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Three Points of Interest

FIRSTLY: Readers will this month find that the set-up of The Listening Post has been altered somewhat to allow for the publication, in full, of the Land Committee's 19 points, the reply to these points by the Chairman of the Land Settlement Board, and the Land Committee's comments. The publication, in full, of this matter, the State Executive considers, warrants the exclusion from our pages this month of other features, and we feel sure that the full details of the above will be of considerable interest to our many country readers in all parts of the State.

SECONDLY: By the time this issue is in the hands of readers, Anzac Day will again be upon us. ALL readers are asked to take an active participation in the Anzac Day marches and services. For Anzac Day is not a day to spend in the garden, at the beach or off on a hike. It is a day set apart for the commemoration of the memory of our glorious dead, and each and every League member should be proud to participate in the parades and services which have been arranged throughout the country. We should not have to remind you that far too many League members fail to attend these functions, but, unfortunately, that is a true state of affairs. Will you, therefore, make a resolve to put in an appearance this year?

THIRDLY: The months roll on. April is here, the fourth month of the year, and all League members should have been sporting the 1951 Crown for four full months. What about YOU? Are YOU financial? It is a pity that we have to keep harping on the subject, but the facts are that far too many League members delay the payment of their annual subscription. The League, as it is continually pointed out, is a body which exists not for the benefit of a privileged few, but for ALL ex-servicemen who served in theatres of war. It fights pension and other cases for such men (and women) whether they are members of the League or not. It gives practical assistance and advice to such people—again, whether they are members of the League or not. Its whole framework is based upon mutual assistance, and the good work it performs daily (yes, we said and we mean daily) is made possible only through its widespread membership. For each financial member helps to keep the wheels moving, to keep the good work progressing and to assist his brother in need.

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Items of Interest from the State Executive

A meeting of the State Executive was held at Anzac House on March 7 at 5.30 p.m. Mr. T. Sten occupied the chair and there were 17 members present when the meeting opened. An apology was received from Mr. Herity.

Among the highlights of the meeting were the following:

**Land**

The Land Committee report, presented by Mr. Davies, stated that advice had been received from the Federal Office to the effect that the position of ex-servicemen has been brought before the notice of the Federal Treasurer concerning the possible effects of the wool tax upon these men, and the Federal Treasurer had replied as follows: "Members of the League may be assured that applications under the hardship provision of the Wool Sale Deduction (Administration) Act will receive prompt and sympathetic consideration.

Advice has also been received from the Federal Office that the Acting Minister for the Interior has advised that he cannot accede to the request made—as a result of a resolution from the annual Federal congress—to raise the agricultural loan from £1,000 to £3,000. The Land Committee is not happy about the matter and recommends that further representations be made.

**Housing**

This report, presented by Mr. Edmondson, stated that information has been received from the State Housing Commission that for the year ended December 31 last 63,9 per cent. of the Commonwealth State Rental Homes were allotted to servicemen, ex-servicemen and their dependants. In the case of converted army huts, the above-mentioned personnel received an allocation of 68.9 per cent. These figures are in addition to war service homes which, of course, are 100 per cent. allocation.

The committee recommends that the Federal Office should make representations to the War Service Homes Commission to draw up conditions in collaboration with the Commonwealth Crown Law Department, which would bring about an alteration in the present set-up and possibly have the War Service Homes Commission accept Commonwealth bonds or some other form of collateral as a deposit which would be interest-bearing to the ex-serviceman, right up to the time he goes into occupation of his home.

Advice has been received from the State Housing Commission to the effect that at February 5 last, there were 93 builders engaged in the erection of war service homes.

**Repatriation**

Mr. Stahl reported that the Minister for Repatriation has given consideration to representations made by the League for removal of existing ceiling rates providing certain limits on amounts which may be paid under the Social Services Consolidation Act by way of age or invalid pension and war pension and the Repatriation Act that may be paid by way of service and war pensions, but regrets that the Government cannot see its way at the present juncture to increase existing rates.

**Immigration**

A letter received from Mr. Dickenson, League Migration Officer, London, stated that requests for nominations have been numerous, added that the great majority are from married men with families, but that single men are not offering themselves for migration.

**Membership**

It is revealed that membership to date is 21,184, compared with last years 20,769. Fifty copies of The Listening Post are to be despatched to Westralian troops serving in Korea.

A further meeting was held at 5.30 p.m. on March 21. Mr. Sten was in the chair.

The President stated that the Minister for Lands had agreed to the principle of a League representative on the W.S.L.S.B. as reported in the President's Letter on another page.

Appreciation of the services of Mr. Ralph Stoddart as honorary legal adviser to the League were recorded, and the resolution to this effect was carried with acclamation.

**Jubilee**

It was announced that the Highgate Sub-Branch will conduct a

*Continued on page 18*
For 16 months Menzies has muddled and prices have soared. In that time Australia’s price stability record, which was second to none in the world, has deteriorated to a state of runaway inflation.

LABOR will make the checking of inflation a first priority job.

MEANWHILE action will be taken to ease the plight of the worst sufferers from the effects of the reduced value of the £ since 1949.

- First-child endowment will be raised to 10/-
- Age and invalid pensions will be increased by 10/- a week
- "A" class widows’ pensions will be increased by 10/- a week
- Means test restrictions will be eased
- Service pensions will be increased
- Sales tax on necessities will be reviewed
- Assistance to home-builders will be increased to £3,000

STOP THE MENZIES ROT!
Vote LABOR
The Land Committee’s Nineteen Points

As a result of a State Congress resolution in July of last year, the 19 points raised by the League’s Land Committee were discussed with the Minister for Lands (Mr. L. Thorn) and the Chairman of the Land Settlement Board (Mr. G. K. Baron-Hay) and later referred to Mr. Baron-Hay for his written comments.

With the approval of the State Executive the 19 points, Mr. Baron-Hay’s comments and the comments of the League’s Land Committee are now being published for the information of readers.

Summary of complaints from members of joint Land Committee of the R.S.L. and Farmers’ Union in their joint inspection of W.S.L.S. properties for submission to the Minister for Lands in support of holding an enquiry into the affairs of War Service Land Settlement.

1. No return has been issued to the League as to the returns from W.S.L.S. properties from crops, stock and leasing of same as asked for at our last R.S.L. Land Conference.

2. Department not carrying out promised improvements within time agreed upon—insufficient supervision of this work, particularly as to non-clearing of summer land.

3. Failure to see property was sufficiently developed before placing settler on farm.

4. The handing-over of properties to R. & I. Bank prematurely.

5. Failure to stock W.S.L.S. properties to their carrying capacity.

6. Re housing promises, verbal and written, made but no tangible progress—position very unsatisfactory on certain properties.

7. Administration in places too rigid. Settlers being used for development work unable to maintain properties.

8. Complaints of incorrect brochures, re properties.

9. Certain properties said to be badly developed and pasture not established as laid down.

10. Complaints re quality of stock supplied to settlers. Loss reported to settlers who have, to cull same and reported refusal by department to purchase already proven herds.

11. Delay in allocation of farms, allowing same to deteriorate.

12. Reported lack of co-operation by administration at Pemberton district. Reported attempts to be made to discipline settlers.

13. Insufficient superphosphate being supplied.

14. Freeholding properties instead of only leasehold.

15. Administration criticised re non- stocking of properties. One instance quoted of approximate loss at £15,000 on one property of 7,000 acres bought three years ago.

16. Supply and purchase of second-hand standard machinery, although new not available.

17. Valuations of properties not available to settlers.

18. Settlers have been required to accept stock regardless of the circumstances and against their own judgement.

19. The non-purchase of improved farms when they were available.

COPY

Dept. of Lands and Surveys,
Perth, W.A.

December 5, 1950.

The State Secretary,
Returned Servicemen’s League,
Anzac House,
Perth.

Deputation to Minister for Lands.

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge your letter dated October 19, to which was attached a copy of a summary of complaints which were brought before the notice of the Hon. Minister at a deputation, on September 22 last, and copy of all reports submitted by representatives of the League and the Farmers’ Union, which were used as a basis for the 19 points referred to in your letter.

I find it difficult to comment upon each individual item raised in the various reports, as in many instances the names of the lessees or the properties to which the comments refer were not mentioned specifically.

I submit, however, the following comments upon the complaints attached to your letter:

1. No request from the 1949 conference has been received for a return from war service land settlement properties on crops, stock and lease-cropping operations. These activities are outside the scope of the War Service Land Settlement Agreement and had been undertaken by the board from the use of State funds.

The sole object of these operations was to maintain or improve properties for the purpose of allotment, and—in the case of stock and plant—to provide these to those settlers who desire them at reasonable prices.

2. The Land Settlement Board had not given specific undertakings that improvements on properties would be carried out in a certain time, as it was considered that under existing conditions such an assurance would be extremely unwise.

It is admitted that, owing to difficulties of supervision—certain work, particularly that of a cultural nature—had not been done satisfactorily, particularly by contractors, and which may have been the cause of some failures in pasture production.

In order to remedy this, the board has built up, and is continuing to expand as machinery becomes available, a pool of farm machinery and equipment, so that the developmental work can be done by its own operators. This is in accord with the general comments of some of the attached reports.

3 and 4. It is conceded that the allotment of some properties may have occurred before development was sufficiently advanced, although the difficulties of a number of earlier allottees developed, following upon the comparatively large maintenance programme during the initial year of occupation.

The Land Settlement Board recognised this position, and has endeav-
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Those who depend on a lucky break to provide them with the comforts and necessities of life usually earn their money the hard way, only to part with it the easy way. They keep trying for the million-to-one chance, while others, who know that saving is a certainty, are enjoying the fruits of thrift.

COMMONWEALTH
Savings Bank
There's a Branch or Agency in your District. Accounts may be used anywhere in Australia.
oured to withhold allotment under lease conditions until development has reached a stage when the applicant is satisfied that he has a reasonable opportunity of meeting his expenses.

The board, since its inception, has had to resist appeals for early allotments, particularly where from 15 to 20 cows can be carried when applicants are occupying the property under caretaker conditions.

It is also conceded—after reviewing the position 18 months later—that a number of lessees were transferred to the Rural and Industries Bank prematurely. This, however, was principally due to the fact that earlier allottees were granted their properties under lease conditions immediately after occupation. This meant that their commitments and repayments commence as from the date of occupation.

The introduction of the caretaker method of allotment overcame this disability and enabled lease conditions to commence at the most favourable time of the year from the point of view of the lessee. This is a point made in a report from one of your members.

The Commonwealth Government, however, on being approached by the Land Settlement Board and the Rural and Industries Bank, agreed to extend special conditions to the earlier lessees covering repayment of rent, instalments and interest.

The effect of these special arrangements was practically the same as if the assistance period had been extended for a further 12 months.

5. The carrying capacity of farms has proved an exceedingly difficult matter to establish, particularly by those who in many instances are new to a district or particular farm. This has proved particularly the case with dairy farms.

In the case of wheat and sheep farms or grazing farms, the number of stock purchased by the lessee is determined to a large extent by the plans of the lessee concerned, as a maximum loan is made available for the purchase of sheep. The type of sheep purchased and the condition when purchased would affect actual numbers.

Under existing conditions it may unduly over-capitalise a lessee having no capital if some properties were stocked to capacity with sheep purchased from loans, in the event of any change in market conditions.

The number of sheep carried, however, should enable the lessee to meet his commitments.

6. It is conceded that housing may be unsatisfactory on certain properties, but the position today has immeasurably improved as a result of action taken by the Land Settlement Board.

Real progress has been made in overcoming the shortage of houses on purchased properties, with the result that the allocation of subdivided estates—all of which require houses—had now become possible.

There was a very serious lag in housing and buildings, particularly dairies, when the Land Settlement Board was appointed. As a result of energetic action which has been taken during the last two years, the lag in houses had been almost overcome; that in dairies was practically up to date; and the board was now tackling the task of overcoming the leeway in other farm buildings, particularly in the wheat and sheep areas.

Because of climatic conditions, houses and dairies had been given priority in the South-West.

The present progress would have been impossible without the use of prefabricated houses, which overcame the problem of marshalling materials required for houses. This enabled contractors or day labour to continue uninterrupted until the work was completed.

Since June, 1949, over 184 new houses had been completed, and 139 existing houses renovated. This was in addition to other buildings including temporary quarters totalling 344.

The board has adopted the policy of carrying out building construction by contract work, which has almost totally replaced day labour which was undoubtedly costly.

Increased activity in buildings on farms is shown by the following expenditure for each six months since the beginning of 1948:

Six months ending 30/6/48, £16,877
31/12/48, £42,192
30/6/49, £65,712
31/12/49, £82,270
30/6/50, £97,365

It will be thus seen that the rate of construction has increased approximately five-fold since the appointment of the board. In addition, depots have been established in each district, and supplies of certain materials such as corrugated iron, nails, flat iron, and asbestos, built up principally by importation from overseas.

The board, from the information available, has endeavoured to establish a list showing the urgency of various types of buildings, particularly new houses, and would welcome advice indicating cases in which temporary living conditions may be regarded as "unliveable."

In certain instances, however, applicants requested the allotment of properties even without temporary living accommodation, so as to take advantage of the otherwise well-developed nature of the farms.

7. Reference was made to "settlers being used for developmental work" whilst allotted properties on the caretaker basis.

The whole basis of the allotment of properties on the caretaker basis is that the allottee may be employed upon developmental work either on wages at the award rate for the particular work he is doing, or on a contract basis if the work lends itself to such system of payment and the settler is agreeable and desires a contract.

Caretaker allottees are thus employees and, as they are working on what would be ultimately their own property, it is believed that more faithful work would be performed than in the case of ordinary hired labour. Generally speaking, this belief has been justified.

Normally, labour employed on developmental work is not permitted...
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to leave the job without loss of pay. In the case of allottee-caretakers, however, the board desires that a liberal view should be taken and arrangements made, if they so wish, for them to travel to the nearest centre on a week for stores. If the settler has his own conveyance, a flat rate of 6d. per mile is paid to him for this journey. However, frequent absence from properties by allottee-caretakers would not be expected and could not be approved, as all wages paid to them must be debited against the development of the property.

8. Not any instances are known where incorrect information regarding properties has been inserted in brochures. However, no one is infallible, and if there is an error this would be immediately corrected if made known to the Land Settlement Board. Brochures, however, should be regarded in the nature of a notification of properties available for selection.

The allotment board insists on every applicant inspecting a property and satisfying himself as to its capabilities before the property is accepted by him. All applicants being experienced men should be in a position to decide suitability themselves.

9. (See No. 2.)

During the past year, where for any reason, the maintenance of pasture has been neglected and has caused serious deterioration, the Commonwealth agreed to—and the board has put into effect—assistance in maintaining certain portions of such properties. In each case the problem was discussed with the farmer concerned, the programme both for the area to be maintained by the settler and also by the Land Settlement Board being agreed upon.

The whole programme was not completed during the summer of 1930, almost entirely due to the necessity—for about six weeks—of transferring the gangs to work connected with the unprecedented fires in practically all districts.

Wherever such maintenance has been carried out, the improvement in pasture and condition of stock could be regarded as very satisfactory.

10. Stock are not "supplied to settlers,"

Until recently the Department of Agriculture assisted in holding a pool of heifers, which were made available voluntarily to settlers at approximately cost price which was considerably less than market value.

During the last few months a similar arrangement has been carried out by the Land Settlement Board. Several thousand head of stock have been made available to farmers, and before doing so any undesirable stock:

WAR WIDOWS:
RE-MARRYING
From
MINISTER FOR REPATRIATION

The practice, since the Financial Emergency Act was passed in 1931, was to cancel on her re-marriage the pension payable to a war widow in respect of her husband's death, which has been accepted as related to his war service.

Undert the Repatriation Act, as recently amended by Parliament, any war widow may now be paid a gratuity equal to twenty-six fortnightly instalments of pension on re-marriage.

The marriage must have taken place on or since 2/11/50, and the amount of the gratuity would be approximately £182.

It is emphasised that this amount would be payable only where a war widow's pension is in payment, which means that a widow whose husband's death has not been accepted as related to war service will not necessarily receive a gratuity. However, a widow whose husband did not die as a result of war service may be receiving a small pension because of "incompacity" pension payable to him before death. This pension to the widow is equally payable on re-marriage as a gratuity of twenty-six fortnightly instalments.

These were immediately withdrawn without any commitment being raised against the settlers concerned. The numbers of such cattle were about 35 head.

It is not unusual with apparently healthy and good-looking cattle for a small percentage to prove unsatisfactory, and in such instances the settler is expected to cull in the normal way. Culls which have been sold by the department have fetched considerably more in the open market than the average price charged to settlers.

The policy of the board is to buy properties on a "walk-in walk-out" basis and receives the approval of the Land Committee. This policy, however, is not inflexible; and, where the board does not need stock or the plant is not satisfactory in quality or price, the board may not buy.

The purchase of stock reputed to be "proven" has not always been satisfactory. In at least one case where an apparently "proven" herd was purchased, 75 per cent. of these animals later proved to be diseased and had to be culled at the expense of the department. If this herd had been bought by a private purchaser or by a lessee, the loss would have necessarily been borne by him.

It should be remembered that the purchase of such stock and plant is not a service covered by the Commonwealth agreement, and State funds must be used for such purchases. Further, unless stock and plant can be acquired at a price which would enable their being again charged out to an allottee, the board is not prepared to sanction their purchase.

The board is reconsidering its policy of purchasing plant, owing to the difficulties that are arising from a number of allottees who, after having accepted a property, then request the value of the plant to be reduced or even raise objections to taking over the plant at all.

One of the conditions of purchasing plant with a property is that such plant must be taken over by the applicant at its cost price, which is only a reasonable proposal where a property has been bought on a "walk-in walk-out" basis.

The board has agreed also with the object of enabling caretaker-allottees to take advantage of good lines of dairy heifers which may be available.
FEDERAL ELECTIONS 1951

Here are the "GOVERNMENT" Candidates (L.C.L-C.P.)

LET'S CALL A SPADE
... A SPADE

Who governs Australia? Is it YOU, the people through your elected Government? or is it the remnants of the defeated Labor Party, their behind-the-scenes masters (the A.L.P. Executive) and the Communist-controlled Unions, WITHOUT your authority?

This election is costing YOU, the people, $250,000 and is necessary only because the Labor Party has used its Senate majority to FLOTUS the will of the people and to prevent your elected Liberal-Country Party Government from bringing down vital legislation.

You, the people, elected the Liberal-Country Party Government on its policy, but the Labor-controlled Senate has refused to pass legislation necessary for the implementation of that policy. It has been possible for this to happen because Labor increased the number of Senate seats from 36 to 60 and altered the form of vote-counting. Labor did this to ensure that in the event of being defeated at the 1949 elections, it could still retain control in the Senate. These things will give you some idea of what is likely to happen to YOUR wishes if Labor is ever returned to power.

This time make no mistake. Elect ALL SIX L.C.L-C.P. Members to the Senate, and elect L.C.L. or C.P. Members to the House of Representatives. By doing this, you will ensure a Government which can, and will, act according to the will of the people.

SENATE

ROBERTSON .1
Certificated teacher of Education Department of W.A. Executive Member of Liberal and Country League, Presbyterian Homes Council, Silver Chain and Bush Nursing Association. Free Milk Council, National Library, Canberra; Disputed Returns and Qualifications, Canberra and the first L.C.L. Woman Senator of W.A.

SCOTT .4

VINCENT .2

SEWARD .5

PIESSE .3

PALTRIDGE .6
Age 41. Born in Leederville. Returned Soldier and family man. Trained and experienced in public and commercial administration. With a personal background of the working family, Shane Paltridge knows the problems of the working man and his dependants.

IMPORTANT
You MUST place a number opposite EVERY name on the Ballot Paper.
Place your first six numbers (1 to 6) opposite the names shown above, and the rest in order of your preference.

(Authorised by C. Palmer and J. H. Ackland, M.L.A. (Joint Directors), 1140 Hay St, Perth.)
prior to the loans, being approved under lease conditions, to purchase such stock and allow them to be agisted on the property under the care of the caretaker-allottee who would take over such heifers at cost and added expense as soon as loans were available. In such cases, normal losses would be borne by the allottee-caretaker, as the stock had been selected by him and purchased at his request.

11. The policy of the Land Settlement Board is to allot farms as soon as possible after purchase. In many instances farms are allotted before the developmental programme has been approved by the Commonwealth, which is only possible because of the allottee-caretaker system.

In some instances farms appear to be unallotted for considerable periods, but the reason for such delay is almost invariably of a very sound nature. An illustration would be the Hyde property at Manjimup referred to in reports to the committee. This property was purchased on May 11, 1948, and has been allotted only recently. The property, owing to its size, was sub-divided into two farms, but, owing to the particular location, special provision had to be made for access to the property; the previous owner having special difficulty of access during winter months involving passage through a private property. It was not until August 25, 1950, that approval to an access road was obtained from the Manjimup Road Board, every assistance having been granted by the present board. It was impossible to obtain legal approval to the sub-division until the matter of access had been determined, and immediately following this determination arrangements were made for allotment, which has been completed now.

Where there appears to be delay in the allotment of properties, the board would welcome enquiries from the committee, with the view of either explaining the reasons or, if possible, expediting allotment.

12. The development of farms which were allotted towards the end of 1947 in the Pemberton district has been a problem which has been constantly under review by the Land Settlement Board. It is recognised that these properties during the initial years of development require more labour for main-
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PERSONALITIES

☆ Jim Giblett has been acting as State Secretary during the absence of State Secretary John Chappell, on leave.

☆ Greek Consul-General for Australia, E. Brisaats, was a recent visitor to Anzac House, where he gave a most interesting talk.

☆ John Walton, of the Kensington Sub-Branch, and one-time vice-president of the Maylands Sub-Branch, Bob Chambers, of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch, received high commendation for a short story he entered in the Ballarat Courier £100 Centenary short-story competition.

☆ Fred Pearson, of the Bedford-Morley Parks Sub-Branch, has been on the sick list of late. A hard worker for the League, Fred will be welcomed back into sub-branch circles with a deal of warmth.

☆ Arthur Florance, of the Dwellingup Sub-Branch, was injured while at work some little time back and had a short spell in the local hospital.

☆ Bill Stanbury, of the State Executive, is, they tell us, a raconteur and vocalist of no mean order—and a memory expert in the bargain.

☆ Ted Woodward, of the Mt. Hawthorn sub-branch, has been mighty active of late in securing new members. We wish there were many more like Ted, for there are still many ex-servicemen eligible for League membership—who are outside our ranks.

Two Pertinent Questions

Are You Marching on Anzac Day?

Have You Your 1951 Crown?

☆ George Ellice, who was a P.O.W. with the Nips for 3½ years, and who, on his return to Australia, found his old job of timber falling too strenuous for him, has now concluded a Rehab. course in boot and shoe repairing, and is starting up on his own account in Manjimup, where he is an active member of the local sub-branch.

- Golf: an ineffectual endeavour to put an insignificant pellet into an obscure hole with entirely inadequate weapons for no purpose.

☆ Roy Milne, they say, is doing a particularly good job in charge of the sports activities of the Scarborough Sub-Branch.

☆ Fred Chaney, of the State Executive, is back on deck again after a spell in hospital. If you want to keep sweet with Fred, don't mention the subject of diets.

- Young girl to Wolf: "I'll give you just thirty minutes to stop that."
equipment, as tractors, harvesters, drills, which are in short supply and for which orders must be placed well in advance of requirements.

Settlers, generally, are grateful for this accommodation, which would not be granted by any other financial institution without the normal security documents.

In the case mentioned in your report of Mr. J. H. C. Triplet, loan arrangements had not been completed, but the board would have been prepared to assist him in view of lease conditions being granted in the near future.

Whilst the details in your report regarding dates are not in accordance with the records, it is admitted that there was delay in dealing with the correspondence from the field supervisor recommending the purchase of secondhand machinery, which resulted in the offer from the vendor being withdrawn. Such offer, however, had been already withdrawn by February 14 when approval was granted.

It is understood, however, that in view of assistance which was granted by the board for the supply of machinery, including a tractor, Mr. Triplet did not suffer financially and, in fact, prefers the new equipment which he was able to purchase to the secondhand equipment which otherwise he would have acquired.

17. When properties are advertised, the immediate commitments of applicants are also notified in the brochure. These commitments are usually based on actual acquisition costs; and, unless further work is carried out prior to the allotment of the property under lease conditions, the allottee only pays commitments on these advertised valuations.

The immediate result is that in the majority of cases allottees have the use of structural improvements, particularly houses free of rent, interest, or instalments until such time as these are brought into account.

It is impossible to advise an applicant of his accurate final valuation until such time as the work has been completed. Applicants are aware of this condition when applying for a farm.

They are, however, protected by the requirements of the agreement that such valuations must enable a reasonable return to be obtained, taking into account a long-range price structure.

Further, the Commonwealth and the State have agreed that the valuations raised for structural improvements such as houses, buildings, fences, and water supply will be charged on a uniform scale based upon the cost of such structures in the earlier allotments. In other words, the increased cost since allotments commenced will not be raised against settlers obtaining farms at a later date.

During the last two years, with the increased tempo of development, a stage has been reached where final valuation on a number of properties can now be undertaken.

18. Unable to accept the statement that “settlers have been required to accept stock regardless of circumstances and against their own judgment.”

Numbers of cases are known where, after stock had been made available to farmers and commensurate with the carrying capacity of the property, further stock were bought with the settler’s own funds, which resulted in over-stocking and conse-

THE LAND COMMITTEE’S
NINETEEN POINTS
(Continued from page 11)

BEN SAINKEN
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TO A LOQUACIOUS COMMITTEE-MAN
To doing good for which you live,
Unstinting of your time you give.
But, oh! that you did not incline
To be so generous with mine!

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quent deterioration of pasture, necessitating the reduction of the herd.

In all instances, however, where carrying capacity has been disappointing, the policy has been to assist the settler irrespective of the actual cause, and steps taken to again place the property on a solid foundation.

19. During the period under review (i.e., since the inception of the Land Settlement Board in March, 1948), improved properties have been acquired by the Land Purchase Board wherever possible. The whole procedure in the purchase of farms had been streamlined, with the view of speeding up decisions regarding suitability and price.

Since the termination of land sales control last September, and subject to the recommendation of the Land Purchase Board, the State Government has approved of the purchase of properties from State-funds which are considered suitable for War Service Land Settlement and has purchased approximately 40 properties on this basis involving £151,000. Without this provision, these purchases would have been impossible owing to the length of time normally necessary to obtain Commonwealth approval regarding suitability.

Great assistance also has been rendered by the earnest cooperation of the officers of the Commonwealth in Perth in arranging quick inspections and agreement on probable suitability.

The Notification of Transactions Act passed last session, which required six weeks' notification before the sale of the property could be finalised, has materially assisted in placing the Land Purchase Board in a position where it at least has an opportunity of negotiating for suitable property which may be for sale.

It is believed that the Land Purchase Board and its staff are doing everything possible to purchase developed properties suitable for settlement, but it was inevitable that wheat and sheep properties would be extremely difficult to buy, and that settlement on other than dairy farms for the next few years would probably depend upon the development of Crown Lands.

A number of the matters mentioned in the reports have been regarded as of a confidential nature, particularly as some of the farmers mentioned are now clients of the Rural and Industries Bank to which enquiries dealing with financial activities should be addressed, and as the brief details in some cases do not accord with records in this office.

The board feels, therefore, that when dealing with individual complaints involving the private affairs of farmers—an authority from these

R.S.L., Land Committee's comments on the reply received from the Chairman of the Land Settlement Board to 19 points submitted to him.

1. Whilst admitting that no congress resolution or correspondence was sent the department as an outcome of congress relative to this matter, the Land Committee is firmly of the opinion that the Minister for Lands gave an undertaking to supply details in this connection as a result of a question asked at congress.

Your committee is of the opinion that these activities do come within the scope of War Service Land Settlement and the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen under the scheme.

2. The whole basis of W.S.L.S. was framed in the Act that no man would go on the land until it was developed sufficiently to make a living.

It is appreciated that difficulties have been experienced in this connection and that these have, and are, being corrected. Clearing of summer land in dairying districts should receive the highest priority.

3 and 4. The chairman of the Land Settlement Board concedes premature settlement, but has suggested no redress for the unfortunate settler who has become a victim of others' incompetence.

Your committee is of the opinion that the ultra-cautious approach by the Land Settlement Board to the carrying capacity of properties under W.S.L.S. has not been warranted, and present-day values prove this. Your committee has always advocated stocking to a greater capacity and that more properties should have been purchased and allocated on a "walk-in walk-out" basis. Allottees without capital should not be penalised.

6. The reply to this item could be accepted as satisfactory, and your committee appreciates what is being done in this connection.

7. Your committee is of the opinion that the answer given by the chairman of the Land Settlement Board does not satisfactorily clear up the complaint made that settlers are being used for development work and, as a consequence, are unable to maintain their properties.

8. Your committee is of the opinion that information contained in brochures concerning properties sent to applicants should be true to fact and carefully checked. Although the Land Settlement Board claims to know of no instance where incorrect information has been supplied, a member of your committee maintains that wrongful information was given in the brochure concerning Scott's property at Northcliffe.

9. Answer given is more or less satisfactory and the assistance being given these settlers is appreciated, and the League is pleased to know that W.S.L.S. officials are giving attention to the matter.

10. The answer to this shows the hesitancy at the time of arranging these farms.

11. Explanations have previously been made concerning delays in allocation of properties, and the League has accepted them. It is hoped, however, that everything possible will be done to effect early allocation in future.

12. The League is glad of this assurance and the statements made to those inspecting properties, although not believed by the department were, nevertheless, believed by the Land Committee.

-- Continued on page 20

NORTH OF THE LINE IT'S

O'BRIEN'S

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Role of Defence Force

1. The policy of successive Governments in Australia has been that the primary role of the Defence Force is to help to preserve peace, but in the event of war to fulfil Australia's obligations as a nation and to protect Australia itself.

2. Australia is now committed—
   (a) by international agreement to contribute to the United Nations forces in accordance with Articles 43 and 45 of the Charter;
   (b) by agreement at Imperial conferences to contribute to British Commonwealth forces in accordance with the right of collective self-defence under Article 52 of the Charter and to maintain forces in accordance with the inherent right of self-defence of Australia under Article 52.

3. Having entered into these agreements, Australia must, as a self-respecting nation, honour them. There are two sides to every contract and in international affairs nations are hard-headed. Therefore, if Australia wishes to enjoy the benefit of support from other nations with whom she has contracted for mutual support, she must indicate that she is prepared to honour the bargain and certainly, if she is to play her part in preserving peace, she must be willing and able to do her share in the checking of aggression whenever and wherever it appears.

4. Never before has Australia been in such a perilous position and there is, perhaps, no country in the world as hard to defend. The upsurge of nationalism and the change in the attitude of the millions of people north of Australia has been revolutionary in the last decade. The change in the East is taking place at a tremendous pace; and if it continues without some radical alteration in the outlook of Australia to defence, there appears to be no chance of the survival of the white people in Australia against the millions of people who must have aspirations towards Australian territory.

The Obligation to Serve

5. One of the most universal customs of civilised communities has been to impose on those members who enjoy the benefits of the society an obligation to protect it. One of the earliest English customs which became one of the first English written laws was the obligation on the free man to bear arms and train himself in their use. This obligation is now accepted by practically every civilised country and it is perhaps most appreciated in Switzerland, which has probably been the nation most threatened by powerful neighbours during the whole of this century.

6. The preservation of the freedom and integrity of Australia must ultimately depend upon the Australian people themselves: unless Australians are prepared to defend their own country and to join with other nations in stopping aggression, we cannot hope that powerful allies will (b) reliance on any one arm of service is faulty strategy — Navy, Army and Air Force are all required in due proportion for effective defence.

The Korean war has demonstrated the truth of (a) and (b) and that it is men and not machines that prevail on the field of battle. It has also established once again the predominance of the infantry soldier when given hard and versatile training.

(c) The size of the force is limited by the availability of manpower and the capacity of the country to maintain the force both with men and material in war. In war, a balance must be struck between contribution to battle and to production. The more serious the war situation the more of the national resources must be committed to fighting. The greater the number of men who have received basic training the greater the flexibility of national manpower and resources in event of extreme crisis.

(d) Modern aircraft and equipment, methods of communication and transport and methods of warfare even more advanced than Hitler's blitzkrieg emphasise the time factor in war. War reaches crisis more quickly whilst navies, armies and air forces take longer to train.

The Potential Enemy

8. The potential enemy is international communism. It is directed from Russia and supported by a number of countries either subservient to Imperial Russia or closely allied thereto.

(a) Strategy. The strategy of international communism is world strategy. It is important to consider just what this means. Never before has an Imperialist conqueror set out so methodically to acquire the whole globe. The General Staff of Imperial Communism is extremely clever; it maintains continuously its policy of world conquest. It has benefited by the experience of Hitler and other dictators and has a better appreciation of national mass psychological warfare than has been available to...
Defence Force
General of Recruiting

any previous aggressor. Its strategy has perfected a new technique of using both hot and cold war, internal sabotage and every other conceivable method of destroying its enemies and their morale.

(b) Resources. The resources available to international communism are, firstly, almost unlimited manpower. Apart from Russia itself, there are 13 countries which have come under communist control and there are other countries which, in the event of war, might well join the communist camp. Apart from the wealth of manpower available, the communist countries have enormous resources and raw materials to feed the communist war potential.

(c) Tactics. Communist tactics have been to endeavour to get the democracies’ forces, armed moral and psychological, into the wrong places while their own forces are in the right places to achieve their purpose. They have adopted tactics similar to those of guerrilla warfare, but on a world scale. They are encouraging to divide and conquer. Throughout the whole of the world war that they are waging they have adopted tactics which have enabled them to hold their main force (the Russian Army and Air Force) in reserve and to use the forces of other countries in the fighting that has taken place so far. These guerrilla-like tactics all over the world have the effect of dissipating an enormous amount of the democracies’ armed strength in widely separated areas and at great cost.

(d) State of Readiness. Warlike activity is the first priority for the States under the control of international communism. The Russian Army itself has a very considerable number of divisions at war establishment and based where they can be effective in the shortest possible time. Behind them there are an even greater number of reserve divisions at varying stages of readiness, but the overall set-up is such that a very large number of divisions can be placed in the field in a very short space of time.

Special Considerations Applicable to Australia

9. The following considerations particularly relate to Australia:

(a) Australia offers the world’s richest prize to an aggressor.

(b) Under-populated.

(c) Far removed from strongholds of democracy.

(d) White Australia.

(e) Change from predominantly rural pioneer population to largely industrial is changing qualities of Australians, both moral (enterprise, initiative, courage, independence, loyalty, love of Australian soil) and physical (bushcraft, shooting, physical fitness, use of ground, knowledge of outdoors).

(f) Communication problems—

(i) Australian economy is dependent on the coastal trade which is very vulnerable, especially to submarines and mines. The coastal trade is in turn dependent upon vulnerable ports;

(ii) The railway system is most unsuitable for defence purposes. Break of gauge delays troops and equipment movement. There are long stretches of single line with a number of bridges difficult to replace. Most lines run inland from main centres rather than providing lateral intercommunication, Lord Kitchener stated railway lines would appear more favourable to an enemy invading Australia than to the defence of the country.

(g) In a major war, Australia’s ultimate fate will be determined by the result of battles in other theatres of war.

Conclusions

10. An examination of these considerations makes clear the extreme vulnerability of Australia today and the nature of the dangers that beset it. It also points out the way we must proceed if we are to do what is best in the interests of our country. Thus it is clear that—

(a) We must have a Navy, Army and Air Force on conventional lines, as large and as well equipped as our very limited manpower will allow.

(b) Time is very much against us. The enemy is prepared and we are not, and we are far from potential aid.

(c) Should a hot war break out, we cannot expect the long periods to be available for us to get ready in that we have enjoyed in the past. We must therefore plan so that our armed forces may always be as ready for early action as it is humanly possible to make them.

(d) Training for war will take much longer than it used to, owing to the change in the nature of our population and the complications of modern equipment. The theory that the Australian is a natural born fighter, who does not need training like other people, has no foundation in fact.

(e) Our very limited manpower makes it impossible for us to have large regular forces. The best we can do is to have small regular forces and forces raised and trained on a part-time basis, so that their members can continue to play their part in the industrial, commercial and agricultural life of the community for the bulk of the year.

(f) The whole of these forces must be trained as highly as is possible in order to compensate for the vast numbers arrayed against us.

11. So far, what has been said applies to all three Services, but what follows is directed solely to the Army, which makes the greatest demands on our limited manpower. It is the Army that is to be available in the event of war that we are concerned with. The number of divi-
A Letter from the State President

Dear Fellow Members of the R.S.L.,

I feel that I should like to revive a former State President’s idea of a newsletter published regularly in our journal.

Recently I attended the regular meeting of the Federal Executive in Melbourne. The executive, by the way, is a formally constituted body consisting of the Federal President and the State Presidents or their deputies. In this instance, all State Presidents were present with the exception of Mr. Joyce, of A.C.T. Two very full days and nights were spent on a varied agenda, including special attention to the task of finding a new formula for pensions to allow a more ready adjustment to rising costs, especially in the case of the special rate pensions which are definitely economic. The Western Australian formula was discussed and left with delegates to further consider. We offered three fundamental suggestions:

1. That, in the case of special rate pensions, the adjustment to cost of living be automatic at least every six months.

2. That pension reviews be taken away from political influence.

3. That pensions generally be reviewed at regular intervals by a tribunal which might well be selected from the existing tribunals.

The Federal Government has decided to send a League delegate to Germany to enquire into and report upon the screening of German migrants from the League point of view. Mr. Huish, of Queensland, was selected by the executive. Mr. Holland and Mr. Huish were selected to represent the League at the forthcoming B.E.S.L. conference in London.

The question of the re-arming of Japan was carefully discussed at the request of the Federal President, who had to date refrained from any Press statement. The decision arrived at was that the executive was prepared to accept a degree of rearmament in the Army and Air Force, to be controlled by United Nations and to ensure the continuance of a Japanese democracy. At the same time the League would steadfastly oppose any revival of the Japanese Navy. The executive also decided to further press for League representation at the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty.

Preference was keenly discussed and opinion was unanimous that the existing clauses of the Re-establishment Act be allowed to die in 1952 with the best of our goodwill. Delegates agreed that their effect in killing preference had been most successful. Worse still, they had temporarily killed excellent Acts in Victoria and N.S.W. and potential Acts in other States. Executive decided to press for a special Preference Act along the lines of the best of the existing State Acts.

While among State delegates I made enquiries as to land settlement progress. Both N.S.W. and Victoria have now determined the basis of values on which soldier properties are settled. Victoria, for instance, has selected as a basis for computing productive capacity of properties a pre-inflationary year with provision for regular reviews on conditions that allow a fall but prevent any further rise. They are naturally thoroughly satisfied.

A very important concession has been granted the League by the State Government. The Minister for Lands (Mr. L. Thorn) has, as the result of personal representation on my part, agreed to the principle of League representation on the War Service Land Settlement Board and is now awaiting a panel of names for consideration.

I have drawn attention lately, on my visits to sub-branches, to the excellent work being done in a considerable proportion of our groups by young men of World War II. A promising number of sub-branches is being officered by most efficient and enthusiastic young men. Even, therefore, if meeting attendances are not yet up to expectations we must be more that satisfied with the promise of leadership that is forthcoming. I specially mention this because there is a tendency to unfairly criticise World War II chaps.

One appeal I must make, however, is to the younger men to join us on Anzac Day in much greater numbers.

You might be interested, by the way, to know that every State reported buoyant membership. In our own case, membership is up at least 1,000 compared with this time last year, and during the two months just passed there has been a record number of rejoins over the Anzac House counter.

The appropriate committee is hard at work on organising the League’s section of the giant pageant and procession on May 9. We’ll be most grateful for help in the preparation of floats, representing the work and growth of the Services during the fifty years. Everyone will, naturally, want to see the League well represented.

Defence has caused us all a great deal of concern; my personal thanks for the excellent response coming from so many sub-branches. I’m particularly sorry that I could not attend the recent presidents and secretaries’ meeting on defence, but I heard glowing reports of the co-operative attitude of the many sub-branches represented. It becomes increasingly evident that the League must carry more and more of the total effort.

I’ve attended several reunions lately, where music played an important part. It adds tremendously to the evening’s enjoyment, and I do think that the majority of us want reunions to cater for more than mere thirst. There’s generally local talent only too ready to help, and my experience to date has been that good music gets a good hearing.

My best wishes go to you all in your efforts for a special Jubilee Anzac Day.

Yours sincerely,

TOM STEN.

THIS IS OFFICIAL,
(Continued from page 3)

Two cannibals met in an asylum. One was tearing out pictures of men, women and children in a magazine, and eating them.

"Tell me," said the other, "is that dehydrated stuff any good?"
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Sub-Branch Directory

The following changes have been received since our last issue:

ARMADALESecretary now H. E. Saw, 5th Road, Armadale.

BAKER'S HILL-CALKLNE: President now E. C. Adams.

BALLIDU AND DISTRICT: Secretary now J. G. Toster.

BELLEVUE: President now J. A. Rolfe, c/o Boans Ltd., Perth; Secretary, A. Hayes, 19 Alice Street, Bellevue.

CANNING DISTRICTS: Secretary now G. E. Hayes, Central Terrace, Queen's Park.

COOLGARDIE: President now C. Jones; Secretary, H. W. Noble.

COOLUP: President now R. Skidmore, Coolup.

COTTESLOE: Secretary's address is 447 Stirling Highway, Cottesloe.

KENWICK: President now H. A. Christianen; Secretary, E. P. Barker.

KUNUNOPPIN: President now N. R. Sachse; Secretary, A. G. Holtham.

MARVEL LOCH: Secretary now L. J. Cheney.

MECKERING: President now L. Anderson.

MEKATHARRA: President now W. Collins; Secretary, J. Ward.

MT. BARKER: President now N. Burnell; Secretary, J. C. Lyons.

NANNUP: President now C. G. Gilbert; Secretary, P. Sweeney.

NORSEMAN: President now S. Wallace; Secretary, E. C. S. Kneebone.

PRESS: President now J. E. Watson, King's Park Board, Perth.

ROCKINGHAM: President now C. Miles, 9 Harrison Street, Rockingham.

ROEBURN: President now D. L. Gordon.

SCARBOROUGH: Secretary now A. W. Brown.

TAMBELLUP: President now A. C. Marsh.

WITTENOM GORGE: President now J. Collins; Secretary, C. Wilson.

YANDAANOOKA - MINGENEW: President now W. A. Urquhart; Secretary, C. F. Gilbert.

YARLOOP: President now A. Madisson; Secretary, T. Lofthouse.

• A flirt is a girl who believes in every man for herself;

THE LAND COMMITTEE'S
NINETEEN POINTS

(Continued from page 15)

13. Now that the Government has appointed Mr. Seward as coordinating officer, it is hoped that this matter can be adjusted.

14. Answer given only confirmed information in League's hands in this State for many months. Same having been supplied by Federal office.

15. "Answer not entirely satisfactory. The property referred to in this item has been reported by a committee member to have been purchased from Mr. Graham and Mrs. Peacock by W. S. L. S., and at the shearing before this took place, 3,300 sheep were shorn. This property is reported to have carried 3,000 sheep for many years.

16. A definite case was admitted by the W. S. L. S. Department. No doubt this disadvantage has been remedied for others by now.

17. The answer given that a stage has been reached where final valuation of a number of properties can now be undertaken (approximately 80) is very pleasing, and it is hoped this work will be completed at an early date. Representation that this be done is again being made to the department.

18. Cannot accept reply as satisfactory, and your committee suggests that a departmental enquiry should be held to ascertain whether settlers' statements are correct.

19. The reply received makes reference to the period since March, 1948, whereas the complaint made concerned the W. S. L. S. scheme from its inception and no explanation has been given as to why in 12 months only 133 properties were purchased under the scheme as against approximately 1,518 bought by private individuals.

Your committee agrees that, in spite of increased prices of properties today, they should be purchased for the scheme.

A friend called upon a guest at a country hotel, knocked, and asked him to open the door.

"Can't, door's locked," the voice within announced.

"Well, unlock it!"

"Can't, have no key."

"Great Scott, man! What will you do if there's a fire?"

"Can't go."

ROLE OF DEFENCE

(Continued from page 17)

The Postwar Plan

13. Of these two fundamentals, one, the plan, was drawn up in 1947. The advisers surveyed the manpower and by a scientific assessment of wartime manpower resources, calculated the greatest number of men the services could expect from the pool in war. From this figure they calculated the maximum balanced defence force of all arms that could be maintained in war. During the last war, it is possible to bring these up to strength and the decision has wisely been taken to limit the number of divisions to what can be maintained.

14. When the maximum number of divisions and troops was arrived at an assessment was made of the forces that would require to be maintained in peace to enable a reasonably quick transition and expansion to the wartime order of battle on mobilisation.

15. The plan provided for an essential nucleus of units and formations required as a basis for wartime expansion including a Regular Army of 16,000 with 3,000 civilians in Army establishments—a total of 19,000 and a Citizen Force organisation with a total strength of 50,000 serving, but backed by reserves.

• Continued on page 31
SUB-BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Bassendean

Report of Fim Fair and Barbecue held on February 24

The evening was ideal for the holding of a function of this sort, and the entertainment got under way when the starter lined up the competitors for the start of the Bassendean Wheelbarrow Race, which was won by two members of the Police Boys’ Club of Midland Junction. They got away to a good start and were never headed, which shows that the Police Boys’ Clubs produce the goods, as these boys had too much pace and stamina for the other competitors. Mr. T. Evans and Mr. C. Hunt were the winners and, judging by the interest this event aroused, it could be instigated as an annual affair. ‘Extra good work, anyhow, boys, and your trophies are coming up suitably inscribed.’

After the excitement had subsided, the Police Boys put on a number of boxing exhibitions, and members of the audience were heard to remark, ‘If they are only exhibitions, we would hate to be in the ring with these fellows when they are really having a “go.”’

While the bouts were in progress the different stalls and the supper, which was fun by the women’s auxiliary, were all doing a roaring trade. The chocolate wheel and dart boards were very popular, and the merry-go-round and fairy floss machine were also well patronised by people of all ages and both sexes.

About half an hour after the boxing terminated, the gymnasts from the club, comprising a team of young ladies as well as the young men’s team, put over a full show of tumbling and vaulting, and the young men later gave a good display of horizontal-bar work. All these acts were well received with a fine round of applause. The meat stalls by now were doing a good trade, and they kept it up until all their tasty wares were disposed of.

Round about this time a fully dressed sleeping doll, complete with all accessories for its waking and sleeping hours — including bed and bedding — was raffled, and was won by Miss Claire Berwick, with ticket No. G17. Good luck, Claire! A box of bottled grape juices was won by Mr. Bryce Wells with ticket No. 88. Good drinking, Bryce!

By this time the reader will have arrived at the conclusion that it was a good show, both financially and socially, which is only putting it mildly.

As there were too many helpers to thank personally, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing the thanks of the sub-branch to all who helped physically, by working in the stalls, or helping the acts, or in any way at all, and also the patrons who, by their attendance and their very generous spending, helped make the fair the success it undoubtedly was.

G. ATKINS.

Bedford-Morley Parks

In writing up the sub-branch notes and news this month we could, with a few press frills, make them read quite easily, like a repetition, a relish of routine sub-branch procedure, and perhaps startling or sensational. But, glancing through our notes in the “L.P.” for the past year I cannot see any suggestion where we have ever yet camouflaged our ceiling. ‘No, siree! The sub-branch is today what it was yesterday; a happy band returned from a war service solidly backing the policy of the R.S.L. A further evidence of this was manifest in the “big congregation” at our last monthly meeting, March 13, when the fixture was set aside to initiate the newly elected team. The evening was from every angle a big success. It gave a wonderful display of support and confidence in the new young president-elect, George Wall. George fired his first shot as president by securing a unanimous vote of £5/5/-, plus a similar amount by the “tarpan” for the Red Cross March Appeal.

During the evening’s entertainment late official news was whispered around, which now makes the financial position regarding the sub-branch memorial building programme very satisfactory; indeed, members and every returned personnel in this area should keep cracking for the final undertaking to be decided early in the year.

The women’s auxiliary also again sprang into life when, on March 7, they held their annual general meeting, and the following became elected: President, Mrs. M. Lucas (second year); senior vice-president, Mrs. A. Schelberg; junior vice-president, Mrs. N. Weaver; treasurer, Mrs. S. Gleeson; secretary. Mrs. Deschamp did not seek re-election owing to domestic pressure of work and Mrs. R. Humble was elected; trustees, Messrs. Deschamp and Osborn.

Their next meeting to be arranged at Riley’s Hall.

F. J. PEARSON.

Busselton

At a meeting of the sub-branch recently it was decided to form a maintenance committee consisting of Messrs. J. Atkinson, L. Gibson and A. House to ascertain all repairs needed for the hall. This was in view of the fact that the sub-branch has decided to straighten up the outside surroundings and, if necessary, oil the building. The treasurer (F. Lecrais) reported that the building fund had now increased to £196-11/- due to the proceeds from the last dance conducted by the sub-branch.

President C. Riley urged members to give a more vigorous support towards the R.S.L.’s Jubilee Queen, Miss J. Riley. ‘This in view, the sub-branch decided to hold a beach concert on the main beach on April 1 and a ball on April 6.’

The president also gave a brief outline of the Anzac Day procedure and informed the sub-branch that preparations were in hand for that function. ‘Members of the women’s auxiliary were also to be approached to ascertain if they would provide refreshments on that afternoon.

J. S. BLUE.

Canning

The sub-branch held its annual meeting at the Coker Park Hall on Sunday, February 25.

President Mr. F. Carden occupied the chair and there were 28 members present.

Finance

The treasurer submitted the financial statement which showed a very favourable credit in all funds.

Mr. Harris (auditor) gave his report on the auditing of the books which, he stated, he had found to be in order in every way, and great credit was due to the treasurer for the manner in which he kept them.

The retiring president then made his report, thanking all for their support during his term of office.
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Moved J. J. Connolly, seconded by H. Smith, that motion of appreciation be placed on the books for the work of the secretary, J. Duckwood.

Mr. J. Duckwood was appointed to take the chair and conduct the election.

President: There were two nominations, namely, P. Garden and J. J. Connolly. A secret ballot was taken. A. Stannard, M. Taylor, and E. S. J. Hayward were appointed scrutineers, result being F. Garden (15), J. J. Connolly (12).

Treasurer and Secretary: There being only one nomination each for those positions, E. E. Hambley and E. S. J. Hayward were duly elected.


Publicity Officer: E. S. J. Hayward.

Auditor: J. Duckwood.

Land Committee: President, secretary, H. Godfrey, J. J. Connolly and A. Stannard.

War Memorial Committee: As previous, with J. Duckwood added.


Carlisle

"Usually monthly meeting held on March 1 was again well attended. It is very encouraging to the officers to see the number of young Diggers rejoining. We want to see every eligible man in the district a member. Don't forget our Anzac Day get-together at 2 p.m. on April 25. Also Anzac Memorial Service at 8 p.m., Carlisle R.S.L. Hall, opposite station.

The afternoon show is held to enable young Diggers to hear the yarns of the old Diggers spin of their doings in the first stoush. Some of them are good—wish I could remember some of them, Mr. Editor, but by knock-off time nobody remembers anything.

Our women's auxiliary are holding their 19th birthday party on April 19, and they have invited members and their wives to be their guests. More of the doings next month.

W. E. (Bill) GEARY.

Dwellingup and Districts

Sub-branch affairs are generally in a very satisfactory state.

The last monthly meeting was well attended and quite a good deal of business was carried through.

Our club rooms have now taken on the "New Look," and I should say that the job of rebuilding is now about half completed, and words fail me to adequately express my admiration for the exceptionally fine job of work that has been carried out by a small gang of members of this sub-branch, and to mention names, of course, would get me "put on the mat," such is the spirit of the gang. Anyhow, they know who I mean. So to you blokes, "I dips me lid."

We were very pleased to welcome two new members in Messrs. Watkin and Gilchrist.

We are not definitely sure of the date of the official opening of our rooms. However, as soon as I learn of that I will see that it is made known to all and sundry, but so far the least we have some big ideas for that particular date.

ARTHUR FLOANCE.

Glen Forrest

This sub-branch came into being at the beginning of the year as an off-spring of the combined sub-branch known as Glen Forrest-Darlington.

Capably led by Ernie Matthews as president, Doug Lawrence as secretary and with Pat Shirpton guarding the finances, the sub-branch has got away to a flying start and is already on a firm financial footing with 31 financial members.

Over three meetings to date the attendance book shows an average of over 60 per cent., a figure of which we are proud but anxious to improve upon as time goes on.

Sporting activities at the conclusion of meetings comprise keenly fought contests in darts, quoits, table tennis and indoor bowls, a bumping board, and the vaunted "bumping" has been set up for each game and is causing lively interest. In addition, the committee is hoping to set up an indoor rifle range.

The sub-branch is keen to do something about a building of its own, and in this regard a special committee has been set up and a building fund commenced.

We are most fortunate here, in having the support of an active women's auxiliary who have shown their keenness to co-operate with us in all our activities.

To look after the social and money-raising side, we have elected a social committee and the ladies have done likewise. These two committees meet regularly and have already embarked upon an ambitious programme of social activities throughout the cooler months of the year.

Arrangements are well in hand for Anzac Day and we are looking forward to a big roll up to a service to be conducted by the Rev. J. Watts, of Mundaring, the address being given by the president. The service is to be preceded by a short march to the local hall.

M. S. RANS.

Katanning

During the year the Management Committee has met 12 times, with an average attendance of seven to eight. A large amount of business was dealt with expeditiously.

General meetings, 11, average attendance 38. Special management meetings, 2. Building Committee meetings, 2.

Membership: The year closed with a financial membership of 216; unfinancial, 13. Twenty-seven members have left the district and four members died.

Congress: Messrs. F. Kowald, A. Leslie and D. Dargie represented us and gave us a comprehensive report.

Anzac Day: We were fortunate in securing Mr. A. W. Potts to speak at the service in the town hall and we are deeply indebted to this gentleman. The early morning service was well attended and the usual ceremony took place of laying of wreaths and the playing of the Last Post and Reveille.

Memorial Plaque: This plaque was presented by the Katanning Road Board to be attached to the Katanning Memorial to commemorate the names of those who died during the last war. The unveiling ceremony was performed by Mr. Bradshaw, a member of the State Executive, on Sunday morning, September 3. There was a very poor attendance of the Katanning residents to such an important and solemn ceremony. It was noted that neighbouring sub-branches were well represented.

Armistice Day: The usual 11 o'clock service at the Katanning Memorial took place with a good attendance.

Poppy Day: Collection amounted to £54 14s. 7d. From this the sub-branch received £18, which was paid into the building fund. Poppies were attached to the headstone of each serviceman's grave.
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CLAREMONT - F 1962
The annual reunion dinner was held at the Masonic Hall on Saturday, September 2, when the R.S.L. charter was presented to our sub-branch by Mr. Bradshaw, who was supported by the State Secretary (Mr. J. Chappell). There was a good attendance and the evening was enjoyed by all.

Diggers' Golf Day: This event, as usual, was well attended and good support was given by local sub-branches in the near vicinity. It was a very successful function, socially and financially.

Diggers' Shoot: Two meetings were held during the year with the C.M.F. and Katanning Rifle Club. Profits made went to the C.M.F. sports fund. The attendance by R.S.L. members to these two shoots was poor.

Legacy Bed: The amounts collected at meetings were £17. From subscriptions received, £59.14. -

R.S.L. Stall at Katanning Show: This was run by a few enthusiastic members, which resulted in a profit of approximately £23, which was credited to the building fund.

Building project committee of seven has dealt with considerable business this year, progressed to the stage where it was considered beyond our financial scope to proceed with a totally new building. Plans have been received and estimates now awaited from Mr. J. Fitzhardinge for alterations to existing buildings.

Pension cases dealt with number 6. Five were successful and one unsuccessful.

Assistance obtained for members and relatives through organisations such as canteen funds, local repatriation, etc. 7.

Burning-off of grass on properties owned by soldiers' relatives: This was done by a team of members. The grass on seven properties was burnt off.

Euchre Tournament: This has been having a very successful run each Friday night, thanks to the organisation of a few keen members, which has added finance to our building fund.

W.S.L.S. Farms: We have written to the chairman and State Executive on several occasions to obtain more consideration for ex-servicemen in the Katanning district. We have not had good results to date. Only three Katanning men have been allotted farms, and one of these the estate was sold to the W.S.L.S. conditionally that this ex-serviceman was allotted a farm.

Women's Auxiliary: I would like to make special mention of this organisation which kindly donated to our funds the sum of £50. Also their efforts in assisting the sick Diggers at the Katanning Hospital each week.

Self-Help Building Project: A committee was formed, but owing to difficulties of experienced builders being on the committee the position at present is very uncertain.

In conclusion I would like to state that our effort generally for increasing the building fund was not up to usual standard. Also I would like to bring before you the great assistance given us by the State Executive in our many problems. But for their help I am afraid many of our efforts would be negative.

"The Back-room Boys," Jack Sheehan, "Bunny" Rafferty, Vic Tedd and Jack Cornelius have done an excellent job for us all in the catering of our refreshments. These men, as you know, have done a lot of hard work.

W. N. MATTHEWS

Kensington

The first quarter of the new year has been completed and an excellent start made with sub-branch activities. Ten new members have been welcomed and have helped to swell the ranks of Kensington.

The services recruiting drive, which is being organised by the State Branch, is receiving the sub-branch's support, and it has been agreed to combine with Melville, Como and South Perth in an effort to secure additional recruits for the forces.

Kensington has again nominated for the A.R.M.S. games, and with a wealth of talent available a successful season is anticipated.

The annual picnic was held at Bull's Creek on Sunday, February 18, and proved an outstanding success.

A barbecue held recently in aid of sub-branch funds was the means of considerably augmenting the dwindling general fund.

A social cricket match was played recently against a Claremont R.S.L. side, and although our chaps were defeated everyone enjoyed themselves and the outing was a great success. Our team made the trip to Picketing Brook on Sunday, April 1, and again a great day was the result.

Visitors to the last sub-branch meeting included Fred Chaney (State Vice-President) and Bob Maddaford, of South Australia.

It is with regret that we record the calling to higher service of Ambrose (Syd) Gledhill, M.M. and Bar, and late of 13 First Avenue, South Perth. Our late member served with the 11th Bn. A.I.F.

Jim Smith, of Lyall Street, has been appointed patron of the sub-branch. This chap does a splendid job and is a distinct asset to the League generally.

Jim Walton has been admitted to the Bar and is going into practice with Ralph Stoddart. Congratulations.

Next meeting will be held on April 17.

B.K.

Mandurah

A meeting of the sub-branch was held on March 12, 1951. About 21 members were present. President Brian Manwaring was in the chair, ably assisted by Secretary P. Digney and Treasurer Tony Manwaring.

Several items of importance were dealt with, including our war memorial which has been set out on the foreshore in a very convenient place. All being well we will be able to hold our Anzac service on it for this coming year.

The inter-school swimming was also dealt with, as it has always been sponsored by the sub-branch. Our president has given a cup for the most points gained by any one from any school. The cup will be classed as the Jubilee Cup. He was given a big hand for his generosity.

Our women's auxiliary is still going great guns and is doing a power of work getting ready for the Over-40 Club functions for the year 1951.

Wishing your paper and the R.S.L. all the best.

HARRY BAIRD

Maylands

On March 1 I was fortunate enough to attend the closing stages of our meeting and hear the discussion on our property which resulted in the president (Tom Inman), secretary (Jim Lindsay) and treasurer (Bob Gooch) being appointed joint trustees, Sep. Horton opposed this motion on the grounds that they had quite enough to do, and he should
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J. H. ELISHER.

Manjimup

After having obtained the best possible advice, the management committee of the sub-branch has told the State Housing Commission that it did not propose to proceed with the scheme to add a double-storey projection to its existing hall in Brockman Street.

This was originally contemplated to meet the needs of professional and office accommodation in the town, and the proposal received the blessings of the Manjimup Road Board because of the acute shortage of such accommodation in the town. Preliminary sketches of the proposed building extensions were drawn up by a well-known firm of architects in Perth, but due to rising building costs and difficulty of supplies the project has now lapsed, after a permit had been given by the commission.

It is understood that the sub-branch renounced its right to build because of the possibility of another similar project being envisaged by private enterprise.

District representatives appointed were Messrs. R. Cantwell and Geo. Doust (Dean Mill), E. A. Clifton and I. Collett (Palgarup), Fred Miller (Jardele), H. Perkins (Yamnab), E. Stephenson and S. Ridgewell (Glenoran), L. Ireland and F. Coombs (Nyangup), R. McDonald and A. Fry (Quinnup), W. J. Day (Shannon Mall). Their help is being sought in a membership drive in the respective centres.

So far 130 members have become financial, and figures are regarded as very satisfactory. Membership of the funeral fund is increasing, but because of the repeated suggestions that under present arrangements it will become an increasing embarrassment to the sub-branch, it is to be considered by the Management Committee at its next meeting.

R. MONKHOUSE.

Melville

This month the accent is on work—but definitely. First up, the hall is going to get a face-lift; in fact, will be gleaming like new ere this greets the eager reader.

Then there’s our money-making idea. We’ll let you other coves in on it after we’ve made our pile. At the moment we have it all bottled up, so to speak. It’s all honest and above board, that’s all we’ll say.

For some unknown reason, the March meeting was very quiet, no contentious motions, no interjections, no arguments—it didn’t seem like home at all.

In fact, the only awkward question was asked after the meeting. It was: “Why are all the best dart players in the sub-branch civil servants?” and being one myself, I am not answering.

A. M. STEPHENS.

Mosman Park

The monthly meeting was held on February 27. President Mr. Conroy being absent, the senior vice-president (Mr. Jack Bragg) occupied the chair with a goodly number of members.

The business of the evening was carried out satisfactorily and the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Our annual picnic was held at the Zoo on Labour Day, March 5. Dick Newton chartered the Wandoora for the occasion and, sad to say, it was not overcrowded. Those who were lucky enough to be able to attend had a very enjoyable outing, as usual.

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The sub-branch is endeavouring to revive the social and sporting side of its activities, and several sports nights are being arranged; so, members, keep your eyes skinned for notices of these meetings. They are being organised for your benefit, so have a go and make a point of attending.

FRANK McCORMICK.

Mount Barker

Officers for ensuing year are:
President, Mr. N. Burnell.
Vice-presidents, Messrs. T. R. D. Fuge and S. Reeves.
Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. North.
Trustees, Messrs. A. N. Rischbeith and R. D. Fuge.
Hon. Auditor, Mr. E. E. Dovey.


Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. C. Lyons.

Mt. Yokine-Joondana Heights

Our small sub-branch was brought very much to the fore on the night of Thursday, March 25, when it organised a non-stop variety concert at the Tuart Hall. Main credit is due to Mr. Ernie Newton for his ceaseless labours in getting the cast together and making all arrangements for production. Every member was either an R.S.L. member or belonged to the family of a member. While praise is due to everyone of the cast in producing such a successful entertainment, special comment is due on certain outstanding items of the evening. Vocal items were provided by Mesdames Tilly Smetz, Dulcie Campbell, Mrs. Towie, and Messrs. Jerry Lap, Pooley and Aylward, while President Jack Towie and his good wife rendered a stage presentation of "Zachariah and Sophie," all of which was received with good applause.

Ralph Newton and Hiram Ellis were centres of attraction with their hillbilly turns, while Miss Maureen Lynn charmed her swaying way into the hearts of the audience with a rendition of the Hawaiian dance. The "face-ache" of the evening, however, was the "Dance of the S-veil," frantic number by Maureen, peeling off veil after veil, while the audience, alternatively held their breaths in anticipation for the finale, or roared their heads off at sight of jovial and rotund Jack Lannigan and Ernie Newton dressed in loin cloth and representing harem slaves. Another outstanding item was the "Village Glee Club" in modern version, conducted by Ernie Newton as "Gussy" the padre. Musical entertainment was provided throughout the evening by Mesdames Towie and Kelynack in good fashion. The evening was not without a breath-taking magician, and Cyril Jones certainly did a good job.

In conclusion, the whole evening proved that local talent provided by old and new Australians provide always the best form of entertainment that is near and dear to an audience. The president of the sub-branch (Jack Towie) thanked all concerned for their combined efforts in assisting the sub-branch in its needy cause.

Northam

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Northam Sub-Branch of the Returned Servicesmen's League held at the sub-branch clubrooms on April 4. The acting President (Mr. H. Johnson) presided.

A letter was received from the Northam sub-branch of the Legion of Ex-Servicemen, offering to cooperate in the proposal made by the Northam sub-branch of the Air Force Association to meet the R.S.L. to discuss ways and means whereby assistance could be afforded in the raising of funds for the R.S.L. Memorial Building Fund.

It was decided that the Legion be invited to attend a meeting that would be called shortly to discuss the Air Force Association's suggestion.

Rev. L. Bothamley wrote inviting the members of the sub-branch to attend a special Anzac Day service to be held at St. John's Church on Wednesday, April 25. It was decided that the invitation be accepted and members who were able be urged to attend.

It was decided to donate £1 1/- to the Red Cross Society's March Appeal.

The treasurer (Mr. R. B. James) reported that the building fund credit now amounted to £2,195. There was, in addition, a block of land valued at £100.

Arrangements for the observance of Anzac Day were left in the hands of the secretary (Mr. H. F. Clements).

H. C. S. COLEBATCH.

Scarborough

On Saturday, March 3, a complimentary dinner was given to the ladies who assisted in our activities over the past year. The toast of "The Ladies" was proposed by the president (Jack Harnett) and seconded by Tom Carlin. The speakers praised the efforts of the ladies in raising a substantial sum to assist the building fund, and references were made to the increasing popularity of our social functions. The dinner was followed by dancing, wound up by a barbecue supper. A good night, thanks to the efforts of the social committee.

The first of the Big 4 sports competitions took place at Scarborough on March 19. Darts, quoits and table tennis were played with the following results: Yokine, 8 points; Osborne Park, 7; North Beach, 5; Scarborough, 2.

Roy Milne has our own competitions well under way. Games between Red, Blue, Green and Gold teams will be continued on the next sports night, April 23.

An Anzac Day service will be held in the Clinic Hall, Lord Street, at 2.30 p.m. All ex-servicemen are invited to attend. This will be preceded by a march from the corner of Beaufort Street and Scarborough Beach Road, and those participating are asked to fall-in at 2.15 p.m.

Members are again reminded that 1951 subscriptions are overdue. These can be sent to the Secretary, A. W. Brown, 182 Lord Street, Scarborough.

A. W. BROWN.
Subiaco

After a lapse of 12 years we have taken steps to do something about the recurring stains on the north wall of our dance hall. For all these years it has been the practice of our neighbours to water our wall in conjunction with their own patch of real estate. As the wall lacked a damp course our costly interior decoration was always promptly and effectively ruined. Disregarding a suggestion that we plant a hanging garden on the wall and sell the resultant vegetation in aid of the sub-branch funds, house manager Geo. Wilson has had a waterproof cement applied to the lower part of the wall. Now the hon. treasurer is scrabbling in the sub-branch cash box to see if he can find enough to do the dance hall up once more. A very tasteful colour scheme has been suggested and our hall may soon be the palatial H.Q. we used to think it was.

Not very much has been done by the sub-branch in legislative matters, most of our resolutions for State Executive having met with a certain amount of non-enthusiasm in their various careers. We asked that back-payment of pensions be made to certain rural returned men. Alas, the “government” couldn’t do it. We suggested a back-pedal on immigration till returned men had houses in W.A.; and were referred to next State congress as a better ‘ole for that sort of thing. Even the debating section, winners of the only trophy ever landed by the sub-branch, had a resolution of some sort, some time, some how, and felt themselves to be eluded, thwarted and foiled.

However, leaving such things in the good old way to the incoming committee (next September) subscriptions are coming in well and we hope to better last year’s membership figure. If any members know of any unfriendly friend, would they encourage them to do the right thing?

J. NEWMAN

West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat Park

February 26 brought us together again with a well-attended meeting after a rather lengthy break. Many important matters were discussed. Firstly, Anzac march. After many years it has been decided to march downhill instead of up, and the gathering point will be West Leederville railway station instead of the corner of Newcastle and Oxford Street. It has been realised that quite a few of our members are not getting any younger — henceforth the change.

Secondly, we are at last going to build our own hall. Land has been purchased and the plans are now in the hand of the architect. We want your assistance, members, so roll up, even if only to criticise — it may be helpful.

Thirdly, come along and help us win the Riley Shield. We want dart, bridge and all the other players. Lastly, come along for your own sake. You are assured of a real good time, and don’t forget your fifteen bobs. We need ‘em.

A few bouquets will now be distributed for their valuable efforts in 1950. A lovely bunch of roses to our ladies of the auxiliary and their great efforts, Poppy Day in particular, and the work they put into our smoke social being extra good. To our secretary and treasurer, many thanks for their excellent work; and lastly a beautiful bunch of coconuts to our worthy senior vice-president, Isaac McParker, our financial wizard, the man who envied two bob out of Scrooge. Thanks to his efforts, our heads are still above water financially.

A word in passing. One well-known face will be missing on Anzac Day, our memorial warden for many years (Mr. Gulley) joined these we revere and remember in the latter part of 1950. On the other side of the ledger we welcomed two new faces in Ted Lennell and Doug Morris at our first meeting in 1951. By the way, if any one asked you how we won the fourth test, it was our Ernie. He went over to spur ‘em on.

Wundowie

Saturday, March 3, was a highlight in the life of our sub-branch boys in more than one way.

Besides getting their gratuities they also received their charter from Perth. This was presented to President Bill Hudson by Jim Craig on behalf of the State Executive. Present also were Hugh Leslie, M.H.R., who gave a stirring address on the ideals and purpose of the League, and “Slim Jim” Stoddart, who explained the significance of the charter’s design and inscription.

The scene of this memorable event was the Wundowie Hall, the occasion the inaugural dinner of Wundowie sub-branch.

The “Catering Corps” (ladies) excelled themselves. There was enough “Mungaree” on the tastefully decorated tables to stop even a bunch of murgatrot Wogs. The “beers” was also well supplied by the waiters, Norm Povah especially, putting on a non-stop service.

With this grand start, Wundowie Sub-Branch can look forward to a bright and busy future.

P. A. GALVIN

WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES

STATE EXECUTIVE

Two well-attended meetings of the State Executive have been held this month. Mrs. Stockmin (State President) presided at both.

Hospital Visiting, R.P.H.

276 bedside visits have been made by executive hospital visitors this month and comforted to all ex-service men and women patients.

Hollywood Hospital

Auxiliaries have paid bi-weekly visits to the hospital, taking gifts of fruit, cigarettes, cakes, etc., to all patients.

Glendalough

Members of the State Executive visited Glendalough during the month and distributed comforts to all ex-service men and women inmates. The concert party that accompanied them was greatly appreciated.

Official Visits

February 20: The State President attended official opening of Mr. Henry Home for Women.

February 21: State President and State Secretary attended annual meetings of Subiaco and Shenton Park.

February 23: State President and State Secretary attended McKinlay Shield sports meeting.

February 25: State Secretary, accompanied by executive members, visited C.H.I. and distributed comforts.

February 26: State President and State Secretary accepted invitation of Perth City Council to reception for Lady Albermarle.

February 27: State President and State Secretary attended Denmark annual meeting.
March 1: State President and State Secretary visited Mt. Barker auxiliary at their meeting and annual dinner and social.

March 2: State President and State Secretary were entertained at a social afternoon by Albany auxiliary.

March 7: State President and State Secretary attended combined auxiliaries picnic at Mosman's.

March 8: State President and State Secretary guests of Subiaco auxiliary where Mrs. Stockman told members about her recent trip to N.S.W. conference.

March 9: State President and State Secretary attended R.S.L. jubilee committee meeting.

March 11: State President and State Secretary visited Glendale.

March 14: State President and State Secretary guests of Mt. Hawthorn auxiliary at their birthday party.

Combined Picnic

Our annual combined picnic was held at Mosman this year, and although the attendance was very disappointing it was voted a great success by all present.

Conference

Conference this year will be held on July 10, 11 and 12. Don't forget the closing date for nominations and agenda items is April 15.

Donations

Subiaco, £1 delegates' expenses to N.S.W. conference.

Meckering, £1 War Veterans' Building Fund.

Brunswick Junction, £1/1/- delegates' expenses to N.S.W. conference.

Williams, 10/6 delegates expenses to N.S.W. conference.

Bellevue, 10/6 delegates expenses to N.S.W. conference.

Victoria Park, £2/2/- Red Cross.

Katanning, £10 Red Cross.

Unity Cheerio, £5/5/- Legacy.

Bunbury, £5/5/- War Blinded.

£5/5/- War Nurses' Hostel.

Carnamah, £1/1/- delegates' expenses to N.S.W. conference.

Bullsbrook, £2/2/- Red Cross.

Nedlands, £3/5/- Red Cross.

Waroona-Hamel, £5/5/- Red Cross.

£2/2/- hospital visiting.

Brookton, £1/1/- delegates' expenses to N.S.W. conference.

ETHEL AMES.

ROLE OF DEFENCE

(Continued from page 20)

16. The Regular Army included a small field force, the staff force for H.Q. and to maintain equipment and depots, and instructional staff for Army schools and for C.M.F. units.

17. This peacetime nucleus can only be related to the wartime order of battle through a substantial pool of reserves. It is the lack of this reserve pool which nullifies the present plan. The then Government's modifications to the plan presented by the service advisors in 1947 cut out the provision particularly designed to create a reserve.

18. In raising an Army, the first priority is to have an Army organisation and trained leaders and specialists. Soldiers now take a long time to train; leaders and specialists take longer and, finally, an Army as a whole longer still.

19. A pile of bricks, no matter how perfectly each is made, does not make a house: it needs the mortar to hold them together, the planning, the doors and windows to make a house and the spirit of the people who live...
in it to make it a home. An Army is built the same way. It takes a long time to train an architect, a builder and a carpenter. When these are available there must have a plan for the house before they are ready to receive the bricks and material. When all is prepared, the foundations are laid, building begins.

Time Lost
20. The Army that Australia laboriously built during the war was quickly broken up. For more than two years there was a gap with no postwar plan. During this time most of the best soldiers returned to civil life, with the result that when finally a decision was made to have a postwar army it had to be built de novo. It might have been possible two or even three years after the war to have re-formed the wartime army, but not longer. The break-up of the army, the break in continuity requiring a fresh start must at the very best have left us without an effective army for at least three years in peacetime. As, however, the post war plan has never been fully operative the period has been longer and we must continue to be without the army that was planned for some considerable time.

Recent Additions to the Plan
21. Following the commitment of part of the A.R.A. field force in Korea, some additions were made to the postwar plan which now provides for 24,000 A.R.A. (plus 3,000 civilians) and 50,000 C.M.F. Subject to some minor alterations to the C.M.F. to fit in with the redistribution of population in certain areas, the plan is considered adequate and reasonable as a first step to rebuilding an army.

(To be continued.)

ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN.

ARMY MEDICAL UNITS ASSOCIATION—Room 38, Fifth Floor, Glendoit Buildings, Perth; 2nd Friday each month; President: Lt-Col. C. H. Leedman, M.C.; Chairman: C. W. Brick, Rowan; Hon. Secretary: W. H. Biggs, 28 Elizabeth Street, North Perth (Ph 2734).

SECRETARY COMRADES—President: Arthur Hewett, Corio; Vice-President: J. A. Burch, A. J. Snow, 74 Heyshott Road, Subiaco; Meeting: when appropriate.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION—Secretary: A. Wilkinson, Box N 1134, G.P.O., Perth.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION—Group W.A., Meetings as arranged; President: W. A. McPherson, 190 Beaufort Street, South Perth; Vice-President: Mr. F. Allan, 282 Church Avenue, Subiaco; Hon. Secretary: Miss G. McNicol, 30 Coode Street, South Perth.

MECHANIC GUNNERS' ASSOCIATION—President: T. B. Hall, 35 King Street, Perth; Secretary: E. W. Wallace, 244 Shepparton Road, Victoria Park.

PROTECTED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS & AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION—President: A. H. McPherson, 190 Beaufort Street, Perth; Secretary: R. H. Whyte, 74 Heyshott Road, Subiaco; Meeting: when appropriate.

PARTIALLY BLIND SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (W.A.)—Secretary: Miss C. E. Lee, 125 William Street, Perth (Ph 5054).

A.A.A.S.I.S.T. (A.M. DIvision)—President: W. J. H. Blyth, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Secretary: T. M. Leckie, 237 W. Street, South Perth; Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of every month.

L.A.A. ASSOCIATION (W.A. Division)—President: J. H. O'Donnell, Swan Barracks, South Perth; Secretary: Miss D. M. Johnson, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of every month.

L.A.A. ASSOCIATION (A.M. Division)—President: J. C. H. Neale, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Secretary: Miss D. M. Johnson, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Meeting: 1st Tuesday of every month.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND MILITARY VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—President: R. W. Leith, 33 Queen Street, Perth; Secretary: Miss A. S. Bond, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month.

IVORY HUNTERS ASSOCIATION—President: T. W. Davis, 237 W. Street, Perth; Secretary: T. W. Davis, 237 W. Street, Perth; Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month.

ALLIED SERVICES ASSOCIATION (Fremantle Sub-Branch)—President: J. C. Brown, 30 Coode Street, Fremantle; Secretary: W. F. T. F. Jones, 30 Coode Street, Fremantle; Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month.

WEST AUSTRALIA MILITARY SADDLE ASSOCIATION—President: T. H. A. Hall, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Secretary: T. H. A. Hall, 30 Coode Street, South Perth; Meeting: 1st Tuesday of each month.

TOTALY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION—President: R. W. Leith, 33 Queen Street, Perth; Secretary: W. F. T. F. Jones, 30 Coode Street, Fremantle; Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month.

BATTERY ASSOCIATION—Annual reunion, Friday of Show Week; President: J. W. Hobbs, 240 William Street, Perth; Secretary: J. W. Hobbs, 240 William Street, Perth; Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month.

10th BATTERY ASSOCIATION—Secretary: T. H. A. Hall, 30 Coode Street, Fremantle; Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month.

11th and 21/11th A.I.F. BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION—President: C. W. Mitchell, 5 Vista Street, South Perth; Secretary: L. Thomas, 5 Vista Street, South Perth; Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month.

20th BATTALION—Secretary: W. A. McPherson, 190 Beaufort Street, Perth; Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month.

21st BATTALION—Secretary: J. H. O'Donnell, Swan Barracks, South Perth; Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month.

44th BATTALION—Secretary: W. A. McPherson, 190 Beaufort Street, Perth; Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month.

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