Absorption--or Sabotage?

At a recent meeting of the State Executive great concern was expressed at a report that the Commonwealth Government was introducing legislation for the absorption of the War Service Homes Commission by the Federal Works and Housing Department, and may absorb the Repatriation Commission by the Social Services Department. The Executive resolved to press for a special meeting of the Federal Executive to discuss these matters.

Two Government services, which were formed after the Great War and which functioned with great efficiency between the wars, are in danger of losing their identity through being absorbed by Federal departments whose activities and outlook are purely civilian. The reasons for the formation of the two Commissions, and for the desirability of continuing their administration on the present basis, are set out very clearly in the official history of the League, 1916–1926. When the Repatriation Commission was set up the machinery proposed, and the method of working, in regard to the settlement of returned men in peacetime avocations, were watched very closely by the League from the time it was first seriously dealt with by the Government. Nobody appreciated as fully as the returned serviceman himself the changed mental attitude of the men who had seen active service. Consequently, the Federal Executive of the League in those days, had advice to offer in connection with the problem of repatriation. Such advice was not based on idealism, but on a first-hand knowledge of the viewpoint and war-begotten temperament of the soldier. Accordingly, as a general principle, the League advocated the inclusion of at least one returned man on all boards. Nevertheless, the League does not, and never has, claimed that because a man is a returned serviceman he must necessarily be an ideal member of a particular board. However, the League always has, and still does, claim that the returned man has earned the right to a place on any board affecting the interests of those who were on active service, and that those who stayed at home should not have a monopoly. The League, moreover, has always contended that, in general, returned men are best understood by one another. The League's views were adopted by the government of the day and these were the general principles underlying the setting-up of the Repatriation Commission.

The War Service Homes Act came into operation in 1919. As a factor in the repatriation of returned men, it was a statesmanlike conception. On the whole, the scheme was successfully operated between the wars, and for this the League makes claim to some of the credit. The League's actions, right from the start, were based on a belief in the inherent soundness of the scheme, combined with a determination to ensure that no individual servicemen suffered because of mistakes and omissions wholly outside his responsibility. In the case of both Commissions there occurred, especially in the early testing stage, various administrative difficulties which had to be ironed out. Wherever possible, the League held the balance between the authorities and the individual, and throughout the years the League's relations with both sets of officials have always been friendly and co-operative.

Leaving aside for the moment the League's well-founded opinion that servicemen are best catered for by servicemen, we have yet to be convinced that there is any need for the identity of two Commissions carrying out highly specialised duties to be swamped by other departments. Even in the present age of transition there should be valid reasons for any change that will affect the welfare of hundreds of thousands of service men and women and their dependants. The only reasons that could be admitted by the League would be economy or greater efficiency of administration. No case for a change, along these lines, has been offered by the Government and, as has happened in so many other instances, none is likely to be offered until the accomplished fact is sprung, as an unpleasant surprise, upon an astounded public. Then, as before, Government spokesmen will be prolific in their excuses and, no doubt, one of these will be the claim that, under the preference clauses of the Re-establishment and Employment Act, returned men will still be dealt with by returned men in connection with their repatriation. With the memory of so many glaring instances of breaches of these preference clauses by the very Government that enacted them, so fresh in our minds, reassurances of the type expected are more impotent than convincing. Of one thing, we may be sure, non-servicemen will predominate in the new set-up, and their attitude to those returning from the services cannot possibly be as sympathetic.
as that of men with first-hand knowledge of repatriation problems.

If economy and a general keying-up of the administrative machinery is imperative, this could be well effected by leaving the two Commissions alone and pruning, or eliminating altogether, some of the war-created departments which have already outlived their usefulness. Mr. Dedman's own department, that of Post-War Reconstruction, is cluttered up with non-servicemen, whose salaries are far higher than their attainments or experience merit; while Mr. Calwell's expensive Department of Information is rendering no service that could not be rendered far more efficiently by other activities.

In connection with the proposed changes, we have received the following warning from a friend in Canberra. "I am convinced," he says, "that some clever person behind the scenes has a long-range plan to depose the League from its place of prominence with the public, and negative any political power it possesses—real or potential." Whether one agrees with that view or not the fact remains that in matters of this kind the League has been studiously ignorant, if not actually snubbed, as in the case of the Re-establishment Act. Contrast this behaviour with the Government's actions in consulting the unions before introducing industrial legislation. Surely similar courtesy could be extended to the League when legislation touching the welfare of servicemen is pending.

It all boils down to this: the position, unpleasant though it is, is largely our own fault. As Brigadier Blackburn said when he was in Perth recently, we must refuse to be brushed aside with meaningless excuses and false explanations. We must use publicity to enlist public support of our plans and for our protests. Perhaps what is even more urgently needed is an improvement in our own administrative machinery. We are not in close enough touch with Canberra. We do not know what is going on until it is too late to take counter-measures. The whole position indicates the crying need for a League office in Canberra, and for executive meetings there, so that our leaders may maintain closer touch with the Ministers in charge of Repatriation, War Service Homes and so on. There should be some one in Canberra who can find out what is being done, and let members in all States know in time to take appropriate action. Eternal vigilance is still the price of safety.

**DEBATING COMPETITION**

**Successful Season Expected**

Earlier in the year, the Press sub-branch was requested by the State Executive to organise and control a debating competition amongst interested sub-branches in the metropolitan area.

Accepting the responsibility, the Press sub-branch has gone ahead with its arrangements, and the first debates will be held in June. About ten sub-branches have agreed to enter teams, and West Australian Newspapers have generously donated a handsome trophy for annual competition.

A committee appointed by Press sub-branch is now drawing up the rules and fixtures for the season. The competition will probably be conducted in two zones, with zone winners competing in the final.

Experienced adjudicators will be appointed for each debate, and care is being taken to ensure that subjects will prove interesting and controversial.

It is thought that the competition will help members to improve their public speaking and to understand both sides of important issues; that it will help speakers and audiences to marshal their arguments in clear and logical manner; and that the bringing together of members of various sub-branches will help the solidarity of the League.

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State President's Monthly Newsletter

Anzac Day

Anzac Day, despite the weather in Perth, was very successful. The weather, however, played a big part in keeping many away. It interfered with the public attendance and from this point of view was most unfortunate. Very good reports have been received from the country, and I thank all who assisted to make the day a success in every way. Anzac Day is our biggest national day and I feel the League can be proud of its efforts.

Food for Britain

So far the League has contributed more than £2,000 to the Food for Britain Appeal and money is still coming in. Many sub-branches are organising functions and I would ask that those who have still to contribute would do so as early as possible. The appeal will conclude on May 31. The League has done well and Mr. Perry, who is organising the general appeal has personally expressed his appreciation of the League's cooperation.

C.R.T.S.

The attention of all ex-service men and women is drawn to the closing date for all applications for training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. The closing date is June 30, 1947, or twelve months after discharge, whichever is the later. If a person is discharged before July 1, 1946, his application must be in before the end of next month. If discharged since last July he must apply within twelve months of discharge. Sub-branch officials are asked to give this matter as much publicity as possible, because it is most important to all those who desire training.

Disappointment is still being expressed at the delay in providing training and the large waiting list is causing concern. Disappointment is felt by the applicants, and efforts are being made to further discuss the position and amendments to the Re-establishment and Employment Act with the Minister for Postwar Reconstruction, Mr. Bedman. The State Executive at its last meeting decided to ask the Federal President to call a special meeting of the Federal executive in Canberra as early as possible, in order that a number of important matters could be brought under the notice of the Prime Minister. It has been stated that the War Service Homes Scheme is likely to be merged into the Commonwealth Housing Commission and will, therefore, lose its identity, and also there are other changes spoken of. It is important that the League should be alert to see that any changes are to the benefit of the ex-serviceman and, by having a Federal Executive meeting in Canberra, the representatives of the various States would be on the spot.

P.O.W.

There is a tendency to think that the League is unmindful of the sufferings of the prisoners of war of the Japanese. Since their release we have demanded that they be compensated for the work they performed in those hell camps and on the death railway. Other organisations are claiming to be champions of these men, but before they were in the picture, the League knew the attitude of the Commonwealth Government—that the matter was one for the Imperial Government and the Peace Conference. We laid plans accordingly and the Federal President will, in June, take the matter

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up at the British Empire Service League Conference in London. Nor is the League satisfied with the reasons for the Government’s rejection of subsistence claims. We say it should be paid, and the matter will be presented in London too. But the point the League will make is that subsistence must be paid to all prisoners irrespective of whether they were held by the Jap or German. One of the big problems tackled by the League has been the plight of those prisoner of war unfortunate—the non-pensionable neurosis cases. A loud voice is being raised in pleading for adequate treatment of these men. As a result of League effort, considerable progress has been made in this respect.

Faversham

Before concluding, I would like to remind all members that Faversham House, York, is going strong and an excellent place for a holiday or rest.

THE LEAGUE’S OFFICIAL JOURNAL

Arrangements for the publication by the League of the official journal have been finalised by the State Executive. The committee of control will be Messrs. H. A. Leslie, T. Sten and W. S. Lottie, and the Assistant State Secretary (Mr. John Chappell) will edit and manage the journal. The old name, The Listening Post, will be continued. Competitive quotes for the printing resulted in the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. securing the contract. This company will also control the advertising on behalf of the League.

The first issue under the new control will be the July one. The publishing date will be the first of the month, but it will take four months for this to apply, the arrangement being to gradually reduce it from its present publication period near the end of the month.

The association of ex-servicemen directory will continue as a paid advertisement, but the sub-branch directory will be free and complete, but will not necessarily be published in full in any one issue. It will be advisable for sub-branch secretaries to send their copy for the directory to Anzac House as soon as possible. There will be some sub-branches who have paid in advance for the advertisement in the directory and, consequently, will be in-credit. The present management would like advice as to the disposal of this money. Perhaps the sub-branches would like it to be paid into some fund.

The next issue will be the final one under the present management, who would welcome a few words of farewell for publication from old and new friends, particularly old, valued correspondents.

THE SUCCESS OF PALUDRINE

The Repatriation Commission recently announced that of 10,689 ex-service men and women suffering from recurrent malaria, and who have been undergoing paludrine treatment, only 28 have suffered relapses and, it was added, that there were indications that a fair proportion of these relapses were due to non-compliance with departmental instructions for the taking of the drug.

Western Australia has 1,429 patients on paludrine maintenance and of the three relapses one admitted not taking paludrine. Tablets are not available from chemists, the ministration of the drug being controlled by the Departments of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

“A CHANCE OF A LIFETIME”

“How’s things on the farm, Bob?”

“I’m flat out, Jim, trying to get the crop in quickly—I’ve applied to take this course.”

“You mean that rural course at Harvey? Sounds O.K., Bob, but take fellows like us who’ve been farming all our lives—what can they teach us?”

“They can teach us plenty—all the latest farming methods, and don’t forget, Jim, your bookkeeping’s not so hot. Take my tip, Jim, and join up and, remember, you’ve only got until the end of June to apply.”

Jim and Bob are only two of the many ex-servicemen farmers who are discussing the Rural Training which begins at Harvey on June 23, under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

Those who remember the internment camp at Harvey will realise what an ideal situation it is for the training centre. The camp has been arranged so that each trainee will have his own separate furnished room. Hot and cold showers, a well-equipped laundry, will add to his comfort and there will be a library and recreation room provided.

The course embraces latest developments in agriculture and emphasises the importance of the business aspect of farming. It adds to practical demonstrations in all kinds of agricultural machines, short intensive courses in carpentry, blacksmithing, metal work, oxy-welding and concrete work will be held.

Each trainee is entitled to the usual living allowance and a sum of up to £10 for agriculture reference books.

You, too, are eligible for this course if you are establishing yourself privately in agriculture. Perhaps you are receiving a Rural Re-Establishment Lean or perhaps you have applied for a farm under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme. In any case, you should not miss this chance of a lifetime. Once your application has been made and accepted, the course can be taken at any suitable time.

It is estimated that the training centre will operate for three years. But get your application in at once, or not later than June, 30, 1947.

Enquiries should be addressed to the Deputy Co-Ordinator of Rural Training (Mr. N. Davenport), Perth.

PENSION BENEFITS

Certain persons who went overseas and whose pension claims were previously rejected by the Repatriation Commission on the ground of non-service in a theatre of war, may now apply for reconsideration of their cases.

People affected are—

Those whose claims for a service pension were rejected on the ground that the claimant did not serve in a theatre of war.

Ex-servicemen suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and previously regarded as ineligible for pension benefits.

Widows and other dependents of servicemen who died as a result of pulmonary tuberculosis not previously recognised as due to war service.

Any ex-service man or woman whose claim for war or service pension was rejected on these grounds are urged to re-apply to the Repatriation Department, furnishing full particulars.
SIR GILBERT DYETT SCHOLARSHIP
Federal Executive of the R.S.L. may mark League appreciation of Sir Gilbert Dyett's services by establishing a scholarship in his name.
Sir Gilbert, Federal President of the League for more than 26 years, was succeeded by Mr. Eric Millhouse on March 8, 1946.
A committee will draw up terms and conditions of a scholarship for Executive's consideration.
Executive also decided to appoint Sir Gilbert a patron of the League.
A plaque recording his services will be placed in Federal and State Offices.

LORD MONTGOMERY’S VISIT
During his visit to Western Australia, Field Marshal Lord Montgomery will not attend any function after 6 p.m. This is because of his need to relax for health reasons, and to have time to attend to official correspondence and signals associated with his position as Chief of the Imperial General Staff. This was stated in a letter from the Assistant General Secretary of the R.S.L. (Mr. J. A. K. Wicks), which was read at the meeting of the State Executive on May 7. Between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on July 10, the Field Marshal will visit patients in the Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood, and will meet members of the Maimed and Limbless Men’s Association at their club in Colin Street. He will then be entertained at Anzac House by the Old Contemptibles and the Imperial War Veterans’ Associations, in conjunction with the State Executive of the R.S.L.

MOTION PICTURES FOR REPATRIATION PATIENTS
It was announced early this month by Mr. W. Keays, of the Repatriation Commission, that Mr. R. L. Devitt, late Lieutenant, Royal Australian Navy, who saw service overseas, has been appointed by the Repatriation Commission to the newly-created position of Branch Films Officer for Western Australia. Mr. Devitt has, for many years, been associated with the Western Electric Company in this State.
In association with Mr. R. W. Prince, the Commission’s Education and Training Officer, Mr. Devitt will organise the screening of selected documentary, recreational and visual education programmes for patients in Hollywood Repatriation General Hospital and the Repatriation Sanatorium (Edward Milen Home). By means of mobile units, motion pictures will be shown to the Commission’s patients in other hospitals and to Local Repatriation Committees in country areas.
These mobile units will also be used in connection with the Commission’s Education and Training Scheme and in the advancement of medical science.

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**ANZAC CLUB ACTIVITIES**

Inter-Club Billiards, a fixture that gave much pleasurable entertainment before the war, was revived this month. The following fixtures were arranged for the first round, which commences on May 12, and the results of the May and early June games will be published in our June issue.

Sub-branch secretaries are asked to send in their entries for the inter-sub-branch billiards and snooker championships.

**INTER-CLUB BILLIARDS, 1947—FIRST ROUND**

The club named first in each instance is the home club. While the date for each fixture is given as the Monday of each week, matches may be played on any night (Monday to Friday inclusive) of that week.


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**MAYLANDS WIN CRICKET FINAL**

Maylands turned the tables on Mt. Hawthorn in the final of the R.S.L. Cricket Association. Earlier in the season, Mt. Hawthorn had defeated Maylands by 12 runs and the previous week in the semi-final had defeated the strong Neldlands team. In this match Mt. Hawthorn scored 3 for 267 (J. Grigg 138) in less than two hours.

In the other semi-final Maylands just scraped home against West Leederville. Scores in the final were:

- **Maylands**—Farrell, 49; Shand, 49; Coupland, 2; Burkett, 1; Street, 4; Barras, 1; White, 6; Desormes, 0; Caporn, not out 2.
- **Mt. Hawthorn**—Grigg, 22; Stockman, 4; Cooley, E., 2; Herbert, 4; Cooley, J., 9; Watling, 1; Asford, 6; Flegg, 6; Dewar, 0; Gregory, 0; Williams, 2; sundries, 8; TOTAL 64. BOWLING: Shand, 5/18; Barras, 3/28; Caporn, 4/10.

Delegates are reminded that meetings to arrange the trip to Victoria next season will be held during the football season in the ballroom, Anzac House, on the last Friday of each month.

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**AUDITION CENTRES**

Auditions for the A.B.C. National Radio Eisteddfod will be held at Perth and the following towns of Western Australia:

- **Kalgoorlie**
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Entry Forms with full information available from A.B.C. Offices in all States

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PERSONALITIES

☆ It is with deep regret that we report the recent sudden death of Mr. William Henry Francis Willmott, M.L.A., who represented Sussex in the Legislative Assembly. The late Mr. Willmott lost a leg while serving with the A.I.F. in the Great War. By an unfortunate oversight, we omitted his name from the list of returned servicemen in the State Parliament, and we hope his near and dear ones will accept our regrets for this omission. Mr. Willmott had been in indifferent health for some time, and the strains of the recent election campaign hastened the stroke—which came as a fatal climax. To his bereaved relatives, we offer sincere condolences.

☆ Mr. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., has drawn our attention to the fact that the name of Mr. E. K. Hoar, the Labour member for Nelson in the Legislative Assembly, was omitted from our list of Digger legislators, in our April issue. We thank Mr. Panton for giving us the opportunity to correct this oversight, and apologise to Mr. Hoar for a slip that was entirely unintentional. With the inclusion of Mr. Hoar and the late Mr. Willmott, there were 21 returned men of all parties in the Legislative Assembly, and five in the Legislative Council, making a total of 26. The total has been reduced to 25 by the recent death of Mr. Willmott.

☆ A former A.I.F. padre has been inducted as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia for 1947-48. He is the Rev. Robert M. Herriman who, since June, 1945, has been Minister of St. Giles Church, Mt. Lawley. Mr. Herriman graduated from the Theological College at the end of 1938 and was ordained early in the following year. In 1941, he served as an army chaplain in the Middle East, where he received an injury. After returning to Australia, he was appointed Deputy Assistant-Chaplain-General for the Presbyterian Church and was later posted as Senior Chaplain in the 9th Division. He succeeded the late Rev. George Tulloch as Senior Chaplain, Western Command, two years ago.

☆ Many bouquets (verbal, of course) were handed to President Wally Lilleyman of the W.A. 16th Battalion Association during the recent visit of South Australian visitors. One grateful guest remarked: "We take our hats off to Wally Lilleyman." To which a Perth coober replied: "We all take our hats off to Wally in his line of business."

☆ In the presence of more than 100 fellow ex-servicemen, Mr. George A. E. Major, immediate past secretary of the Manjimup sub-branch, became the recipient of a gold wrist watch at the annual meeting on Anzac Day. In making the presentation, the president (Mr. Lou Thompson) eulogised the splendid work of Mr. Major during the six years of war and the virility of the sub-branch today was in large measure due to his endeavour. Branch certificates of Service were also presented to Messrs. A. Ralph and J. Dodds, R.S.L. bandmaster and bandsman, respectively, in recognition of their long association with the band. Mr. Ralph has been an active member since 1919, and had always received solid backing from his fellow bandsmen.

☆ Subiaco has another casualty to report, hon. treasurer Ben Williamson having had the misfortune to break a bone in his leg near the ankle. This accident occurred at the beginning of a fishing holiday, while Ben was making the first cast, and probably saved the fish of these coasts from a frightful decimation of their ranks. The popular past president, ex-secretary, is recuperating at home and hopes shortly to be able, at least, to get around with the aid of the usual furniture of modern surgery. His many friends throughout the League wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

☆ Died at his home in North Perth after a long illness, Mr. Roger Pulford Stirling, better known to his intimates as "Jack" Stirling. Born and educated in Perth, he was a member of the literary staff of The West Australian. He had been chief sub-editor of the West for about ten years, when illness compelled him to retire in 1944. Mr. Stirling served abroad in the ranks of the First A.I.F. and was a member of the Press sub-branch. Notwithstanding years of suffering, he combined a somewhat sardonic humour with a kindly disposition and, although the sounding of the final call must have been a happy release, his passing will be deeply regretted by all who knew him. He was 66 years old when Death gave the signal to retire.

☆ One of the many visitors to Perth from the Eastern States in recent weeks was Mr. C. Stuart Tomkins, second Federal President of the Professional Photographers' Association of Perth, who came here for the annual Federal conference of the Association. He has been succeeded in the office of Federal President by Mr. A. Victor Penrose, of Perth. Mr. Tomkins served with the R.A.N. in the Great War and has long been an active member of the East Hawthorn (Victoria) sub-branch.

☆ During the recent Professional Photographers' Association conference in Perth there was a splendid exhibition of photographs from all States. An outstanding item in the Queensland section was the portrait of a "Dinkum Australian." He was Augustus ("Gus") Davies, a full-blooded Queensland aborigine who served with the 41st Battalion in France and Flanders during the Great War and with the 1st Garrison Battalion during the more recent World War.

☆ An old stalwart of the Carlisle sub-branch, Mr. Alec Calder, has had another gentle reminder of the march of time. He gave away his second daughter at the altar on Saturday, April 26. We remember Alec in office as sub-branch treasurer six years ago, and under his efficient supervision the sub-branch became increasingly financial. Today,
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he is a staunch supporter of the younger men lining up for office. We wish the newly-weds all happiness and prosperity.

That indefatigable bird, the stoker, is also a supporter of the notion that the young men of the World War should assume greater responsibilities. The heir-craft carrier recently called on one of the younger members of the Carlisle sub-branch and left a wee son (Rodney Allen). We join with the sub-branch in congratulating the proud parents on the happy event.

The new manager of R.S.L. House, replacing George Yates, M.L.A., is George Aylward an Imperial ex-service man who came to Australia in the early twenties. He enlisted when under age in August, 1914, and was wounded in March, 1918. George had catering experience in Palestine and the Sudan in 1921 and 1922 and had had extensive experience managing hotels in Perth and the Goldfields and catering for racing meetings. He has been a worker in the League since arriving in Australia and as an enterpriser at smoke socials and charity functions he is well above the average.

Congratulations to Gary Drinkwater, of the Bussendean sub-branch, even if they are belated. The little bird who does the publicity work for the Storks' Union has told us that Gary has joined the Fathers' Union.

A number of West Leederville-Wembley members have been on the sick list. Jack Horney is progressing, though still in Hollywood Hospital when last heard from. Stan Bird has had an accident (particulars unspecified), and Don Hillier had to go into hospital for X-Ray and observation. Others on the sick list were Messrs. Timmel and Cousins. We are pleased to report that Jack Holland is about again, looking none the worse for his recent argument with a railway engine, though he is still in the convalescent stage.

Mrs. E. Clear, secretary of the F.U.S.W., has had to undergo a serious operation in St. John of God Hospital. Latest reports were favourable and we wish her a speedy recovery.

One of those who marched in Perth with the Old 11th Battalion on Anzac Day was Ern. Badham, treasurer of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch. Besides renewing many friendships during his visit to Perth, Ern was, one of the visitors welcomed to the meeting of the State Executive on May 7.

Another visitor to the State Executive meeting on May 7 was Mr. W. Keays, of the Repatriation Commission. Bill Keays is a tall distinguished-looking Digger with a very genial and friendly disposition. Coming from a tall family, he is about six feet two in height, but he has a brother, also an A.I.F. man, who is half a head taller. He came to the West at the beginning of the month on routine business, not the least important of which was an inspection round of Hollywood, Edward Millen and the local artificial limb factory. He served with the 23rd Battalion during the Great War.

BRITISH FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL

For the month ended May 10 subscriptions amounting to £1,651/11/0 were received at Anzac House for the British Flood Relief Appeal to hand to the Red Cross. Sub-branches and their women’s auxiliaries have done and are doing a splendid job in assisting this worthy appeal, but the outstanding result of the month was the raising of £300 (with more to come) from the Mukinbudin sub-branch with 27 members. The efforts of Safety Bay, Pinjelly and Gnowangerup sub-branches are also outstanding, as are those of Spearwood and Lake Grace auxiliaries. The donors and amounts subscribed for the month were as follows:

Mukinbudin sub-branch, £100; Mr. A. H. Spice, £1; Donnybrook sub-branch, £25; Busselton sub-branch, £20; Nambung sub-branch, £8; Melville sub-branch, £10; M. C. Plummer, £1; Baskerville auxiliary, £5; Karridale auxiliary, £4/4/6; Marvel Loch sub-branch, £5; Wima sub-branch, £5; Nulgoa sub-branch, £10; Gumerdinn auxiliary, £2/15/0; Mumbadgin sub-branch, £5; Balingup sub-branch, £20; Pinjelly sub-branch, £9/13/6; Karridale sub-branch, £10; Mundaring auxiliary, £10; Tambellup sub-branch, £25/8/9; Marvel-Ly hatch auxiliary, £1/1/6; Trayning-Yelbini sub-branch, £10; North Perth sub-branch, £10/7/0; Narembeen auxiliary, £5; Beverley sub-branch, £10; Northampton sub-branch, £5/5/9; Pinjelly sub-branch, £130; Safety Bay sub-branch, £167/4/6; Gudgin sub-branch, £10; Mr. Lawley sub-branch, £7/1; Victoria Park sub-branch, £25; Broome sub-branch, £10/15/3; Mr. Budice, £1; Mundaring sub-branch, £10/10/6; North Perth auxiliary, £10; Gnowangerup sub-branch, £107/17; South Perth sub-branch, £10; Boulder auxiliary, £5/6/6; Mundaring and District sub-branch, £10/11/6; Wickham sub-branch, £5; Denmark auxiliary, £21; Spearwood sub-branch, £1112/9; Margaret River sub-branch, £10; Press sub-branch, £5/5/9; S. James, £5/5/9; Spearwood sub-branch, £5/5/9; Mount Helena auxiliary, £124/3; West Leederville-Wembley sub-branch, £10; Cranbrook sub-branch, £5/5/6; Margaret River sub-branch, £134/15/0; Kirup sub-branch, £1/1/6; A. Yeates, £2/2/6; Fingerup auxiliary, £2/2/6; Mandurah sub-branch, £5/5/9; Mandurah auxiliary, £35/3/4; Wyalkatchem sub-branch, £31/7/6; Wyalkatchem auxiliary, £10; Swan View-Greenmount auxiliary, £10; Shenton Park sub-branch, £5; Shackleton Kwoylin auxiliary, £14; Spearwood-Hamilton Hill auxiliary, £6; Maylands sub-branch, £58; G. McNair, £6/6; Yandanoona sub-branch, £3/16/5; Lake Grace auxiliary, £5; Bridgetown auxiliary, £20; Public Service sub-branch, £10; Yealering sub-branch, £5/5/9; Mosman Park sub-branch, £5; Pinjelly auxiliary, £5.

A.R.M.S. COMPETITION

Arrangements are completed for the launching of the A.R.M.S. games this month. Mr. E. J. Todd is the chairman of the controlling committee and Mr. Alan M. Blake, the secretary. At a meeting of sub-branch delegates held at Anzac House on May 2, much enthusiasm was displayed and the e's every indication that the games will be keenly contested in the same sportsmanlike spirit that was evident in the pre-last war days. Progress results will be published in The Listening Post.

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HOUSING AT NORTHAM

As a result of an inquiry by the Northam sub-branch to the State Executive as to the priority of a war widow urgently in need of housing accommodation for herself and family, a letter was received at a recent sub-branch meeting from the Executive suggesting that, in view of the very acute housing position in Northam, someone should approach the local council regarding the possible use of huts at the Northam Camp for temporary housing as had been done at the Melville Camp.

It was pointed out by a member that the camp was still being retained for military purposes, but that the buildings at the military hospital were shortly to be offered for sale by the Disposals Commission. A request might be made to have the disposal sale deferred and portion of the hospital made available to relieve the housing shortage.

It was decided to write to the local Area Officer (Capt. E. V. Quirk) for advice on the suggested use of the military hospital, and if the idea were practicable, then to seek the support of the council and the Northam Road Board in approaching Western Command to have the buildings made available for temporary housing.

“The buildings are high and dry and would at least afford protection for some families in winter who otherwise will have to put up with flooding or with accommodation not particularly waterproof,” said a member.

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A Sydney Protest Rally

When he met the State Executive in the board room at Anzac House during his recent visit to the State, Brigadier Blackburn, V.C., said that the League must not be brushed off by unsatisfactory Ministerial replies to its requests and protests. He declared that we should give greater publicity to our demands and enlist public support by holding public meetings to let the people of Australia know precisely the type of justice we demand for ex-servicemen. Something in the direction advised was done in Sydney on April 28, when more than 2,000 ex-service men and women attended a public protest meeting, organised by the R.S.L. and supported by other ex-servicemen’s associations. Motions protesting against the living allowances granted trainees and calling upon the Government to establish war neurosis centres were carried unanimously. The New South Wales State President (Mr. K. Bolton) declared: “The day of idle promises is finished. We are not going to put up with these promises any longer.”

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Other speakers referred to the trainees’ living allowances as “Dedman’s Dole,” and urged all ex-service men to contact their local members of Parliament, demanding action to increase the allowance to at least the basic wage level.

The chairman of the New South Wales State Branch of the R.S.L. Rehabilitation Committee (Mr. J. Hooke) complained that public interest in matters affecting ex-service men appeared to be waning and, if the present drift continued, the training scheme would collapse entirely. The number of men who had applied for training courses was 265,531, he said. Of these, 204,000 were eligible, and of this number only 79,232 had been selected for full-time vocational training and 37,600 were still waiting to begin their courses. Mr. Hooke declared the scheme was drifting because of complacency in official- quarters and the growing apathy of the public. Mr. R. Walsh, of the C.R.T.S. Trainees’ Council, moved a resolution demanding the correction by the Commonwealth Government of anomalies of the scheme, and demanding the implementation of the following reforms: That the living allowance of all trainees be increased to at least the basic wage; that all essential books and equipment certified by the appropriate authorities be provided free; that living allowances should be a gift for the normal period of the course undertaken, and not cease, as at present, after three years; that part-time benefits be extended to cover payment of all compulsory fees.

The mover of the resolution said that the existing scheme could only be defended if it were a charity plan for demoralised Diggers. He asked: Was it a decent rehabilitation scheme that gave less than the basic wage to returned men, stunted books and equipment and paid insufficient allowances?

The secretary of the C.R.T.S. Trainees’ Council, Mr. G. B. Pittendrigh, said that all protests to the Minister about the paucity of the allowances had brought the same reply: “The allowances paid are liberal and generous.” Married trainees, Mr. Pittendrigh said, had used all their savings and deferred pay to meet the cost of living, and their wives were compelled to work to make ends meet.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The president of the Air Force Association (Mr. John Bavin) successfully moved that the meeting call upon the Federal and State Governments to establish immediately readjustment centres for war neurosis throughout the Commonwealth. War neurosis and its effects could be as deadly and as lasting as any physical deformity, he went on, but

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no provision whatsoever had been made for the treatment of such cases. The chairman of the R.S.L. Readjustment Centre Committee (Mr. John Wells, M.M.), who seconded the motion, referred to "unseen thousands of ex-soldiers who had been unable to march on Anzac Day because of their mental condition."

The meeting was reported in detail and prominently featured by The Sydney Morning Herald, from whose pages our own report is compiled. We feel sure that our own local papers would give similar prominence to reports of similar protest meetings in Perth.

Land Settlement Matters

* Important matters submitted by country sub-branches and from other sources were discussed by the State Executive, when the Land Committee's report was adopted on May 7. The appointments of neighbouring farmers as caretakers of estates purchased under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme have been a source of dissatisfaction in many quarters. The Land Committee's report stated that the caretakers were getting cropping and grazing rights, and apparently no attention had been paid to the need for installing ex-servicemen in such positions. Executive adopted the Land Committee's recommendation that, on the purchase of a farm for service settlement, an immediate allotment be made and the successful applicant be appointed caretaker of the property, until official lease is signed.

* The Executive will recommend to the Director of War Service Settlement (Mr. W. V. Fyfe) that rail fares and 12/6 a day travelling allowance be paid to applicants called up for rural training. It is understood that, during the training period, they will come under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme and receive the prescribed grant of £3 5/- a week for a single man and £4 16/- a week for a married man, with extra payment for children.

* The matter of the appointment of a non-serviceman to the position of Field Supervisor under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme has been the subject of correspondence between the League and the State authorities. The State Executive is going on with the matter and future action will depend on the nature of the reply to League representations.

* After a discussion on the whole set-up of the War Service Land Settlement scheme by the Land Committee, the State Executive resolved to appoint a sub-committee to examine all phases of the scheme from the point of view of the R.S.L., and advise on what action the League should take to remedy any defects. The sub-committee appointed comprises Messrs. Yeates, Chambers, Leslie and the State Secretary (Mr. Benson).

* In the Land Committee's report, it was mentioned that the first allotment of 25 properties was announced on May 1. In a circular issued by the Director of Land Settlement (Mr. Fyfe) it appeared that the allotment was merely "a preliminary notice" needed to assist the applicant in connection with his plans for the future. The circular advised applicants not to take any premature action in regard to termination of present employment. The circular stated there were many matters to be discussed between the State and Commonwealth such as rent for land, non-structural improvements, and price for structural improvements. It foreshadowed that decisions would be reached within the next few weeks. It has since been announced that good progress has been made with the Federal authorities on all details of the valuation of properties.

* The Deputy Co-ordinator of Rural Training (Mr. N. Davenport) has been asked how many of the 408 applicants accepted as suitable for settlement under the scheme, provided they received practical training, were in training under the scheme, and how many ex-servicemen were undergoing practical farm training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Scheme. The letter was sent to Mr. Davenport on March 20, but no reply had been received when the Land Committee met on May 6.

* Complaints have been received from sub-branches about alleged priority to non-servicemen in the allocation of farm tractors, and of the sales of irrigation lands to persons other than ex-servicemen. These complaints will be discussed with the Minister for Lands (Mr. Thorn) and with the authority at the Department of Agriculture responsible for the control of machinery.

"PERMANENTLY UNFIT" PENSION

The following resolution was carried at the meeting of the Federal Executive last September: "That representations be made to the Commonwealth Government, requesting that the rate for totally and permanently incapacitated men be paid to all war pensioners classified as permanently unfit."

The Ministry for Repatriation has replied that, if a member is, as the result of war service, totally and permanently incapacitated, that is, if he is incapacitated for life, to such an extent as to be precluded from earning other than a negligible percentage of a living wage, he is granted the special rate of pension. The fundamental basis of war pensions is that the incapacity, or death, must be connected with war service, and the Minister cannot see any reason to depart from that principle, when granting a special rate of pension. Provision is made, subject to certain conditions, for the granting of a Service Pension to a member who is permanently unemployable, and when such condition is not attributable to war service. At present, the Minister can see nothing to justify a departure from the main provisions of the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act relating to pensions, but the Repatriation Commission has been directed to make a report on the subject generally.

SOLDIERS' CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

Scholarship for Children of Fallen and Incapacitated Ex-Soldiers

Applications are invited from the children of fallen or incapacitated ex-soldiers for scholarships at the following schools: Perth Modern School, District High Schools, Narrogin School of Agriculture. Candidates must sit for the examinations in the year in which they attain their 12th birthday.

Application forms and all particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Scholarship Trust, Mr. J. R. Fitzpatrick, Repatriation Department, Perth.

Applications must be lodged before June 20, 1947.
VARIA

☆ Mr. J. McWilliam, M.M., a member of the R.S.L., now serving with the Y.M.C.A. at BoFu, Japan, advises that more leave hostels have been opened and the leave position for members of the B.C.O.F. is becoming much better. "The biggest trouble in the old 'firebug,'" Mr. McWilliam continues, "and I don't think we have to look further, than the 'Nip' to find him. Fires in the B.C.O.F. area are too prevalent to be all accidental. The position re dependants' houses is improving, and the first batches are being called forward. Those for the R.A.A.F. will be housed temporarily at Iwatuni till the cottages are finished at BoFu, which should be about the end of August. The finished houses are furnished throughout and leave nothing to be desired. Families coming here should bring a sewing machine, extra blankets and linen. The issue of these items may be a little on the light side. Food will be procurable on repayment. Generally speaking, the housing of dependants is one thing that calls for no adverse comment."

☆ The League has been officially advised that approval has been given for pay in lieu of recreation leave for deceased members of the Australian Military Forces. The payments will be retrospective to March 20, 1945. The matter is receiving further consideration in connection with cases of soldiers who died before that date. As the matter also concerns the Navy and Air Force, reference to the Federal Treasurer will be necessary. Therefore, some time must elapse before finality can be reached.

☆ A recent inquiry made by the W.A. Branch of the R.S.L. through the Federal Office brought the official advice that the total army enlistments throughout Australia in the recent war were 735,870, of whom 81,463, including 4,500 women, enlisted in Western Australia. Australian army casualties were: Killed, 24,717; missing, 20; P.O.W., 20,920; and wounded, 21,872. Casualties among Western Australian enlistments were: Killed, 2,168; missing, 2; P.O.W., 2,230; wounded, 21,185. Although the inquiry by the State Branch was made in respect of all three fighting services, only army figures were supplied in the reply.

☆ The Minister for Postwar Reconstruction (Mr. Dedman) has announced details of the Commonwealth plans for training ex-service women in mothercraft and the care of the pre-school child. The training is open to ex-service women who enlisted before their 25th birthday. Ex-service women holding mothercraft certificates may take a course in preschool training, and those who hold a general and midwifery certificate may take a course in infant welfare and preschool child training. Those interested should apply to the Secretary of the regional committee at the Postwar Reconstruction Department in any capital city. Country applications should be sent to district employment officers.

☆ War Service Homes completed during March numbered 22, compared with a total of 77 rental homes and conversions of army huts. This was reported by the State Executive's War Service Homes Committee at the Executive meeting on May 7. The committee's report emphasised that the figures, considered in the light of complaints received from ex-servicemen, seemed to indicate that an undue proportion of rental homes was being allotted to non-servicemen. The report added that the committee had expressed dissatisfaction with the position.

☆ A branch of the Commonwealth Acoustics Research Laboratory has been set up in Perth and, as required, Repatriation patients suffering from deafness will be sent there to be tested for their degree of deafness, and the type of hearing aid likely to be the most beneficial. The clinic will issue hearing aids in suitable cases. This was announced by Mr. W. Kays, a member of the Repatriation Commission, during his visit to Perth at the beginning of the month. Mr. Kays said that all repatriation patients had been supplied with up-to-date hearing aids. Free maintenance and a supply of batteries went with each issue.

☆ The Minister for Repatriation (Mr. Barnard) has announced that he would consider cases of extreme hardship arising from the application of the means test to dependants of servicemen, whose deaths were war-caused.

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BOOKS FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

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The latest story of H.M.A.S. Sydney, complete with maps, illustrations and appendix of officers and crew. 10/6.

GREAT WAS THE FALL
By an R.A.A.F. officer who got away from Malaya three days before the balloon went up. He tells just how the Japs managed to do what they did in so short a time. 4/6.

HEARTS OF OAK
Both profusely illustrated. For all who love the R.A.N. 2/6 each.

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Answering a question in the Senate on behalf of the Minister for Immigration (Mr. Calwell) recently, Senator Armstrong declared that the alien migrants who arrived in Australia by the Egyptian ship Mitr last month, were of good type. He added that they formed a group of whom Australia might justly be proud—now we'll tell Senator Armstrong one. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand was not murdered in Sarajevo, and there wasn’t any war at all in 1914.

Last month, the London Daily News correspondent in New York complained that Britain is “getting a bad Press, a worse radio and a most vicious newspaper coverage” in the United States on the Palestine issue. The correspondent added: “The fact that Britain has proved herself over and over again the best friend the Jews ever had has been mutilated and torn to shreds.” One reason suggested is that the big American political machines are geared to the votes and there are few if any Arab voters in the U.S.A. On the other hand, rather more than half the Jews in the world are now in the United States, and nearly half of these are in New York. Another aspect of the matter has received little attention in either American or British papers. That is the vicious propaganda of Zionist Commos. According to Upton Close, of the New York Journal-American, the Left Wing Press combines to represent the British troops in Palestine as oppressors, terrorists, Nazi-like killers, Fascists and anti-Semites. By lining up with the Zionists, American Commos are using the Palestine issue to separate the United States from Britain. “If Americans can be made to hate Britain sufficiently,” Upton Close says, “then Stalin can safely bring about a blow-up in Palestine.” He described the present campaign as the most dangerous propaganda Moscow has yet launched. And while this is going on, Stalin is persistently refusing to allow the displaced Jews of Central Europe to find a home in Russia.

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**SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER**

“Our soldiers generally manifested their dislike to our Lieut.-Colonel, who is a goddam blackguard and doubtless hatched in hell, and we all desire that either the Parliament would depose him or God convert him, or the Devil fetch him away quickly.”—Sgt. Nehemiah Wharton, of Brooke’s Regiment in Cromwell’s Army.

“In our Army we have the sins of men, drinking and wenching, but in yours you have those of devils, spiritual pride and rebellion.”—Captured Royalist officer to Cromwell.

“Our armies swore damnably in Flanders.”—Uncle Toby (a veteran of William III’s campaigns) on Sterne’s “Tristram Shandy.”

“Nobody in the British Army ever reads a regulation or an order as if it were a guide for his conduct, or in any other manner than as an amusing novel.”—Complaint of the Duke of Wellington to a Commanding Officer in 1812.

“These marvellous young men, they were the flower of this world’s manhood and died as they lived—owning no master on this earth.”—John Masefield in Gallipoli (1915).

"Operation Sixteen"

Several weeks before Anzac Day the Intelligence Officer of the local 16th Battalion Association reported that an Allied Force was preparing to advance on Western Australia from Adelaide. In other words, members of the South Australian section of the Old Sixteenth had made out their movement orders for a visit to their cobbers in the West. The visiting contingent numbered well over thirty, and some of the South Australians brought their wives along to see fair play. Walter Lilleyman, president of the local association, secretary Bill Newick, J. Brickhill and a very active committee arranged a most comprehensive and enjoyable itinerary of entertainment.

The party reached Perth on April 24, and were met at the railway station by W.A. members who conveyed them to their hotels in cars. The first official function was a reception tendered by the State Executive at Anzac House in the afternoon. In welcoming the guests the State President (Mr. Anderson) pointed out to the visitors the presidential chair which was the birthday gift of the South Australian Branch when Anzac House was built in 1934. Mr. R. Patterson presented a plaque from the Norwood (Adelaide) sub-branch. The South Australian 16th president, Mr. Armbruster, presented Mr. Anderson with a souvenir programme and a button as a memento of the visit.

Here is the nominal roll of the visitors: Mr. C. Armbruster (president) and Mrs. Armbruster, Mr. R. Forde (vice-president of the S.A. Branch) and Mrs. Forde, Mr. and Mrs. W. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. A. Zbierski, Mrs. C. Gower, Mr. and Mrs. Starr, Mr. and Mrs. Crooke, Mr. and Mrs. Stow, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. P. O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. R. Aikman, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bowker, Mr. and Mrs. F. Clayton. The following came without escort: Messrs. C. Williamson (secretary), J. Hughes, A. McKay, S. Fitzgerald, P. Chot, H. Pope, F. C. Carey, G. Smith, F. Richards, F. Munro, A. Bishop, R. Patterson, F. Marman, G. Brackenridge, L. Giles (president S.A. 48th Bn. Association), Eames, C. Ahern and H. Johnson. Mr. Ahern flew from Melbourne to Adelaide to be in time to travel with the contingent.

On Anzac Day, the visitors attended the dawn ceremony in King's Park and placed a wreath on the State War Memorial. Another wreath was placed by Mr. Lilleyman (president of the W.A. 16th Battalion Association). The South Australians were given pride of place in the march past on the Esplanade, which terminated the main service. President Charlie Armbruster and the South Australians headed the Old Sixteenth and Mr. Len Giles led the 48th (the sister battalion of the 16th) past the saluting point. The public interest aroused by the visit could be well gauged by the volume of applause liberally handed out.

Next afternoon, the visiting ladies were entertained by the wives of the W.A. committee. On Saturday night, the South Australians went the way of all visitors—to the Trots— as the guests of the W.A.T.A. Rumour has it that profit as well as pleasure was the result for many of the guests. Ron Forde and Jack Turner seemed well satisfied with the evening. Sunday was spent in a round trip to Canning Dam, which enabled the visitors to see much of the glorious surroundings of Perth.

At noon next day, the visitors were accorded a reception by the Lord Mayor and Councillors of Perth, at which the Attorney-General (Mr. Ross McDonald), himself a returned soldier represented and spoke on behalf of the State Government. By one of those happy coincidences which are not confined to fiction, the Old Sixteenth Battalion man, Councillor Tom Tandy, supported the Lord Mayor's speech of welcome. In most interesting style, he mentioned the names of famous men who had served in the 16th, including winners of the V.C. and other decorations. On Monday evening, more than 400 people attended a social and dance in the Town Hall. This gave local 16th Diggers and their wives an opportunity to make closer personal touch with the visitors. On Tuesday, another site was performed, which is expected of all visitors—a pilgrimage to the Brewery, where the healing waters were sampled at their source. In the afternoon, the South Australians were accorded a civic reception by the Mayor and Councillors of Fremantle and Fremantle members of...
the Old Sixteenth. A pleasing finish to the day was a theatre evening arranged for the sixteen lady visitors by Mrs. Margolin and local visitors. More tours and parties rounded off the visit, but comrades who had gone before were not forgotten. A visit was made to the cemetery on May 2, where a wreath was placed on the grave of Colonel Pope and homage was paid to the memory of Colonel Margolin. It is sometimes irksome to single out anyone for thanks which are due to a number of workers, but the visitors were especially grateful for the excellent arrangements made for the programme and accommodation by Bill Newick. His was not an easy job, particularly in securing accommodation in a city which is generally overcrowded at that time of the year; but he did it well and his services will never be forgotten.

There was only one untoward incident connected with the visit. One of the South Australians, Mr. Eames, had the bad luck to slip on the floor of his hotel and break ribs. We sincerely hope that by this time he has made a good recovery.

From the local point of view the visit was a great success. It attracted many from far parts of the country to the Anzac Day parade, who have not marched in Perth for many years. Among them were Messrs. Scott (Kalgoorlie), P. Meikle, Locht, E. Spencer, McGrath, Truran, Reed, Elliott, H. Eastcott, Heaseman, B. Sykes, Gallagher, Reid, Stuchbury, Wells and Goldstein. Prominent in the march past was Brigadier Arnold Potts who served with the Old Sixteenth and commanded the 2/16th in the recent war.

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**PRISONER OF WAR AGAIN OVERLOOKED**

(When the list of honours and awards for members of the A.I.F. was published, Brigadier Blackburn, V.C., said for publication that he was astounded at the absence of names of men of the Eighth Division from the list. Many of these, he knew, had been well and worthily recommended, some by himself. However, neglected heroes have been cherished in memory and admiration by those who served and suffered with them. Evidence of this is provided in the following contribution from a former P.O.W.—EDITOR, L.P.)

Disappointment will be general among the great number of men of the Australian forces who were held in the Changi P.O.W. camp, at the omission from the recently published list of decorations, for distinguished service in Malaya, of Major R. G. O. R., of the 13th A.G.H.

On this medical officer fell the lion's share of the strenuous first against eye diseases brought on by malnutrition. For untiring devotion to duty during the whole of our long period of captivity, his was an outstanding example. Thousands of men, including members of the British and Dutch forces were treated by Major Orr for every known disease of the eye and the meticulous care with which he treated every case and the consummate skill with which he handled his surgical instruments was the means of saving the sight of an untold number of men, myself included.

Various returned servicemen's organisations in the Eastern States have already expressed their disappointment at the omission of other medical officers who performed sterling work in prison camps and have requested that the matter be given further consideration by those responsible for making the awards.

I feel sure that the newly-formed P.O.W. Association of W.A. will do the right thing in connection with this serious omission when it holds its initial meeting.
State Executive

APRIL 10, 1947

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R.S.I. House.—The committee report showed that the previous good results were being maintained. It was resolved to send a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mr. George Yates, M.L.A. for services rendered while manager.

Anzac House and Club.—In consequence of ministerial duties, Mr. L. Thorn has been obliged to resign the chairmanship of the Anzac House and the Anzac Club committees. Mr. Hunt has been appointed to succeed him as chairman of both committees. It was resolved to place on record the committee's appreciation of Mr. Thorn's services as chairman.

Re-Establishment.—The report of the Re-Establishment Committee referred to the appointment of a non-serviceman to a position with the Fremantle City Council, and a similar appointment at Mt. Magnet.

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COMING SOON TO PICCADILLY

LEMONA.—A rising out of the report on visits to hospitals, it was decided to send to the Chief Secretary complaints received in regard to kitchen utensils and other matters at Lemos Hospital.

Anzac Day.—A progress report on Anzac Day preparations said the Lord Mayor (Mr. Totterdel) had agreed to re-erect the stand on the Esplanade for the Anzac Day Commemoration. Certain matters in connection with the broadcast of the combined service were referred to by the State President. The T. & P. J. Association notified a representative would place a wreath at the dawn ceremony. In reply to an invitation, it was resolved that the State Secretary express regret that it was not possible for the State Executive to send a representative to the Kalgoorlie functions this year. It was reported that the League had protested against the broadcast of an advertisement to non-servicemen on Anzac Day, but nothing further could be done.

Subsistence for P.O.W.—Several sub branches protested at the non-payment of subsistence allowance to former prisoners of war. It was decided to make further strong representations to the Federal Government for the inclusion of allowances to all prisoners of war in the payments.

Mountjoy Appointment.—A legal opinion obtained on the Mountjoy appointment will be referred to the Federal President.

District Committees.—A number of recommendations from No. 14 District Committee were received. It was decided that three of these be referred to the Housing Committee, and suggested that the further item be included in the agenda for this year's Annual State Congress. No. 4 District Committee recommended certain vital amendments to the Road Transport Act. The recommendations were referred to the Land Committee. The matter of representation at the meeting of the No. 4 District Committee on April 27, and a no-faith visit to Gnowangerup, was left in the hands of the State President.

Sub-Branches.—It was decided to advise the Tammin sub-branch that the question of unnaturalized aliens was a matter for the Annual Congress. A communication from Fremantle City sub-branch on migration policy was referred to the Rehabilitation Committee. It was also agreed that the question be raised by the League representatives at the B.E.S.L. Conference. Approval was given for the trustees to affix the League's Seal to the transfer of land to the Margaret River sub-branch.

APRIL 23, 1947

At the meeting of the State Executive on April 23 there were present Messrs. Anderson, Stem, Edmonson, Davies, Leslie, Craig, Halcombe, Ferguson, James, Yeates, Olden, Hunt, Watt, Bateson, Fitchardinge, Murray, Herity, Stahl, Paton, Ferguson-Stewart, Lonnie and Stoddart.

The State President welcomed Mr. Sykes from Kondinin, as a visitor.

Mr. Hunt was appointed to represent the State Executive at a meeting of No. 4 D.C. on April 27.

A wire was read from Colonel Masebridge conveying Anzac Day greetings from New Zealand.

The State President invited members of the Executive to an official welcome to the 1st Battalion Association from South Australia on April 24.

The State President read a letter from Mr. S. V. Perry thanking the League for contributions collected through sub-branches and auxiliaries for the Food for Britain Appeal.

Membership.—In adopting the report of the Membership Committee, approval was given for the printing of monthly returns for the use of sub-branches.

Trustees.—The trustees' report showed that 30 applications for relief had been approved under the A.M.F. Canteen Fund, and 19 under the Amelioration Fund.

War Service Homes.—The War Service Homes Committee reported on the serious shortage of bricks. Reference was made to the possibility of using Commonwealth land at Safety Bay and erecting Army huts there to relieve the acute housing shortage. A sub-committee comprising Messrs. Fitchardinge, Lonnie and Stahl was appointed to investigate the report. In regard to the pending absorption of the War Service Homes Commission by the Department of Works and Housing, and the possibility of similar arrangements taking place with other departments which deal exclusively with the affairs of ex-service men and women might similarly lose their identity, it was decided to extend to the Head Office of the League. "That the Executive of the W.A. Branch of the League strongly protest.
against the proposed absorption of the War Service Homes Commission by the Department of Works and Housing, and urges that the Federal Executive be called together urgently at Canberra to consider this and other suggested absorptions of departments exclusively administering the affairs of ex-service men and women.

Rehabilitation.—Vocational training figures were included in the report of the Rehabilitation Committee. The report also covered the questions of aborigines’ rights, street photographers and breaches of the preference legislation.

Official Organ.—New arrangements for the publication of the official organ were approved. They will come into operation on May 1, in preparation for the first issue of the paper in July.

Repatriation.—The report of the Repatriation Committee showed that the League had advocated in 25 out of the 52 cases before the Entitlement Tribunal during its recent visit to Perth.

Officials.—The appointments of officials as advised by the Goon-malling, Gabbin, Murray, Mukinbudin and Wiluna sub-branches were confirmed.

Social Services.—A letter was received from Col. Collett in connection with canteen fund balances and the organising of Repatriation Commission medical services.

Preference, C.S.I.R.—Investigations are to be made through the Security Department concerning the appointment of a convicted person, alleged to be well known as a W.A. Communist, as a research officer to the C.S.I.R.

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**Commonwealth of Australia**

**Legal Service Bureaux**

For the purpose of giving legal advice and service to present and former members of the Forces and their dependants, the Legal Service Bureau was established in 1942, as part of the Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Department. This Bureau is available to assist both men and women. Its address in this State is—

A.N.A. House

ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH

Under Part II of the Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945, members and ex-members of the Forces are entitled to preference in certain circumstances in engagement for employment. They also have other special rights—for example, in relation to housing and tenancy, and moratorium and re-establishment benefits.

The Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Legal Service Bureau advises, without charge, on all legal matters affecting servicemen or their dependants. Any member or ex-member of the Forces who believes he has not been given the treatment to which he is entitled, under the Re-establishment and Employment Act or otherwise, is invited to place the facts of his case before the Legal Service Bureau, either by letter or by personal call.

H. V. EVATT,
Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.

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A.R.M.S. Competition.—A donation of £5/- was granted towards the incidental expenses in connection with resumption of the competition.

Council of Ex-Service Organisations.—A letter was received concerning the after-care home for ex-servicemen.

Immigrants.—A resolution was passed that the Commonwealth Government be approached to have inquiries made into the type of immigrant that was being admitted into the Commonwealth and that representatives be made to ensure that all intending immigrants are personally inspected by Australian members of the various High Commissioners’ staffs before being approved as immigrants and before embarking for Australia.

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**Sub-Branch Activities**

**BUNBURY**

At the April meeting it was decided that the eligibility ballot be discussed and the vote taken at the May meeting. The discussion will take the form of a debate between teams of three. The first shoot on the new indoor rifle range has been held, and badminton has commenced. It is hoped to enter a team for the association matches. The sub-branch has guaranteed a minimum donation of £50 to the British Flood Relief Appeal, and hopes to exceed the minimum. Heartfelt congratulations were extended to an old member of years’ standing, Mr. Jim Murray, on winning the Bunbury seat in the recent Legislative Assembly election. Another member of the sub-branch, Mr. Ken Lee, has been appointed accountant at Anzac House. The sub-branch cricketers wound up the season with a victory. They have won many of their games and it is hoped more of the younger members will take the field next season.

**KOJONUP**

There was a good attendance at the March meeting, over which Mr. R. L. Lewis presided. As Anzac Day fell on the usual meeting day, the fourth Friday, it was decided to put the April meeting forward one week. Mr. Tracey, of the Ministry of Postwar Reconstruction, gave a talk covering the various activities connected with reconstruction and rehabilitation, after which he answered a number of questions. Another highlight of the evening was a talk by Mr. Boudny, of Nullagine, on his experiences as a P.O.W. in Singapore and Borneo.

**CANNING DISTRICTS**

There was an attendance of 38 at the meeting on March 23. Jack Connolly was deputed to organise sub-branch hospital visiting parties. It was considered inopportune for a local Anzac Day commemoration this year, but the matter will be discussed again later in the year in the hope of arranging annual local commemorations. It was tentatively agreed to enter a team for the A.R.M.S. competitions. Members and their families attended the recent picnic at Serpentine. It is thought that the attendance might have

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Under Part II of the Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945, members and ex-members of the Forces are entitled to preference in certain circumstances in engagement for employment. They also have other special rights—for example, in relation to housing and tenancy, and moratorium and re-establishment benefits.

The Commonwealth Attorney-General's Legal Service Bureau advises, without charge, on all legal matters affecting servicemen or their dependants. Any member or ex-member of the Forces who believes he has not been given the treatment to which he is entitled, under the Re-establishment and Employment Act or otherwise, is invited to place the facts of his case before the Legal Service Bureau, either by letter or by personal call.

H. V. EVATT,
Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.

A.R.M.S. Competition.—A donation of £5/5/- was granted towards the incidental expenses in connection with resumption of the competition.

Council of Ex-Service Organisations.—A letter was received concerning the after-care home for ex-servicemen.

Immigrants.—A resolution was passed that the Commonwealth Government be approached to have inquiries made into the type of immigrant that was being admitted into the Commonwealth and that representations be made to ensure that all intending immigrants are personally inspected by Australian members of the various High Commissioners' staffs before being approved as immigrants and before embarking for Australia.

Sub-Branch Activities

BUNBURY

At the April meeting it was decided that the eligibility ballot be discussed and the vote taken at the May meeting. The discussion will take the form of a debate between teams of three. The first shoot on the new indoor rifle range has been held, and badminton has commenced. It is hoped to enter a team for the association matches. The sub-branch has guaranteed a minimum donation of £10 to the British Flood Relief Appeal, and hopes to exceed the minimum. Heartiest congratulations were extended to an old member of years' standing, Mr. Jim Murray, on winning the Bunbury seat in the recent Legislative Assembly election. Another member of the sub-branch, Mr. Ken Lee, has been appointed accountant at Anzac House. The sub-branch cricketers wound up the season with a victory. They have won most of their games and it is hoped more of the younger members will take the field next season.

KOJONUP

There was a good attendance at the March meeting, over which Mr. R. L. Lewis presided. As Anzac Day fell on the usual meeting day, the fourth Friday, it was decided to put the April meeting forward one week. Mr. Tracey, of the Ministry of Postwar Reconstruction, gave a talk covering the various activities connected with reconstruction and rehabilitation, after which he answered a number of questions. Another highlight of the evening was a talk by Mr. Boundy, of Nullagine, on his experiences as a P.O.W. in Singapore and Borneo.

CANNING DISTRICTS

There was an attendance of 38 at the meeting on March 23. Jack Connolly was appointed to organise sub-branch hospital visiting parties. It was considered inopportune for a local Anzac Day commemoration this year, but the matter will be discussed again later in the year in the hope of arranging annual local commemorations. It was tentatively agreed to enter a team for the A.R.M.S. competitions. Members and their families attended the recent picnic at Serpentine. It is thought that the attendance might have

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been large. The district community centre has offered the sub-branch land for a hall building on a 99 years' lease at a peppercorn rental. The matter was left in abeyance pending a committee report to a special meeting. A proposed meeting of ratepayers to discuss the proposed memorial rose garden is on the agenda for the next meeting of the Road Board. Jack Connolly reported progress of the S.S.L. Vice-President Eric Treasure has been in hospital through war-caused illness. We wish him a speedy recovery. Visitors to the meeting were Messrs. Wilkins (Bruce Rock) and Clarke (Wagin).

MERRIDIN

Mr. Reg. Wilkes presided over a fair attendance at the last monthly meeting. The secretary (Mr. Jock Ford) took his place at the president's table after a spell in hospital. Much business, including the finalisation of arrangements for Anzac Day, was transacted. It was decided to donate a sum of 20 guineas to the British Flood Relief Appeal. A committee meeting was held on April 15.

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COMO

The meeting on April 2 drew an attendance of 45, including five new members and visitors from South Perth sub-branch. It was decided to hold a combined sub-branch and auxiliary meeting on the third Wednesday of each month, the meeting to take the form of a games and social evening. It was decided that Anzac Day be commemorated by the Como and South Perth sub-branches at the South Perth War Memorial. The social committee was instructed to arrange a function to raise funds for the British Flood Relief Appeal. A programme of hospital visiting was arranged. Visiting at Heathcote is already in full swing. A representative from the State Executive gave an interesting talk on amelioration and the administration of various funds for the welfare of returned men. After business was completed, the long-awaited clash of South Perth and Como darts and table tennis players occurred. The results were hardly conclusive. South Perth won the darts by a comfortable margin, and Como romped home in the table tennis. A further contest is to be arranged.

MELVILLE

There was a fair attendance at the meeting on April 10. The meeting unanimously voted ten pounds to the British Flood Relief Appeal, and this was increased to £13/9/10 by a tarpsaul muster. The building fund has a very satisfactory credit balance of £238. The sub-branch has land, buildings, improvements and furniture to the value of £469. Arrangements were completed for the local service on Anzac Day. A working bee to prepare ground and plant shrubs on sub-branch property was held on May 3.

ARMADALE

With membership now 303 this sub-branch is showing progress. It has been decided to hold an additional meeting on the last
Wednesday of each month as a social and games night. Under the auspices of genial Jack Sturrock, as scorer and commentator, the dart competitions are proving very popular. Anzac Day routine this year was varied by the introduction of a dawn ceremony with laying of wreaths at the Obelisk, and evening memorial service in the hall. Both functions were well attended; the address of the Reverend Dr. was ably rendered by the popular secretary, Rev. Blackburners, are asked to keep well in mind Wednesday, May 28, the date of the annual reunion at the Road Board Hall. All returned servicemen will be welcome. The recently-formed women’s auxiliary is putting in some good work, but more members are required for this important adjunct to sub-branch activities.

COTTESLOE
This year the Anzac Day service for the Swanbourne-Cottesloe-Mosman Park District was controlled by the Cottesloe Municipal Council. Through inclement weather, the function was conducted indoors and the attendance was only fair. At the conclusion the sub-branch entertained the visitors from the neighbouring sub-branches. Once again it was noticed that the recent veterans were in a minority, but it is hoped that next year the position will be reversed. At the monthly meeting on May 6, the building fund committee reported on the Easter Goose Club and the final figures showed a profit of £45. On the same night the ballot on the eligibility question was submitted to members. The chairman, of the social committee presented the social programme for the balance of the year, which was adopted. The first event is the annual ball which will be held on Saturday, June 21, at Wanslea. Tickets will be 4/- each and net proceeds will be paid to the Memorial Hall building fund. All members are urged to come along with their friends and make the evening an outstanding success.

SUBLACO
During April, the miniature rifle range was set up again, and the sub-branch, like the celebrated Ned Kelly, ‘came out shootin’. Attendances at games evenings were not so good lately, which may have been due to a wise training-up before the contest which, in this case, is the opening of the A.R.M.S. competition; or it may have been due, as some suggested, to the wet weather or the improved supply at the local coffee-house. At the April general meeting, Don Williamson made a forcible speech in proposing the formation of a membership committee. This was duly formed, the committee being Don himself and Messrs. Menzies and Nisbet. The meeting, much admired the emphatic manner in which the president pointed out the rules of procedure to a couple of members, not to mention a non-member; and Mr. Bateson, from State Executive, gave a sincere and well appreciated talk on hospital visiting. The vote of the sub-branch on eligibility to R.S.L. membership will be discussed and taken at the general meeting on Wednesday, May 28.

MANDURAH
After the ceremony of laying wreaths at the flagstaff on the foreshore on Anzac Day, a service was held in the Hotum Valley Hall. The address was given by the Prem. (Mr. Ross McLarty). The service was read by the Rev. Jenkins, of the Methodist Church. The following officers were elected at the annual meeting on April 26: President, Mr. F. Digney; vice-presidents, Messrs. W. Goode and F. Emmett; secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. T. Gill (re-elected).

CARLISLE
A very interesting service was held in the B.S.M. Hall on the night of April 25. The Rev. D. Abbott conducted the service, assisted by the president of the sub-branch (Mr. G. Finch). A representative gathering was present and wreaths were placed by the president, Mr. Finch, of the Ladies Auxiliary, Mr. Harrower (Red Cross), Carlisle Boy Scouts and Cubs, the Secretary of the Bickford Soldiers’ Memorial Hall (Mr. Window), Carlisle Girl Guides and the Parents and Citizens’ Association. Mrs. Kieler again made her pots plants available to decorate the stage. The calls were sounded by Mr. Stewart, bandmaster of the Victoria Park Citizens’ Band. Sub-branch and auxiliary members paid a combined visit to Edward Millen on April 20. The Victoria Park Citizens’ Band, conducted by Mr. Stewart, and assisted by Mrs. Kieler, Mrs. Beck and Miss Joyce Halliday (soloists), presented a very fine musical programme. Miss Jean Podger gave an exhibition of aerobatics. Mrs. King presided over the afternoon.

Anzac Day in Fremantle started with the dawn ceremony at the Memorial, conducted by the president (Mr. A. H. Bracks), supported by members of the Town Band, the W.A. and the ladies of the W.A. Associated Women’s Auxiliary. Wreaths were laid on the cenotaph by the president and the chairman of the Memorial committee. The annual parade was held in the Town Hall, which was packed and hundreds were unable to get in. The elements did not prevent the march from the Cenotaph to the Town Hall.

FREMANTLE CITY
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The April meeting was a great improvement in regard to attendance, with quite a big influx from Mundaring who, on this occasion, appeared to have solved their transport problem. Discussions to the war against the enemy problem took place, and the decision of the meeting was given after a show of hands. The final count made it 117 men for, and 28 against. Although the meeting was prolonged there was time for some sports. The women’s auxiliary is going strong with its practice. Sub-branch members expect a challenge from them any tick of the clock—so keep practising, you quots and darts throwers.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE
The Anzac Day service was held in the 14th. Theatre. After wreaths were placed on the Memorials, members of the sub-branch, auxiliary and S.S.L., headed by the Perth Highland Pipe Band, marched to the theatre, where the service was conducted by Canon D. K. McConchie, assisted by Captain H. E. McLeod, of the 5th. Battalion. Miss Nellie Kellock of the Holm Court, gave a vote of dedication of the Honour Board, to which additional names had been added and ‘Land of Hope and Glory’. Mr. Brian Jones sang ‘Just for Today.’ The president (Mr. Barney Keeley) gave the address, and Mr. Deering was accompanist. Members were pleased to receive a visit from the South Perth and Victoria Park sub-branches on April 16. A large turnout of members and visitors helped to make a real entertaining evening. Mr. Hawthorne were winners in the games. Sports director George Hill has his teams captains working hard, looking for likely candidates for the A.R.M.S. games. Members were glad to see a former Mt. Hawthorn man, Skeeter Tempes, and his son among the Victoria Park team. George Crick, after the social committee doing splendid work, the cricket team, after a good season, went down before Maylands in the final. Johnny Grigg and Stocky are to be congratulated on the way they carried out their cricket duties. George Hill wants intending players in the A.R.M.S. games to give their names to the captains of the teams they wish to join. The first game will be held at North Beach. The Monday night dances at Anzac House, in aid of the hall extension fund, were very successful. The ladies of the auxiliary still hold their bridge evenings on Friday nights. June meetings will be on the 12th and the 26th.

OSBORNE PARK
Anzac Day service in the Agricultural Hall was well attended. The assembly point for the march was the R.S.L. Hall. The march, which included R.S.L. men of both wars, St. John Ambulance, Boy Scouts and Cubs and Girl Guides. After the service, the parade returned to the R.S.L. Hall to witness the unveiling and dedication of the Honour Board, to which additional names had been inscribed. The sub-branch president (Mr. Feltham) thanked those who marched and others who assisted with the service. The general meeting on April 30 was well attended. Business included the ballot on eligibility. Mr. Eric Stephens has succeeded Mr. Millar as treasurer, Mr. Millar having taken over the duties of secretary after the resignation of Mr. Neville Johnson. Now that the A.R.M.S. games have been revived, it is hoped that more members will take an active interest in the games. Osborne Park’s first match is with Mt. Yorke towards the end of this month. Others in the zone are North Beach and Mt. Hawthorn. Arrangements for the Grand R.S.L. Ball in the Shale Hall at Osborne Park on May 30 are well in hand.
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the Town Hall. There were three bands in the march, which was headed by the Chief Marshal, Mr. R. Paton. Sir James and Lady Kitchell were present and His Excellency was received by a large Naval Guard from the H.M.A.S. Leeuwin. The debating team to represent Fremantle City under the President's march scheme are Messrs. K. Jones, F. Tierney and H. G. Wilson. A civic reception was accorded the South Australian visitors of the 16th Battalion by the Mayor and Councillors on April 29. The sub-branch was represented by the secretary.

AGNEW

On Easter Sunday the sub-branch held a children's picnic at Lawlers. Despite the weather, it was attended by all and sundry and was, particularly from the kiddies point of view, a great success. The kids' main interests appeared to be the sweets and ice cream, particularly the ice cream, for in these parts ice cream is a very, very, rare commodity. A mass attack was made on the churn by the kiddies as soon as it was opened, and, despite the fact that one little girl was heard to say that she had already had ten ice creams and was going back for another, both the churn and the kiddies were quite content to call it a day. The kiddies were full to the back teeth, and the churn—in the language of the classics—had it.

SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT

A well-attended commemoration service was held in the Swan View Hall on Anzac Day. The dance on April 26 was better attended than the previous dance, but better support is wanted. On May 3, a social evening was given to members of the auxiliary of the State Government to appoint an honorary executive to be responsible for all aspects of rehabilitation, in order that a check might be kept on all activities between the State and Commonwealth Governments. It was unanimously resolved that the State Executive be asked to help in having the matter rectified. Mr. Dick Price was elected trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. R. Wilson and R. Cross have been co-opted to the social committee. A football team is being organised for the new season.

BoYANUP JUNCTION

The monthly meeting in Easter week was well attended. President E. B. Duve was in the chair and the secretary (Mr. Clem Reilly) is being kept busy with increasing correspondence. It was agreed that a public function be held to assist the British Blood Relief Appeal, and canvassers were appointed to collect funds. The Anzac Day service was conducted by the Rev. F. J. Boxall. A former sub-branch president, Mr. A. G. Scott, gave the address. The sub-branch has pledged its support to the Anti-T.B. Campaign. There are still two young men of the district to be officially welcomed home from service. A date for the welcome was fixed. Mr. A. G. Scott will investigate pension problems on his next visit to Perth. During the social evening that followed, a Digger of the Great War, Mr. John Birch, came first in the yarn-telling contest, while about ten others tied for second place.

KOJONUP

The answer to the president's letter of congratulation to the Premier (Mr. McLarty) and his Cabinet was read by the secretary (Mr. Leach) at a recent meeting. An amount of £20 was voted for the British Blood Relief Appeal. It was suggested that an inquiry be held into the appointment of a non-serviceman to the position of field superintendent of the Lands Department. Disatisfaction was expressed with the way protests against breaches of preference are being ignored. A motion was carried—urging the State

Executive to ask the State Government to appoint an honorary minister to be responsible for all aspects of rehabilitation, in order that a check might be kept on all activities between the State and Commonwealth Governments. It was unanimously resolved that the State Executive be asked to help in having the matter rectified. Mr. Dick Price was elected trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. R. Wilson and R. Cross have been co-opted to the social committee. A football team is being organised for the new season.

28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

Ever since the Honour Avenue has been planted in King's Park, the 28th Battalion Association A.I.F. has, as an act of remembrance for Anzac Day, pinned a small colour patch on each tree which honours a fallen member of the Battalion. This year, late in the evening before Anzac Day, the committee of the Association met once again to honour their fallen comrades, and 118 colour patches were in place when the State Government took place. This small token of remembrance has been performed for nearly 30 years without a break. The Association each year sends a telegram to the branch association in other States. Addressed "28th battalion, on parade, Anzac Day, Melbourne (or Sydney)" the Postmaster-General's Department must be congratulated on the way they are delivered. Letters from both Melbourne and Sydney tell how a messenger boy appears just before the parade is due to move off, and in time for the telegram to be read to those on parade, and, needless to say, it is very much appreciated. Melbourne Branch has Peter Nind as secretary, and numbers about 50, amongst whom are Mudder Denton, Monty Cross, Bill the Great, Bob Elsegood. We regret to advise that Bob Elsegood, who is also a volunteer Wing Commander Bill Hopkins passed on a few weeks ago and also Les Jones, about a month ago. It is estimated that about 98 per cent of 28th Battalion members in Victoria are on parade on Anzac Day. After the march, a reunion dinner is held at Monty Cross's workshop and this year six "mines" were provided. In Sydney the 28th marches with the 7th Brigade, and they also held a reunion dinner after the march. This year, Lieut.-Col. Arnold, (Long) Brown, Reg Hanlin, Cecil Morell, Bill Barnes and Greg Stroud were the 28th members, while an old friend of the battalion in France, Padre Gallup of the 27th Battalion, was also present.

MERRIDEN

At the monthly meeting held on May 6 a fair attendance was presided over by Mr. Dick Allbury (vice-president), the president (Mr. Wilkie) being indisposed. One of the main items of business was the branch ballot on eligibility. The sub-branch is also sponsoring a public meeting to reform the dawn service at the 27th Battalion. Mr. Clyde Campbell, an old bimetall and returnee from World War I, is the organiser. Anzac Day passed very successfully. The Dawn Service is the most impressive always. The next usual general meeting is on the first Tuesday in June.

BASSENDAEN

At the meeting on April 3 arrangements were discussed for the opening dance on April 11. The president and secretary attended a meeting in the Road Board Hall on March 31 to discuss arrangements for Anzac Day. On the motion of Messrs. Cook and Fry, it was resolved that the proceeds of the opening dance be donated to the British Blood Relief Appeal. A further donation of £250 to the London Mission was also made. It was reported that ex-servicemen trying to establish a canteen at the rehabilitation courses held at Dunreath were having difficulty in obtaining supplies from the Rationing Commission. Messrs. Fry and Cook successfully moved that the State Executive be asked to help in having the matter rectified. Mr. Dick Price was elected trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. R. Wilson and R. Cross have been co-opted to the social committee. A football team is being organised for the new season.
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MANJIMUP

Over 100 members attended the annual meeting on April 25. The treasurer's report revealed a healthy financial position. The president (Mr. George D. & members are on July 14. Members and their wives are expected.pride:~esides, M qr., 1947. six years in office as secretary. He also presented Certificates of Service to Messrs. A. Ralph and J. Dougas for their services to the R.S.L. Band, as bandmaster and bandman. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. L. Thompson (for the sixth term); vice-president, Messrs. S. O'Neill, W. Horton and G. Major; secretary, Mr. H. Beach; assistant secretary, Mr. J. Berry; recording secretary, Mr. P. Monkhouse; treasurer, Mr. S. Thompson; auditor, Mr. G. Johnston; management committee, Mr. A. Fauks, the Rev. Tassell and Messrs. V. Cribb, R. Fouracres, E. Garade, J. Hulce, A. McDonald, P. Smith, W. Craig and L. Sims. It was resolved that the management committee investigate the possibility of securing a paid secretary with power to act. Congratulations have been sent to two members on their election to the Road Board. There are now four returned men on the Road Board. The management committee has been instructed to appoint a sub-committee to consider the formation of a club.

MOSMAN PARK

There was a fair attendance at the monthly meeting on April 29. It has been decided to publish a sub-branch organ and it is hoped the first issue will be out early in July. The shortage of baby food in W.A. was the subject of a letter sent to the State Executive urging that the matter of having supplies rushed to this State be taken up with the authorities concerned. A special meeting will be convened to deal with the eligibility issue. Mr. Bateson, of the State Executive, addressed the meeting on hospital visiting. The sub-branch thanks the Shell Oil Company for the picture given on April 15. About sixty members paraded for the local service on Anzac Day. Combined with Cottesloe and Swanbourne sub-branches, the Diggers made a good showing. Because of rain, the service was held in the Cottesloe picture theatre, kindly made available by Mr. H. Hartfield, Col. Bell, V.C., took the salute at the march past which followed the service.

2/1st and 2/3rd FORESTRY COMPANIES

Good organising by Bill Quarrell, D.C.M., made it possible to hold the first reunion of the Forestry Companies (R.A.E.) on April 8. Twenty-nine members turned up and a very pleasant evening was spent in knocking down schooners instead of selling trees, and talking of old times. Members from as far away as Manjimup, Busselton and Harvey came to Perth for the reunion. It is proposed to form a committee to make arrangements for the next reunion on Easter Tuesday, 1948. Mr. A. Rule was elected chairman; Mr. J. Wilson, secretary; Mr. G. McPhail, assistant secretary; Tom Sheehan and Bob Clively. A bigger attendance is hoped for next year, and old comrades of the two forestry companies are asked to keep in touch with the secretary. His address is R. J. Nestor, 117 Matlock St., Mt. Hawthorn.

GLOUCESTER PARK

There was a fairly good attendance at the meeting on May 1. The next meeting is on June 5 and members are asked to make the attendance bigger. The A.R.M.S. games have commenced and this should provide a bigger inducement to members to take a more active interest in sub-branch affairs. Gloucester Park wants to retain the shield and the State President's Snooker Cup won last year. The next big function will be the social dinner to be held in Monash House on July 14. Members and their wives are asked to attend this function. The women's auxiliary is doing a splendid job on behalf of sick members. The sub-branch congratulates them and extends sincere thanks.

WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEENBLEY-FLOREAT PARK

Much business was transacted at the first April meeting. It was decided to donate £2 to the Benson Testimonial Fund. Several members spoke of the good work done by Mr. Benson as State Secretary. Members decided to give the whole of the profits of the dance on May 5 to the British Flood Relief Appeal. The amount handed over was £33 1/3. A number of new members were introduced at both April meetings. The building fund committee reported that a further £500 had been invested in the recent Security Loan. Money subscribed by the sub-branch to Commonwealth loans now totals £1,600.

MAYLANDS

Good attendances have been registered at recent meetings and it is gratifying to see the younger men taking such an active interest in sub-branch affairs. The sub-branch has established S.S.S. and daughters organisations, which are both acquiring themselves well in sports. At present, they are acquiring gymnasium equipment. The Friday night dances in aid of the building fund continue to be well patronised. Sub-branch playing cards committee met, and a considerable sum has been raised. The present subscription was £50 5s. 0d. The Sub-branch Secretary, Mr. Jim Beak, Jnr., is forming a football team. It was decided to engage the Lesser Hall for a games night with members of the auxiliary. Mr. Jim Beak, Snr., has been congratulated by the sub-branch on his excellent work in connection with the local Anzac Day commemoration.

SHENTON PARK

Meeting held at Progress Hall on Wednesday, May 7, with the president (Mr. Alan Bone) in the chair, was well attended. The women's auxiliary and the sub-branch held a social evening on May 14, the proceeds being for the Appeal for Britain Fund. The result of the vote on the eligibility question resulted in a 'Yes' vote. We visited Hollywood Hospital on Sunday, May 4, but more volunteers are required for our visit in July. Several new members were welcomed to the meeting by the president. The need for a shelter shed at the Military Cemetery was stressed.

SWANBOURNE

The general meeting held on May 7, was well attended; the chief business of the evening being our vote on the eligibility question. Selection of our A.R.M.S. teams was commenced and it is anticipated that we shall have fairly strong representation for all games. Our first engagement is with Cottesloe on May 20, followed by a
clash with Claremont a few nights later. Considerable discussion took place over certain proposed promotions in the State Public Service and, in view of the departure from the spirit of preference that would ensue if given effect to, the matter was referred to the State Executive for attention. The Building Committee has been focussed with the problem of investigating the possibility of acquiring land in the district upon which to erect Oakleigh House when the time arrives. Tennis is still popular, when the weather permits, and a goodly crowd congregates at the courts each weekend to try themselves out. Our tournament, arranged for the long weekend, went "pluto" owing to the weather, but some members put the occasion to good use by planting a hedge at each end of the courts. We regret to chronicle the departure of Bill Gurr, who has moved from this centre and wish him every success in his new sphere, viz., the R.A.A.F. Claude Young was appointed organiser for the proposed gymkhana to be held at Claremont Showgrounds for the purpose of augmenting our building fund.

Women's Auxiliaries

McKinlay Shield Competitions

Position of Teams at End of Fourth Round

**THIRD ROUND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>P.</th>
<th>W.</th>
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**FOURTH ROUND**

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**STATE EXECUTIVE**

Meetings were held on April 21 and May 7. At the latter meeting, members were pleased to hear that their fellow member, Mrs. Sherlock, who is in hospital, is making good progress towards recovery and were sorry to hear that another member, Mrs. Dis., was ill. We wish her a very quick recovery.

Mrs. McKislay reported that on April 1 she attended a social arranged by Nedlands auxiliary in their newly-acquired, temporary hall.

On April 12, the State President and State Secretary journeyed to Bullsbrook to attend the opening of the new auxiliary hall. On April 20, Mrs. McKinlay went to Spearwood to attend an outing arranged by the auxiliary for Diggers from Swinset. A bus conveyed their guests to the hall, where, in the afternoon, they were entertained by a concert party. A very nice gesture on the part of the Diggers was the laying of a wreath on the memorial, during the evening, Certificates of Service were presented by Mrs. McKinlay to Miss Berry and Mrs. Winfield.

On April 25 (May 15), the State President attended the Dawn Service at the War Memorial, and laid a wreath on the memorial. The Anzac Day service on the Esplanade was attended by the State President, State Secretary and members of the Executive.

Claremont Hospital Diggers were visited on April 27 by the State President, State Secretary and some members of the Executive.

Gifts were taken and greatly appreciated. Our visitors spoke in glowing terms of the excellent arrangements at Davis Road for ex-servicemen from Heathcote and others who are receiving treatment there.

Mesdames McKinlay, Stockman and Brown went to Narrogin on April 30 to attend a rally organised by the auxiliary there. Visitors' visits to Stockman and Mrs. Henderson (Vice-President), deputising for the President, attended a social at Kalamunda as guests of the auxiliary.

On April 30, Mrs. Henderson attended Carlisle auxiliary's 15th birthday party and depuited for Mrs. McKinlay, who was away at Narrogin. Mrs. Sweetman was the recipient of a Certificate of Service presented by Mrs. Henderson.

During the month Mrs. Stockman, Mrs. Henderson and other members of the Executive have gone on duty at the War Blinded Men's room in Pier Street. On April 22, the President, Secretary and members of the Executive were guests of the City of Perth auxiliary's second birthday party. A large crowd representing metropolitan auxiliaries accepted the invitation to be present.

On May 6, a dedication was received from the Shackleton-Kwolyin auxiliary describing what must have been a most impressive ceremony on April 12, when they presented to the Bruce Rock Hospital a memorial bed on which was a plaque bearing the following inscription: "In Memory," followed by the names of the three men who paid the supreme sacrifice in the recent war and the words: "Presented by Shackleton-Kwolyin Auxiliary R.S.L." Close relatives of the lads in whose memory it was donated were present. The two local ministers, the Rev. Hobby and Rev. Finch, performed the dedication ceremony. The relatives of the boys expressed their appreciation of the honour which had been paid to them.

A welcome is extended to Mukinbudin and Bruce Rock auxiliaries and we wish them success and prosperity in all their efforts.

Diggers in Royal Perth Hospital are being visited every Friday by members of the Executive, who take gifts of cakes, cigarettes, sweets, etc., made possible by donations to the Hospital Visiting Fund. Hollywood Hospital is now regularly visited every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and two wards being visited on each day, and auxiliaries who expressed a wish to participate in this visit were rostered by the Executive. Visitors take gifts of cakes, sweets, cigarettes, etc., and members of the Pindling auxiliary, who is in hospital, was visited by Mrs. Brown. This is a duty which Executive members are pleased to do at any time, if requested, and we do sincerely ask auxiliaries to notify us of any sub-branch or auxiliary members who are patients in hospitals in Perth. Especially does this apply to country auxiliaries.

Sports are now in full swing and many very happy nights have been spent. Competition is keen, as can be seen from the result table.

**KARRIDALE**

New members have joined up and greater interest is being taken in auxiliary activities. The following donations have been made: R.S.L. British Flood Relief Appeal, £4 14/-; and sub-branch building Fund, £3 2/-.

Office-bearers for 1947 are: President, Mrs. Markham; vice-president, Mrs. McDonald; secretary, Mrs. Ironmonger. A series of card evenings will be run during the next few months.

**GLOUCESTER PARK**

The general meeting and social afternoon was held on May 1 at the Wembley Hall. Members and friends were entertained to afternoon tea. The president (Mrs. Lanyon) and Mrs. Fisher sang a duet and everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon. It was decided to hold a social and dance in aid of the Food for Britain Appeal at the Wembley Hall on May 8. Mrs. Platt reported from Healthcoate. The sports director (Mrs. Wiltshire) has gone for a holiday to Adelaide. Mrs. Smith is taking her place while she is away.

**SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT**

A special committee is being formed to plan a show to be held in October. This will be the first show since the war. A donation of £10 has been made to the British Flood Relief Appeal. Members are busy arranging card evenings for the same cause.
one of these, Mrs. Tomkins, Jnr., raised £4. Mrs. Murphy also ran an evening. The winners, Mrs. Hames and Mr. Neal, donated the prize money to the fund. Mrs. Hames held an evening on May 2 and the president (Mrs. Tomkins) held an afternoon which netted £23 12s. Mrs. McKinlay, who was present, handed a nice cake stand to Mrs. Ghesseman on behalf of the auxiliary. Mrs. Ghesseman, who has left the district, will link up with the Bassendean auxiliary. Representatives of Bassendean, Maylands, Bayswater, Mundaring and Midland sub-branches were present. On May 3, members were entertained by the sub-branch. Dances are to be held on the fourth Saturday of each month, commencing with a Back to Childhood dance on May 24.

**Bullbrook and Districts**

At the meeting on April 12, members were entertained by the sub-branch, together with members of Gingin and Swan sub-branches and auxiliaries. The R.S.L. State President (Mr. Anderson) and the Auxiliaries’ State President (Mrs. McKinlay), the State Secretary, Auxiliaries (Mrs. Stockman), and Mr. L. Thorn, M.L.A., were the official guests. They were introduced to an audience of about 90 by the sub-branch president (Mr. Pickett). The auxiliary has cooperated with the sub-branch in the effort to raise funds for the British Flood Relief Appeal. So far, the amount raised is over £70. Nine dozen articles of clothing and 35 tins of food have been sent to the Red Cross as well.

**F.L.S.W.**

In the absence of Mrs. Dean in the Eastern States, the vice-president (Mrs. T. C. Wilson) presided over the recent meeting Miss Jessie Robertson, of 61X, was the guest speaker. She gave an interesting account of the life of a woman in the A.W.A.S. Mrs. A. Cooper thanked the speaker. The musical program was arranged by Mrs. W. A. Thomas, assisted by Mesdames N. Kelly, C. Clapperson, M. Ticeath, E. Boyle, A. Prendegast and R. McMahon. Mrs. L. Jones proposed a vote of thanks.

**Victoria Park**

As the meeting night fell on Anzac Day, it was postponed until May 9. Recently, members visited Cottesloe for games and had a very interesting night. Victoria Park won by a small margin. Members also played their own sub-branch on May 2, but they were the winners on that occasion. However, it was a great night. Anzac Day was well attended. The service, held in the R.S.L. Memorial Hall, Salford Street, was packed. Sub-branch members and the Women’s Auxiliary, Girl Guides and Boy Scouts were well represented. The singing was led by the Victoria Park Citizens’ Band. The service was conducted by Mr. G. Yates, M.L.A. The address was given by the Rev. Ralph Thomas. Numerous wreaths were placed. On Sunday evening an Anzac service was held at St. Peter’s Church, Victoria Park, and again there was a good attendance of auxiliary and sub-branch members. Mrs. Fisher reported on visiting the Edward Millen Home with cakes, etc., for afternoon tea.

**Swanbourne**

Our last general meeting was moderately well attended, but what we lacked in numbers was compensated for in enthusiasm. The combined sports night, held during April, almost had to be abandoned owing to atrocious weather. Fifteen people braved the elements, however, and a very successful evening resulted. The weekend and fortnightly mid-week tennis are the star attractions at the present time and gradually a strong social club is being built up. We shall welcome the time when the sub-branch announces that the other two courts are ready for use. When that time arrives, we shall be able to accommodate all the players and intending players who wish to take advantage of the opportunity of playing. The Sunday morning learners’ class is attracting a few candidates. Our social activities have taken the quietus temporarily, but, after our next meeting, it is expected that further activity in this matter will be indicated. We regret to report that two of our stalwarts, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Brown, are out of action temporarily owing to illness.

**Fremantle City**

The president (Mrs. Scupham), accompanied by several members, paid a visit to the Claremont Hospital for the Insane on Sunday, May 4. Comforts were distributed and a report will be rendered. The auxiliary ran a successful children’s fancy dress ball on Tuesday, May 13. Wives of all young Diggers in the Fremantle district are asked to join the auxiliary.

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AGNEW—Crosby's Room, every 4th Sunday in month, 7 p.m.; President: Arthur George, Anzac Lodge, Tea Tree, Adelaide.

ALBANY—R.S.L. Institute: 1st Friday in each month, 6 p.m.; President: W. E. A. Mitchell, 5 vista Street, South Perth; Secretary: E. P. Day, 43 Woodforde Road, South Perth.

ARKARATH—R.S.L. Branch: 3rd Thursday in each month, 7.30 p.m.; President: J. E. Gale, 9B Grevillea Street, North Fremantle; Secretary: W. A. Young, 72nd Street, North Fremantle.

ARMADALE—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 2nd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: J. L. Smith, 12 Nevin Street, Armadale; Secretary: R. H. Gorden, 42 Collie Street, Armadale.

BALINGUP—C.W.A. Room, 1st Monday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: C. W. brick, 35 Stanley Street, Heddon Street.

BEECHER—R.S.L. Branch: 3rd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: R. B. Jones, 47 Clive Street, South Fremantle.

BENDIGO—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 2nd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: J. H. Penson, 74 Station Street, Bendigo; Secretary: J. H. Partin, 204 Pfeffer Street, Bendigo.

BAYSIDE—Town Hall, 2nd Sunday in each month, 7 p.m.; President: W. E. A. Mitchell, 52nd Street, Belgium; Secretary: J. G. Howley, 43 Woodforde Road, South Perth.

BEDFORD & MOLLY PARKS—Riley's Hall, Benford Street, Inglewood;

President: H. V. Feast, 43 School Street, Maryville, Inglewood.

BELMONT—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 2nd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: A. E. Downesborough, 80 Stuart Street, Maylands; Secretary: P. E. Dallin, 5 Firrow Road, Rivervale.

BENNETINGTON—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 1st Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: J. P. Longford, Secretary: F. G. Monger, Bentley.

BEVERLEY—R.S.L. Hotel Building, bi-monthly, 2nd Saturday: President: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley; Secretary: J. M. S. Beverley.

BODDINGTON—Forestry House, Boddington; last Sunday in each month at 10 a.m.; President: J. A. Laughton, Boddington; Secretary: Leo Price, Hotel Boddington (phone 71).

BOYANUP—Boyancy House; 2nd Sunday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: J. E. Gale, 9B Grevillea Street, North Fremantle; Secretary: D. J. Paton, 74th Street, North Fremantle.

BOYUP BROOK—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 1st Wednesday in each month; President: W. A. Unglait (phone Bridgetown 239); Secretary: J. F. Coole, Croydon, Bridgetown.

BRIDGETOWN—R.S.L. Hall: 1st Tuesday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: F. L. New, 36 Thompson Street, Bridgetown; Secretary: W. A. Unglait (phone Bridgetown 239).

BROOKTON—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 1st Saturday in each month at 9 p.m.; President: J. F. Coole, Croydon, Bridgetown; Secretary: N. Rasmussen, Brookton.

BRUCE ROCK—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 3rd Monday each month at 6 p.m.; President: H. L. McGloughlin, Bruce Rock; Secretary: G. A. Avery, Box 76, Bruce Rock.

BULLBROOK—Bullbrook Town Hall, 1st Saturday in each month, 7 p.m.; President: J. H. Penson, 74th Street, North Fremantle.

BUNBURY—R.S.L. Hall: 3rd and 4th Wednesday, 8 p.m.; President: R. E. Walker, 100 Mounts Bay Road, Perth; Secretary: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley.

BUSSELTON—R.S.L. Branch: 1st Saturday in each month; President: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley; Secretary: J. M. S. Beverley.

CALINGIRI—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 1st Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: W. A. O'Callahan, 82 Bank Street, Cannington; Secretary: W. B. Scantlebury, 72nd Street, Cannington.

CARRINGTON—R.S.L. Clubrooms: 2nd Saturday in each month, 8 p.m.; President: P. L. Tieh, 49 Forrest Street, Cannington; Secretary: F. W. McArthur, 2 Brandon Street, South Perth; Secretary: R. V. Orton, 49 Forrest Street, Cannington.

CITY OF PERTH—(office hours: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.—Mohist Church, 10a Kings Street; every 2nd and 4th Thursday: President: J. A. Laughton, 140 Rosalie Street, Subiaco; Secretary: A. R. Cook, Monash Club, 125th Street, Subiaco.

CLAREMONT—Parish Hall, Stirling Highway, 1st Thursday in each month at 7.45 p.m. (January excepted); President: C. J. Paterson, 42 Second Avenue, Claremont; Secretary: T. C. Pol, 57 Davies Road, Claremont (phone F.2252).

COLLIE—Soldiers Hall: 2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.; President: E. S. Shannon, Collie; Secretary: B. C. Shannon, Collie.

COOLGARDIE—Gears Ballroom, 2nd Wednesday in each month at 8 p.m.; President: R. E. Walker, 100 Mounts Bay Road, Perth; Secretary: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley.

CORNIN—Town Hall: 1st Saturday in each quarter; President: E. V. B. Harvey, Secretary: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley.

COTTESLOE—Council Hall, Jarred Street: 1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.; President: J. H. Utting, 73 Palmerston Street, Mogun Street; Phone F.345; Secretary: W. A. Unglait (phone Bridgetown 239).

CRANBROOK—Crabtree Hotel; general meeting, 3rd Saturday, 7.30 p.m., on, 3rd Saturday, 7.30 p.m., every 3rd Saturday in May, July, Sept., Nov.; committee meeting same time and place each month except 1st December; President: J. A. Laughton, 107 Mary Street, Beverley; Secretary: J. M. S. Beverley.

DENMARK—R.S.L. Literary Institute: 1st Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.; President: E. Elliott, Alpine Road, Kalimunda; Secretary: M. Leach, Denmark.

DOUGLAS—Dongara Hotel; 2nd Sunday in each month, 4 p.m.; President: H. Stokes, Dongara; Secretary: Irwin L. D. A. Dongara.
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