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THE LEAGUE AND YOU

Readers of this journal are reminded that there is more in belonging to the League than just the matter of wearing the badge. There are responsibilities in League membership; but at the moment we are concerned, not with responsibilities, but with the benefits which League members can share.

For the League is a body of ex-service people banded together for mutual benefit. This is a fact that is sometimes overlooked by its newer members, and even some of the members of long-standing are unaware of the work which is constantly being carried on by the League and its officers.

This month we publish some of the pension cases which have been successfully tackled recently by League officials, and it is hardly necessary to draw attention to the fact that, but for the efforts of the League, the ex-service personnel concerned would have found it almost, if not entirely, impossible to achieve anything like reasonable results from their individual efforts.

Everyone realises that in unity there is strength; but in the case of the League there is more than unity—there are years of experience, of effort tried and true, and of staff work which, if only by reason of its constancy, is certain to bring results.

On top of this, of course, is the fact that the League really means something to Australia and to Australians.

Every member should know that the League and its officers (both paid and honorary) are constantly at work in the field of pensions, repatriation, housing, farming, mining, rehabilitation, migration, and the many phases of life which apply to the service man and woman.

Every member should know that he (or she) is entitled to the help of the League machinery. Moreover, every member should know that inquiries for assistance are not merely dealt with as routine business—they are welcomed and dealt with as something well worth fighting for.

For the League is the servant of every member. The League is a body of men and women working together for the benefit of all who served. The League—in short—is yours. If it can help you, it will. Of that you may be sure.
Ching-Noung is reputed to have been the first to teach the art of making bread, somewhere about 1998 B.C., and baking became a profession in Rome about 170 B.C. Twenty-two years later, Greek bakers had secured a monopoly of the trade in that city.

When a man was summoned for alleged desertion by his wife at Dewsbury (England), he said: "My wife objects to my looking at photographs of women in the daily papers. When we go to the talkies and a woman comes on the screen, my wife makes me hold my head down until the woman goes off." Wife failed to sustain the charge of desertion.

Wealthy Hindoos often serve their custards and puddings coated with pure gold or silver leaf. Such coverings, in addition to making the dish an aristocratic one, are said to aid the digestion. In one royal Indian palace a tiny train, made of solid silver and operated, by electricity, travels slowly around the great dinner table. The trucks are loaded with choice fruits, wines and condiments. Removing a dish automatically stops the train, and replacing it sets the train in motion once again.

In 1887 a mob of American miners, suffering from labour grievances, filled a car with coal, smothered it with kerosene, ignited it and sent it down into the Ohio mine of the Columbus Coal Company. The fire thus started has continued to burn to the present day, and smoke still pours from jagged fissures in the farmlands of the district. In places the fire has, from time to time, pierced the ground, burning buildings, destroying timber, and causing a number of deaths.

Ale houses are mentioned in the laws of Ina, king of Wessex (688-726). Booths for its sale were set up in England in 728 and laws passed for their regulation. In 1603, one full quart of the best or two quarts of small ale were to be purchased for one penny.

From 1722 until 1865 the English fire brigades were raised by and under the control of the fire insurance companies. The first steam fire pump was used in 1860.

The Mohammedans always break their bread. They believe that it is impious to cut or wound it with steel.

The atom bomb is here to stay, To that, we all agree; We know the bomb is here to stay, The question is—are we?

When Ripley’s Armless Wonder got married some while back, the wedding was a mighty queer one. Photographic of the ceremony shows the groom, with the ring between two of his toes, placing it upon the bride’s finger. Ring-bearer was a coloured midget, and maid-of-honour a female sword-swallow. Bride herself had for some time acted as hubby’s target when, on the stage, he hurled knives around her, using his feet to do the throwing.

In 1485, the Earl of Northumberland’s household consumed 42,000 gallons of ale. In Tudor times, a maid at Court expected, and received, a gallon of ale for her breakfast.

It’s all a matter of taste—but a favourite dish of the old Swiss monks was hot sheep’s blood and cranberry jam.

Before the world depression Hollywood stunt men had a schedule of prices for their work. A head-on air crash was worth £1,000; a ground crash, £600; an air explosion or fire, £300. For £100 a stunt-man would leap from a burning building or from one moving train to another. Parachute jumps were a mere £40.

But the depression resulted in cut rates, and a swimming specialist, engaged to jump from the stern of a steamer into rough water—as many times as required by the director—did it for £5 a day.

Some while ago a widower and his son married two sisters. Thus the father became his son’s brother-in-law, while his wife was both stepmother and sister-in-law to the son. The son’s wife was daughter-in-law to her brother-in-law. But worse complications arose when both women gave birth to sons. One child was the grandson of his father’s brother-in-law, and the nephew of his own mother.

A precise individual recently wrote to an English newspaper stating that while shaving himself he regularly took 67 strokes. This statement led to the production of a record kept by a woman in the year 1827. Listing the number of stitches put into her husband’s “plain shirt,” the grand total came to 20,646. Some of the details were: Stitching the collar, 4 rows, 3,000; sewing the ends, 500; button holes and sewing on buttons, 150; gathering the neck, 1,204; wristbands, 1,228; shoulder straps, 3 rows each, 1,880; sewing the sleeves, 2,354; setting in gussets, 3,050; and taping the sleeves, 1,526.

The world’s queerest inquest verdict has been recorded at Keene, New Hampshire, U.S.A., on 64-year-old John Mulligan, the jury finding that “he had been butted to death through a window of his bedroom by a dream goat.” Mulligan was found dying on the pavement after having fallen from the second storey. He told the hospital staff, almost with his last breath, that he had a terrible dream, in which a goat chased him round the bedroom, then, with a terrific charge, butted him through the window.
A meeting of the State Executive was held on February 9 at 3.30 p.m., business transacted including:

HOUSING
The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered meetings held on January 27 and February 3; a deputation to the Minister for Works and Housing; an indication from the Secretary of the State Housing Commission agreeing to give personal attention to special recommendations of the committee; further information regarding the cooperative building proposal; invitation to Mr. Keightley to attend the next meeting of the committee; consideration of suggestion that the League should build homes on the Morley Park property; a number of individual cases and requests from sub-branches.

MEMBERSHIP
The report submitted by Mr. Chaney covered sub-branches at Piawaning and South Belmont in process of formation and a revival at Nullagine; a proposed visit to Carlisle sub-branch; sub-branch charter; slogan competition and membership figures (indicating January membership at 21,000, and an average monthly increase during the past six months of 400 new members and renewals).

BUILDINGS
The report submitted by Colonel Olden covered policy to be adopted regarding the alienation of land for the widening of Irwin Street; and a recommendation for the recommittal of the decision made at the State Executive meeting held on January 26, 1949. The report was adopted, and it was decided to further discuss the matter with the Town Clerk.

REPATRIATION
The report submitted by Mr. Stahl covered the joint meeting of ex-servicemen's organisations held in connection with a campaign for more substantial increases in war pensions.

FAVERSHAM
The report submitted by Mr. Stahl covered a report on the staff position; financial statements, showing a loss of £746/12/6 for the half year; proposed bus trip for sub-branch officials; future policy (it was recommended that the present situation justified consideration of the continuance of Faversham House as a war veterans' home) and three proposals for the raising of funds: (a) street appeal day; (b) approach to Trotting Association; (c) co-operation by sub-branches. The report was adopted, and it was resolved that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Combs for his work during the period of staff difficulties. (Inmates now number 20.)

"LISTENING POST"
The report submitted by Mr. Leslie covered correspondence from Spearwood-Hamilton Hill sub-branch re publication of political matters and photographs of members contesting elections; Editor's monthly report; financial statement, showing an excess of income over expenditure of £194/1/3 for the six months ended December 31, 1948; and verse competition.

NORTH-WEST COMMITTEE
The report submitted by Dr. Cook outlined the preliminary considerations of the committee regarding its approach to the problems of the North-West.

POPPY DAY
The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered an appeal for the purchase of a cenotaph and funds for the construction of a cenotaph in each of the sub-branches. The report was adopted, and the committee recommended that the Sub-branch Officials report on the progress of the appeal and the establishment of the cenotaphs.

STATE CONGRESS ITEM, 139 (KALGOORLIE)
"That we recommend to the Executive to reconsider the adoption of a plank in its platform to give very ex-serviceman with six months' service a vote on the Legislative Council," was dealt with and on full particulars of the conditions operating in other States having been received, it was recommended that the Executive proceed with the implementation of the resolution. Confirmed.

Mr. F. C. Chaney was elected by a ballot as this branch's delegate, with Mr. F. Stahl as emergency delegate to the Federal Executive meeting in Canberra on February 23.

SUB-BRANCH OFFICIALS
The following sub-branch officials were recommended to be confirmed: Shenton Park, Pickering Brook, Murray, Mt. Barker, Wandering, Midland Junction, Maylands, Coolgardie, Upper Swan, Broome. Confirmed.

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

A further meeting was held on February 23 at 5.30 p.m., business including:

RE-ESTABLISHMENT
The report submitted by Mr. Stanbury covered Federal Executive agenda; taxi fuel licences; extension of preference period in Re-establishment and Employment Act; C.R.T.S. — lack of replies to circulars sent out by the department; Housing Commission shops in Mosman Park; and successes achieved in individual cases.

HOUSING
The report submitted by Mr. Davies covered building blocks at Cottesloe; address by Mr. Keightley; Victoria Park sub-branch hall; war widows' income; Geraldton district; production of basic materials; export of timber; and personal cases. Report adopted, subject to amending the paragraph on
export of timber to include the word “temporary” in regard to the suspension of exports, and also the following amendment: “That the Housing sub-committee endeavour to arrange a conference at the earliest possible date with the Minister of Housing, Minister of Forests, executive officers of the departments concerned and representatives of the Sawmillers’ Association in connection with timber supplies.”

**REPARTIATION**

The report submitted by Mr. Stahl covered letters of thanks received for assistance rendered; loss of time by repatriation patients; and several individual cases.

**IMMIGRATION**

The report submitted by Mr. Lonnie covered Asturias migrants; sub-branch nominations; welcome by Collie sub-branch to Balta and Poles in district; staging camps; and apprenticeships.

Other reports included Finance (Mr. Herlihy), Faversham (Mr. Sten), Trustees (Mr. Craig), Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ Relief Fund (Mr. Yeates), and R.S.L. Hostel (Mr. Watt).

The appointment of officials of the following sub-branches was confirmed: Salmon Gums, Donnybrook, Broomehill, Narrogin, Claremont, Norseman, Mt. Magnet, Mt. Hawthorn, Swanbourne, Kojonup.

Colonel A. Olden was appointed the League’s representative to the Red Cross Society executive.

It was agreed that the name of the Returned Army Nurses’ sub-branch be changed to the Returned Sisters’ sub-branch.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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AVAILABLE ALL GARAGES
The League Really Does Things

Sometimes unthinking people outside the League orbit ask: "But what does the League DO for ex-servicemen?" Sometimes members who seldom attend meetings and who fail to keep up with the times ask questions of similar calibre. For that reason we print, this month, particulars of a few cases which have recently come before the League office, and the results which League officials have achieved.

We leave all comment in the hands of our readers.

S. 110.—This ex-soldier was an inmate of an institution, and on representations by the Visiting Committee, the Repatriation Department was asked to transfer him to the Repatriation General Hospital for treatment, as it was obvious that his health was failing through unsuitable diet. It was also requested that his pension rate be revised. The Repatriation Department replied in the first instance that a medical officer considered that hospitalisation was not necessary, and it was considered that the pension assessment was adequate for the accepted disabilities. It was indicated that other disabilities existed which were not due to war service. However, our request was complied with, and the patient was admitted to Hollywood Hospital. As a result of the treatment, his health has greatly improved, and advice has been received that his pension has been increased from 35 per cent. to the special rate for totally and permanently incapacitated pensioners, namely, £10/12/- per fortnight.

D. 65.—This ex-soldier has been in a mental institution for over twelve months and was in receipt of a pension at 106 per cent. rate. Owing to sickness, his wife got into arrears with her rent and with the trades-people. It was found that the Public Trustee, who is administering the husband's war pension, had made an arrangement with the State Housing Commission to pay arrears of rent and £1 per week towards the current rent, thereby making it impossible for any assistance to be given to the wife. Representations were made to the Repatriation Department, as a result of which the ex-soldier's pension was increased to the special rate of £10/12/- per fortnight, and the Public Trustee has been requested to make a definite contribution from the balance towards the maintenance of the wife and child.

L. 61.—This ex-soldier, who is suffering severely from wounds received in the Pacific islands, has been regarded as a problem case ever since his discharge from the Forces. The Repatriation Department granted him a loan to enable him to install an irrigation plant on his block in order that he might grow flowers and vegetables and thereby augment his pension. Unfortunately, only salt water could be located in the bore and, consequently, the project fell through. Nothing further had been done for the ex-soldier, other than to reduce his pension to 100 per cent. The Secretary advocated his appeal to the Assessment Appeal Tribunal, and he was successful in having the pension restored to the T. & P.I. rate for a further period of twelve months. An interview was then arranged with the Chief Clerk of the Repatriation Department, and the Secretary represented that he considered the ex-soldier would be quite unfit to augment his income by any exertions, even moderately strenuous. An appeal was made that the loan be recalled, and the amount of any deficiencies written off, as it was impossible for the ex-soldier to refund anything in view of the fact that he has a wife and three children. A most sympathetic hearing was given by the Chief Clerk, who decided to recommend that the loan be recalled, the materials sold, all outstanding debts paid, and the balance written off. He also decided that the ex-soldier would again be regarded as a problem case and efforts would be made regarding some other method of helping him.

P. 29.—This ex-soldier sustained a bullet wound in the brain at Tobruk and has had operations prior and subsequent to his discharge. Endeavours have been made to train him in various occupations and also to employ him, all without success. He is a married man with one child, and was in receipt of a pension of £7/8/- per fortnight. The latest form of treatment is that he attends the training centre at Hollywood Hospital for education in simple arithmetic, etc. Owing to his financial difficulties, the Secretary arranged for him to appeal to the assessment tribunal and assisted him during the hearing. The tribunal increased his pension to £10/12/- per fortnight, and declared him totally and permanently incapacitated. It is felt that this soldier's welfare should be watched, as it is feared that if this is not done he may be allowed to drift.

M. 106.—This ex-soldier, after treatment in Hollywood Hospital, was transferred to the Home of Peace and a request was made by the secretary of that institution that he pay for his maintenance from his war pension. Representations were made to the Repatriation Department, which has now agreed to accept responsibility for his treatment in the institution.

PILGRIMAGE HONOURS

MONASH

Each year a pilgrimage to the grave of Sir John Monash, at Brighton Cemetery (Victoria), is held in his memory. On October 31, 1948, the 17th anniversary of his death was so honoured, the service being conducted by Chaplain Rabbi Dr. H. Freedman and the commemorative address being delivered by Major-General G. F. Wooten, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Chairman of the Repatriation Commission and a former G.O.C., Ninth Division, A.I.F.
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SUPER THRILLS IN THE FAR EAST
LING PLAYS BORGIA
A SHORT STORY BY KENNETH HUNT

Detective Scanlon closed the door and wiped his steaming forehead with a wilted handkerchief. "What is so hot as New York City in July?" he growled.

"Many things, my friend." The cultured tones seemed to come from the ceiling. "Discomfort is not always of the body."

Scanlon grinned, and glancing up saw a solemn little face peer over some disordered shelves. "Ling, come down off that ladder before I think you've escaped from the zoo. Those glasses make you look like a barnyard owl."

The head withdrew, to the sound of descending footsteps, and a small, round-faced Chinaman hurried up to Scanlon with outstretched hand. "Ah, Scanlon," he said, shaking hands in the American manner, "it has been too long since you've visited my humble shop. Let us go back and see what can be found in the ice box, such as cold beer to travel down a dusty throat."

Mike Scanlon laughed. It was a never-ending source of amusement to hear Ling talk, and contrast his casual ordinary voice with the oriental robes and mandarin-like features. "Your father would return from his ancestors if he knew you now dispensed beer in lieu of ceremonial tea, and that Tong society you head."

"Ah, yes, the Tong," Ling interrupted thoughtfully. "That is one of the things I wish to converse about.

"Not planning to start a little war, by any chance?" Scanlon asked idly, glancing around the immaculate one-room flat at the rear of the store. His host merely smiled, fussing with bottles and tumblers. Scanlon drained the cool brew, then snacked his lips.

"That hit the proverbial spot." He lighted a fresh cigarette. "Been selling many curios lately?"

"Business is good. I believe it was propitious to widen my horizons and handle other antiques and bric-a-brac than just Chinese. And yet, if I hadn't you would have never received a call from me today. Or perhaps not be sitting there alive, smoking your cigarette."

Although this statement startled him, Mike Scanlon didn't appear impressed. For all Ling's actions and intensified learning in American schools, his thoughts were essentially Chinese, and not to be hurried. Scanlon had known Ling's father very well, and a warm bond of admiration existed between the two until death claimed the venerable elder, leaving young Ling to follow in the path his father marked so well. Ling knew and respected the genuine sorrow Scanlon concealed when the old patriarch passed away. Because of this, another bond was cemented over the old, and Mike found many ways to help this young man who headed one of the most powerful Tong groups in Chinatown.

In the old days, the Tong was a mighty force, its members adhering strictly to rules so rigid, disobedience often meant a sentence of death. Bloody wars blared between rival togs, and the efforts of police in educating them into letting the white man's law punish where needed met bitter opposition. Gradually, order was enforced, and even die-hards bowed to the inevitable.

The Tong of today, though modernised, still wielded much influence, and Ling often served a dual role, both as a friend of Scanlon's, and as a leader of his organisation. He would deliberately permit the detective to arrest a wanted member of his society, and then give other members an excuse of "so that is his punishment for breaking our rule of peace, confinement by the police."

Ling's precise voice broke into Scanlon's thoughts, "You are looking for Charlie Wang, is it not so?"

Scanlon grunted, cigarette half lifted to his mouth. "How did you know?"

Here Lies

Captain Ernest Bloomfield
Accidentally Shot by His Orderly
March 2nd, 1789

Well Done, Thou Good and Faithful Servant.

—On a Gibraltar Tombstone.

Ling pursed his lips. "He came to me, seeking sanctuary from the police, as is his right, being still a member of the Tong."

"Did you hide him out?" Mike Scanlon asked, scowling.

"I couldn't very well refuse, even knowing he had escaped your gaul while awaiting trial for murder. Do not frown so, my friend. He is upstairs. You may take him when you wish—no, wait!"

Scanlon hesitated, half out of his chair. "Ling, this Charlie is a bad egg. He swore to kill me for arresting him that first time."

"This I know," Ling nodded, "even as to how he planned to kill you, and yet I say there is no danger."

Scanlon settled back, but he left his hand in the vicinity of his shoulder holster, and kept a wary eye on the curtained door.

Ling seemed to be groping for words. "Your suggestion to handle other items than those from China nearly proved disastrous today. Among the things I purchased are some from Europe. There was a small Italian powder box, supposedly once the property of the Borgia's, and quite cunningly made. As one lifts the cover, music plays also, a needle pierces your hand. You can readily comprehend what follows if the cavity in the needle is filled with poison. Imagine, if you can, my overwhelming dismay when Charlie demanded the box. I could not refuse the sale to a Tong member, even knowing he meant to send it to you since your old penchant for collecting unique items is rather widely realised."

"Wait a minute," Scanlon said slowly. "What about his being a murderer? Even though one of your group, isn't it your duty to punish him, as head of the Tong?"

"Yes, indeed," sighed Ling, "but the white man's law supersedes ours. If I enacted the old law, then I would also be a murderer in your eyes, so I gave him the box and watched him go over to the druggists. He returned shortly, and went upstairs, wishing to send the deadly gift to your home in the afternoon mail."

Scanlon exploded to his feet. "Good God, Ling, my wife . . . ."

"Is unharmed, believe me. Charlie was upstairs about ten minutes. I heard him cry out, and something

(Continued on page 27)
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Ideas That Were Too Good
(Like the "Miracle Match")

After being suppressed for 20 years by the big British, Swedish and American trusts or cartels because its production threatened their existence, the "miracle match" is now to be put on the market.

This "everlasting" match, which will strike some 4,000 times at a cost of 6d., was first produced in 1928 by Dr. Ferdinand Ringer, an Austrian chemist. It is one of many inventions that have remained still-born because of monopolies' grip on the production of articles in daily use which have to be renewed frequently.

Saw Red Light

Ivar Kreuger, the Swedish "Match King," who committed suicide, was the first to see the red light to the match industry in Ringer's invention. He made a bid for it—at the time the figure was said to be £500,000—scooped it into the maw of the Swedish match trust, of which he was head, and so, when the world match cartel was formed with American and British interests, the "miracle match" was well put away in every sense.

Now the Department of Justice in New York has forced the cartel to release Ringer's invention to the world at large.

It has not always worked out this way with inventions which have found themselves up against "vested" interests.

There was, for instance, the man who invented a depilatory which, applied to the skin on men's faces, would for ever prevent hair from growing. The terms of the deal are still wrapped in mystery, but it is none the less a fact that a huge concern of razor-blade manufacturers, seeing in this discovery that their job; like Othello's, would be gone, bought it up and tucked it away.

Locked Away

In a big factory worked a woman of an inventive turn of mind. She had learned a lot about lubrication and the lack of it leading to friction, especially with engines that were cold before being run in. She invented an anti-friction device. It was indeed a new form of lubrication.

Her employers liked the idea—but only as an idea. For they saw, among other things, the cylinders they were making lasting almost to eternity. So they bought the invention, raised her wages, and put the design in their safe. It still lies there.

Mr. Noel Pemberton-Billing invented a gramophone record which, costing no more than an ordinary record, would play for 25 minutes—in fact, the entire Tchaikowsky B Flat Minor on one side of one disc.

A company was formed for the manufacture of Pemberton-Billing's revolutionary record. It died in gestation. It was bought out for some thing around £100,000 by a concern four sides of whose own records are required for the B Flat Minor.

Nylon stockings are very popular these days. But if the big silk stocking manufacturers had had their way some years ago when nylon was first discovered and mooted for women's stockings, the feminine mind would have to yearn for the unattainable. For nylon is practically non-ladderable, and as with any other article in daily use it is the need for renewals that keeps the wheels of an industry constantly turning to produce the profits.

Linked with the case of that depilatory I mentioned earlier is that of the everlasting razor-blade edge which was invented just before the war. A well-known trade union leader bought it, among other cases, to the notice of certain M'sp, as an example of an invention bought up and held by vested interests. He pointed out that steel that can be brought to this degree of hardness could be used for gun rifling and do away with constant reboring.

Wondy-Lamp

Yet another instance of the stillborn or strangled invention is that of the electric bulb with three filaments, only one of which would burn at a time.

By a simple switch-over device, when the first reached the end of its useful life, the second would come into play. It was guaranteed to give roughly three times the life of the ordinary electric lamp, a claim that worried manufacturers so much that it disappeared before it could be put on the market. That, too, was the fate of an electric torch that could be recharged from ordinary electric lights with no need for a battery.

There is one instance of suppression of an invention that makes refreshing reading.

Gold-beating is a craft that for over 4,000 years has been performed in the same unchanging manner—by hand. Some years ago, Mr. Cecil Whiley, of the firm of Geo. M. Whiley Ltd., gold-leaf manufacturers, of Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, invented a machine that would take the place of the human arm and hammer for gold-beating. He has never patented it and never marketed it.

To Keep Jobs

"For," argued Mr. Whiley and his brother, who is a co-director, "it takes 10 years to make a skilled gold-beater. None of our employees has been with us less than 17 years. If my invention were used, it would mean our men—and those in other firms—losing their jobs."

"Only when one of our employees dies or retires of old age do we let the machin take his place. For as in many other very old crafts, gold-beaters are dying out."

In that may be found perhaps the one bright spot of suppression of certain inventions.—J. Barclay-Barr, in The Sunday Dispatch.

INVENTIONS

Electric telegraphs, printing, gas, tobacco, balloons, and steam, are little events that have come to pass since the days of the old regime. And, spite of Lemppere's dazzling page, I'd give—though it might seem bold—A hundred years of the Golden Age For a year of the Age of Gold. —H. S. Leigh.

The Totally and Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association held a picnic at Yarneley on Thursday, February 10, the Red Cross, with their customary generosity, finding the transport. Over 100 members, wives and friends enjoyed a very fine day's entertainment.
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PAROCHIALISM
BY ALBION

"What's in it for me?"
"How will this affect my wife and family?"
"What effect will this have on our branch?"

How parochial most of us are—
even those of us who think we are
really broad men of the world.

How tied up we are in our own little affairs; our own immediate circle;
our own limited outlook.

How proud we are of being citizens of
Marble Bar, Midland Junction or
Moora—yet how unlisted as citizens of the world.

Parochialism stems, no doubt, from
the early days of civilisation, when it
was a case of every man for himself,
with the world against the weak and
the helpless, the old and the young,
the man and the woman who could
not provide their own defence. Later,
too, in days when the family unit
was the largest unit of any concern
—down to the days of feudalism, the
parochial outlook was paramount, and
was to be expected.

But today, such parochialism is dan-
gerous, yet it exists in great measure;
in far too great measure for the good
of the world at large. For what will
it benefit a man, a country or a race
if such parochialism breeds disaster;
disaster of a magnitude which may
even wipe man from the face of the earth?

Today, of all times, a wide outlook
on all matters is not merely a matter
of expediency—it is a matter of vital
import to the very existence of the human species. Unless we (the human race as a whole) are able to utilise it,
then the dangers of our extinction
grow greater and more overpowering
every day.

The anti-British sentiments of a cer-
tain section of Americans, the anti-
Empire sentiments of a certain sec-
tion of our own people—the anti-
anything-foreign sentiments of a large
number of people in all parts of the
globe lead to what? To security and
peace? No! To war and to disaster.

The fact that many of these people
who have "begs in their bonnets" are
cranks does not make the position any
more safe. If anything, it makes it
more dangerous, for the crank will go
on fighting for his "cause" when saner
men will have given up.

But all countries, all religions, all
shades of political thought—persons
in all ranks of life—have in their time
been responsible for the spread of the
evils which follow in the train of
parochialism. Therefore it is up to
the men and women of the world to
today to fight it.

How?

I expect to pass through this
world but once. Any good there-
fore that I can do, or any kindness
that I can show to any fellow
creature, let me do it now. Let me
not defar or neglect it, for I shall
not pass this way again.

By the great majority of us decid-
ing, right here and now, that we will
be broadminded and tolerant in all
our issues; that we will take a broad
and long-visions view of matters of
consequence; and that we will refuse
to be panicked by any minority into
doing things that will, in any shape
or form, harm other people or other
nations.

One does not imply that this means
pacifism or defeatism—far from it;
but let us not (even in our private
lives) be unduly swayed by petty
emotions. Let us so conduct our-
selves that the man who is petty
and parochial becomes a man of very
small stature in the eyes of his fellow men.
In other words, let us set an example
which may make the "small" man feel
himself to be small. Let us set an
example, that he may change his ways.

Let us say to ourselves, when any
decision is to be made: "What will
this mean to people generally?" Let
us get into the habit of taking, al-
ways, the wide outlook.

As League members, let us begin by
realising that the League, as a body,
is and can always be a power in the
land—a power for much good. As
League members, let us realise that
we, individually, by backing the
League to its utmost in matters of
general policy, can do much to im-
prove the conditions under which
mankind lives.

For the League's policy, as a whole,
stands for the improvement of Aus-
tralia—its strengthening, its solidarity,
and its increasing awareness of the
part it can, and may have to, play
in world affairs.

The League believes in populating
this country—and to that end it is
now implementing an immigration
scheme. The League believes in patri-
motism—and to that end it has no time
for Communism or the Communists.
The League believes that those who
fought for freedom deserve a need of
consideration—and to that end it
fights, fights hard and fights (when
necessary) long.

Whatever one's own impression
may be regarding the petty things of
life, let us, above all, support the
League and its work to the utmost.
"All for one and one for all," as
Dumas said. Let us not ask what we,
individually, are going to get out of it.

The critic who can offer construc-
tive thought is always to be welcomed,
but the critic who is merely destruc-
tive is a menace to any organisation
—any movement.

Those readers who sometimes may
wonder just what this League of theirs
really does should make a point of
attending an Executive meeting (at
which they are welcome). There
they would see men, young and old
alike, who give many hours each week
to League affairs. For their own ben-
fit? No! For the benefit of ex-
service men and ex-service women in
general. They have an outlook wider
than the parochial one, and for that
reason their work is constantly bear-

Readers who have been trying to
win a prize in Charities for years with-
out success, read this, and hide your
heads: Recently Mr. A. L. Ramsden,
proprietor of the Bargain Shoe Store,
Melbourne, and formerly a well-
known manufacturer, received three
letters by the same post. The first
letter opened was a £50 prize in the
10/- New South Wales lottery; the
second a £10 prize in a 5/- N.S.W.
lottery; and the third letter yielded a
£5 prize in the Tasmanian consulta-
tion. No wonder we never draw a
prize!
The concealed young man at the Christmas party was even more boring than usual. "It's a fact," he said with pride, "that people often take me for a member of the Guards."

His pretty companion was not impressed.

"Really," she drawled. "Fire—railway—mud—or black?"

"This is an age of steel," said the after-dinner speaker.

"Permit me to suggest," interrupted the chairman, courteously, "that for the benefit of reporters present you spell the last word."

The raw recruits were more raw than ever that morning—and so was the sergeant-major. He decided to make an example of Pte. Brown.

"Brown!" be bawled. "Take two paces to the rear!"

Two men stepped out of the ranks. The sergeant-major glowered at the second man.

"Hey! You!" he shouted. "Is your name Brown, too?"

"No, Green, sir."

"Then, are you deaf, daft, or what?"

"No, sir; colour-blind."

A younger said to his father one day: "What is a statue, Dad?"

"Ah," said his father, "it is a kind of monument usually erected to someone who is dead."

"I see," said Junior, "and is that why they erected the Statue of Liberty?"

A sergeant-major had the reputation of never being at a loss for an answer. A young officer wagered a brother officer that in less than twenty-four hours he would ask the sergeant-major a question that would baffle him.

The sergeant-major, accompanied the officer on his rounds, in the course of which the cookhouse was inspected. Pointing to a large copper of water just beginning to boil, the officer said:

"Why does that water boil only round the edges of the copper and not in the centre?"

"The water round the edges, sir," replied the veteran, "is for the men on guard; they have their breakfast half an hour earlier than the rest of the company."

The only difference between the Coal Board and Old King Cole is that Old King Cole knew how many fiddlers he had.

Enoch had invited Joe for a ride on the back of his new motor-bike. After they had gone a few miles, Enoch asked Joe how he liked it.

"All right," said Joe, "but the wind is catching my chest."

So Enoch stopped. "Take your overcoat off, Joe, and put it on back to front; that will protect your chest a bit, and I'll button it up at the back."
**PERSONALITIES**

Mr. Eric Millhouse, Federal President of the League, who visits Western Australia this month, was elected in 1946, but prior to that he was State President of the South Australian branch from 1942 to 1944. In World War I he served with the 8th Battery of the Australian Field Artillery, A.I.F., holding the rank of major. In World War II he held the same rank with the C.M.F. In 1947 he represented the League at position, and at a meeting of the State Executive was presented with a very handsome inscribed inkstand. Among those who spoke in glowing terms of Ken’s ability and personality were the State President (Mr. W. J. Hunt), Mr. T. Sten (vice-president), Mr. J. Herlihy, Mr. C. G. Ferguson and Mr. J. Craig. To these voices the Editor of *The Listening Post* would also like to add his meed of praise to a very fine young chap.

Miss Beryl James, who was recently chosen as Miss Australia, was sponsored by the Bronte (New South Wales) sub-branch of the League. Our hearty congratulations to the young lady who, we feel sure, will be a good ambassador for Australia and for the League.

Alf Doust, secretary of the North East Fremantle sub-branch, has, we understand, been on the sick list, and is now recuperating at Mandurah. In the meanwhile, his duties are being undertaken by Les Charlton.

**BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH**

*It’s all right, Aussie — we’re keeping our eyes open.*

the London conference of the British Empire Service League.

Three members of the Bassendean sub-branch, J. Constable, Hughie Prosser and A. W. Carter, are present in hospital. All will wish them a speedy recovery.

Mr. Ben S. Hegney, who has for some time been employed at Anzac House, and who has proved to be a first-class efficient worker, has now been appointed to succeed Mr. Lee.

Mr. B. Keeley, past president of the Kensington sub-branch, was recently presented, on behalf of the members, with a very fine inscribed fountain pen as a mark of appreciation of his sterling services.

Sir Leslie Boyce recently spent a holiday in Sydney. A native of Taree, Sir Leslie went overseas with the first A.I.F., and after demobilisation in Australia returned to England. He now directs a company employing over 30,000 people, and it is said that he is in line to become the first Empire Lord Mayor of London.

Recent visitors to State Executive meetings were Ross Keesing, M. Stone (Big Bell) and J. McGill (Calingiri).
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Under Part II of the Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945, members and ex-members of the Forces are entitled to preference in certain circumstances in engagement for employment. They also have other special rights—for example, in relation to housing and tenancy, and moratorium and re-establishment benefits.

The Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Legal Service Bureau advises, without charge, on all legal matters affecting servicemen or their dependants. Any member or ex-member of the Forces who believes he has not been given the treatment to which he is entitled, under the Re-establishment and Employment Act or otherwise, is invited to place the facts of his case before the Legal Service Bureau, either by letter or by personal call.

H. V. EVATT,

Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.

THISTLE

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In the month of August we mark, and mark rightly, an anniversary. Much has been said of the remarkable fighting qualities of the First British Expeditionary Force of 1914; of its superb bearing in the face of imminent disaster; of its discipline; of the incomparable tradition established during those fateful days of travel from Mons to the Marne; and much will continue to be said of the “Old Contemptibles,” so long as a British Empire exists. This retreat, however, was an epic of its time.

For later in the first world war there came another “time,” and another retreat far more poignant than the first, and equally as fateful; a retreat conducted under conditions infinitely worse than those associated with the retreat from Mons, but no less heroic in character; but no anniversaries commemorate this later epic, no one recalls the day of disaster—the 21st of March, 1918—when for the second time the Allies were on the brink of losing the war.

It may be, one surmises, that, in the still unregimented public mind of that time, those early events of 1914, grim as they were, nevertheless stood out in strong relief against a backdrop of vivid tints of that “glamour and romance” for centuries associated with war. But from July, 1916, these tints had faded into a sombre grey, and by 1918 all “romance” had been stripped from war, which stood out in all its foul nakedness for the horror it really was. By then, men “no longer sang.” There was a wealth of meaning in those three simple words. Often one heard officers remark on the difficulty of getting men to sing during the tragic days between 1917 and 1918. It was not that men were sullen, or dispirited to the point of defeatism, but the abortive and suicidal battles of the Somme and the Salient lay heavy upon them, and for a time the British Army had lost something which was of its very essence... It no longer sang!

Perhaps, again, the survivors of that retreat were so few in number (and they become still fewer with the passage of years) that the establishment of an anniversary, such as attaches to the army of Mons, was, and is, impracticable? (or should the question be: “Who cares?”).

The Two Retreats

Without in any way trying to detract by one iota from the glory of the Old Contemptibles, it is of objective interest to review in retrospect the conditions and circumstances of the two retreats.

The first B.E.F. of 1914 went into action trained, according to the standards of that day, to a hair; physically fit to the point of perfection, their morale high and sustained by the long-standing intimate relationships among all ranks in every regiment. It had no experience of long-drawn-out nerve and soul-wearying campaigns; it had no history of stupendous slaughter week after week and month after month. It went into action against an enemy far superior in numbers, but at a time when the missiles of war had not progressed much beyond the bullet and light artillery shell—except where siege was involved—and when forced to retire, men fell back over still-smouldering terrain and through undamaged villages; and where their commissariat had broken down, food could still be “scrounged.”

Guns, for the most part, had escaped capture and to some extent continued to support the rearguard actions of the infantry, and when the Army finally reformed behind the Marne it still mustered an appreciable number of survivors from the retreat. Above all, they still sang, and they handed to us who followed a little later this tradition of song. For the next two years the roads of France and Belgium echoed and re-echoed to “Home Fires,” the doubtful history of one Mam’zelle from Armentiers, the varied graces of Mrs. Brown’s daughter, and many more.

In January, 1918, a French army on the St. Quentin front was relieved by the British Fifth Army. The units forming this army had come down from a long spell of service in that most dreadful battlefield of all time—the Ypres Salient...ragged men, grey-faced and drawn from the long agony of Passchendaele; behind them a history of bloody and abortive “big pushes,” each dying away in a welter of appalling slaughter and mud. So attenuated were these divisions from the north that, for the first time, a British army took over a complete front without reinforcements, and with brigades cut down to three battalions each. With the exception of divisional artillery there was not, for the first few weeks, a heavy gun to be seen for miles. Tardily and all too slowly these began to appear here and there, but the sands were running out fast, and long before there was anything like the semblance of a firm front the tidal wave of the enemy offensive broke over the Fifth Army. It was on the 21st of March, and though the enemy attack covered the greater part of the Third Army front as well, the main thrust was directed against the Fifth.

Against their weakened 14 divisions the Germans hurled 52 fresh
Fencing Materials: At the 33rd annual League congress, a resolution moved by Western Australia, “That, owing to the depredations of vermin, the authorities concerned go into the matter of speeding up production of vermin-proof fencing materials, even to the extent of importing materials and removing existing tariffs,” was carried, and the Federal Minister for Commerce and Agriculture now replies: “The major difficulty confronting manufacturers of fencing material is the shortage of labour... the work in factories producing these materials is of a heavy and unpleasant nature and manufacturers are finding it difficult to compete... with luxury industries... The question of importing materials from overseas has been fully investigated and small quantities are in fact being imported. The price factor, however, of the imported article is indeed serious, as the Australian product in most cases is roughly one-third of that of the imported material. Therefore: you will see that large-scale use of imported fencing materials could well prove uneconomical. You may rest assured that every encouragement will be given by the Government to the increasing production of fencing materials.”

Loan Interest: Resolution 180 at the recent 33rd annual League congress, moved by Western Australia, was: “That the interest rate of all re-establishment loans shall not exceed two per cent.” The Minister for Post-war Reconstruction now states: “The Act in its present form provides that loans shall bear interest at such rate as is prescribed. At present loans up to £50 are interest-free, loans exceeding £50 but not exceeding £250 bear interest at 2 per centum per annum, and 3 per centum per annum is charged on amounts in excess of £250. This is considerably below current bank rates... I feel that the present rates are reasonable in all the circumstances, and that it would not be justifiable to fix the Act at a rate not exceeding 2 per centum on all loans. I am therefore unable to recommend the adoption of the resolution.”

Tobacco-growing School: The Federal Government has approved of the establishment of a school for the training of ex-servicemen as tobacco growers. Successful applicants will receive two months’ training at a training centre and then 12 months’ at a centre being established at Manjimup.

Temporary Commonwealth Employees: A resolution, “That the Commonwealth Public Service Board be asked to agree that the undermentioned qualifications be deemed sufficient for ex-service personnel who are temporary employees of the Public Service and who desire appointment to the permanent staff: (a) Eight years’ satisfactory service for all public servants; (b) war service to be deemed as service within the Public Service; (c) or may gain permanency at any time by passing modified standard examination,” passed at the 33rd annual congress, has brought forward the following answer from the Prime Minister: “Vacancies in clerical positions in the 3rd Division... are filled by the appointment of former members of the Forces who have passed a prescribed examination. The minimum standard is the Intermediate Certificate (or Junior Public) Examination, which is considerably below that required of non-retumed soldiers... so the standard of entry for ex-service men has been considerably modified.

Positions in the 4th Division (non-clerical) are filled by the appointments of candidates successful at competitive entrance examinations... returned soldiers who pass receive preference in appointment... The Government does not feel able to support any proposal to appoint persons by virtue only of employment in a temporary capacity. A minimum standard of general education is necessary for appointment to a career service like the Commonwealth.”

Subsistence, Prisoners of War: Federal congress once again brought up the matter of payment of subsistence to prisoners of war in the following resolution: “That this congress requests that the Commonwealth Government pay the sum of 3/- per day to all prisoners of war from all theatres from the time of capture to the time of release by the Allied Forces. Also that dependants of deceased prisoners of war be entitled to 3/- per day up to the time of death of the prisoners of war,” but the Prime Minister says: “The question of payment of such an allowance... has been the subject of careful consideration in the past... The Minister for the Army... issued a statement on March 14, 1947, indicating the consideration which guided the Government in its decision... Later this matter was again debated in Parliament and the Government again considered the position and reaffirmed its previous decision.”

Taxation, Own Business: Resolution No. 329 of the Federal congress asked: “That the Commonwealth Government be approached with a view to having all returned servicemen who may enter business on their own account placed on a similar footing as regards ‘pay-as-you-earn’ taxation, as persons who were in business at the introduction of uniform taxation, viz., that a rebate of 75 per cent. of the first year’s tax shall be granted and that the balance be spread over three years by equal annual payments,” but the Prime Minister, in a communication which points out that members of the Forces, while serving overseas, were exempt from
taxation, says: "I do not feel that there is justification for the concession... and I find myself unable, therefore, after giving the matter careful consideration, to recommend to the Government that the law should be amended in the direction sought."

Cost of Books and Tools: The New South Wales branch, at the last Federal congress, moved, "That congress requests that the cost of essential books, instruments and tools of trade issued to C.R.T.S. trainees be met by the Commonwealth Government." This has brought a reply from the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction, in which he says: "For those in basic training the position is that all essential tools and equipment required for practical work are made available by the technical college or training institution for the use of the trainee during the period of his training at the centre, usually of about six-months' duration. He can... also obtain books and school requisites to the value of £10 per annum as an individual gift... On completion of basic training, trainees are placed in subsidised employment... and may then apply for a gift of up to £10 and a loan of up to £40 for the purchase of tools of trade... interest-free... The Hon. Minister for Repatriation is of the opinion that the assistance which, incidentally, is given to all ex-servicemen, including C.R.T.S. trainees, to obtain tools, is not ungenerous."

Retrenchment; C.P.S.: The Victorian branch of the League recently asked that the Public Service Board be asked that, in the event of the retrenchment of temporary Public Service employees, preference to returned servicemen be strictly adhered to, and that transfers to other departments be effected immediately where positions become redundant and new positions become available. To that request, the Prime Minister replies: "The Public Service Board, as an employing authority of the Public Service Act, adheres at all times to the spirit and intention of the Re-establishment and Employment Act."

Acceptance, Cadet Tradesmen: A resolution of the last Federal congress, "That the Commonwealth Government be requested to pass such legislation as will ensure that those persons enlisted into the Defence Forces as Cadet Tradesmen will, upon discharge, be accepted as qualified in the trade in which they have been trained; also admitted to the trade union covering that calling provided they have served a substantial portion of their service in the trade mustering for which they have trained," has been answered by the Minister for Labour and National Service as follows: "I have examined this matter carefully in the light of discussions which have been proceeding between my department and the service departments on the question of the recognition in civil life of trade skills acquired by various persons in the Forces. The purpose of the discussions, which are still proceeding... is to ensure, firstly, that the standard of trade training in the Forces will be adequate and, secondly, that the training and trade experience in the various musternings in the Forces will entitle those persons after discharge to recognition for trade purposes in civil life. The arrangements which it is hoped will be completed in the near future will, therefore, meet the purpose towards which the resolution of your congress was directed."

Benefits, C.R.T.S. Trainees: Resolution 103 at the last Federal congress was: "That the Commonwealth Government be again approached to have trainees in post-war reconstruction training centres protected by a scale of benefits equal to the Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act, and notwithstanding the sick pay paid to the trainees under certain conditions, the ex-gratia payments for accidents should be replaced by a scheme that would ensure equitable payments whilst incapacitated and an assured amount of compensation for permanent injury; such should not be at the discretion of the Minister as at present." This has brought the following reply from the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction: "Ex-servicemen during rehabilitation training at training centres are not employees and do not receive salary or wages as such. Therefore, the provisions of the Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act... cannot be applied to them... However, ex-servicemen who sustain permanent injury while undergoing rehabilitation training or while travelling to or from the training centre are compensated in accordance with the principles and financial provisions of the Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act, and the principles and financial provisions of the Bill recently before Parliament will be applied when the Bill becomes operative. Trainees injured during subsidised employment are compensated in accordance with the provisions of the appropriate State Workers' Compensation Act."

Permanent Commonwealth Positions: At the September, 1947, Federal Executive meeting, a resolution was passed, "That the Commonwealth Government be asked to take the necessary steps to place on the permanent staff all returned servicemen with 12 months or more service employed by the Commonwealth Government in temporary positions." The Prime Minister now states: "The matter has been given consideration, but it is not proposed to amend the Commonwealth Public Service Act in order to provide for the permanent appointment to the Commonwealth Service of returned soldiers upon completion of one year's satisfactory service as temporary employees."

"Why, of course I can come: This is my husband's day off."
The Idle Hour

BOOKS, FILMS, PLAYS, RADIO, ETC.

INSIDE U.S.A.

John Gunther has, in the past, given us some excellent books, including "Inside Europe" and "Inside Asia," but now he turns to the United States and gives us, in "Inside U.S.A.," a picture of that land which, while outstandingly broad in its scope, nevertheless covers a number of facets in detail.

The main attention of the reader is drawn to politics—a very unusual set-up to the average Australian—and here one can get at least a working idea of how the American political machine works.

But politics is not the only feature of this volume, and John Gunther, I feel sure, has done his best to give, in a somewhat limited space (some 900 pages), what might be described as "a bird's-eye view" of America and the Americans.

Let us take a peep here and there. America is supposed to have the finest standards of public health in the world. But 40 per cent. of all draftees in World War II were rejected as physically unfit for military service; not less than 12 per cent. were mental or psychoneurotic cases.

This nation derives much of its strength from the puritan tradition, and in America there are 24,402,124 Roman Catholics. But for every three marriages in 1946, there was one divorce.

Amadeo P. Giannini... chairman of the board of the Bank of America, the biggest private bank in the world... started life as a vegetable peddler.

Los Angeles is the second-largest Mexican city in the world with 270,000 Mexicans; also it has about 135,000 Negroes, a big Filipino colony and a smattering of Chinese and Japanese.

The author occasionally quotes from the American Press. Perhaps one of the best quotes is: "Lizbeth Scott, heroine of 'You Came Alone,' was Elizabeth Scott in 1941. During the war she patriotically dropped the 'E' to conserve newsprint."

Speaking of oil, he says: A forty-two-gallon barrel of crude oil, as produced in California or elsewhere, will... produce half a gallon of high-octane aviation gasoline, capable of driving a P-40 for 20 seconds; 18.4 gallons of regular gasoline, which will drive an automobile 9 1/2 hours at 30 miles an hour; 10.2 gallons of residual fuel, which will drive the Queen Mary 105 feet; 6 gallons of distillate fuel which will drive a diesel truck for 6 hours; 2.4 gallons of kerosene, which will drive a farm tractor for 2 1/2 hours; 1.2 gallons of lubricating oil which could be used in all the above; and a residue of hydrocarbon gases, asphalt, wax and petroleum cake, which can be used for practically anything, down to a salve for chapped lips. The barrel of crude oil originally sells for about one dollar. No wonder the oil business makes money.

And no wonder that, more than any other industry in the United States, it has attracted the piratical.

Towns, States and People

He deals with State after State, with politician after politician, and with town after town. Butte, he quotes, as being "the only electric-lit cemetery in the United States." Of Utah, he says: "Jews in Utah, being non-Mormon, are theoretically subject to classification as Gentiles, which gives rise to the well-known remark that 'Utah is the only place in the world where Jews are Gentiles.'"

John Gunther pulls few punches. He describes the late Eugene Talmadge, elected Governor of Georgia in 1946, in the following words: "This man is darkness. All you have to do is look at him. Lank hair flapping sideways on the forehead; cold malicious eyes full of hate; the strained pouting lips of a Torquemada; a bitter closed tightness of expression and narrowness—above all, narrowness."

He describes the home of a tenant farmer in Georgia: "There is no running water or electricity... an iron pot—the laundry—sits skakily on burnt stones. We moved on to the house, which is propped up on lumps of rock; if you step firmly on the 'verandah' the grey, mouldering boards give way. A small, cracked mirror is nailed to one of the outdoor posts, since there isn't enough light inside to shave by."

In contrast, he cites the pride of Alabama in its spectacular campaign against venereal disease; the outstanding success of the Tennessee Valley Authority; and the romance of Pennsylvania steel.

The Colour Problem

But of the negro problem, neither author nor reader can be happy. One case cited is:

On February 12, 1946, a negro veteran named Isaac Woodard, who had received his honourable discharge papers only a few hours before, and who was still in uniform, took a bus at Atlanta for his home in South Carolina. When the bus stopped at a hamlet, Woodard asked the driver if he could go to a rest-room. The driver refused, and a violent quarrel ensued. At the next stop, Batesburg, South Carolina, the driver called a policeman, saying that Woodard had made a disturbance; the policeman took him off the bus, started beating him, carted him off to the local gaol, and ground out his eyes with the end of his club. Woodard, as a result, lost his eyesight. This case became a country-wide scandal. A mass rally held in the Lewisohn Stadium in New York raised a purse of 22,000 dollars for the blinded veteran. It did not restore his vision.

After reading this volume one must, of necessity, have a better idea of the United States than before, for the research done by the author was truly enormous. He says: I visited all 48 States, and of cities in the country greater than 200,000 in population, of which there are 43, I saw all but five. Also I visited a great many smaller communities... I wrote to all 48 Governors—and got 47 replies... I went to men prominent in labour, or agriculture, or journalism, or the world of negroes, or the mechanics of government and politics... altogether I have notes of talks with some 900 people—over a million words of notes in all.

From those million words John Gunther has made a book which should be read by everyone who wants to know what makes the other fellow "tick."

PRIVATE LIFE OF A DAIRY COW

Experimenters at Cornell University offer the following details about Daisy's daily doings: She grazes only 7½ hours daily, regardless of how much feed she gets. She does 60 per cent. of her grazing during daylight hours and 40 per cent. at night. She spends 5 hours a day eating, with 50 to 70 bites a minute. She chews her cud 7 hours a day and spends 12 hours lying down, at 9 different times. While grazing, she travels 2½ miles in the daytime and 1½ at night. She drinks 10 times a day.

Everybody has a right to his opinion. Nobody has a right to be wrong in his facts.
artillery support whatever. No Allied plane of any sort appeared until five days later, but German planes harried the infantry—machine-gunning them, or directing artillery and mortar fire on to them.

Their wounded they carried as far as they could, but no ambulances appeared for many days, and those not taken away by occasional trucks had to be left. Food was where, and if, one could find it.

Here was no retirement over a smiling land in late summer, but over a ruined and stricken countryside, depressing in the extreme, merging later into that riven abomination of desolation, bringing back the nightmare horrors of two years previously—the Somme battlefields.

"Ask me for anything—but Time," said Napoleon.

The delaying actions of those ten days had a special relationship to the Australian forces, who took over when the 5th Army had practically ceased to exist, and who from then on never looked back. Only history can credit the battered units of what remained of the 5th Army with the true value of their contribution to the Allied resurgence which followed.
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ALL MAKES NEW TYRES SOLD
Meeting With Bricklayers

A delegation from the League Re-establishment Committee recently met members of the local Bricklayers' Union to discuss the matter of Bricklayer Trainees.

The delegation consisted of Messrs. W. H. Stanbury, F. Stahl, C. G. Ferguson and B. S. Heagney, while 16 members represented the union.

Mr. Stanbury appealed to the members of the union to support the efforts of the League regarding the opening of another training school for bricklayer trainees. This would assist, he said, not only the League's objects of furthering the rehabilitation of ex-service men, but would also materially help the housing situation, which was causing much discontent amongst ex-service men.

Mr. Stahl quoted statistics regarding the intake of trainees in the other building trades, and pointed out that a lack of balance would eventuate unless more bricklayers were trained. He also quoted figures indicating a 33.3 per cent. increase in the production of bricks since last March.

Mr. Ferguson dealt with the availability of employers willing to absorb trainees six months hence, i.e., at the conclusion of a school if such were commenced immediately. He quoted a list of builder employers and the absorptive capacity of each.

The president, the treasurer and several members of the union spoke in reply. It was emphasised that the union was not antagonistic to the League's proposals, but it was suggested that the League approached the wrong people, and that the attitude of the employers was one cause of the hold-up. It was suggested that the League might raise the matter with the employers' organisation.

It was stressed that the union was concerned with the eventual turnover of the trained tradesmen, and not half-trained workers, and in this regard it was suggested that there were not enough tradesmen in the industry, suitably qualified, to carry out training on the job. It was pointed out, also, that 70 per cent. of the members of the union were engaged in piece-work at rates up to £6/10/- per thousand. This fact alone mitigated against the possibility of tradesmen giving adequate training to trainees placed with them.

The union admitted the increased production of bricks, but insisted that enough bricks were not yet available to warrant an increase in the number of trainees. One member pointed out that it was often necessary to wait four months for the fulfilment of orders for bricks. It was further pointed out that one kiln at the State Brick Works was almost burnt out, and was likely to collapse at any time. The union believed that production could be further increased if the State Government would provide more State kilns and if it would ensure that better wages and amenities were made available to workers in the brickmaking industry.

Reference was made to the timber shortage, and the number of partially-built houses in which the brick work was completed, but which were waiting for roofing to be done.

With regard to the employers named by Mr. Ferguson, several members of the union queried the capacity of some of those mentioned to adequately train further trainees. It was pointed out that the Bricklayers' Union had 119 trainees and 43 apprentices, and that no other trade had absorbed two trainees for every one tradesman. It was unfortunate, also, that there had been instances of trainees leaving their jobs to take on piece-work.

A suggestion by a member of the delegation that "project work" would help to solve the difficulty was very favourably received.

In conclusion, it was stated that the union would raise no objection to the initiation of a further class if the League could prove that bricks were available and that facilities existed whereby the men could be adequately trained on the job.
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UNABRIDGED HISTORY

When the Empire Air Training Scheme had been completely established in Canada, Fritz had his spy system in full swing. Rookies were continually warned to be on their guard for suspicious characters. “Don’t tell ‘em anything.” This piece of wisdom almost landed us in the blue.

During one of those usual unexplained train hold-ups we were approached by a man about 34. His blonde hair and too-English accent, his baggy civvy trousers, and his wandering eye made us remember the warnings, and the fact that he was so young, and not in uniform, confirmed it.

“You chaps are Aussies, aren’t you? New chums?”

Our Australians were on, so what the hell! “Yes,” we chorused.

“Going to get your first taste of the air, eh?”

It was the truth, but if he was a spy—Bill K. took over, giving us a broad wink first.

“No, we are on the last leg. Conversion course on to fighters; we’ll be flying in Ops.”

He seemed interested and surprised.

“Really?”

“Yes,” said Bill. “Won’t be long now.”

“What fighters are you going to fly?”

Bill paused. “Tiger Moth fighters.”

Baggy Britches seemed puzzled.

“They must be new.”

“Not exactly, sport.” Bill still had his tongue in his cheek. “But they’re still on the secret list.”

“They must be something extra special, then,” he smiled, smugly.

“Special? They’re the greatest things with wings! They cruise at four hundred, two-seaters, range four thousand miles and carry eight Brownings and one cannon in the nose. They’re horses to fly, too.”

“Well, I’ll be.... And...”

But a whistle had gone and we had to fall-in and entrain.

Bill kept us laughing almost the entire four-hour trip to Edmonton. It brightened up the trip, but we were excited to see the new camp and were glad when the journey was over.

When the C.O. had given the customary pep-talk we were introduced to our Chief Flying Instructor. He gave us a short talk on the luxury we were getting for nothing—and then told the whole crowd of the very interesting talk he’d had with some Aussies that afternoon about a new fighter called the Tiger Moth.

Were our faces red?

★ This story earns 10/6 for Slim Johnson, Perth.

DRAWING THE LONG BOW

At the Lyndhurst Bombing School we were told to inspect the damage done by German bombs in London.

I asked a man standing near Temple Church to direct me to the nearest damaged spot. He took me there, showed me around London proper, and invited me to dinner at his house. I gladly accepted. He was a fine fellow, but I was not to talk about the war: He had just lost his only son.

At dinner, my host’s two charming daughters sat opposite me. They complained of the Aussies’ dreadful lies—how they were taken in over Kangaroo feathers, and so forth.

I explained that if our boys had told them some truths about Australia they might not have believed them. I said the Kangaroo was a remarkable animal, but the Platypus really put Australia on the map. They had not heard of it, so I described it and ended up by saying the mother suckled the young when they emerged from the shell.

They seemed impressed, but after a minute’s silence the younger of the two said: “Oh, Father, he is worse than any of them.”

R. O. RÜSDEN, Maylands.

★

AUSSIES — ALL OF US

As a member of the Old Sixteenth Battalion coming home from the Adela...
DIGGERS AT CRICKET

Around Christmas, 1937, a team of Westralian Diggers from the first world war went to Adelaide to play South Australia and Victoria in a series of cricket matches, and after and during the playing of these matches were lavishly entertained by the League in Adelaide. South Australia promised to return the visit in 1939, but the war prevented this.

But last year a visit was again mooted and a few meetings of Diggers who visited South Australia were called and all assisted financially to prepare an extensive itinerary.


All were met by the president of the Young Diggers' Cricket Association (A. R. Dick) and others on the evenings of December 25 and 26, and an enthusiastic crowd of the old Diggers met them on Monday, December 27. All proceeded to the State War Memorial, where a wreath was laid and a drive around the Park was afterwards greatly appreciated. On return to Anzac House, an official reception was given by the State Executive, headed by the State President (Mr. W. J. Hunt), who officially welcomed the visitors. That evening the visitors were entertained by the W.A. Trotting Association.

On Tuesday, December 28, the return cricket match was played in all seriousness at the W.A.C.A. South Australia, captained by "Nip" Pellow, won the toss and batted. They made a score of 216; and it was really surprising to see the energies of Phil Carter, Wally Crain, Leo McComish, Bill Webster and others in their endeavour to get the Croweaters out. Then came our turn to bat—Albert Watts, Phil Carter (top scorer, 69), Leo McComish (39), Bert King (28) and the other players putting up a great fight. After "Nip" did the hat-trick, the game ended in a draw.

On Wednesday, 29th, there was a visit to the Swan Brewery, and through the courtesy of the head-brewer the manufacture of their famous beer was explained, and a sample of the products ended the morning session. In the afternoon, the visitors were guests at the races, where "Nip" and Co. endeavoured to break the books.

In the evening an excellent dinner was provided by the R.S.L. Cricket Association in the Anzac House supper room. "Nip" Pellow was presented with the ball with which he did the hat-trick, this being suitably inscribed and mounted. Thanks are due mainly for the success of this evening to Neil Catt and his good wife, together with a band of other women helpers.

On Thursday, 30th, a trip to Canning Dam and Araluen was arranged.

On Friday, 31st, an interesting and entertaining luncheon was extended to the visitors by the W.A. National Football League, presided over by the president (Mr. W. Stooke) at the club premises, Subiaco. Then at night they were the guests of Mr. Geo. Marshall and the Claremont Yacht Club, where the New Year was welcomed.

Saturday and Sunday were free, and on Monday the South Australians entertained the Westralians at a reception at Anzac House, where they made presentations to Mrs. Dick and Mrs. Catt. The visitors returned by air that evening, but not before thanking everybody for an enjoyable visit.

It would not be correct to close this report of proceedings without recording the thanks due to the old Diggers who contributed towards the expense; the State Executive (coupled with the State President and State Secretary and Mr. A. Douglas); and Mr. Jim Cutmore, for his untiring efforts. It is also desired to express appreciation to the W.A.C.A. for making the excellent facilities of their headquarters available for the cricket match. This was a most generous gesture.

Little Moran moved to the city because he heard that the country was at war.
LING PLAYS BORGIA  
(Continued from page 7)
fell heavily to the floor. I rushed up too late. He was quite dead. Imagine my horror when the realization came that I had indirectly killed him after all, thus fulfilling the law of my Tong, but in a way I hope you'll understand.” Ling raised pious eyes heavenward, and spread his hands eloquently.

Scallon relaxed, and grinned at the little hypocrite. “O.K., you might as well tell me the rest.”

There was a faint twinkle in Ling's eyes. “To fill the needle, it is necessary to open the box, and after filling it you naturally close the cover. I explained that to Charlie.”

“Then what...?”

“Leave it to the Borgia’s. They took no chance their intended victim should escape.” Ling stared guiltlessly at Scallon. “I forgot, my friend, to tell Charlie that the needle also stabbed out when you closed the cover...”

A typewriter (vastly different from the one with which these words were typed) was made by an Englishman named Mills as long ago as 1714. One hundred and thirty years elapsed, however, before another Englishman, Charles Thurber, produced the first really practicable machine in 1843.

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Exchange on New Zealand Pensions: In reply to representations made by the Perth Branch to League Headquarters, advice has now been received that approval has now been given for the addition of exchange to all payments of New Zealand pensions in Australia actually made after 19th August, 1949.

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THE LAST POST

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

ABERCROMBY, J. W., a member of the Maylands sub-branch, and well-known throughout the State as a leading wood carver, died on February 4 at the age of 77 years.

ANDREWS, R. F., a member of the Bunbury sub-branch, and late of the R.A.A.F., died recently as the result of an accident.

FRANKISH, J. W., a member of the Railway Workshops sub-branch, died on January 10.

GERARD, T. A., of the R.I.E., and a member of the Central sub-branch, died recently in Rangoon as the result of an accident.

JOHNSON, Dr. M. R., a member of the City of Perth sub-branch, and late Major of the A.A.M.C., died recently.

LEACH, G., a member of the Glen Forrest - Darlington sub-branch, and late of the R.E.O., died recently.

OTTAWAY, J. F., a member of the Public Service sub-branch, died on February 23.

OWEN, M., a member of the Glen Forrest - Darlington sub-branch, and late of the 11th Battalion, died on January 6.

RULE, G. J., a member of the City of Perth sub-branch, died on January 25.

SORENSEN, E., a member of the Boulder sub-branch, and late of the 28th Battalion, died recently.

TAYLOR, L. C., a member of the Boulder sub-branch, and late of the 2/11th Battalion, died recently.

TEASDALE, Miss M. R., a member of the Returned Army Nurses' sub-branch, died on February 18.

WHITE, R., a member of the North Perth sub-branch, died recently.

We regret to learn of the death of Mr. S. S. Glyde, who did so much during the war days for the Soldiers' Dependents' Appeal and other charities of interest to the Forces.

A very popular member of the medical section of the A.W.A.S., Miss Dot Davey, well-known to patients in Hollywood, died recently.

THE LISTENING POST

MARCH, 1949

LETS HAVE IT BIGGER

From a letter recently received we print the following:

I think it only right for me to warn readers against the dangers and insidious poison of the Communist doctrine. Cut it out as you would any other cancerous growth which, feeding on the community, sap's the strength and life-blood of the Government of the people, for the people. . .

Saying spent nearly 12 years in Russia, living with the people, and speaking their language, I am fully aware of my subject.

Don't think that all Russians are Communists. They are not. There are millions who hate their Communist slave-drivers. They would much more than welcome a chance to overturn the present despotic Government and wreak their revenge on the Communists for the traitorous way they have treated this country and the indescribable wrongs they have wrought on a peace-loving agricultural community.

Thousands have been (and still are) repeatedly "purged" for holding contra-revolutionary feelings, which are nothing more or less than a refusal to allow their country to be dictated to by a dictator more ruthless and cruel than Hitler himself.

I appeal to you to fight this menace.

The enemy is at your gates.

Communism is another form of servitude or slavery in its worst aspects, creating only squalor, misery and treachery for the masses.

I have seen the real thing. You have seen its effects. Be warned in time.

A. S. VANN.

Matron R. B. Lewin, of the Warrack District Hospital, and the only woman member of the Manjimup sub-branch, is retiring from her post after service of nearly ten years. Tribute was recently paid to her at a sub-branch meeting by Mr. Laurie Sims (a member of long standing who has, in his time, been both president and secretary), who said that the Matron would leave behind her a large number of very firm friends.

THESE WORDS WILL LIVE FOREVER

6: King Henry V Before Harfleur
(William Shakespeare)

Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more;
Or close the wall up with our English dead!
In peace there's nothing so becomes a man
As modest stillness and humility;
But when the blast of war blows in our ears,
Then liet the actio of the tiger;
Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,
Disguise fair nature with hard-favour'd rage;
Then lend the eye a terrible aspect;
Let it pry through the portage of the head,
Like the brass cannon; let the brow
o'erwhelming it
As fearfully as doth a galled rock
O'erhang and jutty his confounded base,
Swill'd with the wild and wasteful ocean.
Now set the teeth and stretch the nostril wide,
Hold hard the breath, and bend up every spirit.
To his full height! On, on, you nobles:
English!
Whose blood is fet from fathers of war-proof;
Fathers that, like so many, Alexanders,
Have in these parts from morn till even fought;
And sheath'd their swords for lack of argument.
Disdain not your mothers; now attest
That those whom you call fathers did beget you.
Be copy now to men of grosser blood,
And teach them how to war. And you,
good yeomen,
Whose limbs were made in England, show us here
The mettle of your pasture; let us swear
That you are worth your breeding; which
I doubt not:
For there is none of you so mean and base
That hath not noble lustre in your eyes.
I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips,
Straining upon the start: The game's afoot:
Follow your spirit; and, upon this charge
Cry "God for Harry! England and Saint George!"
Sub-Branch Activities

CLAREMONT

The annual general meeting was held in the Parish Hall on Friday February 17th, with over 100 members present. Our president for the year, Mr. W. Parker, gave a comprehensive report on the work done over the last twelve months. Mr. W. Shannon, the incoming president, handed over his report. The sub-branch has made considerable progress in all avenues under his guidance, and this has contributed to the success in the Parish Hall. The sub-branch has gained the support of the ladies and our most popular secretary, Tom Pold. The Annual General Meeting was held on February 17, 1949. President, Len Glaheenan; vice-president, G. Major; secretary, S. Bymes, and Chapman, hospital visiting; Messrs. A. R. Davis, L. Corrison, W. Nixons, and S. Morris, public relations; Secretary, E. P. Williams, hospital visiting; Mrs. H. Tassell, and G. Major, secretary; Miss H. Monrion, the sub-branch's deputy secretary; Miss A. J. Johnston, the sub-branch's auditor; Messrs. W. Williams, and Mr. J. Johnston, the sub-branch's secretary; Mr. G. Major; treasurer, W. Nixons, and Mrs. H. Tassell, and G. Major, secretary.

COLLIE

The annual meeting was held on Saturday, February 12, attendance being 90. Visitors included several D.F.'s (three of whom are ex-captains), Messrs. A. R. Davis, L. Corrison, W. Nixons, and S. Morris, public relations; Secretary, E. P. Williams, hospital visiting; Mrs. H. Tassell, and G. Major, secretary; Miss H. Monrion, the sub-branch's deputy secretary; Miss A. J. Johnston, the sub-branch's auditor; Messrs. W. Williams, and Mr. J. Johnston, the sub-branch's secretary; Mr. G. Major; treasurer, W. Nixons, and Mrs. H. Tassell, and G. Major, secretary.

BOYANUP JUNCTION

There was a good attendance at the annual general meeting held recently. The report and balance sheet, which was read and confirmed, showed that the sub-branch is in a sound financial position. The sub-branch has made considerable progress in all avenues, and this is due to the hard work of all the members. The sub-branch is in a position to carry out its work for the year.

CARLISLE

The annual meeting was held on Thursday, February 9, with an attendance of over 20 members. The following officers were elected for 1949: President, Les Gilson, vice-presidents, Bill Gardy and Frank Parker; secretary, Harry Westcott; treasurer, Vic. Backhouse. Quite a few new faces were seen around the tables, including "Stinger" Austin, Mr. E. F. Eccleston, and Mr. K. Major. The sub-branch has made considerable progress in all avenues, and this is due to the hard work of all the members. The sub-branch is in a position to carry out its work for the year.

GLOUCESTER PARK

Our general meeting of February 3 showed a marked increase in attendance. Over 20 members were present, and we hope that this trend will continue. The sub-branch is in a position to carry out its work for the year.

KALGOORLIE

It is the firm hope of our executive that the sub-branch will make considerable progress in the future. This year the sub-branch will have a new president, Mr. W. Parker, who will be able to carry out our plans.

MATILDA

The election of officers on February 3 resulted in a blending of old and young members. Mr. H. Shaw, the former president, and Mr. C. Horton, the former secretary, were re-elected. We hope that the sub-branch will have a successful year. The new president, Mr. W. Parker, will be able to carry out our plans.

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The sub-branch, coupled with the larger branch and the public, are making considerable progress in all avenues. We hope that this trend will continue.
The annual meeting was held on Thursday, January 25, and was well attended. The finances of the branch were in a very healthy condition. Besides owning our own hall, we have quite a substantial sum for alterations or improvements. At the close of the meeting, Mr. E. G. Cooley was appointed as public officer and editor of "The Verity Light," Mr. B. Keely was appointed as sports officer. The meeting closed, and a pleasant social evening was thoroughly enjoyed.

MUNDARING AND DAVETON

At the annual general meeting held on January 28, a secret ballot was held to elect the sub-branch executive. Mr. R. H. Axford, president, was re-elected, as were Mr. G. Knight and Mr. J. Hamilton. A feature of the meeting was a vote of thanks to Mr. E. J. L. Burney, who ended his term of office as secretary. The meeting was closed by Mr. R. H. Axford, who expressed the hope that the branch would have a bumper year.

VICTORIA PARK

Members requiring attention of the sub-branch should visit the office at 143 Claremont Street, Victoria Park, or write to the secretary, Mr. G. J. McDonald, care of the A.S.A. head office, Sydney. The office is open from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Members are requested to bring their membership cards and to fill out the necessary forms and details are available. The branch has a full range of insurance and assistance available. Contact the branch for more information.

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WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES

First executive meeting for 1949 was held on Monday, February 7.

Hospital Visiting
Hospital visiting was carried out as usual by hospital committees on executive and auxiliaries as rostered. The chairman of Royal Perth Committee (Mrs. Dix) reported that 472 bedside visits had been made during February. Hollywood was visited as usual by auxiliaries.

Mrs. Brown reported that whilst visiting St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco, she contacted sub-branch members Mr. Rundle, of Northam, and Mr. Gillingham, of Dowerin, both of whom appreciated further visits from her.

During the recess, our hon. State Secretary was, unfortunately, an inmate of Mt. Hawthorn Hospital for several weeks. We are pleased to report that she is well again and was present at the meeting.

On Sunday, January 24, inmates from Claremont Mental Hospital were conveyed to Kalgoorlie by Red Cross transport and found time to enjoy a sumptuous lunch awaiting them, and many smiling, happy members of the auxiliary waiting to make their stay a pleasant one. After being repaid with a very nice afternoon, tea, these men returned home with pleasant memories to brighten their lives.

Christmas Cheer
That the Christmas parcels distributed to the homes and hospitals were most appreciated is seen by letters received (noted below). Country auxiliaries may feel that a worthwhile job was done with their generous donations.

The president and members of executive were gratified to receive so many Christmas cards from auxiliaries far and near, and reciprocate all the good wishes thereby extended.

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Used Army Tents
New Tents and Flies
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Inspect our stocks of Camp and Travel Goods, Work Clothing, Waterproof Clothing, etc.

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PHONE B 2988

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Breakdown Towing Service
24-HOUR DAY & NIGHT
PHONES W 2231, OXFORD STREET
W 2232, SOUTHPORT STREET
AUTOMOTIVE AND GENERAL ENGINEERS
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Official Visits
Mrs. McKenzie, with some members of executive, accompanied the patients from Claremont for the Christmas party at Kalgoorlie on January 24. The State President, Mrs. Prue, and Mrs. Scupham were guests at the afternoon tea given to patients from hospitals on Sunday, January 31, at Mandurah.

Sports
A meeting of sports directors was held at Anzac House on February 15, presided over by Mrs. McKenzie, to arrange for the forthcoming sports season. Twelve teams entered the McKenzie Shield competition this year and look forward to happy and interesting games. The draw for the final round was arranged and teams will be notified in due course.

Sports Controlling Committee is as follows:
Mrs. Burgess, sports secretary; with members Mrs. C. Brown, Callen, Dix, Henderson and Randall.

Visits
Mrs. Crofts, whilst in Bunbury, was a guest at a social afternoon arranged by the auxiliary.

Donations
Secretary reported following donations at meeting: Moore, £2/2/-; Surry, Waroona, £2/2/-; Martin and Limbles, Narrogin, £10; Christmas cheer; Wooginup, £10 (hospital fund); Northampton, £20; Christmas cheer; Welshpool, £1 (Christmas cheer); Northam, £32/3/- (various funds); Subiaco, £2/2/-; Christmas cheer, M. Mack, £6/6/-; Christmas cheer; Kelmscott, £5/5/-; Guildford sub-branch, £2 (Christmas cheer).

Letters received included one from the mother of the Woodside army, thanking the auxiliary for their visit and gifts; one from Mr. F. S. Symes, on behalf of his sister Diggers at Glendower, thanking the auxiliary for their kindness; one from the State secretary (Mr. J. Campbell) expressing thanks for the gifts sent to Faversham; one from an 82-year-old veteran at Port Macquarie (Mr. W. A. Smith), thanking the auxiliary and members of the Auxiliary for York for an unforgettable evening; and one from the mother of the R.G.V., Hollywood, thanking the auxiliary for gifts and the members who distributed them for their fine work.

NORTH-EAST FREMANTLE

On Sunday, January 31, about 70 patients from the following homes and institutions were taken on a delightful day's outing for a day at Mandurah. This is an annual event and is a delightful break in the regular routine of the Auxiliary. The buses for the trip are provided by North-East Fremantle Auxiliary and the patients are entertained by the Mandurah Auxiliary, and the event is one of the most popular of all outings, as is shown by the big roll-up of patients who participate. Members, John Camin, Southam and Prue, with the president (Mrs. Kellerton) and many members of the Auxiliary, accompanied their guests. A hearty repast was enjoyed at White Lakes, where the men were given drinks and ice cream by the ladies, and these were very much appreciated. The men chilled down nicely after a hot day. North-East Fremantle Auxiliary are most grateful to the wonderful people of Mandurah Auxiliary, who did such a wonderful job on the catering side.

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