348,000 Will Benefit From Repatriation Increases

More than 348,000 people throughout Australia would benefit by the repatriation increases in this year’s budget, Repatriation Minister F. M. Osborne said in Canberra recently.

Among them, he said, would be almost 57,000 widows, wives and children.

Over 2,600 ex-servicemen or their dependents are currently receiving pension and allowances, and would benefit by the increases.

The increased pensions and allowances covered a wide range of benefits and would affect ex-servicemen and their dependents in all States.

Mr. Osborne said: “The benefits are designed to assist as much as possible those ex-servicemen and their dependents who are in the greatest need of help.”

“This year’s budget included increased pensions and allowances for T.P.I.’s, ex-servicemen receiving the general rate, widows and children of war widows, service pensioners and their wives and children, and ex-servicemen attendants.

Mr. Osborne said that while the increases and additions provided for in the budget would cost almost £1,300,000 a year, which would result in the annual repatriation expenditure exceeding £100,000,000 for the first time.

The estimated total cost for the financial year was £102,377,000.

Details of the increased pensions and allowances are as follows:

** Totally and permanently incapacitated—increased by 10/ a week to £15/6.
** Medical subsistence—this allowance has been increased by £7/15/ a week to £13/5/.

Army Dogs In Ipoh Manhunt

Two Australian Army dogs have been used to help track the murderers of a Chinese millionaire in Ipoh, North Malaya.

The wealthy Chinese, Mr. Foo Yet Koi, a tin magnate and philanthropist, was shot-dead in his home and civil authorities sought the aid of tracker dogs and their handlers from the 1st Australian Regiment, 30 miles away.

Both dogs—“Spear” and “Echo” —nine-year-old Labrador, and a four-year-old Doberman Pinscher—are normally used for tracking terror suspects and movements in the North Malaya jungle.

Using a footprint as their guide, the dogs followed the trail through the thick of houses down narrow congested lanes and across a playing field on which nearby 200 children were gathered.

Two men were later charged with the murder.
THE FORGOTTEN RACE
by K. A. Hall

The increase of the Federal basic wage to £14/8/ per week, announced in “The West Australian” on July 5, spotlights the enviable position of retired members of the regular Navy, Army and Air Force, who are now trying to live on inadequate superannuation pensions which, in most cases, are well under this amount.

In 1948 the retiring ages for permanent Army personnel were reduced overnight and concurrently an Act was passed, known as the Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act, designed to cover the retirement of members of the three Services, bringing them all into line.

Prior to this, permanent men contributed to a superannuation scheme which aimed to provide a pension equal to half salary at the age of retirement. This was exactly the same as that provided for public service employees and all other contributors to the same fund.

Under the new Act service members, along with the superannuation scheme, received a pension which varied from 24 to 30 per cent of salary.

Conditions for public service members were less favourable and it is now possible for them to draw a pension which is 70 per cent of salary at the date of retirement.

Similarly, in February 1960 amendments to the Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act improved the position of officers. Officers, who, until now, could contribute more to the fund but are eligible for greatly increased benefits.

This leaves the “Forgotten” or retired members of the Forces retired since 1948.

Due to advancing age they are becoming more and more dependent upon a meagre pension, the purchasing power of which is steadily declining, and it has now become a night-longer what the Commonwealth Government demands of them: the assurance that their retirement payments would be enough to support them in retirement.

To add to their discomfort there is no regular statutory movement of pension rates, as with the basic wage, to meet the changing standards of living. This is very reason the prospects of personnel now serving, who will enjoy the higher pension rates as their time comes to retire, are not as good as might appear at present.

It must be remembered that these pensions are not "hand outs" that they are subject to income tax and that substantial reserves have been built up not from government subsidy alone but also, to a very large extent, out of individual contributions compulsorily deducted from military personnel wages.

The means test operates to debar those in the highest pension groups from drawing the Service Pension, payable to a returned serviceman at age 60, and this also means exclusion from the benefit of free treatment in public hospitals at a time when they are more liable to illness since the salary on which the number of pensioners concerned is comparatively small, and could constitute an inarticulate minority.

The question is: Will the Commonwealth Government see fit to grant them the assistance they deserve, and which it can well afford, without having to draw on the wealth Government demands of them?”

Think This Over, Member

Are you an active member, the kind who would be missed?

OR

Are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the bowk?

OR

Do you sit at home to criticise and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along?

OR

Are you satisfied to be the king that just belong?

Do you ever voluntarily help at the guiding stick?

OR

Leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

Come to the meetings often and help with hard work?

Don't be just a member but take an active part.

Think this over, Member; you know right from wrong!

Are you an active Member or do you just belong?

Situations Vacant

Requirements: Retired men and women.

Qualifications:

(1) An earnest desire to help those sick seeking advice and comfort.

(2) A smile on the face.

(3) A cheery word on the lips.

Duties:

(a) Visit the sick where requested by the secretary.

(b) Note any requirements.

(c) Report back to secretary.

(d) Bring a smile to a troubled face.

(e) Make someone realise he or she has a friend.

Where employed: At hospitals or homes.

Remuneration:

(1) An inner glow at having done good.

(2) Thanks of a sub-branch.

(3) Possible photo in L.P. at end of year.

(4) Citation at Deputation to Congress.

(5) Another inner glow.

Fares will be paid to and from employment.

Apply to Secretary, Corps of Hospital Visitors, A.Z.A. 167.

A gallant band of men had 300 visits in 6 months. Will you help ease the load? Apply immediately.
GOVERNOR-GENERAL
A LIFE MEMBER

On August 8, soon after his swearing-in as Governor-General, His Excellency Viscount De L'Isle, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., K. St. J. honoured the League by visiting its national headquarters in Canberra where he accepted honorary life-membership at the hands of National President A. J. Lee.

Addressing the gathering His Excellency said:

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen, I must of course first of all begin by thanking you, Sir, for this generous gesture on behalf of this great organisation by bestowing on me the honour of honorary life-membership, I shall always treasure this badge and know that it will be a passport for me throughout the Commonwealth, or wherever ex-members of the Services are gathered together.

I am very happy that among my first engagements should be this meeting with the national council of this great society—this band of brothers, as I may call it. Naturally I hope to have, in the future, many opportunities of meeting members of your branches throughout this great Commonwealth, and I shall become thereby the more familiar with your membership and its work. Already I know enough to realise how famous it is and how it is integrated into the national life of Australia.

All of us who have had the honour of bearing arms on behalf of Her Majesty in war must feel a deep sense of gratitude that we have been spared, and a deep sense of obligation to those who have given their lives or have suffered in the service of their Queen. The fact that we have been fortunate enough to survive must make us all even more determined to see that first of all those who came back have a fair share of the good things of life with their families, and secondly, that those who come after us are fully instructed in the dangers that from time to time beset a nation and the duties of its citizens in the defence of their nation.

It has another, I think, as I can conceive, important aspect in connection with the social life of the country. It is a common meeting ground for men of all callings, all professions, all walks of life and all religions. And in a great democracy it is of the highest importance that there should be societies and organisations through which people may differ in other respects can unite for a great purpose.

Therefore, as I have already been told by one eminent Australian, in time of crisis you can always rely on the R.A.N., and its members. And I know of no higher praise.

Naval Jubilee Film Coming

Some of the most spectacular scenes in naval warfare are contained in a documentary film released last month by the Royal Australian Navy. The film is a special half-hour, documentary called Background of Tradition, made to mark the jubilee of the R.A.N.

The film, which traces the 50-year history of the Royal Australian Navy, began its release at eight cinemas in Sydney, and will later be shown in other capital cities and in cities and towns throughout Australia. A team of editors spent three months searching 300,000 feet of historical film for the documentary. A spectacular incident in the first world war is the sinking of the German warship Blucher; the camera catches the moment as the sailors leap for their lives from the capsizing battleship.

In the second world war film captures the final minutes of the Australian cruisers Canberra before she was sunk at Savo Island, and there are scenes aboard H.M.A.S. Australia after she had been struck by five Kamikaze aircraft.

Not all film came from orthodox sources. One of the most historical sequences is the launching at Clyde, in 1911, of H.M.A.S. Australia, the first major unit of the R.A.N.'s original fleet. This film was found among a collection of historical material gathered by Mr. C. R. Fisher, of Pennant Hills, Sydney. The film had deteriorated over the years and was more like parchment than celluloid. With special laboratory treatment a few shots were saved for the documentary.

Shots giving a Japanese-eye view of bombing attacks were taken from film found by an Australian soldier in New Guinea.
Bellevue Stalwarts
See It Through

Late last month an advance party of three Bellevue stalwarts set out for Denham (capital of the Shark Bay area) to prepare the way for what has become an annual meeting of sorts— with the fish of those teeming waters.

The advance party—Messrs. Jack Rolfe, Alex McLean and Ron Millar—some hours behind them were Bob Duncan, Harry Read and "Patchy"—who incidentally, was the most important personage of the party being the cook.

As this is the third year of this annual pilgrimage one can well imagine that the organisation had left nothing to chance—bed, mattresses, blankets, sheets, pillows were in good supply, and so was the cooking equipment; after all, they had to eat.

Nor had the quenching of thirst been overlooked—witnessed four cases (two dozen looking like quarts) and 1 cwt. ice. There was also a 10-gallon can of water, allegedly for washing purposes.

So there they were, these pilgrims sufficing it incapable while their loved ones back home relaxed in the comforts of civilisation.

Just one thing more—before the party set out the State President asked "Patchy" whether he could be able to find time to form a sub-branch at Denham, with the ten ex-members in those parts.

The answer: "Sorry, Master; I'm certainly going fishing, but not for sub-branches."

A.R.M.S. Games Table
(Round 10—incomplete)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>For</th>
<th>Agst.</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Leed./Wemb./Flor.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>38</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
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Keen Activity
At Bayswater

Since the completion of its hall the Bayswater-Melham sub-branch has recorded a steady increase in membership, which now stands at 73.

Because of the popularity of the cabaret the sub-branch has been conducting it has been decided to make them a permanent monthly feature this year—on the third Saturday.

Other regular features are a mixed sports night (at which a trophy is presented to the winning couple) on the second Tuesday and the sub-branch general meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

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**NORTH-WEST CORNER**

**Park Project At Marble Bar**

- These notes from sub-branch secretary Mrs. Piri Smith show what a small and isolated sub-branch—with its membership scattered over a radius of 100 miles—can do when it sets its mind to the task.

Marble Bar sub-branch consists of very busy men just now, the project in hand being to provide for its members and the existing children's play. ground.

As the park may not sound a great venture, anybody who may read these lines and have visited the North-West inland—particularly in the summer months—will know that we do aim rather high and that if we do succeed—which by hook or by crook—we shall be able to justifiably proud of ourselves.

To get the park going we need fencing to keep stray stock out; the ground levelled (which is itself a difficult job), soil carted and planted with hardy-grass; water, which we shall have to get short of through permission to tap existing pipes near by.

Our pipe lines have already been donated by one of our members. We intend to provide some shade, and a start has been made by local school children who planted six small trees on Arthur Day, and which they keep well watering for the time being.

We are being greatly helped by the local shire council, which has donated a pedestal-type drinking fountain, the choice of which was left entirely to the sub-branch, this gesture of the council is greatly appreciated by us all.

But there is still a need for, and being a small sub-branch our finances are not very high. To raise funds we successfully tendered for the bar during the local two-day amateur race club meet. Though this will be hard on our horse-loving mates, who will miss some of the fun, it should prove profitable.

As the local races are definitely the highlight of the year here, our brainy boys figured it out that if we also ran a raffle, to be drawn at the race ball, it should provide us with some more spending-money.

In a town with a population around 200, to sell 600 tickets is quite an undertaking. I should know, I peddled a few. Some of the tickets have been sold, and with the stubs our coffers are doing pretty well. We hope to get a goodly sum. We hope to keep the bar during the races.

**New National Secretary For The League**

The National Executive has appointed New South Wales farmer A. G. Keys, M.C., as R.S.L. National Secretary in succession to Mr. K. V. Newman.

Mr. Keys, who is 38 years of age, lives at Ando (N.S.W.) on his property "Kooracca." A manager will be appointed to run the property. Mr. Keys and his wife and three children will live in Canberra.

Mr. Keys served in World War II. In 1944, he was wounded in action at Tarakan. He was discharged in 1945 and served in the army in 1950 to serve with the Korean forces. He was again wounded and was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in action. He held the rank of captain on discharge.

Mr. Keys has had a long record of honorary service to the R.S.L., and is a member of its National Executive. His new appointment will require him to resign as State Councillor of the N.S.W. branch and from member-ships of several R.S.L. honorary committees.

He was an R.S.L. representative with a selection team which visited the United Kingdom in 1945 in connection with the R.S.L. "Bring out a Briton" campaign. He again visited the United Kingdom in 1956 on a National Farming Scholarship.

Mr. Keys is well known as a broadcaster on agricultural affairs and as a contributor to agricultural journals. Following his appointment National President A. J. Lee said the executive was fident that Mr. Keys, with his excellent background of long record of service to the League, for which he had been appointed a Justice of the Peace, would make a worthy successor to Mr. Newman who had rendered distinguished service to the R.S.L. during his period of office.

At Roebourne

A meeting of the Roebourne sub-branch was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hamer on the evening of Friday, July 28, with members in attendance.

Mr. Garth Garrick was welcomed as a new member.

A hall-building committee was formed comprising Mrs. M. Stone and Messrs. Hamer, L. Bruce, T. Woods and J. Fraser. Full co-operation of members will be sought by this committee.

Money received from dance, raffle and sale of wireless are to be placed in a separate account.

Membership of the sub-branch is improving, and high hopes are held that Roebourne will eventually be one of the strongest in the north.

At a more recent meeting, a social evening and supper, and at midnight ladies and members sang "Happy Birthday" to popular member Harry Morrow.

During the evening of Mr. Ray Gillam is to join his residence at Rooulan Island, was presented with a musical-box in appreciation of his services to the branch.
Did You Know...?
(asks C. R. Collins)

British Guiana, which recently acquired the right of self-government and has just held its first Parliament, is the only British colony on the mainland of South America. It was taken by a combined naval and military expedition in 1804 from the Dutch who were the unwilling allies of Napoleon. In this campaign the shrapnel shell, named after its inventor, Major Henry Shrapnel of the Royal Artillery, was fired for the first time in action. Major Shrapnel, like many other inventors of those days, carried out his experiments at his own expense. His shell was used with good effect in the Peninsular War and at Waterloo.

Games, with the ancient Greeks, were athletic competitions with a religious basis. From early times they were held at various centres in Greece. In honour of the Greek gods. The most important were those at Olympia in honour of the chief god Zeus. Only free-born Hellenes, as the Greeks called themselves, could compete, and the prizes were crowns of laurel. Despite their achievements in art, literature, science and civic administration, and their common language and religion, the political unity as a nation persisted. With them the city was the state, and wars between the city states were not infrequent. However, the Olympic games were a sense of racial unity. They also provided the germ of international law, because the period of games was the period of a sacred truce. Greek chronology commences with the year 776 B.C. when the names of victorious competitors were enrolled for the first time in public registers. The Olympic Games were held every four years and the period of time intervening between the successive games was called an Olympiad.

The Marathon—Race now standardised at 26 miles 385 yards commemorates the feat of the Olympic runner, Pheidippides, who carried to Athens the news of the Athenian victory over the Persians at Marathon. When the news reached Athens that the Persians were crossing the Aegean, Pheidippides travelled for two days and two nights, swimming deep rivers and climbing mountains to enlist the locality of the Spartans, and return to Athens bearing the news that the Spartans would set out at the full moon. The Athenians did not wait for them, and Pheidippides fought in the battle that ensued. Then he ran off to report the victory to Athens, but collapsed and died just after shouting out, "Rejoice, we conquer!"

- The first man born in Australia to reach the rank of admiral in the Royal Navy was Philip Parker King, son of the third Governor of New South Wales. He was a noted maritime explorer, whose work included a survey of the west coast of Australia. In 1821, he was the first to visit the name Australia, first used by Flinders, as an alternative to "Terra Australis," was finally fixed when King published the report of his surveys in 1826. "Australia" was the term which King applied to the whole island continent.

Current Activities At The Veterans’ Home

The following account of activities at the R.S.L. Veterans’ Home comes from the superintendent, Mr. O. Howes.

On alternate Thursdays the Red Cross hospital staff distribute gifts to all residents. The visitors, in the main, Mrs. M. Sheppard and Mrs. E. Pepper, have earned a special niche within the home with their charming personalities and readiness to help. What a boon the Red Cross bus is to the home! Whenever transport is required to take residents to a picture show or special function, without hesitation the transport service of the Red Cross Society makes a vehicle available. For this we are most grateful—in particular to Mr. Owen and Miss Cotton.

Bowling Green: Two local retired gentlemen, Mr. W. Dalmer and Mr. E. Johnson, are rendering yeoman service in weeding and tending for the bowling green. Almost every day, these gentlemen are "on the green." With their advice and help we will soon have the green up to pennant standard.

Visited the Anzac Club lately?

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

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After Hours 30 2895 3 4667 64 1870 24 4348

Many Different Modern Plans
Bunbury Breaks New Ground

By making a special appeal to all members to attend its August meeting accompanied by their wives the Bunbury sub-branch, last month, broke new ground in an attempt to stimulate interest and support in its proceedings.

In a circular-letter to members the sub-branch president Eric Bradbury wrote as follows:

To the next general meeting of the branch and its sub-branches, to be conducted on the evening of August 16 at 8 p.m. you are invited to bring your wife. This decision was taken as a result of the last general meeting because we felt that although we have a numerically strong financial membership, such membership is useless to our worthy organisation which has honoured us by permitting us membership.

I do not cloak my reasons for suggesting the nature of this meeting; it is designed to be as enjoyable for attending members to contribute purely by your presence to support those other less fortunate than ourselves. Having been your delegate for the past eighteen months, and with another six months of service still left to fulfill, I feel I have the right and the responsibility to address you in the following manner in the interests of the League and on behalf of the Bunbury sub-branch.

You probably wonder why we, who regularly attend R.S.L. meetings, do so, can you tell me your reason for attending? I made mention earlier in this circular-letter to the following others. That is the League's primary function and the problem of self-interest, an activity cannot be denied. We, being mature men, are largely contributing to the functioning of such a worthy organisation other than by a financial contribution.

Morally, I believe we owe to others less fortunate than ourselves—our former comrades—all the assistance we can offer as a responsible body of men, destined to the welfare of our own families.

Have you ever, as an ex-service man's father, looked at the chap next to you and thought that, regardless of his walk of life, he had suffered his life at some stage during the war, for YOU. In ship, or squadron, or in any other area. Well, I have occasionally thought of others who could be there at that gathering but cannot, because they GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR US. Therein, I believe, lies the reason why we are motivated to attend R.S.L. meetings. It is our moral obligation to collectively serve others, in particular, those comrades who did not return or who have passed on during their years of service and additionally those comrades, many of whom, are serving personally to us who through adverse circumstances and health are reduced to the lowest ebb of distress.

You, the non-attender, will probably be surprised—she is my wife, at the way we conduct our meetings lasting longer than one hour and as your presence is an asset, all relevant points are conducted to the point and that all irrelevant discussions are conducted on the point. I wish you could see the contrast because you are the one who asks for what is needed and it is done, no nonsense.

You see that the accent is on "Service," so why not come along on August 16 and contribute to this service. I warn you that there may be some film shown on the tick of eight. In bringing your wife—it is not a formal occasion—she will see exactly how our meetings are conducted and why we exist as a League.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Arthur Edwards, whose hobby is photography, took some still pictures, and a few film pictures. He will attend purely as a guest.

There will be a collection, and share with us an enjoyable and enlightening evening—the sub-branch's home will be your wife, at the Victoria Park—let us be collected and serve others with a smile, the sub-branch will always in the time to the best of our ability, to all those who have served this country.

Victoria Park Commentary

At the August meeting of the Victoria Park sub-branch, president Squires welcomed a new member, Mr. R. E. Biddle. The sub-branch patron, Mr. Gus Stewart, offered support and encouragement to the sub-branch.

The sub-branch will soon be under way again, and all members are asked to support it by paying its debts and make it a success.

Anzac Club—The home of friendship!
LEAGUE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Introduction

An organisation which has always taken a prominent interest in Australian affairs and particularly in matters affecting ex-service men and women is the Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia. From a modest beginning it has developed into an organisation of which the Government is justly proud. It is important that when its Federal President, Sir George Holland, recently retired, he was afforded the honour of an invitation to a Commonwealth Government Cabinet dinner as guest-of-honour, believing that the time that such a gesture has been made by a Government to the retiring president of such an organisation in recognition of his services to the State.

The author of this history, Mr. J. R. Duncan, has served in the 11th Battalion of the Western Australian Volunteer Infantry for the last two years and before that was a temporary Vice-President of the League. Mr. Duncan presented this history as a thesis for higher qualifications in his profession of teaching. In the opinion of many Bob, as he is known to most, has brought the threads of his many varied activities together with considerable dexterity and without losing the inner spirit of a splendid achievement.

The history will be published in 12 instalments. Sub-branch secretaries are requested to place the issues of "The Listening Post" and have them ready for sub-branch use.

The Australian Soldier

"Prior to 1914 Australia had never been engaged in war and none at all on her own territory. In the Boer War, although it was not yet federated, nearly 17,000 troops were sent from six Australian Colonies and those who passed in the line of battle died a total of 1,400 casualties. These men earned for themselves a reputation of bravery and loyalty, and for their efforts were given a special insignia, the digger's cap, and the act of loyalty that the Australian soldier showed in those days was a disservice to the Commonwealth, and the Committee found conditions so abominable that a disbandment was recommended.

In the eight months of the Gallipoli campaign the Australians showed what determined fighters they were. Stories of their reckless bravery and dauntless endurance came slowly back to the States and Australia thrilled with pride.

In France the Australian Forces enhanced their reputation for initiative and aggression. One of the greatest things that the Australian soldier was the fact that they did not have the same experiences as the American and English soldiers before them. They did not seem to depend on their officers to the same extent as most of the other soldiers in France. This led them to do things "on their own." An Englishman who saw them said about them: "They were lawless except for the laws of their creed. They were the best and most loyal comrades, men who had proved again and again that they were fighting with the unfortunates, in the face of the enemy. Only when he knew that his authority was right. At what conditions did he stand if in France the condition had been very high, public sympathy and support for the veterans had been encouraged and any preparation had been made for his welfare and rehabilitation."

The natural result was that a man of this character, courage, initiative and resoluteness was not prepared to accept any restrictions or limitations imposed upon him unless he considered these were right for his rights and for those of his comrades, particularly for support for those still on active service. This was brought about by the nature of the organisation we now know affectionately as the R.S.L., the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Association." This was amended: "That the name of the association be the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Association, to include all units," and carried unanimously.

Important appointments of Staff, Sergeant J. S. Hedges was appointed as Col. Treasurer, and Pte. Mills as Assistant-Secretary were carried, and the Council of Officers was elected. In this the supplying of badges and membership cards were included. In 1922 the Government of W.A. took over the running of the R.S.L., the League having been formed by various members of the W.A. and the formative years of the W.A. R.S.L. Association were in his very capable hands.

RULES ADOPTED

At the next meeting held on the 7th June, 1915, rules were adopted and a member was appointed as temporary chairman. The meeting was to be an initial fee of 7s. 6d. on joining with renewals at 7s. 6d. per annum. Included in this was the supplying of a badge and membership card.

The Vigilance Committee were responsible for investigating all applications and recommending their acceptance or otherwise.

MEMBERSHIP GROWS

Extension of membership continued to grow. In the following sequence: On 20th June it was decided that the R.S.L. was not to be nominated if those who served in the 1914 war could not be nominated and accepted. On 9th August, the returned sisters were accepted as eligible for membership. On 8th August, the Secretary reported that the first meeting was held on 27th May, 1915, in the YM.C.A. rooms and that it was moved that the organisation be known as the 3rd Brigade Association, the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Association."
Civil Defence—A Matter To Be Taken Seriously

The first of the League's courses of six weekly lectures in civil defence concluded on the night of August 28, with State President Lonnie giving the final lecture.

The course was conducted at Anzac House with an average attendance of about 40 people.

Nineteen R.S.L. sub-branches were represented, together with representatives of the Air Force Association, ex-servicewomen, the University of Western Australia, the Polish Ex-Service Association, the Shipping Federation, the British Ex-servicemen's Association and other organisations.


Attendance certificates were presented to all students by Mr. J. Serister on behalf of the chairman of the R.S.L. Civil Defence Committee.

The League's thanks are due to the Deputy-Director of Civil Defence (W.A.) and to the Red Cross Society of W.A. for their ready cooperation and advice.

The course was the forerunner of more ambitious courses planned for the future on the principle: The greater the training, the better the preparedness.

The Civil Defence Committee intends to hold their instructional course in the near future. The first forty names received will make up the next course, and the remainder will be included in later courses.

Those wishing to enrol are asked to forward their names to Civil Defence Committee secretary, Tom Marshall, Anzac House, Perth.

DONATION OF NOTE

Recently donated to the R.S.L. Veterans' Home, Mt. Lawley, was a collection of about 60 books in first-class order and including Webster's Dictionary, itself worth £10 or more.

The donor was Mr. Lawley's sub-branch member Walter A. Milgrave, who served with the 11th Battalion.

The Deputy-Director of Civil Defence, Mr. W. S. Lonnie, giving the final lecture in the League's series of civil defence lectures at Anzac House. Seen in the foreground is State Executive member Jack Serister.
**Tribute From Picardy To War Dead**

A tribute (in manuscript) to Australians who made the supreme sacrifice in France was recently received by Mr. W. M. Williams, of South Perth, from the author—M. Marcel Grene, a citizen of Villers-Bretonneux in Picardy (France).

Mr. Williams served with the 51st Battalion in World War I and participated in the defence of Villers-Bretonneux in the early months of 1918. Ever since he has maintained a desultory correspondence with M. Grene—himself a war veteran, an officer of the Legion d'Honneur, holder of the Croix de Guerre and now vice-president of the Villers-Bretonneux Committee of Welcome to Australians.

In a foreword, on behalf of the Committee of Welcome, M. Grene says that the aim of the pamphlet is simply to gather this place for which so many of you have kept your hearts and minds. But it is paying the supreme sacrifice. A few picture-portraits, a few notes, will remind you of the battlesfields you knew and of the hard contests you fought there.

The aim is merely to pay a special tribute to citizens of Melbourne who, in 1918, contributed in some degree to the rebuilding of Villers-Bretonneux.

The manuscript is written in French and carries a translation into English by Mile. Lucie, Duhen, a teacher. Its subject-matter centres mainly on the heavy German onslaught on Villers-Bretonneux in 1918 and its deliverance with the help of two famous Australian brigades, the 15th under Brigadier-General Glasow and the 15th under Brigadier Elliott.

In M. Grene's account of this action we are told: "About the commencement of 1918, before the mass of Americans and their material arrived, the Germans decided to strike with all their might in an endeavour to snatch victory. On March 21 the 5th Australian Brigade was overwhelmed, and 1,600 men were lost. The battle raged near Hangard Wood, in the south-west of Albert, to Hamel, to Hangard, to the southwest of Villers-Bretonneux."

The German objective was Amiens. The British who realised that the fall of this town would be fatal to them as they would lose their supply stations and military bases; resisted the onslaught.

"Villers, the key to the citadel, did not fall. Amiens was saved."

In April Ludendorff ordered a new series of major attacks against the British. Between the 25th and 26th of April and Oure: After a gas bombardment the Germans were met by the 58th Australians, the Villers which they succeeded in penetrating on April 25.

The British gave them no rest that night, and next day General Birdwood's hand-selected troops, badly gas-affected, entered the town. Meanwhile Field Marshal Haig struck forward with General Rawlison's Army. Everything had been prepared for a great effort to drive out of Villers-Bretonneux, and consequently the 5th Australian Brigade captured a divisional headquarters. One of Rawlison's brigades captured a divisional headquarters and train-load of 700 soldiers returning to the front from the mining region. The British forces pushed forward to Montmirail and established themselves a little north-west of Villers-Bretonneux, where the town was taken before dawn by the 7th Australian Brigade. The enemy was driven from the hills by the 5th Australian Brigade, and the 5th Brigade captured a large number of prisoners. The enemy was driven from the hills by the 5th Australian Brigade, and the 5th Brigade captured a large number of prisoners.

At last Villers-Bretonneux fell. The enemy was driven from the hills by the 5th Australian Brigade, and the 5th Brigade captured a large number of prisoners.

The account, says the Australian despatch in France for the years 1915-1918, is written with the approval of the 15th and 58th Brigades at Villers-Bretonneux on April 24, 1918. At 1400 hours.

This section of the record is closed with the benediction: "Sleep in peace, heroic dead; the French and the Australians will never forget you!"

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**A Fund-raising Project That Is Worth Noting**

A long-term fund-raising project recently adopted by the Pingelly sub-branch is recommended to rural sub-branches for their consideration.

The project entails the agitation of five sheep by farmers, their day-to-day supervision and even farmers who are not.

Young sheep, supplied by farmers and members, are run as part of the farmer's own flock. The farmer shears them and sends the fleece-wool to the woolbroker in the name of the sub-branch. The skirring which is left over is sold by the farmer for the benefit of the project.
MONTH'S COMMENT (from G. A. S.)

The first function attended by Australia's new Governor-General, Lord Louis Edwina Mountbatten (Viscount De L'Isle) since his swearing-in on August 3 was his visit to R.S.L. National Headquarters in Canberra, during which he received the Badge of Honour from the R.S.L. at the hands of National President A. J. Lee.

The visit by the Governor-General (on August 8) coincided with a meeting of the National Executive to which were the R.S.L. leaders from all States and Papua-New Guinea.

Mr. Lee said the R.S.L. was greatly honoured by His Excellency's attendance. By becoming a honorary life-member of the League, Lord Louis would enter a small but distinguished band of honorary life-members, which included the Duke of Edinburgh, Sir Winston Churchill, Lord Mountbatten, Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, and other distinguished persons.

After receiving the award, His Excellency mingled informally with National Executive members and guests at a short social gathering.

Mr. Bond, who proved a jovial patron, seemed to enjoy his surroundings thoroughly and helped considerably to make the occasion a success. Before setting off to make tracks to another function the new patron was taken on a tour of Anzac House by the State President, who lived up to his reputation as an excellent host.

At the airport later in the evening the State President and sub-branch secretary Pat Kelly found that they were booked on the same flight for the Eastern States.

The Baywater-Meltham sub-branch is conducting a cabaret on September 16. Previous cabaret nights have been very successful, but this coming event should be "tops"- refreshments, three-piece orchestra, lucky spots and novelty dances, and all for $1. Don't miss this one. In the R.S.L. Hall, 300 yards past the Baywater Railway Station.

Houses Admission And The Service Pension

The League is to ask the Commonwealth Government for an amendment to the Age Pensioners' Homes Act to permit the Service Pensions at the age of 60 to be admitted to homes and institutions built with the assistance of the Commonwealth subsidy.

This was decided unanimously at Congress.

The age qualification is present is 65 years.

Education Awards For Soldiers' Children

The Services Canteens Trust has supplied the following information on its education awards for 1962, emphasising that eligibility is confined to children of ex-service personnel of World War II.

The categories of eligibility for 1962 are:

(a) Children who will be 16 years of age or over, and are children of a deceased ex-service man, and whose Adjusted Family Income is $500 or less.

(b) Children who will be 15 years of age or over during 1962, and whose Adjusted Family Income is $450 or less.

(c) In exceptional circumstances—for example, children of Invalors and Service Pensioner children who MUST live away from home to receive the required education, and where the mother of the child is in receipt of statutory benefits—and whose Adjusted Family Income is $400 or less. In these cases, consideration may be given to children who will attain 15 or 14 years of age in 1962.

Any ex-service man or ex-servicewoman should apply direct to the secretary, Canteen Trust, Swan Barracks, Perth. Their children will then be able to ascertain whether or not they qualify under the adjusted Family Income and whether they are able to obtain assistance with the education of their children.

Education awards will not be granted for primary or secondary education, but if sufficient funds are available for the year consideration may be given to applications for other types of education.

The closing date for application is October 15.

The Gross Income obtained is the Gross Income for the year ended June, 1961. Verification will be required of the father or stepfather, in the case of students from all sources, including Financial Department-War Pensions of Fifty per cent or more, and deducting therefrom:

(a) 10 per cent for each dependant up to a gross family income of $1200 for the year; or
(b) $120 for each dependant if the gross family income for the year is $1200.

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JOHN CAMM, State Manager
Death At Geraldton Of Foundation Member

From Geraldton sub-branch publicity officer Peter Bardom comes advice of the death at the age of 97, of R.S.L. stalwart Jim Russell.

Mr. Russell, who joined the League 43 years ago, gave this organisation unsparing service. During the last 11 years he made more than 1,600 hospital visits to ex-service men, cheering them up, giving them cigarettes and running errands for them. Jim settled permanently in Western Australia in 1901 and after serving in France, with the famous 44th Infantry Battalion in World War I he took up farming and market gardening in the Geraldton district before retiring to live in the town in 1945. His service is in the gardening and poultry sections of district shows were keenly sought by a number of agricultural societies in the Geraldton area.

He was a foundation member of the Geraldton sub-branch, and a large gathering of members led by president Andy McDonald and secretary Jim Buckle paid tribute to the funeral procession passed Birdwood House on August 8, and again at the graveside.

The large gathering, which included civic leaders and representatives of numerous district organisations, clearly showed that there was a single thought on these lines: “Vale Jim Russell, a job well done!”

R.S.L. WOMEN’S AUXILIARIES

75 Old Diggers Fed

By Bellevue Women

Seventy-five veterans, including 35 from Sunset and 39 from Lennox, enjoyed an outing organised by the Bellevue Women’s Auxiliary last month.

The Sunset contingent was picked up by cars provided by sub-branch members and driven through the suburbs for an hour, some calling at the new R.S.L. Veterans Home and expressing delight at what they had seen there.

The Lennox veterans were taken for a drive through the hills in a Red Cross vehicle.

A mid-afternoon rendezvous at the Bellevue R.S.L. Hall saw the old chaps supplied with “smokes” and seated for a concert featuring old familiar tunes rendered by Mrs. Catchpole, Messrs. Jones and Trainer.

The concert was followed by a hot meal topped off with fruit salad and cream, to say nothing of snacks and cakes.

Inquiries brought remarks of appreciation from the old chaps.

The hall was then cleared for more singing and dancing, the vocalists including Mrs. Hagan and Messrs. Harry Reid, Paddy Maher and Bill Foster.

Before the singing of Albert Lang-Syne-Messers, Charlie McCarthy (Sunset) and Hodgerson (Lennox) expressed their thanks to their drivers for the afternoon.

Tired auxiliary members were happy in the knowledge that their efforts had been so well appreciated by their guests.

August Donations

Official Visits for August were as follows:

14: The State President (Mrs. James) attended the Civil Defence School at Mt. Pritchard.

15th: Mrs. Ames attended the official opening of the R.S.L. Congress in Sydney. Mrs. Ames was guest at the official opening of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary Congress.

17th: Mrs. Ames attended the R.S.L. ball at the Trocadero.

21st: With the Hon. State Secretary (Mrs. G. Ford) attended the executive Mrs. Ames attended a meeting of R.S.L. presidents and secretaries.

23rd: Mrs. Ames attended a Torchbearers for Legacy and R.S.L. Miss Crowning of the country schools and in the evening attended a P.M.G. sub-branch meeting to discuss the formation of an auxiliary.

24th: Mrs. Ames attended a R.A.V.O. fund-raising Committee meeting.

25th: Mesdames Ames and Ford, the sports Secretary and members of controlling committee attended a sports directors’ meeting.

26th: Mrs. Rowe (representing the State President) and Mrs. Brown (representing the State Secretary) were guests at the Hamilton Hill auxiliary birthday dinner.

Donations (April-May)

War Veterans’ Home (Bowling Green), Perenjori, £2/2/; Gascoyne, £10/0/0; Armadale, £6/10/0; Applecross, £5/0/0; Chidlow, £10/0/0; Bunbury, £10; Gairdner River, £2/2/; Waroona, £25/0/0; Banjup, £10/0/0; Queenscliff, £25/0/0; Quinlup, £10; Nollamara, £2/5/; Kellerberrin, £25/0/0; Victoria Park, £10; Dumbleyung, £5; Busselton, £5; Waroona, £2/2/; Darlington Range, £2/5/; Merredin, £5; Denmark, £2/2/; Pemberton, £2/5; Coober, £10; Northcliffe, £2/5; Dwellingup, £1; Waroona, £2/2; Kununurra, £10; Nannup, £5; Carnamah, £10; Bellevue, £17; Nedlands, £17.

Subiaco-way

A refreshment marquee was set up by the Subiaco women’s auxiliary during August. The promoters of the school sports meeting were delighted to have such a large crowd of people in attendance.

So far as the takings were concerned, the Auxiliary was very successful, though there was some trouble with persons breaking into the store of soft drinks overnight.

Workers were plentiful, and were all required. Mrs. Congdon (treasurer) divided the ten hour between soft drink and linen desk. Mrs. Cottrill (president) Mrs. Trowbridge (vice-secretary) and Mesdames Hughes, Winter and Guthrie strove valiantly to cope with the periodical rushes for soft drinks, while Mess-dammes Black, Tassell and Griffiths kept the youth of the nation well fortified with hamburgers, ice cream and custard.

Mrs. Thomas was prevented from regular attendance at the Auxiliary’s functions but lent her cheery personality to the gathering on one day.

Thanks must be made of Mrs. Brown who, with husband, did the bulk of the cooking and catering as usual.

The listening Post

September, 1961

The best long drink in the World.
16th Battalion

The committee of the 16th battalion association appealed for their acceptance of the notice for an annual reunion as soon as possible. Bill Newick had asked as for the circular they will receive. The committee members know that power to make the night on one up to the standard as Bill Newick on past occasions.

A letter was received from Mr. Cornelis of Mt. Magnificent inviting his intention of attending. It is hoped that other country members will follow the example, and Mr. Bill Newick is in Hollywood. All wish Bill a quick recovery. The writer visited Bill and to his surprise found H. Leake, Hughes Orr and Reg Arey also in the same ward.


Mr. Norm Sten has been driving furry and as the Monsoon River. Look out for some fish stories instead of bowls of tea.

In a recent letter, Mr. L. (“Fat”) McCarthy said he was coming west for the_corps reunion and will be in Perth on September 14.

Deaths reported: J. W. Finn, R. Thompson, H. James (Busselton) and A. Brady.

With sorrow the association records the death on September 9th of Mr. (Bill) Newick—secretary for the past 17 years.

Bill came to this State before World War I and afterwards worked in the country. He was an original member of the battalion and would have been in September 14.

In World War II he again joined the defence forces.

Bill was a past-president of the Mt. Lawley R.S.L. sub-branch, and was widely known and loved in League circles throughout the State.

28th Battalion

The 28th Battalion AIF annual reunion will take place in the Lord-street Drill Hall on Wednesday October 4 (show night) this year.

The change from the usual Tuesday function has been made better by a military parade that night.

The committee looks forward to a good muster of members for the important occasion, and as the time of the year for reunions Roll up and make yours a record one.

Champion Did Not Drop A Shot

After several rounds, in which he did not drop a shot, Mr. Hawthorn marks his 16th consecutive victory as champion in this year’s rifle-shooting competition at Anzacs House.

There were 19 starters, because seven were left out in the second round after they did not shoot possibles.

This number was reduced to four, then two, the final round being contested by Rawlings and George Fletcher of Nollamara.

Jim White handled the judge assisted by Bill How (City of Geraldton).

Among the onlookers were some P.M. sub-branch members.

The number of entries was disappointing, but it was pleasing to see members outside the A.R.M.S. zone, competing.

Nedlands and Darlingionale could not compete as they were engaged in combat elsewhere.

Congratulations to champion Jim Rawlings and plate-winner George Fletcher.

Celebration at Geraldton

Members of the Geraldton sub-branch and auxiliary held a combined social to celebrate the double achievement of winning the Collett Cup for 4 years in succession was the splendid team-work which existed in the sub-branch.

H. Rawlings worked with a will for the benefit of ex-servicemen and their dependants, and for a sound, financially sound sub-branch.

Sidney Cameron was a good representative the sub-branch in turn had helped the auxiliary to win the cup.

Sidney Cameron said one of the best ways of helping the auxiliary was to raise money to buy refreshments to help members to improve their standards.

Members got great satisfaction out of their work and realized the value of a job well done.

Proud Of The Past But Looking To Future

Pride in achievement combined with a desire to expand to the limit is the keynote of this newsletter from a Mundaring sub-branch spokesman.

Our sub-branch is one of the oldest in the State and one of the best. When our hall is finished there will be none better. It will provide the much-needed amenities for members and their families and friends; somewhere to meet day or night, and somewhere to indulge in sports and entertainments of all kinds.

But, most important of all, it will help to attract new members, particularly the younger ones on whom the survival of the sub-branch depends.

Here is a brief history of the building to date: When the green light to go ahead was given early this year we had a little over £500 in the building fund. The Railway Department kindly leased us a land at a rent per annum.

Today the building as it stands is worth over £1,000 and we have well over £100 in hand towards the floor. The raffle drawn a few weeks ago yielded £50 and the sub-branch wishes to thank members, the ladies and the general public for their generous support; also the business people of the district and the other donors who made this profit possible.

Considering we are a small sub-branch, many of whose members are pensioners or retired on low incomes, our efforts to date compare very favourably with those of the more populous and financially stronger sub-branches.

Continued co-operation between members and the committee assures us of realization of our object.

Members of the branch, who met the death of staunch member R. J. (Les) North on September 1 came as a shock to the sub-branch.

R.S.L. Point Peron Caravan Park

Every convenience—including Hot and Cold Showers, Laundry Facilities—Tradesmen Calling.

Safety for you on children on ideal beach surroundings. This has been provided for your use.

TASTE ADVANTAGE OF THIS HOLIDAY BY THE SEA!

BOOKINGS ANZAC HOUSE

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WOOL LIVESTOCK SHIPPING INSURANCE LAND GENERAL MERCHANDISE

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Surrealism At Subiaco

From Subiaco scribe J. Newman comes this commentary on sub-branch activity in that municipality.

August was noteworthy for the long-awaited painting of the kitchen which had been in a blank of condition. Geo. Bowman, assisted by Joe Burgess, is doing a bang-up job. The upstair kitchen and the boys are looking forward to having a barbecue with their jolly-water on meeting-nights.

Members were privileged to address Jim's Villaw, the auxiliary when the latter ran its usual refreshment booth for the country sports during the month. Business was brisk but the net result will go toward the purchase of a new chair on the treasurer's report.

The safe, in which was kept the unexpended portion of the day's soft drinks, was burgled on two occasions and suggestions have been made that next year we borrow the Anzac committee room - if there is one.

Ted Black did the carving as in previous years. Alex. McDonald, N. Brown and Frank Geoghegan did a good job as ice-breakers, even if not up to Barents Sea standards. These, together, with Don Brown, Frank Brown, and Frank Geoghegan, were diligent in the battle-ice business and labour hard to keep with the stalwart efforts of young Master Griffiths and his more juvenile partner.

It was a pleasure to assist, and much admiration was expressed for the physique of the young sportsmen (and women) from the country districts.

ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

Rates: £2/2/- per annum

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (W.A. BRANCH)-2nd Floor, Wellington Buildings, 13th Street, East Perth. President, R. A. McDonald. Secretary, G. F. Taylor.

ROYAL AITF VI ~I NERS' ASSOCIATION meets at Anzac House, 5th Street, East Perth. Secretary, R. A. McDonald. Meetings are on Thursday at 8 p.m. each month.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meetings Anzac House, 5th Street, East Perth. Secretary, E. D. Burdett. Meetings are on Thursday at 8 p.m. each month.

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Wartime Paper Tells Of Tunis Capture

A very proud possession brought to this country recently in the pocket of a New Australian—Mr. Andrew Albert Watkins, formerly R.S.M. of the 57th Field Regiment R.A.—is a much embossed news sheet, the first issue of the “Tunis Telegraph” published on Monday, May 10, 1943, as the “first British paper in Tunisia.”

An editorial announcement starts in this strain: “This paper is a product of the hour. The hour is one of high drama. We are in Tunisia. And we are here sooner than many had dared to hope.”

On two sides of the capital the latter proved a Gothic line, with the bulk of the enemy being pursued into the last corners of Tunisia. The end is in sight—the hour when the last Axis troops must perish or give in.

Sub-Branches Converge On Pemberton

A pleasing evening was enjoyed by members of the Pemberton sub-branch and visiting representatives of the Manjimup, Northcliffe, Quininup, Bunbury and Williams sub-branches on August 19.

Country Vice-President Aub Badger, State Secretary Bill Webb, and local M.L.A. Rowberry were participants in the more formal part of the programme, and sub-branch president Cec Kemp and secretary Todd Kennedy handled the duties in a capable manner. The latter proved a capable and kept the business of the evening flowing smoothly.

Main points stressed by the various speakers were membership, the veterans’ home, civic service and general administration. Due deference was paid to the spirit of the occasion and there was no attempt at prolonged oratory.

BAYSWATER DATE

Next cabaret night of the Bayswater-Melville sub-branch will be held on Saturday, September 16, at the R.S.L. Hall, Railway-parade.

There is to be a three-piece orchestra, with Laurin and Spots and other novelty dances. The admission charge is 5/.

Ladies are requested to bring a plate, and the men refreshments.

Affairs At Maylands

From the Maylands sub-branch comes the following account of sub-branch affairs in that quarter.

An entertainment of great satisfaction to members was the recent visit of Mr. Stan Street, of Maylands, to Anzac House to receive the Certificate of Merit—the League’s highest award for members of the public who have not served in the armed forces.

It was for uniting and continuous work for service and ex-service men during the past 30 years.

Stan was in everything and knew all the answers.

The presentation was made by State President Lomme. Stan, for once, was stuck for words and could only say “Thank you.”

To the man himself Maylands members also said “Thank you.”

At the last meeting the secretary reported on the work done by Congress. Members were asked concerning the conditions of residence at the War Veterans’ Home and as to whether any condition there could be regarded as an unnecessary one.

The secretary of the ladies’ committee, Mrs. S. Smith, ran a successful Lottery. It was fished at the sub-branch cabaret-dance, the winners being Mrs. Lawrence of Inglewood, and Mr. E. Harris of Bassendean.

The bridge, held on alternate Wednesday afternoons is proving popular, particularly among those living in retirement, who enjoy the game and afternoon tea provided by the ladies’ committee. The sub-branch played its part in operation door-to-door for the Heart Appeal, members collected over £39.

Taking Pride In Service

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

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

It is the organization through which returned men generally express their views on important regional, non-political questions and through which the R.S.L. serves as an influence.

Through the League they render service to the bereaved, and to fellow-servicemen in need.

Why not play a part yourself in helping to ensure that every returned man is a member? Some old comrade may suffer if only one returned service man fails to maintain membership, for, the work of the League is proportional to the strength of its membership.