V.C.s. Remember Their Welcome To W.A.

The welcome extended by the West Australian branch of the R.S.L. to Eastern States members of the Victoria Cross centenary celebrations contingent who passed through Fremantle on the liner Arcadia recently has gone on to the record in glowing terms.

In a letter to the Federal Secretary of the League (Mr. J. C. Neagle), Mr. Laurie McCarthy, V.C., said:

On arrival at Fremantle the local R.S.L. turned on a reception for the whole team that could only come from West Australia. I am sure, in fact we are all sure, Sydney and Melbourne have never come up to such wonderful hospitality as was turned on by the R.S.L. West Australian branch.

The ladies and the men are still talking about their kindness to them, and I am sure that the team on the Arcadia will be a credit to the R.S.L. of Australia.

A letter received by the State Secretary (Mr. J. Chappell) from Mr. Joe Maxwell, V.C., reads:

On behalf of the V.C. fellows from the Eastern States I would like to express through you our deep appreciation and our personal thanks for the wonderfully warm welcome the executives of the Western Australian branch of the League and the members of the Perth and Fremantle R.S.L. clubs extended to us during our brief stay in your prosperous and picturesque cities of the West. It was indeed a happy event in our lives, and one that both we and our womenfolk will always cherish.

Particularly, we will remember executive members of the W.A. board Mr. Ralph J. Stoddart, Messrs. Harry Stenbury (Fremantle), Les Bartley, Charles Bissett (Fremantle Club) and Keith Harris of the State Executive, Perth.

We shall join up with the V.C. contingent in London and convey to them a little of the warmth of the hospitality we enjoyed in their home State.

League Given Replica Of Memorial

A replica of the South African War Memorial statue in King's Park is to be placed in Anzac House. This was decided by the R.S.L. State Executive recently.

The executive was told that the authorities of the Perth Public Library, where the statue was housed, were looking for a new home for it because of structural alterations to the library building.

The State President (Mr. G. M. Lorrie) said he thought the statue could well become a symbol of the mutual service on which the League had been founded.

Hospital Treatment For War Widows

A war widow may be admitted to a repatriation hospital for treatment provided she is not suffering from a chronic illness and provided there is a hospital bed available.

Admissions of war widows to repatriation hospitals are made under what is virtually a concession by the Minister for Repatriation.

The chairman of the R.S.L. Repatriation sub-committee (Dr. R. F. Greenham) said this at the State Executive meeting on June 26 in reply to a question by the Acting State President (Mr. E. O. Davies) as to the conditions under which a war widow is entitled to be admitted for treatment at such hospitals.

Mr. Davies had said that the North Perth women's auxiliary had raised the question following refusal of admission to the Hollywood Hospital of a young war widow whose husband had been killed in action.

Dr. Greenham said that admission was refused in cases of chronic and incurable disease where hospitalisation would make no difference to the condition.

Where beds were not available for otherwise eligible, it was by repeated pressure of war widows neither the Reserve nor the Repatriation Department nor in many instances, the Commonwealth Government.
**Anzac Day And Outside Influences**

The question of what form the observances of Anzac Day should take must remain within the province of the State—on which the only body entitled to decide the question.

Mr. Frank Etsary said this and referred to the State Executive on its meeting on July 4th, which he attended by invitation.

A member of the Sevice (Victoria) sub-branch Mr. Etsary said that in his home State the observances of Anzac Day was a live issue and that considerable influence was being exerted for its alteration.

Probably the greatest influence there for a change was coming from outside the League, he said.

A good deal of it was getting through to the Press of Victoria.

Mr. Etsary said he did not believe the committee was usually only serving the wishes of the majority of the people.

Every soldier should be thankful for a free Press, but only the League was entitled to decide how Anzac Day should be observed.

**Absent V.C.'s Crop Put In By Pals**

On the eve of Mr. Tom Starac's visit to the Victoria Cross celebrations in London 20 of his fellow farmers at Coowor were busy digging in their wheat crop.

This was reported to the League State Executive at its meeting on June 28th by T. G. Green, the Victorian president.

At that stage Dr. Green said, the sowing of 400 acres had been practically completed.

**McKinlay Shield Games**

Round 13

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**FAVERSHAM CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

**Reflections On The Appeal**

The total amount received from the annual appeal on behalf of the Faveresham War Veterans' Home was $1,344 0/2, of which country sub-branches and auxiliaries were responsible for $577 12/9 to date with more anticipated.

When one reads and hears criticism from metropolitan sub-branches as to the quality of the veteran's home, it will be found that their comments are not supported by actions, the metropolitan branch being the largest and contributing their share of the Home of Peace only netting us $766 7/5, or $381/14/5 more than the country sub-branches.

Discounting metropolitan branch's auxiliaries, this is a very poor effort. Actions speak louder than words.

Later in the year the R.S.L. Branch will visit the home and it is proposed to hold a fete in conjunction with this visit.

Adjoining sub-branches and auxiliaries will be invited to run the stalls and afternoon tea arrangements.

On Saturday, June 9th, the York S.L. sub-branch women's auxiliary will visit the home for a special purpose—namely to provide a birthday party for one of our young veterans. Mr. J. J. Hoare, J.P., elevated yesterday by the City Council, will celebrate his birthday two days previous.

Musical items, card playing and afternoon tea had been arranged and were enjoyed by the veterans.

To Mr. Hoare we extend our congratulations and express the hope that he will be spared many more years to enjoy such functions.

The main building has now been painted and re-decorated in internally, and attention is being directed towards furnishing renovation. Additional accommodation has been provided by converting the upstairs writing rooms, which is seldom used into a two-bed room.

The quarters provided for outside use will be used, if necessary, should there be any difficulty in accommodation, and the committee are tentatively planning for a new wing to replace the annexe.

Two former residents—Messrs. Bob Sutherland and Trowny—are at present patients in the Hollywood Rehabilitation Hospital. To these fine gentlemen we express our sincere hopes for speedy recovery to health.

**Faversham Lease To Be Renewed**

The lease of the Faversham War Veterans' Home is to be renewed.

Two R.S.L. State Executive agreed to the renewal recently on the application of the Faveresham sub-committee chairman (Mr. E. C. Townshend).

The new lease runs to August 19th and contains a clause providing for repossession of the property only in the event of a national emergency.

**Another £100 For V.C.s.**

The Australian War Veterans' Home had been opened at Gosnells and contained a cheque for £100 each towards their expenses.

This was reported to the League Executive by the chairman of the Agenda sub-committee (Mr. R. H. A. Leslie, M.H.R.).

Mr. Leslie said the proposal was in accordance with a resolution of the last congress that some form of ceremony for the purpose be made a prominent feature of Congress Week.

Discussions on the form of observance for Anzac Day—a more subject on all agendas—would be held on the Thursday afternoon, Mr. Leslie said.

The special Land Conference would be held on the opening Day (Monday) beginning at 10 a.m.

A substantial number of motions had been listed for the conference, but in consequence of the recent League deputation to the Minister for Lands (Mr. Hoare)—which had dealt with many of them—the land questions would probably be dealt with speedily.

The Agenda committee reported that at last —any outstanding land questions should be referred to the incoming congress.

A report of an investigation of admissions to re-employment was made and a cheque for £450 and each single man with a cheque for £200 was received.

The additional payment is being made out of the subscriptions received by the headquarters after the departure of the contingent.

Also to Messrs. Costello (Pop) and Walker, who ran the York Hospital, our best wishes for a quick return to good health.

**Donations**

During the month of June the following donations were received and to all donors we offer our thanks for their continued interest in our Veterans.

Red Cross Society, tobacco; Mr. J. N. Cannon, West Swan, 4 cases grapes; Avon Do. Cleaners, York, Pinetrees, pinwheels, women's auxiliary, books; Waroona women's auxiliary, periodicals.

**Plans For Coming Congress**

It is proposed at the forthcoming League State Conference to hold a ceremony for the commissioning of the incoming executive.

This was reported to the League Executive by the chairman of the Agenda sub-committee (Mr. R. H. A. Leslie, M.H.R.).

Mr. Leslie said the proposal was in accordance with a resolution of the last congress that some form of ceremony for the purpose be made a prominent feature of Congress Week.
CONGRESS PAST AND PRESENT

THIS year marks the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the R.S.L. as a nation-wide body. It is fitting, therefore, that we shall glance into the storied history of the past and ask ourselves have we kept the faith?

THIRTY years ago, the late beloved Colonel Collett, in opening the State Congress of 1926, said:

"The League should be, and is, a national institution. Its members, the pick of the manhood of Australia in 1914-18, have rendered the highest possible service to their country, in a time of emergency, and have some claims for consideration in the promotion of its welfare in peace. It has been of the greatest possible assistance to Governments in the solution of the immense problems attending the scheme of repatriation—none so successful in the Empire—and it has stood by the ex-serviceman in his battle to re-establish himself in civil life. In all its efforts its attitude has been non-sectarian and free of party politics, and I am firmly of the opinion that a further increase in membership is the guarantee of that attitude.

In dealings with Governments we should recognize that they rule by the popular vote and that it is our duty to assist them in every possible way. Our criticism should be constructive and based on sound knowledge founded solely on the genuine complaints of malcontents or those who are uninformed. Our attitude, with Ministers, and heads of departments and institutions should be marked by that courtesy in keeping with the importance of their office and our own dignity. When, however, we assert that a measure is a bad one we should state the reasons for rejection, inimical to the best interests of the community generally, by means of resolutions which should be not only concise and frank and determined as denoted our collective action at other times.

It should like to make it clear that, in my opinion, no right-thinking man holding a responsible public position, no matter to what political party he may belong, is going to deliberately do anything detrimental to the interests of returned soldiers. I say further, that in making decisions on matters affecting the Welfare of members of this League, which decisions have been unfavourable, such have not been influenced by politics, but rather, hampered by political influences possibly a distinction not being made without a difference but, nevertheless, a very real thing.

We don't know any political party but I do feel that there are questions of a national character in which a League of this nature and importance should interest itself. I can instance immigration and development, and public health, improvement in housing, the land settlement, railway and road problems in Western Australia.

As regards the community generally, we stand for the ex-service men and women and for their interests. On the other hand, we believe it is the duty of the League to do all in its power to help the states and the Commonwealth to meet and solve their problems, to devote to their interests, to honour their country and to meet its obligations. We have endeavoured to do all in our power to help our states, and if we have not succeeded in doing this I think that our Constitution calls upon us to inculcate, in loyalty due to our Sovereign, to the Empire and Australia, and also to our State and its laws and institutions.

THIS is indeed the "vision splendid" of the League and its place in the community. It can be said that throughout the intervening years, the League's strength of purpose and its loyalties have remained unchanged.

TIMES have altered, but the cardinal virtues of comradeship, self-sacrifice, service and love of country have remained.

THE Congress this month gives us again the opportunity to re-affirm our belief in those things for which our predecessors gave so much and in the causes which they so eloquently espoused.

THE League has still a vital role to play in the community and, in an ever-increasing measure, it has accepted the newer tasks of citizenship and service.

WITH the example of the past, the challenge of the present and the vision of the future, the League must go forward in an ever-widening range of service for the benefit of ex-service men and women, the State and the nation as a whole.

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THE LISTENING POST

The Price of Liberty — Eternal Vigilance.

JULY, 1956

Anniversary Of Man's Valour Recalled

July 4 this year was the 41st anniversary of the award of the Victoria Cross, that great token of valour which earned for its performer—Mr. Jack Axford—the respect and admiration of the Commonwealth. Reference to the anniversary was made at the meeting of the R.S.L. State Executive on June 20, of the Veteran-Xer Lady of War, now overseas with the contingent of West Australian V.C.'s whom attended the Victoria Cross centenary celebrations in London. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh was the award at Hamel Wood, Flanders.

The citation accompanying the award reads:

"For the most conspicuous bravery and initiative during operations. When the barrage was lifted, and an infantry advance commenced, his platoon was able to reach the first enemy defences through gaps which had remained unopened. The adjoining platoon being delayed in uncharted wire, he moved across into action, and inflicted many casualties, including the company commander."

---

Plaque Commemorates War-dead In Unlocated Graves

A plaque in the chapel of the Royal Naval Air Station, Sembawang, Singapore, commemorates ex-servicemen who made the supreme sacrifice in that area and whose remains were never located and identified for burial in recognised war cemeteries.

Details concerning the presentation of the plaque are given in the following letter to the League from the Department of Defence:

"Some time ago advice was received from the Command in Command, Royal Naval Air Station, Sembawang, Singapore, of his intention to erect in the chapel, a plaque commemorating those who were buried at Sembawang prior to the Japanese occupation and whose graves could not subsequently be located for concentration to a permanent war cemetery.

"The only member of the Royal Australian Air Force involved was No. 19549 LAC William Edwin Hamilton, a member of No. 1 (b) Squadron, R.A.A.F., representatives of the Army and the Royal Air Force.

"We feel that the plaque places on permanent record the sacrifice made here by members of the Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Australian Air Force. Even though the names of all those lost are not and cannot be inscribed on the plaque we hope that relations and next of kin will know that we, who have the honour to serve at Sembawang now, have done what we could to remember those that those who fought, died and were buried there will not be forgotten.

"It is felt that your organisation will be interested in the insertion of the following extract by those now stationed at Sembawang to commemorate the sacrifices made by our men in 1942, and it is pleasing to be able to pass this information on to you."

Rail And Tram Pass Renewals

The Under-Secretary, Premier's Department (Mr. Dolg) has advised that the renewal of railway and tramway passes issued to disabled ex-servicemen will begin on Wednesday, June 20, at the Premier's Department (first floor, Treasury Buildings, Barrack-street).

The new passes will be issued between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., from Monday to Friday inclusive.

Applicants are being requested to produce their pension cards.
Historic League Visit

(1) NORTH TO CARNARVON

The long contemplated and promised official visit to the Gascoyne sub-branch district eventuated this month (July, 1936).

The State Executive delegation, consisting of the President (Mr. A. Yeates), the immediate Past-President (Colonel H. B. Collett) and the Assistant State Secretary (Mr. J. G. Ferguson) was charged to proceed overland and gain touch wherever and whenever possible with ex-service units and individuals.

The provision of an adequate and yet faithful report upon the experiences of the party is not easy. Someone has said, or written, that "poetry is emotion recollected and recorded in tranquility." It is conceivable that inspiration might be found on a hot day in the shade of a banana plant, or in contemplating the placid waters of Shark Bay at sunset; and one might even get lyrical over the discovery of the continued existence of the quality of comradeship learned and enjoyed in the North-West of the State.

But to begin. Departing from Perth in the afternoon of June 30, the first stage via New Norcia, was completed at Moora.

There a pleasant two hours was spent in the company of the president (Mr. W. H. Boyce, 11th Bn.) and secretary (Mr. A. B. Giese, 16th Bn.) of the local sub-branch, and a very good luncheon was served. A cup of tea was supplied gratis by the assistant secretary, Mr. C. J. Ferguson.

The accommodation was in the form of a most attractive meal at the Moora Hotel.

At the northern end of the Murchison River bridge Mr. Gostelow (second from left) formally welcomed the League delegation to the territory of the Gascoyne sub-branch.
At Northampton it was gratifying to meet the President (Mr. C. A. P. Gostelow, M.C., 11th Bn., A.A. yard, 28th Bn.) of the Gascoyne sub-branch. These two gentlemen had at great personal inconvenience and considerable self-sacrifice, journeyed over 250 miles in order to meet and conduct the party to Carnarvon. The real value of their visit was thoroughly appreciated. Ajana could be observed in the paddocks as if they were grazing cattle. Kangaroos were also numerous and a few foxes, wild cats and flocks of corellas. Wallabies and crested pigeons together with an occasional eagle and ibis—few rabbits were sighted. All these features gave interest to what might otherwise have been a tedious journey. With the exception of huts for meals, travelling only about 7 p.m. when a call was made at Yarringa Station.

Mr. Norman Kopke and his family extended the hospitality which is proverbial with pastoralists, and after a stay of an hour the last stage of the northward journey was commenced. Darkness slowed the pace, and rough country near the Wooramel River later gave place to alluvial flats as Carnarvon was approached. These flats are marked by innumerable tracks, but Mr. Gostelow as a guide was faultless and delivered the party, tired but not unhappy, at the Gascoyne Hotel, 630 miles from Perth, at 1 a.m. on July 3.

(Next month: At The Gascoyne.)

T.P.I. Men’s Hostel To Be Closed

The Anzac Hostel, Brighton, Victoria, administered by the Repatriation Department since 1918, is to be closed.

Conducted for the benefit of totally and permanently incapacitated Australian soldiers and sailors of World War I, the hostel was purchased from money donated by the Baillieu family. Announcing its closure recently the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Cooper) said that the Repatriation Fund (Baillieu Gift) Act, 1937, had provided that when in the opinion of the Repatriation Commission the hostel was no longer required for the treatment of totally and permanently incapacitated men of World War I it should be sold and the proceeds divided between certain universities of the Commonwealth. The Repatriation Department had had the need for the hostel under review for some time, Senator Cooper said. After full consideration of all aspects it had been decided to transfer the patients to the Repatriation General Hospital, Heidel- berg, where there would be an estimated annual saving of £5,400 on their treatment. The ward selected for their accommodation, was situated in favourable surroundings including adjacent gardens and amenities. Senator Cooper said that the Government had always been most sympathetic towards the needs of Austra- lian ex-service personnel and that he was confident that the decision would not in any way adversely affect the medical needs and care of totally and permanently incapacitated personnel.
Funds Forthcoming For Papuan Huts

The latest list of donations made by units of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary reaches a total of over £450.

Conspicuous among the causes to which the money has been subscribed is that of the Papuan Huts appeal. The move has been taken up by auxiliaries following a plea by the R.S.L. State President (Mrs. Lomie) for everything possible to be done to support the move to provide Papuan native extemporisation with head-quarters for an organisation of their own.

Details of the donations are as follows:

Caithness, £1 Papuan Huts Appeal; Kenwick, 15 Papuan Huts; Meeman, £2 Papuan Huts; Harvey, £1 Papuan Huts Appeal; Fremantle, £10/10 Papuan Huts Appeal; Gent, £1 Papuan Huts Appeal; Waroona, £15 Papuan Huts Appeal; Collie, £10 Papuan Huts Appeal; Bridgetown, Tipperary, £10 Papuan Huts Appeal.

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Diggers’ AIM IS VENGEANCE

The following signal, received at Army Headquarters, Melbourne, on June 29, tells of the reaction of Australian troops in Malaya to the death of three of their fellows in an ambush in the jungle near Sungel Siput.

KUALA KANGAR: The dense jungle between the ancient Perak capital and the town of Sungel Siput is seething with grim-faced men, as members of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, tighten their hold on the area in “operation vengeance.”

Following the ambush laid by Communist terrorists last Saturday in the jungle near Sungel Siput, in which three Australians lost their lives so tragically, an intense follow-up operation has been put into action by Lieut. Col. J. G. Deadman, Commander of the 2nd Battalion, R.A.A.C., and Acting-Commander of the 28th Brigade.

For days, now, green-clad Australian troops have moved silently and swiftly on the heels of the fleeing bandits. There has been no thought of rest, other than what is barely necessary to keep the pace

The pace has been “killing,” but the Diggers have not complained. The men have only one thought obsession: to get the men in the jungle, to carry on.

In Touch

The Australian patrols are in constant touch with each other, with headquarters, and with the Auster scouts, planes circling overhead. At intervals a section will emerge from the jungle and rendezvous with the Auster, carrying trucks at the roadhead. With packs replenished, they disappear again into the jungle darkness, intent on their deadly mission.

Yesterday a platoon of 2nd Battalion, R.A.A.C., were reported to have observed coming out of Sungel Siput area. These men were led by Mr. Hummerston, a “big fella” with a sure smile in his eyes. It was not easy, he continued. “The Communist terrorists know the jungle as well as we do, and they have experience living off the land. They can travel hard and fast, and they know every jungle trick in the book.”

“People have talked of a week,” the 2nd Battalion, R.A.A.C., are out to get this particular gang, and if they can capture its members, it will be for the want of trying.”

Light Horse Week

Arrangements

Parties from New Guinea, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia will be participating in Light Horse Week to be held in Perth at showtime this year.

The celebrations will commence with a social evening for members (and their wives and daughters) at St. Patrick’s Hall, Beaufort-street, Mount Lawley, on Saturday, October 6.

A social evening for the Light Horse Federation A.I.F. (Mr. G. Hummerston) said that the social evening would enable members to meet Eastern State visitors, and also “break the ice” for the band, handing over ceremony the following afternoon.

Mr. Hummerston said that transport from the 2nd and 3rd members of the 10th Regiment, Camellia, Engineers, who served in Egypt in World War I, would be arranged on early train, with the permission of the persons concerned.

Applications should be made to him as organiser of the celebrations, and the deadline for them is September 22. His address is Parkfield Road, Maylands (A4114 between 5 p.m. and 9 a.m.).

A seat at the ceremony for each man would be available to every man marching, if applied for.

An illuminated certificate would be presented to the Young 10th W.A.M.I. on the association and a large parade of young troopers with their vehicles being on the plan.

Mr. Ernie Bain and his wife were now in England on a trip, and members of the Executive, including Mr. Fergy Macleod in Scotland and Mr. and Mrs. Percy Sambrook in London, were keen to help.

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THE LISTENING POST

JULY, 1956

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A Duel for Dessert...

Words followed wine at a Melbourne dinner in 1840.

Two of the guests, Mr. Peter Snodgrass and Mr. William Ryrie, agreed to settle the score with pistols at dawn.

Their host at "The Lamb Inn" (now "Scott’s") had no pistols, so Ryrie sent his second galloping off to Heidelberg for a set.

Flourishing a pistol in each hand, and gripping the reins of his horse in his teeth, the second was cheered into Collins Street when he returned at one o'clock in the morning.

But he had forgotten powder and shot, so off he went again to rouse an army captain from his bed. The captain’s wife took a poor view of the affair, and tried to detain him. He escaped with his coat torn from tails to shoulders.

At last, the duellists faced each other where Spencer Street Railway Station now stands. Trigger-fingered Mr. Snodgrass shot away one of his toes. His opponent fired into the air. The cheated crowd then threatened to shoot the surgeon, but he tossed them his top-hat as a target.

Satisfaction today does not come in duelling, but from the cleanliness, comfort and service good hotels supply to their guests.

Here, SHELL is helping the hotel-keeper by producing new detergents to keep his house and table spotless —and his patrons happy.

MT. LAWLEY’S “VP” SOCIAL

The Mt. Lawley-Inglewood sub-branch will hold its traditional VP Day social at St. Patrick’s Hall, Beaufort Street, at 8 p.m. on August 15.

Special catering arrangements are being made and the management committee hopes that there will be a big roll-up.

The committee also hopes that the next VP Day will be celebrated in the new sub-branch hall which is to be erected on its block near First Avenue.

Construction of the hall should be well under way this year.

The sub-branch meets at St. Patrick’s Hall on the first Wednesday each month.

Repatiation Appointment

Mr. J. B. Fitzhardinge will continue to represent West Australian ex-servicemen on the local Repatriation Board for two years as from July 1, 1956.

Official confirmation of the appointment was received—from the R.S.L. Federal Executive—by the State Executive at its meeting on June 20.

Mr. Fitzhardinge, an ex-serviceman of World War II, has represented ex-servicemen on the board for the last two years.

£17,000 More for Homes

The Commonwealth allocation for war service homes in Western Australia this financial year has been increased by £17,000.

The chairman of the League’s Housing sub-committee (Mr. R. J. Stoddart) reported this at a recent meeting of the State Executive.

For a good many years additional money had become available to the State authorities in the last few months of the year. Mr. Stoddart said:

This £17,000 is in addition to two previous supplemental amounts—£300,000 and £18,000—making £317,000 in all above the initial allocation.
R.S.L. Anzac Delegation To NZ

Official report to the R.S.L. federal office by Mr. R. F. Bunting, leader of the delegation.

As leader of the delegation, I desire to report to you the success of our visit to New Zealand and to form you of the magnificent welcome given to us by the N.Z.R.S.A. We were welcomed at the airport and were feted and cared for in every way possible.

As you know, 49 R.S.L. members accompanied me and these were divided into five groups, namely: Wellington branch (15 members—leader, R. F. Bunting); Auckland branch (12 members—leader, W. C. Clegh); Dunedin group (12 members—leader, C. R. Horking); Christchurch group (12 members—leader, F. Standish).

We were given a welcome by Mr. W. Fraser, Dominion President of the R.S.A., at luncheon on the day of our arrival. This welcome was followed by a Civic Reception tendered by the Mayor of Wellington, Mr. MacAllister, at the City Hall. The following day we were received by the Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, at his official residence in New Zealand and met most members of Parliament.

Addresses were made by Mr. Hollman, Mr. Nash, Leader of the Opposition, and the Vice-Admiral for Australia (Admiral Sir John Collins) as well as myself. Later Mr. Hollman invited me to lunch where I met all Cabinet Ministers. This was followed by a reception by the High Commissioner for Australia, Sir John Collins.

On April 28 the various groups departed for their destinations and by all accounts met most heartily welcomed everywhere they went. I remained in Wellington, but before ANZAC Day sent off five parties of two each to various centres in the North Island. I attended the ANZAC Day Service held at 10 a.m., where I placed a beautiful wreath on behalf of the Wellington A.I.F. at 3 p.m. I was given the honour of leading the large parade through the city; it was a memorable day.

At this point I would like to mention the great work being done by the ANZAC Day Association throughout New Zealand, particularly in Wellington.

Most of the members are future members of the R.S.L. as well as the N.Z.R.S.A. I spent a very pleasant evening with members of the association and from them learnt the fact that it was their association which inaugurated the ANZAC Day in New Zealand in 1894, and which now has become just as important and as significant as the services held in this country.

I would stress here that one man was responsible for this. Mr. Ashton is a foundation member of the A.I.F. Association and has been a financial member of our League in Australia for many years.

All executive members of the N.Z.R.S.A. speak in the highest terms of the work done by Mr. Ashton on behalf of both Australian and New Zealand members of the League in Australia for many years.

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TRUSTEES TO HAVE THE FACTS

In future sub-branch appeals on behalf of necessary members for League assistance must be referred to the League Trustees for action.

This was agreed to by the State Executive at its meeting on June 20 on the motion of the chairman (Mr. E. C. Townshend).

The decision was made following reference to a member—and former secretary—of the Dowerin sub-branch (Mr. F. Walker) whose house had been destroyed by fire, but not covered by insurance. The executive was told that the sub-branch had raised £100 of relief and had also been assured of League assistance.

Mr. Townshend said that in matters affecting League appeals both the Secretary and the Trustees should be in possession of all the facts before action was authorised.
**P.O.W. Payments Still Pending**

The second and final distribution of Japanese assets to Australian ex-prisoners of war—to be made by the Commonwealth Government—is being held up pending exhaustive checks by the authorities concerned.

Reasons for the delay are given in the following extracts from a memorandum recently dispatched from the Red Cross Society and statement by Senator Spooner.

While it is a fact that the international committee of the Red Cross has no functions in the matter, the international committee is the “neutral intermediary” accepted and used by the nations signatory to the Geneva conventions, and has access to these Governments at any time—just as Governments can call on the international committee at any time.

This action is quite distinct and independent of national Red Cross societies. Therefore, the international committee of the Red Cross was the obvious body to be the trustee for monetary benefits to prisoners of war.

Australia’s Share

When negotiations have been completed by the international committee Australia’s share will be paid to the Australian Government acting as distributors to all ex-prisoners of war for the Committee.

It is understood—but apparently not definitely decided—that payment to ex-prisoners of war will be made on a similar basis to the previous distribution through the Command paymasters.

In view of the fact that we are taking no part whatever in this matter, you will agree that we are not in a position to make any statement. Such statements must come from the Australian Government.

The statement by Senator Spooner reads as follows:

I have made inquiries and have heard in the newspapers that the Government has been informed by senior departmental officers with long experience in the fitting of artificial limbs and appliances.

Describing the course recently conducted at the University of Sydney, the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Cooper) said it had been conducted because of the demand for improving the service his department rendered to patients.

The skills acquired by those attending the course would be passed on to the artisans in the various factories.

As well as study of the making and fitting of suction-socket and other types of artificial limbs, there had been instruction in trade skills, such as padding, and the treatment of metal.

Recent developments had involved the use of nylon lacquer, which thing seemed to descend on the orthopaedic surgeons, as it had been demonstrated that artisans could, with the help of orthopaedic surgeons, and especially orthopaedic surgeons, have been developed.

To achieve a high standard in the fitting and supplying of artificial limbs, the Department of Repatriation had had special assistant surgeons (orthopaedic surgeons), instruction in anatomy, joint-construction and mechanics, as well as experience in the fitting of artificial limbs and appliances, and had been given to the Department.

In addition, trade skills training was given to the artisans in modern factory-management techniques.

**In Peace and War!**

**Artificial-limb Course Aimed At Better Service To Patients**

Senior artisans of artificial limb factories controlled by the Repatriation department throughout Australia recently attended a special training course in Melbourne.

Instruction at the course was given by senior departmental officers with long experience in the fitting of artificial limbs and appliances.

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**Dinner Marks Boddington Anniversary**

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of its formation, the Boddington R.S.L. sub-branch arranged a dinner at the newly-opened public hall on Saturday, June 2.

The sub-branch invited 120 members and all ex-service men to be present at the celebration.

The chief guests—Mr. Davids and Mr. Lowe from the State Executive—arrived at dinner time and immediately all were requested to stand up by their chairs.

Mr. Davids spoke on the aspirations of the League, the scope of its activities and the aid it renders to the community. He stressed the wide variety of interests embraced by the work of the League and its unbroken growth in strength during the last few years.

Mr. Lowe congratulated the sub-branch on its efforts and complimented its members on their anniversery function.

The dinner closed on a very harmonious note, although the harmony became a little blurred, when the overture to 'War! was played, and 'The Ladies Auxiliary' was celebrated affectionately.
**First of Daring-class ships on sea-trial**

The contractors' sea-trials of H.M.A.S. Voyager, the first of three Daring-class ships being built in Australia for the Royal Australian Navy, will begin about the middle of July and be continued until mid-August.

Announcing this, the Minister for the Navy (Senator O'Sullivan) said it was expected that the Voyager would be commissioned as a unit of the Australian fleet in December.

She and another of the Daring-class ships, H.M.A.S. Vampire, were being built at the Cockatoo Island dockyard, Sydney. The third Daring-class vessel, H.M.A.S. Vendetta, was under construction at the Naval Dockyard at Williamstown (Victoria).

The Vampire would be completed about September, 1958, the Vendetta a few months earlier.

Senator O'Sullivan said the three ships, which were of a new design and bigger than destroyers, had been named after destroyers of the Australian "Scrap Iron Flotilla" which became famous for their exploits in the Mediterranean in World War II.

They were of all-welded construction and would embody in their design some of the most advanced marine and mechanical engineering work yet undertaken in the Commonwealth.

They would each have a standard displacement of 2,610 tons and full-load displacement of more than 3,500 tons, be 380ft. in length and have a beam of 43ft. They would carry six 4.5in. guns, six 40 millimetre anti-aircraft guns and five 21in. torpedo tubes, all of which were being manufactured at Australian Government ordnance factories.

The vessels would provide the most effective cover for other ships of the fleet or for convoys. Their modern anti-submarine detection equipment and weapons would enable them to undertake a vital role against the latest type of high-speed, long-range submarines and in all spheres of naval warfare.

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**Social Ends Year's Work At South Perth**

The South Perth R.S.L. sub-branch ended its financial year by holding a very successful Ladies' Night on June 10.

The evening was voted the best ever by those in attendance.

A feature of the occasion was the presentation to the sub-branch treasurer (Mr. G. Letch) of the coveted Certificate of Service by the president (Mr. J. B. Walsmsley). References were made to Mr. Letch's sterling service, and it was recalled that in the early stages of its existence the sub-branch had used the verandah of his residence as a meeting-place.

The election of office-bearers brought forth a very strong committee under the presidency of Mr. Col Sangster, of the Windsor Hotel.

As well as being a League stalwart Mr. Sangster is a South Perth municipal councillor. Sub-branch members offered him their best wishes for his term as president.

The retiring president (Mr. Walsmsley) did not seek re-election and the outgoing committee thanked him for his service to the sub-branch, spoke highly of his past services.


Mr. Letch was re-elected treasurer and Mr. W. G. H. Ferrier-secretary. Mr. Ferrier now enters his fourth year as secretary.

During the year the Australian officers (Messrs. J. B. Walsmsley and B. Quinn) were uniring in their visits to South Perth members at Hollywood Hospital.

All members are being urged to attend the next two sets of the Lambert Cup games—the first, at Kensington, on July 12.
Land Committee Reports On Deputation To Minister

The presentation to the Minister for Lands (Mr. Hoar) of the 14 points framed by the No. 1 District Committee of the League was made by deputation on June 29.

At its meeting on July 4 the R.S.L. State Executive received a report on the deputation from the chairman of its Land Committee (Mr. E. O. Davies) and decided to make its contents available to the No. 1 District Committee.

The report—submitted in the form of a question and answer—was as follows:

The Director of War Service Land Settlement (Mr. C. K. Baron Hay) was present.

The deputation comprised Messrs. E. O. Davies, J. Chappell (State Secretary), W. G. Barlow, R. Cashmore and C. Ward of Nannup.

In their report the deputation stressed the fact that the problems sent in by settlers to Perth should be dealt with by the department. They pointed out that many enquiries would be dealt with by subordinate officers and only matters involving the settlement of disputes and other contentious matters were referred to and dealt with by the director. This was an essential feature of the normal organisation.

The deputation explained the situation and withdrew the item.

In Writing

Q. 2. That written confirmation be given to the settlers of disbursements, farm work programme and livestock arrangements, not verbal as at present.

A. The minister conceded that after June 30th, written confirmation would be necessary to have final account of instructions. The director stated that this was already the practice in this department. He added that it was possible the directors would cooperate in this regard.

The minister agreed that there should be at all times the understanding on both sides as to what work was to be done and it would not be left in doubt.

The director suggested that, if any more practical scheme than that at present in operation could be submitted, the board would be glad to give it consideration.

Q. 3. That settlers on lease receive their half-yearly accounts not later than thirty days and December 31st respectively, whether account will be met or not.

A. The director suggested that this referred chiefly to the purchase of super. The delay mentioned did not exist to any great extent.

The explanation was accepted.

Q. 7. That a body be set up to include at least one member of the R.S.L. to conduct an interview on the farm of all settlers from their existing financial set-up under the scheme, and make a comparison of earning capacity against commitments and running expenses.

A. (Q. 7 was disposed of).

Subsistence

Q. 8. That settlers during their first year prior to going on lease receive an amount more in keeping with present-day costs, instead of the existing payment of £8 per week.

A. The position was not entirely clear. There was provision for settlers during the first year to have made available an additional £8 per week, making the weekly payment £16 instead of £8.

The deputation pointed out that many settlers were aware that this extra amount was available.

Q. 9. That milking herds passed over to the settler be certified "clean" by the department of Agriculture from a mastitis point of view.

A. The reply to this question was that it was beyond the power of the department to guarantee that all stock taken over was free from disease. If the settler was not satisfied with the herd, he had the right to have it over and it would be sold by the department.

The question was asked if the Government would make available an inspector to certify that stock purchased by the settler was clear of disease, in view of the fact that disease very often did not become manifest until months after purchased.

The minister was interested in the suggestion that an inspector be made available to advise a new settler (Continued, Page 15).

— The Listening Post
Bid For Bigger Business

Circular-letters seeking increased patronage are being sent by the R.S.L. Trading Company to financial members of the League at the rate of 2,000 a month.

The circular, which is accompanied by a small illustrated catalogue, states the advantages to be obtained by purchasing goods from this shop.

At the present rate of distribution it will be some time before the circulars and catalogues have reached every member of the League.

Meanwhile, the management has asked that members be advised that they will, in due course, receive this advertising material and that it is well worth waiting for.

League Forces Flock To Kalamunda

A series of League functions at Kalamunda on May 5 was the occasion for a great rally of State Executive and sub-branch representatives to that centre.

At a high tea which was part of the proceedings 360 persons were present. The official opening of the extensive additions to the Darling Range sub-branch's hall was performed by the State President (Mr. M. A. M. A. J. Chappell). Among those in the State President's party were Mr. Eric Davie (a League vice-president), Mr. A. H. Leslie, M.H.R., Miss Mary Meares, O.E., Mesers. Geoffrey and Gordon and Lee Lowe and the State Secretary (Mr. J. T. C. W.).

The new hall will be of great assistance to the sub-branch, as the increase in membership the old premises were becoming cramped.

A room has been set aside for the use of the Darling Range women's auxiliary.

Medals Flashed On Mundaring Anzac Parade

About 70 ex-servicemen, their medals brightly flashing in perfect weather, paraded for the Anzac Day observance at Mundaring this year.

Headed by the R.S.L. Memorial Band and followed by some 200 children representing the State schools of the district and various church organisations, the column marched to the war memorial where a large gathering of people had assembled.

The memorial and surrounding rose gardens provided a perfect setting for the observance.

During the afternoon, the children who had paraded were issued with a bottle of pop and presents, and tea was served by the ladies' committee.

An Invitation......

The opening of even a small account with the National Bank brings you many benefits and advantages.

One of the most important is the facility of making payment by cheque — a safe, easy and convenient method that is becoming increasingly popular. Call on the manager of your nearest branch, who will gladly give you further information.

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JOHN CAMM, State Manager
LAND DEPUTATION
(Continued from Page 13)

regarding the health of his
duck, but this matter was
not pursued. The depart-
ment took every care, as
much to protect the settler as to also protect its own land
asset. The settler, not be-
ing obliged to take over the
agreement, was free to buy
his own stock else-
where under normal condi-
tions.

Q. 10. That where a prop-
erty is finally valued, the
settler receives a detailed
statement showing the
property cost to the settler is
arrived
ed
at, bearing in mind the
section of the Act which
reads: "The settler pays
cost or market value
which
will be the lesser." Why
was the latter not fol-
lowed in this case?
A. A case was quoted as
illustrating the point in this
question, and the minister
agreed that the valuator of
this case so that the matter
be investigated. The
director stated that the group system of splitting
up expenditure applied in
the matter of valuations.

Q. 11. That the price
structure of remaining
W.S.L.S. tobacco farms be
examined, as vacant farms
to W.S.L.S. (W.S.L.S.) are
available at the public at prices rang-
ing from £2,000, whereas the
settlers is s...s
and are saddled with a debt of
£7,000.

Tobacco Farms
A. The minister and di-
rector made the following
points in reply:
1. The transfer of settlers to
other farms was optional. They could continue as
tobacco farmers if they chose.
2. There was strong evidence to support the assertion
that tobacco-growing in the
Northcliffe area would not
repl
in
the Commonwealth Gov-
ernment would not continue
tobacco growing, and the settler
could either buy the farm
or not.
3. When a settler walks off a
farm he forfeits all chances
of obtaining another farm.

Under the scheme, the min-
ister stated, he had advised
many farmers who had in-
timated their intention of
doing so not to walk off their farms, but to "out-
p" pending adjustments.

Q. 12. That certain com-
mittees be arranged with the settler
tentatively and be revived
at the end of the season.
A. The minister stated that he considered this
request unreasonable. He
director expressed the opin-
ion that the system suggest-
that would put a premium on
inefficiency. Individuals in
most cases, however, could be considered and, if consid-
nerable works not sufficient
thing could be done to as-
1. 13. That more than one
person present when as-
sements are made, provided the
roperty, one bank valued
the settler.
A. The minister would not
agree to this suggestion.
Q. 14. That more considera-
ion of the type of
farming that a settler can
pursue in his district.
A. The minister was inter-
ested in a statement that
the Bridgetown area appar-
suitable for mixed farm-
ing (dairy and sheep),
and also as to the carrying
capacity of the land in that
area. The minister promis-
ed to have investigations
made.

Appeal Board
The deputation expressed
dissatisfaction with certain
aspects of the appeal board's
decisions set out in Regulation 24.
Q. 12. That certain com-
mittees be arranged with the settler
tentatively and be revived
at the end of the season.
A. The minister stated that he considered this
request unreasonable. He
director expressed the opin-
ion that the system suggest-
that would put a premium on
inefficiency. Individuals in
most cases, however, could be considered and, if consid-
nerable works not sufficient
thing could be done to as-

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The LISTENING POST
Page 15

‘Relief was wonderful’

JAMES H. SHARROCK, 294 Buttner Bar Road,
Caringbah, 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
coughing
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
signs of a cold and with
the bedroom dose have a hot lemon drink. By
markedly, 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, send for your doctor.

For bronchial ailmens see a doctor

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

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requested to support our advertisers.
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The Queen And Her Colonels

When the Queen arrived at Wellington Barracks, London, recently to open the Household Brigade Memorial Cloister in Birdcage Walks, Westminster, she was received by the Duke of Gloucester, Colonel of the Scots Guards and Senior Colonel of the Brigade of Guards.

Pictured here meeting her regimental colonels the Queen is seen exchanging smiles with one of them—her husband (extreme right), The Duke of Edinburgh is Colonel of the Welsh Guards.

The other Regimental Colonels are (from left) General Sir Henry Loyd (Coldstream Guards), Field-Marshal Earl Alexander (Irish Guards), and General Lord Jeffreys (Grenadiers). The Queen herself opened the new cloister which is dedicated to the memory of officers and men of the Household Brigade who died in World War II.

Although the Queen and other members of the Royal Family had less than a quarter of a mile to travel to Wellington Barracks for the ceremony special security measures were taken following intelligence reports from Cyprus suggesting that fanatical gunmen may have arrived in Britain.

Instead of the usual small guard of Special Branch detectives, plain-clothes C.I.D. men and nearly 500 uniformed policemen were called out and detectives mingled with the crowd of 5,000 spectators.

£1,344 Raised For Veterans

A sum of £1,344/0/2 was raised in the recent street appeal conducted on behalf of the Faversham War Veterans' Home.

This was reported at the June 20 meeting of the R.S.L. State Executive by the chairman of the Faversham sub-committee (Mr. E.C. Townshend).

Of the total, Mr. Townshend said, £666/7/5 had been collected in the city and the balance in outside districts.

It was anticipated that further district funds would come to hand, he said.

Tribute Paid To Departed Friend

It was with deep regret that members of the Rocky Gully sub-branch heard of the demise of Mr. Syd Willoughby, who had been ill in the Royal Perth Hospital.

At the beginning of their last meeting members stood for two minutes as a mark of respect. It was one of the last wishes of the late Mr. Willoughby to be remembered to Rocky Gully sub-branch members reported Mr. George Harris who had visited him in hospital.

The meeting agreed to a request from the school to allow the use of the motor for 10/ an hour to enable teachers to screen educational films. The Education Department was willing to pay half this amount towards plant running-costs, and the Parents and Citizens' Association would find the remainder.

It was pointed out that the charge barely covered running costs, yet alone depreciation.

A set of indoor bowls has been donated to the sub-branch by Mr. Bob Powell.

A tarpaulin muster was conducted by Mr. Stan Walters to purchase the matting. Under Mr. Powell's leadership the table tennis table has been completed and Mr. Frank Farmer, the hard-working caretaker, has built the tables.

A new governor has been purchased for the lighting plant—Mr. McDowall's hobby. He has spent a great deal of his time keeping an eye on the plant to bring it up to its peak of efficiency. However, if a syndicate which has entered a large Eastern States lottery can "crack the jackpot" it has undertaken to buy a diesel lighting plant.

Power points have been completed for the picture projector, and a tractor stood by while Mr. Trig Tyer's off-sider wormed beneath the hall to put in the line for the amplifier.

A super, low-priced wood-working outfit

Bairds

This rugged combination, designed and built by Bairds, sells at a price startlingly lower than similar outfits.

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£29/10/- Tool Department. Inside Wellington St. Entrance.

I t's terrific value—combines two essential machines of tradesmen's quality, powered by a ½ h.p. motor. For the price of a small power tool you can have this professional class outfit in your workshop. Come in and hear more about it. Cash price £139/10/-