Asian Migration Quota

(From the National President's Newsletter)

Once again voices have been raised extolling the virtues and benefits that the proponents claim would derive from a migration quota of Asian migrants to Australia.

Once again the R.S.L. resolutely opposes this point of view and repeats with its complete conviction that it will do nothing of the sort.

There could be no benefit from such an arrangement. It would please neither the Asians themselves nor Australians.

It would break down a tradition which has been jealously guarded since the middle of last century. It would bring into our midst a problem that does not now exist and would raise the difficulties now being experienced in other countries in exactly the same way.

The quota itself would only be a start and it would not stop so-called insults to Asians by not having a quota.

Once we meet the objections of well-meaning, but badly misguided, people holding a quota by having a quota, and therefore according to their arguments remove prejudice, to do merely would be a second and continued insult by discrimination.

How Start?

And how would you start? To whom would you give preference? To India, which has five times the numbers of Pakistan?

But India is not a member of S.E.A.T.O. and Pakistan is.

I can imagine what would be said by Pakistan when it was found that Australia, under this delightfully vague quota idea, took five times as many people into our country from another country which has no military alliance with Australia, and cut to one-fifth the numbers coming from our own country actually linked with us in a military alliance.

How would the quota expand with that problem?

There is another point which is often overlooked. In effect Australia already allows a number of distinct

R.S.L. Ball

Success

STANDON TRAINING ISSUE

At its meeting in Canberra last month the National Executive had before it for consideration some Press reports on the possibility of the abandonment of National Service training.

The executive resolved as follows:

"The National Executive of the Returned Servicemen's League is extremely disturbed by published reports to the effect that the present National Service training scheme is to be abolished.

"It is the opinion of the executive that such action would be disastrous and that instead of reductions in that field the call-up numbers should be increased substantially for training not only for defence in the field but also for civil defence."

(Meritorious President's statement on next page)

League Slogan

Competition

See Page 16

MUNDARING PRESIDENT INJURED

Mr. Bob Halls, president of the Mundaring and Districts sub-branch, was severely injured in a sawmill accident at Mundaring Weir early last month.

"Working as benchman he was struck on the stomach and head by a piece of timber.

He was operated on the same day at the St. John of God Hospital, Belmont, where he is reported to be making satisfactory progress.

Mr. Halls may not be able to resume work for some months. Sub-branch members are looking forward to his return to active duty.

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N.S. Training Must Go On, Says Leader

It would be a tragedy for the nation if the National Service training scheme were to go, said the present National President (Sir George Holland) in a recent newsletter.

He went on:

Confident newspaper publicity during the recent campaign was contemptible. The government intended to continue this scheme for the future and its defence lies in the strength of the armed forces. The statement that the present scheme was in health is the most admirable. It would have been preferable to avoid making the proposal for the scheme's renewal.

In so far as the scheme is to be dropped, it will mean that the nation will lose its present Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral Sir John Slessor, and the present President, Sir George Holland. It is not justifiable to say that the proposal is a mistake when such a dependence has been placed on the scheme.

The benefits to the present scheme were demonstrated by the fact that the present scheme was in place at the time of the scheme's renewal.

The scheme was to be discontinued.

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Archway Plan For Avenues Of Honour

The State Executive is seeking the approval of the King's Park Board for the erection of a wooden archway at each end of the two honour avenues in the park. The proposal for the archways was submitted by the State President, who said that at present there was nothing to indicate the start or finish of the memorial drives.

The archways, he said, would be constructed of the best W.A. timbers and could be suitably inscribed. They would serve to mark the sacred nature of the avenues and to make a lasting impression on the minds of visitors to Perth and the young people of the community.

WOMEN GET TOGETHER

A meeting of women in the Returned Soldiers' quarters at Anzac House on the Tuesday of the week ending September 2, discussed hospitality aspects of the National Congress to be held in Perth on Monday, October 19.

The meeting was convened by Mrs. W. S. Lonne.

Faversham Notes

An average of 23 guests were in residence for the past month, four more are in hospital. It was decided that another guest—Mr. A. Taylor—passed away at the York hospital on August 2.

TheMatron and Mr. Hellel tendered their resignations on September 19. The committee expressed its sincerest gratitude for the kind assistance during these resignations, and has expressed its thanks for the loyal support of Mr. and Mrs. Hellel. They have always been given to the home.

Mr. MacManus has volunteered to go to Faversham to look after the interest of the home, and it is hoped that arrangements will be made to replace the position of his services, which have been vacated with the resignations.

Donations for the month were as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Cross Society—tobacco and cigarettes, £14 5s. 6d.; Institute—£1 11s. 6d.; Sunley—£1 4s. 6d.; Biscuit—for the poor, £1 12s. 6d.; YMCA—£1; United Service—£1 11s. 6d.; R.S.L.—£2 6s. 3d.; Budget—£1 1s. 3d.; Anzac—£1 12s. 6d.; Women's—£1.

The committee wishes to express its thanks to the above donors.
Many Children Eligible For These Education Awards

The Services Canteens Trust Fund was derived from the profits of the canteens conducted by the Australian services—Army, Navy and Air Force—during World War II and is being administered for the benefit of ex-service men and women of World War II and their dependants.

Under the Services Trust Fund, payments have been appropriated to provide education assistance to ex-service men and women who served in the Australian forces during the period 8th September, 1939, and 30th June, 1947.

The trustees of the fund have estimated a plan for providing educational benefits to eligible children and have decided to allocate Commonwealth Grants on a year-by-year basis, varying from £5 to £100, depending on the cost of the course and the family circumstances.

The Object

The object of the trustees is to provide assistance in cases of need for eligible children to help them to pursue educational courses for which they are suited and which will assist them in preparing for a career, calling, or profession. The basic aim is to assist children in secondary education.

Sought-After Friends

Mr. A. C. Mann of 57 Cedars Road, Taunton, Somerset—was known with the object of endeavouring to contact any of the man’s war friends with whom he knew on the Burma-Siam railway. Unfortunately, he spoke of such names as Snowy Bluey, Digger and etc. This was not very helpful in assisting him to make the desired contacts.

Mr. Mann was widely known to his army friends as “The Watch Repairer”. One day, when he was in the dark in the days before the first World War, his main objective is to obtain someone to nominate him as a migrant to this country.

Mr. Mann’s next visit is to Melbourne and Sydney, where among other things, he was inquiring into the running of the clubs and raising £200 to £300 in the State.

Visits Justified By Results: Lonnie

State Executive visits to sub-branches, by and large, had been well justified by the results stemming from them. The State President (Mr. Lonnie) told his executive recently.

He was counselling caution in respect of a move to restrict the number of visits in order to effect an economy.

“I agree that if possible visiting should not be unjudiciously curtailed but cannot be judged solely on the basis of economics,” Mr. Lonnie said.

A few months ago he had made a visit to Wickepin to present a certificate to a 90-year-old man. That had brought the recipient more pleasure than he had known for years.

There was also to be considered the general effect the visits had on goodwill throughout the State.

“From now on I should be possible to settle back into a somewhat easier routine,” Mr. Lonnie said, “but deciding on any particular visit must always be a priority to the League as a whole,” he said. Last October a weekend trip had brought in £500 in the League.

Nominees For National Office

Blackboy Hill Memorial

The State Executive has nominated Sir George Holman for the position of National President of the League, and Mr. M. S. Long for the Deputy National President. It has also nominated Mr. Vice-Marshal Bland for the position of Honorary Treasurer.

The elections will be held at the National Congress in Perth during October.

Eligibility

Children eligible for awards NEXT YEAR are those who—

(i) will be 12 years of age or over and are children of ex-service men and women;

(ii) will be 13 or 14 years old and who MUST live away from home to obtain suitable secondary education or if any such exceptional circumstances warrant special consideration;

(iii) will be 15 years of age or over.

APPLICATIONS: Applications for Education Awards OPEN on the 1st August each year and close on the 15th October each year. Full details will be supplied on request. The applications should be sent to the President of the Services Canteens Trust Fund, Swan Barracks, Perth.
Apply Now For Inclusion In Anzac Delegation To N.Z.

Arrangements are now being made to form the R.S.L. Anzac Delegation to New Zealand for 1960, and West Australians desirous of inclusion should make application through the State Secretary, Anzac House.

The delegation is to comprise 50 members, including a federal leader, and after arrival in New Zealand will be divided into four pre-arranged groups as follows:

Group 1 (13 members) for Wellington.
Group 2 (13 members) for Auckland.
Group 3 (12 members) for Dunedin.
Group 4 (12 members) for Christchurch.

Applicants will be required to state their first, second and third preference as regards grouping.

The delegation leader will travel with Group 1.

Sailing Date
Under arrangements being made by the New South Wales State branch, the delegation will embark at Sydney on the "Monowai" for New Zealand on April 16 (the usual sailing time is 2.50 p.m.) and disembark at Wellington on April 20.

Travel arrangements in New Zealand are being made by the New Zealand R.S.A. on repayment.

On April 29 the whole party is to embark at Auckland for Sydney—to be reached on May 3.

The time away from Sydney will be 38 days (to which must be added the 2-day journey from home-State to Sydney and return).

The total cost from Sydney to New Zealand and return has been estimated (very approximately) at £122, and it is expected to be made up as follows:

- Approximate cost of first-class return-fare Sydney-Wellington, Auckland-Sydney, £82 (price varies according to class of travel and time of booking).
- Hotel accommodation, £80.
- Meals and incidentals, £40; other expenses, £20.
- This must be added to those costs, at Sydney, plus accommodation costs in Sydney if staying overnight.

Experience has suggested that some of the special "service" nature of the Anzac delegation and the type of functions, hospitality, and travelling arrangements associated with it, which are wholly a male, will be a special feature of the visit, and can be an embarrassment.

If any wives accompany their husbands, it is to be understood that no arrangements can be made to include them at functions, in accommodation bookings or in tours and visits, except to receive them officially in any way whatsoever.

This is joint R.S.L. and N.Z.R.S.A. policy based on the recommendations of previous delegations and their leaders.

In Applying

Applicants approved by State branches for inclusion in the party should furnish the following information which is required by this headquarters and by the New South Wales State branch.

1. Full Name (surname in block letters).
2. Address—also telephone number.
3. Occupation: (with trade and business name.
4. Date of Birth.
5. R.S.L. sub-branch (state any special office held in past or present).
7. Special Interests? (community, R.S.L., sporting, etc).
8. N.Z. centre you would prefer to visit for Anzac commemorations (every effort will be made to meet applicant's desires but first-come, first-served is the rule).

For this purpose applicants are required to state their first, second and third choice of group to be allocated to.

(9) Medical Fitness—If applicant has suffered any recent serious illness a medical certificate of fitness to travel must be furnished.

(10) Marching—state whether you are an able-bodied man and can take part in Anzac Day marches.

(11) Accommodation in hotels and overnight dates are required.

In General

Intending applicants are asked to take note of the following general information:

- War medals should be taken.
- Dress, particularly for receptions, and other functions, must be suitable, on which occasions opennecked suits are "out".
- Members of the delegation must co-operate with the delegation leader in all group activities and make every effort to conform to the official programme of functions and entertainments drawn up by the N.Z.R.S.A.
- Reimbursements or clearances are necessary.
- Deposts to the ship for sleeping accommodation must be paid promptly on request.
- Cancellations must be notified without delay so that those on the waiting list can be warned.

Don't Abuse Your Flag

The national flag should never be used to cover tables, platforms or seats or to mask barriers and partitions. Bunting or signal flags should be used for these purposes.

The national flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling memorials, plaques and so on, but it should never be used as a cover for such memorials.

The only exception is when it is arranged on a pole or wire so that it can be drawn to one side, and when it is shown not to pervert the flag on the floor or ground.

It is necessary for someone to be on the platform to receive the flag as it is raised on the side during the unveiling ceremony. When displayed aloft on the flagpole, the flag can be either flown against the wall above and behind the speaker, or on a staff on the speaker’s right as he faces the audience.

The Australian flag is used as the flag of all Australian ex-servicemen. It should be placed on the casket with the Union Jack, at the head or foot, or on the deceased. The flag should be removed before the casket is lowered into the grave.

In the case of ex-Imperial servicemen the Union Jack should be displayed in the same manner, and in the case of the other Dominion ex-service men, the appropriate Dominion flag.

Detailed rules for the flying of the Australian national flag were published in the March, 1937, issue of “The Listening Post.”
They All Remember Flynn In The "Centre"

Reminiscences by Ben McKay (a New Zealander)

One cannot travel through the central districts of Australia and round the Northern Territory, including Queensland's Gulf territory, without coming into contact with many people who knew the late John Flynn.

They knew the magnitude of the task he undertook to bring about the chain of missions to those remote territories, the hospital and Flying Doctor service which he organised, and the Old Timers' home at Alice Springs where the aged pioneers of the Territory are cared for.

Through his efforts the combined churches (Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist) have combined all their church properties in that locality, and missions (under one combined organisation, each group maintaining its identity and property, but all being used jointly for the one great purpose.)

Harmony

The different ministers worked together as one church, with the far horizons and beyond as their mission fields, and attended to the bodily and spiritual ills of both white and black men alike.

This is just one of the Inland Mission, which the late John Flynn first visited. He put the idea of courage together to organise and with courage and ability until there seemed no limit to what this mission could do.

People first knew him as an ordinary bush parson, or missionary as such could be called, out in the scrub and gums in those remote parts. You have got to see the country to know what it is like and an ordinary-minded person would perhaps wonder what there was for a minister to do out there.

Flynn was not a medical doctor, but the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was bestowed upon him and the O.B.E. for his great work in the Inland Mission. For his services in aiding all ambulance work,Broken limbs, and amputations were common with no doctor available, and with the expert skill of the pioneer. That the late John Flynn was the first to fly over his grave at the foot of Mount Gillen to the west of Alice Springs.

The plane is up on a single terrace with Mount Gibson in the background, and we got out to pay our respects to the last resting place of this great man, a single-engined white plane with a red band on the nose.

"There goes the Flying Doctor," said a local man, "now let's see where he is going this time." He took a quick bearing on the direction and noted that the plane was on its way to the first station, he said, "or he wouldn't be going in height, much as the man that is the only station in that direction." He started to search the grave of the man who organised this great service, and after a while got it working.

The pilot would contain the child, a doctor and an attendant and a stretcher for the patient, and the hospital the patient would go to was at Alice Springs.

That is all I saw and know and service, but to stand beside the grave of the man who organised this great service, and after a while got it working.

At Church

Well, I attended evening service at the Flynn Memorial Church three years ago, in those parts, I have heard that one of the ministers was from Cambridgeshire (New Zealand) and I was very keen to meet him.

After the service, we were invited to round, was the Methodist hall, about 10 people, and "get-together" and supper.

The murder who preached that the New Zealander had been away for 143 years was not to be home till the following Sunday, and would be holding the service at Oodnadatta, seeing to that branch of the church. By 500 miles south and he was visiting places 30 and 100 miles in the middle of the track where the station was.

On this particular Sunday evening not one of us asked if we were going for the evening or going to put our clothes in the church at the moonlight.

The men had their wives on holiday with them — making up the 12 and 12 of the church, two well-dressed ladies, and made up 14.

Singing was recorded for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation about hymns, all popular ones.

It was the first time I ever went on the air singing, but the church was made round and that "odd" voice could never be detected.

A few of the aborigines were dressed in nice hats and dress well. They were at the church, too — girls dressed with nice hats and shoes, and stockings, and boy, they were there and the married ones. Dad carrying a three-stringed instrument, and Mum carrying the baby, and the other people were showing the whites of their eyes as they looked suspiciously at us.

All Barefooted

Some of the mothers wore accordian-pleated skirts on their way in, and all were barefooted.

None of the aborigines came round to the social that evening, they did not remember seeing an aboriginal youth or young lady, there were children of both sexes there.

The women are married by their own and have no children in their matrimonial future. It is all arranged by the tribal captain.

No woman is allowed near a tribal meeting, and this goes back to the four or five generations of so-called civilisation. Those black men, do not like the white men's ways, and religion, and do not like to see the girls and themselves in these ways.

The girls may not marry until they get to be about 16. The well-born girl, who married a young man of the same age, after a tribal meeting and beaten to death — the tribal laws are still there.

It took all these different people of different colours and types to make up the congregation, and all of us had heard of Flynn, or knew him personally.

It was impossible to go into the church or pass it without thinking of the man and what he dedicated his life to.

Old-timers

He died of natural causes in his old age, and the Rev. Fred McKay became the new minister.

Another part of Flynn's work and organisational ability to the Old-Timers' home — just through the gap in the McLeod's Range. Alice Springs. Here a home has been established for Old-Timers who lived at least 30 years of their lives working and battling... and the Northern Territory, and the Old-Timers' home.

I think you have to be at least 70 years of age to get in.

It is located in a very fertile strip of land irrigated by pipe from the bores at various points. It grows oranges and all other citrus fruits and an abundance of vegetables. The old men look after the supervision of a half-Aboriginal and half European.

The building layout is two-roomed cottages, one man to each room, and there is a verandah for each, and a bath, room and skylight.

The inmates are supplied with meals on wheels, and can boil the jug for themselves between times. There are cows kept on the property too; in fact, it is practically self-sustaining.

They keep a horse for their wife do not get wages, but sell the surplus vegetables and home-made wool per day. They average 1,500 a year income for his, besides feeding the inmates with an abundance of fruit and vegetables.

I suppose a portion of the income from the sheep, cattle or war pensions would go towards their upkeep. Quite likely the same thing happened to all the African veterans and first-world-war returned men.

There was the master mind behind everything Flynn did. If his energy and ability had been used in the country, we would have been a millionnaire, but he served another. Master Flynn was a lot happier for having done so.

Hard Country

I will tell the story of just one of the old-timers who are inmates of this home—

No waster is tolerated in the home. Everyone must have given at least 30 years of his life in an endeavour to make good in some way, in the Territory.

In the right cottage on the right hand side at the gate is a little old man, 84 years of age, who stands erect as any youthful bachelor. He speaks well of the Territory and its people, and would not care to live anywhere else in Australia.

He came to Alice Springs 50 years ago, and after working for 10 years had saved enough money to buy a small one-square-mile block of cattle country (all leasehold).

He fenced and erected a homestead and stocked the place with 20 sheep, and in three and a half years. All thunderstorms, and downpours came that came, but Mr. Thunder, missed his holding.

(Continued, Page 8)
ANZAC CLUB JOTTINGS

The Club as usual is first with the latest—T.V. is the order of the day. A 21 inch Phillips has been installed and members are coming from near and far to enjoy this modern feature.

In the near future cold meat will be served during the lunch period—noon to 2 p.m.

The billiards and snooker competition is drawing to close with the Club in fifth position. All members are playing reasonably well and are confident of going on to win the coveted trophy.

For consistency Tom Biddeman, Alan Woods and Sid Rosser are doing well. Jack Coombes hasn't won in his games but has gone back to Melbourne.

DARTS

The dart club is having its best season for years. The A-grade is 1 pt ahead of Hyde Park, with two games to go.

Aves finished 6th. They are playing to the manor's papers. They were semifinal and are ready for the finals. B-grade finished 4th. Ray Hamilton is still pegging out in style and should win the title. Others throwing well are Bob Hall, Percy Considine, John, Harry, Alan, Gordon Lowe, Trevor Jones, Norm Raynor, and Don McDonald.

Carpets Bowls

Carpets bowls are proving an added attraction. The next competition will commence on Friday 18th at 8 am. all League members will join the fun. (Sub-branches with a set of bowls, ring 23-2272).

Bob Blaker, Jim Tait, Ted Howard, Jim Biddle and the Campbell brothers are in rare form and will give a good show. Bridge and crib are still played. Members are asked to turn up to the club on Sunday evenings at 10 p.m. to hear the latest activities.

Ladies' nights will be in the club lounge on regular intervals. A number of talented artists are volunteering their services. Show your appreciation by coming along.

CROWNING GLORY

Miss Cooma Glory contestant Pat Walton—Anzac Club choice—could easily win this competition, she has all the requirements plus an energetic supporter, lately she has seen over the secretary of the club and her personal ambidexterity is steadily rising.

The novelty billiards night was the most successful and £25 was raised. The ladies' night on Tuesday, day 1st on the roof garden was enjoyed by all. Pat Walton was present. Mr. and Mrs. Snow, Mr. and Mrs. Walmsley and Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Bob held a night with the chocolate wheel and were able to hand out a nice sum of money towards the fund.

NEXT CONCERT

Don't forget Monday 21st when the Ski Hi variety show will present 100 minutes of non-stop variety. Tickets are selling fast. They can be obtained from sub-branch secretaries, Mrs. B. Dhert C. Dunker from the Club.

The Monster Raffle is gradually selling out. Starting on Monday, September 19, there will be a competition for the larger prize. Tickets are available at Boans through members of the Returned Services' representatives for 20 cents each. The turn in is 7 pm. Don't miss out.

The tie bar has brought in nearly £20. If any members have any unwanted ties send them to us. Selling at 2/6 each when renovated—they are a real bargain.

Reading matter is now on sale—books and novels to suit all tastes at only 6d each. We will be pleased to receive any books you may have.

HALL SCHOOL

The School is still open for business.

HALL SCHOOL

HALL SCHOOL

HALL SCHOOL

Eligible Ex-Imperials Should Join League

In Western Australia all ex-Imperials who are eligible for membership of the League are welcome to join.

Any ex-Imperial in doubt regarding his eligibility should consult the nearest sub-branch secretary, or write to the State House, giving details of his war service.

The staff of Anzac House gives all possible assistance to ex-Imperials seeking advice, irrespective of whether they are League members or not.

Remembrance Day Wreath-layings

The League is considering a proposal for encouraging business houses, local gove

ments, and other organisations with honour boards, to conduct simple wreath-laying ceremonies on Remembrance Day each year.

The R.S.L. Relief Fund is to be the main beneficiary.

The League’s Pensions Officer at Anzac House will investigate, on behalf of the Branch, the possibility of conducting the same as Australia and the same as Australian servicemen, and there are at least one third Imperial will be left.

Help ex-Imperials and the League too, by passing this to ex-Imperials you may know who are not League members.

 Eligible Ex-Imperials Should Join League

In Western Australia all ex-Imperials who are eligible for membership of the League are welcome to join.

Any ex-Imperial in doubt regarding his eligibility should consult the nearest sub-branch secretary, or write to the State House, giving details of his war service.

The staff of Anzac House gives all possible assistance to ex-Imperials seeking advice, irrespective of whether they are League members or not.

Remembrance Day Wreath-layings

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National Congress

An event of paramount importance is the choice of Perth as the venue for the sessions of the 44th annual National Congress, which is scheduled to commence on Monday, October 19.

Following a wreath-laying ceremony at the State War Memorial on Saturday, the official opening will be performed by Mr. K. Fraser, Dominion President of the Returned Services League of Australia. The Congress is expected to be well attended.

The National President (Sir George Holland, C.B.E., M.I.I.) will preside at Congress and will be accompanied by Mr. K. Newman, National Secretary. Representatives from all States, including A.C.T., Papua-New Guinea, have indicated that they will be making the trip to Western Australia for the occasion and Mr. K. Fraser, Dominion President of the Returned Services League of Australia, will also be present as an observer.

An outstanding programme of social activities is planned and receptions to His Excellency the Governor (Tuesday 20th), State Cabinet (Wednesday 21st), and the Perth City Council (Wednesday 21st) are among the highlights already arranged.

It is expected that the Kalgoorlie, Boulder and Coolgardie sub-branches will stage an initial welcome to our visitors during the brief stop-over in Kalgoorlie.

On the afternoon of Sunday 18th, a drive to Wanneroo is planned and should this eventuality it is hoped that representatives of the sub-branches—Northam, York, Toodyay and Bakers Hill—will combine to welcome the party and perhaps supply afternoon tea. On returning to Perth, a buffet tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Lennie will be held and this should provide an ideal opportunity for a happy get-together.

Esperance Gesture To Youth

A meeting of presidents and secretaries will be held in the same room, Esperance House, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30.

Arrangements must be made for the welcome of the Esperance sub-branch in the city on Poppy Day.

The remainder of the evening will be open for general discussion.

It is hoped that as many sub-branches as possible will be represented.

Donations From Katanning

A cheque for £50 received at Anne House recently from the Katanning sub-branch is the first instalment of a multilimposed target of £100 a year for the new War Veterans’ Home Furnishing and Maintenance Fund.

This was stated in correspondence following a recent meeting of the State Executive.

The Katanning Auxiliary has already donated £100 towards furnishing a room at the home.

A.R.M.S. Competition

Progress-scores To Sept. 6

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Why The Membership Drop? — Executive Worried

A drop in League membership in this State during the past 12 months of over 200 is largely attributed to the State President at the failure of established sub-branches to retain their members.

During a discussion on the membership issue at the July 15 meeting of the Executive Mr. Lonnie said that the combined loss sustained by country sub-branches over the period was about 1,200 members.

Sub-branches such as Qual- pading (a gain of about 80 members) and Narragai had been remarkably successful, but the retrogression in many others was disquieting.

The recently-formed Ordlow sub-branch had done a splendid job by recruiting a religious person in the district.

In the metropolitan area Nollamara had similarly at a most impressive start, but the old-established City of Perth sub-branch on the capitation figures had slipped down in its numbers.

Mr. Lonnie said he did not blame City of Perth, as it was a large sub-branch faced with the difficulty of being no definite geographical location.

Mr. Lawley had lost 35 or more members. On the other hand five metropolitan sub-branches had made gains in the order of 1,200.

There was still time for improvement in the figures. In recent weeks North Perth had shown remarkable recovery in its capitation returns. There had been a most impressive improvement also in the Applecross figures.

Conotton said that most sub-branches were now using membership statistics, as suggested by the Bassendean branch about three years ago. At Narrogin the sub-branch had divided the district into areas for membership purposes, as a member was allocated to each area, and that system had been a most successful one.

Personal contact was vital to the success of any scheme. Mr. Coultae said that the new sub-branches at Millar's Point Beach.

The task for the incoming Membership Committee should not be so formidable if they were not already aware of a far-reaching formulation of methods.

Mr. MacLeod said that the Applecross sub-branch had been about 50 members down this year but that later a number of them had been brought back through personal contact. He suggested that sub-branches should consider retaining the services of one or more members on a commission basis.

The State President said that the principle of collecting membership figures on commission had been discussed at the State Executive during the depression years when League membership had slumped to the low of 2,000. The appointment of an organiser had been recommended, but no appointment had been made because of the cost involved.

Mr. Lonnie said that about 200 personal letters he had sent out this year had brought in no more than 20 members.

Mr. Holder said that 42 of the District of Perth sub-branch had died during the year and the reason was that it had great difficulty in maintaining its numbers.

FLYNN (from Page 5)

He lost all and started working for wages again, and were happily dissipated by the receipt at Anzac House returns of an exemption return for 12 members.

Mr. Ball said it was a very great deal and I do not know about John Flynn, I know if he was living there and that shouldn't be buried there too.

Though there is the same old man, white and man, and by men of all descriptions and that his work was carried on by men like him in the same way as he planned it.

It was a great inspiration to me to meet these people in the central Northern Territory, to understand their way of life, to listen to their stories of the pioneering days — the droughts, the floods, the wars, and John Flynn.
Where Is This Swastika Flag Now?

From Bob Chambers
(ex. Kalgoorlie s/b.)

Probably, the most intriguing story of any war souvenir in Australia surrounds this Swastika flag—I wonder where it is now?

Who sent it back to Australia remained a mystery for six years; then the flag became a memorial to a dead W.A. soldier.

In 1943, the late, well-remembered Vic O'Grady, Boulder sub-branch secretary, received a parcel containing the flag and a broken gramophone record. None of the 88 signatures pencilled on the flag were recognised as that of a local man and the patched-up record, played at full blast over a theatre sound system, burst forth: "Best wishes to Vic O'Grady and the boys of the Boulder R.S.L.," followed by some mumbling and "Give us a go, Jock." There was all hope of finding the sender ended—until the war ended and he returned.

But the flag had been sent to Boulder R.S.L., so Vic hung it on the club wall—and he had to battle to keep it there.

Some members resented it and there were several moves to tear it down.

The war ended, men returned—but the mystery remained.

In November 1949 I wrote about the flag in Smith's Weekly, and Vic was delighted when this produced a five-page letter from Mr. A. Starkey of Brookvale, Manly, N.S.W. "Dear No. 2 Platoon, A Coy. 2/2 M.G. Bn."

Mr. Starkey wrote: "During the Alamein breakthrough in November, 1942, No. 2 Platoon, A Coy 2/2 M.G. Bn. was attached to the 2/15 Infantry Battalion about a mile from the mosque, and south, No. 2 Platoon commander had been wounded and evacuated, and on about November 1 we received a reinforcement officer and a batman. "On November 5 the German retreat had commenced and it was possible for our coves to move into German positions on the escouge over near the mosque. One of the first blokes to return with his haul was our new officer's batman; a West Australian by the name of Joe Monaghan. I distinctly remember Joe asking us all to autograph his swastika flag."

Joe Manghan had not returned because he was killed at Alamein, another, Jack, was serving in the army in 1949, and their mother was then living in Dwyer-street, Boulder.

One of his brothers was killed at Alamein, another, Jack, was serving in the army in 1949, and their mother was then living in Dwyer-street, Boulder.

When the club passed out of control of the R.S.I., some years ago, I think Vic O'Grady took the flag down and kept it.

With Vic gone, now, it would be worth knowing what has happened to the flag—it is a unique souvenir with particular significance.

Budgetary Aims

During the current year every effort would be made to achieve a balanced financial budget. Mr. Lonnie told Congress he said that sub-branches had shown a generous attitude towards the State branch in the allocation of capitalisation fees, which should materially assist towards that end.

Name-change for Nedlands Sub-branch

In the future the Nedlands sub-branch will be officially known as the City of Nedlands sub-branch.

The change, decided on by the sub-branch, followed the assumption of city status by the Nedlands municipality, was approved by the State Executive at its meeting on July 15.

Athletics Plan

Members of the Geraldton Amateur Athletic Club and the local R.S.I. sub-branch of the R.S.I. will meet to discuss a proposed visit to the port next March of outstanding Australian athletes.

The meeting will consider joint organisation of an athletic meeting at the time of the Australian track and field championships.
Onslow's Social Life Stirred By Newly-formed Sub-branch

From D. K. BARRETT

The newly-formed Onslow sub-branch made a highly successful social debut when it launched a full-scale picnic on Sunday, August 9.

Formed on June 20 last, the new sub-branch had reached a membership of 28, which was gratifying to President George Morgan, and Secretary Don Barrett.

After the inaugural meeting, a social committee, headed by chairman Laurie Rinaldi and social secretary Ivan Jones was formed. It was resolved that the function of this committee would be to relieve the social side of activities by organising picnics, social dances, sports and barbecues.

No sooner was the committee born when events began to happen. Two quiz dances held in the town put approximately £15 in the bank account.

A great deal of organisation went on behind the scenes which the whole town was invited to.

From far-off Perth came a message bearing the glad tidings that Queen’s Park in Onslow was to be the venue. Two quiz dances generously donated by all members to make the day a success.

Transport was freely given by local carriers and other people generously donated by all members to make the day a success.

L. Rinaldi, I. Jones, Barry Mitchell, Gerry Hammond, Vincent, and Bob Neaves, took part in the adult competition.

Two quick and quizzical questions were asked, and the answers were given by the committee.

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Northam Meeting Shows Increasing Interest

An attendance of over 50 at the recent annual meeting of the Northam sub-branch indicated a steadily-increasing interest in League affairs locally.

unanimously re-elected as The State Government's policy on preference to preference for enrolment—not in preference to enrolment. This was the tenor of a reply by Mr. Brand (Mr. Brand) to a State Executive view adopted in the League that it would not be practical for the Government to offer preference to enrolment at present, and the Government would be prepared to give very careful consideration to any cases submitted by the League.
The State President (Mr. L. Minchin) said it was not easy to close down the whole of the works, and the intention was to be finished. It would take a long time, but that was not a reason for it. It was the League's policy to render an annual report for each quarter for preference both in employment and reintage.

CHRISTMAS PARCELS

Once again the P.S.L. will be able to give a Christmas present to Australian servicemen serving overseas in the Christmas time this year. Nearly 2,500 parcels will be sent, mostly in wartime, by way of comforts to soldiers on short rations but as a token of admiration and appreciation in which they are but a small fraction of the traditions of the Australian service in part of the world where the spirit of Christmas has the utmost importance.

preferential treatment in any way in which they are maintaining the traditional atmosphere of the Australian service in part of the world where the spirit of Christmas has the utmost importance.

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 our nearest branch, who will gladly give you further information.

THE NATIONAL BANK
OP* AUSTRALASIA LIMITED

Perth Office: 42, St. George's Terrace, Perth
John CAMM, Manager

ALLOCATION OF EX-SERVICEMEN RATES: £2/2/7 per annum

CRADDOCK, T., R.A.F.,檗danger, 7a, Mount Street, Perth. President, L. Symes, secretary.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION—The Secretary, Mr. J. W. Mitchell, 8 St. Mary's, North Beach. Secretary, Mr. A. F. Whitaker, 40 Palmyra Street, North Beach.


ROYAL HUDDLED A.A.I.F.—71 Fifth Avenue, East Perth. President: Mr. A. F. Griffiths, 51 Fourth Avenue, Subiaco, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. A. Griffiths, 51 Fourth Avenue, Subiaco, Hon. Sec. J. C. Andrews.

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Chichester Boys See City

A one-day trip to Perth last month provided an educational and enjoyable outing for 53 members of the Chichester Boys' Club at Collie.

Several places of interest were visited in the metropolitan area.

The outing for the boys was sponsored by the Cariff and Collie R.S.L. sub-branch which arranged for the necessary arrangements.

'The following report on the trip has been provided by Lyall Austin, the secretary of Chichester Boys' Club.'

"We left Collie at 7.5 a.m. and within another five minutes the bus came to a standstill. Mr. Stan Farmer had caught us up along the road and gave us three cases of cool drinks and a tin of biscuits for the trip. To say the least, this was a great relief to the fifty-three boys aboard.

"We had a short stay at Pinjarra and then straight through to the Town House. We were met by Mr. Harry May, M.L.A., who had arranged for us to be taken care of over the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.

"At 12.25 pm, we moved on and had a lunch supplied by the State Executive of the Women Auxiliary. The president Mrs. Stockman, who was recently awarded the O.B.E. by H.M. the Queen spoke to us.

"After grace was said by Rev. Mr. Williams, we had a delicious lunch and then went to the top storey and sat on the lawn, enjoying the views around the Town.

"At 1.30 pm, we went to King's Park where we had a good view of the Narrows Bridge and the Swan River.

Photographs

"It was a terrific thrill to have our photos taken by the West Australian newspaper photographer, sitting on the floor of the parliament where our laws are made and debated.

"After being shown through the libraries it was time to be on our way and as we left the bus we were presented with a brochure which explained everything to us.

"About a short rest in King's Park we were once again depressed by the Holden Motor Works at Mosman Park, where we were ready to be exported to South Africa and the Philippines. After looking at the buildings and seeing those vehicles we journeyed to Fremantle.

Freighter

"We went to the North Wharf where several ships were docked and saw the new British China trading boat. It was a vessel about eight thousand tons and loaded with scrap iron and flour for Japan.

"The boat was built in Hong Kong and was only completed last year. It has refrigerators with all different temperature compartments. It contains sufficient provisions for sea voyage and has different types of meat, apples and other commodities that have to be kept frozen. On the deck they take live sheep and other animals to Singapore.

Wreath-laying

"Then came the most impressive ceremony of the day. It was laying a wreath on the State War Memorial. Six wardens of the Memorial arrived at the front of our club alongside Mr. Townsend the State Warden.

"About 12 feet from the Centotaph we halted and I then had to march along up the steps and lay the wreath. After I returned to my place the six wardens then moved to the front of the memorial and after paying tribute marched back to the gate where we joined them.

"It was certainly an honor and privilege for one club to be able to pay our respects to the fallen and Mr. Townsend explained everything to us.

"About a short rest in King's Park we were once again struck by the Holden Motor Works at Mosman Park. Many of the workers were exported to South Africa and the Philippines. After looking at the buildings and seeing those vehicles we journeyed to Fremantle.

Fish and Chips

"After going on all decks we eventually left and went to the Fisherman's Coop where we each received a parcel of fish and chips to eat.

"We left Fremantle at five o'clock and after passing the Rockingham barrels of fish and chips to eat.

"The captain said it took eight days to load at Fremantle but could be unloaded in six hours when they got to Japan.

The Chichester Boys' Club at Collie was formed last March by the joint action of the Collie R.S.L. branches and has taken its name from one of the E.N. ships in the combined workforce in the armed forces that spent several days at Fremantle about that time.

"During a brief stay at Collie some scenes from H.M.S. Chichester were shown of the new youth club.

"The final banquet was held at the Southern Cross Hotel and was sponsored by the Collie R.S.L. and Mr. Jack Stewart for their help and generosity.

"Last but not least I would like to thank the organizer and director for his untiring efforts. This trip was of great educational value and the boys of the club are truly grateful to him for making this wonderful opportunity possible."

Fund-Raising Venture
At Carnarvon

At Carnarvon the R.S.L. branch is holding a kiosk for the sale of curios and mementos.

Balenec from the local whaling station is the raw material for some of the articles for sale.

The sub-branch hopes to benefit from the kiosk and intends to donate the money to the Rank of Leg.

Reporting this to the State Executive recently Mr. S. R. King said he had called on the branch members at Carnarvon, Onslow, Roebourne, Port Hedland and Broome during a visit to the north in August.

He had found the members at Carnarvon very enthusiastic about the idea of sponsoring an entrant in the Miss Crown Silver Ball, and was holding a ball on September 24.

The newly formed Onslow sub-branch was very keen and had enrolled 21 members. At a picnic it held earlier in the year the attendance was about 200.

Mr. King said he had notified the sub-branch correspondingly from the Denmark sub-branch inviting visits from the other members of the northern body.
Good Attendance At Yealering Dinner

There was an encouraging roll-up of 73 for the annual reunion dinner of the Yealering sub-branch on August 15, and at the bidding of the president (Mr. Ralph Elson) members rose to announce their numbers, rank and unit.

Among those present were representatives of the Pin-gelly, Narrogin, Colligen, Bumburying, Bullarding and Kuln sub-branches, the State Executive (Vice-President J. J. Rolfe), the Air Force Association (two members) the local road board, and the Minister for Transport (Mr. Perkins).

For an extremely appetising dinner the sub-branch was indebted to the Yealering C.W.A.

The toast list was opened with the Loyal Toast, followed by that to the State Executive—proped by Mr. W. Honeyman. Responding, Mr. Rolfe urged full support for the War Veterans’ Home.

Replying to the toast to Parliament—proposed by Mr. W. Carruthers—Mr. Perkins said the efforts of the sub-branch to improve the district were quite apparent from the number of letters he received from the sub-branch secretary—Mr. C. Hinkett.

Mr. V. Hovell proposed the toast to the ladies, and Mrs. R. E. Coxen replied to it.

During Congress each year delegates cease their deliberations temporarily to pay silent tribute at the State War Memorial to their fallen comrades.

The scene was touched by the President (holding wreath), approached the memorial. Beside Mr. Lonnie are the State Wardens, Sir Thomas Meagher (left) and the Assistant-Warden, Mr. E. C. Townshend.

Honour Avenue Appeal

The Honour Avenue committee of the Public Service sub-branch—which has accepted custodianship of the Honour Avenue in Kings Park—is conducting an appeal to help in defraying the maintenance costs involved.

Donations to date are as follows:

- Ex-Naval Men’s Association of W.A.—State Council: £2.20
- Mr. John Forbes: £2.00
- Mr. Antion Maschetti: 10.00
- 11th and 2/11 Battalion Association: 10.00
- Anonymous: 5.00
- Mr. W. L. Boyd: 2.20
- 2/28 Battalion Association: 10.00
- Mr. T. F. Smith: 1.40
- Mr. G. C. Curievels: 2.20
- Mr. W. Southern: 1.00
- Returned Ex-ServiceWomen’s Sub-Branch: 5.50
- 1st Battalion Association: 5.00
- British Ex-Service Association (Inc.): 3.30
- 18th Battalion A.I.F. Association: 5.50
- 8th Battery Association: 3.50
- South African and Imperial Veterans’ Assoc. of W.A.: 2.20
- 28th Battalion Association: 5.00

TOTAL: £74.40

A Service Award

The Floreat City Beach sub-branch has obtained the approval of the State Executive for awarding a Certificate of Service to Mr. S. R. (Fred) King, a past-president of the sub-branch.

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21-3270
The League's round of hospital visits now covers the Fremantle Gaol Hospital.

This was disclosed at the State Executive meeting on July 15 by Mr. E. C. Townsend, who said the work was extremely interesting and might appeal to retired people.

It was a question of handing-out soup but of endeavouring to help those who could not help themselves.

He hoped that sub-branches which had not yet sent in details of the work being undertaken by the corps would do so soon. Corps members would have to be compensated for their out-of-pocket expenses. Except in extreme cases it would not be necessary to purchase necessities for hospital inmates.

Mr. Townsend said that a somewhat similar scheme in South Australia was costing about £2,000 a year to run.

The visitors would go on their rounds armed with four stock forms, and any queries on pensions would be referred to the Pension Officer at Anzac House. The visitors would take the forms to all patients and inform their sub-branches so that they could render any assistance required by the families concerned.

Mr. Townsend said it was hoped to augment the corps considerably and he appealed to executive members to pass on to their sub-branches the pressing need for more volunteers.

Paraplegic Sporting Potential

The prowess displayed by crippled members of the community in the sports organised by the Paraplegic Association in the New South Wales has been well believed, Mr. H. A. Leslie told the State Executive recently.

He was suggesting the possibility of taking National Congress delegates to see the paraplegic sports to be held in Perth on October 17 and 18.

Congress commences on Monday, October 18.

The sports should be an incentive to the delegates from the Eastern States, Mr. Leslie said, as in this department, of paraplegic welfare W.A. was in the van throughout the Commonwealth.

A number of the paraplegics are ex-servicemen, and it was reassuring to know that the World Veteran's Federation was pushing forward the inclusion for the Inclusion Olympic Games in Rome of a section for paraplegics. (The question of R.S.L. affiliation with the federation may be debated at National Congress.)

Tooth and earache relieved in 5 minutes

Mrs. K. Sledge, 49 Park Street, Ipswich, Queensland, writes: "I have suffered for many weeks with a very bad toothache and earache. I have tried several treatments, which only slightly eased the pain, and then I had to lie down to get any relief. In desperation I took a Bex at tea-time, when I was busy with the family, and to my amazement in five minutes I had complete relief. I would like other sufferers to know of your wonderful powers."

You buy quality when you buy Bex.

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League Farewell To Governor-General

From the National President

The National Executive held an official luncheon last month to farewell His Excellency the Governor-General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, who leaves for London early next year and relinquishes his appointment as Governor-General of Australia.

The luncheon was held in view of the very heavy commitments His Excellency will have later in the year—official formal visits to States and a number of official functions that will be held to farewell him.

At the luncheon which was attended by members and officials (and other trustees) of the National Executive, a bronze statuette of an Australian soldier—6 inches high and sculptured by C. Webb Gilbert; one of Australia's outstanding artisans—was presented to His Excellency.

Expressing his appreciation of the gift, His Excellency said it would remind him of the splendid service rendered by Australian soldiers in the past, and those qualities he admired to the highest degree.

The National Executive resolved to place on record its gratitude for the splendid services rendered by Australians in the past, and for their staggering efforts in the services that have been required of them.

The Executive particularly recorded appreciation of the work and sincere interest His Excellency had always displayed in the welfare of the R.S.L. and for his stimulating and thought-provoking speeches, which gave impetus and encouragement not only to League members but to citizens throughout Australia in carrying out their several appointments to the best of their ability.

UNIT ASSOCIATION NOTES

Affairs Of 16th Battalion

At the August committee meeting of the association the secretary (Mr. W. Newick) stressed the importance of members replying to the circular which they will receive before the reunion (to be held on October 21). It is most important for the catering.

The secretary forwarded to the R.S.L. State President (Mr. Lonnie) on his recent death.

The secretary reported that he had received £155/10/0 from members who travelled to Adelaide for last Anzac Day. In one case a member donated his concession to the association.

A Red Cross bus will convey members of the women's auxiliary and some of the boys who have recently returned from overseas on Saturday, September 27, at 10 a.m., leaving the Perth Railway Station, for Toodyay. Messrs. E. Mitchell and J. Cranston recently hallowed the memory of one of the Association's members, Mr. J. McMillan, who returned from Victoria and is now living in Toodyay.

Deaths reported since the last committee meeting:


Several members of the association attended the funeral of the late Mr. Percy Trotter at Fremantle, Perth, and represented the battalion in the football team. A letter was sent to his sympathy to the deceased member's relatives.

The writer was pleased to meet and speak about again after his accident.

Mr. Jack Kerr, who was reported to be in hospital at Manjimup, is now back home.

The writing of football if Mr. Trotter's case, the battalion, at one time or another, proud of the many fixtures—footballers—Bill McGilvray, Paddy O'Donnell, V. Malope (late St. Paul's), C. V. Staroff, Cleave Dovet being some of the names the writer remembers. With such talent matches against the 16th were always even.

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The Midlands Districts Standing By

Among the latest batch of boys to enter for the Miss Crowning Glory contest are Caramanis, Oddie, and Evatt. Reporting this to the State Executive recently Mr. J. R. Duncan (Regional Vice-President) and John, who has been unable to complete the requirements for nomination, wrote that 'Conger's nomination under the 16th Battalion.'

Mr. Duncan reported that Mr. Dunlop was unable to nominate an additional candidate for the 1914-18 service for the Three Springs candidate, and that Dongara was unable to nominate any candidate for the nomination.

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Yarloop Gets Clubrooms After 40-year Wait

Forty years after its inauguration in 1919 the Yarloop sub-branch has acquired a permanent meeting-place—its own clubrooms.

The new quarters were officially opened on August 22 by Mr. F. Eastcott, a League member since 1919, and a foundation member of the sub-branch.

"How good it is to have our own meeting-place at last," he said—a remark which was echoed in the hearts of all present.

Representing the State Executive at the function was the Regional Vice-President for the South-West (Mr. R. Hardisty), who conveyed best wishes for the future of the sub-branch. Mr. I. Manning, M.L.A., an old member, made some enlightening references to earlier activities of the sub-branch.

The clubrooms have been established in an old house handed over to the sub-branch by Millers Timbers and Trading Co. Ltd. and partly renovated by members themselves.

Passing through the town a week or so before the official opening the State President congratulated members on their achievement and urged them to keep up the good work.

A dance conducted in the rooms following the opening was a great social success, and the hope was expressed that there would be many more similar occasions.

Music was provided by the local Red and Green Band, which gave a very fine performance.

The day had been very well organised by the sub-branch president (Mr. N. Wilson) who handed his thanks to all who helped to make the show a success.

Take Pride In Service

You have every reason to be proud of your war service, but you have equal reason to be proud of service with the R.S.L.

The R.S.L. belongs to you. It is run by returned men, for returned men, who carry over into normal life the comradeship of the war days.

It is the organisation through which returned men generally express their views on important national non-political questions, and through which they render their voluntary services.

Through the League they render service to the Returned and to fellow servicemen in need, day in and day out.

Why not play a part yourself in helping to ensure that every returned man is a member? Some old comrade may suffer even if only one returned serviceman fails to maintain membership.

Membership Slogan Competition

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Sub-branch

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and mark it "SLOGAN COMPETITION"

The winner will receive £5.
The Judges decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.