LEAGUE FEARS FOR DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Fears for the future of Dutch New Guinea have been expressed by the National Executive of the League.

The executive has called for immediate steps aimed at ensuring that if the Netherlands Government ever relinquishes sovereignty over Dutch New Guinea, control should pass to Australia.

It believes that a transfer of sovereignty over the territory of Indonesia would conflict with the interests of Australian security.

At its recent meeting in Canberra, the executive made two resolutions bearing on the talks that had been proceeding between the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Casey) and the Indonesian Foreign Minister (Dr. Subandrio).

Why Shouldn’t Indonesia Arm Herself?

There are no grounds for a protest against America’s action in agreeing to supply Indonesia with weapons and arms. Every country has a perfect right to plan to secure its own defence and to obtain, from the most suitable sources, the arms necessary for this purpose.

The choice of America as the source of supply for these small arms was a good sign; it is likely to achieve a permanent link between the two countries since initial purchases of arms made necessary continuous flow of ammunitions, spare parts, etc., without which, they would be useless.

Indonesia wants arms and is able to acquire them from other countries. It is a good thing she has gone to America for them. From the February issue of the National President’s Newsletter.

Civil Defence Move At Rosa Brook

The Rosa Brook-Rosa Glen sub-branch has arranged through the local ambulance brigade for the holding of first-aid classes in the district.

The classes are being held at Rosa Brook and are open to all residents of the district—not merely members of the R.S.L. They represent the first step by the district to be included in the State-wide civil defence organisation for which the Prime Minister has called.

Those prepared to join the classes are requested to notify the sub-branch secretary, Mr. G. V. Dennis.

A New Guise For Annual Report

The “Annual Report and Balance Sheet” for the 43rd State Congress this year will be published in “The Listening Post” and not in brochure form as in previous years.

This will result in a saving to the League of over $1,000 for separate printing. It will also give every member of the State branch an opportunity of perusing the Report.

The change was decided on by the Executive at meetings on February 25. It is planned to publish the Report in the June issue. This will place it in the hands of members at most a month before Congress, which is due to start on July 20.

The Auditor’s Report and Annual Accounts for the year 1958-1959 will be published in the June issue—is to be published in the May issue this year.

The Finance Committee chairman (Mr. J. A. Rolfe) told the executive that the Accounts were being prepared for publication much earlier this year.

Publication of the Report in the June issue means there will be little if any space available for other matter in that issue. The published in an augmented edition to include the Report.

Memorial At Inglewood Nears Completion

Work on the Bedford-Morley Park sub-branch’s new memorial—at the corner of Beaufort and Salisbury streets, Inglewood—is proceeding in readiness for the unveiling on Anzac Day.

Great efforts have been made by sub-branch members on the financial side but funds are still needed to cover the cost of the project.

The sub-branch looks to its members and to outside bodies, for financial aid.

In his report for the year 1958-1959, Mr. J. A. Rolfe thanked his committee and members for their efforts during the year.

Mr. Moyle and Mr. V. Ashworth (retiring secretary-treasurer) were each presented with a Certificate of Service by Mr. C. Coutts of the State Executive.

Working-bees Pay Off At Narrogin

A series of sub-branch working-bees at Narrogin last year, transformed R.S.L. premises and grounds and, in true Diggers' style, helped comrades in need of a little manpower to get through their temporary incapacities.

This was reported by the president (Mr. E. G. Beazley) at the annual general meeting of the sub-branch. Mr. Beazley said the past year had seen the abolition of the somewhat antiquated lavatories and the complete reversion to block. The backyard had been levelled and lawned and a strong picket fence constructed along the lane way.

There had been repairs to the building and a contract let for the installation of gas heating.

The "utilising efforts" of one team and the effort of Mr. Neil M. Peto in rounding-up and the work of Mr. J. Beazley in recruiting new members, but the job was too big for one man and would have to be tackled in an all-out manner this year.

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Statement Resented By Quinlinup Sub-Branch

(To the Editor)

Shannon River to come to our aid.

Our suggestion was for the benefit of both sub-branches and the League in general a subsequent issue of "The Listening Post" would be appreciated.

Shannon River was a far greater asset to the community than the excitement of a newsboy's "gazette".

--

Annual Meeting At Gwalia

The annual meeting of the Gwalia-Leonora sub-branch was held at Gwalia on February 16 and was reasonably well attended.

The office-bearers for 1958 were:- President, Mr. G. L. E. Smith; Secretary, Mr. E. M. Jefferies; Treasurer, Mr. R. S. P. Lees; Assistant Secretary, Mr. G. R. Easter.

A number of members were elected to the executive committee.

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What—Nothing Else He Could Do?

A Parkerville T.P.I. pensioner who, about mid-December, volunteered his services for the refurbishing of name-plates in the Avenue of Honour, Kings Park, has finished the job.

When setting out on his task he aimed to have 300 name-plates painted before Anzac Day but in the intervening period, with the aid of his grand daughter, he has more than doubled his aim. He was now asked if there was anything else he could do.

This was reported to the State Executive on February 25 by the Assistant-Warden of the State War Memorial (Mr. E. C. Townshend).

His request had been taken up by the executive who re-elected, a past member of the branch, Mr. J. W. Jones is in favour still. At meetings on the Sammamish, and the Round-up, Our president went to Shannon River, and put down a message to Mr. Pickett Jones before their first meeting. He seemed to agree that the efforts and the interest had been to the world and the final outcome of the tennis game of the past. The project has been successful and the league has been successful. We believe Mr. Townshend has said that he is in favour still.

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Elections At Midland

Election of officers at the February meeting of the Midland Junction sub-branch gave the following result:

President: Mr. T. Grigg; vice-presidents, Messrs. P. J. O'Mara and W. F. West; treasurer, Mr. H. Lander; secretary, Mr. R. Smith (phone 74-942); membership secretary and publicity officer, Mr. W. Gibson (phone 74-1763).

The sub-branch and auxiliary both meet on the first Thursday each month, the ladies putting on an excellent supper always.

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THE LISTENING PC'T

MARCH 1959

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Comradeship In Peace And War
(From the National President’s Newsletter)

ONE OF the most satisfying of all human emotions is the comradery created by a sharing of mutual interests and experiences.

IN TIME, a measure of comradery is achieved among those who engage in activities of a civic, sporting, or recreational nature or in sharing the tasks of community service.

IN TIMES of war a new conception of comradery is brought into being, based on a fusion of mind, heart, and spirit, which creates a perfect and selfless relationship.

IT IS indisputable that the strongest and most enduring comradery arises from a general sharing of war’s dangers and experiences. It is sometimes said that the comradery of the first-war soldier is more pronounced than among those of subsequent wars due to the concentrated nature of the type of warfare, and the camaraderie which formed that kept men in close contact for long periods—but there is little real reason to support this view.

IT IS true that in World War II the more advanced techniques of modern warfare often made necessary rapid and frequent exchanges of men from unit to unit, but there is little evidence to show that this had any effect on the depth, sincerity, or value of World War II friendships, or that those comradely bonds would lessen with the years.

THE EVIDENCE of the R.S.L. points the other way. More and more World War II men are coming forward with their brothers in an expression of comradery through League service, and there are unmistakable signs that, with the passing years, they are recognising more than ever the indefinable link with other returned men that is the prized legacy of war service.

THE SPIRIT of camaraderie that exists among first-war veterans (a spirit that has intensified with the passage of time) has spread its friendly mantle over all who served, regardless of whether they served only to those who served in the same unit or who were personal friends. The forming of the League proves that. It was not formed solely by men personally known to each other.

THE LEAGUE was formed to help all returned men, and to assist the wives, widows and children of those men, simply because they had served and played their part.

THE SPIRIT of comradery which impelled the creation of the League was an appealing one; the act of a band of brothers whose only link was that they had together gone forth in their thousands and taken up the weapons of war in defence of their homeland.

THE GREAT adventure of war, was the strong link between first-war soldier, as it is to-day, binds men together with equal significance returned men from World War II, Korea and Malaya, regardless of the service, front, or unit in which they served.

ALL REALISE the value of the League as a channel through which their feelings can be fruitfully expressed, experiencing, at the same time, the purest emotion known to man—true comradery.

[The comradery underlined here is of the essence of the League, the spirit of which it embodies—of which it is the being applied. One suggestion recently endorsed by the State Executive related to unemployment. It was to the effect that if Government unemployment could tide him over the two-week period between applying for unemployment relief and receiving it by drawing upon its unemployment fund.]

Scene during the wreath-laying ceremony at the State War Memorial on Sunday, February 15, in commemoration of the fall of Singapore and of 400 O.N. who died in World War II.

Bindoon Boys Attacked

By Teenager-group

The Bindoon sub-branch recently reported a series of attacks by a party of youths on the 1st Bindoon Scout Troop, whose formation it sponsored.

The attacks were made shortly after Christmas at Yanchep, where the troop was encamped, and resulted in damage to tents and injury to four of the scouts.

The scoutmaster reported to the sub-branch that the camp had been attacked over two nights running by the boys, who had thrown stones and fire crackers and slashed tents with knives. They had also attempted to start his motor-truck.

On the second night, he said, the attackers had kept up their tactics for the better part of five hours.

Of the 15 Bindoon lads at the camp several were under 12 years of age.

The scoutmaster had run for the police, who had arrived some hours later and with the assistance of the scouts rounded-up the youths.

The sub-branch thought it only fair to other sub-branches sponsoring youth activities to acquaint them—through these columns—of the experience of its own Scout group. It suggests that sub-branches organising similar camps might consider calling-in policy protection beforehand.

In the Perth Children's Court, on February 23, five boys ranging in age from 13 to 18 years—admitted charges of disorderly conduct relating to the above incident and were ordered to pay over £3 each towards repairing damage they had caused. None of them had been in court before, and the Magistrate released them without recording convictions.

Posts For Mr. Leslie

Mr. H. A. Leslie, who was recently made a member of the State Executive, has been appointed to the Finance, Listing Post and Inauguration Committees. He was formerly a co-opted member of the last named.

Chidlow Honour Roll

Mr. Ken Clements would like all persons who enlisted from Chidlow to get in touch with him. This is to enable him to compile a complete list of names for the Honour Roll.

Fine Job Done For District

Full marks must be given to the Greenbushes sub-branch for its splendid effort in organising a district sports day recently.

This, body, with a membership of only 30, has developed and maintained the local swimming pool, and its efforts resulted in a crowd of about 800, participating in log races, swimming, foot racing, and a beauty contest.

Congratulations, Greenbushes, on your splendid efforts in developing a real community spirit in your district.

Chidlow Honour Roll

Mr. Ken Clements would like all those who enlisted from Chidlow to get in touch with him. This is to enable him to compile a complete list of names for the Honour Roll.
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THE LISTENING POST
MARCH 1959

(From the February issue of the National President's Newsletter)

Commonsense On This Asian Migration Question

The introduction of immigration quotas for Asians, advocated for which has been an issue from time to time and as recently as the Immigration Convention in Canberra last month, must be examined objectively and without emotion.

Every enlightened person realises the importance of the Asian neighbour, with some of whom we have many ties and a vast community of interests.

Australia has not been backward in acknowledging this in practical forms.

The idea of the Colombo Plan originated in Australia. We have established diplomatic missions in all of the countries of East and South-East Asia except Communist China and her satellites.

We have encouraged students to go to those Asian countries to enrol in our universities. We have pressed for greater trade and in some case see the young people in our everyday lives.

We are naturally anxious to trade with the East; our former enemy, Japan, is the second largest buyer of our wool, and we agreed, in the previous years, to sell them much of her products in return.

Desire To Help

Over and above any of these things, Australia has shown a genuine desire to help our Asian neighbour, in their tremendous problems of development, of raising their educational standards and remodelling their economies.

Considering that we ourselves are an underdeveloped country with great and large untapped demands and our small overseas credit, continually hampered by uncertain rainfall, and remote from world markets, we can fairly claim that our record in Asia since the war has been a good one—friendly, co-operative, and as generous as the circumstances have allowed.

We have thus continually demonstrated our goodwill towards our Asian neighbour and neighbours. An immigration quota, apportioned amongst these nations, would not help. Population in these countries is increasing at the rate of many millions a year.

Apart from the underlying fact that the entry of Asian migrants is impracticable of operation because of a quota. If it is truly a quota, would it have to be in ratio; it would have to be fair, regard for the populations of the various countries, or one will have regard for the populations of any countries. India has five times the population of Pakistan, but Pakistan, unlike India, is a British Commonwealth country and a fellow member of S.E.A.T.O. One can imagine the natural reactions of the Pakistanis therefore, if the quota so glibly advocated by the商量ists is adopted in five times as many Indians as Pakistanis.

The same problem hits the practical realist wherever it turns; the mixture of races, language, customs, and religions of China and her satellites.

We have encouraged students to go to those Asian countries to enrol in our universities, to buy our products, and in some cases see the young people in our everyday lives.

We are naturally anxious to trade with the East; our former enemy, Japan, is the second largest buyer of our wool, and so agreed, in the previous years, to sell them much of her products in return.

Race-composition

Every nation should have the right to determine its own racial composition.

This is one of the most fundamental rights of civilised living. Reduced to personal terms it is the right each of us insists on saying that he will allow to live in his own home, and this is an internationally accepted prerogative.

The Asian countries themselves are in the forefront of those who have preserved the merit of immigration restrictions. Chinese are excluded from the Philippines; the Ceylonese Government bars Indians from Ceylon; there are barriers between India and Pakistan; and freedom of movement and residence is under the strictest political control by Peking.

If any British subjects desire to settle in these countries, we could do so only for a strictly limited period and only after obtaining permission on the most explicit and restricted conditions.

In fact, there is very little difference between their practice and ours.

Australia, already admits, for instance, 150 students, over a long period, sometimes for life. There are now well over 5,000 Asian students at our universities, and as our teaching and research facilities expand their numbers will grow. We permit because of our own requirements to the Government of the State of New South Wales, the entry of Asian wives of returned servicemen. Approximately 850 Asians, mainly Chinese, who cannot safely return to China on account of their having been opposed to communism, have permanent residence here.

No Superiority

Australians do not suffer from feelings of racial superiority or colour consciousness. During the war the relations between our soldiers and the Malays and Southern Chinese were very good. These sentiments have been long continued years of prickly peace.

What Australia must do is to turn towards Asia towards higher living standards; assist them in their colonial social and economic tasks; develop a wider understanding of their history, their cultures, and bussiness them in their resistance to communists.

As an under-developed power ourselves, our remaining role is not only equal to but exceed our desires; but whatever assistance we offer must be genuine and substantial. But the idea that a quota of Asian migrants will achieve anything for anybody—Asian or ourselves—is unacceptable in conception, and impracticable in operation, and the R.S.L. utterly rejects it.

The Asian countries thoroughly understand our problem and our desire to help, for we know that because most of them exercise such a restriction themselves. The advocates of a quota system are only misleading and confusing our public; after all, in the days of stirring up feelings of resentment and ill-will that the existing policy itself has ever created.

The R.S.L. is, and always has been, completely unanswerable and united on this view, and backing the present Government, and we support and confirm the attitude of all previous Governments 100 per cent in their staunch adherence to the present policy.

Executive Decides Against Ball

Because of the many complaints about its time the Executive has decided against holding a League Ball at present.

A suggestion to institute a league on a 16-week basis was made through the City of Perth sub-branch some time ago.

The executive is not opposed to the sub-branch organising a ball.
Busy Year At Geraldon

Many activities, ranging from the arrangement of guest speakers, darts and table tennis at the conclusion of monthly meetings to the conduct of an outstandingly successful sports meeting were reviewed by the president of the Geraldon sub-branch of the R.S.L. (Mr. W. J. Cunningham) in a report to the annual meeting.

He referred to the "Little Olympics" carnival, which realised £130, and the annual dance and luncheon which realised £100, from which £239/8/5 went to the Cottesloe Amateur Athletic Club as a co-organiser; £100 was donated to the Legacy and the remainder divided between the sub-branch general fund (£160/0/0), amelioration fund (£100) and building fund (£150).

With the assistance of a number of other organisations, the sub-branch had conducted a successful sub-branch carnival, and had realised £130.12.9 for the local branch of the Slow Learning Fund, which Mr. Cunningham remarked. He also made mention of a group of meetings held by the sub-branch, in which a participation in a triangular shoot with the police and the Cottesloe branch, was held on the premises, be known as the H. V. Mountain Memorial Trophy in honour of a valued deceased member, two social evenings and the children's Christmas tree.

Year's Collections

The collections on Poppy Day were well below those of last year, but resulted in an addition to the amelioration account of £31.10.3. A strong appeal to the local branch general fund was made for the furnishing of a room at the proposed new War Veterans' Home netted £67.

Nine members new to the League were enrolled during the year, thereby adding and the total strength of the sub-branch at the close of the year was 279. The average attendance at monthly meetings was twenty-four and at committee meetings eleven.

The sub-branch had been very elated at winning the Colonial Collet Cup as the outstanding sub-branch visit to the sub-branch and it was hoped that it would be retained for at least another year. Mr. Cunningham continued. He paid tribute to the work of Mr. J. Russell as branch quartermaster, Mr. H. Jones as branch secretary, Mr. M. W. Heath and H. W. Look, Mr. H. Jones as branch treasurer, Mr. T. Smith; and Mr. W. R. Smith; and members of the branch committee, Messrs. S. McLean, G. B. Barden and H. Jones.

Glen Forrest's Finances

In Good Shape

With £33/8/5 in their general account and £14/6/5 in the amelioration fund members of the Glen Forrest sub-branch feel they have every reason to be satisfied on financial grounds.

For the future, the committee hope that the financial position could be very much worse.

A cheque credit goes to Mr. Stan Lawrence, the past-treasurer, the man who, as treasurer, never spent the pennies while the pounds were looking after themselves. It is to his efforts throughout the year that the healthy balance is attributed.

Installed in office at the January meeting by State Vice-President Ted Townsend-assisted by Mr. Doug Henshaw, whom were Messrs. M. V. Donovan (president), R. Walker and L. Watts (vice-president), W. Lawrence (secretary), A. Howie (assistant-secretary), D. Howard (treasurer), A. Miller and A. Weston (trustees) and J. Willis (auditor).

The meeting of the sub-branch will be held on March 19, when the arrangements for Anzac Day will be discussed.

Office-bearers

Apart from the appointment of a committee of the association, to fill vacancies created by resignations, there were no changes in the officers of the sub-branch.

Mr. Cunningham was elected unopposed for a third term as president.

Others to be re-appointed were: Senior vice-president; Mr. A. T. McDonald; junior vice-president; Mr. A. E. Smith; secretary, Mr. J. B. F. Buckle; treasurer, Mr. F. Harders; radio broadcast officer, Mr. H. Jones; hospital visitation officer, Mr. J. Russell; executive, Mr. M. W. Heath; trustee of sub-branch to Birdwood House; Messrs. W. Heath and H. W. Look; pensions and repatriation officer, Mr. A. H. Millet; Birdwood House trustee, Mr. W. R. Smith; sub-branch president; Mr. A. E. Smith; junior vice-president; Mr. A. T. McDonald; and sub-branch secretary, Mr. J. B. F. Buckle.

Did you know that...?

(Asks Capt. R. Collins)

The first soldiers to be called Diggers were not Australians. They were a fanatical section of the Roundhead army who mutinied after the execution of Charles I. They were called Levellers, because they believed all men, to be equal and demanded the abolition of rank— even in the army.

The most militant of them declared that all the land belonged to the people. They hanged some of those outside London and started to dig allotments. For this reason they were called Diggers. They were eventually suppressed by troops loyal to the Parliament.

The name Digger came into the A.I.F. from the gold-mining communities. In the Eastern States— or colonies, as they were then—what we now call goldfields were called the Diggings, and men who dug for gold were Diggers. In those days a miner was a man who worked in a coal-pit.

The rank of Field Marshal was introduced into the British Army from Germany by King George II. The first British holder of the rank was General George Wade, who restored order in Scotland after Bonnie Prince Charlie's attempt to recover the throne of his forefathers. Wade, on that account, had a verse to himself in the National Anthem.

One of the verses— no longer sung in these more tolerant times— asked the Almighty to strengthen the arm of General Wade and enable him to strike down the rebellious Scots.

There have never been marines in the Royal Australian Navy, but Australian marines did serve in war at the turn of the century. These men were originally the New South Wales Contingent, enlisted in 1900 for service in the South African War. For reasons connected with efficiency their departure was delayed until the outbreak of war. New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia sent naval contingents to China, and the 3rd N.S.W. Contingent went to France to receive the official designation of N.S.W. Marine Light Infantry.

The Australian soldier's slouch hat has been very much in the news of late, but the first Australian troops to wear the 1915 slouch hat were the White Star Line's members of the N.S.W. Sudan Contingent who served at Suakin in 1885. The first N.S.W. Bushmen's Contingent which went to South Africa in 1900 also wore helmets.

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Recent photograph of Mrs. K. Sledge

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A Man's Drink!
Ex-servicewomen Show Keenness

With a membership of 52 at the end of its last financial year the Ex-servicewomen's sub-branch could boast an average attendance of 22 at its meetings during the year.

This was stated by the President in her annual report to members last month.

The year had been one of change for officers, the report said. Miss Beryl Carter, secretary until June, left for the Eastern States; Miss G. A. Smith was President until July, when she was transferred to Canberra and later to Bangkok. The Hon. Mrs. N. Craig, who then took office, left in September for England.

A memorable occasion of the year was the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. The sub-branch was officially represented at the Civic Reception, but was disappointed at the arrangements for lining the route.

The fete held in November at the Repatriation General Hospital was particularly successful and resulted in a record £313. Donations were made to the Slow Learning Children, Red Cross and Legacy, and the War Veterans' Home appeal through the Dunirk Premierie.

Members travelled to Faversham to afternoon tea during March. On Anzac Day a wreath was laid on the State War Memorial at the Dawn Service and 17 members took part in the Anzac Day Parade. Later, at Anzac House, members entertained ex-servicemen from Claremont Mental Hospital, Lemnos, Sunset Old Men's Home and other institutions to luncheon.

Work has continued for the War-Blinded Association, and supper was provided at their meetings. "Lemmie" patients were entertained with a high tea and musical programme at Anzac House in November, after being driven on a tour of the beaches by the Red Cross. Members have visited ex-servicewomen patients in hospital throughout the year, and our Miss Cole, a chronic invalid and sub-branch member, has enjoyed visits and assistance.

Sub-branch representatives attended and appreciated several League functions during the year.

On Remembrance Day a wreath was laid at the State War Memorial, and sub-branch members attended the Festival of Remembrance. On behalf of the sub-branch Miss Sylvia Percy laid a wreath at the Canberra War Memorial.

The Christmas Party was held at the Victoria League Rooms.

Members hope to have new rooms when the extensions to Anzac House are completed but are meantime grateful to the Returned Sisters for the use of their rooms.

The sub-branch is grateful to Mr. Dodd for his help and advice as its State Executive representative for 1958, and to Miss Mary Meares for her capable presentation at State Congress.

Bicton-Palmyra Looks To New Leader To Emulate Predecessors

At the January meeting of the Bicton-Palmyra sub-branch the new President (Mr. Tudor Lee) was installed in office by the State President.

High hopes are held for the new President, who succeeds to a line of able presidents stemming back ten years to foundation President Erm Aberle.

Not satisfied with being elected to the chair, Mr. Lee has also taken on the sub-branch branch office.

April 7 is game's night, with Bicton-Palmyra versus the rest.

In May there will be a marquee parade; in June a table-tennis tournament, with the State champion in action.

This programme is of course in addition to the usual activities of the sub-branch.

With only half the enrolled membership of 170 financial at present, sub-branch officials are urging backsliders to make good; and not content merely with that is appealing to members generally to put force into the current slogan: "Get a mate to sign in "58."

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Mr. Casey Tells Of Talks With Indonesia's Foreign Minister

Statement-by-leave made in the House of Representatives on February 18 by the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Casey) on the visit of Australia of Dr. Subandrio.

I have asked for leave to make a statement on the recent visit to Australia of the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Dr. Subandrio. I believe that the House will wish to have an account of this visit and its significance to Australian-Indonesian relations.

I believe that the House should have an account of the joint announcement made by Dr. Subandrio and myself, which Dr. Subandrio and I agreed and which was issued by the Australian Government. I ask that the text of the joint statement should be incorporated in Hansard.

Honourable Members will no doubt have seen the text of this joint announcement which Dr. Subandrio and I agreed and which was issued by the Australian Government.

Direct Contact
It is more than seven years since a Foreign Minister of Indonesia visited Australia. Since then I have visited Indonesia several times, in 1953, and a number of prominent Indonesians, including Mr. Sukarno, have visited Australia. In the last three years. But the Australian Government in mind that further direct contact at the Governmental level in Australia would be a means of showing to the Indonesian Government and people the real and lasting interest which Australia has in Indonesia's progress and well-being, at the same time, allow opportunity for discussions of foreign policy and other matters upon which our two countries differ. It was in this spirit and with this intention that I informed Dr. Subandrio towards the end of last year that I would be most welcome. It was in this spirit also, I believe, that Dr. Subandrio was accepted on the Indonesian side.

Dr. Subandrio did not come to Australia for the purpose of any formal negotiations on any particular matter. He came as the representative of a neighbouring friendly country for the purpose of exchanging views and obtaining a greater understanding. I believe that his visit served to do both these things.

Our Concern
Indonesia is a country in whose independence the two nations a deep concern—not only now but throughout the future of Australia. All its nearest point, Indonesian territory is but 200 miles from Australian shores. We are necessarily concerned with the success of Indonesia in establishing stable and democratic institutions. It its declared intention to avoid military pacts, seeking rather to consolidate those alliances by economic and cultural security by other means. These differences in policy matter to compare rather than less discussion between us.

We thought it right that Dr. Subandrio should meet representatives of the Opposition as well as the members of the Australian Cabinet. These meetings were arranged and took place.

In his discussions with Australian Ministers, Dr. Subandrio explained and discussed Indonesia's national objectives and described current problems in the ideological, economic, social, and political development of Indonesia and her international relations. There was a review of Indonesia's history and of her relations with her neighbors, especially from the Indonesian-Australian relations of present cooperation and future economic relations of the two countries, and of the ways and means in which this cooperation could be extended.

Views Differ
We discussed the question of Dutch New Guinea. Australia takes differing views on sovereignty lies. It might be observed that Dr. Subandrio was a member of the Committee which met in Brazil in 1953, which was a committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of six South American States plus the United States. The Ministers reviewed in detail Indonesian-Australian relations. There was a full exchange of views and information which had led each country to a different conclusion on the status of New Guinea (West Irian), with Australia recognising Netherlands sovereignty and recognising the principle of self-determination. This difference remains, but the position was clarified by an explanation from Australian Ministers that it followed from the agreement made by Indonesia and the Netherlands that sovereignty and self-determination on this matter were the rights of both countries and that any agreement which might be reached would be between the Netherlands and Indonesia as parties principal, arrived at by peaceful processes and in accordance with internationally accepted principles which means, among other things, that in those circumstances, Australia would not oppose such an agreement.

Believing as we do in the fundamental rights to make agreements possessed by the Netherlands Government and derived from the sovereignty which we are convinced the Netherlands possess over New Guinea, we hope that any agreement which represents no new departure in our policy, but I believe it does clarify to Indonesia a position upon which they have held doubts. I make it clear to the House, as was conveyed to Dr. Subandrio, that this definition of the Australian position can in no sense be interpreted as advice to the Netherlands or to Indonesia on the question of negotiations upon this matter.

Matters At Issue
There are, I may say, many matters at issue between Indonesia and the Netherlands. In the course of our discussions, Australian Ministers have been very anxious to impress on the Indonesian Government the bad effect upon Australian opinion the prolongation of Dutch New Guinea's status would have on compensation of Netherlands assets and the treatment accorded to Netherlands nationals; and our hope that measures for the speedy and effectively applied.

Unwarranted
I would judge from some public comments upon the part of this joint announcement made on the part of the joint announcement that some unwarranted expectations are being made. One of them is that if there were an agreement between Indonesia and the Netherlands, Indonesia would not be recognized. I suggest that, on the contrary, there is a world of possibilities depending largely upon the decision of the Netherlands and Indonesia to accept any one of them. In this connection, I remind Honourable Members that the Netherlands Government has more than once emphasised the importance which it attaches to the international principle that the interests of the indigenous peoples of New Guinea are to be ascertained.

Again I would remind Honourable Members that the Netherlands Government has more than once emphasised the importance which it attaches to the international principle that the interests of the indigenous peoples of New Guinea are to be ascertained.

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Mr. Casey's Statement (cont.)

If the matter were to go to the Court, I do not believe that anyone in Australia would fail to respect the decision of the Court whichever way it might go. I do not believe that anyone in Australia would fail to respect the decision of the Court whichever way it might go. I do not believe that anyone in Australia would fail to respect the decision of the Court whichever way it might go.

The joint announcement expressed the conviction of both Australia and New Zealand that there should be no resort to force in the settlement of territorial disputes. This clear declaration is welcomed by the Australian Government. It could be, I believe, a real contribution to improving relations generally in the region of South-East Asia and the Pacific.

I commend the terms of the joint announcement to honourable Members as furthering a further step in the development of better understanding in Australia and New Zealand, and as evidence of the determination of both Indone- sia and New Zealand to live together in increasing amity. The joint announce ment is necessarily a short one. The discussions with Dr. Subandrio and his officers occupied a great many hours.

I am mindful of the fact, and draw this to the attention of the House, that Dr. Subandrio is still travelling in New Zealand and has not yet had the opportunity of reporting in person to his own Government.

I am aware of the close relations with 80 million Indon esians who are Australia’s nearest neighbours is something to work for with energy and patience. It would be idle to pretend that differences in history, culture, language and institutions do not create obstacles. Indeed, it is because we recognise these as obstacles which exist, but which can be progressively reduced, that Dr. Subandrio and I have recommended to our Governments that further practical steps be taken in the cul tural and economic fields.

Of course Australia will necessarily look to ensure that her own interests and responsibilities are understood and respected by Indonesia. We have many such interests both within and outside the South-East Asian region, including our associations and understandings with other powers, both Asian and non-Asians. Our membership of SEATO is one such interest. These matters were explained to Dr. Subandrio and were discussed, and we believe that his visit will lead to a better understanding of them in Indonesia. There were valuable exploratory discussions upon other subjects—such as trade and communication routes—upon which I do not propose to enter in detail.

I am sure that I reflect the view of the Opposition as well as the Government when I say that friendship with a democratic and truly independent Indonesia is our aim and that the few important conflicts of national policy that divide us should not distract either our country from building on the great many interests we have in common.

Promising Response To League Approach For Special Anzac Stamp

Great interest had been shown by the Post master-General in the League’s suggestion that a special Australian stamp should be struck to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Anzac in 1965.

The R.S.L., National President (Sir George Holland) and the Treasurer (Sir Arthur Calwell) had acted in conjunction with the New Zealand Returned and Services League. The NZRSA, in view of the importance of the suggestion, a similar New Zealand resolution having been adopted and passed on to the New Zealand Government.

The Postmaster-General had now promised to confer with the New Zealand Government on the matter, and it could be that a stamp of the same design would be issued simultaneously by the Governments of Australia and New Zealand.

This would appropriately symbolise the joint efforts of the New Zealand and Australian servicemen in battle. The result was enduring bonds of comradeship be tween Australia and New Zealand which, having been adopted and passed on to the New Zealand Government.

An Anzac stamp would be a fitting symbol of the link between the two countries and of proud fighting traditions that had first made the names of Australia and New Zealand ring round the world.
9th Division Exploits Honoured In Labuan

This article was originally published in the "Sydney Morning Herald" under the heading "Labuan Link." It was written by an old Digger, Mr. T. A. Miles, after a visit to Labuan, Jesselton and Sandakan.

The Australians are today gratefully remembered and commemorated in North Borneo, particularly at Labuan, where they are looked upon by the inhabitants as the savours of their country.

The small island of Labuan, lying at the entrance to Bruni Bay, on the west coast of Borneo, has figured very prominently in British history of North Borneo. It was at Labuan that Capt. Munday, commanding H.M.S. Iris, hoisted the British flag on December 21, 1846, the Sultan of Brunei having ceded the island in perpetuity to Britain's first territory in Borneo waters.

Ninety-five years later—on New Year's Day, 1942—Japanese forces landed at Labuan and, crossing to the Borneo mainland, very rapidly overran the whole of North Borneo.

On June 10, 1945, forces of the 9th Australian Division landed at Labuan and, in the face of strong Japanese opposition, captured the island. Further landings were made on the mainland which led to the complete liberation of North Borneo.

On the foreshore at Labuan, not far from the wharves, are the provincial police, the government for the safety of the island. In front of the building flies the Union Jack waving gently in the breeze.

Grouped on the lawn near the flagpole are several commemorative stones. Pride of place in the centre is given to a large memorial commemorating the landing of the 9th Australian Division. It is made of granite, circular in shape, and about 10 feet in diameter, with the following inscription:

This Memorial Commemorates The Landing of Unfortunates of the 9th Division—Australian Imperial Forces on 10th June, 1945, which led to the Liberation of Labuan and British North Borneo from the Japanese.

Other stones to right and left of the A.I.F. memorial commemorate the landing of Capt. Munday in 1846, and a visit by the then Prince of Wales in 1922.

A fourth stone—adjacent to the memorial—contains the hoisting of the flag in 1846, and in a brass plaque bearing Japanese characters, commemorating the capture of the island by them in 1942. This Japanese stone—whether by accident or design—now lies on its side, and only part of the inscription is visible.

There are other memorials in Labuan to the Australian Forces. Not far from the foreshore, and at a quarter-mile distant, is a humble wooden church. Within the church is a brass plaque bearing the following words:

Erected to the Memory of the Small Ship and Landing Craft Units A.I.F., who Gave Their Lives on Active Service.

S.W.P.A. 1942—1945

Erected December 1945

We Shall Remember Them.


About two miles from the town is a well-laid-out war cemetery, where, amongst the hundreds of graves, with their simple uniform headstones, are those of many Australians.

The lawns and gardens are kept in beautiful order and a large Cross of Sacrifice stands sentinel over their resting place. Within the lodge gates at the entrance to the cemetery are heavy plumes giving the names and units of all buried within the cemetery. Also there is kept there a Memorial Book which records the names of over 2,000 soldiers of the A.I.F. who died in the Pacific during the war, and who are known resting in another place.

Perhaps in no other spot in the vast area covered by the war in the Pacific is the memory of the deeds of Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen, so lovingly remembered.

When in July, 1946, Labuan was incorporated on the new British Colony of North Borneo, the deeds of the 9th Australian Division were commemorated for all time, in the annals of the colony, by the inclusion of a capital T (for Tobruk) and the colour patch of the Division, in its Coat-of-Arms.

Cricket With A Difference

Kensington sub-branch cricketers visited Kenwick on Sunday, January 25.

The match was a social cricket match and was won by the Kensington members' wives. The day was a great success, and the players and spectators all had a great time.

Civil Defence Discussed At Kalgoorlie

The first meeting of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch, this year—held on February 10—was very well attended in spite of sub-branch members being on holidays.

After the usual business had been taken care of, there was a discussion of treatment-casualty aspects of civil defence.

Mr. Tom Juggins, of the St. John's Ambulance Association, stressed that it was not just a case of gaining a first-aid certificate and sitting down. The possibility of an atomic war entailed far more than that. For instance, it might be necessary to travel 100 miles to a stricken area to deal with unusual casualties.

It was resolved to call a meeting to which all interested members and the public would be invited. Exempted from eligibility for League membership were invited to the March meeting to be held by the Limb of the Canteen Trust Fund.

The sub-branch is urging local sporting bodies—when arranging their fixtures—to keep in mind that one day of the year is set aside to the memory of those who fell in both wars. Members to whom all interested know that subscriptions are now due and those who have not yet renewed them are asked to do so. Clubs are being asked to join, and at the same time to recruit new members.

Sub-branch numbers are not what they could be.
Darling Range Receives A Working-programme

Twenty-six members attended the February meeting of the Darling Range sub-branch, and the new president (Mr. Allan Lyons) outlined a proposed working-programme for the year.

An early commencement of the social part of each meeting is required. To meet this requirement the premises were arranged to host the meeting and visitors at the door and attend to introductions. Latest newcomers to the ranks are Messrs. Frank Browning, Sid Crichton, Bert Crews and Joe McWilliam. Intending members are asked to contact Mr. Ken Dunn (membership secretary) at his office is in Railway-road. Present unfinancial members are also invited to visit and do the right thing.

The Cottesloe ladies exceled in the matter of refreshments at the Cottesloe Centre and a wonderful time was had by all.

Sub-branch meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m.

Auxiliary Round-up

Busselton Anniversary

The 25th anniversary of the Busselton Auxiliary was celebrated with a dinner in the R.S.L. Memorial Hall on February 19.

Among about 30 members were three foundation members — Messrs. Willmott, Holgate and Robertson, representatives of the Busselton, Balingup and Cowaramup auxiliaries and the State President (Mrs. Stockmuth) and Secretary (Mrs. Ames). The birthday cake, made by Mrs. A. Davis and decorated by Mrs. E. K. Murphy, was admired by all.

The Auxiliary Combined Meeting

A combined meeting of the auxiliary and sub-branch committees was held on Feb. 23 to devise ways and means to help the sub-branch financially.

Stairs room of the sub-branch hall. These evenings are for the public, and should be more so with the improved surroundings.

The Tuesday afternoon tea, which has provided for about 30 years, is now cancelled, patients being treated there a social event from time to time.

At Rivervale

Elected to office at Rivervale were the following:

- Meadham Bridger (president), H. W. B. Johnson (vice-president), L. H. Cornish (secretary), Edwards (treasurer), and Roberts, Rushforth and Newall (trustees).
Bridgetown President A World War II Man

Bridgeton’s newly-elected president, Mr. Gerry Stretch, is a World War II veteran.

He succeeds Mr. Alan Naylor, who declined re-nomination.

During the war, Mr. Stretch served in the Middle East and the Pacific, where he was awarded the M.C. for conspicuous service. He is now farming in the Bridgetown district, and under his stewardship the sub-branch looks forward to yet another successful year.

The sub-branch has combined with Legacy to sponsor an apple-queen for the forthcoming festival at Manjimup.

The two organisations will share 90 per cent of the funds raised jointly, and the sub-branch will go to swell the building fund.

Functions being organised are a boxing, a sub-branch War Vale, barbecues, skating, street-stalls, bottle drives and a mammoth auction.

The committee hopes to exceed its previous effort of two years ago when £750 was raised in seven weeks. Miss Maxine Smith, member of a district pioneer family, was the sub-branch’s apple-queen, and Legacy president Ivan Pierce is committee chairman.

Lettering for the sub-branch hall has been made.

GET A MATE TO SIGN ‘IN 39’.

Better Attendances At Pinegully Meetings

Although the average attendance at Pinegully sub-branch meetings last year was only 14 it was better than that for the previous year.

This was a point made in the presidential report of Mr. R. Messenger at the recent annual general meeting of the sub-branch.

Mr. Messenger said there had been a good attendance at the Christmas Day observance, which had been well up to standard.

The send-off to the Meagher family had turned up troops.

The attendance at the annual ball had been somewhat below what it had been in previous years because farmers had been busy seeding at the time of the lateness.

The sub-branch’s financial position showed room for improvement, and some thought had to be done about it.

The grounds at the hall had been greatly improved by the planting—and re-landscaping—of lawns.

There had been representation during the year by Congress, the Kellberg farmer meeting, the Bank of England reunion, Yealering (twice), the Wandering and Bridgwood balls and the Dunkirk Premiere.

The auxiliary had done a splendid job of work.

Office-bearers—elected were: President, Mr. R. Messenger; senior vice-president, Mr. R. T. Friendship; junior vice-president, Mr. K. Shaddick; secretary, Mr. T. Horwood; treasurer, Mr. R. Price; caretaker, Mr. E. Fuller; auditor, Mr. G. Griffiths; editor, Mr. T. Catling; committee members, Messrs. A. W. Treasure, J. B. Munro, F. E. Morgan, and the Rev. W. Hill; trustees, Messrs. L. Watson, C. W. Treasure, and C. Ford.

Surge Of Activity At Rockingham Of Late

There has been a surge of activity at the Rockingham sub-branch of recent months. Meetings are held every second Sunday and are well attended. With enthusiastic members and committee members at action stations there has been accomplished and the prospects for the future are bright.

This year’s office-bearers are Messrs. W. Stratton Ferrier (vice-president), W. W.Hardman (assistant-secretary), R. W. Hardman (secretary) and W. P. Fleming (vice-president), and the sub-branch has been in contact with the headquarters at Geraldton, and the branch at Rockingham has been visited by the headquarters official. The sub-branch has been visited by the headquarters official.

A number of colour-slides of the Digger’s Gold Carnival (held at Claredon in January) were taken and are to be screened during the visit of the State President about the end of March.

The main purpose of his visit will be to attend the dedication of the sub-branch Memorial Rose Garden, which work is almost completed.

The Anzac Day service this year will be held in the memorial garden at 3 p.m. Work on the arrangements for the occasion has been proceeding for some time. The sub-branch has been given assistance by the co-operation of citizens and sports of the sporting bodies in achieving a large gathering for the service.

British Seamen Feted At Katanning

Twenty British seamen enjoyed the hospitality of residents of the Katanning district during their visit to Fremantle last July.

A welcome was extended to them when they arrived at the sub-branch hall with the sub-branch War Vale, barbecues, skating, street-stalls, bottle drives and a mammoth auction.

The committee hopes to exceed its previous effort of two years ago when £750 was raised in seven weeks. Miss Maxine Smith, member of a district pioneer family, was the sub-branch’s apple-queen, and Legacy president Ivan Pierce is committee chairman.

Lettering for the sub-branch hall has been made.

GET A MATE TO SIGN ‘IN 39’.

Joint Effort At Collie In Youth Undertaking

The Collie and Cardiff sub-branches have joined forces in sponsoring a youth organisation in the Collie district.

The Collie R.S.L. Memorial Hall is being made available to the organisation every week at 7 p.m.

The inaugural meeting was held on March 9, and over ten years of age are being invited to join.

The committee consists of the close liaison between the two sub-branches was the focal point of the meeting and was held with State Executive participation on February 26. Many South-West sub-branches were represented at the function, catering for the interests of the sub-branches of the two auxiliaries.

The annual meeting of the Cardiff sub-branch was held on March 15.

The women’s auxiliary had raised £1200 for sub-branch purposes.

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Geraldton Discussion On Civil Defence

Pressure for a more adequate civil defence organisation for the State generally and for Geraldton in particular was advocated by the immediate past president (Mr. J. Denman) at the annual meeting of the Geraldton sub-branch.

Mr. G. Anderson said the sub-branch committee had suggested to the Geraldton Municipal Council that the town be taken with regard to this matter and had been completely "squashed."

The secretary (Mr. J. F. Buckley) pointed out that the State headquarters had already suggested to the State Government that the State Government was in the nature of a test of the league's sincerity, and since an approach was made, the Federal Government had already initiated it appeared that the only avenue for the local sub-branch was through the council.

MAYORAL REMARKS

The Mayor (Mr. C. S. Eadon-Clarke)—who was present in his capacity as President of the sub-branch—asked what the council would do, and he said that what the city had been asked for was a practical suggestion, incorporating the fact that the sub-branch was willing to pay.

If some concrete proposal were put forward, he had no doubt that the local government authority would be willing to give consideration to it.

It was suggested by Mr. W. R. Smith that a public meeting should be convened for the purpose of selecting a suitable person or persons to take charge of organizing civil defence in Geraldton.

After Mr. A. C. Carter had remarked that a specific, rather than a general, proposal was required, Mr. Denman said he would withdraw his motion with the intention of reintroducing the subject when he had acquired further information.

Group Meeting At Armadale Was Big Draw

Twenty-three sub-branches were represented by over 60 delegates from as far afield as Harvey at the R.S.I. conference at Armadale on Saturday, February 21.

Delegates were accorded a reception by the local road board, and at noon the State President (Mr. Lonnie) unveiled the World War II plaque on the Armadale War Memorial.

A feature of the conference session, which commenced at 2 p.m., was an address by the Carnets Trust Fund representative in W.A. (Mr. J. Limb). Other topics discussed were the new War Veterans' Home, hospital visiting, the Rockingham holiday-camp project, Poppy Day, the Aged Soldiers' Fund, and war services home.

Because of the torrid conditions that day the local women's auxiliary served iced coffee instead of tea at refreshment time, following which the delegates were piped from the hall to the memorial for a wreath-laying ceremony at which Mr. Lonnie and the local president officiated.

Time-bomb Tactics At Subiaco

The outburst of energy threatened for the festive season was a delayed-action affair, the sub-branch exploding into activity in February with painting, fly-wiring and dart-boarding amongst other pursuits.

The committee bore the burden, and the heat—the heat being provided by Nature and the burden being that of the committee itself.

At the monthly general meeting, members stood in silence to the memory of the late Mr. W. G. Stockton, the Grand Old Man of Subiaco who has been for so many years such a good friend to the sub-branch. His son Lyall is a past-president of the sub-branch.

The meeting was cheered to learn that the house manager at Hall bookings was looking up.

The president, in the spirit of comradeship, arranged a sports evening with Shenton Park and Mr. Alec Cagin again took on the duties of sportsman.

After a verbal appeal by Mr. Frank Rastad the sub-branch is contacting the Subiaco City Council regarding the dedication of the Anzac Day of the new plaque on the Memorial Clock Tower.

The secretary would like any member who knows of any other names on the plaque to get in touch with him.

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THE LISTENING POST MARCH, 1959
16th Battalion Affairs

At the February committee meeting of the 16th Battalion Association, Mr. Newick, secretary, said that 26 members had been booked for the Adelaide and arrangements for the trip were nearly completed.

The association is fortunate to be able to use the Railway Institute hall for this year's Anzac Day gathering. Going to alterations the hall now for a while. The president and secretary reported having seen the new flag, which will be used next Anzac Day. It is hoped that Mr. Smith will be back from England to carry it as soon as possible.

Would all members of the Burungas (C16), who may have been in touch with Mr. N. Stehn at 12 Hobbs Ave. South Perth, write a view of the occasion.

Mr. Stehn will represent his bowling club at a forthcoming Kalgoolie carnival and Leaves for Queensland to compete in a bowling tournament in April. Good luck to them both.

Death reported: Mr. Stanstone, R.P.H. Ward 31, and Mr. A. Chambers, R.P.H., Ward 3. Mrs. Maher is also reported to be in R.P.H.

Deaths reported: J. R. McRae, W. C. Kent, Mr. Newick was congratulated by the committee on his assuming the reins of President of the Mt. Lawley sub-branch R.S.L.

Mr. C. Ichbiester reported having visited Geraldton and met Messrs. A. Anderson, P. Dunn, L. Pomeroy, and G. Spencer, L. Smythe and B. Brind.

The president and secretary attended a meeting at Anzac House on March 9 to receive a report on the proposed Blackboy Hill memorial.

Recently three members of the committee visited the homes of sick members: Albert Glass, Percy Mantle, Tom Downes, and B. May (now in Hollywood).

Emphasis Put On Slogan
At Rivervale

Rivervale members who have not yet sent in their subscription are being reminded that the sub-branch is entitled to a plaque in time for "99," and are being asked to act on it.

At the annual meeting the following executive team was chosen:

President: Mr. Jim Cornish; senior vice-president, Mr. N. Healy; junior vice-president, Mr. R. Wells; secretary, Mr. J. Colburnton; treasurer, Mr. T. Hanney; assistant-secretary, Mr. M. Johnson; trustees, Messrs. H. Rushforth and N. Davidson; committee Messrs. R. Spencer, W. Payne, H. Norris, L. Butler, W. Timpson, L. Stubbs, S. Laidzinski and H. Hawker.

A recent sports night was occupied for the annual battle of the sexes, at which members challenged ladies for darts, quizzes, table tennis and bowls.

At the February general meeting, there was a talk (illustrated with colour-slides) on the Barrier Reef and other parts of Australia.

There were numerous volunteers for a recent house-painting project undertaken to assist a war-widow.

28th Battalion Barbecue

The committee would like to see a few more members present at the general meeting of the association please.

There was quite a good muster for the occasion, including Mr. R. Warren of the 2/28th but excluding the C.O. and his major of the 28th C.M.F.—they were attending a military parade.

Any Snaps Of Blackboy?

The Blackboy Hill Camp Memorial Committee would like to borrow any old photographs of the World War I camp in its heyday.

It needs the snaps for publicity purposes connected with a drive for funds to erect a suitable memorial on the old campsite.

Please forward any available snaps to Mr. W. Webb (the committee secretary), c/o Anzac House, Perth.

Anzac Day Function
For Sappers

Sappers, please note! The annual meeting and reunion of the R.A.E. Ex-Associations will be held at the W.A.C.A. in the Press Fav. at 12.30 p.m. on Anzac Day (April 25).

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Volunteers Praised

The retiring C.O. of the 28th Infantry Battalion (Lieut.-Col. J. Roberts) said during a recent visit to Geraldton that he was delighted with the progress of Geraldton's unique all-volunteer "D" Company.

He said the sub-unit had exceeded all expectations; that it had started early last year as a platoon and by September had developed into a company.

As the first and only completely volunteer sub-unit in Australia, it had given the 28th Battalion a boost to the stage where it now had the highest percentage of volunteers in W.A., and the unit was the biggest in the State.

Geraldton's example had had a marked effect elsewhere in the State, and had resulted in an influx of volunteers in the metropolitan areas and in the1st Platoon. The Geraldton unit was stronger than those at Kalgoolie, Albany, Bunbury and Collie, at which centres the call-up system was still in operation.

Col. Roberts said it was anticipated that Capt. J. D. Murray would take his place as C.O.
Maylands Conference BREAKS NEW GROUND

A group conference of north-of-the-river sub-branches to be held at Maylands on Saturday, April 11, will break new ground in being the first of such meetings to be held in the heart of the metropolitan area.

The conference has been called because of the success enjoyed by group conferences in recent years and in response to several requests for similar metropolitan gatherings.

A move in the metropolitan direction was made recently with the holding of the Armadale conference (reported in these columns).

The Maylands meeting will be held in the Maylands sub-branch hall at the corner of Ninth Avenue and Guildford Road, commencing at 2 p.m. and closing with the laying of a wreath at 4 p.m.

As the purpose of these conferences is to enable the sub-branches to exchange ideas and information and suggestions from members of sub-branches, discussion on their own activities, no restriction is placed on the numbers attending from sub-branches.

Sub-branches are being asked to send the host sub-branch of the expected attendance from their ranks to simplify the catering arrangements.

Princess WILL RECEIVE A LOYAL WELCOME

League members throughout Australia were eagerly awaiting the news of the Royal Highness Princess Alexandra of Kent’s visit to Australia. President (Sir George Holland) said recently, "It is a great privilege to have Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as the Head of the Commonwealth and to members of the royal family, Australia has been fortunate in having had the opportunity of welcoming royal visitors on three occasions since the war. These visits did an immense amount of good and demonstrated the solidarity of the British Commonwealth of Nations under the Queen as Royal Head.

A.R.M.S. GAMES PLANNING

The first meeting for the year of the A.R.M.S. Games Committee was held on March 9. They anticipate that more sub-branches will be competing for the shield this year.

Anzac Eve Reunion

An Anzac Eve Reunion will be held in the Anzac House ballroom at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 31, in commemoration of the landing at Gallipoli in April, 1915.

A general invitation is being extended to all returned ex-servicemen, and especially to members of the Anzac Club...

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N. Perth Sub-branch Affairs

The new president (Mr. Laurie Hurdle) was in the chair for the first time at the February meeting of the North Perth sub-branch.

He conducted the proceedings in a business-like manner which augurs well for the sub-branch for the future. Further, it is hoped that he will, as he said, to cut down the business portion of the meeting and allow more time for members to enjoy the social side of sub-branch activities.

This was the most workers in sub-branch affairs is assured of members' co-operation in any arrangements for the welfare of the sub-branch.

At the January meeting of the sub-branch, it was decided to ask Messrs. Eric Davids, Bob Maclean and Jack Faulkner to act as sub-branch trustees. As the property of the sub-branch is now of considerable value, this step was thought to be necessary. All have filled this position willingly.

Owing to the absence of President Laurie Hurdle the chair at the last general meeting was ably filled by vice-president Mr. Everly Brickhill.

A vote at the February sub-branch meeting was carried to the effect that the sub-branch meeting was Merv Williams, secretary of the small though thriving

Corowa-Waddi Forest sub-branch in the North Midland area. This sub-branch now owns its own substantial memorial hall and is well established, its fund being costing several hundred pounds. Merv was originally a member of the North Perth sub-branch.

Members have every reason to be more than satisfied with their financial position of the sub-branch as disclosed by the figures of the various funds and the report of the sub-branch secretary, Mr. Bill Anderson. Bill gives due credit to the magnificent part the members have played in achieving this result.

The following resolution was agreed to at the January meeting of the sub-branch: "That the business of the sub-branch be conducted by the General Committee meeting in the presence of the President, that if the President considers any business important, he shall call a meeting to be held at骨架 general meeting of the sub-branch."
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SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

ROyal ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION—W.A.—meets Anzac House, Hay-street, Perth. President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION—meets Anzac House, Hay-street, Perth. President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

Tenth and 2nd RATTALION ASSOCIATION—meets monthly in Railway Institute, Hay-street, South Perth. President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

11th and 2/11th BNS AIF ASSOCIATION—President—E. MacLeod, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

1/4th BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION—President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

14th BATTALION ASSOCIATION—meets Anzac House, Hay-street, Perth. President—Mr. J. A. M. Smith, Secretary—Mr. G. W. Brown.

Good Year’s Work At Dongara
A proud recital of achievements for the past year has been given by President A. D. Dempster at the annual meeting of the Dongara sub-branch recently.

The Honour Board, costing £10/13/6 dek, presents to the subscriber £12 each.

The local road board had shared the cost of installing the lighting with the sub-branch, and Mr. Brumwell had promised to supply power and maintenance free of charge.

The Anzac Day service had been well attended.

The annual ball had proved a triumph over poor weather conditions.

Most of the pports received for sale on Remembrance Day had sold, and the proceeds had all been paid for.

A refrigerator had been acquired for the club, and the sub-branch had presented to the old League of Mataura a set of books.

Average attendance at meetings had been 31, and expenditure £28.95.

The sub-branch was indebted to Mr. G. Pearson for making available a room for meetings.

Subscriptions Call At Shenton Park
Despite poor attendances at business and social meetings the Shenton Park sub-branch was able to continue its function, and now that the disruptive influence of the holiday period is over the executive committee urges members to lend their full support.

At the annual meeting Mr. E. Rummans was elected president, Messrs. C. Martin and H. Tondin vice-presidents and Mr. Trevor Still secretary.

As membership subscriptions are now overdue Mr. Still requests those in arrears to attend to the matter at the next meeting or before the next meeting, as his private address is 19 Burwood-street, Shenton Park.

Alterations costing £150 have been carried out at sub-branch premises this year. Storage space has been augmented by removal of a wall to enable incorporation in the kitchen space of a 12 x 12ft. area. Fluorescent lighting has also been provided.

The sub-branch social and games night is held on the third Wednesday each month.

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South Perth sub-branch members at their new hall at the Angelsea street site soon.

On Wednesday February 26 meeting heard a very interesting talk on the dam busters of Moehne and Eder fame. 8R Fols. was given by Mr. Lance Howard, president of the Air Force Association and formerly a member of the famous squadron.

The evening was rounded off with a fine supper prepared by the women's auxiliary.

No guest speaker had been arranged for March. Sub-branch membership subscriptions have now passed the halfway mark—an improvement on the position at the same time last year, but still not good enough.

Members have been invited to visit Marylands members in their new hall on Thursday, March 19, and those accepting the invitation are advised to be at the Hurlingtom corner at 7.30 p.m.

South Perth members hope to make a start on their new hall at the Angelsea street site soon.

South Perth Hears Talk On "The Dam Busters"

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THE LISTENING POST

MARCH, 1959

THE LAST POST

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February List

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DOHANON, N., 1st A.G.S. North Perth.

BETRAGT, W. D.C.L.L., Murray.

B. J., 3rd F. C. F., Devonport.

G. I., 16th Btn., Kalgoorlie.


H. W., 2/4 M.G. Subiaco.

T. O., 14th Btn., Perth.

J. C., Royal Yugoslav Army, North Perth.

J. E., Moosman.


P. F., 11th Btn., West Perth.


J. A., 1/2 A.A.F., Denmark.

N. J., 16th Btn., N.E. Perth.

E. C., 12th Btn., Fremantle.

R. I., 21st Btn., Boulder.

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