"Victory is a Thing of the Will" (Foch's favourite saying). A hitherto unpublished picture of the end of the "Bartolomeo Colleoni." (See page 7.)

THIS MONTH'S FEATURES:

- Highlights of Congress
- Russian Fairy Tale
- The Nip at Home
- Traitors
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Congress, 1948

By the time this editorial appears in print another Congress will have come and gone.

To many people a congress or a conference means but one thing—junketing. In other words they visualise the gathering together of delegates from all parts of the State as a time for enjoyment and merrymaking—a glorious get-together of old comrades.

But the League Congress puts junketing in the background as a minor matter which may be enjoyed only after much heavy work is done. For the League is a true democratic institution, run—not by a clique—but by the members themselves.

For every member, no matter where he lives, may vote for another member (or for himself, for that matter) to represent him at Congress. And at Congress those delegates decide the policy and the general working of the League for the coming year. They appoint a State Executive, but this Executive works purely upon their instructions. Each and every member has his say upon what should and what should not be done, and, as in all true democratic bodies, the will of the majority rules.

Matters thrashed out at Congress cover a wide range of subjects. Some are purely domestic, but a great many are of importance to Australia herself. For the League is no pulling infant; neither is it a doddering ancient—it is a live and active body, strong in membership, and of importance to the scheme of life in this country of ours.

Make no mistake. What the League does throughout the coming year will be reflected in many circles. Parliamentarians have their ears attuned to League doings; public and civic bodies are often swayed by League decisions; and the life of every ex-serviceman is the better (doubt it not) for the League’s activities.
We find that in our main cartoon last month (page 13) the words "State Executive" were so spaced as to label one man "Sex" and another "Eve." There should be a moral or story or something here.

The question of increasing working hours to 44 a week was discussed at this year's annual conference of the New Zealand Returned Servicemen's Association. One delegate said that a state of emergency existed in New Zealand, as hundreds of returned servicemen could not get housing accommodation. The congress decided to ask all local governing bodies what they thought about a return to 44 hours.

A member of a South Australian sub-branch recently visited this State and left with the State Secretary the Title Deeds of an acre of land in Belmont. Although he received a good offer for the block whilst here, he has generously made the block available for purchase by an ex-service man without the necessity of paying any agent's commission. About £40 will cover the price and transfer fees. Details are available at Anzac House.

The first ascent of a man-carrying balloon was on October 15, 1783, when M. Pilatre de Rozier went up to 100 feet in a captive balloon. The first free balloon ascent was on November 21 of the same year, when two passengers drifted for some 20 minutes (five miles) at about 500 feet. The first actual controlled flight by a man-carrying, power-driven aeroplane was made by Orville Wright on December 17, 1903. That flight was a straight trip of 872 feet.

It is revealed from the United States that one in three of all World War II veterans has taken some form of training or education under the G.I. Bill (equivalent to our Rehabilitation schemes).

You may have heard quite a bit about the Battle of Agincourt. Do you know why? Because while the French had between 30,000 and 60,000 men in the field, England had only about 9,000. Yet England won the day, losing only a few hundred men against the French losses of some 8,000, of whom over 1,000 were taken prisoner.

Strange as it may seem: The first altitude record made by an aviator was that of Henry Farman; at Issy on November 13, 1908. Plane was a Voisin with a 40 h.p. Vivinus engine, and the height recorded—no less than 82 feet.

Never say "Die"—Say "Damn"—It isn't classic, it may be profane, But we mortals have need of it time and again, And you'll find you'll recover from Fate's hardest slam, If you never say "Die"—say "Damn".

Most Chinese homes still have their kitchen god, in a picture, who watches over the household for twelve months and then, upon being burned up on New Year's Day, goes to heaven to give his annual report on the behaviour of the family. If they believe his report likely to be unfavourable, his picture is soaked in wine before the burning so that he will become intoxicated and be refused admittance at the Golden Gate.

The earliest English records of the employment of artillery date from the reign of Henry III, when archers and stonemasons were on the pay lists of the master of ordnance, the stonemasons being responsible for the manufacture of stone shot. These men were taken overseas, and as late as 1389, at the siege of Athbone, stone-shot was still being used.

The last great cavalry charge in history was when Kitchener defeated the Dervishes at Omdurman in 1898. Cavalry were the 21st Lancers, and among the officers was Lieut. Winston Churchill (who killed six of the enemy).

Those who have heard ammunition dumps blown up or mines exploded or ships torpedoed may think that they have heard some of the most terrific explosions ever, but the loudest noise the world ever heard was when the volcano Krakatoa erupted in 1883. So violent was the actual sound that it was heard as far as 3,000 miles away—the greatest distance at which sound waves have ever been perceived.

"Gallipoli became a battle honour and Anzac the proudest word in the Australian lexicon. Men said that on the beaches and the steep terrain above them, under the withering fire of an entrenched enemy, a nation was born. They were wrong. The courage and hardship that stormed the impossible heights was not a last-minute miracle. They were bred out of five generations of pioneers, diggers and political militants in a country at peace."—Marjorie Barnard in "Australian Outline."

Just before Japan entered World War II, some of her scientists produced a new flour made from dried and finely-ground fish. Treated with alcohol, this flour was said to mix well with ordinary wheat flour and to make a nourishing and palatable light loaf. But bread is only eaten by the wealthy Nips.

An American inventor has been awarded a patent on a "double-trigger safety" for guns, which will permit firing only when the weapon is actually brought into position against the shoulder.
A meeting of the State Executive was held on September 8 at 5.30 p.m. Here is a brief resume of the business transacted:

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SIR JAMES MITCHELL**

It was reported that the State President and the State Secretary had called at Government House and conveyed greetings on behalf of the State Executive to His Excellency. A wire of congratulation had also been sent from the League. This action was approved with acclamation.

**INCREASE IN PENSIONS**

It was reported that at the request of the Federal President telegrams had been sent to the W.A. members of both Houses in the Federal Parliament urging substantial increases in war pensions in conformity with the increased living costs.

**THIRD DELEGATE TO FEDERAL CONGRESS**

It was recommended that the State Secretary accompany the Delegates elected at the last meeting of the Executive to attend the 33rd Annual Federal Congress in October.

**FEDERAL PRESIDENT**

It was resolved that Federal Congress delegates be instructed to vote for E. Millhouse for the office of Federal President.

**WAR SERVICE HOMES**

The position regarding the moratorium extended to ex-servicemen whilst on service in connection with the interest and capital repayments on loans for war service homes was discussed at length. Whilst the interest had been waived the Commission was insisting that the suspended repayments of capital should be added to current repayments. This imposed a hardship and the claim is that the deferred capital repayments should be added on to the end of the normal period of the loan. The Executive resolved to strongly protest through the Federal Office against this ruling of the Commission, and urge that repayments should be added on to the normal period of the loan.

**HOUSING**

The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered the Self-Help Scheme; country visit by chairman; buildings at Bunbury and a discussion with representatives from the Master Builders' Association and the Builders' Guild. The following resolutions were submitted for Executive endorsement:

1. "That it be a recommendation to the State Housing Commission that in connection with the rise and fall clause in building contracts, there should be a time limit imposed in which the building shall be completed, or, alternatively, that all labour costs be stabilised."

2. "That builders be permitted to carry on group building of dwelling-houses on land owned by the builders or otherwise owned, subject to approval of plans and prices by a constituted authority."

3. "That consideration be given to the elimination of all building controls on homes up to the amount of £2,250."

The report was adopted, subject to recommendations that numbers 2 and 3 above be referred back to the Committee for further consideration, with a suggestion that No. 3 be considered on a squareage basis.

**RE-ESTABLISHMENT**

The report submitted by Mr. Leslie covered the matter of an appointment by Busselton Municipal Council; the dismissal of building tradesmen by the Public Works Department; retrenchment of ex-servicemen by the W.A. Prices Branch; Japanese in the pearl trade and treatment of non war caused disabled ex-servicemen.

**LAND**

The report submitted by Mr. Leslie covered the Minister for Land's reply regarding increased production on existing farms and action taken in connection with the turning down by the Land Purchase Board of several apparently suitable farms.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The report submitted by Mr. Chaney covered figures of the increase in membership, and plans for further improving the membership position.

**MINING**

The report submitted by Mr. Watt covered a number of items regarding the Mining Conference and also dealt with the drawing up by Mr. Lonnie of a State Executive resolution for measures to be taken to secure suitable migrants to relieve the acute labour shortage in mines.

**OTHER REPORTS**

Reports were also submitted on Anzac Club and Anzac House (Mr. Ferguson), Amelioration (Colonel Mansbridge), the R.S.L. Hostel (Mr. Watt), Prisoners of War and Decorations and the recent Federal Executive meeting (the last two items are dealt with in detail elsewhere in this issue).

A further meeting of the State Executive was held on September 22. Business transacted included:

**DEPUTATION TO PREMIER**

It was announced that the Premier had agreed to meet the State President and Colonel Olden to discuss the several matters referred from time to time by the Executive for the attention of the Government.

**MAINED & LIMBLESS ASSOCIATION**

A letter was received from the Mained & Limbless Association asking if the League would join with it in protest to the Government against the smallness in the recent increases in war pensions. The State Secretary's reply, pointing out what the League had already done in this regard, was confirmed, and it was recommended that the matter be referred to the incoming Pensions Committee. Resolved that: "The matter be referred to the Repatriation Committee, with power to act."

**BOOKLETS AT COUNTRY SHOWS**

Letters were received from Dalwallinu, Quairading and Merredin sub-branches objecting to the sale of booklets at country shows, the layout and titles of which misled the public into believing that by purchasing they were subscribing to ex-service men's organisations. It was recom-
mended that sub-branches be advised that the sales could not be considered as illegal, but that warnings could be issued pointing out that sellers of such books had no connection with ex-service organisations.

HOUSING

The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered deferred instalments of principal; curtailment of Government building; R.S.L. co-operative building schemes; applications for small-unit homes; maximum allowances for war service homes and a number of personal cases.

The following resolutions were submitted for Executive endorsement:

(1) "That builders be permitted to carry on group building of dwelling-houses on land owned by the builders or otherwise owned, subject to strict control by the State Housing Commission of the selection of the purchaser or other occupier, and approval by the Commission of the plans, type, quality and price."

(2) "That consideration be given to the elimination of all building controls on homes up to the value of £1,500, or, alternatively, of 12½ squares overall in area."

(3) "In view of the conflicting reports concerning the costs of building of houses by day labour; against contract, the State Minister for Housing be asked to furnish for comparison purposes costs (and dates) of houses built under each Scheme."

MIGRATION

The report submitted by Mr. Yeates gave details of recent and expected arrivals from the United Kingdom. Correspondence was read dealing with the welcome given to migrants.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT

The report submitted by Mr. Sten covered a conference between members of the committee and the No. 17 District Committee, concerning the fishing industry; dismissal of building tradesmen by the Public Works Department as it affects trainees; retrenchment of ex-service men in the W.A. Prices Branch; C.R.T.S. trade display at the Royal Show; and the present situation in regard to bricklayer trainees.

Arisng from this report the following resolutions were carried:—

(1) "That this League is concerned at the non-training of ex-servicemen as bricklayers, particularly in view of the shortage in this trade, and recommends that a Select Committee be appointed by Parliament to enquire into the cause and the effect it is having on the housing position of ex-servicemen in this State."

(2) "That the matter of the amendment to the Builders' Registration Act now before Parliament be referred to the State President to take what action he considers is in the best interests of the League."

OTHER REPORTS

Reports were also submitted on Management (Mr. W. J. Hunt), Faversham (Mr. Sten), Anzac House (Mr. Ferguson), Finance (Mr. (Continued on page 32)
RUSSIAN FAIRY TALE

During the past few months some most interesting facts and figures regarding Russia and the Russians have been published in the American Press. Here we give you a few salient extracts.

"No achievement in history has been so grossly exaggerated as Russia's part in the war of 1939-45. Despite the propaganda-coloured statements of the leftist Press, Russia's contribution to victory was much less than that of either Great Britain or the United States," says Colonel John O. Beaty in The American Legion.

"In the first place there is the colossal fact that the war almost certainly would not have taken place if Communist Russia had not concluded a pact with Nazi Germany in 1939. In the second place, Russia's help to Germany in the conquest of Poland in 1939 must, in any evaluation of Russia's war effort, be subtracted from her later fighting against a Germany whose navy and air force had already been beaten off by Britain.

"Russia was only an interested spectator when Germany overran Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France. France practically collapsed after six days of actual fighting and Britain thus, in effect, carried on the war single-handed against the Axis powers from September 3, 1939, until June 22, 1941. Britain was in the war nearly two years longer than Russia and fought on several continents and on all the oceans.

"By contrast, Russia fought an already stalemated Germany on a single front on only one border. Russia engaged most of Hitler's troops during the middle phase of the war, but she was absent for the first two years and her achievements were a poor second to America's in the closing phases. Unquestionably, then, all factors of sea, air, land supply and duration being given proper consideration, the part played by Russia in the war against Germany was definitely less than that of Great Britain.

"Like Russia's war effort, the war damage to the Soviet Union has been grossly exaggerated. . . . It is true that about one-tenth of Russia, including some very productive areas, suffered great damage from Hitler's armies. Most of the damage, however, was suffered by "Soviet Republics" which are not a part of the heart of Russia.

"No German soldiers penetrated to the Ural area of the Russian Republic, where Stalin's Magnitogorsk and other recent heavy industry projects were developed. . . .

"The exact extent of Russian battle casualties will probably never be known. Since most of her fighting involved no overseas operations, it seems safe, however, to say that Russia's war birth-rate greatly exceeded that of Britain and America and that Russia's net population loss from the war was much the smallest of the three. . . .

"Russia, because of generous lend-lease, managed to improve her still low standard of living. At the end of the war the Soviet breeding herds were practically intact. . . .

"But the principles of Russian Communism have not been changed. . . . According to Stalin, who has never recanted in word or deed, Communism is to be maintained through violence and violence is enjoined as a duty even when unnecessary. The programme is to be unceasingly continued until all the world falls in blood purges under the hammer and sickle."

Drew Middleton, the chief of The New York Times Moscow Bureau in 1946-47, says in that newspaper: "There is no way of predicting when the Soviet Union will feel itself ready for war. But under the present system in Russia there is no guarantee that the Soviet Union will ever be powerful enough to risk war with the United States.

"Nowhere is glorification of war greater, nowhere else are people so often informed of how sweet and honorable it is to die for one's country. But this should not divert us from hard facts. . . .

"There is no comparison between the Soviet industrial economy, which is the basis upon which wars are fought, and that of the United States. The Soviet Union is halfway or perhaps only a third of the way through its industrial revolution. . . . The Soviet Union will this year manufacture, at the most optimistic estimate, 17 to 20 million tons of steel." (The United States steel industry, in 1947, produced 84,750,000 tons of ingot steel.)

Another prominent commentator on current events points out that only one-eighth of Russia is really fertile, and to support a population of 192,000,000 people, Russia has only about as much acreage as the United States has to support her 142,000,000.

He adds: "The truth is that Russia has been, and will probably continue to be, one of the starvation lands of the world."

But to return to Colonel Beaty. He says: "What will happen when Russia has manufactured a stockpile of atomic bombs? The humane and generous America did not hesitate to use the bomb to save the lives of its soldiers. Can we have any doubt that Russia, as soon as her bombs are ready and, at the proper place, will liquidate the hated 'capitalist democracies,' Britain and America, in a world-wide atomic Pearl Harbour?"

Let us not forget, here in Australia, that we have in the Communist Party a fifth column able and ready to do its damnedest. Today this party thinks nothing of the bulk of the working people. It engineers strikes and throws hundreds (even thousands) of people out of employment without the slightest compunction. Remember the fifth columnists of World War II, and don't be content to say, "It can't happen here."
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THE NAVY has long been renowned as the "silent service," and Rear Admiral John A. Collins, C.B., R.A.N., is a strict adherent to that traditional reserve. It is by no means easy to secure from him any details of his life, and now that he is the First Naval Member of the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board, and Chief of Naval Staff (appointments conferred upon him at the beginning of the year), silence, as Goldsmith said, seems to have become his mother-tongue.

But we do know that Rear Admiral Collins was Australian-born and bred. His birthplace was at Deloraine, Tasmania, and in his brief half-century he has had a truly brilliant career.

He was one of the first cadets to enter the Royal Australian Naval College. That was in 1913, when the college was at Geelong. After four years of training, he passed out in 1917, and went to England, where he served in the Grand Fleet until the end of World War I. He remained in England for some time after the war, and in 1923 he won the Commander Egerton Memorial Prize for gunnery.

Returning to Australia, he held various posts as Gunnery Officer. Then he became Squadron Gunnery Officer—a post in which he was responsible for the gunnery training of the whole of the Royal Australian Navy squadron. He was then given command of the destroyer Anzac. Later he did a Naval staff course. These various jobs gave him a sound grounding, and at the outbreak of World War II he held the joint appointment of Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff and Director of Naval Intelligence.

In November, 1939, he was appointed to the command of H.M.A.S. Sydney, and he was in this vessel during the whole of her gallant exploits in the Mediterranean.

Of these days the Rear Admiral will say very little. He does admit that: "We were in a good position to see a lot of fireworks." These "fireworks," as he modestly calls them, consisted of daring attacks on Italian shipping, bombardment of shore positions and the sinking of the modern Italian cruiser, Bartolomeo Colleoni.

The Bartolomeo Colleoni was the fastest cruiser in the world. Moreover, her armament was greatly superior to that of the Sydney. But, despite that, and also despite the fact that this Italian man-of-war was accompanied by another cruiser, the Giovanni delle Bande Neri, Collins and his men had no hesitation in throwing down the gauntlet. The result of that gallant action will go down in history. The Bartolomeo Colleoni was sunk, and the Giovanni delle Bande-Neri showed a clean pair of heels and fled. The Sydney escaped without a single casualty.

THE SAILOR

Of all the husbands on the earth,
The sailor has the finest beth,
For in his cabin he can sit
And sail and sail—and let 'er knif.

Under Collins, the Sydney was the first Allied ship to enter the mined Straits of Otranto, where it attacked enemy shipping. It was also the first ship to fight a pitched battle with enemy cruisers in World War II.

When Collins and the Sydney returned to Australia, Collins was appointed Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief, China. He was then promoted to Commodore, 2nd class, and later received the appointment of Commander of the British Far Eastern Squadron based on Java. In 1943 he again went to England, to assume command of the Shropshire, which had been presented to Australia by Britain to replace the lost Canberra. Under Collins, the Shropshire fought gallantly in the South-West Pacific.

He then became Commodore, 1st class, and was given the command of the Royal Australian-Naval Squadron. His flagship was the Australia, and in action off Leyte (October 21, 1944—Trafalgar Day) the Commodore was seriously wounded when a Kamikaze (suicide) pilot attacked the ship. After recovering, he was appointed Naval Officer in Command, Fremantle.

Many of us who met him in this State remember him as a slight, delicate-looking man with a pleasant cheery manner, and a deal of innate courtesy. In Naval circles he was familiarly known as "Johnny" or as "Jumper." The latter nickname, it is said, was bestowed upon him because of his highly-strung temperament. Whatever this temperament may have been it seems to have obtained results.

On January 7, 1947, he was promoted to Rear Admiral—a promotion which, it is admitted in all circles, was indeed deserved.

His decorations include the C.B., a Knighthood of the Order of Orange of Nassau, and an officership of the United States Legion of Merit.

He also holds the Royal Humane Society's Certificate for saving life at Porttwinkle, Cornwall, but the story of this episode remains yet to be divulged in full, and Rear Admiral Collins is the last person to divulge it.

One of the Rear Admiral's brothers is Dale Collins, well and favourably known throughout the English-speaking world as an author.

In concluding this brief story of a prominent Australian seaman, we must not forget the men who served under him. He would be the last to wish us to do that. Macaulay, in his History of England, says: "There were gentlemen and there were seamen in the navy of Charles the Second. But the seamen were not gentlemen; and the gentlemen were not seamen." Today things are vastly different, and in a ship each and every man is interdependent—one with the other. Shakespeare might well have had naval men in mind when he wrote:

We still have slept together,
Rose at an instant, learned, play'd, eat together;
And whereas' we went, like Juno's swans,
Still we went coupled and inseparable.
Federal Executive Meeting

A report on the Federal Executive meeting held in Adelaide from August 23 to 27 inclusive was recently given to the State Executive by local delegate, Mr. J. Craig. There were 102 items on the Agenda, five matters from the W.A. Branch all being passed.

The matter of pensions took up over half of the allotted time of the meeting, and the following statement was drafted for publication:

"The Federal Executive unanimously expresses strong resentment at the callous disregard shown by the Commonwealth Government in response to repeated representations from the R.S.L. for a long overdue and substantial increase in war pensions generally.

"Delegates from all States indicate a nation-wide resentment expressed that Commonwealth Governments had failed to show a true appreciation of the unanswerable claim of a section of the community apparently forgotten by the Government. This attitude can only be interpreted as a complete negation of the promises made when those who are now incapacitated as a result of war service were in uniform.

"The general public will be astounded to learn that a comparison of increases in war pensions with the basic wage shows that, whereas in the last 25 years the basic wage has increased by 46 per cent, the pension rate for disabled ex-servicemen has only increased by 19 per cent. For 20 years up to 1943 no increase was made in pension rates, whilst the basic wage was steadily increasing. Over the last five years the basic wage has increased by over 20 per cent, but the war pension has remained stationary.

"As war pensioners have to bear increased living costs, the R.S.L. asserts that increases enjoyed by other sections of the community should likewise be granted to this most deserving class, to whom the nation owes its very existence."

The second important item dealt with was Communism, and the method employed by W.A. was adopted with a few minor amendments as a basis of procedure.

Other items dealt with included migration, war service homes, war gratuities and land settlement.

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TRAITORS

BY ALBION

At last they come out into the open.

On Thursday, September 16, in the Queensland Parliament, Mr. G. Burns, a member of the Queensland State Executive of the Communist Party, was asked the following question by Mr. Bruce Wright, senior vice-president of the Windsor sub-branch of the Returned Servicemen’s League: “We all realise that the world could become embroiled in a third world war in the immediate future between Soviet Russia and the Western Powers. In the event of such a war what would be the attitude and actions of the Communist Party of Australia?”

To which Mr. Burns replied: “If Australia was involved in such a war it would be between Soviet Russia and American and British imperialism. We would oppose that war. We would fight on the side of the Soviet Union. That’s a direct answer.”

Now we really know where we stand.

Burns can be nothing more nor less than a traitor. For a traitor is one who violates his allegiance or acts disloyally to his country, and if this is not an act of disloyalty and a violation of allegiance then we would like to know what is.

But there are more traitors than this Burns fellow, for doubtless he voices the thoughts and sentiments of all of his fellow Communist hordes. They may gain their living from Australia; they may enjoy the bounties of Australia; they may rub shoulders with thousands of other Australians—yet should a war with Russia come they admit that they would fight against Australia.

Why then should they be allowed to live at peace in this land of ours? If Russia means so much to them, why cannot they be deported to Russia?

We doubt if Joe Stalin would let them live for more than 24 hours, for traitors stink in the nostrils of any man.

But if they must be allowed to continue to live in Australia, why should they not be deprived—as traitors—of all rights of citizenship? At the moment they are entitled to the pensions, the hospitalisation, the free education, the police protection and all the other benefits of this land. Why? They openly admit that they would stab us all in the back if they had the chance. Why then should they not be debarred—not when a war might come, but RIGHT NOW—of the benefits which this country bestows upon them?

Of course, we shall hear Burns and his kind say: “What benefits?” which will label them all as the fools that they are. We doubt if any country is perfect, we doubt if any system of government is perfect, but those of us who have seen the worker in Europe—even, for that matter, in many parts of the United States—will have little wish to work for our living in any other place but Australia. As for the present-day conditions of the Russian workers in the Soviet, they may be far better than they were in Czarist days—but they are still a long, long way behind the conditions which the Australian worker enjoys.

But, apart from all conditions of living, an Australian owes his allegiance to Australia, and an admission that he would fight against this country if the opportunity arose is something that we cannot afford to pass over lightly.

The Prime Minister says that persons who hold the opinions “attributed” to Burns will not do very much fighting if war breaks out, because they will be in a concentration camp. Recently the Russians sentenced a group of Germans to 25 years in a labour camp. For what? For causing a disturbance while attending a meeting in their own country. The Russians did not threaten what they would do if war broke out. But, savage and brutal as the sentence was, surely that type of thing would be better for traitors—who, let us remember, are self-acknowledged—than a mere threat of what may happen in the distant future.

Many men and women fought and died for this country of ours. Many men and women suffered unspeakable agonies that this country might live. Mental adolescents such as Burns (who pollutes an honoured Scottish name) should not be allowed to get away with their traitorous utterances. They should not be allowed to think so basely of their fellow citizens that they would slaughter them, given the chance, in order that the hammer and sickle might triumph.

But what shall we do about it? Talk for a while and then forget—as we so often do? Bear in mind that these Communists do not forget. Neither do they change their colours. While we go about our daily lives, letting the other fellow do as he will, they conspire and scheme, without let-up, for they are determined, come what will, that one day their way of life shall be imposed upon us all.

“It can’t happen here,” did you say? We heard that in World War II. It couldn’t happen in France, or in Belgium, or in Holland. Far too often the thing which we are so sure can’t happen to us is just the thing that does happen.

So let us remember Burns and his traitorous crew. What can be done with him yet remains to be seen, but we might well remember the words of Addison:

“Is there not some chosen curse,
Some hidden thunder in the stores of Heav’n,
Red with uncommon wrath, to blast the man
Who owes his greatness to his country’s ruin?”

For assaulting an ex-serviceman and robbing him of his R.S.L. badge and 10/-, two men were each sentenced to four years’ imprisonment by Judge Holt in Sydney Quarter Sessions recently.
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THE NIP. AT HOME

Willard Price, who has written a number of books on Japan and the Japanese, gives us, in his "Key to Japan," a picture, not of the Japanese fighting man, but of the Japanese civilian. Written during the Occupation, this will provide many of us with some "inside information," and may unravel many a knotty problem of the "how and why" of Japanese behavior.

"We have been wrong about Japan," says Willard Price. "No other important nation in the world has been the subject of so many misconceptions. As our representatives walk upon the soil of the Japanese homeland and begin the gigantic task of putting in place the foundations of security in the Pacific, it is essential that they..."

American or Englishman, samurai were notorious for their habit of obsequious politeness to an enemy's face followed by a death-dealing stroke of the two-handed sword when his back was turned. The samurai preferred to strike from behind. They tried out their swords on commoners or beggars, sometimes slashing the body into ribbons to test the keenness of the blade.

When a samurai calling on a friend kneeled and bowed with his head just inside the door, he took the precaution of placing his iron-ribbed fan in the groove lest his bowing host might suddenly slide shut the door and amputate his head. Such were the ways of Japanese courtesy.

"The Japanese are adept in seeing what is not there, and in not seeing what is there. Walk in upon a Japanese when he is not properly dressed to receive you and he will rise and leave the room without a word. When presentable, he will come in and greet you as if he had not seen you before..."

"A man who has been your traveling companion for weeks may not seem to know you from Adam when you encounter him in shirt-sleeves in the washroom of a Japanese inn..."

"As you soak in the inn's tile bath, a Japanese lady may enter stark naked, soap and rinse herself, then step into the stove-heated tub with you without appearing to distinguish you from the stove-pipe..."

"Japanese courtesy is often genuine; too often it is only a form. It may even mask the most violent and malevolent hatred..."

Before Japan ever saw an...
Three Italian conscripts went 'up for medical examination. The first one claimed a weak heart, but was found to be fit. The second one said he had bad eyesight. His eyes were tested and found perfect. Then came the turn of the third one. He said: "There is nothing wrong with me. I want to fight; the more dangerous the job the better I shall like it. I love my Duce and want to die for him." "Marvellous fellow," said the doctor, passing him A1. "But, doctor," exclaimed the conscript, "did you hear what I said? Am I not a mental case?"

☆

It was a wartime party in Melbourne. A group of Army and Navy people had drawn together and, as usual, the conversation turned to their mutual misfortune in having been assigned from their various States to Melbourne. Loud were the grouses at housing conditions, supposedly inadequate transport facilities, crowded pubs and restaurants, the high cost of living, bureaucratic bungling, etc.

Suddenly a captain broke in to announce that he had been ordered to active duty. There was a brief silence, interrupted by the exasperated voice of a fellow-officer:

"Damn, Fred, why don't you stay in Melbourne and fight it out like a man!"

A couple of colonels were chatting. Said one: "How's Hemingway of the 80th Foot getting on?" "Oh, he's getting on fine." "And Cartwright of the 25th?" "Oh, he's very well." "By the way, how's your sister?" "Oh, she's gone off to Blackpool with gout."

"Gad, man—not Gout of the 17th?"

☆

A soldier who had just lost his three stripes for an infraction of regulations, emerged from his C.O's tent muttering: "That fellow is a man of few words. He called me in and said: Hello, Sergeant; sit down, Sergeant; Get up, Private; goodbye, Private."

☆

During the war Zazu Pitts told this one against herself. A Marine strode in to the Hollywood Canteen and greeted her with "Huya, Beautiful."

"That must be because I've spent six hours in the beauty parlour," fluttered the flattered Zazu.

"No," replied the Marine, "it's because I've just spent six months in Okinawa."

"Some time ago we were hearing a lot about dream houses," says a cynic, "and so far that's exactly what mine has turned out to be."

☆

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PERSONALITIES

Reg. Monkhouse has been elected a vice-president of the Manjimup sub-branch, filling the vacancy caused by the death of Steve O'Neill.

Jim Holmes and Mat Epis, both of the West-Leederville-Wembley sub-branch, have been on the sick list.

Mr. G. Gordon, a member of the Subiaco sub-branch, attended a recent meeting of the State Executive. It might be stressed that sub-branch secretaries of the Central Canteen Trust Fund Board, were recent visitors to the State. They were heartily welcomed by the State President and the State Executive.

Dick Newton, social secretary of the Mosman Park sub-branch, is to be congratulated upon the arrival of his third daughter.

Alf Nelson, sports director of the Mosman Park sub-branch, was recently taken ill whilst holidaying in Geraldton, and was admitted to hospital. Fortunately he is now on the road to recovery.

Jack Munro, president of the West-Leederville-Wembley sub-branch, is, we regret to learn, at present in hospital. His many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

Jim Keep, of the Hurstville (New South Wales) sub-branch, recently visited this State and gave an interesting talk on his sub-branch's activities to the boys at West Leederville-Wembley.

Members of the 2/12th and 2/52nd Battalions are cordially invited to join the Battalion Association.

Victoria Park sub-branch needs more players for its games and sports events.

STILL FORGING AHEAD

The Shepparton Fruitgrowers' Association proposes that homes for aborigines be erected in the orchard areas of that district. Councillor N. W. Fairless, president of the association, says: "Aborigines who have worked for me on my orchard property have been excellent citizens, neither better nor worse than other people, but they frequently do not get a chance in life."
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TOLLEYS
P Aristed
BRANDY
Behind Those Swinging Doors

By J. B. McILWRAITH

My wife had not been looking after our cat’s meat coupons as she should have done, and I had to apply for a special issue.

I walked down Bureaucrat Boulevard and up Shinyseats Street to the entrance of the huge building some low people called Paperclip Paradise or the Fortress of the Forms and then I sauntered to the inquiries counter.

“Do you know where I could find Mr. Inktster—of the Department for the Rationing of Cats’ Meat?”

The bored young man casually browsed through a filing-cabinet and said: “First you will have to go to the Bureau for Permission to Interview Government Officials.” He pointed vaguely in the direction of a dark hole in the wall and yawned. “Go down that corridor there.”

It was a rather eerie sensation walking down that passage. Furtive figures scurried past me with a wild look in their eyes and bunches of multi-coloured forms in their hands. There was a ceaseless tapping of typewriters. I passed Bureaux, Departments and Commissions, pausing only at the Ball Point Pen Bureau (where one had to apply to get a refill of ink).

After walking for about fifteen minutes I reached the fateful door, knocked, and walked in. I could see that here the most revered government tradition of engaging a maximum number of employees to do a minimum amount of work was diligently upheld. Posted around the walls were such stirring slogans as “If you’re stuck—pass the buck”, and “Are you sure you can do this job by yourself?”

Eventually a mousy little man noticed me, and looking up sharply from his crossword puzzle, asked curtly what I wanted.

“I would like to interview Mr. Inktster,” I answered timidly. “Do you think it could be arranged?”

Nodding, he handed me a half a dozen forms. I wrestled with them for two hours, and the little man disappointed when I finished so quickly (he hadn’t finished his own puzzle), reluctantly gave me a pass.

“Keep going down this passage until you come to corridor 39. Walk along that for twenty yards and that’s where the Cats’ Meat Section was three months ago.”

I staggered numbly out of office... it was too late to turn back now; the place seemed to have cast a spell over me.

Luckily I met a friendly soul who gave me a plan of the place and a reliable compass. With these simple aids and some tracking hints remembered from Boy Scouting days, at last I found the section I wanted. I showed Inktster’s secretary my pass from the Bureau and waited. Clerks and typists ambled in and out of his office for several hours before the secretary noticed me again, and said, carelessly: “Still here? You’d better go in now.”

I steadied myself. I was trembling.

As I walked through the door I put out my hand to say, “Mr. Inktster, I presume?”; but he rushed past me. Bubbling over he shouted, “Sorry, old man, I must fly. Off to Canberra. They sent for me as soon as they heard of the record number of forms my department filled in this week. Said they needed more good men like me!”

A scheme for recruiting about 1,000 ex-Royal Navy ratings for the Australian Navy is reported by the authorities in London. Opportunity of settling in Australia on completion of service is proving a good incentive.

WILL YOU TRY?

Sell just one poppy more, only one poppy more; sell just one poppy more... if you can.

So we might paraphrase the well-known song, for Friday, November 5, is Poppy Day, and it is hoped this year that an improvement of sales over last year will be made.

Remember—the money obtained from the sale of poppies goes to good use, for it is distributed between the Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Relief Fund, the State Executive Central Relief Fund and sub-branch amelioration funds.

Sales of poppies have always been good, but much depends upon the efforts of individual sellers.

In 1943 the total sales were 108,652. In 1944 they had risen to 112,537. In 1945 they were up again to 120,905. But in 1946 there was a drop—113,015—and in 1947 there was another drop—to 102,605.

What will the position be this year? If every poppy seller could sell but one additional poppy over his normal sales there would be a great improvement, and this could be done. Why not try to make this year’s sales an all-time record?

A meeting of representatives of all metropolitan sub-branches and organizations participating in this year’s effort will be held in the Board Room of Anzac House on October 25 at 8 p.m., and arrangements are well in hand for the distribution of poppies.

Remembrance Day, which now takes the place of Armistice Day, is held on the nearest Sunday to November 11. Every ex-service man should draw the attention of his non-ex-service friends and neighbours to the celebration of this day.

Enlistments are now under way for the No. 25 “City of Perth” Fighter Squadron of the Citizen Air Force, and there are a number of vacancies for flying instructors.

A scheme for recruiting about 1,000 ex Royal Navy ratings for the Australian Navy is reported by the authorities in London. Opportunity of settling in Australia on completion of service is proving a good incentive.
READERS will recognise that it is quite impossible to deal with Congress, or even with any particular aspect of it, in anything like a full and complete manner in these pages. There were over 240 items on the Agenda, and speakers were numerous. Moreover, many of them were very fluent, speaking at some length. Therefore, we have tried to give an all-over picture of Congress, concentrating on the highlights. Those who wish to follow up the results of voting; those who wish to know more about the Land or the Mining Conferences; those who wish to study the detail of motions, amendments and what not will be able to secure full details from their delegates. In addition, much information will be circulated to sub-branches, where it will be available for full and detailed study.

A peep into Anzac House Ballroom, where the main meetings of Congress were held, was well worth while, and we were glad to note that quite a number of League members who were not delegates took the opportunity to see the “goings on.”

Delegates comprised a most representative cross-section of citizens of our State. There were parsons and printers, carpenters and clerks, lawyers and ledgerkeepers—and, yes, there were four ladies. There were men well past their prime, there were men who looked not a day over 25; there were bald men, men with grey, straggling locks, and men with hair which was still in all its youthful plenitude. There were men with the carriage of Guardsmen, and there were men whose backs were sadly bent. There were men who had lost limbs, and men who had lost their sight. But each and every delegate showed interest and enthusiasm. These were not men (nor women) who were content to let the world go on its way unheeded. These were folk who knew that they could still play an important part in life—and they meant to play it.

OFFICIAL OPENING

The official opening of Congress took place on Tuesday night (September 28), the ceremony being performed by the Governor (Sir James Mitchell), who in a pleasing and interesting speech said that the League had fought for Australia and had earned the right to preserve its freedom. Expressing the hope that full funds would shortly be in hand for the extension of the State War Memorial, he stated that it was a sad reflection on the general community if ex-servicemen had to provide such money.

Sir James was received with hearty cheers and the singing of the National Anthem and “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow.”

The Premier (Mr. McLarty), in moving a vote of thanks to His Excellency, said that over the past 32 years the League had enjoyed great prestige owing to wise leadership. “I can imagine no body of men being more interested in the maintenance of peace than those who have served their country in war,” he said, “and we ask their co-operation in achieving greater production and the creation of a better feeling between employer and employee.”

The State President (Mr. W. J. Hunt) referred, in a most absorbing address and report, to a number of matters of vital interest to League members. He expressed great satisfaction and pleasure at the impending visit of their Majesties the King and Queen and Princess Margaret, and pleasure at the elevation of Sir James Mitchell to Governor.

In respect to the League, he said: “For what reason do we exist? What do we seek to achieve? With you, I will never subscribe to the thought that we may be selfish in our objectives, that we exist as a social organisation, concerned only with our own benefits and enjoyment. No, our purpose is much deeper, much more significant; concerned as we have always been for the welfare of our State, Australia and the Empire. As thinking men and women who have served their country, we claim to have contributed much to community welfare. That we have the privilege of expressing opinions upon matters which concern the community, none will deny, nor do we desire the right to be arbitrary or overbearing in our representations...”

“I am sure that this Congress will not differ from any previous ones in its desire to maintain the same high degree of calm and considered debate and that the result will be along similar lines, bearing the same hallmark, the result of sound reasoning and respect for the other fellow’s point of view.”

He then paid tribute to the work of the State Executive, dealt with the work of the Land Committee, with Re-establishment, Repatriation, Housing, Immigration, Membership, War Veterans and the Women’s Auxiliaries, and concluded with: “Whatever our final decisions may be, we must leave the League with the reputation of being an impenetrable barrier against any or all subversive elements. We must ensure that every man who wears the badge displays his determination to oppose all tyranny that is contrary to the ways of free people, with free institutions, and to retain democracy as an underlying principle in all our methods of government.”

(The State President’s report in full is to be circulated to all sub-branches.)
Mr. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., C.M.G., was elected as the new Warden of the State War Memorial.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

Some 250 delegates were present on this day, the four ladies being Miss Mary Meares and Mrs. J. S. Dowson (Ex-Service Women) and Miss E. Folland and Miss A. Clifton (Returned Army Nurses).

Mr. J. E. Watson presented his report upon the War Memorial Appeal, revealing that the donations to date totalled £14,741. “But,” he said, “less than two per cent. of private citizens have given donations.” Mr. Hunt, in speaking on this report, said that the League owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Watson for his splendid work.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. W. J. Hunt, M.B.E. (re-elected unopposed); vice-presidents, Messrs. E. O. Davies and T. Steiner; trustees, H. A. Leslie, M.L.A., W. O. Mansbridge and J. Craig.

The following were appointed as country vice-presidents: State, R. Walsley (Waroona); northern portion of State, C. Boundy (Mt. Magnet); central section of State, Rev. E. W. Riley (Dalwallinu); south, D. Lewis (Kojonup).

A number of items on War Service Homes and Housing and Administration and Constitution were dealt with; a highlight being the decision to confer life membership on all South African veterans of not less than five years' financial membership.

Before the opening of Congress on this day the State President laid a wreath at the foot of the State War Memorial in the presence of a number of visiting delegates. A civic reception was held in the Perth City Council at noon and, at 1 p.m., a number of delegates attended the lunch and meeting of the Press sub-branch, where Mr. O. G. Campbell-Egan gave, at the piano, a most educational and entertaining talk on the language of music.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

There was again a large attendance of delegates, and business opened with the remaining items on Administration and Constitution. When items on Congress were brought forward, it was decided that Congress should be held on the same date next year (Moora’s resolution that it be held in July being defeated).

**Anzac Day**

The subject of Anzac Day was then dealt with, Subiaco’s motion (No. 195) being taken as the substantive one. Mr. W. S. Lonnie, M.C., opened the debate with a spirited attack upon the present method of its observation, contending that after 1 p.m. it should be celebrated as an open holiday.

Mr. F. Stahl was of the opinion that the matter should be one for a plebiscite.

Mr. R. J. Stoddart offered as an amendment the resolution of Press sub-branch that the nearest Sunday to April 25 be set as the day of official commemoration, and Mr. E. S. Watt, stating that this State’s celebration was the best in the ‘Commonwealth and that the war dead were worthy of one full day of remembrance, was warmly applauded.

Miss Mary Meares, who received a very sympathetic hearing, and who stated that she spoke as a bereaved sister, strongly opposed afternoon sports on Anzac Day and supported Mr. Stoddart’s amendment. Mr. F. W. Bateson opposed any alteration to the present method of observance, but Mr. T. Hartney stated that he saw nothing to suggest that there was any disrespect to the war dead in holding carnival meetings in the latter part of the day.

The Rev. S. J. Spratling strongly opposed any change. “What would Mary Meares and the mothers and the relations of our war dead like us to do?” he asked. “We should respect these people’s feelings rather than those of ourselves.”

On a vote the Press sub-branch amendment was lost, as was the amendment (“That a State referendum of all sub-branches be held”) submitted by Mosman Park.

A division on the motion was held and the motion was lost, the voting being: No, 97; Yes, 94.

**State Executive**

The following members were then elected to the State Executive for the ensuing year: Messrs. F. Stahl, W. S. Lonnie, J. B. Fitzhardinge, R. J. Stoddart, E. S. Watt, D. M. Benson, T. S. Edmondson, F. Chaney, J. E. Herlhy, A. G. N. Olden, Dr. R. I. Greenham, A. Douglas, F. W. Bateson, Dr. C. Cook, C. G. Ferguson, W. H. Stanbury, W. James and A. Yeates. (The new member, Dr. C. Cook, is Commissioner for Public Health).

In the matter of Subscription and Membership, motions that subscriptions of 12/6 revert to 10/- were defeated.

The administration of the Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Fund was criticised by Mr. A. Hulett, but the motion that the trustees have been too rigid in applying a means test was lost.

In regard to Administration it was resolved that Faversham should be opened immediately as a war veterans’ home. Item No. 179 (requesting Mr. E. B. Smallpage) was amended, the words “provided he first apologises” being added, but it was lost.

**Communism**

Mr. E. N. Farquharson opened the debate on this matter. Mr. Leslie read the procedure implementing the
Federal instructions and a number of speakers held the floor for their full allotted time in debate which at times became extremely animated. The action of the Executive in issuing instructions regarding membership was endorsed.

Mr. N. Marich spoke on Communism as it affected Yugoslav residents of Australia and was warmly applauded. The motion that the League shall press in the highest quarters for the banning of the Communist Party and any other organisation of a subversive nature was also carried.

Items on Pensions and Rehabilitation were also dealt with.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

The ranks of delegates were somewhat thinned at the opening of this session of Congress, and there were a number of vacant seats as the day wore on.

The first item to be dealt with was that of Universal Training, and quite a number of speakers devoted some time to this subject, and a motion that "This Congress again re-affirms its unshakable opinion that universal training is essential for our defence; this in spite of statements to the contrary by the Minister of Defence; meanwhile sub-branches be urged to give all possible assistance to the voluntary enlistment campaign" was carried. Other defence items were dealt with, one item passed being that "Congress feels that, in the interests of the safety of Australia, there should be no limit as to the number of rifle clubs; no limit as to the number of members of each club; and that the Government make available all rifles and ammunition necessary for range practice."

A number of items on Migration, War Gratuities, C.R.T.S. and War Service Homes then came before Congress.

Dr. C. Cook spoke strongly upon the military and social risks involved in the failure of the people of the Commonwealth to develop the North with a virile and economically secure white population, and it was resolved that Congress direct the attention of the Federal Executive to this matter, seeking that the people of Australia be informed of the gravity of the dangers; that an acute sense of public responsibility in the matter be inculcated in them; and that a strong body of public opinion be cultivated in favour of an energetic policy of development.

Mrs. J. L. McKinlay presented the annual report of the Women's Auxiliaries. (Much of this has already appeared in the Women's Auxiliaries' page of The Listening Post.) A motion of thanks to the Women's Auxiliaries was moved by the Rev. L. G. Wendt, seconded by Mrs. J. Dowson, and warmly supported by Mr. A. Craigie. This was carried by acclamation.

It was decided that various items in regard to The Listening Post be referred to the State Executive. The editor spoke on matters dealing with the physical make-up of the journal.

Items on Publicity, Hospitalisation (it was reported that the sum of £30,000 would be made available by the Federal Government for the erection of a special psychiatric ward at Hollywood Hospital), and Employment and Preference were then discussed.

After a number of varied items had been dealt with, the Congress closed late in the afternoon, all delegates being of the opinion that it was one of the most successful yet held.

LAND CONFERENCE

The Land Conference was held on Monday, September 27, and it was pleasing to note that more sub-branches were represented than last year. The Minister for Lands (Mr. L. Thorn) and Mr. G. K. Baron-Hay also attended.

Mr. H. A. Leslie occupied the chair, and said: "With the knowledge of the rapidly growing impatience and dissatisfaction at the tragically slow progress of the War Service Land Settlement Scheme, your Land Committee has continued to press for the speeding up of land settlement. At the same time there has been, during the year, no relaxation of the normal general activities on behalf of those already on the land and those living in rural areas."

In detail, Mr.- Leslie outlined the Committee's activities. He referred to the setting-up of the Land Settlement Board, to the allotment and occupation of farms under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme, the Rural Re-establishment Loan, the Rural Training Centre at Harvey, and a number of other matters.

"... Your committee has been required to handle scores of specific cases on behalf of sub-branches and individuals," he said. "While our efforts in these cases may not always have achieved success, those concerned have the assurance that every possible endeavour has been made on their behalf."

There were nearly 40 items on the Conference Agenda, many of which were of exceptional interest. All those present were of the opinion that this year's Conference had been outstandingly successful.

MINING CONFERENCE

Tuesday, September 28, 1948

The Conference was declared open by the State President at 9.30 a.m.

The Minister for Mines (Mr. Hubert Parker), Mr. A. H. Telfer (Under-Secretary for Mines), Mr. J. F. Foxall (State Mining Engineer), Mr. D. F. Browne (Superintendent of State Batteries) and representatives of 35 sub-branches were present.

Mr. Hunt handed the conference over to Mr. E. S. Watt, who then occupied the chair.

He said: "Our only desire, as in the more dangerous war years, is to work for the welfare of humanity in general and our own country in particular and to assure that justice is granted to those who served their country in war..."

"At this conference are men with a virile knowledge of the mining industry and of the country's capacity and needs in general."

He pointed out that gold is a commodity, just as are wool and wheat, and that gold is a perfect dollar-earning medium.

Mr. Parker then addressed the meeting, and addresses were given and questions answered by the three senior officials, the information gained being particularly valuable to the delegates in assisting them in their deliberations.

Twenty-five items were discussed, three of which were ruled out of order as they infringed on industrial matters. The discussions were of a high order and perhaps a record was made, inasmuch as every motion carried was unanimous.
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For some considerable time the Re-establishment Committee of the Perth branch of the League has been giving considerable attention to the matter of Japanese pearling in Australian waters, and the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) has now notified the League that "The Government is strongly opposed to any resumption of Japanese pearling in Australian waters. This view has been made clear to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan and the countries represented on the Far Eastern Commission, a body established to formulate policies relating to the occupation of Japan. During discussions in the Far Eastern Commission on the policy to be adopted towards Japanese pearl fishing, the Australian representative recommended that pearling should be confined to the present Japanese fishing area (an area north of 20 deg. north latitude). This recommendation was supported by the Commission.

"Your League may rest assured that any suggestion to permit Japanese pearling in Australian waters would be firmly resisted."

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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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P.O.W. AND DECORATIONS

The Federal Executive recently received the following communication from the Minister for the Army:

"With further reference to your letter of 26th July, forwarding a copy of a letter received from the W.A. Branch of the League, concerning ex-prisoners of war qualifying for Campaign Stars appropriate to the areas in which they were held as prisoners of war, I desire to inform you that the conditions approved by His Majesty the King for the award of Campaign Stars in such circumstances require that the individual must actually have participated in active operations against the enemy in the theatre for which the star is awarded.

"Having regard to the above, unless the person claiming the award can provide definite proof that he did in fact take an active part in either guerilla or organised operations against the enemy, the particulars of his claim are referred to the appropriate authorities in the United Kingdom for any confirmation which may be available from their records. . . . No grounds whatever exist for assuming that any discrimination has been shown as between officers and other ranks in the matter of the award of Campaign Stars to ex-prisoners of war."

WAR GRATUITIES

There are still some thousands of former members of the Forces who have not yet lodged applications for war gratuity. They are urged to do so without further delay, in order that their war gratuity entitlements may be assessed and the amounts entered to their credit in the register of war gratuities now. This will facilitate payment in March, 1941.

War gratuity cannot be assessed until you have lodged your application form.

The application form is known as form W.G.I., and former Army or Air personnel can obtain one from official post offices or any war gratuity officer of the service departments.

Ex-Navy personnel requiring a form should write to the War Gratu-

ity Officer, Department of the Navy, Melbourne, for the special Navy form.

These forms, when completed and signed, should be posted to the War Gratitude Officer, Department of the Army or Department of Air, in the capital city of the State in which you enlisted.

All Navy application forms should be sent to the War Gratitude Officer, Department of the Navy, Melbourne.

The above refers to all those ex-service men or women who have not yet lodged their applications for credit of war gratuity.

IDENTITY OF ARMY UNITS

At the 32nd Annual Federal Congress the Western Australian branch moved "That this Congress urges the Commonwealth Government to take such action in the event of a future expansion of peace-time forces to war-time standards to preserve and maintain the set-up and identity of the units of the 1914 and 1939 wars."

The Minister for the Army now states: " . . . The views expressed by this resolution have been fully considered and the designation of units of the post-war C.M.F. has preserved as far as possible the identity of units from both the 1914-18 and 1939-45 wars. Unfortunately sufficient units are not being raised to cover all the war-time units, but those which do not find a place in the post-war army will be kept in a state of 'suspended animation,' from which they can be revived as required for expansion or other such purposes.

"Where possible, 2nd A.I.F. titles have been associated with the titles used as appropriate, so that tradition, sentiment and identity of both the 1st and 2nd A.I.F's are preserved to the maximum extent possible."

NON-WAR CAUSED DISABILITIES

The Federal Minister for Social Services has written to the Federal Office of the League as follows: " . . . You asked, on behalf of your League, that the rehabilitation scheme for ex-service personnel suffering from non-war caused disabilities be continued until at least December 31, 1948. Further consideration has now been given to this matter and I am pleased to advise that it has been decided to continue to accept the ex-service personnel in question, enlisted not later than 30th June, 1947, for re-establishment and Employment Rehabilitation Benefits under Part IV of Act on the same conditions as applied formerly, provided application is made within twelve months after discharge. Further consideration will be given later to the desirability of fixing 30th June, 1949, as the closing date for the acceptance of ex-service personnel under Part IV."

The League was seriously concerned at the discontinuation of this scheme in February last. Benefits provided include living allowances, cost of medical treatment, attendance at rehabilitation centres for therapeutic treatment, and training for an occupation if this is necessitated by the disability.

EXPANSIBLE HOUSES

Recently the Bayswater Road Board decided not to allow the building of expansive dwellings in its district. At a meeting of the Housing Committee of the State Executive this matter was discussed at some length, and it was decided to write to all road boards to ascertain their views on the erection of such dwellings.

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Page 23
THE LISTENING POST

THEY SAY...

A most interesting letter has been received from Mr. J. Truman, of Calarra, regarding our recent feature, "The Men of Mons."

We quote: "Firstly, I would like to thank the writer of the article, but, secondly, I would like to correct the statement regarding the British losses."

"In the 13 days from the firing of the first shots by a patrol of 4th


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<td>Carpentery and Joining</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>Painting and Decorating</td>
<td>189</td>
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<td>Plastering (Solid)</td>
<td>122</td>
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<td>Plastering (Fibrous), Fixing</td>
<td>90</td>
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Total

British losses were 16,000 killed, wounded and missing.

"Half the British losses were caused by small bands of men refusing to retire, and fighting it out to the bitter end.

"Many wounded refused to go sick, and they continued to sing 'Tipperary!'... It had to be seen to be believed.

"I, personally, am one of the old boys, but have been in Western Australia 26 years next January, and I have belonged to the League now for 24 years. Thank you for the article, and please do not take the correction as criticism."

[The author's figures were of the dead only.—Editor.]

Sailor: "They took six weeks to paint that new battleship."

Dumb Blonde: "How silly! Why didn't they photograph it?"

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Left to right: Messrs. A. H. Panton, M.L.A., C.M.G.; L. Thorne (Minister for Lands); V. Abbott (Attorney-General and Minister for Health); the Premier (Mr. R. McLarty); His Excellency the Governor (Sir James Mitchell) and Mr. W. J. Hunt.

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UNABRIDGED HISTORY

Robert St John

Base Hospital

After a couple of years in the New Guinea jungles, I developed a fever which the medics promptly diagnosed as F.U.O. (fever of undetermined origin). I was packed off to a nearby base hospital, where for three days I burned and sweated without decisive help from the medical staff. Then, one night, long after midnight, I was roused from a deep sleep by a determined ward boy.

"Wake up!" he shouted, prodding me vigorously. "It's time to take your medicine!"

I eyed him sulkily from beneath my mosquito netting. "It must be pretty damned important medicine," I grumbled, "to get me up at this hour of the night. What is it?"

He examined the dosage for a moment. Then he barked, "They're sleeping tablets. Come on now, Mac, sit up and take the flamin' things."

BERT DENIS

☆ This story earns 10/6 for Bert Denis, Toodyay.

THE DAY THE NIPS CAME IN

Three weeks after Emperor Hirohito had announced his surrender, we were forward company astride the Beaufort-Tenom railway in British North Borneo. On our right ran the swift muddy river, on our left stood the steep muddy hills. Communications, field telephone—transport, jeep train—occupation, waiting.

Beyond a tributary stream, spanned by a bomb-shattered bridge, the Jap also waited. Neither side crossed the bridge; it wasn't done.

Ready for the expected Nip envosy, we had erected a reception tent a few chains forward; our reception party had been issued with nice new jungle greens, which they were ordered to wear continually in order to turn out smart and smartly.

This day, the Brigadier and the battalion C.O. paid us an informal visit and, with the company commander, climbed the high hill, where a platoon was posted. The company sig. was alone in the orderly room. The phone buzzed and he answered.

An excited voice panted, "The Nips are coming in!" Shouting the information to the acting-C.S.M. (a full corporal), the sig. rang the hilltop platoon. The platoon runner answered. "Tell the boss the Nips are coming in. Yell it!" was the message. The runner did as he was told. Everyone heard him.

An ordered turmoil erupted in the company lines as prepared positions were manned. The reception party moved out, but NOT in their spotless new J.G.'s. Naturally, these were all in the wash.

The sig. took a hasty look up the track. There, at attention, stood four little men, unarmed, in drab uniforms, beneath a deflected flag, stark white amid the surrounding green. Facing them, with ovens at the ready, stood four big men, above whom flaunted the vivid colours of the Australian ensign.

The sig. went back to his phone; the Brig. and the Colonel came in quietly. They waited in silence. The blue ensign returned and the company commander, whose mud-yellow strides indicated that he had toed gammed down the hill, saluted as he handed over a large sealed envelope addressed to G.O.C., 5th Australian Division.

"A major representing the general commanding 37th Jap Army," he explained. "He said his only duty was to deliver this. He then asked permission to return to his own lines."

We never learned fully what was contained in the document thus delivered, and another twelve long days passed before Major-General Asaki handed over his treasured sword at Beaufort, but, factually, on that unforgettable afternoon of 5th September, 1945, to one rifle company of an A.I.F. battalion was surrendered a Japanese army. "KRANI."

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L. Blair
Mr. Les Blair, who served with the A.E.M.E. in World War I, and who was a member of the Osborne Park sub-branch, died in the Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood, on September 10.

F. W. Burkett
Mr. F. W. Burkett, who served with the 11th Battalion, and who was a member of the Gloucester Park sub-branch, died recently. He was a well-known resident of South Perth.

J. V. Burston
Mr. John Vincent Burston, who for a lengthy period was State secretary of the Perth branch of the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women (Inc.), died of heart failure on September 8 at Marble Bar. At the time he was junior vice-president of the Perth branch.

D. Rice
Mr. Daniel M. Rice, who served with the 32nd Battalion, and who was a member of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch, died in the Fremantle Hospital on August 21.

THESE WORDS WILL LIVE FOREVER

3. Winston Churchill says: "We See the Ridge Ahead"

We have reached a period in the war when it would be premature to say that we have topped the ridge, but we see the ridge ahead now. We see that perseverance, unflinching, dogged, inexhaustible, tireless, valiant, will surely carry us and our allies, the great nations of the world, and the unfortunate nations who have been subjugated and enslaved, on to one of the most deep-founded movements of humanity which have ever taken place in our history.

We see that they will come to the top of the ridge, and then they will have a chance not only of beating down and subduing those evil forces which have withstood us so long, which have twice let ruin and havoc loose on the world, but they will have that further and grander prospect that beyond the smoke of battle and the confusion of the fight we shall have the chance to settle our countries and the whole world together, moving forward together on the high road. That is the prospect that lies before us if we do not fail. And we shall not fail.

Here in the 33rd month of the war none of us is weary of the struggle. None of us is calling for any favours from the enemy. If he plays rough we can play rough too.

We had striven hard for peace... But now, as the months go by and the great machine keeps turning and the labour becomes skilled and habituated to its task, we are going to be the ones who have "the modern scientific tackle. It is not now going to be a fight of brave men against men armed. It is going to be a fight on our side of people who have not only the resolve and cause, but who also have the weapons.

Time, Gentlemen, Please

From time to time there have been complaints from sub-branch officials that certain notes sent in for publication in "The Listening Post" did not appear in the next issue. But usually those who complain lose sight of the fact that there is a time factor in the publication of any journal.

From the time of receipt of matter to the actual publishing of the journal there is quite an amount of work to be done.

First, the editor has to read the material sent in. Then, in many cases, this has to be sub-edited (items for inclusion on the "Sub-Branch Activities" page have to be brought down to 200 words, and sometimes, items are written up which have already appeared in other pages). Then a dummy copy of the journal must be prepared, into which must be fitted the copy (it is quite impossible to cram a quart into a pint pot!) and the advertisements. Then the copy goes to the typesetter. The typesetter operator sets it, and rough proofs are pulled and corrected. Then these proofs go to the editor for final correction. Following this, the pages are set up, further proofs are pulled and examined, and then the journal actually goes to press.

As the printers work a five-day week, copy must be in their hands at least a fortnight before the publishing date. As this publishing date has now been set at the 15th of the month, and as sometimes both the 14th and 15th come at the weekend, this means that all copy must be ready at the end of the previous month. Therefore, in order that he can properly carry out his job, the editor sets a DEADLINE for the 25th of the month prior to publication—November copy must be in by the 25th October— with a closing date of the 20th for sub-branch notes. Will sub-branch officials, publicity officers and other contributors therefore bear this in mind. Their co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

Over 400 bells of famous warships are being offered for sale by the Director of Stores, Admiralty, including two bells from H.M.S. Ajax and one from H.M.S. Achilles—cruisers of the Battle of the River Plate fame—and one from the battleship H.M.S. Anson. They are priced between £1 and £10. The bells may be bought by naval personnel and civilians, but preference in allocation will be given to officers having special claims for consideration, such as service in a ship to which a bell belonged.
Sub-Branch Activities

It is the aim of "The Listening Post" to make its columns of wide interest to members in all parts of the State, and the Editor welcomes reports from all sub-branches. But in order to make as broad a coverage as possible, secretaries and publicity officers are asked to confine their reports to a maximum of 200 words. All names of persons and places should be typed or written in CAPITAL LETTERS, and copy should be in the Editor's hands by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

GLEN FORREST-DARLINGTON

New officers have been elected for the current year. To welcome the incoming officials and to thank the outgoing officials for their sterling efforts in the past year, a great get-together was held in the Darlington Hall in July. Visitors came from near and far, including a buffet supper, with the dishes wound up a very pleasant evening. Max Barr (president) and Dick Field (secretary) are right into their harness now, and many and varied are the discussions at the monthly meetings. Les Riches and Alan Walker have been in and out of Hollywood and our sincere wish is that all is well with them again.

KALGOORLIE

Some members of the sub-branch may not be cognisant of the fact that the sub-branch holds shares in the R.S.L. Trading Co., which shares pay a dividend each year. The "R.S.L. Shop," at 570 Hay Street, Perth, has a very wide variety of articles (of clothing and otherwise) for sale, and I would exhort members to patronise this shop whenever possible, and in this way serve the triple purpose of helping yourself, helping the R.S.L. Trading Co., and consequently assisting your sub-branch to maintain its distribution of larger dividends. Action is being taken by your executive to expedite the plans for the establishment of an ex-service men's club at the institute, and we are hopeful that in the very near future another announcement will be made that will mark a new era in the history of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch. The committee and their secretaries are working satisfactorily, but a few more members of the sub-branch are required for the house staff. Therefore, any volunteers for these jobs will be most welcome.

KENSINGTON

Meetings held during the month of August were well attended and an increasing interest is being shown in sub-branch activities. In view of the fact that the sub-branch is still in its infancy and has not yet celebrated its first anniversary, the attendance at meetings is most gratifying. The membership of the sub-branch is rapidly approaching the 100 mark. The sub-branch is being well and faithfully served by its officers and by a very energetic and enthusiastic committee of management. Bill Robinson, the Chief Steward, is doing a very excellent job. The ladies' committee, too, is rendering great service. If this interest can be maintained, the future of the sub-branch is assured. The sub-branch is now definitely on the map and should, in the very near future, attract many more new members. Among those recently joining up or transferred from other sub-branches were the following: Messrs. K. V. Lush, Frank Hale, A. B. White, F. A. Snider, C. Bennett, E. Trever, M. Haskin, D. B. Gurney. Messrs. G. Needs, K. Whittam and H. Blaue were appointed to fill vacancies on the committee of management. Messrs. E. J. Cloney and H. Reil, on behalf of Branch Divisional Committee, on Sunday, August 29, and distributed smokes and periodicals among the returned soldier inmates. The barn dance held in the C.C.A. Hall, Collins Street, South Perth, on September 5, in aid of the Returned Soldiers' building fund, proved an outstanding success. The Coastal Scottish Pipe Band again turned out in full force and their valuable co-operation contributed largely to the success of the evening.

KOJONUP

The sub-branch is keen to see all sub-standard tanks brought up to proper standards. It is hoped that anyone knowing of or owning any such tank will contact the Secretary, who will naturally treat the matter confidentially. It is also seen on the idea that each sub-branch should nominate the number of British immigrants equivalent to the number of delegates they have at the State Congress. This Secretary will be pleased to hear from anyone being able to place one or more immigrants.

MANIMUP

A special meeting of the sub-branch was held in the R.S.L. Hall on Thursday, September 9, to hear the result of the referendum taken to decide whether the sub-branch should have a licensed club on the premises. The President (Mr. J. H. Barr) presided over some 50 members, and the President of the Women's Auxiliary (Mrs. V. Hargrave) and Mrs. E. Forster attended by invitation. The Secretary (Mr. I. F. Berry) made known that the membership of 212 only 67 had filled in and returned their ballot papers. Majority of members wanted a club which was to be restricted to R.S.L. members, but were opposed to the alteration of the premises for the purpose. It was finally decided that, in view of the poor response to the ballot, no further action be taken to obtain a club on the premises unless suitable alternative accommodation could be arranged to provide for the activities of the women's auxiliary, R.S.L. brass band and the non-club members of the sub-branch.

MOSMAN PARK

At the August general meeting attendance was quite a success, with representatives of the Executive, Navy, Army and Air Force and returned soldiers in attendance. Opportunity was taken to make a small presentation to our old Xmas Archronist, occasion of his birthday. Special praise must be given to the ladies' auxiliary, who so ably catered for the function.

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KINGSTON - AUSTRALIA'S FINEST AIRLINE
MT. HAWTHORN
August meetings of the sub-branch were well attended and membership figures continue to improve. Quite a number of the older members have retired and four new faces now grace the seating arrangements.

VICTORIA PARK
September saw the first meeting of the year where discussions of items listed on Congress Agenda and training ideas were carried out. The sub-branch notices of motions, plans are in progress to induce increased interest in our activities, particularly for the coming year. Members in general, and especially the World War II trainees who have received branch assistance, are cordially invited to attend in an appearance and report on their progress and rehabilitation.

OSBORNE PARK
A well-attended meeting on September 16 held in the local Hall. It was decided to hold a ball in the local hotel, Hotel Pleasance, as an aid to our general fund on October 23. Be sure and keep that date open, for an enjoyable night out.

SHACKLETON-KWOLYN
At the last general meeting of the sub-branch the following were present: Messrs. E. Ashton (president), A. J. Verbrugge (secretary), A. L. Smith, B. Block, L. Shaw, H. Spiller, J. Dusting, R. Barrett, R. F. F. Peck, E. Thompson, F. M. Jameson, F. A. C. Worthington and F. K. Potts. The meeting was called to order and was addressed by Mr. H. Spiller on the Bruce Rock Memorial Committee Committee. The meeting adjourned.

SOUTH PERTH
On August 25 the election of officers for the ensuing year was conducted. Messrs. J. B. Martin and J. A. M. S. Spiller, were re-elected president and vice-president, respectively.

WEST LEEDERVILLE-WEMBLEY
Business at our last two meetings has been restricted by the lack of the A.R.M.S. games at the Victoria Park, but good attendances have been recorded.

PRISMATIC BINOCULARS
We have just landed a large shipment of Army Disposals Prismatic Binoculars of various British and Foreign makes. They are all in excellent condition and priced from £12/10/- to £27/10/-.

Also Army Greatcoats, 1st grade, 20/-; Army Tunics, 1st grade, 15/-; American Stirrup Pumps, 15/-; .303 Rifles, reconditioned, 90/-; .303 Cartridges, 22/6 per 100; .310 Cadet Rifles.

Also Travelling Goods, Suitcases, Tents, Stretchers, Working Clothes, Waterproof Coats and Suits, Boots, as well as a host of other useful items.

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WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

STATE EXECUTIVE

Meetings of the above were held on August 30 and September 15.

Hospital Visiting

Members of the Executive have carried out the weekly visits to Royal Perth Hospital and continue to find large numbers of ex-service patients from town and country. Visitors are greatly impressed by the new hospital and its appointments for the comfort of the sick.

Hollywood is visited b i-weekly by Executive members, with members from a metropolitan auxiliary visiting during the week. Many patients from the country are contacted by Executive visitors by request from their relatives or subordinates.

Lemnos: During the month Lemnos was visited by executive members and representatives from Gloucester Park and Como auxiliaries. High tea was taken for patients, on behalf of Country auxiliary members, and different items were done to all the good things provided. Dancing helped to pass away a pleasant afternoon.

Glendolough was visited by Swan Auxiliary entertained patients from Lemnos and Sunset in the Swan View Hall. Quite a large number of men availed themselves of this treat, outing transport being provided by a good Red Cross. A sumptuous lunch was set out on flower-decked tables, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the guests. The special entertainment was spent in dancing and games of bowls and, before their departure, the men were regaled with a delicious program of solo singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem brought to a happy close, resulting in pleasure, for which thanks are due to Mrs. Hames, the president, and her excellent band of workers.

Claremont Mental Hospital was also visited this month and gifts taken ex-service patients by Messrs. Lynch, Redfern, Gold, Cullen and Randall.

Glendale was visited by Messrs. Stockman, Stocker, Lees and Cullen. Sixteen ex-service men are in residence here. Visitors were entertained by the patients who were being done for the men's comfort. Tobacco, sweets, and fruit were taken on behalf of country auxiliary members.

Official Visits

Mrs. McKinnon and members of the State Executive called on Glen Forrest to attend the first birthday of the auxiliary.

The State President made a journey to Girgaroopina to attend a children's deburet ball. She was very impressed by the novelty of the child decorations and remarked upon the wonderful way in which the children played their parts.

Messrs. McKinlay and Stockman accepted an invitation to be present at the official opening of the exhibition of work done by the War Widows' Craft Guild. Members of the Executive attended and enjoyed a social evening arranged by the Bassendean auxiliary.

At the request of the Coolooring auxiliary, Mrs. McKinnon tendered a most suitable gift to be tendered to their president (Mrs. Towrnlow), who is leaving for a visit to England. A presentation is made to the porting guest by Mrs. McKinnon, on behalf of the members.

McKinlay Shield Games

The shield has been finalised and semi-finals and finals played.

In the final, by which Perth were defeated by Nedlands; in the second semi-final, Nedlands defeated Mr. Hawthorn. The final was played at the Nedlands Auxiliary House supper room to the battle for the McKinlay Shield. An excellent match was played with Nedlands emerging victorious. Congratulations, Nedlands!

Exhibitions

The second post-war exhibition was held in the Perth Town Hall on Friday, September 8, and proved a very successful function. This year the number of exhibits were greatly increased—over 500 being on view. These, according to the judges, were of an exceedingly high order, making judging quite a difficult task. The cups for the auxiliaries obtaining the most points went to the following: Members: Victoria Park, Rockingham Union, Victoria Park Auxiliary; Flower Section, Mrs. Cassells (Victoria Park Auxiliary); Gift Section, Mrs. Cassells (Victoria Park Auxiliary) and Mrs. Cassells and Mrs. Cullen (Victoria Park Auxiliary); Handicraft Section, Mrs. Tomkins (Swan Auxiliary). Victoria Park Auxiliary had the largest number of exhibitors, whilst Swan View had the largest number of exhibits. State Executive desire to thank all who in any way helped to make this such an outstanding exhibition.

At night the medals were held and Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hunt were present. Cups and trophies were presented to successful competitors by Mr. Hunt, the State President of the League.

SWAN VIEW-GREENMOUNT

Our auxiliary has had a busy month. A few members went to Glen Forrest for their first birthday. Three sisters visited Hollywood Hospital on August 24, taking the boys cigarettes, cakes, lollies and books.

One of our young members (Mrs. Byrne) is making the trip to Melbourne with the State badminton team and will wish her every success.

VICTORIA PARK

Members have a busy time ahead, but feel encouraged by the fact that they won the Metropolitan Cup in the recent auxiliaries arts and crafts exhibition, held at the Perth Show. Mrs. Cassells is to be congratulated on winning trophies for best knitting, floral exhibits, and the most interesting "special" at the recent Auxiliary exhibition, and the members are now busy working on behalf of their own bazaar, which will take place in the Salter Street Hall in December. As a recent united social, we were pleased to hear that Miss Dobson was honoured by the Garney Shield and that Mr. Joe Bennett, who has had very bad health for some time past, was made a life member. Congratulations to both.

F.S.W.

The monthly social was held at Anzac House, Mrs. H. Dean presiding over a large gathering. Mrs. L. Kerr Pearce was the guest speaker, and talked being on the wonderful work that the women of England did during World War II and the hardships and the very bad conditions they had to put up with. Mrs. C. Cooper thanked Mr. L. Kerr Pearce and expressed the pleasure of the Union in having her back with them after such a long absence. (Mrs. L. Kerr Pearce was for many years president of the Union and a founder member.) The musical programme was arranged by the musical director, Miss R. Blowes. The artists were Messrs. G. Kelly, C. Chappin, H. Travatt (Irish), S. Kelly and G. Chappin (duet), Mrs. H. Bennett, Mrs. G. Brown, Mrs. L. Lidwell and Mrs. P. Wood. Accompanist was Miss E. Bennett and Miss Elizabeth was very appealing for workers for the King Edward Memorial Hospital, and conducted by the F.S.W. It was very pleasing to the war widows of World War I to have received word from Mrs. Dean that they were invited to become social members of the Widows' Craft Guild, founded for and by the war widows of World War II.
Land Settlement

RURAL LOANS AND ALLOWANCES - 30TH JUNE, 1948

Statistics for the Whole of the Commonwealth

(From statements made by the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction)

War Service Land Settlement Scheme

3,317,000 acres have been allotted to 1,427 ex-sericemen.

Agricultural Loans Up to £1,000

Applications received, 13,450; approved, 70 per cent.; under review, 4 per cent.; refused or withdrawn, 26 per cent.

Approvals totalled approximately £7,000,000, which represents an average loan of £720 to each approved applicant.

Approvals in W.A. totalled 1,500, involving the sum of £1,296,000.

Agricultural Allowances

Total paid to ex-service settlers in first twelve months whilst land was

coming into production, £1,300,000 approximately.

Approved applicants in W.A. numbered 1,900, involving payments totalling £290,000.

Total Expenditure

£11,478,000 has been expended on land settlement of ex-service men. This figure includes agricultural re-establishment loans and allowances, administrative expenses and rural training.

STATISTICS TO 31ST JULY, 1948

(Supplied by Lands Department)

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ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN. Rates: £1/- Per Annum

A.E.M.E. ASSOCIATION - President: Mr. Les Jones, 8 Fourth Avenue, Mt. Lawley; Secretary: Mr. C. Clingin, A.E.M.E. H.Q., W. Cim., B.3143, Ext. 256.

ARTILLERY COMRADES - Sergeant's Mess, Swan Barracks, Francis Street, Perth, 1st Tuesday in each month at 8 p.m.; President: E. W. Wallace, 244 Shepparton Road, Victoria Park.

FEDERATION OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION OF W.A. - Branch No. 3, 2nd Floor, Wellington Buildings, 158 William St., Perth, 1st Monday in each month; President: C. H. R. Livermore, 137 Gloucester Road, Victoria Park.


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CHEST OF DRAWERS
Jarrah Chest of Drawers, similar to illustration but with 5 drawers, 3 long, 2 short, £8/4/6

COMBINATION WARDROBE-DRESSING TABLE
As illustrated above. In oak, £13/7/6. In jarrah, with four drawers, £13/6/8. In jarrah, with two drawers and cupboard, £13/11/6.

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Gunn and Moore’s Selected Autograph, £4/1/6
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Griffith Nickolls XXXX, £5/5/-
Keith Miller XXXX, £4/14/6
Keith Miller X, £2/11/6

CRICKET SUNDRIES
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Inner Gloves, Chamolos Padded, 13/2; Plain, 13/5
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Wicket-Keeping Gloves, 1st grade Super, 62/3; 2nd grade Keeper, 54/6
Scoring Books, 1/11, 2/3, 3/9
Cricket Spikes, 1/- and 2/- pkt.
Kangaroo Bat Protectors, 9m., 1/8;
6m., 3/6
Bat Binding, 1/- inch.
Bat Oil, 1/- tin
Rubber Grips, 1/-

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