No “Listening Post” for April and May... Reasons Why

The League's accountant has recently submitted to the State Executive a report concerning the League's finances for the year ended December 31, 1951. This discloses a loss in the General Revenue Account of £1,400. Of this amount the publication and distribution of the “Listening Post” accounted for £279.

Accumulated losses arising out of the publication and distribution of this journal from 1945 to 1951 inclusive, apart from the amount deducted from members' subscriptions, total £600. This is a terrific drain on the financial resources of the League.

The State Executive has now come to the conclusion that the loss cannot be allowed to continue. In actual fact, on the basis of 20,000 financial members, from whose fees paid into Headquarters 2 1/2s is credited to the “listening Post” account, the “listening Post” has cost the League £2,500, plus £279, making a total loss of £2,779 for the year so far as League revenue is concerned.

The increase of membership fees to 15/ by Federal Congress decision has not benefited the General Revenue Account of the League in this State to the same extent as it has done in the Eastern States, where members of the League have to pay a separate fee if they wish to receive the League's journal as issued by those States.

It is of interest to note that in New Zealand the ex-service men's journal is financed also on a separate fee which has recently been increased from 4/6 to 7/6 per year.

In this State the League has been supplying a journal to the ex-service men at no extra cost to its members, and with rising costs of production and distribution, this reach, however, when a halt must be called.

Considerable thought has been given to “listening Post” affairs by the “Listening Post” Executive Committee and also by the State Executive as a whole, and it has been reluctantly decided that for the months of April and May, the “Listening Post” shall not be published.

This action, it is estimated, will effect a saving of £578 to the League.

Executive Pays Tributes To League Stalwarts

The State executive recently presented Special Certificates to a number of League stalwarts who, as members of the Executive, have in the past done a great deal towards making the League what it is today.

The State President, in presenting a certificate to Alf Yates, said: “I can pay no greater tribute to Alf Yates than to say that he has set a remarkably high standard. I have kept League prestige at its highest level and that is due to Alf Yates.”

In making a similar presentation to Lin Thorne, Mr. Sten said: “The whole attitude of the Executive has changed enormously since Mr. Thorne went into the job. Not only has he done a great deal, but because he was a good man, he has used in a most progressive manner every modern technique which could be used in land settlement.”

Mr. Alf Yates presented a certificate to Alec Panton, Jr., on behalf of the late Alec Panton. “Alec served this League for many years and we are very grateful,” said Mr. Yates. “He left politics outside. He did a magnificent job many years with sound logic and judgment. He gave wonderful help in the early days. He was a really great man.”

(Good Save the Queen

The ex-serviceeman has always been conscious of his loyalty to the British Throne, and the untimely death of His Majesty King George VI came as a personal shock to each and every one of us.

Now we have a Queen reigning over us—Queen Elizabeth II.

The very name Elizabeth is quite equivalent to awakening in our minds the remembrance that it was an Elizabeth who first brought England into greatness, and we may be forgiven for wondering whether this second Elizabeth may not, in time, restore Britain to her place in the sun.

We know full well that our Queen ascends her throne at a time when the fortunes of Britain are at a low ebb. World wars have taken their toll of the strength of the British lion, but that lion is by no means dead.

Our Queen will have before her a difficult task to work her way back to the Empire, but she will have the good wishes of millions of people who will not only admire her, but who, like her, will be a power behind the throne.

With the coming of a new monarch let us hope for the coming of a new day—a new day when the British Empire will once again be a tremendous power in the world—a power for good and for the right.

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THE HOUSE OF QUALITY
The death of H.M. King George VI

State President's Address at Special Memorial Service

This has indeed been a dramatic week; and possibly more so in Western Australia than in the capital. Our plans for the Royal Visit were so much more advanced. We pass from consideration of a Royal Visit to a consideration of a royal death, and it has occasioned a real shock. I was in Melbourne when the King died, and came to us, in company with the State Presidents of the R.S.I.L. in Australia, and I can assure you that the satisfactory and spontaneous and most genuinely sincere. You will have noted that we immediately arranged a silence at 9 p.m. on Thursday night, and this was observed throughout Australia.

This afternoon in all the States our folk will be meeting for this special memorial service, and we shall attempt a corporate expression of the distress occasioned to us as a special nation on the death of a beloved sovereign. May I say that I think we can be proud of the attitude of the Australian service man and woman. Not only is it a sure measure of the reality of the Commonwealth, more so, I think, that it is a powerful factor in the stability of all the greater Commonwealth of British speaking peoples.

In 1936 His Late Majesty King George V died, leaving the throne with the following message:

"I have succeeded to the throne in circumstances which are without precedent, and at a time of unexampled distress, but I am resolved to do my duty, and I am sustained by the knowledge that I have the wide-spread goodwill and sympathy of all my subjects here and throughout the world. It will be my constant endeavour, with God's help, to maintain and expand the friendly folk of our people to uphold the honour of the realm and promote the happiness of my people."

At the time this probably might have been regarded as a formal statement; we now know with what tremendous sincerity it was uttered, and to what extent it was acted. The Emperor had been the lot of few, if any, in high position to have so singly and successfully fulfilled his appoint and particularly when events proved the actual situation to have been so.

We pay special tribute today, because no ex-service man and no soldier felt an injury to the King. We shared his service; he was our chief, and we shall share the loss and loss to ourselves. In the end he was undoubtedly a casualty of the second. The end part and the rest part and the family played in the late war, when he shared the battle in London with his people.

Never perhaps before was the intimate relationship of the British Commonwealth with the Royal Family so powerfully represented as when the Royal Family lived through the terrible days and nights of this terrible time. It must have been a tremendous thrill for all of us, for all of us who were close. It is King George himself the responsibility of sustaining the spirit of his nation, and the man and the King, and the King and his people, and the great people of his land, in so small a measure due to the grand leadership of him we mourn today. We suffer the contempt of sick diggers. When Democracy can continue to produce such leadership we have no need to lose our faith in the future. King George has passed on a great heritage.

"I am resolved to do my duty."

With the people of the great Commonwealth of Nations, we particularly pay our tribute to the people of this great country, and indeed to the people of Australia, not only for the sacrifice they have made, but for the love of a man. Kings at times seem to change but in great distress, and times they can be so intimately close. We were very close to him, as he was to us, as the years went on, and we feel that the King died. His overcoming of this established speech defect was typical of him, and it was a great personal triumph; more than that, it was one in which we shared as we felt so deeply for him.

Personal Relationship

We were very close to him when he took over the throne from his brother. Knowing both and loving both, we entered a new phase of life, and it is the greatest personal pride when we saw him with the help of his wonderful and splendid success of a task which initially appeared insurmountable. In the recent illness of his family to a mark of the great things that have happened, it is the beginning of a new era. The King has always been the centre of attention.

One thing is, that while his people in Great Britain have enjoyed the right to take the task as a part of the British task, and have faced the duties of his family to a mark of the great things that have happened, it is the beginning of a new era. The King has always been the centre of attention.

Our service has proved itself one of the most distinguished of the long line of British King George VI's. In the last days of war-torn Britain, he was suffering of the strains and tensions he has done with all this, but in this moment, to sustain the spirit of that Empire. Keeping in mind the dedication of President Roosevelt and that of his distinguished successor, it is evident that King George VI has done much in his own quite way to bring about the most important political developments of the day, the alliance between the two great nations on either side of the Atlantic. We most earnestly hope that his efforts and their great responsibility he has undertaken. At twenty-five years of age, to step into the leadership of a great Empire; to take her seat at the head of the greatest councils in the land; to uphold the dignity and honour of the realm in the company of the nations, truly a breathtaking responsibility. Let us therefore offer no lip service; let our support be consistent with the high ideals of service which have always emanated from the British Throne.

We may be distant, and in the deliberations of government we may be humble, nevertheless each has a part to play in our community and group, and the total strength of a people is the sum of the strength of its parts. When we work consciously for a better Australia we are supporting our promise of allegiance to a power thousands of miles greater. A little more tolerance of a little more cooperation and above all an occasional thought to what this wonderful country could be, if its people could be prevailed upon to give it its maximum chance.

So we, each in his own field, can offer a contribution to our young Queen's great Commonwealth. With her training, her charm, her youth— we know that she will not fail. May God grant us the wisdom, strength and goodwill to order our individual lives that we may truly serve her, who will so unselfishly give of her affection and support.

God Save the Queen.
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"The Listening Post"
MARCH 1952

Federal Executive
Report
(By State President T. Sten.)

STATE Presidents from all Branches met in Melbourne on
February 15th for the quarterly meeting of the Federal
Executive.

The main discussion centred
round the question of the basic
wage, which you will re-
member, at the last budget re-
mained unaltered. The Federal
President has pressed hard
without avail for an adjustment,
but our hope now is for an
adjustment in the next budget.
This is a matter of vital concern
to a great many men and
women concerned in the two great wars.
It would appear that the present
Government is pursuing a steady
and firm policy with a view to
separating the war pension into
two pensions: one for the special
ex-servicemen who has to be
paid on his pension as a liveli-
hood (a pension which presum-
ably will be reviewed in time)
to (in relation to the value of
the pound) and the other por-
tion, the disability pension in
the moment receiving scant over
his head (a pension which
must be

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Mr. T. STEN.

Another important decision
was that the despatch of parcels to
U.K. troops in Korea and Malaya
will be done through the
Canteen Service channel. As is proba-
bly known, parcels have been des-
patched to the war centres for
over twelve months by the
League through its Fighting
Services Fund. The parcels have
been packed and distributed
economically and efficiently,
by the Army Canteen Ser-
vice in Japan.

We have to do is to find
a great deal more money in view
of the great number of U.K.
troops in Korea and Malaya.
But none will regret the de-
sision to do something for our
men from the United Kingdom.
We will shortly be making an
appeal on behalf of the W.A.
Branch R.S.A. Fighting Forces
Fund and we do look forward to
the greatest support from all sec-
tions of the community.

A friendly gesture which
think all will applaud was the
decision to present an R.S.A.
cup for games competition
with the old veterans at Chelsea
Hospital.
In addition to this, each
State has undertaken to try to
provide a Christmas cake to the
same old chaps. This, I’m sure,
will do something for the men
of all regiments who had the
long, happy link between Australia
and Imperial Veterans.

Death of Lance
McLeay

ALL members of the 1st A.I.F.
especially of the 4th and
12th Field Ambulances, will re-
member with regret the passing of
Lance McLeay, M.M., on Jan
21, 1952. Lance McLeay was a
brother of Jack McLeay, M.H.B.
and Lord Mayor of Adelaide
also of Senator McLeay, Mini-
ter for Supply and Shipping.

“Fat,” as he was generally
known, was a great worker for
the Field Ambulance Associa-
tion in S.A. and was well known
in all States. He was last seen
in W.A. as a supporter of the Sou-
thern Australian campaign in
1947 and went to end
his troubles to contact many
his old 1914-18 pals.
DEAR Fellow Members,

Our last copy of the Listening Post stop-pressed news of the King's death. Since then we've shared the sad events of the funeral and the mourning. I believe that the League was prompt and sincere in its ready tributes to the dead, and its declarations of the living sovereign. I refer, of course, to the silence of the Thursday evening and the memorial service of the following Sunday afternoon. There remains our duty to the young Queen. Her youth and sex could be the inspiration for a resurgence of the Empire spirit if we could determine. I may in the League give our real support in a new spirit of League patriotism and citizenship, all designed to make Australia the unit of the Empire she would wish.

At the moment it is too early to indicate the success of the War Memorial Appeal. The street appeal appears to have been a great success, and was certainly wonderfully well organised. It remains with us all how to do everything we possibly can to press the appeal forward within the next few weeks to a successful conclusion.

Recently it was my pleasure to join the Bicton-Palmyra sub-branch at its annual regatta at Bicton, organised in the sub-branch's effort of building a district memorial hall. It was certainly a most impressive event, and there were with its flower baskets, yachts and speed boats; the shores packed with children and adults alike by the end show. One was struck with both the large scale organisation involved and, on the other hand, the excellence of the organisation. Certainly the reason for the outstanding vitality of two of our youngest sub-branches—Bicton-Palmyra and Bellevue—that of a love for hard work and of course good causes.

EXECUTIVE PAYS TRIBUTES

(Continued from Page 1).

Mr. Tom Edmondson presented a certificate to "Tug" Wilson, reminding those present that "when Tug" gets his teeth into a thing he doesn't let go. He added that the margin had been recognised "Tug" for his tenacity and his honesty.

Mr. Edmondson also presented a certificate to a long-serving member, to whom, he said, "contributed to league work with a great amount of enthusiasm."

Mr. J. M. Anderson made a similar presentation to Maurice Zeifert "who was honoured by the King for services to the League." Anderson paid a further tribute by thanking him for his work which he did for the service men of World War II.

A certificate was also presented by Mr. Anderson to Reg Wood, who did great work both on the new Executive and in the sub-branches; for Reg was thorough in everything he did.

In replying on behalf of all those who have received certificates Mr. Thorne said: "On the State Executive we consider it to be the work of a lifetime. We have all served as ex-offiservemans. I have every faith in the State Executive and I am sure that at some time in the future we will not stop praising this League."

I know what it stands for and what it is doing. When six-o'clock even more—politicians in the State Executive, one never heard a breath of politics from me. I think we are all very proud to receive such an honour.

HATS OFF TO...

(1) OSBORNE PARK WOMEN'S AUXILIARY for donation of £50 to Osborne Park S/B. building fund.

(2) WEST LEEDERVILLE - WEMBLEY - FLOREAT PARK S/B. in its endeavours to stimulate interest in its activities and increase membership. See notes in another column.

(3) COMO WOMEN'S AUXILIARY for devoting the proceeds from all its efforts to the Community Centre Stall for a new gas stove. See notes.

(4) OSBORNE PARK S/B. for arranging a Busy Bee to dig ground and plant lawn around the Peace Hospital. It is to be a great support to the children.

ARTILLERY COMRADES ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

THE Artillery Command Association is to be commended on making available each year to a daughter of a member, and a son of a member, the trustees of the Fund advise that those selected for this year are as follows:

(a) Betty Cecilia Byrne, of Tangle Hall, who attended Albany High School for three years and from there passed eight subjects in the 1951 Junior Certificate.

(b) Peter William and plant lawn around the War Service Home of a War Widow in a poor state of health, with three children.

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NAURU REMEMBERS THEM

The Story of a Pacific Island Outpost in World War II

TWO representatives of the 27th Bn., A.I.F., and Mrs. Winifred Ramage, a daughter of Lieut-Colonel F. R. Chalmers, stood proudly by as draped flags parted recently from a memorial on a small Pacific island, 3,400 miles from Canberra, and just below the equator.

"We will do our best here whatever may happen," wrote the closeness to the 27th Battalion, A.I.F., on February 22, 1942, to the volunteer Headquarters in Australia, "and I am sure the Nauruan children and workers will do all they can in our absence.

Colonels, Chalmers, Administrators of the island, and four other Australians who volunteered, were among those who remained on the island, and were later on killed by the Japanese in March, 1943, after an American air raid, but the Australians on the island lived on as a model of the Australian Army in the Pacific.

When on September 13, 1945, another Australian force, led by Brigadier R. E. Stevenson, removed the 27th Battalion from Nauru, they were hailed as liberators by those who had survived the brutality and horror of the occupation. They were the enemy on which the Japanese were the last to be attacked and today are under Australian civil administration.

Memorial

The memorial, unveiled by the Minister for Territories (Mr. Paul Hasluck), stands in front of a new administrative headquarters, and a World War II Memorial, and uses extensive airstrip which the Japanese constructed with forced labour. It was on this strip that the official party landed, after a flight which it is hoped will inaugurate an air service to Nauru, via Espiritu Santo and Tonga to Tarawa, scenes of two of the bloodiest battles in the war.

The representatives of the 27th Battalion, commanded by Col. Chalmers in France during the 1914-18 war, were Lieut-Colonel W. F. Devonshire and Mr. H. B. Walter, both of whom were members of the 27th Battalion, under whom Mr. Walter, who gained his commission on Gallipoli, lost a leg on the Monowai, and for the last 21 years has been Registrar of Motor Vehicles in South Australia, Col. Devonshire, also of Adelaide, opened the D.S.O., and subsequently, as a military officer, became the battalion's com- mander. It was a result of a thoughtful gesture by the Minister that they and Mrs. Ramage were enabled to attend the ceremony.

The scene was unusual and impressive, the sun coming in brilliant sunshine to the Equator, the Minister's party, with the island's Administrator, Hon. K. S. Richards and his leading officials, stood by the memorial while the Rev. J. S. Robinson, of the London Missionary Society, conducted the ceremony. Fronting the Memorial was the Council of Chiefs, representing the Nauruans in the administration of the island, and behind it Nauruan police stood at attention. School children, boys, scouts, members of the boys' and girls' Church, Life Brigade, and other representatives of the local communities joined in forming a hollow square.

Mr. Hasluck said that the visit by the official party indicated the importance which Australia attached to the ceremony and the events which it commemorated. The interests of Nauru and of Australia had been closely linked for more than half a century and during the past 30 years, except for the Japanese occupation, Australia had been responsible for Nauru's administration.

Five Australians of their own free will and because of their con- sciences told them it was their duty to do so, had stayed to discharge Australia's responsibility to the people of the evacuation. So had two priests, Father Kynear and Father Gilmore. Today, after experiencing a brutal Japanese rule, the island's people were able to smile again, and to renew their faith in the future of the island.

"We need to remember that those who lost their lives fighting round the world today still menaced our shores," he said. "Your heroes and our heroes now lie together. Let us regard this monument as ground on which we may always meet in friendship."

Example

Speaking for the 27th Battalion, Col. Devonshire said that the example set by Col. Chalmers and the other Australians who stayed with him was an inspiration to those who stood around, and to all who shared in Australia's responsibilities. Three tablets on the memorial commemorate those who lost their lives during the occupation. They were Col. Chalmers; his fellow-Australians Dr. J. R. Quin and Messrs. W. Shugman (dispenser), E. H. Parker (engineer) and W. H. Doyle (laboratory inspector); and many others. Chalmers, Cameron, and Chalmers, a fourth tablet commemorates men of Nauru who served in the two world wars. Each tablet is mounted by a sword and wreath in bronze.

Messages from Australia were read by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Territories, Mr. J. B. Howse. The base of the memorial was inscribed in wreaths of island flowers—hibiscus, bougainvilleas, frangipani, oleander, allamanda, paw-paw blossoms, and others. They were laid on behalf of the Australian Government; the Minister and Department of Civil Aviation; the 27th Battalion; relatives of the murdered Australians; "Nauru Force" by which the island was occupied for a period prior to the evacuation; and the administration and people of Nauru.

"Nauru's economic importance lies in the fact that it is the chief source of phosphate for Australia and New Zealand, and this makes an important contribution to the extent and quality of the produce of our farms and gardens. The island is oval-shaped, and about twelve miles in circumference. The phosphate is taken from among coral pinnacles comprising a central plateau lying behind a narrow coastal strip, and rising to a height of about 200 feet. The greatest part of the plateau is phosphate-bearing, and it is estimated that at the present rate of production, lying to an extent of about 1 million tons a year, the deposits will not be exhausted for another seventy years. By a system of royalties and taxes on the proceeds of the phosphate, provision is made for costs of administration, compensation to the Nauruans who own the land, and in general, funds are being accumulated."

(Continued on next page.)
PUBLIC URGED TO EXTEND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES PERIOD

When War Savings Certificates began to mature in 1937 the then Treasurer announced that the Government would then allow the certificates to be converted into a further period of five years. With the expiration of this period, the certificates would be convertible into $25 face value for each $5 face value. The certificates continued to mature on March 1, 1951, Savings Certificates with a currency of five years, while the issue of War Savings Certificates was discontinued, also the certificates fell due on March 1, 1951.

The Government wishes to encourage holders of both series of savings certificates to take advantage of the opportunity to extend the certificates for a further period of five years, and the Treasurer (Sir Arthur Fadden) announced that all war certificates would be extended for a further period of five years, and the extension of the certificates will apply to the different categories of certificates. The extension will be extended for a further period of five years, and the extension of the certificates will apply to all categories of certificates.

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Rural Loan

A Commonwealth £1,000 Rural Loan Act was amended to December last increasing this loan to £1,500. The League has not yet been advised of the result of this increase and whether it is to be made retrospective to any particular date or to apply to waiting applicants who submitted their applications prior to September 2, 1950, or within 5 years of ceasing to be engaged on War work, whichever is later, or the later, or those who served in the Korean or Malayan Forces.

The Rural and Industries Bank which acts as agent for the Commonwealth and the State, has been requested to supply League Headquarters with information in this connection as early as possible.

SIR CHARLES LATHAM

£3,000 Awarded For Loss Of Three Fingers

An Australian civilian who lost three fingers in an accident is to be awarded £3,000 compensation. Invested, even at 4 per cent, this would give him over £2/6/6 a week while still leaving his £3,000 capital intact.

An Australian soldier who lost three fingers at the war gets a yearly pension of some 25 cent pension, amounting to about 1/7/6 a week.

That is only one illustration of the total inadequacy of the basic pension rate which the League is requesting shall be increased.

Surely a soldier who lost his fingers fighting for Australia, and others hundreds of them, but it means a constant fight to get even minor improvements.

Despite the prestige the League enjoys, it is still quite clear that we must fight for justice for the many others who made the supreme sacrifice for their country.

No one who, in the line of duty, is, when danger is over people are too ready to forget the war and all about it. When a politician shoots off about Australia paying millions a year in war pensions it sounds fine, and covers up the fact that he is going to get in his own pay; but what does it do for the man on 17/6 a week? Even if the pension is doubled he would still be a bad last behind the rate for civilian injuries.

This is one injustice we want corrected. There are many others. The League is on the job, but it wants your backing in the backing of every man and woman eligible for League membership.

There are a hundred reasons why you should keep your membership. This is only one of them; to take care of your less fortunate co-bearer.

(An editorial in "Back"—S.A.)

Listen in on Thursday nights to radio stations 6AM and 6PM when League broadcasts are given at 10 p.m.
Women Now Essential Part Of C.M.F.

A PROPOSAL for the Army to enlist 900 female members of the Citizen Military Forces component of the Women's Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps and 3,000 women in a new Citizen Military Forces component of the Women's Royal Australian Army was made by the Minister for the Army (Mr. Jos. Francis), recently. The proposal involved the formation of services in the Army to the Citizen Military Forces for the first time. (Besides a small number of Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps personnel, the duties) was a recognition that women were no longer mere auxiliaries, but an essential part of any Army in peace or war.

Mr. Francis said they were needed for the home base organisation to release men for service in field units andcaptioned during the last war, of filling many posts in the administrative sections of overseas forces.

Except for a small number of nursing and medical personnel, the 10,000 members of the Australian Army were disbanded in 1946, he said, leaving it with only 1,300 women on whom could be based the expansion that might be required for women as well as for men in the cause of war.

The new Citizen Forces component of the Women's Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps would enable them to be incorporated and trained medically, and attached to hospitals and casualty clearing stations, in which they are normally employed.

It would also enable in peace-time the allotment of female personnel to field ambulances, mobile surgical stations, and provide a trained nucleus for expansion of the Citizen Military Forces in the event of a war. Such an event, members of the corps could be employed in peace-time at the base and general hospitals and casualty clearing stations, whose war experiences normally include women.

For annual continuous training, the women's corps would be attached, if necessary, to camp hospitals so that additional facilities would not be required. For home training, they would use the facilities of the existing Citizen Forces Medical Training Depots.

Recently, approval was given to the Regular Army Component of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps to be established and raised to a strength of 15,000 women. Women required in peace as well as war. Raising the new Citizen Military Forces component of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps would provide a trained nucleus of women to meet the whole requirements of the Australian Army and enable them to expand rapidly to undertake service in an emergency.

In their second year, complete engagement orders of these women's corps would receive specialist training in the technical services of the Citizen Military Forces, such as a signal corps, working in common with their own corps, and in special emphasis on leadership and administration.

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H.M.A.S. Anzac, one of the Australian-built destroyers, during her speed trials in Bass Strait last year.

The Government has approved the construction of 14 seaplanes and major items of equipment will be ordered in the United Kingdom through the Admiralty. The oil-fuel lighter will be built in a private yard after a tender has been accepted.

One of the deap empire lighters will be built at Sydney and tenders will be called for the construction of the other at Fremantle.

Wherever possible, Australian materials, machinery and equipment will be used in the construction of the vessels. Machinery and equipment will be ordered from the United Kingdom only if it is not made in Australia, and the creation of the necessary potential for its manufacture would not be delayed because of the small quantity involved.

Statement by the Minister for the Navy.

16th Battalion Association

THE committee has arranged meetings well in hand for Anzac Day. It is proposed that "Old Sixteenth" will take part in the parade as usual, and they are recommended to all to be present at the House at the time stated in the Press.

It is probable that Charles Amiss and Dan Arons will be paying a special visit in order to take part, and ex members of the old unit are requested to turn out in force.

After the parade refreshments will be available to members, their wives and families at the usual place.

Congratulations to Bill Newing upon his selection as a representative of this State to attend this year's Anzac Day celebrations in New Zealand. Bill certainly has the qualifications and this Association has paid a great compliment by the way.

Bill will not be with us Anzac Day but everything will be done prior to his departure to ensure the show at the conclusion of the parade being a success. Jim Cutmore will be his deputy during his absence.

JIM CUTFMORE

Jack McMillan (No. 319) who is doing well at Clunes, Victoria, was recently in this State and took the opportunity of looking in at the monthly meeting. He was very appreciative of the good work being done and forwarded £5 towards the Association funds and promised £5 annually.

The Ladies committee caused quite a stir last meeting night when Mrs. Ketterer on her behalf presented Mr. Len Bebbington, on behalf of the Association, the sum of £20. This money was raised by the ladies through their own efforts and the gift is greatly appreciated.

While in 110 R.G.H. I had the pleasure of meeting Pat Briggs who was an original member of the Battalion. Pat was a Justice of the Peace, lives at 39 Cathedral-avenue, Geraldton.

It is with regret the deaths are announced of H. W. Dorrington, G. Doney, W. Cudmore and W. E. White and W. Ellick (14 R.G.H.). Our deepest sympathy is extended to their relatives and the item is to Charlie Blackemara on the death of his son.

JOIN THE NAVY, THE ARMY OR THE AIR FORCE

Enquire at the following without obligation: The Recruiting Centre in your city; your District Recruiting Committee or write to the Deputy-Director of Recruiting, G.P.O. Box XYZ, in your capital city.

Issued by the Director-General of Recruiting.
“Skittishness is the main trouble at the Chelsea Royal Hospital.”

(From R. J. T. HILLS.)

THE OLDBRIGADE

THE Temple of Youth should have been a fitting title for this article. Even the adjutant admits that skittishness is the main trouble in the Royal Hospital. Pensioners may be admitted at the age of 55, but boys of 55 are no longer at home. He has no master of arms to teach him, and need a deal of watching.

The newest recruit is a lad of 9. He drove up in a taxi, he did. Then he went out opened the door.

“D’you know what you’re doing, Jack,” said he. “Can you climb out?”

“Climb out!” sneered Jack. “Stand clear, sir,” and he sprang straight to the pavement.

William Nisbet holds the hospital record. Married for the second time as he reached his century, he eventually answered the call in 1732 at the age of 112. His portrait is at Chelsea, done in his 110th year. The glory of his scarlet coat is matched by the dauntless spirit of the broad word in his hand.

The hospital buildings stand on a ground said to have been built in 1681 by Nell Gwynne. Tradition, indeed, maintains that the whole scheme is copied from one of the ladies. Legend is sweet, and what good would we of London not everyone, although longs for the earl’s jack, eight of which are still preserved in the hall.

The warrant of Chelsea bears the date 1681. The R.S.M. described the raising of the necessary money.

“The Paymaster-General, Sir Stephen Fox,” he declared, “tapped some of the army funds and gave a good deal himself. The King put down about £7,000 had he put up his head, and there they were.”

The hospital was built, endowed, and put in good running order.

Chelsea’s beauty we owe to Sir Christopher Wren. There is a peaceful warmth in the building. The oak solidly the interior is as British as the men it houses. A very worthy shrine of valor.

Subsequent bequests have warranted extensions in the earlier scheme, notably the purchase of old Kianelagh Gardens. The word “charity” is unknown to the building of which the Army contributed largely. Every entrant must be an army pensioner. He hands over his pension, receives clothes, lodging, furniture, and pocket money, and lives on his sunny autumn in healthy independence and comfort. There are few restrictions. Every man may stay out until midnight, and every job of work is done paid for.

The ciphers, built in 16 long words, recall ships’ charts. They have doors and shutters, all in Windsor oak, and curtains that the pensioners may draw at leisure. The officers’ adjutant admits—shut him out when they get tired of his face.

“Army rations?” went on the same informant. “Bless you, no! Every member of a mess—15 men—gets his day for a ‘shunt’ then he draws up his idea of a diet sheet for some future day. They are rarelyCamperdown or in the same informant. “Army rations?” went on the same informant. “Bless you, no! Every member of a mess—15 men—gets his day for a ‘shunt’ then he draws up his idea of a diet sheet for some future day. They are rarely Camperdown or in the ten bob a pound.”

The eagle-cap badge of the Greys is among the best known by the Army. In the hall across the vestibule the Eagle of the 45th French Regiment holds pride of place. Above it is the portrait of the man who was its creator at Waterloo, Sergeant Ewart of the Greys. His sword rests by the door, the broad blade with which he was beathed at Poynson’s own command, its wielder having done enough for one day.

The Duke of Wellington lies in state in the hall. He, whose crooked nose the soldiers cheered and whom to this day they refer to as the last, and rested on a pensioner’s dining-room table. The pewter flag of the Crimea stands among the days of George II, engraved with the Royal Cipher. The old soldiers still have their plum puddings from them on Oak Apple Day and other festivals.

The Duke of Wellington is the home of war medals. There are some 100,000 at Chelsea. For three weeks in the summer the pensioner may go to Netley on holiday, and in his going he receives an extra sixpence a day as a playing allowance. It’s a great life at Chelsea.

And the wireless—I’d almost forgotten that. When the war's over, through the generosity of a newspaper, every cubicle was fitted with headphones, one grouser of the right old brand solemnly clamped them on his head and paced up and down the ward, shouting, “Can’t hear a darned word.”

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**SUB-BRANCH ACTIVITIES**

**Bedford-Morley Park**
TRUE to form and right on time at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, the sub-branch held another meeting with a one-year anniversary to the day after a recess of about six weeks. It was the third committee meeting held that day and it is a pleasure to report that every member was present at the beginning of time.

Feb. 11 saw the "general meeting night," when again it was a pleasure to see a large roll, including many of the new members. Harry Leivers had the hall ready for the meeting, and seating arrangements were just as good as ever. Our stewards (Ted Wales and Arthur Schenk) got on early with the refreshments on ice which really gave an added touch to get the hall ready.

The meeting opened at 8.30 p.m. with silence and reverence for the memory of the late King. Then followed a big effort by our president, Gwinn, to get into his harness to pull the club on to new heights of business, but in spite of a general co-operation of the members, it was felt that we could get "dismissed" for the lighter side of harmony.

Amongst the matters dealt with were: General finance, by Harry Leivers; Progress in membership, membership, membership, by Old Dumb; Development of the Memorial Driveway, by Jack Scurr; President, by Ted Haynes; War Memorial Drive, Women's Aux, report, by the Committee. 1952 set up by Fred Pearson; Youth Club, by Max Brinkworth; Arthur Mandlefield and Dick Tabbles gave further suggestion for the members' club and social night, and Jack Scurr went over offered greater efforts for the 4th Tuesday mixed social games and night.

**Busselton**
THE sub-branch decided at its last meeting to unanimously pledge its unswerving loyalty to Queen Elizabeth II. It was also decided to postpone its special Anzac Ball until June so that a greater number of members may attend.

**Canning**
THE annual general meeting was held on February 28, presided over by the president in chair. There were 22 members present.

The treasurer submitted the financial statement which was accepted with a very favourable report. The treasurer pointed out some items which he said were not clear and that the incoming year would show better results.

The resolution touched on all matters of the past year. The chairman thanked the executive officers and members for their support and touched on the various functions and social occasions of the year. The personnel, the Community, the social committee and hospital visiting.

**Gloucester Park**
ITS quite some time since—well, here we are again with a new scribe and bill of information mainly about our February meeting held on the 7th that last of a very busy month for us. Our stalwart Sam Hatton received a precious service medal for 15 years of faithful service by the late Professor Harold Wright, who, by the way, is back in the chair this year. All in all, a good meeting and a very successful evening—although there were still numerous spare seats.

We were honoured with the esteem of the visiting representative Mr. Keenan, and our vice-patrons, Mr. Herb Graham and Dr. Palanack. An apology was received from Mr. J. P. Stratton, our patron, owing to a trip East.

All present enjoyed a real good night, special mention being necessary of the sumptuous supper provided by our ladies (excellent job they did). I think it is missed a grand tour; however, members are reminded that the sub-branch can provide refreshments available at 7.30, so prepare yourselves for A.R.M.S. restaurant style meals.

Your new committee is an energetic one and will, I am sure, be quite an asset this year. It is hoped to do some further developments to the change of meeting night to the first Wednesday of the month.

To sign off the sub-branch would like to send out a cheerio to all on the sick list, especially Fred Buxby who is having tough tussle at R.P.H.

**Gingin**
The annual meeting was held at the Gingin Hotel on the fourth Saturday in January for the purpose of electing officers for 1952. Miss Hope Rodenberger was appointed as the new Treasurer and Ray Shaw Secretary. This was a very good meeting and augurs well for the future. The retiring officers did not seek election for business reasons, but assure us of their support at all times.

Our new secretary, Ray Shaw, is a brother of George who held the reins during the war years and did an excellent job in holding the sub-branch together. He is well deserving of mention as they were through a very lean period in 1950. The very good job in putting the sub-branch back on its feet is very much appreciated. Dr. Palmer took over the position from Dr. Hatton. He is also very much appreciated. We look forward to a successful year for the sub-branch.

**Forrestfield**
The annual elections resulted in the following being elected:


We were pleased to see Alf Loos, who entertained all to new ideas, and we hope to see all our old friends changing his crowns soon. We have had a reduction in last year's balance of 40 per cent, chiefly due to the little collection of subscriptions, donations and legacies.

However, the sub-branch has never been more united and we are glad to get together members and their friends.

Don't forget March 21 is ladies' night; we would like a special effort for this occasion.

**Gutha**
The late secretary, E. A. Mathews, passed away on January 16 from heat stroke. He had suffered badly from heart trouble for several years.

He first came out to W.A. in 1913. Returning to England he was in the Navy and served in France.

He returned to W.A. in 1923, working in the district for several years before taking up land.

A great worker for the league, he held office for two years. He resigned, taking up again four years later, and he was secretary up to the time of his death.

He was very popular and he held the Certificate of Merit and had made a life member of the league.

He had to give up farming in later years, leasing his property and taking up a lighter job with M. Tobin at the store. He would be greatly missed by the sub-branch and will be greatly missed by all those whom he was always willing to help.

**Manjimup**
MEMBERS of the Manjimup management committee stood in silence at the opening of the meeting, memorializing the president (Mr. R. M. Gallant) who made reference to the tragic death of a beloved monarch.

Members were also asked to remember in silence the passing of an ardent member of the sub-branch, Mr. Ferrand Davie, whose death occurred recently at Busselton. He was a member of the club for many years and his capacity as vice-president and often called upon to take over the chairmanship in the absence of the chairman in the early days of its activities.

Though the information was conveyed, the sub-branch sine the meeting time, members expressed pleasure that the action in having the living allowance of pensioners increased by 2/6 weekly and their weekly allowance of 2/6 was now brought up to 7/6 weekly.

The chairman of the sub-branch, Mr. Condon, was elected committee for consideration.

The Manjimup Motor Cycle Club has been invited to operate in the annual R.S.L. Easter Sports again this year.

**NAD JACK** CHURCHILL: the British Lieut.-Colonel who piped commandos ashore in Normandy during the war, has been invited to train Australia's new parachute unit. One of the most colourful characters, Lieut.-Colonel J. Churchill, D.S.O. and Bar, M.C., on an invitation of British Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill.

**Mosman Park**
WE, in common with all others, place our heartfelt thanks on the heads on February 15 in deep respect to our late King George VI and also for Queen Elizabeth II, and "We will remember him."

Our first meeting of the year was held on January 29. It was one of the best and the sub-branch business keenly contested and discussed. It is to be hoped that all our meetings will be supported by the members, as the Executive cannot operate without the support of the secretary and support of the members, and we can do nothing to help unless we have the members come along to the meetings — to remind you, the last Tuesday of the month. It has been decided this month to extend to include the interest in the meetings in varied ways, by lecture, films, and other activities.

Our annual picnic, "Ocean Cruised to Garden Island" was held on February 18, being a Day of Mourning. We have been fortunate in securing tickets for the trip, and the trip is scheduled for March 30. Tickets are available from committee members at the meeting, and the sale of tickets is limited to the capacity of the Wandoon, so

(Continued on next page)

**Mymulga**
THE annual general meeting was held on February 27, in the President's chair. There were 22 members present.

The treasurer submitted the financial statement which was accepted with a very favourable report. The treasurer pointed out some items which he said had been missed and hoped that the coming year would show better results.

The resolution touched on all matters of the past year. The chairman thanked

**NedJack**
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Mundaring and Districts

The annual meeting and reunion of this sub-branch was held in the rooms of the West End Hotel, Monday, January 28, with Mr. R. H. Rutherford (President) occupying the chair.

Only business of an urgent nature was dealt with so as to allow of Men's Messes holding their dinner. The evening proved a great success socially, and the harmony rendered was of a high standard, our visitors being the main contributors.

We were honoured with the presence of many guests, Mrs. M. H. H., W. P. Overbeek (members of the Branch), W. D. Owen, M. F. A., Miss Mitchell (our Local Board Member), the President, Secretaries and members of Glen Forrest Sub-Branch, the President and Secretaries of Durlington Midland Junction Sub-Branches and other visiting members who by the way failed to sign the register book, thus leaving no doubt as to the sub-branch they represented.

Special thanks are due to the Women's Auxiliary who were responsible for the sumptuous spread placed before us by Mrs. M. H. H., W. P. Overbeek, Miss Mitchell (our Local Board Member) and Miss C. G. B. (President). The food was delicious and a real treat.

The social committee has been negotiating and intend to have a special event for aggregate points in games for the twelve months. If this meets with success, it will be extended to include the regular members and games will include quoits, darts, tennis and cards.

We hope to have a good season in 1952 with our recruiting campaign, as we have six new members this year. We will continue to hold our regular meetings and will keep our members informed of all events.
SUB-AUXILIARY

IN PASSING.

We welcome the newly formed Kojonup Auxiliary to our ranks, and wish them a long and successful career.

DONATIONS.

West Ledaettie-Wembley: £3 Soldiers Scholarship Trust.
Wagon: £5 Hospital Visiting.
Carnamah: £5 War Memorial.

Katanning: £5 each.
Hospital Visiting, Legacy, State War Memorial; £15.
T.P.I. Partially Blinded, War Veterans, War Blinded.

Southern Cross: £5/4/0.
Saree: £2 each.

SUB-BRANCH OFICIALS

List of changes in sub-branch officials, passed by the State Executive on Wednesday, 6th March, 1952.

SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY

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ARMS MEDICAL UNITS ASSOCIATION—Room 22, Fifth Floor, Ode-
guss Buildings, Perth. 2nd Monday each month. President: Lt-Col. C. H. Lisk, Hon. Secretary: W. H. Rink, 26 Elizabeth Street, North Perth (Phone 1577).

ARTILLERY COMRADES—President: A. J. D. James, Railway Parade, Collie. One meeting per month. Secretary: A. S. McCormack, 1212 South Street, South Perth (Phone 3232).

AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION—Secretary: A. E. Evans, Box 1134, O.P.O., Perth.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meetings at the Institute, 2925 Tenth Avenue, East Fremantle, on the 4th Tuesday of each month. President: P. J. Quirk. Secretary: J. A. Quirk. Tel: 3385. Nook: 32 Great Eastern Hwy.


PARTIALLY BLIND AND BAY WINDOW VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meet at each president’s home. President: T. J. Mackay, 51 Hardy Street, Nedlands.


THE IMPOSSIBLE SERVICES ASSOCIATION—W.A.—A.O.P. (For-
merly the Navy Women’s Auxiliary). President: E. M. S. Smith, 82 Great Eastern Hwy, Nedlands (Phone 3232). Secretary: J. L. Norman, 57 Kenny Street, Bassendean. Tel: 3385. Nook: 32 Great Eastern Hwy, Nedlands (Phone 3232).


TALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION—Room 30, Fifth Floor, Goswell Buildings, Perth. 1st Anzac Day of the month at 7.30 p.m. President: F. W. Bird, 32 Connaught Street, South Perth (Phone 3385). Secretary: F. W. Bird, 32 Connaught Street, South Perth (Phone 3385).

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10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION—Annual reunion. Friday of Show Week: President: J. H. D. Young, 32 Great Eastern Hwy, Nedlands (Phone 3385). Secretary: R. W. Proctor, 22 Connaught Street, South Perth (Phone 3385).


17th A 3rd BATTALLIONS’ ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meet at Rail- way Institute, Wellington Street, Perth. First Sunday, President: F. J. Magowan, 15 Kensington Street, Perth. Secretary: A. Cole, 158 Sixth Avenue, Innangray (Phone 3385).

10th BATTALION & 4th BRIGADE ASSOCIATION—Committee meet- ings as notified. President: T. B. Critchlow, 38 Fifth Avenue, East Fremantle. Tel: 3385. Secretary: W. J. Nevin, 25th Street, East Fremantle (Phone 3385). Secretary: R. W. Proctor, 22 Connaught Street, South Perth (Phone 3385).


41st BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Annual reunion. Alice Show, President: B. G. White, 326 Elam Street, Victoria Park. Secretary: C. C. Brown, 326 Elam Street, Victoria Park (Phone 3385). Secretary: W. J. Nevin, 25th Street, East Fremantle.


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- DURABLE IN QUALITY
- COMPACT IN DESIGN
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