The New Organisation

This issue will be the last published under the arrangement that has lasted since the first number of "The Listening Post" appeared in 1921. Commencing with the July issue, the paper will be published under the direction of a Board of Management appointed by the State Executive, and edited by a salaried official of the League.

The change-over in the set-up of The Listening Post marks the end of an era. For more than a quarter of a century, the paper has been the official organ of the League. As such, it has recorded League history and stated League policy, without fear or favour, and without reward beyond the consciousness and pride in a job well done. The objective of the paper was stated in its first issue, back in 1921. "It shall be the aim of The Listening Post to fight for the rights of returned soldiers. We shall not hesitate to throw the limelight of publicity on matters of injustice, individual or collective, and we shall be no respecters of persons in the process. The objects of this journal are precisely the objects of the League."

That policy has been pursued consistently throughout the years. In doing so, we have often been at loggerheads with persons, whose corns have been trodden upon, or whose interests in other organisations have clashed with those of the League. As a paper, we have never had much respect for those who have entered the League for the main purpose of harnessing our organisation to their personal ambitions, or to the axles of other bodies whose objectives are inimical to everything the League supports.

Not once but twice in the period between the wars have the views expressed in The Listening Post found general acceptance as they were turned to truth by the touch of time. For instance, we published many warnings that a League of Nations which could not enforce its decisions was merely a League of Hallucinations, more likely to invite wars than to prevent them. We consistently opposed the fallacy of disarmament, while Germany was secretly arming for another war. When smug pacifism was the fashionable respectability of the moment, we did not hesitate to point out, often in very forcible terms, how such a policy was aiding the dictators in their nefarious designs. It is not claimed that we were always right in the views expressed, but the course of events has shown that we were right more often than not.

However, the main job of an official organ is to explain and advocate the policy of the League in relation to whatever matters of import may arise. Because of this, there has long been a body of opinion in our ranks that the League should own and control the official organ, instead of subsidising one. For the benefit of new members it may be explained that hitherto the publishers have been responsible for the editing, publication and distribution of The Listening Post, and the costs, over and above the subsidy paid by the League, have been borne by the publishers. During the war, production costs went up. Newsprint became dearer, in spite of severe restrictions, and became much scarcer, with the result that the coloured cover which distinguished the paper between the wars had to be scrapped. Further, the growth of official matter which had to be published, issue by issue, left no room for illustrations or other pictorial matter. These are some of the difficulties which will be passed on to the new management. One item that has greatly increased overhead expenses has been the rapid increase in circulation through the growth of League membership. It is often forgotten that The Listening Post is the only League publication which is nosed to every member of the League, and that the subsidy paid by the League, together with advertising revenue has fallen far short of the costs of production. It was to meet the cost of publishing the official organ that the much-discussed levy of two shillings and sixpence was agreed to by last year's Congress.

For our own part, we hand over with mingled feelings of relief and regret—relief at the easing of a burden on publishers and editors, which could not have been carried any longer, and regret at the ending of a long personal association that was greatly valued on our own side. We thank readers and contributors for the support given over the years and many friends for the kind letters of appreciation, some of which are published in this issue.
The New State Secretary

A special meeting of the State Executive was convened on May 28 to decide on the appointment of a new State Secretary, in succession to Mr. D. M. Benson, whose retirement will take effect immediately after this year's State Congress. The new State Secretary is Mr. John Chappell, who has been assistant Secretary since February, 1945. His appointment will date from July 1. There were 26 applicants for the position, which was advertised some weeks ago.

Mr. Chappell was born in Edinburgh 48 years ago. He is married and has four sons, one of whom is now going through the Royal Military College, Duntroon. He came to Western Australia in 1912, and served with the 11th Bn. in the Great War. At the beginning of the World War, he was in command of a company of the 16th Cameron Highlanders (A.M. Forces), and he played a very active role in the formation and training of the Press sub-branch unit of what eventually became the V.D.C. Then he went on to full-time duty with the Army, and commanded the Great Southern and the Albany Forces. After four and a half years of this service, he was demobilised with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He is a past president of the Press sub-branch and was treasurer of the Perth Legacy Club for ten years. One of his big jobs for the League was the organisation of the War Veteran's Home Appeal, for which more than £40,000 has been raised. Another pleasant duty was in connection with the first Miss Western Australia contest, and he is one of the directors of the new contest which has just been launched.

In addition to his duties as Assistant State Secretary, he has discharged those of pensions' officer and R.S.L. advocate before the Pensions Entitlement Tribunal. Last month, when the State Executive approved the new set-up for The Listening Post, Mr. Chappell was selected as editor, without prejudice to his application for the post of State Secretary. Before he came on to the Staff at Anzac House, Mr. Chappell was the secretary of the Master Printers' Association (W.A.) and he has had a wide experience of other secretarial work.

Personally, he is hard working and conscientious, with a definite flair for method in his work. A slight but pleasant remnant of a Scottish accent makes his conversation all the more agreeable, and his keen sense of humour is another piece of evidence in the rebuttal of the ancient libel on a noble race. All who know him will agree that he is just the man for the job, and will hope that he lives many years to enjoy it.

A MESSAGE TO MEMBERS FROM MR. JOHN CHAPPELL

I am deeply conscious not only of the honour which has been conferred on me by the State Executive by appointing me as State Secretary of the R.S.L., but also of the responsibilities which attach to such an appointment.

The League is engaged in a great and important task, but without the goodwill of the public generally it would not be possible to fulfil its great mission. Likewise with the Officers of the League, unless they have the full co-operation of the members, the objects of the League will remain unfulfilled.

I enter the new position confident in the knowledge that I have the full support, not only of the sub-branches, but of the public generally, as indicated by the numerous letters and telegrams of congratulation which I have from all parts of the State. My task is now to justify the confidence which has been placed in me and dedicate my services to the discharge of the important duties annexed to the appointment.

[Signature: John Chappell]
State President's Monthly Newsletter

Federal Executive
On May 22 and 23, I attended the Federal Executive meeting of the League in Melbourne and many matters of interest to League members were discussed. The question of war neurosis is causing concern in the Eastern States, and it was decided to ask the Commonwealth Government to set up clinics for problem cases throughout the Commonwealth, and such clinics should be under departmental control and to provide necessary treatment. In this regard, the Repatriation Department has recently brought out from England a specialist in such cases and possibly we can look for changes soon in treatment and organisation. Another matter to be submitted is that 50 per cent of an ex-serviceman's war pension be not taken into consideration when assessing benefits.

Pensions
Increases of pensions were asked for in various ways. It was felt that, during the period when a pensioner was in hospital for a disability as the result of service in the forces, pensions should be made up to not less than £5/8/-, and without any deductions for hospitalisation. It was also considered that the Repatriation Commission refrain from cancelling entitlement to negligible incapacity disabilities accepted as due to war service, after a lapse of three years. Many ex-servicemen have disabilities not considered bad enough to be pensionable and to cancel entitlement appears wrong, as the disability may become worse and the ex-serviceman will then be forced to establish entitlement again. [This practice certainly does not apply in the State.—Ed. L.P.] The question of a loan of £100 for purchase of furniture was again discussed, and it will be represented that in approved cases it should be granted.

W.A. Items
W.A. submitted several resolutions relating to the type of immigrant being admitted into the Commonwealth and it was decided to ask the Government to take greater action prior to arrival of immigrants in Australia to ensure that no undesirable types arrive here. Many matters relating to better conditions for reconstruction trainees, in relation to increased allowances, supply of books and equipment, and for part-time benefits, will be submitted to the Commonwealth Government. The question of extending the fixed time for closing of applications for training in relation to disabled men undergoing treatment, or who become disabled from war causes and who would be debarred under the present proposed closure, will be asked for. In some States black-marketing appears to be ripe in connection with building materials and efforts will be made to get the Government and private resources more fully mobilised to reduce the housing shortage and to prevent black-marketing in building materials.

War Service Homes
Strong protests will be made by the Federal Executive against the absorption of the War Services Homes Commission by the Department of Works and Housing and any other suggested absorption of departments exclusively administering the affairs of ex-service men and women. There is feeling that a move is afoot to transfer the Repatriation Commission to the Department of Social Services.

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and we should be guarded against it, because this would remove the identity of ex-servicemen’s special departments, and may affect the present benefits. Special legislation was also asked for to obviate ex-service personnel having first to be accepted as members of trade organisations and trade unions before setting up in business or a vocation. A conference will be sought with the major oil companies, motor traders’ associations, and automobile associations, to consider ways and means for ex-servicemen to establish themselves as re-sellers of petrol and oil.

Contact with Canberra

Criticism was voiced by some of the States that the vigilance was necessary regarding legislative enactments and liaison with Canberra was not sufficient and stated constant closer contact was required with the Commonwealth Parliament. To maintain these contacts on a plane compatible with League standing and responsibilities, it was resolved that early consideration be given to definite plans for the transfer of Federal Executive to Canberra. The question of obtaining accommodation is a difficult matter. In the meantime, the Australian Capital Territory Branch will be requested to nominate two persons willing to act as a liaison between Canberra and the Federal Office, for the purpose of advising in regard to legislative matters affecting ex-service personnel. Another matter brought up was the exempting of donations to memorial hall building funds from taxation, and this will be pursued.

League Subscriptions

Considerable discussion resulted on a resolution submitted by Victoria that a recommendation be made to each State Branch that at its next annual conference the question of an increase in membership subscriptions to 15/- per annum be discussed in order that the matter may be brought forward at the 32nd Annual Federal Congress. The argument put forward was that the subscription was not commensurate in value with what it was at the time thirty odd years ago, when it was decided. Many sub-branches found it difficult to carry on on the present subscription. It was pointed out that the work of the secretary of many sub-branches was too heavy for a voluntary man, in view of the increased membership. Increased revenue, it was thought, would give increased service if some paid help could be given to secretaries: The idea was that most of the increase should go to sub-branches and not to Head Office. I feel that sub-branches should give this matter earnest consideration and delegates will then be fully appraised of the views of their sub-branches when the matter comes up at Congress.

R.S.L. Debates

Eleven sub-branches of the metropolitan area are competing in the series of debates sponsored by the Press sub-branch with the idea of encouraging and developing the art of public speaking among League members, and inducing them to take a deeper interest in public questions. This is in accordance with a proposal submitted by the Press sub-branch and adopted by last year’s State Congress. A shield to be awarded the winning team each year has been donated by West Australian Newspapers Ltd.

For convenience, the 11 teams have been divided into two zones, Perth and Fremantle. Each team will meet each other team in its zone, and the winners of each zone will meet in the final. For each debate, the decision will be given by an adjudicator.

The programme of debates so far arranged is:

FIRST ROUND

Fremantle Zone

Press (affirmative) v. Subiaco (negative). Subject: “That capital punishment should be abolished.” At Y.M.C.A., Murray Street, June 3, 8 p.m.

Welshpool (affirmative) v. Fremantle (negative). Subject: “That atomic warfare should be abolished.” At Y.M.C.A., Murray Street, Monday, June 9, 8 p.m.

Mosman Park (affirmative) v. West Perth (negative). Subject: “That the worker should enjoy the right to strike.” At Anzac House Board Room, on Thursday, June 8, at 8 p.m.

Perth Zone

Belmont (affirmative) v. Perth (negative). Subject: “That the censorship of books and films is desirable.” At Monash House, King Street, on Monday, June 16, 8 p.m.

Mt. Lawley (affirmative) v. North Perth (negative). “That all forms of transport should be State-controlled.” At Anzac House Board Room on Thursday, June 12, 8 p.m. North Beach (bye).

SECOND ROUND

Fremantle Zone

Press (affirmative) v. West Perth (negative). “That professionalism is in the best interests of sport.”

Subiaco (affirmative) v. Fremantle (negative). “That democracy has lost its inspiration and value to the masses.”

Welshpool (affirmative) v. Mosman Park (negative). “That the co-operation of all major powers is essential to the success of U.N.O.”

Perth Zone

Belmont (affirmative) v. North Beach (negative). “That Australia under present conditions can absorb 70,000 immigrants a year, without detriment to her current economy.”

Perth (affirmative) v. Mt. Lawley (negative). “That modern trends in entertainment menace the progress of mankind.”

Dates and halls for the second round had not been arranged when we went to press.

The first debate of the series took place in the Y.M.C.A. building on June 5. A team from the Press sub-branch took the affirmative on a motion that capital punishment should be abolished. Subiaco’s representatives denied this, and were adjudged winners of a most interesting argument. The debate was on a very high plane and was certainly worthy of a much larger audience. Members of sub-branches and their friends should derive much entertainment from attendance at these debates, if only to hear how they are conducted.

The adjudicator, Mr. Cyril Dudley, himself an experienced debater of years standing, gave a masterly and instructive summing up, taking each speaker in turn and explaining just why he gained or lost points. We understand this policy is a long-established one for adjudicators in Western Australia. It is assuredly a very helpful one for the young debaters who the League is trying to encourage.
Artificial Limbs

One of the most damnable characteristics of the Japanese was their attitude towards wounded prisoners of war. This attitude was a curious blend of callousness towards human suffering, and hopeless inefficiency in alleviating it. For instance, amputations in prisoner of war camps were crudely performed, and the sufferers were left to fend for themselves. In the improvisation of artificial limbs, Australian ingenuity triumphed over Japanese barbarity. In the hell camp of Changi, two members of the 2/4th Machine-Gun Battalion—Lieutenant M. E. Wankey, M.C., now of Mt. Magnet, and Private S. J. Gleeson, of the Repatriation Commission, Perth—each had a leg amputated. Fellow prisoners of war co-operated in making artificial limbs and crutches for them. Any material that came to hand was used—scrap metal about the camp, and even parts of a Japanese aircraft, which had been shot down during the assault on Singapore.

It was not long before limbs were improvised, and were being used by the West Australians. The same limbs were sent to Melbourne this month for exhibition, before being sent to the Australian War Museum, Canberra. Their owners have no further need of them because more suitable limbs were supplied to them on their return from captivity.

The foregoing story was related by Mr. W. Keays, of the Repatriation Commission, during his visit to Perth, at the beginning of last month. Among the Repat. institutions inspected by Mr. Keays in Perth was the Artificial Limb Factory. The factory is equipped with up-to-date machinery, and this is all operated by electric power. Its staff has increased from six in 1939, to 18, and additional operatives, it is expected, will be required to cope with the large amount of work resulting from the effects of the two wars. Among the technicians employed in artificial limb and surgical bootmaking are five former prisoners of war, all of whom have themselves suffered amputations as a result of their war service.

Mr. J. E. Alexander, a limb appliance maker at the factory, has been selected by the Commission to undertake a special six months' intensive course in the Central Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory in Melbourne. He lost a limb in the recent war.

The Perth factory is situated at the corner of George and Murray Streets. An extension of the factory will be made to cater for the needs of civilians who have lost arms or legs. Priority for artificial limbs, however, will be given to ex-servicemen whose disabilities are war-caused.

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Farewell Messages To The Old “Listening Post”

Hereunder we are publishing messages of farewell from past presidents of the League in W.A. and others. We are grateful to those good friends for their kind references regarding the utility of our efforts. Some of the personal comments have brought blushes to our weather-beaten faces, but, knowing that at a farewell only the nicest things are said, and it would be an ungenerous act to the writers if we deleted them, we are publishing the messages in all their uncensored nakedness.

A TRIBUTE FROM MR. H. E. BOLTON

As president of the League in 1921 when The Listening Post was born, and became the official organ of the League in this State, I have pleasure in paying tribute to the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. on the valuable articles which, to a large measure, have covered the League’s national policy, have been of outstanding merit, and must have greatly influenced members in arriving at the reasoned, sane judgement which has been reflected in the broad, patriotic activities of the League over the years.

The Listening Post has, at all times, been faithful to the League’s policy and has been fearless in its criticism of disruptive elements which we always seem to have in our midst, and of persons in high places who would deny justice to those whom the League represents. To Jim Watt, who started the journal, and Stan Watt, who carried it on, and all others connected with it, I say that the confidence reposed in you 26 years ago has been amply justified.

I am pleased that the State Executive decided to retain the old name in their new publication. It is too good to scrap.

Au revoir to the old Listening Post and welcome to the new. I hope that the new journal will continue to fight fearlessly for the right irrespective of criticism, both external and internal. It will then carry the goodwill and respect of all right-thinking members whether in agreement with its views or not. Decisions arrived at in Congress or State Executive seldom are unanimous, but once a majority decision is given, it must become the policy of the League to be supported without fear of favour by the official organ.

A SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Mr. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., who was for many years a member of the State Executive, writes: “As The Listening Post ceases to exist under the present management at the end of June, I feel something of the reaction I had when I retired from the State Executive of the R.S.L. Although I may not have agreed with everything that appeared in the paper, I always felt that there was an earnest endeavour to represent truly the opinions of the League. The paper has always been a source of information to me as a reader, and I congratulate those associated with the journal over the years. I trust the new venture will be as successful.

COLONEL H. B. COLLETT, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.
REVIEWS THE PAST

It would appear that a term has been set upon a phase of the history of The Listening Post. This being so, there is occasion for comment which I, because of my long and active association with the organisation may presume to offer.

In the early days of the R.S.L. there was considerable, if unplanned, activity. Gruvious wrongs had to be righted and valuable objectives gained. Success in both quarters was achieved partly by earnest and direct representation and partly as an outcome of publicity given by the newspapers of the day. However, once the major work of repatriation was accomplished the Press was not noticeably interested in the returned soldier, nor in his hard-coming ideals, nor in his potential value as citizen and nation builder. Therefore, the League began to weaken by the dispersion of its members. There seemed to be nothing to hold them together. An occasional reunion seemed to be all that was required to recapture the comradeship of other times.

But, fortunately, there remained with the W.A. Branch, men of vision who realised that much remained to be done; that the League must adhere to the course it had set itself; and, by the dissemination amongst its members of a spirit of public service, give colour and effect to General Birdwood’s parting exhortation to the A.I.F. in 1918 that its work for Australia had not been completed. Of the success of the moves that followed there is no doubt. The strength, standing and value of the League today is a consequence. Properly directed, the R.S.L., is, in essence, the greatest factor for the common good of the community that exists.

In the achievement of a successful revival The Listening Post had an important share. First appearing when the organisation was in the doldrums, it set about publicising our working policy and fomenting an esprit-de-corps amongst the sub-branches and members—however widely scattered or remotely situated. It gave useful information.
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and it supplied inspiration. Its articles on national questions revealed a breath of spirit which had regard to the political make-up of the country and, on the literary side, there was entertainment and good reading. As State President for eight years, I have many reasons to be grateful to the journal for its timely aid and was a pleased witness of its effects.

Now there are League periodicals in every State. I have seen the more important ones and I consider “the L.P.” to have, over its 20-odd years of existence, rendered outstanding service. To re-read some of the back numbers provides much re-inspiration. The task originally set himself by the Editor has been well done.

MR. ALF YEATES’ REMINISCENCES

Time passes on and always brings changes in its train, and the passing of time has brought about a change in the ownership and control of the League’s journal, “The Listening Post” from the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd., and Mr. Stan Watt, to the special committee of the Executive of the W.A. Branch of the League. To the men of the Great War, with its long trench warfare, its mining and counter-mining, the term “Listening Post” had a very real meaning and to me, who has been a member of the League since 1919 and State President for nine years, it has always lived up to its title. Two things about it stand out pre-eminently.

Firstly, that its leading articles and published matter have always been in line with the aims and objects and national policy of the League. On occasions, it has hit hard and brought criticism upon itself, but what ex-service journal would be worthwhile that only tried to please and ignored items of a contentious nature. Forthrightness may provoke criticism, but vacillation would render the journal impotent.

The Listening Post has stood for the maintenance of a great comradeship, for service to all those who look to us for help and guidance, for all those things that make our country and empire worthwhile, and the old Listening Post, as it changes hands, can say with truth “I have served.”

Secondly, to me, it has been a marvel of cheapness to all the members of the W.A. Branch of the League during the 26 years it has been in existence. It has been said that distant fields always appear the greenest to the observer and we hear a lot about what other States have done, but we of the W.A. Branch, have been the only Branch in Australia to receive the journal out of our annual subscription of 10/- or 1/- This has been described as a period when a lot of folk are chasing something for nothing. That cannot be continued and so in the passing of the journal from the Imperial Printing Company to the League, last year’s Congress decided that a levy of 2/6 per annum should be added to the annual subscription of 10/- to meet the added costs of production.

Personally, I wish to pay tribute to The Listening Post for the assistance it gave me, particularly during those years of depression and early war years when times were hard and money was very scarce, when, as State President, I felt that every penny of expenditure had to be watched every carefully, but during those years The Listening Post still carried on, and at considerable sacrifice to the owners. I am very happy to think that the name Listening Post will still remain with us. It is appropriate. The League’s motto, “the Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance,” we must continuously be reminded of, and we will continue to need a Listening Post to listen carefully for the mining and counter-mining that is so prevalent today.

My wholehearted wishes are for success to the new Listening Post and my earnest desire is that at the end of the next period of 26 years it will continue to be well in the forefront and that the League will stand as high in the estimation of the public for its usefulness and service as it does today, and that the new journal’s record of achievement will be such as to merit the approval of all right-thinking people in the State.

PAST IDEALS AND FUTURE AIMS OF THE R.S.L.

BY M. E. ZEFFERT

To attempt, in the course of one article, to describe details of the establishment and the history of the official organ of the R.S.L. would be a difficult and, indeed, an impossible task. The early events surrounding the publication of the original issue were varied and interesting, and are well worth recording, but I have space for merely a few incidents and comments.

The idea of conducting a journal exclusively devoted to the interests of the State Branch of the R.S.L. (then known as the R.S.A.) was born in the fertile brain of Tennyson James Watt, who then conducted a printing establishment in King Street, Perth. Despite his name, Tennyson James Watt preferred to concern himself with the business side of the venture, while he offered me the editorship of the journal. I was then a freelance journalist and gladly accepted the invitation, even though the job, of course, was an honorary one. I feel proud of the fact that a few shares I hold in the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. were mostly presented to me in recognition of my services to The Listening Post.

Stan Watt, who is a brother of Jim Watt, was then employed as an inspector in the Repatriation Department. My first meeting with Stan Watt occurred shortly after my return to Australia from the Great War. Out of sheer curiosity, I attended a political meeting in the then Queen’s Hall (now the Metro Theatre), where a team of aspiring and embryo politicians were billed to present their opinions on current political topics, with a view to securing support and votes—at the impending Federal elections. I recall that just before leaving London I had attended a political meeting there, where the proceedings were so dull and boring that everyone almost fell asleep. This meeting in Perth, however, was somewhat different, and the tumult at the Perth meeting was almost indescribable. The hall was packed. A body of
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men, organised under the name of “The Dinkum Diggers,” posted themselves at various vantage points in the hall, with the obvious express determination of preventing the speakers from being heard. They had a few axes to grind. As each speaker would advance to the front of the platform to begin his oration, he was greeted with a storm of catcalls, yells and shouts, while the liberal use of a number of children’s crackers made an effective addition to the din. Speaker after speaker attempted to address the crowd, but their voices were completely drowned in the clamour. Eventually, the chairman, the late Sir William Latham, announced that the meeting would have to be abandoned. It was then that a young man in the gallery was seen to mount a seat and address the crowd, which paused to listen.

The young man declared that the meeting was ruined by a mob of unrepresentative men, the value of whose service being open to doubt. He repudiated the trouble-makers and stated that ex-servicemen generally resented this prevention of freedom of speech and would dissociate themselves from such unseemly tactics. The cheers which greeted this utterance drowned the hoots of the disturbers and the meeting broke up in disorder and confusion.

Everyone commented on the intrepidity of the young speaker, whom I later learnt was an ex-member of the 28th Battalion and Imperial Camel Corps, one Edwin Stanley Watt. Such was my first introduction to Stan Watt, who later took over the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. and has since conducted The Listening Post. I make no apology for expressing my admiration of Stan Watt, who has an amazing record of honorary and honorable service to the R.S.L. in this State.

Although it is so many years since I retired from the editorship of The Listening Post, I have always held the firm conviction that the journal has been an excellent one, and that it has favourably compared with similar publications elsewhere. Critics might be reminded that, like individuals, journals can always avoid criticism by saying nothing, doing nothing and being nothing. The Listening Post has been forthright, and outspoken, on all those occasions when it has been necessary to champion the cause of returned men and it has faithfully and consistently supported the broad policy of the R.S.L.

A backward glance, through the years, at those R.S.L. leaders who were contemporary with the early days of The Listening Post might be of interest, especially to old R.S.L. enthusiasts. Despite the long span of time, it is really not very difficult to conjure up in my mind a clear-cut picture of the images and personalities of our early leaders, who were the men who well and truly laid the foundations of our ex-servicemen’s movement. There was dear old Jimmy Butler, Secretary first of the Perth sub-branch and later State Secretary, and who was the clear-sighted and astute founder of the R.S.L. Trading Co. Jimmy was a strong yet lovable personality. Another outstanding character who passed on prematurely was Aloysius Stirling Isaac, a one-armed, ex-company commander in the old 28th Battalion, widely known as “Dick” Isaac. Just as in action, Dick Isaac contemptuously ignored the existence of such words as “surrender” and “compromise,” so he carried on the same traditions on the State Executive.

And never-to-be-forgotten among the wealth of talent and capability that marked the old Executive is “Taddy” Davy, Rhodes Scholar, brilliant orator, legal luminary and State parliamentarian who, but for his untimely death, was surely destined to become Premier of Western Australia.

Of course, I know that comparisons are always odious, and particularly so if a comparison is attempted of our present-day leaders with the old R.S.L. stalwarts of yesteryear.

The disturbing report that membership of the R.S.L. has recently suffered a decline, inspires some deep thought among those who had hopes that our League could and should show the way in making Australia a stronger link in the chain of British Commonwealth of Nations. There is a real need and opportunity to instill into the hearts and minds of all citizens a deep pride of the British tradition, tolerance and freedom for the humblest individual. Here is a task that is essentially suited for a movement of ex-service men and women who have fought for all the ideals for which Britain and her Commonwealth have always stood. For this noble aim, a high standard of leadership is surely needed.

The good book says that “If the blind shall lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”

Such a theme as this justifies further consideration, space and discussion!

**A.R.M.S. COMPETITION**

Many interesting games have been played and the revival of inter-sub-branch comradeship, as a result, is again a marked feature. The following is the results up to June 9—:

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**MINIATURE RANGE TARGETS**

**FOR SUB-BRANCH COMPETITIONS**

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For the period, May 10 to June 4, the following amounts were received at Anzac House, making the total £632/3/6 from the League, plus other amounts which were sent direct to the Red Cross Society:

Kellerberrin sub-branch, £34/11/10; Subiaco, £5; West Perth, £5/5/-; Mt. Lawley, £78/6/-; Dwellingup and Districts, £5; Koorda Women's Auxiliary, £9/-; Koorda, £10; Pemberton, £17/10/-; Subiaco auxiliary, £3/5/-; Mundaring auxiliary, £8/6/-; Scarborough auxiliary, £20; Toodyay, £15/15/-; Kulm auxiliary, £8/4/-; Bayswater, £110/10/6; Baker's Hill-Clackline, £3/3/-; Coo, £22/11/11; South Perth auxiliary, £10; Brookton, £61; Mundijong-Jarradale, £30/2/6; Mundaygin auxiliary, £2/2/2; Nedlands auxiliary, £22/2/2; Pinjelli auxiliary, £4/11/-; Mt. Hawthorn auxiliary, £5; Manjimup auxiliary, £10/10/-; Boulder, £7/15/-; City of Perth, £20; Wilga, £5; Pinjelli, £6/4/1/3; Bullsbrook, £70/6/2; Gnowangerup auxiliary, £92/5/1; Mt. Barker, £42; Como, £11/12/6; Donnybrook, £27/10/-; Fremantle City, £10; Kirup, £8/4/6; Collie auxiliary, £32; Ballidu, £87/12/3; Harvey, £1; Mulinubadin, £42/17/4; D. John, Boddington, £1; Mt. Barker, £11/17/6; Gloucester Park auxiliary, £5/-/9; Safety Bay, £6/18/6; Narembeen auxiliary, £112/1/6; Southern Cross auxiliary, £2/2/-; Coolgardie, £5/19/-; Spearwood and Hamilton Hill auxiliary, £5; York auxiliary, £13/12/-; Capel auxiliary, £5; Wagin auxiliary, £2/2/-; Mundaring auxiliary, £11/14/7; Mt. Lawley, £10/4/-; Aignew, £1/1/-; Nannup, £2/2/-; Donnybrook, £35/17/-; Kulm, £237/5/5; Big Bell, £107/7/7; Bassendean, £2/-; Midland Junction, £2/16/-; Williams, £23/10/6; Donnybrook, £5; Pingrup, £1/11/6; Shackle ton-Kwoylin, £31; Gnowangerup auxiliary, £45/7/6; Busselton, £36/3/3; Belmont, £4/4/-; Coolgardie, £5/-.

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PERSONALITIES

Mr. R. A. Halcombe, the well-known cricketer and baseballer of former years, has been appointed sporting supervisor for the Australian Broadcasting Commission in Western Australia. His job will be to supervise and co-ordinate all sporting broadcasts made by the A.B.C. in this State. In his new work, he will certainly be among friends, as there are enough returned men (old and new) in the A.B.C. to form a very strong sub-branch, if circumstances permitted. Ron Halcombe is one of the younger Diggers on the State Executive. He is also secretary of the W.A. Blinded Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Association. His kindly interest in less fortunate comrades was displayed when the M.C.C. team played in Perth last year. Ron took a party of blinded ex-servicemen to the W.A.C.A. ground and described each day's play to them by means of a public-address system installed in a tent on the ground. We wish him well in his new post and feel sure he will fill it with great credit.

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The Listening Post

JUNE, 1947
☆ Jim Beer, Jr., the senior vice-president of the West Leederville sub-branch has departed for Melbourne to complete a rehabilitation course.

☆ Bob Mason, of the West Leederville sub-branch, is the father of a bonny daughter, which event makes president Les Nimmo, M.L.A., eligible for membership of ye grand old order of granddads.

☆ The sudden passing of Tom Telfer, a senior officer of the Lands Department, last month, left a void in the hearts of his many friends. Tom served in the Great War with the 12th Battalion and had been a good member of the West Leederville sub-branch since its foundation. He was orderly room sergeant in the local V.D.C., where his work was a model of perfection. Sincere condolences to Mrs. Telfer and family.

☆ Another grand old man of the League who died during the month at Hollywood Hospital was Jack Harvey. Jack served with the 51st Battalion in the Great War and was wounded in action twice. He served a term or two as president of the Subiaco sub-branch, but for the past ten years he rarely has missed a meeting of the West Leederville sub-branch. He leaves a widow and family, to whom sympathy is extended.

☆ Jack Fonseca, who served in the Great War, also the World War, met with a nasty accident recently in New Guinea, fracturing his hip bone. At one time, Jack was prominent in League circles, being secretary of Subiaco sub-branch for a few years. After the World War, during which he reached the rank of captain, he took a position with the Department of Public Works in New Guinea.

☆ State Secretary, Dave Benson, has joined the "Grandfathers" sub-branch. His elder son, Bill, and Mrs. Bill have added a wee daughter to the establishment. The happy event was the cause of double jubilation, because the new arrival is the first daughter in the Benson family for a couple of generations or more. The proud father topped off a successful academic career by securing the degree of B.Sc. (Agric.) from the University of Western Australia. His war service was with an engineer unit, in which he held the rank of captain.

☆ The oldest soldier who marched on Anzac Day was 87-year-old John Wood, past president of the South African and Imperial Veterans Association and treasurer of the Press sub-branch. He did his soldiering in the Royal Horse Artillery and served in the South African War with a West Australian contingent.

☆ Mr. Arthur Bonser, of 12 Dixon Avenue, Toronto, Canada, writes: "Greetings from our Anzac Association to all ex-members of the A.I.F. of the '14-'18 show. We are only 15 strong, but we manage to maintain our identity as a unit of the Anzacs and as members also of the Canadian Corps Association, we take part in all activities on behalf of veterans. Every State in Australia is represented, with most from Victoria. We were with you in spirit on April 25, when, strengthened by cobs of the Newfoundland Legion—Diggers will recall the Newfoundland Regiment at Gallipoli—we solemnly remembered our fallen comrades and those who passed on after surviving the Landing. You chaps in Australia don't know much about us, so what about trying to find out... We are known to the R.A.A.F. for, during the recent war, we conducted a club in Toronto and had the pleasure of entertaining hundreds of brave fellows from Australia." Mr. Bonser did not mention his unit, but he would like to hear from readers, especially airmen who have been in Canada, and others who may visit that country.

☆ Mr. H. A. Leslie, M.L.A., has had the misfortune to break a rib, through a fall at his home on June 8. We hope to see him about again by the time this issue is published.

☆ It is with deep regret that we announce the death, after a long illness, of Sergeant J. Markey, of the W.A. Police Force. Jack Markey served with the 51st Battalion in the Great War, and was a pioneer of Safety First broadcasts to school children in the Australian Broadcasting Commission's Children's Hour. Always pleasant and popular, he will be greatly missed by a host of Diggers and other friends, and to his widow and relatives we extend heartfelt condolences.

☆ Congratulations to Mr. T. A. Draper, a Digger of the recent war, on his appointment as Resident Magistrate for the Kalgoorlie District. Mr. Draper, who is 41 years of age, was admitted as a barrister and solicitor to the Supreme Court in 1939. When war broke out in 1939, he resigned a commission in the Militia to join the 2/16th Battalion as a private. He was a sergeant in the Middle East, twelve months later, and went up to commissioned rank again during the Syrian campaign. Later, he served with the battalion in New Guinea as a captain. He returned to Perth...
from New Guinea medically unfit for further tropical service in March, 1944, and joined the staff of the Deputy Commonwealth Crown Solicitor.

It may be of interest to old members of the League to recall the names of those who were members of the State Executive in 1921, the year the first issue of The Listening Post was printed. The State President that year was H. E. Bolton, and his team consisted of Jim Co. nell, Rabbi Freedman, Stan Watt, Harley Colebatch, Ben Davis, P. S. Jane, Jim Wilson, Wallace Unmack, Arthur Prestley, Colonel H. Pope, T. A. L. Davy, R. G. Sexty, Fred Shand, H. F. Mowday, E. B. Smallpage, the Rev. E. H. O. Nye, Colonel Chas. Lamb, A. R. G. "Stumpy" Wright, Jack Maloney, A. G. Braham, G. Robson and W. N. Reid. Jim Butler was then State Secretary and Arthur Penny was his assistant. Of the foregoing list, Stan Watt is the sole remaining member of the State Executive. Rabbi Freedman, Colonel Pope and Messrs. Cornell, Davy, Shand, Maloney, Reid, Wilson, Butler and Penny have died. Others who have been over 21 years on the State Executive and continue to give valuable service on that body are Colonel Collett and Fred Bateson, who were elected to the Executive in 1923, and Alf Yeates, who took his seat in 1925.

The last call was answered in Melbourne last month by yet another famous Australian battle leader. He was Major-General Edwin Tivey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who went ahead for higher duty at the age of 81. He achieved fame as Brigadier of the 8th Brigade, who were known to the ribald as “Tivey's Chocs.” One version of the origin of the nickname is that when two brigades of the 5th Division did that gruelling march across the desert, in March, 1916, from Tel-el-Kebir to the Canal, Tivey's brigade made the a very hard trip, and were called Chocolate soldiers on that account. A more plausible reason for the nickname, however, is that the brigade colour on the shoulder patches of the Eighth was a tint of yellow, similar in appearance to the yellow ribbons that used to go round chocolate boxes in those days. The late General Tivey won the D.S.O. while serving with the Victorian Mounted Rifles in South Africa. In the earlier part of the Great War, he was commandant of the officers' training school at Broadmeadows. After the armistice, he succeeded General Hobbs in the command of the 5th Division. From 1921 to 1926, he commanded the Cavalry Division, A.M.F. His son, Major E. P. Tivey, died in 1943, while a P.O.W. in Italy.

 Beetlands reports the death of a sub-branch member, Mr. Cuthbert Gray, who passed suddenly on May 16. The late Mr. Gray joined the Royal Engineers and served with that distinguished corps during the Great War. He had a very kindly disposition and was well liked by all who knew him. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family in their sad loss.

“Pip-Tok writes: “Mention of veteran and pioneer members of the State Executive in this issue recalls an incident in which one of them figured about 20 years ago, when I was serving on the staff of what was then Headquarters, 5th Military District. A nomination for a chaplain for Other Protestant Denominations had to be sent to Army Headquarters for approval. The consent of the padre recommended had been obtained, and the prescribed form only awaited the District Commandant's signature, when Staff. Clerk Charlie Hughes (brother of Perth lawyer and former M.L.A., Tom J. Hughes) drew the attention of the D.C. to the fact that the Padre recommended was Rabbi Freedman.

Peter Hopegood, whose new book of poems, “Circus at World's End,” has just been published by Angus and Robertson, has moved ahead since the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. gathered together 40 of his poems in 1933 and published them under the title “Austral Pan.” Peter was a well-educated, restless ex-British Army officer who won the M.C. who, after journeying into many remote parts of the earth, arrived in W.A. about 1930. He was a victim of asthma and spent a year or two pearlimg and as a station hand in our North-West before coming to Perth. Many of his poems were published in The Listening Post and he now is considered by competent authorities as one of Australia's foremost poets and writers. His novels include “Peter Lecky by Himself,” published in London in 1936, and “ Tales out of School,” published in 1938, and another book of poems, “Thirteen from Oahu,” published in Sydney in 1940. Peter, who possesses unique talent and personality, was a member of the Press sub-branch. Since leaving Perth, he has lived in New Zealand, Queensland, Victoria, and is now in Sydney.

ROYAL NAVAL TRAINING

In the new system of recruiting officers of the Royal Navy, every boy will have a chance to be considered for the world-famous Dartmouth College. A change in the method of recruiting by the Admiralty means that boys from any school will now have the opportunity to train as future officers of the Royal Navy. The age limit for aspirant officer cadets, admitted to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, is being raised from 15½ years to 16. Under the revised rules of entry to the College, candidates have to be of an educational standard equivalent to the School Certificate examination, and selection will then be by interview. Cadets chosen in this way will be eligible for posts in the executive, engineering and supply branches of the Royal Navy. They will spend five terms at Dartmouth before going to sea, and this tuition will be without charge. No fees of any kind will be required, either for training, or for board and lodging.

The Admiralty will also continue the system of recruiting candidates for commissions from the lower deck, and it is hoped that an average of 20 to 25 per cent of the officers will now be provided from this source. The new system to operate at Dartmouth will ultimately furnish half the remainder, with the balance coming from a special system for boys of 18 years, under which they are accepted for a period of twelve years. At the end of that time, those considered suitable may serve a further ten years and so qualify for pension.

This year alone, £7,000,000 will be spent by the Admiralty on various welfare plans. Each ship is to have its separate welfare committee. Representatives of the lower deck are elected by ballot, and the remainder are officers appointed by the captain.

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VARIA

☆ The New South Wales Branch of the R.S.L. has set up a worry clinic for ex-servicemen in Sydney. The new institution is achieving a great measure of success. Former servicemen, charged with offences which are known to be foreign to their natures, are being handed over to the R.S.L. for special treatment. Up to the beginning of the month, five cases had passed through this readjustment clinic. Each case was analysed for action by the pension section. The clinic costs the N.S.W. Branch about £3,000 a year.

☆ Last month, a correspondent, evidently fed up with the awful American designations, "World War One" and "World War Two," suggested that we call the former "The Great War" and the latter, "The World War." We agree with the suggestion. The first war against Germany was always known as "The Great War" in British countries until 1939, and the war against the Axis Powers, though a great war also, was more global in its distribution and therefore more entitled to the designation "World War." We have adopted the suggestion in this issue and hope our correspondents will follow suit.

☆ Until 1942, the guest register of a popular resort in the hills near Singapore had only European and Chinese names. Then Singapore fell and the guest book had a line drawn across it. The heading "Nippon" was written in and only Japanese names followed for the whole period of the occupation. When Europeans returned, some wit drew a very conspicuous line across the book and placed, as a new heading, the one word "Nipoff."

☆ We have been asked who choose the very appropriate name, The Listening Post, for the official organ of the W.A. Branch of the R.S.L. It so happened that important business brought together a few members of the State Executive in the United Services Hotel, and Jim Watt, who was present, offered a prize of an extra round if any one of the gathering who could give him a good title, with a service flavour, for the proposed paper. The winner was A. R. C. ("Stumpy") Wright, who said "Why not call it The Listening Post?" Incidentally, we often receive publications and circulars from abroad from persons who think we are running a radio or broadcasting journal—and, of course, there was the dear old lady who attended the first Dawn Service and expressed her appreciation of the way the buglers played "The Listening Post."

☆ Letters received from a League member, Mr. J. McWilliam, M.M., who is Y.M.C.A. representative with the B.C.O.F. at Bofu, Japan, indicate that conditions continue to improve in the B.C.O.F. area. More canteens, clubs for officers and other ranks and four hotels have been opened within the past couple of months. There are two hostels for other ranks and one each for women and officers. The service at these centres is excellent, recreation is well catered for, and service men and women can relax completely in a very homely atmosphere. The leave centres at other places are also run on these lines. Australian service men and women in Japan are now on sterling rates. Vouchers are issued, and these can be used only in service organisations. These vouchers are in denominations from 3d. to £1. Ten pounds sterling costs Australian servicemen £12/10/- Australian. They can be turned in at any cash office for Yen, at 200 Yen to the £1, by those who wish to deal in Japanese shops. This is definitely an improvement on the old rate of 48 Yen to the £1. Mr. McWilliam believes that representations made by the R.S.L. had much to do with bringing about this improvement. "The troops here," he says, "are aware of the part played by the League."

☆ Service police in Japan have reduced black marketing in the Bofu area of the B.C.O.F. to a minimum. This also applies to the incidence of V.D., which is now almost unknown among Australian troops in the area. The morale of the servicemen is naturally much higher, and only the very minor "no-hoper" class have, any grouches in regard to the curbing of black marketing activities. There is much speculation among all ranks in Japan as to the Australian Government's intentions in regard to the maintenance of our forces in Japan, and the probable length of time the forces will serve there. A definite statement from the Minister on this matter would relieve the minds of the men, particularly those who contemplate bringing their families to Japan. The housing provided for dependants is in a very satisfactory state now, and all homes will be finished on time.

All Profits to Sub-branches!

Sub-branches who missed the advertisement in the last two issues of "The Listening Post" should refer to the advertisement of Patersons' Press Ltd., whereby it was intimated that a good sum of money could be earned by the sale of books of special interest to ex-servicemen. On page 16 of the May issue are full particulars of the offer. Full information from—

PATersonS PRESS LTD.

65 Murray Street, Perth.
The good Press accorded the first speech of Lord Bruce in the House of Commons is gratifying to all who know the former Prime Minister of Australia as a League member and a proud wearer of the badge. A Cambridge rowing Blue, Stanley Melbourne Bruce, won the Military Cross while serving with a British regiment on Gallipoli. One of the best stories told of him was related by Lord Stonehaven, who was Governor-General, at a big R.S.L. gathering in Sydney. At the time Bruce was Prime Minister, Lord Stonehaven, who also wore the badge on every possible occasion, was travelling with the P.M. on a branch line in Victoria. The train pulled up at a twenty minute pot and pie stop, and the G.G. and the P.M. went into the railway buffet for a couple of swift ones. While they were at the bar, the usual blow-in spotted the badge and butted into the conversation. To keep him quiet, Mr. Bruce bought him a pot. Just then the stationmaster told the P.M. that a trunkline call had been waiting for him there through. Mr. Bruce excused himself and went to the phone leaving a gap, social as well as physical, between the G.G. and the Digger. The latter soon bridged the gap and asked, "What's the name of the gentleman who was just drinking with us?" Lord Stonehaven replied, "That is the Prime Minister, Mr. Stanley Melbourne Bruce." "Struth," the Digger commented, "No side about him, is there? Fancy him hobnobbing with a couple of — s like us."

Newspapers, last month, published photographs of Chinese navy men being trained at a depot in England. Let it never be forgotten that Britain trained the Japanese Navy. At Aldershot, just after the First World War, a detachment of officers and other ranks of the Siamese Army were trained in the use of the bayonet. Their instructor proudly explained to a group of grim-looking A.I.F. officers that they were most amiable little fellows who would never turn against Britain, and it was considered frightfully bad form when the Australians reminded the instructor that those who live will learn.

A man who had been forgotten during the hectic days of the war has just come into the forefront of the news again. He is General Jan Syrov, one-eyed Commander-in-Chief of the Czechoslovak Army, and Czechoslovak Premier at the time of Munich. Syrov was one of the Czech heroes of the First World War. He helped to organise an army of Czech prisoners of war to fight on the side of the Russians and, after the Bolshevik revolution, he was one of the leaders of the hundred thousand Czechs in the epic retreat across Siberia to Vladivostok, where they commenced another long journey by sea to their native land. Syrov is now being tried with other alleged Quislings for collaboration with the Germans, and a host of other offences against the Czechoslovak Republic. Apparently, the old warrior had been compelled to throw in his lot with the German conquerors. Perhaps his experience of Russia and Russian ways had made the Hun's appear to him the less of two evils. On the other hand, his sole offence may have been an opposition to Communism. The fate of Mihailovich, in Yugoslavia, and certain Poles in Warsaw, were enough to show that accusation is only another word for conviction in these democracies on the Russian pattern. Another feature of these so-called treason trials is the way our gallant Eastern Allies make them a medium for slanderous propaganda against Britain and America.

When the South Australian members of the Old Sixteenth Battalion were in Perth they did nothing that seemed to justify the old Colonial nickname of "Crow-eaters." Per-
haps that was because their Perth hosts loaded the festive board with other types of poultry—Swan and Emu.

An area containing approximately 91 residential lots of Perth City Council endowment lands at Floreat Park has been earmarked for ex-servicemen. This followed a request from the R.S.L. to the City Council that a number of blocks in the Floreat Park Estate be made available for purchase by ex-servicemen for erection of homes thereon. At its meeting on June 2, the Perth City Council adopted a recommendation from its Endowment Lands Committee that a proportion of the 91 lots, namely 22 or thereabouts, be reserved to give an opportunity to ex-servicemen who desire to build privately, and that the remaining 69 be made available for ex-servicemen's houses to be constructed under the War Service Homes Commission housing scheme. The Council also adopted a recommendation that the sale of this land be subject to the condition that the War Service Homes Commission guarantee that the plans and specifications of such houses shall be submitted to the Council, and its approval be obtained, before the houses are erected.

It may be of interest to readers to know that at the inaugural meeting of the Freelance Group of W.A., held on May 15, all the foundation members of this body were returned men. The aim of the group is to form a fellowship of all men interested in freelance writing, with a view to mutual assistance and encouragement. Meetings will be held on the second Thursday in each month, and all writers interested are invited to write to Mr. W. Beecham at Box E 256, G.P.O., Perth. Ex-servicemen are especially welcome.

My mailbag this week contained a letter from the President of the Batman's Association. He says: "Yet another sample of the carelessness used by the Press in the use of military terms appeared in the announcement that a man, whose death sentence for wilful murder had been changed to detention in the Criminal Lunatic Asylum at Broadmoor, would be able to pay for privileges, including the use of a batman. In the old army, the only person who, strictly speaking, had a batman was the regimental sergeant-major. Gentleman Helps for officers were called servants in the British Army and oderlies in Australia. In the United States Army, an officer's Gentleman Help was called his "body servant," a curious expression for a democratic country, but it probably came from the slave-holding States. The term "batmen" was not applied to us blokes until it became general throughout the A.I.F. in the Great War. I hasten to join, my correspondent in protesting against the newspaper's misuse of an honourable term. The original batman was actually a groom. He derived his name from the "bat" ("bast" in the original Norman-French) or saddle blanket on which he slept, not always alone, when the horse was not using it! The offspring of the batman was the batard, spelt with a circumflex over the first "a" in modern French to indicate that the letter "s" has been scrubbed. Strangely enough, the "s" has been retained in the English form, which the Diggers applied to one another in such free and friendly fashion during two wars. So, if anyone should call you the son of a batman, you'll know what he means.

The Fox Movietone people made an excellent job of their "shots" of Anzac Day commemorations throughout Australia. The Perth scenes showed parts of the march along the Terrace and the march past on the Esplanade. The weakest part of the show—and this was not the fault of the movie photographers—was the Canberra section, in which there was little to see beyond Messers. McKell and Chifley laying wreaths. The prominence given them, to the exclusion of the men who marched, was almost as bad as it would be to take Sir Clueless and Sir Binder out of the comic strip and put them among the Knights of the Round Table.

**IMPORTANT**

For the future all editorial and managerial correspondence should be sent to the Managing Editor, "The Listening Post," Anzac House, Perth. As the advertising section is being managed for the League by the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd., all correspondence in connection with advertising should be sent to this company, at 397 Hay Street, Perth. The Sub-Branch Directory will be published in sections of one page per issue, free of charge, and is at present being reviewed. Sub-branch secretaries should send to the Managing Editor immediately the name of their president, name and address of secretary, place, date and time of meeting. The Imperial Printing Co. Ltd. will be refunding to sub-branches advance payments made for the directory.

**THE LATE JOHN WEBSTER**

The League lost a good friend, and many a 1914-18 veteran will mourn the passing of a loyal comrade, with the death of John Webster, deputy chairman of the Repatriation Commission, in Melbourne on May 25, at the all-too-early age of 55.

For John Webster devoted himself to a life of service on behalf of those who answered the call to arms, and has left a memory that will always be cherished by those who were fortunate enough to have his friendship—and they are legion.

A Tasmanian by birth, he enlisted with the 12th Battalion at the outbreak of war in 1914, and went to France. A born soldier, he rose rapidly from the ranks and was commissioned lieutenant in the field. In 1916, he was wounded in action, but returned to his unit, and the following year was again wounded, this time losing his right arm. Awarded the Croix de Guerre and palm, Mr. Webster was discharged, and on his return to Tasmania, was elected secretary of Launceston sub-branch of the League.

It is a tribute to his tenacity of will that the loss of his arm made little difference to John Webster's outlook on life. A star athlete before the war, he resumed running and, despite his disability, became amateur sprint champion for two years. Further, few men enjoyed their golf more than John.

In 1929 he was appointed General Secretary of the League, succeeding Mr. E. J. Dibdin and, in 1934, he was awarded the C.M.G., while the following year he became soldiers' nominee on the Repatriation Commission and later deputy chairman.

His death, following a third stroke, came as a shock, but eloquent testimony of the high esteem in which he was held was shown by the large number of old comrades who attended the funeral at Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne, on May 26.

Pall-bearers were Major-General G. F. Wooten (Chair-
man), Mr. Heatley G. Roy (representing the Minister, Mr. Barnard), Dr. K. Smith and Mr. Dave Williams, of the Repatriation Commission; Sir Gilbert Dyett (immediate past president), Mr. J. C. Neagle (General Secretary), J. H. Wicks (Honorary Auditor) and G. W. Holland (Victorian State President), of the R.S.L.

Mr. E. V. Raymont, a former General Secretary of the League and now a Repatriation Commissioner, conducted the solemn R.S.L. ritual.

Vale John Webster!

**Merchant Seamen**

The Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) has informed the League that the benefits of the Re-establishment and Employment Act cannot be extended to members of the Merchant Navy, who joined before the age of 17 years. Mr. Chifley was replying to a request forwarded in terms of a resolution passed by last year's Congress. The Prime Minister said that the nature and conditions of service of members of the Merchant Navy during the recent war were not comparable with those of the Armed Forces. The case of youths who went to sea during the war, he admitted, certainly has much to recommend it, but, purely from the point of view of rehabilitation, similar cases could be made out for other groups of youths who were employed on civilian war work.

"Broadly," the letter continued, "it can be stated that members of the Mercantile Marine are civilians who, in wartime, follow their usual occupation, but in the course of the same are subjected to risks and dangers from enemy action which, on occasions, are equal to those experienced by members of the Fighting Forces. This element of personal hazard had been recognised by special benefits for disabled seamen.

Eligibility for benefits under the "Re-establishment and Employment Act is confined to a person who, during the recent war, was a member of the Permanent Forces of the Commonwealth or the Citizen Forces, enlisted, appointed, called up for continuous service for the duration of and directly in connection with the war... The Prime Minister pointed out that all benefits under the Act are not universally applicable to all discharged members of the forces. The provisions apply to particular categories of members. For example, the reinstatement provisions apply, subject to the overall qualifications of service to those who were employed immediately before enlistment; the re-establishment provisions, to those who were self-employed immediately before enlistment; and vocational training provisions, to those who were: under 21 years of age at the date of enlistment, or to those who are prevented by war-caused disability from re-engaging in their former occupation, or who were undergoing a course of training, which was interrupted by their enlistment. In other words, the provisions are not in the nature of a reward for service, but are designed to facilitate the return to civil life of members of the Armed Forces in circumstances not less favourable than if they had continued in the civil employment.

Special benefits have been provided for seamen who suffer war injury, in the course of their occupation by the Seamen's Pensions and Allowances Act of 1940; National Security (Additional Pensions and Allowances to Seamen) Regulation; National Security (Wages of Seamen detained by the Enemy) Regulations; and National Security (Medical Benefits to Seamen) Regulations.

In addition to these special benefits for seamen, other bene-
fits designed for members of the Armed Forces are available to them, subject to conditions of service. These are War Service Homes; reconstruction 'training for those who through war-caused incapacity are unable to return to their pre-war employment' and repatriation benefits, as an Act of Grace. The last includes education and training of children of certain classes of mariners—deceased, blinded or totally and permanently incapacitated—on the same basis as the Soldiers' Children's Education Scheme; grants for the provision of furniture to blinded or totally incapacitated mariners, and widows with children; and the grant of tools, in cases of ex-members who, because of war-caused disability, are unable to return to their former employment.

"It will be seen from the foregoing," the Prime Minister's letter concludes, "that, whereas members of the Merchant Navy continue in civil employment which does not come to an end with the finish of the war, members of the Armed Forces were engaged in an occupation alien to their civil employment, which ceases with demobilisation. It does not appear, therefore, that there can be any grounds for the extension to ex-members of the Merchant Navy of benefits specially designed for the rehabilitation of members of the Armed Forces."

A Matter of History

The first official organ of the League in this State was run by Mr. Roy Lee who, today, is the private secretary to Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Federal Opposition). Incidentally, Mr. Lee is the uncle of Ken Lee, the newly-appointed accountant of the W.A. Branch.

Mr. Jim Watt, who had formed the Imperial Printing Co. Ltd., consisting entirely of returned soldier tradesmen, submitted a proposal to the State Executive offering to publish a League journal. This was agreed to and the first issue was published in December, 1921. The editor for the first year was Mr. M. E. Zefferi, who has done such a grand job of work in the League. The editorial chair was then filled by Mr. Stan Watt and, for a few years, he was assisted by Mr. Len Gibbons, who is at present town clerk of Guildford, and for the past years the associate editor has been Mr. G. R. (Dick) Collins. Many other noted writers have contributed to the Listening Post, including James Pollard, Peter Hopegood (who has become one of Australia's foremost poets), Frank Davidson (who became editor of some of the Eastern States newspapers, married Beryl Mills, the first Miss Australia, and died in Sydney a few months ago).

Before the World War, The Listening Post consisted of a minimum of 32 pages and cover, printed in two colours, but during the war, shortage of paper and newspaper restrictions gave the publishers many headaches, but hey just made it all work out. "For a few months, the journal was printed on a heavy paper which was purchased in the reel and which had to be hand-cut."

The Listening Post has been published without interruption for a longer period than any ex-service journal in the British Empire. Opinions expressed in the paper have been quoted on more than one occasion in the news columns and in editorials of The West Australian. Articles and verses originally published in The Listening Post have been quoted and republished in many papers, including some in England, the United States and Canada.

Land Settlement Movement

For 50 ex-servicemen the expectation of possessing a farm under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme has now become a reality.

Soon they will take over the farms which have been allotted to them. Some will go south to the dairy districts, others will travel east into the wheatbelt, and some will take up wool and fat lamb raising in the Great Southern areas.

Typical among these fifty are—

Mr. O. J. Kennedy, of Bassendean, who has been allotted a dairy farm near Northcliffe. An ex-P.O.W., he enlisted in the A.I.F. and went overseas with the 2/11th Battalion in 1940. He served in the Middle East, Greece, and was gassed protect in Greece. Sent to a prison camp in Bavaria, he escaped while on a forced march and was eventually liberated by the Americans. His wife, a New Zealand girl, served in the A.A.M.W.S. at Hollywood Hospital.
Mr. A. E. Martin, of Narrogin, who will take over a farm in the Arthur River District, enlisted in the R.A.A.F. in 1939. While overseas he was attached to the R.A.F. and S.A.A.F. Returning to Australia in 1944, he was posted to 3 A.O.S., Port Pirie, as Chief Navigation Instructor.

Mr. V. C. Moir, of Cottesloe, who will farm in the Borden district, joined the R.A.A.F. in 1940 and served 14 months as a fitter D.M.T. in the Northern Territory. Married in 1945, his wife was a nursing orderly in the W.A.A.F.

Mr. R. O. Meecham, of Nedlands, who has been allotted a farm near Brookton, is an original member of the 2/16th Battalion. Wounded at Litani River, Syria, in 1941, he was in hospital for 14 months. Returning to Australia he was appointed Control Officer, P.O.W. Camps, with the rank of captain. He was married two months before going overseas, has two sons.

All these men will attend the Rural Training Courses at Harvey on June 23. This training, given as part of the War Service Land Settlement Scheme, is authorised by the

Director (Mr. W. V. Fyfe), and controlled by the Deputy Co-Ordinator of Rural Training (Mr. N. Davenport).

Other ex-servicemen re-establishing themselves in Agriculture may attend the courses under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme, if deemed eligible and suitable. Closing date for these applications is June 30, this year, or within 12 months of the date of discharge, whichever is the later.

Ex-servicemen desiring further information about training should write to Mr. Davenport, Department of Agriculture, St. George’s Terrace, Perth.

2/32nd BATTALION JOINS THE 1st A.I.F. 32nd AT ANNUAL REUNION

The month of July holds great significance for the men who served in the 32nd Battalion, First A.I.F., as well as those who served in the 2/32nd Battalion. On July 19, 1916, the battalion of the First A.I.F. fought its first major action and suffered its most grievous losses at Fromelles. Commencing on July 17, 1942, the battalion of the Second A.I.F. fought a series of attacks and counter-attacks in the El Alamein area—really the first major action in which the unit was engaged and very heavy losses were incurred. In each war, the battalion emerged from its first major action but a skeleton force. However, reinforced and reorganised, it fought through to the end in each war, a veteran unit, never defeated and never failing to carry out the tasks allotted to it.

On Saturday, July 19, the men who served with the 32nd in 1917/1918, and those in 1940/1945, meet together to commemorate these actions, to reunite in comradeship and to remember the cobbers who did not return.

The reunion will take the form of a sit-down, hot dinner served at the Blue Gum Dining Rooms (upstairs over Dainty Lady-Frock Shop), Central Hay Street, (entrance in Hay Street). Dinner will commence sharp at 6.15 p.m., and there will be ample liquid refreshment and a number of musical items, etc. This should be at night for the 32nd boys to remember. Tickets are $/-. Seating accommodation is limited, so it will be advisable to get in touch with the Hon. Secretary, J. Rutherford, c/o Joseph Muir & Williams, 98 St. George’s Terrace, Perth. Also, those intending to be present should arrive by 6 p.m.

The 2/32nd members join the First A.I.F. in their annual pilgrimage to the State War Memorial at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 20. Wreaths will be laid in memory of fallen comrades. Men who served with the 2/32nd are specially asked to attend.

Fall-in at the Queen Victoria Statue in the main drive (city entrance) King’s Park, at 2.45 p.m. Medals and decorations will be worn.

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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Books in Review Order

Australia Versus Japan

A short history of Australia's part in the war against Japan has been published by Robertson and Mullens, of Melbourne, under the title of "Pacific Victory," written by Hugh Buggy, and procurable for 2/- a copy. The book has been issued under the direction and by the authority of the Australian Minister for Information (Mr. Calwell). The aims set out in the foreword are "to tell clearly and concisely the story of the courage, capacity and sacrifice of the men of our three fighting services, and to convey something of the drama of the grim, holding war of 1942 and 1943. Although it is not intended as a detailed history, the author has used the historical method of treatment, and moving adventures, by flood and field, and in the air, are presented in graphic and often thrilling style. Our copy from the publishers is an austerity edition, with stiff paper covers, but it is well illustrated and clearly printed. We heartily recommend it as a valuable addition to sub-branch libraries.

For the Children

It was by a sad coincidence that the death of Mr. Grove Johnson should have occurred in Perth just as the review of his "Child's Guide to Chemistry" was being written. The author was a chemist who had achieved an international reputation before he came to live in retirement in Perth about fifteen years ago. He has written a number of standard works on the chemistry of wine-making, brewing and distilling. His last published work, his "Child's Guide to Chemistry" was published by the Imperial Printing Company, quite recently. The author treats familiar phenomena in a most interesting way, going from the known to the unknown underlying scientific causes. Though written for children of school age, it can grip the attention and make interesting reading for adults. (Price 2/-.)

"Rattigan Rat"

Having qualified for a stripe in the noble army of grandfathers, this reviewer can, at long last, understand why Walter Scott wrote "Tales of a Grandfather." The insatiable demand of youngsters to be told "just one more story"
is a tax on the memory or the inventiveness of their elders. Paul Buddce, the author of Rattigan Rat, will be hailed by parents and others as a friend and ally. As a schoolteacher he knows the working of the child’s mind, and the type of tale best suited to children of younger standards. He has already published two children’s books, and a volume of war poems, entitled “Stand To.” Mr. Buddce has added to his laurels with “Rattigan Rat” (printed and published by the Imperial Printing Company, price 3/·). It is a volume of six stories, which follow the style of the animal stories of the middle ages, and Brer Rabbit, which was so popular with children of all ages in the past century. Mr. Buddce’s tales, however, are distinctly Australian in setting and treatment. They will be a delight to both teachers and children. The booklet is provided with an illustrated cover in colours and is well illustrated with drawings by the Australian artist Neves Cherry.

Britain’s National Service Scheme

While the Federal Government continues to evade making a direct statement on the compulsory training issue, Britain’s Socialist Government has brought down a National Service Bill, of which the provisions are more comprehensive and far-reaching than anything yet devised by a democracy in peace time. The new measure has naturally given offence to leftist back-benchers and others who, despite the lessons of two world wars, fondly imagine that disarmament can promote peace; but it had found support in principle from all the saner elements of the House of Commons.

The scheme, for which the National Service Act will give authority, aims at training one million men for service in the armed forces of the United Kingdom, but, while training them, opportunities will be given for full education in civilian jobs. Under its provisions, every British youth must enrol when he reaches the age of 18 years for seven years’ national service. Eighteen months of this time will be spent in full-time training and the remainder on the reserve. The call-up will affect all men between 18 and 26, who have not already served in the armed forces, and preference may be expressed for any particular service. The scheme will operate from January 1, 1949, until the end of 1955. It is estimated that more than one million men will be called up. During the first year, the Government expects to train 204,000, the figure rising to 210,000 during each of the remaining four years.

The Act is not unduly rigid in its provisions. Some of these, in fact, are especially designed to lessen the unfavourable effects on university, professional and technical education. For example, doctors and dentists, if about to start their professional training, may defer their call-up until they reach the age of 30. Apprentices and some other students may make requests to the appropriate authorities for deferment, which will be granted to them, in cases where genuine need exists. Applications may also be made to begin training at the age of 17½, if this will help a man in this career. The Act also empowers the Service authorities to shorten the training period for an individual when it is clear that, before 18 months are up, he will derive no added benefits from further training.

National service men may be required to put in a total of 60 days’ training, during their 5½ years on the reserve, with not more than three weeks in any one year. Trade unions will co-operate with the Government in fixing details of this part-time training to ensure that there is no waste of manpower. One clause in the Act indicates that Service authorities must provide facilities for further education so that young men may continue to fit themselves for their own civilian careers while serving the nation.

State Executive

MAY 21, 1947

At the meeting of the State Executive on May 21 there were present Messrs Sten (chairman), Davies, Mansbridge, Leslie, Craig, Halcombe, Ferguson, James, Olden, Hunt, Watt, Bateson, Fitzhardinge, Murray, Heunyi, Stahl, Paton, Lonnie and Stoddart.

The chairman (Mr. Sten) welcomed Mr. K. Lee, who had recently been appointed accountant at Head Office.

Dutch Naval Ratings.—The State Secretary read a petition from eight ratings of the Royal Netherlands Navy who had married Australian girls, and whose wives had been notified that they must go to the N.E.I., otherwise their allowances would be stopped. The Dutch servicemen wanted their discharges to release their families from this distress. It was resolved that the petition be forwarded to the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Evatt) through the Federal Office, and that the State President (in Melbourne attending a Federal Executive meeting) should be advised of the action taken.

Mr. Thom.—The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Thom, M.L.A., tendering his resignation from the Executive through pressure of ministerial business. It was resolved unanimously that Mr. Thom be asked to reconsider his resignation.

The State Secretary read a letter from the Deputy Premier, Mr. A. A. Watts, in response to the League’s sympathy in his recent bereavement.

Food for Britain.—The Mt. Barker sub-branch forwarded a donation of 40 guineas to the Food for Britain Appeal.

Tasmanian Deputy Premier.—It was resolved that the Deputy Premier of Tasmania (Hon. G. Brooke), who served on the delegation to Washington with an English Y.M.C.A. officer, should be officially welcomed in the Board Room, at 5 p.m. on May 22.

Membership Committee.—The Country Vice-President (Mr. A. Potts) was given authority to make arrangements with Great Southern sub-branches in regard to the organisation of District Committees.

The meeting of sub-branch presidents and secretaries was arranged. It was resolved that an intensive organising effort be made to retain the high membership of last year. Suitable recommendations were adopted.

Authority was given for the preparation and printing of informative pamphlets to be issued to members and former members.

The matter of appointing an organiser for a membership drive was referred to the Staff Committee.

Special Meeting.—It was resolved to call a special meeting of the Executive, for Wednesday, May 28.

Faversham House.—The question of finding accommodation at Faversham House for Legacy children was referred to the committee for further consideration. It was resolved, also, that the committee consider a reduction in the Faversham House tariff.

Rehabilitation.—Two reports presented by the Rehabilitation Committee were supplemented by a report giving information on the Fishing Co-Operative Company.

In regard to a matter submitted by a Defence of Native Rights organisation, it was resolved that no action be taken.

War Service Homes.—The report of the War Service Homes Committee contained recommendations that had been forwarded to Canberra for amendments to the War Services Homes Act.

Action taken on behalf of occupiers of caravans in South Perth, and other decisions on matters referred to the committee by the Housing Commission, were endorsed.

After Mr. Fitzhardinge had reported on a visit to the caravan
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compound and outlined the action taken by him on behalf of ex-servicemen with the Builders' Registration Board, the report was adopted.

It was resolved that the Premier be asked to appoint a legal representative to the Advisory Panel set up to advise the Government on building matters.

Trustees. The report of the trustees covered appropriations from the A.M.F. Special Benefits Fund, from which a further £220/8/- had been appropriated for needy cases.

Land Matters.—The Land Committee reported that a meeting had been arranged with the Minister for Lands and the Director of Land Settlement (Mr. Fyfe), for Friday, May 23, at 2.15 p.m. A preliminary meeting of the Land Committee was called for 1 p.m. on the same day.

The New Zealand Visit.—Colonel Mansbridge reported on his trip to New Zealand, which he made as West Australian representative with the Australian delegation to the New Zealand Anzac Day commemoration.

Congratulations.—At this stage, the Chairman congratulated Mr. Ron Halcombe on his appointment with the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

Sub-Branches.—Approval was given for the formation of new sub-branches at Bindoon, Goorow-Waddi Forest and Highgate. Harvey sub-branch notified its intention of approaching the Commonwealth Minister for Works and Housing direct in respect of a proposed amendment to the War Service Homes Act. The State Secretary was instructed to notify the sub-branch that the proposal must first be considered by Congress, as it affected the policy of the League, and that the suggestion of a direct approach to the Minister could not be approved.

A letter was received asking the League's approval of a proposal to bring northern Italians to Australia for firewood cutting, in view of the present shortage of labour. It was resolved to defer consideration until the views of the Kalgoorlie and Boulder sub-branches had been ascertained.

A letter from the Tammin sub-branch in respect of the Food for Britain Appeal was received. The views expressed in the letter were endorsed.

South Perth sub-branch drew attention to the apparent disparity in the commencing date for the War Gratuity. It was decided to refer the matter to the Federal Office.

Belmont sub-branch urged the Executive to express the League's views on the P.O.W. subsistence claim. In reply, the State Secretary pointed out that the League had had lengthy correspondence on the matter, and the Minister for Defence had promised further consideration, in the light of fresh information submitted by the League. It was also pointed out that the League had given financial assistance to the P.O.W. Association but the formation of interest of interest of sub-branches had been vetoed by Congress since 1938.

General Business.—Mr. Halcombe was given permission to circularise sub-branches on a question affecting war widows. Mr. Stahl asked for information in connection with Poppy Day. It was decided that the information would be available for the presidents and secretaries' meeting.

Montadgin sub-branch protested against the building of any new hotels in view of the shortage of labour and materials. The reply was left to the State Secretary.

JUNE 4, 1947

At the meeting of the State Executive on June 4, 1947, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Edmondson, Davies, Mansbridge, Leslie, Craig, Halcombe, Ferguson, James, Thorn, Yeates, Olden, Hunt, Watt, Bateson, Fitzhardinge, Murray, Herlihy, Stahl, Ferguson-Stewart, Lonnie and Stoddart.

Correspondence.—Letters were received from the Federal Secretary (Mr. Nesbitt) in reply to expressions of sympathy on behalf of the W.A. Branch to the relatives of the late Mr. John Webster. From Mr. Ferguson-Stewart, President of the State Executive that he remain a delegate with relief from some of the sub-committee work. From the ex-P.O.W. Association, in appreciation of the League's donation of £20. From the honorary secretary of the Archbishop Riley Shield Competition expressing appreciation of a donation of £5/17/6.

Relief.—The committee reported applications for relief involving an amount of £50 from the Immediate Relief Fund. Fifty other applications had been approved involving an amount of £297 from the A.M.F. Special Benefits Fund.

War Service Homes.—Two reports covered deliberations and actions of the War Service Homes Committee since the last meeting. The Executive endorsed the action of the Committee in writing to Federal Members and the Federal Office urging a supplementary loan in respect of War Service Homes, and that this loan be free of interest in New Zealand. Senator Walker acknowledged receipt of the Committee's recommendations and intimated that several important measures affecting the welfare of ex-service men had been and were before the federal Parliament but, although other organisations had been at Canberra, no action had been taken by the League. After a long discussion on the relations of the Federal Office with Canberra, the following resolution was carried: "That this Executive expresses its disappointment and dissatisfaction with the decision of the Federal Executive regarding representation of the League's desires at Canberra, and that the W.A. Branch considers it the duty of the Federal President to maintain liaison with Parliament personally in Canberra." On the question of the appointment of the Public Relations Officer and small amount of League news published in the Press, it was decided that the Congress Agenda Committee prepare an item for submission to the next W.A. Branch Congress.

Land Settlement.—The Land Committee's report dealt with business discussed at a meeting of the committee with the Minister for Lands (Mr. Thorn), and the Director of Land Settlement (Mr. Fyfe), on May 23. In regard to the appointment of a non-service man to an administrative position, the League had tried to get the appointment annulled. It was decided to ask the Re-Establishment Committee to examine the position and recommend what further action could be taken under the Re-Establishment and Employment Act.

Federal Correspondence.—The matter of members of the Polish forces attached to the British Army being eligible for membership of the League had been referred to the next Federal Congress. The Minister for Immigration (Mr. Caldwell) advised that all Germans interned during the war, including Dr. Becker, of Tanunda, South Australia, who was the reputed head of the Nazi organisation in Australia, would be deported when the Allied Control Commission is ready to admit them back into Germany, and suitable transport can be found for them.

Princess Elizabeth.—At the meeting of the Federal Executive last month it was resolved that sub-branches throughout Australia be circularised for donations to arrange a suitable presentation to Princess Elizabeth, on attaining her majority. The closing date for subscriptions will be July 31.

Soldier Settlrs.—It was decided that Messrs. Hunt and Ferguson-Stewart attend a meeting of the Soldier Settlers' Association on June 6. In considering the association's invitation, and reports in the Press, delegates expressed the opinion that there was no need for any such action, as the League had been and was continuing to carry out all necessary representations on behalf of the ex-servicemen concerned.

Sub-Branches.—A letter from the Tammin sub-branch protested against the proposed Federal members' increase in salary and suggested an increase in pensions for war widows. The letter was received.

A long report on a conference of the R.S.I., which took place between the League and representatives of the New Zealand R.S.A. was referred to the president for examination and marking for the appropriate committee.
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Approval was given for the forming of a new sub-branch at Rolleston.

The Bunbury sub-branch drew attention to published statements made by certain members of Australian trade unions in Indonesia, and pointed out that these did not represent the opinion of Australian workers. It was resolved that the views expressed by the sub-branch be endorsed by the State Executive.

Wooroloo Sanatorium—Letters from Dr. Hensel, addressed to the editors of the “Babbling Brook,” the City of Perth sub-branch journal, was presented. The medical officer of the sanatorium expressed his disagreement with a published article by a sub-branch visitor to the institution. It was resolved that Dr. Hensel be notified that the State Executive dissociates itself from the statement published in the “Babbling Brook,” and is quite happy at the conditions prevailing at Wooroloo for the treatment of ex-service patients. The City of Perth sub-branch has been notified accordingly.

Ex-P.O.W.—Letters from the Association in other States on the matter of subsistence to P.O.W. were received.

R.S.I. Debates.—A report from the Press sub-branch indicated that the inter-sub branch debates had commenced, with encouraging results, and that West Australian Newspapers Ltd. had donated a trophy for the annual competition. The Executive’s attention to the sub-branch in organizing debates was expressed.

Appeals.—A number of letters appealing to the League for donations were received: (a) Wooroloo Cottage Colony—approval was given for the approach to sub-branches; (b) Kelmscott sub-branch—reply left to State Secretary; (c) War Widows’ Guild—it was decided to make available £100 for the purpose of carrying on vocational work, and that the question of relief be discussed with, Guild, representatives and the Trustees, the Chairman of the Repatriation Committee to attend for the purpose of explaining war widows’ benefits under the Act.

Lord Monteith’s Visit.—Decided that the president discuss arrangements with the House Committee.

Sub-Branch Activities

**GLoucester Park**

The attendance at the meeting on June 5 was only fair. A bigger attendance would be very welcome. It was pleasing to see six new members present. Congregations were made an order of the day for the next meeting (Thursday, July 3).—Members are requested to keep Monday, July 14, free, as this is the date of our annual social and dinner at Monash House, King Street, for members and their wives, daughters and friends. The A.R.M.S. games are going very well with two wins in May. The most pleasing feature is the wonderful sporting spirit of the games. The women’s auxiliary are to be complimented on the manner they are conducting their affairs and we can help them by seeing our ladies join them. Members sympathise with Ken Taylor, of 98 Brown Street, East Perth, on the loss of his mother, also Will Smith, of 98 Hill Street, East Perth, on the loss of his mother, and T. Vic. Fowler, of 12 Pennant Street, North Perth, on the death of his father-in-law.

**Kojonup**

At the monthly meeting held on May 23 a lengthy discussion took place on housing. It began when the secretary read a letter regarding the sub-branch to the Director of the Housing Commission, as a result of a motion passed at the previous meeting, requesting an explanation as to why a non-service man was granted a permit to build, while two equally deserving ex-service men, viz. Mr. Norris and J. Brown, were refused same. The answer received suggested that the State Executive Housing Committee would not overrule the local road board’s recommendation. Mr. Norris’s application was unsatisfactory, the non-service man’s case was being investigated. The management committee had previously appointed two ratepayer members to inspect the correspondence at the road board office, concerning the two unsuccessful applications and report to this meeting. They did, and reported that both had been satisfactorily recommended. Considerable satisfaction was felt when a letter was read from the State Executive Housing Committee stating that Mr. Norris’s permit would soon be granted and a telegram from Mr. Roche, M.L.C., stating a similar decision had been reached in favour of Mr. Brown. The president pointed out that the aim was not to hinder anyone building, but to ensure that ex-service men were justly treated. Many cases of hardship and dissatisfaction were revealed and it was agreed that the position is deplorable and detrimental to production and progress in every form. As a result, it was decided to request the road board to condemn all sub-standard houses in the district and notify the Housing Commission of the position. A sub-committee of four was formed to consult the hon. auditor (Mr. Maloney) as to the possibility of building a room in the future. The president commended the excellent work done by the hon. secretary in connection with the case of the late Mrs. Rose. The assistance given by Miss M. Meares, of the Red Cross, was also praised. A cordial welcome was extended to Mr. Hay, a new member to the sub-branch.

**Fremantle**

At our last general meeting on May 29 it was very encouraging to note the large number of members who rolled out to participate in the eligibility debate and vote. The president (Mr. Brack) was in the chair and welcomed 28 new members. There was a large majority against widening the membership of the League. The question was thoroughly ventilated and occupied considerably over an hour, and there was never any doubt as to the result. Nominations of officers for the ensuing 12 months were called for, and the members have quite a large panel to select from.

Another question that was settled was the alteration of the subbranch’s financial year—ending 31st December, instead of 30th June, as hitherto. This will make uniform all our activities. On Sunday, the glorious 1st June, members of the sub-branch and auxiliary visited Sunset and according to the report made at our last meeting it was an outstanding success. Mr. D. Hawkins was at his best as a very funny fellow and some of the old boys said they have never seen such hilarity before. Before the party left they had the pleasant spectacle of seeing the tables laid with the usual good things that our women’s auxiliary know well how to provide. Please remember the election of officers ballot closes at the R.S.I. Hall, at 9 p.m. on June 26. The returning officer is Lt.-Com. Hatton, R.N.A. and he will be assisted by three scrutineers. Any member who knows any unfinancial comrades, please remind them that they might want to use the R.S.I. themselves when some future difficulty arises.

**Subiaco**

Our A.R.M.S. games opened to schedule with a loss and a win against Perth and Nedsands respectively, both by narrow margins and both most enjoyable for the players. The sub-branch is under some disability at present as we have lost the services of our sheet-anchor, Bert Williamson, who has had to resign from the C.P.R. Good impressions are made on his work; and Bill Fullarton, our reliable hon. secretary, is in Perth.
pital. At the general meeting, the vice-president (Joe Newman) signified his willingness to take over both jobs temporarily, with a murmur of assent, and proved himself a strong, silent man by bobbing up and talking most of the rest of the evening. Mr. Lightfoot continued his talk on immigration, which he first commenced in 1937. It was resolved that general meetings should close with a lecture or other entertainment, and Ron Morton has promised to arrange a picture show by the Shell Oil Co. for the June meeting. We were glad to see All Buggins down from Woooloo and looking well on it.

**WEST-LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY-FLORENT PARK**

At our meeting held on May 12 business, generally, was quickly disposed of. Out of correspondence was one very pleasing letter containing a £20 donation from the women's auxiliary, towards the building fund for our memorial hall. These ladies do a wonderful job for the local sub-branch. New members can still be coming along and those introduced at our last meeting were Messrs. Dunlop, N. K. Brenner, and one transfer, M. Johnston, from Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch. Mr. E. K. Taylor was reported as being on the sick list, the "wog" having caught up with him again. We were pleased to see Messrs. Ingle and Kirtin at our meeting after a long absence. The meeting night of the 26th was devoted wholly to sports, the evening being a visit from Gloucester sub-branch. This was our first match in the A.R.M.S. competition and the results were 6-4 in favour of the visiting sub-branch, but the local boys enjoyed the evening's sport just as much as the winners. On Wednesday evening, June 4, the sub-branch paid a visit to Nedlands for another game in the A.R.M.S. competition. After a keen night's sport, Nedlands ran out winners with lots to spare.

**RETURNED ARMY NURSES**

After the parade on Anzac Day, a luncheon was held in the Returned Army Nurses' Club, and it was very well attended. A gift evening was held in the club rooms on May 25. The guest was Matron Warner, of Repatriation Hospital, who is leaving her position to be married early in June.

**SWANBOURNE**

The June meeting was well attended and further new members were enrolled. Our principle visitor on that evening was a member of the Mosman Park sub-branch, Harry Burge, who performed the opening ceremony before the shrine, which he had previously presented to the club. The meeting decided to arrange a deputation to the Minister for Works, with the view to acquiring some Government-owned land as a site for the proposed Memorial Hall and Gardens. Bev. Eddy, an evergreen, was elected to the newly-created post of sports director. Our first games in the A.R.M.S. competition resulted in defeat at the hands of Cottesloe, but the final score of 8-1 does not reflect the stubbornness which the local sub-branch put up. Members were entertained, as usual, contributed to the success of the evening. The hall was just a mass of flowers and coloured streamers. The orchestra was "tops" and the supper, superb. The evening went with a swing from the very start, showing that nothing was lacking with the organisation either. Special credit must be given to Mesdames Parkin and Mann and President and Secretary respectively of the auxiliary. It is also desired to compliment and thank their many auxiliary and other helpers. As a result of this entertainment, the building fund benefits by approximately £80.

**SHENTON PARK**

The monthly meeting was held on June 4. Only a fair number of members were present. The president (Alan Boyne) presided. We wish to draw attention of members to the importance of attending meetings. The R.S.L. is established to help you with your problems. If you have no trouble of your own, consider your comrades who have. It is not what you can get for yourself, but what you can do for your friends. Don't be just a "Badger-Wearer." Give your sub-branch your full support, by attending and showing a lively interest in the proceedings. The social which Mr. Morton arranged for the club was much appreciated and an amount of £9/11/8 was raised for the Food for Britain Appeal. During the evening, the president called on Mr. Bolton, with the support of Mr. Cleveland, to present to our former president, Mr. Bob Ogg, the Certificate of Service. This certificate has never been more thoroughly deserved than on this occasion. Bob has been the backbone of this sub-branch since its inception and has held it together through good times and bad. He has the service of the R.S.L. and this sub-branch in particular, at heart. The raffle held for the Food for Britain Appeal was drawn and the results were as follows: First, No. 597; second, No. 46; third, No. 447; fourth, No. 624; fifth, No. 618; sixth, No. 384; seventh, No. 580. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 2, in the Progress Hall, Onslow Road, Shenton Park.

**MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE**

Fortnightly meeting have been well attended, and much business has been transacted. Members are now thinking about items for the Congress agenda. The sub-branch is lucky in having such keen workers among the younger men. Among these are the two vice-presidents, Ernie Cooley and Ron Morton. The first of the Art Day Service, held on May 29 in the Memorial Hall. The visiting team came from North Beach. Many North Beach supporters came along, and a most pleasant evening was spent. The result was a win for Mt. Hawthorn, who carried off everything but the bridge. The social committee did good work in making the evening pass so pleasantly. Sports director (George Hill) is working hard and is always trying to ensure that members returning any suggestions for the games nights. Dances are held on Monday nights at Anzac House. Members are asked to bring their wives and lady friends along. The auxiliary holds bridge evenings on Friday nights in the Memorial Hall. July meetings will be on the 10th and 24th.

**TOODYAY**

The annual ball was held on May 5 and was an outstanding success. May 5 being Labour Day, Toodyay had a great influx of visitors from all quarters to witness light car racing, which the local progress association, in conjunction with the W.A. Sporting Club, had arranged. The women's auxiliary, as usual, contributed to the success of the evening. The ball was just a mass of flowers and coloured streamers. The orchestra was "tops" and the supper, superb. The evening went with a swing from the very start, showing that nothing was lacking with the organisation either. Special credit must be given to Mesdames Parkin and Mann and President and Secretary respectively of the auxiliary. It is also desired to compliment and thank their many auxiliary and other helpers. As a result of this entertainment, the building fund benefits by approximately £80.

**SALINGIRI**

President Campbell presided over a full attendance at the May meeting. Members vigorously debated question of eligibility. The final vote resulted in a tie, so the Chairman cast his vote in favour of "Yes." The sub-branch decided to support the local road board and other organisations striving to have all-weather roads formed to nearest medical aids and hospitals. It was resolved that sympathetic letters be forwarded to the following members: H. Lambert (loss of wife), D. Bain (sick), C. C. Parkinson (hospital), E. Brain and B. Hill (illness). Items for the proposed improvement of the local Anzac Day Service, proposed by D. Fordham, were adopted. J. Truman regretted lack of wireless facilities for school children on that occasion. On the subject of speakers qualified to deal with soldier land problems, F. Plant suggested that a list might be compiled and discussed by members at the next meeting. The meeting adjourned. I. Ogg, after the chairman had spoken highly of speakers who had taken part in local Anzac services.

**COTTESLOE**

On May 20, the first match in the A.R.M.S. competition was held and the local sub-branch entertained Swanbourne. The result was a victory for Cottesloe, the team, which was very gratifying as our team was, to a large extent, an unknown quantity. Owing to the scratchings of Fremantle, the sub-branch received a walk-over in the second round and will meet Claremont on June 17, when once again the sub-branch will be the hosts. Members learnt with regret of the sad and sudden demise of M. Wally Dunn, a former president of the sub-branch. At the general meeting held on June 3 M. Wally Dunn paid a tribute to his memory. At the same evening, it was decided that an approach should be made to the State Executive for representation to be made to the Federal Government for an amendment of the War Gratuity Act to provide that the gratuity shall form part of the estate of a deceased
member of the forces when that member died prior to the date of entitlement. A presentation was made to Mr. H. Poole, a long-standing member of the Committee, who will leave for a well-earned holiday in England in the near future. The services of Mr. Poole will be sadly missed during his absence. Members are reminded that the annual smoke social will be held in August this year and a date will be fixed prior to the next general meeting and announced on that night.

## Women’s Auxiliaries

**McKinlay Shield Competitions**

### Eighth Round

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### STATE EXECUTIVE

Two Executive meetings have been held this month. At the meeting on March 12, resignations were received from Medjames & Weeks and Herold, who, owing to ill-health, found it necessary to take this step. Members present received these resignations with the deepest regret. Mrs. Weeks, with nearly five years’ membership to her credit, has given invaluable service to hospital visiting and was chairman of the Hospital Committee. Mrs. Herold was elected to the Executive at the 1946 Conference, and during her short term of service has been a valuable and loyal worker. We wish both these ladies a very speedy recovery to health and trust that at some future date they may be able to resume their duties.

Mrs. Scupham, of Fremantle auxiliary, and Mrs. Adams, of Bedford-Morley Parks auxiliary, who were next in line for the committee at Conference elections have taken their places on the Executive.

### Birthday Parties

During this month, two auxiliaries have celebrated their 25th anniversaries—Bassendean, on May 28; and West Leederville—Wembley, on June 6. Members of both auxiliaries celebrated the auspicious occasions with a birthday party and birthday cakes. The State President and Secretary, members of the Executive and members of metropolitan auxiliaries were present in large numbers to offer their congratulations and to enjoy a wonderful night’s entertainment at both parties. Sub-branches were also represented at both, and eulogistic speeches from their president showed how much they appreciated the services rendered to them by their auxiliaries. Mr. J. M. Anderson (State President) was a guest of the Bassendean auxiliary. At both of these events, it was a very great pleasure to see so many foundation members present, and who have never in 25 years lost their keen interest in the auxiliary.

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This trusty old friend of the old Digger—as supplied to the Commonwealth Military Forces during two wars—is still procurable, together with all types of family footwear.
On May 10, Mrs. McKinlay, Mrs. Stockmin and several members of the Executive travelled to Tuart Hill, the occasion being the first birthday party of the Mt. Yokine auxiliary—one of our babies. This was a very successful evening and congratulations were extended to members who have made such excellent progress during the first year of their existence.

Members of the Executive, with the State President, also attended another birthday party on May 19, this time at the invitation of the Bayswater Unity Cheering Club. This club has for its objects the welfare of all ex-service men in all homes and institutions and they have given generously in gifts and cash. All thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful night's entertainment.

**Outings**

On May 18, South Perth auxiliary entertained Diggers from Lemnos at South Perth. Mrs. Prue deputised for Mrs. McKinlay and reported that this was an excellent and enjoyable function. Patients were conveyed by private cars to South Perth, where they partook of a sumptuous tea—home-cooked and prepared by members—after which the time was happily spent in dancing, interspersed by musical items.

On May 21, Anzac House supper room was the venue for Diggers from Lemnos, Sunset, Edward Millen and Home of Peace. The occasion being a combined outing arranged by the State Executive on behalf of country auxiliaries who had sent donations to be expended for the entertainment of these men. Visitors were conveyed from various homes by bus, and were taken for a ride down to various beaches before coming to Anzac House, where on their arrival they sat down to an excellent tea prepared by Executive members, assisted by Country auxiliaries and to which one and all thoroughly did justice. Mrs. McKinlay welcomed our guests on behalf of country auxiliaries, and representatives from each of the homes expressed their appreciation in no uncertain terms of the kindness of country members.

The evening was made very enjoyable by an excellent programme presented by talented artists from the Misere Gable and Williams School of Dancing, interspersed by dancing. Music was provided by our very good friends, Messrs. Power, Mr. J. Bay and Mr. O'Keefe.

**Hospital Visiting**

Hollywood Hospital continues to be visited by auxiliaries twice weekly. These auxiliaries take gifts of cakes, sweets, cigarettes and fruit to these men.

**Royal Perth Hospital**

Executive men and auxiliary members who may be patients in the Royal Perth Hospital are visited every Friday. Gifts of cakes, sweets and cigarettes are taken to patients. During the month, 110 bedside visits have been made by Executive members. Hospital visitors will be grateful if country sub-branches and auxiliaries would notify Anzac House when any of their members are in hospital. This would greatly assist visitors and avoid disappointment for patients.

That this visiting is appreciated may readily be understood by extracts from a letter received from an executive:

"I have been wanting to express my thanks for the kindness shown me, by way of gifts, while in Royal Perth Hospital. It was a pleasant surprise, as, although an Imperial veteran of the South African War, I never previously received, and did not think I was entitled to, any recognition. It was also a comfort to know I still had friends. It is a consolation to know that there are people in the world, like the R.A.I.L., willing to give up their time and labour for the benefit of the unfortunate.

**Visits to Auxiliaries**

May 13: Mrs. McKinlay and Mrs. Randall visited Fremantle auxiliary to judge a fancy dress ball.

May 14: The State President attended Shenton Park auxiliary social.

May 17: Mrs. McKinlay attended R.S.L. Ball at Walsall Creek.

May 25: Mesdames McKinlay and Kay, with Mr. Kay, took gifts and books to Claremont Mental Hospital.

**McKinlay, Shield Games**

These games are now entering the 11th round and competition is keen, as can be seen from appended result tables.

**Donations**

Following is a list of donations received during the last two months. This list contains amounts of donations which have been sent direct to Mrs. Stockmin only, and passed through our bank.

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**THE SUNFEED GRINDING MILL**

- Grinds Maize, Wheat and all other dry grains.
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account. Donations too numerous to mention, especially for British Flood Relief Appeal, have been received and paid directly to funds concerned: Waroona, Hospital Comforts, £1; Merredin, £2; Claremont, £3; War Veterans’ Home, £4; Claremont, £5; Claremont; Hospital Visiting, £6; Harvey, Hospital Visiting, £7; Waroona, War Blinded Committee, £1/1/-; Waroona, War Nurses’ Memorial Hostel, £1/1/-; Bunbury, Hospital Visiting, £5/5/-; Bunbury, £1/1/-; Gnowangerup, Outing Fund, £5; Victoria Park, War Blinded Committee, £5/3/-; Carlisle, Com forts for Faversham, £3/3/-; Carlisle, Aged & S. Fund, £1/1/-; Miss Harvey, Aged S. Fund, £1/1/-; Faversham Comforts Fund, £1/1/-; Wagon, Faversham Comforts Fund, £2; Wyalcat, Comforts Fund, £1/1/-; Midland Junction, War Blinded Committee, £1/1/-; Claremont, War Blinded Committee, £2; Claremont, War Veterans’ Home, £2; Claremont, Aged S. & F. Fund, £2; Claremont, Hospital Visiting, £5; Koodim, Faversham Comforts Fund, £2/2/6; Wagon, War Blinded Committee, £1/1/-; Wagon, Aged S. & F. Fund, £1/1/-; Como, War Nurses’ Hostel, £1/1/-; Como, War Blinded Committee, £2/2/6.

 Flood Relief for Britain

Margaret River, £10; Subiaco, £5/5/-; Mundaring, £8/6/-; South Perth, £10; Midland Junction, £2/2/2; Mundaring, £14/7/-; York, £15/7/-; Mt. Hawthorn, £5; Pingelly, £44/14/-; Manjimup, £10/10/-; Mundaring, £15/14/7; Wagon, £5/2/6; Capel, £5.

COTTESLOE

The auxiliary held their annual general meeting in St. Philip’s Lesser Hall on May 27, when Mrs. Hounslow resigned her position as president. Mrs. Ireland and Mrs. Elsey were returned to office (secretary and treasurer respectively). Mrs. Townrow was elected president (unopposed) and Mrs. Hartley and Mrs. Bellord, vice-presidents.

BULLSBROOK

At the annual meeting held on June 7 the officers were returned unopposed. Those in office being Mesdames Cunningharn (president), Scott (vice-president), Burnett (secretary), Pickett (treasurer and publicity officer). Two new members were welcomed. We were pleased to have amongst us, once again, Mrs. Scandlebury, who is recuperating after a long illness and accident. After the meeting we were joined by the sub-branch as suppers provided by the ladies. At the local football matches, afternoon teas are served by us, to raise funds for our “hoped-for” hall, to be built at some future date.

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE

The annual meeting will be held on June 30. A children’s plain and fancy dress-ball will be held on July 23, and a good evening is promised. Games are still progressing very well. The auxiliary holds second place in the competition. Bridge parties on Thursday afternoons and Friday nights continue to be popular. Members still help the sub-branch with the supper at the Monday night dances in Anzac House.

VICTORIA PARK

In the absence of Mrs. Tolmie, the meeting held on May 23 was presided over by Mrs. E. Mead. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Harry Taylor for making the wreaths for Anzac Day. Mrs. Cornwall, a visitor from England, was welcomed to the meeting as a new member. Invitations were received from Tuart Hill, West Leederville and Bassendean to their birthday parties, and we were represented at all three functions. £3/3/- was passed for payment to the war-blinded, and a cheque for £18/15/- for the sub-branch on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the opening of our Memorial Hall in Salford Street. On this occasion, May 26, we were the guests of the sub-branch, and a very pleasant social evening was arranged for our benefit, Mesdames J. L. McKinlay and Stockin represented the State Executive, Mr. Yates, M.L.A., provided a beautiful iced birthday cake, which was cut by Mrs. H. Taylor (vice-president). A large portion was set aside for the patients of the Edward Millen Home, and a taste for our sick members in the Perth Hospital, i.e. Mesdames Tolmie, Haggar and Wall, who, when we visited them, seemed to all be well on the road to recovery. Mrs. L. A. Colemain received a handsome leather week-end bag as a gift from the members of the committee in appreciation of services rendered, and was so pleased when handed same by Mr. Harry Taylor that words failed her. However, she was very thrilled by the very kind thought which prompted the gift.

F.U.S.W.

The monthly social was held at Anzac House. The large gathering was presided over by Mrs. H. Dean (president), who has just returned from the Eastern States. Mrs. T. C. Wilson welcomed back Mrs. Dean. The guest speaker for the afternoon was Mr. G. Gasden, of the Y.A.L. Mr. Gasden gave an interesting talk on the Remembrance Pool that is to be erected in honour of the fallen from the World War II, also the amount of work done by the Y.A.L. for the youth and the great benefit it has been to them. Mrs. T. C. Wilson thanked the speaker, saying members had enjoyed the talk and felt that they had learnt much. The musical programme was arranged by Mrs. W. Chancy and Miss N. Demorest, both ladies giving piano solos and playing duets together. Miss Demorest also recited and played the violin. Mrs. G. Cooper thanked the artists for the lovely afternoon of music. Afternoon tea was served. Mrs. Clear, who has been very ill, is now recovering. She is the hon. secretary of the Union. The annual general meeting will be held on the first Thursday in July, it being postponed owing to the absence of the president and secretary. The King Edward Memorial Maternity Hospital Careteen is greatly appreciated by staff, and patients of the hospital. All workers work in a voluntary capacity.

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A.A.S.C.—EX-SERVICEMEN’S ASSOCIATION—A.O.F. Hall, corner Francis and Museum Streets, Perth; 2nd Tuesday each month at 8 p.m.; President: Lieut.-Colonel C. E. Jones, A.D.S. & T., Crawley; Secretary: W. B. Kyle, Perth, Boiler Fitters Mills, Perth.


AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (W.A. AREA)—R.A.A.F. Renowned, National House, William Street, Perth; 4th Thursday each month; President: C. A. Hine, Howard Hill (21 Howard Street), Perth; Secretary: G. W. Chapman, Box 1255, G.P.O., Perth. Phone B 5905.


AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meetings as advertised: President: I. B. Roberts, Parliament House, Perth (B 4128); Secretary: S. W. Harper, 1st Floor, Commonwealth Bank Chambers, 42 St. George’s Terrace, Perth (B 7261).

EX-MACHINE GUNNERS’ ASSOCIATION—Gregson’s, 3rd King Street, Perth; Friday before Anzac Day and 2nd Friday in October; President: Mr. S. M. Gorton, c/o. Parker & Parker, Howard Street, Perth; Secretary: E. S. Enright, 158 Suburban Road, South Perth.

PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION—At Que: R. A. A. F., 8th Floor, 2/43rd Battalion Association, Perth; 1st Monday in month; President: W. M. Lymburn, 88 Barrack Street, Perth; Secretary: W. Newick, 29 Hutch Street, Mt. Lawley.

32nd BATTLE OF ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, Perth; see notice Saturday July 15; President: R. A. Goddard, 238 Wills Timber & Trading Co., St. George’s Terrace, Perth; Secretary: R. H. Butterfield, 5 Elizabeth Street, North Perth.

4th BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Atque R. A. A F., 8th Floor, 2/43rd Battalion Association, Perth; 1st Monday in each month, 7.30 p.m.; President: C. E. Green, 71 Mount Street, Perth; Secretary: J. D. Pearson, c/o. R. A. A. Trustee Co., 38 St. George’s Terrace, Perth.

2/4th MACHINE-GUN BATTALION EX-MEMBERS’ ASSOCIATION—Mr. Ambrose’s Office, 3rd Floor, C.M.L. Building; Committee meets 1st Monday in each month, 7.30 p.m.; President: C. E. Green, 71 Mount Street, Perth; Secretary: J. D. Pearson, c/o. R.A. A. Trustee Co., 38 St. George’s Terrace, Perth.

2/11th BATTLE OF ASSOCIATION (A.I.F.)—Association meeting, July 15, 2nd Floor, Mitchell Chambers, 13 Barrack Street, Perth; Secretary: W. E. McNab, 2nd Brandon Street, South Perth. Notification of meetings by circular or association notes in “The Listening Post.”

8th BATTERY ASSOCIATION—Annual reunion, Friday, October 10 (Show Week); President: C. W. Mitchell, 35 Vista Street, South Perth; Secretary: G. W. Macleod, 13 “Barngreave,” Victoria Avenue, Perth.

10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, Perth; when called; President: E. (Ted) Andrews, c/o. Lands Dept., Perth; Secretary: Roy Perry, 22 Cooper Street, Nedlands.

11th BATTLE OF ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, Perth; 3rd Thursday each month; President: W. L. Leith, 68 Barrack Street, Perth; Secretary: W. Newick, 87 Hutch Street, Mt. Lawley.

28th BATTLE OF ASSOCIATION—Committee as arranged; 2nd Monday; President: R. E. Walker, 100 Mounts Boy Road, Perth; Secretary: M. J. Foster, 152 Coode Street, Como.

2/43rd MACHINE-GUN BATTALION (A.I.F) ASSOCIATION—Annual meeting, October 29; President: C. W. Mitchell, 35 Vista Street, South Perth; Secretary: E. Macleod, 13 “Barngreave,” Victoria Avenue, Perth.

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