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Help the League in its endeavour to look after Distressed Soldiers and their Dependants

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D. M. BENSON, State Sec. R.S.L.
The Bottle Department of this hotel is fully stocked with goods of the best quality and the public will be able to prove this statement by making a call or sending an order, when they will also satisfy themselves that the prices are right.

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For the Best Quality of Seeds, Plants and Fruit Trees
MIGRATION.

The British Empire Service Legion, Great Britain, has made available to the League in Australia, certain correspondence which discloses the position from the standpoint in England. Their urgent problem is

Unemployed in Great Britain.

and as Migration has not been substanti­ally increased in proportion to the number of the unemployed is correspondingly unimproved. The wholesale system of Unemployment Relief by cash payments is certainly the greatest obstacle to the remedying of the serious position existing; also there is naturally some uneasiness regarding the reception on arrival overseas and a dislike to the so-called "exile" to distant countries.

So used have these unfortunate become to the "dole" that they shun the thought of the possibility of landing in a country where they may be unemploy­ed as strangers in a strange land, where no such-unemployed relief fund exists.

Propaganda is doing much to relieve the feeling of exile, and this is not difficult as far as ex-soldiers are concerned—but the "dole" is infinitely more serious to combat and there appears no likelihood of its termination whilst the Treasury can afford to pay it.

It is felt that the Labour Parties in Australasia, if not actively opposed to immigration, are insistent on the flow of arrivals being curtailed so as not to interfere with local unemployment.

The Remedy appears to be in the matter of capital, for the development of Australia's resources, to increase her power of absorption in order to create an avenue for the surplus population of the British Isles. There has never been any question of the existence of the undeveloped resources of the Empire and the theory that the market within the Empire for Empire goods cannot be denied, as it requires the products of alien countries to supply many wants.

The need for capital is instantaneous, and capital is in the hands of financiers, who are un influenced by the sentiment of

Patriotism.

In fact, speaking from a national point of view, they may be called materialists, who are concerned only with security and remuneration, while they are quite oblivious of the ultimate purpose of expenditure in a national sense. The interested parties who see the folly of continuing on the existing unsatisfactory basis are seized with the conviction that the only way in which capital can be secured is by the imposition of a tax on foreign investments. This would tend to free capital for investments in the Dominions; but the investments would not be made in the colonies unless greater inducements were offered by the Colonial Governments. The Overseas Settlement Act already provides some inducement to Empire speculation by reason of its provision for subsidies; but so far the results are disappointing.

There are unquestionably disabilities which

Capital Suffers when employed in breaking new ground. The system of land taxation which is graduated in its application and which becomes penal where large sums are involved, or when the principals are non­resident, and which is operative from the moment of the initiation of an enterprise, even before development has made profit-earning possible, is unquestionably a great deterrent to the capitalist. Such taxation, the interested parties feel, might with reason be remitted for a limited period, as such undeveloped resources are not to-day contributing towards revenue, and loss of revenue cannot be urged against such remission.

The Dominions complain of the large proportion of their produce which goes annually to pay charges on their debts, and they recognise that only increased production can reduce this proportion, as also the per capita load of taxation. They recognise also that countries sparsely peopled and weak in defence in consequences, are ever an attraction to overpopulated countries.

Thus the needs of Great Britain and of Australia are face to face, and mutual satisfaction—should be easily reached. Nothing short of legislative action can be done, either here, and it is felt that the British Legion, as well as its brother League in Australia, might with profit to their respective nations push for settlement.

GRAPEs.

(For the Digger Viticulturist.)

Acres of autumn-tinted leaves are to be seen in the Upper Swan district. A closer examination will reveal the fact that tons of grapes are rotting on the vines. Such a wasted state of affairs calls for close enquiry and we learn that only the first maturity of the primest grapes can be marketed and that as those remaining on the vines are perhaps only from a half to one pound in weight, they cannot be marketed successfully. It is said that it will pay to sell them for a sum which would not cover the cost of packing and freight, much less for picking and grading. This fruit may be made into the most edible of jams, preserves and even be utilised for pickling; but with the absence of sugar competition, the cost of sugar is too prohibitive for preserving grapes and the demand for the condiment is as yet not very extensive.

It appears that there is something amiss when we have at our capital's back a far-reaching acreage of beautiful vine country in prolific bearing and the majority of the holders find that the market is confined to a minute percentage of the crop, and that the generous yield of the soil is in the main to be wasted year after year.

A deputation of these long-suffering viticulturists was arranged to wait on the Minister to make a plea to have the lands re-valued. This request was made in most reasonable terms, as the landlords were mostly allotted when the price of grapes was very inflated owing to the extraordinary conditions then existing, and as the property value was similarly inflated. If the properties were re-valued the settlers would be able to cope with their repayments more readily and would be more fairly rated.

"May I have this dance?"
"No, I'm too danced out."
"Why—a—you're not too damn stout; you're just pleasingly plump."

"What? Do you advise me to have this hat? It makes me look forty."
"Yes. It takes ten years off your appearance."

Newest Recruit to Quartermaster: "Will you give me a bucket of whitewash?"

Quartermaster: "What are you going to do with it?"

Recruit: "The corporal told me to whitewash the Last Post!"
STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.

22/4/25.

Present.—Messrs. Freedman, Isaac, Collett, Philip, McDonald, Humphrey, Cornwell, Pady, Wedd, Bateson, Zeffert, McCarthy, Egwin, Cooke, Tyler, Bader, and Butler.

A letter was sent from the Balingup Sub-Branch in connection with the proposed Federal Soldier Settlers' Conference, and after it had been explained what had been done as the result of wires from the Federal President in which Mr. Cornwell and Mr. Duggan of South Australia, were nominated as delegates to the B.E.S.L. Conference in Ottawa.

Allocation of Art Union Funds.—A letter was read and received from the Perth Sub-Branch protesting against the proposed allocation of the funds of the No. 3 Art Union, stating that as the R.S.L. Amelioration Fund was not controlled by the League it should not receive any of the money.

Mr. Longmore, a member of the Perth Sub-Branch, attended the meeting to place the views of the Branch before Delegates.

In replying to a question, Mr. Longmore said that he also objected to any monies being devoted to the Immediate Relief Fund.

The President thanked Mr. Longmore for his attendance, and stated that the matter would be discussed.

Mr. Bader then gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting—

That the resolution carried at the Executive meeting held on the 25th March, in connection with the allocation of the Art Union profits, be rescinded.

Kyogle Railway.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive in connection with preference of returned soldiers on the Kyogle Railway. The letter was from the Prime Minister's Department, stating that the Commonwealth Government could not proceed with any policy involving the construction of public works unless the principle of preference to returned soldiers is adhered to, and also showing a communication wherein the Railway Council in Sydney had agreed to this preference.

Repatriation Staff.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive showing the wires sent to General Birdwood, and his reply.

Headstones on Soldiers' Graves.—A communication was received from the Federal Executive, stating that instead of the lettering being led, as suggested by this State, the Department of Defence have decided that the chaste portion of the stone be painted with the best available paint.

Moved by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Philip, that this Branch of the League still insists on the leading of the lettering on headstones as necessary owing to the peculiar nature of the stone used in this State—wires received.

Federal Soldier Settlers' Conference.—A letter was received from the Balingup Sub-Branch in connection with the proposed Federal Soldier Settlers' Conference.
Who's your Printer?

If he is not giving satisfaction, try us. We are the printers of this paper and we will not fail to please.

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The 100 per cent. Returned Soldier Firm
Commercial and General Printers - 70 King Street, Perth

previous State Conferences and Federal Congress, it was decided that the sub-branch be written to and advised of the developments.

Viticultural Industry.—The Herne Hill Sub-Branch applied for permission to hold a Conference of Soldiers engaged in the Viticultural Industry, and extended an invitation to as many members as possible to be present.

Moved by Mr. Zeffert, seconded by Mr. McCarthy, that the necessary permission be granted to the sub-branch, and that Messrs. Yates and Cornell be deputed to represent the Executive, and that the branch be advised that as many other members of the Executive as possible will attend the Conference.

Central Sub-Branch.—The Perth Sub-Branch submitted a communication showing copy of a resolution carried at their last general meeting, objecting to the continuance of the Central Sub-Branch in the Executive Office.

Moved by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Zeffert, that the sub-branch be advised of the reasons for the formation of the Central Sub-Branch, and that the continuance thereof had been endorsed by Congress, 1922.—Carried.

Anzac Day.—A letter was received from the Perth Sub-Branch in connection with Anzac Day, requesting that efforts be made to have the Government's order in connection with that day applied to ex-Imperial soldiers as well as A.I.F.

As this matter involves a policy of the League, it was decided that the Perth Branch be advised of the decision of the last Congress in connection with this matter.

A letter was read and received from the Railway-Workshops Sub-Branch, requesting an interview with the Executive on Saturday morning, the 9th inst., and members of the Executive who are able expressed their intention of being present.

The Perth Sub-Branch submitted a communication complimenting the State Executive and State Secretary on the success of last Anzac Day's celebrations.

A further communication was received from the Perth Sub-Branch requesting the State Executive to forward the thanks of the League to the Premier and members of the Victorian Parliament for the stand they have taken re Anzac Day.

It was decided that the suggestion be acted upon.

A letter was read and received from the Wagon Sub-Branch stating that considerable trouble had been caused owing to the fact that they had closed all the business premises, picture shows, etc., on Anzac Day, acting on advice received, and that other centres, including Perth, had not complied in the same way, and requesting that a ruling be given for future reference.

Moved by Mr. Cornell, seconded by Mr. Wedd, that the Wagin Sub-Branch be informed that the several matters contained in their communication are under consideration, and that they be asked to convey to the people of Wagin generally the thanks of the Executive for the manner in which Anzac Day was so fittingly observed in that town.—Carried.

Reports.—Immigration Committee.—The Secretary reported on the workings of this Committee, and the report was received.

Finance Committee.—The Finance Committee submitted a report of its meeting held on the 22nd April, which was received and adopted.

Art Union.—The State Secretary submitted a report of the Art Union Committee, showing a very favourable comparison with the previous art union. The report was received.

House Committee.—Mr. McDonald reported verbally in connection with the House Committee, and stated that nothing further had been done regarding the dining-room.

Employment Bureau.—A monthly statement for the operations of the various Employment Bureaux throughout the Commonwealth was laid on the table for the information of members, together with this State's operations for the last month.

Visit to Northam.—Mr. Bateson reported at length on his visit to Northam. The report was received and thanks tendered to Mr. Bateson.

Visit to Bridgetown.—Mr. Pady reported on his visit to Bridgetown on Anzac Day. The report was received and Mr. Pady thanked.

H. A. FANNING
(LATE A.I.F.)

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Send Postal Note with Order
PRIME JONATHANS, DUMS,
DELICIOUS /KING/ DAVIDS, etc.
PROPOSED SCHEME OF SETTLING EX-SERVICE MEN ON WHEAT AND SHEEP LANDS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Report of State Branch Committee.

Following upon communications received through the General Headquarters of the Returned-Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia, the West Australian Branch appointed a Committee to consider ways and means of speeding up the migration of ex-service men particularly to the State of Western Australia, and in order to have the best advice and experience in arriving at conclusions for the guidance of the originators, viz., the British Empire Service League, the Returned Soldiers' Committee invited the New Settlers' League of West Australia to assist in working out some practical schemes with regard to the requirements and proposals as set out in the original communication from London.

The first request received from the Headquarters of the League, presents phases of migration and suggests headings which could be developed towards the end in view.

Your Committee considers as Western Australia possesses two secondary industries, investigations have been wholly directed towards land settlement. Having in mind the early production of the land and the returns derived therefrom, and with no desire to be jeopardised by anything hitherto attempted in Western Australia, your Committee are unanimously of the opinion that the wheat and sheep lands in Western Australia offer the best inducement for settlement, as this class of country is increasing in value in leaps and bounds.

Both the Returned-Soldiers' League and New Settlers' League have taken a very keen interest in the repatriation of ex-A.I.P. men on the land, and properties which there are possessed by the Soldier Settlement Scheme Act in 1919 for these men for wheat growing and sheep grazing, at prices ranging from 30/- to 4 per acre (improved value) are now changing hands as high as 60 per acre. This gives an insight into the possibilities of establishing ex-service men upon this class of country.

The Committee, having arrived at certain conclusions in the direction last set out, approached the Government through the Minister for Lands, in order to ascertain what areas of good land were available and which could be taken on a large scale. The Minister was somewhat doubtful regarding any scheme which would be outside of Government control and insisted the large amount of capital required this year for expenditure on Group Settlements already embark upon the highly embarking on the South West portion of the State. He nevertheless stated that upon figures supplied by his departmental officers over 7 million acres of good cultivable wheat and sheep land were available for settlement within an assured rainfall, but at the present time was outside the usual radius from a railway, at which profitable settlement was possible. He pointed out to the Minister that in the Scheme under review the necessary official backing was assured from the originators in London, providing it could be shown that the investments were sound, money would be forthcoming for settlement of ex-service men on correct and workable conditions. The Minister stated that the development of the abovementioned land was only retarded by the want of capital.

The Committee assured the Minister that, providing the scheme obtained the endorsement of the League headquarters in London, sufficient capital would be found to acquire and develop tracts of land for the benefit of ex-service men. Furthermore, the initial objective would not go further than 100 families, as sufficient local machinery is available for the reception and direction of this number, and the Committee who have prepared this report, in the event of the scheme reaching fruition, will accept full responsibility for the guidance and assistance of the settler from the time of his arrival until he emerges as a successful self-supporting farmer.

The Minister was good enough to say that if the necessary financial backing was forthcoming, he would approach Parliament for a special Bill to enable the land to be acquired. The Committee are of the opinion that the purchase price of virgin land would not exceed the average of 10/- per acre.

Having ascertained that money and then land would be at the disposal of selected men as soon as he could receive acceptance and approval, the Committee then considered working out details regarded as vital in obtaining success.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that the primary factor in ensuring success of a scheme of this sort is the individual element, and a very careful selection of men in England by having some knowledge of local conditions, together with a knowledge of human nature, is necessary.

As the life of a settler is an arduous and strenuous one, physical fitness is most important and essential. Failures of migrants who have arrived from overseas under Government schemes have in nearly every instance been due to the fact that they were not physically fit to carry out the work required of them. It must, however, not be lost sight of that the life of a settler under local Western Australian conditions is an eminently healthy one for a man free from disablement.

The Committee are further of the opinion that, to the man with some capital, no country in the world offers better facilities or more promise of ultimate success than West Australia, for land settlement.

The necessary details of organising the credits inseparable from such a scheme as this are, of course, left to the people at Home, and the West Australian Branch of the League have concerned themselves mostly with describing the position at this end.

In furtherance of this we are of the opinion, having regard to past experience, that for land suitable for wheat and sheep one thousand acres are necessary per man—each thousand acres to have at least 640 acres of forest country, that is, first-class land.

For the benefit of the British Empire Service League, it is shown hereunder the approximate cost of bringing a one-thousand acre wheat and sheep farm into production. For an expenditure of approximately £5,000 the holding would be developed up to the producing stage as follows:

- 500 acres of forest country cleared;
- dam for water storage of 1,000 cubic yards;
- 4-roomed weatherboard house; ring-fence of approximately 400 chains with 3 and 4 wires; team of six medium-deck horses; machinery consisting of cultivator, plough and seed-drill, harvester and harrows. It would also include hedges and the necessary initial expenditure for seed and superphos-phates. Included in this amount is the sum of £50, being living expenses for the settler and family, and two years' instalments as payment for land.

It must be understood that it does not necessarily mean that a man would not receive a return from his property until 500 acres were cleared. For instance, when 200 acres were cleared it is possible to crop it with wheat, and during the growing season he would be carrying on further developmental work in the nature of additional clearing, etc.

Providing for a fair average season, and...
ANZAC DAY.

(This beautiful little poem arrived at our office too late for inclusion in our Anzac number.—Ed.)

In bonds of strength we stand,
From the vernal May;
And hand we clasp in hand
On Anzac Day.
From yonder Eastern land,
From Tassie's rocky coast,
And from Westralia's strand,
Host behind host.
Around the throne we stand
In bonds of fealty—
A Greater Britain's band
In loyalty.
We heard when Britain called,
We heard the cry of need,
Where haughty foes enthralled—
Glorious our deed!
The noble dead—to-day
Their glorious deeds are told;
They live—the hero-array!
Their love we hold.

6039 (11th Bn.)

SIR JAMES MITCHELL'S MESSAGE.

The following Anzac message from Sir James Mitchell arrived too late to include in our Anzac number.

"I thank you for giving me the opportunity of saying a word to the soldiers.
You are doing wonderful work in civil life, helping to build a great Australian nation. We are moving very slowly, but we are moving, thanks in a large measure to the returned men. They have seen war at its worst: they have seen the world; they seem to realise the danger an isolated, rich, unpeopled country is in. It is imperative that we grow quickly in population and in wealth if we are to remain a safe country. Our duty is to the generations yet unborn, and the time for a mighty effort is now, or it will be too late. How many there are in the world who are unwilling to make an effort to-day: people ever ready, though, to promise for to-morrow! "The soldiers have the satisfaction of knowing that they did their duty in times of war and are still doing their duty in 1925."

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"I got a picture postcard of Viborg, where my husband is on business, but it had the Paris postmark."

Ministered.

Shemale: "Does education really improve the Indian?"

Hemeral "Sure thing, lady. After four years on a college football team the war path looks positively effeminate to him."

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IMPERIAL SOLDIERS AND THE R.S.L.

(By Alex. G. D. Esson, M.A.)

"We're all under the same old flag, brothers in arms are we; One flag and one desire, one King and one Law."—Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, Comrades o'er the sea, United to fight for a cause that's right—To conquer Germany."

Most of us will remember the above lines, from the well known wartime ditty. They can in no wise be said to be poetry, but the sentiment expressed is excellent and one that ought to be possessed by all soldiers of our Empire. To my mind it is 'scandalous that there should be so little unity among soldiers in Australia. The proportion of ex-soldiers, who are members of the R.S.L., is by no means great, and, frankly, I am of the opinion that the R.S.L. is largely responsible itself for the lack of enthusiasm and interest and for the lack of increase in membership. There is not sufficient unity of purpose, of feeling, and of effort among members of the League to recommend it to possible members. This brings me to the point that I wish to discuss in this connection.

Many ex-Imperial soldiers, now resident in Australia, would willingly join the League if they were assured that, in paying the same subscriptions as the returned, and in being as eligible for office, they would share in the same benefits as the latter. Otherwise there is absolutely no reason why Impedals should join the League, and the League, in accepting Imperial subscriptions and in differentiating between Imperial and Australian soldiers, would be guilty of fraud.

Keeping this in view, I would beg members of the Executive of the League to declare officially with regard to Imperial soldiers, is a plank of their platform that there should be preference for all soldiers of the British Empire, or do they confine preference to Australians only? If they declare that all soldiers should have preference, are they prepared to do their utmost to ensure that Imperial soldiers share in it? These are straightforward questions, and I would assure the League Executive that they would do well to answer them, and, further, that they ought to give careful consideration to possible results before coming to a decision.

These matters are agitating the minds of many Imperial soldiers, and it is to be noted that these are matters intimately associated with the expansion of League membership. Personally, I am of the opinion that, if there is to be the slightest differentiation between Imperial and Australian soldiers, then Imperial soldiers ought to leave the R.S.L. severely alone and that they ought to form an association of their own or a branch of the British Legion. In the latter case, if it was followed, they would probably have a powerful instrument to their hand and be able to influence Governments for the good of Imperials.

It may be that some uninformed or misinformed member may consider that a stigma attaches itself to the individual ex-Imperial soldier, in view of the fact that in the hour of the Empire's greatest need a minute proportion of the British Armies were recruited under the Conscript Act. This would be, manifestly, unfair, as all Imperial soldiers were not conscripts, and, in any case, although I am definitely in favour of voluntary service, all of us who took part in the Great War did our part in saving our Empire. I would emphasise the fact that, had we not had unity of action and unity of purpose among all soldiers during the War, then we should not now be free from the oppressive grinding of Germany's militaristic heel. This being the case, surely no one can dispute the right of ex-Imperial soldier-citizens of Australia to prefer.

If the League wishes to lose members, they will decide against the Imperial soldier. Frankly, I am prepared to help to form a separate association if this happens, and I am assured that I shall be able to command a large following. I would therefore ask the League to state officially through the "Listening Post" what standpoint they are to take. Personally I have always been with the League, I have been a member for some years. It is an excellent organization and I am a sincere admirer of its aims, but I think that it is clear that, if there is to be discrimination against the Imperial soldier, then the League is no place for him. What is your decision, gentlemen of the League Executive?

BRITISH PENSIONS.

The following is a copy of a letter received from Captain Donald Simson, Hon. Organising Secretary to the British Empire Service League:

"I write to inform you that several cases where it is desired that an ex-Imperial soldier, before the Appeals Tribunal in London have recently been received from Australia, and have not been accompanied by a written authority from the man to be represented in his absence.

"The production of such an authority is always insisted upon by the authorities, and I should be very much obliged, therefore, if you could kindly record in your office, and also notify your State Branches, and in any case where an ex-Imperial man desires to be represented before an Appeals Tribunal in London, a written authority must always accompany the papers, otherwise very considerate delay is caused."

"In view of the fact that the British Legion Pensions Department deals with the matter of representation before the Appeals Tribunal on our behalf, all such representations of a written authority should be in favor of the BRITISH LEGION and not the British Empire Service League."

[Signed, Captain Donald Simson, Hon. Organising Secretary to the British Empire Service League.]

ANZAC DAY AT NARROGIN.

Anzac Day commemoration at Narrogin was most successful being more impressive and inspiring than ever, although the proceedings were held by a visiting party holding an entertainment for profit in the evening at the Town Hall. A procession led by the town band, followed by members of the citizen forces in uniform, returned soldiers, boy scouts, marched from the Town Hall to the Soldiers' Memorial where the memorial service was held. The Mayor (Mr. W. S. Luss) occupied the chair. Suitable hymns were sung and prayers were read by members of the local clergy. Mr. E. S. Watt, a member of the State Executive of the R.S.L. delivered an inspiring address appealing to the large gathering to repay the sacrifices of the fallen by serving their country to the best of their ability. During the playing of the "Dead March" by the band wreaths were laid at the foot of the monument. The R.S.L. wreath was of beautiful workmanship, being made by Mrs. J. W. Johnson, the good wife of a prominent member of the sub-branch. President Jack Barron laid this tribute to the fallen and was followed by sorrowing widows and bereaved mothers, loving sweethearts, orphaned children, relatives and friends of the dead, all paying homage to the memory of their loved ones, until the base of the monument was heaped high with beautiful wreaths. "The Last Post" and the "Silence," when the hearts of the assembly were in silent communion with their maker, completed the emotional spell.

Mr. V. Donck, the vice-president of the sub-branch addressed the children, telling them the story of the "landing," explaining the reason for the sacrifices made by their fathers and concluding by asking the children to live up to the high standard set by those who gave their all for their country.

The National Anthem completed a service which will long remain in all receptive hearts present.

SOLDIER SETTLER VITICUL- TURISTS.

The Herne Hill Sub-Branch was responsible for a meeting of viticulturists working under the S.S.S., which was held in the Swan Parish Hall on the 11th inst. to consider the very serious position. Mr. W. Bateson presided and the R.S.L. Executive was represented by Mr. State Secretary and Messrs. Humphrey and Cornell, M.L.C. Mr. Yealland, M.L.C., and Mr. W. D. Johnson, M.L.A., also attended. The speakers stressed the importance of securing relief for men who had purchased property in boom times, and that now that the dried fruits market had seriously fallen were practically bankrupt. The Federal and State Governments are to be approached for relief in order to give settlers some hope for the future, and with this object a petition is being signed and will be presented to the Government.
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Gilbert Wake-Up ALARMS. Usually 8s. 11d. Special 6s. 6d.

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Nice Blackwood Imitation Marble CLOCKS, Cathedral gone, strikes hour and half-hour. Special 5s. 6d.

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Genuine Gillette RAZOR for 2s. 6d.

Gillette Safety RAZOR in box, complete with blade. Usually 3s. 6d., Special 2s. 6d.

Hair CLIPPERS, two extra combs, cuts three lengths. Usually 7s. 6d., Special 4s. 11d.

Burman's Despatch Hair CLIPPERS, cuts three lengths. Special 5s. 11d.

Bengal Hollow Ground RAZORS. Usually 7s. 6d., Special 5s. 6d.

Invicta Sheffield RAZORS, a perfect shave. Special 6s. 6d.

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Perforated Razor HONES, hone your own razor. Usually 5s. 6d., Special 4s. 6d.

Home BARBERS, comb and razor, combined. Usually 15s., Special 12s. 6d.

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THOUGHTS.

(By J.G.P.)

I lay in my hammock. The day was sweltering hot. The blue Adriatic shimmered and shone under a cloudless azure sky. I was thinking about nothing in particular. Someone was playing a haunting melody on the piano, and my thoughts instinctively turned towards home. Slowly the scenes around me faded away and once more I found myself in my native city wending my way through the hustle and bustle of the railway station and then on to the tram-car. Then as I drew nearer home and I passed the old familiar lights and buildings, I could hardly believe that I was about to meet the dear ones from whom I had been separated for sixteen long weary months. A strange feeling of apprehension comes over me, Is everything all right? Are they all well? I step out of the car and walk along the old familiar street, and as I draw nearer eagerly scan the windows of the old house for bonnie faces. There is no one there; however, I knock at the door with the old familiar rap of bygone days. I hear sounds of little feet scurrying to open the door first. Yes, there is little Fau and Doris with the brown hair, both grown into big schoolgirls, and little Andrew, who is now so much more, and Annie, who has blossomed from girlishhood to womanhood, and lastly, but by no means least, dear, dear Mother, for whom is reserved the final embrace.

Feel a tap on my shoulder. It is the telephone messenger. "You are detailed off for reconnaissance and photographic patrol over enemy lines, sir."

"With a start I came back to grim reality, and go to prepare for my difficult and hazardous expedition."

("Note.—No. 66 Wing of the R.A.F. were two years in Southern Italy, and finally gained the upper supremacy of the Adriatic.)

WORLD GIRLLED BY BRITISH GRAVES.

Over a million dead of the British Empire, known and unknown, lie peacefully now throughout the world. Recently the Imperial War Graves Commission issued the first account of these resting places. It reveals the fact that our nine graves, 1,019,882 in all, encircle the earth. "They stretch across France and Belgium, from the English Channel to the Vosges, through Switzerland, Italy, the Balkans, Gallipoli, Syria, Palestine, India, to China, Australia, New Zealand, and back to the United Kingdom, branching off to Egypt and East Africa."
STATE WAR MEMORIAL.

The appeal for the raising of funds to build a State War Memorial has not been as encouraging as we should have liked, and we are inclined to feel that better results would emanate if a little more push were displayed by those people who have kindly undertaken to administer affairs. We feel Publicity is sadly wanting and that steps should be taken to enlist the assistance of the daily and weekly press. The position should be fully explained in order that the belated effort might result in remedying the shameful neglect evinced to date. Up to the present time the Response has been discouraging, and more so by reason of the facts that only one direct donation has been received at the hands of a civilian (at the time of going to press), whereas from piecing information together, we find that the fund to date amounts approximately to—

Sir William Lathlain £100 0 0
G. S. Compton 1 1 0
Repatriation Dept.—
1st Instalment 11 0 0
2nd Instalment 6 4 7
R.S.L. Concert 26 0 0
R.S.L. Sales, Anzac Day 100 0 0
"L.P." Fund 3 3 0

Total £421 8 7

From the above it will be seen that the people from whom recognition is due, have been hopelessly niggardly. We contend that all business houses and Government departments should follow the example of the Repatriation Department which has almost unanimously agreed to devote one day's pay towards the perpetuation of their deceased comrades' memory. It is significant, here again, that the Soldiers' Patriotism does not permeate the whole community, as some weeks have passed and this Soldiers' Department is the only institution which has so generally answered the call. It is true they have the sacrifices of the

Deathless Souls over there more constantly before them; but it is more surely the obligation of the civilian population to contribute towards the erection of a tangible form of National recognition.

We hope sincerely that now the ice is broken the Committee will receive the help of all true patriots and that individuals may be found ready to interview the heads of firms and of departments to institute such a scheme as that adopted by the Repatriation Department. In that office we learn that a system has now been evolved whereby Small Instalments Each Pay-day are collected towards the desired achievement and in this way each member of the staff is enabled to contribute without serious inconvenience. In our March issue we commended such a scheme and we are hopeful that many other houses and departments will follow this generous lead.

(Ed.—Since penning the foregoing we have received ample evidence that the State War Memorial Committee is preparing an offensive which will be crowned with success if the public of W.A. can be awakened to a sense of duty. The objective of £50,000 is not difficult if only people will think back, and this amount is little enough to show our national gratitude for the sacrifice of our 6,000 dead. We do not appeal to our soldier readers to think back, the horrors of war are ever present to their subconscious minds; but we do appeal to them to help the nation in this undertaking of perpetuating the soldiers' memory nationally. In passing, we are desirous of extending heartiest congratulations on behalf of the soldiers of Western Australia to the West Australian Newspaper Company for its generous support by donating £250.)

"Listening Post" Subscriptions. £ s. d.
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L. Gibbons 1 1 9
£4 4 0

Any soldier readers who are desirous of contributing towards the War Memorial Fund may forward their subscriptions to this office. Don't forget the slogan: “One Day's Pay.”

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I suppose my account is still filed away somewhere, and I think it is in a ledger marked "Go to Hel."

A CHESTNUT RE-ROASTED.

A company of recruits had completed their training and were drafted to reinforce a battalion in the front line. Following the vague directions of the official, the officer reached a point where he was met by a well-worn looking digger. Without the salute he had grown to expect as his due, the digger approached and said, "Are you -Bn. reinforcements?" Rather taken aback the C.O. answered in the affirmative.

"Righto, then-I'm your guide. Follow me."

After a march of interminable duration the guide looked over his shoulder and said, "Mind the shell-hole on the right."

The guide had conducted his remarks in a hoarse whisper, and taking his cue from him the C.O. passed the word down the line in a whisper. About a half hour of suspense and sliding over frozen duckboards brought a further whispered instruction from the silent guide, "Mind the dead horse," as he deviated to avoid this evidence of warfare. Again the whisper ran down the line of weary troops, "Mind the dead horse."

Time went on and the trenches seemed to go on for ever. At length the guide whispered, "Take the turn to the left."

This instruction was necessary as it was fast becoming dark, and so the caution was breathed down the column. For two solid hours a hundred and fifty hearts had fluttered in their beating fancying that the Hun was within hearing. Unable to bear the suspense longer, the C.O. addressed the guide: "How much further is the front line?" "I should say about two miles," the guide replied. "Then," said the officer, "What the— are you whispering for?" "With an ingeniously innocent grin the guide croaked, "I've been gassed."

BUBBLE-LIMERICKS.

("Pale Face.")

A digger went forth from the West, For his country he gave of his best. For he fought with his pen On the pay-rolls of war; And he reckoned that war was a jest.

But when Fritzie flew up from the East (Oh! he was such a cantankerous beast!) There at Horseferry Road, He tipped out his load, Of his "eggs" London had quite a feast.

So the digger—who rolled the pay pen Or who penned the pay-roll now and then In the tube hid his head, With a heart light as lead, Like a lamb in a wild lion's den.

"Oh what shall I do?" was the wail Of this most unfortunate male. "'Op over to France And take a man's chance. You'll have some excuse—if you fail."

The unveiling by King Albert of Belgium of an imposing War Memorial at Zeebrugge last month on the anniversary of the British naval attack in 1918, was responsible for Anglo-Belgian demonstrations. Vice-Admiral Sir Roger Keys, who was in charge of operations, and some 250 survivors of the attack, were present.

The accounts in a certain Defence Office were arranged in alphabetical order in large loose-leaf ledgers, each of which had a paper slip pasted on the back to show the range of the accounts therein. The first one was marked "Abel to Bet." Others amongst them were: "Free to Gape," "Hand to Hold," "Home to Hur," "Kiss to Lou," "Love to Lucy," "None to Pet," "Sad to Say," and "Ten to Two."

Owing to increase in the number of accounts rearrangements were always being made, and a ledger containing, for instance, accounts from "Home" to "Hur," would be cut down, and marked accordingly, "Hoy to Hug."

After the close of the war period, the ledgers began to be reduced.

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BUBBLE-LIMERICKS.

("Pale Face.")

A digger went forth from the West, For his country he gave of his best! For he fought with his pen On the pay-rolls of war; And he reckoned that war was a jest.

But when Fritzie flew up from the East (Oh! he was such a cantankerous beast!) There at Horseterry Road, He tipped out his load, Of his "eggs" London had quite a feast.

So the digger—who rolled the pay pen Or who penned the pay-roll now and then In the tube hid his head, With a heart light as lead, Like a lamb in a wild lion's den.

"Oh what shall I do?" was the wail Of this most unfortunate male. "'Op over to France And take a man's chance. You'll have some excuse—if you fail."

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WILL YOU?
THE ROLL-CALL.
By "Bill Bowyang," in "The Crusader."

"You see, it's this way, sir," said the old man, as he stepped out of a dark doorway and suddenly confronted a belated pedestrian: "I've managed some how to scrape along until now, but I've reached the end.""Hang it, man, what's up?" shouted the other, as he leaped back and raised his arm.

"I'm no thief," said the old man, as a fleeting smile crossed his face, "but if I had the will to do it, I couldn't hold up a boy ten years old. My sixtieth birthday is way behind me, and when a man is old and full of pains and aches, and his stomach has been empty for twenty-four hours, he isn't thinking of sticking up people in the street.

"You miserable old beggar!" exclaimed the pedestrian, getting his courage up as he noted the weak old man before him, and indignantly added: "I'm too busy to have bets thrown off his nerve for the moment. Why are you hiding here? It's a wonder I didn't fill you full of lead!"

"I'm pretty full now, my friend, though the surgeons say I've lost two of the bullets. The Turkish lead fired into me in Palestine in '16, was meant to stay all the rest of my days."

"The old soldier stunt again," growled the other; as he looked up and down the deserted street.

"Trooper Reardon, sir, late of the 18th Light Horse in the Great War." His heels came together and his back straightened up.

"And you draw a pension and drink it up? I've met your sort before. If you were all right you would be drawing pension money enough to keep you decently. If you jump out at the next man as you do on me you may get hurt."

"As to a pension, my captain made a mistake," said the old man, as he walked along beside the other. "I was carried on the rolls for one year of wounded, and somehow the tangle could never be straightened out. You see..."

"Look here!" said the pedestrian, as he came to a halt, "it's no use following me and pouring out the story of your woes. The city is full of beggars, most of them telling the same yarn, and the wonder is that the police don't arrest you all. I've got nothing for you. Instead I ought to take you by the neck and crack your heels against the street, just the way you jumped out at me. I'm on my way home."

"And I'm not," was the quiet answer. "I'm the only dog in the city without a home. It's hard lines when an old Digger has come around insistent as it is, the way you went across the, man watching him took notice of a limp. The clothes on his back would not have kept out the chill of a July night. He had walked several yards when the other called:

"I say, old man—come back! I don't go much on your story, but I'll give you something for to-night."

"Late of the 18th Light Horse in the Great War," replied the old man as he came to a halt and swung round. "I've tried begging to-night for the first time in my life, and I'm not a success at it. About turn! Quick march! Again, sir—good night!"

"He was telling me the truth, and I turned him down, poor devil," muttered the young man as he walked slowly on.

"Quick march!" repeated the old Digger as he turned the corner. When I passed along these same streets on my way to the front the men crowded about and shook hands with us, and women handed out cigarettes to the boys. When I returned, after the war was over, the bands were playing, the flags flying, and the Diggers owned the earth. There has been a little change in the programme! No bands—no flags—no cigarettes. Instead, an old soldier is looking for a warm place where he can make a bed."

He had stopped before a long, ruined building. There were openings for doors and windows, but only the openings were left. Here and there a pane was sagging, but one look up and down to show that time and decay had about done their work.

"Queer—queer!" whispered the old man. "This place has a familiar look. I'm not sure it is now! Bless me, if I haven't run across the place where we were camped for a week before we embarked. Here was A Squadron, right in front of our old home. I marched about here dozens of times."

He peered in at the open door way upon heaps of refuse. As he turned his face upwards he could see the stars blinking through holes in the roof. A cold wind seem to have swept away from end to end, and being darker inside than out, it also seemed colder in there.

"Ugh!" shivered the old man, but it's better than walking the streets.

The dark with the debris he picked his way until he reached the opposite wall and leaned his weak and weary frame against the cold boards. There was no shelter from the chill, but the wind swept away the keen edges of the winter blasts. Here was the last battle line—he must make his last fight.

"And what if I do starve?" he asked and answered after a few minutes had slipped away. "When a man has fought his best and been downed, there is nothing but death left for him, and why not starve as well as die any other way? Ah! but it's not as cold as it was. And there seems to be people talking and moving about. I wonder now—I wonder if..."

"A squadron, fall in for roll-call!"

"My good God!" gasped the old man, as he straightened up; but that's the worst; Sam Andrews, our orderly sergeant, and the boys are falling in for roll-call."

With his back to the wall and his heels together, with his heart beating tumultuously and his eyes looking into darkness, and his ears strained to catch the slightest sound, the man waited. "Ambler—Allen—Andrews!" called the sergeant.

"He calls the names of the men who were dead after Rafa," whispered the old man. "Yes, they died there and were buried under the desert sands."

"Barnes—Baker—Bissel—Burrows—Blythe!"

"I remember them, I remember each one. They were good mates and brave men. When we charged the Turks at Gaza the ground was sputtered with our blood. Then when we retired the first night a lot of the boys who were in my section---"

"Carlton—Casswell—Cleary!"

"And they are dead—dead since the sun went down that day at Beersheba. I saw their faces under the moonlight that night as we rode forward, and I remember how..."

(Continued on page 14.)
ANZAC DAY.
HOW IT WAS HELD.
TRIBUTES TO THE HEROIC DEAD.

Greater enthusiasm has seldom stirred this young nation than when the call came to commemorate the great deed performed on the occasion of the Landing at Gallipoli in 1915.

While tangible memorials are necessary to remind those who follow, we who lived during the actual execution of that surprisingly successful effort to breach an impregnable line of defence, can most genuinely display our reverence by upholding the ideals for which our comrades fell, by co-operating in our organisation to protect their dependents and assisting the nation, in generally honouring its pledges to the uttermost.

Throughout Australia we learn that our own enthusiasm was shared and each successive Anzac Day becomes more surely the day set apart for each member of the nation to honour the gallant dead. In all the capital cities huge crowds assembled and witnessed the parades of veterans in full, together with the units formed for defensive purposes. There were also boy scouts, a band of youngsters with ideals which, although so lofty, they approach so near to in actual achievement; with them and not dissimilarly constituted, were the girl guides.

In the smaller centres the solemn occasion was fittingly observed and credibly mustered of interested people gathered to pay homage to the noble heroes who paid so great a price in the preservation of idealistic civilisation.

Generally, the addresses were of the same nature as in previous years, and we hear children talk of the wonderful references made to the origin of this infant tradition by certain of the returned soldier teachers in the service. In one school, to our knowledge, there was a general discussion among the youngsters to hear first-hand information from a digger teacher, and the children were truly sorry when the time for closing came.

We heard of every hand on Anzac Day remarks to the effect that the wonderful turnout was largely prompted by reason of the Government's opposition in the matter of Anzac Day addresses by soldiers, and although we are of the opinion that the majority were actuated by the desire to pay respect to the fallen, we cannot be unmindful of the fact that in all probability the Government's attitude—which one can hardly ascribe to a personal viewpoint—acted as an incentive to many to demonstrate their disapproval of such opposition.

We have often liberal examples of the patriotism of the people of Katanning, and we cannot forget the wonderful war record of the district; yet it is distinctly discouraging to notice that Anzac Day was chosen for the opening ceremony of the Katanning Hospital, especially as throughout the reports we have received we can trace no mention of the nature of the occasion. Instead of paying tribute to those men who made such an assembly possible, we find local requirements were the theme of discussion, and that the visitors were being greeted with hearty applause while the sincere patriots of the Commonwealth were mindful of the great sacrifices of a decade ago. The idea of flaunting achievements of individuals, bodies or districts upon such an occasion does not appeal to those who have the welfare of the community at heart. However, we know that there is a large element in this district which would rather anything than desecration of such a sacred occasion by evincing a total disregard for the fallen.

In London, the Premier (Mr. Collier) laid a wreath on the Cenotaph in London on behalf of the Anzacs of Western Australia, and he was also present at the Anzac Luncheon to Lord Jellicoe.
VARIA.

(The expressions of opinion in this section are not the Journal's own, and no responsibility is accepted for the views expressed.)

R.S.L.—We have had some examples of attempts to profit at the expense of the memory of the dead, but I cannot recall so serious an insult as that which is reported to have been perpetrated in Sydney. It appears that the War Memorial Church was being constructed and that the stained glass windows, which could have been made (and equally as reasonably in price) in Australia, were ordered from Germany... "un-Deutschland uber Alles."

Reged—the Japs had better look out by Gad! An Australian war vessel (The Brisbane) has been prowling around her coasts! Talking of Japs, I notice that they are turning out a cheaper car than the imported American cars. I've noticed a lot of toy cars. Many of them have been gaining experience. You know, Mr. Editor, they're a wonderfully interesting crowd, these Japanese. Why! a friend of mine informs me that an N.C.O. or officer in the army or navy has to pass a test in his own service as well as in its sister service. Thus the army commander is competent to handle naval forces, and when naval forces touch shore their superiors can manoeuvre longshore action. Not a bad idea, either.

5301.—These industrial disputes would be less frequent if the oft time suggested remedy of making both parties to the awards under the Court deposit a substantial security, to be realised on and forfeited in the event of default.

Dig.—A most disgraceful scene was reported in the press when Hughes, the member for East Perth, practically groaned—the report said he was "dancing about between chairs and pulling off his coat, hat and shirt, while he prepared to engage in a bout of fistscuffs with Mr. W. Mackenzie." This ungentlemanly behaviour was witnessed by about 30 females! Thanks to Mr. Mackenzie's levelheadedness, a scene was prevented beyond Hughes's unseemly display. Then came the true cold-foot plan—Hughes, although seemingly prepared to create a scene before the girls, was not game to retire outside at Mackenzie's invitation. The crowning folly was Hughes's challenge to fight for a stake of £50 in three months' time, as he was out of condition! Who doesn't remember this fellow's war record—who has forgotten his opposition to the enforced service of slackers?

Seedy Bout.—It was gratifying to note the number of returned men at the Boy Scouts' annual general meeting this month. This organisation is perhaps the greatest influence which could be brought to bear on youngsters. Many boys who would otherwise roam the streets and perhaps get into mischief, are not only entertained out of harm's way, but they are given an incentive to improve physically and morally. It is indeed encouraging to see that officials, both active in the field work as well as in administration, are so often service men who can so readily recognise the value of the work being done. These men ranged from the highest military rank we have here to the lowest. Still, we would like to see more men of the right stamp come forward.

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Known as "Russia" to his manycoh­
bres in the 28th, Frank Payton, who has been cruising along the Nor'-West since war days, recently visited Perth.

What Price Offering?
A $5 Off the Old Block.
"Father," said we Willie MacPherson, "will ye bring hame a couple o' gold fish?"
"Wh' for?" demanded MacPherson. "Ave a couple o' fishworms I dinn' know what to do wi' it."
"What are you laughing at?"
"I've been to the dentist's!"
"That's nothing to laugh at!"
"He is! He wasn't in!"

Banners at Fremantle, Northam, Beverley, Nannup, Katanning, Humber, Geraldton, Carnarvon, Kalgoorlie and Albany.
PERSONALITIES.

Metropolitan Commissioner James Paterson, of that laudable movement, the Boy Scouts’ Association, has been the recipient of a much coveted honor from Imperial Headquarters. His selfless and untiring efforts on behalf of the boys should serve as an example which might well be followed by other young returned men. Jim was attached to the Royal Air Force, and did yeoman service on the Italian fronts, as well as in the Dardanelles. The position of Deputy Camp Chief has been bestowed on Mr. Paterson by Imperial Headquarters, accompanied by the award referred to, the “Wood Badge,” comprising two beads of the necklace formerly belonging to Chief Dinizulu of the Zulus.

Sidney Thompson, who might have stayed home during the war, had he been more mindful of his age than of the country’s needs, is unfortunately a patient in connection with his war disability, “Tommy,” as he is playfully called by all his friends, is cashier of the Repatriation Department. His illness is lamented by all to whom he is known.

Stan Watt, known in League circles as a staunch and energetic member of the Executive, fills other rolls as well. During the War he was a member of the Camel Corps in Egypt and Palestine. He was through all the successive engagements on both fronts and wound up as one of the first few to enter Damascus. Notwithstanding his strenuous service abroad, he has stuck grimly to toil in his civil avocation. He is, in fact, the pillar of this journal, as he wholly publishes the monthly editions. As manager of the Imperial Printing Company, his close confinement to business has resulted in a temporary breakdown, and he is now taking an enforced rest under medical advice. Universal is the wish that he may soon resume his former health.

Captain Philip Hinckley, M.C., ex-Imperial Forces, has recently taken the position of Headmaster of the Guildford Grammar School. This position was doubly arduous, as he was preceded by so able an administrator and scholar as Canon P. U. Henn; nevertheless, our soldier man is doing not only justice to the reliance placed in him by his selectors, but is making rapid progress. The very important department of sport is developing so keenly that the other public schools will need to watch themselves, while it may be said that the scholastic side of the school training is ideal under Mr. Hinckley’s control.

We are pleased to hear of the timely assistance Chas. J. Cooke, Executive Member and late 5th A.B.G.R.O., is rendering in the matter of securing appointments for apprenticeships for children of deceased soldiers. The Secretary of the Soldiers’ Children’s Education Board, Mr. John Garth, has informed us that Mr. Cooke is rendering most valuable help in this direction.

Jimmy Cornell, M.L.C., who for years has been a pillar of strength on the State Executive of the League has been honoured by the Federal Executive by being appointed to represent the League at the second biennial conference of the British Empire Service League, to be held at Ottawa, Canada, on the 29th June next.

The Commissioner for Repatriation, Colonel Semmens, and the Principal Medical Officer, Dr. Courtney, arrived in Perth on Wednesday last and were entertained by the State President (Rabbi Freedman) at lunch at the Soldiers’ Institute yesterday.

State Secretary D. M. Benson recently visited Collie and Darkan, and is at present touring the South-West. He will address meetings of soldiers as follows: —Kirup, May 21; Jarnadup, May 22; Northcliffe, May 23; Glenoran, May 24; Nannup, May 25; Bunbury, May 26; returning to Perth on Wednesday, May 27th.

Wm. E. Nicholas, who died at the Perth Hospital during March last saw service with the 28 Bn. The deceased was connected with the mining business prior to his enlistment and was well-known on the Fields. Mr. Nicholas was attending hospital as a Repatriation Department patient in connection with his war disabilities.
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SUB-BRANCH NOTES.

MOUNT MARSHALL SUB-BRANCH.

Anzac day was fittingly commemorated by the residents of Bencubbin and district on the afternoon of April 25th, at Marshall Rock.
The ceremony was arranged by the local Sub-branch, who invited E. J. Pergande, Esq., J.P., to act as chairman. With him on the platform were Robt. Walters, Esq., J.P., and Messrs. R. E. Breckell (President R.S.L.) and S. N. McKenzie.
The ceremony opened with the singing of Kipling's "Recessional," followed by two minutes' silence. Addresses were then delivered by the chairman, Messrs. McKenzie and Breckell.
The service concluded with the singing of "O God our Help in Ages Past," followed by the National Anthem.

On Sunday the 26th April a combined Memorial Service conducted by the Rev. F. M. Oliver, was held in the Bencubbin Hall.

During the service wreaths were laid beneath the Memorial Plaque by the Mt. Marshall R.S.L. and also relatives of the fallen.

Permission having been obtained from the Director of Education, this Sub-Branch will again conduct the Anzac Day Essay Competition which was inaugurated last year. The competition will be open to children attending the Bencubbin, North Mt. Marshall, Waddouring and Mandiga State schools. The competition has been divided into three groups as follows:—Over 9 years of age and under 11, over 11 and under 13, 13 and over.

Good prizes are offered and big entries are expected. The subject of the essay will be "Anzac Day and What It Stands For."

This Sub-Branch meets in the Bencubbin Hall on the third Sunday in each month. After each meeting a lecturette is given by one of the members on some important subject.

JARRANDUP SUB-BRANCH

Word has been received that this branch has certain members who have been badly hit over the Subterranean Clover business and that they have cooperated with Harvey and Rockingham Sub-Branches to put the matter to legal test. Socials to raise the necessary funds for creating a hall are being held and Jarra

JARRNDUP Sub-Branch can already boast a balance in this fund of £20.

It appears to be the wish of those enthusiastic members who are at present carrying the burden of administration that the Executive might find an early occasion to send a representative along to assist them in creating a wider interest.

FREMANTLE SUB-BRANCH.

This Sub-Branch is proud of its Women's Auxiliary. To augment funds these ladies held a Bazaar at the Institute which was a pronounced success. Lady McMillan opened the Bazaar on being introduced by the President of the Sub-branch, Mr. Theo Brennan. The vote of thanks was generously supported after having been ably proposed by Mr. Winfield. A posey, as dainty as the donor, was presented by little Lillian Paine in conclusion of the opening ceremony.
The following conducted stalls: Messrs. Kirby, Rushby, Brennan, Paine, Dunn, McPhee, Evans, Lea, Lee and Hawkins. The first mentioned won the competition for the most popular lady.

LAVERTON SUB-BRANCH.

A well-attended meeting of the Sub-Branch was held on April 4th. The president, Mr. J. McIntyre, presided. The Committee of Inquiry reported satisfactorily in respect to the ownership of the hall and furniture, and it was decided at a previous meeting this hall be used for all future meetings of the sub-branch. The Committee reported that members had enrolled since the original meeting three weeks before, and a number had still to come in, as a number of discharged soldiers are engaged in various occupations covering distances of 200 miles from Laverton. It was agreed that the sub-branch be encouraged to meet in the minds of the younger generation, as no country could become great without the allegiance of its citizens in time of peril or emergency. The members believed that the Government would definitely carry out their obligations in this respect, as they had the welfare of the country at heart.

WAGIN SUB-BRANCH.

As was most appropriate, Anzac Day in Wagin was observed by a United Memorial Service. The morning was beautifully fine, and the meeting place, the recently erected War Memorial, imparted that tone of reverence that made the service a singularly impressive one. There were such splendid attendance of returned soldiers, under Major Mears, and also of the general public. The praise was led by the Wagin Town Band, under the baton of Mr. McDonald. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the Rev. W. E. Moorhouse, B.A., in Perth, the service was conducted by the Revs. Philip and Fen

nell, Baptist, and Methodist Ministers. The hymns selected were those so well remembered by the soldiers, viz., "O God our Help in Ages Past," followed by the "Last Post," sounded by Mr. R. Baker. The sermon was given by the Rev. H. H. Fen

nall, who chose as his text Exodus 17 "And thou shalt write this for a memorial in a book." The reverend gentleman's reflections and scriptural utterances were most appropriate and impressive. A collection was taken, the proceeds of which after deducting local expenses were devoted to the Maimed and Limbless Soldiers' Fund.

COLLIE SUB-BRANCH.

The activities of this Branch will continue with equal enthusiasm as in the past few years. Gradually but surely the few returned men who reside in Collie and who have kept apart from the League are realizing that after all it is better to be with the majority rather than the minority. Each meeting of the Branch sees new faces and additional members and this is the surest sign that the dig

gers—these are becoming conscious of the fact that it is to their interest to become part and parcel of the R.S.L. Having at last secured practically all the eligible residents in Collie, the Branch is determined to give the adjacent localities some good organizing. Already Buckingham's, Bunning's and Shott's have been attended to and all returned men residing at these places are now members of the Collie Branch. On Sunday, May 2nd, a determined organizing attack was made on the Darkan district. Thirty
members of the Collie Branch undertook the journey of 40 odd miles and in addition the State Secretary, Mr. D. Benson, was able to be present in order to further assist the efforts of the Branch. All Darkan turned out to meet the Collie diggers, and after a substantial luncheon, provided by the Symonds Bros.—both returned men and members of the R.S.L.—a successful meeting was held in the Darkan Hall. Following upon the meeting the rest of the day was taken up with cricket, the Darkan diggers proving too good for their Collie comrades by 21 runs. There is no doubt this visit created wonderful enthusiasm and every digger residing in and around Darkan joined up as one man. Representations were made to the Branch to organise a similar visit to Dunsborough, the farmer of that locality stating that they were prepared to billet members of the Collie Branch, should they decide to visit them on a Saturday afternoon and Sunday. It is pleasing to note that these organising visits are not run from Branch funds, as the whole of the costs are borne proportionately by members. The officials of the Collie Branch desire to take this opportunity of sincerely thanking those returned men of Darkan who so kindly assisted to make May 2nd such a successful day. The Branch also appreciates the effort made by the State Secretary to assist in connection with the Darkan visit and hopes that the enthusiasm he saw amongst the country diggers will, in some small measure, serve to repay him for making such a strenuous journey. Since the last report several meetings have been held and the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee have held meetings also. It has been decided to commence organising for another “Diggers’ Fair” on similar lines to the one last year, and it is anticipated that the result, good as it was last year, will this year be eclipsed. From now on euchre parties and dances will be the order of the day—or rather night—the funds so collected to be utilized in stocking the various stalls. The Collie Cricket Association fixtures have now been finalised and the R.S.L. Club finished up with third place. As was the case last year, the R.S.L. team well and truly trounced the Premier team in the last match of the season. The Club has improved wonderfully and no doubt next year will see it higher up the list still—perhaps on top. The appointment of a full-time caretaker and assistant secretary has proved a decided success and has resulted in greater revenue being derived from the letting of the hall. No more suitable digger than “Sandy” Wilson could have been found for the job, as he is most conscientious and takes great pride in his work. Anzac Day celebrations were carried out this year in accordance with the desires of the League, and although the memorial service was largely attended by the public of Collie, it was pleasing to note that the attendance of returned men easily predominated. On Monday evening, 27th April, the Branch held an Anzac Ball, the dancing space of the soldiers’ hall being taxed to its utmost. A most elaborate sit-down supper was provided by the members of the Ladies Auxiliary Committee, who are to be heartily congratulated for their efforts in this connection.

KULIN SUB-BRANCH.

Executive Delegate A. E. Pady recently visited this sub-branch and presented the following interesting report to the State Executive on his return:

“As per your instructions, I left Perth on Friday, April 17th, arriving at Narrogin about eleven o'clock. Accommodation had been secured for me at the Hordern Hotel by Mr. Watt, for which kindness I thanked him on behalf of the Executive.

“Leaving Narrogin on Saturday at io a.m., I arrived at Kulin about 4.30 p.m. I was met by the president of the branch

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(Mr. Laurie), who escorted me to the hotel, where accommodation had been arranged for me. A social gathering had been fixed for 8 p.m., at which 54 persons sat down. These were not all returned men, as the President explained that the branch had thought it advisable to invite several of the leading men in the district, who had always shown their sympathv with the returned men in a practical way.

"The social was a huge success in every way and the speeches were very interesting. I learnt that the wheat grown in the Kulin area had increased in three years from 25,000 to 60,000 bags; new settlers are constantly taking up land, and many of these are returned men, so that it seems likely the branch will grow considerably. During the evening I addressed the gathering on matters connected with the Executive, and, of course, urged upon all of them to join the local branch. I had a good hearing and I have reason to believe that the result of my visit will be an increased membership to the branch. The social concluded at 2 a.m. on Sunday morning.

"On Sunday I was driven out to Mr. Laurie’s farm and had dinner at his house. I stayed there some time and was then taken per motor to several of the surrounding farms, where I, of course, preached the gospel of the League.

"In conclusion, I have to thank all the men with whom I came in contact, especially Mr. Laurie (who is a very enthusiastic worker in the soldiers’ cause), for their uniform kindness during my short stay among them. Leaving Kulin at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, I arrived back in Perth at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, and brought to a conclusion what I trust has been a successful trip from the League’s point of view.”

BEVERLEY SUB-BRANCH.

Anzac Day.—Beverley did itself proud on Anzac Day. The day started off with a gathering at the Soldiers’ Memorial, where the school children, boy scouts and girl guides were paraded, and addresses delivered by Mr. George Broun, president of the Beverley Branch R.S.L., and Mr. R. S. Williams, Chairman of the Road Board, and wreaths were placed at the foot of the monument, which was nicely decorated. After that a combined religious service was held in the Mechanics’ Hall, at which the Rev. G. E. Jones took the chair, and Canon Burton delivered the memorial address. A large number of returned soldiers were accommodated with seats on the stage, while the body of the hall was filled to overflowing with the large congregation. Standing room was at a premium, and the crowd overflowed into the ante-room and out into the street. At the close of the service a distribution of sweets, cakes, fruit, etc., was made to the children, some 300 of whom participated. This was the gift of the Road Board. Later on the returned men foregathered at the White Hart Hotel, where they were the guests of Mr. Eddie Barrett-Lennard, some forty men sitting down to dinner with him. The dinner was a very quiet one, quite in keeping with the spirit of the day, the only toast honoured being the usual loyal toasts, “Fallow Comrades,” and “The Host”—no musical honours, Mr. Lennard’s kindly forethought was much appreciated, many of those present having had to leave home very early and drive many miles to attend the service.

KELMSCOTT SUB-BRANCH.

Anzac Service.—The Kelmscott Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. held a service on Anzac afternoon in the public hall. The service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Stubbs (Anglican) and Rev. Mr. Cole (Congregational), and the address was given by Mr. H. S. Humphrey, member of the R.S.L. Executive. Mr. Humphrey spoke on sacrifice, and the necessity of standing by those who remained to make this sacrifice, a great memory to help, this land onward. After the service wreaths were placed at the foot of the obelisk, and the buglers from the Seaforth Highlanders sounded the “Last Post,” and after the Benediction, the Reveille was sounded. The service was well attended by members of the R.S.L., Women’s Auxiliary, Boy Scouts, school children, and general public. A collection was taken up for the obelisk maintenance. Afternoon tea was served by members of the Women’s Auxiliary of the R.S.L.

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LUCK AND AUSSIE.
(From Bindy Boo.)

Dig threw his arms as fas towards the heavens as he could without dropping his crutches; it was not altogether a prayer, but a gesture of the freedom he felt commencing fourteen days' leave. He wanted them badly and had schemed to some tune to win them. Only last week he had overheard his hospital ward doctor telling the Sister in charge that Dig must have an amputation to square his deal. "Another 'op!' Not on your life," thought Dig; "five times over the bags is more than enough for me." He made up his mind as a desperate man and blew along to the Hospital Registrar. He fell in with the discharge to "Con. Camp" section, and an orderly N.C.O. took particulars from all and sundry for the preparation of leave passes. That's how Dig got clear, and before he was seriously missed he was enveloped in the maze of London's intricacies.

Horseferry Road was not generous, but Dig had made a sizeable allotment to the Commonwealth Bank and was soon cashed up. A swanky outfit was his next manoeuvre, and before he could realise he was quite free his first day was spent.

If one has cash, it's an easy enough matter to knock up a good time in London, and Dig wasn't long in getting a fair guide to the amusements offering. He heard the operas, saw the shows, and lived the London sights, and his fair guide helped him through it all. It was her fault really—he'd never been A.W.L. before; but he still had whips of cash and he overstayed his leave another day "cos he couldn't bring himself to say good-bye to his guide. It's really worse to be away a day than a whole fortnight, so Dig decided on the whole hog.

There were twenty days in Dig's second fortnight, and as funds were somewhat lower, Dig sailed down to Weymouth. The Jacks were plentiful down there, and his crutches didn't seem to promise such a passport as they did in London. Dig realised this from the moment he alighted from the train, and resolved on diplomacy; so, singling out a hand-facéd John, he walked straight up to him.

"Can you put us on to a pot?" Dig asked, offering him a smoke as he helped himself to one. Of course it worked like magic, and when they had had their drink the Jack offered to show Dig a short cut to camp. Dig understood his new friend's method of offering to get him into camp without his being molested, and so readily availed himself of the chance.

The orderly room appeared deserted when Dig approached, but a corporal with a pen in his ear was cooling off there behind a stack of files, and Dig attracted his attention by addressing him as "Sergeant!"

"Look, Sergeant, I've been moving round here for close on three weeks, and I'm about fed up. Can't get anyone to own me, and I reckon it's time I was on a boat roll."

The corporal took Dig's particulars and asked him to go very canny, as if it were to be heard by the heads he might lose his cooshy job in the Orderly Room. The corporal promised to fix Dig up with leave any time he liked and that he would put him on the next boat home, if only he wouldn't say anything about the matter.

Well, a week is easy spent on the south coast, and then came the boat— the boat which made the blind see, the deaf to hear and the halt to gambol.

Crutches were no longer necessary, for the thought of the Golden Fleece and the old folk was the most curative treatment yet instituted.

Dig is still something of a war souvenir and has an occasional "knock under" with his war injuries; but if anyone inquires that he was "swinging the lead" he is quite prepared to show that he can use other forces than diplomacy if needs be.
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