M.L.A.,
who was a resident of Victoria Park. Mem-
bership is rapidly growing, the total now be-
ing over 360. The hall extension building
fund is correspondingly growing. The ques-
tion of the sanitary site near the Kent Street
State School brought forward by the sub-
branch is receiving attention, and a remedy
should soon be found by the responsible
authorities. The popular girl competition in
aid of P.O.W. fund was brought to a close
on December 19. The winner was Miss Far-
ley, who raised £161/18/-. A close second
was A.C.W. Golley (W.A.A.A.F), raising
£157/12/-. The third was Miss Sylvia
Hodgson, raising £60/10/-. A substantial
cheque was forwarded to the headquarters for
the P.O.W. fund as a result. Members vis-
it Edward Millen Home, together with the
auxiliary, on December 16. The ladies sup-
plied the musical programme and distributed
gifts to the patients.

MT. HAWTHORN-NTH. LEEDE RVILLE
There was a record attendance at a most
enjoyable meeting on December 14. The
president (Barney Keely) was in the chair,
while George Black and "Whit" Sinclair,
with the help of members of the social com-
munity had everything working smoothly. An
interesting feature of the evening was the
welcome home to a repatriated prisoner of
war, Mr. Atkinson, who suitably responded
to the toast of his health. The toast of
absent members and those on battle stations
was given by H. Sweeney, and that of J.
Woodhead by "General Jackson." Another
interesting toast was that of Bill Ludgate,
by Bill Bowles. The Old Brigade was given
by a member of the Young Brigade, Syd. Py-
nan, and replied to by Bill Kay. The toast
of the night was that of "Whit" Sinclair,
"The Years that have gone and those
to come." It was an item that made members
think of the past, and of what could be done
for the sub-branch in the future. Other
toasts were H. Richardson, given by "Tiger"
Overstone; Mr. James, by Jerry Carroll; and
those responsible for the evening by Bill
Devine. Thanks are due to the artists who
gave their services, the sub-branch photo-
grapher (W. Forrest) and Messrs. F. Spar-
row and Frank for their services. Another
pleasing function during December was the
children's party on December 22, in conjunc-
tion with the women's auxiliary. Bill Kay
and Bob Stace are to be congratulated on
the way they had the hall decorated. The
annual meeting will be held on January 25,
and the February meetings on the 8th and
22nd.

Women's Auxiliaries

STATE EXECUTIVE
The last executive meeting of 1944 was
held on December 15, all members being pre-
sent. Mrs. Mc Kinlay (State President)
pre-
sided.

The agenda this meeting was a full one,
which dealt mostly with Christmas cheer for
present and ex-service men and women.
On December 20 at Anzac House a lun-
cheon and afternoon tea was given to 100
convalescent service men and women from
Hollywood, Lady Mitchell and John Nichol-
son Homes. An excellent luncheon was pre-
pared by members of the executive. Official
visitors were Mr. Anderson (State President
R.S.L.), Mr. Benson (State Secretary), Mr.
Leslie, M.L.A., and Mr. Yeates, O.B.E. A
programme of music was arranged by Miss
Nell Shortland-Jones, assisting artists being
Miss H. Holta, Miss A. C. W. Colley, and
A. C. W. Colley (trumpet). The function was
made available by a very generous donation from
Southern Cross Auxiliary.

Christmas cheer for all ex-service inmates in
hospitals was arranged, and all members of
the executive cheerfully did their share of
the work. Donations from both town and
country auxiliaries for Christmas cheer this
year were outstanding, and on their behalf
members visited and distributed parcels to

Buy FORTIFIED and
UNFORTIFIED
WINES
from
JOE RODIN (late A.I.F.)
HILLSIDE VINEyrARD
OSBORNE PARK
Bottle or Gallon. Gallons Delivered
patients in Edward Millen Home, Repatriation Wards, Wooroloo, Glendalough, Everit-
tide, Sunset, Home of Peace and civilian
wards of Perth Hospital. To meet the extra-
fare was sent, and to Heathcote members
took afternoon tea, cigarettes, sweets and
fruit. On Christmas Eve, the three service
women's wards in Hollywood Hospital were
visited and a gift was given to each patient.
On January 2, Claremont Mental Hospital
was visited and ex-service patients entertained.
All these visits entailed much labour in
picking, etc., but country auxiliaries can rest
assured that nothing was spared so that these
men and women should be made happier
through their generosity.

At this meeting, a Christmas letter was
read from the State President (Mr. J. M. W.
Anderson), and from it is the following ex-
tract, being a message of appreciation to all
auxiliaries: "The League thanks you all most
sincerely for the co-operation and help which
has been given during the past year. Indeed
I feel that without that co-operation we would
not have been able to meet with the success
which has resulted from our combined efforts.
The year has been a strenuous one to you all,
and the future, too, will have its trials. We
hope to have a thorough organisation going
to welcome our lads home, and assist them.
During this year we hope to make great
progress with our Veteran's Home Scheme."  
During the month, Mrs. McKinlay visited
Darling Range Auxiliary and attended Christ-
mas parties at Victoria Park and South Perth,
also the blinded soldiers' tea in Anzac House.
The Anzac Buffet in Anzac House is a
popular rendezvous for service personnel on
Sundays, and the State President (Mrs.
McKinlay) and State Secretary (Mrs.
Henderson) are to be congratulated on the excel-
rent arrangements for the party on Christ-
mas Eve, at which members of the executive
acted as hostesses and the girls of the R.S.L.
Social Circle as dance partners. A cordial
invitation is extended to all country sub-
branch and auxiliary members to visit Anzac
Buffet any time they are in Perth.

MERREDIN

The president (Mrs. Haines) presided over
a fair attendance at the general meeting last
month. Mrs. Haines congratulated the war
savings collector (Mrs. Reid) on her reaching
the £500 mark. Members are all very
proud of her effort. Recent donations to
various Christmas appeals were £27/2/-.
The takings of a dance on November 25 were
£22.

VICTORIA PARK

On December 13 we held our Christmas
social, to which other auxiliaries were
invited. It was well attended, and the
annual goose club was drawn. Despite the
hot night, everyone enjoyed the wonderful
programme arranged by Mrs. Prue, our sec-
retary. On Sunday afternoon, December 17,
we took afternoon tea and a Christmas gift
for the patients in the Edward Millen Home.
During the afternoon a concert party, com-
prising the Colley Junior Band and some of
the Gable-William pupils, was enjoyed. Mrs.
McGrath and Mrs. Colley accompanied other
artists who obliged with vocal and instru-
mental items. December 19 saw the con-
cclusion of the Popular Girl Contest, in aid
of the Prisoner of War Appeal, and an ex-
citing evening was spent. The contestants—
Miss Betty Farley (Munitions), Miss Hannah
Colley (Victoria Park Women's Auxiliary)
and Miss Sylvia Hodgson (Victoria Park Sub-
branch)—all polled well. Betty Farley topped
the poll, with Hannah Colley runner-up, and
Sylvia Hodgson next. All three girls worked
hard, and their effort was a grand one. The
auxiliary is in recess until February, when it
is hoped there will be a good roll-up of
members. Visits to the hospital will be car-
ried on as usual.

F.U.S.W.

The F.U.S.W. held a children's Chris-
tmas party at Anzac House. Three hundred
children attended, and Mrs. H. Dean pre-
sided. Miss Peggy Ester entertained the
children with a lovely concert, assisted by
her pupils. Mrs. Brownell (vice-president)
thanked Miss Ester for her splendid after-
noon's entertainment. Ice cream, sweets and
drinks were served. The Red Cross Sewing
Circle had a party, and a lovely cake, the
form of a Red Cross, was cut by Mrs. H.
Dean. Mrs. Dean proposed the Loyal Toast,
Mrs. E. Clear the Union and Mrs. M Ang-
win the Sewing Circle. The Union will go
into recess until February.

MAYLANDS

At the final meeting of the year, an elec-
tion was held to fill the vacancy caused by
the death of our late president, Mrs. Hall.
The result being Mrs. Firmin, president; Mrs.
Kimne, vice-president, Mrs. Quayle, secre-
tary, and Mrs. Jardine retained her job as
treasurer, which she has capably done for
some time now. A children's party was
held by the men and women of the R.S.L.
when the kiddies had a wonderful time, ice
cream and ginger beer being provided free,
also prizes for various games. A wind-up
dance for the year was held on the 21st,
when a thoroughly enjoyable evening was
had by all present. Among the places vis-
isted by the ladies during the last couple of
weeks before Christmas was Repat. ward, Ed-
ward Millen, Heathcote, Home of Peace,
Lemnos and Sunset, where cigarettes, sweets
and parcels were distributed. Members and
their friends collected a tea chest full of
clothes which were distributed to the men at
Sunset and were gratefully received.

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SHOP
at
FOY'S
For VALUE and
Friendly Service!
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>AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (W.A. Area)</td>
<td>RAAF Rendezvous, National House, William St, Perth</td>
<td>4th Thursday each month</td>
<td>C. A. Hine, Howard Hill (off Howard St), Perth</td>
<td>H. A. Harris, c/o Foy's Garage, St. George's Tce., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFRICA ANZAC CAMPS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>6th February each month</td>
<td>T. J. Gurry, 51 Lincoln Street, North Perth</td>
<td>J. A. Jones, 139 Sixth Avenue, Inglewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLINDS SELLERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>1st Saturday every second month</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Enfield</td>
<td>W. Mrs. James, 32 Coldstream St., Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td>C. A. P. Gostelow, 42 St. George's Terrace, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Reunion</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>B. Kruger, Anzac House, Enfield</td>
<td>Arc Acting Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT</td>
<td>Grogan's, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Friday before Anzac Day</td>
<td>Mr. Andrew Glass, Main St., South Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Everett, 15th Suburban Road, North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>Mr. Norman, 352 Sixth Avenue, North Perth</td>
<td>W. H. Riley, 26 Elizabeth St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>W. L. Ely, 56 Barrack St., Perth</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield St., South Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>H. J. Edwards, 37 Hamilton Street, Bayswater</td>
<td>E. Massey, 41 Harvey St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Room 53, 5th Floor, Gledden Buildings, Perth</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>M. J. Elliott, 45th Avenue, K. Lawley</td>
<td>J. Rutherford, 5 Elizabeth St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, W.A. Branch</td>
<td>Room 53, 5th Floor, Gledden Buildings, Perth</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>J. F. Davie, 27 Dunbar Rd., Claremont</td>
<td>Roy Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH AFRICAN AND IM. VETERANS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Room 53, 5th Floor, Gledden Buildings, Perth</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>H. A. Baker, 66 London St., Mt. Hawthorn</td>
<td>E. S. Pearson, Atlas Building, Perth. Telephone WPM1315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Married Men's</td>
<td>Major J. W. Colpitta, Anzac House, K. Lawley</td>
<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.S.I. SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY</td>
<td>Rates: £1/1/- Per Annum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute</td>
<td>1st Friday each month, 8 pm</td>
<td>Mr. T. Brown</td>
<td>Mr. S. K. Blackburne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARMADALE</td>
<td>RSL Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. C. Wallis, Bayswater</td>
<td>J. Scovilne, Denham Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLARAT DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Town Hall - Lesser Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday every second month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. Cook, Wilson St., Bassendean</td>
<td>P. Hughes, 63 Kathleen St., Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENDEN</td>
<td>Bayswater</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday (pension days), 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Whiting, Bassendean</td>
<td>F. S. McGuinness, York Street, Bert Scobie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>BSL Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. Whittington, Brookton</td>
<td>Royal Harvey, 66 Railway Terrace, Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLABURRY</td>
<td>Bullaburry Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. F. Pickett</td>
<td>L. E. Mitchell, 21 Macleay St., Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>R. J. Moffat, Stirling Street, Busselton</td>
<td>Harold Birch, 66 Stockley Rd., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>BSL Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. P. Maroney, Busselton</td>
<td>W. Hook, 16 Arundel St., Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
<td>L. R. George, Clifton Street, Collie</td>
<td>R. Garman, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>MONUMENTS DISTRICT</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>T. C. Finch, 53 Beatty Ave., Collie</td>
<td>I. McGill, Collingiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANNING DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Mr. Plant's House</td>
<td>4th Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>P. H. Sarre, Clifton Street, Collie</td>
<td>R. McKinnon, East Cannington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Overbea, 125 Wimburg St., Cottesloe</td>
<td>V. A. B. Huckle, 50 Carnarvon St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. Prentice, Cottlesloe</td>
<td>E. J. Jordan, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRIGAN</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad Street</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. D. Findlay, Collie</td>
<td>C. W. Edwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRIGAN</td>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>J. A. McCormack, Collie</td>
<td>E. Jessop, 65 Princess St., Cottesloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREMORNE</td>
<td>Committee Room, Claremont Oval</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>E. W. McEwan, Collie</td>
<td>J. Ryan, 125 Bassery Street, South Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANBOURNE</td>
<td>Cranbrook Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>R. J. North, Cranbrook</td>
<td>B. A. John, 7 Cranbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALWALMINI</td>
<td>Dalwallinim Hotel</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>L. C. Haskett, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>E. G. Mercer, Dalwallinim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>BSL Clubrooms, Canning Road, Kalamunda</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>W. Wright, Kalamunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>BSL Library Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>J. H. North, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONAGAR</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>F. P. Prater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWNNABUR</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>G. S. Walker, Donnybrook</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOWERIN</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>F. H. Bobbo, 57 Oakover St., Freo</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUMBELYUNG</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>G. S. Walker, Donnybrook</td>
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<tr>
<td>PREMILLLA &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>F. H. Bobbo, 57 Oakover St., Freo</td>
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<tr>
<td>FREMANTLE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hotel</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>G. S. Walker, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOYNE</td>
<td>Council Chambers, Carvanvon</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Mondays</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>C. D. Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGETOWN</td>
<td>Birdwood House</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>A. W. M. Thompson, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>S. P. Walsh, Canora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Wembley Hall, 347 Hay St., South Fremantle</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>A. H. Holgate, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>E. H. Hobbs, 57 Oakover St., Freo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUMSWANGERUP</td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>G. S. Walker, Donnybrook</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>RSL Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>F. H. Bobbo, 57 Oakover St., Freo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>RSL Memorial Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>G. S. Walker, Donnybrook</td>
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<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>F. H. Bobbo, 57 Oakover St., Freo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANING</td>
<td>Clubrooms, Carew Street, P. O. Box 48</td>
<td>Every 2nd Wednesday at 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>S. A. Seward, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Kellerberrin and Doodlakine alternately</td>
<td>2nd Saturday in each month</td>
<td>W. T. Chess, Dalwallinim</td>
<td>Allan Ross, Doodlakine, tel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Listening Post for January, 1945

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KUKERIN
KULIN
KULIN
LAKE GRACE
LAKE DISTRICT
MANJIMUP
MANNIBURRA
MARRABUNA
MARRABUNA
MECKERING-CUNDERDIN
MENZIE
MEROODA
MIDLAND JUNCTION
MOSMANN PARK
MOORA
M. BAKER
M. M. M. N. L.
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MENZIES
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MECKERING-CUNDERDIN
MENZIES
MEROODA
MIDLAND JUNCTION
MOSMANN PARK
MOORA
M. BAKER
M. M. M. N. L.
MAYLANDS
MECKERING-CUNDERDIN
MENZIES
MEROODA