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"Women may be whole oceans deeper than we are, but they are also a whole paradise better. She may have got us out of Eden, but as a compensation she makes the earth very pleasant."

So said John Oliver Hobbes, and after seeing the vast amount of work the women of the auxiliaries have put in over this past year—to say nothing of the years that have gone—we feel sure that our male readers will have no objection if we devote this number of "The Listening Post," to at least a large extent, to those ladies who have stood so solidly at the back of the League sub-branches.

We feel that the auxiliaries are deserving of every praise, every backing, and every possible good wish. At this year's Congress the Acting President (Mr. T. Sten, M.A.) said: "The Women's Auxiliaries, in a completely voluntary effort, have done magnificently," and we are sure that every man who attends his sub-branch meetings, every old serviceman who is in one of the institutions catering for the aged, every reader who has spent a period in hospital—indeed every man who follows his daily news in anything like detail—will echo those words.

Women who cook and serve meals day after day, year in and year out, gladly cook and serve again at sub-branch functions; women who strive month after month to make ends meet give freely to our many appeals; and our Poppy Day could not be what it is were it not for the work put in by our womenfolk.

Jouy truly said that without women the beginning of our life would be deprived of assistance, the middle portion of pleasure, and the end of consolation. Without our women one can sometimes wonder what the League—what any of our efficient private and public bodies, for all that—would be.

So here's to our womenfolk, who

When greater perils men environ
Show to the world a front of iron;
And, gentle in their manner, they
Do great things in their quiet way.
Of many things

"The time has come," the Walrus said, "To talk of many things:
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing wax—Of cabbages—and kings"

Since men first began digging for minerals they have taken from the earth twenty cubic miles of coal, a cubic mile of petroleum, and roughly a cubic mile of ores, Sir Henry Tizard told Empire mining and metallurgical experts the other day.

It seems a lot and the rate of new discovery is slowing down. But Sir Henry puts the total volume of land to a depth of one mile as 60,000,000 cubic miles, so as yet we've really only scratched the surface.

The War Office has announced that pyjamas will be issued to all "other ranks" of the British Army.

The Chief of the Dutch General Staff has ordered 1,000 pairs of motor-driven skates for his infantry. Dutch engineer Van Der Stalm has devised a petrol motor the size of a matchbox which can be attached to ordinary roller skates. The motor skates will burn solid fuel at the rate of 40 miles to the tablet and will do up to 20 miles an hour.

Girl employees at a Cleveland (Ohio) factory get good pay just for roller-skating with a piece of cloth in their hands. Their job is to unroll from big bolts of material the 50ft. lengths used in making camouflage netting for the forces. One girl takes each end of the 90in. cloth, skates out 50 feet, then returns for the next piece. They average 9½ miles of skating a day.

The German Army suffered more than 8,000,000 casualties—2,000,000 dead, 4,000,000 wounded and 2,000,000 missing during the last war, according to a survey of official documents made by Professor Schramm, of Bremen, published in the newspaper "Neue Zeitung."

Bell-bottomed trousers will still be worn without pockets, although the Royal Navy is modernising the skin-tight jumpers worn by British sailors by fitting them with slide fasteners. The Admiralty says: "Pockets would catch on projections and endanger life."

After boasting to friends that he could still put his big toe in his mouth, Oscar Dahlkamp (55), of Chicago, did, broke two bones in his leg, died of injuries and complications.

One of the largest collections of tram and omnibus tickets in the world is owned by a Hamburg collector. He has more than 25,000 different tickets, carefully collected into ten volumes like stamp albums, and classified according to countries. The oldest ticket in his possession is an 1887 one from Turin. The most picturesque specimens are from Tokyo, and are decorated with Japanese pictures. The tickets with the highest face value are those from Germany's time of inflation after the war. One of these bears the imprint "two million marks."

Mrs. Hetty Green, an American millioness who died in 1916, lent money to churches at 2 per cent interest. When her son sprained his knee, she used herbal remedies so as to avoid the cost of doctors. But Edward Howland Robinson Green was still suffering from this complaint three years later, so she took him to a New York doctor, pretended she had not a penny in the world, and had him put into a charity hospital. The authorities, discovering his identity, demanded payment, whereupon Mrs. Green then withdrew the patient. Two years later his leg had to be amputated.

A bath with four other purposes besides the usual one, is something new, especially when the four do not include sleeping, singing, or storing the coal. This extraordinary "five-purpose bath" was shown in London for the first time by the International Bath Association. It is aidget model, suitable for the modern worker's flatlet or small house. It can be used as a table for dinner, a wash basin, a kitchen sink and draining board, a laundry complete with wringer—or just a bath. This phenomenal versatility is achieved by a system of detachable gadgets, which pack into a minimum of space. Although it costs twice as much as an ordinary bath, the great expense is in money and space of fitting out a whole bathroom and scullery is saved.
Every eighth of May in the old Cornish town of Helston the men put on morning dresses and give themselves buttonholes of flowers; the women don gay summer frocks and leave their houses with stalks of lilies of the valley; and the children run out waving wands of willows. Then, early in the morning they begin to dance in the streets, even the Mayor in his chair of office, dancing that goes on until nightfall. Singing “And we were up as soon as any day O, And for to fetch the summer home,” the people of Helston celebrate with their ancient Furry Song the return of summer.

The Helston Furry is only one of the many old customs and ceremonies, most of them dating back centuries, that are celebrated every year in the villages and small country towns of Britain. In many cases their origins and meanings are lost in antiquity, yet because they have become a traditional part of local life they are continued, year after year, with their old ritual.

One of the most impressive ceremonies of its kind in the world is the midsummer service at Stonehenge, that strange prehistoric monument on Salisbury Plain. At dawn on Midsummer Day the Order of Druids gather outside the circle of great stones. Just before sunrise the Druid Bards, clothed in white and purple robes, file into the circle, and as the sun appears above the horizon the sacrifice is administered to all present from a golden cup placed on the altar stone. Then special prayers are recited, so upholding a tradition which Druids claim has continued for 4,000 years, since the stones were first erected as a sun temple.

In a gayer vein are the May Day festivities. The Hobby Horse parades at Padstow, Minehead and Dunster, all West Country towns, are especially interesting. At Padstow the ceremony begins at midnight on April 30. Young men form the Horse and its escort, who call at each house singing a traditional song and greeting each householder by name. During the day’s processions the Horse dances and drinks from the Traitors’ Pool, and the spectators are sprinkled with water. At intervals during the day the Horse falls to the ground and “dies”—a charade believed to represent the natural process of resurrection. Minehead and Dunster have similar celebrations, but there are no early morning visits.

November 11 is a noisy day in the Buckinghamshire village of Fenny Stratford. It is then that there takes place the Firing of the Poppers. For more than 190 years six guns—known locally as the poppers—have been kept to celebrate St. Martin’s Day.

**THIS IS OFFICIAL**

Owing to the advent of Congress, there has been only one meeting of “The State Executive” since our last issue of “The Listening Post.”

At this, tributes were paid to the late Colonel A. C., N. Olden and the late Colonel A. H. Sweetapple.

Warm welcomes were extended to two new Executive members—Miss Mary Meares, M.B.E., and Mr. Barney Keeley.

Miss Meares, in reply, stated that she considered it a great honour indeed to be elected. “I have always had great cooperation from the State Executive in my work,” she said. “And I shall always do my best for the League.” She added that she felt that the time had really come for women to have a representative upon the State Executive.

Mr. Keeley, in a few well-chosen words, assured the State Executive of his loyal and active support.

After the firing in the paddock of the Bull Inn, a dinner is held.

The busiest time of the year for old customs is Whitsuntide, when revels are held in all parts of Britain. Near the Castle of St. Bravals in the Forest of Dean the congregation receive free bread and cheese after the evening service, a custom dating back to 1206 when the villagers were granted the right of cutting timber in the forest enclosure. It is on Whit Monday that cheese rolling takes place in the Cotswolds. At Cooper’s Hill, near Witcombe, children race after the cheeses sent spinning down the slope to mark the free grazing rights of the common. The races are controlled by the master of ceremonies dressed in a tall silk hat and a white smock.

At Thaxted in Essex and at Bampton near Oxford, Morris Dancing is held on the same day. A scene typifying the spirit of Merry England, the dancers in modern bowler hats stuck with flowers and streamers follow a fiddler through the complicated dance pattern. With them is a clown, covered in coloured ribbons and tinkling bells, carrying a stick-balloon and a broom.

It is on Whit Monday, too, that the “miracle of spring” is celebrated at Kingsteignton, Devon. Believed to have originated from a time of severe drought when, in answer to the villagers’ prayers, a spring of water spurted from a field, a lamb used to be paraded through the streets as thanks-offering. Later it was killed and roasted in the main street, and washed down with local cider to the accompaniment of games and dancing.

A dying curse was responsible for the Tichborne Dole, distributed every March 25 in the parishes of Tichborne, Cheriton and Lane End at Arlesford, Hampshire. According to family legend, the dole of bread has been given since 1150 when from her deathbed Lady Mabel de Tichborne pleaded with her husband to give annually the produce of part of his estate to the poor. He agreed to give the value of the acres she could encompass with a lighted torch. She crawled around 23 acres and as she died prophesied that if the dole was not given every year, seven sons would be born to the house, followed by seven daughters, and then the ancient name of Tichborne would die and the manor house fall. After 644 years the dole was stopped by order of the magistrates. Sir Henry Tichborne, then living, had seven sons, the house fell down and seven daughters were born to the heir. It was then that the dole was reinstated. This year well-wishers contributed 5,000 bread rationing points so that the custom could be continued.

An interesting Christmas Eve custom is the 700-year-old ringing of the

(Continued on page 22)
I do not know how many sightless or totally disabled ex-servicemen there are in Western Australia, but I do know that far too many of our general public have forgotten these men who gave so much that the rest of us might live in peace and security.

The tragedy of war is that men go away fit and in the prime of life, only to return without their eyes or their legs or their arms, suffering pain which is to be their lot for the remainder of their days, and minus the good health which most of us enjoy for the greater part of our lives.

Some of these men are condemned to eternal darkness; some are forced to lie upon beds of pain; more fortunate ones merely carry with them an artificial limb.

And what does a “grateful” nation do? Awards them a pittance upon which they can barely exist.

One would think that the logical thing for any nation to do would be to say: “You went away in the prime of life. You returned shattered. We must see now that you have a pension which will enable you to live in the same comfort as you would have lived had you returned with full health. But, on top of this, we must allow you something to compensate, in some small way, for the loss you have sustained.”

But governments, it would seem, are seldom logical.

Those of us who went to the first world war remember how bright young things of the stage would sing of how they would miss us when we went, and how they would welcome us when we returned. Some even offered public kisses for the youngsters who volunteered. Fortunately, those who went to World War II were spared such cheap exhibitionism.

But they were still subject to the same public apathy which has always been a feature of post-war and peace periods. After the Boer War it was quite common to see limbless and sightless men selling boot laces and matches in the streets. Passers-by were occasionally touched (to the extent of a few coppers), but one feels sure that their feelings were not unduly hardened. They had comfortable homes, warm firesides and food aplenty. Why lose any sleep over the man who had taken the Queen’s shilling?

Now today we read letters in the public press in which civilians bemoan the fact that ex-servicemen have any special privileges, and one writer recently had the audacity to say that servicemen “made enough” out of the war.

Such feelings are akin to those of the good woman who, meeting me upon my return in 1919, said: “I suppose you’ve been having a good time.”

The League continues its fight for better pensions, better conditions in general for the ex-serviceman. But one feels that outside the League there is little thought for those who lost so much.

Even among ex-servicemen one too often hears the words: “The League never did anything for me.” Should it not rather be: “What can I do for the League, and those poor shattered souls for whom it fights?”

Let us never forget those who gave their all. And let us not forget, either, those who gave that most valued of all possessions—their health. Individually we can do but little. Collectively we can do much. But each and every one of us must be prepared to pull his weight.
War Record of a Victorian Woman

By Agnes S. Ingle

In the chill dawn of a December morning of the year 1854, the silent, empty streets of London echoed to the noise of numerous cabs converging on London Bridge station. When the occupants of these cabs found themselves gathered together on the platform, they formed "such a group as was never before seen."

At their head was a train of fifteen nuns, in their black serge dresses, white coifs, and long black veils; the others were about thirty women dressed in a "costume" consisting of a loose wrapping gown of dark grey tweed, a worsted jacket, plain linen collar, and a broad strip of brown holland passing across the right shoulder on which were embroidered in red the words, "Scutari Hospital"; over this dress they wore a short grey cloak, and on their heads were brown straw bonnets and veils. They were laden to the ground with their hand luggage—a dead weight of cloaks, shawls, railway wrappers, baskets and carpet-bags, while "perambulating gentlemen," who had come to see them off, added to this collection with parting gifts and comforts for the journey, comprising illustrated papers and table spoons, the latter apparently the last word in travelling luxury. At length the cry rang out—"Nurses for Scutari, move on!" and thus the first British women left England for service overseas.

A "Lady Volunteer"

This is the introductory picture painted by one of these women who answered the appeal for volunteers to help. Miss Nightingale in the Crimea—an appeal only grudgingly sanctioned by authority after the battle of Alma, when the whole country was roused by the reports of the terrible condition of our wounded. Familiar as is the story of Florence Nightingale, this record, entitled, "Eastern Hospitals and English Nurses, the narrative of 12-months' experience in the hospitals of Koulali and Scutari, By a Lady Volunteer," is interesting to us moderns, not only because of its glimpses on the early days of nursing, but as a reminder, and a forceful one, of the spirit with which bygone generations faced their difficulties. It must have taken no small degree of courage for women brought up as this "Lady Volunteer" to do their spell of service in the Middle East of the mid-nineteenth century.

Let us examine her narrative and see these delicate Victorians in action.

A Check

The contingent was divided into three, sisters (i.e. nuns), ladies, and hired nurses, the distinction between the two latter sounding strange to our democratic ears. But it seems that many of the nurses had affinities with Sarah Gamp, and the "ladies" had the extra burden of dealing with their vagaries. As so often happens, the enthusiasm of the whole party was checked on their arrival by the disconcerting fact that there was no room for them at Scutari, and they had to make the best of a prolonged wait in Therapia, at the summer residence of the British Embassy, until they were able to proceed to their hospitals.

Miss Stanley, their superintendent, brought down malcontents on her head by her refusal of domestic assistance from a nearby hotel, thinking, rightly, that the nurses would be happier if they busied themselves with these tasks. She was met with indignant declarations that they had come out to make poultices and look after the wounded, not to cook, wash, and scrub. Their offer to a British naval hospital was refused, though the surgeons qualified the refusal with the suggestion that if the party from England liked to undertake the hospital's washing, they would be doing a useful service. Apparently the "hired nurses" agreed to this, and one of the volunteer ladies joined them, though our commentator adds, "though there are few ladies whose health would have enabled them to undertake such a labour." So they mended the hospital linen, until at length they were sent to their own posts, some to Balaclava, some to Koulali, and some to Scutari.

Conditions were at their very worst during the terrible winter of 1854-55, but all through this story there is no word of regret, no shrinking from the misery which made the greater part of life in the Crimea. The ladies' quarters consisted of one room, a dressing-cum-sitting-cum-bedroom, good-sized, looking over the sea. Their mattresses were placed on a divan which ran round the room, both divan and room being "well furnished with fleas and rats." "The rats," says the record, "galloped about the ceiling with the sound of a regiment of horse."

When we opened the cupboards we saw them disappearing into their holes, the devastation in the store was terrible; at night they walked about our bedroom, jumped from chair to chair sounding like a heavy man's footsteps; they appeared to hammer and saw and drive in nails, till we could hardly believe they were only rats. One night a lady left a biscuit in the pocket of her dress, in the morning the dress was eaten through and the biscuit gone."

When later in the organisation the ladies began to do night duty, our volunteer describes vividly the discomfort of the other great pests of the camp—the fleas. "In the intervals of our night rounds, we tried to take a little rest, but this was impossible, for our enemies, the fleas, had a decided objection to our doing so; they never approved much of it in the day time, but at night it was altogether against their laws and regulations to allow us to rest for a moment. So we walked up and down, and did anything to divert our attention from the misery they caused us."

Staying Powers

The food, during that winter, consisted mainly of the coarse, sour bread of the country, tea without milk, very rancid butter, bad meat and porter, and at night a glass of wine or brandy. No wonder that illness was prevalent amongst the staff, and as there was no special room where sick ladies could be nursed, and small chance of luxuries such as milk and eggs, their general staying powers are to be marvelled at.

"It seems impossible to describe Scutari hospital," we read, "as we passed the corridors, we asked our..." (Continued on page 18)
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LOVE'S GHOST

A Short Story for our Auxiliary readers

By

HAZEL McGINNIS

Or the three persons sitting in the quiet living-room, only Alicia Williams was perfectly at ease. The fluff of imagination serving as a hat was still perched on her upswept hairdo. The fox stole was tossed carelessly over the chair back, its soft, luxurious folds trailing to the floor.

She looked as she wanted to look: glamorous, costly, unobtainable. But did she look as befitted a woman who was attempting to destroy her own ghost?

The situation had developed discordant overtones, and she wondered why she had agreed to Linda's absurd request.

"You could have knocked me over with a feather, Alicia, when Linda said she'd run into you," Robert remarked.

"I recognised her immediately at the tea," Linda cut in swiftly. "From her pictures, Robert. Did you know, Alicia, that he has a complete collection of your photographs? They date from the age of two."

The note of sarcasm in the younger woman's voice made Alicia glance up quickly, but Linda's face was shadowed in the dim light from the fireplace.

So that was what Linda had told Robert. That they'd met at a tea.

Alicia wondered what he would think if she told him about the frantic Linda who had suddenly appeared at her home two days ago. Or what would he say about the unhappy flood of bitterness the small blonde woman had let loose.

Imagine! Having a wife who claimed her husband was in love with you, when you hadn't seen him for ten years.

"It's true," Linda had said. "He's always talking about you, comparing us, until I thought I'd go mad. So please, Mrs. Williams, come to Ravensdale Wednesday. Robert will be home for the day. I want him to see you again. Somehow, I feel that I'll know for sure then. It's this uncertainty I can't bear."

Alicia had tried to refuse, but the anguish in the other's defenseless eyes had made her agree.

Robert's rather prominent eyes were now going over Alicia carefully.

"Can't understand how Linda ever recognised you. Honestly, I don't think I'd have known you myself," he said. "You used to be so—well, sort of quiet. More like Linda. But now—" He gave a slight whistle and narrowed his eyes as though gauging her.

Alicia saw Linda's slender fingers tighten on the teacup, and noticed the effort she made to steady her voice.

"I wouldn't have known Alicia today, either, not from her pictures," Linda said hurriedly. Then her lovely blue eyes, full of bewilderment, turned and looked accusingly at Alicia. Alicia felt a tinge of pity at the sudden surge of fear she saw in them. Could she be wrong about Robert?

They were startled by the sudden bursting of logs in the fireplace.

"Boo, we'd better have some more wood," Linda said.

The instant he was gone, Linda spoke, her voice tight with restrained emotion. "You said you'd help, Alicia. How could you do this to me?" She stood there, a slim rather plain woman in a simple blue dress. She looked utterly helpless.

No use pretending I don't know what she means, Alicia thought.

"What did you want me to appear in—rage?" she said flatly.

"But," the other began. She shrugged despairingly. "Oh, what's the use. I must have been out of my mind. You seemed so different the other day. Now, he'll never get over you."

Linda stopped at the sound of Robert returning. He placed the logs carefully upon the fire.

He's fussy, Alicia thought, just as he used to be. Once again she felt sure of her ground.

Brightly, she said: "I really have to leave. It's been wonderful seeing you again, Robert."

"But you haven't seen the kids," Robert protested. "They'll be in from school soon. I wanted you to see them." He stared at her quizzically. "You didn't say, Alicia, whether you and—Charles, isn't it?—have any children."

"Children? Why—" Alicia started, then looked at Linda and caught the breathless, waiting look. "I've been much too busy. And apartment living isn't for children, you know."

She caught the sudden gleam of triumph springing into Linda's eyes. It was as if Linda said aloud: "See, Bob. She hasn't any children. But we have."

Robert's next words swept the look away. "No children? So that's it, eh? Regular glamor girl. Guess you can't have everything."

With shaking fingers, Linda picked up the tray. "Do stay and see the children, Alicia. I'll warm some more water." But the tears were close and Linda hurried out before Alicia could protest.

For the first time that afternoon, Robert and Alicia were alone. She had to handle this just right, she knew. It was funny, though. There wasn't any reason for her heart to be pounding so furiously.

"Seeing you here in your own home has made me wonder, Bob. Remember how terribly serious we were about each other? And now, here we are—"

Robert stared at the burning logs, Alicia probed further, not quite sure of her ground.

"Have you ever wondered about us, Bob? Wondered if things might have been different if..." she let her voice trail off.

"Different?" Robert looked puzzled, but his face soon cleared. "Oh, you mean if we'd gone ahead and got married?" He gave a short chuckle.

"Say, do you know what?" He leaned forward, his voice lowering. Alicia felt a wave of panic before he went on.

(Continued on page 20)
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After Thirty Years...

I WENT BACK

Mr. R. E. (Bob) Davidson, late of the 15th Battalion, recently visited Belgium. In a lengthy letter to Mr. E. S. Watt of the Press sub-branch, he gave many interesting details of this visit. Here, for the benefit of old Diggers who served in the Charleroi area, we reprint a few highlights.

A day or two after the Armistice was declared in 1918, the 4th Brigade (A.I.F.) was on the move from the Somme, reaching Belgium just before Christmas. The 16th Battalion and brigade headquarters were centred in the village of Florennes, with the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions in villages nearby. There they were to remain for some months.

After thirty years I have a story to tell about Florennes.

My wife and I arrived in Brussels recently and with my old friends of Florennes in mind I hunted through the telephone book and found a familiar name—Gustav Allard. I called the number, hoping against hope that I might be remembered. Of course, they might have forgotten the English language, or perhaps my French would be too terrible to compare; but—wonders of wonders—Pierre Allard answered the phone and after taking a moment or two to realise the situation became so excited that man in Belgium, and an immediate visit to Florennes was fixed for the next day—Sunday.

The journey from Brussels might be described as so many Australians passed that way on leave—and A.W.L. There were a hundred little things to jog the memory. It was a hot summer day, and we passed through some lovely country—the corn was almost ripe and poppies, cornflowers and marguerites made the fields gay with colour (poppies may be a minor pest to the local farmer, but to every man who served in Belgium or France they will always remain in memory as the nation's floral tribute to those 'who stayed behind' in Flanders fields). At Charleroi for a moment I thought the station was new, but so soon I realised it was only alterations made for "the electric," and in a moment there was the same old square with the canal (River Sambre) to cross before entering the town.

In the square I noticed that they had removed that octagonal affair with the inadequate piece of sheet iron partly surrounding it. Otherwise the square has altered little, but alas the Cafe Central has gone. The lovely girls that used to dance so happily are probably grandmothers now. Charleroi is still the same grimy coal-mining town, but it has grown much larger and the huge heaps of slag mount higher and higher, while many of the great heaps of our day are now covered with grass and struggling silver beeches.

The same little "puffing billy" train with the same shrill whistle took us to Chatelinaux, and there we changed into a train. Nearly four hours after leaving Brussels we reached Florennes. The distance was only 25 or 30 miles but Florennes was certainly "hard to get at."

Immediately we alighted our hands were wrung in warm welcome by Pierre Allard, and once more I travelled on foot over the cobble stones from the station to the Place Verte, and on the way Pierre and I talked excitedly of the long ago.

Pierre asked me "where is our home?" and with unfaltering decision my index finger went in the right direction. Soon we were at the home of Judge Allard, 11 Place Verte.

After some 40 years' service for the State, the Judge has retired with the highest honours, and now at the age of 85 he looks hale and hearty and has a very alert mind, while Mme. Allard-Fallon (the hyphen joins on her maiden name, as is the custom), although in excellent mental health, is confined by physical disability to a wheelchair. Although she does not speak a great deal of English these days she still keenly follows all that is said, and her sense of humour still bubbles near the surface.

After some talk we visited the Chateau (it was in this courtyard that the Prince of Wales reviewed us), then we walked through the farm to the Seminary. Alas, the Hun burnt the building down just prior to evacuating the town in 1940.

Then we talked again until nearly 2 a.m. Our host brought out photographs; he found an old Rising Sun and "Australia" badges, and we talked, talked and how we talked!

Later we visited my old billet that overlooked the Canteen on the corner, but I found that my old host, Mme. Vandenbergh, had gone to his last rest.

After reviving many old memories I came at last to our old regimental mess in the Chateau. Yes, there it was with the same ornamental pond in front and the same wrought iron bridge, but the house was new.

Pierre and his brother-in-law took me by car to Tarchienne over the same roads along which we marched in 1919. Thirty years had passed, but many memories had been revived. My visit was truly stimulating.

THEY SAY...

To the Editor.

Sir,

Your correspondent, "Dem i Canuk," writing in the September issue of The Listening Post, is, I fear, slightly incorrect in his statements re the original Haligoniann Duke. Queen Victoria's father was Edward, Duke of Kent; Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, was an uncle. I did not know of the latter's prowess as a soldier. I suspect that your correspondent is confusing him with his uncle William, Duke of Cumberland, who commanded the victorious Royalist troops at the battle of Culloden, where the last hopes of the Jacobites were dashed in the dust.—Yours etc., H.B.I.
PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE NURSING SISTERS

A plaque commemorating the five R.A.A.F. nursing sisters who died during service in the 1939-45 war was unveiled by His Excellency the Governor-General at No. 6 R.A.A.F. Hospital, Laverton, on Friday, September 9.

The plaque was purchased by present and ex-medical officers and sisters of the R.A.A.F., many of whom were present at the unveiling ceremony.

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No. 6 R.A.A.F. Hospital, formerly No. 1 R.A.A.F. Hospital, has been chosen as the most appropriate establishment for the unveiling of the plaque because the first nursing sisters to work in conjunction with the R.A.A.F. medical services began duty at this hospital in March, 1940.

In the beginning they remained as civilian nurses, but most of them joined the R.A.A.F. Nursing Service when it was formed on July 27, 1940.

From its formation till the end of the war a total of 613 nurses served with the R.A.A.F. on the mainland, at medical units and as flying sisters in the South-West Pacific and also on convoy to U.S.A. and U.K. with aircrew drafts.

Of the five sisters who died on service, two were trained flying nurses—Sister Marie Craig and Sister Ver- dun Sheah. Both were lost when their aircraft went missing whilst evacuating wounded and P.O.W. in the S.W.P.A. The others were Sisters Sheila Long, Joan Connell and Gwendoline Robertson.

SPORTS SHORTS

Jim Old recently won the Walter Stewart Memorial Cup for golf at the annual Katanning “Diggers’ Day.”

A special social and games night is to be held by the Bedford-Morley Parks sub-branch on November 22 at Riley’s Hall.

Mr. S. McNahara, publicity officer of the Subiaco sub-branch, states that the series of Wednesday evening games night are well attended and particularly enjoyable.

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LISTENING POST NEWSREEL

SCHOOL CADETS FOOTWEAR.—At the August meeting of the Federal Executive a resolution was passed: “That a strong protest be lodged with the Minister for the Army against the practice of issuing second-hand boots to school cadets or other trainees.” The Minister for the Army now states: “It is not the custom in the Army to issue part-worn boots, and I find on investigation that for a short period in Tasmania some sizes of boots were in short supply and several cadets... signified their willingness to accept part-worn boots in order that they could parade correctly dressed and participate in the celebration of Empire Youth Sunday. A total of seven pairs was issued. At the time of issue the cadets were informed the boots had been worn by other members of the battalion, that they were not a permanent issue and would be replaced as soon as new footwear was available. They were also requested to inform their parents, and if their parents objected the boots were to be returned immediately. No objections were made... and no complaint was received. Instructions have now been issued that under no circumstances will part-worn boots be issued to members of the military forces.”

RURAL AID.—The Minister for Post-War Reconstruction states that, ex-servicemen in rural occupations have been granted 11,405 loans totalling £8,322,623 to the end of August, 1949. Of this amount, £1,531,328 has been repaid.

WAR GRATUITY FOR BUSINESS.—In reply to a resolution of the August meeting of the Federal Executive, “That war gratuity be paid to any applicant starting or continuing business without having previously obtained assistance from Repatriation or any other assisting organisation, providing applicant can show definite proof that the business or trade will be initiated or continued on receipt of the war gratuity grant,” the Prime Minister says: “... The conditions governing the payment of war gratuity are prescribed by legislation and only in a very limited range of circumstances may a payment be effected before March, 1951. Early payment of gratuity may be made in certain cases for business purposes at the discretion of the prescribed authority, where the applicant has obtained the maximum amount of re-establishment loan appropriate in his particular case, provided the prescribed authority considers early payment of gratuity is urgently required and will be of substantial benefit to the ex-serviceman... I would not be prepared to recommend to the Government that any extension be made to the existing provisions which permit early payment of gratuity for business purposes.”

COLONEL OLDEN DIES

Lieut.-Colonel A. C. N. Olden, who died recently, was an active member of the State Executive. A subaltern in the 10th Light Horse in the early days of World War I, by the time the unit left Gallipoli he had reached the rank of major. Later he became Commanding Officer. He leaves a widow and adult family, to whom “The Listening Post” extends its sincere sympathy.

GENERAL SERVICE BADGE.

It is officially stated that members of the forces eligible for the general service badge can now apply for it. Badge is awarded to honourably discharged men and women with 28 or more days of service during the war, whose service did not entitle them to the returned from active service badge. It is also awarded to representatives of philanthropic bodies, official Press correspondents and other non-members attached officially to the forces. Previous general service badge, the issue of which was discontinued when Japan entered the war, can be exchanged for the new badge. Applications should be made to the relevant Navy, Army or Air Force section, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne.

HIGHER DUTIES SERVICE PUBLIC SERVICE.—The Public Service Board states: “The board has ruled that an officer while absent on war service leave may be credited with higher duties service as from the date on which he was superseded by a junior officer. The intention is that no officer should be prejudiced through war service in the matter of advancement of remuneration through the performance of higher duties. The board realises that its decision can result in several officers being given credit, although only one higher position may be involved. It should be noted that credit of higher duties service should be allowed only within the limits of an officer’s period of war service leave. Credit may be given to an officer even though he may not occupy a higher position immediately on resumption of duty after war service.”

EXPORT OF FARMING MACHINERY.—The Three Springs sub-branch protested, in July last, against the export of farming machinery. Now the Minister for Trade and Customs states: “An embargo on the exportation of certain farm machinery, including harvesters and combines, in short supply, has been in operation since 1947. Exportation of this machinery is permitted only in cases where the intending exporter produces to the Collector of Customs a covering approval issued by the Department of Commerce and Agriculture. I am advised that these approvals are granted only after an assurance has been given by the intending exporter that such export would not be detrimental to the Australian supply position. In regard to the export of ploughs, cultivators and harrows, these items are made mainly by firms specialising in the export trade. In a number of cases the machines concerned would not be suitable for Australian use and are not subject to export control. As regards harvesters and combines, I would point out that as the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand relied to a considerable extent on Australia both before and during the war for supplies of wheat-harvesting machinery, Australia has an Empire responsibility in this regard. In the event of Australia dropping out of these markets, the alternative source of supply would be the U.S.A., with a consequent drain on the Empire/dollar pool. The present shortage of dollar exchange within the Empire is a vital factor to be considered in regard to these exportations.”

Every woman knows what a luxury is. It’s anything her husband wants.
Two sailors were swabbing the deck. One turned to the other and said: "Where's the soap?" The other said: "Sure does.

A skeleton was wandering round an English churchyard one night enquiring how he could get free teeth. The sexton gave him the answer, but was surprised to see the skeleton again next night, this time carrying a tombstone.

"They told me to come back with my identity card," he explained.

There's nothing like having a baby around to make a person realise that it's a changing world.

"How do you manage to keep so fit, old man?"

"I take a miniature bath every morning."

"A miniature bath?"

"Yes, a cold one. One minute you're in, and the next minute you're out."

A southern potato married a northern potato, and eventually they had a little sweet potato. The little one flourished, and in time announced to its parents that it wanted to marry the man who reads out the news over the radio.

"But you can't marry him," declared the parents; "he's just a commentator."

"Well, I think I'll put the motion before the house," said the chorus girl as she danced out on to the stage.

A rich old gentleman was sitting in his wheel-chair beside an open window as a sleek chic walked by, displaying a comely figure.

"Quick, Jenkins," called the old gentleman to his valet. "Bring me my teeth; I want to whistle."

The farmer was anxiously hunting his cow, which had strayed during the night.

"Don't worry," said the little girl from the city, "she can't go far, be

* * *

The mother of a careless little girl constantly corrected her, telling her to keep things in better order. The warnings had little effect.

One day, however, her mother came home and found the little girl frantically putting everything in place. Astonished, the mother said: "You're doing a wonderful job; what made you suddenly decide to tidy up your room?"

Replied the reformed miss: "Why, mother! Didn't you see the story in the paper about the two girls being arrested and put in goal for keeping a disorderly house?"

Rude Man—one who stares at what a woman is doing her best to display. Courtship—period during which the girl decides whether she can do better. Marriage—a mutual partnership, with the husband as the mute.

On his rounds through a South African district, the pastor called at a farm where he found no one at home save an old native. He told the native to tell his master that he had called and at the same time enquired whether it was the custom of the farmer to observe family prayers.

"Oh, yes, my baas," was the reply, "every evening the Oubaas takes the books, and the family gather round the table."

"Is that so?" said the minister.

"And does the Oubaas allow you to come and listen, too?"

"Yes," was the reply. "Old Sanna and I come and sit in the doorway to listen, while the Oubaas sits at one end of the table and the Oonooi at the other, with the young baas and the young missus opposite each other on either side."

"And then what does the Oubaas say?" enquired the parson.

"Then, when the books have been handed out, and everyone is ready and listening quietly," said the native, "the Oubaas calls out 'No trumps!'

An actress seeing an authoress whom she disliked, went over to congratulate her on her latest book.

"I enjoyed it, dear," she said, "Who wrote it for you?"

"Darling," replied the authoress, "I'm so glad you liked it. Who read it to you?"

A woman went into a store and asked to see some rifles, finally selecting a .22 calibre. As she was leaving she turned and enquired how far the weapon would shoot. Upon being told it would do well at 100 yards, she responded with: "How much harder do I have to press the trigger to make it shoot a quarter of a mile?"
**PERSONALITIES**

☆ Brigadier-General Jonathan L. Holman, writing earlier in the year to Mr. E. Holman, of Nedlands, said: "It is always a pleasure to talk about Australia. I shall never forget its grand hospitality and the fine people I met out there at every turn of the road." The Brigadier is now serving at Deputy Commandant of the Armed Forces Industrial College (U.S.A.).

☆ Brigadier-General Martin, of the Press sub-branch, who has been on the sick list for some time past, has left for a six-months' holiday in New South Wales. His many friends will wish him a speedy recovery to health.

☆ Bill Lonnie, of the Subiaco sub-branch, who is a hard worker on the State Executive, recently returned from a visit to England, made on behalf of immigration, and here again we hope to give readers a report in the very near future.

☆ It is with regret that we record the recent death of Lieut.-Colonel A. Sweetapple, late of the 10th Light Horse and, in World War II, commander of Group 4 of the V.D.C. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his son and daughter.

☆ Mrs. McKinlay, who recently retired from the post of president of the women's auxiliary, was presented with a handsome gold wristlet watch and a case of notes at a social gathering in Anzac House. Mrs. McKinlay wishes to thank all auxiliary members for their kindness, and she says that the notes will be used to purchase a tartan travel rug. The tangible mementos of her 15 years' leadership will remain among her most treasured possessions, she adds, particularly as every member contributed towards them.

☆ Mr. Gordon Hack, of the Highgate sub-branch, is, we regret to learn, an inmate of the St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco.

☆ Charlie Joyson, of the Dwellingup sub-branch, is back in harness once again after a spell in Hollywood Hospital.

☆ Rex Moore has been elected president of the Subiaco sub-branch.

☆ Alf Nicholas, ex-president of the Victoria Park sub-branch, informs us that he has the wholehearted backing of the sub-branch and its members in his campaign for membership of the Perth City Council. If Alf is successful we feel sure that there will be something done about the local war memorial.

☆ Mr. Eric Millhouse (Federal President of the League), Mr. W. J. Hunt (W.A. State President) and Mr. J. C. Nagle (Federal Secretary) have returned from their trip to Canada and Europe. We hope in our next issue to be able to present a comprehensive report of this tour.

☆ The R.S.L. is alert to the needs of its members and is always ready to provide assistance when required. The R.S.L. is the heart and soul of the ex-servicemen's community, and its members are always willing to give of their time and energy to help their fellow ex-servicemen.

**OIL FOR THE WHEELS OF PROGRESS**

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Some Impressions of the...

1949 CONGRESS

Congress this year has been one of surprises; things did not work out as expected.

Most delegates came to congress ready to battle and really battle on certain important questions only to find that the majority of delegates appeared to be in full agreement with them; the battles just did not appear.

In fact, congress shows that the League in W.A. is starting to really pull together after the disturbances following the last war. Those who have joined the League since the 1939-45 war have naturally had to learn just what the League really stands for, and this year the way the votes have been cast show that they now have a fair working knowledge of the League.

Some seem to think that delegates were apathetic on certain motions before congress. Rather, I think, they were more fully instructed by their sub-branches before coming to congress, knowing already how they were going to vote there was less need for debate.

Congress on the whole was most enjoyable and encouraging, particularly to country delegates.

REV. RILEY.

On Wednesday I was present with numbers of delegates when Mr. T. Sten laid a wreath on the State War Memorial in honour of their fallen comrades. A small gathering of solemn people representing the League paid their respects.

Three hundred State delegates sat at the opening session of congress at 10 a.m., representatives from Perth, suburbs and country districts, extending as far north as Broome. It was pleasing to note four women delegates, three of whom served in World War I, and their active interest displayed throughout all discussions.

I was extremely interested throughout debates on all items listed on the agenda, although at times speakers interjected and became rather personal.

My admiration for the acting president in the dignified manner in which he conducted discussions, eliminating unnecessary points and fixing time limits on speakers with a view to enabling full discussions of the listed agenda in the shortest time possible. The friendly banter whilst at recess proved the feeling of a great brotherhood which existed, and all differences of opinion were temporarily forgotten over cups of tea.

Congress with interest listened to a report read by Mrs. McKinlay, past president of the Women’s Auxiliary. Appreciation was evident of the grand work performed by this organisation in the manner in which funds were raised in support of the R.S.L.

The popular election of Miss Mary Mears (known as the soldiers’ sweetheart) on the State Executive of the R.S.L. was gratifying to members, as they realised that it was part of her reward for her years of unstinting and untiring devotion to the returned men and women. Miss Mears is the only woman on the State Executive of the R.S.L. in the whole of Australia.

(Mrs.) P. H. EASTAUGH.

My impressions of congress, as one of the younger delegates, I am pleased to relate, are very favourable. I have followed the business of the Land, Mining, and General Congress with considerable interest, and the often spirited but fair-minded debate which took place, especially on many of the more salient items, was indeed encouraging.

One could not lay pen to his impressions of State Congress without mention of the harmonious atmosphere pervading the meetings when in session, due largely to the able direction of the chairman; also the feeling of comradeship among delegates during periods of adjournment, a comradeship which is the very backbone of the League.

I would like to remark on the considerable amount of work which the office staff must be faced with in the advent of congress. It is difficult for a mere delegate to determine just how much goes on behind the scenes. However, I feel that many thanks are due to them.

Finally, it would be unfair to conclude this brief account without remembering those ladies who were continually at our service, supplying morning and afternoon teas. Theirs is another silent duty for which our sincere thanks are due, and another contributing factor to the success of congress.

E. L. BEAR.

Dowerin.
The 22nd annual conference of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary was held on September 20, 21 and 22 at Anzac House, about 130 delegates attending.

The President (Mrs. J. L. McKinlay, M.B.E.), in her address, said:

We are delighted to see so many visitors from kindred and ex-service associations. Our mutual interests are centred in the welfare of ex-service men, their widows and dependants and we, of the R.S.L. auxiliaries, assure all representatives with us today of our sympathetic interest and practical co-operation whenever necessary.

Conference gives us a welcome opportunity to meet members from our many country branches. Of late years the shortage of labour has laid an additional burden on the womenfolk on farms. We hope that these few days will be a pleasant respite; profitable in knowledge gained and in friendships formed or renewed, and that your branches will benefit by your visit.

We are happy to have with us today a representative from the South Australian auxiliaries. She has indeed made history by being our first interstate visitor. I feel sure that she will have a pleasant time in our midst, and on behalf of the W.A. auxiliaries I accord her a very warm welcome to Anzac House.

It is 22 years since the R.S.L. auxiliaries were granted their own State Executive. Those of the R.S.L. who promoted the idea had remarkable foresight, for the advantages in service to the R.S.L. have been many. The holding of this annual conference has proved itself to be a valuable medium whereby we can discuss the problems which we find in our branch work and in our general service to the sick and disabled. The true significance and value of conference is lost, however, when delegates fail to carry back to their branches a full report of all that transpires. The role of delegate is an important one—to one’s branch especially.

Soon after its formation, the State Executive, at the request of the R.S.L., undertook weekly visits to Perth Hospital and also Sunday outings for patients in local institutions. Throughout the years these services have expanded to cover visits to all hospitals where there are ex-service men and women. Last Christmas it was the privilege of the State Executive to pack some hundreds of Christmas parcels and distribute them personally throughout the hospitals. When the R.S.L., the Red Cross or ex-service associations require monetary help, an S.O.S. to the town and country auxiliary branches brings a ready and generous response.

The Test of Time

In 1916, the returned soldiers’ associations in each State amalgamated and formed the R.S.L., realising that union was strength. Since then, almost every point gained for the ex-service man has been inspired by representations from the League. The ideals proclaimed more than 30 years ago have stood the test of time. Their constructive aims have kept the badge well to the fore, through the difficult years of depression and through the yet more difficult years of war. And now in this perplexing post-war period, they still set a standard of good citizenship and the 10-point policy of the League is a commonsense guide for all who have the welfare of Australia at heart.

As auxiliary to the League, our work is naturally somewhat in the background, but it is none the less forcible and effective. I feel that it has a very definite place in R.S.L. activities. Every member who wears our badge shows herself pledged to loyalty and service to the League and to uphold all that it stands for.

The loyalty of our branches in Australia and the Empire is unquestioned. In pre-war days we were ever in the forefront to further the policy of the League in such points as the integrity of the Empire, an adequate defence force and trade within the Empire. During the war our activities were so many that we sometimes look back and wonder how we fitted them all into the seven days of the week. In the post-war period, we find that our ordinary auxiliary work has increased considerably since 1939. There are more avenues of service and, consequently, a more urgent need to raise funds, which means harder work for the members. After reading all the annual reports sent in this year, I feel justified in saying that our branches continue to serve with the spirit of self-sacrifice and loyalty demanded of those connected with the R.S.L.

Friendship and Service

Friendship and service go hand in hand in R.S.L. auxiliary work and they can be seen at their best, I think, in members’ devoted attention to the sick, disabled and ageing Diggers. The visits to the hospitals and institutions are paid not in the spirit of duty, but as act of friendship. A personal interest is taken in each inmate, which is readily recognised and appreciated.

The co-operation of town and country branches with the State Executive has been excellent this year. Metropolitan auxiliaries have been generous with their entertaining and country auxiliaries with their donations. Red Cross Transport drivers are our very good friends, and we deeply appreciate the services rendered. The League owes a deep debt of gratitude to those auxiliary members who so regularly visit the local hospitals, in both town and country districts, seeking out the sick ex-service men and women. Their kindly concern and words of good cheer and comfort are always given in the name of the R.S.L.

We, as auxiliary members, also seek to preserve the memory of those who suffered and died for the nation. We pledge ourselves to do this in the silence preceding our meetings. The first duty undertaken by the auxili-
State Conference

aries in the 1920's was the sale of poppies on behalf of their sub-branch. Young recruits are required now to take over from those older members who have carried out this duty for the past 20 years. Their devotion should be an inspiration to the younger members to volunteer a few hours' service next Poppy Day.

State Secretary's Report

The State Secretary (Mrs. S. V. Stockmin) reported:

We have held 21 meetings during the year. Some 800 parcels of Christmas cheer, to the value of 10/- each, were packed and distributed to Lemnos, Sunset, Hollywood, Claremont Mental Hospital, the Edward Millen Home and Heathcote. A 10/- note was given to each ex-service patient at Wooroloo. A further 10/- (plus 4/- from the League) was given to each ex-service patient at the Royal Perth Hospital.

Regular visits were made to each hospital, the Home of Peace and Glandough, and cakes, books, sweets, cigarettes, etc., distributed.

Some 20 items were on the agenda. These covered a variety of subjects including the control of Lemnos, pensions for war widows, the granting of building permits, the formation of welcoming committees for migrants and ex-service funerals.

New Officers

In announcing her retirement, Mrs. McKinlay said that Mrs. S. V. Stockmin would become State President, and other office-bearers elected were:

Vice-Presidents, Mesdames G. W. Randall and A. R. Henderson; trustees, Mesdames W. W. Prue, H. Crofts, J. Burges; committee, Mesdames Dix (Mt. Hawthorn), Cullen (Como), Ames (Victoria Park), Grey (Fremantle), Ottey (Melville), Orgill (South Perth), Cottrell (Subiaco), Sherlock (Shenton Park), Michelle (Claremont), Young (Swanbourne).

Mrs. W. T. Brown was elected honorary State Secretary and Mesdames V. Hargrave, of Manjimup, and E. Rowe, of Gnowangerup, were elected country vice-presidents.

Cups for the most outstanding work were presented to Gnowangerup in the country area and Claremont in the metropolitan area. This is the second year, in succession that the Gnowangerup branch has won this cup and the third year in succession that Claremont have gained their cup.

In her report the Country Vice-President (Mrs. G. M. Grayden) said:

'It has been a source of pleasure to me to attend three State Executive meetings during the year, and although I have for some years now represented my branch as a delegate to the annual State conferences, it is

The cigarettes are provided by the R.S.L. State Executive.

The committee wish to thank all auxiliaries, country and metropolitan, for their generous donations to the Hospital Fund during the year, without which we would be unable to provide the comforts to the ex-service men in hospital.

All ex-servicemen in hospital at Christmas received extra cheer, namely, 10/- each.

I think all members of the committee will agree with me that the patients really do appreciate our visits and it leaves us with a very pleasant feeling of having done a good job.

The bulk of the visiting has been done by Mesdames Ames, Adamson, Burgess, Cullen, Henderson, Lynch, Sherlock, Dix, with the State President, State Secretary and other members of the Executive helping when needed.

I would like to thank all who have assisted me during the year.

The balance sheet showed the following amounts as having been spent during the year: Hospital visiting, £261/3/6; Christmas cheer, £344/15/10; war blind, £91/11/-; Faversham comforts, £2/15/8; Faversham War Veterans’ Home, £257/18/-; and sundry donations, £574/15/2.

The McKinlay Shield was presented to the Nedlands auxiliary.

The League President Says...

In his message to congress, the State President (Mr. W. J. Hunt, M.B.E.) said:

'To Mrs. McKinlay, after 15 years of solid work as State President of the Women’s Auxiliaries, we should extend and place on record our grateful thanks. Many sacrifices must be associated with the rendering of such an amount of voluntary service to a cause. She has always been unstinting in her desire to serve, so I trust that congress will pay her the tribute that is her due. At the same time, to her successor, Mrs. Stockmin, must go our good wishes and congratulations upon having been appointed to succeed Mrs. McKinlay as State President of the Women’s Auxiliaries, following a meritorious measure of service in an honorary capacity as State Secretary.'
selves if it was not a terrible dream. When we woke in the mornings our hearts sank down at the thought of the woe we must witness that day. At night we lay down wearied beyond expression, not so much from physical fatigue, as from the sickness of heart at living amidst that mass of hopeless suffering. On all sides prevailed the utmost confusion.

This hospital, which was reckoned to hold 1,700 men, had at that time between three and four thousand, the corridors as well as the rooms being lined with low trestle beds, on which were straw mattresses. So the volunteer lady, with a sister and a hired nurse, had about 1,500 men in her charge, to the greater number of whom it was manifestly impossible to give any attention. Owing to the hardy knew what meal times for the patients lagged far behind the timetable, and often the midday meal was brought round at 5 p.m. Sometimes, too, orderlies, dubbed "aldernies" by the unsophisticated nurses, would be found cutting up carcasses of sheep in the corridor, close by the beds of the patients.

Military Discipline

The ladies had a keen eye for the unnecessary confusion caused by the inflexibility of military laws in face of unprecedented distress, and in several places the journal remarks on the fact that "military discipline was never lost sight of, and an infringement of one of its smallest observances was worse than letting twenty men die from neglect."

It was at that time clearly understood that these nurses were not what modern people consider by the term, but were expected to supervise the cooking, diet, and general hospital management. They did not dress wounds or exercise any professional skill on their patients, if indeed they had any such. So we find that there is in this book a fairly complete account of the system of feeding and the important part which their "diet kitchen" played.

"Persons will smile," says the writer, "at our diets," but makes her naïve apology with the words, "Nevertheless, they were gladly received by the poor sufferers, who thought them an improvement upon nothing." Her description of Miss Nightingale's extra diet kitchen does indeed make us smile. It was the place from which was distributed "quantities of arrow-root, sago, rice puddings, jelly, beef tea and lemonade," the making of this latter from fresh lemons and sugar being referred to as their "labour of life." All these extras had to be requisitioned by the signature of a surgeon, but one gathers that these able hard-worked men were inclined to regard such requisitioning as an implied slight upon the government's arrangements. Time and again reference is made to the difficulty of getting these extras, and for a large part of the first period of the hospital's existence the ladies either bought, if they could, such additions to the sparse menu, or made use of "Miss Nightingale's Free Gift Store," those marvellous packages sent by the people of England, the distant relations of our Red Cross parcels. So during every day, the story goes on, "everything and everybody seemed to be in the diet kitchen; boxes, bundles of sheets, parcels, shirts, flannel, old linen; tubs of butter, sugar, bread, kettles, saucepans, heaps of books, and all kinds of rubbish, besides the diets which were being dispensed; also long lines of nurses, ladies, nurses, orderlies, Turks, Greeks, French, and Italian servants, officers and others, all waiting to see Miss Nightingale."

"Extras"

From all accounts the only way for a patient to get a proper meal was for him to be placed on "extra diet." The scale of food was as follows: full diet, which consisted of a daily pound of meat, bread, potatoes, 2 pints of tea, 3 pint of porter; half diet which was half of all this, and "low" diet which was half again. Next in the scale came "spoon diet," which meant 1 lb. of bread and 2 pints of tea! Here, however, a surgeon could order "extras," and one can easily imagine the popularity of this"spoon" feeding. The luxuries of our generation seem to have been the commonplaces of this earlier age, as it appears that, amidst the appalling scarcity of many ordinary necessaries, there was an abundance of wine. We find it hard to picture these sisters and ladies doing their morning round, which involved the measuring out of gills of port wine from a large pail.

Kindness and Comfort

It is hard for us not to despise the crudities and inefficiencies of these pioneer Victorians. We gasp to read of the patient for whom a sister's last duty at night was to see that he had enough sugar plums under his pillow to last till morning. We doubt whether the psychological effect of a nurse softly singing "There is a happy land" into the ear of a "dangerous" case, would be right, and we question the hygienic results of fanning fever patients with large feather fans. But apart from the definite practical services which were rendered by these women, apart, too, from the undisputed fact that their "experiment" was the foundation of a great, new profession, there remains here the record of something of immense spiritual value, something not reckoned in terms of visible achievement. Their admiration and praise for the soldiers they nursed, their kind attitude, must have been a world of comfort for the men in a most comfortless desert.

"Tell ye what I could eat," said one man, dying from sores and frostbite, "a bit of apple pudding." "Oh, dear!" said our volunteer lady (to herself), "How was it to be done?—Nevertheless, it was." This simple phrase sums up the philosophy of these early war workers, and it is one of their patients who unconsciously lights on the truth. This man received a letter from his wife, in which she begged to be allowed to come out and nurse him. "That's just the way women talk!" scoffed he. "They're always a-wantin' to do impossibilities. They fancy they can do anything!" To which we say, "Nevertheless, they can."

The term "honeymoon" is a hang-over from ancient times when newly married couples of North European tribes drank mead—a kind of honey wine—for a whole month (moon) after their marriage. The honeymoon custom is of remote antiquity and originated in the days when wild men stole their brides and remained in seclusion until the resultant fuss died down and it was safe to come into the open again.
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Love's Ghost
(Continued from page 7)

"Maybe I shouldn't tell you this, Alicia. I started going with Linda because she reminded me of you. Guess I married her for the same reason." He paused, glancing toward the kitchen. "Funny thing, Alicia. I always remembered you like you used to be. You know, like Linda is now. Just goes to show. You never can tell."

He twisted around as Linda's high-heeled slippers sounded upon the floor.

He watched her as she came in, something like wonder in his eyes. When Linda's eyes met his, the strain faded layer by layer from her face. Alicia knew it was time to go.

"I'm afraid I'll miss seeing the children today," she said. "Maybe some other time." She looked at Robert. "Please call a cab, Bob."

The instant he was gone, Linda ran to her, holding out her hands. "Oh, Alicia," she cried happily. "Something's happened. I know it. Did you say anything to him? About, what I told you the other day, I mean."

"It wasn't necessary, silly. I told you then it was really your imagination all the time." Alicia adjusted the lovely furs. "You'll never have to worry about him again, believe me. He'll tell you as soon as I'm gone, I'm sure."

It was hot on the train as she started back to Sydney. The furs were heavy and a nuisance. She'd never be able to understand why her wealthy sister would burden herself with such necklaces, and then buy ridiculously small hats that threatened to fly away with each wisp of air. The heavy makeup, too, felt dry and alien to her skin.

She settled in the chair and smiled ruefully at the glamorous reflection she made in the coach window. What would Charles and the two boys think of her when she marched in on them? They wouldn't approve. Of that she was confident. Charles was a great deal like Robert. He liked his women quietly dressed and self-effacing.

Charles, like Robert, simply couldn't stand a glamorous or predatory woman. But she was certain Charles wouldn't mind just this once.
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SOME OLD BRITISH CUSTOMS
(Continued from page 3)

Devil’s Knell at Dewsbury, in Yorkshire. During the war the Knell was rung twice only because of the security ban on bell-ringing. Legend says that the custom was started in the 13th century by a local baron who as penance for killing his servant gave a bell to the parish church and ordered that it should be rung each Christmas Eve to remind him of his crime. By tolling the bell once for every year since the birth of Christ, the final stroke being timed to ring exactly at the hour of midnight, local people believed that the devil would be kept away from the parish for the next twelve months.—Coming Events.

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ROCKINGHAM REUNION

The first annual reunion of the Rockingham sub-branch was held in the Agricultural Hall on September 9. Catering was in the hands of the ladies' auxiliary, under the leadership of the president (Mrs. G. Williams), with many willing helpers. The decorations were a credit, also the way in which the viands were served. The vote of thanks to the ladies was accompanied by musical honours and, as usual, that very touching R.S.L. anthem, "Why were they born so beautiful?" was sung with gusto. The chair was taken by President Meacham, who, after the usual silence, last post and reveille, sounded by the evergreen G. Gilmore introduced the visitors, Dave Benson (Executive), J. Chappell (State Secretary), and that Multum in Parvo, Tug Wilson (Secretary, Fremantle). Dave gave a good outline of the work of the Executive and State Secretary Chappell called on all present to uphold the League's ideals, laying special stress on the need to banish Communism. The Chairman of the Road Board (Mr. Hughes), also a Digger, promised the support of the board whenever possible in any way to assist the sub-branch, stating that over half the board were ex-service men. Vic. Risely, another visitor, deserves a special mention for his yarn. As the Water Supply Department has not yet extended its mains to Rockingham, arrangements were made for a substitute liquid supplied without a meter. All present voted the first reunion a great gathering.

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I wish I were a birdbie
Away up in a tree.
I wish I were a birdbie's egg,
As bad as bad could be—
I'd wait 'till you were passing
Underneath my tree,
Then I'd burst my sides with laughing
And spatter you with me.

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SIXTEENTH REUNION

The 16th Battalion A.I.F. held its annual reunion in Anzac House supper room on Friday, October 7. After 30 years of old mates meeting and recalling war experiences, the committee launched out on new ground and made it a ladies' night. The new departure was criticised by a few, but the family crush that filled the supper room made it a happy gathering. The old boys and their wives all voted it an enjoyable evening. One factor considered was that country members down for the Show could bring their wives to meet the city members of the ladies' auxiliary, and thus get to know each other. Probably the most interested in the experiment were the visitors from kindred associations and their wives.

One sad item for the night was the very long list of old comrades who passed on during the year. Many well known and highly decorated grand old comrades were missing, including our final C.O., General (late Judge) Brockman.
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Sub-Branch Activities

BEDFORD-MORLEY PARKS

The sub-branch meeting of the 18th inst. was quite a bright and busy affair and it is agreeably surprising how interesting the so-called dull and unexciting items before the Chair, as was very noticeable at this meeting. It does show that members here are keen and enthusiastic about their sub-branch affairs.

A new pleasure added was in the address given by Mrs. Rodway, of the sub-branch women's auxiliary, who gave a good expression of the continued desire by the auxiliary to work more fully with the sub-branch and its officials. It was decided to hold an amalgamated social and games night on November 22 at H.Q. (Riley's). We think this is new in the R.S.L. and it is going to be, at least, an interesting feature. We are happy to report that good progress and a greater interest is being maintained with our D. & S.S.L. unit. Mostly every amenity to thrill our young 'uns is available to them every Monday night and are in the capable hands of Dick Diver (asym. master), Tom Seventy (president) and young Norm. Dunt can supply a feature that Mrs. A. Schenck is assisting the women's auxiliary president (Mrs. A. Schenck) to run dance nights every Friday at the hall. Satisfactory efforts have prolonged the life of the sub-branch journal, the "L.D.T.," which goes out to all members every month. The present Legacy appeal also received much-needed help by a motion authorising "passed for payment." Arrangements are well in hand for November 11 and our Poppy Day. Before the conclusion two up to date and have cost the sub-branch well over £3,000, and a further £1,000 will be required to pay our commitments and to purchase fencing material, etc. Mr. Tom Provan is the club secretary and is ably assisted by the president. No man has worked harder in the interests of our new building than Mr. Tom Provan, and his efforts are greatly appreciated by all. The new president of the sub-branch (Mr. Leo Brucegirdle) is taking a very keen interest in the affairs of the sub-branch and his action in making the general meetings much briefer with more harmony is appreciated by members who are attending in greater numbers. A large number of very fine pictures have been donated by the citizens of Boulder and Kalgoorlie and are hung in our picture gallery. The Boulder Racing Club donated a splendid flagpole, which has been erected in front of the premises. Numerous war souvenirs of every description have been donated for our war museum. A six-foot-high hedge, which will enclose the front portion of the premises, and the block will be fenced with a six-foot-tall, wire metal fence. Lawns and ornamental trees will be planted in the front portion, with flowers, etc. The building, which was originally the Recreation Theatre at the R.A.A.F. Station, Boulder, was purchased for cash from the Disposals Commission, and dismantled and re-erected on our block of land in Pineo Street, with certain additions and alterations. The club portion comprises a very fine and up-to-date library and reading-room, with a bar, a large brick open fireplace, and a splendid wireless set, with a gramophone attachment and a large number of very fine records. This beautiful set was kindly donated by Jack Edwards, a member of our Executive, and is a gesture which is deeply appreciated. The bar-room, which also contains an open brick fireplace, with a fine cabinet and fittings, etc., is the work of a local contractor (a member of the sub-branch). All the rooms are beautifully finished in white plaster. There is a store-room, dressing-room and a service from the bar. The floor portion of the premises, completely sealed off from the club, contains a large hall with a floor that compares more than favourably with any floor on the goldfields, an up-to-date stage with dressing-room, and a kitchen with six lock-up cupboards, and other amenities. This portion of the building is the headquarters of the sub-branch and is ample provided with seating accommodation, card tables, etc., and on the stage is a fine piano, which has been recently tuned and polished. The old Diggs is pleased with the fact that the young Diggs

REMINDER

A member of the League went on vacation recently and spent a day walking in a forest. A terrible storm arose. He looked about for shelter, but there was none. It rained in torrents. He crawled into a hollow log. It fitted snugly. The rain lasted for hours. The log was soaked through the bottom. The wood began to contract. When the storm was over the member could not get out. He strained to free himself, but the log held tight. Exhausted, he gave up. He knew he would starve to death. Like a drowning man he saw his whole life flash before him—especially his mistakes. He suddenly remembered that he had not paid the League subscription. This made him feel so small that he was able to crawl out of the log without difficulty.

minutes' silence was observed in respect to the League's war stalwarts, Lt.-Colonel Olden and Lieut.-Colonel Sweetapple, also the dear late lady of the land, Lady Mitchell. Our next sub-branch meeting is held in the Hall, second Tuesday of the month.

BOULDER

After much hard work and many headaches from the Committee, the Boulder R.S.L. Memorial Hall and Club Rooms are completed and opened for business on Friday, September 8. The official opening and the handing over of the club from the sub-branch to the President of the club (Mr. G. R. Willott) by the Mayor of Boulder (Mr. J. D. Teahan, J.P.) will take place at an early date. The new club rooms and the hall are

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10th December, 1949

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A happy family life depends not on how much is in the pay envelope but on how wisely the money is spent. The Commonwealth Savings Bank offers you an easy means of saving any surplus you may have after paying for everyday expenses.

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The best-ventilated bars, the most up-to-date lounge, the very best beer and liquors of all kinds kept on refrigeration, the super service

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**At Guilfoyle's**

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THE LISTENING POST

All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham. All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham.

ROCKINGHAM

The annual meeting on September 16 was attended by a large number of officers and a number of members, including the president, treasurer and secretary. The president, Mr. J. H. Scott, reported on the activities of the committee during the year and the thanks of the members were tendered to him for his services. The treasurer, Mr. J. H. Scott, reported on the financial position of the society and the secretary, Mr. J. H. Scott, gave a brief account of the activities of the committee during the year.

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VICTORIA PARK

The recent winter spell has taken toll of our members, 26 being welcomed to the Rockingham Red Cross. The weather has been very cold and a few smokes, while the “homies” have not been forgotten. It is hoped a tender will shortly be accepted and a companion made for those who are feeling cold. With the long-overdue hall improvement project, the pressure has been applied to the sub-committee to get on with the job. Our committee has done its utmost to reach the goal. Further correspondence with the Mayor and Councillors of the City of Rockingham has taken place. It is hoped that the committee will soon be able to move forward.

All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham. All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham.

Dwellingup and Districts

The monthly meeting was held at the Dwellingup Hotel on October 13. The officers of the society were present, and a very attentive audience was present. The meeting was opened by the secretary, Mr. J. H. Scott, who gave a brief account of the activities of the society during the year. The treasurer, Mr. J. H. Scott, reported on the financial position of the society and the secretary, Mr. J. H. Scott, gave a brief account of the activities of the society during the year.

All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham. All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham.

GOOMALLING

Efforts to secure a better deal for housing in Goomalling are bearing fruit and, having obtained a supply of bricks, the sub-committee is now moving towards the completion of the construction of two houses. The first house, which is nearing completion, is being erected for the Local Council at a cost of £300. The second house, which is being erected for the Local Council at a cost of £300, is being erected for the Local Council at a cost of £300. The Local Council is anxious to secure the services of another builder and the sub-committee is now proceeding with this work.

All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham. All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham.

KATANNING

At the annual "Diggs' Day" celebrations conducted by the Katanning sub-committee recently, there was a good turn-out and the proceedings were well attended. The sub-committee is now proceeding with the completion of the construction of two houses, which are now nearing completion. The first house, which is being erected for the Local Council at a cost of £300, is being erected for the Local Council at a cost of £300. The Local Council is anxious to secure the services of another builder and the sub-committee is now proceeding with this work.

All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham. All contributions will be gratefully received and may be sent to the Red Cross Headquarters, Yule Street, Rockingham.
STATE EXECUTIVE

On October 3rd the first meeting of the Executive was held at the War Memorial Hospital, attended by Mrs. Prue, President; Mrs. McKelvey, Vice-President; Mrs. Stockin, Secretary; and Mrs. Parkinson, Treasurer.

Elections of Committees, etc.

At the last meeting, Mrs. Sherlock, chairman of the Red Cross Hospital, was elected a committee member and Mrs. Cullen, chairman of the Perth Hospital Auxiliary, was elected vice-chairman. An invitation was extended to Mrs. McKeown, Mrs. Cullen, and Mrs. Curnow to visit the hospital and carry out their work.

Hospital Visit.

A hospital visit was carried out by the Executive on October 3rd. The visit was to the War Memorial Hospital, and was attended by Mrs. Prue, President; Mrs. McKelvey, Vice-President; Mrs. Stockin, Secretary; and Mrs. Parkinson, Treasurer.

Hollywood Visit.

On October 3rd, a visit was made to the Hollywood Hospital. The visit was attended by Mrs. Prue, President; Mrs. McKelvey, Vice-President; Mrs. Stockin, Secretary; and Mrs. Parkinson, Treasurer.

Claremont Mental Hospital Visit.

On October 3rd, a visit was made to the Claremont Mental Hospital. The visit was attended by Mrs. Prue, President; Mrs. McKelvey, Vice-President; Mrs. Stockin, Secretary; and Mrs. Parkinson, Treasurer.

Lendrum Auxiliary Meeting.

On October 3rd, a meeting was held at the Lendrum Auxiliary. The meeting was attended by Mrs. Prue, President; Mrs. McKelvey, Vice-President; Mrs. Stockin, Secretary; and Mrs. Parkinson, Treasurer.

New Members.

The Auxiliary has welcomed two new members, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Brown. Mrs. Martin has been on the executive for the past three years and has been very successful in her duties.

Gornall Auxiliary.

The Gornall Auxiliary has been very successful in its auxiliary efforts. The Auxiliary is now looking forward to the coming season and is planning a series of events to raise funds for the hospital.

CARLISLE

The numbers that attend our meetings are still very disappointing, but the Auxiliary are working hard to improve this. The Auxiliary is looking forward to the coming season and is planning a series of events to raise funds for the hospital.

GERALDON

Our present facilities are not sufficient to meet the demands of the hospital. We are planning to build a new auxiliary building to meet the needs of the hospital.

SHANE R.C.

The Auxiliary has been very successful in its auxiliary efforts. The Auxiliary is now looking forward to the coming season and is planning a series of events to raise funds for the hospital.

SHENTON PARK

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SIBULAC

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SWANBROOK

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F.E.S.W.

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WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

Donation List.

Kondinin auxiliary (Legacy), £20; Katanning (War Blinded Association), £15/15; Mildura (War Blinded Association), £10; Narrogin (War Blinded Association), £10; Northam (War Blinded Association), £5; Harvey (Hospital Visiting), £5; Pinjarra (Hospital Visiting), £5; Bridgetown (T.P.I. Association), £1/1/1; Cunderdin (War Blinded Association), £1/1/1; Norseman (Legacy), £5; Bremerford (T.P.I. Association), £2; Iwarra (World War I Women's War Unions), £1/6; York (A.S. & S. Fund), £2; Claremont (Faversham), £2; Claremont (T.B. Ward, Hospital Visiting), £2; Claremont (Hospital Visiting), £1; Lake Grace (Faversham), £1/6; Comp (Legacy), £2/2/2; Kenwick (Legacy), £2; Darling Range (Visiting), £1; Mr. Hawthorn (Legacy), £10/10.

New Auxiliary.

We welcome to our ranks the members of the newly formed auxiliary—Bicton-Palmyra, Melville and Cannington—and we wish them every success in their work.

Gornall's Auxiliary.

Another auxiliary has been formed at the Gornall Auxiliary. The Auxiliary is now looking forward to the coming season and is planning a series of events to raise funds for the hospital.

AUXILIARIES, PLEASE NOTE!

Is your page—How about it? Where are your contributions? Please send all your news to Mrs. W. W. Prue,
64 Bosissing Hall, Victoria Park.

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CROSS OF SACRIFICE UNVEILED

Our front cover illustration this month shows the Cross of Sacrifice in the Perth War Cemetery, Nedlands, which was officially opened recently by Sir John Dwyer. Representatives of the Federal and State Governments attended, together with Service chiefs. Mr. E. O. Davies (League vice-president) and Mr. J. Chappell (State Secretary) assisted in the service of dedication. The march past of the guard of honour was headed by the R.S.L. Band.

FOR THE SENATE VOTE

Mc KINLAY Mary

AND OTHERS IN ORDER OF YOUR PREFERENCE

Because of her understanding of the needs of ex-servicemen, her wealth of knowledge of the State, and her undoubted ability, Mrs. Mc Kinlay has been persuaded to stand for the Senate, where she would be a decided acquisition.

Give her your No. 1 preference and get your friends to do likewise.

Authorised by C. V. Wood, Bassendean.

SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

This Directory is as up-to-date as current information allows, but where data is incomplete sub-branch secretaries are asked to provide some for inclusion at their earliest possible convenience. The attention of sub-branch officials is directed to W.A. Branch Rule 13 (1) regarding election of officers and confirmation of their appointment by the State Executive.

AGNEW—Secretary: J. Latta, Agnew.

ALBANY—President: E. Fry, c/o. National Bank, Stirling Terrace, Albany; Secretary: A. Wright, 97 Middleton Road, Albany; 1st Friday each month; R.S.I. Institute; 7.30 p.m.

ARDATH—President: J. B. Muntz, Arndath; Secretary: G. A. Pollett, Arndath; 1st Wednesday each month; Arndath Hall; 8 p.m.

ARMADALE—President: R. Blackburn, Armadale; Secretary: W. A. Green, Seventh Road, Armadale; 2nd Wednesday each month; R.S.I. Club Room, Armadale; 8 p.m.

AUGUSTA—President: W. Ellis, Augusta; Secretary: F. H. Brown, Augusta Hotel; 1st Wednesday in each month; “Dug-Out,” near Augusta Hotel; 8 p.m.

BANDAS—President: R. C. Wren, Balingup; Secretary: T. A. Mauger, Box 43, P.O. Balingup; 2nd Tuesday each month; Road Board Hall; 8 p.m.

BARKERS HILL—President: H. A. Gyson, Baker’s Hill; Secretary: T. A. E. Leitch, Baker’s Hill; 2nd Thursday each month; alternatively Baker’s Hill and Clackline.

BALINGUP—President: P. C. Wren, Balingup; Secretary: T. A. Mauger, Box 43, P.O. Balingup; 2nd Tuesday each month; Road Board Hall; 8 p.m.

BASSEY—President: H. Flavel, Busselton; Secretary: R. Petchell, Busselton.

BASSENDAEN—President: T. Summerton; Secretary: D. Bridson; every 2nd (pensioners) Thursday.

BATSWATER—President: W. E. Morley, 26 Garrett Road, Bayswater; Secretary: R. W. Cooke, 39 Beachboro Road, Bayswater; every 2nd Monday; Bayswater Drill Hall, Murray Street; 8 p.m.

BEDFORD-MORLEY—President: T. J. Pearson, 101 Crawford Road, Maylands; Secretary: H. Leivers, 90 Safety House, Maylands; 2nd and 4th Tuesday; Riley’s Hall, Ingleswood; 8 p.m.

BELLEVUE—President: A. W. Higgins, James Street, Bellevue; Secretary: A. Hayes, 19 Alice Street, Bellevue.

BELMONT—President: M. F. Lomberd, 63 Fitzroy Road, Belmont; Secretary: T. J. Brown, Keymer Street, Belmont; 3rd Monday in each month; Belmont Hall; 8 p.m.

BENGURLEN—President: L. O’Lynn, Benguran; Secretary: F. G. Morgan, Benguran; 2nd Wednesday in each month; 8 p.m.

BEVERLEY—President: A. E. Wilhelm, Hunt Road, Beverley; Secretary: A. Mechin, Lukin Street, Beverley.

BICTON—President: F. Aberle, 28 Hamilton Street, East Fremantle; Secretary: T. G. Rudden, 11 Birdwood Circus, Bicton.

BIG BELL—President: T. Godlee, Big Bell; Secretary: M. B. Stone, Big Bell.

BINDOON—President: J. S. Cormack, Bindoon; Secretary: A. R. Hill, Bindoon.

BORDINGTON—President: N. Lewis, Boddington; Secretary: W. J. Price, Forestry House, Boddington; last Sunday each month; Forestry House; 10 a.m.

BOULDER—President: I. Dobrich, 7a King Street, Boulder; Secretary: V. O’Grady, 35 King Street, Boulder; 4th Thursday each month; Soldiers’ Rest, Lorne Street, Boulder.

BOYANUP—President: E. Dace, Boyanup; Secretary: C. Reilly, Boyanup; 1st Saturday in month.

BOYUP BROOK—President: B. Bleschamore; Secretary: G. E. Williams.

BRENTTOWN—President: F. H. Long, Bridgetown; Secretary: J. E. Mason, c/o. “Blackwood Times,” Bridgetown; 1st Tuesday each month; R.S.I. Hall; 8 p.m.

BROOKTON—President: J. F. Coole; Secretary: K. R. Appleby; 1st Friday in each month; Club Hotel; 8 p.m.

BROOME—President: W. O. Griffin, Broome; Secretary: R. A. Haynes, Broome; 2nd Thursday in each month; R.S.I. Clubroom; 8 p.m.

BROOMEHILL—President: K. Brew; Secretary: J. Hopkins; 3rd Wednesday; Broomehill Hall; 8 p.m.

BRUCE ROCK—President: E. W. Haskins, Bruce Rock; Secretary: G. A. W. Leeks, Bruce Rock; 3rd Friday each month; 8 p.m.

BRUNSWICK JUNCTION—President: J. Farr, Brunswick Junction; Secretary: J. T. Carr, Brunswick Junction; 2nd Friday each month.

BULLFINCH—President: Colin Scott, Bullfinch; Secretary: R. Potts, Bullfinch.

BULLSBROOKE—President: G. Pickett, Bullbrook; Secretary: S. Contella, Bullbrook; 1st Saturday each month; Bullbrook Hall; 7 p.m.

BUNBURY—President: H. E. Birch, Box 62, P.O., Bunbury; Secretary: A. R. Reid, 30 Victoria Street, Bunbury; 3rd Wednesday each month; R.S.I. Hall; 8 p.m.

BUNTING—President: R. Snook, Bunting; Secretary: M. Flynn, Bunting; 2nd Thursday each month.
BUSSELTON - President: C. D. Riley, Busselton; Secretary: E. H. Allen, Albert Street, Busselton; 2nd Tuesday each month; R.S.L. Hall, Busselton; 8 p.m.

LINDGREN - President: T. Drake-Beckman, Toodyay; Secretary: H. W. Todd, Toodyay; 4th Saturday each month.

CANNING DISTRICT - President: A. D. Green, George Street, Canning; Secretary: I. Duckworth, Albany Highway, Canning; 2nd and 4th Sundays; Coker Park, Wharf Street, Canning; 10:30 a.m.

CAPEL - President: H. Dyce, Box 30, Capel (phone 229); Secretary: K. I. Huxley, Box V, Capel (phone 244); 2nd and Wednesday each month; Capel Hotel.

CABDIV - President: A. L. Burnett, North Collie; Secretary: W. D. Cooper, 88 Throssell Street, Collie.

CARLISLE - President: W. G. Rawson, 49 Mars Street, Carlisle; Secretary: J. Westcott, 84 Carnarvon Street, Victoria Park.

CARNAMAH - President: W. I. Price, Box 5, Carnamah (phone 505); Secretary: J. I. Booth, P.O., Carnamah; on notice.

CARRARO GUERNSEY - President: T. J. Gronow, Busselton; Secretary: S. A. Nugent, 8/2, W.A.G.R., Carol, 2nd Wednesday each month.

CHIDLOW - President: J. Perkins, Chidlow; Secretary: C. R. Grant, Chidlow.

CITY OF PERTH - President: C. W. Mitchell, 10a King Street, Perth; Secretary: T. A. Rawson, 10a King Street, Perth; 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month; Monash Club.

CLAREMONT - President: T. J. Rowe, 15 Albert Street, Claremont; Secretary: T. K. Hallam, 57 Dryden Road, Claremont; 1st Wednesday each month; Claremont Hall, cnr. Preston and Coode Streets.

COLLIE - President: E. Whitworth, Robert Street, Collie; Secretary: L. C. Martin, Ewingina, via Collie.

COSMO - President: R. H. Burns, 43 Preston Street, Como; Secretary: R. H. Goodall, 1st Wednesday each month; Preston Street Hall, cnr. Preston and Coode Streets.

COOLGARDE - President: Dennis Clewes, Sylvia Street, Coolgardie; Secretary: J. W. Morgan, School House, Coolgardie; 2nd Sunday each month; Lesser Hall; 10.30 a.m.

COOLUP - President: T. H. Cox, "Athwaven", Coolup; Secretary: E. J. Dear, Coolup; when called; Coolup Hotel; 2nd Tuesday each month.

COOROW-WADDI FOREST - President: W. Howden, Coorow; Secretary: A. McGilp, Coorow; 1st Wednesday each month; Coorow.

CORRIGIN - President: R. N. Munro, Secretary: L. S. Hummerton, every 6 weeks, 75 York Street, Town Hall; 9 p.m.

COTTLESLEO - President: H. N. Guthrie, 42 Esplanade, Peppermint Grove (F 3433); Secretary: S. H. Hubbard, 5 McLaren Street, Peppermint Grove (F 1104); 1st Tuesday each month; Council Chamber, Cottesloe.

COWARAMUP - President: R. N. Gardiner, Cowaramup; Secretary: A. M. Atkinson, Cowaramup; 2nd Monday each month; R.S.L. Hall; 8 p.m.

CRANBROOK - President: S. I. Rodgers, Cranbrook; Secretary: T. D. Norris, Cranbrook; every quarter; Cranbrook Hotel; 8 p.m.

CUE - President: R. Tyrell, Secretary: W. Winge, Cue.

CUNDERIN - President: F. Kessell, Cunderin; Secretary: C. Hird, Cunderin; 1st Friday each month, stage of Town Hall; 8 p.m.

DALLWINU - President: Rev. L. W. Riley, "The Rectory," Dalwallinu; Secretary: Rev. L. W. Riley, Dalwallinu; 1st Friday each month; Road Board Hall Supper Room; 8 p.m.

DARLAN - President: J. Symonds, Darlington; Secretary: R. South, Darlington; 2nd Monday each month; "Green Gables" Teasroom, Darlakna.

DARLING RANGE - President: R. G. Hayward, Gooseberry Hill; Secretary: R. Thompson, Kailumunda; 1st Tuesday each month; R.S.L. Clubrooms; 9 p.m.

DENMARK - President: F. J. Neckolds, Jr., Denmark; Secretary: A. L. Stewart, Strickland Street; 4th Tuesday each month; R.S.L. Hall; 8 p.m.

DONGARRA - President: H. Steele, Dongara; Secretary: J. R. Naig, Dongara; 3rd Sunday each month; Dongara Lecture Room.

DUNDOWRING - President: E. V. Morrisey, Secretary: G. F. Bishop, 2nd Friday each month; R.S.L. Hall; 8 p.m.

DUNBRIDGE - President: T. M. Main, Dowerin; Secretary: T. Croke, Dowerin; 1st Wednesday each month; various; 8 p.m.

DUMBLEYDONG - President: G. I. Cook, Secretary: L. Hayes, P.O., Dumblydong; 1st Saturday each month; R.S.L. Hall, Harvey Street, Dumblydong; 8 p.m.

DUMPIGUP - President: E. Mann, Secretary: R. Ellis (pro tem), Witchcliffe.

FRANKLAND RIVER - President: K. A. Watta, Secretary: J. N. McKean, "Turrarattle", Fernkhind, via Cranbrook.
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It was designed by a practical farmer and since being placed on the market has met with an extraordinary demand. This is only because it does what is claimed of it; viz., lifts without exertion—is definitely a one-man Loader, although it can be operated by two men with efficiency and without waste of time—could not be more simple in operation—is quickly and easily transported from dump to dump—there is nothing to get out of order.

In fact, the "GROWDEN" Bag Loader is indispensable at both harvesting and seeding times. It can also be used as a gallows for dressing sheep.

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Fine quality brown cotton Venetian Gabardine Trousers, side and hip pockets, side straps. Sizes 3 to 8, 26/11; 4½ to 6½, 27/6; 5½ to 8½, 31/- pr.

DUST COATS 29/6
Light weight, hard wearing English Headcloth Dust Coats, well made, with 3 pockets, full belt, raglan shoulders. In fawn, medium grey and dark grey shades. Sizes 3 to 8, 29/6 ea.

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Best quality shrunk medium grey Drill Shorts, finished with extended band, side straps; side, fob and hip pockets with flap. Sizes 3 to 8, 15/-

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