Parliament and the Preference Question

"It is bare justice that the fighting men who risk their lives in the protection of all the jobs in Australia should be assured of a preferential call on suitable employment should they return, and that they should not be penalised by the interruption of their training and seniority in their civil vocations."—"The West Australian," 2nd February, 1945.

At long last the Federal Government has stated its policy in regard to the question of preference in employment to returned servicemen and women. The Cabinet plan, which was outlined in the Press on February 1, was not agreed upon without much discussion. The decision, in fact, was made on January 31 at a meeting of the Cabinet adjourned from a meeting adjourned from January 18. From the statements of individual members of the Cabinet, published from time to time in the Press, it would appear that Cabinet was by no means unanimous in regard to the principle of preference. The question of eligibility, that is, the determination of those who would benefit by preference, also appeared to have presented difficulties. It would seem that both difficulties have been over, as far as Cabinet is concerned, and the first round of the battle for preference appears to have been won.

The Bill was being drafted by the Cabinet for presentation to Parliament aims at extending complete preference in Government and private employment to all enlisted personnel. All civilians, whose employment brought them into contact with the enemy, will also be admitted to the preference principle. The formula provided will include men of all the armed forces, women who are members of services, such as the W.R.A.N.S., the A.W.A.S., the W.A.A.F., and the Army and Air Force nursing services. It will also recognise the services of merchant seamen, civil air pilots, and other civilian workers, who have been subjected to the actual physical risk in the performance of their duties. The Bill will not apply to munition and other war workers, despite the fact that they were not permitted to enlist because of the nature of their employment.

It is early yet to comment on the proposed Bill, other than to express a general approval on two grounds. The first is that by making the promised Preference Bill a Government measure, Mr. Curtin has lifted the whole question out of the arena of party politics. Cabinet's decision on the principle of preference is a recognition that the principle of preference is a matter for hard, honest thinking, and not for political partisanship. It is a recognition that justice must be done in the rehabilitation of those who have stood between the country and the enemy.

The second ground for approval is that the Cabinet's decision has limited the extension of the principle to members of the fighting forces and certain civilian categories, like merchant seamen and civil aviation pilots, whose work has brought them into contact with the enemy. That decision, which was really the decision on the question of eligibility, was the more difficult of the two. We ourselves have had, and are still likely to have, difficulties in deciding the issue of eligibility for League membership. However, a line must be drawn somewhere and, no matter where it is drawn, whether it be high or low, there will always be borderline cases in which hardship and even injustice would appear at first sight to be inflicted. In drawing the line, due regard should be paid to the fact that, if the preference benefits are to be extended too widely, they will be robbed of most of their value. As the inimitable Gilbert put it: "If everybody's somebody, then no one's anybody." Moreover, if the line is drawn fairly high, that will make it easier for Governments, both Federal and State, to implement the coming preference legislation.

The draft Bill will face its first big test when it comes before Caucus, at the pre-sessional meeting on February 19. It may be expected that the Cabinet proposals will be strongly opposed by some sections of the industrial movement and by some Labour members of the Federal Parliament. Opposition to the principle of preference has already been expressed on the ground that it will be unnecessary in the coming Utopia that will provide "jobs for all." That opposition is likely to become more virulent now that Cabinet has decided not to extend the preference benefits to munition or other war workers. We have pointed out again and again that the specious plea of 'jobs for all' is no substitute for preference. That principle aims at something more than the mere finding of a job for a discharged serviceman. The mere finding of a job will not make up for a man the leeway lost during his years of service. On the other hand, as Senator Collett pointed out, in the "jobs for all" rush, the individual conveniently at hand will have the pick of the jobs going, while the serviceman awaiting discharge will have only what is left. That sort of thing is going on all over Australia even now. One recognises the value of the work being done by many categories of war workers, who will be excluded from preference benefits, although they were not permitted to enlist in the fighting forces. Nevertheless, the sacrifices they may be making are not comparable with those made by service personnel. In regard to service personnel themselves, there will be grades of preference—preference within preference, so to speak—if the forthcoming legislation is to be implemented fairly and equitably. Many details of this nature, and concerning the liability of private employers, will have to be settled in detail, and it may be expected that each and all will provide excuses for much wrangling.
On one point, however, the public and the League alike may rest assured. Mr. John Curtin is no unsound judge of public opinion. On two former occasions he won his party's support on issues that were highly controversial. One was that of providing a single-tender-collecting authority. The other was the Militia Bill. In both cases he adopted a course which was even more likely to provoke strong opposition from sections of his own party.

In either instance, the Prime Minister won through; so it is only reasonable to expect that Caucus will follow the same issue, especially when it is known that the great bulk of Australian opinion favours preference.

**ROYALTY IN AUSTRALIA**

When newspapers, on January 26, Australia's Foundation Day, announced that Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, had left England for Australia, only a few people here knew that their ship was actually in Australian waters. On Monday, January 29, the A.B.C. broadcast a description of their arrival in Sydney. Since the dawn of the century, Australia has had a Royal Governor-General, but the arrival of the first member of the Royal Family to be Governor-General of our country has a peculiar significance at this time. Canada has had a Royal Governor-General, the late Duke of Connaught, who had married the Princess Louise, a daughter of Queen Victoria. Similarly, South Africa had as a Governor-General the Earl of Athlone, whose wife, the Princess Alice, was a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria. The first member of the Royal Family to visit Australia was Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh, brother of King Edward VII and the Duke of Connaught. He came to Australia in 1868.

Experience in repatriation matters. The matter of postwar reconstruction training will also be an item for special consideration, and the ex-service men's representative on the Regional Training Committee in each State will attend. Mr. M. E. Zeffert is our member. The position of the training scheme in W.A. is not satisfactory, and Dr. Coombs, the Director of Postwar Reconstruction, came by air to Perth recently to consider it. There are too many amateurs awaiting training in Perth, and if the training scheme does not fully operate soon, a most embarrassing position will arise for discharged personnel. This aspect will be dealt with in Melbourne and from W.A. we are requesting that Dr. Coombs be asked to meet us in conference.

**STATE PRESIDENT'S NEWS LETTER**

During January, new members have been enrolling in large numbers. I hope that sub-branches will see that all old members renew promptly, and if necessary have a membership committee to follow up. We do not want to lose any members, and I think there are a number of old Diggers, particularly in this city, who are not making use of the League badge. We should always remember that many people who are ineligible would only be too proud to wear the badge. We should, therefore, appreciate and value our members.

On Monday, February 8, I addressed the Adult Education Summer School at the University on the question of "Preference to Returned Soldiers," and there has been a fair amount of publicity in the papers regarding same. Mr. W. R. Freney, M.L.A., followed me and opposed preference. The fact of addressing the gathering at St. George's College did a lot of good and should have the effect of helping to bring to the public mind what must be done for the ex-service men and the disabilities under which he suffers. Copies of the address will be sent to all sub-branches, which I trust will be passed around, and I hope it will help you to put forward on every occasion the need of preference, and also the proper training of the man and woman of the services, so that they will not suffer in efficiency. As a result of my contact with the Adult Education Summer School, I feel that the people generally must be educated in what preference means. There are too many bogeys held high with the object of creating an atmosphere that it is impractical. All legislation provides anomalies and there is no reason why the implementation of preference should be more impractical than wartime controls that became necessary. It is just a matter of the situation bravely, but, of course, with people who are definitely opposed they will pursue any argument possible for selfish reasons. We must, therefore, be united and continue our efforts to impress the public with the need for definite action.

A very important conference of the League will be held in Melbourne on Monday, February 19. The first Federal congress realised the need for a thorough review of the Repatriation Act and our Pensions Committee has been considering the position, and we have had several late meetings. The Federal President desires to coordinate the views of all States and present them to the Government. I am attending and Mr. C. G. Ferguson, who until recently was assistant Social Secretary and pensions officer, will also represent us. It is desired to have a representative present from each State with special experience in repatriation matters. The matter of postwar reconstruction training will also be an item for special consideration, and the ex-service men's representative on the Regional Training Committee in each State will attend. Mr. M. E. Zeffert is our member. The position of the training scheme in W.A. is not satisfactory, and Dr. Coombs, the Director of Postwar Reconstruction, came by air to Perth recently to consider it. There are too many amateurs awaiting training in Perth, and if the training scheme does not fully operate soon, a most embarrassing position will arise for discharged personnel. This aspect will be dealt with in Melbourne and from W.A. we are requesting that Dr. Coombs be asked to meet us in conference.

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King George V, and his elder brother, the Prince Albert Victor, who pre-deceased him, came to Australia as boys. They were serving together as midshipmen on H.M.S. Bacchante. Years later, King George and Queen Mary, as Duke and Duchess of York, came to Australia for the opening of the first session of the first Federal Parliament. The Duke of Windsor, when Prince of Wales, toured Australia in 1920. Seven years later, the Present King and Queen arrived in Australia, as Duke and Duchess of York, came to Australia for the opening of the first Federal Parliament to sit in Canberra. The Duke of Gloucester himself is no stranger to Australia. He was here ten years ago, at the time of the Melbourne centenary celebrations. It was during that visit that His Royal Highness officially opened Anzac House. Much has happened since then, but this event, which was practically the Duke's first public function in Australia, is still fresh in our minds. After the House was declared open, His Royal Highness and members of that year's State Executive adjourned to the boardroom. There he formally presented the State President's chair, donated by the South Australian Branch to mark the opening of Anzac House, to Mr. M. E. Zeffert, who was then State President. After the appropriate words had been said by both, there was a moment of silence. Then the Duke said: "Go on. Aren't you going to sit in it?" And this restored the customary air of hilarity.

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Servicemen throughout Australia will share the feelings of lively gratification and loyalty that have been aroused by the safe arrival of the new Governor-General and his wife. In this State, in particular, we shall be looking forward to his next visit to Perth and, incidentally, to Anzac House.

LEGACY WAR ORPHANS’ APPEAL

At the time of going to press, the Legacy Appeal has not reached £7,000. The objective is £7,000, which should not be beyond the people of the State. Appeals conducted in other States for a similar purpose have, in every instance, far exceeded the objective set, and even in little Tasmania over £15,000 was subscribed. Surely the care of the children of the fallen should have a priority appeal to the hearts and pockets of our citizens. Perhaps we are a little slow to start in this State, and that we will be there at the finish. Many sub-branches and auxiliaries have subscribed to the fund and in a number of instances functions are being arranged.

TWENTY YEARS’ PROGRESS

As Reviewed by the State Secretary

At the last January meeting of the State Executive, the State Secretary (Mr. D. M. Benson) presented a review of the progress made by our own Branch of the League during the past twenty years. In 1925, the salaries paid to the office staff amounted to £786. The capitation fees were then £591 a year. Up to the end of June last year, the total head office salaries were £1,367 and capitation fees were £1,887. The Land Committee became an active force in the affairs of Soldier Settlement. It was through a meeting of this committee with Mr. M. Bruce, who was Prime Minister then, that a sum of £796,000 was secured for soldier settlement in Western Australia. The total grant for the Commonwealth was £5,000,000.

The agitation for the appointment of War Pension Appeal Tribunals began in 1925. These have been of enormous benefit to widows and ex-servicemen, as the following figures will show. The figures have been taken from returns up to the end of 1943. In this State, during the period under review, 3,700 fresh appeals were made to the Entitlement Tribunal. Of these, 760 were successful. Amongst the successful appeals were about 200 on behalf of widows. Western Australia presented 4,000 appeals for increases of pensions. Of these, 1,990 were successful.

In 1925, city newspapers devoted very little space to R.S.L. affairs. In those days, news items were presented in the form of letters signed by the State President and the State Secretary. Now, every paper is anxious to give space to reports of League affairs, which are considered to be of good news value. Sub-branches numbered 67, in 1925. Now there are nearly 190 sub-branches. Membership was then under 4,000. Now, it is approximately 16,000. In 1925, 6,000 poppies were sold on Anzac Day. Last year’s poppy sales were about 118,000. In 1925, the League had its headquarters in the old Soldiers’ Institute, which is now occupied by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The League’s hold of the building was a very precarious one. To start with, the building had been erected on an “A” class reserve and, in wet weather, it leaked like a sieve. Since then, Anzac House has been built. Its estimated value is £40,000.

The W.A. Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Fund did not exist in 1925, but, in 1929, a short Act of Parliament was passed to institute the fund which stands at over £24,000 today. Since 1926, nearly £28,000 has been made available to distressed ex-servicemen or their dependants by the League’s Relief Fund trustee. A movement for the erection of a State War Memorial was commenced in 1925. The memorial was unveiled in 1929.

WHY NOT THE RETURNED SOLDIER PRINTERS — IMPERIAL PRINTING COMPANY LIMITED
TAKING THE GLOVES OFF

Discussing the question of preference, a well-known union secretary had this statement to give to the Press a few days ago: "It is deplorable that the question of rehabilitation of servicemen and women has been made a matter of controversy and that a question had been posed as between workers in industry and servicemen." Of course it is deplorable and is deeply resented by service-ex-servicemen and women, many of whom are members of unions. In a nice safe spot in Adelaide the other day, far away from the noise and din of the battle, a Union conference opposed preference for men who with their bodies are keeping the enemy away from Australia and making possible the holding of such a conference. These are the people who are driving a deep wedge between workers in industry and servicemen.

John Curtin stated that preference in employment for ex-servicemen was a national responsibility which should never be made an issue of party politics. He also said this of ex-servicemen: "They are far behind their civilian colleagues 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."

With such a straightforward statement from their leader to guide them, with the knowledge of the handicaps the fighting men will suffer in comparison with those who were obliged to stay at home, it is to the eternal discredit of all at the union conference who opposed soldier preference. We can't imagine that the delegates could be dumb enough to feel themselves with the "jobs-for-all" cry. Jobs for all, perhaps, but with our fighting men filling in the gaps.

The League wants to work in harmony with all sections of the community, and we have been advised by many good unionists that the opposition to soldier preference of some union officials is not shared by the big majority of workers, many of whom are ex-servicemen and parents of fighting men.

The preference we ask for and will insist upon is to bring our ex-servicemen from behind scratch on to a mark at least level with those whose war service has been in essential industry, and whose work and training has not been interrupted. Those who deny this right and make it a party political issue are playing a rotten and a risky game. The League and its supporters will take the gloves off to any such individual or sectional interests, irrespective of party affiliations. We would be false to our trust if we surrendered on this vital principle, and those who oppose us are doing so at their own risk. On this issue we stand united and as firm as the Rock of Gibraltar."

LORD GIFFORD MEETS THE Diggers ONCE MORE

Stirring memories of the epic landing on Gallipoli were recalled when members of the original 11th Bn. A.I.F. and their friends met Commander Lord Gifford, R.N., in the boardroom at Anzac House on February 5. Lord Gifford was a midshipman in H.M.S. London, and that cruiser carried Headquarters, "A" and "C" Companies of the 11th towards the hostile shore on the morning of the Landing. The word was passed round hurriedly that he would like to renew old friendships, and it was highly creditable to all concerned that 50 members of the battalion were able to be present at what proved to be one of the most pleasing and enjoyable functions ever held in Anzac House. No one was more gratified than Lord Gifford himself. "I have waited 30 years for this opportunity," he said, "I have waited patiently for the chance to meet you, and now it has come."

Although Lord Gifford waited so long to meet Western Australian Diggers, he is no stranger to Australians. His family connections with our country go back to 1880, when an uncle was Colonial Secretary. He himself was A.D.C. to Sir Philip Game, who was Governor of New South Wales during the stormy period when Mr. J. T. Lang was interrupted in his effort to establish a bridgehead over Sydney Harbour. His wife is an Australian and is at present with her family in the Eastern States. Lord Gifford is the fifth Baron Gifford. The third baron, his uncle, won the V.C. while serving under Wolseley in the Ashanti Expedition of 1896. Another uncle, the Hon. Maurice Gifford, lost an arm and won the D.S.O. during the Matabele campaign of 1896. In welcoming the distinguished guest, the State President (Mr. J. M. W. Anderson) paid tribute to the work of the British Navy.

Colonel Jim Donaldson supported the State President's welcome, and spoke of the way the whole ship's company of H.M.S. London looked after the men of the 11th, both before and after the Landing. Major C. Gostelow, secretary of the 11th Bn. Assn., recalled incidents connected with the Landing and mentioned the excellent naval gunnery. Similar tributes were paid by the third speaker, Lieut.-Colonel J. James. All speakers told how grateful the men of the 11th were for the mothering by H.M.S. London, and for the bags of bread and many other gifts received from the officers and ratings of the cruiser.

Every speaker that followed had something to say about the bread, which was available to the men of the 11th, when most of the other units had to subsist on issue biscuits, which were as hard as A.A. telegraph wire. Every speaker also spoke highly of the gallantry and superb coolness of the Middle of Gallipoli, those lads little above high school age who captained the pinnaces and other small craft that took the troops ashore.

Speaking in reply, Lord Gifford said: "I well remember the bread, eggs and gift traffic of yesterday," but he was a return traffic, which was fortunate for the Middies who went ashore with the boats.

They got the first pick of the Turkish rifles, shell cases and bullets, which were given in exchange for the bread. "It was a sort of Lend-Lease," said Lord Gifford, "for I was a returning general." Many of the speakers recalled a letter received by the Captain of H.M.S. London. It was sent from Kalgoorlie and signed by about 200 of the womenfolk of Kalgoorlie saying that they were thankful to the officers and ship's company of H.M.S. London for their care of the men who made the landing. Lord Gifford said the only time he had been in Kalgoorlie was on the previous Saturday, when on the airfield the Mayor gave a luncheon to the officers of Imperial War Graves. Thanks to the officers and ship's company of H.M.S. London for their care of the men who made the landing. Lord Gifford said the only time he had been in Kalgoorlie was on the previous Saturday, when on the airfield the Mayor gave a luncheon to the officers of Imperial War Graves. Thanks to the officers and ship's company of H.M.S. London for their care of the men who made the landing.

After service at the Dardanelles, H.M.S. London went to Taranto where the cruiser was attached to the Italian fleet. Lord Gifford said, with a reminiscent smile, "The Italian fleet was as good then as it was in the earlier days of the War." Lord Gifford, in the war, H.M.S. London was turned into a minelayer.

Many of the speakers recalled a very impressive church parade on the quarter-deck of H.M.S. London. The Padre who officiated, the Rev. Rose, is now Bishop of Dover. He still keeps up his contacts with the men who served with him at Gallipoli. The Captain, now Vice-Admiral Armstrong (retired) is still pale and hearty. He and others hold an annual reunion of the ship's company who were present at the Landing.

After the landing was over, Lord Gifford went into the Air Force, but he returned to the Navy on the outbreak of the present war. He has seen much service in the Mediterranean, ex-
pecially during the North African operations. Of these, he told many interesting tales, but unfortunately, security reasons still keep them off the record. One at least may be repeated, though only those who heard the immutable way it was told can appreciate it in full. At the time of the North African invasion, Lord Gifford said to his brother officers, with an old-world air of experience, "I remember, during my first amphibious operation 27 years ago..." In fact, he is a gentle speaker and a most entertaining spinner of yarns. Those who had the good fortune to meet him will never fail to bless their good luck.

PROPOSED BATTLE BONUS

Local and Eastern States newspapers have given publicity to proposals to give members of the A.I.F. a battle bonus of six shillings a day for every day spent in a defined war area. It is stated that the proposal came from the Trade Unions led by the New South Wales Trades and Labour Council. The men of the Ninth Division are said to have thought so much of the proposal that 3,000 of them signed a petition requesting the Federal Government to grant the bonus. There is nothing wrong with the idea of the bonus, providing the country can afford to pay it, and all sorts of back-street political economists will tell us that the country can. In fact, a resolution carried by last year's State Congress advocated a higher rate of pay for men in battle areas. There is, however, something off-colour about the way the proposal has been served up to the Press. It was stated in "The Daily News" on January 12 that the petition asked the Trade Union movement to urge the Government to grant the battle bonus. Letters we have received from men of the Ninth Division, however, throw another light on the matter. One writer said that his unit was canvassed by a new arrival from Australia, who admitted his membership of the Communist Party, "with a petition which appears to be identical with the one mentioned in the Press report," except that it was addressed to the Australian Communist Party, in addition to the New South Wales Labour Council.

Instead of asking for a battle bonus, this petition congratulated those bodies on their efforts to obtain one. Similar petitions were circulated among the men of the Sixth and Seventh Divisions. Inquiries from various units have made it perfectly evident that the whole business has been organised by Communists in a shrewd and ingenious attempt to ingratiate themselves with the rank and file. That being so, it is more than strange that there has not been any mention of the Communists' connection with the petition in the Press. It is not like the Communist Party to hide its light under a bushel, but perhaps this is another instance of the distortion of news about which the Communists complain so frequently. As we said earlier, there is nothing wrong with an effort to get the troops a battle bonus, but as one of our correspondents suggests, "it is any odds you may mention that 90 per cent of the men who signed the petition had never heard of the bonus proposal until the petition was put under their noses when they signed in the good old free and easy Digger fashion."

The implication, therefore, that there is a strong body of concerted opinion in the Ninth Division in favour of a bonus is, to quote one of our correspondents again, 'just sheer boloney.' All our correspondents think it is highly desirable that the real attitude of the men should be made public. The circulation and signing of a petition of this sort is a grave breach of Army regulations, apart from which it is distinctly bad for anything savouring of politics and political propaganda to be introduced into the Army.
Personalities

Mr. Duff must have been a very proud father when Alf Dounit introduced the twins and their elder brother to the North-East Fremantle Sub-branch during the January meeting. Backstage of the twins getting home so quickly was the prompt response of the energetic secretary who called for the aid of Dave Benson, who immediately got in touch with his Park Lane secretary. He looked to the welfare of the lads and secured a priority for them to travel.

Mysterious rumours have come from Bunbury. Our Bunbury Sub-branch correspondent, in sending greetings to Fremantle City Sub-branch, assured the Fremantle Diggers that Mr. Tom Hobbs had had a perfect fortnight's spell down by the Bunbury seaside. Then it was stated that whispering grass had been blown about that he had been given to shout. Of course there is no suggestion that our old friend Tom Hobbs had anything to do with this, though he shouts anything to do with this, though he shouts

February 5 was a day celebrated by Jim Cunningham with almost birthday honours. Forty-five years ago, on February 5, 1900, he had the honour of being the first West Australian wounded in the South African war. Jim collected some bullet wounds at Slingersfontein. After being patched up in hospital he returned to active duty and was wounded again.

We offer sincere sympathy to Mr. Harold Birch, of the Bunbury Sub-branch, on the loss of his elder son in action. Mr. Birch has received official advice from the Air Ministry that his lad had been killed in action. The news comes via the U.S. Army, where Walter Kreuger was serving. Walter Kreuger is described as a stolid young man, a patient commander, but every inch a fighting man. For the death of his father, when he was quite a child, Walter Kreuger might now have been fighting on the other side. His father was a Prussian colonel and, on his death, the widow took their children, including eight-year-old Walter, from Flatow, in Prussia, to the United States, where she married again. Walter Kreuger once had ambitions of becoming a civil engineer, and he is graduate of the Cincinnati Technical High School. At the Spanish-American war in 1898, he enlisted and saw action in Cuba. He was mustered out of the Army in 1899, but re-enlisted in the Philippines, where he saw service against the Philippine rebellion. He was sent to San Francisco, where he was named a brigadier general in 1912, returning to the Philippines in 1918. He became an instructor in topography. As head of a mapping party, he rode and crisscrossed up and down, and back and forth, across the centre of Luzon, where he is now leading an American army in action. There could have been no happier choice than Walter Kreuger for the command of the American Invasion army, for few men today are more familiar with the military features of Luzon.

Donald R. Chappell, eldest son of John Chappell, the newly-appointed assistant secre-
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Harry Martin, who carried the banner for Labour in the by-election for the Victoria Park seat in the Legislative Assembly, joined the A.I.F. very early in the last war and left Australia with the 4th Reinforcements to the 16th Bn. After Gallipoli, he transferred to the service overseas, and after two years in the field and ended the war with the 44th Bn. He is a member of Gloucester Park sub-branch.

Fred Matthews, who has been one of the mainstays of the Victoria Park sub-branch for many years, recently took his wife on a well-earned holiday at Geraldton. Fred, who served through that little unpleasantness we had with President Kruger, as well as the first war against the Huns, has given many years of sterling service to the Victoria Park sub-branch. The erection of the Memorial Hall in Salford Street and the Stan Gurney Memorial are but two of the sub-branch’s achievements in which he was very actively interested. Mrs. Matthews was an original member of the sub-branch’s most energetic auxiliary.

It was a happy occasion at the January meeting of the Subiaco sub-branch when W.O. Erm Congdon and Cpl. Joe Newman were made to his outstanding service, and it was decided that an enlarged photograph of Mr. Freeman should be hung in the committee room. A suitable presentation will also be made. Mr. Freeman will continue his work as pensions officer for the sub-branch.

It is with regret that we report that a member and committee man of the Geraldton sub-branch, Mr. Albert Glance, is at present a patient in a Repatriation Ward in Perth Hospital. We join with hiseraldton friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Chief Inspector T. Tetterington, whose promotion to that rank in the W.A. Police Force was announced at the beginning of the month, had the distinction of being the first returned soldier to rise to commissioned rank in the force. Born in County Down (Ireland) 57 years ago, he served in the Irish Guards, came to Western Australia in 1910, and joined the Police Force two years later. He had not completed his time on the Reserve when war broke out in 1914 and he was one of the batch of British Army Reservists who went back to the Old Country to join the colours. By December 1914, he was on service in France with the Irish Guards. He was wounded several times, and was promoted sergeant in the field. He rejoined the Police Force in 1919, and was in charge of the police instructional school from 1930 to 1937 with the rank of first-class sergeant. In 1938, he was appointed officer in charge of the Liquor Branch and Chief Inspector of Liquor. During the past few years, he has been acting Chief Inspector on several occasions, and he now succeeds Mr. J. Doyle, the newly-appointed Commissioner, as Chief Inspector.

SHOULDER BADGES IN SERVICES

One of the resolutions passed by the last Federal congress, strongly for the wearing of the “Australia” shoulder badge by officers and men of the Royal Australian Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force who had served overseas. In the case of the airmen, it was pointed out by a sub-branch recently that personnel, returning from overseas service, are directed before returning to Australia to remove the “Australia” shoulder badge. This complaint was forwarded to Federal office. The following reply to representations sent in was received from the Prime Minister’s Department: “The Naval authorities state that it is not proposed to depart from the existing practices so far as the Naval Service is concerned, as the necessary distinction is provided by the Royal Australian Navy cap badge and button. So far as the R.A.A.F. is concerned, the question was considered some time ago, and the institution of a shoulder badge, consisting of the word “Australia” was effected on September 29, 1941. The badge was expressly stated to have been designed to distinguish Australian personnel serving overseas and to denote their country of origin. At no time has a similar badge been considered necessary for members serving in Australia, as the R.A.A.F. uniform is quite distinctive and the wearing of any local insignia is unnecessary. The matter was brought before all R.A.A.F. personnel by an Air Board Order, which was promulgated on April 10, 1942, in which it was again stated that the badge was intended solely for members serving outside Australia and whose country of origin, and to distinguish them from other bodies wearing a somewhat similar uniform in other countries. It was further stated that members of the Australian Imperial Forces were to wear a metal ribbon badge “Australia” to indicate that they have enlisted for overseas service. Owing to this fact, some misunderstanding had arisen in the services as to why the badge was worn by personnel serving outside Australia. It was explained that the badge was, indeed, required, and was not intended to be worn in Australia, and this view is considered to be correct. All members of the R.A.A.F. are required to wear the badge for service anywhere in the world and any badge, which may be designed to distinguish personnel of the R.A.A.F., serving in Australia and members of some other part of the Defence Force is considered undesirable and unnecessary.

16th BATTALION ASSN.

At the recent committee meeting, it was decided that future meetings would be held on the last Thursday in each month. The president reported progress and the treasurer enlightened the members on the financial position, which is improving nicely. Quite a number of members reported their activities, and it was pleasing to know that they still had a kick left. No. 601, G. S. Bradley (Old Brad) who has been farming since the last war, is quite well and has three sons living, one in this city. He was anxious to get in touch with Lieut. E. Bradley, and had no relation; just coppers. Harry is engaged on munition work. Chas. Rosen in Egypt. He is located at West Swan. Ten shillings of the pound was for the orphans’ fund and he was a keen supporter. Three boys, “D” Coy. boys reported—Harry is in the army, B. T. Corry, B. T. Corry; Joe Corry, Corrigan; Ted Spencer, Per- enjori. All well. Lieut. Fred Senior is in must still again and is back at Lake Mason St. We regret to learn that Capt. Harry Crouse is not escaping the neglect of health of late. He hopes to be on the move soon. A.A. Day. Algie Collins, an original colour-sergeant, is enjoying good health again. Major McCrea, of South Australia, promises to bring over as many 16th boys as possible after the war to a monster reunion.
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A case tried before a Sydney court on February 6 will be of interest to all members of the League. The New South Wales Commissioner of Railways was convicted in the special court on two charges of having failed to reinstate a returned soldier, under conditions less favourable than those in which he was reinstated; and that he had failed to reinstate the returned soldier under circumstances not less favourable than if he had remained in his employment. A fine of £3 was imposed on the first charge and £1 in the second. The magistrate said he believed the Commissioner had acted in what he considered was the correct manner and in accordance with the regulations. A number of similar cases against the Commissioner were adjourned.

In his address to the Adult Education Summer School at the University last month, the State President (Mr. J. M. W. Anderson) stressed a point which had generally been overlooked by those who argue against preference in employment for returned service men and women. That is the point that the Navy, Army and Air Force are organisations made up of trained men—not as some people think, of unskilled personnel. The great majority of all personnel are trained and tested, trade grouped and, on receipt of such qualification, receive the extra pay of their trade group. In fact, they have been tested and passed the examination for admission to that trade group. These men and women are going to insist that, if they are paid as tradesmen or tradewomen by the services, they are fully qualified for full membership of the appropriate union. To safeguard that, and again in the interests of the service personnel, our re-training and re-establishment organisation should provide for a refresher course, regular training and a new test in order that, on no account, can a union refuse to admit, as inefficient, personnel who are qualified in the trade.

Sub-branches are reminded that the Third Victory Loan of one hundred million pounds will open on March 13. The League, its sub-branches and auxiliaries, have given splendid support to past loans, and it is hoped that similar support will be forthcoming during the weeks of the new campaign. There is an old Latin proverb to the effect that he who gives early gives twice. This does not mean that the giver may forget the first time and spurn up again. It means that if the amount given is given promptly, it will be far more effective. There is no better way an individual member, or a sub-branch or auxiliary, can invest surplus cash than in a war loan, or a victory loan as these are termed now. Advance investments in Victory Loan Bonds may be made at any time, and interest becomes payable from the date of investment—not from the date the loan opens.

War correspondents' yarns grow worse and worse everyday, mainly through their lack of knowledge of service customs and traditions. A recent furphy made Admiral Bruce Fraser go aboard a United States warship with a pipe in his mouth and explain to a flurried naval officer, "I'm Bruce Fraser," to which the American is said to have said, "I'm Lieut. Jones." It is hard to credit that any high-ranking officer would be received with such scant ceremony, even in the course of an informal visit. What reduces the whole story to an absurdity is the touch of the Admiral going aboard with his pipe in his mouth. Everyone who goes aboard a warship salutes the quarter-deck. Can you imagine a British admiral doing so, and keeping his tobacco incinerator in action at the same time?
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The Listening Post for February, 1945
Councillor Gaddy is a gentleman who has done much for returned servicemen and their dependants, especially through those community concerts which he conducts so frequently and with such success. On Saturday night, January 29, on behalf of the blinded soldiers of both wars was outstanding. It raised the record sum of £150. These Sunday night concerts on the Esplanade open-air shows, and the amounts raised by them for various causes were determined partly by the generosity of the public who happen to be present. On this occasion, the public responded nobly; there were no fewer than three donations of ten pounds each and several more of five pounds each. The programme was a varied one determined locally by well-known Perth artists, and the V.D.C. Band, who gave their services free. In addition, the V.D.C. Band made a donation of one guinea to the fund. What makes giving of this sort all the more meritorious is the fact of it being spontaneous.

Mention of bands reminds me of a story told by a British soldier, who was discharged from the Army and is now serving with the Merchant Navy. When it was decided to send a unit still in England, he joined the regimental dance band. As it turned out, the band became the most overworked show in the unit. Its services were requisitioned by all surrounding units, with the result that the unfortunate performers might spend a whole night playing in one area and the next day in another. At least, when they played for Highland battalions, of whom there were a few in the area, the Jocks would demand reels and strathspeys, and if the band could not play these to the satisfaction of their Highland critics, the Jocks would put on a show and start to break things up. "How did you get on with the Irish?" someone asked. "Oh, they were dead easy. We could always get the "Mother Machete" and they'd all sit down and cry."

Scabbards Off

By Pip Toi

Dr. Edith Summerskill, M.P., who visited Australia recently as member of a Parliamentary delegation, is credited with the statement that morality is not geographical. Still and all, we’ve always had the idea that the Melbourne people are rather mid-Victorian.

Commenting on the meeting of the Big Three, the German Official Newsagency stated that one of the subjects for discussion would be “the terms of the unconditional surrender.” This misuse of the bull was obviously a base attempt to violate Eire’s neutrality.

At the Federal Convention of the Australian Workers’ Union, that organisation, which had already rejected affiliation with the Australian Council of Trade Unions, on the ground that it was controlled, manifested the same illogical attitude as the A.C.T.U. towards the preference issue. Members were unanimous in opposing preference for servicemen while insisting on preference for unionists. The general secretary (Mr. T. Dougherty) tried to make a party issue of it, although the Prime Minister has lifted the question out of the mire of party politics by getting Cabinet to agree to making impending preference legislation a Govern-

ment measure. Dougherty roundly blamed the Press and other political parties for their support of preference and uttered the age-old generality that those who advocate preference had never given it themselves. Then he smarmed over the Diggers by saying that they did not want preference over their "workmates." Included in these workmates, one presumes, are the go-slow people who actually succeeded in having shipping stopped to and from Fremantle, and the Eastern States people who scabbed on our fighting men by striking when a girl was sacked from a butcher’s shop and an aristocrat of labour had to stand up in the bus when riding to work. Another speaker at the convention said that the Federal Government had never attempted to enact any soldier preference legislation after the last war. The statement was misleading. A Federal Government, after the last war, did include a preference clause in the Commonwealth Public Service Act; and when a later Government tried to remove that clause, there was such widely expressed indignation throughout Australia that the Government of the day backed down. In any case, statements about the inadequacy of preference in the past, or the alleged lip service of individuals are beside the point. It is the future for which we are planning, but, if the opponents of preference are so fond of looking to the past, they might realise that the continued opposition from sections of the Labour movement incurs the danger of splitting that movement as wide open as it was split on the conscription issue in the last war—even though all the anti-conscriptionists were not in the Labour Party.

One may agree that there were good security reasons for blanketing the news that the Australians had taken over from the Americans in the islands to our north. At the same time, it is hard to see why the news was hung up for two and a half months, especially when public men and newspapers in the United States were asking if Australia were still in the war, and publicity was being given to their complaints in our own Press. Whatever security was gained by such belated publicity for the deeds of our own men was over-balanced by the ill-feeling likely to be aroused between ourselves and Allies who have loyally stuck by us in the most difficult time of our history. Information Minister Calwell blamed the Army Public Relations officers for the delay, whereupon General Blamey, stung to action by a palpable falsehood, spoke up on behalf of subordinates who were unable to defend themselves against a Ministerial attack, and declared that the basis of this attack was a "direct lie." Calwell’s only reply was a refusal to enter into a public discussion with General Blamey. Then, one Fraser, M.H.R., for Eden Monaro, barged in and censured Calwell. Fraser spoke darkly of military despotism. Seemingly, because Blamey had the courage and decency to defend subordinates he is setting up a military despotism; or at least Fraser, M.H.R., professes to think that the electors of Eden Monaro can hardly be congratulated on the type of intellect they have chosen to represent them at Canberra.

Why Not the Returned

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State Executive

At the meeting of the State Executive on January 18, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Edmondson, Watt, Yeates, Mansbridge, Wood, Leslie, Thorn, Paton, Ferguson, Mitchell, Ferguson-Stewart, Cornell, James, Davies, Collett, Zeffer, Macgregor, Craig, Bateson, Harvey, Sneddon, Reece and Wright.

Letters.-The State President read letters from Field Marshal Lord Birdwood and Air Commodore Brownell.

Welcome.—The State President extended a hearty welcome to the State Country Vice-President (Mr. S. Wright) and Messrs. B. Sykes (Kondinin) and J. Truman (Calingiri).

Pensions and Employment.—Reports from the Pensions and Employment Committee covered two meetings. The first referred mainly to matters submitted by the recent Federal congress, upon which direction was sought for a special conference on repatriation matters, to take place on February 19.

Airing out of this report, the State Executive instructed our delegates to support a 30 per cent. increase in war pensions.

The second report traversed a review of the Repatriation Act, side by side with conditions operating in Britain and other Dominions. As a result of these comparisons, a number of recommendations were made. The Executive endorsed these for presentation to the special conference.

Land Committee.—The report of the Land Committee covered business transacted at a meeting on January 16. The executive adopted the following recommendations: (1) That the Federal office and Senate Committee ask for early advice in connection with the Bill to be presented to the Commonwealth Parliament which, it is expected, will give legislative enactment to the Commonwealth Government's proposals in respect to soldier settlement. (2) That a recommendation be made to the Federal office pointing out that provision should be inserted in all agreements between the State and Commonwealth in respect to Soldier Settlement that leasehold land tenure be so amended as to permit of optional conversion to freehold, on lines similar to that set out in the Land Settlement Bill drafted by this League. The report referred to a recent case, where the League had notified the Agricultural Bank and the Land Department of a contemplated transfer of a soldier settler's property to a civilian, and the Minister's reply was quoted in which the Minister stated that, if the transfer were presented, it would not be approved for the reason that the land was originally made available to the present lessee under the Soldier Settlement Act and, as land must be provided for returned soldiers from this war, it would be against the public interest to assent to any transfer of such property to anyone, but a returned soldier. The sub-branch concerned had expressed appreciation for the prompt action taken by the League. It was resolved that a letter be sent to the Minister for Land complimenting him on the appointment of Mr. W. V. Fyfe as Director of future Soldier Settlement, and asking the Minister to assure Mr. Fyfe that he could count upon the helpful co-operation of the Land Committee. It is hoped that the Land Committee will be able to confer with Mr. Fyfe on his return from the Eastern States.

Anzac Club.—The report of the Anzac Club Committee intimated that arrangements had been made for the storage of bulk supplies during the hot months at a nearby ice works. The report also referred to the action taken to secure bulk supplies for sub-branch reunions and a discussion that had taken place with a Customs Department official, and recommendations to be made which it was hoped would provide supplies for one sub-branch reunion every year. For one particular country sub-branch reunion a special quota had been approved. The report also referred to the deterioration in the present refrigerator in the club and the difficulty of securing quotes for necessary replacement and repairs. This matter was receiving attention.

Combined Appeal, Fremantle City and North-East Fremantle Sub-Branches.—A specific authority was asked for to enable an appeal being made to raise funds for a building to be used as a club and headquarters of the League in Fremantle. It was pointed out that previous approval had been given and it was decided to refer the matter to the League's solicitor for appropriate wording authorising the appeal committee to approach the public.

Badges.—As a local quota had been received which was slightly in excess of that of the previous supply, and in view of the extra expense, the Finance Committee needed direction. It was resolved that the next order be placed locally at the price quoted.

Regional Reconstruction.—A comprehensive report of the Regional Reconstruction Training Committee aroused considerable discussion and comment on the apparent inactivity in respect to training discharged personnel in certain trades. After discussion, it was resolved that publicity be given to the report.
The appointments of

Mrs. Zeffert, Harvey and Leslie were reported by Mr. Edmondson with application exhaustively discussed. It was generally agreed that as much publicity in support of the Scholarship preference should be obtained, and that a small sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Zeffert, Harvey and Leslie be appointed to prepare and publish the League's viewpoints.

Visits.—Mr. L. S. Walder (Country Vice-President) reported on a visit he had paid to the Nungarin Sub-branch. Other visits were reported by Mr. Edmondson (Soldier Scholarship Trust, A. N. A. Sub-branch and Sun-set), Col. Mansbridge (Assessment Tribunal and Soldier Scholarship Trust), Mr. Macgregor (Manjimup), Mr. Anderson (Diggers' Bowling Carnival and University Summer School), Mr. Cornell (Hollywood Hospital), Mr. Bate son (Perth Hospital and Mr. Yokine Sub-branch).

District Committees.—It was resolved that where the Constitution had been compiled with applications already in to form district committees, should be approved.

Proof of Eligibility.—Nungarin Sub-branch pointed out the difficulty of A.M.F. personnel producing proof that they had volunteered for A.I.F. It was decided to notify the sub-branch that proof must be produced for A.M.F. men admitted to membership.

Sub-Branches.—The appointments of officials as advised by the Guildford and Scarborough Beach Sub-branches were approved.

January 31, 1945

At the meeting of the State Executive on January 31, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Edmondson, Watt, Mansbridge, Löcie, Thorn, Paton, Ferguson, Mitchell, Cornell, James, Davies, Collett, Zeffert, Macgregor, Craig, Elliott, Bate son, Harvey, Sneddon and Reece.

War Memorial.—The report of the War Memorial Committee referred to storage in the memorial and suggested the expenditure of £225 for painting, renovations and contingencies. It was also recommended that the memorial gates be opened to the general public on Anzac Day. The question of lettering on the memorial was referred to the honorary architect. The report was adopted.

Finance Committee.—Arising out of the Finance Committee's report, it was recommended that the capitation fees be paid to the Federal Executive should be reduced to sixpence per member. The report and the State Secretary's comments thereon were referred to the committee, and a copy of the State Secretary's review is to be circulated to all delegates.

Hospital Visiting Roster.—Visiting roster covering the period from February 1 to April 26 was submitted and duties allotted as follows:

February 1—Edward Millen and Heathcote; F. Bate son and J. Cornell.
February 15—Edward Millen and Heathcote; C. G. Ferguson and E. G. Davies.
March 1—Edward Millen and Heathcote: I. Ferguson-Stewart and C. L. Harvey.

Visits.—Visits were reported by Messrs. Anderson and Leslie (Koorda, Goomalling and Dowerin), Mr. Watt (Saratoga), Mr. Edmondson (Sun-set), Mr. Zeffert (Regional Reconstructed Committee), Mr. Bate son (P.P.H.), Mr. Reece (York), Colonel Mansbridge (Old University Education Board Scholarship Trust), Mr. Cornell (Hollywood Hospital), Mr. Thorn (Mundaring), Mr. Elliott (Wooroloo Sanatorium), Mr. James (Mt. Hawthorn and Cr. Caddy's Esplanade Concert), Mr. D. Johnstone, of Harvey, reported on a visit to the annual meeting of the Collie sub-branch.

Late Registrar Friendly Societies.—Members paid the silent tribute to the late Mr. A. Bennett (Registrar Friendly Societies), Freo. Deputy.—A deputation from the Fremantle sub-branch, comprising the President (Mr. H. G. Wilson) and the Secretary (Mr. P. J. Coulson) was admitted at 8:55 p.m. The deputation referred to certain aspects of a matter arising out of Fremantle sub-branch communications with the N.S.W. State Branch concerning legal assistance for the son of a member of the sub-branch who was in difficulties in Sydney. The secretary of the sub-branch was granted permission to read the correspondence. As a mistake had been made, a misunderstanding had arisen. The State Secretary was instructed to write to the Fremantle sub-branch regretting the mistake.

Repatriation Indemnity.—A letter enclosing a form of indemnity issued by the Repatriation Commission for signature by discharged personnel was sent from Midland Junction sub-branch. The indemnity was an acceptance of full and personal responsibility by discharged personnel for any detrimental effects following discharge before completion of treatment. The form was referred to the Pensions Committee for investigation and report.

Army Huts Vacant Block.—A letter was received from the Town Clerk disallowing the request to erect four wooden Army huts on the vacant land adjoining Anzac House.

It was resolved to resubmit the request to the City Council, explaining the purpose of the huts and pointing out that the structures would be of a temporary nature only.

Preference.—Letters were received from Mundaring and Maylands sub-branches. Maylands sub-branch referred to the appointment of non-returnd soldiers in the Tramway Department as ticket inspectors. This matter was already receiving consideration by the P. and E. Committee.

Nationalisation of Industries.—A letter was received from the Quairading sub-branch requesting that certain action be taken to prevent Federal Government carrying into operation the nationalisation of industries.

It was resolved that no action be taken, as the matter was party political.

Fremantle Buildings.—The action of the special committee comprising Fremantle and...
Sub-Branch Activities

MARGARET RIVER

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting on January 8, and this included an appreciable number of returned men of the present war. The following officials were elected: President, Mr. R. G. Forrester; vice-president, Mr. R. Nixon; secretary, Mr. C. R. Oldman; treasurer, Mr. W. H. Samworth; publicity officer, Mr. W. C. Smith. The main subjects for discussion were a proposal to form one large sub-branch for the Margaret River district, and what form of war memorial should be erected. Delegates from Gwariampp and Karridale Sub-branches were in attendance. The proposal to form one large sub-branch was not approved. The meeting was unanimous in deciding that all sub-branches in the district be asked to assist in raising funds for the building of a Margaret River and District R.S.I. Memorial Institute. A block of land for the proposed institute has already been purchased in the main street, and a "Buy a Brick" campaign commenced with the New Year. The New Year ball at Margaret River on December 30 was a huge success, 350 people being present. The excellent supper provided by the ladies of the auxiliary was enjoyed by all.

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The Listening Post for February, 1945

MANJIMUP

The president (Lou Thompson) was in the chair at the monthly meeting on January 11. A fair number of members were present. A welcome was extended to two visiting members from Perth and a member of the U.S.N., all of whom suitably responded. The secretary presented a most encouraging report of the membership and financial position at this time, and a programme of future work. A discussion took place on the proposed Easter Monday sports meeting. It was decided to carry on with the project. In connection with this, a most attractive programme has been drawn up, details of which will be announced later. It was also decided to resume holding annual reunions, which have been in abeyance for the past few years. This year's reunion will be held about May or June.

BOYANUP JUNCTION

Good progress for the past year was reported at the annual general meeting on January 9. An outstanding achievement was that in support of the P.O.W. appeal, which raised £300. Membership is increasing as the result of the war joining the sub-branch. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. C. Reilly; vice-presidents, Messrs. A. M. Bryce and Eric Smith; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. G. Scott; committee, Messrs. D. Hornsby, G. Smith, J. E. Clow and H. L. Triggwell; auditor, Mr. G. Timewell; press secretary, Mr. S. W. A. Kilpatrick. A minute was placed on record thanking the retiring president (Mr. A. M. Bryce) and the secretary (Mr. Scott) for services rendered.

DALWALLINU

At the annual meeting on December 8, the following officers were elected for 1945: President, Mr. J. L. Haasey; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. Tunstall and W. Wilson; treasurer, Mr. J. Spark, secretary, Mr. E. G. Mercer; committee, Messrs. W. E. Morris, E. W. Bond, P. Calman and Meddings. Mr. Spark, the new treasurer, served with the 4th A.M.F. and Mr. Meddings with the 2/16th in the present war. It was decided to hold an Anzac Day commemoration in Dalwallinu next year. An Anzac Ball will be held, either on the Saturday before or the Saturday after Anzac Day. A ball was held in the local hall on December 30 to augment the funds. It was a great success. The sub-branch extends good wishes to all neighbouring sub-branches, members of which are assured of hearty welcome should they be in Dalwallinu on meeting nights. Meetings are held at the Dalwallinu Hotel on the first Thursday of each month at 8 p.m.

MOSMAN PARK

The December meeting was observed as a special Christmas gathering. The part played...
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THE LISTENING POST FOR February, 1945

Harrison, on the loss of her father-in-law, the late Frank Crawford, Mr. Fred Pearson spoke at some length on the various disadvantages experienced in the Jarrahwood farming in connection with telephone communications. A new feature entered into was the special invitation to the women’s auxiliary to be present at the annual meeting of the sub-branch on February 3. The function will take the form of a “Dixie Stew Supper.”

ARMADALE

There was a fair attendance at the annual meeting on January 10. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. Spencer Gwyne; vice-presidents, Messrs. Egan and May; treasurers, Mr. J. Baldock; auditors, Messrs. Marsh and Barbour; management committee, Messrs. Milman and Broadhurst; stewards, Mr. J. Clift; secretary, Mr. J. Storm. In a brief review of the year’s work, the president commented on the number of younger men joining the sub-branch. It indicated, he said, that the younger returned men were satisfied with the conditions laid down by the older members. Finances are in a healthy state, with a credit of £459/18/10 in the bank, £284/18/3 in the building fund and £197/18/7 in the amelioration fund. The matter of the sub-branch’s incorporation, as a preliminary to the building of new club-rooms will be finalised shortly. Appreciation was expressed concerning the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. R. Fletcher, in conjunction with the A.W.B.C., and the assistance given by Mrs. Waller and Mrs. F. Syne in raising approximately £180 for the building fund. It was decided to invest surplus money in war bonds.

WAROONA-HAMEL

The annual meeting was held on February 2. Bert Chambers was unanimously re-elected to the presidency for a fourth term. Bert has given his time unsparingly in the interests of the Diggers for the past three years, and the sub-branch has prospered exceedingly well under his guiding rule. Secretary Ralph Ivey also assumes the pen for another year, and was the recipient of thanks for his labours in the past. It is felt that the time is ripe for the young Diggers to take office, and with this object in view, Claude Burgess was elected vice-president and Gordon Wellar assistant secretary. It is the earnest hope of all the old Diggers that the next annual meeting will see all the young blood with us and taking their full share in controlling the affairs of the sub-branch. The past year was a successful one financially. Total receipts were £438. One hundred and twenty pounds was donated to the P.O.W. fund. War bonds to the amount of £120 were purchased and £40 distributed in relief. A sports meeting is being organised for Easter Monday next, the proceeds to be divided between the P.O.W. fund and the amelioration fund. Bob Wyatt urged members to give a hand to the district in supporting the Victory Loan, and his eloquence produced an immediate promise of £170 from amongst the Diggers present. A good start and a good-lead.

MOORA

The usual monthly meeting was held at the amenities hall on Saturday, January 13, when the president (Mr. J. S. Symonds) presided over a fair attendance of members. Business attended to was mostly in connection with land matters, and the resale of Agricultural Bank land. At the request of head-quarters, particulars of farms sold in this district were forwarded to them. It was decided to donate £10 from the sub-branch.
The Listening Post for February, 1945

Funds to the Legacy War Orphans' Appeal. Messrs. Symonds and Gardiner were appointed as delegates to the rehabilitation conference convened by the Moora Road Board, and were instructed to ask for a survey to be made of the Dandarragan district to see if this land would be suitable for soldier settlement. The delegates subsequently put this to the conference, which was attended by Messrs. Gray and Berry, M.S.L.A., and it received favourable comment and was carried unanimously. Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current financial year are now due, and the hon. secretary (Mr. L. Kuhl) is only too willing to exchange the 1945 crown for the 10/- sub. The wearing of this crown entitles the wearer to admission to the Anzac Club, Perth.

MOSMAN PARK

Our January meeting produced the largest attendance for some time, and many new members were enrolled. A suggestion was brought forward regarding the discharge of the debt on the hall, whereby members who could afford it and would like a small investment would be given the opportunity of taking out interest-bearing debentures in denominations of £10. Discussion was deferred until next meeting. During the evening, a service committee was formed for the purpose of helping members who found difficulty with various problems that are the lot of ex-servicemen today. The following members were appointed, with powers to add: Messrs. Mullen and Rollings (rehabilitation), Whitesaker (War Service Homes), Williamson (pensions), Norgard (taxation), Miles and Baumber (general). This committee meets on the third Tuesday in each month. The financial report read by Acting Secretary Bill Craze indicated a healthy and improving financial position. In future, the sports will be controlled by a committee comprising Messrs. Baxter, Frost and Norgard. Arrangements are in hand for a night with the rehabilitation boys, and it is proposed to arrange a night with Netherlands during March. Dave Baxter is already at home in his job as social secretary, and with the co-operation of all members will be well up with his predecessors in this side of our activities. Our elected secretary, Keith Woods, has left for R.A.N. service overseas, and carries with him the best wishes of all members.

BUNBURY

Since December there has been considerable activity on the Bunbury front. Just before Christmas the local Government Hospital was installed with a master radio and fellows listening in to the various activities of Mr. Vin. Cooper, who mustered a most efficient working bee. The results have been most satisfactory. During the absence of Secretary H. Birch, Mr. Jack Moore is to be released from his obligations as sub-secretary, while vice-presidents Harry Ryal and Fred Davies-Moore have agreed to preside at future meetings. Considerably more space has been obtained in the R.S.L. Hall by the dismantling of the stage. The present orchestra is now positioned on a platform erected in what used to be the original entrance of the hall. The following new members have been taken on strength: F. O. Winbridge, P. C. Pickersgill, T. W. T. Lilley, Max N. Clifton, S. Johnston, L. P. Kege and A. R. Cook. We wish them active and useful service in the League.

SUBIACO

The attendance at the January meeting was a record. In the absence of the president (Cliff Sadler, V.C.), who is, unfortunately, a patient in Ward X, Alf Buggins occupied the chair and was pleased to welcome so many new and enthusiastic members. Further 31 new members, including three members of the R.A.N. from N.S.W., were enrolled. They got a great reception. The total membership is now 460. The overdraft on the hall now stands at £65, and it is only a matter of a few months when that will be cleared; but the time is coming when an extension will have to be considered. The sports master reports increased attendances every Wednesday night. This is a means of keeping the boys together. A challenge has been received from West Leederville Sub-branch for a return social match in the Subiaco Hall on March 14. It was accepted with pleasure, as members are always happy to entertain the Diggers from Leederville. The appeal by the Legacy Club was commended to members, and the sub-branch has made a donation to this very worthy cause. The P.O.W. fund is still in operation, and the treasurer reports that the subs. are not coming forward so well. This is one effort which must be kept going. The monthly meeting is held on the last Wednesday of each month, and the committee particularly want to get in touch with all new members.

MT. LAWLEY-INGLEWOOD

The February meeting was well attended, with about 120 signing the roll. Those present were surprised when the membership secretary announced that membership had passed the 700 mark. Of two notices of motion for next meeting, one dealt with the question of joining the management committee, and the other for discussion only—concerns the League and politics. The next one should be a lively meeting. This month there was some discussion on the Government intentions—or lack of them—regarding post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation. More should be heard of this subject in the future. And here's a tip to members: Tuesday, February 20, is games night, with a competition between the first and the second A.I.F. At the last meeting members were asked to donate £50 to the Legacy Club appeal. This organisation is closely allied with the League, as it looks after the orphaned children of service-men. Meetings: Management committee, February 27; general meeting, March 6; membership, March 13; games night, March 20.
GLOUCESTER PARK

The president (Mr. C. Lambe) presided over a well-attended meeting on February 1. A cordial welcome was extended to 14 new members, visitors from the Maylands, Claremont and Midland Junction sub-branches and representatives of the Artillery Comrades’ Association. The Saturday night dances at Anzac House run by Gloucester Park and Artillery Comrades are still proving very successful, both socially and financially. On behalf of the joint committee, Mr. Snow, of the Artillery Comrades, handed a further cheque for £100 to Mr. Lambe for the Gloucester Park building fund. A vote of thanks to all concerned in this fine effort was carried with acclamation. The chief business of the evening was dealing with a number of recommendations put forward by the sub-branch business committee. Grave concern was expressed at the inability of discharged service personnel to obtain the necessary civilian clothing. It was resolved that the State Executive be urged to take this matter up in the right quarter, also the housing problem of discharged men. Mr. C. Weaver was elected patron of the sub-branch. The newly-formed social committee staged the first function on Wednesday, February 7, in the form of a ladies’ night social and dance. This was a concrete expression of appreciation of the splendid service rendered by the ladies throughout the year. Commencing on Thursday, February 15, the sub-branch will hold a sports night in the Wembley Hall on the third Thursday in each month, when various games competitions will be conducted. In view of the probable resumption of competitions for the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield, it is hoped that members will roll up on sports nights to get into trim for the games, so that we may retain the shield now in our possession. It was won by this sub-branch for the last three consecutive years the competitions were held.

MAYLANDS

President Sep. Horton presided over a good attendance at the general meeting on January 25. The State President’s monthly newsletter was read and was greatly appreciated. Seven new members and visitors, including two from Queensland, were welcomed. The sub-branch decided to run a big dance in support of the Legacy Club’s appeal. Ron Fleming reported on the building fund activities. Several functions are being organised in support of the fund. Nominations for the various offices were taken. Regret was expressed at the resignation of the treasurer, Billy Hall. His successor is a returned man of the present war, Mr. McLeod. The president (Sep. Horton), the secretary (Alf Cook) and most of the retiring committee members were re-elected. As the meeting happened to coincide with Alf Cook’s birthday, that great event in history also received fitting commemoration.

VICTORIA PARK

The president (Alf Nicholas) presided over the largest attendance for many months at the monthly meeting January 15. New members include old as well as new Diggers. Membership is now about 400. The hon. auditor (Wally Tolmie) presented a very healthy balance sheet. The darts championship ended in a dead heat between J. W. Allan and F. Hanson. Mr. Allan is away, serving with the Merchant Navy at present. On his return, a decision will be made in the allocation of the championship cup. Last month’s cheque for £300, the result of a popular girl competition, was presented to the P.O.W. fund. A sub-committee has been formed to go into ways and means of extending the hall. The sub-branch’s efforts for the removal of the sanitary site were successful, and members feel gratified at being of such service to the general public. Official approval for the formation of a district committee with Carlisle and Gloucester Park has not yet been received. Mr. Blake, of Gloucester Park, who has been chosen to represent the district committee on the State Executive, is a young and able man, serving with the R.A.N.

MT. HAWTHORN-NTH. LEEDERVILLE

There was a record attendance at the annual meeting on January 25. There was a big field in the nominations for office-bearers. Mr. Tom Campbell with two assistants—Messrs. H. Whitehouse and Christiansen—were the returning officers. General regret was expressed when it was learnt that Cuth. Richardson would not be able to remain secretary this year. He was accorded a vote of thanks for his services. The officers elected were: President, Mr. B. Keeley; vice-presidents, L. Vivian and Wex. Sinclair; auditor, J. J. Prendergast; treasurer, W. Rowles; secretary, W. Devine; publicity officer, Ted Nathan; sports director, Roy Peterson; building committee, W. Kay, T. Damon, W. Rowles, L. Longbottom, H. James, S. Pyman, H. Sweeney, J. Woodhead, L. Vivian, R. Holland; social committee, Messrs. Sinclair, Black, Richardson, A. Campbell, Max Tetley, Arnold, O’Neill, Longbottom, Damon, G. Emery, Maddsford; amelioration, Rev. Smout, W. Andrews, W. Kay, T. Campbell, Ted Nathan; S.S.I. wardens, Messrs. H. Campbell, Heare, Maddsford, Hinchcliffe and Morley. Next month’s meetings will be held on March 8 and March 22.

NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE

The first 1945 meeting opened with a large attendance. The president (E. J. Toman) accorded a hearty welcome to 49 new members enrolled since the last meeting. Sec-
SECRETARY Alf Doust must have had a very busy month. Included in the new members were the Duff twins and elder brother. Alf Doust claims that the twins are the youngest members enrolled in Australia. These quiet unassuming lads have packed many thrills in their 14 months away from Australia. Mr. Wheeler presented £4 to the sub-branch from the mechanical branch of the Harbour Trust for the P.O.W. fund. These patriotic chappies keep bobbing up with their very acceptable donations.

SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT
There was a good attendance at the annual meeting when the following officers were elected: President, Mr. T. Ryan; secretary and treasurer, Mr. M. Rourke; social secretary, H. J. McPhee. The retiring president (Mr. A. Watt) thanked all members for their support during the year. It was pleasing to see the foundation president (Lieut. H. Murphy) at the meeting. Mr. McPhee successfully moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. F. Pike for his work in connection with the dances. Membership has been increased by the enrolment of eight returned men of the present war. A Bucks social night will be held on the third Monday of each month.

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NEW members will be welcomed on the first Monday.

FREMANTLE CITY
At the general meeting on January 27, members in good voice and certainly alive to what was a vital political occasion; a general debate on the infiltration of the foreign element left the impression that whilst the war is being won, Australia is being rapidly lost. There does not appear to be any manpower shortages for foreign, but Australian premises are languishing. Is there a financial centre behind this infiltration? Think over it everywhere. Whilst many are discussing preference questions and see-sawing on the outcome, take a ride on the local trams and observe an almost 100 per cent. preference in practice. Congratulations to the Fremantle Tramway Board. The secretary reports that the 100 new members per quarter aimed at will be enrolled. It is good to see old Diggers whose interest lapsed years ago playing the prodigal son and coming back to the fold, while the Pilgrim fathers bring in their eligible sons. This is a welcome sign.

H. J. CLARK, our sick visitor, in spite of his expense, kept in good voice during his stay and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his efforts. New members continue to come in, and the president welcomed Messrs. A. J. Gilmore, H. H. J. Haddow. Mr. W. R. Haddow's report showed that the Fremantle sub-branch is in good shape and is being won, Australia is being rapidly lost.

GERALDTON
The annual general meeting of the sub-branch was held on January 27, when there was a record attendance of about 80. The chair was occupied by the president (Syd Freman), and his report showed that the finances were in a very healthy state. The relief fund showed a credit balance of close to £300. The president expressed his gratitude to the committee and to the women's auxiliary for their loyal co-operation during the year. The membership total of the sub-branch is now viring on the 200 mark. The hon. auditors (Messrs. A. Stewart and E. H. Paton) in their report paid a warm tribute to the work of the secretary, and they made several suggestions with regard to the reduction of his work. For the protection of president rendered vacant by the retirement of Mr. Freman, Mr. A. B. Rutherford was elected.

MESSRS. E. Hancox and H. W. Lock are the vice-presidents and the other officers elected were as follows: Secretary, Mr. J. Roger; treasurer, Mr. A. Green; auditors, Messrs. F. Fraser and W. McCallum; assistant secretary, Mr. V. Browne; warden, Rev. R. B. Bailey; trustees, Messrs. J. Chapman and A. Milford; publicity officer, Mr. A. B. Rutherford; pensioners officer, Mr. W. C. Freeman; general committee, Messrs. E. Savage, G. Anderson, J. Bohan, W. Vinnicombe, W. H. Archibald, A. Butcher, A. Smith, C. Dowse and E. Eaton. Amongst the many visitors present were Mr. J. Lipple (Upper Chapman) and Mr. F. Matthews (Victoria Park). The latter gentleman gave us a very entertaining performance of the 'ladderman' which with other items by several artists helped to make up a very pleasant social evening during which refreshments were partaken of by all present. Mr. Syd. Griffiths was in charge of the jigsaw and was ably assisted by several entertainers. Members of the present looking its best and the lawns and surroundings are indeed a credit to Charlie Plumridge who is doing a splendid job as caretaker of our headquarters. The radio session from 6OE is going well and we hope to entertain some members of the British Navy personnel at a games night in the local town hall.

WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY
Despite the intense discomfort of the evening at the February meeting, the number of members present almost reached a record. A successful night of business was recorded, the highlight being the president's report on the operations of the sub-branch during 1944. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his efforts. New members continue to come in, and the president welcomed Messrs. W. J. Tinkers, B. Smith and Andrews. What is more, we have heard that Mr. W. D. Scott is away on (holidays) in this important work. Our thanks are due to both these gentlemen for a fine job of work.

RALPH DONALDSON

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RALPH DONALDSON
soon be about again. Members are reminded that their subscriptions became due to January. I fear so anyone who has not put this little matter in order, will they please contact the secretary at their very earliest convenience. We were pleased to hear from our friends the Salvation Army again, who are getting in early with arrangements for Anzac day in co-operation with our sub-branch. An encouraging message was received from the executive of the...women’s auxiliary expressing good wishes to all members, which we heartily reciprocate.

**Women’s Auxiliaries**

**STATE EXECUTIVE**

Two meetings of the Executive of the R.S.L. Womens’ Auxiliaries have been held this year. After the Christmas rush of hospital visiting there has been a lull in activities, but members have as usual carried out canteen and hostel duties for the Citizen’s Reception Council and assisted each Sunday in the Anzac Buffet.

Mrs. McKinlay (State President) spent a well-earned vacation in Albany. While there, she took the opportunity of visiting Denmark auxiliary.

It may come as a great surprise to many members of country auxiliaries that, after so many years have passed, there are in various homes and hospitals in the metropolitan area more than 300 ex-service men who are still suffering cheerfully and patiently the illness resulting from the war. These veterans are patients of the following: Lemnos, Wooroloo, Heathcote, Edward Millen, Sunset, Glendalough, Eventide, Claremont Mental Hospital, Home of Peace and the repatriation wards at the Perth Hospital.

At Christmas time each of these institutions was visited by members of metropolitan auxiliaries, who distributed gifts in cash and kind to make brighter the festive season for these sick men. Members of the State Executive also made visits as ambassadors for country auxiliaries, whose donations were so generous that parcels of extra Christmas fare were provided for all. The eager welcome extended to the visitors and the expressions of appreciation on all sides made them realise how really worthwhile this service was. In addition a visit was paid to civilian wards of the Perth Hospital, where many war veterans are always to be found. Here also Christmas gifts were distributed. To these wards weekly visits are paid by executive hospital visitors, who take cakes and cigarettes to the men. It is during these visits that contacts are made with country Diggers who welcome the visits when they are so far from their own folk.

During these visits, unfortunately, visitors now meet sick and wounded servicemen from this war. Of course, these men receive the same care and attention as the old Diggers. This service is extended not only to our own countrymen, but to men of all services and all nationalities.

This hospitality is not confined to the Christmas season only, but goes on the whole year through, many metropolitan auxiliaries pay regular visits to a particular hospital or home in their own localities. Donations from country auxiliaries enable the State Executive to arrange outings, high tea, etc., at very frequent intervals.

All this work is cheerfully carried out by auxiliary members and their respective sub-branches are grateful to them for the great work they are doing for the comfort and welfare of their sick comrades. They realise that their pledge “We will remember them” is being faithfully fulfilled by these wonderful women—many of their wives, mothers or widows of the men who answered their country’s call in the former war.

**WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY**

There was a good attendance at the January meeting, the auxiliary having been in recess for December. Christmas donations to 11 institutions amounted to £26/5/-.

We sincerely thank Mr. Jim McOllough for conducting the children’s party so ably. The proceeds totalled £13. As a result of a Paddy’s Market, both sub-branch and auxiliary funds benefited to the extent of £26. We were pleased to welcome a new member in Mrs. McAttee, a daughter of the late Mr. Sabine, who was a member of the sub-branch. Mrs. McAttee’s husband served abroad with the A.D.C. A donation of £10/10/- for the Legacy Club met with unanimous approval.

**VICTORIA PARK**

Although the auxiliary has been in recess, there have been quite a few happenings which will, no doubt, be of interest to members. To begin with, Secretary Mrs. Prue has become a proud grandmother, her daughter Ronnie, whose husband is in the Navy, having presented her with a granddaughter. Mrs. Reed’s daughter Fay has distinguished herself in her studies, and is going East to continue them. Mrs. Matthews, the treasurer, has been holidaying at Geraldton. To touch a more serious note, we regret to have to state that a very esteemed member, Mrs. Stockton, has been seriously ill, and Mrs. Barnett’s husband has been in hospital. We hope they will soon be quite fit again. During recess, the fortnightly visits to the Edward Millen have been continued. Cakes for afternoon tea, and lollies, papers, etc., have been distributed on behalf of the auxiliary. The official visitors are Mesdames Haigh and Coleman.

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<tr>
<td>AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>RAAF Rendezvous, National House, William St., Perth</td>
<td>First Saturday each month</td>
<td>C. A. Rine, Howard Hill (off Howard St.), Perth</td>
<td>A. Harris, c/o Boy's Garage, S. George's Tom, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>December each month</td>
<td>D. M. Benson, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Jack Kennedy, 136 Sixth Avenue, Ingledow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLESSED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>As advertised</td>
<td>W. Kruger, 79 St. Leonard's Avenue, Leederville</td>
<td>C. A. P. Gansell, 42 St. George's Terrace, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>Mr. Andrew Glass, Main St., Cannington</td>
<td>(Acting Secretary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Reunion</td>
<td>October each month</td>
<td>Mrs. P. Griffiths, J.P., 87 South Perth, Seacliff</td>
<td>H. W. R. H. 25 Elizabeth St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Grayson's, 32 King Street, Perth</td>
<td>Friday before Anzac Day and last Friday in October</td>
<td>Dr. C. H. Leedham, Chairman, A. H. H., 99 Town St., West Leederville</td>
<td>E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield St., North Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44TH ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As advertised</td>
<td>Annual reunion, Monday of November each month</td>
<td>M. L. Frey, 50 Eldridge St., Cannington</td>
<td>E. J. Massey, 61 Harvey St., Victoria Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Committee, as arranged</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
<td>W. L. Pirket, 120 Coode St., Cannington</td>
<td>W. C. Armstrong, 20 Ruislip St., West Leederville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>2nd Monday of each month</td>
<td>Mr. C. G. Geddes, c/o Millars' Timber &amp; Trading Co., St. George's Terrace, Perth</td>
<td>J. R. B. Lumley, 56th Avenue, Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Room 55, 5th Floor, Glendower Buildings, Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>J. F. Davie, 27 Dunbar Rd., Claremont</td>
<td>Roy Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10TH LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Room 55, 5th Floor, Glendower Buildings, Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>Major J. W. Calipha, Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>E. S. Pearson, Atlas Building, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, W.A. Branch</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>1st Pension Day of the month at 2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. P. Malpas, J.P., 87 South Perth, Seacliff</td>
<td>Mr. J. G. C. Smith, 539 Hay St., Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS ASSN.</td>
<td>Monash House, corner Hay and Henry Sts., Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>W. F. D. Harvey, J.P., 87 South Perth, Seacliff</td>
<td>Chas. C. Walker, 124 Walcott St., Mt. Lawley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

Rates: £1/1/- Per Annum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Institute</td>
<td>1st Friday each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mr. T. Brown</td>
<td>Mr. S. K. Blackburne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARMDALE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>S. C. Glyne</td>
<td>R. Pochell, Ballidu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLIDU DISTRICTS</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>A. C. Wills, Ballidu</td>
<td>P. Hughes, 61 Kathleen St., Ballidu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENDINE</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday every second month</td>
<td>C. Cook, Wilson St., Bassendine</td>
<td>D. Holmes, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>Bullbrook Town Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday evening (postponed), 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>S. Whittington, Brookton</td>
<td>Bert Clancy, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLBROOK</td>
<td>Bullsbrook Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Pickett, 50 Stirling Street, Bullbrook</td>
<td>H. C. Thrall, Brookton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNBURY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Saturday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. J. Moore, 49th Avenue, Bullbrook</td>
<td>A. Barnes, c/o Office, Bullbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday of each month</td>
<td>L. L. Powell, Busselton</td>
<td>B. Harvey, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALINGIRI</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday of each month</td>
<td>W. D. Overbeau</td>
<td>H. G. L. L. Bowman, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANNING DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Mr. P. Ball's House</td>
<td>4th Wednesday of each month</td>
<td>E. J. Sumners, Calple</td>
<td>G. C. R. Gillett, Busselton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPEL</td>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>4th Sunday of each month, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>E. C. Finch, 58 Beauty Ave., Capel</td>
<td>M. K. Ryniker, 49 Miller St., Capel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>1st Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Brown, 50th Avenue, Capel</td>
<td>H. May, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLIE</td>
<td>Central Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Thursday in each month</td>
<td>W. Wood, 46th Avenue, Capel</td>
<td>C. W. Edwick, E. L. Cooper, 20 Prince St., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRIGIN</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarrad Street</td>
<td>8th Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. J. Sumners, Capel</td>
<td>A. F. J. Ryan, 22 Bannister St., Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Stirling Highway, Claremont</td>
<td>1st Thursday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Ford, 13 Shenton Road, Claremont</td>
<td>I. J. Ryan, 22 Bannister St., Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Cranbrook Hotel</td>
<td>1st Thursday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>E. E. Parmelee, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
<td>Swann, 36 South St., Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANBROOK</td>
<td>Darlington Hotel</td>
<td>Quarterly by notice</td>
<td>I. J. Ryan, 22 Bannister St., Claremont</td>
<td>J. F. Forrest, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>R.S.L. Clubrooms, Conning Park, Karratha</td>
<td>1st Thursday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. C. Cameron, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
<td>J. F. Forrest, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>R.S.L. Literary Institute</td>
<td>1st Saturday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Cameron, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
<td>J. F. Forrest, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONGARRA</td>
<td>J. S. Roper's Promises, Port Denison</td>
<td>1st Saturday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. J. North</td>
<td>F. Hobbs, 57 Oxford St., Dongarra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. G. Shepp, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
<td>C. D. Morgan, F. D. Dobell, Down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWERIN</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Shepp, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
<td>J. A. Shepp, F. D. Dobell, Down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMELEUNG</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hall</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Mondays of each month</td>
<td>W. C. Freeman, c/o Great Northern Hotel</td>
<td>G. A. Morgan, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBLEYUNG Dwellings &amp; Districts</td>
<td>Dumbleyung Hotel</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. R. Shepp, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
<td>G. A. Morgan, Donnybrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASHOVNE</td>
<td>Wesleyan Hall, Fremantle</td>
<td>2nd Saturday of each month</td>
<td>A. W. M. Thompson</td>
<td>A. M. Shepp, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td>Wembley Hall, 347 Hay St., Fremantle</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. H. S. Lyall, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
<td>H. W. Lovelock, 57 Oxford St., Dongarra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Wembley Hall, 347 Hay St.</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>M. C. East, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
<td>A. W. M. Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNOYWANGERP</td>
<td>Soldiers' Room</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. G. Wilson, 110 Marmion</td>
<td>W. R. Shepp, 5th Street, Dongarra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>R.S.L. Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. S. Roper's Promises, Port Denison</td>
<td>Roy Geddes, Fremantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>R.S.L. Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>J. H. Cameron, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
<td>B. C. Spencer, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Freeman, c/o Great Northern Hotel</td>
<td>B. C. Spencer, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Clubrooms, Cawood Street</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Mondays</td>
<td>W. C. Freeman, c/o Great Northern Hotel</td>
<td>B. C. Spencer, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Kellerberrin and Doodlakine</td>
<td>1st Monday alternate month, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Freeman, c/o Great Northern Hotel</td>
<td>B. C. Spencer, 5th Street, Claremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch</td>
<td>Place of Meeting</td>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELMSCOTT-ROLEYSTONE</td>
<td>Kelmasto every third month</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>G. Martin, Kelmasto</td>
<td>W. Hart, Roleystone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOOROA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>D. Hamilton, Koorda</td>
<td>W. H. Moore, P.O. Box 11, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>F. Hodgson, Kukerin</td>
<td>R. V. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KULIA-MOLLERIN</td>
<td>Alternate Kulia, Mollerin</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>T. Richardson, Mollerin</td>
<td>T. Richardson, Mollerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KULIN</td>
<td>RSL Institute</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>W. C. Smith, Lake Grace</td>
<td>E. C. Smith, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKE GUMN</td>
<td>Road Board Office, Bundaring</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>K. M. Wood, 33 Glyde Street, Mosman Park</td>
<td>K. M. Wood, 33 Glyde Street, Mosman Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAKES DISTRICT</td>
<td>Old School Room</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>J. Cook, 186 Railway Terrace, Marylands</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANJIMUP</td>
<td>RSL Hall, Kingaroy,</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>S. Hart, Milla, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>A. F. Read, 19 Diatt Street, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDURAH</td>
<td>Road Board Office, Bundaring</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>L. C. Scarratt, Cookery,</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRADANG-BOODINGTON</td>
<td>Road Board Office, Bundaring</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYLANDS</td>
<td>RSL Hall, Kingaroy,</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>L. C. Scarratt, Cookery,</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MECKERING-CUNDERIN</td>
<td>RSL Hall, Kingaroy,</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELVILLE</td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Bunbury</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERRIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDLAND JUNCTION</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOSMAN PARK</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOORA</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNT BARKER</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUKINBUDIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNDARING &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAREMBERG</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NARROGIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEVILLEDALE</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH EAST FREMANTLE</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHAMPTON</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH PERTH</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSBORNE PARK</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERTH</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREES</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PITHARA</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC SERVICE</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUARRADING-DANGIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFETY BAY</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHENTON PARK</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHACKLETON-KWOLYIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH PERTH</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBIACO</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAYNING-YEALING</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICTORIA PARK</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>WEST LEDGERELL</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEROONI</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>WULBIN</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
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<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>WYALLKACHEM</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>WARRAMOO-HAMEL</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>WOODSIDE</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>WUILNA</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<tr>
<td>YARROO</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
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<td>James V. Hay, P.O. Box, Marylands</td>
<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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<td>YEALING</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>RSL Branch Rooms, Railway Parade</td>
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<td>Edward G. Cole, Coffee, Marylands</td>
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