N.S. Training Details

The following information on National Service training was supplied at a briefing at Western Command headquarters on June 15.

The aim of the National Service scheme as announced by the Government in November, 1964, is to increase the strength of the Regular Army in conjunction with normal recruiting from approximately 22,000 to an effective strength of 33,000.

Because of the number of National Servicemen in training, and other personnel in the training organisation, the gross strength of the Army will rise to about 37,500 by December, 1966, or early in 1967.

In deciding the best use to be made of the additional 10,000 effective manpower, priority is being given to increasing the combat element of the Army.

The public will be aware of the considerable build-up that is taking place with operational units. Battalions 5 and 6 of the Royal Australian Regiment have already been raised, and further battalions and other units will be raised progressively.

These units will be brought up to strength by National Service men after they have finished their basic training in recruit-training battalions and corps training at other centres. The additional units will considerably increase the Army's operational capability and place it in a much better strategic position to meet the demands on the Regular Army for cold-war tasks, and indeed for tasks in the initial stages of a limited war.

Uns to be raised or expanded include the Special Air Service Regiment in Western Australia, further infantry battalions, the new light anti-aircraft battery at Woodside (South Australia), another field battery, a medium battery, a field squadron and an armoured personnel-carrier squadron.

All new units will be raised on the new Tropical Warfare establishments which have resulted from the recently announced reorganisation of the field force.

PREPARATION

With the call-up notice sent to him, each National Serviceman will receive an information booklet giving him some advance-knowledge of service conditions.

Before each call-up the Department of Labour and National Service provides Army Command headquarters in each State with:

(a) Nominal rolls of NSM being called up.

The R.S.L. Annual Report, Pages 5-13

(b) Personal data-sheets for individual soldiers.

(c) Medical examination (including X-ray) records for individuals.

These documents will permit Army administration to commence and the information is to be made available to respective receiving recruiting-training battalions at Kapooka and Puckapunyal.

On the day of reporting, National Servicemen will be handed over to Army at nominated places of reporting in each State.

When the registrant presents his certificate of registration, and is recorded against the nominal roll as being present, he will be deemed to be enlisted in Regular Army as a National Serviceman for a period of two years.

In Western Australia all trainees will report to the Irwin Training Centre at Karrakatta.

Movement to Kapooka from Brisbane will be by air, with aircraft landing at Wagga, and from Sydney by rail.

Movement to Puckapunyal from Adelaide, Perth and Tasmania will be by air to Melbourne and by special train from Melbourne to Seymour.

During a short stay in Perth on his return to the United Kingdom last month the retiring High Commissioner to Australia, Lieut-Gen Sir William Oliver, found time to be received (once again) by the R.S.L. State President.

He had been similarly entertained when on his way to Canberra to take up his appointment five and a half years ago.

At the reception on June 22 Sir William referred to the many kindnesses he had received in Australia. "I have had a very good spin and am sorry to be going," he said.

In 1945-46 Sir William was Chief of General Staff at G.H.Q., Middle East, in 1953-54 Chief of Staff, Eastern Command, in 1955-58 Principal Staff Officer to the High Commissioner to the Federation of Malaya, in 1954-55 G.O.C. Berlin (Brit. Sector), in 1955-57 Vice-Chief of the Imperial General Staff and in 1957-59 principal staff officer to the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations.

Pictured above (left to right) are State President Pearson, Gen. Sir William Oliver, State Vice-President, Dr. Alan King, the immediate past State President, Mr. W. S. Lonnie, and Navy Minister Hon. Chongy (himself a former State President).

(Continued, Page 4)
The Queen’s Birthday Parade at Whitehall

(From Frank Kennedy, in London)

The Trooping of the Colour in celebration of the birthday of Her Majesty the Queen took place on the Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall (London) on Saturday, June 12.

Owing to heavy rain that was falling just before the time for the ceremony it was thought that this might have to be postponed, but just before 10 a.m. the rain ceased.

At 11 Her Majesty, riding the police horse Imperial and accompanied by H.R.H. Prince Philip and the Sovereign Escort of Household Cavalry, arrived on the parade. After the royal salute Her Majesty inspected the line of guards, during which the massed bands of the Brigade of Guards gave a display of marching and countermarching.

The Colour was trooped by the 1st Battalion of the Welsh Guards this year, which is the 90th anniversary of the formation of the regiment. Then followed the march-past of the Foot Guards, first at slow march, then at quick, to the music of the massed bands. They were followed by the Sovereign’s Escort of the Household Cavalry (the Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards) first at the walk-march and then at the trot, to the music of the Band of the Life Guards conducted by Captain W. Jackson.

A fly-past by the Royal Air Force was cancelled owing to poor visibility. The ceremony was watched by thousands of people, among them many Australians and a number of R.S.L. visitors.

16th Battalion Notes

The miniature-medal set lost by D. MacDonald of Sydney on the Anzac Day parade here has been returned to him. He has thanked the association for the wonderful time he had in Western Australia.

He says Dan Aarons has left for an overseas trip and Bill Burrows is still around Sydney.

President W. Lilleman will be pleased to hear from anyone who picked up the wrong hat at the Railway Institute after the march (phone 87 4050).

The auxiliary president, Mrs Ketterer, who was a guest at the Anzac Day ceremony in Canberra has reported on this to the women.

Mrs J. Oxenham has been making a good recovery from an illness.

The committee is busy with arrangements for the reunion in Show Week.

No word from Norm Stehn.

CMF Call For Men Who Will Stick

The need of the Citizen Military Forces today was for men of responsibility who would volunteer and remain with them long enough to become efficient soldiers and go on to NCO and commissioned rank.

So said the CMF member of the Military Board, Major-General P. A. Cullen, in Adelaide recently.

General Cullen spoke of a low rate of recruiting and high wastage in the CMF.

“We do not seem to hold the CMF soldier for a long enough period to train him efficiently, and this is a costly business in initial equipment and uniforms,” he said.

The Regular Army was doubling its fighting infantry battalions from four to eight by the end of next year and the CMF must keep pace with it as the second-force.

The vital shortage in the CMF was among trained soldiers from the rank of sergeant to captain, and schemes have been introduced to try to overcome the problem.

In Central Command 31 selected CMF candidates of NCO rank would shortly undergo special OCTU training to fit them to take up some of the officer vacancies.

Among the CMF university regiments, which were regarded as officer-production units, further encouragement would be given in the form of additional training.

[The league urges young men in the 17-35 age bracket (or up to 45 for fixed establishment) to give this matter earnest thought.]
Kiwi Leader: ‘Thanks For What You Did’

The leader of the New Zealand Anzac delegation to Perth, Mr. R. J. Millar, has written expressing his thanks for the hospitality extended to himself and colleagues.

Co-delegates were Eric Gill and Jim Attley.

Here is Bert’s letter:

“You have asked me to let you have my comments that I would like to make on the visit of the N.Z.R.S.A. Anzac delegation.

“I could write quite a lengthy report but no doubt you would prefer something more concise.

“Our reception at the airport immediately made us very conscious of the extent of our reception into which we had entered. Later, when we were able to place many people, we realised that the reception committee was broadly representative of the executive of the State branch and were more able to appreciate the basis of our welcome extended to us.

“The accommodation chosen for us was suitable to the atmosphere. Here again there was an atmosphere of friendliness and everything was done for our comfort during our stay.

“The itinerary, which on paper looked some what formidable, proved to be ideal in that it gave us opportunities of meeting many people over a wide area in Western Australia and enabled us to become familiar with the face of the State.

“Notwithstanding the activities, which took us to many places, the itinerary permitted us ample free time to browse around and follow our own inclinations in the process of learning more about your State.

“Our departure from Perth, on a Sunday evening, was regret but we came away feeling that we had, in some small measure, done something to further strengthen the bonds forged on Gallipoli.

“The gain this time has been very much on one side; we have made many new and firm friends and we have fond memories of a very pleasant and educational tour in Western Australia and particularly in its beautiful capital, Perth.”

Glen Forrest Sub-branch News

The following item was submitted by Mr A. R. Field, publicity officer for the Glen Forrest sub-branch.

The installation of officers for the above sub-branch took place on the third Thursday in June, and visitors from the Childo-Middle Swan, Upper Swan, Mt. Helena, Darlington, Woorooloo and Bellevue sub-branches were present for a really champion roll-up for our big evening.

The State Executive representative, Mr. Alan Cooper, installed the officers for the year 1965-66—president A. R. Field; re-elected; vice-president A. Weston; and vice-president S. Law-rence; secretary, R. Walker; divisional secretary, L. Watts; treasurer, V. Donovan; trustees, Messrs. C. Shelle, J. F. Beadle; auditor, J. Willliams; publicity officer A. R. Field; sports captain for the Townshend Shield Competition, A. Weston and vice-captain, A. Firth.

After the branch business and installation was completed, a general discussion on the Townshend Shield took place regarding the lengthening of the games, bowls in particular, for this can always be longed for ahead of the quouts and darts.

A successor to J. Ellis, who had organised the games very capably for many years and had since left, was found in R. Clements from Chidlow.

He is a mainstay of the Childo sub-branch and is sure to be a worthy successor to J. Ellis.

More From Marble Bar

From Marble Bar sub-branch secretary Mrs. P. Smith comes the following account of events at that tenacious outpost of League activity.

“We were greatly delighted and honoured to receive a notification from the local Shire Council president of a civic reception to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.

“The district’s original Anzacs were to be guests of honour, and all councillors and their wives and vermin and their wives were invited.

“At the reception on Easter Sunday about 40 people sat down to a plentiful supply of solid and liquid refreshment and paid homage to the occasion.

“The dinner-party was very capably chaired by shire president F. H. Welsh (a member of the sub-branch).

“The usual teases were honoured, and regret was expressed at the absence of Gallipoli veteran A. (Nipper) Jones.

“But landing-veteran H. Nichols was with us and very capably answered in the name of the old timers.

“When the keg ran dry we went home with a memory of a pleasant though solemn occasion.

“Thanks to the president and members of the Shire Council, and also to Highgate sub-branch member Mike Winter, who, as relieving Shire Clerk spent a short while here and though not present for the reception gave some very valuable help with the preliminary arrangements.

“We ordered, and subsequently received, a number of copies of ‘The Epic Story of Anzac’ which we distributed among the children of the district, especially correspondence school children, who had no chance of attending the Anzac Day services.

“A number of copies went to the Nullagine and Marble Bar State Schools.

“On April 23 the president and secretary of the sub-branch visited the local school to take part in the Anzac Day school’s broadcast ceremony.

“The Headmaster and staff could not have made a better job of the occasion. Some 100 well-trained children sang with the Perth chorus.

“Sub-branch president W. Nichols thanked the teachers and scholars and presented the school with a Heritage Kit on behalf of the sub-branch.

“At the Dawn Service, conducted by Mr Nichols the attendance was about double that of last year.

“The main service at the flagpole (11 a.m.) was also well attended.

“Mr Nichols gave the address, and laid the wreath. He was the only original Anzac at the ceremony.

“The floral tributes were beautiful and greater in number than in previous years.

“Due to the problem of distance a good attendance at meetings is difficult to obtain, but the membership-drive is going on well and we are rather proud of the roll which at the moment shows 27 financial members, 1 life-member and one associate-member.

“We still have at least ten eligible men in the district but somehow or other they have managed, so far, to outrun the membership sub-committee.”

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R. B. DAWBARN, STATE MANAGER
Midland Honours Its Past-President

The June meeting of the Midland Junction sub-branch was adjourned for the purpose of conferring life-membership on past-president Walter Lamb.

Officiating at the presentation was R.S.L. State President Percy Pearson, and other visitors included His Worship the Mayor, Mr. W. Calnon, the Upper Swan, Bellevue and Blackboy Hill sub-branch presidents and State Executive member Jim Buckle.

Wives were also in attendance.

In accordance with the festivity of the occasion dancing had been arranged by Mr Bob Christie, with Elsie Roberts supplying the music.

Bill Mitchem took charge of refreshments with credit to himself and satisfaction to all.

In making the presentation, Mr Pearson said the performance of such roles was one of the pleasures of his office.

Life-membership was an honour not easily earned and it was only hard work and loyalty to the League which qualified a member for this distinction.

Mr Pearson said the recipient had done a splendid job for the Midland sub-branch and the League in general.

He handed over the life-membership certificate and badge with the best wishes of members and his own congratulations.

Mr Lamb said he hoped to be able to carry on for many years to come.

The excellent supper provided by Mrs Kymanston and her assistants was enjoyed by all.

9th £100 Gift To Riverton

The president and members of the Riverton sub-branch have every reason for gratitude to Mrs Emily E. Hamilton, who for the ninth year in succession has donated £100 to the sub-branch building fund.

Mrs Hamilton, a local resident, donates sums of money to other charitable organisations within the Riverton area.

One of her main welfare activities is visiting the Lennos Hospital in the company of other Riverton ladies.

Mrs Hamilton recently opened a second-hand clothing shop in Albany, the “Opportunity” shop.

Another resident, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Park, has opened a second-hand clothing shop.

The sub-branch wishes this gracious lady many more happy and healthful years to come.

ATTENTION, NURSES!

Any nursing sisters who were on the hospital ship Vita during the siege of Tobruk are requested to contact Sister White, secretary of the Returned Sister’s sub-branch, at either C/o Apparel House or 203 Townshend-road, Subiaco.

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49th ANNUAL REPORT

Sub-branch Visits

W. S. LONNIE: Narrogin; Dumbleyung; Dardanup; Taxation; Wittenoom; York; Brookton; Press (2); Public Service; Highgate; Busselton; Mt. Lawley; Cottesloe; Bedford-Morley Park; Rottnest; Claremont; Bunbury; Belmont; Esperance; Yearling; Mt. Hawthorn; Boyanup; Coorow; Three Springs; Kojonup; Kulin; Ex-Service Women; Armadale; Kensington; Karrinyup; Shenton Park; Corrigin; Albany.

G. K. BARON-HAY: Shenton Park; Public Service; M.T.T.

J. BRENNER: Riverton.

J. BUCKLE: Bunker Bay; Hill (multiple); Belmont; Midland (multiple); Moora; Coorow; Three Springs; Minginew; Geraldton; Morawa; Perenjori; Middle; Murray; W. S. Park.


B. J. FLANAGAN: A. Vale;

A. COOPER: Upper Swan (multiple); Nollamara (multiple); Gidgegannup (multiple); Albany; Darlington (multiple); Northam; Waroona; Murray; Glen Forrest (multiple); Yarloop; Collie-Cardiff; Osborne Park (multiple).

N. DAVIDSON: Milen; Pinjoli; Murray; Boddington.

E. A. DODD: Geraldton; Morawa; Brookton.

B. J. FLANAGAN: Swanbourne; Mt. Hawthorn; Canning; Rivervale; Rockingham.

H. HOLLAND: Nollamara; West Leederville; Kojonup; Three Springs; Bunbury; Murray; Maylands; Bicton-Palmyra; Gosnells.

A. KING: Belmont (2); Public Service; Highgate; Bellevue.

H. A. LESLIE: Midland; Returned Sisters; Wongan Hills; Gidgegannup; Upper Swan.

S. A. MACNAMARA: Mt. Hawthorn; Subiaco (multiple); Murray (multiple); Coorow; Carnamah; Three Springs; Boyanup; Mundaring; W. S. Park; P.M.G. (2); Bunbury; Collie-Cardiff; Cunderdin.

R. B. MARRIS: Albany; Pinjoli.

T. MANN: Mundaring.

A. MAYOR:

P. PEARSON: Bicton-Palmyra; Rottnest; Albany; Guildford; Williams.

J. RANKIN: Karrinyup; Mt. Hawthorn; North Beach; Nollamara.

J. ROLFE: Three Springs; Onslow.

B. B. SANDFORD:

R. J. STODDART: Cottesloe; Norseman; Albany; Neldlands; Denmark; Boyup Brook.

B. WILLIAMS: Hamilton Hill; Quairading.

J. B. WHITE: Busselton; Claremont (2); Mt. Hawthorn (multiple); Murray (2); Shenton Park; Mundaring; Nannup.

S. WHITE (Miss): Swanbourne; Claremont; Neldlands.

H. J. C. HANRAHAN:

M. WILLIS: Morawa; Albany; Northam; Three Springs; Bindi Bindi; Geraldton.

R. MESSEREBER: Corrigin; Yealering; Albany; Kulin; Bunbury; Kukerin; Boddington.

F. GOMM: Mt. Barker; Rocky Gully.

A. V. BADGER: Northam (multiple); York; Cunderdin.

L. J. NISBETT: Brunswick; Bridgetown; Busselton; Manjimup; Capel.

Membership

Membership for 1964 totalled 16,903. Although there was a heavy loss by the death of members, amounting to 664, there was an increase of 210 for the year which indicated some effort by all concerned.

A reminder-letter sent out in the first week of July brought good results and pointed to the fact that many members fail to renew their membership through forgetfulness.

Secretaries should not have to pursue members for their annual subscription and a method of general reminder to all eligible ex-servicemen is being sought.

The chairman of the Membership sub-committee and the State President, J.E. S. (Stan) Watt, at all times stressed the importance to State Executive members of visiting sub-branches regularly and of emphasising to sub-branch members that the personal approach is best for obtaining new members or re-joining old members.

It is gratifying to report that a considerable number of British ex-servicemen arriving in this country are joining the League, with benefit to the newcomers and the League.

The Membership sub-committee wishes to express its deep appreciation of efforts made by the presidents and secretaries of sub-branches throughout this State for their efforts, particularly as to membership.

Life Membership

In recognition of outstanding service to the League the following members were honoured with the award of Life Membership:

Mr W. Ritson (Rivervale sub-branch); Mr G. Blechynden (Pingelly sub-branch); Mr F. W. Gomm (Albany sub-branch); Mr W. S. Lamb (Midland sub-branch).

Certificates of Service

Thirty-seven Certificates of Service were approved by the State Executive during the year.

Conferences

Group Conferences were held at Kojonup, Three Springs, Bunbury and Cunderdin during the 1964-1965 Congress year.

Four Metropolitan Presidents and Secretaries' Meetings were held and one Unit Association meeting.

Again the League is indebted to the Deputy-Commissioner of Repatriation, Mr A. Panton, who attended the four group conferences and contributed substantially to the interest in the proceedings.

It is proposed to arrange more Group Conferences during the next Congress year as well as similar functions in the Metropolitan Area.

Receptions

The State Executive was pleased to extend informal receptions to the following distinguished visitors:

September 4: Rear-Admiral H. R. J. Janvrin and officers of the visiting British Naval Fleet.


November 2: Sir Richard Gale (Deputy Grand President R.S.A.L.)

March 4: His Excellency the Governor General, the Right Honorable Viscount De Lisle.

April 23: Visiting New Zealand Anzac Day Delegation.

May 10: General Dean Strothers, Commander in Chief NORAD.

June 23: His Excellency the British High Commissioner Sir William Oliver.

State War Memorial

As far as is known the death of a Warden of the State War Memorial while actually carrying out his duties is without precedent, and surely there could be no more fitting circumstances in which an ex-serviceman should pass to Higher Service.

On 10th May during a wreath-laying ceremony associated with the celebration of the Coral Sea Battle, the Warden, Mr E. S. (Stan) Watt, O.B.E., collapsed and died in the undercroft of the Memorial while conducting General Dean Strothers (U.S. Commander-in-Chief, NORAD) on an inspection of the Regimental Colours.

The only witnesses to this tragic occurrence were members of a small official party accompanying General Strothers, and although several hundred people were present they were unaware of Stan's death until after the conclusion of the whole ceremony.

Stan had a long and distinguished record of service to the League, having served as a member of the State Executive from 1925 until 1931, and even after his retirement from the Executive he maintained a keen interest in all League activities.

His appointment as Warden for the 1964-65 term was a well-merited recognition of services rendered.

(Continued on Page 6)
Sixteen ceremonies were conducted during 1964 and it is pleasing to record that "Lest We Forget" is being exemplified by these periodical gestures to those who paid the Supreme Sacrifice.

The annual Anzac Eve service for children was again organized by the Education Department. This impressive ceremony was attended by hundreds of children from all parts of the metropolitan area. The service is broadcast by the A.B.C. to all schools in the State.

Thanks are extended to the Assistant-Warden, Mr. G. K. Baron-Hay, the Public Service sub-branch and Dr. Beard and the staff of King’s Park.

Defence

The League’s 1965 Defence Submission was presented to the Minister for Defence, the Hon. Senator S. D. Faile, on 6 May, 1965.

While fully supporting and commending the Government’s recently-announced defence policy of building up the strength of the Army and the R.A.A.F. and in re-introducing National Service, the League feels that the proposed measures are still inadequate for Australia’s present treaty obligations.

The following is a summary of the League’s recommendations for strengthening Australia’s defence capabilities:

1. A Regular Army sufficient to fulfil treaty obligations: at least one division at full strength in the shortest possible time.
2. A C.M.F. of at least five divisions brought up to strength if need be by a special form of National Service.
3. The National Service call-up to be accelerated.
4. The Cadet Organisation to be expanded and Cadet Corps activity expanded to include C.M.F. unit cadets.
5. A greater priority to be given to defence measures in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea.
6. Naval Base facilities to be established on Australia’s western seaboard.

A full report of the 1965 submission was published in the June issue of “The Listening Post.”

A Defence sub-committee has been formed in this State with Mr. R. Marris as chairman.

Anzac Day Trust Fund

Revenue collected by the Trust on Anzac Day 1964 was a record £20,200, of which the League received £1,625 including £350 for the Aged Soldiers’ Fund.

An amount of £6,000 was allocated to the War Veterans’ Home for the building of Darby and Joan cottages, and £275 went to general Relief Funds.

Remembrance Day

In ideal weather the traditional ceremony was conducted at the Suburban War Memorial and wreaths were laid by the League, Heads of Services, State and Commonwealth representatives and a number of unit associations.

With the co-operation of the Police City traffic was brought to a standstill for the observance of the two-minute silence at 11 a.m., and 12 buglers were stationed at the main intersections to play The Last Post.

Retiring Warden Sir Frank Ledger handed over his responsibilities to the incoming Warden, Mr. E. S. (Stan) Watt, and the Public Service sub-branch terminated its term of duty as sub-committee, being succeeded by the Highgate sub-branch.

We take this opportunity of expressing thanks to the Public Service sub-branch for a further term as sub-committees during which they carried out their duties with the dignity and decorum that is so essential a part of the solemn tribute to our fallen comrades.

Miss Crowning Glory

For the sixth year in succession the competition was conducted as a joint R.S.L. and Torchbearers for Legacy effort and produced a net figure of £5,900, making an all-over total of £32,267 which has been shared equally between the two organizations.

Twenty-seven candidates faced the judges in the 1964 Quest and the first prize was awarded to Miss Robyn Hall, who was sponsored by the Mt. Hawthorn R.S.L. and Women’s Auxiliary. Her performance included her return to Sydney, hotel expenses, spending money and a £75 wardrobe.

Second prize went to Miss Yvonne Garnett, an entrant sponsored by Needilup, one of the smallest sub-branches in the State.

Boons’ Social and Sporting Club sponsored the third-prize winner, Miss Alice Ose.

Once again the Anzac Club was responsible for raising most money (with its candidate Miss Gay Lomline) and turned in a record £1,333.

An excellent effort was £700 raised by the Highgate sub-branch, and Boons’ Medina Social Club was well up the list with £630.

A special mention must be made of the Bruce Rock auxiliary, with its contribution of £590. This auxiliary has been most consistent in support of the Quest since its inception and can now claim a grand total of £1,765. The organisations raised £6,200 and all these are qualified for the award of a marquee watch generously donated by Mr. David Freeborn.

Congratulations are extended to the organiser, Mr. Stan Hunter and his Committee, headed by Mr. W. S. Lomline, for a job well done.

National Congress

The 49th annual National Congress was held in Hobart from 28th to 30th October, 1964. All States and Papua-New Guinea were represented.

This State Branch was represented by the State President, together with co-delegate Mr. H. Holder and the State Secretary. Guest-of-honour was Sir Richard Gale, Deputy Grand President of the B.C.S.L., and the New Zealand R.S.A. representative was Mr. John W. Bailey.

His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, Sir Charles Gairdner (previously Governor of W.A.) performed the opening ceremony in the Hobart Town Hall. Other guests included the Minister for Defence in the Army, Mr. S. F. W. C. B. (G. T. M.) Bailey, and the directors of National Service and Repatriation.

The opening ceremony was performed by the W.A. R.S.L. and the Australian Army Band, and the director of Defence, Mr. G. W. H. Goodenow, was the first speaker.

Main sessions of Congress were held at the West Point Hotel, where all delegates were comfortably accommodated.

The Agenda contained 216 items, of which 20 were sponsored by W.A. Main subjects were Repatriation, Defence, War Service Homes, Civil Defence, Communism and Constitutional.

Administrative arrangements were a credit to the Tasmanian State Secretary, Mr. Arch Blackwood and his staff, and left nothing to be desired.

A highlight of the proceedings was the emphasis placed by all delegates on the question of National Defence. A comprehensive presentation was prepared and presented by the W.A. State President, Mr. W. S. Lomline, in his capacity as chairman of the Defence sub-committee.

The resolution read:

"That the 49th Annual Congress of the R.S.L., representing 260,000 servicemen and women, now in session places on record its emphatic opinion that the national, military and air forces of Australia are completely inadequate for the vital tasks of honouring our overseas treaty obligations and the home-defence of Australia, and requests the Australian Government to go to the National Congress as a matter of national urgency with:
1. Institute without delay a scheme of selective National Service including an obligation to serve overseas;
2. Raise the present personnel targets of the A.R.A. and C.M.F. to the strength required to ensure that adequate and well-trained forces can readily be available;
3. Take all possible steps to provide the Australian Armed Forces with modern weapons and equipment;
4. To expand the present Defence budget provisions by whatever amount may be necessary to implement the foregoing items."

There was complete unanimity concerning the rejection of the reasons given by the Minister for the Army for the non-introduction of selective National Service.

In this direction it is of the greatest interest to note a complete change of front by the Commonwealth Government within a few weeks. By the time this report appears selective National Service will be operative, and it represents a signal victory for League policy over a long period.

The leading “compromise” a resolution from South Australia referred to ex-enemy representation at Australian wreath-laying ceremonies and contentious publicity arising from deliberations of the 1964 N.S.W. State Congress.

We are indebted to the National Secretary (Mr. Bill Keys) for his strenuous efforts towards the maintenance of administrative efficiency at national level.

His friendly and co-operative services are given unreservedly, and this comment has special significance in view of the extra
burden imposed during the current year and which included the R.S.L. War Veterans’ Appeal (in February 1964) and the detailed organisation involved in the 1965 Gallipoli Pilgrimage.

Harmony between National headquarters and the State branches is obviously an essential ingredient in the successful functioning of the League as a whole and this State branch is pleased to record its appreciation of the help and guidance so willingly extended.

Women’s Auxiliary

Once again our thanks are due to this band of stalwarts for yet another year of successful endeavour.

Mrs Ethel Ames continued her services as State-President and was ably supported by the Hon. State Secretary, Mrs V. Rowe, and enthusiastic executive and metropolitan and country auxiliaries.

Congratulations are extended to the Geraldton auxiliary on its success in winning the Country Cup for the third time in five years, and being runner-up for two years.

Effective support of the War Veterans’ Home continues, and in this regard the ladies set an example than can well be followed by some sub-branches.

The usual distribution of Christmas parcels to ex-servicemen in hospital was carried out and a total of 1,200 parcels were packed and delivered by hand. This gesture is surely worthy of the highest commendation.

Finance

The value of W.A. branch assets during the year ended December 31, 1964, increased by £27,000 due, mainly, to contributions to the war Veterans’ Home and is reflected in the expansion of investments, including the R.S.L. Shop.

The excess of expenditure over income as shown in the published accounts was £1,073 and was caused by the increase of £500 in Salaries and Wages paid and a reduction of £500 in the overall Trading Income.

The interest earned by the investment of administration funds was slightly in excess of last year but the increase in the total interest earnings of all funds was £1,100.

The value of the War Veterans’ Home at the year’s end was £246,655 while the amount available for the operation of the home was £134,725, an increase for the year in these two accounts of £17,297 and £1,516 respectively.

Although it is clear that the impact of rising administrative costs on a stable administrative income imposes a problem which will have to be solved, it is equally clear that the overall position continues to improve and for this result the members of the Finance committee have earned the approval of the League.

Anzac House and Club

It has been a year of mixed results, some good, some not so good. The rentals net income was up by £500; the club net profit was down by nearly £1,500, due to a diminished turnover.

This means, in plain language, that we aren’t getting enough customers, in spite of the saloon and facilities provided during the year which included a new lounge and air-conditioner units in both the lounge and the billiards-room.

Several enjoyable and well-attended party-nights were again held, darts and carpet bowls retain their popularity and the buffets at a net cost to the club of £144—once again provided a well-patronised amenity.

While the problem of declining patronage remains to be solved, the future may be faced with confidence so long as the environs and general standards of the club are maintained at the present high standard, upon which the Board merits the congratulations of all members.

Anzac Club Amenities

The highlight of the year was the successful outcome to the candidacy of Miss Anzac Club (Miss Gay Lonnie) in the Crownings Glory Quest of 1964, which resulted in the grand total of £1,033.10/ being paid to the Quest organisers, for the benefit of the War Veterans’ Home and Legacy.

Apart from this effort the Amenities committee contributed a further £100 to the cost of Miss Mitchell room at the Veterans’ Home, purchased magazines for the reading room, spent £140 on refreshments for members including the special Anzac Day buffet, paid £150 to entertainers on party nights and finished the year with £773 in the bank.

The thanks of the League are due and are extended to the committee for the success which attended its efforts in 1964.

War Veterans’ Home

With considerable pleasure we report the completion of further extensions to the home in May, 1965. These comprise ten Darby and Joan cottages and a roomy Recreation Centre, and were built at a cost of £40,000.

Nine of the ten cottages were occupied as soon as completed, and the occupants are all delighted with their new quarters and have expressed gratitude for the excellent facilities provided at a very low rental.

The superintendent of the home, Major Owen Howes, has supplied the following report which should prove of great interest to all members.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

(1) STATISTICS ETC.

The average daily strength state at the 31st December last was 107 (31st May, 1965—110). While there is accommodation for 132 guests our total falls short by the fact that Clifton Wing (24 rooms) for ex-servicewomen, can only average a daily strength of six personnel.

Vasey House of 20 rooms (war-widows’ section) keeps up to strength; in fact it was found necessary to house a war-widow in Clifton Wing, a move which met with approval in principle by the Ex-Service Women’s sub-branch, the Returned Sisters’ sub-branch and the War Nurses’ Association.

It is interesting to note that the average age of our guests is 74.6 years and that the two oldest residents are a female aged 92 years and a male aged 90 years.

Deaths: Since the opening of the home 23 deaths had occurred by 31st December, 1964, and 27 by 31st May, 1965.

Residents transferred to C-class Hospitals: From the opening day to 31st December, 1964, this number was 32; by 31st May, 1965, it had risen to 41.

(2) MEDICAL

We are most grateful to Dr. R. Wheeler for his unfailing attention to our residents. It is a source of gratification to have a medical officer who is so keenly interested in the home and its residents.

Not only attending on two mornings per week, Dr. Wheeler is continuously on call and will come without hesitation night or day.

A very grateful courtesy extended by Dr. Wheeler is that when he intends being absent from his surgery or residence for a medical officer standing in for him.

On a statistical basis the average number of personnel in hospital daily up to 31st December was six, and from January to 31st May it had risen to 11.

Personnel hospitalised at the Repatriation General Hospital and the ex-Imperial men at Royal Perth have received wonderful attention from the staffs of these hospitals, and we are most grateful for this assistance given us in the care of the aged sick.

Those residents who have convalesced at the Edward Millen Home have also received the undivided attention of the matron and staff.

Mention must be made of the understanding and sympathetic attitude of Sister S. Boxall, the social worker at the Repatriation General Hospital whose cooperation in placing residents who are unable to remain advises his whereabouts or the name of a medical officer standing in for him.

The problem of the aged sick is increasing as the weeks go by and the home becomes more advanced in years. The figures should soon reveal this—32 to 31st December 1964; 41 to 31st May 1965 (an increase of nine in the first five months of this year).

One of the biggest heartbreaks at the home is the transferring of residents to C-class hospitals.

(3) AMENITIES

(a) Red Cross Society

In all its vast activities the Red Cross Society has extended to this home a service without equal. It provides us with occupation and entertainment on two days per week, a visitor who dispenses sweets, etc., each alternate week, and transport for residents to go on outings.

In addition we are granted a number of seats for any picture showings on the premises, to the benefit of the Red Cross Society, the Red Cross providing the transport.

To Mr. G. Rowe, his staff and voluntary staff, we are indebted for their interest and the pleasure afforded our aged personnel.

(b) W.A. Women’s Auxiliaries

Here is a band of women whose interest in this home extends in many fields: the provision and upkeep of the bowling green, fortnightly visits by various auxiliaries to provide either morning or afternoon tea and to chat with all, and further, the

(Continued on Page 8)
personal interest shown by those auxiliaries whose names are inscribed on a number of our residents' rooms and who have brought much untold happiness to the occupants in forwarding birthday and Christmas cards or presents on the due occasion.

It is interesting to mention here that a card received by one elderly lady was one that had been sent on the occasion of his birthday; in fact the first he had received over many years, and it now takes pride of place in his room and is shown to all visitors.

A new feature of service to us is the manning of the canteen by volunteers from the Women's Auxiliary. Not only does this service assist the administrative staff but it is a very close and important link with our residents, who look forward to the opportunity of pleasant personal contact with these outstanding workers for the R.S.L.

e) Visiting Clergy

Services are conducted on two separate occasions each month by the Anglican and Methodist ministers of the parish and in circuit in which the home is situated, and we are most grateful to the Rev. T. Wright, Rector of North Perth, and Rev. H. Cox, of the Mt. Lawley circuit, for their untiring devotion and visits in the interest of our elderly residents.

These services, which are held in the TV Lounge are always well attended and while at times the unavoidable noise of surrounding activities tends to distract a person in his devotion, we give voice to the thought that perhaps some kind person or angel listens to us with a memorial (undenominational) chapel where our residents may wish to sit quietly and be at peace with the world.

d) General Library

Full use is made of our new extensive library and the picture is well served by sub-branches and individual members who have books on display in the library in memory of a member or loved one who has passed on.

A resident of the home acts as Honorary Librarian, thus ensuring a steady record of book issues.

BOWLS: The outstanding events of the bowling season are the visit of members from varying clubs, the annual tournament for the Ray O'Connor trophies and the annual competition against the Yarloop R.S.L. bowling team.

This latter competition is played alternately each year at Yarloop and the Home.

The visit to Yarloop, while not a successful day as far as bowls was concerned for our home team, proved to be an outstanding day as a pleasureable outing, and a good break from the regular routine of household duties.

BILLIARDS: On two occasions during the year Mr. Bob Marshall staged exhibitions which were of considerable interest and acted as a stimulus to the players. The table is used frequently.

TELEVISION: Television has proved an outstanding asset in the entertainment field and appears to become more and more popular. The highest rating for popularity with the men is the News Sessions, followed rather closely by the sessions covering live cricket and wrestling. Both Clifton and Vasse bowlers have their own television sets which are always in full use.

BRIDGE, CRIBBAGE, etc.: Bridge is a popular form of pastime, played after hours and evenings with a regular alternate Thursday afternoon visit of four local men to the home. Bridge has proved a "good mixer" as the residents of Vasse and Clifton combine with the men at regular games. Cribbage is a popular game, in particular with two residents who have played nightly since the opening of the home. In fact, when one of them was admitted to hospital his partner (84) went all the way to Hollywood plus crib board to "keep his hand in."

GAMES: The members of the Belmont sub-branch and their wives are regular visitors to the home to take part in a games evening. Bridge, darts, billiards and indoor bowls are played, and this form of entertainment is so greatly enjoyed by residents that one has to be balanced by the local clubs which will follow Belmont's lead. It is mooted that a challenge shield will be presented by Belmont and competitive games will be played, Belmont versus the War Veterans' Home Union. However, the successful results will be challenging our residents in this combined field of games for a very attractive cup.

MISS CROWNING GLOPY COMPETITION: For the past three years a new feature of the annual dinner has been the Fashion Parade staged by Mrs. T. Townshend. This parade is of such a high standard that it has now become a "must" in the social calendar of the home.

HIGHGATE SUB-BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER: For our servicemen this annual dinner held at Boans each year is a very popular outing and regarded as a highlight by those who attend.

GENERAL SOCIAL EVENTS: Other social events which are considered important are the annual Christmas party and birthday party, at which a number of friends of the home are invited to be present. Also, regular concerts and an innovation last year, "Carols by Candlelight," provide our residents with a wide field of entertainment.

(ANZAC EVE AND REMEMBRANCE DAY)

On these two occasions the services are held and we are proud of the fact that these Acts of Remembrance have now become an important part of the home life. The ANZAC Eve service is rather unique, as it is our policy that the whole of the service is taken by young people and without a doubt the reverence and sincerity of these boys and girls proves that they are proud of the heritage that is being handed down to them.

The Remembrance Day service is very poignant in its simplicity, in particular when the foregoing verses are placed in the "Field of Remembrance as a reminder of the many sacrifices of husbands, sons and daughters in the cause of freedom. At the last Remembrance Day service the Rt. Rev. Brian MacDonald, Auxiliary Bishop of Perth, gave the address.

It is with sincere gratitude that we record the service rendered to our residents by the R.S.L. Ex-Service women's sub-branch, whose members provide such an excellent lunch for our residents during the ANZAC Parade in the city. Our thanks also to Miss S. H. Smith and many other workers who so kindly transport our residents to and from the parade. These acts of great service are worthy of reward.

VISITORS

The home is always open to visitors and it is interesting, even exciting, to realise that, for our visiting friends, one can rarely guess from whom the visitor is likely to come. In fact, one never knows what one will meet at the door in the person of a visitor, a friend, a relative, a member of our Auxiliary, a War Veteran, a fellow member or even a member of the local Lions Club.

We do value our visitors and in particular our members of the R.S.L. and Auxiliary, who keep in touch with us by regular visits. We say "thank you" to all visitors, and particularly to our members who visit us in hospital and at home.

(6) STAFF

We pay tribute to the staff, in particular the administrative staff, whose loyalty and help is highly valued. The domestic staff (theirs is not an easy task) have always proved themselves.

The main change in the staff was the departure of the Housekeeper (Mrs. P. Cole) for England, leaving a vacancy which has been ably filled by Mrs. M. Clark, who brought with her some valuable experience in domestic work.

The general layout of gardens and lawns is a tribute to Mr. E. Lunn-Garner who was the gardener for three years but unfortunately was forced to resign on the grounds of ill-health. His place was taken by Mr. E. Smith whose experience, particularly in the case of bowling greens, has turned greatly to our advantage.

IN RETROSPECT—AND THE FUTURE

The R.S.L. War Veterans' Home has now completed its fourth year and the achievements in that period are such that all active members of the R.S.L. and members of the Women's Auxiliary who have taken part in the advancement of the home may take pride in the thought that this home is such an outstanding feature.

In Ruskin's words let us say: "Whatever we have in any thought begun wisely it is good to finish thoroughly."

There is always a lot to be done for the aged, and credit is due to the members of the War Veterans' Home Board for all they have done. In particular, thanks are due to the retiring State President, Mr. W. S. Millard, and the chairman Mr. P. Pearson, and the State Secretary Mr. W. Webb, who has been a most helpful counsellor.

To the staff members at Anzac House thanks are extended for their courtesy and kindness.

We look forward to the future with confidence in our ability to give service to the aged.
As this report is written, changes in the League are taking place and we say with regret adieu to Mr. C. E. W. Bean, official historian of the 1914-18 war, who wrote: "Anzac stood, and still stands, for unselfish valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship and endurance that will never own defeat."

In this State and throughout the Commonwealth there was evidence of increased interest on this important anniversary, and attentances at all ceremonies were larger than for previous years. The parade state for the Anzac Day Pilgrimage showed a 20 per cent increase on 1964 and public participation was a feature of the celebrations.

The three branches of the Armed Services were strongly represented and it was pleasing indeed to have, after many years absence, a contingent of the R.A.A.F. on parade. Identification disk issue to original Gallipoli veterans, These took the form of a lapel badge bearing the words "Gallipoli 1915-19", with a large "A" as the centre motif.

This method was adopted in preference to forming either a single contingent, or unit contingents, after consultation with unit association representatives in February of this year.

Mr. P. Pearson, our new State President, gave an impressive address which was well received and the overall success of the day was undoubted.

Land Settlement

It is likely that this will be the last report submitted relative to the W.S.L.S. scheme. An official announcement in December, 1964, indicated that the board, which administered the biggest farm development project undertaken in this State, would cease its activities, as some of the farmers elected to ask only for immediate help in the less obviously successful cases.

The Board's annual report for 1964 disclosed some interesting facts appertaining to the scheme, and the magnitude of the project can perhaps be assessed from the reported expenditure of £40,000,000 on Government moneys.

It is anticipated that most of the ex-servicemen allocated farms will be in a position to carry on independently by the end of 1965.

By July 1965 all settlers' accounts will be transferred to the R. and I. Bank, from which date the settlers will operate as normal farmers, although some will still have heavy mortgages.

Since the Board has disposed of 1,394 farms, some of which were amalgamated, or disposed of at sub-standard properties leaving an effective total of 998.

Dairy farms have shown nearly a 50 per cent failure rate, but the picture is much brighter in respect of those engaged in wheat and sheep pursuits, where the failure rate has not risen above 4.3 per cent.

Also of interest are the figures supplied in relation to repayments. Principal Board has disposed of 1,394 farms, some of which were amalgamated, or disposed of at sub-standard properties leaves an effective total of 998.

Also of interest are the figures supplied in relation to repayments. Principal Board has disposed of 1,394 farms, some of which were amalgamated, or disposed of at sub-standard properties leaves an effective total of 998.

Churchill Memorial Appeal

By their generous response to the Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Trust appeal, Australians indicated emphatically the esteem in which they held a man described as "the greatest statesman of the century."

They have indicated their desire to immortalise his memory and his services to the free world.

The appeal was an outstanding success, the original target of £120,000 was exceeded by £51,000. As this issue went to press the total in hand stood at £185,000.

West Australians, by subscribing more than £20,000, gave practical expression to their admiration for a man universally acknowledged to have done more than any other man of our time to uphold the free and democratic way of life.

Of the W.A. contribution the R.S.L. door-knock appeal has reached £43,000, and we take this opportunity of thanking the many thousands of individuals throughout the State who worked so energetically to ensure a successful conclusion to the appeal.

The income from the fund will provide for a system of memorial scholarships to perpetuate the bountiful memory of the grand old man, and because of the generosity of the donors, every scholarship will be substantially increased.

Winston Churchill Travelling Scholarships will enable men and women in all parts of the Commonwealth to further their education at home or abroad. Successful applicants will be selected for qualities of character, intellect and responsible leadership, in addition to specific skills or academic qualifications. The award period will vary according to the amount of time required.

The awards will be open to anyone whose education, and to the community, and to his (or her) calling or occupation, would be likely to be increased by personal study or travel abroad.

Originally it was intended that the A.C.T. would provide the London endowment. It has now been agreed that all funds raised in Australia should be held and administered in Australia. The chairman of the W.A. Selection Board, Mr. R. T. Jackson; other board members will be announced shortly.

Repatriation

During the year under review League representations assisted in obtaining increased benefits.

Increased pension assessments granted by legislation which came into effect from September 1964, included.

(Continued on; Page 10)
Special (T. and P.I.) rate increased from £13/15/ to £14/5/.

General Rate (G. R.) increased from £9/15/ to £10/2/6.
Dependants' pension (wife) increased from £1/13/5 to £2/0/6.

Service Pension (single) increased from £5/15/ to £6.
Dependent Pension (married) increased from £5/5/10 to £6.

War Widows' (exclusive Domestic Allowance) increased from £5/15/ to £6.

The League policy of submission to National Executive of matters concerning repatriation policy was again followed, and after consideration by all State delegates entrusted to a special committee to formulate a Pension Plan for submission to Government.

The following Plan was submitted to Federal Cabinet on the 24th March, 1965:

1965 PENSION PLAN

1. That the General Rate Pension and Dependants' Allowances be increased as follows:
   - 100% pension from £6 to £7/14/.
   - Wife's pension from £2/0/6 to £3/7/6.

2. That the War Widows' Pension and Domestic and Orphans' Allowances be increased as follows:
   - War Widows from £6 to £7/14/.
   - Domestic Allowance from £4/5/ to £4/10/.
   - Orphans from £3/11/6 to £4/6/.

3. That the Service Pension and Dependants' Allowances be increased as follows:
   - Service pension from £5/10/ and £6 to £6/5/.
   - Wife's pension from £3 to £3/10/.
   - All Children from £1/5/ to £1/6/.

4. That the Special Rate (T.P.I.) Pension be increased from £14/5/ to £15/8/ with dependents' increases for the General Rate.

5. That all returned servicemen of the first world war and prior wars be granted free repatriation hospital and medical benefits.

6. That the Funeral Grant be increased from £25 to £50.

HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL BENEFITS

That hospital benefits, should be extended to men of the first world war who has been for some time by the League, and again included as a major item in the Pension Plan. While it is conceded that the benefit of service pensioners has met the needs of these men, it is estimated that approximately 44,000 are without the benefit to which their past services in the forces should justly entitle them.

Concern is also expressed as to the welfare of the growing number of returned men to whom age has brought ailments classified as chronic for which only limited repatriation or other benefits are available.

Inquiries made by the Repatriation Committee indicate that the care of returned men, unfortunately, peculiar to returned men, is a growing problem that appears beyond the scope of any single organisation such as the League.

The committee regrets that it has been unable to submit a proper report on the task of home or institutional nursing of chronic cases which could be undertaken by the resources available to the League.

Inquiries and discussions with other authorities will continue in the coming year.

PENSION APPEALS

The number of claims and appeals made to the department or appeal tribunals shows no signs of decreasing.

During the year appeals were advocated by the State branch in addition to the appeals and cases made in writing to the Repatriation Board and Commission.

AUSTRALIAN FORCES OVERSEAS

The Repatriation Special Overseas Service Act qualifies members of the Forces serving on special duty in prescribed areas for Repatriation benefits.

At present three areas are prescribed in the legislation: in the south of Vietnam, the area in the north of Malaysia adjacent to the Thai border and the Borneo territories of Sabah, Sarawak and Brunei.

"Special duty" in these areas envisages risks over and above those associated with normal peacetime duty.

APRECIATION

During December Senator the Hon. G. Colin McKellar was appointed Minister for Repatriation in succession to Mr R. W. Swartz, M.B.E.

The committee has been privileged to meet the new Minister and expresses the confidence that the close liaison which exists will continue.

Appreciation of the efforts made by Mr. Swartz to assure full benefits to returned men and women is recorded with grateful thanks for the co-operation so freely given during his term of office.

GROWTH OF REPATRIATION

During 1964 £77,000,000 was paid to 670,000 pensioners. Of this £12,000,000 was paid to 63,000 Service pensioners, and 606,500 War Pensions were paid to ex-servicemen and their dependents.

The peak of Repatriation assistance is not expected to be reached until 1975-80.

REPATRIATION DEPARTMENT

The department has continued its policy to ensure that eligible ex-servicemen and their dependents are advised of benefits under the Repatriation system.

Country visits by the Deputy Commissioner and officers of his department continued throughout the year.

The Repatriation Committee would also record its thanks and appreciation to the Director of Social Services, and members of his department, for the assistance given in all matters referred to them as members of the medical profession who have assisted with advice and opinions supporting claims; finally, to the sub-branch secretaries and officials who have assisted with inquiries and claims concerning repatriation.

Hospital Visiting

CORPS OF HOSPITAL VISITORS

Major activities have again been directed towards the furtherance of the primary object of the Corps, namely the visiting of sick ex-servicemen and women from country centres hospitalised at Perth.

During the 12 months under review members of the Corps have visited 1,228 individual patients at metropolitan hospitals and institutions.

The thanks of the League cannot be expressed too highly to the Corps of Hospital Visitors, especially to the members who have served since the formation of the Corps in 1959, for the untiring efforts given to the welfare of the sick.


GENERAL

Thanks are also due to the metropolitan sub-branches, the Women's Auxiliary, unit associations and to Mr. S. A. Macnamara of the State Executive for the continued visits made to the sick.

Unfortunately the ageing of ex-servicemen will increase the need to extend the activities of hospital visiting. Many veterans now have a contingent of convalescent homes and hospitals look forward with pleasure to an occasional visit and chat with other ex-servicemen, particularly of their former units.

Age has wearied these veterans; to sub-branches and unit associations seeking worthwhile activities, such visits are recommended as rewarding to both the veterans visited and the visitor.

Finally, appreciation is expressed to the country sub-branch members who have continued to visit hospitals in their own districts as an important contribution to the welfare of sick ex-servicemen.

Publicity

As in previous years "The Listening Post" has been published monthly. Every effort is made to use its pages to the best advantage. In the Publishing R.S.L. national, State and sub-branch news and information.

Unfortunately advertising revenue has dropped to a low figure because it has been difficult to obtain the services of an advertising agency on a commission basis. This has now been done and we look forward to a steady improvement in the advertising income.

Alternative methods of publishing have been considered from time to time with a view to reducing costs and making it acceptable to have been revealed.

In considering the cost of "The Listening Post" it should be borne in mind that it incorporates the publication of the League's Balance Sheet and Accounts as well as the Annual Report, which saves the League a considerable amount of money.
Radio Stations 6AM and 6PM, 6KG Kalgoorlie, 6KY and 6NA and 6GN. Gerardon have made broadcasting time available to the League throughout the year. Television stations Channel 2 and 9 at Perth and Fremantle were broadcast on a regular basis for League activities.

The A.B.C., as always, has helped considerably through its news broadcasts in advising the public of any outstanding League events.

We extend our thanks and appreciation to the management and staff of the above organisations and also to Mr. Geoff LeFroy, Mr. J. Tittle and Mr. W. Parkinson of West Australian Newspapers Limited for their help and co-operation.

A.S.S. Fund, Welfare and Relief

The success of this important phase of League activities is due to a hardworking sub-committee which meets fortnightly to deal with applications and acts daily with urgent cases when necessary.

More than 457 applications for welfare and relief assistance has been dealt with during the period under review. The large proportion of those applying were non-League members or non-financial members.

Details of disbursements were: grocery orders, £198; rent and bus warrants, £37; cash loans and rent, £123; Bed, breakfast, board, meals, etc., £58; Christmas presents (118 despatched) £94; clothing, £22—a total of £533.

The committee's work covers disbursements from three separate funds—

(a) The Relief Fund: Grants from this fund may be made to any ex-service man or his dependents irrespective of age or financial conditions.

The fund's capital at December 1964 was £2,307 including income of £1,624. Included in the income is the amount of £318 received from various British associations to which we have applied for assistance on behalf of the Imperial. This co-operation is of great help to the ex-service men and women, or their dependents, provided that such applicants are eligible for League membership and are domiciled in Western Australia.

The committee attends to periodical reviews of the circumstances to determine that the funds available are disbursed to the best advantage.

As previously stated the aim of the Trustees is to conserve the capital of the fund and if possible, without detriment to the interests of existing and future grantees, to build up the capital to a state sufficient to meet the anticipated future demand for assistance to aged and invalid ex-service men and women of World War II.

The object was successfully achieved in 1964 is indicated by the published figures. Capital as at December 1964 was £40,874, including an income of £4,747 of which £1,350 was the League's allocation under the Anzac Day Trust.

(b) Aged Soldiers' Fund: Conditions of eligibility for assistance are laid down by a special Act. Grants are applied for the benefit of aged ex-service men and women, or their dependents, provided that such applicants are eligible for League membership and are domiciled in Western Australia.

The committee attends to periodical reviews of the circumstances to determine that the funds available are disbursed to the best advantage.

As previously stated the aim of the Trustees is to conserve the capital of the fund and if possible, without detriment to the interests of existing and future grantees, to build up the capital to a state sufficient to meet the anticipated future demand for assistance to aged and invalid ex-service men and women of World War II.

The object was successfully achieved in 1964 is indicated by the published figures. Capital as at December 1964 was £11,151 including an income of £638.

In conclusion the chairman of the committee would like to convey the grateful thanks of the League to the chairman and the trustees of the Aged Soldiers' Fund for their constant attention to the affairs of the Trust which has made the result possible. To the committee and staff a thank-you for their willing support and co-operation during 1964.

Laying-up of Regimental Colours

An impressive ceremony took place at the State War Memorial on Sunday, 29th November, 1964, when the Queen's and Regimental Colours of four former A.A.U. Units (11th, 13th, 15th, and 44th Battalions) were paraded for the last time before His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, in 1962.

The ceremony was the last of the safe keeping of the Western Australian Regiment, which had then superseded the older units.

At the ceremony the consecrated Colours of each battalion were slow-marched along the parade ground by the personnel of the battalion by Colour Parties. The 11th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment and delivered by the battalion guard to R.S.L. State President Lenonnie for safe custody within the precincts of the State War Memorial.

They were then presented from Colour Ensigns to the Colour Wardens and carried to the undercroft. The Colour Wardens were representative of the unit associations most concerned.

At the commencement of the ceremony the State Secret-}ory, Mr. W. Webb, expressed a welcome on behalf of the

League to those present and thanked the Army authorities and the unit associations for their support in planning the project.

He also acknowledged the generous contributions of the State Government towards the cost of the special presentation and display cases. The contributions for this had also been received from the unit associations concerned.

Credit was given to the unit associations for originating the idea of laying up the Colours at the memorial. A request was made by the State Government for display in the State War Memorial.

Before the handing-over of the Colours His Excellency the Governor, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew, who was accompanied by Lady Kendrew, gave the following address:

"Today all present are witnessing the final act in a chapter of regimental history. This lays to rest the Colours of five units of the State War Memorial.

"These Colours were carried by the battalions for over 40 years and trooped for the last time before His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, on Sunday, 25th, 1962.

"These were the Colours of Western Australian infantrymen who left these shores to fight the foe or to defend their homeland.

"These battalions between them gained 73 battle honours in many countries: South Africa, the Sudan, New Guinea, Korea, Malaya, Ceylon, the Somme and many other battlefields.

"These Colours were consecrated and carried by the City of Perth Regiment, the Cameron Highlanders of Western Australia and the 44th Battalion Western Australian Rifles.

"They were carried, no doubt, by some who are present here today; they were trooped through the ranks formed by many of you in this gathering.

"We hope that these Colours give you to remind you of your responsibilities, your allegiance to your Sovereign and your duty and devotion to the respective regiments.

"Today the Royal West Australian Regiment, as your representatives and on our behalf, charge the custodians of the Western Australian State War Memorial to receive and house these Colours, knowing that they have come to rest on hallowed ground surrounded by the names of those who served, fought and died, in your own regiments for your own country and our great Commonwealth.

"Guard and preserve them well.

"Assisting in the ceremony were the Western Command Band and the R.S.L. Band.

Desert Mounted Corps Memorial

An event of major significance during the year under review was the unveiling at Albany on Sunday, 11th October, 1964, of the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial by the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies.

A threat of rain and cold blustery conditions failed to dampen the enthusiasm of a crowd of about 3,000, which gathered to witness the ceremony.

Addressing the assembly the Prime Minister stressed the importance of the occasion and said that it was a day of history and symbol of both Australia and New Zealand.

The laying-up of the memorial had been a longcontroversial time. The memorial was transferred from Port Said, but it made it quite clear that he thought Albany was the proper place because King George Sound was the place of departure and farewell for those who left in that first great convoy of November 1914.

In spite of increasing years nearly 100 members of Light Horse regiments formed a guard-of-honour to welcome the Prime Minister. Their proud bearing exemplified the undimmed enthusiasm of the generation of the light horse. Furthermore, the evidence of this, if such be needed, was the presence of Major H. G. Palmer, of Harvey, who, at 91 years, was the oldest veteran to attend the ceremony.

An event of major significance during the year under review was the unveiling at Albany on Sunday, 11th October, 1964, of the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial by the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies.

The Light Horse associations represented in the official party included the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th and it was represented throughout the proceedings.

Not forgotten during the proceedings was the major part played in the events leading up to the final ceremony by the late Ross Steele.

(Continued on Page 12)
State Executive

Undoubtedly the most important function of the Executive during the current year was the appointment of a new State President, following the resignation in March of Mr. W. S. Lonnie.

The decision by Mr. Lonnie to retire was due to his appointment as Under-Secretary to the Premier’s Department in February, and it is certain that he was most reluctant to sever a connection with the League which had lasted for 38 years, ten as State President.

His successor, Mr. J. Pearson, J.P., was previously Senior Vice-President and this opportunity is taken to wish him a long and rewarding term of office. The Vice-Presidential vacancy thus created was filled by the appointment of Dr. A. King (unopposed).

Fourteen meetings, including three special meetings, were held during the year and a great deal of important business was transacted. Generally speaking, attendances were good and relevant figures are shown in another section of this report.

Two additional sub-committees were appointed during the year, the first designed to undertake a revision of the State Branch Rules of Procedure, and the second to consider a proposed change in the appointment of Trustees.

Towards the end of the year a Defence sub-committee was appointed and held its first meeting in May.

A State Executive Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Mr. E. D. Davies who, after 21 years of service, had failed to gain re-election at the 1964 ballot. It is of interest to note that Mr. Davies was called up for national service during World War II.

The year under review has been an exceedingly heavy one from an administrative point of view, with a number of projects additional to normal routine.

These include the D.M.C. ceremony at Albany; laying-up of Regimental Colour to the 4th Life Guards Rifles (Memorial); Churchill Memorial Appeal; Gallipoli Pilgrimage, and several others of lesser importance.

In all cases the high standard of organisation expected of the League has been maintained, and this is attributable to the co-operative application and loyal support rendered by the staff.

Special reference must be made to the tremendous amount of work involved in the Churchill Memorial Appeal, which resulted in a total of £43,669 being raised by the League in this State.

In this connection a special tribute is paid to Mr. J. Valli and Mrs. E. V. Bateman, both of whom sacrificed a great deal of their time to further the undoubted success of the project.

The only staff changes during the year were the replacement of Mr. J. Valli (who was succeeded by Mr. R. Nyman as Welfare Officer) and Miss Sandra Cook, who was engaged as Representative-Stenographer in December.

Obituary

Among the many hundreds of ex-service men and women who answered the last call during the year under review we wish especially to record the following:

Mr. G. J. (Snowy) Howell, V.C., M.M.
Mr. C. Longmore
Mr. J. B. White

"Let Us Remember"
Support from members will increase the already excellent variety of clothing, footwear and other items. The shop is ready to serve all and it is hoped that all League members will avail themselves of its many advantages.

R.S.L. Building Society

The R.S.L. Building Society was first formed in 1962 with the aim of assisting ex-servicemen, particularly those not eligible for assistance under the War Service scheme.

During the year it was possible to lend two new groups to lend out £32,500 made available by the Housing Commission to ten applicants, and £50,000 made available by the National Bank Savings Bank Limited to 15 further applicants. This society has now made available to some 83 borrowers a total of £263,700 and it is anticipated that further funds will become available in the near future to assist more ex-servicemen.

A.R.M.S. Games—1964

The games provided keen competition among the ten teams competing and it was pleasing to see two newcomers to the final phase do battle to determine who was "top-dog." After an extremely tense tussle City of Perth beat West Leederville-Wembley-Floreat Park.

It was a great finale to an extremely interesting series and the only sad note was the absence of the late Bill Holder. Nothing would have given him greater pleasure than to see his team take off the trophy, and it is appropriate that his old sub-branch has been fit to perpetuate his memory by donating a shield to be awarded to the runners-up in future competitions.

The Yellow Cab Cup, won in conjunction with the games, (for the best rifle team) saw it return to its almost permanent home, Mt. Hawthorn, after a magnificent effort to average 147.13.

The Annual shooting championship was carried off by George Brooks of Swannbourne, and the plate trophy by Tony Ericson of Mt. Hawthorn.

This year ten teams are once again competing in the A.R.M.S. games and although one or two teams are finding it hard to muster enough players the keenness is still in evidence.

Conclusion

As another Congress-year draws to its close we look forward with confidence to yet another successful period of activity, secure in the knowledge that our endeavours are really worthwhile.

In the field of welfare alone the League can justifiably claim tremendous success. Helping the "not so fortunate" is a rewarding task and our efforts in this field must and will continue with increasing enthusiasm.

The year just concluded was full of interest, and notable successes were achieved. Among them special reference should be made to the Winston Churchill Memorial Appeal (details of which appear in the body of the report), "Operation Stand-In" and "Operation Friendly," and 50th anniversary Anzac Day.

An essential ingredient is the maintenance, and if possible improvement, in membership figures and we appeal to all sub-branches to use their best endeavour to ensure that the life-blood of the League continues to flow in generous quantities.

P. Pearson, State President.
W. Webb, State Secretary.

Army Offers Trade-training For Adults

With the increasing number and complexity of modern weapon-systems and equipment in the Army today a higher proportion of skilled tradesmen and technicians is needed than ever before.

Brigadier L. D. King, O.B.E., E.D., Commonwealth Director of Recruitment, the Army and Navy, said this recently when announcing a new adult-trade-training scheme for the Regular Army.

The Brigadier said that the new scheme offered first-class technical training in a wide variety of trades to men who had the desire and aptitude for it but who were too old to undertake apprenticeships.

The new scheme was open to men aged between 17 and 35 years who had completed at least the first year of secondary education. Previous trade experience was not required.

Successful applicants would be enlisted for six years and would receive full adult rates of pay and allowances while undergoing training, with extra pay for married men.

Technical employment in the Regular Army, the Brigadier stated, gave tradesmen wide and varied experience, with opportunities to serve overseas and to gain high technical qualifications and promotion.

Such training and experience could lead to well-paid positions in commercial life on completion of army service.

In many cases it would qualify for civil-merchant recognition.

Army Opportunities for Ex-Servicemen, Australia's most active Pastoral Company.

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Official Opening Of
The New Cottages

His Excellency the Governor, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., will officially open the R.S.I. Darby and Joan Cottages on Thursday, July 22, at 10.30 a.m.

The Western Command Band will be in attendance and the chairman and members of the War Veterans’ Home Board extend a cordial invitation to all interested to attend.

Of particular interest will be the Townshend Recreation Centre which has been named in honour of the late E.C. (Ted) Townshend, M.B.E., who was chairman of the War Veterans’ Home Board at the date of his death.

Rose bushes planted in the surrounds of the Townshend Recreation Centre have been donated by Mrs Theilma Townshend, and a photograph of her husband is to be placed in the centre to mark the dedicated work and interest Ted Townshend put into the overall project and which can be truly described as a haven for those who have served their country and require comfort and security in the evening of their lives.

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“Wonderful benefit I derive from BEX . . .”

Mrs. E. G. Fraser,
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writes: “I would like to let you know of the wonderful benefit I derive from your BEX. I have some blood-pressure and rather bad headaches, but get wonderful relief from BEX. I am over 70 years of age but the relief I get from taking BEX helps me keep going cheerfully and well.”

BEX is not a treatment for blood-pressure—only a doctor can treat such a serious condition—but you can get safe and speedy relief from headache or other pain by following the simple BEX directions.

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WOMEN’S AUXILIARY NOTES

Executive Visits

Official visits made by the State President, Mrs Ames, and other members of the Auxiliary executive for the month of June were as follows:

Tuesday 1st: Mrs Ames and Mrs Brown attended the A.Z.A.B. executive meeting at the Footy Club, held in the Anzac House hall, and Mrs Ames then went on to the Board meeting at Lemnos.

Sunday, 6th: Mrs Guinan attended a Diggers’ tea given by the Bedford-Morley Park auxiliary for men from Sunset and Lemnos.

Wednesday 9th: Mrs Ames and Mrs Rolfe attended a meeting called to form the Bassendean auxiliary. Mrs S. Phillips, 18 Chapman-street, Bassendean, is secretary. The first semi-final of the McKinlay Shield Games was played between Mt. Hawthorn-Scarborough and City of Perth with City of Perth winning 1-nil.

Friday 11th: Milen auxiliary birthday party was attended by Mrs Ames, members of executive and other auxiliaries.

The talent in this Auxiliary was a very pleasant surprise and a most enjoyable night was enjoyed by all. Cup competition judging was attended to by Mrs. Ames, Mrs. Stockman, Mrs. Rowe, the vice-presidents and the chairman of trustees.

Wednesday 16th: The 2nd semi-final of the Games was played between Swanbourne and Cottesloe with Swanbourne winning 8-2, the State President attended a meeting of the R.S.I. Shop Board.

Thursday 17th: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Rowe attended the annual meeting of Torchbearers for Legacy.

Friday 18th: Soldiers Children’s Education Board attended by Mrs. Ames.

Sunday 20th: Diggers’ tea at the Lemnos and Sunset men was given by Mr. Hawthorn auxiliary.

Wednesday 23rd: Finals of the games with City of Perth defeating Cottesloe 6-4.

Wednesday 30th: The grand final of the McKinlay Shield Games between City of Perth and Swanbourne.

Results of this game were not available when this magazine was printed.

PLEASE NOTE: Owing to the increase in the cost of badges the executive has had to raise the price of these to 5/-.

Milen’s Big Night

Friday June 11 marked a big day in the annals of the Milen auxiliary; with a hall at their disposal the members turned on a birthday party that will long be remembered.

The streamer-decorated hall was packed with distinguished visitors and sub-branch members and their wives. Dancing and vocal items were capably performed by Les Hesketh, Les and Len Turner, with all songs popular. The usual speeches were made. The evening’s highlight in the entertainment field came from the women themselves. First there was a skit on office efficiency—or how a business can be controlled in only a petticoat.

Secondly, the “Mavis Bramston Show,” with a dash of satire in some of the news flashes.

The biggest hit was the “Mars” and “Mars” bouquets—match girls composed of ladies from the Auxiliary. What they lacked in talent they made up for by creating plenty of laughs.

During a break in dancing and floor novelties, Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Brown of the State Executive introduced Miss Pat King as their candidate for the Miss Crowning Glory contest.

Then came supper; the tables nearly covered the length of the hall.

A birthday cake made by Mrs. Brown and de-

R E P A T R I A T I O N
I N T E R V I E W S

Interviews

On a two-day visit to Bunbury early in June Repatriation Department officers had 27 interviews and during their stay met inmates of the hospitals at Bunbury.

At St. Vincent’s Hospital they met an inmate from Bunbury, Mr. William Butler, a brother of the late Jim Butler who was the State Secretary of the League some years ago.

TO EX-P.O.W.: Closing date for applications to attend the Ex-P.O.W. Reunion in September has been extended to June 19. Applications accompanied by 30/- to secretary H. J. Brown, 122 The Strand, Bedford Park, or to the Ex-P.O.W. Office, Booms, Perth.

To Members

On behalf of Mrs. Ames and myself I would like to thank all auxiliaries for a good year’s work and for all the invitations received from metropolitan and country branches.

Mrs. Ames has covered many miles since the last Conference and hopes that the branches have enjoyed her visits and gained as much from them as they have in both information and enjoyment, as she has in making them.

Our Executive range from Port Hedland to Esperance and from Northcliffe to Kalgoorlie.

Wishes you all and we hope to see as many branches as possible at the Conference.

L. Rowe, State Secretary.
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN ASSOCIATION (W.A. BRANCH)—2nd Floor, Wellington Buildings, 158 William street, Perth. Second Monday at 2 p.m. President, Mr. J. F. McLeod; Secretary, W. D. Wilson.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—Anzac House basement, third Monday of each month. President, W. C. P. J. Staver; Secretary, G. A. Stewart.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF W.A.—Meet at the Anzac House when called. President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, W. E. H. Milbyman.

2/16TH BATTLESHIP ASSOCIATION—Committee meets on the last Tuesday of each month. President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, W. E. H. Milbyman.

2/16TH BATTLESHIP A.F. ASSOCIATION—President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, E. H. Milbyman.

16TH BATTLESHIP ASSOCIATION—4TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION—Committee meets on the last Tuesday of each month. President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, W. E. H. Milbyman.

EX-PRISONERS OF WAR AND RELATIVES' ASSOCIATION—President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, W. E. H. Milbyman.

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EX-PRISONERS OF WAR AND RELATIVES' ASSOCIATION—President, E. B. Powell; Secretary, W. E. H. Milbyman.
Nautical Term Dropped

The Royal Australian Navy has decided that in future "ratings" will be officially known as "sailors."

The use of the descriptive term "rate" came from a 17th Century system of rating Royal Navy ships into six rates according to the number of guns they mounted.

A first-rate ship carried 100 or more guns, a second-rate 90 and a third grade 70 down to a sixth-rate ship with 20 or less.

The rating of a ship determined the rate of pay the officers received.

Later, in the 19th Century, the expression came to be applied to men on the lower decks when it was used to describe the scale of pay for petty officers, seamen and others.

This century its meaning is for the most part known only in naval circles, while the term "sailors" is universally accepted and understood.

Work Of The Visitors Appreciated

The secretary of the Northam sub-branch has written as follows: "The president and members of this sub-branch wish to express their sincere appreciation of the conscientious and sympathetic manner in which the members of this Corps of Honour, Visitors carry out their duties.

"Many members of this sub-branch who have at different times been at Hollywood Hospital have expressed their gratitude for the many and regular visits they have received."

HONOURED BY THE QUEEN

The League's congratulations go to the following recipients of Birthday Honours: Brigadier G. P. Hunt—C.B.E. Mr. Norman Brearley—C.B.E. Mr. V. L. Steffanoni—M.B.E. Mr. A. E. Bingham—M.B.E. Mr. R. J. Bond—I.S.O.

Victoria Park Sub-branch News

The 1965 anniversary party held on May 28 was undoubtedly the most successful held by the Victoria Park sub-branch for some years.

One factor, in its favour, was the personal popularity of Mrs. Coleman, the women's auxiliary recipient of a well-earned Certificate of Merit.

Dancing was interspersed with items from Mrs. Beth Wallis and her Evergreens, and from Tony & Marcella and his assistant.

The high point of interest came with the various presentations.

Firstly, the Gurney Shield, presented in memory of Stan Gurney, V.C., to the member who in the eyes of the committee has best earned it.

This year the award went to Jill Carins who as official hospital visitor for the sub-branch for a number of years has done a mighty job of work.

This was followed by the presentation to Mrs. Coleman, officiating, the W.A. Club vice-president, pointed out Mrs. Coleman's achievements.

An original auxiliary member, service to the League and sub-branch has been her motto and even now at nearly 40 years of service, she is sinecure officer for the auxiliary plus taking an active interest in other local organisations. Very few women have been recipients of this award.

Members are reminded that July is election month and this is their chance to play an active part in the affairs of the sub-branch. Please come along on Friday, July 16.

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- 500 inches . . . . 10

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