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The League and Recruiting

The Federal President of the League says that all the League's resources are at the disposal of the officers controlling the Australia-wide recruiting campaign, and he adds that it has always been the policy of the League to insist on strong defence, not only in preparation for war, but for the preservation of peace.

This statement, of course, is nothing much in the way of news to League members, but it is essential, in times such as these, that the League states, irrevocably, that it is not only behind recruiting, but that it intends at all times to do all in its power to see that recruiting does not flag, to see that every encouragement and support is given to all who volunteer to serve their country, and to see that at all times the defence of our great country is sound and secure.

The Federal President's recent words are of interest to us all: "If we are to hold Australia in the face of the threat of communism, the only realistic approach is armed preparedness. Every member of the League knows from bitter experience how close Australia was to disaster in the last war. I feel that the League can play a constructive and important part in this campaign for recruits, and I feel certain there will be no lack of young fellows to do the job."

It is not for you or for me to sit complacently down, read these words—and then forget all about it. None of the members of our League want another war—we know too much of its horrors for that.

What, then, can we do? We can, each and every one of us, see that whenever it is in our power to encourage recruiting we encourage it to the full. If we are over-age workers, let us pull our weight when the younger men want time off to attend camps. If we are over-age employers, let us see that our young men are in no way penalised when they take time off to attend to their military duties. Whatever we can do to help and assist the young fellows—whether it is by encouragement or by actual physical help—let us do it freely and gladly, and let us DO IT NOW.

Helen Gray Cone once wrote a Song of England. But some of her words might well suit us here today:

A song of hate is a song of Hell;
Some there be who sing it well.
Let them sing it loud and long,
We lift our hearts in a loftier song:
We lift our hearts to Heaven above,
Singing the glory of her we love,
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- Opposite North Perth Hotel, Charles Street, North Perth

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Items of Interest from the State Executive

A meeting of the State Executive was held on October 14, 48 members being present. Apologies were received from Messrs. Stanbury, Watt, Ferguson, Yates, Leslie, Herlihy, Craig and Greenham. A warm welcome was given to Mr. S. Reeves, Southern Country Vice-President, of Mount Barker. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Brigadier-General E. F. Martin.

State President's Allowance
Due notice having been given, Mr. Hunt submitted the following motion: "That the Finance Committee give consideration to recommending an increase in the allowance made available to the State President annually during his term of office." This was seconded by Mr. Benson and duly carried.

Fremantle Club Premises
A delegation from the Fremantle Sub-Branch (Messrs. Colless, Squire and Wilson) attended and put forward proposals regarding the possibility of purchasing the premises now occupied by their club. It was resolved that a committee comprising the State President, the chairman of the Finance Committee, the chairman of the Trustees and Mr. Stoddart be appointed to consider the matter, and a special meeting of the Executive be called if necessary to consider the matter.

Poppy Day
The State Secretary indicated that, on the basis of orders received, it was estimated that between 130,000 and 140,000 poppies would be required this year. Last year's sales were just under 100,000, and it was resolved that the number of poppies to be ordered be left to the State Secretary's discretion.

Defence
Referring to a recent notice in The West Australian concerning the Prime Minister's statement on the defence of Australia, Mr. Hunt submitted the following motion: "That this State Branch's delegates to Federal Congress report to the congress that this State Executive wholeheartedly supported the spirit of the Prime Minister's statement regarding defence, and that the terms of the resolution be forwarded to the Federal Government. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bateson and duly carried.

W.S.L.S.
The State President referred to derogatory statements made recently in the Legislative Assembly by Mr. Hoar (concerning land settlement matters discussed at the last State congress), and both Mr. Sten and Mr. Hunt took the opportunity of refuting the allegations made.

Defence
Arising from a discussion on defence, it was resolved "That it be submitted to the next Federal Congress that the League policy be that every enlistment for military service be enlisted for service wherever service is required by the Defence authorities.

Recruiting Campaign
The State President reported having attended the initial meeting for the formation of a Citizens' Committee to conduct a recruiting campaign, at which Mr. E. S. Watt was elected chairman.

A special meeting of the State Executive was held on October 9 in regard to the report on the Fremantle club premises. The special committee submitted a report as follows: "Your committee considers that this (the purchase of the building) is a matter which could be met by normal bank finances, and that it remains a matter for negotiation by Fremantle R.S.L. Club with interested parties." This report was adopted with a vote of thanks to the committee.

A further meeting of the State Executive was held on October 18, there being 17 members present when the meeting opened.

Management
The State President reported upon the unveiling of the plaque at Faversham House (in recognition of the generous assistance given by Sir Ernest Lee Steere) and read a letter from Sir Ernest expressing his pleasure at the way in which the ceremony was conducted [reported elsewhere in our pages].

The State Secretary read a report on League clubs in the State. In regard to membership of these, Mr. Stahl was of the opinion that once a man was a League member he was thereafter entitled to enter Anzac Club, even though he was unfavourable. He thought it would be impossible to place restrictions on other clubs which were not placed on Anzac Club. It was pointed out, however, that admittance to Anzac Club was subject to club rules, and Mr. Stoddart promised to give a legal ruling in this matter.

A letter from the Albany Sub-Branch complained of the absence of the State President from the sub-branch's annual dinner, but the State Secretary pointed out that he had promised adequate representation from the State Executive, and added that as the function conflicted with a local one at which the State President had previously arranged to present a charter. "This was a public function which, of necessity, had to take precedence over a sub-branch function." He added that there was no intention of showing any "slight" to the Albany Sub-Branch.

Speaking on the matter of pension increases, Mr. James said that the Blinded Soldiers had asked for an increase in soldiers' pensions of £2 a week, an increase in wives' pensions and an increase in guide allowance. He felt that the increases made were inadequate, and the matter of guide allowance "asked for three years ago and so far increased by only five shillings" had apparently been ignored completely. Mr. Edmondson was of the opinion that Parliament did not today listen to the League. "Why this avoiding of the League and the men who are dependent on these pensions for their very livelihood?" he asked. But Mr. Stahl said that the pensions granted were approximately
as asked for, but the recent basic wage increase had altered value considerably. He thought, however, that it might be necessary to fight all the time for essential increases.

Mr. Sten said that such pensioners as Mr. James had no security. "There is a section of pensioners whose pensions are their complete livelihood, and these people are affected by every price and wage increase." Regarding the Minister for Repatriation (Mr. Cooper), Mr. James said: "I haven't had the opportunity of meeting him yet, but God help him when I do get hold of him."

Mr. Edmondson said that the pensioners were as dependent upon the Government as was the civil servant, but the pensioners had no machinery for making adjustments. "If the money paid to these men five or six years ago was a fair thing, it is certainly not so today." He added that the League must be on its toes the whole time fighting for these men.

Mr. Ferguson favoured a special meeting of the special committee which had previously dealt with pension matters, but Mr. James thought that a committee of Second Schedule pensioners should deal with the matters. Mr. Lonnie thought there was not much use in periodical review unless there was a definite policy behind them. "I think the League must recast its view on pensions," he added. "In sticking to a fixed rate we have been off the beam. . . . A reassessment of basic rates should be held every two or three years. Mr. Hullet said that the time had arrived when the old policy of "Keep off the basic wage" was gone.

Mr. Davies said that the only thing which mattered these days was the actual value of money, and it was generally agreed that this was the real basic factor. Dr. Greenham felt that there should be some provision for automatic adjustment of pensions. "There should be a base pension and an adjustable economic pension."

It was decided that this matter should be dealt with by the Federal congress, with stress that there should be a six-monthly review, particularly in regard to Second Schedule pensions in relation to the falling value of money.

It was moved by Mr. Chaney that the Armistice Day observances be carried out as in the years prior to the introduction of Remembrance Day.

[It is hoped this year that general recognition of Armistice Day will again be made.]

In regard to a public appeal by another organisation, it was pointed out by Mr. Benson that the words "Lest We forget" were legally copyrighted by the League.

Reports were submitted by Messrs Davies (Land and Housing), Stahl (Repatriation), Stanbury (Re-establishment), Edmondson (Listening Post) Chaney (Memorial and Faversham), Lonnie (Immigration), Ferguson (Anzac Club and Anzac House) and Herlihy (Finance and R.S.L. Hostel).

Sub-Branch Directory

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

**BALLIDU:** President now B. Clarke.

**BASSENDEN:** President is now P. J. Baker, 26 Scaddan Street, Bassendean.

**ESPERANCE:** President is now M. Cartledge; secretary, G. H. Gilmore; meetings, 1st Thursday in the month, Workers' Hall.

**GINGIN:** Secretary now H. Harper, "Goodwill," Gigin.

**Harvey:** Secretary's address is now Box 4, Harvey.

**Kenwick:** Secretary is now H. B. Christensen, Binley Stud, Albany Highway, Kenwick.

**Miling:** Secretary is now E. A. Atkins, Miling.

**Mundaring:** Secretary is now E. H. Bladen, Nichol Street, Mundaring. Phone 63.

**North Perth:** Meetings are now: General meeting, 1st Monday in the month, 8 p.m., Lesser Town Hall, View Street, North Perth.

**Riverton:** Secretary is now M. E. Schofield, Riley Road, Riverton.

**Wundowie:** President is now W. Hudson; secretary is S. E. Wilson. Meetings on 2nd Monday in the month at the St. John's Ambulance Hall.

**Wyndham:** President is now A. Lofthouse, Meat Works, Wyndham.

☆ Peter Jurgenson, of the Harvey Sub-Branch, has taken over the Kia-Ora tearooms in that town. A foundation member of the sub-branch, Peter has a host of friends around the district.

THE LISTENING POST • November, 1956

LISTENING POST NEWSREEL

A Federal congress resolution "That the Commonwealth Government be requested to provide an ex-serviceman receiving a pension of 75 per cent, or more for double amputation or paraplegic disabilities with a motor car fitted with Tait control and a folding invalid chair" has led to the Minister for Repatriation giving the following reply: "I am now in a position to advise you that the Government has agreed in principle to the proposal that specially equipped motor cars be provided to certain ex-service personnel who are disabled as a result of war service. The Government has appointed an inter-departmental committee to examine the whole subject and work out details of the scheme. When I am in a position to do so, I shall advise you further as to the precise terms and conditions relating to the scheme.

☆

In regard to the above, it is known that about 93 men in the two categories will benefit, and the cost of the plan is estimated at about £40,000. It has not yet been decided whether the men will be given ownership of the cars or whether ownership will be retained by the Government. Grant of a car will depend upon a man's ability to secure a driving licence and the scheme may be extended to other disabled ex-servicemen who have great difficulty in using public transport.

☆

Another resolution, "That the Commonwealth Government be requested to provide that medical benefits be made available by the Repatriation Commission to all children receiving an educational allowance, and that the age limit of 16 years in such cases be cancelled," has brought from the Minister for Repatriation the following reply: "

I have examined the position and find that the class of dependant mentioned by you is particularly well catered for insofar as departmental benefits are concerned. Educational benefits are available to children of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as being related to war service, and to children of ex-servicemen who are classified as being totally and
Service Pensions

The following data has been forwarded to "The Listening Post" by Mr. Hugh Leslie, M.H.R.

Arising from the Treasurer's Budget proposals, the Minister for Repatriation (Senator W. J. Cooper) stated recently that the Government intends to introduce legislation to effect certain amendments to the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act and to provide for increases in the rates of pensions.

It is proposed to increase the basic general rate of war pension for discharged service personnel from £2/15/- per week to £3/10/- per week. The basic rate for wives will be increased from £1/4/- per week to £1/10/6/- per week, and for children of incapacitated members from 9/- per week to 11/6/- per week.

The special rate of war pension is payable to a member when he is incapacitated for life to such an extent as to be precluded from earning other than a negligible percentage of a living wage, and it is proposed to increase the special rate from £5/6/- per week to £7 per week.

The Fourth Schedule to the Act provides an assessment of 80 per cent. for total loss of speech and 70 per cent. for total deafness; the Government intends to increase each of these rates to 100 per cent.

Under the Fifth Schedule to the Act certain additional "amounts" are payable to pensioners who have lost limbs, and it will be provided for these additional "amounts," to be increased as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Disability</th>
<th>Existing additional amount per week</th>
<th>Proposed additional amount per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To arms amputated ..........</td>
<td>5/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>7/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two legs and one arm amputated ..</td>
<td>5/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>7/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two legs amputated above knees ...</td>
<td>5/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>7/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two legs amputated and loss of one eye ...</td>
<td>5/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>7/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One leg and one arm amputated ...</td>
<td>4/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>6/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One leg amputated above and one leg amputated below knee ...</td>
<td>2/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>4/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two legs amputated below knee ...</td>
<td>2/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>4/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One arm or leg amputated and one eye lost ...</td>
<td>2/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>4/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One leg amputated above knee or one arm amputated above elbow ...</td>
<td>1/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>2/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One leg amputated below knee or one arm amputated below elbow ...</td>
<td>4/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>6/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of vision in one eye ...</td>
<td>9/- 0/- 0/-</td>
<td>12/- 0/- 0/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provision will be made to increase the basic rate of pension for the widow of a deceased member to £3/10/- per week, and if she is over 50 years of age, has any children under 16 years of age, she will be paid an additional amount of 10/- per week.

It is proposed to increase the rate of war pensions payable to children of deceased members: the rate of the first child under 16 years of age will be increased from 17/6/- per week to 22/- per week and second and subsequent children from 12/6/- per week to 15/6/- per week.

When both parents of a child are deceased it will be provided for the pension of each child to be increased from 17/6/- per week when the child is under 14 years of age, (and from 20/- per week when the child is over 14 to 40/- per week.

At present no wife married or child born to a member of the 1914 war forces is eligible to receive pension in respect of the member's incapacity unless the wife was married to the member, or the child was born prior to July 1, 1938. It is intended to remove this bar so that such wives and children may be granted war pensions.

Provision will be made for the pensions of parents of deceased members to be increased by amounts up to 10/- per week, and where the parent also is in receipt of an age or invalid pension arrangements will be made for the Repatriation Department to take over the liability from the Department of Social Services.

The Government intends to provide for the payment of a gratuity to a widow upon remarriage. The gratuity will be paid upon proof of remarriage and will be equivalent to one year's pension — approximately £182.

The rate of medical sustenance, which is payable whilst a member is unable to follow his occupation because of the necessities of medical treatment, will be increased to conform with the increases in rates of war pensions.

Living allowances payable to Commonwealth reconstruction trainees and settlers under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme, and Business re-establishment allowances for ex-servicemen engaged in agricultural and other occupations will be increased by 7/- 6/- per week.

Service pensions are payable to discharged members of the Forces if they served in a theatre of war and are, over 60 years of age or are permanently unemployed, or if they are suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. These pensions are subject to the same conditions as an age or invalid pension. As the Government intends to increase age and invalid pensions by 7/- 6/- a week, service pensions will be increased by a similar amount.
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A Benefactor Honoured

Some time ago a generous gift of over £6,000 was made by Sir Ernest Lee Steere to the League War Veterans’ Appeal and in recognition of this a plaque was affixed to the wall adjacent to the main entrance at Faversham House, the League War Veterans’ Home. The unveiling ceremony took place on Saturday, October 7.

It was unfortunate that the unveiling clashed with another important function on the same day. Nevertheless there was an excellent attendance representative of the town and metropolitan area.

The weather was all that could have been desired and the home appeared at its best in its setting of green lawns, flower beds ablaze with colour, and the surrounding grounds in spotless condition. In fact it could hardly be possible to select a more suitable site for such a home where the war veterans can spend their declining years in peace and comfort.

Included among those present were Sir Ernest and Lady Lee Steere, Mr. T. Sten (State President), Mr. F. Chaney (chairman of Faversham House Committee) and other members of the committee, Mr. Geo. F. Chipper, president York Sub-Branch, Mrs. W. Smith, acting president of the local women’s auxiliary, Mr. A. F. Noonan (Mayor of York), Mrs. F. Stockman, President of the State Women’s Auxiliary, and Mr. S. McKenzie, secretary of the State Red Cross Society.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. Chaney, who briefly referred to the reason for the ceremony, and then called upon the State President to unveil the plaque.

Mr. Sten said that it was a privileged honour to have the pleasure of unveiling the plaque which publicly recognised a very gracious and generous gift. He had been associated with Faversham House since the League took it over. When it had first been opened by the League as a convalescent home it had been found difficult to finance the scheme. Then it had been decided to establish the War Veterans’ Home. This action had been criticised by many, but the committee had carried on and ultimately with improved finances and good management on the part of those in control locally the home had become firmly established. The committee’s faith in the proposal was justified and there was now no doubt about the success of the home. The League was indeed very proud of its achievement in having provided a home for those veterans who were now able to enjoy their declining years in comfort.

Sir Ernest Lee Steere had made a very generous gift towards the upkeep of the War Veterans’ Home. It had in fact, been a Godsend to them because it had come at a time when the financial future had been very dark. Not only had it been a material gift, but it had given the committee the encouragement which it needed to carry on with the project, especially at a period when they were being criticised. In fact the encouragement given had meant more than a gift. It could almost be considered the turning point, as from that time the scheme had never looked back.

The home reflected great credit on those responsible for its upkeep. It was most pleasing to see the fine spirit around the home. The League was receiving the fullest support and co-operation from the York Sub-Branch and Women’s Auxiliary together with other similar bodies throughout the State. The Red Cross had been of wonderful assistance right from the inauguration of the home.

It gave him very great pleasure to unveil the plaque which recognised the generous gift of one of the State’s leading citizens. The League deeply appreciated Sir Ernest Lee Steere’s action, and it was hoped that the plaque would be a constant reminder of his generosity and interest in the War Veterans’ Home.

On behalf of the veterans Mr. Fred Hardwick presented Sir Ernest with a testimonial which had been signed by all those resident at the home. The testimonial read as follows: “We, the veterans resident at Faversham House, desire to place on record our personal thanks and appreciation of your continued interest in our welfare and for your most generous gift that has assisted towards the upkeep of the War Veterans’ Home. In conveying our grateful thanks we express the fervent hope that Lady Lee Steere and yourself will live to enjoy long years of health and happiness.”

In a very brief response Sir Ernest said that he respected the R.S.L. beyond words.

Following the unveiling ceremony the opening of a miniature concrete bowling rink put down for the enjoyment and entertainment of the veterans took place. This was done by Mrs. Stockman, assisted by Messrs. S. McKenzie and Geo. F. Chipper. The work of preparing the rink was carried out by members of the York Sub-Branch, while other necessary fittings were provided by the State Women’s Auxiliary and Red Cross Society.

During the afternoon the Midland Junction Salvation Army band rendered items, which were greatly appreciated by those present.

Afternoon tea (generously provided by the York Women’s Auxiliary) was served, and those present had an opportunity of inspecting the home and the gardens.

Over 30 veterans are at present resident at the home. The property is vested in the Commonwealth Government, which granted the league a 25 years’ lease for its present use.

(Courtesy The York Chronicle.)
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(Courtesy The York Chronicle.)
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THE LISTENING POST November, 1930

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The Return to "X"

The 2/7th Field Ambulance has returned to "X". Behind this simple statement is ten years of endeavour. The unit actually embarked for the Middle East ten years ago—on September 23, 1940. It was the first field ambulance ever to be recruited and trained in its entirety in Western Australia. During its training in Northam one of the men suddenly asked the C.O. (Colonel L. E. Lesouef, O.B.E., E.D.) where he was taking them. He replied that in actual fact he was taking them to "X". That started it.

Next day on the parade ground there appeared mysteriously a mile stone marked "X". The unit asked if that was the spot, but were told that it was not. Actually it was the nearest guess for years afterwards. From then on the question was voiced under every conceivable condition of time and space. In Palestine, Libya, Greece and Crete the unit, whilst in training and whilst in action, never forgot to ask the question. The C.O. could only reply that "X" had not been reached. In Crete, Greece and Germany, where about three-quarters of the unit were Prisoners of War after the capitulation in Crete, the same question received the same answer.

However, to return to the last week of training in Western Australia. One of the happiest of memories for all was a barbecue held in a rugged valley on Mr. Justin Walsh's property "Egoline" on the Northam-Toodyay road. This actually occurred at the end of a three-day exercise in the field and marked the termination of training in Western Australia. By much arranging the Quartermaster (Major Howes) got six whole carcasses of sheep instead of the usual meat ration. One member of the transport section knew how to prepare the fires and at the site selected there foregathered our guests the Northam Camp Headquarters headed by Colonel Charles Lamb, M.C., the Godfathers' Association who liked to think that they were our godfathers and not just the unit welfare association, and of course, Mr. Justin Walsh, who was actually our host. It was a magnificent evening and all the guests were escorted to the scene to the skirl of the bagpipes playing in the deep shadows of the trees which flickered in the light of the large bonfire. It was a "dry" camp but this was got over by proclaiming general leave to all, provided they did not leave the site. This proclamation was retrieved by the Godfathers and kept as a memento of the unit after it embarked. Whilst the evening was one of merrymaking yet it was tinged with some sorrow as one or two of our stalwarts had had their real ages given to the military authorities and so were with us for the last time. Mr. Walsh then invited the unit to return to this site after the war and promised that he himself would provide the sheep for the barbecue.

The unit returned from Crete only sixty strong instead of the two hundred and fifty who landed in Greece, and it was reformed and equipped. It served in Darwin and then the islands and eventually returned home to be demobilised. The original C.O. was the last member of the original unit to return to Western Australia and at a reunion he was asked the same question.

This time he replied that "X" was the barbecue site at Northam and that he would arrange the return for a reunion as soon as possible. Restrictions on food and petrol prevented any move until this year, but on Saturday, September 23, the members of the old unit (at least 60 of them) moved off by car for "X".

Everyone played ball. Mr. Walsh insisted on providing the sheep and the campsites. The army loaned a marque, water cart and cooking utensils. Mr. Edwards and Mr. Cyril Kerr represented the Godfathers. Dr. Kirk Godfrey represented the 7th Field Ambulance of 1914-18. Mr. Bob Patrick brought along his bagpipes. The sheep were roasted, the bonfire lit and kegs were broken. The original unit Jack was flying and there was "X" marked in stones near the bonfire. The men erected the marque, perhaps for the last time—who knows!

Whilst all were grouped around "X", now veiled by the Jack, the roll call of their comrades who were with them no more was read by Ernie Smith, the President of the Unit Association, and Bob Patrick piped that Scottish lament "The Flowers of the Forest" in their memory—not unappropriately when one remembers the unofficial pipe band of the unit on service.

"X" now unveiled, the unit expressed its thanks to all its friends and helpers over the years. Wishing to do more for those now carrying on, it now presented its flags and trophies to the 7/13 Field Ambulance C.M.F. now commanded by its one-time "A" Company Commander, Colonel F. K. Wallace, O.B.E., E.D. In his much regretted and unavoidable absence our old Sergeant Major (now Captain Quartermaster Bert Hall) of the 7/13 Field Ambulance) accepted them on his behalf. The Jack had been carried out of Greece wrapped around the Sam Browne of the C.O. For want of a better method at the time, and was handed off the beach of Crete on the last night of the evacuation. "A" Company's last direction pennant used in Crete was there also, and Captain F. Gallash, not to be outdone, had brought along "B" Company's flag, made for them by the women of Rethimo in Crete just before the German parachute onslaught. Italian and German battle flags as reminders were there also. All went to the 7/13 Field Ambulance.

Conviviality and good fellowship now increased, half of those present remaining until morning when the unit dismantled and packed the marque in its last fatigue. By 10 o'clock the site was deserted. "X" remained in stone. The unit had at last returned.

LESLIE E. LESOUEF.
24/10/50.
PROHIBITION POLL
SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER, 1950

TO PRESERVE PERSONAL LIBERTY

VOTE NO

By placing X in the bottom square on your ballot paper, thus:

DO YOU VOTE FOR PROHIBITION?

YES

NO X

Authorised by A. C. Curlewis,
Director, Liquor Trade Council,
3 Howard Street, Perth.
Mr. Funk Comes to W.A.

Kallang airport recently saw the end of a 34-year mission for an Australian army officer, and the temporary loss of a very good friend for a hero of the underground war against the Japanese in Borneo.

Major Harry Jackson, the officer, took off to fly back to Australian Army Headquarters in Melbourne, his home town, after having distributed $27,000 in Straits dollars to Asians in Borneo, Sarawak, and Malaya who helped Australian troops during the Japanese occupation.

One of these helpers, Johnny Funk, is at present in Perth, as readers of our daily Press will be aware, and his story is of particular interest.

Johnny was a technical assistant in the Public Works Department of Borneo:

He was working in Sandakan, then the capital of Borneo, in 1942, when the Japs overran Malaya and Australian prisoners of war were shipped to Borneo to be held in a camp at Sandakan.

Local Asians and a handful of Europeans were ordered by the Japanese to carry on with their normal jobs. Johnny was one of these—h e was on the waterworks staff.

Horror Camp

The conditions under which the prisoners of war lived were appalling. Nearly 2,500 men were herded into the camp at Sandakan, which had been built to hold only 200 Japanese internees.

Brutality, starvation and sickness were rife, but one of the biggest things which helped the morale of the P.O.W. was an underground supply system organised and operated by the local Asians, with the help of Europeans.

Many of the people who operated the secret supply organisation were caught by the Japanese and paid with their lives. Others were tortured and imprisoned in vain efforts to make them implicate other helpers.

Johnny Funk was one of these men.

Death March

The fate of the P.O.W. from Sandakan camp is one of the least-known but most dreadful stories of the war in the Far East.

With the exception of six men who escaped, they were wiped out; some by sickness and ill-treatment, but the majority on a “death march” through the jungle from Sandakan to Ranau, on the way to Jesselton.

The detailed history of the march was unearthed by Australian army research teams, and by Major Jackson, who was sent to Borneo in 1946 to trace the vanished prisoners.

When he returned to Australia he took with him a report, which made it clear that the P.O.W. had received

GOING TO MALAYA?

The following is an extract from a letter received from Mr. J. E. Jeans, Vice-President, Singapore Ex-Service Association:

"On behalf of the members of the Ex-Service Association Singapore, I should be grateful if you would convey best wishes to all members of the League.

"Our Association would be only too willing to assist and advise any member of the League who has possibly been offered a position in Malaya. I stress this point because there are firms and individuals who offer what appears to be excellent terms of employment, but omit to make any reference to the very high cost of living."

—H. HALL.

monwealth he hopes to meet several of the six survivors from the Sandakan horror camp and to see Major Jackson again.

Major Jackson has spent the last few days in clearing up the administrative work arising out of his trip. Before he left, he said:

"It has been quite impossible to trace and thank every single person who helped our troops in Malaya and Borneo, but my Government is satisfied that all those who gave major help have been rewarded where appropriate. We do not really intend the money to be significant: it is really a token of the Commonwealth’s gratitude to all the gallant helpers who performed kindnesses which made our men’s misfortune a little easier to bear."

[Mr. Funk arrived in Perth for a three-months’ holiday on October 28, and proceeded to Albany to the care of a member of Albany Sub-Branch (Mr. Malcolm Armstrong, ex A.I.F., Malaya and Borneo). Albany Sub-Branch hopes to arrange for Mr. Funk to visit other parts of Western Australia, thus the assistance of other sub-Branches would be valuable.]

Tank Trap

Danny, when he wasn’t a general directing the whole field of operations, was an inventor of war weapons. Actually he was a Digger with a delightful imagination. In New Guinea, we were doing a pick and shovel job and bemoaning the lack of bulldozers.

"Wish we had a few here," said Peter. "They’re like tanks—it makes a lot to stop ‘em."

"That’s where you’re wrong," Dan replied. "We stopped ‘em pretty easy in the desert."

"Yeah, with captured Jerry anti-tank guns, artillery, and land mines," retorted Peter.

"No, with our bare hands, almost! We just used to exhaust ‘em."

"Yeah," said Peter sceptically, but ready to listen to the inevitable.

"Yeah—go on."

"We got a long thick pole and a few of us would lie down in a hollow with the pole laid out in front of us. When a tank got half-way over the pole we’d heave quickly on one end and tip the tank on its side and the tracks’d keep going round till it ran out of petrol—exhausted, see!"
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**PERSONALITIES**

☆ Stan Watt, of the State Executive and of the Press Sub-Branch, recently "joined up" once again as an experiment to ascertain whether the current enlistment system was effective. His "enlistment" was not one which would "stick," however. Stan has been suffering from a nasty attack of bronchitis lately and his many friends will wish him a speedy recovery to good health.

☆ The Harvey Sub-Branch has commenced the publication of a very neat little publication, The Gen. No. 1

☆ Tom Edmondson, a member of the State Executive, and one time State President of the League, was recently given a departmental send-off upon retiring from his post as Deputy Director of Education and Superintendent of Primary Education. Tom has spent half a century in the teaching profession.

☆ The State President (Mr. T. Sten), the State Secretary (Mr. J. Chappell) and Mr. W. S. Lonnie (of the State Executive) recently attended the Federal congress in Hobart.

☆ The Kensington Sub-Branch, in its monthly publication, The Kensington Kit-Bag, some time ago published greetings to the Kensington Sub-Branch in New South Wales. Now that sub-branch, in its organ, The Courier, says: "We... send our best wishes to the officers and members of the Kensington Sub-Branch in Western Australia. Should any of their members come over to Sydney and not pay us a visit, we will consider it an insult."

☆ The Rev. L. G. Mauger has been appointed to St. Martin's Church, Manjimup, as assistant curate in the large Warren parish. He is a member of a well-known Balingup family.

☆ Andy Bowe, of the Scarborough Sub-Branch has, we are told, been doing an outstanding job with the formation of a cricket team. His combination lost their first match by only two runs, which sounds as if the newcomers may be up and coming.

☆ Monty Montandon, of the Harvey Sub-Branch, was recently presented by his fellow members with a braille watch. "Now nothing seems to give Monty greater pleasure than to be asked the time. He tells it, they say, almost as fast as one could tell it by looking at an ordinary timepiece.

is a credit to both editor and sub-branch, and we trust that it not only has a long life in front of it, but that, like all things which live, it grows, and grows—and grows.

☆ Ted Bantock, of the Victoria Park Sub-Branch is, we are sorry to hear, still on the sick list. He would appreciate a visit from his old mates.

☆ J. Newman, publicity officer of the Subbiaz Sub-Branch recently had an item from his pen wrongly attributed in this journal to Sid McNamara. That is the worst of these scribes who sign their monikers with such a professional flourish.

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☆ Stan O'Brien, a member of the Highgate Hill Sub-Branch, recently collapsed in Perth and was taken to the Royal Perth Hospital. Stan reckons that it was the result of "a touch of the sun."

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Listening Post Newsreel
(Continued from page 4)

permanently incapacitated and those who are blinded as a result of war service. In addition, certain living allowances are payable commencing at the age of 13 years and continuing at varying increased rates up to the completion of a professional or industrial course of training. Medical treatment is provided by my department for a child or children of a deceased ex-serviceman whose death has been accepted as due to war service. This benefit, however, ceases when a child reaches the age of 16 years. No such treatment is provided in respect of children of incapacitated ex-servicemen. Consideration has been given to the question of providing medical treatment for a child of a deceased member who is over the age of 16 years if, in the opinion of the Repatriation Commission, he or she is unable to earn a livelihood, and is in receipt of a pension under Section 39 (4) of the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act. The necessary Regu- latory Authority to give effect to this provision is expected at an early date.

"I am of the opinion that, having regard to the foregoing, the benefits at present provided for children of deceased and incapacitated ex-servicemen are not inadequate, and I regret that I am unable to support your request for a general extension in respect of medical treatment."

A further resolution was: "That the Commonwealth Government be requested to ensure that war widows who, on the death of their respective husbands, return to permanent employment in the Commonwealth Public Service, have the benefit of service prior to marriage considered in determining their seniority, provided that: (a) the widow has left the Public Service to be married, and (b) has passed any qualifying examinations necessary for permanent reinstatement in the Public Service." This has brought the following communication from the Prime Minister's Department:

"I am to inform you that provision exists in the Commonwealth Public Service Regulations whereby officers re-appointed to the service may be credited with prior permanent service for the purposes of seniority. It would be difficult to frame a rule which would be just in all cases, but the Public Service Board is prepared to consider any individual applications from war widows on their merits."

A man who had been commissioned received a wire from the medical board several days later. "Regret to inform you," it read, "that tests show you have tuberculosis and heart trouble." An hour later another wire came, saying: "Please disregard last wire. Your record confused with that of another candidate." The relieved officer wired back: "Sorry, but your correction came too late. I committed suicide 40 minutes ago!"

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The League Needs New Members
A Broadcast written by John Chappell (State Secretary)

There is no satisfaction on this earth greater than the satisfaction of having served one's fellow men. There is no satisfaction worthwhile unless it centres around that outlook. All other joys and achievements are hollow beside it. The R.S.L. exists exactly for that purpose, and all eligible ex-servicemen who are not members are missing an unequalled opportunity of service and the satisfaction which goes with it.

The reasons why all who qualify should join us in the League are set out at the conclusion of this broadcast, and we hope that our regular listeners and enthusiastic League members will pass the information on to those who are still on the outside.

There are many reasons why eligible ex-servicemen do not join the League. Apathy is probably the greatest—an apathy which does not care that many thousands of our comrades were promised the moon during the war but only the moonshine when the world again was a safe place in which to live, that many thousands are still recovering from the effects of their service to their country in its direst need, and that many more will never recover. Need more be said on this point? The facts are there for those who are not too blind to see them.

Accusations of dissonance in the League hold high place among the arguments against membership, but is this dissonance really that—or democracy at work?

While any organisation is conducted on truly democratic lines there will be disputes. They are an essential ingredient of democracy. The R.S.L. has always encouraged freedom of speech in its ranks to the fullest degree. The only people we have muzzled are the communists—and they have been dealt with, and are still being dealt with, as the League will deal with any fifth column with treason and bloody revolution as its aim—firmly and finally.

Another—prominent—reason against membership is the so-old cry, "What is the R.S.L. doing but making a lot of noise?" Ignorance is at the root of this cry and the answer is to be had from any sub-branch official or executive committeeman—provided the enquirer has the time to listen to the long list of past achievements and present endeavours which will be presented to him. A perusal of our State journal as well as sub-branch journals will furnish additional proof of the splendid achievements of the League.

RED CROSS LETTER
"Is it possible to get from your Red Cross a list of prisoners from Stalag 344? I knew a very good type of working-class Englishman who is very anxious to live in Australia. He is an electrician, his wife a cook, and they have two children, aged 12 and 4. He would like to live in the country and the authorities will let him go if he is guaranteed accommodation.

"While in Stalag 344 he made many Australian friends, but lost their names and addresses during the forced marches. If he could see their names he would remember them and could write to those he remembered.

"His name is:—
W. J. FIDDES,
14 Woodside,
Blackwater,
Camberley, Surrey."

As well as the non-member, another category to which this broadcast is directed is the large number of men who are wearing R.S.L. badges under false pretences—those fake members whose badges bear '48, '47 or '46 clips, or no clip at all. Those people who have not carried out their pledge when they ceased to be financial members but who go about pretending to be public and nationally spirited Diggers. We hope they will do the only decent thing.

The Returned Servicemen's League is dedicated to the service of returned personnel, particularly those who at the moment are not making the grade, and to the widows and children of those who did not return. Grandiose promises were made during the war—it is the R.S.L.'s pledge that they will be carried out, even if forgotten by politicians.
Mining Committee

Since last State Congress, the Mining Committee has met on five occasions. Resolutions carried at Congress have been passed on to the Minister for Mines for consideration and his replies have been forwarded to sub-branches concerned, for their information.

During the period under review, Mr. Alan Douglas resigned from the State Executive and automatically from the committee.

A recommendation to the State Executive that Mr. C. W. Mitchell be appointed to Mr. Douglas’ position was approved. Before Mr. Mitchell could take a seat on the committee, he also resigned from the Executive to take an appointment as House and Club Manager at Anzac House.

Immediately following Congress, all mining sub-branches were circularised and advised that a committee larger than that previously operating had been appointed, the number being six instead of four. Sub-branches were advised that the interests of members and their families would receive attention if brought before the committee’s notice. Suggestions from sub-branches were sought, which would stimulate interest in goldmining and be the means of increasing the production of this and other valuable metals, including coal.

No response was received to this circular. A month later 37 mining sub-branches were again circularised, asking for information for submission to the Minister for Mines, relative to areas deemed worthy of prospecting by prospectors operating under the close supervision of the Mines Department, as an organised party. Only two sub-branches replied, these being Southern Cross and Marvel Loch. The suggestions submitted formed the basis of a case for presentation to the Minister for Mines by deputation, which duly eventuated. The Minister was unable to agree to the proposition placed before him. He did, however, assure the members of the deputation that he and the Government were doing everything possible to assist the mining industry in general. Two diamond drills were operating on the Goldfields, closely supervised by departmental geologists. It was the Government’s intention to appoint two more geologists as early as possible.

It was hoped that all mining sub-branches would “feed” the committee with information, but, unfortunately, this has not taken place and, as a consequence, the committee has found itself with little or nothing to do.

The League, through its Immigration Committee, has been responsible for the introduction into the gold-mining industry of no less than 364 men from the British Isles.

The substantial increase in the price of gold, owing to the devaluation of the pound, has undoubtedly brought about a state of buoyancy in the industry and evidently members of mining sub-branches are enjoying to the fullest such conditions, which, possibly, is the reason why this committee has not received from sub-branches any complaints or suggestions which required investigation or representation on their behalf. It is hoped that such conditions will prevail for a lengthy period.

I desire to express my appreciation to the members of the committee, and the committee’s secretary, Mr. J. Giblett, who have given their time and services so unremittingly in furtherance of the interests of ex-service personnel and for their courtesy and tolerance towards me as their chairman.

W. O. MANSBIDGE,
Chairman.

Finance Committee

The audited accounts herein produced cover transactions of the League for the six (6) months ended 31st December, 1949, thereby implementing the relevant resolution passed at the 1949 Congress. Future accounts will cover a calendar year.

An examination of the Income and Expenditure Account in regard to the General Fund of the League discloses an excess of expenditure over income of £355/5/10. At first glance it appears that the General Fund has been able to meet ordinary expenditure correctly chargeable thereto, but this is not really so, since allowance has not been made for revenue items, applicable to a yearly period, but received and credited in full during the six (6) months’ period under review. Actually the deficit is £335/5/10, and this represents in detail:

(a) Actual expenditure on account of League Administration ..... 3,479 9 8
Less Income from various sources after adjustment ..... 3,025 4 0

454 5 8

(b) Net Cost of “Listening Post” ..... 81 0 2

£335 5 10

The whole of the expenditure incurred in connection with the maintaining of Faversham House, first as a convalescent home and later as a war veterans’ home, has been capitalised and that portion previously written off has been written back to the Accumulated Fund Account in the hope that further recoupment will be effected in future years. This asset now stands in the Balance Sheet at £2,240/15/11.

In a previous report, attention was directed to the insufficiency of ins-
A suggestion was made that Anzac Club could be used to enable smaller metropolitan sub-branches, especially, to meet for games such as billiards, snooker, bridge and darts. This idea has been carried forward by the Amenities Committee with pleasing success.

However, one factor has handicapped the council in its attempts to perform its allotted task. This is the fact that sub-branches have failed to make certain that they are represented on all occasions. This is not playing the game by its members, nor is it fair to those men who make regular attendances.

JUDGING BY THE JOBS I'VE BEEN GIVEN I THINK SHE'S GOING TO THROW THE BLINKIN' GARDEN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

It is to be hoped that in the new League year this fault will be remedied.

In conclusion I wish to thank the co-members of the committee who have endeavoured to play their part on behalf of all members of the League.

F. CHANEY, Chairman.

R.S.L. Hostel

The balance sheet discloses that a nett profit of £787/17/3 was made for the six months ending December 31, 1949.

For the six months ending December 31, 28,944 beds were used, which is an average per night of 159, and during the next six months' period 32,163 beds were used, averaging 177 per night. The increase is due largely to ex-service migrants who are using the hostel in increasing numbers.

Since its inception four years ago, 225,207 beds have been occupied and the turnover has been £46,081. The accommodation in the city is heavily taxed and will remain so for many years and without doubt the hostel is doing a very valuable service for ex-servicemen.

On most days it unfortunately becomes necessary to turn many people away and, due to the demand on its available accommodation, the management feel that they would not be justified at present in reducing the number of beds in order to improve the comfort of fewer clients.

The Management Committee is indebted to Mr. W. A. Lees, the manager, for loyal and efficient service, and he is ably supported by a capable staff. The control of the hostel with its many diverse elements is not an enviable one and a great deal of tact, and often firmness, is necessary.

Since our last report the catering arrangements for meals under the control of Mr. Wally Williams have been satisfactory.

On behalf of the Hostel Management Committee, consisting of Messrs. J. E. P. Herlihy, J. Craig, D. M. Benson and E. S. Watt.

E. S. WATT, Chairman.

Sons and Daughters of Soldiers' League

Despite further attempts to interest sub-branches in the formation of S. & D.S.L. branches, results have been negative. As yet no further sub-branches have shown any indication of furthering these activities. This can, no doubt, be accounted for by the many and varied youth clubs already in existence and the fact that most sub-branches are engrossed with the problems confronting the ex-servicemen of today.

As present three branches are actively functioning as self-contained boys' clubs, and making a success of it. The branches are as follows: Canning Districts, Bedford-Morley Parks and Mt. Hawthorn.

Approval was given for this branch of our activities to go into effect after a report embodying the above conditions was reported to the Executive. Thanks are due to the members of the committee for their work.

W. O. MANSBRIDGE, Chairman.
Repat. Medical Service

Another step has been taken by the Repatriation Medical Service to retain its position among the modern treatment organisations of Australia. This was the opening of an annexe to the Repatriation Out-patient Clinic on St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, on Monday, 9th October, 1950. “Men and women who served in the Forces, and who today suffer from neurosis in any form as a result of their war service are well catered for in the Repatriation institutions and the new out-patient clinic is as good as anything in the world,” the Minister for Repatriation, Senator Walter J. Cooper, said.

Those discharged members of the Forces whose war experiences have been of such a nature that their nervous systems have been thrown out of gear insofar as adjustment to ordinary demands of civil life are concerned are suffering from neuroses. It is recognised by the psychiatrists of the Repatriation Commission that war experiences are very often the cause of failure to settle down in or to adjust to civil life. A large part of the treatment is to render these stored-up experiences harmless and thus rid the patient’s mind of deeply repressed experiences which might, in the future, cause trouble.

In treatment, teamwork is the keynote, and a Repatriation psychiatric team, led by a psychiatrist, includes clinical psychologists, psychiatric social workers, educational therapy officers and occupational therapists, as well as nursing sisters and orderlies, all of whom are oriented towards the social adjustment of the patient. The patient’s entire life, not only his attack of depression or anxiety, is adjusted from a social point of view in order that the possibility of relapse is minimised and his position in the ordinary social round is made much happier and more useful. Dr. J. V. Griffith is in charge of the Repatriation out-patient clinic on St. Kilda Road, and nearby, in Coventry Street, is the annexe devoted to the treatment of the neuroses under a specialist, Dr. R. S. Kennedy, who was brought from England by the Repatriation Commission two or three months ago.

In Dr. Kennedy’s opinion psychiatry has advanced tremendously in the last 10 years, and now the specialists have positive means of attacking neurosis and, therefore, they can confidently look forward to a much higher percentage of cures than hitherto has been possible.

“The potentialities of the Repatriation out-patient clinic are such that the men and women with war-related neuroses have available, to them the best form of treatment in use in the world today,” said Senator Cooper, who added that the objective is to render the patient more able to face life boldly, including his duties to his family, to his home, to his employer and to society generally.

TUBERCULOSIS

Dr. Alan H. Penington, specialist in tuberculosis, Repatriation Commission Headquaters, has returned to Australia after attending a conference in Copenhagen and a congress in Rome.

“Repatriation provision for tuberculosis patients is not as grandioso as in some institutions on the Continent, where there is elaborate accommodation,” he says, but it compares very favourably with that in England.

Equipment and staff in Australia compare quite favourably, although there is some difficulty in obtaining material from overseas.

“There are certain features of treatment which Australia should be using and will use—for example, the effect of posture in tuberculosis, but generally Australia, and Repatriation treatment in particular, is in step with the modern forms of treatment.”

“Dr. Penington is of opinion that the surgical management of tuberculosis in Australia is of a high standard and comparable with anything in the world,” says Senator Cooper, Minister for Repatriation. “This is gratifying to me, especially in regard to the treatment of ex-service men and women in Repatriation institutions.”

At Copenhagen, Dr. Penington attended the eleventh conference of the International Union Against Tuberculosis which was devoted entirely to tuberculosis. The International Congress on Diseases of the Chest, held at Rome, was attended by about 350 specialists from about 30 countries, and was concerned chiefly with non-tuberculosis diseases of the chest. It was the first time that Soviet doctors have attended a congress since the war.

“A signal honour was paid to Dr. Penington in his being asked to deliver an address at the Rome congress, and he dealt with ‘Physiotherapy in Non-Surgical Diseases of the Chest,’ which created a lot of discussion,” said Senator Cooper. In the measures taken for re-establishing in industry, men and women suffering from tuberculosis, Australia is well ahead of anything which Dr. Penington saw on the Continent, but has not achieved the results seen in England.

Dr. Penington saw in England such institutions as the London Chest Hospital, the Brompton Hospital, the University College Hospital and Papworth. He visited three centres in Stockholm, the Sanatorium Chest Clinic and Hospital in Oslo and the 2,000-bed hospital for tuberculosis in Rome. He had many discussions with specialists of world-renown.

Senator Cooper says that Dr. Penington had informed him that, both at Copenhagen and Rome, the exchange of information concerning the surgical treatment, drug therapy and the medical management of tuberculosis, as well as the problems of non-tuberculosis chest diseases, were discussed in an attempt to obtain some uniformity of approach to these problems.

One passenger car now is in operation in the United States for each 4.8 persons. This means that today the entire population of the nation could go riding at one time. Five States own 36 per cent. of all the cars in the U.S.A. They are California, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois.

A girl we know would be quite spic if she had less span.

THE LISTENING POST - November, 1950

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COFFEY, J., Swan View-Greenmount Sub-Branch.
COOK, E. G., Moora Sub-Branch.
GARD, J. H., Wickepin Sub-Branch; late 51st Bn.
GRIMSHAW, W., Northcliffe Sub-Branch; late Intelligence Branch.
McGUINESS, G. T., City of Perth Sub-Branch.
PICKERING, W., Moorine Rock Sub-Branch; late North Lancashire Regt.
PORTER, H., Wubin Sub-Branch.
RICHARDS, F. J., Melville Sub-Branch; late 51st Bn.
SINCLAIR, J. J., Wyalkatchem Sub-Branch; late Royal West Surrey Regt.

H.M.S. "Breconshire" Raised

Admiralty salvage experts have, by what is regarded as a classic piece of salvage, raised H.M.S. Breconshire, the former merchant ship which made a series of historic voyages under the White Ensign to supply Malta during the dark war years. Patched and bottom upwards but buoyant, she is now being towed from Malta to Genoa, where she is to be broken up.

Three salvage ships under Captain O. T. Harrison, Chief Salvage Officer for the Boom Defence Department, Admiralty, and a team of eight divers raised the vessel in the face of great technical difficulties and hazards which would have dismayed any but the most fearless underwater men.

The Breconshire was lying in about 60 feet of water about a mile offshore at Malta. She was lying right over on her port side at an angle of 85 degrees from the vertical, and there were bombs and other explosives still in her holds. In this position, she has long obstructed the full use of the anchorage.

Divers were working as much as five hours a day, and some of them had to spend six hours in the compression chambers. Sometimes the divers discarded their heavy suits and dived naked with the aid of respirators attached to tubes. They emerged on these occasions covered in black oil. When using oxy-acetylene cutting apparatus on the oil compartments, numerous blow-back explosions occurred, due to the combination of the oxygen from the torch with the oil in the tanks. Special care had to be taken to avoid touching off the ammunition still in the ship. Fortunately, no serious incident occurred and another big salvage job has now been completed.

Ted Feltham, of the Osborne Park Sub-Branch, is in Hollywood at the moment. He is another Digger who would welcome visits from friends.

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Sub-Branch Activities

Bedford-Morley Parks

During the past month this sub-branch has continued very actively in all its paddocks, and like the "Primary Producer," to succeed with good crops details in each section must be kept under control, but believe me, we have had plenty of weeds and dry cows to cull.

Mr. Ponton, president of the social committee and his team, have had a strenuous time in popularising the weekly dance functions on Friday nights, and concluded a very satisfactory series on October 20. Everyone voted it a "top-notcher."

Our boys have visited Anzac Club a couple of times during the month in social and games features, and were nights well spent.

During the month Doug Slinger has been investigating the cause of causes of A.W.L. with sub-branch members and gave a very impressive opinion. But we believe history is repeating itself as far as sub-branch meetings go. The monthly management meeting took place "according to plan" and advances were established on "Poppy Day," future monthly mixed social nights, the annual Christmas wind-up and many other targets.

The monthly general meeting turned out much better than was anticipated, and Viv. O'Dea kept "O, My Darling" echoing through the hall until "lights out." October 23 was our social and mixed night. This feature remains very popular. On this occasion, we were honoured by a visit of members and their wives and friends of the Public Service Sub-Branch, when a very pleasant and competitive set of games, together with dancing and music, used—up every moment in an atmosphere of friendly cordiality amongst the large gathering. It is hoped that our guests for the November sports and social night are Mt. Lawley or Gloucester Park. So will members please keep in touch by the G.G.

A cricket team from the youth club is making exceptional good shape and will be interesting to watch when the competition games commence. We are calling for players from sub-branch members in the "B" grade fixtures. All interested should contact Alan Dick at once.

Although it is getting late in the year, we are still signing on new members. Membership is well past our last year's figure.

T. J. PEARSON.

Forrestfield

The September meeting was held in the new hall and members were loud in their praises of the splendid meeting-place that is available for meetings and socials. A good working committee has been elected and is hopeful of obtaining better attendances of all ex-service men in the district. The weather has been against full attendances, many of the old-timers were missing.

Members paid two visits to Anzac Club. Some were disappointed at not being picked for the games, but the hospitality made up for this and all agreed that Anzac Club is a real good place to spend a very pleasant evening.

Bus services are not meeting with the approval of many of our residents. This matter is being taken up with the Minister for Transport. We have had a visit from the Hon. Minister for Water Supply (D. Brand). We trust that his report will be favourable for an efficient water supply for Forrestfield.

BOB HEWSON.

THE LISTENING POST - November, 1950

★ PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTICES TO 200 WORDS.

Manjimup

The executive of the Manjimup Sub-Branch is having a busy time. A permit has been granted by the State Housing Commission for the erection of additions to the R.S.L. Hall to relieve the professional and office accommodation shortage in the town. This, a double-storey project, will involve expenditure of many thousands of pounds, and a special committee is dealing with the matter now.

Diggers' Day Golf has come and gone again, blessed with a fine day and 31 ex-service men competed in the 9-hole one-day competition. Following the winners of 1948 and 1949 (M. Dunn and K. Mickie, respectively), E. Garside was this year's winner. Other trophy winners on the day were A. Evans, G. Bolding, S. Nicholas and G. Hales.

Membership of the sub-branch is now 223 and should shortly eclipse last year's figure of 231. The funeral fund created within the sub-branch enjoys a membership of 103.

The sub-branch is considering two types of memorial for the town-
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four-face clock tower and a cottage scheme to house aged couples, as the two selected forms to perpetuate the memories of those men who died and served in World War II. Sums mentioned for these types of memorials were £1,000 and £2,500 which, it is hoped, will be subscribed by direct giving. It is realised that whatever form is decided upon it might be a financial struggle, for those pushing the scheme realise that with such a long lapse after the cessation of hostilities makes the raising of either sum a small undertaking.

R. MONKHOUSE

Please write on one side of the paper and leave good margins. Write members' names in block (capital) letters - pencil copy cannot be accepted.

Maylands

September 28 saw an early start. The reason: We played the Midland Sub-Branch. What? Oh, anything we thought we could play better than them. Unfortunately, although they had quality on their side quantity fell or stayed by the wayside. However, it was a good show, good supper, good company and a good ending, because I won the booby prize. It really was something.

On October 12 I am inclined to surmise that some of our members must have tarried by the wayside, because they never made it. Perhaps they met those Midland chaps.

Our cricket team played its first match on Sunday, October 15, against Mr. Hawthorn. Unfortunately they lost by two runs, with only seven batsmen. A very good start in the circumstances, which suggests that Maylands cricketers are definitely after that pennant again.

J. H. FISHER

Osborne Park

The meeting held on September 6 with Mr. J. Greenshields in the chair commenced at 7.30 p.m. This was arranged to enable business to be disposed of earlier than usual. For the

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local St. John’s Ambulance Brigade and members of the Methodist Men’s Club were invited to a games night on that occasion. Darts, quots, table tennis and indoor bowls were played, supper was provided and all present thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Owing to our president (Mr. J. Hammond) and our sports officer (Mr. Doug Sheahan) attending a meeting at Yokine Sub-Branch, Mr. J. Greenshields occupied the chair on the night of September 20 when there was a good roll-up of members.

Our sick visitor reported on visiting Ted Feltham in Hollywood and that Alf Mitchell was once again in hospital and he would visit him. Mr. Geo. Adams kindly donated a waffle iron to be raffled at the social on Friday, October 20, in aid of the Christmas tree. At the close of the meeting, members enjoyed games and refreshments.

H. S. FLOUT.

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H. S. FLOUT.

◆ IF YOU MUST MENTION THAT THE BEER WAS GOOD, DON’T TELL US THE BRAND. WE CANNOT PROVIDE FREE ADVERTISING IN OUR PAGES.

Press

At a recent meeting of the Press Sub-Branch of the League the State President (Mr. T. Sten) presented the Press Sub-Branch with its charter and, as befitted the occasion, Mr. Sten delivered a minor address which was of major importance.

I was particularly struck with his sincerity of thought for the welfare of the League through a body of men who should be working as one for the general welfare of all of its members, and of the community as a whole. This was evident in every word of a dignified and truly presidential utterance.

It came, therefore, as somewhat of a shock to me to read in the daily Press that some League members, and also State Executive members, had not been able to interpret Mr. Sten’s remarks in the degree of high importance which they warranted, and it can only be thought that these members must have received a confused version of what had been said.

After 30 years as a member of the League I am well aware that few members have received a confused version of what had been said.

At our last meeting the following resolution, proposed by I. T. Birt with and seconded by H. Roach, was carried unanimously: “This sub-branch has noted certain criticism of the recent speech to its members by the State President, (Mr. Sten) concerning the ideals of the League and its impression on the community at large and League members, actual and potential, who served in World War II. In its firm opinion Mr. Sten’s speech was a deliberate and balanced statement in accord with the highest purpose of the League, warranting full support from all who have the best interests of this organisation at heart.”

J. E. WATSON.

◆ PENCIL COPY CANNOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THESE PAGES.

Returned Sisters

At the meeting held on October 5, 21 members were present. The president welcomed Miss Welsh, who has been in England for the past two years. Miss McDonald reported on the visit of members to Lemon's last month.

An article received from Mrs. Kelly, M.B.E., of Adelaide, was read, in which she described a memorial service held on board the s.s. Nil Holland in the Banda Straits in memory of all those Sisters who lost their lives in that area during the war. A copy has been sent to all the relatives in this State and a letter of thanks forwarded to Mrs. Kelly. Miss Chapman’s birthday on October 8 was remembered, and the good wishes of members was sent along with a birthday cake and a sheaf of flowers. Sick members were remembered, and flowers sent to Mrs. Clouston, Mrs. Graham-Browne and Miss Davis at Hollywood. The president wished Mrs. Douglas a happy trip to England on the Steadmore on behalf of the members.

ENA FOLLAND.

◆ PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTES TO 250 WORDS.

Scarborough

The October general meeting was held on the 23rd, with a good muster of members. Final arrangements were made for the annual picnic on the 29th, and the support promised showed that this event continues to hold its popularity.

One joining neither, Mr. F. Bown, was welcomed to the sub-branch.

On the sick list is John McKenzie. “Mac” is at Royal Perth Hospital, being treated for an eye injury received whilst he was operating a circular saw. We all wish you a speedy and successful recovery. “Mac.”
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Due to the enthusiasm of Andy Bowé, the sub-branch now has a team in the R.S.L. Cricket Association. The first match, against Bedford-Morley Parks, resulted in a win for that team by 2 runs, the scores being 96 and 94. With our score at 5 for 23, Allan Hepworth and Peter Dawson figured in a fifth wicket partnership of 76. Andy will be pleased to hear from all members interested in cricket. Ring B9668 or call on him at 100 Beaufort Street, Scarborough.

Wives of members have formed a Better Halves' Club, which has been responsible for many enjoyable functions. A social evening was held recently at Mrs. Carlin's home, where dart throwing preceded culinary exercise with chops over a mallee root fire. Mr. and Mrs. J. Bartlett threw with unerring accuracy to win the dart competition.

Among those present were two of our stalwarts, Mr. and Mrs. Vic. Farmer, who were celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary. The president, Tom Carlin, wished them many happy returns of the day and the toast of the happy couple was enthusiastically received.

A. W. BROWN.

★ PLEASE LIMIT SUB-BRANCH NOTES TO 200 WORDS.

South Perth

The smoke social in September was quite successful and well attended. It was pleasing to note that the members outnumbered the visitors this year. All reports cede that this was one of the most successful functions of this kind that has been held. That is saying quite a lot. Our thanks to all those members who helped to make the evening go.

To Messrs. P. V. Dean, C. F. Sandilands and A. McP. Townsend, who are in Hollywood, we wish a speedy recovery and the hope of seeing them at meetings again soon.

A welcome to Messrs. C. L. Goodman, J. Rann, B. Bottrill and D. J. Kilpatrick. It is hoped that they will be regular attendants at meetings. A good time is promised them.

In December, there are two functions: The Children's Party at Swan Street Hall, at 3 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, 9th December. The kiddies are promised a good time and, mothers, we will see that they will not need medicine afterwards. The adult Christmas party for members and their folk is on Thursday evening, 14th December, at Swan Street Hall at 8 p.m.

The next November meeting is on the 23rd. If you come once you will come always. Remember that the League (and the sub-branch) is not a purely social organisation, but is of inestimable help to all ex-service men and women in many ways. It is, therefore, deserving of every support. You can do your bit by just attending the meetings of your sub-branch.

The winner of the recent shopping bag raffle was Mr. Porter, of the X-ray Department of the Royal Perth Hospital.

T. WILBUR.

★ PLEASE WRITE ALL MEMBERS' NAMES IN BLOCK (CAPITAL) LETTERS.

Subiciso

Our annual general meeting on September 27 was a singularly expeditious affair. In spite of the election of officers, annual financial statement and three notions of motion to be dealt with, the meeting ended at 9.30 p.m., and the rest of the night was our own. Office-bearers elected were as follows: President, Mr. Rex Moore; vice-presidents, Messrs. Jack Alexander and George Gordon; hon. secretary, Mr. P. G. Potter; hon. treasurer and publicity officer, Mr. J. Newman; sportsmaster, Mr. Alec Ogg; committee, Messrs. Burgess, Patterson, Veitch, Wilson, Winter and Young.

President Rex Moore, re-elected, is confident of being able to improve membership in the coming year. His report covered practically all phases of our activity in the past 12 months and contained a hat on the back for Messrs. Wilson, Ogg and Potter and a handsome bouquet for the women's auxiliary. The motions dealt with at the meeting were all of a domestic character and were carried without comment. Even the hon. treasurer's passionate plea for a couple of auditors to try into his bookkeeping, or at least put their monikers to the statement, brought forth only loud shrieks of nonchalence. Apparently the hon. treasurer is a trustworthy dude. However, two-twelfths' doz. stout-hearted returned servicemen have since come forward and the position is practically saved.

The October general meeting was a comparatively quiet affair, chiefly notable for the interjections of the solitary irrepressible character without whom no sub-branch is complete.

J. NEWMAN.

★ 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.

Three Springs-Arrino

A meeting of the sub-branch was held in the Lester Hall recently, the principal business being to elect a secretary to succeed Mr. W. D. S. Mays, who was on transfer to the National Bank at Koorda. In this connection, Mr. M. Molloy agreed to act in a temporary capacity for the remainder of the current year.

When the business of the meeting had been concluded those present adjourned to the supper room for a social function, the purpose of which was to bid farewell to Mr. Mays.

During the course of the social proceedings, the president (Mr. A. H. Dargin) expressed regret that the servicemen were losing such an enthusiastic office. However, it was realised that the transfer meant promotion, and on that account he felt that members of the sub-branch would join with him in extending congratulations to the guest of honour and expressing the hope that he and his family would be happy and contented in their new sphere of activities. On behalf of district servicemen, Mr. Dargin then presented a cheque to Mr. Mays, and in his remarks he was supported by Messrs. C. Kilian, A. M. Williamson and D. Thomson.

Mr. Mays suitably expressed thanks for the presentation and the kindly remarks of the various speakers, stating that although he regretted leaving a large number of friends he hoped that he would at least meet some of them again in the future.

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Victoria Park

September and October monthly meetings were graced with disappointing attendances. Your new executive surely deserves better support than
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ZOAK makes Washdays Lighter!
this? Also it is worth remembering the wave of prosperity may recede some day; the recent increases were only obtained by organised effort, what part did you take?

So far only two badges have been returned to the sub-branch as a result of the recent publicity. Apparently the badge comes in handy for certain individuals who will not meet their liabilities. This is not a hint at you, reader, of course, just a reminder that we are fully awake to the position and would like you to know of it.

At last the finishing touches are being made to the building—the improvement is approved by our clients. N. Elands succeeded where others failed in putting us out of the A.R.M.S. at least—no hard luck story.

Our children's plain and fancy dress ball was thoroughly enjoyed by the young people, albeit we could have handled twice the number. Assistance was rendered by Messrs. Matthews, Straw, Jennings as Marshals, and Geo. Ford and Tom Greenwell, who were in charge of the door, were really appreciated. Fred Matthews, of M.C., was the same old. We must also thank the women's auxiliary helpers who worked for hours, getting ready for the function.

Ted Bantock is still sick at home. Both Ted and Eric Lloyd would appreciate a visit from a few members, especially the oldtimers. Please keep in mind the community carnival on the Causeway reserve and river picnic, both in November. Advance sales for 1951 will save your secretary quite a lot of work later on. The Christmas reunion will be held on the third Friday in December, the 15th, and the last sports night of 1950 on the first Friday, December 1st. Get off the chain for once!

H. J. TIMMS

16th Battalion A.I.F.

The annual meeting was held in Anzac House on September 22. All last year's officers were returned, with two new committee members. Our affairs are in the capable hands of President, Lou Brickell, and Secretary Bill Newick. One popular request was that the get-together after Anzac Day march be continued, so old pals can meet old pals one year.

"The annual reunion during Show Week was a fine turnout. The attendance of members was slightly smaller than usual. Many old faces were missing. Why? It is your show!

The monthly committee meeting was held on October 11 and all the reunion business was squared up and a fresh start made for the year ahead of us. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday in the month and members are invited to come along. In conjunction with the women's auxiliary, we are visiting old pals in the Sunset Home, so come along with us or send a gift to the old boys on December 17.

HARRY DAY.

Upper Swan Reunion

There was a large gathering of members of this sub-branch at Vista Hotel on October 19, the occasion being a special dinner to celebrate the 30th birthday of the sub-branch and the presentation of the charter. Notices to this effect were distributed among the membership, and the guests were: three South African veterans, Alf Yeates, Fred Bate son, and Neil Lamond, also foundation members Jack Shearing, Roy, Haining, and Eric Harrison. Among the visitors were representatives from Midland, Guildford, Bellevue and Bullsbrook Sub-Branches.

After justice had been done to an excellent repast, Mr. E. Harrison, in proposing the toast of the League and State Executive, paid tribute to the wise leadership in the past which had built up a strong and influential organisation. Mr. F. Bate son, in reply, referred to the need of an adequate defence force and, with his usual keenness for land settlement, urged the development and settlement of the far north of our State. Mr. Chappell (State Secretary) in proposing the toast of the sub-branch, outlined some of the work done by the League and urged members not to live on past achievements but to go forward and take their places as leaders in the life of the community.

In reply to the toast of the founders of the sub-branch, which was ably proposed by Ray Robinson, who, on his return from World War II, was president of the sub-branch for three years, Jack Shearing gave an interesting talk on the origin of the sub-branch and described the first meeting in the Baskerville Church Hall. It was then the only organised body in the district, and took the lead in all matters appertaining to the district. Eventually land was bought on which was a barn. Funds were raised and the barn was converted into a hall in which the sub-branch held its meetings for many years. In addition to Alf Yeates, who became State President, the sub-branch numbered among its members the Hon. L. Ford, Thorn, M.L.A., for many years a member of the State Executive.

Then came a very important event in the evening's proceedings, when Miss Mary Mearns, O.B.E., rose to present the charter to the sub-branch. After expressing her pleasure at seeing so many young men taking an interest in the League, in a brief but inspiring address she explained the charter and what it stood for. Mr. Cannon, our president, expressed his pride in accepting this on behalf of the sub-branch, and briefly outlined the part the sub-branch was playing in the life of the local community.

In lighter vein, the toast of the ladies was proposed by Mr. Alf Yeates and responded to by Mrs. Cannon, wife of our president. In his usual breezy style our vice-president, Mr. Tom Gurney, proposed the toast of the artists who added to the enjoyment of the evening. Our old friend Harry Wilson made a jovial and efficient toasting master and kept things going with a swing. Altogether it was a memorable evening for the sub-branch.

G. E. MCKENNA.

TREAT IN STORE

On his honeymoon, Jock bought a bar of chocolate. Carefully breaking off a piece, he handed it to his bride. The remainder he put back in his pocket.

Seeing no more was forthcoming, Jean, after a while, asked if she could have another piece.

"No, no," said Jock, "we'll keep that for the bairns."
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WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES

State Executive

Two meetings of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary State Executive have been held this month. Mrs. Stockin (State President) presiding at both meetings. We are very busy at present arranging for the packing and distribution of Christmas cheer to all ex-servicemen in hospitals.

Hospital Visiting

R.P.H.: Mrs. Younig reported that 219 bedside visits were made during the month.

Hollywood: This hospital is being visited as rostered. Mrs. Randall is visiting a number of country patients and taking them comforts every week.

Home of Peace: Mrs. Cotterill reported that there were 14 women and eight men patients being visited at present.

Edward Millen: Mrs. Coleman visited this hospital during the month. There are 34 patients at present.

St. John of God: Mrs. Brown visited Mesdames Drake, Greg and Straw during this month.

Official Visits

September 22: State President and State Secretary attended McKainay Shield sports meeting at Anzac House.

September 24: State Secretary visited C.H.I. and attended soldiers’ tea at Victoria Park.

September 29: Mrs. Brown, Senior Vice-President and State Secretary attended secretaries’ meeting at Anzac House.

October 1: Mrs. Brown and State Secretary attended Swan View’s outing for Sunset ex-servicemen.

October 7: State President attended meeting at Favesham.

October 8: State President and State Secretary visited and distributed comforts to ex-servicemen at Glenelg.

October 10: State President attended funeral of late Mrs. Chappell.

October 12: State President and State Secretary attended rally at Dangin-Quairading.

October 14: State President and State Secretary guests of Rockingham auxiliary at annual ball.

In Passing

We welcome the re-formed Bullfinch Auxiliary back to our ranks, and wish them every success.

Donations

Following is list of donations to delegates’ expenses to N.S.W. conference:

Beltmont, £1; Carlisle, 10/-; Bedford-Morley Parks, 10/6; Kirup, £1; Midland Junction, £1/1/; Kalgooerie, £1/1/; Meckering, £1; Narrogin, £2; Narembeen, £1; Katanning, £1; Swanbourne, £1/1/; Glen Forrest, £1; Pingelly, £1/1/; Rockingham, £1/1/; Collie, £1/1/; Bussendean, £1/1/; Condinjin, £1/1/; North Perth, £1/1/; Wickepin, £1/1/; Gnowangerup, £1/1/; Dumbleyung, £1/1/; Cunderdine, £1/1/; Murray Districts, £1/1/; Como, 10/6; Bridgetown, £2/2/-; North East Freeland, £1/1/; Kenwick, 10/6; Traralgon, 10/6; South Perth, 10/6; Bunbury, 10/; Geraldton, £5; Victoria Park, £1/1/; City of Perth, £3/3/-; Bicton-Palmyra, £1; Waaronna, £2/2/-; Wyalkatchem, £1/1/; Mt. Hawthorn, £1/-; Harvey, £5; Yarloop, £1/-; Kensington, £1; Mukinbudin, £1/1/; Cottesloe, £1; Gloucester Park, £1/1/; Dangin-Quairading, £1/1/.

Donation to Room Fund:

Mt. Hawthorn, £2/2/-; Belmont, 10/-; Nedlands, £2/2/-; Carlisle, £1; Subiaco, £3/3/-; Lake Grace, £1; Southern Cross, £2/2/-; Pinigelly, £1/1/; Narrogin, £1/1/; Katanning, £2/2/-; Dumbleyung, £1; North Beach, £2/2/-; Roleystone, 5/-; Mt. Barker, £1/1/; Bridgetown, £2/2/-; Brookton, £1; Dangin-Quairading, £2/2/-; Waroona, 10/6; Koorda, 1/-; Como, £1/-; Shackleton, £5/5/-; Shenton Park, £1/1/; Mosman Park, £1/1/-; Mukinbudin, £3/3/-; Carnamah, 10/6; Brunswick Junction, £1; Murray Districts, £1; Swanbourne, £5/5/-; Beverley, £2/2/-; Traralgon, 10/-; Miling, £1; Cunderdine, £1/1/; Bedford-Morley Parks, 10/6; Cottesloe, 10/6; Glen Forrest, 10/-; Rockingham, 5/-; Condinjin, 10/-; Wickepin, £1/1/; Wyalkatchem, £1/1/-; Kensington, 10/; Gloucester Park, £1/1/.

Other Donations

Subiaco, £2/2/- War Nurses’ Hostel; Belmont, £2/2/- Christmas cheer; Denmark, 10/6 War Nurses’ Hostel, 10/6 Favesham bowling pitch; Belmont, £1/1/- War Nurses’ Hostel; Yarloop, £2 War Nurses’ Hostel; Meckering, £1 War Veterans’ Home; £1 Soldiers’ Scholarship Fund, £1 War Nurses’ Hostel; Harvey, £5 Sunset, £5 T.P.I., £5 Legacy, £5 T.B. Association, £5 Favesham, £5 War Blinded, £5 Lemnos, £5 War Nurses’ Hostel, £5 Christmas cheer, £5 Maimed and Limbless; Narembeen, £12 donation, £2 Lemnos, £2 Hollywood, £1 Room Fund, £1 delegates’ expenses N.S.W. conference, jam for Sunset, balance hospital visiting; Katanning, £10 Sunset; Bunbury, £1/1/; Favesham, £1/1/; Sorrento bowling pitch; Bassendean, £2/2/- War Nurses’ Hostel; £2/2/- Soldiers’ Scholarship Fund; Carlisle, £1 Soldiers’ Scholarship Trust; Brookton, £5/10/- Christmas cheer; Kensington, £1 Christmas cheer, 10/- Favesham; Mt. Hawthorn, £1/5 Christmas cheer, £1/1/- Soldiers’ Scholarship Fund; Mukinbudin, £3 War Nurses’ Hostel; Mosman Park, £5/5/- Christmas cheer, £2/2/- Soldiers’ Scholarship Trust; Muntadgin, £5 War Blinded.

ETHEL AMES.

Mosman Park

The women’s auxiliary entertained the boys from Sunset to their annual high tea on Sunday, September 17.

The president (Mrs. Habbishon) welcomed the boys. Games and musical items contributed by members and friends of the auxiliary were greatly appreciated.

The sub-branch president (Mr. Conroy) encouraged the boys to do justice to all the good things before them, and praised the auxiliary members for their good work.

A vote of thanks to the ladies was given by one of the boys for such a happy and all-too-short time together.

A box of good cheer was taken to Mr. Phillips for those who are unable to leave the home.

J. N. BURGE.

Victoria Park

Two meetings have been held since our last report on September 29 and October 13. The former was well attended but the latter, owing to an
other function, was not so good. Mrs. Ames presided.

Mesdames Norris and Fisher represented us at the presidents and secretaries' meeting held at Anzac House, where quite a number of items of interest were discussed.

Hospital Entertainments.—On Sunday, September 24, we entertained men from Sunset, Heathcote, Lennons, Home of Peace and the Edward Millen at our Memorial Hall in Salford Street to high tea, and a display given by members of a dancing school was greatly enjoyed after tea. Items and dancing followed. Mesdames Mead and McKay arranged the amusement part of the programme, assisted by Mr. F. Matthews, and the catering was in charge of Mrs. Chue, and all our members helped in and helped to make the event the success it was. Thanks are due to the Red Cross for transporting the four bus loads to and from the hall, and to Mrs. Mead who loaned her car to bring the few men who were able to come along from the Edward Millen Home.

Hospital Visiting. —Mesdames Cassels and Coleman, for September 27 and October 11; and Mesdames Ames and Clues are the next visitors. Mesdames Matthews and McKay reported on visiting Mrs. Orrocks in Perth Hospital where we are pleased to say, she is improving in health.

Birthday Parties.—We will be represented at South Perth's birthday on October 19 and West Leederville on October 23 and Fremantle on October 26. Whilst on the subject of birthday parties, Victoria Park auxiliary wishes to announce that the winner of the shopping bag was ticket No. 40C, Bib and Bob, drawn at our birthday party held on October 13. The sub-branch is running a children's plain and fancy dress ball on October 18 and our members are giving a hand. More about this next time.

Personal.—We are pleased to welcome two of our members back to the fold—Mrs. Norris, who has been visiting relatives in England, and Mrs. Jennings, our worthy hon. secretary, who has been on annual holidays.

L. A. COLEMAN

The humour of the Digger, so often recorded in these pages, will be maintained in the true tradition by the C.M.F. On a week-end bivouac with "B" Coy., 16/28th Cameron Highlanders (Kalgoorlie), I heard this walkie-talkie conversation:

"Patrol to headquarters. We have contacted the enemy. We got close to his position and drew his fire."

"Headquarters to patrol: Any casualties?"

"Patrol to headquarters. Don't be so silly; we didn't get that close!"

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ARTILLERY COMRADES.—President: Arthur Hewett, Railway Parade, Cottesloe; joint Secretaries: E. S. McNamara and A. J. Snow, 74 Hay Street, East Fremantle (Phone 5065).

AUSTRALIAN ARMOURIED CORPS ASSOCIATION.—Secretary: E. W. Willingham, Box N 1133, G.P.O., Perth.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meetings as notified; President: A. Tullch, 105 Townsends Road, Subiaco; Vice-President: G. Allan, 252 Chishallow Avenue, Subiaco; Secretary: Miss G. McNicol, 30 Cood Street, South Perth.

AXE-MACHINES GUNNERS’ ASSOCIATION.—Gregson’s, 32 King Street, Perth; first Thursday of each month; President: R. W. Cashmere; Secretary: E. W. Wallace, 244 Shepparton Rd., Victoria Park.

BARBADOS WAR SOLDIERS & AIRMAN’S ASSOCIATION (W.A. Branch)—2nd Floor, Wellington Buildings, 158 William Street, Perth; 2nd and 4th Monday of each month; President: C. H. Hackett; 9 Princess Mary Street, South Perth; Hon. Secretary: W. H. Thomas, 83 Stirling High, Nedlands (W. 2637); annual meeting, Tuesday of March; general meeting, third week of December; financial year ends September 30; subscription 2/6 per annum.

PARTIALLY BLIND SOLDIERS’ AND AUSTRALIANS OF AUSTRALIA (W.A. Branch)—Room 53, Fifth Floor, Gladston Building, Perth; 1st Thursday of each month; President: W. A. Broadfield, 287 Locos Ore, Dunsborough; Hon. Secretary: E. W. Wallace, 244 Shepparton Rd., Victoria Park.

R.A.E.M.E. (W.A. Division) —H.Q., Western Command Clem, Club New Fremantle; President: A. R. A. Conolly; Secretary: F. M. Cumming (Phone BA 3143, Ext. 229).

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION —Meetings as notified; President: J. L. Geary, 159 High Street, Fremantle; Hon. Secretary: H. O. Newton, 24 Rosary Avenue, Nedlands.

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