The State President of the League (Mr. W. J. Hunt, M.B.E.) presents the New Zealand Plaque to the Lord Mayor of Perth. (See story on page 18). Also seen in this picture is Mr. T. Sten, who brought the plaque from New Zealand.

THIS MONTH'S FEATURES.

* So These Were the Diggers
* On Being a League Member
* Sightless Man Runs Furniture Store
* Rendezvous With History
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MERCERY, MEN'S CLOTHING, HATS, FOOTWEAR, UNDERWEAR, TAILORS
A Chink in our Armour?

Some most disquieting news comes to hand as this journal goes to press, and we quote the main features of a message from Canberra:

"It is understood that the reluctance of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to co-operate in secret defence work and the suspicion directed towards it by authorities in the United States and the United Kingdom is responsible for the concern shown by the Defence Council and its committee in the C.S.I.R. attitude... It is learnt that the reluctance of the U.S. authorities to pass atomic research secrets on to Australia either directly or through Britain applies to all top-secret defence information... Factors which are believed to have influenced the Americans are allegations that Communists or fellow travellers are employed in the C.S.I.R.; the publicised reluctance of Sir David Rivett to recognise the value of secrecy in scientific research of any kind; and reports cabled abroad that leading scientists refuse to sign security pledges covering the divulging of atom bomb and rocket range secrets."

What is the Federal Government going to do about this? On every hand we find trades unions, municipal councils and leading bodies of all kinds and descriptions refusing to have any truck whatsoever with Communists, while the Federal Government sits back complacently, and lets known Reds into its innermost sanctum of defence secrets.

True, Sir David Rivett says that he knows of no Communist leaks in the C.S.I.R., but even if his remarks are based on solid fact (and we do not know that they are), what right has any government to employ Communists or their fellow travellers in such vital posts?

As to scientists refusing to sign security pledges—are they above the laws of the land; are they so irreplaceable that their stubbornness is of more importance than the future safety of the country?

In such times as these, when, to quote Horace, "He is safe from danger who is on guard even when safe," surely it behoves our leaders (of whatever political persuasion) to see that only men of the highest personal integrity are employed on our defence projects.
The United States is determined that she will not be caught napping in any future troubles, and she is going “all out” to make her people defence-conscious. Preparations for her forthcoming “Army Day” include: a special film which is to be televised; a film of ten-minutes’ duration for exhibition in cinemas throughout the country; a range of radio announcements from all stations; the issue of special pictures and facts for all newspapers; publicity tie-ins with more than 100 of the country’s radio stars; and addresses by 100 generals and 275 other military and civil personalities.

During World War I, Harold Pyott, a native of Stockport, England, received his calling-up papers on three separate occasions, but each time he presented himself at the recruiting office he was sent home with a paternal smile. The reason? Pyott was better known as “Tiny-Tim” and he was exactly 3ft. 4in. in height. 

In the year 1695, Britain taxed bachelors in order to raise funds to carry on the war with France. It was said that many bachelors would have preferred to go to France rather than take a wife.

On June 30, 1945, no less than 4,703 persons were serving sentences in American Federal prisons as violators of the Selective Service Act. Of these, well over half (2,724 to be exact) were Jehovah’s Witnesses.

During the siege of Paris, a butcher paid £4 for a kangaroo, £8 for a cassowary, £30, for a bear and £40 for an antelope. A wild boar was sold to him for £8; two-camels fetched £290 and two elephants went for £1,800. All were purchased from the city zoo and eventually sold to the populace for food. At that time cauliflowers were selling for 10/- each, eggs for 2/- 6d to 4/- each, a pigeon fetched £1, a leek 1/-, a bushel of onions 5/- and “an old hen” 50/-.

During the last war, the Dutch had a bad time through food shortages; but they kept their sense of humour. A Netherland official tells of a wartime suggestion for a “first-rate” meal: “Take your ration card for meat and roll it in your flour coupons, and put both inside your fat card. Broil it on your coal card to a gentle brown. Next, take your potato card and put it in your butter card, bringing the potatoes to a simmer on your kerosene card. Then take your crepe coffee card, add milk and sugar coupons, and dip your bread card in it. Then wipe your mouth with your soap card and dry it carefully on your textile coupon.”

Seven years ago this month—August 9 to 12, 1941—Mr. Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt met aboard the U.S.S. Augusta at sea and discussed the Atlantic Charter.

Japanese losses on the battlefields of World War II are now given as 1,500,464. Of these, 1,219,000 were killed; 240,000 were permanently disabled, and 4,164 captured (in Japanese eyes as good as dead). In the Aleutians, although there were some 8,000 dead, there were only 30 prisoners taken.

From a British Regimental Pay List of 1902: “Rates of pay—Private, 1/- per day; corporal, 1/8; sergeant, 2/-; sergeant-major, 5/-; lieutenant, 6/-; captain, 11/7; major, 13/7 and Lieut-colonel, 18/- per day.”

We like the recent remarks of the New Zealand Prime Minister on citizenship: “The privilege of being a citizen of this country was never greater than at the present time, and we must be prepared in order that we are not overwhelmed in the future. If danger comes, then national service will have to be considered. If a country is good enough to live in, if it is good enough to work in, then it is good enough to defend. . . It is undoubtedly the responsibility of everybody to do their share.”

The naval custom of drinking the King’s health while seated is said to have originated from the fact that His Majesty William IV, rising to drink a toast aboard the Prince George, bumped his head against a beam. From thenceforth, toasts were honoured seated.

Believe it or not, but of all the people in the world today not more than one-third eat with a knife and fork. Another third use chop-sticks and the final third still eat with their fingers.

United States veterans—except, in general, those ranking higher than Army captains or Naval lieutenants—honourably discharged after Pearl Harbour, received mustering-out pay as follows: For those who served less than 60 days, 100 dollars; for those who served 60 days or more in Continental United States, 200 dollars; for those who served 60 days or more outside continental United States or in Alaska, 300 dollars. Where a discharged veteran died before receiving payment the distribution of such pay was limited to spouse, children or parents, in that order.

A new electronic cooker capable of cooking a three-course meal in less than three seconds is expected to be placed on the Australian market in two months. Because the new device will cost about £250, it is expected that it will be used only in catteries of first. Later, when cost of production is lowered, every householder may be able to own the new-type cooker.
The State Executive, comprising 26 members (the State President, an Immediate Past President, two Vice-Presidents, three Trustees, one Country Vice-President and 18 elected members) meets regularly every second Wednesday at 5.30 p.m.

Here is a brief resume of the last meeting of the State Executive, held on July 28.

ROYAL VISIT

The State President reported that he had been invited by the Premier to join an official Entertainments Committee, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Sir Frank Gibson, M.L.C., to provide suitable entertainment for officers and men of H.M.S. Vanguard, other R.N. and R.A.N. ships, and also officers and men of the “King’s Flight” in connection with the Royal visit to Western Australia next year.

FEDERAL CONGRESS

It was recommended that the Executive give consideration to the appointment of delegates to Federal congress to be held in Brisbane on October 22. Also to the nominations for federal office-bearers in time for the next Executive meeting.

EX-IMPERIALS

It was recommended that an enquiry from the federal secretary regarding the B.E.S.I. making available funds from the Army Benevolent Fund for the relief of ex-Imperials in Australia be answered in the affirmative. Two States—New South Wales and Victoria—have stated that no assistance is required to meet such needs.

U.N.O. APPEAL

A letter of appeal for funds from the United Nations Appeal for Children was referred to the Executive. It was resolved to support this application for assistance by commending this very worthy appeal to all members of the League.

[The Australian appeal is for £1,000,000, and all Australian donations will be used to buy food in this country which will then be distributed in Europe by the U.N.O. Children’s Emergency Fund. All donations are rebateable for Income Tax.]

REHABILITATION

The report submitted by Mr. Sten included the following recommendation:

“Numerous requests are received to support appeals against appointments and promotions in various government and local government bodies. It has been found that there is little hope of success after an appointment is actually made, particularly after an appeal to a statutory body is pending. Your committee, therefore, recommends that all sub-branches be circularised requesting early information regarding possible future appointments and promotions. This would enable the League to take early and more fruitful steps to press for preference to ex-service men.”

Statistics regarding the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Training Scheme were submitted, and these will be dealt with, at some length, in the September issue of The Listening Post.

HOUSING

The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered a proposed interview with the Commonwealth Minister for Housing; a recommendation concerning the number of applicants who have declined to proceed with the building of war service homes; the R.S.I. building schemes and details of the deputation to the Attorney-General regarding the Purchasers’ Protection Act; and it was detailed (a) That the Commonwealth Minister for Housing be asked to meet a deputation in connection with the housing of newly-arrived immigrants and concerning war service houses, in general; and (b) That the Federal Government be asked to make a survey of all service houses that could be moved to accommodate migrants.

MIGRATION

The report submitted by Mr. Yeates included a draft resolution for congress re the national airport, details of the mass migration scheme, and a report of the Migration Advisory Committee.

Arising from this report it was resolved: “That the following resolution be submitted to congress by the State Executive: ‘In view of the experience gained during the 1939-45 War in connection with overseas air transportation, the W.A. Branch urges that immediate steps be taken to establish the Indian Ocean Air Route, with Guildford as an international airport.’”

This has been a matter of considerable interest to the League for some time, and it has now been actively taken up by several other bodies.

“MISS AUSTRALIA” COMPETITION

In a report submitted by Mr. Stahl, it was recommended:

“Since the State Executive agreed to undertake the conduct of the ‘Miss Australia’ competition for the purpose of raising funds for the War Veterans’ Home, two other important public appeals have been launched. One is the Wooroloo Queen Competition, which seeks to raise £100,000; and the other is the Government-sponsored £50,000 appeal on behalf of U.N.O. for the children of Europe.”

“It is considered . . . that this competition will render the launching of another competition of similar nature very difficult indeed . . . and it is recommended that in order that the position might be met, and so that W.A. might be represented, authority be given to offer facilities of ‘Miss Australia’ Quest to the Queen Competition being conducted by the Wooroloo Sanatorium for the T.B. appeal.”

LISTENING POST

In a report submitted by Mr. Leslie, the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. H. A. Wells as editor; the recommendation of certain features; and the allocation of advertisements and reading matter were covered.

WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

Mr. Edmondson reported on the conference called by the Under-Secre-
tary for Lands to discuss the proposal made by the Hon. the Prime Minister to establish certain sections of selected cemeteries for the burial of ex-service-men. Arising from a discussion on this report, it was resolved: "That the Under-Secretary for Lands be advised that at this stage the League considers the proposal as undesirable and impracticable."

OTHER REPORTS
Reports were also submitted on the Corps of Commissionaires (Mr. Yates), Anzac House (Mr. Ferguson), the Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Relief (Mr. Watt), Anzac Club (Mr. Ferguson), the War Veterans’ Home (Colonel Olden) and Amelioration (Colonel Mansbridge).

The State President (Mr. Hunt) stated that a full report regarding State congress would be submitted by the committee at the next Executive meeting.

Goethe once said, "He is the happiest, king or peasant, who finds his happiness at home." And Goethe knew—because he never found it.—Elbert Hubbard.

STATE WAR MEMORIAL EXTENSION APPEAL
Request to Sub-Branches

In reviewing the financial side of the appeal committee’s efforts to raise a sum of money to adapt the State War Memorial in King’s Park to honour the 1939-45 war dead, the honorary treasurer (Mr. J. E. Watson) has disclosed that up to date about £14,000 is in hand.

Of this amount, slightly over £4,000 has been raised by 149 sub-branches and women’s auxiliaries.

Mr. Watson said that there were 209 sub-branches of the League in W.A. and he was aware that some of these were still holding money against filling the quota allotted them by the appeal committee.

He asked that all money in hand be sent to him immediately at Anzac House in order that a financial statement could be prepared for congress.

A detailed list of sub-branch and auxiliary contributions will be published in the September Listening Post.

The Women’s Auxiliaries are holding an exhibition at the Perth Town Hall on Friday, September 8. An outstanding exhibition is hoped for—entry forms have been despatched to all auxiliaries—and the support of all readers is requested.
So These were the Diggers

Splendid is mankind's envious heart possess'd
And much he hated all, but most the best.—Homer

The behaviour of the Australian soldier on leave is often criticized, but in a B.B.C. broadcast in December, 1941, Eric Baume said:

“IT is no idle compliment to repeat what the Provost-Marshal in London told me almost a year ago. The Australian troops in this country,” he said, “before they moved out established a reputation for friendliness and good behaviour equal to that of any Dominion troops, or any other troops, for that matter, in this or the last war.”

However, it must be admitted that the Aussies have, at times, enjoyed themselves somewhat boisterously whilst on leave.

The Australian love of horse-flesh was notable even during the Boer War.

Major C. S. Jarvis, in his “Half a Life” (John Murray), writes:

“There was a story told in South Africa of a very peppery cavalry general who lost his favourite charger one night. There was a terrible scene the next morning that nearly caused a ten-minute silence on all fronts of the wide-flung campaign, but it was a mere nothing to the scene which occurred an hour later when an Australian trooper rode gaily past on the missing charger.”

Sir William Beach Thomas, who was an official war correspondent in World War I, writes admiringly in “The Way of a Countryman” (Michael Joseph), saying:

“Small groups of Australians going out on their own initiative and using the corps as cover, fought almost after the Red Indian manner; and would come back time and again with a few prisoners and a captured machine-gun or two.”

Of Ludendorff’s “Black Day for Germany” (August 8th, 1918), he says:

“The attack had been gloriously organized and carried through, not least by that most intelligent of all Jewish soldiers, General Monash. Never did Australian troops give more brilliant proof of their athletic dash and individual daring. The work demanded an army of athletes.”

From the BBC, Major H. M. H. Du Boulay recently told an interesting story of the late campaign in Libya:

“The Australian patrols had discovered just inside the enemy wire a dump of our own twenty-five-pounder ammunition which the Germans had captured earlier on in the campaign.

(In Capetown) “They took over all the bars and buses, pushed each other around in street-sweepers’ cots, kissed all the pretty women, raided the breweries and engaged in riots with the anti-British Afrikanders. One boatload of theft commandeered all the town’s dray-horses and held a ‘Melbourne Cup Race’ down Capetown’s main street.”

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(Continued on page 32)
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THE recent visit to this country of Miss Helen Keller, born blind, deaf and dumb, yet now a world celebrity, must give hope and courage to all those afflicted with disabilities. But right here in Perth we have people who have triumphed over adversity in a manner outstanding, and one of these, Mr. R. J. Ward, better known to his many friends as Jim Ward, now runs a modern furniture store in a way which well might be the envy of many a man with the full use of all his faculties.

But, as Plautus so truly said: "A man with courage has every blessing."

Jim Ward was, prior to World War II, in the building trade. Indeed, he was a first-class tradesman, particularly in the joinery field, and when he went away with the 2/28th Battalion his thoughts, quite naturally, often focussed upon the future when, he hoped, he would return to his own trade.

He was a good soldier and he rose to the rank of sergeant. Recommended for a commission, he heard the so-usual threadbare story, "You're too old." But he wasn't too old to fight and he took an active part in the battle of Ruin Ridge. There, fate played her hand, and Jim Ward lost his sight. Moreover, he became a prisoner-of-war.

But he was still a cool customer and once he had recovered from the shock he realised that he had to plan ahead. "I can't go back to building," he reasoned, "So I'll have to get into some allied trade. What is best?"

He thought things out carefully. "After the war," he said to himself, "people will need homes. They will also need furniture. I can't build furniture, but there is no reason on earth why I should not try selling it."

To assist in overcoming his disability, he started—as soon as was possible—to learn Braille. He was an apt and rapid pupil. Eventually he returned to Perth, obtained his discharge, became a life member of the League and a member of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch. He interviewed the powers-that-be, and they were most courteous and helpful, but—"Start a furniture store?" they queried. Then they added, "It's a crazy idea."

And so all his friends said. And so did all the businessmen he approached. "It can't be done," was the cry, but Jim Ward said that he would prove them all to be wrong. So, despite all advice to the contrary, he obtained premises and opened up business in August, 1945.

But there were competitors in the trade who thought more of their own pockets than they did of sightless men or returned servicemen, and a couple of these people played Jim some scurrvy tricks. In one case furniture which was sold by Jim from samples could not, when required, be obtained in quantities from the manufacturer. Business had begun to look particularly healthy, but it is of little use taking orders unless you can fill them. However, after some worrying moments, Jim made contacts which resulted in good, solid business. "The Britshers in the trade," he says, "were most helpful and did all they could. But stocks of timber and fittings were very, very scarce. Some foreigners made great promises. Indeed, they were most effusive. Of course they would help—but in every case they fell down on the job."

But Jim persevered. "My wife was my right hand," he adds. "Without her I could not have carried on. We lived a fair journey from the city, but we were on our way to town at 6.30 every morning, and we did not shut up shop until 6 at night. My wife would clean the windows while I scrubbed out the doorway."

Jim had heard of the Seeing Eye dogs and wished they were available in Australia. But he had a dog of his own and, with the aid of his wife, he eventually trained it so that it would take him to the bus in the morning and meet him at the bus stop at night. The dog meant a lot to Jim when he had his sight, it meant infinitely more now that he was sightless. But one day the dog was missing. Jim was frantic. He crawled under the house seeking his companion, whilst his wife and his friends combed the neighbourhood. All-to-no avail. Later it was discovered that a local dog-hater had killed the animal with an axe as it lay sleeping. One feels, as one is told this, that Gilbert's Mikado, who had "a punishment to fit the crime," might well have found something suitable, as he said, "With boiling oil in it," for a maniac of this description.

But Jim has another dog now, which he is training as an aid and as a companion.

Since Jim opened his store, business has steadily crept upward. He now has two shops and a large basement which is used as a storeroom and dispatch department. His premises are to be rebuilt as soon as labour and materials become available.

He now employs six assistants, but stoutly refuses to trade upon his disability. When watching him at work, one is sometimes almost inclined to doubt that he is sightless. He has a Braille telephone—which he uses without the slightest hesitation and, if asked by an assistant where a certain piece of furniture is, Jim will say: "Go through the door and you'll find it nine paces to the left." A far more accurate way of pinpointing an item than the average man's, "Oh, it's along to the left somewhere."

Asked about business in general, Jim Ward replies, "Oh, I can't complain."

And if he doesn't complain, surely he provides a lesson to us all,
WANSLEA, to far too many people in this State of ours, means little or nothing, but it is an institution which is doing such a great job that its name and reputation should be known to everyone. For that reason, The Listening Post makes no apology for detailing some of its activities.

Wanslea was founded during the last war with the object of caring for the children of servicemen's wives while they were ill (at home or in hospital). That such a service was possible was a great relief to such mothers, for the knowledge that one's children are being cared for is, as medical men will certify, a great booster to a patient's morale, and such knowledge often assisted a patient to recover more rapidly than before.

All that was needed for a child's admission to Wanslea was a doctor's certificate—there is no board to sit and deliberate on the case—and during the war years there were almost daily calls from Red Cross and other welfare officers, asking that youngsters be admitted.

There are various age groups at Wanslea, and those kiddies who are attending school are taken to and from school each day during their stay.

When children are admitted, they are shown their own bed and their chest of drawers. Each day their soiled clothes are washed and ironed, and each evening the next day's clothes are laid out ready for the morning. Thus good habits of cleanliness and tidiness are kept uppermost.

Since Wanslea was opened in 1943, no less than 1,765 children have been cared for—representing 866 families. On some weeks as many as 50 youngsters were admitted.

A small sum is charged for this service, but this is adjusted according to the ability of the family to pay. Sometimes as many as six children have been admitted from the one home.

Fathers have often come to Wanslea with babies in their arms and have shown enormous relief when they have found that the infants would be well cared for.

Wanslea had a street appeal on August 6, and the information reached The Listening Post too late for any advance publicity. So we might remind readers that, if by any chance they did not contribute to this worthy cause, it is not too late to do so NOW.

**Take My Advice!**
For a Properly Balanced diet, ALWAYS feed Poultry with **RedComb Pellets**

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None of those who attended the dawn service at the Beach Cemetery at Anzac this year will be likely to forget the experience.

When the service commenced, mists of morning were still cloaking Samothrace and Imbros far out to sea, and the sun coming up behind the peninsula to the east sharpened the outlines of all the ridges. It was a perfect spring morning, with only the faintest ripple lapping on the beach and the birds singing in the pines.

Only the little group of men standing before the white memorial facing the sea and two files of steel-helmeted Turkish soldiers drawn up beside the roadway along the beach showed that this was a morning set apart to mark the travails of nations, and a rendezvous with history.

The simple service began with the words of Christendom’s first profession of faith—the Lord's Prayer—and it ended a quarter of an hour later as Turkish volleys abruptly shattered the peace of dawn—but these volleys were fired in tribute to a valiant foe, and were no delayed echo of what had been heard here thirty-three years before.

When it was all over, Turkish flowers lay side by side with the wreaths of Anzacs and the Imperial War Graves Commission on the steps of the memorial, and a Turkish and an Australian General, who as junior officers had fought against each other on the slopes above this beach, saluted, shook hands, and walked away together.

Today, the steep hills and rugged gullies of Gallipoli Peninsula, where they run down to sandy bays fronting the Aegean, are quiet places. They had their grim moment of bitter history, then history marched on and left them. Here and there on the flats and in quieter valleys the Turkish peasants drive their teams of small dun and white oxen and their primitive wooden ploughs, but what signs of life there are on the peninsula are chiefly concerned with two things—care and guardianship of war cemeteries that commemorate the tragedy and heroism of 1915, and watchful Turkish custody of Gallipoli as a security area.

**Turkish Defences**

Turkish defences are well camouflaged, but it is obvious that a considerable and an alert garrison mans them. The famous old forts that defended the narrows at Chanak and Kilid Bahr, and which were demolished after the Great War have never been reconstructed, but other and more modern defences have taken their place. The Turks leave little to chance. Even the peasants who farm the Peninsula are old soldiers whose loyalty and discretion are regarded as unquestionable.

Those among the Anzac party who were returning to Gallipoli, and not seeing it for the first time, agreed that time had been kind to it, though even time could not soften the harsh realities of what such terrain meant as an objective for direct assault. Everywhere the growth on hillsides has increased; trees have grown up and in hollows and gullies, grass and wild flowers have drawn a kindly carpet over many of the old marks of conflict. But many still remain. As the party toured, the old battlegrounds they picked up two broken rusted bayonets, and a water-bottle riddled with bullet holes—there are probably thousands of such mementos still lying in lonely places where they were dropped. On the flats near Helles, old British trenches and dugouts can still plainly be discerned, but Turkish farmers have ploughed among them and their fields of barley break the lines.

**Famous Landmarks**

At Anzac, famous landmarks like the sphinx are still there, but its outlines are softened and reduced by the weather. The sheer yellow cliffs above Shrapnel Gully, leading up to Walker’s Ridge and Plugge’s Plateau, are still without a vestige of vegetation, but a cap of green on the higher ridges is firmly placed, and a line of trees that wasn’t there thirty-three years ago breaks the skyline on Chunuk Bair. Rusting skeletons of a few old landing-craft still lie on the beach, but most of the debris of war has long ago been cleared away. The site of Fisherman’s Hut is overgrown with fruit trees, but piles of old landing wharves are still clearly to be seen on the water’s edge. On Helles Flats there are many old trees whose trunks still show signs of shellfire, but new greenery has sprouted from their tops.

**Chunuk Bair**

Dominating the whole of Anzac from the seaward side is the towering New Zealand memorial on the ridge of Chunuk Bair, the farthest forward point reached by the Anzac advance. Here, where New Zealanders came within sight of the Narrows, and within a few yards of victory in August, 1915, a brief New Zealand service was held. Taking part in it was Lieut.-Colonel Cyril Bassett, of Auckland, who won the Victory Cross on those same heights in the great August attack. Australians held a similar service at Lone Pine, and the following day Australians and New Zealanders together paid tribute at the British memorial at Cape Helles, and the French at Morto Bay.

In the day and a half they spent at Anzac and Helles, the delegation visited 25 of the 32 war cemeteries there. It was only through the cooperation of the Turks and the use of their transport that they were able to do so much in so short a time.

Without exception, they found the cemeteries and memorials in perfect condition. Hedges were neatly clipped, paths immaculately weeded, lawns cut and fresh, and trees and flower gardens carefully tended. In many cemeteries the delicate purple pink of Judas trees made splashes of pastel colour against varying greens of cypress, pines and oaks.

“Softened by Time”

The Gallipoli cemeteries have been laid out by the Imperial War Graves Commission with imagination and tendered with careful affection; today, softened by time and nature, the grim peninsula that made its slopes the graveyard of so many of the Empire’s finest manhood has provided a setting which makes some restitution for the price it exacted. The memorials lie, (Continued on page 28)
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SECRET is the great enemy of the research scientist. There are at any time only a handful of men in the world who understand what we are doing. We need to meet these men every year or two and talk over our work for days at a time. It's from these few contacts that our main stimulus (and often the biggest discoveries) come. When secrecy comes in that stimulus disappears. By and large, in all the enormous war-time secret laboratories throughout the world: no new fundamental knowledge in physics was won; so, after the war, physicists returned to their universities and peace-time jobs with a sigh of relief. We'd have none of this secrecy any more and we were prepared to fight for this freedom.

Russia Blamed

One single decision by one country has blown away these pipe-dreams. By refusing international control of atomic energy, particularly by refusing the international inspection which must accompany it, Russia has automatically put physicists back into their secret hide-outs. If that was all she had done, it would not be so very serious, but by the very nature of the issue and the overwhelming fear that secrecy—in atomic matters engenders, she has automatically started an armament race in atomic weapons.

Now, I'm not going to express my opinion about the rights or wrongs of her action. I don't know the full facts; for all I know she may be perfectly justified in this action, from her point of view. But I do say this solemnly, with a physicist's appreciation of what the use of atomic energy for destruction means: We are all dwellers on one globe and the abuse of atomic energy can make it uninhabitable for all but a fraction of those now living on it. There's no room for two captains and two crews in a ship on fire with a cargo of dynamite in the hold. When they disagree about fire-fighting policy and retire to separate quarters there is one inevitable end to ship and crews.

Change of Heart Needed

So we find ourselves in the middle of Act II. Unless there is a change of heart, and that soon, I know of nothing which will avert the final tragedy. I look at it this way, as no doubt many other scientists do: In the last few million years certain kinds of life achieved temporary supremacy in their environment—the pterodactyl, tyrannosaurus, the mammoth, and so on. For one reason or another—change of climate (as in the Ice Age) or the superior development of rival species—they have all become extinct. Occasionally we find fossil remains. Whether we think in terms of a Creator or just call it Nature, all these species no doubt served a purpose—if purpose we must have to give us incentive.

Now it's man's turn. In every case, extinction of the species has come from failure to adapt itself quickly enough to a changing environment.

So, in man's case, extinction seems likely to come from failure to grow quickly enough those primitive impulses and passions so essential to life in the jungle, but deadly to the present kind of cheek-by-jowl existence in a relatively crowded world.

It might take us something like half a million years to grow out of our jungle inheritance, while we have been developing civilised life, with numerous stresses and strains, for only a few thousand years. On top of that, we have developed methods of wholesale killing in a brief hundred years. And now, to cap it all, we unleash forces capable of destroying whole tracts of the earth, and possibly even, with a little more study and ingenuity, of destroying the earth itself.

Signs of Strain

Altogether, looking at the canvas broadly and in a detached scientific way, we have managed pretty well to have populated the earth as fully as it is today. We have managed to do more than offset the effects of mass murder and pestilence by the diligent application of scientific medicine and agriculture. It's true that the signs of strain after the last orgy of destruction are considerable and look like lasting longer than usual. We may, or at least some of us may, survive one more world war as civilised beings, if it comes quickly enough. But if such a war cannot be prevented and is delayed by 15 or 20 years then I, for one, hold out little hope.

By that time there will be too much radioactive matter in the world in a form ready for military use and too many ways of depositing it where it will do the most lasting damage.

You may well say, "What are you physicists going to do about it? You conjured up this ghost! It's time you set about laying it!" Alas, no, the human race and only the whole human race can lay it. The long-hairs, we physicists, have lost any control we ever had. Possibly the crisis would have arrived soon even without the intervention of the physicists.

Biological methods of mass slaughter have developed rapidly. Atom bombs and deadly bacilli may only be a symptom of the mortal sickness of our civilisation. Learned historians and sociologists like Toynbee and Sorokin appear to take that view.

A Gloomy Picture

But we must always remember that this crisis of our time is essentially different from those former civilisations have faced. We must not be misled by the cry, "It has all happened before!" Men said the race was finished when they heard of the bow and arrow. We still survive! Such analogies are nonsense. This time we

(Continued on page 26)
The way things are being run today it seems that when the Last Trump sounds a Royal Commission will be set up to decide whether it is really the Last Trump or the Last Trump but one.

It was during the last war. Two Aussie airmen were walking around Hollywood when a man with a red flag rushed out and waved them away. "You can't come any further," he said, "there's a movie being shot." One of the Aussies smiled. "If it's the one we saw last night," he replied, "it'll ain't well deserves to be shot."

Wounded Digger (leaving hospital): "Thanks very much, Sister, for all your kindness. I'll never forget it as long as I live. If ever there was a fallen angel, you're one."  

Private A: "What made you borrow my only clean pair of socks?"

Private B: "I don't know—guess I must have been wool-gathering."

However bad it may be for your wife to find a letter you were supposed to post, it's a lot worse to let her find a letter you were supposed to burn.

The Australian warship was in an American port, and the skipper was lucky enough to intercept a rating who was carrying aboard a most unusual pet—a baby skunk.

"You can't take that below deck," he yelled, "Just think of the odour down there."

"That's all right," the rating assured him. "He'll get used to it the same as I did.

They told this one during the war days: Hitler had a sore throat and popped into a chemist's shop to leave a prescription for a gargle. But by mistake he left a few notes he had jotted down for his next speech and when he called back he found the chemist had made them up as an eyewash.

We all make footprints in the sands of time. Some leave the imprint of a great soul—others just the mark of a heel.

Girl (returning from a date with a navy man): "No, I don't know what his rank was, but I think he was a chief petting officer."

Shortly before the invasion of France started, a brigadier and his staff were watching a troop-carrying glider go by, and from it came a carrier pigeon. Powerful field glasses followed every flap of its wings until it fluttered into a coop, then a colonel raced over to get the message, bounded back breathlessly, and handed it to the brigadier. That gentleman opened it with trembling hands, read it, cursed, and threw it on the ground. Then he stalked off with a purple face. A young staff lieutenant waited a few moments, then picked up the message. It read: "I have been sent down for being naughty in my cage."

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PERSONALITIES

Lieut.-General H. Gordon Bennett is now president of the New South Wales Citrus Growers' Council, and has also been elected president of the Australian Citrus Growers' Federation.

Charlie Bills, of the Press sub-branch, is on the sick list, suffering from heart trouble.

Bert Sykes, of Kondinin, a stalwart of many a congress, was noted around his appointment as a stipendiary magistrate at the Perth Police Court.

Cliff Saddler, V.C., is, we regret to learn, an inmate of the Hollywood Hospital. The Subiaco sub-branch, unfortunately, has more than its fair share of members there, others including Arthur Coster, W. Moe and E. J. Dray.

Ken Boulton, president of the New South Wales Branch of the League, recently paid a hurried visit to Perth, where he was welcomed at Anzac House by members of the State Executive.

Bill Scates, Sid George, Bert Ewen, Dan Gallagher, Ernie Moore and Bill James (all of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch) are on the sick list. Must be something in that Mt. Hawthorn air.

Mr. H. W. Gamble, has been elected president of the re-formed sub-branch at Porphyry. Secretary is Mr. W. Rome, and treasurer, Mr. E. Hoffman.

Gerry Gerard, of Grenfell, and Les Jones, of Manly, two League stalwarts, from New South Wales, recently visited Perth and Kalgoorlie and they are more than pleased to report that they received "open-hearted hospitality."

George Healey, of the Merredin sub-branch, has been holidaying in Perth during the month. We are given to understand that he had an urgent appointment with his dentist.

"Jack" Brown, the Country Vice-President of the League, who is usually domiciled at Yandamoooka, was also a recent visitor to the city.

Alan G. Smith, president of the Air Force Association in this State, is to be heartily congratulated upon recently paid a hurried visit to Perth, where he was welcomed at Anzac House by members of the State Executive.

Bill Scates, Sid George, Bert Ewen, Dan Gallagher, Ernie Moore and Bill James (all of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch) are on the sick list. Must be something in that Mt. Hawthorn air.

Mick Bracken, of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch, has been celebrating the birth of a son and heir. Congratulations, Mick.

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Empire and Atom Bomb

ALL thoughtful people recognise that the British Isles cannot for long remain the Empire's military centre. During the last war air power and the rocket bomb proved that their invulnerability was a thing of the past; the arrival of the Atomic Age has clinched the matter. An easy target for trouble-makers on the Continent, Great Britain is also too small to provide the training facilities necessary for the Army and the Air Force—her land, insufficient to provide the food she needs, holds no margin for a multiplicity of giant airfields, no "country" wide enough for the satisfactory manoeuvring of tanks. Australia has none of these handicaps. She has room, and to spare, for tanks and aircraft; ample space for experiments with rockets; almost unlimited natural resources upon which to build those secondary industries which are so vital to a nation's defence. Her chief lack is man-power, but that weakness is not without remedy. Have Australian ministers fixed the Commonwealth's population target at 20,000,000? We prophesy that, within a generation, they will be amazed at their own modesty.

Shipping shortage will not for long hold up that human wave, the first ripples of which have already touched the shores of this land of opportunity. At Australia House in London the waiting list of would-be migrants grows from week to week and no "control of labour" will for ever keep them from their heart's desire. And, if recruits from the parent stock should prove insufficient to Australia's needs, there are hardy Scandinavians and other Northern Europeans who are eager to test the physical and spiritual scope which the Commonwealth can offer. Most significant of all is the movement from India. Thousands of Britons, soldiers and civilians, who had looked upon service in India as their life-work, are now compelled by the end of the British Raj, to readjust their ideas. They are looking to the South. The Australian High Commissioner in India recently spoke approvingly of this new recruiting ground for Australian manpower, as well he might. India's loss will be Australia's gain.

In the better distribution of the Empire's white population it looks as though the menace of the atom bomb will achieve what no exhortation has hitherto been able to accomplish. The world still contains some wishful-thinking human ostriches—but not as many as it did between the two world wars. Then, they pinned their faith to the League of Nations; now they trust the United Nations to hold the atom bomb in leash. But while one of five great powers can veto any punitive action against an aggressor, the United Nations will remain as ineffective as was the League—and all wise nations, striving to strengthen the power of U.N.O., will yet look to their own defences. Our blind faith in the League almost brought us to disaster in 1940. We shall deserve to join Babylon, Carthage and Rome, if we take the same road twice. The signs suggest that this time we shall be wiser; and that a new strategy, to meet a new situation, will stimulate migration as nothing else has done at any previous period of the Empire's history.

It is significant that—while the R.A.A.F. are mapping a 1,000-mile strip in Central Australia as the world's biggest testing ground for rockets, and the Australian Government has announced the planning of a new Sandhurst-cum-West Point military college—Great Britain should be strengthening the Empire in the East. Sarawak, an outpost of Australia, will obviously be more effective in that role as a British Colony than it could be under the one-man rule of its white Rajah. In the same strategic area, Singapore is to be made a military as well as a naval base and the States of Malaya are being given the power that comes from union. With India gone and our control of the Suez Canal about to follow it, we should do well to make the Empire's strategic centre a country that is within three days' flying time of the Motherland, and is yet large enough and sufficiently remote to survive the menace of the atom bomb.

There is nothing defeatist in this acceptance of facts—in this wise provision against contingencies. Indeed, in spite of the impoverishment which is the price it paid for saving the world from slavery, our Empire today, exhibits a vigorous, adventurous enterprise that should answer all the pessimists. And that spirit embraces not only the Mother Country, whose rising export trade is the wonder of the world; not only the Dominions, who are sending shiploads of food to Great Britain and giving homes in their own lands to famous British industries. It covers also the burgeoning of a new life in the Colonies, whose economic development is being generously aided by the British taxpayer, and whose people are offered the status of full self-government as soon as they prove themselves fit for it. *The British* way of life means a degree of human freedom that is unknown to totalitarian "democracies"; and the Empire's pioneers "built better than they knew" when they made it possible, even in this atomic age, to preserve it.

—From "Our Empire Today."
The views expressed in feature articles are those of the writers, and not necessarily of "The Listening Post" or of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A.

A few weeks ago there appeared in the local Press a most peculiar letter, in which the writer (a woman) accused another letter-writer of being "one of those men who always wear an R.S.I badge," as if, indeed, the wearing of such a badge was something to be ashamed of, something which was "not done in the very best circles," or something which was akin to putting on style.

There is, surely, no need to stress the fact that the wearing of the League badge is something of which to be proud. For, in this case, undoubtedly we can say with Shakespeare: "But sure, he's proud, and yet his pride becomes him.

Walk through the streets of Perth or of any Australian city or township and you will see the passers-by wearing a variety of lapel decorations—union badges, lodge badges, badges of this, that and the other association or movement—but the most widely worn badge of all, and in all probability the most proudly worn badge—is the badge of the League.

Many bodies which issue a badge can be joined by any Tom, Dick or Harry. This does not make membership in them any the less attractive, but the one outstanding feature about the wearing of the League badge is this: to be entitled to wear it one must belong to that great brotherhood who have served their country. The League badge, indeed, really means something, which is more than can be said for many of the queer pieces of metal worn by some folk, and the recognised meaning of the League badge (recognised by all classes of society) is that the wearer has honorably served his or her country in its hour of need. Can this be anything of which to be ashamed?

But there is more to being a member of the League than merely the payment of one's subscription and the wearing of the badge.

No organisation can be run without criticism, but only too often the criticism from within the ranks comes from those who sit at home and do nothing constructive with regard to the organisation's running, and then, when things are not quite to their liking, say that things are not what they should be, that the movement is "going to the dogs," or that it is "run by a clique."
HE SHOULDER

occasionally arise? Do you, when criticising the work of your sub-branch, criticise constructively and helpfully, or in a spirit of hindrance? In short, do you do all you can to assist your sub-branch to do a really first-class job?

Have you ever introduced a new member to the League? Remember that there are still ex-servicemen who stand aloof from joining. Why? In many cases, no doubt, merely because they see no actual reason, at the moment, for doing so. Cannot you show reasons to these chaps? Cannot you point out the pleasures of comradeship—a renewal of that great feature of war life—which go with active participation in League membership?

Become a Builder

Remember that if each member of a sub-branch did his little bit of building thoroughly, there would be few outside our ranks. In the United States a few years ago some organisations utilised what they called a snowball programme, working upon the fact that a snowball, as it rolls along, continually gathers up more and more snow, and thus grows at a rapid rate. This snowball scheme worked in this manner: Each member of an organisation was called upon to introduce a new member. Then each new member was expected to do likewise. You can see how it works. Twenty members brings in twenty more; these, in their turn, bring in another twenty; and so the scheme snowballs on. A very few applications of this scheme would suffice as far as ex-service personnel are concerned.

Bear in mind that in working for the League you are working for the interest of yourself and of all other ex-servicemen. Those of us who served in World War I know what it was to be ex-servicemen without any recognised body to fight our battles. For us it meant starting off from scratch and battling every inch of the way.

On Peace Day, 1919, they threw confetti at us, but a week later many of us were out looking for a job. We formed our organisations, but the going was by no means easy.

But after World War II there was a different story. There was an efficient and highly-organised League to represent the man and woman returned from the battle-front, a smoothly running organisation to which we could go with our problems and our troubles.

Only too well does the ex-service man today know that his cry, “I’ll go to the League about it” has weight behind it and really means something. Government and civic authorities and organisations—of whatever political leaning they may be—recognise the attended to and their problems attacked without undue delay.

“The wearing of the League badge,” says a prominent official, “denotes that the wearer is a citizen of high standing. But it also means that he has a standard to which he must live up.”

Another prominent member says that he always feels that he must give at least a nod of recognition to all wearers of League badges, “for,” he adds, “they are not strangers to me, for we meet on common ground.”

Now the Britisher is, in general, somewhat inclined to be “stand-offish.” In England it is often said that one can travel by rail from Land’s End to the north of Scotland with the same fellow passengers without even passing the time of day. Maybe things are not quite so bad here in Australia, but it would seem that the brotherhood of the League badge might be acted upon more freely. A stranger in a town should not be a stranger if he is a League member. He was a comrade-in-arms—and he should be a comrade still.

Perhaps we can do ourselves a deal of good if we remember, and act upon, the words of Elbert Hubbard: “Down in their hearts, wise men know this truth: the only way to help yourself is to help others.” And if each and every one of us will do just this; if I do it, if you do it, and you, and you, and you, and you, then perhaps each of us can...

War

“He who did well in war just earns the right to begin doing well in peace.”—Robert Browning.

“Would you end war? Create great Peace.”—James Oppenheim.

“The only excuse for war is that we may live in peace unharmed.”—Cicero.

“Establish the eternal truth that acquiescence under insult is not the way to escape war.”—Thomson Jefferson.

“War hath no fury like a non-combatant.”—C. E. Montague.

In Perth the League has a most efficient and capable State Secretary and staff, working each and every day on behalf of the ex-service man and woman. Smooth-running machinery enables all service personnel or their relatives to have their queries
Flashes and Reports

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE

A most representative gathering, including the Premier (Mr. McIntyre), attended Anzac House on Wednesday, July 7, for the formal handing-over to the Lord Mayor of Perth of the plaque presented to the City of Perth by the Returned Services Association of New Zealand, and of a New Zealand flag, presented to the State Branch of the League by the Government of New Zealand.

These gifts were brought back from our sister Dominion by Mr. T. Sten, leader of the recent Australian delegation to New Zealand and, when handing over the plaque to the State President, he said that it should be looked upon as more than a mere token, for there was real, solid sentiment behind the gift.

Mr. Hunt then presented the plaque officially to the Lord Mayor, who said that it would have an honoured place in the City Council Chambers, and some day, he hoped, it would be affixed to a new City Hall.

The Premier, in an interesting speech, thanked the various patriotic committees for the splendid work done by them during the war years.

The New Zealand flag was handed over to Mr. Hunt by Mr. A. Hullett, a member of the delegation to New Zealand. This flag will be flown with the Australian flag on Anzac House on Anzac Day as a token of the mutual goodwill of the two Dominions.

The wording of the plaque is as follows: "New Zealand Returned Services Association. To the Lord Mayor, the Councillors and to the Citizens of Perth, from the New Zealand Returned Services Association, Incorporated. In grateful appreciation of all the many and continued kindnesses extended to them to New Zealand servicemen and servicewomen who passed through Perth on active service during the war years, 1939-1945." [See front cover for picture of handing-over ceremony.]

The Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, U.S., has developed a technique for mowing grass by means of a high-pitched shrill whistle. The whistle’s pitch agitates the grass stems so violently that they break off. The countryman is torn when he reads of such goings-on. Science may be going too far. The test-tube experts have bred the authority from onions and they’ve taken the smell from cabbage . . . what next?

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MEMORIAL HALL FUNDS

Gifts to building funds for R.S.L. memorial halls and hostels may not be claimed as allowable deductions from income for taxation purposes.

This was the decision of the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) in reply to representations from the League that donations of £1 or more to such appeals be allowed as deductions under the Income Tax Assessment Act.

Giving his reasons for the decision, Mr. Chifley explained that the Act provided for concessional allowances on gifts to a “public” fund to provide money for the construction or maintenance of a public memorial relating to the war. It was essential, however, that the war memorial be of a public nature.

The meaning of the word “public” had been determined in the courts as having no application to an organisation where admission to membership depended on the consent of members. In one case, the judge had clarified this point by reference to seamen. Any citizen might possess the natural qualifications to become a seaman, but before he could become a member of the Seamen’s Union he must obtain the consent of the union. Seamen were a section of the public but the Seamen’s Union was not a public organisation. Similarly, the R.S.L. could not be classified as a public body and any buildings which were substantially controlled and primarily used and occupied by its members were not subject to concessional allowances.

The case of a N.S.W. Merchant Navy Club appeal was different, Mr. Chifley said. The use of the club was available to all seamen and not restricted to elected members of any particular organisation. The club could be classified, therefore, as a public memorial relating to the war, and gifts to it were subject to income tax concessions.

THE "RED" BAN

Replying to a strong protest from the Fremantle branch of the Seamen’s Union against the ban imposed by the Returned Servicemen’s League on Communists, the State Executive of the League recently approved the following statement:

“It is not the intention of the R.S.L. to exclude from membership any returned serviceman who is entitled to be a member. It is an essential part of membership of any organisation, however, to obey the rules laid-down for its government. Where a member seeks to belong to two organisations whose objects are diametrically opposed it must surely become necessary for him to forgo one of them, as he cannot be loyal to both.

“A returned serviceman who commits an offence against society is subject to the laws governing society; and the fact that he is an ex-serviceman cannot prevent the law from excluding him from society should his actions deserve such punishment.

“We draw this parallel merely to illustrate the attitude of the League towards those members who are unwilling to observe its rules and who violate its principles.”

The grounds advanced by the union for the admission of “any returned soldier whose war service entitles him to join the organisation,” were that the R.S.L. was non-political and non-sectarian and that an ex-servicemen’s political and religious beliefs were his own concern.

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LAND SETTLEMENT APPLICATIONS

Failure to Reply to Circular is Not Withdrawal

The Chairman of the Land Committee of the League (Mr. H. A. Leslie, M.L.A.) stated recently that the last paragraph of a questionnaire sent out by the Land Settlement Board was likely to create a wrong impression.

This circular stated that if no reply was received to it within 30 days, the board would presume that the applicant was no longer interested in land settlement. But, as Mr. Leslie reported to the State Executive, this statement was certainly liable to create misunderstanding.

"It would seem that the impression which might be conveyed to the ex-service man who is an applicant for a farm is that failure to reply within the period would automatically cancel his right to apply for a farm. But this is not so. In actual fact the paragraph seems to have been inserted to stimulate replies. But, despite that, any eligible applicant would have to withdraw from the scheme before his application could be cancelled."

In a nutshell, failure to reply to this circular cannot be accepted as an indication of withdrawal.

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August, 1948
I think of death as some delightful journey
That I shall take when all my tasks are done.

General Pershing

General of the Armies, John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force from 1917 to 1919, died in Washington last month at the age of 87 years. Born on a farm in Missouri, he graduated from West Point in 1886. He went to Cuba in 1898, and to the Philippines in 1899. Later he served as military attache in Tokyo, but was recalled to the Philippines to subdue a Moro rising. In 1915 his wife and three young daughters lost their lives in a fire tragedy, only his son, Warren, surviving. He led a punitive expedition against Villa in Mexico in 1916, and the following year was appointed head of the American Army in France. Personally modest, he won high regard and in 1923 was made chairman of the American Battle Monument Commission, in charge of the American military cemeteries in France.

Steve O'Neill

Nicholas John Stephen O'Neill, better known to his many friends as "Steve," died suddenly at Manjimup on July 11. He served with the 16th Battalion in World War I and for many years was a familiar figure as a member of the Palace Hotel staff (Perth). Later he took over the management of the Shenton Park Hotel and, although a member of the Manjimup sub-branch at the time of his death, he was chiefly identified with the Subiaco sub-branch, of which he was a foundation member. Our sincere condolences go to his widow and children.

Matron Janet McDonald was the guest of honour at a social given by the metropolitan women's auxiliaries on June 23, more than 300 being present at Anzac House. The president of the Women's Auxiliary State Executive (Mrs. J. L. McKinlay), spoke in glowing terms of the matron's care of ex-servicemen at Lemnos and, in appreciation of these services, Matron McDonald was presented with a handsome mantel model radio and a beautiful bouquet.

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It is with regret that we learn of the death of Mrs. Eva Grigg, wife of Johnny Grigg, of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch, who is still in the R.A.A.F. at Darwin. We offer Johnny our sincere sympathy.
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RECAPPING, RETREADING AND HEAVY DUTY REMOULDING

NEW TYRE GUARANTEE
ALL MAKES NEW TYRES SOLD
WHAT ABOUT GERMANY?
by Louis P. Lochner (Hodder and Stoughton)

The author, an American journalist who claims to have been on more fronts of the German Army and its allies than any other American correspondent, followed the German forces consecutively into Poland, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia, Greece and (via Finland) into Russia, and gives a most interesting picture of the German war machine in action.

Written while the war was still on, this book contains some most interesting speculations, made even more interesting in the light of later events. The rise of the Nazis is dealt with at some length, as is the general run of life in Germany under Hitler; and Der Fuhrer is brought to us in a series of most revealing "close-ups." Perhaps one of the most interesting features is the reprinting of a number of the "instructions" handed out to editors of the German Press, on which the author makes some scathing comments. This is an absorbing volume which no earnest student of war history should miss. There are a number of excellent illustrations. (Our copy from the Literary Institute.)

TRIAL OF THOMAS JOHN LEY AND LAWRENCE JOHN SMITH

Edited by F. Tennyson Jesse (William Hodge & Co.)

Many readers will remember the trial, in London, in March, 1947, of these two men for the murder of hotel employee John McMain Mudie in a London flat.

Ley was at one time a solicitor in this country. Later he became a member of the New South Wales Parliament, eventually accepting the post of Minister for Justice. That office he relinquished in order to take a seat in the Federal House of Representatives.

Yet his career was mixed up with some strange affairs. Accused of bribery, Ley was to face a High Court inquiry, but the man whom Ley was supposed to have paid never turned up. Some people asserted that he had been paid to leave the country, others suggested that he had been murdered.

One of Ley's business associates was found dead under strange circumstances at Coogee in 1928.

Yet, of all the strange incidents in Ley's life, none was half so strange as the murder of poor Mudie who, it seems, never until the final chapters of the drama knew who Ley was. The story of the trial is now given in detail in this book—one of the Notable British trials series—and as the editor says: "There never was a crime more stupidly conceived or more badly executed... . The trial was so extraordinary, so beyond reason, that, speaking for myself, I should not have been surprised if everyone had turned, as they did in Alice in Wonderland, into a pack of cards.

All in all, a book which should fascinate anyone interested in criminology or in psychology—or, for that matter, anyone interested in life as it really is. (Our copy from the Literary Institute.)

PSYCHOLOGIST IN GERMANY
by Soul K. Padover (Phoenix House)

Far too many people today say of World War II: "Well, the war is over, and that's that; it's finished and done with." But there is really more to it than that and we have yet many problems to face and to solve before peace and security can be assured.

That most of us know very little about the average citizen of Germany is fully apparent when one gets but a few pages into this book. The title may scare some folk, but actually it is in autobiographical form; for the author landed on French soil with the United States fighting forces in 1944 and stayed with them until the end of the fighting. His job, a new one in the annals of warfare, was to discover how Germans "tick," to assess their minds in defeat and to create for the American and British authorities a "composite picture of the German, for present and future reference."

Well, whatever sort of a job he did for the authorities is outside our scope, but he certainly did an outstanding one for the general public when he wrote this book, for it is packed full of interest from cover to cover—indeed, for your reviewer it was one of those books, so rare these days, which could not be put aside until it was finished. (Our copy from the Literary Institute.)

MEMORY'S GLOWING EMBERS
by "Wonderer" (Service Printing Co.)

Here is a little book written by a local ex-naval man. It is a book for youngsters—a book of scouting stories—and unless we are greatly mistaken every boy will be interested in it. The yarns are set in local surroundings and they deal with local lads. The contents include: "The Hermit of Turkey Point," "Jinks and the Ghost," "A Scout—Unregistered," "The Open Road," and "How We Built Our Scout Hall," and it is suggested that this inexpensive publication would make a nice little present for your favourite youngster. (Our copy from the author.)

** IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE **

It is not the intention of this reviewer to deal generally with films, but occasionally a motion picture comes along which really deserves more than a mere passing mention. "It's a Wonderful Life" is one of these films. Directed by Frank Capra, the man who gave us "You Can't Take It With You," "It Happened One Night" and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," this film contains all the old and tried standbys which lead to both laughter and tears. But in addition it has a story and a theme which is out of the usual run. To tell you what it is would be probably be to spoil your enjoyment of it. All that can be said is: you should not miss it. James Stewart does an excellent job of acting in the leading role and he is ably supported by Donna Reed and a hand-picked cast.

Those who rave over the American kitchen and home (as seen in the average movie) may be interested to learn that recent surveys in the United States have revealed that:

- 40 per cent of all homes have no bath or shower.
- 25 per cent have no indoor toilet.
- 30 per cent have no running water.
- 21 per cent have no electricity.
- 27 per cent have no refrigerator.
- 42 per cent have no central heating.
- 27 per cent are of three rooms or less.
RE-ESTABLISHMENT

"Australia's full employment programme has been greatly assisted and her national development quickened in many fields by the efficiency with which ex-service men and women have been re-established in civilian life," says the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction.

A survey for 1947 shows that 34,772 men and women were discharged and expenditure on the various schemes to aid their re-establishment totalled £26,168,888 in that year.

C.R.T.S.

By far the greater percentage of those discharged during 1947 applied for training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. The scheme, which came into operation in February, 1944, has provided an unparalleled boost for Australian education. For the first time free tuition on a Commonwealth basis has become available at universities, technical colleges, rural colleges and other approved training institutions: for the first time students have been paid living allowances for themselves and their dependants during training.

Of the total discharged last year, 29,882 men and women were selected for training under the scheme, either in university, technical, vocational or rural full and part-time training.

This eagerness of ex-service men and women to be trained in trades and professions represents a determined effort by those who fought the war to bring some positive value out of it, both for themselves and indirectly for Australia.

They will be an important factor in future development.

Loans and Allowances

Furniture grants, free passages to and from the Commonwealth, business re-establishment allowances, removal expenses and tools of trade, are but a few of the many benefits made available through the Repatriation Commission.

"Loans up to £350 may be made for small businesses. In certain cases, this figure is raised to £750. During last year loans for small businesses were made to 3,455 men and women; professional loans to 346 men and women.

The cost of these loans again underlines the scope of assistance. Small business loans cost £1,544,535 and professional loans £125,013.

Free Passages

Generous provision has been made to enable ex-servicemen who married abroad to bring their wives and children to Australia free of any expense. Not only is the passage from port to port free, but transport is granted from the dependent's home town to the port of embarkation and from the port of arrival to the ultimate destination in Australia free of any charge. Free passages to and from the Commonwealth were granted to 429 persons at a cost of £112,113 last year.

Housing

The number of persons granted loans for War Service Homes in 1947 was 4,814. The value of loans and advances approved reached the large figure of £7,565,647, as against an amount actually expended of £3,188,302.

The housing position is admittedly acute but these figures indicate that progress is being made in a favourable direction.
August, 1948

THE LISTENING POST

Page 25

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The Atomic Armament Race

(Continued from page 11)

are on the verge of making the earth uninhabitable. That would be a mortal blow.

This is a gloomy picture. You must wonder whether I see a single ray of light—a single hopeful sign. I see one hope, though there is little sign of its coming yet. Is it possible that our tragedy will end as the old Greek drama ended? At the last moment will an all-powerful “deus ex machina,” a god from the machine, appear—one who can and will put us all to rights? Is there any sign of that universal outlook, both spiritual and political, which alone would make us one race in one world?

I see no potent sign of that yet. Karl Marx has hardly the necessary stature. Perhaps, when we are at our last gasp a world-wide spiritual renaissance may come. That and that alone can save us. We can only watch for this and pray as the sands run out.

"What do you think I came for?"

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UNABRIDGED HISTORY

Ex-servicemen are noted for the tales they tell in off moments; tales of life at sea, in foxholes and in the air. "The Listening Post" wants those tales for publication, and offers a prize of 10/- for the best published each month. Tales can be dramatic or humorous; our only stipulation is that they do not exceed 350 words (the shorter the better). Address your entries to The Editor, "The Listening Post," Box E256, G.P.O., Perth. The editor's decision on all entries will be final.

REGULATIONS

Bluey was a good soldier in the field. He knew his job and did it well. But, like many others, he was often in trouble when inactive. He seemed inherently incapable of remembering routine orders, camp standing orders and similar abominations. His latest transgression had led to 14 days' C.B. at his rest camp on the mainland. Now, temporarilly free again, he was brooding on his misfortunes in the local pub.

"Regulations," he moaned, "nothing but regulations." He waved his glass at the assembly. "Make y' bed this way. Make y' bed that way. Gaiters will be worn on leave, gaiters will not be worn on leave. What I want to know is, who makes all these flam' regulations?"

He turned to an old Digger. "What about your days, sport," he asked, "was it as bad then?"

The man with the R.S.L. badge smiled. "Yes, son," he sympathised; "just as bad." He paused reflectively. "But you know, son," he went on, "you've got to have regulations; the Army just wouldn't work without 'em." He fingered his empty glass. "But if you know 'em," he continued, "and build up a reputation for knowing 'em, you can sometimes get away with a lot. Why, I remember—and he eyed his empty glass hopefully—"Thanks," he resumed. "As I was saying: I recall an incident back in '17. I'd been a staff sergeant in Records for two years. I knew more about regulations than anyone else in the place. Even colonels came to me for help. It was, 'Ask Sergeant Smith, he's sure to know;' or 'Send it to Smith, he'll tell you the interpretation.'"

"Well, there was one officer there whom I'd rubbed up the wrong way. He hated me like poison and was just waiting for the chance to catch me on the hop. One day, while on leave, I passed him in the street without saluting. He was arm-in-arm with a girl. He pulled me up at once.

"'Sergeant,' he snapped, 'why didn't you salute me? Don't you know it's an offence not to salute a superior officer?'

"'With visions of charge-sheets, courts-martial and demotion ahead of me, I thought quickly.

"'Usually it is, Sir,' I bluffed, 'but not in this case.'

"'What do you mean?' he barked.

"'Well, Sir,' I replied, 'under G.R.O. No. —' (and I reeled off a string of figures, quotations and paragraph numbers that would have made Einstein's head whirl) 'one need not salute an officer when seen in the company of an, undesirable female companion.'

"'Is th-at that so, Sergeant?' he spluttered.

"'Yes, Sir,' I said smartly.

"'Very well. Carry on, Sergeant,' he replied."

The old Digger picked up his glass, drained it, and looked at his interested audience.

"B-but," burst out "Bluey, you took an awful risk, apart from your cooked-up regulation. Why, she might've been his wife or fiancée or something."

The old Digger's eyes twinkled. "Yes, son, I suppose it was a bit of a risk; but, you see, I happened to know the girl's reputation."

★ This story earns 10/- for "Signoramus."

AS OTHERS SEE US

Could it be that the Nip sometimes had grave suspicions that he was more an animal than a man? This possibility dawned upon me when we put on a concert—in a Japanese prison camp.

It was not often that permission for a show could be obtained, and when it was there was a strict censorship on anything that looked like propaganda.

We tried hard to steer clear of trouble, and thought we had succeeded when we staged burlesques of prominent film stars. But when Tarzan was chasing the Jungle Princess around the stage, the players were savagely attacked and beaten up. For the self-appointed censors objected strongly to the "noble Nipponese being portrayed as monkeys."

"Oh Pip" (South Perth).

A LITTLE BLACK-MARKETING

Things put over by service black-market boys lacked nothing in originality for, as has been said: "The human mind is never so nimble as when it is trying to do somebody out of their lawful dues."

Changing the labels on tins and topping up a tin of sand with a layer of sugar was only a beginning. Occupied Japan was the source of profit for a short time, and among the scarcities was paint. In the half-dark and subterfuge of the deal a tin was not too closely inspected, and the disappointed look on one Jap's face as he painted his house with tomato juice was a joy to the rogue who had sold it.

Because of its sweetness, condensed milk was in demand but, unfortunately, not in supply. On the other hand, Ideal milk was available everywhere but the Japs didn't seem to like it. There is no sound to condensed milk in a tin and the test was to shake it; if it was solid and soundless it was O.K.

Sheer luck aided one man who was running with a tin of Ideal milk in his coat pocket; from the shaking it received he found the contents stayed solid for about ten minutes. Immediately he bought up all the Ideal milk he could get his hands on, shook it vigorously before selling, and cleared £100 on the deal.

"Matelot" (Perth).

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RENEDEZVOUS WITH HISTORY
(Continued from Page 9)

some in valleys such as that in Shrap-
on quiet slopes by the sea like the
beach cemetery and the field ambu-
lance burial place, some on rugged
slopes and ridges, like Chunuk Bair
and Lone Pine.

Figures in the dead and missing
represented by these memorials stag-
gger and appall even today, when the
world has become almost inured to
mass tragedy. One hundred and
twelve thousand British, Common-
wealth and allied soldiers and sailors
lost their lives on the Peninsula itself,
in the seas around it, and in hospitals
to which they were removed.

The 25 British Empire cemeteries at
Anzac and the seven at Helles com-
memorate 35,000 of all ranks who
fought and died under the Empire’s
flags on this Peninsula of Ghosts.
Graves of only 15,000 of these have
been identified. The names of the
remaining 20,000 are known, but not
their graves. Not included in these
figures are the French losses of
20,000, over a quarter of a million
wounded and sick, and the 350,000
Turks who were estimated as being
killed defending the Peninsula.

The Tobruk Ceremony

The wooded hills of Asia Minor,
the islands of the Aegean Sea and
the breadth of the Mediterranean
separate Gallipoli from Cyrenaica,
but when the Australians and New
Zealanders who visited Anzac flew
from Instambul to El Adem four days
later to attend the unveiling of the
Australian Memorial in the Siege
Cemetery at Tobruk, the two cere-
monies, in spite of the distance and
span between the two wars, could
almost have been one.

The Tobruk ceremony, it is true,
had more military circumstance about
it than was possible at Anzac. There
were guard of honour from the
Royal Navy (His Majesty’s Sloop
Peace), the 15th Battalion of the
18th Royal Hussars and the Royal Air
Force Station at El Adem, Marine
Commando sentries at the Memorial,
a military band and trumpeters to
sound Reveille and the Last Post.

(Continued in Column 3)

THE LISTENING POST

RENEDEZVOUS WITH HISTORY
(Continued from Column 1)

THese WORDS
WILL LIVE
FOREVER

1. LINCOLN'S GETTYS-
BURG ADDRESS

Four score and seven years
ago our fathers brought forth
on this continent a new nation
conceived in liberty and dedi-
cated to the proposition that all
men are created equal. Now we
are engaged in a great civil war
testing whether that nation, or
any nation so conceived and so
dedicated can long endure. We
are met on a great battlefield
of that war. We have come to
dedicate a portion of that field as
a final resting-place for those who
here gave their lives than this
nation might live. It is altogether
fitting and proper that we should
do this. But, in a larger sense,
we cannot dedicate, we cannot
consecrate, we cannot hallow
this ground. The brave men,
living and dead, who struggled
here have consecrated it far
above our power to add or
detract. The world will little
note nor long remember what we
say here, but it can never forget
what they did here. It is for
us the living rather to be dedi-
cated here to the unfinished
work which the who fought here
have thus far so nobly advanced,
have thus far nobly advanced.
It is rather for us to be here
dedicated to the great task re-
main before us—that from
these honoured dead we take
increased devotion to that cause
for which they gave the last full
measure of devotion—that we
here highly resolve that these
dead shall not have died in vain,
that this nation under God shall
have a new birth of freedom,
and that the government of the
people, by the people, for the
people shall not perish from the
evermore, which is engraved on
memorial stones in every British war
cemetery, will remain the universal
epitaph of the Empire’s dead.
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 much coverage as possible, secretaries and presidents 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 left in the Editor's hands by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

ALBANY

Former members of the Empire's fighting forces of the two World Wars packed the lounge of the R.S.I.L. Institute on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Albany sub-branch, whose President, Mr. G. H. Holdred, was in the chair, and during the evening was elected unopposed to a further term of office. Other officers elected for the ensuing term were: Vice-presidents, Messrs. A. B. Phillips, G. H. Holdred, D. McLeod; executive committee, Messrs. D. A. Doolin, Mrs. J. A. Domville, P. J. Shannon; treasurer, Mr. R. K. Bailey; assistant treasurers, Messrs. T. B. Brown and J. McDougall; reporter, Mr. J. McDougall; sub-branch committee, Messrs. J. McDougall, T. B. Brown and J. C. McEwen; sub-committee of Albany repatriation committee, Messes. M. G. Nelson, J. M. Doolin, W. B. Keating, J. H. Keating, sub-committees for committees, Messes. A. B. Phillips, M. G. Nelson, J. H. Keating, A. McDougall, W. B. Keating; parks committee, Messes. J. H. Keating, A. McDougall, W. B. Keating; social committee, Messes. A. B. Phillips, M. G. Nelson, J. H. Keating.

CALINGIRI

There was a good attendance at the last meeting, which was presided over by Mr. T. Duke-Brecknock. Mr. W. Campbell, who was appointed to the committee, was on hand. Discussion was held and there was an interesting debate on the matter of public health, particularly as it related to the health of children. In round figures, the health of the children in the town was not up to the standard expected. There was a discussion on the need for better facilities to be provided for children's health.

CLANCY

August, 1948

THE LISTENING POST

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MANNING

At the monthly meeting held on July 8, the President, Mr. L. B. Thomsen, expressed the hope that in view of a centenary celebration of the town, the annual meeting would be postponed by one month. The secretary reported that no minutes had been received from the meeting of last month and that the annual meeting would be postponed to the 1st of August. The next meeting will be held on August 1st.

MOUNT HAWTHORN

In spite of the weather, a good number of sub-branch members have been tempted to stay at home during the annual meeting of the test cricket club. It is expected that there will be a turn-out of around 200. Membership figures continue to rise. Over the past month, there has been an increase of 33 from the membership of 194-4. The President, Mr. A. C. McDonald, reported that the post-service of Mr. J. B. Gardiner has been recognized by the sub-branch and that he should be sent to him upon the occasion of his marriage. The secretary reported that the sub-branch affairs are in good order and that the sub-branch is making progress.

MOUNT LAWLEY-CLEW

A larger crowd than usual attended the last meeting, when one of the most important events of the year was the installation of officers. A large number of visitors were present, among whom was Mr. W. B. Barber, State President.

MOSMAN PARK

At the annual meeting held on June 29, the President, Mr. W. B. Barber, was re-elected to the position. The meeting was conducted in a quiet and orderly manner. The secretary reported that the sub-branch is making good progress and that the sub-branch is in a healthy condition. The sub-branch has been invited to the Annual General Meeting of the State Executive and the sub-branch is looking forward to the meeting with great interest.

KARRABIN

Our meetings of late have been fairly well attended, with all the usual faces and quite a few new ones. We are now getting our usual turn-out of members and the committee is taking steps to ensure that the sub-branch is well attended.

SHERWOOD PARK

The withdrawal of Mr. Jameson from this sub-branch's committee has left a very serious gap, as he has been a staunch and willing supporter of the sub-branch. We hope that he will soon be available to serve the sub-branch in some other capacity and we look forward to his return when he is available.
sday 16, at which visitors from the North Beach sub-branch and the Subiaco branch of the Legion of Ex-Servicemen were entertained was voted by all present a very successful evening. The result of the evening's games was a rather severe thrashing for the home team, but for some reason no one seems to have discovered this until about a week later. 

The entries were managed by Mr. Killick, who has been a tower of strength with help and instruction — and, above all, the team has practised and worked to make a success of the contest; and this last qualification we may give to some members of our A.R.M.S. team. We lost our first two A.R.M.S. contests with great verve and dash, the scores being 23-2 in each case. Of course we lost the bridge on both occasions. Likewise in each case we won the shooting and quoits and lost the table tennis and darts. However, the evenings were not enjoyable; we were entertained most heartily by Claremont and it was a rather severe thrashing for a rather severe thrashing of the morning of the wonderful 1947 team. Mr. Killick was commended by Mr. Killick for his excellent effort and deserve to bring home the bacon.

The response to the sub-branch evening of the month general meeting was disappointing and members are urged to attend the sub-branch meeting held on Thursday, August 27, in Swan Street Hall. Owing to our application for a loan of Anzac House ballroom, the sub-branch building fund committee is now in temporary recess. Films shown at the sub-branch meeting were good and appreciated through small attendance.

SUBIACO

The sub-branch general meeting was remarkable for little entertainment, the business of the evening fairly early and later had another of our snap debates. Ed MacNamara, as adjudicator, gave an unsuccessful debating exposition on debating sins and virtues and was probably the star turn of the show. Which reminds us that our debating teams have lost their first contest, although it was an entirely new team this year, no member being an experienced debater. However, they showed the assistance and backing of our victorious 1947 team.

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WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

STATE EXECUTIVE

Two meetings of Executive have been held since the last issue, on June 21 and July 5, both at the Athenaeum, Subiaco. Hospital Visiting

- Hollywood Hospital: Weekly visits have been paid and 250 bedside visits made during the month. Cakes, sweets, cigarettes, etc., were given by generous dons, and the contributions were very generous in their donations of comfort for these patients.

June 9: Mrs. Stockman visited Moora and was met by president Mrs. McCord [late of Cottesloe]. She attended the annual meeting on the 6th.

June 9: Mrs. Stockman attended Swanbourne Auxiliary's luncheon meeting.

June 9: The State President, State Secretary, and members of the Executive attended an excellent luncheon at the Athenaeum, in their rooms in Gledhill Building. They took along with them a donation of 200 pounds of tea together with an auxiliary gift - a gift which was deeply appreciated.

June 12: Mrs. Stockman attended the annual meeting of the Glen Forrest auxiliary.

June 16: The State President and the State Secretary attended the annual meeting of Suburban Auxiliary.

June 16: Mrs. Stockman was present at the annual meeting of the West Leederville auxiliary.

June 17: Mrs. Cullen attended the annual meeting of Mount Lawley auxiliary.

June 25: Mrs. McNab and Mrs. Stockman attended Miss Goldsworthy's birthday party at the Meckering auxiliary. A presentation was made to Miss Sneeze, secretary, and a very enjoyable afternoon was followed by a bridge and rummage evening.

June 27: Mrs. McNab attended a memorial service in memory of Mrs. McNab, which was held at the Northam Hospital by the auxiliary in appreciation of the services rendered to the district.

July 1: The State President attended a meeting of the newly formed Subiaco auxiliary.

Social at Ascot House: On June 23 a complimentary social was held at Matron McKean's home. Members of metropolitan auxiliaries attended in very large numbers. Mrs. McNab, in accepting the gift with deep expressions of thanks and gratitude, spoke of the wonderful work of auxiliaries in connection with Leenes, which had helped to make her efforts so much easier and given so much pleasure to the patients.

The outstanding item of the evening's programme was the presentation to Matron McKean of a memorial model radio and a beautiful bouquet of carnations, the gifts of all metropolitan auxiliaries. Mrs. McNab, in accepting the gift with deep expressions of thanks and gratitude, spoke of the wonderful work of auxiliaries in connection with Leenes, which had helped to make her efforts so much easier and given so much pleasure to the patients.

July 6: The State President attended a meeting of the newly formed Subiaco auxiliary.

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Supper, served by the social committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. McNab, was enjoyed by all and the whole evening was a great success, reminiscent of the popular "united societies" days.

Claremont Ex-Service Patients'Entertainment: Ascot House Supper took place on Sunday, June 27, when tables were decked with golden wattle and laden with good things to eat awaited the arrival of our guests from Claremont Mental Hospital. Particular care was taken by the Auxiliary to ensure a very pleasant drive around the various Claremont streets, and a special ceremony was done to parts of the hospital premises which were too hot, fruit salads, etc., and then guests were entertained with an interest programme, interspersed with dancing, which kept them happy for hours. Afternoon tea brought to a close a very happy day for these unfortunate men, and auxiliaries whose donations make such a function possible. And it will be appreciated by them but be present to see the enjoyment of the guests.

The red Cross transport, for their helpful services

THE ATS GET A NEW NAME

Girls from the British A.T.S. (Auxiliary Territorial Service) have changed their name. There has been dissatisfaction over the use of A.T.S. for some time; it was thought that the girls were not auxiliary, neither were they territorial, nor were they a separate service.

The War/Office has been looking for a name more fitting to their status. Some time ago somebody thought it would be a good idea if they were titled Royal Auxiliary Territorial Service. The Princess Royal, who is the Commandant-in-Chief, objected to that on the ground that fun might be made of the Auxiliary.

Finally it was decided that the new title would be "Women's Royal Army Corps."

Letters of Appreciation

On June 17 the chairman of the State War Memorial Appeal Committee (Mr. E. S. Watt) wrote the following letter to the State President, R.S.W.A.:

Dear Mrs. Stockman,

On behalf of the committee, please accept our grateful thanks for the helps you and your members have given us in our appeal for funds to fulfil a sacred obligation to our war dead.

Once again the great value of your organisation has been exemplified. You and your members have done us great good.

To you and Mrs. Stockman go thanks for your assistance at all times, but particularly on the day of the street appeal.

With the money in hand and in sight we expected to reach £25,000. There was £20,000 below the required amount. Although our public appeal has been deferred for the time being, we hope that the Leah, with the assistance of your auxiliary, will continue to work hard until at least the quotas are reached.

A letter to Mr. Sten, which came from the Marsden public hospital, New Zealand, requests that the Women's Auxiliary, New Zealand, is also of interest.

Best wishes.

John Sten

I do hope you will not think me presumptuous on your behalf.

After you left our gathering last Saturday, our ladies thought how very nice it would be if you would please convey to your Australia Women's Auxiliary our greetings and best wishes for the future.

Thank you so much if you will do this for us. We trust you have all enjoyed your stay in N.Z. and that we may all meet again some time.

From the Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers' and Airmen's Association (W.A. Branch) came this letter:

Dear Mrs. Stockman,

I have been requested by the Librarian (Mr. L. W. F. Harvey), of the newly-formed Association to convey his personal thanks for the presentation of your auxiliary for their kindliness and forethought in making available to the Library a further collection of books, which he feels sure we shall be of considerable benefit to the Library, with whom you may understand, needs replenishing from time to time, hence your gift came at a most opportune time, and the Librarian would feel a great favour if you shall convey the thanks of the members of your auxiliary, the thanks of our association for the splendid gift.

On behalf of the president and members of the Association to convey our thanks to your president, members and yourself, and our appreciation for your gift to the Librarian, which was appreciated by all. — Yours faithfully, C. A. Walker (Secretary). An outstanding donation of £113 was donated by the Gosnanges auxiliary to the Food for Britain Appeal.

CLAREMONT

A meeting of the Claremont branch held on Saturday at the house of 59 Lock Street, Claremont, the president (Mrs. Purse), presided, and the branch secretary and members of the Executive attended.

The branch secretary and members of the Executive attended an excellent luncheon at the Athenaeum, in their rooms in Gledhill Building. They took along with them a donation of 200 pounds of tea together with a gift - a gift which was deeply appreciated.

The month's meeting of the Claremont branch held on July 1: Mrs. Bennett, chairman, welcomed the members from the meeting of the Geraldton branch and thanked them for their co-operation. Mrs. Bennett then introduced Mr. E. G. A. Freeman, who read a paper on the "Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service (W.A.T.S.)" and the services of this organisation during the war. He also mentioned the new title of the Woman Royal Army Corps (W.R.A.C.), which was adopted by the War Office in May. After the meeting, a reception was held, at which Mrs. Bennett was present.

The branch secretary, in a letter to the branch chairman, the chairman, and the members of the branch, thanked them for their co-operation and co-operation with the branch. She also thanked them for their co-operation with the branch, and for their support of the branch. The branch secretary also thanked them for their co-operation and co-operation with the branch.

geraldton

There was a high attendance at the recent annual meeting of the Geraldton branch and the various reports read indicated that excellent progress had been made during the past year. As in the past, it was reported that the branch had been able to continue to have a successful summer season, and that the branch had been able to continue to have a successful summer season, and that the branch had been able to continue to have a successful summer season.

The branch secretary, in a letter to the branch chairman, the chairman, and the members of the branch, thanked them for their co-operation and co-operation with the branch. She also thanked them for their co-operation and co-operation with the branch.

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A man from West Virginia wrote to the Rural Electrification Administration in Washington to ask how he could avoid burning his hands with the electric light in his new home. Investigation revealed that, although the man’s home had been completely wired, he had purchased only one electric light bulb, which he impatiently screwed and unscrewed as he took it from room to room wherever it was needed.

So, one night the Aussies, in their usual very direct manner, sent out a working party and a truck across the 2,000-odd yards of no-man’s-land to recover it. They reached the dump of ammunition, loaded it on to the truck, and got back safely to their own lines, all under the very noses of these really good German troops.

★ That great London institution, "The Times," is not given to hasty or unconsidered statements. Not long ago it said:

"It is customary to attribute a high degree of fatalism to the Japanese soldier, but no one could be more fatalistic than the Australian. His attitude towards death is simple. If one's number is up, well, it is up, and there is nothing to be done about it.

★ As Lieut.-Col. Martha Rose Clement, director of the U.S. Army Nursing Service in the South-West Pacific theatre, said:

"The Japanese find they cannot stop an Aussie unless they kill him 
and they find great difficulty in doing that."

★ But perhaps one of the nicest things said about us—for it seems to apply not only to the fighting men, but to Australians as a whole—was written by Margery Allingham in "The Oaken Heart":

"... when the Australians came out with no measured commiseration, no yarn about us all being in trouble, but made instead a fine vigorous offer to come in with us and take the enemy's hide off him and enjoy it (as they have), it was the first word of the kind we had heard. It was indescribable. It was terrific!"

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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. Cnd., B 5149, Ext. 256.

ARTILLERY COMRADES—Sergeants’ Mess, Swan Barracks, Francis Street, 1st Tuesday each month at 8 p.m.; President: Arthur Snow, 31 Market Street, Guildford; Joint Secretaries: Alex Cunningham and Don C. Cunningham, 108 Rooke Street, Mt. Lawley.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meetings as notified; President: J. B. Roberts, Parliament House, Perth; Secretary-Treasurer: Miss J. Davenport, S. Fremantle.

EX-MACHINE GUNNERS’ ASSOCIATION—Grayson’s, 32 King Street, Perth; Friday before Anzac Day and 2nd Friday in October; President: H. W. Riggs, 32 King Street, Perth; Secretary: E. T. Wallace, 244 Shepparton Road, Victoria Park.

FEDERATED T.B. SOLDIERS & AIRMEN’S ASSOCIATION—No. 1 Battery Barracks, William Street, Perth; 1st Monday each month; President: G. W. Mitchell, 5 Vista Street, South Perth; Hon. Secretary: E. Macleod, Victoria Avenue, Perth; annual reunion smoke; Tuesday of Show week; address: Mrs. W. E. Liddon, 9 Fourth Avenue, Mt. Lawley; President: W. F. Wright, 9 Fourth Avenue, Mt. Lawley.

FEDERATED MILITARY ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION—Room 53, 5th Floor, Gladden Buildings, Perth; Quarterly; President: Dr. C. H. Leedham; Chairman: C. W. Brick, Holden Road, Roleystone; Secretary: Mrs. W. Rigg, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth; Phone B 6894.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (W.A. Branch) no. 1, 1st Pension Day of each month; President: J. F. Davies, 4 Seventh Avenue, South Perth; Secretary: J. McKey, 51 Handy Street, Nedlands.

B.L.E. ASSOCIATION (W.A. DIVISION)—U.S.I. rooms, Swan Barracks, Francis Street; every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.; President: V. L. Stackman, 32 Woodside Street, Mt. Lawley; Secretary: A. W. Wright, 7 Birkett Street, Mt. Hawthorn.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION—1st Thursday in each month, at 2 p.m.; President: F. W. Bateman, M.M., c/o Montehouse, 137 Fourth Avenue, Mt. Lawley; Secretary: H. W. Wright, 7 Birkett Street, Mt. Hawthorn.

THE IMPERIAL EX-SERVICE ASSOCIATION—McNees Hall, Pier Street, Perth; 1st Monday each month, 8 p.m.; President: L. Shadbolt, 40 timber Road, Roleystone; Secretary: H. W. Wright, 7 Birkett Street, Mt. Hawthorn.

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BLINDED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, Perth; weeks, necessary; President: Dr. F. M. Bensley, Anzac House, 137 Fourth Avenue, Mt. Lawley; Secretary: P. A. Holcombe, 83 Stanley Buildings, Nedlands. Phone WM 1277.

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