LISTENING POST
The Official Organ of the Returned Servicemen's League (W.A. Branch)

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Communism In Indonesia

The following review of a recent book on communism in Indonesia is from "Problems of Communism," published by the U.S. Information Agency.

"Moscow and Peking have cast competing shadows over the Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI) for a number of years, in fact, from long before the current rivalries between the Soviet and Chinese communists became open and flagrant.

Various factors have contributed to this special situation: in particular, the presence of an active Chinese minority in Indonesia and within its communist movement; the fact that the Indonesian communist leadership includes in its ranks both men with Soviet training and others who more recently have spent time in Communist China; and finally the geographic position of the Indonesian archipelago, which by modern communications is about equally remote from the Soviet Union and China, and which shares no continental border with the latter—(as do Korea, Viet Nam, Burma and India).

CARE TAKEN

In tracing the development of Indonesian communism, Arnold C. Brackman in his book, "Indonesian Communism," combines the scholarly care of a historian with the readable style of a professional writer.


As a historian he relies heavily on primary and secondary material, but as a journalist he supplements and enlivened his analysis with his own observations and personal interviews.

Mr. Brackman's volume presents a detailed historical account of the Indonesian communist movement spanning four decades, yet also manages to untangle several major strands in its development.

Most importantly the author brings out the cynical opportunism of the PKI's guerilla tactics designed to exploit nationalist and anti-colonial fervour while actually opposing or contemptuously tolerating the "bourgeois, nationalist" leaders and groups.

Brackman is severely critical of the policies pursued by the Netherlands towards anti-communist Indonesian nationalists.

At the same time, he believes that President Sukarno has failed to live up to the hopes of his supporters at home and abroad, and that his policy of trying to use the communists politically has actually retarded the benefit of the PKI, which has gained much by paying lip-service to Sukarno whenever it suited the party's political purposes.

Brackman traces the dizzying shifts in the party's tactics, its blunders and opportunities, its lows and highs. He also supplies the reader with ample background information, making his book a valuable primer on Indonesian affairs in general.

The author describes the abortive "median rebellion" of 1948 which some Indonesian communist leaders had apparently hoped to turn into an indigenous October Revolution, but which was premature, ill-prepared and lacking in popular support.

He leads the reader expertly through the labyrinth of internal party politics, provides biographical information regarding the party leaders, narrows the fate of the PKI's shifting political alliances, and shows how the party has grown within a decade from 7,910 to 2,000,000 members.

The Ill-fated "Voyager"

On the night of February 10 HMAS Voyager (above) sank after a head-on collision with HMAS Melbourne off the New South Wales coast.

Next day it was announced that 82 officers and crew members were dead or missing.

Among 239 survivors either picked up by HMAS Melbourne or landed by rescue-raft at Jarvis Bay were 21 West Australians. Seven other W.A. men were among the missing.

The same day the R.S.L. National Executive meeting in Canberra, opened a nation-wide appeal on behalf of people suffering as a result of the sinking with a contribution of £250.

Each of the eight State branches immediately subscribed £50.

NATION-WIDE APPEAL

The attention of all members is drawn to the R.S.L. nation-wide appeal launched on February 11 to assist dependants of those lost in the recent naval disaster.

West Australian donations should be forwarded to the State Secretary, Anzac House, Perth.
A.R.M.S. Games—1964
(Details Of The Draw)

The Home Team (shown first) is to arrange date of play,
Winner to forward results within 48 hours of game.

ROUND 1—to be completed by March 31
W. Leed-Wembly v City of Perth
Nollamara v Mt. Hawthorn
Swanbourne v Fremantle Dist.
Gloucester Pk. v Darling Range
Nedlands v Flor.-City B.

ROUND 2—to be completed by April 30
Mt. Hawthorn v W. Leed-Wemb.
Fremantle Dist v Nollamara
Nollamara v Mt. Hawthorn
Darling Rge. v Fremantle Dist.
Nedlands v Mt. Hawthorne

ROUND 3—to be completed by May 18
W. Leed-Wembly v Nollamara
City of Perth v Fremantle Dist.
Mt. Hawthorn v Gloucester Pk.
Swanbourne v Fremantle City
Beach
Nedlands v Darling Range

ROUND 4—to be completed by May 30
Fremantle Dist. v W. Leed-Wemb.
City of Perth v Darling Rge.
Fremantle City B. v Gloucester Pk.
Mt. Hawthorn v Swanbourne
Nollamara v Nedlands

ROUND 5—to be completed by June 11
W. Leedville-Wemb. v Swanbourne
Darling Rge. v Mt. Hawthorn
Fremantle Dist. v Nedlands
Gloucester Pk. v City of Perth
Fremantle City B. v Nollamara

ROUND 6—to be completed by June 27
Gloucester Pk. v W. Leed-Wembly
Fremantle Dist. v Mt. Hawthorn
Nedlands v Swanbourne
Darling Range v Nollamara
City of Perth v Flor.-City B.

An Honour That Gives Pleasure To Many
(To The Editor)

Sirs,—I would like to draw your attention, and the attention of your readers, to a matter of at least some satisfaction to many hundreds of relatives of deceased servicemen.

For the past 20 years or more there has existed in Australia a branch of what was originally the Imperial War Graves Commission but is now known as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

This commission has fulfilled its duties in a manner which not only ensures that the memory of "Old Soldiers" will be preserved for all time, but also that of the sacrifice and the sympathetic attitude of the Secretary-General, Brigadier A. E. Brown, and his staff.

The late Commissioner's great contribution has been acknowledged by many.

It was with pleasure that I learned from a friend in England that Her Majesty had been pleased, in the New Year's Honours List, to appoint Brigadier Brown to be a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.).

I am, however, disappointed that no reference to the honour bestowed on Brigadier Brown was made in any of the Australian newspapers.

I trust you will see fit to publish this letter as by doing so you will give pleasure to thousands of Australians who, like myself, have the highest regard for the work being done by the War Graves Commission in General by Brigadier Brown in particular.

Yours etc.,

J. M. Kearton.

An Other Cake
For Chelsea Pensioners

It was Tasmania's turn to supply the R.S.A. Christmas cake for London's Chelsea Pensioners last December.

For many years now the League has featured these old, fighting men in this way, the honours rotating among the various State branches.

The cake, made by the women of the Walter Hunter, Anglican Church, was sent to the Pensioners on Good Friday, and was planned to coincide with the final meeting of the league.

The governor of the hospital, General Sir Frank E. Fraser, was often disappointed that the cake would not be ready in time.

Guests at the ceremony included the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, and Sir Harry Oakes.

The band of the Irish Guards played a programme of favourite music, including "Waltzing Matilda."
Australians have a strong tradition of public service and volunteerism, which is evident in their actions during World War II. The Australian Red Cross played a crucial role in supporting troops both at home and overseas. They provided medical services, blood transfusions, and relief efforts to soldiers before, during, and after the war. This page from the AustralianListener includes articles about the Red Cross Jubilee and the Australian Day proposal, highlighting the ongoing commitment to public service and the continued recognition of the Red Cross's contributions.
DID YOU KNOW . . . .

(asks C. R. Collins)

> Henry V. had little time in his youth and early manhood to become the "Riotous Prince Hal" depicted by Shakespeare, who drew his material from Yorkist chroniclers. He was a possible heir to any member of the House of Lancaster. Henry proved himself as a fighter and an administrator. He twice received the thanks of Parliament.

> On March 21, 1917, a demonstration in a guided-missile was given by the 21-year-old Archibald M. V. L. a very young conventional officer who had become Britain's youngest Doctor of Science for the year before. Invited to see the demonstration, which took place on Salisbury Plain, were 40 generals from all the Allied forces. The general was panicked and bolted for cover when the plane began to swoop at the officers' heads. They did not see the plane come gently to ground. This probably why there was not further development of the new weapon, nor a guided rocket invented by H. V. Low the following year.

> The United Nations Organisation, which had passed a resolution calling on Britain to grant immediate independence to British Guiana and Fiji, was given the equivalent of a snub from the Fijian themselves when 1/20 of the members of Fiji's Legislative Council issued a declaration that Fiji's constitution was a domestic matter concerning only Britain and Fiji, and no business of the United Nations. Fiji was annexed by Britain in 1874 at the request of the paramount tribal chief—then called the "King of the Cannibal Islands"—with the full approval of the Fijian people. The British annexation was made in time to forestall a move for annexation by the U.S.A.

> The Duke of Bedford, who recently visited Perth, came here as a scientist interested in preventing rare species of birds from becoming extinct. The first Duke of Bedford to achieve fame in English history was the younger brother of Henry V. After that king's death he commanded the English forces in France and acted as regent for his nephews Henry VI and Edward IV. Among the generals of that era he was second only to Henry V. He purchased Joan of Arc from her Burgundian captors, and sank Ross, that the French craft, and her subsequent burning at Rouen in 1431.

Port Hedland Postscript

From "Bowarara" comes the following account of the end-of-year happenings at Port Hedland:

Carrying on from my last report: the Christmas tree function on December 6 was a complete success. Over 400 kids were served with everything the young dream about—ice-cream, sweets, soft drinks—with suitable presents for everyone from 4 to 14, and a special treat for the babies, with pictures to follow.

All that parents could reasonably be expected to provide would be a little cascara next day.

The balance sheet discloses that whoever sponsors the fund next year will have a substantial kick-off.

Due for special mention in raising a considerable amount of money are President Arthol Moseley, secretaries Alan Ibbotson and Jack Hunt, Bob Pauls and many of the Federation.

"Don't write a poem to our ladies' auxiliary I wish I could. They were tired. How so few ladies could do so much in such a short time amazes me.

We have suffered another loss from our work force: Dunting Bob Pauls, capable young organiser of our cabinets and town activities. His work as flying-doctor pilot has taken him away from us.

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Gallipoli Pilgrimage, 1965
(Scheme Faced With Difficulties)

League efforts over the last few months to arrange transport for a pilgrimage to Gallipoli in 1965 to commemorate the jubilee of Anzac have encountered numerous difficulties.

Following is a report from National Secretary A. G. Keys on the progress of negotiations to date.

It is now apparent that the preferred方案 of the Australian-New Zealand pilgrimage to Gallipoli is to commemorate the jubilee of Anzac. The year of the Anzac landing is fraught with far more difficulties than first envisaged.

During the months since the matter was first raised a lack of correspondence and correspondence has been conducted with the Australian Government, the NZ.R.S.A., Cook's Travel Agency, the Turkish Government and their ship service from Coffee to the Orient Line, in an effort to arrive at some decision that would allow the pilgrimage to be considered practicable.

POSSIBILITIES

Transport is the key to the whole problem and four main possibilities have been explored:
1. The party travelling to the Mediterranean on the 30th April for 10 days, and the return shipping schedule amended to include the necessary call at Gallipoli and other places of interest to the party.
2. The possibility of chartering a special ship to make the trip to the Mediterranean and return.
3. Movement by air.
4. The Commonwealth Government making available up to 200 R.A.N. to transport the party.

Results of investigation on each of these alternatives are:

1. Normal Shipping Schedule-Shipping schedules for 1965 do not permit a party to be transported to Gallipoli and to arrive on 25th April. The nearest date is the 28th April.

I have pointed out to Cook's Travel Agency the need for a charter to the P. and O., that the whole purpose of the pilgrimage is to enable the R.A.N. to transport the party and that the party did not arrive on the morning of 25th April.

A request was made to the P. and O. to amend their schedule slightly to meet the League's requirement, however, that it would be impossible and have resulted in a large scale additional costs and the company would also be involved in an enormous amount of extra work.

The possibility of bringing the party back from England to Gallipoli was also examined, but here it was decided by Cook's Travel Agency that this meant landing in England would not attract many applicants.

On the schedules the time spent in England and Europe would be very short and under the worst possible weather conditions.

2. A Special Charter Ship—Cook's Travel Agency undertakes that if the P. and O. shipping lines require some three months' notice for this. If difficulties were overcome there is the enormous cost of a special charter.

To get a rough idea of this it could be estimated that the type of vessel required for the pilgrimage would cost somewhere between £10,000 and £15,000 to operate. On an itinerary of approximately 34 days the trip would be a total cost of $340,000.

CHARTER TERMS

If a charter were to be proceeded with a contract would have to be signed which would guarantee the payment, and such guarantees usually entail a deposit of 20 per cent, which could be returned only if the event of the arrangement were being carried through.

If a ship carrying approximately 200 persons, was chartered and individual fares could be lower than normal, they would more sharply in relation to unsold space until they could be far higher than normal.

Availability and cost are the main problems in a special charter.

3. Air Travel—Air travel offers some prospects, though there are still considerable difficulties. An arrangement to travel by air would involve a charter flight from Australia to Istanbul.

The cheapest return fare, even for economy class, for this trip is £32. This could be increased to 50 per cent in the event of a special charter aircraft being filled to capacity.

The principal difficulty would be the movement from Istanbul to Anzio. At present there are local steamers sailing from Istanbul to the

Gallipoli Peninsula through the Sea of Marmara, but they are only equipped to cover minimum requirements and could be replaced below Australian standards.

The distance is some 160 miles which at best would involve a 4 hours return.

To be off Anzac Cove at dawn on 25th April would entail departure from Istanbul in the early afternoon of 24th April, returning on the evening of the 25th.

The vessels at present used in this area do not provide cabins and it is possible that the provisioning of food for such a journey might present some difficultly.

Again, for a special voyage a small vessel would have to be chartered which in the event of small numbers would be very expensive per head.

Cook's Travel Agency has been asked to investigate this possibility, if the journey thoroughly, and let us know any further possibilities.

4. Travel with the assistance of the R.A.N.—On 11th November it was written to the Commonwealth Government asking for their assistance in an approach to the New Zealand and Turkish Governments for full co-operation on an Anzac pilgrimage.

It was also asked that the possibility of units of the A.R.A.N. participating in the pilgrimage should be explored. We are still awaiting a reply to this approach.

COOK'S SURVEY

Cook's Travel Agency has recommended that, to get some idea of the numbers who would be likely to make the trip, they be encouraged to conduct their own survey.

As this is a necessary prelude to a scheme it is recommended that Cook's be authorised to proceed with this. It will cost the League nothing and will indicate, more exactly, transport requirement.

Annual Meeting

At Canning

Nominations for office in the Canning sub-branch will be received at a special meeting on February 12. The annual meeting and elections will be held on the same day.

Nollamara Now Boasts A Hall Of Its Own

The new Nollamara R.S.L. Memorial Hall in Sylvia Street was officially opened by the State President on Saturday, February 1.

The building fulfills a sub-branch promise to the people of the district that a special hall for public use would have top priority.

The achievement is the more meritorious as the sub-branch is only about three years old.

The hall is the result of much planning and tireless work by various committees, and the women's auxiliary has given close support throughout.

It was announced at the opening that the first steps had been taken for forming a centre for the youth of the district at the hall.

A three-piece expanse was enganged for the occasion, arrangements for which included dancing, concert.

RED CROSS WILL CALL

On Saturday morning, March 21, a Red Cross volunteer will visit urban homes and ask for a donation towards the Jubilee Red Cross Appeal. 70 at a 30 years, since the Red Cross Society first started to the community service, more particularly to ex-service men and women, in Australia, and 100 years since International Red Cross was established in Europe.

During this time Red Cross services have expanded to embrace every aspect of welfare work, both at home and overseas, and the society's community responsibilities have increased with each passing year.

To ensure the success of the 1964 Jubilee appeal, Red Cross needs more volunteers to help with its "Door Knock" on March 21. If you are interested in lending a hand, ring Red Cross House-21-6118.

£80,000,000 — a record!

Take a look at this record! In 12 months to 31st December, 1963, the Commonwealth Banks lent over £80,000,000 more to their customers to build or buy homes — homes for over 30,000 families. Just one reason why it pays to:

BANK COMMONWEALTH

Australia's Most Helpful Bank
Victoria Park Members Urged To Roll Up

The Victoria Park sub-branch, which holds its general meetings on the third Friday each month, is urging members to make an effort to attend this year's meetings and if possible to bring a friend along.

It has also underlined the need for prompt payment of subscriptions.

Last year much was accomplished and this year many new projects are being planned.

The popular-girl competition conducted by the sub-branch in 1963 was won by Miss Margaret Malins, representing the Carlisle Ratepayers' Association.

Miss Malins won a return-air-trip and holiday in Adelaide for two and was a happy girl.

Miss Peggy Thomas, of the Victoria Park-Carlisle Swimming Club, was second, and Miss Rita Kapp-glyn of the Victoria Park Table Tennis Club third.

These girls shared a host of prizes donated by local business people.

To all the participants and donors, the sub-branch extends its sincere thanks.

The annual raffle was a complete success due to the organising by Harry Osprey.

Cake stalls were discontinued during January.

The women's auxiliary commences activities this month and like the sub-branch is always glad to see new members. Its meetings are held in the R.S.L. Hall, Salford Street, on the second and fourth Thursdays each month.

Members' wives, or their friends, would be very welcome in the auxiliary. Inquiries should be addressed to Mrs Ford, 7 Read-street East Victoria Park (63867).

UNCLAIMED MEDALS

Anzac House has received a list of 6,000 R.A.N. personnel who have yet to collect their campaign stars and medals.

Application should be made to The Secretary, Department of the Navy, Navy Office, Canberra, A.C.T.

Gwalia Sub-branch To Continue

Despite the shock of the closure of the Sons of Gwalia mine, the sub-branch serving the twin towns of Gwalia and Leonora has decided that its strength will not be unduly diminished as a result.

R.S.L. members throughout the State will be pleased to know that the League, through the activity of the sub-branch, is to retain its place in this outback community.

On their behalf the best of good wishes for a long and successful existence are offered to Gwalia members.

A Home-offer To Old Soldier

An offer to share bachelor accommodation at Bluff Point, near Geraldton, with a returned soldier coming to Jan Cameron (c/o Bluff Point P.O.)

Jan says he would welcome a mate who would enjoy a casual life in a spot where the main interests are swimming, boating and fishing, and who would be prepared to share living expenses.

For further particulars contact Mr Cameron.

War Victim's Daughter At School In U.S.

The daughter of a deceased Air Force man is studying in the United States with the assistance of the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

She is Frances Corney (18) of 37 Goldenith-road, Claremont, W.A.

Repatriation Minister Swartz said recently that Miss Corney had been awarded a scholarship at the Grand Meadow High School, Minnesota.

Her earlier education had been provided under the scheme and an allowance will be paid to her mother during the twelve months Frances will be in America.

Her offer was under the American Field Service International Scholarship scheme.

In America Frances will carry on normal studies and may gain exemption from her Western Australia Leaving Certificate.

Mr Swartz said the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme was continuing its task of providing assistance for the education and training of children of ex-servicemen whose death, blindness or total and permanent incapacity was due to war service.

Almost 10,000 children were at present receiving assistance under the scheme.

Miss Corney's scholastic ability and personality, which enabled her to win the scholarship, was a tribute to her, her mother and to the education scheme.

COOL-DOWN AT THE CLUB

The latest improvement at the Anzac Club is the introduction of air conditioning.

The new amenity has also been extended to the boardroom and to the president's and secretary's rooms.

State Secretary Webb reported at last month's executive meeting that the total cost of installation was £2,801.

Another change at the club this year has been the dropping of the charge for use of the billiard tables.

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Some Facts About Migration

By "Scrutineer"

As a good deal of nonsense is being circulated concerning immigration policy it is meriting, in its fundamental points, a serious and accurate examination.

Australa's immigration policy is based on the need to maintain a predominantly European population. It is hoped in this way that both social and economic development can be fostered. It is fundamental to the policy that those coming to Australia for permanent residence should be capable, both economically and socially, of ready integration into the community. Consequently, preference in admission is given to persons of European origin.

Australia is not alone in seeking a homogeneous society, as a matter of prudence, as a basis of economic, social and cultural integration. The British Empire has the right duty of every nation to determine its own demographic policies.

The Australian practice is not one of the total exclusion of persons of non-European origin. The immigration laws governing such admittance permit the Minister to exercise a discretion.

The policy so administered facilitates the recognition of persons wishing to settle here and the merits of each case, including considerations of a humanitarian nature and of broad international interests.

There are in Australia today more than 30,000 people of non-European origin (the employee of his non-European spouse and unmarried children, who have been admitted for temporary residence to Australia for the purpose of family reunion, or to attend school or university, or to attend technical colleges, or to attend a training scheme are included in this estimate). The policy envisages admission on a selective basis for indefinite stay. The Minister in each case is guided by the merits of each case, for example, that:

- Non-Europeans who have been admitted for temporary residence here may be admitted for permanent residence.
- A European British subject proceeding to Australia from overseas for permanent residence may be admitted.

The coming into force in Australia of the Immigration Act 1958, which provides for the admission of persons of non-European origin, is expected to have a significant effect on the immigration of such persons to Australia.

The Minister is expected to exercise a discretionary power in each case, taking into consideration the merits of the case, including considerations of a humanitarian nature and of broad international interests.

Big Meeting Of Anzacs Was Held Recently

The Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs of Western Australia has a record attendance at its general meeting in the Y.A.L. Hall, Perth, on December 8.

Over 100 members heard the current reports of the quarter's activities and finished an interesting meeting when Phil Allen gave his impressions of a visit to the old battlefields of Gallipoli.

Phil had spent a full day visiting the battlefields of Gallipoli and his report to the meeting was well received. The meeting was conducted with much interest and the members were well satisfied with the work of the Gallipoli Legion in Western Australia.

Staff Vacancy At The Home

An assistant superintendent is required at the Royal S.L.V. Veterans' Home and interested members are invited to apply for the vacancy.

The successful applicant will be responsible for arranging entertainments and publicising the services of the home. He will be expected to remain here indefinitely.

Widow's Plight Finds Ready Help At Hand

The Digger spirit is well exemplified in the following account of an "errand-of-mercy" to Boddington last November—a gesture showing mateship at its best.

A party of 2/23rd Battalion Association members, led by Mr. Lewis, met at 8.30 a.m. on November 15 at R.S.L. headquarters and proceeded to Boddington. The party consisted of Messrs. J. A. Rolfe, P. E. T. L. Davy, the late T. M. G. L. Davy, the late M. C. L. Davy, and the late W. J. L. Davy.

The day was hot, the job dusty and the labour mostly inexperienced, but with stout hearts and a good job—"they had seen the job through by sun, heat and cold in the spirit of mateship, and when it became known that he still had his job, the party immediately decided to help a good "Ring-neck" who was short of money and in need of assistance.

This was of course a good opportunity to stage a party at Leo Price's home. Liquid refreshment and barbecue steak was all in a single mood by midnight. Then to excitoined and on with the job the next morning.

By noon another "Cockie" had his hat all neatly stacked. This chore was followed by a clean-up at Leo's and a small "five" supplied by Roy to cope with the exhausted members of the party on the morning's labours.

Then the boys headed for home and disposed of operations, tired but feeling good in themselves in the knowledge of a job well done.

Apart from "Goldie" falling ill of a car tire and King lowing his key in the best of his car and a "nine" being left behind, it was a grand day and nothing much had happened.

The Good Work Continues

The number of League members who had made their mark in the profession of their community was quite remarkable, State President for last month's executive meeting.

He was offering the League to Messrs J. A. Rolfe (on the M.B.E., conferred on him in the New Year Honours list) and F. C. Chaney (being named as successor to the R.S.L. by the Federal Government).

Mr Rolfe is a former senior vice-president and Mr F. C. Chaney is the current immediate past-president of the State branch of the League.

The coming into force of the Immigration Act 1958 is expected to have a significant effect on the immigration of non-Europeans to Australia.

The Minister is expected to exercise a discretionary power in each case, taking into consideration the merits of the case, including considerations of a humanitarian nature and of broad international interests.

Unveiling The Light Horse Memorial

The unveiling of the Port Lincoln Light Horse Memorial on its new site on Mt. Clarence, Albany, is expected to take place on December 7.

In anticipation of keen interest in the unveiling ceremony, some tentative plans have been made for the accommodation of visitors.

The weather sub-committee, sub-branches, unit associations, groups and individuals of the Navy may be helpful at this stage.

Those interested in participating are requested to advise the State Secretary.

Christmas Effort Is Appreciated

The Polish Ex-servicemen's Fellowship expressed its indebtedness to the R.S.L., ex-servicemen, and local organizations for a delightful Christmas party provided by that organization for 45 Polish children on Saturday, December 7. The children enjoyed themselves thoroughly and association members appreciated the work done by the organizers.

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in '84
More Migrants, And Most From U.K.

National Congress resolution no. 222, by which the R.S.L. gave full support to the Commonwealth Government for any move which would increase the flow of migrants with British stock—to Australia, is the subject of the following communication from the Minister for Immigration.

The Government is firmly committed to maintaining the immigration programme at the highest levels consistent with Australia's economic and social welfare and, within the over-all framework, place emphasis upon the recruitment of migrants from Britain.

Recent measures show clearly our resolve to spare no effort to increase the number of suitable migrants for Australia. In the past twelve months, immigration posts have been opened in Brussels, Cairo, Madrid and New Delhi.

In June of last year assisted passages were extended to single women aged between 18 and 35, and additions have also been made to the list of persons who may migrate to Australia paying their own fares.

Another important step has been the appointment to the Migration Office at Australian House, London, of a special adviser on professions, who is charged with the task of facilitating and stimulating the flow of highly-qualified migrants from Britain.

I am pleased to be able to inform the League that the number of applications in mind the buoyancy of Australian conditions has been able to maintain the immigration programme for 1963-64 by 10,000 to 134,000 per cent., and that 70,000 new settlers will arrive from the Commonwealth with their passage costs to Australia, including 45,000 from the United Kingdom. This will be the largest intake of British assisted migrants in any financial year in the history of the immigration programme.

During the past year the number of applications lodged in the United Kingdom for assisted passages to Australia has been running at the highest level ever recorded, demonstrating the continuing interest in Australia's future.

Three-quarters of Australian assisted immigrants in 1963-64 will come from the United Kingdom.

Older Men Had Say at Port

All but two of the 18 men present at the Club of Friends mantle sub-branch meeting in the Wyola Hall on January 14 were first-war veterans.

The executive committee was elected and trustees appointed.

It was decided to hold the annual reunion at the Oz Hotel on Friday, March 20, and to entertain the members of the women's auxiliary on that occasion.

Members wishing to attend are requested to advise the secretary before March 13.

Mr. G. White, a member who was recently discharged from hospital, made a donation to the amendment funds as a mark of appreciation for the work carried out by sub-branch hospital visitor T. Love.

The meeting placed on record its appreciation of the work being done by Mr. Fox.

Mr. C. Fox, members of the sub-branch and auxiliary visited the Wyola Club on February 4 and subsequent meetings on the fourth Tuesday each month.

Subscription Anomaly

The 11th and 2/11th A.F. Battalions Association has informed the League that a number of officers are desirous of joining the association in the mistaken belief that subscription is £2/2/year.

In fact it is 10/- a year.

The association says that the misapprehension has arisen from the sub-heading to the Caseworkers' B.O. of EX-SERVICEEMEN advertisements that appear in the "The Listening Post".

The sub-heading, which reads "Rates £2/2/- per annum" refers to the charge to unit associations for advertising in that column.

This point is well taken.

The sub-heading has been used for some years now but it is shown to be capable of misleading hon. members and those interested in this and future issues of the journal.

Parcels Were Appreciated

As announced earlier by the National President, assistance has been given this year to Australian Army instructors serving in South Vietnam.

The following letter on behalf of all recipients has been received from Captain N. De La Hunty of the Australian Army training team, by the National Secretary:

"Dear Mr. Kay, this is just a short note of appreciation from the officers and warrant officers at Hiep Khanh in South Vietnam, to say thank you for the delightful Christmas gift we received from you.

"It was an extremely nice gesture for which we are extremely grateful. It would have been obdurate if you would continue your kind support to the president for us.

"As you are probably aware Christmas in Vietnam is small and so it was particularly pleasing to us to feel that we were remembered by those at home at the festive season.

"Very sincerely,

"Noel De La Hunty"

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in '64

Join The League Now And Play Your Part

The League in this State hopes to make 1964 a bumper year, for which purpose it looks to the goodwill, support and membership of every member.

For those who are not aware of the work done by the R.S.L. there are a few points:

The League—

• Helps all ex-serviceemen and their dependants, who seek information.

• At the request of the Federal Government is responsible for the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day observances.

• Provides financial assistance in needy cases.

• Assists housing inquiries.

• Visits ex-serviceemen in hospitals and homes.

• Assists in the preparation of repatriation claims and appeals.

• Conducts courses in civil defence.

• Conducts a club exclusive of members for the R.S.L.

Returning men of the Great War, in forming the League, established a powerhouse of energy to uphold the rights and privileges of our mates and dependants.

Confrontation Policy And Our Security

Headed "Confrontation" the leading article in last month's edition of "Vigilance" the Queensland State branch journal has given a further pledge of support—this time from our late enemies, the Germans.

Strangely, the visit to Indonesia of German President Dr. Konrad Adenauer, which was marked by the world's press, left Herr Lubbe unimpressed.

Yet Herr Lubbe emphasised to cheering crowds the sympathetic German interest for Indonesian aims. He said:

"I should like to say here that Germany is prepared to assist you by word and deed in the fulfilment of your tasks. It is the duty of the Federal Republic to contribute to your great work by providing technical and material assistance as far as our possibilities permit.

Is this then the morality of our Brave New World? Does aggression appear to be admirable; that might, or the appearance of might, if the evidence suggests so, and unless we are prepared to fight on the principle that strength there is little of sympathy to expect when the aggressor lasses us at
ANOTHER GOODWILL OCCASION AT ANZAC HOUSE

At the Festive Season each year the State Executive entertains at Anzac House a gathering broadly representative of all sections of the community—service, ex-service and civilian.

The two groups pictured here were among those who forgathered for the last occasion.

AT RIGHT (left to right): Commodore W. E. Marks, Colonel John Burt and Dr. L. E. Le Souef.

BELOW (left to right): Messrs. H. de Burgh (secretary, Upper Swan); L. Chaffey (president, Karrinyup); H. F. Holland (Mandurah) and G. Arnott (Karrinyup).
End-of-year Activity At Bellevue Was Varied

At the December meeting Bellevue sub-branch officials were prepared to accept office again for 1964 and installation was arranged for the February meeting.

The sub-branch wound-up the 1963 year with the annual Christmas Tree, catalogue appreciation sale. The Christmas season was marked by various toys, ice-cream, drinks and lollies. Paddy Maher again was elected as Father Christmas.

After the party the committee, with Father Christmas, visited the Nilson Haven for crippled children, taking along an abundance of good things supplied by the women's auxiliary.

The delight of these unfortunate children was something to remember, and any sub-branch disposed to do something for them can be sure of an enthusiastic and grateful response.

All members of the Bellevue sub-branch were lighted with the honour bestowed on Jack Rolfe in the New Year's Honour List. Jack received the M.B.E. for his labours on behalf of the League, a role he has worked for in two spheres, the R.S.L. and Legion, but of his latest time being voluntarily given to both.

In the sub-branch he recorded is the best and on Saturday, January 18, members showed their sincere appreciation by presenting him with a wrist-watch suitably inscribed.

The sub-branch also remembered Mrs Gladys Rolfe, who herself has been a very busy member of the auxiliary, both at sub-branch and State level. With the late serf, Gladys, the wife of a long active sub-branch member, an extremely difficult one. Mrs Rolfe has played a greatly appreciated role in this respect.

To show his appreciation members presented Mrs Rolfe with a very nice gift also.

Both recipients left on a seven-week tour of the Eastern States soon afterwards. For Jack it was business, for his wife a holiday. Congratulations to both.

The Bellevue Sub-branch has come under the management of Mr Roy Goldspink, late of Anzac Club.

At the half-yearly meeting of members it was agreed unanimously to confer life-membership on two members, Larry Read and Jack Rolfe.

Badges, suitably inscribed, were presented to both. Both members have worked hard to make the club what it is and members realise that they are deserving of the honour.

The club renames its invitation to members of both sub-branches and their wives to visit. There is a choice three-pin bowling, green, darts, billiards or table tennis.

Visits To The Sick

Members of the Corps of Hospital Visitors are regularly visiting ex-service men and women from Hollywood, Hospital. In specific request to in-patients at other metropolitan hospitals.

Unfortunately the sub-branch, have volunteered to enrol in the Corps has curtailed the visits that should be made.

The task of visiting the sick, undertaken by the Corps, has placed an unfair strain upon the few League members who have volunteered their services as hospital visitors

Notices are sent to metropolitan sub-branches of the administration of this scheme and many vacant dates required to be filled.

DONATION

A donation of $1 has been received from Mr A. Connell of Margaret River, the follow ing explanation:

"As a sub to your Hospital Visitors section, to be entered in The Listening Post and advertised, and in the sub-branch, this action being taken as an act of the brotherhood shown by this branch to other over the years, especially, to their secretary, Mr Dennis."

 scoffers pay away, and will not harm the heart or upset the stomach.

BELLS... SING CIRCLE... 

MRS. CORTIS,
107 Sacksfield Street, COLLINGWOOD, VICTORIA.

writes,
"I can't speak too highly of Bex. I fall down on the concrete path and cut my knees. The pain was terrible, so I took Bex and the pain soon went. I keep Bex on the table all the year round and take one every morning — it keeps the flu away, also acts as a nerve tonic. Thanking Bex for their wonderful tablets and powders.""
Nuclear Weapons And Wishful Thinking

(Statement from National Headquartes)

Is a nuclear-free zone realistic? With clouds of war banking-up on northern horizons cries of “Ban the Bomb!” and “Nuclear-free Zone for the Southern Hemisphere!” have been heard in some quarters.

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Phone-book Entries And Rental Costs

Telephone connections for sub-branch secretaries for whom the phone-book entries are official business directions is classified.

This is the essence of a statement by Postmaster General Hulme in reply to League representations to a National Congress resolution asking that they be classified as residential connections, which carry a lower rental charge.

The Minister wrote:

The business rental rate is the standard tariff for a telephone service, whilst a residence rate was established many years ago at a lower charge as an inducement to people to have a telephone installed in their homes.

The residence rental rate is therefore in the nature of a concessional tariff.

Classifying telephone services as business and residential lines the guiding principle is that the lower residence rental rating is extended only to services installed in private homes and used for business or domestic purposes. All other services are classified as business.

Following a review of the policy governing the classification of telephone services which are featured in directory advertisements and business subscribers listings as "after-hours" or "residence" numbers, it was approved that such services could be treated as residence lines subject to certain conditions.

Whatever your walk in life . . .
And whatever financial service you need, whether your account is large or small, a genuine welcome awaits you at any of our numerous branches. The Manager and staff will always be pleased to assist you.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALASIA LIMITED
And its Wholly Owned Subsidiary
THE NATIONAL BANK SAVINGS BANK LIMITED
G. G. BURLEIGH, STATE MANAGER

Geraldton Has New Journal
The first issue of the official journal of the Geraldton sub-branch, the Birdwood House Bulletin, has been published.

In a foreword to the 40-page journal, the Mayor, Mr. S. S. Eddon-Clarke, said that the sub-branch had over the years played a very important part in the development of the town, and that the people of Geraldton were conscious of the great work the organisation was doing.

He congratulated the sub-branch on its initiative in producing a twice-yearly journal, which, he said, should prove of immense benefit in arousing and maintaining the interest of all members.

Hospitality For Asian Students
Mr. R. J. Stoddart is to represent the League on a committee being formed to North Perth to arrange a welcome and hospitality for Asian students coming to the State, under the Colombo plan.

This was decided by the State Executive last month after hearing a report from Mr. Stoddart on a Delegation to the Interior move to form the committee.

Mr. Stoddart said he thought the League should associate itself with the undertaking.

Geraldton has a grown up a new journal.

R.S.L. WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES Sterling Performance At North Perth
Under the heading "From £5,500 to £820" an article in the "Green Envelope" records a splendid effort by the North Perth sub-branch women's auxiliary to extinguish the mortgage on the R.S.L. Memorial House.

The figures given in the heading represent the amount by which the indebtedness on the building has been reduced after six years of activity by the auxiliary's catering committee.

That is not the whole story of the committee's work over the period. In addition it has made available £300 for building alterations, painting, plumbing and renovations.

The figures do not disclose the amount which the committee has expended in running the auxiliary's work, which has been chiefly rendered so much voluntary work over a number of years, inspection participating in all other aspects of auxiliary work.

A commemorative reference to the effort was made at this month's executive meeting by Mr. J. G. Rankin.

Relaxation Counselling After A Busy Year
The R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary State Secretary, Mrs. Rowe, has supplied the following resume of auxiliary activity at executive level.

The festive season being well behind us now, perhaps all auxiliary members may be able to relax and enjoy a well-earned rest for a few weeks while their branches are in recess, saving plenty of energy for the new year's activities.

All branches have been as busy as usual this past year with their efforts to raise money, and where possible to visit any sick or disabled ex-service men.

The metropolitan auxiliaries have done a sterling job as usual with the raffles for the War Veterans' Home, and also on the manning of the canteen at the hospital.

This job is appreciated by all the inmates of the homes as they like to come and talk to the ladies on duty each day.

The State Executive had a very busy period at the end of the year packing and delivering, personally, approximately 300 parcels to the following homes:

Some C-class hospitals were also visited where we had been notified that there were ex-service men.

The patients at R.P.H. received their usual parcel and "ID".

Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Cottrill visited Coorow for the local Christmas party, which was most enjoyable.

Mesdames Ames, Rowe, and Brown, with their husbands, attended the Bruce Rock Christmas party and a wonderful time was had by all.

Other Christmas functions were attended by Mrs. Ames, Mrs. Rowe, and the various executive members.

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in '64
Eligibility For War Pension And For Medical Treatment

The question of eligibility for war pensions and for repatriation medical treatment has often been a worry to ex-service men and women. Here, in brief, is an explanation of the matter.

To be eligible for a war pension you must have sustained a disability which has been accepted and the case decided as due to war service. To be eligible for repatriation medical treatment you must have an incapacity which has been accepted and the case decided as due to, or aggravated by, your war service.

The only exception is in the case of pulmonary tuberculosis; if you served in a theatre of war, and if at any time after your discharge from the forces you suffer from tuberculosis, you may be eligible for war pension and treatment even though the incapacity is not due to war service.

There is no time limit for making a claim.

Qualifying war service includes service in the Australian forces in the 1914-1918 War in France, and in any other theatre of war (including enlistments up to 1940 in certain circumstances) or in the Australian forces in repatriation operations; in the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve, and in special overseas forces in prescribed areas.

Ex-service men and women who were domiciled in Australia, or an Australian territory, immediately before enlisting in the armed forces of the British Commonwealth other than Australia are also eligible for a war pension, as are women who have attained the age of 30, or who have served or are serving with the Australian forces in any theatre of war, and who live in Australia or an Australian territory.

If Doubtful

If you have any doubt whether you are eligible you should consult the Repatriation Department, 113 William-street, Perth.

To apply for pension treatment your claim may be made by letter or by calling at the department. If writing to the department, give your full name, service number, and rank you served with, and the nature of the incapacity for which you claim is due to war service.

Whether you write or call at the department's branch office, your claim will be handled by the repatriation department. If writing to the department, give your full name, service number, rank you served with, and the nature of the incapacity for which you claim is due to war service. Whether you write or call at the department's branch office your claim will be handled by the repatriation department. If writing to the department, give your full name, service number, rank you served with, and the nature of the incapacity for which you claim is due to war service.

If you may, if you desire, submit a letter of recommendation from a doctor, it may be helpful if you do so.

The application should include details of the history of your incapacity and any operation performed which may have helped in linking it with your war service. If necessary another person may have conducted an examination and their report may be of help.

Eligibility

You will be required to undergo medical examination, and tests to be admitted to a repatriation general hospital for further examination.

In the event of being advised that you are not eligible for a war pension, you may be entitled to a special rate pension. To assist in considering your claim the department will also follow the evidence:

- Reports from doctors including service medical history.
- Reports from doctors who have treated you since discharge.

In some cases, medical reports from employers, and assurance companies are asked for.

The Evidence

When the investigation of your application has been completed, all the evidence, including the results of medical examinations and tests will be submitted to the Repatriation Board in your State to determine eligibility.

The board comprises a chairman and two members appointed by the Governor General. One member is appointed from nominations submitted by organisations representing war veterans.

The board decides whether your incapacity is due to or contributed to or aggravated by service, and if so whether a war pension is to be paid and the rate of pension.

The board may accept your incapacity as due to service, but decide that its extent is such as not to warrant a pension. In such a case you will still be entitled to treatment.

You will be notified of the board's decision and if you are to be told of the treatment available and how they may be obtained.

You will also be told whether your claim has been granted. If your claim has not been successful you will be informed of your rights of appeal.

Whether you are a member of the League of the League's Pension is not available to you at your advice of the League's Pension Officer, Mr. Harold Chappell, who is always available to help.

The following is a list of classes of war pension, namely:

- The general rate—payable from 10 per cent to 100 per cent of the general rate according to the assessed degree of incapacity.

- The special (T.P.I.) rate—payable where an ex-service man is, because of incapacity accepted as due to war service, totally and permanently incapacitated (that is, incapacitated for life such an extent as to be unable to earn a livelihood from any other than a negligible percentage of a living wage) or has been hindered as a result of a war-service in the performance of his duty.

Special Rate

The special-rate pension may also be granted under certain conditions to an ex-service man suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Pension may also be paid at the special rate when an ex-service man is totally incapacitated by an accepted war-caused incapacity for a period not less than three months to a degree which prevents him from earning more than a negligible percentage of a living wage.

Pensions are also payable to a wife of a war pensioner and for each child under 16 years of age.

The rate payable ranges from 10 per cent to 100 per cent of the maximum rate for a wife and child according to the assessed degree of incapacity of the pensioner.

The income and children of a special-rate pensioner receive the maximum respective rates.

TOWNSEND SHIELD REPLICA

Any item in the Townshend Shield competition which wins the trophy three times in succession is to be presented with a small replica of it.

The competition was inaugurated by the New South Wales government to mark the anniversary of the birth of the great man, who died last September.

At last month's State Executive meeting an offer by Mrs. Townshend to donate a trophy was accepted with gratitude and respect.

Dual Benefit Seen In Troop Move

Referring to a statement by the Minister for the Army concerning the despatch of a further unit of Army members to Papuan, the Minister for Territories said recently that the undertaking was of benefit both to the Army and to the Territory.

The engineers comprised a headquarters unit which required a special squad and supervising public works in the Popondetta area on the eastern side of the Territory.

The Minister said the headquarters unit, which was going to look after the work with a plan worked out several months ago, would gain valuable experience in road and bridge construction in tropical mountainous country.

The Army engineers would also provide much-needed expert assistance to the Administration in carrying out its developmental programme in the area.

Dr. A. W. Stirling, the Minister for Defence, said the Australian Army was always seeking to maintain the fighting efficiency of its units by putting them in the best possible conditions.

The New Army

Dr. A. J. Forbes, new Minister for Defence, declared, the Royal Military College in 1942, then serving with the New Guinea, Bougainville, and later with the occupation forces in Japan and Germany.

He was awarded the Military Cross, as was his father before him and subsequently a younger brother.

In 1942 he transferred to the reserve of officers, went to Oxford University, where he gained his Doctor of Philosophy, and became a member of the Research Committee for the University of Adelaide.

In the Federal Parliament he became chairman of the government committee on Defence and Defence.
Executive Hears Plans To Boost Membership

The League's membership figure was 16,693 as at December 31. This was reported by Membership Committee chairman H. Holland at last month's executive meeting.

Mr Holland said there had been some hundreds of new enrollments during the year, but not sufficient completely to offset the loss brought about by the death of members.

There had been 700 pre-paid subscriptions for 1964. The special membership issue of "The Listening Post" in January was to be followed up by active drives in the sub-branches.

Membership liaison officers were required to report to the executive at about three-monthly intervals.

Special attention would be paid to the new housing areas and a full programme of group conferences arranged for the country districts, the first being scheduled for Gnowangerup on March 14 and the next for Wongan Hills during April.

Mr Holland said the winner of this year's slogan competition wished to remain anonymous and donated the $5 prize to the War Veterans Home.

Commenting on the State President, said there was wide scope for recruitment among ex-service men who had allowed their membership to lapse.

At this month's meeting Mr Holland reported the registration of 2,692 subscriptions up to the end of January—"the best figure, he said, since 1956.

Drums Recovered

A delegation of 15 officers and men of the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment visited the village of Steenweck, northern France, on October 26 to recover the regiment's drums, left behind in May, 1940.

January Listeners vs. Posters

ADAMS, T. G., 10th L.H., Brownmum.
ANDERSON, H. L., 1st A.R.O.C., Kensington.
APPEL, E. C., 2/16th Bn., Maldon.
BELL, E. L., 33rd Bty., Gwrbw, City of Perth. (Capt. A.A.C. C.B.E., British Borderers, Manj)-
BRENNAN, P. F., 28th Bn., Mundyne.
BREWER, A. G.A., Bunbury.
BURGESS, B. St. C., 11th L.H., Broome.
BUTLER, M. F., 28th Bn., Mt. Hawthorn.
CALDER, A. G., Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders,
Nedlands.
COLES, L. S., 11th Bn., Maylands.
CONWAY, D. T., 2/11th Bn., Busselton.
DAVIDSON, W. J., 44th Bn., Nedlands.
DODD, S. E., R.A.N., City of Perth.
EVANS, A. E., R.A.A.F., Salmon Gums.
Faulkner, W. J., 28th Bn., City of Perth.
GARTLAND, D. A., 2/22nd Bn., Armadale.
GOSSAGE, G., 43rd Bn., Armadale.
HARDIE, F. J., 7th Field Ambulance, City of Perth.
HARANT, P. O., R.A.F., Rivervale.
HAYDEN, W. J., 11th Bn., Mt. Lawley.
HAWAY, E. F., 1st Aust. Beach Group, Highgate.
HONEYMAN, W. H., 28th Bn., Yarloop.
HUNTER, R. C., 5th Pioneers, Nedlands.
JELLEMA, A. A. H., R.A.A.F., Nedlands.
JOHNSON, C. G., R.A.N., North Perth.
KNOX-PEDDEN, B. H., Merchant Navy, Central.
LAMOND, D. H. W., 10th L.H., City of Perth.
MANN, A. W., 2/11th Bn., North Perth.
MAUNDER, F. G., R.N. and R.A.N. Gloucester.
MESSINGER, E. J., 11th Bn., North-East Fre-
mantle.
MORRISON, F. J., 44th Bn., City of Perth.
MUSTARD, R. S., 6th M.O., Claremont.
MAGGREGOR, W. H., 4th Bn., North-East Fre-
mantle.
MACGREGOR, W. H., 4th Bn., North-East Fre-
mantle.
MCGUINESS, W. C., 16th Bn., Armadale.
NADIN, F., 28th Bn., Ned-lands.
NASBERG, J. R., 28th Bn., Bassendean.

THE LAST POST

FORD, W. W., 44th Bn., Nedlands.
HANCOX, R. T., 2/7th Fd. Amb. Rivervale.
HAYTRICK, W. H., 16th Bn., Namadgi.
IFLATA, A. S., R.A.A.F., Byford.
JOHNSON, N. H., A., 10th L.H., North Perth.
KERSHAW, J., 4th Pte., South Perth.
LEGE, A. M., 4th F.C.E., Nedlands.
LOYD, F. R., 11th Bn., Central.
MONTGOMERY, A. C., 28th Bn., City of Perth.
SMITH, T., Srg., 9th Div., Bellevue.
TAYLOR, W. R., 2/10th Bn., Guildford.
TOWNSEND, E. J., R.A.A.F., Yokine.
TYLER, T. F., 3rd L.H., Canning Districts.
WALTHER, J., 32nd Bn., Cottesloe.
WILLS, T. G., 9th Essex Regt., Esperance.
WHITEHEAD, J. C., 11th Bn., Central.
WHITEHOUSE, H., 32nd Bn., Mt. Hawthorn.

Volunteers Wanted For Book-repair Work

In a room at the Red Cross Centre at the Hollywood Repatriation Hospital between 9.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, a team of men and women is kept hard at work repairing books.

These are for use in Red Cross hospital libraries, the Junior Red Cross Library, the recently established Red Cross Library on Rottnest Island, the new Red Cross Library in the Tel- tel and the paraplegic As- sociation and, when there is sufficient volume, the Red Cross bookshop in Murray-street, Perth.

Any damaged books are welcomed by Red Cross and on receipt are sorted, cleaned, repaired and distributed.

At present there are more hospitals waiting for lib- raries than the workers are able to supply, and more for further information.

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GENERAL MERCHANDISE

There is a Dalgety-N.Z.L. Office or Representative in your district

DALGETY
—N.Z.L.

February 1964

Page 14
Red Cross is Looking for Blood Donors

Anyone in ordinary health between 18 and 60 years of age can be a blood donor—and quite possibly save lives. Many have given blood time and again.

It is a painless process, it doesn't affect the health, and it takes only about half an hour three or four times a year.

The Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service was established in Western Australia in 1935 with 50 donors. Today it receives more than 25,000 one-pint donations—about 15 tons weight of blood—each year.

There are more than 26,000 donors on the rolls, and the number is steadily increasing. All these donors are volunteers and receive no reward, and the blood they give is solely free for those who need it.

The demand for blood goes up every year not only because the population is increasing, but also because advances in surgery demand large amounts of blood. One heart operation, for example, may require two gallons of blood.

Most of the blood supplied by the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service is for patients undergoing surgery, with accident victims taking second place as heavy demanders.

Mothers in childbirth, patients with certain kinds of anaemia and Rh babies are other important customers of the blood bank.

Will you help Red Cross help these people by becoming a blood donor?

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in '64

Are Ex-Service Tradesmen Getting a Fair Deal?

The State Executive is not satisfied that skilled tradesmen returning to civilian life from the armed services are getting a fair deal.

At last month's meeting of the executive, after considering a proposal by the Member for Northam, Mr. Fairbairn, to seek a renewal of the ministerial agreement, the following resolutions were passed by the State Executive:

(a) to have a total of twelve months formal R.A.A.F. training in the musketry;
(b) have completed the prescribed trade test in the R.A.A.F.;
(c) have completed a minimum of trade training in the R.A.F.

The Minister's statement, made in reply to League representations for closer liaison with the trade unions in regard to the civilian standing of former R.A.A.F. tradesmen, as follows:

As you will be aware, the League is seeking agreement with the Department of Labour and National Service on the issuing of the certificates granting recognition under the Trade National Service Act 1946-1948. Under an agreement reached between the R.A.A.F., the Australian Society of Engineers and the Electrical Trades Union organisations, ex-members of the R.A.A.F. who hold a R.A.A.F. Trade Certificate or Certificate for Officers Training are granted recognition under the Tradesmen's Right and Regulation Act 1946-1948.

New Uniforms For Cadets

Army school cadets wore jungle-green uniforms for the first time when they entered Northam Camp for the month for promotion courses which finishes on February 29.

A total of 375 cadets from 29 city and country schools were enrolled.

School cadets throughout Australia will change to the new uniform this year.

Metropolitan cadets here were largely trained grown some time ago and country lads received theirs on arrival at Northam.

Instruction at the camp was carried out in two weeks.

The first, for potential sergeants and company warrant officers, was attended by 225 cadets. The second, for potential under-officers and company sergeant-major, comprised 150 cadets.

Fourteen Regular Army warrant-officer instructors of cadets from the Northam camp and Army schools taught the cadets.

Improvement in Lot Of Age-Pensioner Widows

Social Services Minister Robertson recently informed the League that age-pensioner widows may augment their income by £2/10/· a week.

He was replying to representations based on the following National Congress resolution:

"That the Social Services Act be amended to allow the widow of an ex-service man whose death was not accepted as due to service to earn a salary which, combined with her pension, is equivalent to the pension and domestic allowance paid to a war-widow."

The Minister wrote: "I take it from the figures quoted in the second paragraph of your letter that the resolution refers to age-pensioner widows. If that is so I am happy to inform you that the adoption of this resolution has already been achieved.

The standard rate of age-pension, which applies to widowed persons as well as to single persons, is since November last, £5/10/ a week and such a person receiving more than £5/10/ in a week will not be entitled to the pension, providing the value of properties for pension purposes does not exceed £210.

The limit of pension-plus-pensioner widow is therefore £9/5/ a week which is the equivalent of the pension and domestic allowance paid to a war-widow."

MISSING PERSON

Would any ex-serviceman or woman, or anyone with Simon Binns said (real name unknown) in 15th Field Ambulance at Bougainville in the present whereabouts, please communicate with Anzac House.