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In the Eastern States recently there has been some public controversy about "old" and "new" soldiers, and some dissention seems to have arisen between those who served in World War I and those who served in World War II.

In Western Australia the League, through the State Executive, sets itself firmly against any such foolish discrimination.

For whether a man served in the Boer War, in France, in Gallipoli, in Burma, in New Guinea, over Germany, on the sea—no matter where he served his country as a fighting man (or as one of the essential men behind the fighting man)—the fact that he did so serve makes him eligible for membership in the League and there should not be, on any man’s part, any discrimination whatever.

The State Executive today has as members men of both wars. There is also, let us not forget, one female member—reminding us of the part which women played in our wars. The Executive, like the League itself, is truly representative of all phases of our national life, for its members are engaged in a wide variety of occupations, are of varying political thought and are banded together only for one reason—the welfare of the service man and woman, whether they be young or old.

It is wise, in these days, that the young man should have his say in the scheme of things. But it is also wise that the older man should be able to use his steadying influence. It is wise, too, that our womenfolk should be represented upon our councils, for not only do they serve with us today they only too often find themselves in the forefront of strife, among death and destruction, when warfare stretches out even into the home of the most peace-loving and innocent citizen.

Let us bear these things well in mind if and when we feel that we have differences with those who served in other days, in other fields or in other units.

Let us continue to go forward, as we have gone forward in the past, from strength to strength, from victory to victory. Let us build up our ranks from the old and the young of all wars. Let us be one in every possible way.

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Items of Interest from the State Executive

A meeting of the State Executive was held on May 3, highlights being:

**Re-Establishment**

It has been advised that at the moment it may not be wise to press for an additional class of bricklayer trainees. The Re-Establishment Committee is watching this matter closely. Representations made by the League to the Minister for Repatriation asking that the Government make available to ex-service personnel a loan of £50 for the purchase of furniture have not been agreed to.

**Housing**

The new Assistant Minister for Housing, Mr. G. P. Wild, M.L.A., attended a recent meeting of this committee. He expressed appreciation of the work which the committee was performing, and gave an assurance that he would do whatever was in his power to assist the League in its activities. Mr. Chaney criticised the War Service Homes Commission in regard to the high incidental costs of building and stated that many returned men today could not find the necessary initial funds for a home.

Mr. Davies stated that the War Service Homes Commission would allow suitable men to erect their own homes. Mr. Stahl added that controls should not be lifted, as if they were exercises would find it more difficult than ever to secure a home.

**Land**

The joint committee consisting of members of the Land Committee and the Farmers' Union was of the opinion, as a result of personal inspection, that a general inquiry into the War Service Land Settlement Scheme should be held.

**Immigration**

It was reported that the Regional Committee at Bunbury was working effectively and that a similar committee had been started in Geraldton. Narrogin is also to sponsor a similar committee.

**Membership**

It was noted that subscriptions paid to date total 12,750, but 8,250 still remain to be paid. A membership drive is to be undertaken, and it is understood that this is to be "put over" in a big way.

**Anzac Day**

The State President praised Miss Mary Meares and her sub-branch for providing disabled men with lunch after the parade. Mr. Lonnie moved that a vote of thanks be made to the State President for his work on Anzac Day. It was reported that the parade of Unit Colours was greatly appreciated. But it was regretted that a number of tickets issued for the Esplanade enclosure were not used.

The Executive placed on record its appreciation of the efforts of the State President on Anzac Day, together with appreciation of the organisation and work of the State Secretary and staff, the Chief Marshall and his assistants.

The Executive expressed its deep sympathy with Sir John Dwyer in the loss of his wife.

Reports included Re-Establishment (Mr. Stanbury), Housing and Land (Mr. Davies), Immigration (Mr. Lonnie), Membership, Anzac House and Anzac Club (Mr. Chaney), Executive Certificates and The Listening Post (Mr. Sten), Staff (Mr. Stoddart), Finance (Mr. Hertihey), R.S.L Hostel (Mr. Watt) and Anzac Day (Mr. Hunt).

A further meeting was held on May 17, highlights being:

**Land**

From this report resolutions were carried including, That the joint Land Committee meet the Minister for Lands to discuss with him complaints which have been made in the report that the Executive views with concern the Press statement made by Mr. Cashmore as a member of the Land Committee, and that this resolution be brought to the notice of all members of the committee. (Messrs. Stahl and Davies requested that it be placed on record that they voted against the first resolution.)

**Defence**

Mr. Lonnie moved that the Federal Executive be asked to check up on a recent Press statement regarding the proposed appointment of a number of British Army personnel as instructors in the Australian Forces, and that efforts be made to ensure that the rights of those Australians at present voluntarily serving in the Forces be not overlooked.

**Kimberley Inspection**

Colonel Mansbridge moved that an approach be made to the Federal Government, requesting the inclusion of a League representative on the forthcoming tour of inspection of the North-West of this State.

**Housing**

This report dealt with a number of items including the erection of duplex houses and two-storied flats and the sale of land at Floreat Park.

**Membership**

It was agreed that a full-page advertisement be inserted in The West Australian as part of a membership drive, and that Congress Week be known in future as R.S.L. Week.

It was moved by Mr. Stahl that the State Secretary be asked to explore the possibility of obtaining a recording of "In Memoriam" rendered by the Perth Girls' School Choir.

Reports included: Housing and Land (Mr. Davies), Re-Establishment (Mr. Stanbury), Membership (Mr. Chaney), Immigration (Mr. Lonnie), Pensions (Mr. Stahl), Listening Post and Faversham House (Mr. Sten), Anzac House and Anzac Club (Mr. Ferguson), Corps of Commissionaires and Aged S. and S. Fund (Colonel Mansbridge), Trustees (Mr. Craig) and R.S.L. Hostel (Mr. Watt).

THE WAR WIDOWS' GUILD is holding an

**Exhibition of Handicrafts**

in the Newspaper House Gallery on June 7 to 15 at 10.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
I sometimes wonder how many readers of this journal really realise how much they get for their two-pence-halfpenny.

I say this in no carping manner, but I would like readers to realise that the number of journals obtainable for less than sixpence is growing less every day (three prominent English magazines, including that very old favourite The Strand, have recently been discontinued), and to get a journal delivered to your door for two-pence-halfpenny is, in these days, something a little out of the ordinary.

I note that several of the Eastern States ex-service journals have of late had to trim their sails somewhat. In some cases the quality of paper has been lowered; in others, advertising has taken the place of some reading matter; in a few the number of pages has been reduced.

All this, of course, is in keeping with the times. Costs are continually rising—somehow they have to be met.

Readers of The Listening Post will have noticed that our front cover, once favourably commented upon by many readers, now has to be sold to an advertiser. This is but one of the economies forced upon us by rising costs. So easy for a critic to say, "But I want this—and this—and this." Not so easy to satisfy him when he refuses to pay any more for his requirements.

However, let us not harp on the subject. Next month the editorship of this journal will have been in my hands for two years—two years during which I have made many, many friends and—I expect—an odd enemy or two. But, as George Bernard Shaw so wisely remarked: "It is our enemies who keep us up to the mark." So, to them I must perhaps be thankful.

Working with The Listening Post committee has been a pleasure. Members have been well aware of the many difficulties surrounding the editorship of such a journal as this and have shown me every courtesy and consideration.

But one thing strikes me: Strange, isn’t it, the number of men-who think they could become editors overnight. They would no more dream of telling a doctor how to operate; or showing a lawyer how to conduct his case; or of indicating how a singer should handle his top note than they would of jumping from the top of Anzac House. But because they have been taught to form strokes of the pen into letters; to weld those letters into words; to join those words into sentences—then they, of course, could write a book, draw up a learned treatise, compose an epic-poem, or, easiest of all, edit a magazine. They probably know all that there is to know of orthography, etymology, of syntax and of prosody. They probably have a thorough grounding in accidence. As for dialectics, colloquialisms, idioms and the like—to them such things are child’s-play. Even though they hate, like, hell to write an occasional letter to Aunt Matilda.

However, as many of such folk get a lot of pleasure out of their dreaming, far be it from me to discourage them. But after more than a quarter of a century of writing, after many years of earning a living by my pen, I hope that such sweet as comes to the bower of the writer who has to please, not himself, but those hard-headed people who pay good money for the fruits of the pen, will never bespangle the brow of the dabbler who thinks writing so very easy.

However, he who writes has, if we are to believe one very-famous author, one great consolation: "There is probably no hell for authors in the next world—they suffer so much from critics and publishers in this."

VALE: DR. MYLES

Both the Moora sub-branch of the R.S.L. and the Moora district suffered a severe loss when Dr. W. S. Myles died on April 27.

Dr. Myles has been an outstanding citizen of Moora for many years and ever since his return from the 1914-18 war, in which he served with the Australian Army Medical Corps, he has been an active member of the Moora sub-branch.

He was president for a number of years and has always held an official position. The number of times he helped his old comrades will never be known, and there are many who are alive today because of his good service.

His life was one of service to the community and though he had a caustic tongue for the slacker and malingerer, no one could be more kind or tender to the genuine sufferer.

His popularity was shown by the very large number of friends who saw him borne to his last resting-place by his old-time comrades through a guard of honour of ex-servicemen. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded as he was laid to rest.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his widow, his two sons and his daughter, who are so sadly bereaved.

(G. L. Gardiner, president Moora sub-branch.)

ANZAC CLUB AMENITIES

On Monday, May 15, the first of a series of inter-sub-branch social evenings took place.

The opposing sub-branches were Cottesloe and the newly-formed Bicton-Palmyra.

Although this meeting was really only a trial evening, it was quite a success, and both teams expressed a desire to participate in further evenings of a like nature.

All the visitors took part in darts and snooker, and although no champions were found, some players remarked: "Well, it’s the first try, but not the last."

Mr. Keeley, of the club committee, welcomed the teams, and all enjoyed a tasty supper at the conclusion of the games at 10 p.m.
THE NARAMBEEN HOME

Recently Brigadier-General E. Martin, of the Press Sub-Branch, returned from a visit to Sydney. In a letter to the Editor he has much of interest to say about the Ex-Servicemen’s Home at Narambeen (and also some words of praise for the League Club in Sydney). We reprint herewith his letter which, we feel sure, “speaks for itself.”

I have just returned from a visit to New South Wales, having spent some weeks in Sydney. As my old battalion (17th, A.I.F.) was a N.S.W. unit, I was keen to see and learn of the doings of my old comrades and, naturally, came in close touch with the headquarters of the R.S.L. in that State.

My first contact with the activities of the R.S.L. was being made an honorary member of the club. The club is housed in Elizabeth Street, near Liverpool Street. You enter a wide, fairly long hall; at the end on the left hand is an entrance to a lounge (and bar) which is very nicely furnished with comfortable chrome chairs and tables and well-appointed bar running along one side. Entrance is also gained from Elizabeth Street. The rules governing the conduct of members using the lounge are strict. For example, a member on entering must immediately remove his hat.

On the first floor is the luncheon room and lounge. Here the appointments are very pleasing, equal to any in Sydney, the napery being spotlessly clean and silverware first class. The room overlooks Elizabeth Street and the view seen through wide windows is of Hyde Park with its trees and green lawns, and behind these the State War Memorial. A managress controls this part of the club and there is a very efficient female staff. As the club is residential, three meals are served each day. Another feature is that members may take lady friends to this lounge, where refreshments are served, and also to meals.

Now I come to the real reason for my visit. Shortly after my arrival in Sydney I was taken to the War Veterans’ Home at Narambeen.

I had no conception of what I was going to see when we arrived, so my surprise was complete.

As we entered the area granted to the home (100 acres) we saw a number of cottages being erected and we were told they were “Darby and Joan” cottages, which, on completion, would be allotted to elderly war veterans and their wives to live out their last years in peace. We then proceeded along a good road further to the grounds, coming at last to the administrative buildings. Here we left the car. We noticed several blocks of buildings—one was named Alamein, another Chauvel, and yet another Tobruk. All buildings were brick with tiled roofs and definitely of a permanent nature. Between these buildings there were paths and flower beds and natural timber, giving the surroundings a quiet and restful feeling. Also, through the trees glimpses of the Pacific Ocean could be seen. I should mention we were some hundreds of feet above the sea.

We were first conducted through the building where the dining-room and recreation rooms are situated.

We had afternoon tea, which was provided by the R.S.L. women’s auxiliary, Narambeen, in conjunction with ladies from the Legacy Club. (This organisation works in close cooperation with the R.S.L.) The charge for tea goes into the revenue of the house.

We then visited the various parts of the building. We found two guests working on looms, very happy and turning out good work. Everywhere we found the appointments of a high order.

We next visited one of the residential blocks. Here each guest has a separate room, the furnishings are of excellent quality and there is every possible convenience. The furnishings have all been donated: In each block is a library and the guests need only leave the building for meals.

At one end of each building was a beautiful sun-room, furnished with comfortable cane chairs and lounges where guests can read in comfort or otherwise amuse themselves.

There was a most interesting small one-roomed building, where we found the guests making pottery. I believe the clays were found locally; the work was first class, there being a furnace for glazing. (The widow of an ex-serviceman comes and gives lessons free of charge.)

We met a senior member of the staff, who said Field Marshal Montgomery was astounded at what was being done for the ex-serviceman. Far ahead of such work in England. General Freyberg asked for complete plans and data to take back to New Zealand.

This staff man, who has been connected with the home since the idea was first conceived, said that he felt that in this home “a soul had been put into bricks and mortar.”

(Guests who are able, help in keeping the flower beds in order.)

I nearly forgot one essential, namely, the hospital. This is right up to date with matron and staff, and any guest who becomes ill is immediately cared for.

There is a very fine bowling green. You will notice I use the words “home” and “guests.” At Narambeen it has been definitely laid down that such words as “institution” and “inmates” must never be used.

It was also pointed out that no picture or insignia of war is permitted on the walls or about the place. The total capacity at present is 121 guests.

Guests whose state of health must be due to war causes pay nothing and are only under one obligation, that is, to behave themselves.

When material is available, housing similar to that provided for men will be built for ex-service women.

Inscription on a tombstone: “Here lies an atheist. All dressed up and no place to go.”

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PENSIONS -- 1593-1700

By A. G. WEBB, O.B.E., Director of Employment and Pensions, British Legion

In medieval times the feudal system was all-powerful, and the care of disabled soldiers was a matter for individual or private charity. The lord who bought his vassals to fight was expected to look after those who were wounded and provide for the families of those who were killed, mainly by assistance in kind or by employment. The necessity for making some statutory provision for disabled soldiers seems to have arisen in the reign of Elizabeth, about the same time as the Poor Laws were established.

1593. The first war pension was granted in 1593, when "An Act for the Relief of Soldiers" was passed, assuring in the name of "Christian Charity Policy and the Honour of our Nation, such as have since the 27th day of March, 1588, adventured their lives and lost their limbs or disabled their bodies in defence and service of Her Majesty and the State should at their return be relieved and rewarded to the end that they may reap the fruit of their good services, and others may be encouraged to perform the like endeavours."

Preparations were then being made against the Spanish Armada, which only a few months later was shattered and dispersed.

This Act, in effect, put pensions on the rates, each parish being empowered to levy a rate of not less than a penny or more than sixpence in the pound, to be collected by churchwardens and paid through the High Constable. The fund was controlled by Quarter Sessions, and the maximum rates were £10 a year for a private, £15 a year for a N.C.O. or commissioned officer up to the rank of lieutenant, and £20 a year over that rank.

As some provision was necessary for the immediate needs of the disabled, on 5th April, 1593, an order was made in the House of Lords levying a contribution of 40/- on Archbishops, Marquesses, Earls and Viscounts, 30/- on Bishops, and £20 on Barons, towards the relief of maimed soldiers from France. The order provided that those Peers who were absent should be required to pay double the contribution, and those absent from the House most of the time, one-third more. A novel way of reforming the Lords!

The Act met with little favour in the counties, each attempting to evade the impost by pleading that the claimant was not born in the county; was not impressed there, or did not volunteer for service there.

1597. In 1597 a statute was enacted directing men on their return from service to repair to their parishes for work, and if none was available, the Justices were to "tax the Hundred for the relief of the sick and disabled soldiers." This was the Inquisition of relief for invalided soldiers. This was three months prior to the battle of Naseby, which virtually decided the struggle of King v. Parliament.

1601. Another law, authorised parishes to increase the minimum rate from a penny to twopence in the pound, and the maximum from sixpence to eightpence, whilst in the last Parliament of Elizabeth a further Act increased the maximum contribution from eightpence to tenpence.

1619. Another old record shows that human nature has not altered much over the years. On August 22, 1619, one William Wyatt petitioned the King "For relief of a maimed soldier from the County of Oxford; who will else be left to the Common Charity of England which is 'God help thee.'" He pleaded the King's promise to him at Woodstock: "Thou shalt not be wronged."

This petition was sent by His Majesty to the Justices of the Peace for Oxford, but the said William Wyatt had nothing to prove that he had been wounded as a soldier, and in actual fact lived in the County of Oxford as a labourer for 20 years. So we had old sweats in those days!

At the period of the Civil Wars, among other innovations made by the Commons to preserve their power, we find the first instance of pensions to soldiers defrayed from national funds rather than from local taxation.

1645. On April 7, 1645, the Commons assembled at Parliament ordered a sum of money to be set aside for dispersal among the respective County Committees for relief of invalided soldiers. This was three months prior to the battle of Naseby, which virtually decided the struggle of King v. Parliament.

1651. In 1651 the Commons gave instructions to the Council of State to take care that maimed soldiers be relieved and to "consider of a healthful place for their residence," but apparently no action was taken.

1660. In 1660, immediately after the Restoration, a Committee of the House was directed to enquire into the state of the poor sick, maimed soldiers who had been discharged without any provision for their relief. All this Committee could think of was to recommend that a public collection should be made on their behalf. This was not a success.

1662. In 1662 an Act of Parliament was passed recommending a reorganisation of the old system, but retaining the principle that the relief of indigent and disabled soldiers should be a charge on local rates. On the formation of a Regular Army, some other general system for the relief of men disabled or worn out in the wars was forced upon the consideration of the Government, and at length the erection of a hospital at Chelsea was decided upon, and the foundation stone laid on March 12, 1682. A sentimental tradition has been ascribed the foundation and establishment of this hospital to the charitable intercession of Nell Gwynne, the King's favourite, but careful research into the records fails in any way to authenticate its truth.

"Indeed," says an authority, "this thoughtless woman of pleasure was always too much engrossed with her own personal and family intrigues to have originated the idea of an undertaking of such serious national importance." The myth of Nell Gwynne

(Continued on page 20)
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LISTENING POST NEWSREEL — RURAL ITEMS

W.S.L.S.S.—The Minister for the Interior (Mr. McBride) recently said that the arrangement under which the Commonwealth and State had conducted war service land settlement was not a serious handicap to the settlement of ex-servicemen on the land. He was commenting on statements made by the N.S.W. Minister for Lands (Mr. Sheehan) to the effect that dual control by the Commonwealth and State was a serious handicap to soldier settlement. Mr. McBride said that the War Service Land Settlement agreement between the Commonwealth and State was ratified by both Parliaments. Under this agreement the Commonwealth was committed to make financial contributions only with respect to those plans of settlement submitted by the State which it approved. “It is probably true,” said Mr. McBride, “that had the Commonwealth had no say in the scheme the standard of settlement would have been lower, but more men would have been settled on the land.” The Commonwealth withheld its approval of some settlement proposals because the land was considered unsuitable, and of some schemes of subdivision put forward by the State because the farms were considered to be less than reasonable living areas.

“The Commonwealth never suggested that it provided all the capital funds for the purchase of land. This was a responsibility of the State under the agreement. It must be borne in mind that the capital funds provided by the State for the purchase of land and improvements and for the purpose of making advances to settlers for various purposes were investments by the State and it is in a position to recover the funds invested from the settlers. I note that Mr. Sheehan suggests that soldier settlers should free themselves as soon as possible of their debt to the Crown so that they may be masters of their own properties and work out their own destiny on the land free from any official interference. I support this suggestion, but perhaps Mr. Sheehan might explain why, in New South Wales, farms are allotted to settlers at present high costs, and why he has refused to consider writing them down to their long-term economic value as is provided under the agreement. The carrying out of this part of the scheme would have resulted in a considerable reduction in the settlers’ liabilities to the Crown.”

STATEMENT OF COSTS, W.S.L.S.—Resolution 192 at the 34th annual Federal congress, moved by Western Australia, was: “That any future applicants for War Service Land Settlement Scheme in agent States should be given a statement of costs incurred for operations prior to the budgeting for the incoming year.” The Minister for the Interior now says: “I would point out that during the assistance period, that is, the year following allotment of the holding, the settler is not required to pay any rent or interest in respect of the holding, or to make any payments on account of principal or interest in respect of advances (other than for working capital). The settler requests the advances for working capital, he is aware of the only commitments which have to be met during the first year of his occupation of the holding. After the termination of the assistance period and for subsequent years, the settler has to pay a yearly rental, and repay advances for structural improvements, plant and stock, etc. As he will have borrowed the money for plant and stock equipment and working capital, he is in a position to know the yearly payments necessary to liquidise his debt for these items. The only commitments about which doubt could arise therefore are those for rent and the purchase of structural improvements. The procedure in Western Australia provides for values being placed on these two items at the time of allotment. The rental to be charged is shown in the gazetted notice as well as being incorporated in the lease document, and is based on the valuation placed on the land and non-structural improvements. Similarly, the commitments for structures can be determined by the settler, as the valuation of these is also given in the gazetted notice and contained in the lease.”

“IT must be pointed out that the valuations referred to above are not final, but are of a temporary nature, and may be revised when final valuations are undertaken. In view of these facts it is considered that the settler is in a position to ascertain his financial commitments for the ensuing year at any time of occupation and, as mentioned previously, during the first year he has no financial obligations to meet other than advances for working capital.”

WAR SERVICE LAND SETTLEMENT.—The Prime Minister, writing to the Federal Office of the League in connection with a query as to the Government’s attitude to the W.S.L.S. consequent upon the recent High Court decision in the case of P. J. Magennis Pty. Ltd. v. the Commonwealth and others, says: “My Government is anxious that the scheme should continue to function in the future along the existing lines, and the means of providing for the restoration of the scheme on a proper legal basis are being considered by my colleague, the Minister for the Interior, together with the Commonwealth’s legal advisers. In the meantime, there need be no apprehension concerning the continuance of the scheme generally. The Appropriation Act, 1949-50, contains an appropriation for the purpose of War Service Land Settlement which will probably fully cover commitments for the present financial year, and my Government is quite agreeable to these monies being used for the time being for purposes of the same general character as those set out in the 1945 Agreements (including the cost of further acquisitions on the terms ordinarily applicable under State laws).”

W.S.L.S. TIME LIMIT.—A congress resolution moved by Western Australia was: “That the time limit within which an ex-serviceman may apply for training under the W.S.L.S. be extended.” To this the Minister for the Interior replies: “I have to advise you that to date no time limit has been set within which an ex-serviceman may apply for training under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme. The State Classification Committee may still recommend training for an eligible and suitable ex-serviceman, and such training is provided in all States. It is possible that some confusion existed at congress between rural training under the W.S.L.S. and that under...”

(Continued on page 20)
Annual Meetings and Reunions

Suggested procedure, outlined by the State Secretary (Mr. John Chappell):

1. The formal part of the meeting consists of calling to order, reciting the roll of names, calling to order and ordering business of the meeting.
2. Calling for the morning prayer or moment of silence.
3. Meeting remains standing "In Silence" in memory of fallen comrades. Chairman to recite:
   "They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old;
   Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.
   At the going down of the sun and in the morning
   We will remember them."
   Company repeats "We will remember them."
4. The following toast list could then be proceeded with:
   (a) The State Executive. Proposed by the chairman or other senior member of the sub-branch. Response by State President (if present), supported by any other representative from the State Executive.
   (b) Visiting Sub-Branches. Proposed by any member of the host sub-branch. Responded to by a visiting senior and junior officer of two of the visiting sub-branches.
   (c) Other Guests. Proposed by the chairman or other senior member of the sub-branch. Responded to by the local road board chairman or local member of Parliament, or other prominent local citizen.
   (d) The Press. Proposed by member of the sub-branch and responded to by one of the local Press representatives. (This toast is not absolutely necessary, but is sometimes submitted.)
   (e) Due acknowledgments should be made to the women's auxiliary who, in many instances, have furnished the tables.
   The toast list should not be unnecessarily long and an item of harmony can often, with advantage, be interspersed.
   The toasts and responses should not be unduly long, but some latitude should be allowed to representatives from the State Executive who are in a position to give first-hand information regarding the work of the State Executive, and who have travelled long distances in order to avail themselves of this opportunity to speak to members direct.
5. The formal part of the proceedings having been disposed of, the meeting should assume a less formal character to enable the visitors and members to mingle.
6. The proceedings should be officially closed at a reasonable hour with one verse of the National Anthem, accompanied, if possible.

Whatever takes place at the close of the meeting is not part of the function.

DEFINITIONS

FLAT . . . what your feet get like walking around trying to find one.
LUNCH HOUR . . . the pause that refreshes.
HULU DANCE . . . wild waist show.
SNOWFLAKE . . . raindrop wrapped in ermine.

Very frequently a fight for what is right degenerates into a quarrel for what is left.

ANZAC CLUB, ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE

THE EXSERVICEMEN'S "RENDEZVOUS"

OPEN TO ALL FINANCIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE
Your League Badge with current financial Crown admits you to the use of the Club and all its facilities.

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CLUB AMENITIES
(Country Members come and see)
BILLIARD ROOM (TWO TABLES), READING AND WRITING ROOM, DART BOARDS, CARD GAMES, BRIDGE, CRIBBAGE, ETC. (No gambling).

Biscuits and Cheese served at 5 p.m. daily.
Light Lunch Free Each Saturday at Noon

THE LISTENING POST . JUNE, 1950

Make Your Slogan: "See You at the Club"
The American Memorial Appeal

Plans which have been maturing during the past two years for the erection in Canberra of an Australian National Memorial to America recently reached their final stage. The Prime Minister (the Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies) very kindly agreed to launch the appeal for funds by national radio, and it is believed that the subsequent campaign to raise $50,000 throughout Australia for the above purpose will be short, sharp and successful. It is the desire of the special American Memorial Appeal Committees in each State that the largest possible number of small donations, as well as more substantial ones, should be secured, so that all may feel that they can share in the truly national tribute to the American people for their great contribution to the defence of our homeland.

"Any Bank Anywhere in Australia"

To make it as easy as possible for those wishing to subscribe to do so, donations to the appeal may be lodged at any branch of any trading or Commonwealth Bank anywhere in Australia. This generous offer of the Associated Banks and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia is very much appreciated. Tellers' receipts will be issued for all donations received, and the proceeds will be forwarded to the central appeal fund, in Melbourne, free of exchange. It is anticipated that in this way, in response to radio and press publicity and in support of the purpose of the memorial, many thousands of donations will be received from all parts of the Commonwealth.

It should be noted that donations to the appeal of £1 or over are allowable deductions for taxation purposes. Official appeal fund receipts for such amounts will be forwarded by post to the donors in due course.

American Memorial Appeal Brochure

The chief means of publicity for the appeal is a specially prepared and well-illustrated American Memorial Appeal brochure, of which 50,000 copies are being published. This brochure explains fully the purpose and significance of the memorial, and carries the text of the striking messages of support which have been received from leading citizens throughout the Commonwealth. Copies are available on request.

The appeal is for $50,000, and it is confidently believed that this amount will be readily subscribed by the Australian public.

To secure additional publicity, the Department of Information, through the National Film Board, has very kindly prepared a documentary film on the memorial, including personal comment by the Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey. This film will be screened in all major theatres throughout the Commonwealth. It will be shown also in America, Britain and other countries, and is assured of an enormous audience, both in Australia and overseas.

Our Leaders say . . .

The Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies, M.P., Prime Minister of Australia: I warmly commend the proposal of the Australian-American Association to erect at Canberra a National Memorial in acknowledgment of America's vital and unforgettable contribution to the defence of this country in the second world war.

Every contribution towards the cost of this memorial will be an individual recognition of the help accorded us by America during some of the darkest days of the conflict. The memorial will do much towards furthering the close bond of friendship already existing between the two countries and will remind future generations of their responsibility to ensure that that bond is not weakened in any way.

I invite the people of Australia to support this project on a national basis, and so give practical evidence of their gratitude to the United States of America.

The Rt. Hon. J. B. Chifley, M.P., Leader of the Opposition: It was a pleasure, when Prime Minister, to give consideration to the erection at Canberra of a memorial which would perpetuate the wartime association of the peoples of Australia and the United States and, particularly, the service personnel of both countries.

My colleagues and I gave approval to the venture and I now warmly support the public appeal for funds. I feel that this memorial will not only serve the immediate purpose in mind but will be a permanent reminder of the importance of close co-operation between the English-speaking peoples in the Pacific.

General Sir Thomas Blamey, late C. in C. Australian Military Forces and Commander Allied Land Forces, S.W. Pacific Area: A very fine conception lies behind the project to erect a National Memorial to the American people.

Our common effort during the years 1941 to 1944 against the Japanese in the Pacific revealed and established a remarkable unity of ideals and thought that enabled us to press forward towards our common aim with a singleness of purpose that is still remarkable. Official and personal ties became fixed in our relations to a degree that still influences our thought and actions. These are the years into which the permanent background of the outlook of both countries on the problems of these regions.

This memorial symbolises the continuance of the happy relations of the years of effort, and will stand always as the mark of our appreciation of the importance of maintaining those strong national and personal ties that the years of strain have bound around us.

Rear-Admiral J. A. Collins, First Naval Member and Chief of Naval Staff, R.A.N.: The contribution made by the United States to the defence of Australia in World War II was so great that it will never be forgotten by people who are at present living. But it is only right that we should commemorate it by the erection of an appropriate and worthy memorial so that those who come after us will hear of the close ties that were formed by Australians and Americans in their fight against a common foe. The link formed by the peoples of the British Commonwealth and the United States in those dangerous years must never be severed.
FUTURE OF THE NORTH-WEST

(Continued from our April issue)

The committee has also noted the decision of the Australian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., in conjunction with the Broken Hill Proprietary Ltd., to open up quarries and ship iron ore from the Yampi Sound (Cockatoo Island) deposits with white labour.

The fact that the first goldmining centre in Western Australia was at Hall's Creek in the East Kimberleys, and that at one period more than 1,000 white people were so employed under the most primitive conditions, is further proof of the adaptability of white men to these areas.

The excellent health statistics of the troops stationed in the North-West and Northern Territory lead to the same conclusion.

The committee recognises that not every white person is suited to tropical conditions, and that mechanisation of all laborious work must be carried to a higher degree than in the south.

The committee is of the opinion, providing suitable housing, refrigeration and green vegetables and fruit are available, that the country can be settled and worked by white people, and that possibly the best immigrants may come from the Mediterranean nationalities.

Roads

With the exception of a section of the Geraldton-Carnarvon road and the streets in the port towns, there are no made roads in the North-West in the generally accepted sense. Until during the last 12 months, modern, heavy road-making machinery has not been available for the North-West and the money provided has been expended on improving river crossings and improving the worst sections on the main routes. The minor roads and station access roads are maintained by the station owners. As a consequence, in the wet season, the roads become impassable and all traffic ceases for a lengthy period.

Costs of road transport are, necessarily excessive and this, together with the delays involved, creates one of the greatest disabilities of the North-West. In addition to shipping freights from Fremantle, many of the stations have to pay an additional £8 to £10 per ton for stores, building materials, etc. In some areas, cement has cost the owner £24 per ton delivered on the station as compared with £4 to £5 per ton in Perth.

The responsibility for the road system in the North-West has now been taken over by the Commissioner of Main Roads, who approves of the committee's recommendation that in the post-war years a large increased sum be provided each year for North-West roads. The Commissioner has advised the committee that he hopes to have sufficient modern road-making equipment in the post-war period to enable him to maintain fully equipped road-forming gangs in the area. These cannot provide for many years completely "all-weather" roads, but the hold-ups will be relatively brief and the cost of cartage per ton mile will drop appreciably. If the funds to be expended each year are double those provided in pre-war years, and modern equipment is utilised, it can reasonably be anticipated that benefit to the road system will be multiplied tenfold.

As the road systems improve, the committee recommends that a road tram be tried out on the heaviest traffic route—possibly from Derby to Hall's Creek.

In coming to its conclusion that the road system can be so greatly improved, the committee has in mind the fact that average annual falls in the East Kimberleys and in most of the remainder of the North-West are considerably below that of Perth; also that the average for the wettest months in the East Kimberleys is practically the same as the average June rainfall in Perth; and that the heaviest recorded rainfall in any month in the East Kimberleys has been equaled by a month's rainfall at Jarrahdale.

There is nothing in the rainfall itself—other than that due to exceptional cyclones—which will cause an insurmountable problem to the building and maintenance of road formations.

The committee does not consider that existing conditions warrant the construction of any new railways in the North-West.

Should the Ord River irrigation project be proceeded with, investigation should be made into the economics of constructing a railway from Wyndham to the centre of the irrigation district.

(Tо be continued.)

THE LISTENING POST — JUNE, 1950

THE LEAGUE BADGE
1950-51-52 ad infinitum

By J. E. Watson

The State Secretary's article on our badge, printed in the February issue of The Listening Post, was good reading and if the original designers of the badge did not have in mind Mr. Chappell's conception of the detail, he has very aptly supplied it.

However, the article was incomplete, as it omitted one detail of paramount importance, for a description of the badge is not complete without mention being made that it only has full significance if in the wearer's coat lapel it carries the financial crown.

It is possible that in this State there are several thousands of badges, in the possession of various people, that have no financial crown, and it is long past the time when the League should have devised ways and means to inform the general public that the badge confers no honour or privilege upon the wearer unless it bears the financial crown, and the way to do this, for obvious reasons, is not through The Listening Post.

Mr. Chappell says, "Loyalty to the Empire is exemplified by the Royal crown which surmounts the badge," but he should have added that loyalty to the League is exemplified by the financial crown. He also says "those who wear the badge might examine it closer still and endeavour to interpret its story," well, why not examine it on January 1 and give it a present of a new financial crown?

THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS

The Coldstream Guards, renowned throughout the world, celebrated their centenary recently. This famous British regiment is considered by Forscuse, the historian of the British Army, to have a unique history. The Coldstream's first colonel was General Monck, who was responsible for the restoration of Charles II to the British throne. Men from General Monck's headquarters at Coldstream, a small town on the English-Scottish border, formed part of the returning monarch's escort into London.
PERSONALITIES

Captain Robert Gee, V.C., was recently tendered a birthday dinner by Major F. Llewellyn, of Forrestfield. Guests of honour, host and other guests all had a particularly happy evening.

Mr. H. J. Rogers has been coming in for considerable praise for the work he did for the Easter sports meeting of the Manjimup sub-branch. But Mr. Rogers is, as ever, extremely modest about the whole affair.

Mr. Clouston and Miss Connolly, members of the Returned Sisters sub-branch are, we regret to learn, at the moment inmates of hospital. We trust their recovery to health will be rapid.

Gordon Hack, of the Highgate Hill sub-branch, recently suffered a nervous breakdown. With Mrs. Hack he has now left for a tour of the United Kingdom and the Continent, and his many friends will wish him a speedy return to health.

Abe Bailey, of the South Perth sub-branch, is another Digger who is on the sick list. Abe is a sterling worker.

The late Lady Dwyer, wife of the Chief Justice, who died recently after a lengthy illness, was a keen worker for wartime charitable organisations. In World War I she was interested in the Trench Comforts Fund and in World War II in the Camp Comforts organisation. The sympathy of The Listening Post's many readers go to Sir John in his sad loss.

Mr. W. J. Hunt, State President, recently returned from Melbourne, where he attended a meeting of the Federal Executive.
COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

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WHAT THINK YE?

Anzac Day Address given by Mr. R. T. MacLEOD CLOAG at Derby

I have taken the title of my address from the New Testament, St. Matthew, chapter 22, verse 42.

We are gathered here today to commemorate the landings at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915, and to honour those who fell on the field of battle, but in giving their lives gave birth to the Australian nation—

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."

I am honoured to have the privilege of giving the address on this day as a New Australian, and as the subject of my address I am going to analyse the name of our town, Derby, and seek to find a message therein.

Firstly, I think of the letter D, and Devaluation comes to my mind.

We must never allow anyone to belittle the sacrifice these men made, but certain people in our midst to-day, throughout the world, would try to do this very thing. They would have us believe that it was their fate, as in the words of Omar Khayyam:

"Tis all a chessboard of nights and days,
Where Destiny with man for pieces plays,
Hitler and thither moves, and mates, and slays—
And one by one back in the closet lays."

If we believed that, their sacrifice is reduced to nothing.

Each man, I feel sure, believed the words of the poet Henley:

"It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul."

and in their believing they tried to bequeath to us the letter E for Eden—Paradise—Peace—and it is our bounden duty not to betray their trust that we would carry on.

I came across some lines the other day amongst my papers passed on by an old Crimean veteran of the old 90th (Perthshire) Light Infantry, now the Cameronians, Scottish Rifles:

"When war is at hand and danger is nigh,
For God and the soldier is every one's cry;
But when war is o'er and all things are righted—
God is forgotten and the poor soldier slighted.
This brings me to the letter R—which stands for R.S.L.
This organisation owes its origin to the sentiments expressed in this verse. Protection for the soldier, sailor, and airman regarding his peculiar problems, medical attention for war wounds and ill-health, pensions, rehabilitation, besides preserving the fellowship and comradeship of war years—doing things together instead of battling alone.

We now come to the letter B—and I think of a bridge.

How narrow is that bridge today separating peace from war.

I think of how Horatius held the bridge alone against terrific odds.

Today we cannot stand alone—we must stand together; and for that very reason in the midst of the last war the foundations of the idea for the United Nations came into being. Out of evil cometh good, they say, the Australian nation came on April 25, 1915—the United Nations was also born in war, then may God grant that U.N.O. will progress as our nation has through the years.

In spite of this, however, the war drum's distant rumble can be heard again, and we return in our thoughts to the sacrifice of the fallen in the two world wars. Some of them were our cobbers—did they die in vain?

I come to my last letter, Y for Youth.

Peace is a pearl without price, and must youth—the youth of the rising generation—be sacrificed on the Altar of War again as their grandfathers and fathers' generations were. I pray to God it will not be, because these simple acts of reverence and remembrance we are observing today will gradually effect changes in the hearts and minds of men throughout the world; but to preserve freedom won for us through the ages by Magna Carta in 1215, and the first printing press by Caxton in England in 1476—Freedom to do, speak, read, write and worship as we want to has been bought for us with much blood; therefore it is a heritage to be guarded, but to prevent further bloodshed the cry of the pacifists "disarmament" is not the answer—but eternal vigilance.
We publish herewith a list of nominations for the State Executive (State President, Vice-Presidents, Trustees and Executive members). The data has been prepared by Headquarters and is so framed as to give all nominees as equal representation (and space) as possible.

Where Service to League and War Service particulars are not given, these were not received from the nominating sub-branches when this journal went to press.

STATE PRESIDENT

DAVIES, E. O.
Service to League: Present State Vice-President; member State Executive; 7 years president North Perth sub-branch; 3 years president Corrigin sub-branch. War Service: 10 A.L.H., 1914-18. (Nominated by Maylands.)

EDMONDSON, T. S.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; State President 1933-34; secretary Claremont-Cottesloe sub-branch 1918-19; president Nedlands sub-branch. War Service: 44 Bn. 1914-18. (Nominated by North-East Fremantle.)

VICE-PRESIDENTS

CHANNEY, F.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Mt. Lawley.)

CRAIG, J. F.
Service to League: Present chairman of Trustees; president Midland Junction sub-branch 4 years. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Highgate.)

DAVIES, E. O.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Melville.)

EDMONDSON, T. S.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Nedlands.)

GREENHAM, Dr. R. I.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; vice-president Midland Junction sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Midland Junction.)

HERLIHY, J. E. P.
Service to League: Present member State Executive. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Ex-Servicewomen.)

STÉN, T.
Service to League: Present State Vice-President; member State Executive many years; president York and Narrogin sub-branches; honorary secretary Beverley sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by North-East Fremantle.)

KEELEY, B.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; life member for services to Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch; immediate past president Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch; immediate past president Kensington sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Mt. Hawthorn.)

LONNIE, W. S.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; president Subiaco sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Gosnells.)

STAHL, F. J.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1914-18, 1939-45. (Nominated by Fremantle City.)

BENSON, D. M.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; ex State secretary. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Highgate.)

CHANNEY, F.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Mt. Lawley.)

COCKMAN, F.
(Nominated by Gloucester Park.)

CRAIG, J. F.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Midland Junction.)

LESLIE, H. A.
Service to League: Present Trustee; Wyalkatchem sub-branch secretary 1930-38; president 1938-40. War Service: 1914-18, and 2/28th Bn. 1939-45. (Nominated by Wyalkatchem.)

MANSBRIDGE, W. O.

NEWTON, G. H.
Service to League: Secretary West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat Park sub-branch; sub-branch trustee. War Service: 16th Bn. 1914-18. (Nominated by West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat Park.)

SPRATTING, Rev. S. J.
Service to League: President and vice-president North-East Fremantle sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Gosnells.)

STÅHL, F. J.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War
Nominations

Service: 1914-18, 1939-45. (Nominated by Maylands.)

STANBURY, W. H.
Service to League: Present member State Executive. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Melville.)

STODDART, R. J.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Coonella.)

STATE EXECUTIVE

BARTLEY, L.
Service to League: Vice-president, social secretary Fremantle sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Fremantle.)

BATESON, F. W.
Service to League: Present member State Executive. War Service: Boer War, 1914-18. (Nominated by City of Perth.)

BENSON, D. M.
Service to League (see under nomination for Trustee). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Highgate.)

BRADSHAW, F. G.
War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Bunbury.)

BROWN, W. R.
Service to League: Member Melville sub-branch 4 years; president for last 2 years. War Service: Ex-R.A.A.F. (Nominated by Melville.)

CHANLEY, F.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1939-45. Nominated by Mt. Lawley.

COCKMAN, F.
(Nominated by Gloucester Park.)

COLLINS, J. P.
Service to League: Member Building Committee, Mt. Lawley. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Mt. Lawley.)

COMPTON, J. H.
Service to League: Committee-man, Gospels sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Gosnells.)

CRAIG, J. F.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Midland Junction.)

DAVIES, E. O.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by North Perth.)

EDMONDSON, T. S.
Service to League (see under nomination for State President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Nedlands.)

FARQUHARSON, H.
(Nominated by Rockingham.)

FERGUSON, C. G.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; ex-assistant State Secretary. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Mt. Lawley.)

GRAVES, F. L.
Service to League: President, Mt. Lawley sub-branch; secretary Trayning Yehbini. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Mt. Lawley.)

GREENHAM, Dr. R. I.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Midland Junction.)

HERLHY, J. E. P.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by North-East Fremantle.)

HOBBS, H. E.
Service to League: Secretary Claremont sub-branch; president, vice-president, secretary Fremantle City sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Fremantle.)

HOOPER, R.
(Nominated by West Perth.)

HUCKSTER, V. A. B.
Service to League: Secretary, treasurer and social secretary Carlisle sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Carlisle.)

HULLETT, A.
Service to League: President and hon. secretary Maylands sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Maylands.)

JAMES, W. J.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; president North Perth sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Osborne Park.)

KEELEY, B.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Mt. Hawthorn.)

LESLIE, H. A.
Service to League (see under nomination for Trustee). War Service: 1914-18, 1939-45. (Nominated by Wyalkatrichem.)

LONNIE, W. S.
Service to League (see under nomination for Vice-President). War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Subiaco.)

MACNAMARA, S. A.
War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Subiaco.)

MANSBRIDGE, W. G.
Service to League (see under nomination for Trustee). War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by Maylands.)

MEARES, Miss M.
Service to League: Present member State Executive; first president Ex-Servicewomen's sub-branch. War Service: 1939-45. (Nominated by Ex-Servicewomen.)

NEWTON, G. H.
Service to League: President, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, trustee and auditor West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat park sub-branch. War Service: 1914-18. (Nominated by West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat Park.)

OWEN, G. P.
(Nominated by Gloucester Park.)
I Visited New Guinea

Recently the Editor of The Listening Post received a telephone call from a lady who had just returned from a visit to New Guinea. Her words of praise for the courtesy of the League members there were so eulogistic that she was asked if she would write for this publication, a few words as to her experiences.

You asked me to write to you of my recent visit to New Guinea. My visit was for two days only, so I saw little of the country. However, I could tell you of the Bomana Cemetery... the reason for my visit was to see my son's grave.

The cemetery itself would defy any place on this earth for its expression of beauty, serenity and peace. A rich, green carpet of grass covers the entire cemetery and is broken only by the row upon row of white headstones (the wooden crosses are being replaced by stone headstones). Surrounding the cemetery is the natural wild growth which perfumes the air, while the bird notes are the only sound that breaks the great silence. All this beauty lies at the foot of two large pyramid mountains that appear as natural sentinels.

My stay there... I shall never forget it. I knew no one in Moresby, so was prepared to visit the cemetery only. But no sooner was my mission known to one returned soldier than all returned soldiers "gathered to the fray." On the Saturday afternoon and Sunday evening I was entertained by League members and their wives at the R.S.L. Club. I had to remind myself that I was not a queen, for such was the treatment I received. Had I stayed longer they would have taken me, by jeep, to the war memorial on the Kokoda Trail. My disappointment was consoled by the fact that the jeep had no brakes... a minor matter for the returned boys up there. I will never be able to speak too highly of them. I hope in some way they will know that the kindness they offered me was the greatest comfort a mother could wish for during a mission such as mine.

Yes! The Fuzzy-Wuzzys are still there with their fascinating hair. I was amused to hear that a mission society had bought a merry-go-round and erected it for the use of the native population. Although countless whites had ridden on it to prove to them its harmlessness, not one Fuzzy-Wuzzy has set foot on it. They pass it with awe and leave it respectfully alone.

There is plenty of entertainment up there—golf, fishing, etc., but everyone wishes they could entertain with other than English beer. I hope the information of the cemetery may be of consolation to any mother who may read this. May I say here that it would be impossible to locate any grave unless full particulars were first obtained from the War Graves Commission in Melbourne. There are no details kept at the cemetery in Bomana.

Thank you for asking me to write to you, for it affords me the opportunity of briefly saying "thank you" to the R.S.L.

B. Hill.

Lake Varlay Plaque

On December 9 last, the Hon. H. S. Seward, together with Col. Mansbridge (representing the League), attended the Lake Varlay State School where the ceremony of handing over to the head teacher a plaque on which the names of servicemen of the district who made the supreme sacrifice during World War II were engraved (C. E. Shapland, E. Crisp, C. Horne, C. Roberts, J. McKechnie and R. Atkins) was performed.

On the plaque there were a number of silver shields. On these will eventually be placed each year the names of the boy and girl of the school who make the most progress with their studies. In this way it is hoped that the memory of those who fell will always be to the fore in the minds of the younger generation. After the function, tea was provided by the local women's auxiliary, while the youngsters showed their prowess at sports.

The Minister and Colonel Mansbridge then motored to Lake King, where they attended the annual sub-branch meeting. Some 70 members with their wives and children attended. Supper was provided by the women's auxiliary and a programme of dancing was greatly enjoyed.
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PENSIONS 193-1900
(Continued from page 7)
probably had its origin in the practice of those times of lavishing the grossest flattery on every Court favourite, for which the founding of Chelsea Hospital afforded a good opportunity. The origin of the scheme is attributed, with a much greater probability of truth, to Sir Stephen Fox, the first Paymaster-General of the Forces.
1682. Be that as it may, the foundation was duly laid in 1682, and the structure was erected on a site vested in the Crown, but the cost of the building was met by a poundage deducted from the pay of every soldier, and this poundage was continued for the maintenance of the hospital until 1847. In-pensioners were governed by strict rules and Army discipline, a striking contrast to the present system of a statutory money grant paid to a man without restriction of any kind as to the method of spending it. In somewhat similar fashion, Greenwich Hospital was founded for seamen by William III as a Memorial to Queen Mary.

As time went on it was obvious that these hospitals could not house all the soldiers placed upon pensions, which was the original intention, and a system of out-relief was instituted which, so far as Chelsea is concerned, survives to this day, in the form of a Special Campaign Pension.

1689. In 1689 the cost of pensions was £6,000, whilst in 1713 it had risen to £61,000.

1713. The year 1713 marked a milestone in pension history, in that the flat-rate pension was first adopted.

The amount of the pension was not a very generous one, even allowing for the cost of living in those days, being only 5d. a day, but the principle was admitted, and has formed an integral part of our pensions scheme ever since.

1854. In 1854, arising out of the Battle of Alma, in the Crimean War, when the British losses were very heavy for the time and age, i.e., 99 officers and 1,866 men, a fund was inaugurated by "The Times" for the wounded and widows and orphans. This fund was called the Royal Patriotic Fund, and was not closed until nearly 13 million pounds had been subscribed. Although the administration and control of the fund was severely criticised, it remained in being as the chief pensions institution for nearly half a century.

1886. It was strengthened in 1886 by the inclusion of various funds raised by the public, such as the Zulu War Fund, the H.M.S. Victory Fund, etc.

1900. After the South African War, other funds such as the Lloyd's Patriotic Fund, Imperial War Fund, Telegraph Fund, etc., were incorporated.—From Home Front.

LISTENING POST NEWSREEL
(Continued from page 9)
the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme when the resolution was brought up. General applications for training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme were not accepted after 30th June, 1947, with certain exceptions, however, the possibility of an extension of the time limit to 30th June, 1950, is at present under consideration.

DEVELOPING THE MIDGET SUBMARINE
In a few months' time, a midget submarine belonging to the Royal Navy will work with the United States Navy. It will be stationed at an American base on the Atlantic coast. British naval vessels of almost every type have already worked with the U.S. Navy, but these small submarines have never done so before.

Britain has considerably developed and improved these submarine craft since the war. The U.S. Navy expect to gain much useful experience about this class of vessel during the forthcoming visit.

During the war British midget submarines successfully attacked the German battleship Tirpitz while sheltering in the narrow waters of a Norwegian fiord not navigable by larger vessels. They also sank a Japanese cruiser inside a well-guarded naval base.

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FRANKLAND RIVER

The first annual reunion of the Frankland River sub-branch was held in the local hall on Saturday, May 20, 1950, and was largely attended by members. In fact, with but one exception, the total membership of the sub-branch was present. This must constitute a record for an attendance at such a function, and could be a lesson to many metropolitan sub-branches.

The main toast of the evening, that of the State Executive and other visitors, was proposed by the sub-branch president, Mr. Eric Watts, and the response was by Mr. Fred Chaney, of the State Executive (the district representative). Fred addressed the meeting in his usual breezy style and advised the sub-branch on many important phases of League activities. He was very ably supported by Mr. B. Keeley, who dealt with the work of the various sub-committees of the State Executive. The toast of the visitors was responded to by Mr. P. Thorn, country vice-president, as well as by a representative of the Cranbrook sub-branch.

The tables were tastefully laid out and were well stocked with plenty of choice cuts of turkey, ham and other cold meats and a good supply of salads and savouries. There was also an ample supply of the cup that cheers and the service was well maintained by a team of very capable stewards under the leadership of Mr. Phipps. At the conclusion of the dinner many questions were asked by members concerning various League activities, and particularly in connection with The Listening Post and land settlement matters. These questions were dealt with, and in cases where an answer could not be supplied it was agreed to obtain this information from the correct source.

On the Sunday the visiting State Executive members were the guests of Messrs. Eric Watts (president), John McKenzie (hon. secretary) and Jack Kehoe, and were taken on a tour of inspection of various properties. There is no doubt about the Frankland River district. It is a wonderful area of rich, fertile country, its hills and valleys at present producing luxuriant pastures. The soldier settlers are to be congratulated on the very excellent and important work they are doing in connection with the development of the State, and while they have many legitimate complaints concerning many phases of land settlement and the irritating delays and hold-ups in the scheme, these will eventually be overcome. We predict a great future for the Frankland River district and its band of R.S.L. settlers.

15th BATTALION HISTORY

The history committee of the 15th Battalion A.I.F. (1914-18) still have a few copies of the battalion history to dispose of, and having sold copies to members of the 13th and 14th Battalions of the 4th Brigade, the committee thinks that members of the 16th Battalion, who were closely allied with the 15th in the various campaigns, might be interested.

Copies are 17/6, post free. For further information contact J. M. Rae, Welshpool Road, Welshpool, Western Australia.

Some doctors believe in shock treatments—mailed out the first of every month.
Presentation to Mr. A. Yeates

There was a large gathering of members, including many old stalwarts such as Bob Lowson and Neil Lamont, at the Upper Swan sub-branch meeting held at Vista on May 4. The State Executive was represented by Messrs. F. Bateson, B. Keeley, F. Stahl, J. Craig and the State Secretary (Mr. J. Chappell). Other visitors included representatives from Midland in Messrs. Lamb, Kynaston and Davis. The occasion was the presentation by the sub-branch of a Life Membership Certificate to our old friend Alf Yeates, foundation member of the sub-branch and ex-State President of the League.

After business had been disposed of, our president (Mr. Bill Cannon) referred to the grand work done by Alf Yeates in the building of the League and the resultant wonderful organisation of which the men of World War II were able to become members.

Mr. Bob Lowson, one of the foundation members of the sub-branch and president for 13 years, referred to the high esteem in which Alf was held by all members of the sub-branch and to the fact that during the years he was so busy as State President he always found time to attend sub-branch meetings. He might aptly be termed “Father of the sub-branch,” as he did so much as first president to place the sub-branch on a sound basis. He played a most active part in the then burning question in the district—the revaluation of properties. Life membership was a very fitting honour for a life of service to the League.

Mr. Tas. Feurtrill, supporting Bob’s remarks on behalf of younger members, referred to the good work done by Alf Yeates in the district and to the fact that “any job he takes on, he makes a good job of it.”

Our old friend, Mr. F. Bateson, in reminiscent vein, referred to his association with Alf on the first Land Committee of the League and stated that the work done by Alf as chairman of that committee had placed the League on the map.

Mr. Chappell referred to the way in which Mr. Yeates had, by his wise counsels, assisted the League to attain the position it holds today. His selflessness, honesty of purpose and his desire to seek what we can put into the country embodied the true spirit of the League.

After other members of the Executive had paid tributes to the guest of the evening, Mr. Cannon, with a few well-chosen words, presented the life certificate to Mr. Yeates.

On rising to reply, Alf was given a great reception. He thanked the sub-branch for the honour bestowed upon him and the speakers, that evening, for their remarks. Looking back over 31 years he referred to the early struggles of the League to establish its position and to the high standard of citizenship shown at meetings. Looking to the future, he appealed to all to maintain that high standard so that Australia can grow to be the country we want it to be. He sat down to loud and continued applause.

A buffet supper was then served by the sub-branch social committee in their usual efficient manner.
Sub-Branch Directory

Since our last number was published the following alterations have come to hand:

BEDFORD-MORLEY PARKS: Secretary's address is 90 Salisbury Street, Inglewood.

BROomeHILL: President now M. Clayton, Broomhill.

CARNAMAH: President now R. Solling, Post Office, Winchester.

COOROW - WADDI FOREST: President now W. E. Greaves, Coorow; secretary, J. B. Haig, Winchester.

KIRUP - MULLALYUP: President now F. W. Goddard. Meetings, 3rd Wednesday each month at 8 p.m. in Rest Room, Kirup.

MARGARET RIVER: Secretary now C. F. G. McKenzie, Margaret River.

MECKERING: Secretary now K. A. Burgess, Meckering.

MILING: Secretary now J. W. Harris.

MUKINBUDIN: President now J. L. Edwards, Mukinbudin.

MURRAY: President now F. Burt, Pinjarra; secretary, L. Graysmark, Pinjarra.

NYABING: Secretary now R. Moore.

RETURNED SISTERS: President now Mrs. J. E. Ferguson, R.G.H., Hollywood.

SHENTON PARK: Secretary now R. Harrison, 9 Burwood Street, Shenton Park.

SOUTHERN CROSS: President now T. Watson; secretary, J. Goodin.

WICKEPIN: Secretary now C. G. Newbould.

WUBIN-BUNTINE: Secretary now W. Bycroft.

WEAR THE RED CROWN

The wearing of the red is important to the League this year.

The red refers to the financial crown on the standard League badge, and the wearing of this denotes that the wearer is financial for 1950.

Many members think it doesn't matter very much if they delay becoming financial until towards the end of the year. They might be reasonably good League members, but they just don't realize the importance of paying their small subscription when it becomes due.

So when you meet a mate on a tram or train or at work, and he is not wearing the important red crown, give him a gentle reminder about it. If he's a good League man he won't mind being ribbed a bit and he'll appreciate the reminder. So will the League.

Roy Rowe, of Canberra, was a recent visitor to Perth and he received a hearty welcome when he attended a meeting of the State Executive. Other recent visitors to the State Executive were Messrs. F. Boulter, of Caulfield, Victoria; Pritchard, of Harvey; A. Craigie, of Albany; and R. Speck, of Rose Bay, Sydney.

The 13th Bde. A.I.F., 1914-18 turnout, of which I was a detail, was well represented by Colonel Christy leading his 51st Bn. in the Anzac march and General Glasgow taking the salute in Bribane Anzac parade.

—Yours, etc., John McIntyre (51st Bn.), Dongarra Peach.

May 15, 1950.

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CITIZEN ARMY
Sub-Branch Activities

BEDFORD-MORLEY PARK

The sub-branch is settling down quite well, although it has taken nearly half the year to find where we are and, in spite of the early apathy to the League, we have found at Bedford-Morley Park, that one of the sub-branches has dropped out of our district and the membership seems to be in a state of flux. We are confident enough to secure one new member to fill his place and have not been able to attract any new members.

COLLIE

The sub-branch still maintains a strong front in matters as well as in the welfare of the ex-servicemen. Recently held in the district was a special meeting of the League, of which a large number of members attended. The vice-president of the League, Mr. W. F. Collins, was present and made a brief address on the importance of our work. The branch was then opened for business.

FORTYFIELD

A full muster of members attended the April meeting and, much to their delight, our guest speaker, Mr. J. F. Hunt, M.B.E., paid us a visit and was most cordially received by our president, Mr. J. F. O'Meara, and members of the committee. The meeting was held in the new hall, when we will hold a social function for members and friends. Water applications for the new hall were made on the committee, and some attention to this matter by our State Execu- tive was also given. It is hoped that our associations are to be conducted, so as to develop plans suitable to the district's requirements.

REMENRAY

Another Anzac Day has come and gone, and in Fremantle the suburbs are alive with activity. The parade was, as usual, a most inspiring affair. There were not many of the older men present, but the young men seemed to be a little more strung up about this day than in any other year. We hope to see them all present next year. The parade was held by our very efficient R.S.L. Memorial Band, under the leadership of Mr. R. E. H. Whitworth, and was marched wonderfully well in the parade and at the ceremony. The main attraction was the choice of several hundred voices of the Prince of Wales High School, under the direction of Mr. G. E. McLean, and the marching was rewarded, and the parade and ceremony were a delight to see. The Royal Air Force and Army Cadets were present, and the local RSL branch was represented by our President, Mr. H. E. Whitworth, and the parade was marched to the sounds of the R.S.L. Band, under the direction of Mr. R. E. H. 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MILLS & WARES

GRAVITY

BISCUITS
little function. May 11 was conspicuous for some very spirited debates on the subject of procuring our own nest. However, lots of good advice was given and some interesting debates were heard. There will be a profit of about £200 from the recent Easter sports meeting and special praise has been given by the president (Mr. J. Rogers) to the organiser (Mr. H. J. Rogers), who did a fine job of work. The funds raised will be divided amongst the three ranks: Left: the President of the three ranks were Mr. Stobie, Mr. Laronde and Mr. M. Halpin, and the executive hope that these will soon be used to buy some new furniture for the hall, which was donated by the owners of the hall. The profits will be used in maintaining and improving the camp. Mr. George Major. I didn’t volunteer, I didn’t have time. All the president said was that a special meeting was to be held to discuss the future of the camp. Mr. Rogers said he would like to couple with others who had contributed freely to the success of the recent Easter sports, and to thank the president for his efforts, Mr. Rogers expressed his appreciation of Mr. Rogers and the spirit of helpfulness evidenced by Mr. Rogers, which is a shining example of that which he wished to see more of in the junior members of the sub-branch. He felt that the sub-branch had made a profit and was in a position to make a contribution towards the purchase of a committee to consider ways and means of providing a new headquarters, and to raise funds throughout the year. The president said that he was not familiar with any similar arrangements offered by other branches. Two items to be submitted for discussion at the meeting will be that the Federal Government should introduce a system of flat rate for petrol through-out Australia, and that the branch should be given permission to open on Anzac Day from 24 p.m. The branch committee met to discuss the possibility of opening the hall at midnight, but in the end decided against it. The branch committee was instructed to investigate the case of one of its members who was found guilty of property theft, and to report the case to the police. May 4th, 1950.

SAINT PERTH

A pleasing feature of this year’s Anzac Day commemoration at the local memorial was the enjoyment of the people of South Perth and the general spirit of co-operation demonstrated in the effort of the three sub-branches—South Perth, Como and Kensington—provoked once again the annual Anzac Day parade. At 11 a.m. Mrs. E. Brown’s resignation from the patriotic committee was received with regret, and Mrs. Lindsay agreed to carry on with the help of members, half proceed to the War Nurses’ Memorial Appeal, and half to Easter Sunday in the Sub-branches in Britain. Miss Connolly and Mrs. Clouston were to return next year for a speedy recovery. At the close of business, Miss E. Harper spoke most entertainingly of her experiences as a nurse.

RETURNED SISTERS

At our April meeting, Mrs. Ferguson took the chair, and a very good presentation, and 30 members were present. At the conclusion of the meeting, Roy McLennan gave a short talk on his experiences with the New Zealanders on the matron in both North and South. At the last meeting, we had a very fine meal, and it was agreed that we would have a meal at the next meeting. Mrs. McGuigan agreed to carry on with the help of members, half proceed to the War Nurses’ Memorial Appeal, and half to Easter Sunday in the Sub-branches in Britain. Miss Connolly and Mrs. Clouston were to return next year for a speedy recovery. At the close of business, Miss E. Harper spoke most entertainingly of her experiences as a nurse.

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WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES

STATE EXECUTIVE
Two meetings have been held, on May 1 and May 13. Both were well attended.
Hospital and Home Tour:
Royal Perth Hospital: During the month, 250 entertainment visits have been made to ex-service patients. The proceeds from these visits was used to assist the hospital fund, which is always well subscribed to by auxiliaries in both country and metropolitan areas.
Hollidays Hospital: Patients at Hollidays Hospital have been taken on the bi-weekly visits of metropolitan auxiliaries, who are always ready to help them and also take comfort on these visits. Country patients are looked after by Mrs. Ronald, who always welcomes them. She has made many of these visits and is always ready to help them. Country patients are also taken on the bi-weekly visits of metropolitan auxiliaries, who are always ready to help them and also take comfort on these visits. Country patients are looked after by Mrs. Ronald, who always welcomes them. She has made many of these visits and is always ready to help them.

Rorys House:
On April 26, taking fruit and other gifts for ex-service patients. Executive members visited this hospital on May 2, and gave cigarettes and cigarettes to ex-service patients and, in conjunction with the Auxiliary, gave patients music and singing.

Home Tours:
House of Peace, Mrs. Cotrell and Mrs. Michele, of the Executive, and those of Peace, taking comfort to seven men and sixteen women in three of whose cases, these visits are deeply appreciated by these very sick patients.

Outings:
Patients from Lennox, Sunset, Edward Miller and the staff of the hospita were entertained on Anzac House on Sunday, May 2, by the State Executive, on behalf of country auxiliaries. Official guests present were: The State President B.L., Mr. Hunt, with Mrs. Hunt, Mr. Chappell, Secretary of the R.S.L., Mrs. Stockman (State President Auxiliary), Mrs. Brown (State Secretary), Miss Mary Moore, and Mr. James (State Executive), and Mrs. James and Marion Macdonald, the Secretary of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Stockman and Mr. Hunt welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Leagues. Mr. Chappell spoke of the debt of gratitude the Leagues owed to the leavers and for their care of ex-service patients in all hospitals. Mrs. Campion, Secretary of Waing, (State Auxiliary) expressed her appreciation of the work done by the executive in arranging this outing and that Mrs. Brown (State Secretary) thanked the Red Cross Transport driver for the great work they did in transporting these men from their homes and hospita to Anzac House, for without this service we would not be able to arrange such an outing. Tea was arranged by the executive and left and tables nicely decorated with flowers were looked with good things to tempt all appetites, and everyone did full justice to the fare. Speeches from all tables moved their appreciation of the lovely tea. Few was followed by an excellent programme, which included entertainment by the hospital. The State Executive tendered its sincere thanks to all artists who gave up their time to do such a worthy service and gave such pleasure to these men.

Letters of Thanks:
Letters of thanks were received from Mottram Ferguson, of Hollywood, for Easter cheer provided for Easter cheer, and from a New Zealander for wonderful support given by auxiliaries to their recent appeal.

Official Visits:
State President:
April 24: Outing at Anzac House.
April 25: Dawn and Explanation services, visit laid on behalf of all auxiliaries at dawn service.
April 22: Official opening War Nurses’ Hostel.

State Secretary:
April 28: Outing, Anzac House.
April 22: Official opening War Nurses’ Hostel.

April 26: Claremont Mental Hospital.
April 28: Sports meeting.
May 4: Healthete, with Executive members.
May 4: Australia-America Day meeting.
May 4: State Executive meeting.
May 4: City Council Chambers. Reception to Brigadier Field, of U.N.A.C.
May 4: Concert, Matron Macdonald’s picture night.
May 4: Rose ball, Swanell.

In Peace:
May 18: Conference Social: July 12, Anzac House.

McCain Shield Games:
First and semi-finals: Anzac House, June 8; final, Anzac House, June 12, 2 p.m.
Exhibition:
May 28: The Library has kindly consented to officially open the exhibition on September 8.
Room Fund:
May 28: The Room Fund committee has been collected.
May 28: The Room Fund committee has been collected.

SABRA:

APPRciATION:
Glendalough,
Little Sisters of the Poor, Angelic Hostel, 20th December, 1949.

JUNE 1950 THE LISTENING POST

Dear Mrs. Brown,

On behalf of the ex-soldiers residing in this institution, I have the honour of conveying to you and the ladies of your auxiliary our appreciation of the splendid and generous gifts and the entertainment you have afforded us during the past year. The ex-service personnel are very grateful for the kind appreciation you and your ladies on your many visits and I hope will go in some way to show you our appreciation for your sympathy and many kindly acts and also show you the wealth of affection we have for you.

With thanks on the compliments of the season with my many best wishes for the new year.

Yours very sincerely,

ALFRED E. OWEN.

VICTORIA PARK

Two meetings have been held since our last report, on April 29 and May 12, both well attended and presented over by Mrs. Wren. Mrs. Wren, reports on the sports and social events of the season. The Edward Miller, millers visited. Officially visits and mem-

F.D.S.W.
The F.D.S.W. social was held at Anzac House on May 24, and consisted over a large gathering of members. In the past year, Mrs. Wren (president), who was absent through illness, Mr. Park (psychologist) gave an interesting talk, which was well received. The executive arranged the musical programme. The artists were Mrs. Park, Mrs. Brains, Mrs. Park, J.N. and J. Nancarrow, Mrs. H. and J. Nancarrow, J. Nancarrow, and afternoon tea was served by Mrs. H. and J. Nancarrow, J. Nancarrow.

MCLINLEY SHIELD GAMES

Fourth Round

Fifth Round

KEY: Played; Won; Lost; Draw; For; Against; Points.

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Some University graduates who think they have drunk at the Fountain of Knowledge seem only to have gargled.
OLD SOLDIERS FADE AWAY

Perth newspapers recently stated that the 16 surviving members of the American Civil War, which started 89 years ago, are too feeble to hold any more reunions, and this year's gathering will be the last. Jim Hard, 108 years old, said he was the only one strong enough to carry on and he would live until he was 200. Good boy, Jim! You have our best wishes, but you have a job in front of you.

A few days later (May 10) the oldest survivor on American soil, John T. Graves, of the Southern Confederates, died at the age of 108 years. He smoked and chewed tobacco and enjoyed all his faculties until the end. But the oldest survivor of that war—1861-65—lives in Australia, and he is the only one in Australia. A Sydney weekly publication, dated May 4, gives an interview with Patrick O’Leary, born in 1840, and probably the oldest man in Australia. He served in the Confederate Army. He also fought in the Zulu War and in the Boer War. He lived in Kentucky in 1861 and said that the young men there joined both sides. There were six million whites and three and a half million slaves owned by two hundred thousand whites, and they were not all treated kindly as slaves.

O’Leary’s memory is remarkable. He walks down town every day for his nip. They got paid 13 dollars a month and received a bonus of 100 dollars after three years’ service. But when enlistments fell off, men were paid 1,000 dollars to enlist, which made the early soldiers very bitter.

It was a severe war on men; very often they had no food, thousands had no boots, even in the snow; few had blankets and many perished in the cold winters. Stonewall Jackson was accidentally shot by his own men while scouting out in front. Gettysburg was the fiercest battle and lasted four days. They fought with muskets and bayonets, knives and sabres. Total casualties were: 5,800 killed, 26,000 wounded and 14,000 missing. After that, desertsions were heavy on both sides, but the war dragged on for another two years. There were more spies in that war than in any other war, as both sides knew the country, dressed the same and spoke the same language. After Lee surrendered, he cried as he rode along the lines to say good-bye to his army. The men on both sides were glad when it finished. All troops were not welcomed home, but they struggled home to all parts of America, broke and hungry, having to eat and sleep somewhere, somehow. H.D.
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