“Lest We Forget”

- The full text of the 1956 Perth Anzac Day address by the State President of the Returned Servicemen’s League (Mr. W. S. Lonnie).

Your Excellency, the Hon. Lady Gairdner, distinguished guests, members of the Forces, ladies and gentlemen:

On this, the 41st anniversary of the landing which stirred the world, it is pertinent to recall the words of a former Governor-General of Australia, the late Sir Isaac Isaacs, who, at an earlier Anzac anniversary, said:

"Once more Australia turns to Gallipoli. Not for their deeds on land or sea or in the air do we recall the first scene in the mighty epic drama in which atelier, Loyalty, and love are served in so many, and such heroic, parts.

"She stands on Anzac Day in reverential communion with those who have passed to the Great Silence, and for a few sacred moments let's take pattern of eternity as she glorifies their victory, but it is the victory of the spirit of honour, truth, loyalty and devotion to duty to King and country, over self and worldly gifts, over our losses and ambition."

"She builds a shrine to those who fell in her name, where for all time Australians may stand and hear their praise."

"Yet she does not account them dead while their example lives and speaks, for it is the force intangible that shall ever guide and sustain us in the path of duty, even though that should, on occasions, lead us to the steep and rugged hills of life's Gallipoli."

Peace and Quiet

This morning in the peace and quiet of a lovely Western Australian dawn, thousands gathered to pay their respects to those whose valour is ever commemorated in those noble structures of our State War Memorial.

The mystical chords of memory again reach out to the resting places of men and women of this State who lie in peace in far-away lands.

We are here to assemble to give public homage to those who fell, to set aside a brief moment of time to pause and thank those who by their sacrifice and duty, gave to us this land in which we live today.

In Australia, as a young and almost unknown nation, offered her services as a member of the great British Empire when the enemy assailed her.

A few short months later, on April 25, 1915, Gallipoli was again the scene, this time the birth of a nation, saw the entry of that young country into the nature of nationhood paid at a high price by the lives of many of her best and noblest sons.

Moving Experience

To those who have served, a parade of this nature is always a moving experience. That member of the Forces can ever march without thinking of those who were his mates in other days?

What member of any ship's company, any regiment, battalion, who has lived through the memory of those days, did not believe that his one component was the best in any group of the personnel on every passing day.

Today we recall, in proud remembrance, our countrymen who died in their service and the spirit of Gallipoli-Pozieres, Lone Pine, Monte Cassino, Romani, Gaza, Tobruk, Alamein, Greece, Crete, Syria, Kokoda, the Battle of the Atlantic, the Battle of Britain, Korea; and, as I speak, Australian forces are again in action in Malaya. Even if their forebears did not add any lustre to the traditions.

It is fitting, also, that we should pay tribute to those who have served in the South African War, and to those who have served in an earlier generation—to those veterans of that South African War who to-day are proud members of this parade.

So too, we pay our respect to our comrades in arms for ever—years to the men of the Royal Navy, the glorious regiments of the United Kingdom, the men of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force, and to our comrades in arms the New Zealanders, and to all of our gallant allies with whom we shared the fruits of victory.

"Today Australia" remembers in every city, town or village all over this broad land; a nation stands silent. She remembers those who answered the call, those who gave their tomorrow's that we may live today.

On this day, also, let us remember those in hospitals and sick cases, those who have paid a continuing price in pain and suffering for service rendered to our country. "Now let we forget the widows of those who served—to them only memories remaining.

It is our high responsibility to ensure that none of our children, or our children's children, through lack of knowledge or understanding, ever fall into the error that Australia and the Anzac spirit is a thing of the past.

Day's Significance

It is our duty also to inculcate into the young citizens who have come from abroad and become accepted members of our community, a deep understanding of this day and of its significance in our national history.

This day must never be permitted to become one of mere formality. Nevertheless, the purpose is engraved indelibly on the hearts of too many Australians to permit of this happening.

The price of a nation's freedom is high, but twice in our lifetime that price has been paid.

This land in which we live is one of the few places in the world where the answer to the cynics who ask: "Is it all worthwhile?" is "Yes, it's a shadow, our true substance."

But peace and prosperity lose their meaning unless we have national security, and today, to all, we must appeal to the spirit of pride in seeing on parade those young West Australians of our army and Royal Air Force.

So, too, we welcome the ship's company of H.M.A.S. Melbourne, the latest addition to Australia's fighting strength, and remember that Australia has just cause to be proud of her Navy, so young in years, so rich in achievement.

They Deserve Well

These young men and women of the services, Navy, Army and Air Force, deserve well of their country.

In their hands lies our security for the future, in their ranks are the leaders of tomorrow. In their keep the spirit and tradition of Anzac to which they carry on the soul of our people.

These things are of the physical, but it is not upon that alone that we can endure as a nation. The Anzac qualities of the spirit—that deep love for freedom, truth and justice—must be woven into the heart of our national structure if we are to keep Faith with those who died.

These men in whose honour we assemble have given to us and to our children a heritage of things both spiritual and material, a people free from fear and from want, a nation destined to be great in the councils of the world, a land whose broad and kindly boundaries will one day encompass a population of 40,000,000.

In the ever-changing pattern of world affairs, of the regrouping of national forces within the British Commonwealth of Nations, Australia plays a key role.

The challenge is clear and unmistakable. We must keep faith.

"If we break faith with those who died—We shall not sleep, Though poppies bloom in Flanders’ Field!"
Did They Forget The Veterans?

Despite high hopes for a very successful Street Appeal on April 27 it appears that the majority of metropolitan sub-branches have little interest in the wellbeing of our War Veterans' Home project!

Why? Because, had some women's auxiliaries not helped to collect on that day our helpers would have been from outside the League organisation.

Have these notes been appearing, month after month, without arousing some interest in this, one of the League's most important jobs?

To those men and women who collected or helped in any way on that day, goes our very grateful thanks, not only for the time they so freely gave, but for their obvious belief in the League's effort to provide a place of rest and sanctuary, at Faversham, for our elderly and infirm veterans.

On Sunday, April 22, 19, these veterans journeyed to Perth to be entertained by the C.T.A. Orchestra at Anzac House, where a feast of music was served to all who attended.

Unfortunately, despite publicity, the audience was disappointingly small. However, those who attended wholeheartedly voiced the opinion that the programme was a high-class one.

After the concert, the veterans were given high tea in the supper-room, after which they embarked for the return journey to York.

To the Highgate sub-branch members, who bore the cost of transporting the party from Faversham—especially Mr. Doug Dargie in whose hands these details were left—and the Highgate ladies for their provision of a sumptuous high tea under the able guidance of Mrs. King, our very grateful thanks for a job well done.

After the Anzac Day service at York the local sub-branch visited Faversham and provided refreshments, afternoon tea being provided and served by the York women's auxiliary.

The following Sunday a bunch of Public Service sub-branch members together with wives and children descended on Faversham, the men intent on carrying out some jobs of work—such as recovering canvas chairs, mending flywire screens, digging and pruning rose trees.

Their ladies, with equal determination, set about repainting large quantities of linen and provided afternoon tea, after which everybody, veterans and visitors, enjoyed some music and singing. A very pleasant and profitable day for all.

During the month of April, donations were received as listed below, and we extend our grateful thanks to all the donors:

Red Cross Society, Perth, tobacco and cigarettes.

Mrs. G. Butcher, Bruce Rope, clothing.

Bridgetown sub-branch, apples.


Highgate sub-branch, clothing.

State Exec. Women's Aux., curtains.

T. Clough, Faversham, £5.

The Mountbattens Laying A Wreath

Despite a packed itinerary for their Perth visit, Earl and Countess Mountbatten found time to lay a wreath on the State War Memorial during the afternoon of the day they visited Anzac House.

A feature of the handsome floral wreath was its series of Navy motifs—such as a sailor's knot, blue ribbon and a silken cord simulating a lanyard—formed under the direction of Mr. R. Farquhar-Beld.
LEAGUE VITALITY

INCREASED unit attendances and bigger crowds lining the route and cheering the marchers at Anzac Day this year, not only in the city—but at suburban and country ceremonies, were not the only sign of increasing interest in League activities.

REGIONAL conferences recently held in Wagin, Kalgoorlie, Mt Barker and Kalamunda, all indicated growing enthusiasm within the League.

CONGRESS, 1956, will again see one day given entirely to a special Land Section conference, owing to the increased number of "Land" agenda items.

NATIONAL projects, such as the East-West Highway and Unification of railway gauges, are receiving close attention from the League's Federal Executive, not only from the point of view of national economy, but also for defence matters.

STRONG representations at federal week have been made on the desirability of establishing a naval base or bases on the western coast of this continent.

MEMBERSHIP is steadily growing, thereby strengthening the voice of the League in all its representations, including pensions, housing, land settlement, defence, migration; all matters of vital importance to its members, both ex-service men and women and as good citizens.

"ETERNAL VIGILANCE," the League's motto is not an empty phrase.

INDIAN LAYS A WREATH

When passing through Perth on his return to his own country recently at the conclusion of his term as Indian High Commissioner in Australia, General K. M. Carliappa laid a wreath on the State War Memorial.

The ceremony was arranged (at his request) at short notice and was held in the early morning. At its conclusion the general addressed the Wardens of the Memorial, who were present and expressed his thanks for their co-operation. Included in the inscription on the wreath were the following words: "I lay this wreath on behalf of the Defence Services of India to honour our gallant comrades in arms."

Civil Training For Men From Malaya, Korea

Applications for re-establishment-training by ex-service men from the Korea or Malaya campaigns must be lodged within 12 months of their discharge.

This was stated recently by the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Cooper).

The Minister said that the closing date for applications from Malaya and those who had been discharged for more than 12 months was March 31 last.

War widows, he said, would continue to be eligible to apply for training within 12 months of their husband's death.

In no case would applications be accepted after December 31, 1959.

More Marchers This Year; And Many More Saw Them Pass

Including service and ex-service men and women there were 1,680 more on the Anzac Day parade this year than last.

Of the 7,655 persons in the parade on the Esplanade 600 were men from the Aircraft Carrier Melbourne.

There were also thousands more than last year lining the streets of the city to watch the procession. Comparative estimates are 20,000 for last year and 50,000 this year.

This was reported to the R.S.L. State Executive by Mr. J. Chappell.

Mr. Chappell said that an unusual feature was the great mass of people who had flowed down to the Esplanade immediately before the column of marchers. All thoroughfares from the city had been thronged and there had probably been such a surge of follo.wers for years.

At the Dawn Service the attendance, if anything, had been more than last year's estimates as there were at least two or three hundred more.

The lowest figures for the last 10 years were about 3000, and for a number of years to 1950 attendances had been consistently around that level.

Fewer Wreaths

This year 134 wreaths had been laid—fewer than last year. The State President (Mr. Lonnie) said that this year's observance had been very successful. Only the public reaction—the enthusiasm had been more marked than for some time.

Another encouraging factor was the large crowd of children present for the parade.

The arrangements for a very large parade had gone off without a hitch and resulted in a strong appeal to the State Secretary and his staff.

Mr. H. A. Leslie, M.H.R., said that for 20 years he had spent Anzac Day in the public eye and had covered over 600 miles and passed through about 30 municipalities in the State and his appeal was: "Let us face the facts. The most important thing to remember was that the international disaster which caused the deaths of those men was a battle through the neglect of the common people of the world."

Survivors of the conflict were witnesses of the price paid. They need not be afraid of a repetition of another war.
Confidence Placed In Sub-branch

Confidence in a “revival” by the Rockingham R.S.L. sub-branch was expressed in a recent report to the State Executive.

Mr. J. F. Milne, who with Mr. E. C. Townshend and Dr. K. W. H. Harris represented the executive at a meeting of the sub-branch on March 15, said that there was every hope for an improvement in its affairs.

The sub-branch president (Mr. Hilton) had expressed his intention of resigning on account of ill-health and the sub-branch had requested executive representation to help it solve its problems.

Mr. Milne said it had been resolved to call for nominations for the office of president at the April meeting of the sub-branch.

Mr. Townshend, who is a League trustee and who represented the State President, took the chair at the meeting.

Mr. G. W. Gordon, who attended the meeting as representative of the sub-branch on the State Executive, was complimented by Mr. Milne for his contribution to the proceedings.

League Body Seeks Minister’s Ear On Land Matters

The Number 1 District Committee of the R.S.L. at a meeting in Manjimup recently resolved to press for a deputation to the Minister for Lands (Mr. Hoar) to place before him suggestions for the improvement of the War Service Land Settlement scheme.

The committee also decided to seek representation from its own members on the department.

The matters it proposed to raise with the Minister were:

• That those decisions on problems sent by settlers to Perth be made by the board and not by individuals, should such a problem be addressed to the board.

• That written confirmation be given to the settler of all financial arrangements, farm works programmes, and livestock arrangements, not verbal as at present.

• That settlers on lease re-consider their year agreements within not later than thirty days after June 30 and December 31 respectively, whether the account will be met or not.

• That leases in cases where it is possible be issued within 30 days or reasons stated for delay.

• That the settler be allowed free trading with livestock where his initial herd is intact and committed current, as practised by stock firms.

• That settlement of accounts on “Orders to Pay” be made within the usual 30 days instead of the existing scheme, which takes anything up to six months, thus giving the settler interest on his overdue accounts with the firm concerned, and also maintaining a sound business relationship.

• That a body be set up to include at least one member of the R.S.L. to conduct an interview on the farms of all settlers, to study their existing financial set-up under the scheme, and to make a comparison of earning capacity under commitments and returns expected.

• That settlers during their assistance period, prior to going on lease, receive an amount more in keeping with present day costs, instead of the existing payment of $8 per week.

• That milking herds passed over to a settler be certified clean by the Department of Agriculture from a sanitary point of view.

• That when a property is finally valued the settler receives a detailed statement showing how the costs to the settler are arrived at, bearing in mind the section of the Act which reads: “The settler pays the cost of the valuation, which ever is the lesser.”

• That the price structure of remaining W.S.L.S. tobacco farms be examined as vacant and tobacco farms may be available to the public at prices ranging from £2,000, whereas the few remaining settlers are saddled with a debt of £8,000.

• That commitments be arranged with the settler tentatively, and be revived at the end of the season.

• That more than one officer present when assessments are made, preferably one member of the R.S.L. one bank valuator, and the settler.

• That more consideration be given to the type of farming that the settler must pursue in his district.

The District Headquarters Land Committee seriously consider a thorough enquirry into the existing scheme, with a view to a more equitable and trouble free basis.

For Congress?

The meeting agreed that the Bridgetown sub-branch should submit each of these suggestions as motions for Congress, in order to have them placed on the agenda if necessary.

The Manjimup sub-branch submitted a letter from the State Housing Commission regarding the allocation of rental homes. After discussion the meeting decided that the district committee through the State headquarters, endeavour to have regular lists of applicants and priorities made available for public scrutiny through the local governing body.

Wreaths Were Laid At Mt. Hawthorn

For their Anzac Day service members of the Mt. Hawthorn R.S.L. sub-branch fell in at 9.30 a.m. at Beulah Park and marched to the hall in honour of 16th Battalion (Cameron Highlanders) pipers.

The service commenced with a wreath-laying.

The Minister for Territories (Mr. Hulme) who represented the Commonwealth Government at the service, laid a wreath, as did the sub-branch president (Mr. J. Longbottom) and the Secretary of the sub-branch.

A wreath from the women’s Department was laid by Mrs. Longbottom.

Two children from the local school laid a wreath on behalf of their schoolmates.

Offering prayers were the Rev. Fisher, the Rev. Riden and Mayor O’Neill.
Farewell To The VC Party

At a reception at Anzac House just before their departure for London, West Australian VC winners and their wives received the good wishes of the League.

A feature of the reception was the handing over to each member of the party his quota of the appeal fund raised to assist eligible West Australians to attend the VC centenary celebrations in London.


The presence of the R.S.L. band on the whole has been arranged for their departure from Fremantle on Saturday.

All but Mr. Howell plan to return by the Orange leaving London on Monday as he is booked on the Strathmore sailing on July 24.

The R.S.L. State Secretary (Mr. Chappell) said recently that the subscription to the appeal had been subscribed to the appeal.

With a further £444/13/- promised by sub-branches the fund should finish with a total of £3,500, he said.

The contribution of sub-branches (and associated bodies) and unit associations had been as follows:

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Ex-naval Man Has Happy Memories

In connection with the League's membership drive the State President (Mr. Lowrie) has received the following letter from an ex-naval man in Victoria.

Dear Sir,—Received your circular dated October 10, 1955.

No doubt you will be glad to know that although I am not a member of the W.A. branch I am a full financial member in this State, in which I now reside.

When I left W.A. I went to Korea in the H.M.A.S. Batavia and served in those waters for nine months.

My wife is a Melbourne girl. I decided to settle here after being discharged from the Navy in 1934.

I have many happy memories of W.A. and some day I hope to return and renew the friendship I enjoyed while I was stationed at Fremantle.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. TIMMS.
17 Owen-street, Yarraville, Victoria.

Their Step Still Sprightly

Despite advancing years members of the 16th Battalion Association marched well on the Anzac Day parade in Perth this year.

The attendance of members, too, was well up to the standard of previous years.

Members were pleased to see Mr. Tom Tandy at their head again as marshal of the battalion.

Messrs. J. Cook and Arnold Poole and Becky, of South Australia, took part in the march.

After the march a pleasant little party gathered at the Railway Institute, where light refreshments were served by the women's auxiliary and the boys served at will over old times.

Jack Axford, V.C., was present and his friends wished him a pleasant voyage on his London trip.

Members were pleased to see Mr. Len Brickhill and he had a busy time acknowledging good wishes from his old mates.

Stolen Safe Had Little In It

A safe stolen from the Anzac Club recently had only £20 in it, the State Executive was told.

The loss to the club was fully covered by insurance.

For the transport of the safe a motor truck was backed on to the footpath at the main entrance to Anzac House.

Cropping Ventures Used In Financing Hall

Cropping ventures, bottle drives and donations all played a part in financing the R.S.L. Memorial Hall at Coorow.

The hall, which was opened in July of 1954, cost £2,465 to build, plus £170 for a septic system and £60 for the small building housing the electric light plant.

The land was purchased for £110.

At present there is a sum of about £300 owing on the hall.

Of cement block, and with a small porch in front, the hall consists of a hall, a ladies' room and a kitchen equipped with stove, stainless steel sink and built-in cupboards.

Residents of the district, as well as members of the Coorow-Waddi Forest sub-branch—which built it—are proud of the hall and consider it an asset to the district.

Members of the State Executive, who inspected the building in March, were loud in their praise of the sub-branch achievement.

They felt that it reflected great credit on the sub-branch which has only been in existence for about nine years and has never had a membership figure above 37.

The auxiliary furnished the tennis table, raising about £1,000 by its own efforts for the purpose. It supplied a tanned leather and stool, and about 70 chairs for the hall.

The windows are covered with venetian blinds of pastel green, and the kitchen is well equipped.

The hall also paid £150 for the lighting plant.

Wills Made In The Army

A will made in the army is valid provided there is no subsequent change in the marital status of the testator.

A legal marriage invalidates any prior will.

This was the answer given at a recent R.S.L. State Executive meeting by Mr. R. J. Stoddart to a query on the validity of wills made in the Army.

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An Army Marches on its Stomach

"An Army marches on its stomach." So, the story goes, said Napoleon, as his victorious forces swept through Europe.

His statement is equally true today when applied to "armies" of militia, workmen or clerks.

At Shell's Geelong refinery an international "army" of 1,250 workmen is putting the finishing touches to roads and final units of this £27,500,000 project.

To provide energy for the heavy work involved, meal menus are carefully selected by the catering manager. Each man receives about 4,000 calories daily.

All the foodstuffs — both canned and fresh — are of the best quality and individual tastes are catered for, wherever possible.

SHELL believes that high quality catering is a most important amenity, as the welfare of the staff is one of the company's foremost considerations.

Regional Conference For Broome Mooted

The R.S.L. State Executive is examining the possibility of conducting a regional conference at Broome later this year.

In view of political developments overseas the desirability of holding such a conference was quite evident, the State President (Mr. Lonnie) said in a statement to the Press.
A Proud Guard Of Honour For The Mountbattens

Britain's First Sea Lord (Admiral Earl Mountbatten) and Countess Mountbatten enjoyed their recent visit to Anzac House quite as much as the many hundreds of League members and friends who crowded the ballroom for the occasion.

In letters received by the League within a few days of their departure the distinguished visitors expressed their deep appreciation of the warmth of the reception to them.

Earl Mountbatten is pictured here with Countess Mountbatten (partly obscured by the husband's left) inspecting the League Guard of Honour comprised of over 100 presidents and secretaries of the sub-branches throughout the State—one guardman representing a sub-branch some 1,400 miles distant. The State President (Mr. Lonnie) is seen standing immediately behind Earl Mountbatten, and the Guard Commander (Col. E. Mitchell) at the left of the picture.

At the reception both Earl and Countess Mountbatten addressed the gathering and were afterwards introduced to many of those present by Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie.

In the afternoon the distinguished visitors laid a wreath at the State War Memorial.

Hand Of Friendship Should Check Seeds Of Mistrust

A proposal for State branches of the League to assist in the formation of an R.S.L. native auxiliary in Papua-New Guinea is calculated to be the best counter to elements of subversion known to be at work there.

Reporting to the State Executive on the recent Federal Executive meeting in Canberra the State President (Mr. Lonnie) said that the proposal was for State branches to find about £200 each.

The money would be used to finance the building of huts—adjacent to the R.S.L. clubrooms—to serve as headquarters for a native auxiliary.

Mr. Lonnie said the suggestion had been made by the president of the Papua-New Guinea State branch (R. Bunting) and the Federal Executive that there were more than 2,000 natives who had served with Australian troops during the war who were not eligible for League membership.

Actually there had been some attempts to disqualify them, but they were extremely loyal and would receive a tremendous inspiration from any League gesture made on their behalf.

Mr. Lonnie in his report said that news of a tangible contribution of goodwill and friendship such as that proposed would travel like a flash through the territories.

The State Executive referred the question to its Finance committee.

Pensions Plan

Reporting on other matters dealt with at the Canberra meeting Mr. Lonnie said that the major item was the finalising of the League's Pension Plan and its submission to the Federal Cabinet's Repatriation sub-committee.

The League delegates had reported a most sympathetic hearing from six ex-service members of the Cabinet.

Representations had been made in respect of all types of pension but there had been no indication of what the Government's reaction would be.

The Federal Executive had asked for the setting-up of a research organisation into dermatitis. It had also decided to press for the modernising of repatriation hearing aids.

Western Australia had asked for an increase in the grant made in respect of funeral expenses.

During a discussion of the Benefit of the Doubt clause in repatriation cases New South Wales had asked for a definition of the term and a further explanation of its operation.

The Federal President (Sir George Holland) had wanted a national League journal, the States had not been in favour.
Anzac Day Memorial Unveiling

The Anzac Day parade at Kenwick was the occasion for the unveiling of the new Kenwick War Memorial by Mr. S. A. McNamara, of the R.S.L. State Executive.

Mr. McNamara dedicated the structure in memory of those who gave their lives. An impressive monolith, the memorial carries The Cross, the Rising Sun badge and the three important words "Let Us Remember." It was built entirely with volunteer labour.

"A sub-branch that still has work to do is a happy one," said Mr. McNamara in his address. The setting and attaining of objectives was the one way of inspiring the younger generation with the spirit of Anzac.

The parade for the ceremony was formed up at the junction of Kenwick-road and Railway-road, and joined by members of the Maddington sub-branch for the march to the memorial.

The marchers were led by the Gosnells Salvation Army Band headed by Major Preston, of Perth.

The Kenwick sub-branch president (Mr. V. Stevens) introduced Mr. McNamara.

Other speakers were Mr. Byas, representing the Maddington sub-branch, and Mr. C. P. Wild, MLA.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Kenwick and Maddington sub-branches and the R.S.L. Women's Auxillary, as well as by many private persons.

The commemoration service was conducted by Lieut. Ferrier, of Gosnells.

Veterans At Geraldton Dawn Service

About 130 veterans were among those who attended the Dawn Service at Geraldton this year.

The service was followed by a sub-branch breakfast comprising fish, coffee and milk with a stiffener.

The cooks for the occasion were Brad Finlayson, Ron Smith and Jim Buckle. Brad had journeyed from Perth to "save the bacon." The afternoon parade was one of the best ever held, with the public in record attendance.

The ceremonial placing of the guard was impressive and a credit to the sergeant of the local C.M.F. and the Able Sgtnorjor (Bill Lilley). In the march down to Birdwood House, the guard led the parade followed by the band.

The ex-service men, local units, cadets from St. Patrick's College and Geraldton High School Boys and Girl Guides all participated.

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Official Visits

Official visits were made by the State President (Mrs. Stockman) and Secretary (Mrs. Ames) as follows:
April 15: Carlisle sub-branch birthday party.
April 14: R.S.L. reception to Lord and Lady Mountbatten at Anzac House.
April 21: C.H.I. (Mrs. Stockman with Messdames Young, Sanderrot and Cottril).
April 28: Diggers' Tea at Anzac House.

Fund-raising Keeps Waroona Women Busy

Fund-raising for approved purposes, and catering for social occasions including donations for the Anzac Waroona-Hamel R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary, busy in recent months.

Proceeds of £18.10s. 0d. from a street-market and raffle conducted by the auxiliary in December were donated to the Medical School Appeal.

A cabaret conducted on New Year's Eve yielded £47, half of which was donated to the Courtly of Waroona Trust Fund and half to the sub-branch.

A payment of £27.10s. 6d. to the Courtly fund included a donation of £4 from the orchestra.

The auxiliary catered for the R.S.L. reunion in February and Anzac Day on April 28.

As well as it has catered for several weddings, and is finding time and comfort of those of its members on the sick-list and to the war veterans at Faversham.

The auxiliary has lost some members to other districts, but has acquired some new members.

Nominations Received

Nominations for the office of State President of the R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary on behalf of Messdames S. V. Stockman and W. Brown have been received; nominations on behalf of Messdames G. Randall and M. Mortimore have been declined.

The nomination of Mrs. J. F. Ames for the office of State Secretary has been accepted.

Women's Auxiliaries Sub-branch Donations

The following list of donations from R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary sub-branches has been released by the State Secretary (Mrs. J. Ames):

Como: Faversham War Veterans Home.
Cooroora: Faversham.
Brookton: Red Cross, £20.
Hampton Hill Central: Red Cross, £10.
Fyshwick: £2, V.C. Fund, £1/1/.
Lake Grace: Red Cross, £10.
Mt. Barker: Hospital-visiting, £25; Medical School Appeal, £6/10/.
Meckering: V.C. Fund, £1/1/.

North Beach: Red Cross, £2/2/;
Glengadouk comforts, £1/1/.
Riverton: Red Cross, £1/1/.
Swan View, Greenmount: Red Cross, 5/.
Trayning-Yelbup: Fotherham, £10; V.C. Fund £2/2/.
Wundowie: Faversham, £2/2/.
Yarloop: Faversham, £1/1/.
Bridgetown: Red Cross, £3/3/.

Girls Take Extended Anzac Role

Choristers of the Perth Girls' School were given a bigger role this year for the Anzac Day service on the Esplanade.

One of the additional items was a reading from "O Valiant Hearts." After the parade the League State Secretary (Mr. J. C. Chappell) praised the girls' performance. It had been felt that the gathering would like to hear more of them, he said, and they seemed to make a deep impression on their audience.

Another feature of the observance this year, Mr. C. T. G. Allen, that had been the double-spread advertisement appearing in the morning paper.

The advertisement, which was a simple tribute to the day, was a voice to the man and woman who had been paid for 15 city firms. Their gesture was greatly appreciated by the League.

‘Relief was wonderful’

JAMES H. SHARROCK, 294 Butler Bay Road, Carlingbah, writes: 'Up till this last twelve months I frequently got one cold after another which used to put me to bed for days. A friend advised me to try Bex Powders which I did and the relief was wonderful. Whenever I feel a sniffle or a shiver coming on, I immediately take one Bex Powder and I can assure you I am as right as ever next morning. I advise Bex to all I come in contact with.'

Keep free from colds this simple way

The best way is to begin taking Bex at the first sign of a cold and with the bedtime dose have a hot lemon drink. By morning all symptoms will have gone and you will have saved yourself a nasty nine days. If you've already allowed a cold to get a hold on you, go to bed and take Bex to relieve the aches and pains and reduce the fever. In severe cases, of course, seek for your doctor.

For bronchial ailments see a doctor

Bex is not a treatment for bronchial troubles—these require your doctor's expert advice. But for the aches and pains so often associated with such ailments Bex brings prompt and comforting relief.

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Anniversary Night At Victoria Park

Wednesday, May 23, is the date of this Year's celebration of the Victoria Park sub-branch's annual Anniversary Night.

The occasion is a highlight on the sub-branch calendar - the night on which it celebrates the building of its own home; the night it presents the Gurney Shield to the best worker for the year.

All members are being urged to be present with their families and their friends.

At the April meeting of the sub-branch, with an average attendance, delegates to Congress were nominated.

A new member (Mr. Harry Stone, formerly of Carnarvon) was welcomed.

The meeting was rounded off with a film-screening by courtesy of the Department of Agriculture.

This was the first of a series of moves planned to brighten-up the meetings.

The sub-branch was well represented at the Anzac Eve function in the Roof Garden at Anzac House, quite a few members being Gallipoli veterans (the guests of honour). They met men they had not seen for years.

The sub-branch reports that Mr. Harold Crofts is now well on the mend.

A piano 'cover' has been provided by the women's auxiliary.

Benefits For Former Fighting Men

The State branch of the League has been notified of the following special benefits for persons who served in Japan and Korea:

A member is entitled in respect of service in Korea after June 26, 1950, or in Japan in support of units in Korea after April 28th, 1952, to the following benefits:

(a) Repatriation benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Repatriation Act and regulations.
(b) Re-establishment and re-employment benefits as prescribed in the Re-establishment and Employment Act, Part XI, inserted by Act No. 48, of 1951.
(c) Operational deferred pay.
(d) Special Leave provisions.
(e) Exemption from income tax and social services contributions as prescribed by the Income Tax and Social Services Contributions Assessment Act, 1936-37.
(f) Assistance under the War Service Homes Act, 1918-54.
**Upper Swan Memorial Dedication**

"The Swan Valley has been the scene of an historic event but it is doubtful if it has witnessed anything more important than that which is taking place today in this most beautiful portion of the valley."

The State President (Mr. Long) had these words to say at the Upper Swan on Saturday, April 21, on the occasion of the dedication of a memorial to those from the district who gave their lives in the World Wars I and II.

The ceremony was the culmination of many years of work and planning by the Ex-Services and various patriotic organisations.

The memorial, which is in the form of a large iron gate with the names of the fallen inscribed on it, has been erected outside the R.S.L. Memorial Hall in Fitzgerald Street.

**Many On Parade At Northam**

The Northam Anzac Day parade this year was one of the best the town has had for many years. Shortly after 9 a.m. troops, bands, and members of the public generally started assembling in Fitzgerald Street. The parade was a great success and was a fitting tribute to the brave men who gave their lives in the service of their country.

**Move For Dock At Fremantle**

The West Australian branch of the League is about to move again for the construction of a major dock in the Fremantle area. The State President (Mr. Long) said this recently.

The question would be raised in the Federal Parliament with a view to securing a League approach to the Commonwealth Government, he said.

Adequate repair-facilities in this State would contribute materially to Australia's defence.
In Peace and War!

New Premises At Inglewood

The Bedford-Morley Park sub-branch passed a milestone in its progress recently when the official opening of its new premises at 388 Beaufort-street, Inglewood.

Officiating at the ceremony was the State President (Mr. Lonnie) who was accompanied by Mrs. Lonnie.

Included in the official party were the State president of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary (Mrs. Stockman), the State secretary (Mrs. Haymes) and Mr. White of the R.S.L. State Executive.

A large gathering at the function showed its appreciation of the initiative of members in acquiring the premises freehold and carrying out renovations.

An enjoyable social followed.

At the annual general meeting of the sub-branch in February Mr. W. Moore was re-elected president and Mr. Bert Walton was elected secretary.

Mr. Walton said the sub-branch doors were being kept wide open for new members.

It was unanimously decided to confer life-membership of the sub-branch on Mr. Harry Levers for the hard work done by him.

---

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FAITHFUL, S. V., A.A.M.C., 2nd AACS., Bassendean.
FAITHFUL, E. M. H., 28th Bn., Rockingham.
FOX, W. J., 44th Bn., Perth.
GIBSON, W. N., 28th Bn., Belmont.
GOYD, W., 2/7th Ft. Amb., Scarborough.
HANNAN, J. J., 3rd MCS., Toodyay.
HERNS, A., C.F., Victoria Park.
HOLLAND, G. J., 33rd Bn., Applecross.
HOLLAND, J. D., 2/4th Ind. Bn., Armadale.
HUTCHINSON, I. O. L., 12th L.P., Claremont.
PALANDRI, D. J., Dr., 2/7th Ft. Amb., Kalgooorie.
ROWAN CLEMENT, 2nd TUN., Victoria Park.
RUSSELL, Walter, A.S., Claremont.
SWAN, W. F., West L'ville.
SYMONS, H. W., 11th Bn., Northam.
TRELOAR, N., 2/2nd Fld. Amb., Bridgetown.
WALL, J. L., 4th M-Gun Bn., Kalgooorie.
WARD, S. E., 3rd Bn., Fremantle.
WILLIAMS, D., 2/2 A.F.W./shops, Nungarin.
ZAMPATTI, J., 10th A.O.D., Public Service.

Unique Asset Claimed
For Yokine Members

The Yokine sub-branch claims the only floating hall in the country—floating on a swamp when the rains come.

At least, runs the claim, it will be floating this winter if nothing is done to prevent it.

In a letter to Anzac House the sub-branch president (Mr. E. W. Newton) said the land, which was "almost in the middle of a swamp," had been donated many years ago when the abundance of trees had absorbed the water not taken care of by the drains.

Surrounding civic development had set a new problem which the committee was actively engaged in exploring.

Mr. Newton reported a happy spirit at sub-branch meetings, with new members steadily coming in. On March 19 the first "Big 4" competition was played by Yokine winning. The success had been due in no small measure to the efficient "tagging" of the dart board by Frank Wilkinson and Jimmy Bell, and the clever and deliberate scoring by Stan Veitch and others.

Bert Dullard—on a trip overseas—had been missed in the table tennis and quoits.

Much hilarity at meetings was provided by Arthur Couthwaite. Also by "Big Tom" Johnston.

Mr. Newton said he was particularly pleased at the way the members were rallying around and assisting Yokine in all new lease of life, which augured well for the coming year.

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McKinlay Shield Games
Round 9.

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Round 10

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Business Before Pleasure At Walpole Gathering

A business meeting of the Walpole R.S.L. sub-branch immediately preceded its recent well-attended social evening.

The business dealt with centred on the election of office-bearers for the coming year, which had been deferred at the annual general meeting of the sub-branch.

The election result was as follows:

President, Mr. H. Hardy (re-elected for third term of office), vice-presidents, Messrs. J. C. H. Thompson, S. P. Sweeney (re-elected), L. N. Worthington, secretary, Mr. E. E. Walsh, and treasurer, Mr. W. Driver. Also, a number of committee members were appointed.

During the evening a buffet supper was served. Of special note was a perfectly cooked turkey, donated, cooked and carved by Mr. W. Driver, of Hazelmere. It was also on the menu were mutton savouries and a wide assortment of cakes, the latter being supplied by the women's committee.

Among those present were representatives from Walpole, Nornalup, Tingley and Hazelmere, Mr. and Mrs. H. Driver, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Driver, who attended the function.

16 Sub-branch Delegates At Hall-opening

The official opening of the Darling Range R.S.L. Memorial Hall at Kalumunda on Saturday, May 5, was attended by delegates from 16 neighbouring sub-branches.

Seventeen members of the sub-branch were present.

There was also a wreath-laying ceremony at the front of the hall.

The conference was followed by a social evening in the hall.

During the afternoon the chairman (Mr. R. Owen, MLA), and members of the Darling Range Road Board held a civic reception for the visitors.

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**Nominations Due At South Perth**

Nomination of office-bearers will be taken at the next meeting of the South Perth sub-branch to be held in the Swan Street Hall on May 24.

The president (Mr. J. B. Walmsey) and members are hoping for a strong management committee for the coming year.

The sub-branch has a number of trophies to be competed for during the winter months, and the committee plans to organise and circulate members on meeting-nights to participate in the various games.

Mr. Colin Sangster has donated a very nice cup to be competed for annually as the Champion of Champions trophy.

New sporting gear has been purchased.

On Thursday, June 14, the sub-branch is holding a social evening to which members and their friends are being invited. The attendance at the local Anzac Day parade was probably a record. The four local sub-branches, the Wesley College cadets, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, women’s auxiliaries and the Municipal Council were represented on the parade. Wreaths were laid on their behalf and by relatives of the Fallen.

Boy Scouts mounted guard on the War Memorial overnight on Anzac Eve.

The sub-branch reports several outstanding subscriptions.

**13th Brigade Command Change**

The recent change in command of the 13th Infantry Brigade, C.M.F., gave rise to an informal reception at Anzac House last month.

The guests of honour were the retiring Commanding Officer (Brig. A. W. Butrose) and his successor (Brig. J. C. Newbery).

Proposing their toasts the R.S. L. State President (Mr. Lonnie) referred to their fine service records and their continued service in the Commonwealth Military Forces since the war.

They had contributed materially to the successful reorganisation of the Headquarters group of the C.M.F., Mr. Lonnie said.

Their co-operation with the League had been exemplary.

The Brigadier thanked the gathering for the compliment paid them and wished the League every success in the future.

Brig. Newbery was recently appointed honorary aide-de-camp to the Governor-General (Sir William Stiles) in succession to Brig. Butrose, whose term of office had expired.
Midland Had Big Anzac Parade

Midland Junction had one of the largest gatherings in years for the Anzac Day parade and service this year.

Servicemen of two world wars and Korean veterans, together with numerous Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, school cadets, Primary and High School children, assembled at the local railway station for the start. Also in the parade were members of the local Volunteer Brigade and the St. Johns Ambulance in full uniform.

Sharp at 2.45 p.m. (Andy) Scotty Muir, the parade marshal, moved the parade off for the service in the Town Hall to the music of the Salvation Army Band.

The parade this year was headed by sub-branch members Tom Griggs (carrying the Australian Flag), with the local president (W. J. H. Lamb) and the secretary (Harry Kynaston) as escorts. It was very pleasing to the local committee to see such a wonderful gathering on parade and also at the Town Hall service.

R.S.L. Ball At Walpole Was Popular

The Easter ball organised by the Walpole R.S.L. sub-branch for this year was its best-attended function for some time.

Numerous visitors to the district as well as residents from a wide area were present. The music was provided by Mr. C. Cooper (saxophone) and Miss C. G. Cooper (piano). Apparently the music was much to the dancers' liking, for the floor was well patronised and dancers were the order during the evening.

Following supper, Mr. H.广告, president of the sub-branch, thanked the gathering for their attendance and also specially thanked those women who had assisted in the supper room.

Numerous dances were organised during the evening and the winners were: Monte Carlo, Mary Jones and Carolynne, waltz dance; Dave Amery and Miss Patby Burton, on the stage with the local sub-branch executive were Mr. Roy Greenham of the State Executive, Mr. J. Brady, M.L.A., and Mrs. Brady, the Maryborough branch (Mr. and Mrs. W. Doney) and representatives of the Salvation Army and the Salvation Army Band.

The Last Post and Reveille were sounded, and the laying of wreaths followed. The address was given by Captain McAdam, of the Salvation Army, Church representatives present assisted both in prayer and song. The Salvation Army Band accompanied the singers. The sub-branch has expressed its appreciation of representatives of the different organisations responsible for so large a muster for the march. After the service the usual gathering took place at the R.S.L. rooms where refreshments were enjoyed.

Sub-Branch Approach To Children

At their Anzac Eve schools broadcast service this year children living in districts were addressed by a representative of the local R.S.L. sub-branch.

This year, in accordance with an official circular from League headquarters seeking the co-operation of sub-branches in the service, the League feels that with the right approach to children the sanctity of Anzac Day should be in safe hands.

The Bellevue sub-branch conducted an impressive Anzac Day ceremony at the Mechanics' Institute, the Coastal Scottish Pipe Band heading the march from the sub-branch rooms.

The service was led by the Rev. Quinlan. Special guests included Mr. K. H. McLean, Mr. J. Walters (both of the State Executive), and a wreath was laid by representatives of the women's auxiliary and private individuals.

Following the sounding of the Last Post and Reveille the sub-branch president delivered the address, expressing a hope that Anzac Day would always be observed with due reverence and remembrance.

At the march past the salute was taken by Capt. K. Campbell.

Anniversary Celebration Postponed

The 44th Battalion Association social to have been held on June 6 in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the battalion's going into action overseas has been postponed.

The committee, to honour the anniversary at the association's annual reunion to be held on the Monday of Show Week, has been reported by the secretary of the association (Mr. H. H. S. Browne). Mr. Browne said that members of the association had turned out in greater force than usual for the Anzac Day parade.

Among those who had noticed were Messrs. Ben Bryant, "Brick" Hanton, Bill Eddy, Toronitz and J. Pettit. Bill Hunt and Andy Boland had also turned out but had not marched. Another stalwart on parade was Alf Guy.

Birdwood House Packed For R.S.L. Reunion

Seating accommodation in Birdwood House was taxed to capacity on the occasion of the annual reunion dinner of the Geraldton R.S.L. sub-branch recently.

The president (Mr. J. Denman) presided at the function. In addition to a number of members of the Northampton Upper Chapman sub-branches four members of the State League Executive, Messrs. D. A. McDonald, L. Lowe, J. B. White and L. Mendrick were present.

The Mayor of Geraldton (Dr. J. McAlcare), Messrs. W. H. Sewell, M.L.A., and L. Logan, M.L.C., and the Chairman of the Geraldton-Greenough Road Board (Mr. E. K. Doncon) were also in attendance.

A lengthy toast list was interspersed with a variety of musical and vocal items, the artists comprising Messrs. Allen Terrie, Angelo Zaina, Charles Dimario and Bill Littlewood. Catering was carried out by the local women's auxiliary.

Mr. Denman submitted the Toast to the Ladies and then proposed the health of those present, at the same time apologising for the absence of a very active committee man in Mr. Fred Ruddick who entered hospital that morning.

Proposing the toast of the sub-branch, Dr. McAlcare said that although some time ago a charge of apathy had been laid against it there was no evidence of lack of interest that night. The movement in Geraldton was undergoing a rapid rejuvenation, he said.

The League had worthily upheld the ideals of international goodwill and peace. Its members had experienced the stark horrors of war and were doing wonderful work in advancing the aims of the league.

Numerous speeches were followed by an interchange of reminiscences.

Notice among old stalwarts were Messrs. Bert Locke, Jim Russell, Sid Griffiths, Arthur Milford, Stuart Mills and Percy Morrell.

A sum of £35/10 was collected during the evening as a donation to the V.C. centenary appeal fund.

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