The League And N.G.

"We Will Remember Them"

The tensions emerging from the New Guinea issue are of concern to all Australians and to League members in particular.

Speaking on the subject recently R.I.L. National President A. J. Lee said Australians must be prepared to make sacrifices if necessary, to ensure the nation's defence against any contingencies that might arise in the future.

The RSL attitude to the West New Guinea issue itself was quite clear and had been restated many times, Mr. Lee said. The indigenous population should have the right of self-determination at an appropriate time. No other solution could be regarded as just or logical.

Australia had been assured that Indonesia had no further territorial claims. That might well be the case under the present administration, but in view of the political instability in Indonesia who could tell how long it would be before another administration with other ideas might direct the country's affairs.

Whatever was the issue, it underlined the need for taking steps now, no matter what the cost, to build up and revitalize all aspects of national defence.

Such steps would include:

- The stimulation of C.M.F. enlistment
- The reintroduction of National Service Training on a practical basis
- A wide-scale increase of cadet training
- The introduction of an effective Commonwealth plan for Civil Defence

Mr. Lee said that service installations and equipment must be the most modern and all efforts must be concentrated on the complete flexibility and manoeuvrability of Australia's three armed forces with regard to rapid expansion should the need arise.

In addition top priority must be given to development projects in northern Australia and the territory of Papua New Guinea.

Every emphasis must be placed on raising the standard of the native population of that area to a point where the people could take a larger share in their own administration and play a bigger part in controlling their own destinies.

The League And N.G.

The Late Lou Serisier
Mourned At Mundaring

The Mundaring sub-branch has expressed its regret at the passing, after a long illness, of its good friend and old member E. L. (Lou) Serisier.

He had many good friends at Mundaring and the sub-branch joins them in an expression of deepest sympathy to his family.

The installation of our officers for 1962 was carried out at the annual dinner on January 20. Among the guests were State President Lonnie, Senior Vice-President Tonshead, executive members Steele Bishop and Hugh Leslie, M.H.R., and Mr. Owen M.L.A.

Mr. Lonnie gave a short address on the international situation and expressed this confidence that the sub-branch would have a very successful year.

The ladies excelled themselves with the catering.

Bob Frain did his usual good job as O.C., liquid refreshments, music was supplied by Mr. John Costelow, of Mt. Helena, and two members of the Midland Pipe Band.

Appreciation was expressed of the consistent support of the sub-branch by its honorary auditor, Mr. Frank Rattipan.

During the evening a club round made in aid of "Maid of the Mountains" candidate, Miss Evelyn Munro, yielded over £35.

Evelyn will be having more social functions.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 26.
Sir—I wish to draw attention to the references in the C. R. Collins “Did You Know” series (L.P., December issue) to the N.S.W. Lancers, of which I was a member.

When the overseas training scheme was first mentioned, the N.S.W. sequetian squaddies came to their aid and drove a large mob of horses to the Campbelltown sale yards for the N.S.W. Defence Department to pick out its requirements. The rest were to be sold to pay driving expenses.

On notification of this, a military tournament was held at Windsor to pick the men. The chosen officers and men assembled in the Westproburn Barracks and were quartered in the southern portion of Parramatta Park.

The horses were watered at the lake just below the old Government House, till they were sent to the R.M.S. Himalaya if my memory is correct—under the command of Major Knox.

On arrival in London we were quartered in the Westminster Barracks with the 3rd Life Guards (The Blues). We were received there by H.M. Queen Victoria, Prince of Wales, many well-known persons of York with two sons, Edward and George, and the Princess of Wales, now the Viscountess Lassels. We then moved to various stations.

In N.S.W. the only troops to wear the black-cocked helmets were the Lancers. The mounted infantry wore plum hats, but the Queenslanders, to whom I am attached, then wore dark-blue pants with red-stripe scarlet jackets, white trousers and pith helmets. The M.I. is a darker khaki than ours. Yours, etc., J. W. Firth (N.A. N.S. Lancer.)

CROSSES IN REMEMBRANCE

Sir—In the December issue of “The Listening Post” you published a letter from Mr. G. Hummington, detailing the placing of the “Poppy Crosses” at the R.S.L. Veterans’ Home.

He claims that at sunset on the eve of Anzac Day, for the past five years 333 croses have been placed in front of our war memorial in King’s Park. The names of his association and kindred units.

In January, 1932, I returned from Hay Bayeg, While there I sold poppies on “The Day” and also saw ground of Westminster Abbey.

A week before November 11th, the phones were very busy. I gave them the word to go ahead and make the crosses. I did, and made 250.

 crosses were placed in the grounds of Wesley Church and various other places. I do not wish to be seen from other. It is just as well to have the true facts. Yours etc., (Mrs.) Margaret I. Mason, 15 Regaling road.

In war-service homes in contravention of the provisions of the Act, Section 35 has been amended to enable the Director in such a case to take possession of the property under Section 38 to cancel the contract of the purchaser or the case of a borrower, to call up the money and sell the property.

The Act as now amended will enable the Director to take action where, by use of such devices referred to, a purchaser or borrower from the War Service Homes Division transfers his right or transfers his right or otherwise disposes of his property. If a purchaser or borrower sells his property he may do so on the condition that he arranges to discharge his outstanding liability to the division at the same time as he proposes to transfer his interest in the property to the purchaser.

In transactions of this kind the division will be pleased to assist in setting up suitable devices concerning the conveyancing procedure which should be adopted.

On the other hand, where a purchaser or borrower under the Act disposes of all or any part of his property in such a way that an ineligible person is being admitted, then action will be taken by the division in accordance with its powers now contained in the Act.
START THE YEAR RIGHT!
(Please treat this matter as URGENT)

BY PAYING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO YOUR SUB-BRANCH SECRETARY OR DIRECT TO ANZAC HOUSE, PERTH

Please find enclosed £1, being Subscription to 31st December, 1962, for

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Sub-Branch ____________________________
Unit ____________________________ No. ____________________________

Remembrance, Service, Loyalty too, maintain by Strength in '62

Honouring The Dead

Please for the efforts and achievements of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission was placed record at the recent National Congress of the League.

The resolution was worded as follows:

"That Congress congratulates the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for its outstanding work since its establishment in May, 1917, in the care of the graves of more than 1,600,000 men and women of our British countries. We are pleased and proud that despite any differences in our forms of government, the countries of our Commonwealth of Nations gladly join together to continue the noble task of honouring our war dead."

The text of the resolution was in due course passed on to the Minister for the Interior, Mr. Gordon Freeth, who in his reply said:

"Thank you for your letter of 21st December, 1961, and for the expressions of appreciation of the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

"I have passed the resolution carried at the 46th National Congress on to Brigadier Brown, Secretary General and Regional Director of the Anzac Agency for the Pacific Region, and have asked him to forward it to the headquarters of the Commission in London."

Writer Seeks Information

Mr. Fred A. Morton informs us that he is gathering material that will serve as a background to a novel he is writing about World War II.

The book will be concerned chiefly with enemy prisoners of war who were interned in Australia.

In particular he is interested to meet any R.S.L. members who served in the 22nd Australian Garrison Battalion, or any other members of units who were stationed at Cowra (N.S.W.) at the time of the Japanese outbreak in August 1944.

Any replies should be addressed to Fred A. Morton, c/o Australian Broadcasting Commission.
If you are an ex-member of the Forces and are eligible to join the League, or if you have joined but have failed to renew your subscription, are you aware that at 12 1/2 a year the cost of membership is only a fraction more than 4d a week?

But this is what we want you to know: this small membership fee is our least personal consideration when we ask you to join or stay with us. The important consideration is that we want your membership.

If one were being coldly commercial, it would be simple to prove that the potential and actual benefits in exchange for such a premium easily makes the League the cheapest form of insurance against future need in the world.

But a strong Membership can help the League, both in the services and in adding to the power of its requests and statements made on behalf of those it serves.

In short, we want you to join in the task that others have gladly accepted—to help fight returned men's battles, to represent their views and beliefs in matters of national importance, to advance their claims and welfare, to ensure their rehabilitation and proper compensation for war injury and disablement, to care for war-comrades who have fallen in their service and for the widows of the men who did not return, or who have since died.

We want you to help us see that the war orphans are properly cared for, educated and given a chance for a decent future, to keep the name of returned men untarnished and held high in public esteem, and to preserve the memory of the war dead.

INCREASING DEMANDS

The demands on the League, a unique organisation of fighting men, are increasing every day.

At the last National Congress of the League, President A. J. Lee said: "The R.S.L. can play a vital part in the problems facing the nation today, but the League's ability to accept this responsibility depends to a very large degree on its effective membership."

Mr. Lee urged all State branches, sub-branches and members throughout Australia to continue their efforts to maintain and increase the organisation's numbers.

He said that national membership of the League had been satisfactory despite increasing losses by death.

After the boom post-war membership years the membership figures had divided sharply, but in later years losses by death had been contained, and the overall membership improved by the admission of new or rejoining members.

Last year losses were still evident. However, it is a matter of considerable encouragement in looking at the League's latest figures to date to see in a rough comparison—which is all that is possible—a sizable improvement.

On October 17, 1960, membership was 217,169. On October 16, 1961, it stood at 218,879—an improvement of 7,709.

The most recent figure for the current year shows a membership of 220,700.

There is no reason why this heartening trend should not continue.
Hopes Dashed In Bid For A W.A. Naval Base

There is no early prospect of a naval base on the West Australian coast, according to an outline of naval policy given by Navy Minister Gorton to the Returned Servicemen’s League in Canberra.

His reply to repeated R.S.L. urgings for a W.A. naval base has been circulated to all State branches. It is claimed that such a base can be justified only by West Australian R.S.L. president W. S. Lonnie.

Mr. Lonnie said that he was deeply disappointed by the Minister’s reply, which gave no indication of any new or forward thinking.

Senator Gorton’s comment that the advantages of a W.A. base were recognised but rejected for economic and political reasons was merely a repetition of previous ministerial replies.

Measured against Australia’s defence expenditure of £12,000,000,000 over the past ten years, the cost of developing a naval base on the western seaboard would not seem prohibitive. Mr. Lonnie’s overall defence activities if it was spread over annual programmes of works.

The R.S.L. believes that Australia should take the lead in providing the naval base; that the financial responsibility was merely a matter of priorities.

The loss in recent years of naval bases in Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Egyptian control of the Suez Canal, had greatly weakened Australia’s position in the Indian Ocean.

There were also alarming reports that naval bases were not available to Russia in Ambon and Surabaya.

“With the Singapore base, made only in the minds of wishful thinkers, we wonder at what stage our shipping, and Indian Ocean, defences will be moved up to a higher priority,” Mr. Lonnie said.

The defence minister said that a W.A. naval base could be established only at extreme cost and at the expense of projects with higher priorities.

To reason the naval programme would have no provision for such a base, although its advantages had been considered and fully recognised when the current defence policy was being framed.

Modern techniques of naval warfare relied mainly on floating logistic support, allowing fleets to operate away from their bases for long periods and increasing the effectiveness and flexibility of sea power.

Further expansion of Australia’s naval forces within the foreseeable future would probably be directed to the ships of the fleet and not supporting craft, rather than to additional shore bases.

A W.A. base would be considered further if the need for additional facilities on the west coast was assumed greater strategic importance.

Anzac Day Proceeds Considered

Consistent with its obligations in respect of Anzac Day the League will cooperate with Torchbearers for Leagues for the purpose of boosting the proceeds from the race-meeting, conducted in the afternoon of that day.

This was decided at the State Executive meeting on January 30 after the consideration of proposals advanced by Torchbearers.

The State President of the executive members that under the current legislation the allocation of the proceeds from Anzac Day sporting activities among the several ex-service organisations was entirely a matter for the Anzac Day Trust.

They should not assume that any activities that might be entered into by Torchbearers and the League would stand to benefit both.

On the other hand it was obvious that ex-service amenability to the request of the League generally must benefit from enlarged allocations.

The Justice-appointed committee consisting of Messrs. B. J. Flanagan, H. Y. Holland and D. Davidson closely controled with Torchbearers on the matter.

Repatriation Benefits

Perhaps the most important of the Budget changes affecting the Repatriation Bill was that made in the conditions for payment of medical sustenance during essential convalescence after discharge from hospital.

Repayment sustenance at the Special Rate—now £13/5/- per week—was paid only while the ex-serviceman was in hospital.

Now it is continued at the higher rate during a period of convalescence following immediately upon hospital treatment where a departmental medical officer certifies that the convalescence is necessary.

A service pensioner is an ex-service man, or woman, who served in a theatre of war and has reached the age of 60 (55 in the case of women) is unemployed, and who can meet the same means test as for the Social Services age pension.

Ex-servicemen suffering from tuberculosis also receive a service pension. The increase in the maximum rate for a service pensioner is 5/-, making the new rate £13/5/- per week.

No amendment to the Act was needed to do this.

Section 83 automatically applies to service pensioners on the Social Services age pension.

That section was, however, made subject to amendment to increase by 5/- per week the service pension of a wife, and by 3/- a week learners. The pension payable to the first child of a service pensioner whose pension was granted on medical grounds—that is, one who is permanently unemployed or who suffers from tuberculosis.

Under the existing law an allowance has been paid to employees towards their loss of salary or wages when they are required to attend for examination or treatment. For years the R.S.L. has asked that this allowance be extended to self-employed people. The small business man may have to close his business when he cannot personally attend to it, or the professional man may lose through absence from his work.

To pay this allowance to self-employed people presents some administrative problems, but they can be overcome and the Government has agreed to an amendment of the regulations so as to enable payment of this allowance, by way of compensation to self-employed people, at the same rate as to salary and wage earners.
VIIIth EMPIRE & COMMONWEALTH GAMES

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I am willing to accommodate visitor/s
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I would prefer my guest to be a member of the R.S.L.
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Name

Address

NEWS!!! NEWS!!! NEWS!!!

Sloan Homes have Special Terms For EX-SERVICEMEN

THIS OR ANY ONE OF A LARGE RANGE OF HOMES CAN BE YOURS

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Success Story Comes From A Suburban Sub-Branch

A most successful year, financially and socially, was reported by President E. McGuirk at the annual general meeting of the West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat sub-branch recently.

Congratulating treasurer C. Parer for his handling of finances, Mr. McGuirk said that the sub-branch overdraft had been considerably reduced during the year and it was hoped to be free of debt by the end of the current year.

Membership had remained fairly stable but could well rise to 200 this year. Mr. McGuirk said he felt the most pleasing feature of the change in observance of Anzac Day lay in the big boost given to the funds for the relief of needy ex-service men and women. After much discussion, the sub-branch had decided to conduct its service on the Sunday instead of the Monday. The 1961 service, which had taken the customary form, had not been so well attended.

The sub-branch was indebted to its friends and residents of the district and to the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and other local organisations.

The auxiliary had given solid support at the service and had provided afternoon tea for members and visitors at the conclusion of the wreath-laying.

The social evenings had been very successful, largely due to the efforts of Mrs. Allan Gaden-Jones, who had organised and conducted them.

There had been a good attendance of sub-branch members and their wives as guests at the auxiliary's Christmas party. On that occasion Messrs. Young and Mathews had each been presented with a Certificate of Service.

The auxiliary president, Mrs. Rowe, had recently been appointed State Secretary of the organisation. The sub-branch had been indebted to its hospital-vigilante, Mr. C. Bolton, who had visited sick members not only in hospitals but in their own homes.

Bowls is played on Wednesday and Friday nights, and challenges from other sub-branches are apt to be accepted.

Minister To Attend To Problem Of Cadets

To a League request to have Cadet Corps training made a subject of the curriculum in secondary education, Army Minister Cramer has replied, enunciating a problem and promising to give it consideration.

"I assure you of my keen personal interest in the Corps, and my appreciation of the valuable contribution it can make to national life. Ideally, I should like to see each school in every secondary school in Australia. Unfortunately, however, this is not possible due to the limitation of funds and available Regular Army staff. You will, I feel sure, be interested to know that I have recently written to the headmaster of each school in the State, advising them of cadet training. They are-

(a) To give school cadets a foundation of military knowledge and discipline;
(b) To develop the qualities of leadership;
(c) To develop a sense of citizenship and patriotism;
(d) To develop interest in the role of the Army Cadet units.

(e) To encourage cadets by association, to continue some form of military service after leaving school.

From the replies I have received it is apparent that enthusiasm has been awakened and an increased establishment to cater for additional numbers in existing units as well as for the raising of new cadet units. This problem will continue to receive my close attention."
LEAGUE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Anzac House Story

Efforts to secure a suitable home for the League were made very early in its history. Finally, in March, 1921, the property recently vacated by the Australian Broadcasting Commission in Supreme Court Gardens was leased by the R.S.L. from the Soldiers' Welcome Committee and the Red Cross Society.

This became known as the "Soldiers' House" and provided facilities for members, including entertainment and dining and billiard rooms. It was administered by the Executive and staff of the League.

As a condition of the control of the building, the R.S.L. agreed to the use of the Institute by all soldiers and sailors and bore the whole expense of running it. As maintenance became too expensive, an extensive job of repair was undertaken in 1926. The job included the re-laying of all the floors in the building.

The 1926 Annual Report of the League expressed the opinion that the building was not suitable for the League's needs.

Club Mooted

Suggestions for the desirability of providing facilities for members of the League in Western Australia were made at this Congress.

During the few years small profits were made from the running of the Soldiers' Club. The members of the League felt that a move to build Anzac House would be more practical in the long run. It was decided that such a building should be a home for returned servicemen, and be revenue-producing, and could be accomplished by incorporating it into the management of the South Australian Government. The building was to be sold as a "Soldiers' Retirement Home." The sale was made by the Government to the League in 1932.

Winning Design

Mr. A. E. Clare, the Government Architect, was invited to design a set of plans and a design competition among architects was conducted. The plans were won by Mr. A. B. Cox, and the building was constructed.

Soliciting Aid

Circular letters were sent to all branches, and the members of the committee made many visits to soliciting support. The drive was well-supported and donations were freely made, mainly by branch presidents, the largest being £100 from the Swan Brewery Company of F 00.

Field Marshal Sir William Birdwood, was not sufficiently satisfied with the site or the condition of the land to be offered as a secure site. It was necessary to negotiate with the Government and Mr. Collier, who succeeded Sir James Mitchell was asked to submit a Bill to Parliament and this passed both Houses without amendment.

The site was purchased for £19,680 by Messrs. T. Brine and Sons, and the land was purchased for £500 for the installation of electrical services. The contract was prepared on September 24th, 1933.

The Foundation Stone of Anzac House was laid on Sunday, 29th March, 1934, by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir James Mitchell, K.C.M.G., in the presence of the Returned Soldiers, the Returned Sailors, and the Returned Imperialists. The League is comprised of ex-war veterans, whose members have served in the various branches of the Australian Army and the Royal Australian Navy.

Declared Open

The Duke then paid tribute to the quality of Australian soldiers who served in the Great War. He expressed the hope that the building would be a place of refuge for future generations.

Bar Licence

The Army Nurses' Club was established on the mezzanine floor of Anzac House. The Club which occupied the second floor was granted a licence.

(Continued on Page 12.)
Remembrance, Service, Loyalty too, maintain by Strength in '62

WORKERS IN CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Emergency Post For Leader

The R.S.L. State President, Mr. W. S. Lonnie, has been appointed director of the State's new Civil Emergency Service.

The appointment was announced early this month by the Premier, Mr. Brand.

Mr. Lonnie has been deputy director of Civil Defence since 1956 and executive officer of the State Emergency Service since 1959. His new post is virtually a fusion of these duties.

A qualified accountant and secretary, he joined the State Public Service in 1947 and was industrial officer with the Labour Department and administrative officer with the Medical Department before being seconded to the Premier's Department.

He is chairman of the R.S.L.'s National Defence Committee. He served overseas in World War II and subsequently with the C.M.F. as commander of the City of Perth Regiment for ten years.

Mr. Brand said that Mr. Lonnie's appointment completed the reorganisation of the State's emergency services announced last October.

His new duties would include securing equipment worth £50,000 which the Federal Government had agreed to provide.

CIVIL DEFENCE TRAINING QUOTA DOUBLED

In future State branches of the League are to be invited to nominate two candidates instead of one for each of the civil-defence training courses at the Mt. Macedon school. Advice to this effect has been received at Anzac House from National Secretary Keys.

Mr. Keys said the decision stemmed from a National Congress resolution asking for greater League representation in future.

G. S. EAGLETON

... (Dental patient's change of address from 27 Napoleon Street to re-... otherwise, which 102 Street, Cottesloe. Opposite Tennis Court...
Big Domestic Issue
At Victoria Park

At the next meeting of the Victoria Park sub-branch—to be held on Friday, February 16—members will be asked to vote on a proposal for the leasing of space in the R.S.L. Hall for storage or other commercial purposes.

The proposal is being submitted to the Domestic Committee as a means of improving the financial position of the sub-branch. It will be for members to confirm or reject the proposal. This is a matter in which all members should be interested, and the committee hopes for a full attendance to decide the question.

The meeting is to commence at 8 p.m.

Sub-Branch activities over the festive season were curtailed to a certain degree, and not entirely. Meetings were resumed on January 19 with an average-sized attendance.

Some work had already been done on the membership—484 after lengthy discussion a scheme was adopted for getting down to the job in real earnest. Events will be kept running in some subscriptions. If yours was not among those mentioned, you will be interested to know you will attend to the matter as soon as possible and save him extra work.

He would welcome any new members you can put on.

The sub-branch held its Christmas dance on December 15. The attendance was not as good as in previous years, but those present enjoyed themselves. The State Executive was represented by Neil Davidson and Ron Rutter, and the sub-branch to be myself and Jim Walmsley. Several other local sub-branches were represented, and in the Air Force Association.

In between the various items, Bill Geary (Chairman) and Jim Walmsley entertained the gathering with their well-chosen choosing.

Highlights of the evening were the presentation by Neil Davidson, of a well-earned Certificate of Service to past-president and secretary Bert Jolliffe, and the presentation of a congratulatory card on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

Another instance of a rider resting without air escaping through the chest wound.

A tent and sailmaker
Marquees, Tents for Hire
Birkmyres Tarpaulins

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SAILMAKER
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Background Notes To
New Minister

The recently-appointed Minister for Repatriation, Mr. Reginald William Colin Swartz, was associated with the Australian Army for 31 years until he retired last year.

Mr. Swartz joined the A.F.C. in 1928. In 1940 he joined the A.I.F. as a captain in the 8th Division and served in Malaya.

He was a member of the 62/6th Infantry Battalion when he was taken prisoner and spent time in Malaya, Singapore, Burma, and was a prisoner-of-war in the famous railway. He ended the war as a major.

In 1945 he relinquished the position of chief of staff of Northern Command.

He also worked on the 8th Division and was awarded the M.B.E. for his work.

Mr. Swartz, a company director in private life, is the father of two daughters. He was born in Brisbane in 1911 but moved to Queensland at the age of one year.

He was educated at Toowoomba and Brisbane Grammar Schools. He was elected to Parliament as the Labor member for Darling Downs in 1947, and was a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for 31 years until he retired last year.

The old cavalry order "Make much of your horse" was followed by the British Army by Captain Nolan, of the 15th Hussars, the staff officer who carried the order which launched the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava. Nolan, who had made a thorough study of the topography of the battlefield and the Continent, believed that the kindly hand stroke was more effective than bit and spur in establishing mutual confidence between horse and rider. He tried out his methods in his own regiment, and they were eventually adopted by all British cavalry regiments.

At Balaklava Nolan rode forward with the Light Brigade, but was soon killed when a fragment of a Russian shell pierced his chest. Kinglake, the historian of the Crimean War, says Nolan's "form remained erect in the saddle, his sword-arm still high in the stirrup", but the horse turned and galloped back upon the advancing brigade. A most promising sound came from the body. Kinglake ascribed this to "those spasmodic jarrings, the thrashing of the form when life has ceased". This sound was not heard by the soldiers escaping through the chest wound.

Another instance of a rider resting without air escaping through the chest wound.

The recent appointment of Mr. Swartz as Minister for Repatriation has been welcomed by the Returned Services League and other organisations.

Mr. Swartz is the third minister appointed for Repatriation, the others being Senator Warner and H. Foll.

Following his appointment he said he would visit repatriation hospitals and institutions in each State.

Repatriation was a complex department dealing with soldiers from two world wars and had not expected to pick up the reins of the department overnight.

However, it was his intention to see as much as possible of the department and the ex-servicemen for whom it existed.
League Told Of Action On Civil Defence

To its request to the Commonwealth Government for a unified civil-defence plan and the means of giving it effect the League has received a reply from the Minister for the Interior, Mr. Freeth.

The request was made in the form of a resolution of the National Congress of the League, which is the legislative body of the League. It has been passed by the state branch at a meeting held in Sydney on March 12.

The resolution expresses the League's wish to see a national plan covering all aspects of civil defence, and suggests that the Commonwealth Government should be asked to implement such a plan at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Freeth said in reply that the government had already approved a national civil-defense plan, and that the League's request had been carefully considered. However, he added that the implementation of such a plan would be difficult, and that the League should consider alternative methods of providing civil defense.

Membership Trend Improving

At the end of 1961, the League's membership had increased by 10% compared to the previous year. The increase was attributed to the League's successful recruitment drive and the introduction of new programs.

Welcome Visitor

A recent visitor to the Anzac Club was a former member of the Australian armed forces who had served in Korea. The visitor was warmly welcomed by the members of the club, who were eager to hear his experiences.

Malaya And Korea Men Eligible

With the question of membership placed in the forefront of League affairs at the moment it is perhaps as well to remind members of those categories of eligibility which have been added in bringing them into the fold.

Some people are lucky...

Some people win lotteries; others win at dice or cards. But if you want money, there's only one sure way of getting it—saving. Whatever you want—save for it. If you save for it, you'll get it.

Commonwealth Savings Bank

Eligibility for membership can be established by Australian, British Dominions and U.S.A. ex-servicemen who have served a minimum of 28 days in Malaya and have received or are eligible to receive, the British General Service Medal (Malaya Clasp) and the Returned from Active Service Badge, are automatically eligible for League membership. The cut-off date for this section is July 1, 1950.

No Change In Stand On Immigration

The League has received a letter from the Immigration Minister Downer thanking it for its support for "this aspect of Government policy."

The Minister was referring to a resolution of National Congress calling for the League's support of the "fundamental principle of Australia's traditional immigration policy" and undertaking to investigate the matter of "anti-immigration propaganda aimed at the abandonment of that principle."

Mr. Downer said he would be interested to learn what action was decided on by the League.
danced until it was completely repaired. The accumulation of a Building Fund was again set in train by 30th June, 1947. It was decided to form a committee to investigate the possibility of extending Anzac House to cover the adjoining block fronting St. George's Terrace and Irwin Street. It was recognised that the housing situation at the end of the war would delay the putting of such plans into operation for a time but tentative plans were drawn up.

Mr. Clare once more assisted and drew up plans for a proposed six-floor extension to the present building. A matter which also received consideration was a proposed widening of this part of Irwin Street by the Perth City Council.

In 1949 it became evident that renovations to parts of the building were becoming imperative. The roof continually required re-sealing. Improvements were needed in the kitchen, the ballroom floor needed attention, and so on.

Minor improvements were effected and in 1952 a proposal was made to attempt the major project of roof- ing Anzac House. Plans were approved, by the Perth City Council and the State Housing Commission, and an estimate cost of £10,000 was given. Tenders called during the year, however, put the figure at £14,000.

These were ambitious plans with provision for offices and a cafeteria. It was decided to abandon the idea.

The following year a less ambitious proposal for raising the parapet walls and covering by a roof on a steel frame was approved, and this was completed at a cost of about £6,000.

Meanwhile plans were being prepared for complete renovations and extensions to the building.

In considering these it was decided to move the offices from the basement to the newly constructed offices on the roof. It was desired to shift the Secretary's Room from the second floor to the roof and also to provide a room for ex-service women and nurses instead of on the mezzanine floor.

Extensive alterations and renovations were required to the ballroom and kitchen as these had ceased to be a worthy proposition from rents because their deterioration had resulted in a reduction in rentals. Improvements in the Club were also envisaged as this could be a source of revenue to the League.

The plans were drawn up by the architectural firm of Hobbs, Winning and Leigh, and negotiations continued over a long period. Finally, tenders were called and a meeting of the Executive on 6th January, 1960, accepted the tender of Mr. G. A. Robinson for £54,000. By Congress, 1960, the renovations and extensions were completed.

The Offices on the third floor have made the job of two long service members of the staff possible and have provided for complete renovation to the building. The purpose of the visitors' room and the improvements to the Club have been of much interest to the members of the Club and have resulted in a greater attendance and increasing enquiries for rental of the building.

On 1st December, 1960, the Club House was opened to the public.

In 1962, the Club House was given a new lease of life by the members of the Club. The Club has since then been able to improve its facilities and have made many improvements to the Club House.

The Club House is now a fine example of modern architecture and is well equipped with all the latest facilities.

The Club House now stands as a monument to the planning and struggles of the members of the Club, and is a source of much pride to the members of the Club.

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THE LAST POST

BILLY, TH. 14th Ht., Northcote.
BILLETT, A. T., 28th Ht., Railway-
workshops.
BLUNNY, L. £1 4th D. Co., 
Katanning.
BRAY, E., 4th Bn., Bunbury.
CAMPBELL, B. J., 10th AAD, 
Northcote.
CASSIDY, J., 2/32nd, City of 
Perth.
CLEMENTSON, K. L. J., 2nd 
and 3rd MG, North Perth.
CROSSLAND, I. W., 28th Ht., 
Kalgoorlie.
DARLING, W. J., R.A.A.F., Dar-
win.
DAVIS, E. A., 10th L.H., Co-
rice.
FARELLY, P., 10th H., N.E. 
Freemantle.
FIELDS, A. W., 10th H., Mt. 
Hawthorn.
FLANIGAN, J. J., 2/2nd Bn., 
FULLER, W. G., 11th 
Albany.
GOODARD, F., R.A.A.F., 
Central.
GREGAVES, W. E., 2/43rd Bn., 
Coorow.
HAWKS, A. E., 2/1st Gd. Rgt., 
Kalgoorlie.
HERKES, H. II., 3rd L.H., Ken-
nington.
KIDD, A. J., 2/28th Bn., 
Freemantle.
KUH, J. N., 44th Bn. 
and 51st 
Bn., Moora.
LAWRENCE, R. L., 1st Aus. 
R.A.A., Darling Range.
LEWIS, G. K., N. 
Kalgoorlie.
MAEDE, E. N., Highland Light 
Inf., Boulder.
MAIN, H. J., 2/37th Bn., West 
Perth.
MILLER, W. H., 
Wembley.Floreat.
MATHIWS, H. R., R.A.A.F., 
Mompark.
MORRIS, E. F., R.A.A.F., Ken-
nington.
MCPhERRON, J., 2nd Mining 
Corps, City of Perth.
MINNIE, W. J., R.A.A.F., Bus-
seholn.

Mayland's Debt Reduced
A review of the activities of the Maylands sub-branch in 1961 reveals that the debt of the memorial hall was reduced by £200.
This was made possible by the raising—by means of dances and raffles—of £625.
The election of officers for 1962 was made at the annual meeting of the secretary, those elected being: Patr., A. C. Packham; V.P., G. A. W. Cooper, S. Street, and J. Doyle; presi-
dent, S. Power; vice-president, B. H. W. Brown; and J. J. McLean; secretary, C. Coulson.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

£1,200 More In Donations

Auxiliary donations totalling just on £1,200 have been received by the State Secretary (Mrs. L. Rowe) since November 1 for distribution as follows:

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Narrogan, £10; Mt. Hawth-
thorn, £1; Bruce Rock, £5; 
Bullbrook, £4; Cottesloe, £3/3/; 
Mandurah, £2/2/; Bassend-
ian, £3/3/; Williams, £5; 
Claisegorn, £10; Warding-
ton, £10; Coorow, £1; 
Lake Grace, £10; Northam, £3/3/; 
Gnowangerup, £2; Balingup, £3/3/; 
Kenwick, £5; Cool-
gardie, £3/3/; Yarloop, £6; 
Nedlands, £5/3/; Merred- 
worth, £5; Wundowie, £5/3/; 
Kalgoorlie, £5; Northampton, £10; 
Kondinin, £3; Murray 
Districts, £1/1/; Leonora- 
Swalla, £5/3/; N.E. Fremant-
le, £10; Dumbleyung, £10; 
Harvey, £10; Traving-Yel-
beni, £5; Shackleton, £5; 
Streatham, £3/3/; West 
Leederville- Wembley, £2/2/; 
Perenjori, £2/2/; Ple-
atinbow, £3/3/; Oobin, £3/3/; 
Millen, £2; Collie-Car-
diff; £5; Brunswick Jun-
ction, £6; Kattanning, £10; 
Carramar, £5; Beverley, £4/4/; 
Carnarvon, £5; Bus-
esholn, £5/3/; Rockingham, £5/3/; 
Narooma, £10; Kojo 
nup, £5/3/; Applecross, £10; 
South Perth, £3/3/; Black-
boy Hill, £5; Beverley, £25; 
Swanbourne, £5/5/; TOTAL: £381/7/6.

LEGACY

Mt. Hawthorn, £5; Nor-
reath, £5; Geraldon, £10; 
Cottesloe, £5/3/; Mandurah, 
£2/2/; Claremont, £5/3/; Gno-
wangerup, £4; Kenwick, £1; 
Traving-Yelbeni, £5; Bever-
ley, £4/4/; Cottesloe, £2/2/; 
Bassendean, £1/1/; Armad- 
ale, £2/2/; Lake Grace, £10; 
TOTAL: £166/16/.

HOSPITAL VISITING

Narrogan, £10; Mt. Haw-
thorn, £10; Boulder, £10; 
Cottesloe, £10/10; Mandu-
rath, £2/2; Coorow, £5; 
Lake Grace, £10; Northam, £1/1/; 
Gnowangerup, £5; Cool-
gardie, £3/3/; Yarloop, £2; 
Kangaroo, £5/3/; Harvey, £10; 
Warkworth, £5/3/; Shackleton, £5; 
Streatham, £3/3/; West 
Leederville- Wembley, £2/2/; Perenjori, £2/2/; Ple-
atinbow, £3/3/; Oobin, £3/3/; 
Millen, £2; Collie-Car-
diff; £5; Brunswick Jun-
ction, £6; Kattanning, £10; 
Carramar, £5; Beverley, £4/4/; 
Carnarvon, £5; Bus-
esholn, £5/3/; Rockingham, £5/3/; 
Narooma, £10; Kojo 
nup, £5/3/; Applecross, £10; 
South Perth, £3/3/; Black-
boy Hill, £5; Beverley, £25; 
Swanbourne, £5/5/; TOTAL: £381/7/6.

WAR VETERANS' HOME

Narrogan (final on room), £25; Geraldton, £10; Bull-
brook, £10; Northam, £10; 
Gnowangerup, £4; Quairading, 
£2/2; Boulder, £5; Kenwick, £10/10; Dumbleyung, £3/3/; 
Kondinin, £5; Nungarin (room), £100; 
Harvey, £10; Traving-Yel-
beni, £5; Victoria, £10; 
Childers, £5; Moosman Park (further 
to room), £60; Shackleton, 
£7; Kattanning, £30; 
Childers, £5; Cottesloe, £10; 
TOTAL: £372/1/.
Notes From Unit Associations

16th Battalion

At the last committee meeting of the 16th Battalion, held at the Railway Institute building in Adelaide, Mr. W. Waterman in the chair, apologies were received from Mr. L. Llewellyn, Mr. J. Stehn and Mr. D. Peacock, who were playing in this morning's tournament at the time.

They were beaten in the third round.

The secretary was instructed to start the necessary arrangements for Anzac Day. The post-parade will be held as usual in the Railway Institute building.

Mr. W. Truran was welcomed back from an extensive holiday. While in Adelaide he met many of the South Australian born, and brought back an interesting copy of the notice-paper for the annual meeting of the S.A. branch, showing C. William Voss, T. H. Williams, H. E. Smith as president.

A sad note was struck by a reference to the paper in the letter from R. P. Leich, who reported on the general meeting of the S.A. branch, showing C. Williams, T. H. Williams, H. E. Smith as president.

Mention was made of the 16th Battalion at the last year of Bill Newick.


Deaths: W. Prue, W. G. P. Mean (Boulder) and W. P. Wischart.

Rats Of Tobruk

Since the inaugural meeting of the Rats of Tobruk Association (W.A. Branch) on Sept. 9, association matters have been progressing satisfactorily.

Under the presidency of Mr. Ellis Waring the committee has dealt with the necessary business as it has arisen.

Membership is around the 200 mark and is increasing. We now have representatives from practically all units, and it is anticipated that the annual dinner will be held this year.

Membership of the association is restricted to persons who were members of any of the Allied forces in the second world war, including duty with foreign correspondents and official photographers and members of the Y.M.C.A., A.C.F. and Salvation Army, and of the Merchant Navy who served in the area of Tobruk at any time during the period April 9, 1941 to February 27, 1941.

At the inaugural meeting it was decided to produce a quarterly bulletin. No deadline has been set for publication, but we hope that you will receive a copy in the not-too-distant future.

Any personal item, news or articles will be gratefully received by the secretary at the White Box, Dardanup.

11th and 2/11th

A picnic for 11th and 2/11th Battalion Association members and their families will be held at the Point Walter Reserve on Sunday, March 11.

If this function is to be a success it is essential that members let us know, as soon as possible, the number of children they will be bringing. Lollies, ice cream, cool drinks, fruit, etc., will be available.

Contact Bob Lukers or W. G. Wragge as soon as you read this. Proceedings, including organised races for the children, are expected to get under way about 10.30 a.m.

Once again our friendly rivals have invited us to their guests and, at the same time, challenged the cricket field of the Kelm- scott reserve on Labour Day Monday, March 25. Those who remember last year's match should be dead keen to be in it.

The opposition durned us in the "First Test" last year and we are determined to even matters up on this occasion.

Bring your own lunch, but we will supply a number of "kindies" delight", ice cream, drinks, etc.

Kelm scott pool will also be at our disposal, so bring the family along and make a day of it!

Old Diggers who enjoyed themselves at the Puzies Day get-together at the House last year will be pleased to hear that negotiations are already under way for this year's repeat performance.

Harbingers back to the Point Walter picnic, if you know of any widows and/or children of any deceased and think they might like to come along, let us know and we'll do the lot.

The "Young" 44th

The Western Australian "Young" 44th Battalion C.O.'s Muster Mess Parade in the R.S.L. Hall on Saturday, the 20th January, and there could not have been a more successful mess parade for the life of the battalion.

Principal guest of the evening was Mr. S. Ross McLaury, Colonel Brendan Garner, C.O. of the 44th during the second war, and AIF, Guy, president of the old 44th association.

Members, both young and old, flocked from all round the South-west and Perth.

As chairman for the evening, Rodney Johnston had everything just right and his request for members to remove their coats was very smartly obeyed and appreciated, as it certainly was hard.

After the Loyal Toast, Rod called on Sir Ross to produce the colors of the 44th battalion. Col. Garner, in reply, gave a most illuminating speech, which was also very well received.

Lofty Blackhurst, to the delight of the boys, delivered a well chosen speech in a speech that was received with much hilarity.

Laid on the table, after being inadvertently held up at Armadale, was Roy Gold's C.O. of the battalion. The show would not have been complete without Roy. The suggestion that the show be made an annual (or biennial) affair was greeted with much enthusiasm.

A special spot on the back for hard-working secretary, Len Nissen, and Hughes, who so kindly found the time to attend. It was a grand night; the drinks were cold and food excellent.

Their Services Recognised

On the representation of the sub-branches concerned (as indicated in parentheses) the State Executive at a meeting on January 10 approved the award of Certificates of Service to the following members:

Past-secretary A. George (Scarborough), President E. G. Lake (Mandurah), past-secretary G. B. Todd (Pemberton) and past-president K. Caporn (Collie).

A similar award was approved for Mrs. E. M. Ray, of Westminster women's auxiliary.

WANTED

One Resella colt, Past-Grand. I.O.F. If you have one for sale please contact the Editor, 189 Barker road, Subiaco.
Assessment Appeal Tribunal Vacancy

Dear Sir,—I attach hereto a copy of a notice which will appear in the Commonwealth Gazette at an early date.

From the files at this Headquarters it is apparent that the present holder of the position of Chairman of the Appeal Tribunal is about to retire.

Nominations are now to be received from the Secretary of the Royal Australian Returned Soldiers’ Association, W.A. Branch, for the position of Chairman of the Appeal Tribunal to be held in the Province of Western Australia.

The appointment is for a fixed term of three years. It is expected that the new Chairman of the Appeal Tribunal will be able to commence his duties on the 1st May, 1962.

Sincerely yours,

A. G. W. KEYS,
National Secretary.

REPARTITION ACT 1920-1961

Lists of names in accordance with section 3 of section 65 and sub-section (4) of section 65 of the Repatriation Act 1920-1961 for appointment for a period not exceeding five years, to take effect on 1st May, 1962, to the position of Chairman of an Assessment Appeal Tribunal will be received by me up to 15th March, 1962, from the Secretary of the Royal Australian Returned Soldiers’ Association, W.A. Branch. The position of Chairman will be filled by application to the Minister for Repatriation for FIVE weeks from time to time by the Minister for Repatriation and to travel by road or otherwise as may be required by the Minister. The application must be accompanied by a statement of the qualifications of the person nominated.

Salary will be at the rate of Three thousand eight hundred and twenty-five pounds (£3,825) per annum plus travelling allowance.

A necessary qualification is that each nominee shall be a "Member of the Forces" within the meaning of the Repatriation Act. The Ministry will have the right to employ a barrister or solicitor of the High Court or of the Supreme Court of a State.

The list submitted by an organisation must contain not less than three names. It is desirable that "Members of the Forces" whose names are submitted have had "war service" within the meaning of the above-mentioned Act. Sub-section (5) of Section 65 of the Repatriation Act 1920-1961 provides that a Chairman of an Assessment Appeal Tribunal shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Particulars of the ages, service in the Forces, including war service, and qualifications of the persons nominated should be submitted with the lists.

R. W. SWARTZ
MINISTER FOR REPARTITION.

Still Time To Apply
For the N.Z. Tour

Applications for inclusion in this year’s Anzac Delegation to New Zealand close at League headquarters, Canberra, on March 24, and official forms for the purpose may be obtained at Anzac House, Perth.

Applicants are required to supply the Doctor's certificate of fitness and to enclose a deposit of £10 for each person.

This year travel from Sydney to New Zealand and return will be by air.

The six days thus saved in travelling time will be added to the itinerary for New Zealand.

The delegation will be divided into three parties—one for Christchurch and one for Auckland—which will leave Sydney on Thursdays and will arrive in Auckland on Mondays. It is intended that delegates will leave Sydney on Fridays, and accommodation there.

No arrangements are being made this year for the functions, in accommodation bookings, in travel, or visits, in order that these may be arranged by the members themselves. The delegates are advised to consult the programme carefully.

A. R. CONNELL
PROPRIETOR

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*
What The League Is Doing Today

One of the great things about the League is the opportunity it affords of rendering service and of giving expression to man's desire to do good unto his fellow men.

The desire to do good—
to help the less fortunate,
to give a helping hand in time of need—is inherent in us all, but it is an impulse that is a strong characteristic of returned men.

The League is the natural avenue through which these desires and impulses are directed, because it was formed for the very purpose of giving them expression.

Today the League provides funds for the giddy, the sick, and the bereaved. It fights for returned men and women wrongfully or unfairly treated, whether in employment, civic, or religious fields. It helps to care for the aged war veteran, the sick child, and the widowed and orphaned. Its system of meetings, branches, and clubs keep vigorous—and alive the spirit of comradeship, sacrifice, and sufferance throughout our long years of war.

The League has a returned man wants—help—when he experiences the desire to render service in its most effective form—he almost always joins the R.S.L. He knows that his membership is valuable—indeed, vital—to the continuation of the work.

Then when he'll start helping, too, joining his own energy, enthusiasm, heart, and talent with that of the great band of honorary League workers. Then he'll feel better still.

(Co-ordinated).

Getting Past the Door

No-one but a member of the League is entitled to be on the premises of the Anzac Club normally, and to prevent unauthorised entry members can be required to establish their bona fides.

This is usually done by displaying the badge in the lapel of clothing, but that is not essential; to be on the right side of the regulations one has only to be able to produce it.

This was said by Members-Executive Committee C to the this-Glenn Forrest district was accorded with regret by the State Executive. Among its special interests on the executive was the R.S.L. Veterans' Home.

Resignation of Mr. Duncan

The resignation of Mr. R. H. Duncan because of his transfer by the Education Department was accepted with regret by the State Executive at its meeting on January 10.

Among his special interests on the executive was the R.S.L. Veterans' Home.

Commenting on the resignation the State President said that Mr. Duncan should be thanked not only for his services as a member but also for his painstaking work on the history of the League.

Mr. Tudor Lee, president of the Glen Forrest sub-branch, was named as successor to Mr. Duncan.

Another resignation accepted this week was that of Mr. E. MacLeod.