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STATE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY'S RETIREMENT

State President H. S. Humphrey recently informed a representative of this journal that he had definitely decided not to accept nomination at Congress for a further term of office as president. Mr. Humphrey has been a marked success during the two years which he has guided the destinies of the League in this State, and this announcement will, we feel sure, cause general regret in digger circles.

Possessed of a commanding personality, he has also all the necessary qualifications of a successful leader, such as ability, foresight, firmness, courage, tact, patience, alertness, energy and conscientiousness.

We are not aware of Mr. Humphrey's reasons, but we do know that the work that he has done for the cause has been enormous, which coupled to the fact that he has had to earn his living, must have been a severe strain upon him. We anticipate that Congress will not prove unappreciative of the worth of their retiring president.

The reason the Chinese are at war amongst themselves is probably that they have no desire to experience one of these terrible modern Peacés.
STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS
13/8/24.

Present.—Messrs. Freedman, Isaac, Cotlett, Morrell, Cornell, Badger, Wedd, Watt, Bateson, Zeffert, Harvey, Fady, Philip, Mellor, Butler and Bolton.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Humphrey and Priestley.

G. L. Harvey.—Rabbi Freedman reported that the Minister for Lands had been interviewed, and that the matter was receiving his consideration.

Visit to Manjimup District.—It was decided that Mr. McCarthy's report on his visit to Manjimup district should be read. This was received and adopted.

A second report was then read giving in detail the position of the various soldier settlers visited, and referring to Mr. Bolton that the League's representative on the Soldiers' Settlement Enquiry Committee.

Moved Mr. Cornell, seconded Mr. Zeffert, that the report be referred back to Mr. McCarthy, and be informed by the Government as Secretary of the S.S.E.C., and that A. J. Egan was selected by the League to represent the soldiers. Further, that he inform all sub-branches concerned. Carried.

Art Union—Fremantle Branch.—A letter was received from the Fremantle and District Sub-Branch, stating that a benefit was being organised for Mr. Jarvis, taking the form of an art union for a dining room suite, and owing to a printer's error, the name of the R.S.L. was shown on the tickets instead of the sub-branch, and asking the Executive to extend its patronage.

Moved Mr. Bolton, seconded Mr. Zeffert, that their request be acceded to.

District Committee.—Glencoran, Dingup and Jarndup Sub-Branches sought the permission of the Executive for the formation of a District Committee. As the Constitution of the Executive has been complied with in this matter, permission was granted.

Royal Commission Group Settlement.—A letter was received from the Department of Lands, asking that the Executive take steps to urge the Government to appoint Mr. C. L. Harvey upon the Royal Commission about to be appointed to deal with Group Settlement matters.

Moved Mr. Bader, seconded Mr. Isaac, that the matter be left in the hands of the President and Secretary to interview the Premier, and urge soldier representatives on the Commission, preferably a returned soldier Member of Parliament. Carried.

Carnival Square.—A letter was read and received from the Secretary of the Premiers' Department, requesting the presence of the President or Mr. Melior at his office to discuss matters appertaining to Carnival Square. The matter was left in the hands of the Secretary to arrange the appointment.

New Crusaders.—A letter was received from Lady Jane Carlton asking if it would be possible for the organisation known as the "New Crusaders" recently formed, to become affiliated with this League. It was decided that the letter be read over until next meeting to allow enquiries being made.

Mental Patients.—Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr. Zeffert to bring forward a motion concerning returned soldier mental patients.

Moved Mr. Zeffert, seconded Mr. Morrell, that this branch be of the opinion that the Kalamunda Home should be converted into a home for returned soldier mental patients, whether war caused or otherwise, and that the Commonwealth Government be urged to abandon negotiations with the State Government for the erection of a new Mental Hospital at West Subiaco, and that Kalamunda be utilised for that purpose.

(b) That a deputation consisting of Rabbi Freedman, Messrs. Isaac and Zeffert, wait on the Minister, and urge upon him to carry into effect the foregoing proposal. Carried.

Defence (State Congress).—Mr. Watt then brought forward a motion to be submitted to the Annual Congress, reading as follows:

"That this Congress of ex-soldiers views with alarm the inadequate measures provided by the Commonwealth Government for Australia's defence, and is of the opinion that a more elaborate system of land force training is of vital importance; further, that this resolution be placed on the Federal Congress Agenda." Carried.

Constitution.—Mr. Watt moved, seconded Mr. Bader, that the Constitution be amended so as to provide for the direct representation of the State Executive at the State Congress of six members, inclusive of the two Vice-Presidents. Lost.

Royal Commission National Insurance.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive showing resolutions submitted by the N.S.W. State Branch for inclusion on the Agenda Paper for the next Federal Congress, dealing with National Insurance.

It was decided to support the inclusion of this on the Federal Congress Agenda.

Anzac Day Bill.—The Secretary stated that it was desired to amend the present Act dealing with Anzac Day, so as to provide insuring it being observed throughout the State as if it were a Sunday, and it was not possible to have the Anzac Day Session of Parliament, as of necessity it had to wait until the next Session.

Moved Mr. Cornell, seconded Mr. Watt, that the President and Secretary consult Mr. Latham, the Member for York, with a view to having the present Act amended in the direction desired. Carried.

Reports.—A report was submitted by Messrs. Bateson and Wedd dealing with Repatriation matters, and this was adopted.

General Purposes Committee.—The report submitted by this committee was adopted.

Not Forgotten League.—The Secretary submitted a report and statement of receipts and expenditure of the Not Forgotten League, pointing out that there was very little information available, and that the Minute book had to be relied upon to a very great extent. The report was adopted.

Peel Estate.—Mr. Harvey brought forward the matter of the non-observance of the preference policy by the Field Supervisor on the Peel Estate in the connection with the appointment of group foremen and Messrs. Richards and Barker, which had been forwarded to the Minister some time ago.

Moved Mr. Zeffert, seconded Mr. Mellor, that a copy of the Minister's reply dealing with various matters on the Peel Estate be sent to the sub-branch, and that they be asked their desires in the matter. Carried.

Moved Mr. Harvey, seconded Mr. Mellor, that the Minister be approached with a view to obtaining a definite answer from him concerning the charges made to the floating of the preference policy. Carried.
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Wedd, Watt, Bateson, Mellar, Pady, Philip and Bolton.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Collett and Priestley.

C. L. Harvey.—The State Secretary reported that he had personally witnessed the destruction of the papers objected to on Mr. Harvey's file.

New Crusaders' League.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive dealing with the affiliation of this League.

Mover Mr. Isaac, seconded Mr. Mellar, that the New Crusader's League be informed that it is impossible to bring about an affiliation under the League's Constitution. Carried.

Group Settlement Commission.—A letter was read and received from the Premier's Department stating that the League's request that a returned soldier Member of Parliament be appointed to this Commission would be complied with if possible.

It was reported that since writing that letter, Messrs. Latham and Moore, both returned soldiers, had been appointed. It was decided that both these gentlemen be communicated with.

Amendment Anzac Day Bill.—A letter was read and received from Mr. C. O. Latham concerning the inclusion of the proposed amendment in the existing Act.

Condolence.—At this stage the State President, on behalf of the Executive, condoled with Mr. Wedd in his recent bereavement.

Appointment of Group Foremen.—A letter was read and received from the Minister for Lands concerning the appointment of Group Foremen, and it was decided that no further action be taken and that the matter be left to Congress.

Sisters' Sub-Branch.—Application was made for permission to form a Sisters' Sub-Branch of the League. This was granted.

It was reported that the West Perth and Perth Sub-Branches had kindly offered to assist the Sisters' Sub-Branch financially.

It was moved Mr. Isaac, seconded Rabbi Freedman, that letters be sent to both of these sub-branches expressing Executive's appreciation of their action in this connection.

Moved Mr. Bolton, seconded Mr. Bateson, that a refund of £25 donated by the West Perth Sub-Branch to the Executive be offered to the Sub-Branch with expression of appreciation for the assistance rendered. Carried.

Federal Congress.—A letter was read and received from the Federal President stating that Annual Federal Congress of the League would be held at Adelaide, and would commence on the 8th of November, at 2.30 p.m., instead of the 22nd/23rd October as previously advised.

Pension Interest.—A letter was read and received from the Minister for Lands concerning Pension Interest and was referred to Congress.

Employment Grant.—A letter was read and received from the New South Wales Branch of the League urging this Branch to request the Federal President to make further representations to the Federal Government to continue the Employment Grant.

It was moved Mr. Cornell, seconded Mr. Bateson, that the New South Wales Branch be informed that as was the case last year, the W.A. Branch delegates to Federal Congress will be prepared to discuss the question without prejudice. Carried.

Royal Commission Pre-War Disabilities.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Secretary stating that as Dr. McWhae was unable to join the Commission, Dr. Giblin, ex-A.L.F. of Tasmania, had been appointed in his stead.

Headstones on Graves.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning Headstones on Soldiers' Graves.

It was resolved that this be handed to Mr. Pady and he be asked to furnish a written reply thereto.

Rockingham Cemetery.—Mr. Wedd stated that the condition of the graves at this Cemetery was a disgrace.

It was suggested that as the matter came under the control of the Defence Department, Col. Raper should be asked to visit both Fremantle and Rockingham, so that the state of affairs may be brought to his notice.

British Legion Album.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning the British Legion Album.
with the suggestion that the League should dispose of copies through its sub-branches. It was decided that the matter be left in the hands of the League's Delegates to Federal Congress.

REPORTS.

Soldier Mental Patients Committee.—The Secretary submitted a report of the Soldier Mental Patients Committee, which was received.

It was moved by Mr. W. Cornwell, seconded by Mr. Morrell, that the committee continue to function and that they confer with Colonel Tilney on his arrival in this State, and report to the Executive at a later date.

Mr. Fabri gave notice of motion of his intention to move the rescission of the motion dealing with Kalamunda Home, carried at last Executive meeting.

General Purposes Committee.—The Secretary submitted a report of the General Purposes Council held on the 2nd and 9th September.

1. With reference to the benefits for returned soldiers' children, the committee recommended that information in this connection should be published in the form of a pamphlet and presented to Congress.

2. Appointment of Minute Reporter.—Moved by Mr. Cornwell, seconded by Mr. Isaac, that no minute reporter be appointed for the forthcoming Congress. Carried.

3. Entertaining of Congress Delegates.—The following suggestions were tendered for the entertaining of delegates during the forthcoming Congress.

Wednesday, 12th, noon: Civic Reception. Wednesday evening: Dinner at Soldiers' Institute and theatre party. Thursday evening: Social by West Perth Sub-Branch.

Photograph.—Moved by Mr. Cornwell, seconded by Mr. Isaac, that arrangements be made to have a group photograph taken of the present Executive, to be presented to the President—the cost to be defrayed by the Executive.

It was arranged that the delegations should assemble at Hardwell's at 5 p.m. on Monday, the 15th inst.

Moved by Mr. Philp, seconded by Mr. Watt, that arrangements be made to photograph delegations assembled at Congress. Carried.

Annual Report State Secretary.—It was decided that the Annual Report of the State Secretary as submitted, be approved and forwarded to sub-branches.

Employment Bureau.—A report on the operations of the employment bureau and the preceding month was received.

British Empire Service League.—The Secretary submitted a report of the 1st biennial Conference of the British Empire Service League, which was received.

Deputy Commissioner War Service Homes, New South Wales.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive concerning the appointment of Mr. Morrell as Chairman of the committee to consider the question of providing a hospital for Collie, and it was agreed that the appointment be made as follows:

(a) The official position held by Mr. Nathan.

(b) Remuneration, if any, attached to such position.

(c) The reason for appointment, if made.

Carried.

SUB-BRANCH NOTES

WEST PERTH SUB-BRANCH

The West Perth Sub-Branch, which is composed of State and Commonwealth Civil Servants, is ever alert, and precious little that requires attention is ever permitted to escape notice. Secretary Morrell in a recent report to his committee gave evidence of the success which had attended his efforts and those of his energetic departmental assistants, in the case of the members of the branch.

(Telegraph Branch, P.M.G.'s Department.) A qualifying exam was held some time ago, which was attended by a large number of returned soldier temporary employees. To their astonishment these men discovered that their wages had been docked for the period of their attendance at the examinations. No satisfaction was forthcoming to the protest, the official reply being that no provision had been made for them under the existing regulations, etc. The matter was then referred to the West Perth Sub-Branch, and in a very brief space of time the position was adjusted to the satisfaction of the members concerned. In other words, leave with pay is to be granted to them. That's the stuff! On the State Civil Service side of the question, members will be interested to learn that the offensive is still being carried on, in various sections. Objectives recently gained include the raising to permanent status of two temporary officers, whose cases have engaged attention for an exceptionally lengthy period. Employment has been found for several members; complaints of others have been adjusted to their general satisfaction and the grievances at present being investigated will, the Secretary confidently asserts, be finalised with good result in the immediate future.

COLLIE SUB-BRANCH.

The activities of the Collie Branch R.S.L. still continues with unabated enthusiasm, and, as a result thereof, has considerably strengthened its position both financially and numerically. Recently the question of a new hospital for Collie was taken up by the Collie Municipal Council and in order to strengthen its case in the eyes of the Minister controlling this matter, the support of the branch was enlisted. This the branch at once agreed to do, as it was considered a matter of importance to members in view of the fact that there are always returned soldiers undergoing treatment in that institution. A request for assistance was also received from the 'Hard Benefit Fund' and it was decided by the branch to make a donation of £1 1s. 6d. for an appeal for assistance was received from the relatives of the late Mr. J. A. Jones of Shott's, in regard to defraying burial expenses of this man. The matter was accordingly taken up by the branch and as a result the associate union has now paid the account concerned. Several cases concerning the War Service Homes Department have been satisfactorily settled by the branch. Regarding Mr. T. Butler, who up to the time of his death was an inmate of the Collie Hospital, it was decided by the branch to keep him supplied with bandages under the direction of the matron of the hospital. Later, when this man died, the position of his widow and two children was considered by the branch, and a State pension has since been obtained for Mrs. Butler and her children through the offices of A. A. Wilson, M.A. A donation of £3 3s. 6d. from branch funds were paid to urgent expenses on behalf of Mrs. Butler was made and later, as the result of an organised effort by the branch, the sum of £20 19s. 6d. was handed to this widow. The assistance of the branch was also sought by Mr. M. Brady in regard to his lost War Gratuity Bond, and as the outcome of the branch's efforts in connection with this matter were successful, Mr. Brady promptly became a member of the branch for the next five years. The annual Peace Day ball, usually conducted by the branch, has been postponed until Armistice Day. As at the present time Collie is being inundated with similar functions, the half-yearly meeting of the branch took place on July 21, and was largely attended by members. The statement of receipts and expenditure showed that for the past six months the branch's income amounted to £18 19s. 6d., and the expenditure £1 119s. 10d., leaving a credit balance of £6 19s. 6d. An item of interest contained in the half-yearly statement was the amount of £2 24s. 12d. which represented revenue obtained by the branch through hire of the branch's hall. This source of revenue is continually increasing and the hall has become more popular for all forms of entertainments. A very sad fatality occurred recently to branch member J. Lambie, who, whilst crossing the Collie River, accidentally fell in and was drowned. Jack was always a good member and his untimely death came as a severe blow to the branch. The funeral was largely attended by the community of Collie, the pall-bearers being drawn from the Collie Miners' Union and the local R.S.L.
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Interest in the Newdegate Competition is quickening and the branch
again intends to be a competitor for this year's honour. The attendance of
branches' members at meetings has increased wonderfully and meeting nights
are looked forward to eagerly as same have become a real source of pleasure;
there being plenty of interesting business always to attend to, while the social
aspect is particularly catered for.
The Ladies' Auxiliary Committee usually
meet the same evening as the branch and members of the R.S.L. take
a delight in providing hot refreshments for the ladies, who undoubtedly appre-
ciate the thoughtfulness of the men in this direction. The ladies are having
an exceptionally busy time just now, conducting dances andären
parties to secure funds for the 'Diggers' Fair,' which is to be eventuate
during September. There is no doubt that the pleasing harmony that exists
between branch members also the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee is responsible
for the satisfactory position the branch has attained.

C.H.I. SUB-BRANCH.
At the meeting held on 5th September, the following officers were elected
for the coming session:— President, Mr. McGhee; Vice-President, Mr. Mc-
Lachlan; Secretary, Mr. Farrington; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Browne; Com-
nittee, Messrs. Walker, Fowler, Tomlinson, Stacthon and Galvin; Trustees,
Messs. McGhee, Farrington, Wau-
chone, Stacthon and McCreery. Official
collectors are the president and secre-
tary, Mr. H. E. Southworth was ap-
pointed as publicity man. The meet-
ing was well attended and the sub-
branch, under such capable and en-
thusiastic officers, should become a
shining jewel in the League's crown.

BEVERLEY SUB-BRANCH.
Mr. George Broun presided over a
small attendance of members at the
August meeting. However, there was
no very important business before the
meeting. The question of holding a
dance was discussed, but in view of
the poor support given by returned
men themselves to previous dances, it
was decided not to have one this year.
The membership roll was revised and
a number of names of members who
have left the district or who have been
unfinancial for over twelve months,
were struck off.

KIRRUP SUB-BRANCH.
After a long spell off duty, Chairman
A. W. Morey presided over a good
attendance at the August meeting. Dis-
appointment was expressed at the gen-
eral result of the activities of the
Soldier Settlement Enquiry Com-
nittee, members being of the opinion that
no appreciable gain has ensued there-
from. It was decided to send a dele-
tate to Congress, provided funds could
be raised. Several members have de-
cided to move to new quarters having
been well 'settled'; others are set
well back in their dug-outs, waiting to
see where the "next one" is going to
lob. It is fervently hoped that the
soldier settlers will try and work out
some satisfactory scheme for our sal-
vation at Congress.

THE SISTERS' SUB-BRANCH.
A meeting of returned sisters was
held on August 6th, with the object
of forming a Sisters' Sub-Branch of
the League. Fifteen members attended
and all intimated their intention of
joining, besides five others who could
not attend.

On Wednesday, 3rd September, a
general meeting was held at which
the State President, Mr. H. S. Humphrey,
gave an instructive address, and the
sisters are indebted to him for much
information and encouragement. Ten
new members joined, making the mem-
bership up to thirty.

The following officers were elected:
President, Mrs. Douglas; Vice-Presi-
dents, Matron Dunn and Sister Clifton;
Secretary and Treasurer, Matron Mc-
Donald; Committee, Sisters Ryan,
O'Neill and Borwick.

The nature of a nurse's work makes
it impossible for her to attend meet-
ings consistently, but the proposed
club room will assist to keep mem-
bers together. With the kind and
generous assistance of the West Perth
and Perth Sub-Branches, this proposal
is being consummated. A room has al-
ready been taken in the A.M.P. Châm-
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M. E. ZEFFERT, Manager.

by the Sports Club, Edward Millen Home.'

The Association acknowledges with thanks the following donations towards getting a Mulgaphone loud speaker for the Edward Millen Sanatorium:

P. A. Connolly, £5/5; D. J. Chipper and Son, £2/5; W. A. Trotting Association, £2/5; Stock Exchange, £2/5; Licenced Victuallers, £2/3; Kelmscott; Women's Auxiliary, £2/2; W. D. and H. O. Wills, £1/1; Boans Ltd; £1/1; Tattersall Club, £1/1; Economic Stores, 10/6; Emu Brewery; £1/1; A. W. Jacoby, £2/5.

We are also indebted to Mr. Murray of the Westerlay Farmers for letting us have it at cost price.

The balance of Mr. Jacoby's donation was used in re-covering the billiard table and purchasing a stand.

MENTALLY SICK SOLDIERS

How the Position Stands.

In accordance with a resolution passed at a meeting of the Executive, held on the 13th August, a committee consisting of Rabbi Fanklin, Messrs. M. E. Zeffert and W. A. Penny, waited on the Colonial Secretary, to advocate the use of Kalamunda Farm for soldier mental patients. Dr. Anderson was present and roundly condemned the proposition, stating that Kalamunda would be unsuitable, and he would strongly protest against it being used.

A prominent League official recently paid a visit to the Claremont hospital for the insane, and he found the position of the soldier patients most unsatisfactory; the meal which was in process consisted of biscuits, cheese and anchovy paste, and it is understood that half this meal consisted of gifts from the Red Cross Society. The State Government receive £2 2s. per week from the Commonwealth for the keep of these unfortunate comrades of ours, so it would appear that the State are making a profit on the deal.

For this, and other reasons, the League is advocating that the case of soldier mental patients be placed under the direct control of the Federal Repatriation Department and taken out of the hands of the State. It is also advocating that a medical officer, who should be subordinate to Dr. Anderson, should be appointed by the Federal Government.

League officials waited on Mr. Gregory, M.H.R., on Saturday, 30th August, and he promised to bring this matter before the Federal Parliament on his return to Melbourne. A telegram was also sent to Federal President Dyett, reading as follows:

"Gregory, M.H.R. left for Melbourne Saturday; urge Federal Government assume full responsibility soldier mental patients, including Federal medical officer; do all you can to assist. Position here very unsatisfactory and necessary to take steps immediately to obtain better conditions. Please keep us advised all developments."

Subsequently, Messrs. Gregory and Mann, M.H.R.'s and the Federal League Secretary, Mr. Dibden, interviewed Dr. Page, who informed them that the amended agreement between the State and Federal Governments, had been put down to Perth, and should be satisfactory to the State Government. The Federal Treasurer was of the opinion that it would not be advisable to appoint a resident medical officer, owing to the small number of patients, and the appointment of a visiting medical officer was suggested. It was also stated that Colonial L. E. Tilly, a Repatriation Commissioner, would arrive in Perth during September in connection with this matter.

The State Executive sub-committees appointed to deal with this problem are not relaxing their efforts, but it appears as if no finality will be reached until Colonel Tilly arrives. It is significant, however, that the State Government has never stated whether or not it is its intention to proceed with the tentative arrangement entered into between the Federal Government and its predecessors in office, to pay half the cost of the erection of a new building.

The welfare of the mentally sick is not being lost sight of during the protracted negotiations and recently representations were made by the League with a view to having better arrangements made for the serving of meals to returned soldier mental patients, and it was advocated that a cook should be attached to "K" Block at the Claremont Hospital for the insane so as to ensure the meals being served whilst warm. On this being brought to the notice of the department, it is stated that an alteration has now been made in the method of transporting the food from the main kitchen, which will prove satisfactory, and therefore obviate the necessity for a special cook being engaged. The department has also been approached with a view to an attendant being made available to accompany such patients as are able to take a motor trip. This has been agreed to, and the League is now making arrangements for periodic motor trips, which will help to brighten the lives of these afflicted comrades of ours.
REPATRIATION MEDICAL BENEFITS

By the courtesy of the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation, we have been able to secure a summary of the medical benefits granted by that department to eligible returned soldiers. Each individual case is considered on its merits, and these notes are by way of information and must not be considered as binding. We counsel sub-branch secretaries to keep a copy of this article for reference purposes.

**Medical Treatment.**

Discharged soldiers are eligible for medical treatment of disabilities which are:

(a) Due to;
(b) Materially aggravated or
(c) Slightly aggravated by War Service in the Great War.

Applicants whose disabilities come under (a) or (b) may receive in-patient treatment, if necessary, as prescribed by the Departmental Medical Officer, but those under (c) whose disability was only slightly aggravated by War Service may receive out-patient treatment only.

Treatment is available in the metropolitan area and in most country districts.

**Medical Treatment in the Metropolitan Area.**

Applications for treatment should be lodged at the Repatriation Office, Esplanade, Perth.

- If an applicant be taken suddenly ill with his war disability and unable to attend and make application, the Repatriation Office should be notified by telephone or otherwise, stating what the complaint or symptoms may be, but in such a way that a reply may be communicated if the treatment is not approved. The Department may then arrange for a doctor to attend or may advise the applicant as to which doctor should be called in.

  - If the office is not open and a doctor is called in, a medical report should be obtained and the Department notified per telephone immediately after 9 a.m. on the following business day.

  - If it is necessary to enter hospital before an Authority Card can be obtained from the Department, the patient should enter a Government or Public Hospital as the Department is opposed to meeting private hospital bills, and the Department should be notified and requested to accept liability.

**Medical Treatment in Country.**

In all country districts (excepting one or two places where doctors evidently refused to act) the Department has appointed the local medical officer to treat ex-soldiers for war disabilities and applications should be made direct to the doctor, first enquiring as to whether he is acting for the Repatriation Department. Applicants should present their discharge certificates in order that they may be identified.

Treatment is available at country Government hospitals and most assisted hospitals under the conditions previously mentioned, provided the local medical officer issues an official Authority Card. Unfortunately, assisted hospitals have not all agreed to supply ex-soldiers for the Department. (See later regarding removal to Perth for urgent treatment.)

**Surgical Aids.**

Surgical aids required on account of a war-caused disability may be obtained in the same way as medical treatment, if a medical opinion is necessary.

Applicants residing in the country may write to the Deputy Commissioner, Repatriation Department, Perth, for surgical aids, when a medical opinion is not necessary.

**Artificial Limbs and Surgical Appliances.**

Artificial limbs and surgical appliances requiring repairs should be sent direct to the Manager, Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory, corner Fitzgerald and Aberdeen Streets, West Perth, and a covering letter posted to the manager, explaining repairs considered necessary. Application for new limbs also should be sent to the manager.

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Applicants should be sent to the Deputy Commissioner subject to obtaining opinion of the local medical officer as above when necessary.

One pair of surgical boots per year may be granted and the Department will refund the cost of reasonable repairs. The soldier should provide the boot repairer and obtain a receipt marked "Repairs to surgical boots." "Paid."

It should be signed and dated by the boot repairer. This receipt should also bear the name of the soldier. The receipt should be sent to the Department with a covering letter or delivered personally when a claim form will be supplied for the soldier's signature, and the amount may be refunded by cheque.

Transportation for Treatment And Surgical Aids.

Applicants should obtain Rail Warrants from the Repatriation Department before proceeding for treatment or to be fitted with artificial limbs, etc.

Rail fares should not be paid without obtaining authority from the Department as a refund may be refused.

Urgent Removal For Medical Treatment.

Where it is necessary to arrange immediately for removal to Perth hospital or special institution, the local medical officer will send a collect telegram to the Deputy Commissioner, stating regimental particulars and soldier's name, also the disability and class of rail warrant and whether a stretcher case, or if requiring to be met at the train.

If treatment is approved, the Deputy Commissioner will arrange with the Railway Department to telegraph their stationmaster, giving authority for the patient to be met at the train. The Department will also notify the local medical officer or patient by telegram. The patient would apply to the stationmaster or guard for the ticket. If approved, the local medical officer would issue an authority card for admission to hospital.

On arrival at Perth the patient would proceed to Perth hospital, in Murray-street, and present the authority card for admission. If necessary, a representative of the Department would meet the patient at Perth Railway Station, and an ambulance would also attend if the patient be a stretcher case.

The ambulance should not be requisitioned if the patient can ride in an ordinary motor car.

Travelling Allowance.

Travelling allowance may be granted at the rate of 7s. 6d. per mile, when proceeding for treatment or surgical aids, providing authority for same has been granted by the Deputy Commissioner.

Sustenance.

When unable to work on account of a disability which is war-caused or materially aggravated by war service, sustenance may be granted provided that, if the medical officer certifies that the patient will not be fit for work within three months, sustenance cannot be paid, but the pension may be reviewed.

The total pensions of the ex-soldier and dependants must be deducted from the sustenance rates mentioned below and the balance will be payable as sustenance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient's Description</th>
<th>Per Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single man</td>
<td>£5/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier with wife</td>
<td>£7/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier with wife and one child</td>
<td>£9/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier with two children</td>
<td>£11/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier with three children</td>
<td>£13/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier with four or more children</td>
<td>£15/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A patient receiving full pension would not receive any sustenance as pension is greater than sustenance rates.

In the case of a widower with children, where he is keeping a home and the sustenance rate would exceed full pension, the case would be submitted by the Deputy Commissioner to the Repatriation Department for authority to pay such excess sustenance for more than three months.

Dangerously Ill or Death.

In the event of a patient becoming dangerously ill or dying as a result of a disability due to or materially aggravated by war service, a person designated by the patient as next-of-kin or nearest friend would be notified. Such person may also be granted a second class return rail warrant not exceeding the value of £3, in order to visit the patient and a sum of not exceeding £2 2s. may be granted to meet expenses on this occasion.

Where the person designated is an invalid father or mother requiring an attendant, then a rail warrant may be granted for the attendant.

Provided that the total expenditure mentioned, i.e., £3, in rail warrants and £2 2s. expenses, is not exceeded, the above benefits may be available once every six months, if a patient were unable to proceed on leave during that period.

This restriction on the total expenditure also applies in the case of dangerous illness or death.

Hospital Patient's Leave.

Patients in general hospitals, T.B. Sanatoriums and Anzac Hostel, who are undergoing prolonged treatment, may, after three months' treatment, apply for leave to visit homes. Provided the leave is not likely to interfere with treatment, the total leave for any year must not exceed six weeks and may be taken in proportion to the period under treatment.

While on leave the personal pension may be supplemented by payment of an allowance to make a total of £4 per week.

It must be understood that this leave and allowance is subject to alteration or cancellation at any time.

Ex-Imperial Soldiers and Sailors.

Ex-Imperial soldiers and sailors are eligible for treatment and surgical aids for war-caused disabilities under an arrangement between the British Ministry of Pensions and the Repatriation Department.

Many Imperial men have no papers in their possession to prove that they have war-caused disabilities and this often necessitates delay in obtaining authority from England before granting treatment. Military discharge papers or satisfactory military or pension documents must be produced to establish the applicant's identity.

Institutions.

The following institutions are available for treatment of returned soldiers suffering from war-caused disabilities:

1. One wing of Perth Hospital for active treatment and of both medical and surgical cases.
2. Anzac Hostel, for totally and permanently incapacitated cases.
5. Stromness Hospital for mentally afflicted.
6. Fremantle Hostel for insane.
7. Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory—for the manufacture and repair of artificial limbs and surgical aids.

NOTE: Convalescent patients are at present being housed at the Kalamunda Farm. This institution will shortly be closed, when convalescents will be well cared for elsewhere.

Widows and Orphans.

Provision has also been made for medical benefits for widows and orphans of deceased soldiers whose death has been accepted by the Repatriation Commission as due to war service, and to the widowed mothers of such deceased unmarried soldiers. These benefits are made available through the various lodges and friendly societies operating throughout the State, and have been explained in detail in a previous issue of this journal.

WAR MEMORIALS.

The King of the Belgians unveiled the New Zealand battle memorial at Messina on August 1st, and Sir James Allen, His Excellency for the Dominions, unveiled one at Gravenstafel on the following day.

The unveiling ceremony in connection with the memorial screen erected at the Tasmanian University was performed by Major General Sir John Gallibard, K.C.B., D.S.O., on August 6th.
SOLILOQUY

(By Monoped.)

My friend Scotty has been out on some important mission in from Marble Bar for the local Government. He caused some amusement in a recent letter by asking me to interview a Federal official, who had sent him a form for completion, with instructions for him to have his signature witnessed by the officer-in-charge of his party. Scotty points out that fame is such, that having a work of national importance on hand and conducting the party in question as commander-in-chief, the Federal Department had no knowledge of these facts, and evidently thought him some underling. However, when I went to explain the position, I found the department concerned had already received its sampling from Scotty’s own pen.

Curious writes: “Dear Monoped,” Can any of your digger readers tell me what a “dried fruitgrower” is? I noticed in the “Daily News” the other day, a heading—Dried Fruitgrowers’ Association—and I can’t be sure whether they meant that the association was a temperance organisation or whether the fruitgrowers themselves had been dried.”

I am one of those people who prefer to take the will for the deed, provided it does not materially affect my pocket, and so I prefer to put the whole thing down to the D. N.’s heading king’s calligraphy and the lino man’s misinterpretation. Anyhow, “curious” would have been kinder to have sent his query to the paper concerned.

Alex McRae had many friends during his lifetime, and those who understood him had great admiration for his unusual ability in expressing his master mind in penmanship. Whether he visualised something of form which could be depicted by sketching, or whether the abstract required description in prose or verse—McRae was equally capable.

A letter he gave me some years before his death seems to be most apt for quotation, especially as one can feel the haunting poem of a truly Australian bushland spirit in its sentiment and metre:

There comes an end
To all things good or bad;
The gods that send
Our joyous times and sad
The coin so spin
From out their slotted kip.
That while they win
We always make the slip
And pay the whole damn time.
The final tell
Upon life’s rutty way
In death—the goal—
Is ours alone to pay,
We meet and play
Loose smiling to the end;
That is our way,
Vale, a digger friend.

Before the recent earthquake, Japan could boast of over 30,000 poets. I presume that jiu-jitsu is an invaluable adjunct to the journalistic qualifications of a Japanese editor.

In England one hears of Civil Servants having had shocks with the advent of Labour. Some of these conservative old-time servants have found themselves ushered into the presence of a Minister and have been asked: “What’ll you drink?” I don’t think it would be much of a shock here, especially before an election.

How can a politician be honest? He has to feel the public. The Colonial Secretary said that the Repatriation Commission would not accept a soldier mental if the disability occurred two years or more after discharge. That is what the public believed, anyhow; although he must have known that all the inmates of mental institutions, whose malady occurred two years after discharge, and was due to service, are being paid for by the Federal authorities. If he did not know, he should have known; and anyhow, he knows now, and should withdraw his misleading statement.

Our Federal member Gregory seems to be in a state of darkness, too, over this question and is reported as having stated £1,500 was provided for this purpose in the estimates. The Federal authorities agreed to come across with “half the goods” in the erection of a home half a decade ago; they are still willing—when will our unfortunate cobbers get a spin?

Congress bids fair to be interesting and it is to be hoped that the national questions on the agenda will gain precedence over all others. From the choice of delegates it would appear that the sittings will be businesslike.

The League has made some good headway this last year and from the correspondence “Monoped” has received from his friends, especially in the country, the “Listening Post” has played a big part in getting and keeping diggers interested.

28TH BATTALION

During the active service of this unit it enjoyed a reputation for achievements. These achievements, both in the line and in camps, were often the subject for emulation in other units. Chief factor in the formation of this unit was comradeship, and as all the members were Western Australians, it was easier for the troops to maintain fraternal relations. The same desirable spirit exists among nearly all “twenty-eights” now, and this is why the Battalion Association has so much support from its members, and why this successful organisation can boast “full house” every time a smoke social is held. Next month, during show week (7th October) there will be a great re-union and every digger of the old battalion should make a point of putting in an appearance on that Thursday, to meet his old cobbers from the various parts of the State. A splendid programme is assured, whilst a team of crack “stewards” promise abundance of good fare.

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CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

PRICES QUOTED ON APPLICATION.
OUR BRAVEST FIGHTER

"Fat" McCarthy, V.C., Pays a Tribute
To Major Percy Black.

Mr. J. McCarthy, V.C., writes:

"I was delighted to read recent references in your journal to the bravery of Major Percy Black. Although it would be difficult to say exactly who was the bravest fighter of the A.I.F., I am prepared to say that I know of none braver than the late Percy Black, and I am egotistical enough to state that my field line services place me in a favourable position to judge.

"I have fought alongside V.C. winners—Murray, Jacka, Axford, Hamilton, Carroll, and O'Mara, and I make bold to say that we all take off our hats to Percy Black as a brave soldier and leader in battle. It may be asked what particular formula can be used in allocating degrees of bravery. This question would trick me, but in spite of it I again assert that Percy Black is the bravest man I have known. I call to mind many of his glorious deeds and perhaps an exposition of a few of them would show why I make the above statement.

"At the Gallipoli landing, Percy Black was a private in the machine gun section of the 16th Battalion, and he loved his machine gun as many men love their dogs and other living pets, and he was a 'dead' shot.

"On May 2nd, 1915, our position at Pope's Hill was tottering and Percy Black, realising the critical position, picked up his machine gun and under heavy enemy fire rushed forward alone into no-man’s land, placed his gun and mowed down many of the Turks. After two bullets pierced his car, a few of his clothing and water bottles, he was compelled to fall back to the trenches. In spite of his wounds he remained wonderfully cool and calm and made further repeated attempts to carry out his job. For this brave deed he was given the D.C.M., and a commission. During the whole of the Gallipoli campaign he performed many such brilliant deeds of bravery.

"At a stunt at Mouquet Farm I had charge of the company on the left of Percy Black, and here again he carried out a wonderful single-handed fight against the flower of the German Army, the Prussian Guards, who stood up and called on Black to come on. Needless to say, Black never required any such invitation, and he advanced and in the process inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. He was later picked up on the top of Mouquet Farm dugout, with very severe head and throat wounds, which would send any other man back to Australia, but Black was no ordinary man, he was a super-man.

"At Bullecourt, Percy Black again displayed very fine initiative and leadership, but the pity of it all is, that although many may read of these wonderful deeds, they were only witnessed by a few. During the attack on the Hindenburg Line, Black had command of 'B' Company, 16th Battalion. We took the first two lines of trenches with few casualties and according to plan, we were to attack the third line without the aid of guns or tanks. The odds were heavy against us and we felt that our doom was sealed. No one knew of the tremendous risks to be taken more than did Percy Black, but he was made of the wrong stuff to hang back. "On!" he shouted, and was the first out to carry on the fight. A few yards only were covered when a well-placed Prussian bullet, put an end to the wonderful career of this gallant soldier and gentleman."

Commonwealth 6 per Cent Loan
1930-1935

£10,300,000

Interest 6% Price of Issue, £98 10/-

Loan to be repaid in 1930 or 1935 at the option of the subscriber to be exercised when making application.

Applications for the loan may be lodged at any Bank or State Savings Bank, at any Money Order Post Office, or with any members of a recognised Stock Exchange.

Instalments will be payable as follows:

10 per cent, deposit to be lodged with the application on or before Wednesday, 15th October, 1924.

20 per cent., on Monday, 10th November, 1924.

20 per cent., on Monday, 1st December, 1924.

25 per cent., on Monday, 5th January, 1925.

23 1/2 per cent., on Monday, 2nd February, 1925.

If the deposit and all instalments are paid up in full at the time of application or not later than the 15th October, 1924, interest on the nominal amount of the subscription, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, calculated in each case from the actual date of payment to the 15th March, 1925, will be paid by the Commonwealth on 15th March, 1925.

Where all the instalments are not paid in full at the time of application, but are paid on or before their due dates, interest amounting to £1 10s. on each £100 will be paid by the Commonwealth on 15th March, 1925.

The Commonwealth will pay interest half-yearly on 15th March and 15th September, at the rate of 6 per cent, per annum.

The interest will be subject to the Commonwealth Taxation, but will be free of State Income Tax.

Commonwealth Treasury.

EARLE PAGE.
Treasurer.

51ST. BATTLE RE-UNION.

On the evening of Wednesday, 3rd inst., at 8 p.m., an extraordinary meeting of the members of the 51st Battalion Association was held for the purpose of arranging the Annual Reunion and Smoke Social. A good attendance of members enthusiastically decided that the reunion should be held, and determined on Thursday, October 9th., during show week, as the time most suitable for country members of the Association.

A social committee was formed, to consist of the president, hon. secretary and Messrs. Brown, Mallor, Reamer and Fairs.

This committee was empowered to make all necessary arrangements.

A musical programme will be arranged by Messrs. Mallor and Geaf, who will make a special point of excelling the battalion lungs in community singing of battalion and popular songs.

"The British Legion is about the only thing worth having which has come to us from the Great War."—General Sir Ian Hamilton.
DANGEROUS DELAY
OFFICIALDOM VERSUS COMMONSENSE

To cover the ground that has already been trodden is usually uninteresting by reason of the absence of novelty, and yet it is necessary for us to repeat some things we have previously said.

In the last number of the "Listening Post" we were anxious to hurry things along as it is an absolute scandal that our unfortunate comrades, who have lost those precious faculties most prized by all and are therefore unable to fend for themselves, should be housed in conditions which now obtain.

The conditions, to which some publicity has been given, are reported as having been slightly improved; but they are still far, very far, removed from what they should be. Doubtless Dr. Anderson has, in his Clarendon report, made an express reclamation upon his administration that his institution should fall in for so much abuse; yet we would point out that it is not our intention to criticise the administration excepting in, as far as our comrades are concerned.

The most convincing and encouraging results have rewarded eminent scientific and medical enthusiasts in the matter of the asylums and we find that it is unquestionably important to entirely eliminate the atmosphere of "institution" in order to cope with the war-caused mental disorders. Unlike the inherent malady, it is very possible to cure the war mental if the conditions are such as to encourage health physically, and are entirely void of the restraining nature of the asylum.

These properties are to be found in no place so congenially appropriate as at Kalumnda; the argument put forward by Dr. Anderson as to why Kalumnda should not be retained for this humane work, is the very argument which points out the stepping stone of the proposition for the certain improvement and probable cure of our war mentals. Every obstacle towards the aspect of "institution" is a crowning feature in its makeup; each feature which helps to make it impossible to convert the home into an asylum, would be as a soothing balm to the afflicted minds of those soldier.

The very remoteness from the hubbub of suburban life would be beneficial beyond all measure, whilst the healthy pastimes obtaining would be conducive to the end desired.

We unhesitatingly move for the withdrawal of the Federal Government's offer to the State and for the former body to work single-handed with its own responsibility, which is that of caring for all war-caused mental disorders. There are many reasons why this proposal should be earnestly con-

sidered. In the first place, delay not only makes the cure more difficult, but it is unfair and unkind to these men, who cannot protect themselves and if the Federal authorities undertook the work, these men would be housed almost immediately. The administration would be conducted by the Repatriation Commission, whose advisory board of medical officers has already expressed itself convinced of the beneficial results emanating from psychotherapy in mental maladies which have resulted from stress and shock of service.

The present regime is such that we feel it advisable to refrain from further comment, as it is obvious that the care and attention costing less than four shillings per day for each patient at such an advance for the worst disability extant, cannot compare with the care and attention bestowed on patients with far less grave maladies in Repatriation institutions at a cost of about six times the amount quoted.

Apart from the reasons we have set down as to why the business should be conducted by the Commonwealth Government, we should have the satisfaction of avoiding the controversies between Dr. Earle Page and Mr. Drew. The latter has repeatedly raised obstacles to the expeditious finalisation of this seriously urgent matter; or so it would appear by his statements. His accusation of the Federal authorities evading responsibilities is wholly wrong, and whether a soldier has been discharged two years is not a factor in the determination of the acceptance of a war disability. Cases of insanity arising from purely non-war origin should be no more a Commonwealth obligation than should an amputation of a limb to a returned soldier from accident in civil life. Where would Dr. Drew draw the line if he wishes to burden the Commonwealth with the post-war maladies of ex-soldiers, which arise from natural causes? If the Federal Government is to function for the Colonial Secretary's Department in this particular, it is admissible that it might go still further and collect that department's quota of revenue.

It were far better for each Government to mind its own business and then if the State Government thinks it is keeping an ex-soldier mental, whose malady is war-caused and is so an obligation of the Federal Government, then unofficial medics could easily settle the dispute.

Despite repeated assurances to the contrary, given by the Land's Department and the responsible Ministers of the Crown, diggers are not getting preference of employment in the appointment of group foremen.

The excuse invariably given that more competent men can fill such positions is an inference that returned soldiers applicants have not possessed the necessary qualifications for the job. This inference is not correct and is unworthy. Although representations have been consistently made by the League to have this matter righted, very little progress has resulted. The matter will be further discussed at Congress, when it is hoped some finality will be reached.

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NOW OPEN
Melbourne Cup
Run November 4th, 1924.
No Representatives.
VARIA.

The League is proud of its latest infant—"The Sisters' Sub-Branch."*

Digger.—Weird and canny were some of the tricks our diggers tried on the Frogs and Belgies. Two very hard-up cobblers were raking their heads as to how they could raise a few francs, whilst their unit was in billets. Dáme fortune led them to drop across an S.R.D. jar about a quarter full of rum. After a consultation, these miscreants evacuated the rum into a couple of dixies and three parts filled the jar with soil. Then they melted down a candle and poured the fluid over the surface of the soil. With this false bottom established, they returned the rum and corked it up. In the shades of the darker hours they strolled the village and selected a prosperous looking estaminet keeper. The rum was sampled and was purchased and our troops were rich—for the nonce—beyond the dreams of avarice.

Rigged.—After several days on starvation diet and heavy fatigue round Bullecourt, Tommy fellow-sergeant and myself sequestered ourselves in one of these farm houses which served in the capacity of eating house and unofficial estaminet. We were both rivals for diminutiveness in the battalion and we sat down to eggs and brown bread. We had no ill effects worth recording, but put away a round dozen eggs each in the one brief sitting! Some settings in fact.

R.S.L.—New to France and its customs, a digger went abroad to make some purchases with the unaccustomed bills. He asked in one shop for cigarettes and tendered a 20-frank note. No change appeared forthcoming, so he remonstrated with the vendor; he could get nothing but "la compree," so, he saluted "beau" in his billet in a state of chagrín. His nearby comrades enquired how he got on and learned the strength of his experience, so the 'hard case' of the section said: "Follow me." He went back to the shop in question and asked for a box of cigarettes and a packet about 20 francs, he then tendered a franc bill—which was useless in that area—and refused to "compree" the salesman in turn.

Dig.—In spite of the argument of your disgruntled correspondent "R.S.L." I stick to my original contention that the American "buddy's" were far superior to our gratuity scheme. Under the Bonus Bill, £200 will go to those Americans who served in the war under the rank of Major, whilst the maximum gratuity collected by a digger was less than £130. "R.S.L." foolishly states that you cannot eat an insurance bonus; he overlooked the fact that all insurance policies have a certain borrowing value, and the borrowing provisions of the Bonus Bill are very liberal, thus proving immediate relief for the impoverished.

V.S. Premier Pendergast repudiated the definite promise of his predecessors in office to subsidize the fund for the building of a Victorian State memorial to the fallen in the Great War. He has also shown himself to be an enemy of returned soldiers by publicly announcing that he would not give preference of employment to ex-service men.

Spot.—Although no lover of the Hun I believe that it would be in the best interests of civilisation if the Empire Services League, of which we form a part, were to hold out the hand of fellowship to the ex-enemy war veterans. This could be given practical effect by inviting the Germans, Austrians and Turks to join the F.D.A.C., which is the allied association of ex-service men's organisations. What a powerful lever for peace such an organisation would be! It would also serve as an example for the League of Nations to speedily emulate. We would then have an organisation to put into effect Sir Ian Hamilton's scheme of preventing war by getting the soldiers of the world to pledge themselves not to fight at the mere dictates of politicians and militarists. It is a fact that fighters were not as bitter as non-fighters, and they are more ready to let bygones be bygones. Many diggers would no doubt oppose any move with the object of bringing the Hun into a world brotherhood with them. To these men I would ask if the sacrifice to them would be too great which would save innocent-little children being mortgaged to war.

Mr. H. E. Southworth of the C.H.I. Sub-Branch writes:—"It is pleasing to see that the soldier mental patients are drawing interest on their behalf from the outside world, While the battle for better housing conditions continues, there are good friends who are making the present home more comfortable. Beautiful pictures now adorn the walls of the dining and recreation rooms, owing to the kindness of heart of the W.A. Treating Association and Mrs. Jacoby. The Red Cross Society have generously supplied a piano and many creature comforts which are constantly arriving. Much appreciated Mrs. Jacoby's gift of a cabinet gramophone, which seldom ceases to send forth its music. Mr. Jacoby is not only a donor but is also an ardent worker for the "boys."

He recently brought down several young ladies with musical instruments, who gave a fine afternoon's entertainment which the patients hope will be repeated in the near future. Others could assist in this direction, for the patients thoroughly enjoy concerts and picture shows, and are always looking forward to the next; so diggers, band together, and help to make the patient's misfortune into a happy one.

The Diggers' Fair, commencing shortly at Carnival City in Perth, will be conducted by the Perth Sub-Branch. The profits will be allocated as follows:— 50 per cent. to the R.S.L. Amelioration Fund, 5 per cent. to the Soldiers' Scholarship Trust, Sisters' Sub-Branch, Perth Ladies' Auxiliary and the balance to the sub-branch administrative fund.

"Organisations of ex-service men were the finest and best fruits of the frightful war, and had in them the greatest germ of perpetual peace that existed in the world."—Col. H. D. Lindesay, Past National-Commander of the American Legion.

"With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."—Abraham Lincoln.
“AUSSIE GIRL” WRITES FROM SYDNEY

Miss Elsie Brickhill, that great little girl who worked so hard for the sick diggers in this State and who contributed to this journal under the nom-de-plume of “Aussie Girl,” writes a chatty, interesting letter from Sydney, where she has made her home. Although Miss Brickhill has not become actively associated with the League in Sydney, she appears to be spending a great deal of her time in helping and cheering the diggers there. She writes: “There are many positions here that diggers should fill. It annoys me to see big fat women in jobs our fighting-boys should have. I have made pals of many of the ‘boys’ who work lifts here, but most of the places have girls, when war-worn men are hopelessly looking for toil. The League in W.A. can show a point or two to each State and can do work on half of the digger. They don’t get a quarter of the Press publicity you do. You have put up some splendid fights for the digger in W.A.

There is no doubt that W.A. sent a great type of soldier. A young gentleman, who kept the town fires burning during the war was trying to be facetious the other day at my expense. Hearing that I was from Perth, he said, “Oh! that’s the place where they built a shop or two lately isn’t it.” I said, “Yes, I know, it is, but I will tell you of something else it built. Ten years ago it built an army of magnificent fighting men, and they built that quickly that these Eastern States could not keep pace with W.A., and so those men were used to reinforce your battalions.” He is very respectful to me now.

“THERE IS A ‘NOT FORGOTTEN LEAGUE’ HERE. They recently held a big ball at the ‘Wentworth’ for the T.B. soldiers. I feel very sad whenever I hear of that branch of the League, because since I left W.A. I have not heard of about ten of my dearest pals at Edward Millen Home, who gave me a beautiful jewel casket in remembrance, only two are alive to-day. It hurts me so much when their letters cease to come and I realise that still one more has gone from my circle of dear friends. One of the sweetest remembrances of a digger I will ever have is that of a dear, unselfish sufferer belonging to Edward Millen Home, as he gripped my hand in farewell, and smiling so weakly, said, ‘Goodbye, little Pat ‘O Mine’; then quietly passed away, holding my hand. All these things make my love W.A. and its soldiers.

I live a few doors away from ‘Canongbah’ in Darlington Point Road, the home given by the Australian Jockey Club, for spine cases, etc. It is a beautiful home—the situation being very much like ‘Keane’s Hotel, at Keane’s Point, but not quite so lovely.’”

Miss Brickhill makes comment about the many beautiful war memorials in Sydney and mentions that the unemployment problem there is particularly acute. She concludes her interesting letter by paying tribute to “The Listening Post,” and sending regards to her many friends in the League.

BRITISH MIGRANTS AND THE LEAGUE.

An Appreciation.

The following is an extract from a “Report to the President of the Oversea Settlement Committee from the Delegation appointed to enquire into conditions affecting British Settlers in Australia,” which was presented by the Secretary of State for Colonies to the Imperial Parliament.

“RETURNED SOLDIERS’ AND SAILORS’ LEAGUE.—The work that the Returned Soldiers’ and Sailors’ League has done in assisting Australian ex-service men is tremendous, and I expect this report, but both the Federal Executive in Melbourne and every State Branch have done and continue to do much to help ex-soldiers of the Imperial forces.

“The League is affiliated to the British Empire Service League, and each State has its own headquarters and manages its own local affairs under the Federal Executive, by means of local branches in every district.

“Imperial soldiers are welcomed and encouraged to join the League and share the privileges of ordinary members of payment on an annual subscription of 10s.

“Though still a strong body, the membership has fallen off during the last two years, but a large number of members are kept in the Capital and in the country towns which General Warwick addressed, and at those meetings he found in every case a considerable number of British ex-soldiers.

“Brigadier General Warwick tells me that at these meetings, and in the country, the ex-service migrants spoke warmly of the help that they had received from the League, and many instances where the League had helped British ex-soldiers when in difficulties, had assisted them to find employment, and had given help and advice when delay had arisen in drawing pensions or receiving medical treatment.

“Both in the towns, and more especially in the country, the League is a valuable social organisation that brings Australians and Britailers together, serving the purpose of a well-managed and well-directed social club. It is significant that at these meetings, almost every man spoke to his position, and many, judging from their own experience, urged that every encouragement should be given to help others who had the intention of settling on the land, to come to Australia, even if they were without experience in farming.”

GROUP SETTLEMENT.

The British Empire Service League, which embraces all the ex-Service Men’s Organisations of the Empire, has received a report from the Western Australian Branch of the R.S.L. that the British Legion has under consideration a scheme for assisting certain of its members, together with their families, to emigrate to this State under the Group Settlement scheme. The British Legion has been asked to furnish a general report on the group settlement, together with any comments that may be considered necessary, and this matter is now having attention.

It is evident that the scheme of group settlement, as adopted in this State, is being closely watched, and the report of the R.S.L. will be a matter of considerable importance to those who contemplate the step of severing connection with their native land and transferring themselves to a country, where the conditions of life are so different to what they have been accustomed.

The Perth Sub-Branch has numerous members residing in the country, and the League has wisely included in their delegation to Congress a country member, in the person of Mr. J. McGlynn, who is chairman of the Lake Brown Progress Association.
PERSONALITIES

Secretary A. H. Morrell, of the West Perth Sub-Branch, is one of the most energetic individuals in the acquaintance of the writer. His actions give the lie direct to the common assertion, that civil servants are tied hand and foot with the red tape which is invariably depicted as the moral symbol of circumlocution! "Get to the fountain head every time!" is his slogan, and that an ounce of personal interview is worth a ton of unsatisfactory correspondence is his firm belief. West Perth proudly points to him as the man who delivers the goods and who undoubtedly deserves the high opinions expressed at the annual meeting of its members held recently. With men like the State President and the subject of this paragraph, controlling the destiny of the branch members, its members have no fear of the future. Progress is their aim, and both visualise the R.S.L. in its true perspective—the custodian of the diggers' interests. More power to 'em!

All diggers sympathise with Reg. James and his wife in the loss of their son, who died on the 12th of August, after a trying bout of pneumonia. Reg., who is a keen Leagueite, saw considerable service in the Flying Corps.

Today, six years since the cessation of hostilities, it is pleasing to know that there are representatives of the community who do not forget, and who are as assiduous to-day in their self-sacrificing labours on behalf of the victims of war, as during the enthusiasm and excitement of the danger years. Not the least of this noble band is Miss Mary Meares, whose enthusiasm appears to have deepened to the extent that of the general public has waned. To try and give a detail of all she is doing for diggers to-day would take up too much of our space. Miss Meares is affectionately known to thousands of ex-service men in this State as "Mary," and as a token of esteem—she is the recipient of the Repatriation awards at the Perth hospital recently presented to her a beautiful illuminated address.

Mr. T. A. L. Darey, M.L.A., and hon. solicitor for the League, has been the outstanding success for the present session of our State Legislative Assembly, and a distinguished political future is predicted for him.

Prior to his recent marriage to Miss Toby Cohen, Mr. Morris Zeffert was the recipient of handsome presents from the R.S.L. State Executive members and the Mt. Lawley North Perth Sub-Branch of which he is president.

Mr. Julius Rosenberg, who recently gained his "Captaincy," has shaken the goldfield's dust off his shoes and is now residing in the metropolis, having secured an attractive position with the firm of Charles Atkins and Co. Prior to leaving Kalgoorlie, the gallant captain was the honoured guest at many farewell functions.

Diggers in particular sympathise with Mr. Peter Wedd in the great loss that he recently sustained when his son, Mr. A. J. Wedd, M.A., crossed the great divide. The late Mr. Wedd was a Church of Christ evangelist, and was a man of sterling Christian character.

General Sir Talbot Hobbs is home-bound. He will have matters of interest to tell us on his return.

Colonel Tilney, an ever popular personality, in soldier circles both in the Eastern States and in Western Australia, is expected in this State shortly. If any effort of a Federal representative can overcome the meandering disposition of our local Government, then we may expect that Col. Tilney will be able to reach some finality regarding the housing of mentally deranged.

Waverley Hospital has one of our diggers as a patient; he is one of the West Perth Sub-Branch members and is popular in football and cricket circles. Alec Campbell, of whom we speak, has recently undergone an operation for appendicitis, and it is gratifying to learn that he is progressing favourably under Dr. Kenny’s skilful supervision.

Gordon Gilmour, down Norseman way, who saw some mixing with Fritz with the 28th, is dipping into the pastoral calling with some encouraging results. His run is down Esperance way and his folk are among the earliest settlers in his district. Good pioneers of bushlands were ever our best soldiers.

In the same Norseman Esperance area is another 28th Battalion—Joe Brown, who is on the Agricultural Bank staff, his popularity as battalion T.O. is revived in his civil avocation.

Colonel Wilson has charge of the helm of the new Caversham-Swan Sub-Branch of the League. Our congratulations are freely bestowed upon the digger settlers, who have gathered together in the district, on having formed the sub-branch, and on their selection of officers.

At the time of going to press we have news of Scotty Esson, of the Meteorological Department, who has been conducting surveys out from Marble Bar for his department; we expect this popular member of West Perth Sub-Branch to return before the end of the month to the metropolis.

Since severing his connection with the Repatriation Department, Dr. Kenny has continued to hold the respect and affection of the digger and we are gratified to hear reports from some of his civilian clients, which are lavish with expressions of good-will and high esteem.

WAR MEMORIAL CARILLON.

The Sydney University launched a campaign to raise £15,000 for the Sydney University war memorial carillon. The amount in hand is already £2,451. The various faculties at the University will pay £730 for the larger bell. The great bell will be known as the A.I.P. Bell, which will cost £1,500, and will be the greatest bell in any modern carillon with the exception of Rotterdam.
The "Wingies and Stumpies" Gazette
Being a chronicle of the doings of the Returned
Maimed and Limbless Men's
Association of
W.A.

Hostel.
During the month the Hostel staff has been very busy catering for the wants of our school tea her members who were down from the country and who were enjoying the various forms of recreation at the Hostel. Quite a number of these members looked in on the Secretary.

On a recommendation from the House committee it has been decided to purchase some fly wire doors and windows for the Hostel; this will be a great asset to the dining room when the warm weather sets in.

The committee has also purchased a number of chairs, as the chairs on a largely attended meeting night had to be carried from upstairs and out of the dining room to accommodate the large crowds attending the fortnightly general meetings.

The committee is pleased with the interest which members are showing in the affairs of the Association and Hostel and it looks forward to a record year.

Ping Pong and Snooker Tournaments.
The secretary reports ping pong and snooker tournaments are in progress and up to date some very fast games have been witnessed in both tournaments.

At a largely attended general meeting held on Thursday, September 4, the president presented Mr. E. Fry with a champion cue in case, as winner of the first snooker tournament, to which Mr. Fry suitably replied.

Mr. Kennedy, on behalf of the Association, presented the president with cheques as runner up to Mr. Fry, amidst great applause. The president suitably replying.

Meeting of Shareholders.
During the month, a largely attended meeting of shareholders of the company was held at the Hostel, when the auditor's report and balance sheet for the year were presented. After going thoroughly into the details, members expressed pleasure on the progress Mr. Weir has made since he has been manager. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the directors for their work in the company.

Members Reviewed by Dr. Juett.
The secretary reports that three of our members have ceased to be eligible owing to their injuries recovering to such an extent as to debar them to membership upon recommendation from the hon. doctor, Dr. Juett. The three men concerned, Mr. M. L. Brown, Mr. T. Byrne and Mr. T. Rogers, have been congratulated upon recovering improved health, and the Association wishes to place on record the services rendered by these three men and wishes them 'good luck' in the future.

Imperial Band Concert.
The secretary wishes to thank Mr. Hamilton Brown of the Prince of Wales Theatre for a donation of £20 4s. 7d., being half the proceeds of a concert given by the Imperial Band during its stay in Perth. The thanks of the Association, are due to Mr. Brown for his kindness in giving the theatre free of charge to the band.

Limbless Soldier Magazine.
The secretary asks any country member who wishes to subscribe to the "Limbless Soldier" magazine, which is run by the Victorian Association, and who wishes to support the activities of all the States and makes some interesting reading, to forward their names and addresses, together with one shilling for the annual subscription to the magazine, when the secretary will be pleased to forward these magazines. They are printed quarterly by the Victorian Association.

Commonwealth Conference Report.
The committee is at present going into the vital points put forward as recommendations by the Conference which was lately held at Anzac House, Melbourne. The West Australian Association was not in attendance at this conference as the committee was of the opinion that the time was not opportune for holding a conference, so now we are faced with the task of wading through the discussions and recommendations put forward by the conference.

The secretary hopes to be able to report progress at a later date.

Personalities.
We are pleased to see Mr. G. Young back in our midst after his very enjoyable holiday and tour with the Perth footballers. Whilst away, we did not happen to read of Mr. G. Young shooting any goals for the Perth Club. Also back on our midst is Mr. E. M. Gray, one of the foundation members of this Association, who has been East for a while, and whilst there joined up with the Victorian Association. Mr. E. M. Gray did yeoman service at the commencement of our Oil and Petrol Supply at 805 Hay street, when he was able to give the Association a great deal of advice.

Gone East has the genial S. O'Grady who says off a "flying business trip" but the rumour hath it he will return a married man.

We regret having to report that our worthy President, Mr. H. F. May, was ordered to visit the hospital in the early part of last week, suffering from an attack of bronchitis which he first contracted whilst on active service. The latest report is that our president is doing nicely and expects to be out and about again soon. Every member of the Association wishes Mr. May a speedy recovery back to his usual health.

Jointed the ranks of the benefactors on August 30, our popular Executive members, Mr. K. D. Brown, and the best wishes of the Association are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Brown for a long and happy union.

Quite a stir was caused at the Hostel during the month when a ring came on the telephone and a feminine voice asked to speak to Mr. Brown. Mr. M. L. Brown went to the phone, but failed to understand the petitions put forward by the young lady, "perhaps it is Mr. L. A. Brown you want to speak to," said Mr. M. L. and not waiting for an answer, he called to Mr. L. A. Brown that he was needed to speak on the phone and upon his taking up the receiver, he too failed to understand why he should be early at the church and suddenly woke up to the fact that it was the future Mrs. K. D. Brown ringing to ask her future husband to be early at the church.

The secretary states that in future when Mr. Brown, are staying at once in the house he intends labelling them No. 1, 2 and 3.

We are pleased to report that Mr. E. P. George is about again after a trip to the hospital.

One of our maimed members, Mr. T. W. White, recently underwent an operation for the amputation of his maimed leg and we trust that he will have a speedy recovery back to his usual health and that he will not suffer so much in the future as he has done in the past with his seriously maimed leg.

SHE OUGHT TO KNOW.
"Do you know the nature of an oath, madam?" asked the magistrate's clerk.
"Well, I ought to, sir," said the witness. "We have just moved, and my husband put down the carpet."
HUMOROUS STORIES

ELOQUENCE.

The solemnity of the meeting was somewhat disturbed when the eloquent young theologian pictured in glowing words the selfishness of men who spend their evenings at the club, leaving their wives in loneliness at home.

"Think, my hearers," said he, "of a poor neglected wife, all alone in the great dreary house, rocking the cradle, her sleeping babe with one foot and wiping away her tears with the other!"

Aparson came upon a car standing by the roadside (perhaps it was the ubiquitous—Q. Ed.)! Two legs protruded from underneath the infernal machine, and a torrent of bad language came in muffled tones from the owner of the legs. The parson, utterly shocked, remonstrated with the voice, quoting Job as an example of patience under difficulties.

"Look here, mister," replied the voice, "you stow it! I'll bet that Job never had his nose caught in a cog-wheel!"

A BETTER "GG."

Pat and Mike were working on the line. A goods strain appeared unexpectedly round a curve.

Mike jumped from the track, but Pat dropped his shovel and took to his heels in front of the train.

The engine-driver whistled, but Pat kept on running, and finally rolled off the rails just as the train was about to run him down.

"Why didn't ye git off the track, ye fool?" demanded Mike.

"Well, ye see," panted Pat, "it was better runnin' on the track!"

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CANNY.

The Scotchman entered the hotel.

"How much will it cost me to sleep here?" he enquired of the clerk.

"You can have a single room for seven shillings."

The Scot looked doubtful.

"I'm worrying so much about my business that I only sleep half the night," he explained. "I'll give you three-and-sixpence."

BANG!

Reveller (who was knocked up householder): Are you aware, sir, that one of your windows is open?

"Which?"

"Well, as a matter of fact, it's the one you are looking out of."

LESS RISK.

Customer: Why are you biting that sixpence I gave you?

Newsboy: To make sure it's a good coin, guv'nor.

Customer: Don't you know that money swarms with microbes? Aren't you afraid of getting a bad mouth?

Newsboy: Not 'arf so much as I am of gettin' a bad Tanner, guv'nor!

BIRDS OF A FEATHER.

A young man managed to get into conversation with a pretty girl during a railway journey. He was very pleased with himself, and when the train arrived at his destination he said to the girl:

"I'm afraid you wouldn't, perhaps, have been so nice to me if you'd known I was a married man."

"Oh, as to that," answered the girl, "you might be a little surprised to know that I have just come out of prison after serving a sentence for bigamy."

WAITING.

A man who had been arrested on suspicion was appearing before the magistrate.

"What were you doing when the policeman came?" asked the magistrate.

"Waiting, sir," replied the prisoner.

"What were you waiting for?"

"For money!"

"But from whom?"

"The man I had been waiting for."

"What did he owe it to you for?"

"For waiting."

"Enough of this tomfoolery! I'll snap the magistrate, who by now was very angry. "What do you do for a living?"

"I'm a waiter, sir," replied the innocent man.

CHEAP AT THE PRICE.

A young fellow at Los Angeles was attracted by a pretty little movie actress there and, acting on the assumption, entirely unwarranted, that all film folk are "out" to be made love to, he asked her for a kiss.

The girl indignantly refused. "Don't you dare to even touch me!" she exclaimed.

"I didn't ask to touch you," he retorted. "I asked to kiss you."

"But," said the girl, "you can't kiss me without touching me."

"Bet you a dollar I can!"

"Rubbish! Of course you can't," replied the girl.

"Well, will you take the bet on?" asked the other.

"Ye-es," said the girl dubiously. He thereupon kissed her.

"Oh, but did I touch me!" exclaimed the girl.

"I know I did!" replied the young man with a grin, and here's your dollar!"

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THE THINGS THAT COUNT

By Fredrick Palmer in "The American Legion Weekly"

We have all heard of sturdy old Vermont farmers who are just reaching the prime of their physical strength at seventy. One of them has a son for President of the United States who is quite an asset in this campaign. But I am referring to the one of ninety who lost a son aged sixty-five.

"That boy always was delicate," said father. "I never did expect to raise him."

The story usually brings a laugh to those to whom it is new. I am sure that it will not in the future. It looks as if in another generation, or two, anyone who dies from natural causes at sixty-five will be a piker in the longevity race.

To ask again that old question. What good did we get out of the war? One answer is that the debauch in the taking of life has been followed by a renewed interest in the saving and prolonging of life. The national death rate is the lowest that it ever has been. Never has life been so long. The average human being lives twice as long as fifty years ago.

It may not be the statesman, engineers, generals and financiers whom history will write down as the great men of our time but the secluded medical scientists working over their cultures and test tubes in their laboratories in their conquest of disease and ill health. Their patron saint is Pasteur, father of the serums, who made the diphtheria scourge as much of a thing of the past as the Black Death which killed every fifth person in London five hundred years ago. Preventive medicine which strikes at the cause of the disease without waiting on the disease to develop, is the keynote of the practice of the disciples of Pasteur to-day.

In the last ten years deaths from tuberculosis have decreased from sixteen to nine per thousand. This as the result of improved methods and of plenty of fresh air for the victims, all serums having hitherto failed. There is the good news for the tuberculous veterans and all their friends that a post-tuberculosis which may be applied at home has been found.

It was the exhaustion of war against the Germans which made the stricken veterans prey of the disease. But medicine is international. It knows no frontiers and no race hatreds. This time Germans and American have common cause.

A German, Dr. Dahmer, working on the basis of preliminary studies by two Americans, Campbell and Wood, has discovered that an inhalation of gases may do to the tuberculosis what Pasteur's discovery did to the diphtheric germ.

Dr. Banting's recent discovery of insulin-already shows results in saving twenty-five per cent. of the people who would have wasted to death of diabetes. Dr. Felton's new serum for pneumonia promises to reduce the number of the thousand deaths annually from pneumonia by twenty or thirty thousand. Thus fifty thousand lives, or the number of two of our big infantry divisions in the war, have been rescued from these two enemies.

If one of these lives happens to be that of a member of your family it means a great deal. If it not adds one more to the total of column of figures which stand for so many more able bodies to work and sound minds to think in taking the place of meaningless generation in the increase of our population.

There is also good news for parents of this generation who view scarlet fever with something of the dread of those of two and three generations ago viewed diphtheria. Many parents are grateful when their children have had scarlet fever and "the thing is over." Scarlet fever has been a stubborn antagonist in the laboratories. At last it seems to have yielded to the siege of Dr. Dochez and his co-labourers. In another year or two, when family doctors will be generally dispensing the serums at a reasonable price, this worry of mothers will probably be a curse of the past.

The two remaining big holdouts are heart disease and cancer. Both are still on the increase.

That does not imply that the laboratory workers are losing ground. On the contrary they are gaining. They have got both out of the first and second lines of defences, their positions disclosed, and on the retreat.

Cancer attacks its victims and the heart begins to break down in middle age. The increase of the length of life has made more people, who would have died of acute disease when they were younger, subject to both. If the average length of life was the same that it was fifty years ago, cancer would be on the decrease. So would heart disease, despite the strain of dodging automobiles and the fearful rush of modern life.

Radio and X-ray are curing skin cancer. Deep-seated growths still resist, but all the experts engaged in the fight are sure that one day the good word will flash on the world that the final victory has been won.

As for that marvelous engine, the heart, we are finding that it is not such a delicate organ as we had supposed, but a very hardy muscle which will stand a good deal of mending at the surgeon's hands. A heart specialist of twenty years ago would have to learn that recently operations had been performed successfully upon the heart valves of animals.

Here the new cardioscope makes its bow with promise of immense future service. In principle it is only a small electric lamp. Placed in an incision over the heart its light means the difference to the surgeon in finding his way to a ruptured vein and daylight. He has the heart under his eye, as he has the appendix or the tonsils.

Diy after day, in infinite pains and in uncounted experiments, adding to the sum of knowledge, the experts continue their efforts in our many laboratories which have been so richly endowed since the war. What next when they have conquered all major diseases? To make mankind know how to make itself better and how much body and soul we shall not only be able to live long, but to get the most out of our life.

We are only just beginning to learn what to eat. Our laboratories have shown how a change of diet will bring on bong malformations and all manner of ailments and how diet will remedy the abnormalities.

Cleaning alone will not make good teeth. They must be properly nourished in their growth. The right kind of teeth are those so well made in the human-laboratory that they will resist decay if you keep them clean. The right kind of body in one so well built that it will resist disease.

So the thing that counts for the future is to begin with sturdy children if you want a sturdy nation. Child welfare is national welfare. The boy and girl who are started wrong physically and mentally will fail as adults and become a tax upon those who are started right. A sick citizen may be an honest citizen but he is rarely a useful citizen. Too many people cannot be well.

The real ambition of these laboratory workers, who are not dreamers but doers, not drug givers or creators and builders, is to banish disease and pain as we have banished the foul practices of medieval superstition and filth. They want to make a healthy world by making human beings healthy, which seems a direct and sensible way.
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