
"But all depends now upon the whole life-strength of the British race in every part of the world. Dour their work night and day. Giving all, doing all, risking all—to the utmost—to the end."

Churchill, July 10th, 1918.
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The Lion is Wounded
But Not to the Death

The clouds have gathered about Britain again. In the present crisis she may be dis-spirited, but she is not weak. She has seen dark days before and it is her instinct to see a little better on a cloudy day.

Britain's dark days have made her what she is. She is not baffled by adversity. She has her shortcomings, blunders often, but she wins the last battle always. It is still good to be British!

The Colonies will, as before, rally to the aid of the Mother Country in her distress. It has been our privilege in occasions past; it is still our privilege and duty now. We, as ex-servicemen, are in the forefront of every move to help proud, great, glorious Britain in her need.

Our kinsfolk there have been on the edge of famine. During her trials in the war, she rose to every occasion, each emergency, but revealing her innate greatness. No calamity has yet shattered the inner strength of the people of Britain. The secret power that binds her fast to her high destiny has never failed.

We, in Australia, are members of the great British family of nations, and it behoves us to be eternally vigilant, lest by false doctrines, or apathy, we forget that our destiny and that of our great Motherland are one.

It is no narrow nationalism which makes us think and act along the lines of Empire unity. The British Commonwealth of nations has provided a pattern for the other nations of the world who love freedom and the democratic way of life—each component part free, yet all bound together in one indissoluble whole.

Let us then, as ex-servicemen, take the lead, if such need be, and rally to the aid of our stricken parent. Food parcels are only one way of expressing our desire to help.

Let us preserve, here, in our own Australia, that for which we fought and sacrificed; that which made Britain great in the past. Material help from us is essential, but our moral and spiritual backing is what will ultimately help most.
Our War Leaders Pass; R.S.L. Poorer by their Passing

On Sunday, August 3, 1947, Brigadier-General A. J. Bessell-Brown, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., died at his residence at Bassendean. The late Brigadier-General had a distinguished war record, having served in battle in the capacity of artilleryman, infantryman and light horseman, ultimately achieving general rank.

In 1899, he went to the South African War with the W.A. Mounted Infantry. In that campaign, he was awarded the D.S.O., the Queen's Medal with four clasps, and the King's Medal with two clasps.

In the First World War, he commanded the 8th Battery, A.F.A., throughout the Gallipoli campaign, and was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel.

In 1916, he proceeded to France, where he had unbroken service until the Armistice.

The Colonial Field Force Long Service Medal was awarded to him in 1917. In the First World War, he was Mentioned in Despatches seven times and was awarded the Orders of C.M.G. and C.B. He also received the American Distinguished Service Medal.

In 1940, he was appointed to command the R.S.L. Home Guard, V.D.C., from which he retired in September, 1942.

The late General left a widow, four sons and three daughters: Sergeant John (R.A.A.F.) was killed in action; Major Ian (R.A.A.); Major Phil (R.A.E.); and Sister Mary.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family in their loss, which is shared by the League and every ex-soldier who knew him.

THE R.S.L. LOSES.

A GREAT LEADER

The community in general, and the R.S.L. in particular, lost a great leader, councillor and friend by the death, on the 15th August, 1947, of Colonel Herbert Brayle Collett, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.

He had a distinguished military career in World War I, when he served for four years with the A.I.F., and rose to the rank of Colonel. He commanded the 28th Battalion, 1st A.I.F.

The late Colonel Collett will be remembered not only for the great service which he rendered in war, but also for his work of reconstruction as a leader of ex-servicemen, between both wars. He was State President of the R.S.L. from 1925 to 1933, and a Past President of the Mt. Lawley Inglewood sub-branch. He continued as a member of the State Executive right up to the time of his death.

Fourteen years ago, he was elected a Senator and he had a distinguished career in Federal politics, both as a Commonwealth Minister and legislator. He was a foundation member of the Perth Legacy-Club and a trustee of the War Funds Council, and also of the Aged Soldiers' Fund of the R.S.L., which was created under his guidance.

The late Colonel Collett was truly a great man; strong of character, of outstanding abilities and, withal, a kindly, sympathetic and understanding nature.

The attendance at the funeral at Karrakatta, on Monday, August 18, was a high tribute to our late leader.

GRAVESIDE TRIBUTE

By Alf Yeates

This afternoon we, the R.S.L. comrades and friends of our late beloved leader, Senator Col. Collett, are assembled here, at his graveside, to pay tribute to his life and work on our behalf. As one who knew him so intimately, and who owes so much to him, I find it difficult to express in a few words my appreciation of all he did for us. Col. Collett was a really great man in every sense of the term, and a man of many virtues.

He was a gallant soldier, a wise leader, outstanding as an organiser and administrator. Endowed with an analytical and judicial mind, which had been enhanced by wide reading and a wealth of experience, these had given him a great insight into human nature.

Though stern of countenance, he possessed a wealth of humour, with a deep sympathy, and he always acted from the noblest of motives. He was a citizen of the finest type. It could truly be said of him, in the words of the Prophet of old, that he dealt justly, loved mercy and walked humbly before God.

During the eight years of his leadership, he brought to bear all these qualities that I have enumerated on the needs and problems of the R.S.L. When he handed over to me in 1933, the League had reached that standing in the community towards which he had aimed, planned and striven.

The R.S.L. was indeed looked up to by all sections of the community as a national force for good, using its powers for the betterment of all. During the 14 years that followed his election to the Senate, his advice and help were ever available, and that always from a non-party standpoint.

The R.S.L., which he organised and led so well, and which has rendered such great service, was the nearest to his heart, and I feel that his answer would be in-the words of his latest address, given only a short week ago and printed in “The West Australian” of Thursday last— “The Purpose and Policy of the League.” I enjoin you carefully to read it.

(Continued on page 28)
Immigration Preference Given to Aliens

Has Mr. Calwell's Mission been a Success?

The Federal President of the Returned Servicemen's League (Mr. Eric Millhouse, K.C.) has interviewed the Minister for Immigration (Mr. Calwell) in London regarding the Minister's action in seeking emigrants on the Continent while two hundred thousand to four hundred thousand English people are unable to come to this country because of shipping difficulties.

Announcing this, the Acting Federal President of the League (Mr. G. W. Holland) said full details of the interview were being air-mailed to Federal Executive and he hoped to make an important announcement at an early date.

"No detailed information is obtainable from the Minister's Department at Canberra, but we hope that Mr. Millhouse has been able to obtain an assurance that these Continental refugees will take precedence after British stock," said Mr. Holland.

"The League stands firm that Australia must be peopled first by British, and not by aliens."

Mr. Holland said Federal Executive cables Mr. Millhouse to examine the position and ask Mr. Calwell why Continental' emigrants were being sought and why. Shipping was apparently available to other Europeans, while there was little for Britishers.

"The League is dismayed at the report that Mr. Calwell has signed an agreement on behalf of the Federal Government, with the International Refugees' Organisation, admitting 4,000 refugees to this country this year and 12,000 a year thereafter, providing shipping is available," he said.

Mr. Holland said that Mr. Calwell's action in signing the agreement with the I.R.O. appeared to be in conflict with a recent promise contained in a letter to the League from the Acting Minister (Senator Armstrong).

In this letter, Senator Armstrong said the Government would implement a vigorous policy to enable British stock to emigrate to Australia and that the Government agreed with the R.S.L. that this was the best field from which to attract the type of immigrants this country needed.

On behalf of the Government, Senator Armstrong also promised that highly-qualified officials were to be appointed overseas, to examine the security, background, health, character, financial status, age and occupation of all alien applicants for passages to Australia and to ensure that they were to be housed by those nominating them.

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ARMCHAIR GENERALS
Are Always Wise After the Event
The well-known conflict between the armchair strategists and generals in the field is one of long duration. As popular as General Lee was with his army, he too suffered from the knowing criticism of civilian "tac-
ticians."

General Lee expressed the opinion that the Confederacy made the mis-
take of appointing all the worst generals to lead the armies and the best
to edit the newspapers, and added that he was willing to yield his place in the
field and do the best he could in editing a newspaper. He found that
by reading the daily after battles had been planned and fought that the
editors could have told him even at the
start what the defects in his plans
were. His objection was that the
information came too late to be of any
help, and added: "Even as poor a
soldier as I am can generally see mis-
takes after it is all over. But if I could
only induce these wise gentlemen, who
see them so clearly beforehand, to communicate with me in advance, instead of waiting until the evil has
come upon us—to let me know that
they knew all the time—it would be
far better for my reputation and, what
is more consequence, far better for
the cause."

No doubt many officers of high
command, in more recent years, may
well believe that times and people do
not change.—"Infantry Journal."

FARM MACHINERY...
New Machinery or Spare Parts?

"In pursuance of this policy, most
of our effort today is devoted to
making spare parts, but still there is
quite an amount of leeway to be over-
taken before stocks are built up to
normal in country centres.

"Nevertheless, it is anticipated that
by harvest-time there will be no
cause for complaints of lack of spares,
even though some proportion may
have to be drawn from capital cities.

"In addition to spare parts produc-
tion, we are manufacturing as many
headers, harvesters and binders as
possible, but the quantity will fall
far short of the number of farmers'
orders in hand. We have already
requested each individual buyer to let
us know if he can possibly do with-
out a machine until 1948. The coopera-
tion of all concerned is sought, be-
cause only an unselfish approach to
the problem will enable farmers with-
out machines to be supplied with the
means of harvesting their crops.

Distressing Shortage

"It is realised that the shortage of
most of the implements used by pri-
mary producers other than wheat-
growers is most distressing. How-
ever, we believe they know that, as we
are the major suppliers of harvesting
machinery, any other policy than the
one we have adopted would be
opposed to the national interest.

"We assure the farming commu-
ity that we shall continue to manu-
facture the full range of Sunshine
machinery for grazier, farmer, fruit-
grower and planter, and as when it
is possible to do so.

Care of Machines

"Until the shortage of machines is
overtaken each farmer can help a great
deal by doing his best to keep his pre-
sent machines going. He should lub-
ricate thoroughly, keep them clean
and store under cover. The careful
man will always check over his mach-
ine after it has completed its allotted
task for the season and immediately
order any necessary replacement
parts."
Goodwill . . .  

Walk In Walk Out--Minus all You Had

The ex-serviceman discharged from the Services with, in many cases, substantial credit of deferred pay, and with a gratuity bond, very often falls an easy prey to those people who have always something to sell. There are far too many instances already on record where ex-servicemen, anxious to make a new start after a long period in the Services, have become too easily attracted by business propositions which, on the surface, appeared to offer a solution to all their difficulties to establish themselves in a lucrative occupation.

W.I.W.O. BUSINESSES

Small suburban general stores are sold at prices far beyond their actual worth, and the catch is usually to be found in that much-abused, ill-defined and intangible asset which goes by the name of “goodwill.” It is not doubted that “goodwill” can be an asset in many businesses, but it does not necessarily apply, that every business for sale could claim a “goodwill.” This asset was valued in a recent purchase by an ex-serviceman, involving £1,000 for stock, plant and shop fittings, at £600. Doctored accounts were produced, showing an attractive weekly turnover, producing the usual £10 per week net profit which, in most instances, of course, never materialises. Many of these small businesses are conducted in shops which are held on a weekly rental basis, and it is open for the owner to take possession on giving the usual weekly or fortnightly notice.

IS THERE A LEASE?

If, however, there is a lease which has an unexpired term of reasonable duration yet to run, this lease may be worth a financial consideration when purchasing the business, but not otherwise. “Goodwill” in a business very often attaches to the person or to the geographical position in which the business is situated. The old established business, with a good record of service to the community in which it is situated, might be able to talk in terms of “goodwill” when selling that business, but there again the assessment of the amount of “goodwill” is a matter of facts and figures, and can only be determined by the turnover of the business.

TAKE CARE

The R.S.L. urges ex-servicemen, before entering into negotiations for the purchase of such businesses, to come along to Anzac House and discuss their propositions, to avoid possible loss and disappointment. The League has handled many cases where returned servicemen have been misled in their purchases and, in some cases, the League has been able to prevent loss, but, unfortunately, there are other cases where the ex-serviceman has been committed too far, before discovering that he has made a poor deal.

VACANT LAND

But Where Is It?

The R.S.L. welcomes the power which has been given to the Director, War Service Homes, to ensure the full use of land acquired for home building purposes, for ex-servicemen. Under existing by-laws of local authorities which restrict building to a specified form, much of this land would have continued to remain vacant.

For example: Whilst it may not be practicable to erect a brick house in a brick area because of shortage of bricks, it will now be possible to erect homes of a different form of construction which would be both comfortable and in conformity with good living conditions. These homes can be erected at a cost within the limits of the Act and, which is more important still, within the ability of the ex-serviceman to pay.

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Weary Servicemen’s Long Suffering Scheme

Where do we go from here?

Much has been written concerning the protracted delays in implementing the plan laid down under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme. Many criticisms have been made since the scheme was first launched; some of them from the League, and many of them from outside sources. Many explanations have been forthcoming in an endeavour to justify the delay in settling ex-servicemen on the land. Despite the plans and the complaints and the explanations, the disquieting fact still remains that no one ex-serviceman has yet been placed on his farm.

The Scheme as such is Good

The fault, it would seem, does not lie with the scheme as such. Whilst it was yet in its blue-print stage it looked very attractive indeed. It was hailed with delight and satisfaction by many who looked to it as a means of realising the dreams which they had before the war interrupted their plans.

The scheme apparently came very close to fruition in part, at least, some months ago when the first batch of 50 farms were allotted. Twenty-five potential dairy farmers and 25 potential wheat and sheep farmers were about to realise their hearts’ desire; but they are still without their farms.

Farmers in Training

These particular 50 ex-servicemen had taken most of the hurdles. They had first of all passed the first hurdles of eligibility and suitability; they had satisfied the Selection Committee that they had the necessary experience. Some of them had made up the deficiencies in their training and experience by attending the Rural Training Centre at Harvey. Of the 50 ex-servicemen who have been allotted farms, 35 of them were in training during the past two months at Harvey, and they finished their intensive course of training this week. It was hoped that news would be received that they would proceed from Harvey direct to their new properties, particularly in view of the fact that a number of them had left employment in order to secure the benefit of the training course at Harvey. But it has not turned out that way.

Administrative Delay

The plans for their going on to the farms allotted to them are not yet complete. It seems that there is some administrative detail which stands in their way. For instance, the loans have to be arranged for the acquisition of stock, plant and fixtures; then there is the assessment of the annual rental and repayment charges to be arranged between the successful applicants for properties and the administering authority.

This should not constitute an unmountable barrier between the trainee ex-serviceman farmer and his property, but apparently it is, as the fact remains that, having overcome the many obstacles which stood in his way, he has still to face the last obstacle, and there is no immediate indication as to how long these administrative detail arrangements will take.

The R.S.L. is hoping that these trainees, who have just passed through the Harvey Training School, and who have been allotted farms, will be sent down to their farms to take over as caretakers since, apparently, the time is not yet ripe for them to enter on their farms as owners. This seems to be the obvious thing to happen, and there can surely be no reasonable objection to it.

These men could be on the farm which, it is hoped, will ultimately become theirs; getting to know their properties and making their plans for their successful functioning.

What Happens to the Remainder?

That side of the picture is sufficiently discouraging of itself, but what of the 400 odd applicants who have been classified as needing training of a practical nature, and who may never obtain farms? It has been stated, on well-informed authority, that only about half of the applicants will ever get farms.

One of the chief difficulties has proved to be the acquisition of suitable land, i.e., suitable according to the very high and idealistic standard which has been set by the Commonwealth Government. Roughly, there were three sources from which it was thought in the beginning that suitable properties would be forthcoming. They were abandoned farms, under the control of the Rural Bank; re-purchased estates which could be subdivided; and, lastly, Crown Lands, which could be developed. Difficulty has been experienced in acquiring large estates for sub-division. Some owners of large estates are reluctant to make them available.

Cause of Delay

The pegging of the land values at the 1942 level is, no doubt, a contributing factor. Perhaps the scheme applies too rigid an insistence on declared minimum areas for individual farms without due regard to the past economic and productive records of these farms. Then, again, the scheme eliminates certain land situated within certain defined areas on the grounds that it is generally unsuitable. Perhaps this has been somewhat arbitrarily declared without due regard to the circumstances associated with individual properties, or even larger properties within these defined areas.

Then, of course, there has been the decision by the experts in Canberra that very little, if any, of our Crown Lands are suitable for settlement under the scheme.

All these have been contributing factors towards the delay in implementing what otherwise is an admirable scheme. “Seldom has any scheme, however, been fraught with so many difficulties. No matter from what aspect the scheme is viewed, difficulty upon difficulty seems to crop up, and the Governments, with all their pow-
ers, appear to be helpless in the matter of speeding up the scheme.

We have mentioned one or two of the difficulties which have been encountered in the acquisition of properties. We have also mentioned the problems which had to be met so far as the trainees themselves were concerned, and when an alternative scheme was put forward by the State Government in an endeavour to absorb those applicants who had not been successful under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme, the Federal Government closed the doors on it.

**Rural Loan Scheme**

That was the scheme under which ex-service men would be settled on the land under the £1,000 Rural Loan which the State Government had asked the Commonwealth Government to increase to £2,500. Under the scheme, the Commonwealth makes a loan at 3½ per cent. The amount at present is £1,000, providing that the total amount of borrowing does not exceed 90 per cent. of the value of the property. It is a fact that this £1,000 is not sufficient of itself, and the request was made to the Commonwealth Government to increase the amount to £2,500. This plan would have opened up a much wider field for those ex-service men applicants who have not been fortunate enough to come under the larger scheme.

**Complimentary to W.S.L.S.S.**

It was considered by the League that the Rural Loan Scheme would be complementary to the Commonwealth scheme and not in any way regarded as competing with it. Under the Commonwealth scheme it is obvious that many of the applicants who have been waiting for so long for settlement will ultimately meet with disappointment. The suggested State scheme, therefore, was a new ray of hope to them but for the moment that must be regarded as being cancelled, and so we have the picture of the Commonwealth scheme unable to get going, and the suggested State scheme still in the embryo stage, and a large number of ex-service men asking, “How much longer are we going to be kept waiting?” “Where do we go from here?” and “What are our prospects of ever getting a farm?”

We cannot keep these men waiting without a reasonable reply indefinitely.

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**EXHIBITION OF ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Women’s Auxiliary Effort

Official Opening by Lady Mitchell

On Tuesday, 19th August, at the Perth Town Hall, an exhibition of arts and crafts was officially opened by Lady Mitchell.

The Officers who made the arrangements were:-

Mrs. J. L. McKinlay (Chairman), Mrs. V. Stockmin (State Secretary), Mrs. W. W. Prue (Hon. Secretary for Exhibition), and a committee comprising Mesdames Henderson, Herold, Kay, Randall, Sherlock and Windsor.

The stalls were conducted by the following auxiliary sub-branches:-

Neeldans; afternoon tea; Carlisle; cakes; Subiaco, miscellaneous; Gloucester Park, flowers; Swan View, handicraft; Eottersloe, miscellaneous; Mt. Yokine, bran tubes; City of Perth, oddments; Victoria Park, aprons; Scarborough, woollens; South Perth, children’s stall; West Leederville, jams and pickles; North-East Fremantle, miscellaneous.
Mud and war usually go hand in hand. It was one of those soggy war-torn roads in Belgium. An Army Corps private was driving a two-and-a-half-ton supply lorry when he spied another soldier, shoulder-deep in mud moving along slowly.

"Can I give you a lift?" the A.S.C. chap shouted.

"Heck, no" was the laconic reply, "I'm in a jeep!"

As soon as they landed, the crew of the R.A.A.F. plane were asked by an intelligence officer for a full report on the success of their bombing mission over Berlin.

Said the pilot: "You know, I deserve all the credit for this trip. It was my good flying ability that got us over the enemy target."

"Very good, young fellow," said the intelligence officer, as he jotted this all down. "I think you really should have the credit."

Said the navigator: "I don't know what the pilot's bragging about. If it hadn't been for my careful plotting of the course, we would never have reached the target. All he did was steer the plane. I'm the one that really deserves all the credit."

And, again, the intelligence officer jotted it all down and said: "Very good."

Next came the airgunner, who said: "I don't know what the pilot and the navigator have done to deserve all that credit. The pilot acted as the taxi-driver; all he did was steer the ship. The navigator's plotting wasn't so hot, either. He got us right into a flock of German fighters, and if it hadn't been for my accurate shooting, we would never have reached the target. I had to knock off a few Jerry to get through. I'm the guy that really deserves all the credit for the success of the trip."

"Very good," said the intelligence officer, continuing his memo.

At last came the most important man on the bombing mission, the air-bomber. The intelligence officer looked up and asked: "And what have you to report?"

Said the air-bomber: "I missed!"

The C.O. had stopped leave for the whole camp because of general untidiness and lack of military courtesy. Smarting under his reprimands, the privates laid down the rule: "If it moves, salute; if it doesn't move, pick it up; if you can't pick it up, paint it."

A new man was brought into the battalion headquarters office by the sergeant-major.

"Here's a new man, Sir," said the major to the company officer.

"Fine," said the C.O. "What can he do?"

"Nothing," replied the major.

"Good, then we won't have to break him in."

Wife: "Have you ever seen the man who sold you that land that was two feet under water?"

Husband (sheepishly): "Yes, I saw him the other day."

Wife (suspiciously): "Well, what happened?"

Husband: "He sold me a boat."

"Your wife is a very systematic woman, isn't she?" asked Robinson.

"Yes, very," replied Smith. "She works on the theory that you can find whatever you want when you don't want it by looking where it wouldn't be if you did want it."

A couple of Australian aviators had been shot down and were floating around the Pacific in their rubber boat when a Jap submarine surfaced and its crew called on the aviators to surrender.

The flyers held a whispered conference.

"That's the stuff," said one to the other. "Let 'em think we're giving up. Then, when they get close—we'll ram 'em."

FEDERAL - STATE TAXATION RETURNS

INCOME TAX AND SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Salaries, Wages and Interest only, Form S, due 31st July; Salaries and Wages, and/or Other Income Form A, due 31st July; Business, etc. Form B due 31st August.

LAND TAX:

Federal Form, O.B. due 31st July; Federal-State Form A, due 31st August.

Penalties for failure, up to £100.

M. D. MEARS,
Commissioner of Taxation (State), Deputy Commissioner of Taxation (Federal)

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War Service Homes

- The amendment to the War Service Homes Act, 1918-47, became necessary because of the urgency of the position which reveals 20,000 applicants who have lodged claims. Many thousands more will be lodging claims for war service homes in the next few years, and the country has an obligation to provide homes for those men who have served. The first important amendment is the abolition of the position of Commissioner and his replacement by a Director of War Service Homes under the Department of Works and Housing. This means a transfer of the War Service Homes staff to that department.

Department of Works and Housing

The R.S.L. does not relish the absorption of departments which have been created to cater for the needs of ex-servicemen by other departments which do not handle exclusively ex-soldiers' affairs. It is felt that the needs of ex-servicemen can best be served by ex-servicemen staffs. It is not entirely, however, a disadvantage to have the War Service Homes under the Department of Works and Housing, as there will be an immediate availability of technical and administrative knowledge and experience. This will be particularly valuable in group building. Group building is a quick and efficient method of supplying homes within a reasonable time. Perhaps the most important amendment of all is the power given to the Government for the acquisition of the necessary materials for building homes. This will ensure to returned men and women a valuable priority.

Rise in Building Costs

Another amendment enables the raising of the maximum cost to the Commonwealth as to house and land from £1,250 to £1,750. Rising costs rendered the £1,250 under the old Act as being entirely inadequate. The extra £500 to be made available will permit the erection of a home of a reasonable standard with suitable accommodation for the man with more than one child and should ease the position which has arisen from the high building costs.

Group building will expedite the erection of homes. It will also tend to reduce costs. The amount of £1,750 was fixed as being the maximum based on experience of building costs and land over the last twelve months. Unless ex-servicemen had sufficient deposit to purchase the land without assistance, the whole amount of £1,250 was reduced by that amount and the balance only remained for the erection of the house, which would be entirely inadequate. Add to that the fact that the cost of furniture and furnishings at the present high rates, and it will be seen the almost unsurmountable difficulties with which the young ex-serviceman was faced before he could acquire a home of his own.

Dwindling Capital

It is true that many ex-servicemen left the Army, after a long period of service, with a considerable amount of deferred pay to his credit, but the war has been over for over two years now, and if he has been paying exorbitant rents meanwhile, his capital is gradually being worn down and his prospects of acquiring a home, if and when they become available, become more and more remote.

There is another amendment providing for an increase in the amount of the advance which may be made under mortgage. It relates to the advances under mortgage to those in a position to deposit at least 10 per cent. of the total value of the property. The limit of the Government's advance is £1,500. The maximum advance previously was £1,250, but with the increase to £1,500 the Government will be able to discharge encumbrances on existing homes.

Joint Ownership

A further amendment has as its object extension to eligible persons, the opportunity to secure homes jointly with their wives or husbands, as the case may be. Previously, assistance was granted only to eligible persons and precluded a wife or husband erecting or acquiring a home as joint tenants. Land owned jointly by an eligible person, and the wife or husband of that person, as the case may be, must now be transferred to the name of the eligible person before assistance may be granted. Provision for assistance to be granted in this way has been requested by the R.S.L. on behalf of eligible persons as a reasonable method of assistance. The League contends it encourages saving towards complete ownership by the husband and wife, as each would have a personal interest in the house, which would pass by survivorship.

Brick Areas

The League does not deny the desirability of keeping up the standard of dwellings, but when bricks are not available a well-built timber house is the next best alternative. Many ex-servicemen own blocks of land in brick areas, but they cannot build as bricks are not available. They are then compelled to sell their land at Treasury valuation, and repurchase their land in areas where timber houses are permitted. This entails not only loss but delay. It is not expected that there will be any undue breaking down of the local by-law restrictions and, no doubt, local governing bodies will accept the position and co-operate to the fullest extent. It is all-important that the present acute housing position should be alleviated. It is a matter of the highest national importance and has a direct bearing on the social and domestic life and happiness of the community as a whole. The R.S.L. welcomes the power which has been given to the Director to ensure the full use of land acquired for home building purposes for ex-servicemen, which otherwise might remain vacant.

Your Blue Heaven?

Steps to Bring it Nearer!
because of the existing by-laws of local authorities which restrict building to a specified form.

Architects' Fees

It is realised that all the houses being built for ex-servicemen are not being erected through the War Service Homes. For instance, last year, of 120 houses completed by a private concern, 87 were for ex-servicemen. Whilst, therefore, it is desirable to ensure that materials are made available for war service homes, due regard must be had for the requirements of the ex-serviceman who desires to build privately. Local architects have agreed to design war service homes for a 2 per cent. fee, and the State Housing Commission's charge for supervision is 3 per cent.

Previously the straight-out fee for private architects was 6 per cent. for plans and supervision. These architects will be able to use the stock type of specifications to be issued by the State Housing Commission.

This is an example of co-operation and united effort to meet the needs of today, and architects are to be commended generally for their assistance in this regard.

HOUSING

Emergency Measures Asked For

A recent amendment to the War Service Homes Act is soon to be brought under the notice of the Premier (Mr. McLarty) by a deputation from the West Australian Branch of the Returned Servicemen's League.

The amendment provides power for the requisitioning of building materials for War Service Homes, and the Premier will be asked how soon the power will be exercised.

In addition, the deputation will inquire what the Government's attitude is towards easing the building regulations of local governing authorities, such as the restriction of certain areas to brick buildings.

The deputation will also ask that a representative of the R.S.L. be appointed to the State Housing Commission. It will, in addition, point out that the percentage of Commonwealth rental houses allotted to ex-servicemen in West Australia is low in comparison with other States.
FEDERATED BLINDED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Association was held in the War-Blinded Rest Room, Pier Street, Perth, on 15th August, at 8 p.m.

The President (Mr. D. M. Benson) presided and welcomed His Excellency Sir James Mitchell, G.C.M.G., and Lady Mitchell.

A report of the year’s work was submitted by the retiring Secretary, Mr. R. A. Halcombe.

His Excellency made appreciative reference to the excellent work performed by Mr. Halcombe during the past year, and congratulated the President and Committee on the progress which had been made in catering for the needs of the members of the Association.

Mr. J. A. Dimmitt, M.L.C., Chairman of the Welfare Committee, explained the work which had been done in converting the Rest Room into a place of comfort and recreation for the blinded members.

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Lady Mitchell, in an interesting talk, described a visit which she had made to St. Dunstan’s, and expressed the hope that arrangements might be made for some of our war-blinded in this State to be sent there to enjoy the benefits of the provision that is made there, for training the war-blinded.

The meeting then assumed the form of a social gathering.

Amongst the invited guests were:—


LEAGUE YEAR BOOK
Will be Published in March

It was decided at the last meeting of the Federal Executive to publish 25,000 copies of a year book, at a selling price of 2/- over the counter, and 2/6, post free.

The publication will be ready by 31st March, 1948. This is a good move by Head Office, and the publishing of the book is looked forward to with pleasure.

R.S.L. Debating Competition

Outstanding Success

With the third round of the debating competition nearly concluded, the outstanding features have been the steady improvement shown by the various speakers who, profiting by the constructive criticism offered by the adjudicators in the early stages of the competition, are now presenting their cases with confidence and finesse.

The fact that more than 30 members of the League have improved their skill as public speakers in itself justifies the inauguration of the competition.

Some speakers are still losing marks through over-use of notes, and leaders in their reply could be more aggressive in breaking down the strong points of their opponents’ case.

Subiaco and Mt. Lawley are at present the leaders in their respective zones, but most of the debates have been keenly contested and there is little between any of the teams.

The final debate for “The West Australian” Shield has been arranged for Monday evening, September 29, in Anzac House, that is, at the beginning of Congress week, and on present form the biggest audience which is expected to attend should be rewarded with an interesting and entertaining evening. The decision for the final debate will be the majority vote of three adjudicators.

Results of debates to date:

First Round

Second Round

Third Round

On account of Belmont and Shenton Park withdrawing from the competition, there will only be three rounds in the Perth zone.

Fourth Round (Fremantle Zone)
(In each case the affirmative team is mentioned first.)

Press v. Welshpool: “That Australia should lift forthwith all systems of price control and rationing.”

Subiaco v. West Perth: “That the school-leaving age should be raised to 16.”

Fremantle v. Mosmans: “That all airlines in Australia should be nationalised.”

Fifth Round (Fremantle Zone)

Mosmans v. Press: “That wireless broadcasting has led to a greater appreciation of music and other fine arts.”

Welshpool v. Subiaco: “That international free trade is essential to world stabilisation.”

West Perth v. Fremantle: “That the censorship of books and films is desirable.”

Sub-branches will be notified as soon as dates have been finalised for the fourth and fifth rounds.
The
5/- p.w. Increase
To whom it applies

- Widows of ex-servicemen whose death has been accepted as due to war service receive an increase of 10/- per fortnight, that is, from £5 to £5 10/- for widows whose husbands were drawing 27/6d. per day or less rate of pay in the Forces. An extra 10/- per fortnight is also payable to class "C" and "D". Special rate pensioners, also totally and permanently incapacitated members. These pensions will be increased from £9 12/- to £10 2/- per fortnight.

Other ex-servicemen to receive an increase of 10/- per fortnight are those who have—

(a) two arms amputated;
(b) two legs and one arm amputated;
(c) two legs amputated and loss of eye;
(d) two legs amputated above the knee;
(e) one leg and one arm amputated and one eye destroyed;
(f) one leg and one arm amputated;
(g) one leg amputated above and one leg amputated below the knee;
(h) two legs amputated below the knee.

These are the first eight items under what is known as the Fifth Schedule. The remaining seven items under this schedule are not increased.

Dependants

As to the position of dependants, dependent parents of deceased ex-servicemen may receive an increase of up to 10/- per fortnight if income and property permits, provided that they are not already on the prescribed rates. Where they are also in receipt of a pension from the Social Services Department, the increase will be made up by that department.

The widowed mother in receipt of a pension and not already drawing 100/- per fortnight may receive an increase of 10/- per fortnight, provided that her financial circumstances permit.

Wife and Children

No increase in pension rates is authorised for wives and children of pensioners. The same applies to children of widows who are trustees for their children's pensions and educational allowances. The widow will only receive an increase of 10/- per fortnight, and the children's pensions and allowances will continue at their present rate.

This is particularly disappointing as the League is of the opinion that the increase to widows with children and those incapacitated from illness or age is far from adequate for essential needs.

Service Pensioners

Service pensioners will participate in the increase of 10/- per fortnight, but whilst the maximum pension which may be paid to a service pensioner has been increased from 65/- to 75/- per fortnight, the maximum rate payable to the wife of a service pensioner remains at 44/- per fortnight. In any case, where possession of property has, prior to July 10, 1947, restricted the rate of pension to the wife to less than 44/- per fortnight, this pension will continue at the present rate. Service pensioners in benevolent institutions, such as those at Sunset, will have their rate increased from 23/- to 26/- per fortnight, the remaining 7/- being paid as an addition to the institution.

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August, 1947

* That the Minister might recommend the raising of the age from 16 years to 18 years, so far as pensions for children of widows are concerned, who are not in receipt of education allowances.

* That the Minister had in mind a plan to grant an allowance of £13 a year for all such children above the age of six years.

* That he was also considering increasing the present funeral allowance of £15.

* That he also promised to try to do something for the aged and incapacitated widows.

* That when war widows pensions were first instituted they represented 90 per cent. of the basic wage.

* That today the rate paid is less than 50 per cent. of the basic wage.

* That 10,689 ex-service men and women suffering from recurrent Malaria have been treated with Paludrine.

* That only 28 have suffered relapses.

* That in this State there are 1,429 patients on Paludrine, with only three relapses.

* That one of the relapses admitted not taking the drug.

* That last year about 500 houses were completed, whereas there were 5,500 marriages, and the majority of the males concerned were ex-service men.

* That 11,000 infants, the parents of the majority of whom were ex-service men, were born.

* That, as a result of representations made by the League, the Federal Government has promised to appoint special investigating officers in a number of European cities, to interview and have the responsibility of selecting suitable migrants to Australia.

* That special attention will be paid to the occupation, age, character, security, background, financial position and health of these aliens.

* That the most desirable field for securing migrants for Australia is the United Kingdom.

* That the Acting Minister for Immigration (Senator Armstrong) expressed appreciation of the interest and support of the R.S.L. in the vital question of immigration.

* That he further stated that, if all sections of the community gave it the same consideration as the R.S.L., he had no doubt our immigration plans would be entirely successful.

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Membership of the League covers membership of Anzac Club. The facilities of the Club are available to every member who wears the badge. Admission to the Club premises can be gained only to badge wearers. Country members of the League are invited to make full use of the Club.

The Club Committee have been endeavouring to brighten the club premises and bring them up to date for the comfort and convenience of patrons. All members of the League throughout the country and metropolitan area are members of the club, by wearing the badge with financial crown attached.

All members of the League are welcomed to the club, and invited to use these facilities.

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Although the Government proclaimed everywhere that there was nothing too good for the ex-service man.

If the Commonwealth Bank charged 2½ per cent to its own officers, the bank would surely not do so at a loss. If it is possible, therefore, to allow its officers this low rate of interest without loss, why charge ex-service men another 1½ per cent higher rate.

Throwing in the Bagde

Ex-service men who are eligible become members of the R.S.L. from a variety of motives. Some feel that by adding their weight to the League they are helping the League to assist weaker members. Others, of course, join the League with the idea of getting as much as they can back out of it. Many join from motives similar to those who pay insurance premiums against the day they might stand in need of help.

The R.S.L. badge is a coveted possession today and, if it were not so, the eligibility wrangle would not have assumed the importance which it did.

The League is not in a position to legislate for the individual. There are individual members who, because they ask the League to perform some task on their behalf beyond the power of the League to achieve, condemn the League as being of no use, and in goes the badge. The League does not really suffer by such actions, and if any detriment results from the act it must accrue to the individual himself.

No Preference Again

Legal action will be taken to test the legality of the appointment of an engineer at the Boulder Power House, by the Boulder Municipal Council.

Amongst the 19 applicants, 7 were ex-service men, some of whom were considered as possessing higher qualifications for the position than the non-service man appointed.

Proceedings will be taken under the Preference Clause of the Re-establishment and Employment Act, 1945.

Regulations Which Hamper

Instances occur when ex-service men and women are hindered in their rehabilitation efforts by regulations. The R.S.L. intends submitting to the Commonwealth Government a request for an additional £230 business loan, where it is needed to ensure the success of the venture, providing, of course, it has been proved in the first instance by the Repatriation Commission. Another instance is that of the Rationing Commission.

It is felt that the Commission should accept the recommendations of the Repatriation Commission in issuing more generous scales of trade coupons to ex-service personnel setting up in business.

KALAMUNDA HONOUR AVENUE

Parents and relatives of members of the Forces who, at the time of enlistment, were permanent residents of the Darling Range Road Board area, and died while on service in World War II, are requested to supply all details to the Hon. Secretary, Kalamunda and Districts Progress Association, Kalamunda, on or before September 30, 1947, for the purpose of inclusion in an honour roll and on plaques to be placed at trees already planted as an honour avenue.


H. A. Leslie, M.L.A.

Colonel W. O. Mansbridge, D.S.O.

James Craig
and Regional Reconstruction committees have, therefore, been asked to forward comprehensive reports and recommendations for consideration by Federal congress next October.

What We Want to Know

The following points are stressed and on which the fullest information is sought:
1. The non-absorption of 40 per cent. efficient men in industry and the effect this has on applicants awaiting training.
2. The absorptive capacity of industries affected by training.
3. The method of placing trainees.
4. Delays and the reasons in placement.
5. The effect of contract and peace-work on absorption.
6. Trades closed to trainees.
7. The system of assessing efficiency.
8. What trade openings are available by exchange between the States.

To Arrest the Drift

From the information thus supplied Federal Executive will be in a position to frame suitable recommendations for submission to the Federal Government. It is hoped that by this means the drift in C.R.T.S. will be arrested and the threatened economic loss to Australia of thousands of ex-servicemen will be prevented.

It would appear that the position varies in the different States and the problems above enumerated are not necessarily common to all States. The position in Western Australia has been fairly satisfactory—but only fairly.

The League feels that by constant checking up on the position and bringing pressure to bear on anomalies as they arise any tendency towards drift will be discovered in time to apply the remedy.

An unfortunate aspect of the scheme are the delays over which apparently there is no control and which are not due to any inherent defects in the scheme itself. The shortage of material is one example of delay in training.

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REMOULDING
NEW TYRE GUARANTEE
ALL MAKES NEW TYRES SOLD
REPARTIATION

R.S.L. DEPUTATION TO MINISTER FOR REPARTIATION

The Repatriation Committee of the League waited on the Minister (Mr. H. C. Barnard) during his recent visit to Perth, to place before him the following requests:—

1. Has the matter of incapacity war pensions been considered, owing to the increased cost of living and the recent increases in certain other types of pensions?
2. Will ex-servicemen be reimbursed for time or wages lost when called to attend medical appointments?
3. As furniture grants are allowed to certain types of approved applicants, will the grant be extended to approved widowed mothers?
4. Would the Minister consider the promulgation of all alterations and amendments of the Repatriation Regulations, to enable ex-servicemen’s organisations to be notified immediately the alterations take place, as it often takes a long time before ex-servicemen learn of the alterations.
5. Will an increased allowance be made to war widows with dependent children, and also to war widows who are incapacitated as a result of illness or old age? Will war widows and their children have the same medical facilities made available to them by the Repatriation Department as are at present available to ex-servicemen with war-accepted disabilities?
6. Will the Minister endeavour to have the Act altered in order that war pensions in regard to income in the Means-Test similar to that of Friendly Societies, i.e. the allowing of an extra £1 per week in the Means Test for War Pensioners.

The Minister was impressed with some of the points submitted and promised to go further into the matter, and the result of the deputation is awaited with interest.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Last year, the Repatriation Committee of the League prepared a comprehensive report on repatriation institutions, which was submitted to a Medical Advisory Committee. The need for Occupational Therapy and advisory work for patients was stressed, particularly where patients require prolonged hospitalisation.

As a result of the request, plans have now been finalised to permit patients under medical supervision and guidance to have a planned day, in accordance with the ideal of working towards their own cure and ultimate re-establishment in industry.

All therapeutic facilities, including education and training as prescribed, will now be available to patients.

Out-patients clinics and local medical officers will be regarded as Medical institutions, for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the broad policy outlined by the Commission.

OUT-PATIENTS’ CLINIC

The new out-patients’ clinic in the former Air Force huts at the Southern end of William Street, Perth, is a big step forward. There are three doctors in attendance, two qualified nurses and two dispensers.

The days of long waits in draughty corridors, and the unwrapped beer-bottle medicines are now gone.

PROCEDURE AT CLINICS

The procedure in receiving treatment at the Out-Patients’ Clinic is simple, if the member has been sent there by the Repatriation Department.

Cards and medical papers will already be there... If, however, the member is attached to a local medical officer for treatment, and he desires to use the clinic, it is necessary to advise the Repatriation Department, at Riverside Drive, when the necessary arrangements will be made for the transfer.

THOSE MEDALS...

They Won’t be Inscribed!

The Federal Government has repeated its refusal to the R.S.L. to inscribe medals and campaign stars with the rank, number, name and unit of the recipient, as was done after World War I. The medals are in production, but the Minister states that the inscription sought by the League would entail a job of such magnitude that distribution would be delayed. The value of World War II awards will be lessened if they are not inscribed.

They will have little or no sentimental or heirloom worth and if lost, they can be worn by impostors without fear of detection. The delay in issuing the medals would be worthwhile if it is ensured that those entitled to wear them the satisfaction of knowing that the people are sufficiently appreciative of their service for their country to inscribe their names on the awards.

Ex-servicemen feel some resentment at the decision of the Government, and the League proposes to press the matter further.

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Odds & Sods

Organisations in Australia may now send food parcels to organisations in Britain in group lots. All parcels sent in a collective case must be addressed to individuals.

Organisations forwarding bulk parcel lots must nominate agents in Britain to handle distribution. British authorities suggest that consignees in Britain be given advance information regarding the contents of each case, to facilitate obtaining the Import License before the goods arrive.

Following a request by the Returned Servicemen’s League, a driver in the Western Australian Government Railways is to be given a life pass.

He is Mr. J. R. Jones, who was awarded the British Empire Medal for dealing with an outbreak of fire in a truck of bombs, which was attached to his train, in 1942.

The Railways Commissioner has indicated that the life pass, which will be presented to Mr. Jones, may take the form of an engraved replica of his decoration. It is understood he is the only Australian railway-man to be decorated for gallantry during the course of his normal duties.

The State President of the R.S.L., on August 18, 1947, gave a farewell function to Mr. Conrad Charlton, Manager of the ABC in Perth.

The State President (Mr. Anderson) and the Immediate Past President (Mr. Edmondson) spoke of the great assistance Mr. Charlton had always given to ex-servicemen. Mr. Edmondson detailed Mr. Charlton’s work on educational broadcasts, and said both he and Mrs. Charlton had elevated the standard of music during the eleven years they had lived in Perth.

His remarks were endorsed by Mr. Sanderson; who represented the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women, and Mr. Hodge, of the Ex-Naval Men’s Association.

THE LISTENING POST

Brigadier Blackburn, V.C., Chairman of the Canteen Trust Fund, was recently in Perth to interview applicants for the position of secretary to the fund. The appointment will be for 25 years, carrying a salary range from £900 to £1,200 per annum. Several hundred applications had been received from all parts of Australia.

Former P’sO.W. who were discharged before they could be granted special recreational leave, may now claim payment in lieu of leave not taken. In some cases the leave will amount to as much as 32 days. About 900 former P’sO.W. who were discharged in this State will benefit. Claims should be submitted in writing to D.F.O., Nicholson Road, Subiaco.

The Minister for Repatriation, Mr. H. G. Barnard, whilst in Perth received many deputations. He made a good impression on those who waited upon him for his patience, courtesy and sympathy. He has a quiet but convincing manner, and his listeners are convinced that his aim is to make available to everyone who is entitled those benefits provided under the Repatriation Act.

The American Legion of Ex-Servicemen has advised the R.S.L. that it will give full support to this State’s proposal for Australian and American reciprocity for medical treatment to ex-servicemen. After World War I an agreement was reached with Washington to provide full repatriation benefits for U.S. veterans in Australia. This agreement lapsed before the outbreak of war in 1939.

“Our battle today is one of policy, and the work of the department is all that can be expected. Where there is justifiable criticism, it goes beyond State level,” said Mr. H. A. Leslie, M.L.A., ex-servicemen’s representative on the Regional Re-establishment and Training Committees at a conference of ex-servicemen’s organisations held at the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction last week.

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Britain Versus Germany

At a time when Britain’s very economic life is threatened it is unbelievable that the idea should be entertained of importing goods from an enemy country in competition with goods from the Mother Land. Britain’s fight is ours fight and imports from Britain should come first. The United Kingdom can supply all our needs in textiles. The Controller of Customs is reported to be considering an Australian agent’s application to import 5,000,000 yards of dress, shirt and pyjama textiles from German factories.

It is the League’s intention to approach the Minister for Trade and Customs (Senator Courtice) for details and to ascertain the Government’s policy on the matter.

It may be necessary to import some commodities from enemy countries, but this should be kept at an absolute minimum.

The R.S.L. feels that the Government would receive public endorsement of a policy of maximum aid to Britain in her hour of need, and the slogan should be, “Buy British First.”

FROZEN LEAVE

Anomaly Rectified

At the instance of the R.S.L., the Minister for the Army (Mr. Chambers) has rectified an anomaly affecting members of the Interim Army serving in Australia, who had their leave frozen as at 30th June last.

Some units received an order that after that date all accrued recreational leave would be credited in pay-books until such time as conditions were determined by the new pay code, and that, after completing a further four months’ service, members would be entitled to six days leave, irrespective of the fact that they may not have had any leave over long periods. This freezing of leave was made to enable the finalisation of all entitlements under Special Forces conditions, but it was not intended to prevent personnel proceeding on leave until they had completed a further four months’ service.

IMMIGRATION

Need for Clearly-Defined Policy

“Populate or Perish” was a common cry before the war. It is still an urgent matter for Australia. We cannot hold this vast continent with a mere handful of population.

Population at any price, however, is not the solution. There does not appear to be any clearly-defined policy as to how we are going to acquire the population, nor do we seem clear as to the sources from which we will draw them. The idea, of course, is to have our own British stock encouraged to migrate, but even Britain cannot supply all of the population which we require.

If transport is available for immigration, then let us see that people of British stock and other desirable types of Europeans, like Scandinavians, are given the first opportunity.

The Commonwealth Government would do well to have enquiries made into the type of immigrant that is being admitted into the Commonwealth, to ensure that there is some pre-selection, or that all intended immigrants be interviewed and endorsed by the staffs of the various High Commissioners as being suitable as immigrants.

A more vigorous policy of immigration must be pursued by the Commonwealth Government, particularly in relation to the immigration to this country of persons from Great Britain.

PUSH-BUTTON WARFARE

No Need for Armies

The white-smocked scientists and technicians will just gear up their instruments of destruction, push the button and the enemy’s country will be devastated. No need for armies, of course, with all their ponderous machinery. No need to make soldiers out of civilians, and the munition worker will just need to sit back at home and watch the television screen giving details of a possible third World War.

The number of machines used in the First World War was far exceeded in the Second World War.

The aggregation of machines and instruments in the Second World War did not lessen the need for men—in fact, it increased the need for men and women.

The Second World War saw more men in uniform than ever before in the history of the world, and fewer infantry men. For every heavy bomber with a crew of 10, many times 10 men were needed to service and supply that bomber and its crew. For every infantry division of 14,000 men, a rear echelon of 21,000 troops was required to keep it in combat.

We still hear the old arguments today, just as in 1940. We are assured that a grand army of half a million men, armed with modern weapons and tanks, would be more than necessary to finish the war.

First it was Air Power that was going to do the job. Then the guided, supersonic missiles, proximity fuses, lethal bacteria and, finally, the atomic bombs.

Despite these weapons and despite the white-smocked scientists and technicians, war will still require large armies of trained men and women, and that quickly.

We are assured that the next war will come with devastating swiftness. Only men trained before the fury of the fury and that can hope to participate effectively in the defence of home and country.

This, of course, is a warning which is well worth heeding, particularly to those in power, who have the push-button warfare complex..
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PERTH
"JAPAN PARTY"

Sketches of P's O.W. in Korea

We have received from Mr. John Wilkinson a copy of a booklet containing a collection of drawings and sketchings by him under difficult conditions and with poor materials. The drawings represent some of the P's O.W. experiences from the time the "Japan Party" left Changi Camp, Singapore, in 1942, up to the finish of the war in 1945. The accompanying sketch is an example of one of the illustrations. The booklet is on sale at Alberts.

Working on the freight platform at Keijo Station, although handling a great deal of heavy work, had its advantages. The proportion of the freight was foodstuffs and, of course, the P's O.W. took their share of that. The sketch shows sugar being loaded into a truck. Note the P.O.W. getting his sugar behind their backs.

---

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BRANCHES AND AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.
CHECK UP ON YOUR RENT
It Should Be The Same As At August, 1939

With the acute shortage of housing there is a temptation to landlords to demand increased rents. With the large volume of discharges from the Services, accommodation was taxed to its absolute limit and many ex-servicemen became desperate as to how they would find accommodation for themselves and their families. They became easy prey to those landlords who sought to profit from the prevailing conditions.

LAW TO PROTECT TENANTS
Legislation was laid down to protect tenants from abuses and to prevent those who could afford to pay the higher rates getting preference over those who could not pay the exorbitant rents. It was never intended that any section of the community should profit at the expense of another section, because of economic conditions. For that reason, the increase of the Rent (War Restrictions) Act was introduced.

Under this Act, the tenant could demand from the landlord:

(a) A Statutory Declaration within seven days, declaring the standard rent of the premises occupied.

(b) Production of the records showing the rents received as at August 31, 1939, together with the name of the then tenant.

Penalties are provided under the Act for the non-production of this information by the landlord to the tenant.

FURNISHED FLATS
A complication arose where furnished flats were concerned. Landlords endeavoured to increase the rent by furnishing flats with odd pieces of furniture and charging additional rent for the use of the furniture, far in excess, of course, of its value. This was having the effect of bypassing the intention of the Act in pegging rents. An amendment was passed, which came into effect on November, 1943. It had no retrospective effect, and could not date back to the original Act, which came into operation on August 31, 1939.

The date of the amendment (11th November, 1943) for furnished flats, therefore, had the effect of, at least, pegging the rents for furnished flats, as from that date even although they might have been exorbitant.

If you are renting a furnished flat you are entitled to ascertain what rent was being paid for it on November 11, 1943, and that is the rent you should be now paying, otherwise your rent was pegged at the 1939 level.
OUR WAR LEADERS PASS  
(Continued from page 2)  
FUNERAL SERVICE AT ST. GEORGE’S CATHEDRAL 
Address by Very Reverend R. H. Moore 
There are scores of people who knew Colonel Collett better than I did and as one of his later friends who stood, as it were, on the outskirts of his circles of fellow workers, perhaps I have gained impressions of the value of his influence in the community. I have been able to see from a middle distance, as it were, a wider view of his work. 
His leadership of the 28th Battalion during the First World War would, in itself, have earned him a title of greatness. That was but a prelude to the leadership which he showed since those days. It can be, truly said that it was he who was foremost in preaching, by work and example, the doctrine that men, who by their own initiative and courage and devotion to duty had saved their country in time of war; who, whilst they still had health and strength, used their gifts in building up the State in days of peace. 
His influence in the councils of the R.S.L. and in forming the traditions which guide and inspire it in this State, was incalculable. It exists today as an organisation which stands for service, not only to its own members, but for all who strive towards true citizenship, which seeks to bring into public life fair dealing and ill afford to lose men with the character—generous self-forgetting service. We can see the leadership of the late Col. H. B. Collett. We need men like him in public life. His life is a pattern and an inspiration for us to follow, especially those who are called to leadership and service, in whatever sphere. 
To his family our sincerest sympathy goes out. We appreciate the magnitude of their loss from the knowledge of our own, and we share with them in proud memory of a brave man and a good citizen, whom we were privileged to know as friend. May he rest in peace. 

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Eastern States, Overseas and Country Visitors Specially  
Catered for. Reasonable Tariff.  
A special Welcome for all Sportsmen and Holiday-Makers 

OUR WAR DEAD  
Situation of War Cemeteries  
The Imperial War Graves Commission recently announced that war cemeteries have now been established at Bomana (in a field 12 miles from Port Moresby); at Lae (on the “Terrace,” one mile from the town of Lae); at Ambon (on high ground, two miles from the harbour); at Mamas (eight miles from the city); at Sandakan (eleven miles from Sandakan); at Labuan (three miles from Port Victoria, on high ground overlooking the sea); at Japan (twelve miles from Yokohama). 
The task of recovering those who fell on army battlefields and the Pacific area is proceeding more rapidly than was hoped, taking into considera-
tion the handicaps imposed by dis-
tance.
The sites of these war cemeteries
have all been well chosen. Next of
kin will be able to visit the graves
when shipping returns to normal.
Graves are now marked by tempo-
rary memorials, but arrangements are
in hand for the construction of per-
manent head-stones.

OUR WAR BLINDED
Training Facilities at St. Dunstan's
The President of the Federal
Blinded Ex-Servicemen's Association
(Mr. P. J. Lynch) returned to Aus-
tralia by the Stratheden. He was on
a visit to England at the invitation of
Sir Ian Fraser, M.P., Chairman of
St. Dunstan's, to examine the train-
ing facilities there for blinded ex-ser-
vice men. He has submitted a report
to the Repatriation Commission
recommending that men whose blind-
ess is the result of war service should
be sent to St. Dunstan's for training,
if they so desire. Mr. Lynch was him-
self trained there; he having been
blinded in the First World War. He
considers the training there to be more
complete than anything available for
blinded men here.

INTERESTING
The Commonwealth Bank allows its
own officers advances for acquiring
homes, and private banks make simi-
lar concessions, at two and a quarter
per cent., yet ex-servicemen must pay
three and a quarter per cent., on
advances for the purpose of acquiring
war service homes.

Mr. Hamilton, M.H.R. for Swan,
W.A., has brought this to the atten-
tion of the Minister for Works and
Housing, Mr. Lemmon, who has prom-
ised to look into the matter.

An old congress identity, Jack East,
of Beddington, has been an inmate
of the Royal Perth Hospital. The
hope is expressed that our old friend
will soon be well and about again.

Nominations for all officers in the
W.A. Branch of the R.S.L. closed on
July 31. The State President (Mr.
Anderson) has served for three years
and is, consequently, not eligible for
reelection under the League's con-
stitution.
Faversham House - York

HOLIDAY, REST AND CONVALESCENT HOME FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

Faversham House, York, has been entirely refurnished and staffed by the Returned Servicemen's League as a first-class Rest and Convalescent Home with large and well-furnished bedrooms.

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will be pleased to supply, your ration of tobacco or cigarettes

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CYCLES AND RADIO
A TRIAL WILL BE TO OUR MUTUAL ADVANTAGE

Hospital Visiting

Our Old Comrades Are Not Forgotten

It may not be generally known that metropolitan sub-branches carry out the task of visiting each of the nine institutions where our old Digger friends are receiving attention for war-caused disabilities.

A roster is in operation, whereby each Sunday there is one or other of the metropolitan sub-branches visiting the various institutions.

These institutions are: Hollywood Hospital; Sunset, Home of Peace, Claremont Hospital, Heathcote, Lennons, Edward Millen Home, Wooroloo and Perth Hospital.

The sub-branches have responded splendidly to the scheme of visiting which was introduced a few months ago, as they find that, by these means, they are given the opportunity of doing some practical service.

Women's auxiliaries of the various sub-branches are not behind in taking up this work and for many years have been carrying out visita-
VISIT TO WOOROLLOO

West Swan Sub-Branch Report

A letter from the West Swan sub-branch, to the Hospital Visiting Committee of the R.S.L. is typical of the reports which we receive from sub-branches visiting the various institutions. The letter is published for information:

"Having visited, as per roster, the above hospital, on Sunday, 18th May, ten members of the West Swan sub-branch made the trip.

"After spending a very interesting time, we made a few observations which may be useful for future sub-branch visits. We visited every ward which was occupied by male patients, some 20 wards, each of which housed ten patients. We located some 40 servicemen in these wards (included in this number were five Chinese servicemen, who seem to be among the "Lost Legion."). We do not want to lose sight of these on future visits.

"My sub-branch provided amenities for 28 persons and, to the remaining number (12), we are sending along a parcel so that no one will be left out.

"As to the type of amenities, my sub-branch provided orange, grapefruit, bananas, tobacco (pipe and cigarette), cigarettes and sweets, which seemed to be very satisfactory, but you may find a non-smoker or two and, therefore, I would suggest (personal opinion) some small books, such as "Penguins," etc., to help fill in.

READIMG MATTER FOR EX-SERVICE PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

A letter from the Secretary, Baker's Hill-Clackline sub-branch, reports on their visits to Wooroloo. He mentioned that reading matter is very welcome. This was also noted during a recent visit to the C.H.I. Illustrated papers are greatly sought. This is one of the amenities of which sub-branch visitors should ensure they have a good supply, before they visit the institutions allotted to them.

It should be easily arranged for sub-branches to collect interesting reading matter for distribution to the ex-service inmates of the various institutions.

NO GREATCOATS

Diggers Who Missed Out

Representations have been made to the Federal Government, over a long period, in an endeavour to have greatcoats and winter dress, uniforms issued to personnel who were discharged without being able to retain these items of personal issue.

It appears now that owing to shortage of supplies and restricted sizes, added to the difficulty of checking records of personal issue retained on discharge, the Government cannot accede to the League's request.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

Shooting Sparrows With a Cannon

The R.S.L. has decided to forward a protest to the Commonwealth Government regarding civil service examinations for ex-service men. The League claims that in these examinations ex-service candidates are required to answer questions which have no relation to the jobs for which they are applying.

At a recent meeting of the R.S.L. Federal Executive, a Tasmanian delegate complained that candidates for technical jobs, such as P.M.G. linesmen, were asked to compare the economic set-up of Canada with that of Australia, to write five lines about Warren Hastings and Robert Clive, and to give the date of Captain Philip's arrival at Botany Bay. He said that such questions were not suitable for a quiz competition.

Under this system, an ex-service man needed to be a walking encyclopaedia to get a job, say, as a plumber.

The R.S.L. will also ask the Commonwealth Government to amend the Commonwealth Public Service Act so that ex-service men can receive permanent appointments after two years' temporary service.

THE VICTORIA CROSS

Where it is Made

The Victoria Cross is the highest award in the British Commonwealth for valour in arms.

It looks comparatively easy to make. Perfect craftsmanship is necessary to achieve so delicate a design. The medal itself is a Maltese Cross with the Royal Crown embossed on the centre. The crown is surmounted by a lion. The simple legend reads: "For Valour."

It is suspended by a red ribbon and it comprises an insinia just over 3 ins. long and 1½ ins. wide.

Ever since the Crimean War, the Victoria Cross has been made in a modest little jeweller's shop in the West End of London. You would hardly notice the shop in passing.

The fashioning tradition has been held by three generations of the same family.
L.O.B.

Sub-Branch and Auxiliary Reports

Owing to space restrictions, the reports have had, of necessity, to be omitted from this issue. They will appear in the next issue.

SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

Sub-branch Secretaries were circulated to send in particulars of their officers and place, date and time of meeting. Less than 20 per cent. have done so. Next issue the sub-branch directory will be printed and, where no particulars have been sent, the name of the sub-branch will only be shown. Shake it up, Secretaries!

MISSING FRIENDS

Mr. M. Collins, of Cooba Creek, via Juno, New South Wales, would like news of his brother, J. M. Collins, 4999, "A" Coy., 28th Bn., 13th Regt. Last heard of in 1929, address then being 57 Central Avenue, Maylands.

Mr. Fred Howell, of 14 Ingestre Street, Mornington, Wellington, New Zealand, is anxious to know the whereabouts of D. Harris, WX1823, last heard of at the 71 A.G.H., Northam.

Mr. Howell states that he was a P.O.W. with Mr. Harris in a camp in Germany, and will be glad to hear from anyone who can give him information about his old cobber.

Crossword Puzzle Solution

August, 1947

TOLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION—Room 33, 5th Floor, Gledden Building, Perth; 1st Pension Day of the month at 2 p.m.; President: W. H. Newland, 152 Coode Street, North Perth (B 6934); Secretary: Chas. C. Walker, 124 Walcott Street, Mt. Lawley.

2/16th BATTALION—Annual reunion, Friday, October 10 (Show Week); President: Clarrie Wooler, Public Works Dept., Perth; Secretary: Jack Kenny, 158 6th Avenue, Ingleswood.

41st LIGHT INFANTRY—Annual reunion at station, Perth; when called; President: Mr. H. H. Donohoe, 76 Mount Alexander Road, South Perth. Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

2/43rd BATTALION—Annual reunion, Friday, October 10 (Show Week); President: H. J. Robinson, 76 Mount Alexander Road, South Perth. Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

2/43rd BATTALION—Annual reunion, Friday, October 10 (Show Week); President: H. J. Robinson, 76 Mount Alexander Road, South Perth. Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

44th BATTALION—As advertised; Annual Reunion, Thursday, March 20 (Show Week); President: J. J. Sivertson, 292 Queen Street, Perth; Secretary: C. H. McGraw, 292 Queen Street, Perth.

51st BATTALION—Reunion Friday in Show Week each year; other meetings as arranged; President: T. R. Cameron, 250 Mount Alexander Road, East Perth; Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

2/4th MACHINERY-GUN BATTALION—Annual reunion, Thursday, March 20 (Show Week); President: T. R. Cameron, 250 Mount Alexander Road, East Perth; Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

2/11th BATTALION (A.I.F.)—Annual reunion, July; other meetings as arranged; President: T. R. Cameron, 250 Mount Alexander Road, East Perth; Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.

2/43rd BATTALION (W.A. Branch)—Annual reunion, October 23; President: V. P. O'Dea, Secretary: V. P. O'Dea, 292 Queen Street, Perth; Treasurer: T. R. Cameron, 250 Mount Alexander Road, East Perth; Secretary: W. W. Head, 139 Elks Road, South Perth.
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