RECONSTRUCTION RACKET

One of the most disgusting features of the Commonwealth Government's Re-establishment and Employment Bill is the protection it affords men still of military age, who dug-in to highly-salaried jobs, while others who are being denied a full measure of preference have been away fighting. The most glaring instances of this are to be found in Mr. Dedman's own department of Post-War Reconstruction, which was created during the war. The preference clauses of the Government's Bill seem designed to cover these men rather than to conserve the rights of returned service men and women.

At a recent meeting of the State Executive, strong exception was taken to the way the Re-establishment and Employment Bill had been treated by the Government in its passage through the House of Representatives. Ever since it became known that the Bill would contain preference clauses, it had been hoped by members of this League, as well as by members of the three political parties that the Bill would be drafted and handled in a way that would lift it high and dry above the mire of party politics. The leaders of all three parties had stated their opinions on preference, which, on all sides, was described as a measure of elementary justice to the service personnel who had sacrificed so much and risked their lives and health to serve the democratic institutions which alone can make life worth living for free men. There was no reason, and certainly no indication, that the Bill would not be treated on non-party lines, as were other measures for the welfare of service personnel, such as the Repatriation Act and the War Gratuity Act. In framing those Acts, the Government adopted the suggestions of the Parliamentary sub-committee of returned soldier members of both Houses. No valid reason can be advanced why something similar could not have been done in the case of the Re-establishment and Employment Bill.

When Mr. Curtin was last in Western Australia, he made out a very fine case for preference. He told the State Executive in Anzac House—and his remarks have been widely quoted—that the long-promised Preference Bill would, most likely, be along the lines of the draft Bill submitted by the Federal Executive of the League. Then came opposition from unions and other bodies outside Parliament and outside the Caucus of the Federal Parliamentary Party. Mr. Curtin was subjected to a bitter attack in Caucus by the wordly Mr. Ward, one of his Cabinet colleagues, and the over-publicised Leslie Haylen, M.H.R. Their witless invective caused a revulsion of feeling in favour of Mr. Curtin, and incidentally of soldier preference. Unfortunately, Mr. Curtin's and Mr. Ward's ill-health has allowed the opponents of preference to effect a compromise, in regard to the preference clauses, which have watered down the Prime Minister's promises to such an extent that, in terms of the present Bill, the returned serviceman is only on a level mark with civilians, both in and out of uniform. To make matters worse, the Bill was gagged and guillotined through the House of Representatives with a cynical disregard for the merits of discussion, or even the democratic-principle of freedom of speech. All this was done in a heated party political atmosphere for which the Minister in charge of the Bill must shoulder the blame. As a medium for conceding preference to the fighting man, and apart altogether from the shackles of the seven-years' limit, the preference clauses of the Bill are worse than useless, because the new legislation will override and cancel all other preference legislation, including very useful State Acts and the Commonwealth Public Service Act, which has operated beneficially between the wars, and which would have been of great value to the returned men of this war.

One strongly suspects that the Bill now before the Federal Parliament had its genesis in Mr. Dedman's own department of Post-War Reconstruction. On April 26, Mr. Dedman replied to questions in the House of Representatives giving the names, appointments, salaries and ages of every official of the department in receipt of £500 a year and upward, and whether or not these officials were returned service men or women. The information was really the most damaging admission any Minister could have made, although it received no publicity in the Press which, according to Mr. Caldwell, is always ready to pillory the Government. Mr. Dedman's department was one of those set up during the war, and the appointments of the senior officials were announced before the general public knew that such positions had been created. There are 104 officials in receipt of salaries of £500 a year or more. Of these, 31 are returned servicemen and 73 are not. The great majority of the later and larger category are either of military age now, or were of military age during the last war. The most highly salaried officials of the department include the director-general, two directors, and three assistant directors, whose salaries range downward from £1,400 to £832 a year, who, with one exception, were in their early thirties when the war broke out. The exception was in his early twenties. There was a shameful disregard of the preference principle in filling these positions, but Mr. Dedman's Bill has ensured that the positions will be consolidated, to the detriment of the men
who are risking their lives to make the world safe for bureaucracy. Section 5 of the Dedman Bill states that nothing in this section shall apply to engagement for employment by any employer of a person who is already employed by him—and Government employees are employers within the meaning of the Act. This means that the lucky ones in the scramble for safe, well-paid jobs on the home front are secured against competition from mere fighting men.

Apart from the callous disregard of service men’s rehabilitation rights, how can it be expected that such men can administer their work with that sympathy and understanding that the nation expects of them? Any sensible Government should have recognised that the rehabilitation of returned servicemen should be controlled by other returned servicemen. This has been recognised in the set-up of the Repatriation Commission, and in that of the newer National Service portion of the Manpower Directorate. It was only in the matter of preference in employment that the suggestions of the League have been ignored and over-ridden in a manner which, to quote mildly, has been decidedly provocative.

Those concerned are evidently banking on the fact that the League is not a party political organisation, but they ignore the other fact that this League will not stand by and let any party or section create a crisis of returned soldiers. The League has always endeavoured to gain its objectives by diplomatic and tactful means; but where a glaring injustice is done, then we become militant. We did so 10 years ago, when the three-page Dedman Government filled four senior Government appointments with men who were not returned soldiers. On that occasion, the League’s protests were so vigorous, and so very supported by public opinion throughout Australia that the Government yielded to pressure. Three of the four appointments were cancelled in favour of returned soldiers.

There does not seem to be much possibility of the present Bill being re-drafted on lines acceptable to the League; but the diehard Mr. Dedman may rest assured that there is a final court of appeal which even he must face: that is the court of public opinion which gives its verdict at Federal elections. This is a time when the soldiers of every land, and the women of Australia, cannot afford to remain supine and allow such things lying down. To do so would be to continue the appeasement policy that encouraged Hitler to go from bad to worse and from worse to war.

**EXTRAORDINARY DELAY**

**Vocational Training Request**

At the monthly meeting of the Northam sub-branch held at the sub-branch clubrooms on June 6, indignation was expressed by several speakers at the extraordinary delay that had occurred in bringing to fruition what had originally appeared to be a very simple application to the Repatriation Department by a war widow, who desired to take a course in dressmaking under the Government’s vocational training scheme. Previous correspondence had indicated that the course could not be provided in this State, and it had been suggested that the widow concerned enrol with the Sydney Technical School. Subsequently, she had been advised to obtain the necessary text books from the Department of Labour and National Service in Perth. Although application had been made some weeks ago, said the secretary (Mr. G. C. Curlewis) and payment sent for the books, not even an acknowledgment had been received. It was typical of the inefficiency encountered by the sub-branch in its dealings with several Federal Government departments.

It was resolved that the file, which extended back to last November, be sent to the State Executive for information and action.

**R.S.L. AND WAR LOANS**

The following letter from the Deputy Director of War Loans (Mr. C. G. Latham) reached us too late for publication in our May issue. Mr. Latham wrote:

With the closing of the Third Victory Loan, I would like to take the opportunity of expressing to the R.S.L. my sincere thanks for the very valuable co-operation given to the Third Victory Loan.

Although your organisation has been a power of assistance to us in previous campaigns, I can assure you that your efforts were far more important to us during the Third Victory Loan campaign than on any other previous occasion.

The support we received from nearly every R.S.L. sub-branch in this State was truly remarkable, and I was particularly pleased to know that in many districts, where apathy was shown by municipalities and road boards, the R.S.L. sub-branches in those districts stepped in and took control of war loan activity.

I would like particularly to thank you and your organisation for the interest taken in the R.S.L. Day at the Stand of Honour, when an amount of £17,700 was subscribed to the loan, mostly by sub-branches and kindred R.S.L. organisations.

I would be very pleased if you would convey my thanks to all sections of the R.S.L. in this State for their very generous cooperation.

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Individual Donations, £223/10/-

E. Lee Steere, £1,000; Anonymous, £25; T. G. Gooden, £5; J. A. Bessell-Browns, £5/5/-; J. R. Johnstone, £25; K. Williamson, £1; Anonymous, £3; F. E. Cotton, £1/1/-; J. D. O’Shea, £1/1/-; W. Newton, £100; A. Yeates, £1; Mr. and Mrs. Haining, £7; Mrs. Pendergast, £1/1/-; Lady Mitchell, £7; Mrs. E. Stevenson, £1; Mrs. W. W. Scott, £1; Mr. S. R. Hardwicke, £1/1/-; J. H. Drummond, £25; A. E. Mazzuchelli, £1/1/; T. P. Crisp, £1/1/-; Commodore Collins, £5/5/-; R. Allingham, £3/3/-; F. D’vorovsky, £1/1/-; A. P. Deacon, £1; Miss M. Bryon, 10/6.

Donations from other Sources, £182/2/2

Wem. West Leederville V.D.C., £162/5/-; Esplanade Concert, £47/0/-; Unity Cheerio Club, £15/10/-; Staff Headquarters Western Command, £11/8/; Echelon Records, Western Command H.Q. Staff, £2/0/3; 44th Bn. Ladies’ Auxiliary, 10/6; South African War Veterans, £25; Leederville Salvation Army, £4; Staff Walsh Ltd., £1/13/-; Staff Munitions (Transport and Stores), £9/7/6; Staff Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., £4/4/-; Staff H. B. Brady & Co., £1/11/-; Staff Munitions (Maintenance Section), £3; Staff Munitions (Wells Pool Staff), £6/1/-; Staff Levinson & Sons, £3; Staff Allied Works Council, £21/2/6.

Donations from Municipalities, £14/14/-

Guildford Municipality, £5/5/-; E. Fremantle, £2/2/-; Claremont, £25; Wagin, £2/2/.

Donations from Road Boards, £3/3/-

Kalgoolie Road Board, £2/2/1; Bassendean Road Board, £1/1/.

TOTAL DONATIONS AS AT 9th JUNE, 1945, £2,901/15/11

THE STATE PRESIDENT’S MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Membership.—Membership of the League is now in the region of a quarter of a million. All States report that figures are growing, but I should like to see greater figures in Western Australia. We are getting the younger lads as members, but there are still a number of the older Diggers who are not pulling their weight. With our large membership, together with our supporters, such as relatives and friends, we can be a great force in the country, but we must be united.

Appointments.—During the month, we have been watching a number of appointments. Particularly have complaints been received about the Departments of Social Services, and Labour and National Service. The protests related to the methods of filling positions to the exclusion of the returned soldier and the man in the services have been brought under the notice of the Prime Minister. If the growth of the Government departments is to be achieved by the appointment of the manpowered, what chance has the returned man of obtaining any reward for his services?

War Veterans’ Home.—The War Veterans’ Home fund is growing and we hope that sub-branches will take an especial interest in this very necessary appeal. The Red Cross Society has announced that it does not require any further funds for the P.O.W. fund. The League did good work for the P.O.W. fund by collecting £30,000 in two years. We should be able to do just as good work for our own War Veterans’ Home fund.

A similar fund which opened last year in Victoria has been over-subscribed.

Rehabilitation and Employment Bill.—At the end of last month, I was called to Canberra by Sir Gilbert Dyett, in connection with the Rehabilitation and Employment Bill, which was then before the House of Representatives. We had a Federal Executive meeting and attended Parliament and followed the debate until the adjournment each day, which was in the early hours of the morning. It will be remembered that a special meeting of the Federal Executive was held in Melbourne a month previously, and many amendments to the Bill were suggested by the League. These were duly forwarded.
to the Minister in charge of the Bill. Not one of our amendments was included in the 34 amendments which were submitted to the House. This was disappointing, and the League cannot accept the Bill as a proper one to rehabilitate our men and women. The Minister in charge of the Bill (Mr. Dedman) would not accept any amendments covering our submissions. The gag was frequently used. A time limit was placed on debate, and many divisions were called for. We interviewed the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley), the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction (Mr. Dedman) and Dr. Combes, in the Prime Minister's office, and discussed the seven-years' limit, the bringing of civilians under the Bill, the clauses relating to the Public Service and a number of other points. It was indicated to us that there might be some amendments in the Senate, and we hope that some of our suggestions will be embodied in the Bill. The position at present is that little alteration has been made to the original Bill. The amendments of the Government are merely of a machinery nature. My impressions are that it is useless to expect any amendments in the direction we desire, unless we get the Cabinet to accept them. The vote in Parliament is always on party lines and the atmosphere is political. On numerous occasions, on the Government side of the House, there were only five or six members present during the debate. I believe, as I have mentioned before, we must encourage members of the League to stand for Parliament, irrespective of the party to which they belong, and also to take a more active interest in organisations, unions and the like. There are too many holding executive positions in all these organisations who are not wearing the badge. In Parliament, scant consideration was given to discussion of such items as vocational training, soldier settlement, loans, etc. The time limit on the debates could not allow for any full consideration.

SIR JOHN GELLIBRAND
Death of a Distinguished General

Another of the famous battle leaders of the A.I.F. passed on to higher duty when Major-General Sir John Gellibrand died on June 2, in his 74th year. He was born in Tasmania, in 1872, and educated at King's School, Canterbury, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He went through the South African War with the 1st Bn. of the South Lancashire Regiment, and served with the Manchester Regiment in Cyprus from 1908 till 1912. Then he left the Army and went back to Tasmania, where he was engaged in running an orchard until the outbreak of the first war against Germany in 1914. Getting into uniform once more, he left Australia as a Major on the headquarters of the 1st Division of the A.I.F. He also served on the staff of the 2nd Division, and eventually was placed in command of the 12th Bn., which comprised Tasmanians, South Australians and men from this State. As the war went on, he commanded the 6th Infantry Brigade and afterwards the 12th Infantry Brigade. In 1918, when Sir John Monash was placed in command of the Australian Corps, Major-General Gellibrand succeeded him as G.O.C. 3rd Division. He was awarded the D.S.O. on Gallipoli, a bar to the D.S.O. at Bullecourt, and was created a Knight Commander of the British Empire in 1919. His decorations also included that of an Officer of the Legion of Honour, the French Croix de Guerre with Palm, and the American Distinguished Service Medal. His distinguished record in war was followed by an honourable record of public service and military service on the

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TERRACE

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THE LISTENING POST FOR JUNE, 1945

TERRACE
THE HALLUCINATIONS OF HAYLEN, M.H.R.

Overdoses of Press and radio publicity operate like too much alcohol in making the addict talk foolishly. Probably that is why the much-publicised Leslie Haylen, M.H.R., made such stupid and untrue statements about the R.S.L. in connection with the recent Second Reading Debate on the re-establishment of the House of Representatives. Haylen commented on the absence of young men of this war from the Strangers’ Gallery of the House of Representatives during the debates and, on that fantastic foundation, he proceeded to make out a case against the League. The fact that the Federal and all Branch presidents were present, and that these officials represent all returned soldiers of both wars, was wasted on the omnipotent Mr. Haylen. With an utter disregard of the principles of logic he proceeded to assert that the League was losing membership because the young men of this war object to being dominated by the men of 1914-18, and that breakaway organisations were increasing their membership at the expense of the R.S.L.

One has only to look at the composition of the League today to see how palpably false such statements are. So far from the League dwindling, our organisation now has a membership of over 270,000. This represents a vast increase on the figures of 1939, and the increase has been made by the adherence of the younger men. In this State there are now more than 18,000 members compared with a little more than 8,000 in 1939. This effectively gives the lie to Mr. Haylen’s blatant assertion that breakaway groups are growing more rapidly than the League. In any case, what does he mean by “breakaway” groups? This term cannot correctly be applied to such associations as the Ex-Services Men’s Association, the R.A.A.F. Association, the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women, the unit associations and the various organisations of those suffering from different types of war disabilities. These groups are all marching in step with the R.S.L., pursuing the same ideals and holding the same views on preference for returned men. The bulk of their members who are eligible for League membership have joined the League as well.

Especially foolish was Haylen’s allegation that young servicemen are not joining the League as they should, because there is too much “old guard” rule in the League. Anyone who has even a nodding acquaintance with the workings of the League will see the absurdity of the statement. About two years ago, the Federal President (Sir Gilbert Dyett) announced that he would not seek re-election at that year’s Federal Congress, in order to make way for a young man from the present war to take over the office. Sir Gilbert had held so many years. Executives of all States persuaded him to reconsider his decision, not with any idea of prolonging “old guard” rule, but to give the younger men time to fit themselves for the higher positions. Far from older men seeking to dominate the young returned servicemen, they are doing their best everywhere to encourage the younger men to take office. Already many of the younger men are presidents of their sub-branches, while many others hold executive positions. About one-third of the members of this year’s State Executive are men from the present war, and the proportion will probably be even higher after this year’s State Congress.

One must conclude that Haylen is woefully ignorant of League affairs, or else he is deliberately trying to create divisions among servicemen. It is obvious that he, and the interests he serves are becoming alarmed at the increasing strength of the League, at the League’s insistence on complete preference instead of the insincere makeshift offered by Mr. Dedman, and this, above all, at the League’s voting potential.

WELCOME TO MAJOR-GENERAL BOASE

Major-General A. J. Boase, C.B.E., M.C., who has assumed duty at G.O.C., Western Command, in succession to Major-General H. C. C. Bond, has been welcomed by the State Executive in the Boardroom at Anzac House on June 11. The new G.O.C. is no stranger to Western Australia. As a member of the Australian Staff Corps he was stationed here from 1918 to 1923, and again as Brigade Major, 13th Inf. Bde., and later as G.S.O. 5th Military District. A graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, he served through the last war, taking part in the Gallipoli Landing and the subsequent operations in Turkey. After the war he went through the Staff College, Camberley, and served on exchange in England and India. During the present war he has seen service in the Middle East and New Guinea only at Anzac House, he was warmly welcomed by the State President. In his reply, the G.O.C. commented on public criticism of war expenditure. “Except for the air raids up north,” he said, “the enemy, fortunately, doesn’t have to come into this State, but I think we have handled our money very efficiently.” Now, there are some who talk of the waste of money in making those preparations. He stated that, not knowing all the facts, the public should be more indulgent and more patient, and trust those in authority who know the facts and make the decisions.

T. & P. D. Soldiers’ Association

The association has had a number of distinguished visitors during the month. Among the most prominent of them were Mr. N. Lappin, who gave an interesting talk on his experiences as a legal officer in this and previous wars; Brigadier J. R. Blight, Q.A. and Albany; Mr. Justice Draper, Mr. F. McCann (secretary R.A.O.B. Narrogin), Mr. D. A. Short (secretary Sir John Ewart Lodge R.A.O.B.) and Mr. W. H. Melvina (patron). A successful dance was arranged recently at the State Hotel by Mr. F. Dvoretsky in aid of the association funds. His thoughtful and generous action was greatly appreciated. About 20 members are in hospital while a number are laid up at home. Four new members have joined up during the past month. They include three returned men from the present war. The association extends condolences to members who have lost close relatives lately.

16th Battalion Association

The monthly meeting was held on May 31. The president reported good progress, financially and otherwise. Letters were received and read from a member of the Royal Army Volunteer Corps, and others, and Mr. W. Duncan, who is serving in the R.A.V.C., has joined the State Committee. A number of letters were read to him in his great loss. Harold Birch, of Bunbury, sent in 6/-. "To the memory of my late father, L. S. T. Birch, our supreme V.C., writes from Melbourne. He reports the loss of his only son in the fighting somewhere in Africa. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to him in his great loss. Harold Birch, of Bunbury, sent in 6/- as a member’s fee and donation. He seems pleased with himself and enjoying life. Also a letter was received from a member of the 16th Bn. Brigadier Sir Patric (now E.C. A.) Brockman, who was G.O.C. for some time, is expected to arrive in Perth shortly. Any member of the old battalion desirous of securing the book history of the Old State of Australia is well to apply to the President, Mr. W. Liddle, 66 Barrack Street, Perth. There are about 110 copies available, and these are sold at 2/-, posting 1/- extra, so get in early and avoid the rush.

"Are you supporting the War Veterans’ Home appeal? If not, do so now."
Re-Establishment and Employment Bill
A Caustic Report

At the meeting of the State Executive on June 5, the report presented by the Rehabilitation Committee included a detailed criticism of the Re-establishment and Employment Bill. The report was unanimously endorsed by the State Executive after members, cautiously criticizing the Government for what one member stated as “selling us a pup” and another as “throwing us a rattlesnake.” The report reads:

Previous recommendations made by the Rehabilitation sub-Committee had been received and endorsed by the State Executive of the W.A. Branch and considered at one Federal Executive and a special meeting called by the Federal President to take place at Canberra, and which was attended by the W.A. Branch President (Mr. J. W. M. Anderson).

The Re-establishment Bill had now passed in the House of Representatives and is now ready for submission to the Senate. The only alteration agreed to by the Minister (Mr. Dedman) was the deletion of any reference to enemy aliens which was put in the category of preference to persons to be returned.

If the Bill passes in the Senate in its present form, then the preference enjoyed by veterans of the First World War under the Service Act and the Repatriation Act will be cancelled.

The Minister in charge of the Bill (Mr. Dedman) was apparently determined to push through his proposals totally regardless of any opinions held by the League or any other ex-servicemen’s organisation. It would seem that the Bill is drafted by people quite out of touch with the opinions held by ex-servicemen, and to confirm this we have only to look at Commonwealth Hansard, No. 7, pages 1173/4/5/6, of April 26, 1945. This Parliamentary record contains answers to questions asked in the House, shows that amongst the administrative staff of the Post-War Reconstruction Department at Canberra, out of 21 officers receiving £800 and more per year only three are returned soldiers. In Sydney and Melbourne the position is just as bad.

In the Department of Post-war Organisation of Industry, Central Branch at Canberra, Parliamentary Hansard publishes the names of 57 officers receiving from £600 to £1,500 a year, and out of the 97 officers only 13 are returned soldiers.

It is remarkable that so many highly paid officials all concerned with providing legislation for the betterment of sailors and soldiers and airmen in their re-establishment in civil life should be men eligible for military service themselves, but who remained on the home front whilst others fought for them in the different services.

It would seem that if we could transfer some of the staff of these two big post-war reconstruction departments, having a majority in the House, unless we can bring about some change in the mind of the Minister, will just be passed through in its present form which the committee considers is a betrayal of promises made by all the war-time Prime Ministers in Messrs. R. G. Menzies, A. Fadden and J. Curtin. When all seemed lost so far as the Empire was concerned, the fighting men were told that if and when victory came the best that the country could offer would be theirs; then when the Japanese struck, Mr. Curtin said that all we had we would owe to the fighting men. Now, under the provisions of this Re-establishment Bill a fighting pilot of the air force, for example, would receive a rating of the “Australiana” or an infantryman of Crete, Greece, Tobruk and Tarakan are no better off than a member of the Civil Construction Corps or any other organisation that worked on the home front during the war years.

The committee held that what is best to be done and done quickly to awaken the people of Australia to the fact that their sons, brothers and relatives in the fighting services have been let down, as it seems hardly to be realized, nor could it be expected, that the Government would go to the extent of abrogating preference enjoyed by the servicemen of World War 1 and placing the heroes of World War 2 on the same basis as men who had stayed at home.

Some action that could be taken as a protest against the rejection of the League’s proposals are:

1. An urgent request to the Federal President to appeal to the Prime Minister to withdraw the Bill for a further review of opinion from the League and any other organisation.

2. That the Federal Office immediately issue a circular through the post office and broadcasting stations urging all branches of the League to write in protest to their Federal Parliamentary representatives, both in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

3. That the League arrange for meetings of protest to be called right throughout Australia.

4. That the State Executive of the W.A. Branch immediately wire to the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) and a copy to Senator Fraser, urging the postponement of the Bill and urgently requesting that the preference clauses of the Commonwealth Public Service Act and Repatriation Act remain.

The committee considers that “preference to all and work for all” is a very praise-worthy object, and that the sentiment and practical value of preference to soldiers should not be allowed to be removed from the Commonwealth Statute Book unless a strong protest is made by every ex-servicemen’s and women’s organisation.

Furthermore, the committee strongly recommends that the Federal President’s attention be drawn to Commonwealth Hansard No. 7 of May 7 and inquiries made as to why all the non-soldiers mentioned in this Hansard were appointed to highly paid positions.

The committee realises that some of the officers mentioned may have been directed to fill these positions, perhaps against their will and under protest, but it is suggested that where advisable steps be taken to exchange these young officers with battle-wearied front-line troops whose long and heroic service has earned them respect.

**Personalities**

Bob Knappman, the popular president of the West Swan sub-branch, was warmly congratulated at the recent social on having occupied that position throughout the war. Like Winston-Churchill, he hopes to see it through before taken a well-earned rest. Bob originally joined up with the 10th Light Horse and transferred to the 4th D.A.C.

The difficulties of wartime catering were illustrated at the West Swan reunion reception in which a novelty on the menu was opened was found to consist only of iced cakes. However, Alf Guy (one time 4th), O.C. Sausage Rolls, duly produced them, hot from the oven at 2100 hours. What a cook to the chappie! History does not tell us though we know Alf has a sweet tooth!

Members of the Old Sixteenth Bn., and a host of others in this branch of the League, will condescend with the League President, Mr. Lawrence Dominy, to the nearest machine-gun. He is the only son, Lawrence, who has been killed in action fighting the Japanese. Although he has resided for many years in Victoria, the bereaved father was once a very popular member of the League in this State. For a few years he was a member of the State Executive. Lawrence D. McCarthy was often called the Super V.C. of the old A.I.F. He won the most cherished award the King can bestow for most conspicuous bravery, initiative and leadership on the morning of August 22, 1918, in an attack near Madame Wood, east of Vermandovilles, north of Chaunles. Although the objectives of his battalion were attained without serious opposition, the battalion on the flank was heavily opposed by well-posted machine-guns. Lieut. McCarthy, realising the situation, at once engaged the nearest machine-gun post, but still the attacking troops failed to get forward. He then determined to attack the nearest post. Leaving his men to continue the fight he, with two others, dashed across the open and succeeded in reaching the block. Although single handed, as he had out-distanced his comrades, and despite serious opposition and obstacles, he captured the gun and continued to fight his way down the trench, inflicting heavy casualties and capturing three more guns.

At this stage, being some 700 yards from his starting point, he was joined by one of his men and, together, they continued to hold the trench until touch was established with an adjoining unit.

Lieut. McCarthy, during this most daring advance, single handed killed 20 of the enemy and captured, in addition, five machine-guns and 50 prisoners. By his gallant and determined action, he saved a great situation, prevented many casualties and was mainly, if not
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entirely, responsible for the final objective being taken. He was also awarded the French Croix de Guerre.

Dave MacLean, of the newly-formed Grayland sub-branch, has been a cot-case again, though war disabilities. We join with friends of the sub-branch in the hope that he will soon be restored to normal health.

The new head teacher of the Boulder Central School, Mr. Fred Clayston, is a Digger of the 1st A.I.F., who has also been abroad during the present war. Though not very long out of khaki, he has resumed the keen interest he has always displayed in the welfare of the veterans and his dependants, and has already proved a welcome addition to the executive of the Boulder sub-branch. Incidentally, he is a specialist in physical training. Some years before the outbreak of the present war, he spent long service leaving for France and Germany, and visiting Prague, where he saw the Czech national display of the Sokols, one of the finest mass displays of physical training ever produced in any country.

We are pleased to learn that Senator Allan McDonald, one of the returned soldier members of the Senate, has recovered his health after a long and serious illness, and has again taken up his Parlimentary duties. Senator McDonald is a past president of the W. Lawley sub-branch and was, for a few years, a member of the State Executive.

Our Albany correspondent writes: Eric Maxton (A.A.M.C.) recently paraded two sons as recruits for the sub-branch. Both are home from operational flights over Europe. "Bill" Hall (29th Div. and 2nd A.I.F.) and Jack Woollett (11th Bn.) have qualified for membership of the Grandfathers' Association, while Lieut. L. Eddleston (2/1st Field Amb.) has become a Dad. Denis Roennfeldt, son of Frank of that ilk, late A.A.F., is now in Hollywood, minus a leg, but still carrying on gamely. Visits from members would be appreciated.

Syd Cotes, of Albany sub-branch, has had news that his son Alan, who has been on active service with the Merchant Navy, hopes to be transferred to the Royal Navy, and thus save £124, the cost of his passage home for his wife. Another son is now out of dock in Dutch New Guinea. With a daughter in the W.A.A.F.'s, Syd reckons his family are doing quite well. The family, including Syd himself, have served in various branches of the services in the present war.

Condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Horrie Brown of Mr. Lawley, on the loss of their only son, Flight/Sgt. Neville Brown, who lost his life on active service, is a member of the sub-branch and was a splendid lad who had just turned 21 years. Horrie Brown served with the 44th Bn. during the last war and four years' service in the present war. He has been a member of the W. Lawley sub-branch for 25 years and was vice-president of the sub-branch for about four years.

With deep regret we report the passing of the late Col. Sewell, an esteemed member of the Mosman Park sub-branch and of the Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association. Another member of the T. & P. D. Association, who died during the month, is Mr. A. D. Langford, who served in the last war with the 44th Bn. For a long time Mr. Langford was the association's home and sick visitor, and the vacancy he has left will be difficult to fill.

Paul A. Hepburn, of Claremont, is another good Digger who has answered the Last Call. He served with the 16th A.A.S.C. in the last war, and in 1918, was on detached service in the Southland, when that ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. He returned from active service, a sufferer from T.B., and only those who were fortunate enough to be his friends knew what sufferings he went through, as the years went on. Through it all, he was a genial man who bore up bravely. Reading was about the only pleasure left. He read widely and deeply and could talk in a most interesting way about what he had read. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. To his family we extend our heartfelt condolence.

Our old friend Sep. Horton, president of the Maylands sub-branch, is a case of single blessedness recently taken up by himself a wife. The occasion was celebrated at the May meeting of the sub-branch, when a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Horton. The usual nice things were said by Secretary Alf Cook, and Mr. Arthur Hullett. Sep. is now in his sixth successive term as president, which is surely a fine record.

An enjoyable and successful evening was held recently at the home of Mr. E. C. Collie, Wednesday evening, when a book evening was ator McDonald is a past president of the Medical Services Unit Association. It took the form of a book evening to augment the association's library. Splendid books and cash donations were received by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. G. H. for their active interest in R.S.I. work in East Fremantle. They are also keen on the work of the Medical Services.

Mrs. A. D. Hood, wife of the chairman of the Medical Services Unit Association, has kindly consented to continue with the unit for four years. She has been made a member of the Maimed and Limbable Association's home and sick visitors' branch, and has been senior vice-president.

Colonel Allan Seymour Walker, who succeeds the late Major-General R. M. Downes as editor of the medical volumes of the official history of Australia's part in the present war, joined the A.I.F. in 1939. From 1940-41 he was Commanding Officer of the Medical Division, 21st A.G.H., Middle East. In 1942, he was attached to 113 A.G.H., in various commands. In 1942, he was attached to 113 A.G.H., Concord, and to H.O. M.S. I. of C. area. In 1942, he was promoted Colonel and became Consulting Physician to the Australian Army serving in New Guinea. He has been in charge of the medical department of the A.I.F. in 1942, and is now attached to the University of Sydney, from which he graduated with a First-class Honours. Later he took his M.D. degree with First-class Honours and the University Medal. From 1922 to 1934, he was Demonstrator in Pathology at Sydney University, and since 1938 he has been lecturer in Clinical Medicine.

The Aeroplane" on December 1, 1944, recorded an interesting event which was apparently overlooked by Australian papers. It was the birth of a daughter in the South and District Hospitat, Lincoln, to the wife of Group Captain, H. I. Edwards, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C. The proud father is one of Western Australia's Victoria Cross winners.

The Listening Post for June, 1945

Albany sub-branch advises that a 1914-15 Star, issued to 1030 Pte. B. Daly, 16th Bn. may be claimed by the owner at the Albany R.S.I. Institute.

Perth's Lord Mayor, Dr. Thos. Meagher, is a great champion of the servicemen. Unable to pass his fellow doctors for active service, he has been doing a good job on the home front. He has a bitter tongue for anyone who would speak disparagingly of the Digger, whether deserved or not and whether in earnest or not.

There is no keener enthusiast and worker in the Manjimup sub-branch than veteran Tom Skehan, who has been senior vice-president for several years. He is a foundation member of the sub-branch and is still an active worker. At the annual meeting of members, the suggestion of the president, decided to express their appreciation of his splendid services and to obtain for him an official recognition by seeking a Certificate of Service for him from headquarters as a well deserved tribute.

Mr. Hawthorn's sick parade has been very light during the last months. There are three cot-cases—Mesre. Boyd (hospital), Bill Scales and Tom May, all of whom are quite cheerful and ready to welcome visitors. Members who have been welcomed back from the sick list are Mr. H. M. Campbell, Ernie Hickling and Len Woods. Will members hearing of any case of sickness please notify the secretary.

The sudden death, last month, of Colonel W. B. Robinson, D.C.M., E.D., came as a shock to all servicemen in this State, especially those whose had served with him in the last war, or during the years that followed. He left Western Australia with the first contingent in 1914. He had previously served with the Militia for four years, and was posted to commissioned rank in 1913. Not waiting to be commissioned in the A.I.F. he went away in the ranks, served in Gallipoli and France, won the D.C.M. at Pozieres and was invalided home in 1918. He continued his service after the war with the Australian Military Forces and held the rank of Lieut.-Colonel when the present war broke out. The late Colonel Robinson was chosen to form and command the S. A. F. in 1919. A year later, the battalion was expanded into a brigade. Colonel Robinson succeeded Brig.-Gen. A. J. Bessell-Browne as Commander of the V.D.C. in this State. He was a man of genuine personality, a keen soldier and a true friend. During the last days of his death, he attended at V.D.C. headquarters and seemed in normal health and spirits. He was only 52 years of age when the end came.

On Anzac Day this year, and at the May meeting of the South African and Imperial Veterans Association, a special meeting was held with their past president, the late Major J. W. Colpitts, who passed away in the midst of May after a prolonged illness. The late Major Colpitts served in the South African War with the Australian contingent. After that war, he joined the British South Africa Police, remaining in South Africa for several years and seeing more active service during the Zulu Rebellion of 1906. He was back in Western Australia before the first war against Germany, and went on active service again with the 10th Light Horse. Until suffering health struck him off all active duties, he was Adjutant of the Corps of Commissionaires at Anzac House. Although death came...
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as a happy release, his passing will be regretted by all who knew him.

An impromptu soldiers' reunion took place in Collie on June 12, after Mr. Justice Drake Brockman had made a tour of the Collie coal mines. During the last war, His Honour was a company commander with the 16th Bn. on Gallipoli. He afterwards commanded the 16th Bn. and eventually the 4th Brigade of the A.I.F. At the Griffin Mine, Mr. Justice Drake Brockman renewed old times in a talk with the manager, Mr. O. R. Howie. In the last war Mr. Howie was a lieutenant with the 3rd Tunnelling Coy. and met His Honour on a troopship bound for Egypt. They met again in Wandsworth Hospital. Other returned soldiers joined in the conversation. Among them were Mr. R. B. Gibson, the organiser of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, who served under Mr. Justice Drake Brockman on Gallipoli, and Mr. L. L. Carter, who won the Military Cross while serving with the 48th Bn., A.I.F., in France.

At a meeting of the Perth sub-branch last month, members paid the silent tribute to a stalwart of the sub-branch, the late Jim O'Farrell. He was a vigorous, outspoken personality, who served in the last war with the 1st A.G.H. After the war, he joined the State railway service and was a member of the old Railways sub-branch, which was incorporated with the Perth sub-branch about 15 years ago. Jim O'Farrell had been president and treasurer of the Perth sub-branch and was a member of the committee at the time of his death. We join with the sub-branch in tendering sympathy to his wife and family.

Flying-Officer Angus Belford, who recently was awarded the D.S.O. for outstanding bravery, is a son of Captain Walter C. Belford, M.A., who wrote "Legs Eleven," the story of the 11th Bn. which is considered to be the best written and compiled unit history of the last war. Angus must have his Dad's flair for writing. A few months ago we read the following outstanding verse written by Angus which he called "Bomber Pilot's epitaph."

Fear not when I fly by night for I Am one with the infinitesimal stars. Fear not of the wind or rain Or the weather. I am young. Not let them say 'twas I who failed; Rather say in triumph that I lost.

Jim Lang of the North Perth sub-branch is a happy man these days. His younger brother Jack was among the prisoners of war recently released from Germany. Both Jim and Jack have sons in the war and Jim, not content with his service in the last war, was away again in the Middle East this time. This year, Jim is president of the W.A. Branch of the Printing Industry Employees' Union and has recently returned from a Federal conference of the union in the Eastern States. He takes an active interest in sub-branch affairs and writes the leaders for the Green Envelope, the organ of the North Perth sub-branch. During his official working hours, Jim helps to bring The Daily News to publication point.

The Daily News, a few weeks ago, published a striking photograph of a burly police sergeant talking to a group of smiling school children in the school playground. The sergeant was Cuth. Richardson, former secretary of the Mt. Hawthorn-North Perth sub-branch. The job he was on was connected with the policy inaugurated by Commissioner John Doyle—that of members of the Force giving talks to children on the principles of safety first on roads, respect for public and private property and for the law of the land. One must congratulate the Commissioner on the innovation and on the way his men in blue, are carrying it into practice. Hefty, genial men like Cuth. Richardson, are just the type to convince the rising generation that Constable Jonnon is not a bogeyman, but a true pal who can be relied on in time of trouble.

Fate sometimes plays scurvy tricks. Our Wickepin correspondent reports the death as the result of a motor accident on May 11 of Mr. W. Holdaway, who served in the Middle East and New Guinea with the 2/28th Bn. Mr. Holdaway was the youngest of eight brothers who joined the Forces, and we join with Wickepin in extending sympathy to the parents and family.

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THE LISTENING POST for June, 1945

THE COMMONWEALTH RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

(continued)

7. The categories under which eligibility is decided in respect of full-time professional and vocational training are as follows—

Full-Time Professional Training

(1) Members who because of war-caused incapacity are unable to return to their pre-war occupation.

(2) Members who desire to complete a full-time professional course which has been interrupted by their war service.

(3) Members who (i) enlisted on or before their 21st birthday, and have passed or appear likely within a specified time to pass the examination to qualify for admission to the selected institution; or (ii) although over 21 years at date of enlistment, can show that they had contemplated a professional course before entering on war service, and have passed or appear likely within a specified time to pass the examination to qualify for admission to the selected institution.

(4) Members who because of war-caused incapacity are unable to carry on the specialised part of the profession in which they formerly engaged and desire to acquire proficiency in some other part of the same profession, or to qualify within a specified time for another profession for which they may be adjudged suitable by the Regional Committee.

(5) Members, who because of prolonged disassociation from the practice of their profession can satisfy the Regional Committee of their need for a short refresher course.

(6) Members who have displayed during their war service (including studies under the Services Education Schemes) conspicuous mental ability, and who can satisfy the Regional Committee of their suitability for a professional calling calculated substantially to improve their
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economic status and who have passed, or seem likely to pass within a specified time the entrance examination to the selected institution.

(7) Members who, because of disablement at the date of discharge, are unable to return to their pre-war profession and cannot without full-time professional training, be found other suitable employment. Provided that the disablement was not self-inflicted, or wilfully concealed on enlistment or incurred in circumstances, which in the opinion of the prescribed authority, were substantially due to the member's own actions or default.

**Full-time Vocational Training**

(1) Members who, because of war-caused incapacity, are unable to return to their pre-war occupation.

(2) Members who, having enlisted or before they were called to duty and not having then acquired any definite vocational skill, desire to enter upon a course for which they are adjudged suitable by the Regional Committee.

(3) Members who have displayed during their war service conspicuous ability and can satisfy the Regional Committee of their suitability and willingness (i) to complete vocational courses commenced in the Services; or (ii) to undertake courses which will substantially improve their occupational status.

(4) Members who desire and can show that they have the ability and will to undertake intensive courses to enable vocational skills previously acquired in civil life or in the Services, but which have come to be in oversupply, to be satisfactorily converted to new vocational skills which have come to be in demand.

(5) Members who, having been self-employed prior to enlistment and who are unable to resume their former activities, but can be suitably re-established by being provided with the necessary training or calling for which there is a demand.

(6) Members who, because of prolonged disassociation from their vocation, or their specialised part of it, or because of a specialisation in one part of it, can satisfy the prescribed authority of their need for a short refresher course. The course must be in their previous vocation.

(7) Members who, because of disablement existing at the date of discharge, are unable to return to their pre-war occupation and cannot without full-time training be found other suitable employment. Provided that the disablement was not self-inflicted, or wilfully concealed on enlistment, or incurred in circumstances which in the opinion of the prescribed authority were substantially due to the member's own actions or default.

8. It is emphasised that eligibility and suitability do not automatically entitle an applicant to training. In some instances a period of preliminary training may be recommended; e.g., for university or technical college courses requiring as a pre-requisite the leaving certificate or higher standard. Qualifying training will be available at a technical college or similar institution to bring selected applicants, who may be expected to qualify in a reasonable time up to the necessary standard for training of higher grade. Psychological tests will be used and advice of guidance officers sought in the selection of trainees for full-time training.

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**Army Medical Units**

The annual general meeting of the Association will be held at Room 54, Gledden Building, Hay Street, on Friday, July 8, for the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year will be elected. As much important business is listed for the meeting, a full attendance is requested. A formal invitation to be present is extended to any A.M.C. unit. During July, a bridge evening will be arranged, to be held in Gledden Building, in aid of the libraries conducted by the association.

Further announcements regarding this will be made at the annual meeting. A request has been received from the Repatriation Department to place a bookcase and books in Ward X, Perth Hospital. Books are now being collected for that purpose, and may be left at Room 54, Gledden Building. The association has already established libraries in Ward XI (Perth Hospital), Leanne and the E.A.F. Hospital at Pearce. Books are also taken out to the Edward Millen Home.

**A.S.C. Association**

The inaugural general meeting was held on June 6, and was attended by a good roll up of old Diggers and new. Lieut-Colonel Jones addressed the meeting as to the objects of its formation, and expressed the hope that from small acorns great oaks shall grow. Colonel Manning was elected patron and many members called for the occasion was done with the A.S.C. during his Army career. Lieut-Colonel Jones was elected president, with the able support of Major Ennis and Capt. S. O'Brien as vice-presidents. Other officers elected were: Secretary, W. B. Kyler treasurer; S/Sqt. James Jones; committee, Messrs. J. F. Shamaan, F. Corney, V. Craig, T. Merril, J. Hughes, N. Milne.
Sub-branches are reminded that the Department of Post-war Reconstruction has shifted to new offices in Yorkshire House, St. George's Terrace, Perth. The officer in charge of the department in Western Australia is Mr. R. A. Wood, who is also a member of the State Executive and a past president of the Nedlands sub-branch. In addition to supplying details of the Commonwealth Reconstruction scheme in Western Australia, the second instalment of which appears in this issue, Mr. Wood has been addressing a number of sub-branches on vocational training and matters of general interest to our members. Sub-branches desiring information, or who would like Mr. Wood to give a talk to their members, should communicate with him directly.

A very punctilious R.A.A.F. air commodore made an unexpected appearance at a hangar. Confronted by this high and mighty officer, a trembling airman sprang to attention and, in a thin voice, ventured a "Good morning, sir." The air commodore halted in his stride and for an age-long second he eyed the airman. Then in a cold, level voice he said: "When I pass you in future I want a salute—not an inaccurate weather report."

Comrade Ernie Thornton, national secretary of the Federated Ironworkers' Union, who recently represented Australian working men at a conference in London, criticised the White Australia policy in Sydney at the beginning of the month. The White Australia policy is a plank of the League's platform, and Diggers are naturally resentful when it is attacked by such a person as Mr. Thornton, the same Mr. Thornton, by the way, who, in the early years of the war, denounced the war as an "imperialist war," and found it had become a holy war overnight when Hitler attacked Russia. Thornton had his answer from the Acting Attorney-General (Mr. Beasley) three days later. Mr. Beasley bluntly told him that this attack on the White Australia policy had "displayed basic non-Australianism." He accused Thornton of trying to white-ant the very policy which ensured that Australia would meet the strains and stresses of this war, as one homogeneous community, resolute in maintaining its own way of life. Mr. Beasley has always been a staunch Labour man, but this will not prevent Thornton and his crowd from trying to brand him as a "reactionary," "Imperialist" or "Pacifist."

Typical of the friendliness shown by Londoners towards their Australian visitors is a story told by an Australian Red Cross hospital visitor at present in England. A group of Australian ex-prisoners of war had arrived at Victoria Station to enjoy their first London leave. Heavily laden with kit-bags and haversacks, they looked about for taxis to take them to the Victoria League Hostel, at which they were to stay. The Red Cross hospital visitor who had met them at the station tried in vain to get taxis for them. After watching her unsuccessful attempts, an officer of the London Police Force approached her and asked, "Are you with the Aussies?" She nodded. "Well," he said, "just stand still and don't go running about. I'll get taxis for you." He signalled to his sergeants. Two taxis drew up to the kerb. The repatriates stepped in with their baggage and drove off in style to the Victoria Hostel. This kindness has been repeated every time repatriates arrive at Victoria Station.

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THE LISTENING POST FOR JUNE, 1945
The orders given to Allied troops against internment with enemy civilians is proving a hard one for naturally friendly people like British and American soldiers to obey, but it is a very necessary one. Nevertheless, this month, newspapers published the story of the 15-year-old German boy who was accused of being a spy and shot by the Americans.

The BBC did more than keep up the hearts of occupied Europe with its special news services and advice. It sometimes became a means of making French traitors reveal themselves. Last month, four of a French Gestapo gang were captured for passing to the Germans code messages they had picked up from the BBC.

The old arguments against preference were being used in a club discussion. One of the 'antis' affirmed, "But after the war there'll be a job for every man." His mate responded, "Too right there will—until some university wallah wants it!"

State Executive

During the absence of the State President at a special meeting of the Federal Executive, the meeting of the State Executive on May 23 was presided over by the Senior Vice-President, Mr. E. W. Wott.

Members stood in silence as a tribute to the memory of the late Colonel W. B. Robinson and the late Major J. W. Colpitts.

A country visitor, Mr. F. Pearson, of Nannup, was welcome to the meeting.

P.O.W. Funds—It was stated that sub-branches and auxiliaries were still sending considerable amounts to the P.O.W. fund. It was resolved that the monthly News Letter should advise sub-branches and auxiliaries to concentrate their efforts on the War Veterans' Home appeal.

Rehabilitation Committee—The report of the Rehabilitation Committee referred to the establishment of a new tribunal. Existing allowance of each discounse was increased to £3 a day, and other suitable quarters for the tribunal before the next session, or the deputation to the Public Service Commissioner to co-ordinate the various Government bodies about loss of pay, and the appointment of medical review tribunals.

Finance Committee—The report of the Finance Committee showed that £4,396 had been received from the P.O.W. fund. It was recommended that sub-branches should be advised to concentrate on the War Veterans' appeal, and that any extraordinary local expenses be referred to the Finance Committee, but that routine and recurring expenses be incurred without reference to the committee.

Rehabilitation Committee—It was urged that special consideration be given to members of the Merchant Navy who are not provided for in the Reconstruction Training Scheme. The Rehabilitation Committee recommended that those who had served overseas and suffered disabilities recognised by the payment of a war pension, or discharged under the age of 21 years, should be entitled to the benefits of the scheme. It was further recommended that the Re-establishment and Employment Bill be amended to make provision for members of the Merchant Navy who are eligible by reason of their war service for full membership of the League, notwithstanding their disability, or the conclusion of their engagement, that civilians be the subject of a separate Re-establishment Bill.

Land Committee—The report of the Land Committee referred to the acquisition of Mr. Chambers Wharf, and the land adjacent. Further matters dealt with included finding suitable employers for training ex-servicemen for the land, taking up C.P. leases by manpowered sons of farmers, thus preventing present servicemen from securing suitable land, a recommendation for the commencement of new Bedford Park sub-branch and the question of relief. Mr. H. Leslie, M.L.A., was thanked for the evidence given by him to the Royal Commission on the Personal Covenant and it was recommended that the report be published in pamphlet form for subscription to country sub-branches.

Membership Committee—The Membership Committee reported that the membership had been increased by means of picture sides.

American Services and the Germans—It was stated that the anti-German sentiments of the League were in the air, and that the League's sympathies were with the Germans. The League's sympathies were with the Germans. The question of serving personnel financial had been discussed, and the question was raised as to the maintenance of the League's sympathies with the Germans as a country of people should remember that the Germans were not an atrocity but a deterrent. If youths in their teens are allowed to get away with murder and espionage, any amount of that sort of work will be found for the younger generation of Germans.

The question of keeping service personnel financial had been discussed, and the question was raised as to the maintenance of the League's sympathies with the Germans as a country of people should remember that the Germans were not an atrocity but a deterrent. If youths in their teens are allowed to get away with murder and espionage, any amount of that sort of work will be found for the younger generation of Germans.

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Discharged soldiers—A letter from Gascoyne sub-branch protested against the inadequate transport arrangements made by the Armadale War Services Committee in the Gascoyne district. The letter was referred to the War Services Committee for inquiry.

Merchant Navy—A letter from Victoria Park sub-branch urged that members of the Merchant Navy Disciplined Forces' Committee be allowed to claim compensation for the damage they suffered while at sea. The matter was referred to the Federal Office.

A wire from a member sub-branch expressed concern at the proposed repeal of existing regulations concerning the remarriage of officers and men, married and living with their wives, who had been sent to permanent quarters, Naval personnel will not rent apartments, flats or houses ashore. It was also stated that the letters on a number arranged would be terminated.

Distress Committees—A request had been received from Senator Collett asking if it were possible for officers to be transferred from one sub-branch to another if they were not required for their quota. The letter was referred to the Distress Committees.

Sub-Branch Activities

GEOGEE PARK

Much business was transacted at the meeting on June 7. A headquarters circular on Post War operations was keenly debated, and a sub-committee was appointed to consider the matter. New members were appointed to go into the field of the remains of the late Mr. A. F. Higgs. They are visited by the sick members. Members are invited to visit the Repat. Ward X and Y at the Armadale Hospital. The letter was referred to the Administration Committee.

Discharged soldiers—A letter from Gascoyne sub-branch protested against the inadequate transport arrangements made by the Armadale War Services Committee in the Gascoyne district. The letter was referred to the War Services Committee for inquiry.

NORTHAM

At the last meeting of the Northam sub-branch, the committee advised having invited the hospital visit the hospital. The appeal for funds was to be made a direct one on the War Veteran's Home from its accumulated funds. The hospital committee offered to donate £3000 to the cause if the sub-branch would make a monthly contribution by the organizers of the Bank of New South Wales. The appeal for funds was referred to the Northam Government Hospital. The committee also had to resume the sending of regular reports to the Federal Office.

BUNBURY

Members were requested particularly to reserve the day for the occasion, Sunday, July 9, for attendance at the most important meeting of the meeting. The appeal for funds was to be made a direct one on the War Veteran's Home from its accumulated funds. The hospital committee offered to donate £3000 to the cause if the sub-branch would make a monthly contribution by the organizers of the Bank of New South Wales. The appeal for funds was referred to the Northam Government Hospital. The committee also had to resume the sending of regular reports to the Federal Office.

SOUTHCOM

Twenty new members were enrolled at the very well-attended May meeting. It had been decided to send to the protest to the appropriate authority.

MLAWLEY-INGLIS

The main business of the June meeting was the discussion of a hospital visit. A special committee has been formed to consider the matter and to suggest ways of raising funds for the War Veteran's Home Appeal. The committee is made up of Mr. G. W. Wilson, Mr. T. B. Moller, and Mr. T. B. Moller.

BEDFORD AND MORLEY PARK

The newest body of the League has arrived at long last, and judging by the enthusiasm shown by the members in the district, it is assured of heavy support and capable leaders. There will now be no excuse on the score of distance for absence from meetings, as the pre-
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GABBIN

Anzac Day was commemorated in Gabbin by a well attended service. The address was given by Mr. H. A. Leslie, M.L.A., of the State Executive, and those who marched came from Gabbin, Koorda and Mt. Marshall, and included, besides members of the League, members of the V.D.C. from Gabbin and Koorda. A large number of residents from Koorda and Benguieh also attended. Afternoon tea was served by the ladies of the district.

KULJA-MOLLERIN

The meeting at Kulja on April 29 was well attended. All last year’s office-bearers were re-elected unopposed. Mr. Hodgson entering upon his seventh term as president. The vice-presidents elected were F. Lee and F. Gawlerhope. A donation of two quineys was made to the War Veteran’s Home Appeal. It was decided to organise a dance in support of the appeal.

RETURNED MEN AND LADIES

Returned men from the present war are joining the sub-branch. The sub-branch raised £210 for the Third Victory Loan. Afternoon tea was provided by the ladies. It was decided to hold meetings on the last Sunday of every third month. The next meeting will be held at Mollerin on the last Sunday in June.

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There was a good attendance at the annual meeting on Thursday, June 7. In the evening she was present at a united social given by Marylands auxiliary to all auxiliary members and their husbands. She complimented Marylands on the great work they were doing for patients in various hospitals and on their readiness to do all in their power. Mrs. Prue, Marylands’ representative on the executive, thanked Marylands auxiliary on behalf of the visitors for the wonderful evening they had provided.

Generous donations are coming in from auxiliaries for the War Veterans’ Home and auxiliaries have extensive programmes in hand for raising funds for this appeal.

The closing date for receipt of mottoes for a proposed book is June 30.

**South Perth**

There was a good attendance at the meeting presided over by Mrs. Cullen on May 18. The month’s activities included regular visits to Heathcote and the repatriation wards. Auxiliary members attended an early morning service at the South Perth memorial on Anzac Day, when a wreath made by Mrs. Parry was laid. Members also attended the dinner at Anzac House, at which the War Veterans’ Home appeal was launched. Mrs. Prendergast visited the repatriation wards and fixed decorations in remembrance of “Mother.” All enjoyed her versatile entertainment. On May 20 members visited Lennons, where a social programme was followed by a delicious meal provided by the auxiliary. Members take their turns regularly at the canteens. The election of auxiliary officers will take place at the next meeting. On May 24, the sub-branch entertained the auxiliary at a very pleasant social evening. The auxiliary has donated five guineas to the War Veterans’ Home appeal and two guineas to the Soldiers’ Children’s Scholarship Fund.

**Victoria Park**

The May meeting was fairly well attended, Mrs. Hodgesie welcoming back one or two members who had been on the sick list, including Mrs. Stockton and Mrs. Clarkett. On May 24 members were entertained by the sub-branch to a wonderful evening, the occasion being the anniversary of the opening of the hall in Salford Street. Mrs. Fred Matthews was presented with a fountain pen in appreciation of her work for the sub-branch in connection with their card events. She was later presented to Mrs. Henderson (State Secretary) — it being her birthday, and Miss Dun (organizer) and Miss Pat Howard (compeer of the concert party who entertained us) by Mrs. Hodgkinson (president). Fortunately visits to the Edward Millen Home are appreciated. We regret to report the death of Mr. Tom Flanagan, a former member of the sub-branch, and extend our sympathy to his relatives. Mr. Fred Matthews, who was president, is now in the Edward Millen Home.

**Swan View-Greenmount**

There was a good attendance at the May meeting, over which Mrs. Tomkins presided. Mrs. Johnson made the wreaths for the Anzac’s service held by the sub-branch. Canteen orders of $5 each have been sent to sons and daughters and husbands of members in the Forces, and the letters received show appreciation. A donation of $5 was sent to Legacy appeal. The amount of $8/7/ has been sent to various other organizations. Messrs. Tomkins and Byrne sold badges in Perth on Navy Day. A combined social is to be held in Swan View Hall on June 20. A successful children’s dance was held on May 19. A parcel of good things was sent to the Diggers at Sunset. The auxiliary continues to grow. Four new members have just joined.

**Subiaco**

May has been a very busy month for this auxiliary. Lennons Hospital had the usual monthly visit. The boys all enjoy dancing, and the extra sweets, cigs, and cakes we take them; also their extra sausages for their breakfast next morning after our visit. Special thanks is also given to Waroona auxiliary who also donate sausages for these lads. Sunset had a special tea taken to them on June 6, being donated by Manjimup auxiliary. These Diggers also look forward to our visit each month and quite enjoy the games of bowls. We are very busy preparing for an adult ball on June 22 that our sub-branch is holding. Repatriation wards are also visited monthly and given a social programme. The Sunday afternoons are expected to be very enjoyable.

**Geraldton**

The monthly meeting of the Younger Set was held with a good attendance of members. A friendly pancake was held on June 15, half the proceeds go to the War Veterans’ Home. Entertainments to augment funds have been organized, in the form of a “Bride to Blossoms” evening and a “Mad Hatter’s” dance, which proved very successful. At the women’s auxiliary reunion, Mrs. McHnisky (president of the State executive) congratulated the auxiliary on their foresight in having a Younger Set, as these young girls would be future members of the auxiliary. A toast to the Younger Set was proposed by Mrs. Turner, to which the Younger Set president (Mrs. J. Savage) suitably responded. Recently a letter was received from the commander of a ship expressing appreciation for the hospitality extended to the personnel of his ship during their brief visit to the town.

**P.S.W.U.**

The president (Mrs. H. Dean) presided over a good attendance at the annual meeting last month. Among the guests were the Lieut.-Governor, Sir James Mitchell, and Lady Mitchell, the Lord Mayor (Dr. T. W. McIver) and Mrs. Meagher, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Brownell, Mrs. Carrell-Oliver, M.L.A., Colonel Mansbridge (State Executive R.S.L.), Mrs. Stockton (women’s auxiliary), Mr. W. Griffiths (T. & P. D. Soldiers), Mrs. H. Price (Red Cross), Lieut-Commander Bockes, R.N.; Mrs. J. Smith (president Younger Set P.S.W.U.). The Union E.S.G. Red Cross, under their ex-commander Mrs. Ferguson-Stewart, formed a guard of honour. Bouquets of roses were presented to Lady Mitchell and Mrs. Meagher. Sir James Mitchell congratulated Mrs. Dean on the years of untiring work and service carried out by the Union. His remarks were supported by the Lord Mayor. Other speakers were Colonel Mansbridge, Lieut-Commander Bockes and Mrs. Carrell-Oliver. Lieut-Commander Bockes was in charge of the musical programme, which included items by Dan Region (solo) and Tom Mackinba (accompanist). Mr. T. Wilson (vice-president) thanked the artists and their helpers. She was represented by Mrs. J. A. Collins. Afternoon tea was served by the social committee headed by Mrs. Hope and E.S.C. (Red Cross) of the Union.

The activities of the Younger Set (P.S.W.U.) were reviewed at the fourth annual meeting on June 4. The annual reports were read by the president (Mrs. C. Smith), the secretary (Miss A. Anderson) and the treasurer (Mrs. K. Meares). Sunday picnics, arranged for the entertainment of members of the Parcels, have proved very successful. The treasurer’s report mentioned that many substantial donations had been made during the year. Money is being raised through dances and river trips. The P.S.W.U. Senior Group were represented at the meeting by the president (Mrs. H. H.), the secretary (Miss E. Cleary) and executive members. Mrs. Dean expressed high appreciation of the work of the Younger Set. Special mention was made of the Scarborough Park Picnic Shop, the proceeds of which pay the expenses of the Friendly Union Hostel. Guests at the evening included Miss Brenda Howarth and Miss Pat Hill, two English evacuees, who entertained with vocal items.
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

Rates: £1/1/- Per Annum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>RAAF Rendezvous, National House, William St, Perth</td>
<td>4th Thursday each month</td>
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<tr>
<td>(W.A. Area)</td>
<td></td>
<td>First Saturday each month</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTILLERY COMRADES' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>December</td>
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<td>11th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
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<td>When called</td>
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<tr>
<td>EX-MACHINE GUNNERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Gregson's. 32 King Street, Fremantle. Room 53, 5th Floor, Gledissen Buildings. Perth</td>
<td>Friday before Anzac Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Suburban)</td>
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<td>Every 2nd Thursday in month at 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Annual Meeting.</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
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<td>44th ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>66 Barrack Street, Perth (Committee).</td>
<td>Les Monday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Anzac House, Perth</td>
<td>Nearest Saturday, July 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Monday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>As Advertised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, W.A. Branch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Monash House, corner Hay Street &amp; Wellington Road, Room 53, 5th Floor Gledissen Buildings, Perth.</td>
<td>1st Monday in each month</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

R.S.I. 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBANY</td>
<td>R.S.I. Institute</td>
<td>1st Friday each month, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARMADALE</td>
<td>RSL Hall</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLARD DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Town Hall-Lesser Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday every second month at 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASSENADE</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Alternate Thursday (pension days), 7.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYSIDE</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesday, 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDFORD &amp; MORLEY PARKS</td>
<td>Cnr. Beaufort and Wood Sts, Joondalup</td>
<td>2nd Monday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTON</td>
<td>RSL Clubrooms</td>
<td>1st Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULLINBAR</td>
<td>Bullbrook Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday, monthly, 9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUNBURY</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Monday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSSELTON</td>
<td>RSL Hall</td>
<td>2nd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALLINGIN</td>
<td>Mr. Plant's Home</td>
<td>1st Wednesday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALLINGIN DISTRICTS</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Thursday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPEL</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLISLE</td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTESLOE</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday in each quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAREMONT</td>
<td>Council Hall, Jarred Street</td>
<td>1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANBOURNE</td>
<td>Parish Hall, Stirling Highway, Claremont</td>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALWALLIN</td>
<td>Cranbrook Hotel, Dalwallin Hotel</td>
<td>4th Sunday, 10 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARLING RANGE</td>
<td>RSL Clubrooms, Cannington</td>
<td>1st Saturday, July 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td>RSL Literary Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>DONGARRA</td>
<td>J. Slipper's Premises, Port Denison</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONNYBROOK</td>
<td>Memorial Hall</td>
<td>1st Saturday each month at 9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWRAN</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Monday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNBLOUGH</td>
<td>Dumbrelyn Hall</td>
<td>2nd Saturday each month</td>
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<tr>
<td>DWELLINGUP &amp; DISTRICTS PREMIANCE &amp; DISTRICTS</td>
<td>Dwellingup Hotel.</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GASCOWE</td>
<td>Town Hall, Fremantle</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERALDTON</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Saturday, 12th July.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLOUCESTER PARK</td>
<td>Wembley Hall, 347 Hay Street, East Perth</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>GNOWANGERUP</td>
<td>Stockley Hall</td>
<td>4th Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOOMALLING</td>
<td></td>
<td>4th Friday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAYLANDS</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>Every 2nd Thursday in month at 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUTHA</td>
<td>RSL Memorial Hall</td>
<td>Last Friday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUYRA</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st Thursday each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALGOORLIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATANNING</td>
<td>Green's Buildings (opposite Claremont Railway Station)</td>
<td>3rd Saturday in each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLERBERRIN</td>
<td>Clubrooms. Caw Street</td>
<td>4th Saturday each month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

President | Secretary
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Mr. T. Brown | John Wood, c/o "West Australian" |
A. C. Wallis, Ballidu | Mr. A. Thompson, Donnayrick |
A. C. Cook, Wilson St, Busselton | Mr. A. H. Hills, Haycock |
A. Main, c/o Post Office, Bayswater | H. G. Wilson, 116 Marmion |
A. R. Richardson | M. A. R. Batherford, 61 Marine Terrace, Goulburn |
J. W. H. R. Dent, RSL Branch | C. J. Lane, Wood Street, Bayswater |
F. W. Sweeney, Canowangerup | F. W. Deen, Phone 14 |
F. W. Deen, Phone 14 | Sam Wainwright, 63 Second Avenue, Claremont |
W. H. A. Tyler | E. W. Way, 39 College Street, Harvey |
A. J. Magson, Kellerberrin | T. W. D. Smith, Herbert Rd., Harvey |
S. H. Cottey, Kellerberrin | J. R. H. J. Great Boulder, Finston |
Tel. 17. | |

R. Jenner, 39 Elizabeth Street, North Perth. | E. S. Everett, 92 Suburban Road, South Perth |
Mr. A. Godfrey, 41 Elizabeth Street, North Perth. | W. H. W. Wood, 150 Suburban Road, South Perth |
mrs. W. James, 32 Coldstream Street, Leederville | D. H. Egan, 62 Elizabeth Street, North Perth. |
C. A. Rodda, Godfrey, 41 Elizabeth Street, North Perth. | E. C. Rogers, 65 Fairfield Street, Mt Hawthorn |
Dr. A. C. M. Smith, Chairman, 286 Firth Street, Mt Lawley | W. E. D. Armstrong, 28 Russell Street, West Leederville |
R. S. G. Godfrey, 41 Elizabeth Street, North Perth. | J. Rutherford, 5 Elizabeth Street, North Perth |
Mr. F. J. Davies, 27 Dunbar Rd, Claremont | E. S. Pearson, Atlas Building, Perth. Telephone WM1662 |
Mr. P. H. Grace, 53 Hay Street, Claremont | |
Mr. A. B. Goc, 124 Walton Street, North Perth. | |
Mr. W. J. G. Galloway, 53 Hay Street, Claremont | |
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<th>Secretary</th>
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<tr>
<td>KELMSCOTT-ROLEYSTONE</td>
<td>Kelmscott every third month</td>
<td>Rolyestone</td>
<td>G. Martini, Kelmscott</td>
<td>W. Hart, Rolyestone</td>
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<td>KOORDA</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
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<td>Chan, S. Koorda</td>
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<td>KUKERIN</td>
<td>Kukerin Hotel</td>
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<td>R. V. C. Davidson, Kukerin</td>
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<td>Alternate Kulka, Mollerin</td>
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<td>T. Richardson, Mollerin</td>
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<td>G. T. Found, Kulin</td>
<td>D. Honey</td>
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<td>LAKE GRACE</td>
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<td>P. H. Delprado, Grace</td>
<td>N. L. Smith, Lake Grace</td>
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<td>LAKES DISTRICT</td>
<td>RSL Hall, Lakes District</td>
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<td>W. R. Albernty, Lake Valley</td>
<td>N. Hetherington, Lake Cann</td>
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<td>P. E. O'Rourke, Boddington</td>
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<td>A. Cook, 168 Railway Terrace</td>
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<td>F. E. Gage, Coffee Point</td>
<td>J. C. Scollard</td>
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<td>Applecross</td>
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<td>WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY</td>
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