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Poppy Day

By the time these words are in print there will be less than a month to Poppy Day—a day which deserves, and needs, the active assistance of every League member.

Every year sees a willing and eager body of ex-service men and women working hard on behalf of this day, but the work done is confined to far too few of the "willing horses."

Of course, we agree with you when you say: "But I always make sure that I buy a poppy." But we do not agree with you if you think that by doing that you have done your fair share towards the success of Poppy Day. Last year the total sale of poppies was 99,976, an increase of 731 on the figure of 1948. But let us remember that the population of Western Australia is well over 500,000, so that four out of every five people—counting men, women and children—did not have a poppy on last Poppy Day.

It is doubtful, of course, if we can really expect every man and woman throughout the State to buy a poppy—but we can at least make that our aim. And, by reckoning an average of three persons to every family that would mean a sale of around 230,000 poppies—a sale which would bring us in a mighty nice amount of money.

Almost every reader of these pages can help.

If you are not an active worker on Poppy Day, contenting yourself with the purchase of one poppy on your way to work, why not this year try buying a couple—one for the wife at home. Or, perhaps one each for every member of your family.

Better, still, why not secure a few orders, in advance, from those neighbours of yours who don’t get out on Poppy Day and who, usually, don’t even think of buying a poppy.

A visit to some of your neighbours on the evening of the day before Poppy Day might work wonders. After all, you can achieve no results unless you try.

Last year Gloucester Park Sub-Branch sold 6,092 poppies; the Maimed and Limbless sold 4,980, and North Perth sold 4,417. Many smaller sub-branches did an outstanding job—but, we cannot overlook the fact, some sub-branches did very little in this regard.

Must we repeat that the proceeds of last year’s Poppy Day went as follows: To sub-branches for amelioration funds, £1,710/16/1; to W.A. Aged Sailors and Soldiers’ funds, £1,746/8/4; and to State Executive amelioration funds, £427/3/6. You know that the money goes to outstanding causes. You know that the money is badly wanted. You can do your bit towards making this year’s Poppy Day one of the best we ever had.
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A meeting of the State Executive was held on September 6. As the Editor of The Listening Post was unable to be present, the report of the meeting will be somewhat abbreviated.

Mr. Sten was in the chair and 24 members were present. An apology was received from Mr. Leslie.

Royal Visit

The State Executive resolved: "That this Executive of the R.S.L. in Western Australia desires to place on record its deep and sincere appreciation at the announcement of the proposed visit of Their Majesties the King and Queen, accompanied by the Princess Margaret, to Australia in 1952. Further, we desire to assure those responsible for the arrangements to afford a fitting and suitable welcome, our utmost co-operation and assistance to ensure that, with the people of Western Australia, we extend a warm welcome which will enable their Majesties to recognise and appreciate our extreme pleasure at their decision to visit Western Australia."

Management

It was reported that a radiogram had been sent to Miss Judy Craig, aboard The Arcades, asking her to convey greetings to Field Marshal Lord Birdwood on behalf of the League.

A letter from the Victorian branch, expressing appreciation of the design of our charter and also of the full-page advertisement re the League badge (in The West Australian) was received.

Reports were submitted as follows:
Housing and Presidents and Secretaries (Mr. Davies), Re-establishment (Mr. Stanbury), Faversham (Mr. Chaney), "Listening Post" and Sports Council (Mr. Keeley), Immigration (Mr. Lonnie), Anzac Club (Mr. Ferguson) and Trustees and Jubilee Committee (Mr. Craig).

Mr. Chaney reported on the last meeting of the Federal Executive, to which he was Western Australia's delegate.

Messrs. Davies and Stahl raised objections to a report in the August issue of The Babbling Brook regarding the Land Conference. After discussion it was resolved "That the Management Committee of the City of Perth Sub-Branch be informed that the State Executive deplores the publication of this article, which made a personal attack on two members of the Land Committee of the State Executive. It expresses that an article of this nature contributes nothing to the welfare of the League, and requests that this resolution be given publicity."

At the conclusion of business the State President handed to Mr. Bateston, on behalf of the State Executive, a bound volume of letters of appreciation received on the occasion of Mr. Bateston's recent award, in the King's Birthday Honours.

A further meeting was held on September 20, Mr. Sten being in the chair. Seventeen members were present when the meeting opened, apologies being received from Miss Meares and Messrs. Lonnie, Yates and Watt.

Management

It was regretted that a Department of Immigration publication, "A Handbook for New Australians," although mentioning a number of bodies "ready to advise and assist immigrants," made no mention of the League, a body which did and still does take a leading part in migration affairs.

Membership

The Membership Committee's report, presented by Mr. Chaney, pointed out that the recommendation made by the committee on August 7, that sub-branches contribute towards a fund to be used for propaganda purposes and in building up League membership, be now put into effect. A League handbook is to be prepared for the information of sub-branch secretaries, and these are asked to advise head office of problems which confront them from time to time.

Housing

Mr. Davies reported that the Housing Committee desired to place on record its appreciation of Mr. Stoddart's efforts regarding the supply of building materials for the erection of business premises for an ex-serviceman at Coolgardie. It was resolved that the Minister for Housing be informed that the matter of alterations to the War Restrictions Act had been considered by the State Executive, who felt that some protection should still be offered to ex-servicemen.

Re-establishment

It was reported by Mr. Stanbury that the Re-establishment Committee, after devoting a considerable amount of time to the matter of police cadets who had not been granted privileges so far as long-service leave benefits were concerned, in accordance with the practice obtaining for other Government employees, is now happy to report that service with the armed forces now counts for long-service purposes for these men. As a result of League representations, some 13 or more ex-servicemen will receive benefits in this connection.

Jubilee Committee

Regarding the responsibility of the League on V.P. Day, 1951, it was resolved "That the Highgate Sub-Branch be invited to undertake the organisation of the celebrations." It was explained that this would take much detail work off the shoulders of members of the State Executive.

Faversham

A recording of the ABC feature, "I'll Pay That One," at Faversham House was made in the presence of over 100 visitors, including members of the York Sub-Branch and the women's auxiliary, it was reported. Inmates of Faversham House now numbered 29.

C.R.T.S. Training

Mr. Stahl, speaking on the closing of this scheme, said that there was every reason to keep it open. The building trades unions, he said, were now waking up to the fact that large numbers of new workers were needed in most trades and in many cases mi-
grants were getting the benefits ("although I have nothing against these migrants; indeed, I fully support a vigorous migration policy") which should have been gained by ex-service men.

Pensions Increases

Mr. James spoke strongly on the delay in paying increases in pensions. He said that war pensioners had only received an increase of some 11 per cent. since 1939/whilst costs of living had increased by 100, 150 and even 200 per cent. It was decided that the attention of the Federal Government be drawn to the fact that numerous families living on T.P. & I pensions were dependent entirely upon pension payments, and the Government was urged to expedite the matter of pension increases.

Statement by State President

A letter was received from the Gloucester Park Sub-Branch regarding the remarks made by the State President, at a meeting of the Press Sub-Branch which, the Gloucester Park Sub-Branch felt, were unwise.

"Mr. Stahl said that, in his opinion, the League adopted methods of appeasement instead of fighting. Practically everything that has come to ex-service men has come through the efforts of the League," he added, "but it seems today that the League is not prepared to fight." He queried the President's statement deploring the existence of "pressure groups," adding that he believed that some forms of pressure groups — "people who would fight" — were necessary. He considered that the President's statement was indiscreet.

"Dr. Greenham asked if the newspaper report, upon which the whole discussion (including the sub-branch's letter) rested was merely an abbreviation of a speech of some twenty minutes or more. He was assured that it was. [The suggestion here, of course, was that the newspaper report dealt with highlights of the speech only, and could not, in view of its restricted length, give an accurate representation of what the President had actually said and implied.]"

Mr. Hulet said that he thought the remarks, if reported correctly, were injudicious, particularly in regard to the matter of beer. [The State President, according to the report, "spoke of the 'dangerous ten-

dency' among League members to have a ten-gallon keg after meetings where a five-gallon keg would do." He felt that such remarks indicated to people that ex-service men were a "boozing" crowd, whereas they were the best of society. In regard to "destructive criticism" in the League, he said that he was introduced to the State Executive as an ultra-critical man, but he felt that his criticism was always constructive. He felt that the speech would lose the League some members.

Mr. Sten, in answering his critics, said that, as Dr. Greenham had suggested, the newspaper report was not complete. He was not concerned with any suggestion of loss of membership, as he had received many letters and messages congratulating him on what he had said.

"The theme I followed," he said, "and in which I have persisted since, is this: There are two functions of the League. (1) The fighting function in the matter of pensions, rehabilitation, housing, and the like. Then there is the function of high ideals — comradeship, loyalty and the remembrance of the fallen.

He said that it was not wise to overlook these high ideals. At the same time, however, the other things should by no means be forgotten. "In my remarks I was trying to impress upon those of our members who are not interested in pensions, housing and repatriation and such things the importance of the high ideals of the League. I have no intention of being an appeaser. I think that my work during the months since congress have proved that. I feel that the sub-branches everywhere are showing their appreciation of the high ideals of the League by the manner in which they are receiving their charters."

Mr. Benson moved that the next business be proceeded with. This motion was seconded by Mr. Craig, but it was withdrawn as other speakers asked to be heard.

Mr. Davies said that he thought the reporter should "have had more sense than to stress the remarks regarding beer." But he did not like the use of the words "pressure groups." He would suggest that some explanation should be made in the Press.

THE LISTENING-POST - October, 1950

Mr. Hunt said that several speakers had gone to extreme limits, using such words as "appeasement" and "boozing," whereas the State President in his talk had used no such words. He supported Mr. Sten wholeheartedly, and he felt sure that reasonable members would understand that Press reports did not always give a clear indication of what was said by the speaker.

Mr. Sten said, "You will best get what the League wants by securing the greatest respect of the greatest number of the public."

Dr. Greenham stressed that the newspaper quotations were out of their context.

It was then moved, seconded and carried, "That the next business be proceeded with."

"Empire and Commonwealth"

This publication, sponsored by the British Empire Service League, is in need of support. Sub-branches are asked to subscribe to this excellent publication with a view to donating copies to local schools. It is considered that the publication has a high educational value, and particulars of subscription can be obtained from Anzac House.

A FIGHT OF NOTE

What future king fought a battle in Australia, and where?

Many years ago a British warship the Bacheante, tied up at Albany, W.A., and one of the first to disembark was a very small snotty who wandered down the jetty where he was met by a local lad who shoulder him out of the way. This the snotty resented and a fight started. Soon a small but delighted and enthusiastic crowd surrounded the contestants, soiling on the little lad in blue, who, in spite of a difference of over one stone weight, was giving a good account of himself, throwing dugs and ducking to avoid the hefty swings of his heavy opponent, in the meantime landing some nice lefts.

How the battle would have ended it was hard to tell, as suddenly a horrified loot appeared and dragged the little fellow back to the boat.

This story was told to me by Joe Fagan some forty years ago. He was the brother of one of the contestants and claimed to have seen the fight.

The snotty afterwards became George V of England.
When Smuts Opposed Us
By C. R. Collins

The death of Field Marshal Smuts occurred just fifty years after his last administrative act as States Attorney of the South African Republic. That was the removal of the Transvaal gold reserve from Pretoria just in time to save it from capture by the British. He commenced his career as a fighting soldier almost immediately.

One of the pioneers of tank tactics (General J. F. C. Fuller) has described the South African War as the last of the gentlemen’s wars. Of all the leaders on either side in that long, tedious struggle, there was no harder fighter and no finer gentleman than Jan Christian Smuts. During the recent world war, two British subalterns, tramping along a veldt road leading to Pretoria, were overtaken by a motorist and courteously given a lift. When dropped near their destination they asked a bystander, “Who is the nice old boy with the beard?” “That is General Smuts,” they were told. The amiability shown by a distinguished general and statesman to a couple of junior officers has always been the keynote of Smuts’ character. This trait, combined with tact and patience, throughout a long active life, has enabled him to meet triumph and disaster with dignified calm. Nowhere did he show these virtues to greater advantage than in Pretoria in the days before its capture by the British.

Born on May 24, 1870, at Bovenplaats, Cape Colony, Smuts had just turned thirty when the British invasion of the Transvaal began. A graduate of Christ’s College, Cambridge, he took a double first in the Law Tripos of 1892. He was admitted to practice in Cape Town, but moved to Johannesburg, where he became a member of the Transvaal Bar. His outstanding ability soon attracted the attention of President Kruger, at whose instance he was appointed States Attorney (the Transvaal equivalent of Attorney General) in 1898, although he was only two years under the prescribed minimum age for that office. During the first months of the South African War, Smuts was engaged in organizing work behind the lines. He, more than anyone else, was responsible for the removal of the gold reserve, worth at that time more than two millions sterling, along with the government archives and other official documents. He then took the field as right-hand man of the redoubtable General Delaray.

The gold and the papers were placed on the train which took President Kruger from Pretoria to the Machadodorp district, in the eastern Transvaal. For several weeks Kruger lived in a saloon railway carriage, which had been converted into a mobile seat of Government. As British columns converged on Machadodorp, the aged President crossed the border into Portuguese East Africa and eventually reached Holland. British horsemen galloped into Komati Poort, just too late to intercept the President. The leading troop of the pursuit was commanded by Lieut. Tom Towers, formerly in charge of the Dumbleyung State school, now farming in the Dumbleyung district. It was hoped that the gold reserve might have been deposited in the one bank at Komati Poort. A search of the bank yielded only some small change in silver. No trace of the missing two millions has been found, or heard of since. There is no evidence that the gold was taken out of the country by Kruger, or that it was ever used in Europe on behalf of the Boer resistance. The general belief is that it was buried somewhere on the Veldt, and that all who could say where it has since died or been killed in action. A few unsuccessful attempts have been made to find the treasure which, at the present price of gold, must be far more valuable than anything that could be salvaged from Spanish galleons in Irish bays, or from pirate hoards on lonely islets. As for Smuts, he had many other things to think of after the President’s flight.

When he left Pretoria, Smuts was a man of medium height and slim build, with a strong intellectual head and face. He wore a fair moustache, but the neat-pointed beard, which gives him a resemblance to certain of the generals of the American Civil War, had not yet appeared. Michael Davitt, the Irish rebel who spent an evening in the Pretoria home of the Smuts family on the eve of the British occupation, described him as “one of the most brilliant young men in the Transvaal, cultured, courteous and gentlemanly; a man who would be a credit to any government in existence.” At the time, he faced the gravity of the Boer position without bitterness and without despair. “We will ultimately be defeated, of course,” he said to Davitt. Then he declared, “that a fight for nationality” would be continued under new conditions.

In association with Delaray, Smuts proved himself as capable a soldier as he had been a lawyer. It was not long before he was entrusted with the command of an independent force which penetrated into Cape Colony and continued to harass Kitchener’s lines of communication in that theatre until the end of the war. His last operations in the field were in the

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Continued on page 20

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THERE'S A BRANCH OR AGENCY IN YOUR DISTRICT...
FAIR GO, DIGGER!
By SYDNEY VICTOR FORD

Reprinted by permission from the "Ulmarlina and Milton Times"

Ever since the end of World War I we have heard of the "mugs" and the "soul-less so-and-so's" who work at or control the repatriation establishments in the Commonwealth, until it has come to be the accepted thing that you never get any consideration, no matter what department or section of Repat you have to do business with.

Last week I had to go to Repat in Grace Building, Sydney, for an interview with an M.O., and not having had to face that staff before approached the interview with a certain amount of aversion, fearing that I might be the victim of some "autocrat" behind the enquiry counter, or be abused by some bullying, unsympathetic M.O. such as we sometimes met in the Forces.

I was ready for fight, although I felt pretty sick inside, as I went up to the counter, especially as I had no papers with me, except my pay-book, with which to prove my identity and my right to receive attention from the staff there.

One could hardly expect them to accept my bald statement that I was a military pensioner, up for an overhaul, but without the necessary authority or instruction to submit myself for examination.

I wouldn't have blamed them if they had swung a bit of red tape and given me the brush-off.

But it didn't turn out that way.

The chap at the counter—and later, as I waited to see an M.O. I noted that the rest of those jokers were the same—gave me a patient hearing, seemed surprised that I could think they might not be able to get over that hurdle of absence of papers, and soon set me at rest.

He took down the details, had a peek at my old paybook and AABS83, then handed me a card and told me to take a seat. I took the seat indicated, struck a mate who had served in the same unit as I did during the "scrap" and soon became oblivious of what was going on around me as we talked of our pals and the good times and the laughs we had enjoyed during our army days— you don't talk about the other kind of experiences now—until a chap came in and bongued up to the counter and started to put in some bounce on the Digger behind it.

My mate, who was one of the best scrapers in the A.I.F., wanted to pin his ears back for "trying to bounce that little chap," but managed to keep out of it until the "bouncer" started to peter out of it by the mild answers and gentle manner of the enquiry clerk.

We sat and watched until my turn came to "go in" and there I met another surprise. I was treated by the M.O. as if I was consulting a Macquarie Street specialist and paying about ten quid for the privilege.

I was called "Mr. Me! A common ex-soldier! It didn't make sense, or rather didn't seem to.

By then it was too late to see the extra-specialist I should have seen that day. It was after hours, as it were. Could I come back next morning and they would send me to see him?

Could I what? Me, an ex-service-man, find it convenient to come along on the M.O.'s day off and he would come along too?

You bet I could, and would! So the arrangement was made, and back I arrived at the time appointed next morning, and they put me through the drill in no time, and I went my way bewildered, but mighty humble and grateful to every one I had contacted in the clinic on the tenth floor of Grace Building.

There were a number of incidents I witnessed while in that waiting-room that brought up in me an admiration for the way in which that staff treated its "clients."

Nothing ruffled them—although I felt two or three "lead-swingers" should have been belted on, the head with a bottle.

Mr. S. V. Ford is a First War veteran, and was attached to the A.I.F. in World War II. His two sons also served their country in the last war.

A First War Digger was assisted in by his aged wife. She would not let other Diggers seated around help him.

The enquiry clerk came round the counter to talk to the old chap, then went back and set matters right for his particular problem. "Neuro" patients, who weren't kiddin', were handled so skillfully that lookers-on without previous experience in such cases, did not sense that the enquirer was not all-normal.

In fact, I was brought to the conclusion that the staff behind those enquiry counters were Diggers of the dyed-in-the-wool variety. Out to do something and everything they could to assist the chap on the other side of the counter. Awake to the imposters, of which there were only one or two while I was looking, and not there just for a job and to hold down an easy living.

It cannot be an easy job for those chaps, who put everything they had in the way of human thought. It must be a constant strain on their nerves, and one left the place with the firm conviction that those chaps have the right outlook for their jobs. They are hard working. They are co-operative, and they have the real Digger spirit.

You couldn't have better men than those in the job.

I don't know any of them personally, but to them all, and the M.O.'s I had to interview, I dips me lid. And to those who try to knock them while they are doing a good, humane job faithfully and well, I would say:

"Fair go, Digger! Those blokes are Dinki-di."

A sense of humour is what makes you laugh at something that would make you angry if it happened to you.

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State Secretary's Diary

7th October, 1950.

Sub-Branch Handbook

The State Secretary is compiling a handbook for the use of sub-branches, particularly sub-branch secretaries, on matters appertaining to the League. It is felt that many sub-branch officers take over their duties without a reliable guide as to the nature of these duties, and the handbook should prove of some considerable benefit.

Sub-branch officials are invited to list and send to Anzac House the problems which they encounter in the course of their duties in the sub-branches. Most of these problems are, no doubt, common to all sub-branches, and if there are solutions they can be made available for the benefit of all concerned.

Sub-Branch Records

With the introduction of the charts and the consequent delving into the history of the sub-branches, it immediately became obvious that many sub-branches have been unmindful of the importance of preserving their early records. Sub-branch officials are urged to ensure that their books of account and files of correspondence are taken care of and arrangements made for their preservation. In-going secretaries should always ensure that they take over a complete set of records from the outgoing secretary.

Adopt a Sub-Branch

Item 189 on the agenda of the last State congress was submitted by Mr. Lawley Sub-Branch and carried by congress. This item concerned the adoption by metropolitan sub-branches of a country sub-branch, so that their members could be visited and their interests could be watched whilst they are in hospital in the metropolitan area. The idea is a good one and should tend to promote feelings of good will throughout the sub-branches. Some metropolitan sub-branches have already adopted country sub-branches. Metropolitan sub-branches are invited to select any country-sub-branch and make the approach so that the congress resolution may become operative.

Apart from the hospital visits, members of country sub-branches, when visiting Perth, would feel that they had a definite contact to make of the sub-branch and its members. The idea is commended to sub-branches.

Sub-Branch Activities

Some sub-branches appear to be languishing from lack of something to do. The sub-branch has its annual reunion and smoke, which is usually well attended, and very often it lapses back into poorly attended meetings until the next big function is arranged. The social side of the League's activities plays a most important part in the life of the League, but there is also the practical side. It will be found that the interest of members will be stimulated if they have work to do. For instance, many sub-branches have not a local land committee. This is a serious lack in a country sub-branch where so much useful work could be done amongst members, as such a committee could advise not only young ex-service farmers in the district on their problems but could also provide a useful source of information for the State Executive Land Committee. It is also noticeable that many sub-branches, metropolitan and country, do not have a repatriation or pension committee. Many members of the sub-branch have repatriation or pension problems which never reach Anzac House or the Repatriation Department. Members should have the facility of approaching the appropriate committee in their own sub-branch who, having vetted the problem, should then submit the case for the consideration of the State Executive committee. Too many cases are submitted to Anzac House direct by individuals concerned, where the more appropriate procedure should be for the member to submit his problem to his sub-branch first.

The attention of sub-branches is laid down to a congress resolution, submitted by Press and passed at the last State congress. This resolution urged "sub-branches to include in their programme an annual act of general civic service as a supplement to the sub-branch's work for ex-servicemen and their dependants." This opens up for sub-branches a wide field of interesting and useful activities.

There are many such activities which could be suggested. There is the local war memorial and honour board for World War II which, in many places, still remains a job yet to be done. In many cases everybody's job remains nobody's job. The League should give a lead in such matters and it is seldom found that such a lead fails to secure an effective following, particularly where there is a good plan ready to be put into operation.

Sub-Branch Halls

Numerous enquiries are received at Anzac House as to the availability of halls in the metropolitan area under the control of sub-branches. Prospective tenants seek information regarding dates, rentals, etc., and it would be an advantage to all concerned if sub-branches supplied

AID FOR LIMBLESSE

Brigadier Blockxurn, Chairman of Trustees of the Services Canteen Trust Fund, announced recently the decision of the Trustees to finance a project of research with the object of endeavouring to discover whether there is any treatment which will ease the pain suffered by limbless ex-servicemen from phantom limbs and nerve storms.

The research will incorporate the cause and treatment of any persistent and disabling pain resulting from war wounds.

The project envisages the employment of a highly skilled research worker, who will spend two years in the medical school of an Australian university or research institute followed by one year at selected institutions overseas.

Brigadier Blockburn said that, from advice tendered to the Trustees they are confident that the research project has every chance of discovering a method of treatment which will alleviate the distress and pain suffered by limbless ex-servicemen.

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Head Office with the necessary particulars, which could be made available to intending tenants.

Insurance, War Service Homes

The Minister for National Development and Housing (Mr. Casey) announced recently that war service homes purchasers would be allowed a rebate of one-half of the premiums for 1950–51. This has been decided following a review of the results of the operations of the scheme for the insurance year ended April 30.

Payment of Pension by Cheque

For some considerable time the R.S.L. has sought the facility of payment by cheque of war pensions, as is done for aged and invalid pensioners. It seems that pensions may be paid either by cheque or to a bank account without being placed 12 months in arrears.

This should be of particular benefit to those widows who, by reason of family responsibilities, age or illness, would feel the benefit of having this facility. Specific application for the pension to be made in this manner must be made. This does not include all classes of war pensioners.

Hospital Visiting

This is a most essential part of the League’s work, and too much care cannot be expended by sub-branches in ensuring that their members, when confined to hospital, are not forgotten. The facilities provided by Anzac House are fairly wide, and any suggestions of improvement would be welcome. At the present time, a six-months’ visiting roster is sent to the metropolitan sub-branches, which ensures that each of the nine institutions which care for ex-servicemen during their illness is visited each week. The institutions concerned are: Lemnos, Heathcote, Wooloroo, Hollywood, C.H.I., Sunset, Edward Miller, R.P.H., and Home of Peace.

On admission to Hollywood Hospital, a list is received at Anzac House and a card is sent to the member’s sub-branch advising that one of its members has been admitted, and giving the ward number. The member, on admission to Hollywood, is handed a printed notice advising that a member of the staff of Anzac House visits Hollywood twice weekly, and if he has any problems requiring attention to have his name put on the notice board so that the visitor from Anzac House can interview him. There is also handed to the patient a list of the subsistence rates payable whilst he is in hospital. Each sub-branch visitor is given a card showing his name and the sub-branch he represents, and he is also given a report sheet which provides for the name of the patient, his sub-branch and the problem which might be worrying him. This is sent to Anzac House for attention. Lists of admissions to Hollywood are put on the notice board in Anzac Club and also at the office of Anzac House.

Sub-Branch Charters

Numerous requests are received from sub-branches as to a suggested toast list at functions where the charter is being presented. The following is suggested:

1. The King.
2. Fallen Comrades.
3. The State Executive.
5. The Sub-Branch.
6. Visiting Sub-Branches and Visitors and the Chairman.

The response to the State Executive toast is, of course, given by the State Executive official visitor, who takes the opportunity of presenting the charter when he is responding. It is a good idea for the sub-branch secretary to read a short history of the sub-branch immediately preceding the toast of the State Executive. This helps to create a suitable atmosphere for the presentation of the charter. In the visitors, see that the artists are included. If the women’s auxiliary have nothing to do with the supper (which is most likely), a toast in appreciation would not be out of place.

Efficiency Pay

Those members who, prior to the 1939–45 war were serving members of the Militia Forces, may recall the promise that was made immediately before the outbreak of the 1939–45 war, that efficiency pay would be granted. When the war broke, the whole thing was forgotten, but that pay is still available to those who are entitled and apply. Up to £12 is available, according to the period served, and all members who qualify are urged to make their application to Swan Barracks, Perth, immediately. Your money is there for the asking!

Entertainments Tax

Sub-branches conducting entertainments, where the charges are 1/- or over, must register the entertainment either at the local post office or with the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation not less than 7 days before the entertainment. The onus is on the owner of the premises before he lets them for entertainment to satisfy himself that the entertainment has been duly registered. Tax payable on admission charges exceeding 7/6 will be assessed on application to the Taxation Department.

Exemptions: Where the whole of the nett proceeds of an entertainment are for public, patriotic, philanthropic, religious or charitable purposes, or are for the benefit of funds of an association set apart to provide for sick, accident or funeral benefits, exemptions may be applied for. It should be noted that exemption does not apply where the expenses exceed 50 per cent. of the gross takings. Sub-branches are particularly urged to watch these provisions.

JOHN CHAPPELL, State Secretary.

BOOK NOW FOR THE R.S.L. RIVER TRIP

The attention of League members is drawn to the fact that the R.S.L. Sports Council has organised a monster river trip for Tuesday, November 28, 1950, and a record attendance is expected.

Sub-branch secretaries have been issued with tickets, and our advice is to obtain their tickets without delay. By doing so they will not be disappointed. Remember, there is a limit to the capacity of the boat; therefore, get in early.

The Emerald will leave Barrack Street Jetty promptly at 8 p.m. and will return at 10.30 p.m. A call will be made at Point Walter. Harmony will be in the capable hands of Jim Baty and party and this, in itself, is a guarantee that this side of the show will be of very high standard.

The price of tickets will be: adults, 3/6; children, under 15, 1/-. Supper will be provided.

B.K.

We regret that, owing to pressure of space, it has been impossible to include any women’s auxiliary notes in this issue.
A Reader Writes...

34 Servetus Street, Swanbourne.

To the Editor,

Sir—In common with a number of members with whom I have discussed the subject, I feel that the time has arrived when every sub-branch of this organisation of ours should be provided with a manual of some sort to which ready reference may be made on any subject coming within the ambit of R.S.L. activities.

Many of us who belong to the old brigades are inclined to overlook the fact that those ex-servicemen from World War II do not get the same opportunity of learning the ropes as did those of us who have been associated with the organisation for 30 years, or thereabouts. We grew up with the organisation and learnt what it was, and what it did, step by step, whereas the younger lads who succeed in becoming office-bearers find it necessary to appeal at great frequency to older members for guidance.

This should not be necessary and would, to a very great degree, be eliminated by the introduction of a manual.

A few months ago, on my way to attend a meeting at Anzac House, it occurred to me to ask members of the younger brigade with whom I came in contact en route what they knew of the Anzac Club. I decided the question on the spur of the moment because Anzac House was my rendezvous on the evening in question. I met three of these younger members and the following are the answers to my interrogation: No. 1 (a suburban ex-president), "That's where Perth Sub-Branch meets"; No. 2 (a back-bencher), "That's Gloucester Park's hangout"; and No. 3 (a sub-branch secretary), "Don't know anything about the place."

There are scores of questions connected with our activities which would produce similar answers if questions were put. The answers given to this one question illustrate the point that some "ready means of reference to R.S.L. matters generally should be available to sub-branch presidents and secretaries.

The compilation of such a manual would not be a difficult matter. It could be done piecemeal and could go into circulation before completion. In fact, it would serve a useful purpose to some sub-branches from the stage that, say, half a dozen subjects were completed.

Binders would need to be of uniform size, on the loose-leaf principle, the cost of which would be the responsibility of each individual sub-branch.

The contents to be furnished in multi-page form by Headquarters appropriately punched for insertion into the binder.

ADOPTION!

At the last general meeting of the City of Perth Sub-Branch, it was resolved that we "adopt" a country sub-branch in accordance with a resolution carried at the last Annual State Congress.

Any country sub-branch which may wish to avail itself of the assistance of City of Perth in registering their members in Hollywood, or in any other manner in which we can be of service to it, should write to the undersigned.

It is suggested that we may be able to assist a number of small sub-branches or one large sub-branch at the discretion of my committee.

W. HOLDER, Secretary.

Each item of the contents should be given a number and the name of the subject indicated at the top of each sheet. An index would indicate the position of each item in the manual, i.e., Anzac Day (1), Anzac Club (2), Amelioration Funds (3), A.R.M.S. Competition (4), and so on. Many items of general interest would be brought under notice from time to time by sub-branches and these could be included.

I venture to suggest that my experience when attempting to do a little lobbying on the eve of annual nominations is not an isolated one. A likely-looking member comes into focus for, say, the position of secretary. He is approached, but declines with, "Sorry, but I don't know enough about the business."

These younger members do not lack courage, but they do "lack the knowledge they feel is required to carry on with. Give them the tools and I feel they will do the job. Instead of saying to a prospect, "You can always refer to old Bill, he will put you right," say "There is your bible (manual), read that and you've got the lot."

This organisation of ours has been in existence for a long time now. So long that it would be physically impossible for any secretary to have all the Headquarters circulars on hand in order to answer questions which may arise during any meeting. The manual would dispose of the necessity of having any circulars on hand.

From the State Secretary's point of view, I also suggest the manual would be a boon. For instance, instead of sending all the voluminous matter year after year, which reminds us that Anzac Day is in the offing, and giving endless detail about the arrangements, wouldn't it be better to remind sub-branch secretaries that the arrangements for Anzac Day, 1951, will be similar to those of 1970, except for the following . . .

Membership of the R.S.L. is dependent upon interest, and interest is dependent upon knowledge. Let us give the young man access to information appropriate towards doing a job and not scare him off because we do not provide him with the wherewithal by which his interest may be stimulated.

I attempted to arouse interest in this subject some time ago at a presidents and committees' meeting, at which I represented the Swanbourne Sub-Branch, but I "couldn't take a trick." The only comment was to the effect that we all had copies of the Constitution made available to us and that this should suffice. The fact that we, or at least some of us, have copies of the rules is not disputed, but I've yet to meet the president or secretary who could get by with the Constitution as his only means of ready reference.

Thanks,

Yours faithfully,
E. R. NORGARD.

[A League handbook for sub-branch secretaries is to be prepared, and Head Office would like to hear of problems which arise from time to time and which might be dealt with.]

THIS MODERN EDUCATION

"Upsey-Wussey!" said the dear old lady to the little boy who had fallen while skating.

"Upsey-Wussey, me foot!" the little boy said disgustedly. "I think I've cracked my sacrificial!"
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Biscuits and Cheese served at 5 p.m. daily
Light Lunch Free Each Saturday at Noon
Make Your Slogan: "See You at the Club"
PERSONALITIES

Jack Ritchie, a Mt. Hawthorn vice-president, is at present on long-service leave, and is touring the country districts. A very keen League member, Jack can always be depended upon to do any job extremely well.

H. Farquharson, president of the Rockingham Sub-Branch and a well-known figure at Congress each year, has, we regret to learn, again been an inmate of Hollywood Hospital. We trust he will soon be his old self again.

Captain "Ned" Kelley, of Western Command Headquarters, a vice-president of the Kensington Sub-Branch, is, according to his fellow members, a real tower of strength to the sub-branch. Mrs. Kelley is the hon. secretary of the Kensington Women's Auxiliary.

"Wimpy" Whitfield, of the Kensington Sub-Branch, has, we are glad to learn, recovered from his recent injury—a broken leg.

George Harris, of the Norseman Sub-Branch, was farewelled recently by his co-workers, prior to leaving with his wife to settle in Northampton.

Miss Clifton, M.B.E., of the Returned Sisters' Sub-Branch, was recently entertained by her fellow members, the occasion being arranged in celebration of the bestowal upon her of her much-coveted decoration.

Tom Skeggs, of the South Perth Sub-Branch, is at present in the Edward Millen Home, where he will be pleased to see old friends.

WANTED URGENTLY

Nominators for the Following BRITISH EX-SERVICEMEN:

1. FARMHAND—(Ex-Royal Marine, age 26)—wife (Ex-W.R.N.S., age 26)—willing to help farm and house—one son, age 2.
2. PAINTER AND DECORATOR—(Ex-R.A.F., age 21), married, one child (6 months).
3. GENERAL LABOURER—(Ex-R.E., age 36); seeks farm or timber work; married; daughter, age 7.
4. JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER—(Ex-R.A.N., age 33); married; one child, 8¾.
5. POTTER-SANITARY CASTING—(Ex-R.N., age 34); married; two children, 3 and 5.
6. PLUMBER—(Ex-R.A.O.C., age 33); married; 2 children, 9 and 3.
7. DRIVER—EXPERIENCED MECHANICAL—(Ex-R.A., age 30); married; one son, 8.
8. ELECTRICIAN—EXPERIENCED UNDERGROUND AND OVERHEAD SUPPLY—(Ex-R.A.F., age 30); married; one child, 9¾.

FULL PARTICULARS AVAILABLE:

R.S.L. IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
ANZAC HOUSE

C. P. Smith, foundation president of the Press Sub-Branch, is still a keen worker on behalf of the League, although much of his work is done quietly, "behind the scenes" as it were. A most effective speaker, C.P. is always well worth listening to.

Alan Moore, of Mt. Hawthorn, was seen with his wife and family at Mandurah recently, very busily engaged in pulling in the big ones.

"Roly" Eastwood, of the Maylands Sub-Branch, is to be married shortly, we hear. Hearty congratulations, "Roly."

Barney Keeley, of the State Executive, is a keen news-gatherer for The Listening Post since he has served on the L.P. committee. His assistance is certainly appreciated. Incidentally, we recently omitted to mention that Barney was chairman of the Sports Council sub-committee.

K. H. McKenzie, writing from London recently, says that he will return to Perth to settle down. This after, as he says, having been seven times around the world. He tells us that the war graves at Messines, which he visited recently, are particularly well kept.

Mrs. V. Stockmin, State President of the Women's Auxiliaries, has been appointed a member of the board of visitors to the Lemnos Soldiers' Mental Hospital.

Phil Kieley, past president of the Maroubra and North Sydney Sub-Branches, recently visited Anzac House, where he received a warm welcome.

Campbell Egan, of the Press Sub-Branch, is now out and about again after a serious illness. Seems that he has regained that slim, boyish figure.
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Anzac Club Amenities Fixtures

The attention of League members is drawn to the following fixtures arranged by the Amenities Committee at Anzac Club for their entertainment:

Darts.—Wednesday, October 25.
Bridge.—Wednesday, November 1.
Crib.—Wednesday, November 8.
Euchre.—Wednesday, November 15.

There will be a nomination fee of 2/- for each competitor.
Bridge and euchre nomination will be taken in pairs.
These fixtures will be continued if the support is forthcoming.

Inter-Sub-Branch Competitions

Inter-sub-branch competitions held under the auspices of the Anzac Club Amenities Committee continue to draw large crowds and are becoming very popular. Sub-branches who previously were not interested are now very keen to take part.

On Wednesday, September 13, the strong Mt. Hawthorn Sub-Branch was opposed by three small sub-branches—West Swan, South Belmont and Forrestfield—and an excellent evening resulted.

The members of the four sub-branches were entertained later at supper by the Club Committee, in the Board Room, at least 80 members being present.

This proves just how popular these evenings really are and the committee, in its wisdom, has decided to continue the games during the summer months. This will enable those sub-branches which have already taken part to be again included and will also give those who have not yet availed themselves of the fixture the opportunity to do so.

Besides popularising the club, these competitions bring the members of various sub-branches together in social intercourse and helps to further cement the spirit of comradeship.

R.S.L. Sports Council

League members are reminded that meetings of the R.S.L. Sports Council will be held on the last Monday in each month, and sub-branches are urged to see that they are represented.

Much of real value has already been accomplished and much more is possible with a greater degree of support from sub-branch secretaries and sports directors.

We appeal to all League members to give the Council a chance to do the work for which it was created.

It can do much with your active support.

B. Keeley.

"THE WAR IS OVER," SHE SAID

Some of the patients in Ward I of Hollywood Hospital complained recently that the food supplied to them was inadequate, whereupon the person, whoever it was to whom the said complaint was made, passed the word back and, in due course, one of those bright blossoms of modern scientific administration known as a dietician, was oxed into the ward to hear the sad story.

Her reply to the complaint was that they had nothing to complain of, as they "get it for nothing." An indignant retort from a bed-ridden Digger concerning war service brought forth the not very original remark that "the war's been over 5 years." It may have been that the lady was merely looking for a bite, but the Diggers of Ward I say "no!" The daily press has informed us that our State President has urged members to concentrate on what the League stands for. Perhaps we may later be informed as to what the League won't stand for.

Personal Note: The foregoing was given to me by two of our members who formed part of the team which visited Hollywood on the morning of Friday, September 3. I suggested that lady was, as stated, "looking for a bite," but they said the patients in Ward I were very cross about it.

J. McNAMARA (Subiaco).

Collectors of gramophone records may be interested to learn that the Conrad Press, of Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, has designed a Gramophone Record Index Book with room for details of around 1,000 records. It looks to be the best thing of its kind on the market today.

SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

The following alterations have been received since we last went to press:

BELMONT: Secretary now P. Cronen, Keymer Street, Belmont.
COTTESLOE: Secretary now P. Walker, 447 Stirling Highway, Cottesloe.
KUNUNOPPIN: President now H. B. Lamond, Kununoppin.
NORTH BEACH: President now C. Averd, Balcatta Beach Road, North Beach; secretary, J. Rickard, 33 Hamersley Road, North Beach.
NORTH PERTH: Secretary now R. C. Smith, 114 Vincent Street, North Perth.
ROCKINGHAM: President now H. Farquharson, Defence Road, Safety Bay.
ROSA BROOK: President now J. H. Barrett.
UPPER SWAN: President now J. W. Cannon, Olive Street, Millendon.
WICKEPIN: President now P. H. Chance, Wickepin.
YORKINE: President now P. Tredrea.

"Ted Kneebone, former secretary of the Norseman Sub-Branch, is, we regret to learn, at present on the sick list. His many friends will join us in wishing him a speedy recovery to health.

Reg. Monkhouse, a vice-president of the Manjimup Sub-Branch, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Mitchell Magisterial District. He has received widespread congratulations.

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**Housing Committee**

During the period under review, 16 meetings were held and it is pleasing to be able to report that there has always been a good attendance of members at such meetings.

Assistance has been sought and representations made on behalf of 232 ex-service men or women concerning their housing problems. The committee gave careful consideration to each case and, according to the degree of urgency and merits in all respects, recommendations have been submitted to the appropriate authorities, and success has been achieved in many claims.

Every consideration is given by the authorities to representations made by the League and it is desired to place on record the service rendered by Mr. F. Graham, Officer-in-Charge, War Service Homes (who represents the Housing Commission at our committee meetings).

State Minister for Housing, Mr. D. Brand, and Assistant Minister for Housing, Mr. G. Wild, have attended committee meetings and thanked the League for its work and have given assurances of every consideration being accorded recommendations submitted by the League relative to housing. Mr. Nelson Lemmon, former Federal Minister for Housing, also, until the date of his defeat at the last Federal elections, gave every consideration to representations made by the League and a letter of thanks has been forwarded to him.

Close relationship also exists between the League and the Chairman of the Housing Commission and his officers.

Representations have been made to the State Housing Commission concerning the erection of more duplex houses and two-storied flats to provide accommodation for aged couples and single persons who are at present occupying houses much too large for them, and who would be prepared to dispose of these for the housing of larger families if only suitable accommodation were available. The committee is anxious to see more war service homes, and housing generally, erected in the country areas.

Melville Road Board, following on representations made, have agreed to the use of Denaro cement bricks in home construction, provided certain specifications are complied with.

The allocation of business premises and sites to suitable types of ex-service men has again been taken up with the Housing Commission and an assurance given that the commission will continue to extend preference to ex-service men in this connection.

Restrictions have been lifted on home building up to 12½ squares. It will be interesting to watch developments in this connection and it is hoped that the lifting of restrictions will have a beneficial effect for those desiring to build, and will not interfere with the building under present the Purchase Agreement or Contract of sale for the house with her husband, as joint-tenants, if they so desire. This protects the wife and children should the husband desert them at some future date.

Representations have been made to, and by, the League Federal Office to the appropriate ministers concerning housing. Where materials are in short supply and Australia is unable to produce same they are imported free of import duty.

We regret to have to report that, although there has been an increase in the number of homes in the State during the last nine months, there has been little easing of the housing position generally, and much greater efforts will have to be made in the production of basic building materials if the housing problem is to be solved. The committee is also very concerned at the rise in building costs and is making representations that all interest charges on housing should not exceed 2 per cent.

**WAR SERVICE HOMES DIVISION.**

Statistics for 12 Months ended 31/5/50

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>War Service Homes</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number built since inception</td>
<td>3,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In construction</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased during year</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgages during year</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second advances for additions and sewerage, etc., during year</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications pending</td>
<td>5,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital expenditure for year</td>
<td>£1,491,935/13/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts for year</td>
<td>£330,122/14/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Commonwealth and State Agreement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of houses built during year</td>
<td>758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number built since inception</td>
<td>3,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number in construction</td>
<td>1,066</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEAGUE IN DOING

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the committee, and Mr. J. Giblett, our secretary, and staff at Anzac House, for the time given and services rendered in their endeavour to further the interests of ex-service personnel and for their courtesy towards me as their chairman.

E. O. DAVIES, Chairman.

Repatriation Committee

The W.A. Branch played no small part in the fight to force an issue in the matter of increased war pensions, particularly at the time of the Federal elections last December, and the League made its first claim for a re-assessment of pension rates when £1 increase on the then existing rates was requested. It was only as a result of an intensive campaign, in order to honour the promise made to the League that careful consideration would be given to the League’s claim in this regard, that a special Cabinet Sub-Committee of ex-servicemen was appointed to investigate and report on the war pension position to the Prime Minister.

Organised Joint Effort

The W.A. Branch of the League towards the end of last year organised joint meetings of all ex-servicemen’s organisations so that their combined weight could be applied to the pressure which was being exerted not only on the Government, but on the individual members of Parliament. The Pensions Committee chairman and the State Secretary were appointed chairman and secretary respectively of this joint committee and gratitude was expressed to the League for taking the case up on behalf of the various organisations concerned.

At the time of the elections, each candidate seeking election for both the House of Representatives and the Senate from this State was written to ask him for a clear declaration of the attitude he would adopt towards war pensions if he was elected. About 90 per cent replied more or less promising support and those who did not reply were written to on several occasions, until ultimately a reply had been received from every candidate. It was felt necessary to insist on the League’s approach to these candidates being recognised. In addition to the individual approach, it was arranged that each organisation represented in the joint meeting who had Federal bodies should be approached so that each State branch of the organisation would be urged to act in a similar manner, which would ensure that every candidate for election would have the same request submitted. The result was that all ex-servicemen League advocated 47, 42 and 38 respectively. The cases successfully advocated by the League in this tribunal were 12, 9 and 8 respectively. These cases had already been before the State Board and the Commission in Melbourne and the Entitlement Tribunal was the final court of appeal. It necessarily follows, therefore, that the cases passed by the tribunal are hardly won.

The Assessment Appeal Tribunals sit in Perth in October, November, December, February and April. These are cases where increases in existing pensions are sought. The League advocate has appeared on behalf of 83 applicants. Increases were obtained in over 60 per cent. of the cases advocated by the League.

It should be noted that many cases which are submitted to the Department are allowed without reaching the tribunals. In such cases it is merely a matter of an interview, a submission to the Department, and a decision.

It is noteworthy that a great deal of the work performed by the Pensions Committee on behalf of ex-servicemen is done for non-members of the League. This applies to the appeals before tribunals, as well as general enquiries. Many of the applicants are unfavourable as to their membership or are not eligible to be members of the League because of their service. The League, however, makes no discrimination and is pleased to render service to any ex-serviceman.

The committee has met at regular intervals throughout the period and considered many individual cases, not only in the matter of pensions, but also in repatriation matters generally. Attention has also been paid to the suggestions received from sub-branches in connection with Hollywood - Hospital and also cases of Claremont Mental Hospital and Lemnos. It is pleasing to report that there has been the fullest co-operation between the Department and institutions concerned and the League.

The League’s Pensions Officer, the late Mr. E. Costello, who fell ill last September and died in December, was a serious loss to the staff. The late Mr. Costello was expert in his knowledge and handling of repatriation matters and the services which he rendered to ex-servicemen and their dependants will always be gratefully remembered.
The State Secretary undertook the responsibility of handling all pension matters and tribunals up to the recent appointment of Mr. B. S. Heagney, who will now act in that capacity.

The thanks of the committee are due to the State Secretary for taking over the control of pension matters and the tribunals for nearly seven months, which he carried out with considerable success, in addition to his normal duties as State Secretary.

Thanks are expressed to the members of the committee for work performed during the period, namely, Messrs. James, Ferguson, Watt and Greenham.

F. J. STAHL, Chairman.

Immigration Committee

The Immigration Committee is pleased to report substantial progress made during the year in the work of nominating ex-service migrants from the Old Country to this State.

It is pleasing to report that the W.A. Branch gave a lead in that it sponsored 360 single ex-service migrants for work on the goldmines. This scheme has been extended to other goldmines and it is hoped to arrange for a steady stream of such migrants to be brought into the country for a similar purpose. The complete quota for Kalgoorlie, sponsored by the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch, has been sent to the Goldfields immediately on arrival. Each migrant ship which has arrived has been met by the Immigration Committee and addresses of welcome and advice given on behalf of the League.

As anticipated, many of the ex-servicemen do not remain on the Goldfields and there was no power to compel them to remain, but the wastage has not been unduly high. There have been a number of rejections on medical grounds, due, apparently, to the difference in the medical standards in the Old Country and here. When the group nomination was submitted, the medical requirements were clearly indicated, as required by the Chamber of Mines. The Kalgoorlie scheme of nominations has been an outstanding success, despite the many difficulties which were encountered and overcome and the result of the League's action has been that a large number of single ex-service migrants are now employed on the mines, which but for the League's action would not have been the case.

It is gratifying to have the assurance of Mr. J. F. Thorn, who, in his presidential address to the W.A. Chamber of Mines, stated, "In an effort to relieve the shortage of manpower the mining companies in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area, through the R.S.L., sponsored 360 British migrants and arrangements were made to provide suitable accommodation for them at the Boulder Racecourse. A number of these men have left the industry to seek employment elsewhere. It is considered, however, that the scheme has been worthwhile."

Smaller groups of nominated ex-servicemen under the R.S.L. scheme are employed at Wittenoom Gorge, Big Bell and Norseman.

In connection with the selection of suitable men for employment under the R.S.L. scheme, I had the privilege of being sent to London by the Commonwealth Government for that purpose. It was realised that unless someone was on the spot to stimulate the interest of young ex-servicemen in mining, that the intending migrants, in sufficient numbers, would not have come out of their own accord.

In addition to the group-sponsored scheme an intensive campaign has been conducted throughout the League for members to undertake the responsibility of nominating British ex-servicemen and their families. Over 200 people have been introduced to the State by means of the League nomination scheme. This number, added to the mining group, indicates that the League's efforts in regard to migration, so far as this State is concerned, have been worthwhile.

It is good to reflect on the fact that as a direct result of the committee's efforts nearly 600 persons are now in Western Australia, who but for the League's immigration scheme would most likely be still in Britain.

In order to stimulate the interest in British ex-servicemen migration, a number of District Migration Advisory Councils have been established in-country centres in order to bring Head Office into closer touch with possible nominators in country areas. These committees are comprised not only of the local sub-branches but also of other public bodies, including the churches, and by this means it is hoped to bring into contact with no-nominators the considerable list of prospective migrants who have applied for nomination, and there is a great deal of them, but who, through not knowing anyone in this country, are unable to avail themselves of the opportunity to migrate.

Recently the League in Australia was requested by the Minister for Immigration to supply a panel of names for the appointment of a migration selection and interviewing officer in London. My name was submitted by the W.A. Branch. Mr. V. R. Dickinson, from Melbourne, eventually secured the appointment.

I desire to thank the other members of the committee, Mr. Stahl and Miss Meares, and the State Secretary, for their co-operation in making the immigration work of the League the success it has been.

W. S. LONNIE, Chairman.

NAVAL AVIATION DISPLAY

The biggest and most ambitious display of naval aircraft in Britain this year, and probably one of the largest ever staged, took place recently at the R.N. Air Station, Lee-on-Solent, where the latest and fastest machines from the Royal Navy's carrier fleet and others not yet in regular service with front-line squadrons were shown in aid of naval charities.

The exhibition, arranged under the auspices of the Flag Officer—Air (Home) by the R.N. Air Station at Lee-on-Solent and Gosport, was preceded by a flight of some 70 aircraft during the morning over towns in the area. In formation, they passed over Lee-on-Solent, Portsmouth, Winchester and the Isle of Wight.

Two aircraft—a Sea Fury and a Harvard—put on a novel request aerobatics show for visitors. Through a microphone taken on a wander lead into the crowd, men and women were able to speak to the pilots in the air and direct their flight.

Demonstrations of methods of launching gliders given by members of the R.N. Gliding and Soaring Club opened the official display, which included aerobatics by a Sea Fury and two Sea Hornets and a thrilling performance of high-speed precision aerobatics by jet-propelled Vampires. They are capable of speeds of over 500 m.p.h.
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When Smuts Opposed Us

(Continued from page 5)

copper-mining country of north-west Cape Colony. He made an unsuccessful attempt to capture Port Nolloth, the port of the district, in the first week of May, 1902. Immediately afterwards, he was advised that negotiations for peace were about to commence, and that his presence was required at the conference. Under flag of truce, he rode into Port Nolloth, and was provided with a sea passage to Cape Town, where he could take the train to Vereeniging, a small town on the Vaal, south by south-west of Johannesburg, where British and Boer leaders conferred in a large tent.

With his commander-in-chief, Louis Botha, he was one of those who signed the Treaty of Vereeniging, under which Britain agreed to pay three million pounds to repair the damage caused by the war. This, surely, is the first instance in history of the victors in a war paying reparations to the conquered.

Another picture of Smuts in the South African War period has been given by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in his short history of the war. "Throughout the war," Doyle wrote, "he had played a manly and honourable part. It may be hoped that with youth and remarkable experience, both of diplomacy and of war, he may now find a long and brilliant career in a wider arena than that for which he strove." Those words were written in 1903. Like Botha, he lived to play a leading role in the politics of his country. Both men loyally abided by the terms of the peace treaty. Together, they formed a party called the Het Volk, which aimed at establishing closer and more friendly relations between Boer and British residents of South Africa. Each was in turn Prime Minister of South Africa. In the war against Germany, each commanded expeditions against German colonies in Africa. Both men represented South Africa at the Peace Conference in 1919 and signed the Treaty of Versailles. Even the most casual student of current affairs must be well aware of the consistent service Smuts has rendered South Africa and the British Commonwealth in peace and war. One of his proudest distinctions is that of having been the first Dominion soldier to be made a Field Marshal of the British Army. Before he was given that rank, it had been reserved for members of the Royal Family, one or two rulers of friendly countries, and serving officers of the Regular Army.

THEY SAY . . .

"Wishing the magazine even greater success."—C. W. Chopping, hon. secretary, Albany sub-branch.

"I take this opportunity of thanking you for your kind assistance in printing the article 'Service in the A.R.A.' which appeared in your May issue. Quite a number of applications were received from all over the State mentioning the article, and your paper's assistance and a copy of The Listening Post has been brought to the notice of the Director of Mechanical Engineering, with a view to having regular advertisements inserted."—Lieut.-Colonel L. Jones, D.A.D.M.E.

"I rather look forward to The Listening Post, which is exceptionally good lately, and I send it on to a cousin of mine in Edinburgh."—W. T. McHutchion.

"John, I've been lying awake for hours waiting for you to come home from that wretched club."

"If that isn't just like a woman. And I've been at the club for hours waiting for you to go to sleep."

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Sub-Branch Activities

Bassendean

Mr. Sten, members, for being so lax in not writing reports more regularly. To those members who did not attend, and believe me there were many of you, we had a wonderful evening when our newly elected State President (Mr. Sten), our State Secretary (Mr. Chappell) and our district representative (Mr. Batey) came along to present us with the new charter. The evening was in the form of a social held in the sub-branch hall. Members of the Ex-Service Legion and various friendly societies were guests. The hall was filled almost to capacity and it was a great success. To members who were absent, and also to other sub-branches, the way Mr. Sten explains the structure and significance of the charter is wonderful, and the charter is something for any and every sub-branch to be proud of. For the ordinary members who have not had the significance of the charter explained, it is just an ordinary ornament for the wall, but, believe me, after our State President’s explanation it is something to be proud of and as important as our R.S.L. coat badges, and no hall is complete without one. During the evening, Mr. Kirke, Mr. Carter, Mr. Frees and Mr. Arthur Payne were presented with Life Honorary Certificates for services rendered and, believe me, the old chaps really earned them, as they are foundation members, and we hope they are spared many long years to come along and share in all our jollifications.

Work and improvements on our hall are going ahead slowly but surely. Our membership has improved this year, but we wish to see many more of those ex-members who are unfinancial (and still wearing the badge) renew their subscriptions and come back to the fold. I would like to thank our faithful scout, Ted Okley, for the time and way he spends Sundays, visiting the sick members in Hollywood Hospital, and if at any time there is a member sick in this hospital, please tell your president or secretary and leave the rest to good old Ted. If there is a member or widow that is sick or needs any advice concerning pensions or hospital treatment, etc., please contact us immediately.

Remember Poppy Day is approaching, and we need all your assistance. Don’t expect the women’s auxiliary to do the lot.

★ PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTES TO 200 WORDS.★

Bedford-Morley Parks

Nothing very exciting has happened here since our last notes appeared, the usual undertakings within our domestic set-up have, of course, kept the respective committees on their toes. Messrs. Ponton, Gleeson and Co. are doing a good and conscientious job and interesting fixtures in the social and dances programme at Riley’s Hall. The Youth Club, under the sponsorship of the sub-branch, are continuing to make wonderful progress and stability.

Max Brinkworth, our vice-president, as the treasurer, is making the finances speak good language, and we are fortunate in having Mr. N. M. Alexander as secretary. In fact, the combined team are all heartily behind the movement. The monthly sports mixed gatherings are still popular and our sports director, Mr. Haynes, is flat-out keeping the whole show on the move.

Canning

The monthly meeting was held in the Coker Park Hall on Sunday, August 27. The president, Mr. F. Carden, occupied the chair and there were 30 members present.

The president welcomed two new members in Mr. Best and Mr. Winger, also Mr. Wooley, an old member is back again. Also present was Mr. Sharpe, of Kalgourie.

Mr. J. J. Connelly gave a report on the activities of the S.S & D.L., he also reported that he had got into touch with the Relax Community Concert Party, whom he stated had

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promised to give a concert at some future date. Mr. Reen reported on
attending the memorial hall annual meeting and social evening, represent-
ing the sub-branch. Mr. J. J. Connelly gave a very fine report on the
R.S.L. conference held in July at Perth. Moved by E. Treasure,
seconded by H. Godfrey, that a vote
of thanks be entered in minutes for
his very fine report.

General Business.—F. Carden
reported regarding a suitable block of
land to build quarters for sub-branch.
Mr. J. J. Connelly reported re Mr.
Reen's case of housing. After dis-
cussion it was decided that matter
be handled by amelioration com-
ittee.

Moved by H. Godfrey, seconded
by A. Stannard, that donation of
£2/2/- be sent to Camping Agri-
tural Society. Carried.

Mr. F. Carden brought to mind
the war memorial fund. Several sug-
gestions were put forward to raise
funds. Moved by J. Duckwood,
seconded by H. Godfrey, that a let-
ter be sent to Anzac House recom-
mending the presentation of Cer-
tificate of Merit to J. J. Connelly. Car-
rried.

★ PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTES
TO 200 WORDS.

Carnamah

Organised conjointly by the Car-
amah Sub-Branch and the women's
auxiliary, a most enjoyable social took
place in the Carnamah Hall, the
function having been arranged to bid
farewell to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Price,
of Inering. The chair was occupied by
the president of the sub-branch (Mr.
R. A. F. Solling), who was supported
by two very old district residents in
Messrs. John Bowman and B. Niven,
and an attendance of between 60
and 70 persons comprised members
of the R.S.L. and their wives and
lady friends and members of the wo-
en's auxiliary and their husbands.
For the occasion, three long tables
occupied the centre of the hall, and
the were beautifully decorated with
flowers and laden with edibles of
every description in a quantity that
was probably more than sufficient for
double the number of those present;
catering arrangements having been
very efficiently handled by members
of the women's auxiliary.
At the conclusion of the repast, Mr. Solling briefly explained the reason for the gathering, and in so doing he expressed regret at the departure from the district of Mr. and Mrs. Price, who had over a very lengthy period proved themselves as two very estimable citizens and sterling supporters of the R.S.L. The chairman said that Mr. Price was one of the original soldier settlers who selected land at Inverell and in the process of establishing himself as a farmer he had experienced all the early-day hardships. Many of the other early soldier settlers in the same locality, some of whom were struck by the depression years, which followed, had fallen by the roadside, but with his wife, Mr. Price had battled through to success and was now reaping the reward of his laborious pioneering work.

In referring to R.S.L. affairs, the chairman said that Mr. Price was a past president of the Carnamah Sub-Branch and during his term of office had accomplished much good for the movement and ex-service men generally. One notable feature of his activities was the inauguration of a building fund for the provision of an R.S.L. hall at Carnamah, an ambition which it was hoped would reach fruition before Mr. Price paid a return visit to the district at some future date. The R.S.L. had also found a firm friend in Mrs. Price, who was a foundation member of the women’s auxiliary and also a diligent worker for several other local organisations. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Solling stated that Mr. and Mrs. Price would be greatly missed by the R.S.L. and the district community in general, and in bidding the guests of honour farewell he expressed the hope that they would live long to enjoy many happy years of retired life in the metropolitan area.

The chairman intimated that the members of the sub-branch desired to show some recognition of the past services of Mr. Price, and he asked that gentleman to accept a combined standard lamp and smoker’s stand and also a framed Certificate of Service which had been made available by the Western Australian Branch of the League.

Collie

Collie has been in the news again, making complaints and asking explanations and questions, and in most cases, thanks to the cooperation of Head Office, getting results. Great is the pity that some of our own sub-branch members did not put their shoulder to the wheel instead as was recently the case of dealing a stab in the dark. Criticism can take, but some in the public Press by one who claims membership of the sub-branch and who was so ill-informed is just a bit foul. Perhaps our next critic will be game to sign his name. We would then at least say he was a man with the courage of his convictions.

Over the last few months we have had a dearth of visitors to our district. Mr. W. Lonnie (chairman of the Housing Committee), accompanied by John Chappell and Fred Stahl, also Melves Lonnie and Chappell, spent the week-end in the town. We hope that the small way in which we were able to entertain was as enjoyable to them as it was to us in doing the honours.

Recently we had an unofficial visit from our recently elected State President (Mr. T. Sten). We are honoured that we are one of the first sub-branches Mr. Sten has visited since his gaining the office of W.A. Branch President. We hope it will not be his last visit in that capacity, but that we shall see him again on other occasions. Accompanying him was Mr. Bradshaw, a new member of the State Executive, as Mr. Bradshaw hail from one of Collie’s outer suburbs, we hope to see more of his presence on other occasions.

We are indeed pleased to see that the State Executive have, in their wisdom, again appointed Mr. Stahl as representative for our district. Between Fred and this sub-branch rests an understanding hard to duplicate. We are asking North Perth Sub-Branch to formally adopt us in accord with the resolution passed at congress, thus hoping to cement an already firm alliance formed at past annual congresses.

Plans are being prepared for the renovation and additions to the memorial hall. We had hoped to have it under way by now. However, though progress is slow, it is sure.

The municipal council has planted 146 roses in a fenced plot in the Soldiers’ Park. This is to be known as the Memorial Garden, each rose representing a Collie man killed in action during the late world wars.

We have tendered for the cool drink stall at Brunswick show again this year, and if our tender is successful will be calling on members for helpers. The members of the women’s auxiliary have already been active in these social events, and are preparing to assist with the stall. Much is owed to these loyal helpers.

L. C. MARTIN.

Dwellingup and Districts

We are very pleased to report that the “Snow” Ball, held in the Dwellingup Hall, was a huge success, both socially and financially. A “big hand” is due to that willing band of helpers who worked so hard in the interests of the sub-branch with, of course, special mention to the ladies.

Regret to report that our popular secretary, Chas. Joyson, and Alf Hills are again in hospital, and all members sincerely trust that they will soon be up and about again.

We are pleased to say that at long last we can see daylight ahead of us as regards a club room, somewhere where we can at least do as we like, because when we are in the club room we will be away from our wives. However, Frank Wills, Arthur Ashcroft, Jim Huldane and A. Florance have been putting in a fair amount of overtime regarding working out the details and obstacles, because it has not been all plain sailing; but we can now see daylight, and hope with a little effort by all hands the day should not be far away when we can arrange our official opening.

ARTHUR FLORANCE.

Fremantle City

Fremantle City Sub-Branch was en fête on Thursday, September 14, when bright lights, lovely girls and music was the order of the charter night. The function took the form of a cabaret dance, and was preceded by the presentation of the League charter by the State President, accom-
HOME BUILDERS
NEW
FLUSH-PANEL DOORS
6 ft. 8 in. x 2 ft. 8 in. and 6 ft. 6 in. x 2 ft. 6 in., with Edge Strips, and sheeted with Borneo Plywood, 70/- each.
Packing for rail extra.

MYTTONS STAINLESS STEEL SINK TOPS
Complete with Plug and Washer: 4 ft. at £14/13/6 each; 4 ft. 6 in. at £15/17/6 each; 5 ft. at £17/7/- each.

PORCELAIN BASINS
Porcelain Wall Basins, Ivory (seconds), complete with Brackets and Plug and Washer, 69/- each.
Packed for rail . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4/6 each extra.

BATH HEATERS
"Hotflow" Chip Bath Heater (Galv. Iron Lined) £5/7/6 each
"Jason" Chip Bath Heater (Copper Lined) £6/12/5 each
"Jason" Chip Bath Heater (All Copper), £8/18/2 each
Aluminium Flue Pipe for above, 2/- per foot.

STANDARD PLY
6 x 3 x 3/16 (sanded one side) at 12/- per sheet.
6 x 2 ft. 6 in. x ½ (sanded one side) at 13/6 per sheet.
6 x 3 x 5/16 (fiveply, one side) at 20/5 per sheet.
6 x 3 x 5/8 (sevenply, one side) at 36/9 per sheet.

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Watsonia
HAMS & BACON
National Anthem at the bewitching hour of midnight we had a comfortable feeling that our charter night had been a success.

H. G. WILSON.

Manjimup

Business at the last monthly meeting of the Manjimup Sub-Branch was rapidly disposed of by the president (Mr. L. Thompson) and to the social evening which followed he extended a cordial welcome to 16 members of the tobacco training centre and a like number from the Pemberton Sub-branch, the latter paying a return visit.

Teams were quickly decided from the Manjimup members and the visitors and the six dart boards were soon in constant use.

Supper provided by the local members concluded a most enjoyable gathering.

New members welcomed to Manjimup were Messrs. S. Nicholas and Arthur Leggett.

It was reported that, since it was formed in 1948, the Manjimup Memorial Committee had met for the first time recently when it was decided to call together delegates from all organisations to discuss alternative suggestions to the original proposal to provide a swimming pool as the type of memorial. Mr. Jim Frawley has accepted the office of organising secretary for the committee.

Joint honorary secretary of the sub-branch (Mr. J. J. Johnston) reported that arrangements were in hand for the annual Digger's day golf outing in which the local golf club were again rendering generous help.

Maylands

Attendéz-vous! Maylands reporting Thursday, September 31, witnessed quite a respectable muster of the herd, despite the price of wool. In fact, I think it beat Midland's that morning. After the usual business dealing with the welfare of the sub-branch and the R.S.L. generally, the balance of the evening was devoted to bridge and euchre foursomes. I have reason to believe that "Tommy" finished up euchre champion for that night, but as the tournament is unfinished, and some of the boys are taking lessons from our local King Billy, Alf will have to look to his laurels. By the way "Tommy", whose money-box did you purloin on Monday, August 21? I saw you!

On Wednesday, September 6, we had a very enjoyable evening as guests of the ladies. Honours were about even until the scribe knocked the Jack off the mat. The replacement put the ladies in front, but who eventually won, I duno! But I do know that these mixed evenings are very convivial, and deserving of larger patronage. Good luck to you, ladies. Keep on carrying on. We don't mind.

Now for September 14. Again, a good muster. Vic Matthews in the pulpit, due to Tom Inman's unavoidable absence. Roly Eastwood tendered the members some very interesting information during the evening. It seems that we have a reasonable chance of becoming a bloated landowner.

I regret to report that, because Roly Eastwood is joining the noble order of beneficents and leaving the district, we may lose his services. He has been a very honest and staunch worker for this sub-branch, both as assistant secretary and A.R.M.S. organiser. Joe Kemp wished him the best of everything in the years to come, in which we all concurred.

Was very pleased to see Les Shand back in the fold on this night, and he moved a vote of thanks to Roly for his interest and work in connection with the sub-branch's interests.

J. H. FUSSEY.

Norseman

Attendance at our monthly meetings has fallen off somewhat of late. However, this is made up for at our monthly dart evenings. These are very well attended and enjoyed by all, especially the ladies.

There has been a good response to the appeal we sponsored for comrade Bob Smith and his dependants. Bob
More "Fibrolite" homes are being built than ever before. But so great is the demand for Hardie's "Fibrolite" Building Sheets that, even though production is substantially higher than its pre-war peak, there is still not enough to go round. But your turn will come. The day may not be far distant when there will be sufficient to meet your needs. When that time comes, you'll have good reason to be proud of your "Fibrolite" home—built for a lifetime of happy, comfortable living.

THOUSANDS OF "FIBROLITE" HOMES...AND STILL NOT ENOUGH

HARDIE'S "FIBROLITE"
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THIS MODERN BEDROOM ... ... £41/15/-
Ftelting 7-drawer Dressing Table, two 4ft. Robes and 4ft. 6in. Bedstead. Easy Terms conveniently arranged.

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All the goodness of Whole Wheat
Rich, delicious, nutty-flavoured biscuits made from the very best ingredients, including finest Wheatmeal and choicest Butter... A treat to eat at ANY time!
was a great worker for the sub-branch in years gone by, and was one of the mainstays during World War II. Bob is still confined to hospital and will be for some considerable time yet. Ted Hicks and Dr. Kirkman are looking after his interests very well.

It was with sincere regret that we bid farewell to comrade George Harris last month. George put in some good work for the sub-branch during the past year, and we were indeed sorry to lose both Mrs. Harris and himself. However, what is Norseman's loss is Northampton's gain. George will be resident at the Chapman Research Station, Nahawa Siding, via Geraldton.

The sub-branch ran an Empire Ball on September 2, but it wasn't a great success—interest seems to be at an ebb at present in this town, and this apathetic attitude does not do much to encourage the committee, recalling to mind that old adage about "the willing horse."

The same may be said of our hard-working auxiliary—they are butting all the time. However, it is hoped the position will improve in the near future.

Members of the sub-branch send their best wishes to all old Norseman members scattered throughout the State.

D. F. McAra.

Press

Acknowledging the presentation of the charter to the sub-branch by the State President, the foundation president (Mr. C. P. Smith) spoke of the first gathering of 120 or so men of the newspaper and printing industry 23 years ago in the Soldiers' Institute, St. George's Terrace (then R.S.L. headquarters and now the home of the A.B.C.). The creators of the Press Sub-Branch visualized it as particularly concerned with what might be called the public relations side of the R.S.L. One of its most notable services had been conducting the Wool Queen competition to popularize the use of woolen fabrics at a time when the pastoral industry was depressed. On the cultural side, members had presented a series of Shakespearean play readings which had proved very popular.

Mr. Smith added that the sub-branch had also set out to provide motions for congress touching public affairs in the hope that they would cause discussions. However, these had usually been accepted without debate. The sub-branch had been proud to make what contributions it could to community service by the League.

Other past presidents then added some reminiscences.

Mr. R. Nicholas recalled the Anzac House ball, organized by the sub-branch, through which about £500 had been raised towards R.S.L. headquarters.

Mr. E. S. Watt instanced the sub-branch's role in early V.D.C. training and the comradeship engendered. The formation of the sub-branch was originally suggested by Lieut.-Colonel Fitzgerald, then on The Sunday Times.

Mr. J. Chappell developed the recollection of the sub-branch's experiences as a V.D.C. unit and his own direction of its training until permanent militia duties took him elsewhere. How it got Mark VI ammunition, rifles, hand grenades and so forth was always a mystery, but it got them.

Mr. I. T. Birtwistle, first secretary of the sub-branch, said that Mr. Chappell had evoked harrowing memories of the "sweat and tears" exuded by members of the Press unit of the V.D.C., scrambling up hills and down valleys in the City Beach area. Indeed, in those days they would not have hesitated between Mr. Sten's five- or ten-gallon keg, but would have declared for a 50-gallon one. The sub-branch, like Mr. Sten, viewed the League not as a pressure group, but as a power-house, and it was in that direction that the sub-branch would try to bend.

Mr. H. Roach reminded members that on one occasion; in conjunction with Perth Legacy Club, they had entertained officers of a visiting Japanese naval squadron, who, no doubt, had had things in mind other than the pleasant sentiments then expressed.

Mr. J. A. K. Tonkin pointed out that the sub-branch, with the State Executive's support, had instituted the R.S.L. debating competition, which he hoped would have more backing among sub-branches in future.

The chairman briefly voiced the thanks of the gathering for Mr. Sten's presence and arresting speech which he hoped the Press Sub-Branch, in conjunction with other sub-branches, would regard as a challenge.

Returned Ex-Service Women

The members of the above sub-branch have been fairly active this month.

On September 7 the Misses Peers, Croxton, Hall, Rutherford and Mrs. Ford attended the meeting of the Blinded Soldiers in order to serve supper to them. We are always glad to help in any way we can, and our efforts in this direction were much appreciated.

On September 8 our raffle was drawn, the winners being as follows: First prize, coffee set, No. 786; Mrs. Ivan Taylor, 64 Planet Street, Carlisle. Second prize, 13 lb. ham, No. 694; Miss Harry, Hut 6, Repatriation Hospital, Hollywood. Third prize, table cloth and serviettes, No. 692; Miss B. M. Jardine, Ward 8, Repatriation Hospital, Hollywood.

After all expenses were deducted we made £32/15/11 in the raffle, a most gratifying result, and the members are to be congratulated on their splendid effort. Our thanks also go to the donors of the coffee set (Mr. Bridson) and the 13 lb. ham (Mr. Edgar, of Watson's Ltd.).

On Wednesday, September 20, as many of the girls who could manage it went to Lemnos, where they danced with the patients and gave them supper.

Once more we are starting on Christmas decorations, and flower-making evenings will be held at Miss Meares' residence.

We are extremely grateful to the Perth sub-branch for their kind offer to share their stand with us on Poppy Day.

We are holding a picture night on November 10 at Shell House, when all friends will be welcome and supper will be served.

We are delighted to hear that Miss Korbosky has made such a rapid recovery, and look forward to seeing her at our next meeting. We hope, too, that it will not be long before Miss Gibson is with us once again.

Miss Pagett and Miss Goldby are both new members, and we are glad to welcome them to our midst.

(Mrs.) M. M. FORD

Returned Sisters

At the last meeting of this sub-branch held in the clubrooms at Anzac House on September 7, 26 mem-
bers were present, with Mrs. Ferguson in the chair.

Patients at Lemnos are still being visited every six weeks, and cigarettes, sweets and magazines distributed.

All members are delighted with the refurbishing of the clubrooms, and special thanks were given Misses Barnes and Dunman for the rearranging of the pictures. Mrs. Lungley reported great success with the fortnightly bridge parties. She now has £29/18/7 in hand. Mrs. Huggins advised completion of arrangements for a tea party for Miss Clifton on September 13 in celebration of the M.B.E. bestowed on her earlier in the year.

It was decided to apply to the State Executive for a charter for our sub-branch.

Orders were taken for the selling of poppies for Remembrance Day in November.

We regret to report that Mrs. Clouston and Mrs. Graham-Browne are still in the Repatriation Hospital, Hollywood, also Miss Hilda Davis and Miss Spencer. To them we tender our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

E. A. FOLLAND.

* GET YOUR REPORT FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE IN BY OCTOBER 25—DON'T COMPLAIN OF YOUR NOTES BEING LEFT OUT IF YOU FAIL TO GET YOUR COPY IN ON TIME.

Rockingham

The following members were elected office-bearers of the sub-branch for the ensuing year:

President, H. Farquharson, Defence Road, Safety Bay; vice-presidents, A. I. Meacham and F. Marchant; treasurer, T. Mair; hon. secretary, R. J. Hilton, 29 Harrison Street, Rockingham; committee, R. Day, M. Gilgallof, R. T. Fardell, R. Bentley, T. S. W. Jones, S. G. Nuyen, J. M. Ross and C. J. Lewis. No auditor was elected at the annual meeting on September 8, when the above members were selected.

Meeting nights: Second Friday in each month.

R. J. HILTON.

Scarborough

A recent discussion evening, organized by Mr. Jack Harnett, proved an interesting and enjoyable function. Members were called on to give a talk on some of their experiences overseas. Many of us learned for the first time how the other half lived. A visitor, Mr. Nevin, of the Repatriation Commission, gave an informative address on the activities of his department.

The social committee is arranging a good programme of functions for the summer months. At present arrangements are well in hand for the picnics and sports to be held on October 29. The substantial assistance given by the "Better Halves Club" continued in a bazaar held at the Civic Hall on 29th and 30th September, and the sub-branch is indebted to the ladies who organised this successful event.

Mr. Flood reports a marked improvement in the standard of play on sports nights. This resulted in a win for Scarborough at the final competition of the Big Four on September 11. But the last quarter burst came too late and Osborne Park will take the shield this year.

Helpers are now being organised for the sale of poppies this year and the committee anticipates a large increase on last year's sales.

The annual dinner of the sub-branch will be held on Saturday, December 2, and the annual general meeting for election of officers on Monday, December 11.

A. W. BROWN.

Shenton Park

On Thursday, September 7, the sub-branch certainly turned on the works for the presentation of the charter. It is still being spoken of as the best night ever in the history of the sub-branch, and that is certainly saying something.

Those in attendance included Mr. J. Chappell (State Secretary), Mr. R. J. Stoddart, Mr. J. Chaney (Vice-President), Messrs. W. S. Lonnie, B. Keeley, J. Walmley, and Patron Sir Norbert Keenan, K.C. Sub-branches were: Freemantle City, Subiaco, Neldands, South Perth, Kensington, Bilton, Palmyra and the Women's Auxiliary. The President (Mr. C. Kleeman), proposed the toast of the State Executive and, in doing so, spoke of the good work done in an honorary capacity by these members, particularly referring to the assistance rendered by the State Secretary, for which we are grateful. A history of the sub-branch was given by the president, who referred to the early days when Percy Clegg rode around the district on his bicycle canvassing for members. We very much regretted Percy Clegg's absence through ill-health.

This sub-branch was founded on June 26, 1940, and, the original minutes of the first meeting were read and the names of the 14 foundation members were called, but only four were present: Bob Ogg, Frank Strongman, Harry Balton and Cliff Kleeman.

Mr. R. J. Stoddart made the presentation of the charter to the president, who accepted same on behalf of the sub-branch and gave his "solemn pledge" that the charter would be guarded and "treasured and handed on to his successor, whoever that may be.

Mr. John Chappell submitted the toast of the sub-branch and, in doing so, spoke of the good work done by its president and commended the sub-branch and its members on their venture of commencing their new hall.

Mr. Kleeman responded, outlining what had been done by the sub-branch in raising £650 in three years, purchasing block of land, fencing same, and purchasing Cottesloe Council's hall, and now this is being removed and re-erected on our own block. To do this has been of considerable cost and expense and we are soliciting donations, which may be forwarded to the Secretary or president. The members have subscribed something like £150.

Mrs. Sherlock, president of Shenton Park Women's Auxiliary, thanked Mr. Strongman for his remarks and then came the highlight of the night, when she asked the president of the sub-branch to accept the sum of £100 to the building fund, £22/10/- as a donation, £77/4/0/- as a loan, free of interest for two years. For the first time in the history of the sub-branch, the president was unable to say anything; he was overcome with joy and surprise and could only utter "Thank you, ladies."

We would once again like to say how much we appreciate this magnificent gesture; no words can really express our thoughts. We wish you well!

Members are reminded that a working bee is on at the block every Sunday morning. Your help is needed urgently.

C. KLEEMAN.

THE LISTENING POST - October, 1950
**South Perth**

The big event for October is the dinner at which the charter will be presented to the sub-branch. To this dinner, at Swan Street Hall, all members and their wives are cordially invited. It is on Thursday, 26th, at 7.30, and the charge is 4/- a head, which is less than the caterer’s charge. All those wishing to attend are asked to inform the secretary (Mr. S. Wil- hur; 23 Coode Street, MU 1160) before Wednesday, October 18, so that the sub-branch may make final arrangements with the caterer. This should be a good show and one at which the womenfolk can get some idea of what the sub-branch and the League mean in the life of the community. It is arranged for your benefit, members.

On Friday, October 6, the members of the sub-branch and the women’s auxiliary are invited to attend a games social night at the Victoria Park Sub-Branch, Salford Street, Victoria Park. The secretary would like to know how many contemplate attending. This is a kindly gesture upon the part of Victoria Park and we can best express our thanks by turning up in force.

**Gratuitous**: This is of great importance to you! All ex-service men and women are advised to notify their respective Service Headquarters of any change of address since their discharge. If this is not done there may be considerable delay in receiving gratuitous which are due to be paid in March, 1951.

Remembrance Day will this year be commemorated at the Anglican Church, off Forrest Street, South Perth, upon the Sunday that the King shall proclaim. Friday, November 10, will be Poppy Day. It is pleasing to note that we have drawn the Perth Station as our city selling site. It would be appreciated if all those prepared to help on this day would communicate with the secretary.

It is hoped that the following members in Hollywood will soon be about again: Messrs. V. R. Bath, R. J. Phipps and A. Brown.

A welcome is extended to new member, Mr. C. B. Moore.

October meetings at Swan Street Hall are on the 12th and 26th.

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**Subiaco**

Our monthly general meeting on August 30 suffered from the prevailing anaemia in point of numbers, but we got through a lot of business. "The Old S.M.," Mr. H. F. James, presented the sub-branch with a furnished doll’s house made by himself, as a means of raising funds, and amongst other things, Councillor Ern Congdon, past president of the sub-branch, reported on the Sunday afternoon outing given by the women’s auxiliary of Subiaco to Lemnos patients; one of the best in more than 20 years’ unbroken record of these functions.

Subiaco is out of the A.R.M.S. games. We won the first two contests and then flopped dismally. Perhaps, if we returned to draughts instead of bridge, we might do better, as we always lose the bridge. However, under the old scheme we did not do so good, either.

The barbecue on September 6 was successful and well attended, in spite of landing on one of the wildest and wettest nights of the year.

J. McNAMARA.

**Victoria Park**

Attendances at monthly meetings have been below average recently. With a view to encouraging members it has been decided to close all official business not later than 9.20 and then adjourn for games and social. Cards are provided and partners available for bridge, solo, etc. With the committee handling routine business, it is hoped appreciation of earlier closing of meetings will be shown by increased attendances.

There is still plenty of assistance required. We still have the semi-final and final of the A.R.M.S. to play; two more hurdles only remain to be negotiated—can we do it? Better results are hoped for in forthcoming Poppy Day appeal. The Rotary Club has again invited our co-operation in the local community effort on the Causeway recreation ground in November. This should be a great success, judging from the initial effort last year. Our hospital visiting has made up some leeway of late. Jim Bodle no longer has to play a lone hand in this regard. We are now waiting for the contractor to put the finishing touches outside the hall so that we shall not be ashamed for our friends and clients to move outside. Membership figures show a pleasing increase on last year; still a few have forgotten to put in; reminders have brought good results so far. The monthly social was again well attended, Melville and Canning districts sending a strong force. With such interest displayed it should be a popular Friday evening with the warmer weather ahead.

Have you seen the sub-branch charter yet? It is well worth a visit to see. Surely you can manage to look around on the first or third Friday—make a special effort!

H. J. TIMMS.

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**PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTES TO 200 WORDS.**

**Wooraloo**

At our recent annual general meeting, held at the Sanatorium, Wooraloo, the following office-bearers were elected and have been confirmed: President, H. A. M. Appleton; vice-president, L. G. Pursell; treasurer, E. J. Westley; auditors, J. Quayle and G. Cornford; press correspondent, C. McGeorge; hon. secretary-treasurer, J. Duffy.

The meetings are held regularly the first Tuesday of each month. Since having transferred to our present meeting-place at the Sanatorium, where most members are resident, our attendances at meetings have improved immensely.

**COLIN McGEORGE.**

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Throughout the evening meal neither had spoken. But as soon as the plates had been cleared away and they were seated before the fire, the husband’s face lost some of its hardness.

“You know, dear,” he said, breaking the long silence, “I’ve been thinking over our argument.”

“Well!” she snapped, without looking up from her sewing.

“Yes, dear, I’ve decided to agree with you after all,” he said meekly.

“That won’t do any good,” she sniffed. “I’ve changed my mind.”

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Dick Marris, president of the Como Sub-Branch, recently paid a visit to Anzac House to watch the State Executive in action. He received a warm welcome.
Vale

Brigadier-General Martin

Brigadier-General E. F. Martin, who died in the Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood, recently, at the age of 75 years, and who was Sergeant-at-Arms for many years, will be remembered by many of those ex-servicemen who served in the V.D.C.

Brig.-Gen. Martin, who has a distinguished military career with the A.I.F. in World War I, had been in ill-health for some time. On Gallop he commanded the 17th Bn. prior to being appointed Brigadier-General in 1941 and given command of the 5th Brigade.

He had a host of friends in all ranks of life. He leaves a widow and one daughter, to whom The Listening Post extends its condolences.

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

ARMY MEDICAL UNITS ASSOCIATION—Room 55, Fifth Floor, Gled- den Buildings, Perth: 3rd Friday each month; President: L-Col. C. H. Leedman, M.C.; Chairman: C. W. Brick, Roleystone; Hon. Secretary: W. H. Riggs, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth (Phone B 2374).

ARTILLERY CONRAD—President: Arthur Hewitt, Railway Parade, Cottesloe; Secretary: A. J. Snow, 24 Heytesbury Road, Subiaco; meeting when called.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY HIJACKERS ASSOCIATION—Secretary: A. Wil- liams, Box N 1134, Q.P.O., Perth.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION of W.A. —Meetings de soldier: Presidents: A. Pullis, 195 Townsend Road, Subiaco; Vice-President: S. F. Allen, 255 Churchill Avenue, Subiaco; Secretary: Miss G. McMillan, 2605 Peel Street, South Perth.

MACHINE GUNNERS ASSOCIATION—Gedrogen’s, 53 King Street, Perth; Friday before Anzac Day and 2nd Friday in October; President: R. W. Cashmore; Secretary: E. W. Wallace, 244 Shenton Rd, Victoria Park.

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS & AIRMEN’S ASSOCIATION (W.A.)—1955 Buildings, 154 Moore Street, Perth, 2nd Monday in each month; President: C. H. Hatton, 9 Princess Royal Road, Nedlands; Secretary: C. L. Lee, 158 William Street, Perth (B 5066).

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS OF AUSTRALIA (W.A.)—1905 Buildings, 154 Moore Street, Perth: 1st Thursday in each month; President: W. A. Bradfield, 267 Woborough Road, Como; Secretary: J. M. Hurlow, 51 Happy Street, Nedlands.

VICTORIA’S ASSOCIATION (W.A.)—U.S.I., Rooms, Swan Barrows, Francis Street, every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.; President: W. L. Stedman, Taxation Department, Perth; Secretary: W. Robertson, Commonwealth Oil Refineries, St. George’s Terrace, Perth.

L.A.M.E. ASSOCIATION—(W.A. Division)—H.O. Western Command Club Night, Western Command A.R.A. Sergeants’ Mess, Swan Barrows, 3rd Tuesday each month; President: A. Field, Hon. Secretary: F. M. Cumming (Phone B 3143, Ext. 292).

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION—Mon- day Night, 1905, Third Floor, Palace Building, Perth: 1st Monday in each month at 2 p.m.; President: F. W. Bateson, M.M., c/o Monash Club, Perth; Phone 67477; Secretary: G. B. McGlachlan, 158 Hay St, Perth (B 5066).

THE IMPERIAL EX-SERVICEMEN’S ASSOCIATION—1905, U.S.I., 154 Moore Street, Perth: 1st Tuesday of each month at 10 p.m.; President: W. E. Milward, 40 Vansittart Street, Basseterre, Secretary: J. G. Fleming, 2 Martin Ave, Nedlands (B 3109).

THE IMPERIAL EX-SERVICEMEN’S ASSOCIATION (Freemantle Sub-Branch)—6706, High Street, Fremantle; every Saturday at 4 p.m., general meetings; 3rd Thursday every month; meets 2nd Thursday of month; President: H. Burge, 3 Hogansen Street, Fremantle; Hon. Secretary: W. P. Milward, 40 Vansittart Street, Basseterre, Secretary: J. G. Fleming, 2 Martin Ave, Nedlands (B 3109).

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN BLINDED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION—3rd Monday in each month; President: W. R. Webb, 689 Pritchard Street, Perth; Hon. Secretary: W. Webb, 689 Pritchard Street, Perth (Phone M 1409).

TOTAL PENETRATINGLY DISABLED SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION—Room 53, Fifth Floor, Gledden Building, Perth; 1st Pension Day of the month at 2 p.m.; President: D. K. Symonds, 77 William Street, Victoria Park; Secretary: W. T. Kendall, 97 Waterloo Street, Joondanna Heights (Telephone B 5457).

THE LISTENING POST • October, 1950

SINGAPORE CENOTAPH

A proposal to extend the base of the Singapore Cenotaph with an urn on either side—one containing the remains of an unknown soldier and the other the remains of an unknown civilian who died in World War II—has been approved.

The alterations include the fitting of brass plates bearing the names of those who died for this country on the granite walls of the memorial.

The lettering on the Cenotaph will also be altered to include the dead of both world wars.

When the Exservice Association of Singapore hold their next committee meeting, the question of placing nameplates of local soldiers who died in battle during the last world war at the foot of trees in Singapore’s residential areas as a memorial will be discussed.

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