SPECIAL ANZAC DAY ISSUE
(52nd ANNIVERSARY)

Oh hearts, so loving, eager and bold—
Whose praise hath claim to be writ on the sky
In letter of gold, of fire and gold—
Never shall prouder tale be told,
Than how ye fought, as the knights of old,
Against the heathen in Turkey,
In Flanders, Artois and Picardie;
But above all triumphs that else you have won,
This is the goodliest deed ye have done,
To have sealed with blood, in a desperate day,
The love-bond that binds us for ever and aye—

Robert Bridges.

LEST WE FORGET

As we remember, with deep gratitude those who suffered
pain and gave their lives for us; let us resolve to do all in
our power to preserve the freedom we hold today.
BE PREPARED
For
The March

★ Medal Ribbons
★ Medal Holders
★ Ribbon Bars

MINIATURE MEDALS

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THE R.S.L. SHOP
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The best in men’s Fashion-Leisure-Workwear

LET YOUR SHOP BE OF SERVICE TO YOU

ANZAC DAY OBSERVANCES

On Anzac Day (Tuesday, April 25)—52 years to the day since the epic landing of Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli—the West Australian branch of the League will conduct its traditional observances in Perth.

The League invites all ex-service men and women, and the general public, to participate in these solemn observances.

Dawn Service

The parade for the Dawn Service will assemble at the Queen Victoria Monument in King’s Park at 5.35 a.m. to be led to the State War Memorial by buglers and drummers. The “Stilt” will be sounded when the column is halted at the memorial.

Wreaths may be laid on behalf of unit associations and other ex-service organisations at the conclusion of the official wreath-laying.

After the ceremony of silence private wreaths may be laid.

Official wreaths may be laid overnight at the King’s Park.

Those attending the Dawn Service are asked to observe strict silence and to refrain from flashing torches and lighting matches.

State-wide Service For Schoolchildren

The Schools’ Broadcast Anzac Commemoration service will be held at the State War Memorial on Monday, April 24, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Director-General of Education H. W. Dettman will give the address, and the Western Command Band will provide the music.

This ceremony is always impressive and is broadcast throughout Western Australia from Station 6WN and regional stations.

It is designed to provide a form of ceremony to be followed in schools.

The schedule for the broadcast is as follows:

2.30 p.m.—Appropriate music by Western Command Band (flags at half-mast).

2.35 p.m.—Introductory remarks by commentator.

2.37 p.m.—Song: “Allaleta” (children remain standing until the end of the ceremony).

2.49 p.m. Wreath-laying. A boy and a girl representing the children of W.A. will lay a wreath at the foot of the State War Memorial.

The children move from a point 18ft. from memorial, mount the steps and place wreath at the foot of obelisk. They bow before it and then move back to the side of the memorial, (These details have been included as a guide to schools conducting and timing their own ceremonies).

2.50 p.m. Bugle calls. The Last Post followed by Reveille (flags should be raised to masthead).

2.52 p.m. Anthem: “In Memoriam,” sung by choir.

2.54 p.m. Song: “Song of Australia.”

2.56 p.m. The National Anthem.

2.57 p.m. End of broadcast.

(a) Children stand on direction from commentator.

(b) Song: “Alleluia” (children remain standing until the end of the ceremony).

2.49 p.m. Wreath-laying. A boy and a girl representing the children of W.A. will lay a wreath at the foot of the State War Memorial.

CITY PARADE

As in last year’s parade on the Esplanade there will be a salute by three R.A.A.F. Vampire jet planes.

For the parade through the city to the Esplanade at 8 a.m. 6.R.A.A.F. will be allotted assembly points in St. George’s terrace to the east of Cathedral Avenue.

Information on personalities taking part should be handed in before the parade move off. Cards will be supplied for this purpose. The information is required for radio and television commentators.

The route of the march to the Esplanade will be two main streets of St. George’s terrace and Williamstreet as usual. The parade timetable is as follows:

Markets: 9.45 a.m.

Fall In: 10 a.m.

Move Off: 10.15 a.m.

Service Starts: 11 a.m.

The column will be controlled by marshalls wearing red arm bands. Inquiries connected with the parade should be directed to the marshalls.

An increase of ex-service participants is expected.

The South-African veterans will take their usual place in the parade. The King’s Life, a Land Rover provided by courtesy of the Commander, Western Command, Brig. W. A. Nicholls, O.B.E.

The salute will be taken by His Excellency the Governor, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew.

Anzac Races

Anzac Day marchers can be guests of the W.A. Turf Club if they so desire. Tickets will be issued prior to the march and an excellent afternoon’s entertainment is assured.

Don’t forget the races in the afternoon and the parade in the evening.

The proceeds of these meetings go to the Anzac Day Trust Fund. Enjoy the races and at the same time assist service Benevolent funds.

Sub-branch Services Page 4
Honouring Service

The calamity of war with all its stark despair, heroism and bitterness was driven home to the Australian people for the first time when the reports of the landing of Gallipoli reached Australia. Fighting for the first time as an Australian unit under Australian command, and thus a national army, the Australians covered themselves with glory and at the same time identified Australia as a nation.

The bloodbath of Gallipoli resulted in 26,094 Australian casualties, including 7,594 dead. The New Zealanders lost 7,571 with 2,431 dead. Other British forces lost 171,335 men with 119,696 dead; the French 47,000 with 27,004 dead. Altogether the Allies put 465,000 men on to the peninsula in the eight months duration of the campaign. The Turks sent about 500,000 men and their battle casualties were 55,127 dead, 100,177 wounded and 10,067 missing.

Since the historic landing the Australian men and women have fought with valour and determination for the democratic rights and basic freedoms for which the British race has always stood foursquare. Europe, the Middle East, the South-West Pacific, Korea, Malaysia, Borneo and now Vietnam are war zones in which Australians have carried and are still carrying on the traditions forged at the landing at Gallipoli.

The Australian nation has every right to take pride in the record of its service men and women who have served it, past and present, with unstinted sacrifice and effort. Therefore let us all honor Anzac Day as a national day of commemoration not only for the courage and tenacity of the original Anzacs but also for those who have followed on in after years in the same spirit of endeavour and sacrifice.

Tasmanian Fire Disaster Fund

Previously acknowledged: $2,952.78.

With the Women's auxiliary contribution the overall total is now $3,811.01.

Buried With Honours

A young Geraldton man who was killed on active service in Vietnam, Private Murray Clark, was buried at Geraldton on Australia Day with military and R.S.L. honours.

Sub-branch members provided a guard-of-honour both at St. Francis Xavier School—where Requiem Mass was celebrated—and at the cemetery entrance.

Twenty-nine members of 22 Construction Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers, as well as members of the Western Command Band took part in the army tribute.

Three volleys were fired after the casket had been lowered, and then the firing party presented arms for the two final tributes—the sounding of Reveille and The Last Post.

Private Clark was one of several Australians killed when two mines exploded during a search-and-destroy operation in Phuoc Tuy province in February.

He was the youngest of Mr and Mrs Harold Clark, of Wittenoom Street, Geraldton, and Meadow Station in the lower Gascoyne.

28th Battalion

At the March meeting of the 28th Battalion Association it was reported:

(a) that John Leeds, Pat Foggarty, and Bill Kidman were patients at R.G.H., Hollywood. Here's hoping they will soon be out
(b) that Wis (Sinclair, George Mellowship, Ernie Cooper, and Dick Etherington have passed on.
Hon. Treasurer Dan Chaloner has gone East for a holiday. He will communicate with the unit's ex-members resident there.

It is hoped that ex-members will join the Anzac Day parade. The fall-in is timed for 10 a.m. emima.

The annual general meeting of ex-officers will be held at Anzac House on Tuesday, April 11 (commencing at 2 p.m. enema).

Anzac Commemorative Medal and Badge

From the Department of Defence and the Minister for the Home Affairs comes the following statement concerning the issue of the Anzac commemorative medallion and lapel badge to Gallipoli veterans, and the issue of the medallion to next-of-kin.

It is hoped to have as many of the medallions and lapel badges as possible issued before Anzac Day.

You will no doubt be aware, following the announcement of the Prime Minister on March 16, 1967, the issue of commemorative medallion and lapel badge to surviving Gallipoli veterans and the Anzac medallion to next-of-kin, is a matter for my department.

"It is hoped that issues will commence shortly and that all early applications will be met prior to Anzac Day. However, to ensure the success of this, it will be necessary for applicants to contain sufficient information to determine the applicant's entitlement.

"I would, therefore, appreciate any assistance your organisation could afford my department in this matter and suggest that your members be advised to address their applications to: The Officer-In-Charge, Central Army Records Office, "A" Block, Albert Park Barracks, Melbourne, Vic.

"Applications should include such particulars as full name, regimental number, unit in which applicant served at Gallipoli and private address.

Conditions of Eligibility:

All members of the Australian Defence Force who served during the Gallipoli campaign are eligible to receive the Anzac commemorative medallion.

The campaign lasted from April 25, 1915, to January 8, 1916.

The award will be made for service on the Gallipoli peninsula and service in support of the operations in an area off-shore eastward of a line drawn from Yukerli Point (lat. 39 50 N., long. 26 9'45 E.) through a point at lat. 39 53 N., long. 26 00 E., thence to Cape Greemla (lat. 40 35 N., long. 26 6 E.).

The award will also be available to members of philanthropic organisations and the Press who were accredited to the A.I.F. and to Australian members of the crews of merchant ships or hospital ships which operated in direct support within the defined area.

NOTE: The boundary line would run just offshore from the land masses north and south of the Dardenelles, and is estimated to be within about five miles from the beach at Anzac Cove.

ANZAC CLUB

the home of friendship!
TO A AGE ALLOWANCE

To a League request for war and repatriation pensions to be disregarded in calculating income when claiming age allowances under the provisions of the income tax law, Mr P. Howson, Minister Assisting the Treasurer, has replied as follows:

"As you have indicated, requests that war and repatriation pensions be disregarded for the purpose of the age-allowance calculation have been considered on a number of occasions in the past. This question was, in fact, considered in connection with the 1966-1967 budget, but the Government did not find it practicable, in the prevailing circumstances, to alter the existing age allowance provisions except to raise the income level which an elderly person may receive while remaining eligible for the age allowance exemption. However, as you may be aware, the possibility of further extending the age at which the provisions is a matter which is under regular review by the Government. The resolution of Congress has now been notified by agreement when those provisions are again being examined."
Former Nazis Sentenced
From the Press and Information Office of the German Federal Government

The arrest of the former concentration-camp commander Franz Paul Stfangl in Brazil has now drawn even more attention than usual to the continuing trials concerned with crimes committed in the Nazi era.

Frankfurt courts are preparing the third of the so-called Auschwitz trials, and in Munich three persons have been on trial since January 12 for their role in the deportation of Jews who were citizens of Holland.

The three accused: Wilhelm Harster (62), one-time commander of the security police in the Netherlands when it was occupied by Hitler's troops; Wilhelm Zoepf (58) former SS officer; and Gertrud Slottke (64), a police employee.

Of the 140,000 Jews residing in the Netherlands when the war came, 45,000 were taken to extermination camps by the Nazis. Only 3,272 returned after the war.

For his role in the Nazi's called the "final solution of the Jewish question," Harster was condemned to 11 years' imprisonment in 1949. He served only about half that time. His attention.

The Editor's Apology

The Editor apologises for the error which appeared on Page 9 (column 2) of the March 8, 1967, edition of "The Listening Post." Referring to the resignation of S. T. Thornton and the filling of the vacancy in the State Executive by H. Haines.

This should have read: "Although the death of Mr. S. T. Thornton and the resulting vacancy on the State Executive, Mr. Harold Haines was appointed to the State Executive board." The error is deeply regretted, particularly as it referred to the late Stan Thornton who was a popular and dedicated member of the F.S.L.
Bavarian Elections—A Shadow From The Past

From German Government Press and Information Office bulletin

Editor's Note: The National Democratic Party is accused of being a neo-Nazi, anti-Semitic and anti-democratic party. It won 15 seats out of 204 in the recent Bavarian elections.

The internationally renowned Berlin author Gunter Grass took part in the political campaign preceding the recent Bavarian elections.

On November 16, at the invitation of the Liberal Students' Union, he spoke in a Munich hall jammed with young people particularly on the topic: "Are there reasons for voting NPD?"

Following are excerpts from the speech which Gunter Grass himself said was addressed to "any young voter who may be tempted to vote for the NPD.

"Knowing my own past, and knowing the proneness of this country's young people to make a hasty and self-destructive demands, I am not prepared to smell out a neo-Nazi in every young man who thinks to find in the NPD a haven for his aimless wrath. But I would present for consideration the thought that such a decision is bound to be misused (by the present leaders of the NPD) exactly as was the idealism of my generation by Messrs. Schirach and Axmann."

"Only as I reached no conclusion as to what they had done to my youth. And it was later still, to an always increasing degree that I comprehended what unbecoming crimes had been committed in the name of my generation's future.

GUILT SENSED

"As a 19-year-old I began to sense what guilt our people had knowingly and unknowingly piled up on us and obligations and the following generation would have to bear. I began to work and to learn. I began to sharpen my distrust of a world that was again presenting itself as a barren and self-destructive handful of the petty bourgeois."

"Today, 20 years later, I realise that much has been done; that our struggle for a better life is a struggle for a better world."

Pay Position On Jeparat Boosts Fund

An interesting point arose over the manning of the Jeparat, a ship which takes supplies to the French troops in Vietnam.

As the Seamen's Union refused to man the ship, it was necessary to bring in Royal Australian Navy personnel to do so along with members of other maritime unions.

The naval personnel will receive normal naval pay and conditions, for work in Jeparat, just as they would in the other naval vessels which voyaged in Jeparat in support of our forces, such as HMAS Sydney and Boomerang.

The Government has agreed that the difference between the amount that would have been paid to the Seamen's Union and the amount that will be paid to the naval personnel will be passed to H.A.N. Relief trust fund.

John Saunders

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Transacts all classes of FIRE, MARINE AND ACCIDENTS.

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Cake For Chelsea Veterans

The now traditional Christmas-cake ceremony was held with the usual pageantry at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea (London) on December 15. The cake is presented annually by one of the State branches of the R.S.L., which take it in turns.

This time the donor was New South Wales.

This was the 17th occasion of the ceremony.

Over 200 of Britain's old soldiers assembled in the Great Hall for the presentation wearing their No. 1 dress—scarlet coats and tricorn hats.

The cake weighed over 150lb. and its ingredients were exclusively Australian. It was beautifully decorated and iced.

It showed Britain and Australia linked by a sugar-icing replica of Sydney Harbour Bridge with figures of a Chelsea Pensioner and an Australian Digger at either end of the bridge.

Prior to the ceremony the principal guests were received in the council chamber by the governor and lieutenant-governor of the hospital and, when they entered the Great Hall, saluted with a trumpet fanfare.

The presentation was made by N.S.W. government representative A.J. Thompson and the cake received on behalf of the pensioners by the hospital governor, General Sir Frank Simpson, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., D.L.,

Refirnements were then served—Australian sherry for the guests and a bottle of beer for each pensioner.

The toast "To the New South Wales branch of the Returned Services League of Australia" was proposed by the lieutenant-governor, Major-General R. G. S. Hobbs, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., and followed by the singing of Waltzing Matilda.

The sergeant-major's sword was then called for and pensioner A. E. Dimmock (92), formerly of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, was invited to assist in cutting the first slice of cake.

The ceremony ended with all present joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Among the many guests were the Mayor and Mayoress of Chelsea; General Sir Rodney Moore, deputy Grand President of the British Commonwealth Ex-Service League; Lieutenant-General Sir Oliver Leese, president of British Legion; Captain Coffee, secretary of the General Royal Society and Major Rawlins, assistant-secretary of the British Commonwealth Ex-Service League.

Others were the Hon. A. J. White, Agent-General for Tasmania and Mrs. White; the Hon. G. P. Wild, Agent-General for Western Australia and Mrs. Wild; Dr. V. A. P. Somerville, Agent-General for Queensland and Mrs. Somerville; Mr. N. G. Wishart, official secretary for Victoria; Major-General F. C. Hassett, Australian joint service staff, and Mrs. Hassett; Commodore D. H. D. Smyth, Royal Australian Navy; Air Commodore K. R. For, British Leg. Australian Air Force and Mrs Parsons; Hon. K. L. Milne, Agent-General for New Zealand, Australia, and Mrs Milne.

The band of the Grenadier Guards was in attendance and rendered a programme of popular music including tunes of both world Wars.

The band was conducted by Captain R. Bashford.

The ceremony was recorded for showing on television in Australia.

The cake-cutting is pictured below.

Glen Forrest Reunion
Gives Pleasure

Officers and members of the Glen Forrest sub-branch are very pleased with the response of older members to a reunion they organised last month.

Their pleasure was reciprocated by the visitors who were unanimous in saying that it should become an annual event.

Darlington has said it would be the end of the year if there were to be another occasion.

Members of Glen Forrest appreciate the efforts made by those who travelled long distances to make a successful night.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a Certificate of Service to Glen Forrest sub-branch president Dick Field. Alan Cooper officiated for this memorable presentation.

Among other visitors were Mr Hugh Leslie and Mr K. W. Dunn.

Mrs Leslie gave a very impressive talk on the need for more individualism within the League— for members to do, for their fellows, as much peace as they were prepared to do in war.

Anzac Day will be celebrated as usual (time of parade 2.30 p.m.).

The service will follow a march from the Post Office in McGlew-road.

Darlington members will combine this year, and an invitation goes to their wives and anyone else with an interest in the occasion.

It is hoped that the schoolchildren of Glen Forrest will participate, also the school children from the Glen Forrest school.

The president of the sub-branch will address the Glen Forrest School service on April 24.

Now's The Time To Pay Your Subscription

Please pay in your 1967 subscription (5s) now—it became due on January 1. Make payment either to your sub-branch secretary or at League headquarters.

DON'T—

- Wear a badge without financial clip.
- Wear a badge with a clip years old.
- Wear an old soup-plate type badge.

NAME

ADDRESS

SUB-BRANCH

Your badge deserves a financial clip.

The League needs YOU! If you don't need the League at the moment yourself, an old service mate may. The League is as strong as its membership.
Joining Forces in the U.K.

"One of the advantages of the amalgamation of the three service departments under a unified Ministry of Defence is that it has been possible to rationalise many activities."

With this quotation from the British Defence White Paper the British Army News Service introduces the following report on progress following the gradual integration of the three services.

Rationalisation is the elimination of duplication, and making one service responsible for a logistic function or supply wherever possible. Economies in money, stores and manpower must result and efficiency should improve.

Most of the services which might be rationalised have now been studied.

The latest of these is small arms, and from April 1, 1967, the Army Department becomes responsible for the supply of small arms and ancillaries to the three services.

The Royal Air Force is now responsible for all accommodation stores, including the furnishing of new buildings.

The Ministry of Public Building and Works now procures all accommodation stores on behalf of the services in the U.K. and a new repair scheme makes use of the ministry's regional organisation and existing service facilities.

NAVY'S ROLE

The Royal Navy is now responsible for the service's food.

The naval victualling department has complete responsibility for diet policy, provisioning, procurement, storage and distribution to main depots.

The Government Chemist in the Ministry of Technology performs most of the scientific work in the development and inspection of foodstuffs for the services.

The first stage of rationalising motor transport in the U.K. has been completed and the Army is now responsible for the day-to-day technical oversight of all service communications and for planning and construction of the service network operationally and technically.

A single group of stations and a communications centre have been set up in Cyprus and similar arrangements are envisaged elsewhere, in Rhodesia and in Britain.

RECRUITING

The Directorate of Supply modernisation is seeking to bring about better management in logistics by developing a common terminology and common logistic procedures, and by standardisation.

The full application of a common supply system for the services will take several years, but by this month over 350 items already in use will have been codified on the basis of the NATO system.

Some educational services such as English language training for foreign nationals, youth leadership courses, research into new instruction and library services, which have been run by each service separately, are to be amalgamated.

Measures are also to be introduced to simplify on an inter-service basis the present single-service procedure for selecting, recruiting and administering civilian teachers employed in service schools overseas.

Service children's schools overseas in any one area are to be administered by one service.

The introduction of the Royal Defence Academy and the Royal Defence College are also the result of rationalisation studies.

The rationalisation of the service communications network, which gathered momentum during 1966, has resulted in the appointment of a Controller, Defence Communication Network, who is responsible for all service communications and for planning and constructing the service network operationally and technically.

A single group of stations and a communications centre have been set up in Cyprus and similar arrangements are envisaged elsewhere, in Rhodesia and in Britain.

MOBILITY

The network should be complete by the mid-1970s and the White Paper forecasts that the communications made should then have been sufficient to offset the cost of defence communications satellite programme.

The U.S.A. is to procure and launch two satellites for Britain which will provide communications for the area between the U.K. and Australia.

Small portable terminals, occupying only a few hundred square yards of land, will take place of the large static wireless stations in Britain and overseas.

ERECT IN WEEKS

Terminals can be moved fairly quickly, being erected on a new site in one or two weeks. They can be operated from a ship and are not expensive in manpower.

The system can be used for command, control and tactical communications.

The three services have been using computers on an increasing scale for some years and they are employed in radar-directed air-defence systems, navigation equipment, anti-submarine devices, artillery fire direction, air-traffic control and communications.

They are widely used in the satellite communications ground terminals and very widely in the field of management, for stores and pay, supply, records, and cost accounts.

Studies are being made of their possible use in the field for tackling the problems of command and control.

TV And Radio Licence Concessions Given

Concessional radio and television licensing rates are granted to T.P.I. and service pensioners as follows: Radio, $1; TV, $3; combined receiving licence, $4.

The conditions under which these concessions are granted may be of interest and assistance to members. In accordance with the provisions of the Broadcasting and Television Act, licences at concession rates may be granted to persons in receipt of a pension under the Social Services Act or to persons in receipt of a pension from the Ministry of Defence or the Royal Naval, Military or Air Forces Pension Acts.

To qualify for the concessions, such pensioners must be living alone, with another such pensioner, or with another person whose income does not exceed the total of pension plus income permitted for a single pensioner under the Social Services Act (i.e. $20 per week).

As a matter of general policy, broadcasting and television concessions are granted to three or more persons whose pensions are the subject of a means test.

The single exception was made in 1952 when totally or permanently incapacitated ex-service men were included as a special case on compassionate grounds.

IN RETROSPECT

By T. Le Cheminant

Across the vast hiatus of the years, the intertwining gulf of hopes and fears, of peace and war, of prosperity and poverty, of barrens of forgetfulness, my spirit leaps triumphant to that time, in time—and space—annihilating flight, that night when we two crossed the broken road, Grooming beneath the burden of the load; And when you staggered, said: "Water, Stan?" And you accepted, saying: "Thanks, old man." And then we parted. When the story came I chanced to hear another say your name. I turned. He saw the question in my glance: "I read the answer in his countenance."

That night I did the little I could. Then marked the spot and said a last adieu.

* * *

The moon and star of times had spanned When peace descended on the ravished land. The years in passing had assuaged my loss, And I came back to that far-off place. To mark the hallowed spot where I lay. The stanchest comrades of God had saved, I thought to find the once-familiar scene, But all around it was a carpet rich and green. Had all that tortured field, with poppies graced? Where all was brown before and barren waste, The trench, the dug-out near where you were laid To rest, the site where your tall form was raised That sacred precinct seemed to desecrate— By love made holy; sanctified by hate; Where foemen mingled their departing breath, In life divided but a lone in death. The long-portheaded rain began to fall. My spirit fell, in union, for all That so long had planned and hoped and dreamed And ended in futility, in death. When suddenly the thought flashed through my head: "Why should I straitly compass this bed Though I cannot hope for a part in the sleep" And at the summit neath a weeping sky, I fixed the cross to face the way you lie, Your feet advanced, your back upon the sod, And thus I left you in the arms of God. **

Visisted the Anzac Club Lately?
Praise For The C.M.F.

During a recent visit to Geraldton the G.O.C. Western Command, Brigadier N. A. M. Nichols, O.B.E., praised the work of the Citizen Military Forces.

He described the work of the C.M.F. as a very valuable contribution to Australia's defence.

Brigadier Nichols was on his first visit to Geraldton since taking over Western Command on November 29. He came to Western Australia from Washington, D.C., where he was military attache and Australian Army representative for two years.

While at Geraldton Brigadier Nichols called on the Mayor, Mr. C. S. Exon-Clarke, and made similar courtesy calls on the principals of the Geraldton High School and Saint Patrick's Christian Brothers College.

These two calls were in recognition of the work being done by the army cadet detachments.

Brigadier Nichols also saw C.M.F. members in training at the Geraldton depot.

Brigadier Nichols has a link with a number of Geraldton ex-servicemen. He served in the same division—the Sixth—in the Middle East in 1940-41 when they were in the 2/11th Battalion and he was in the 2/4th Battalion.

Both battalions were in the Nineteenth Brigade. Premier David Brand was in the 2/11th Battalion, with the result that he and the brigadier have been able to discuss a number of World War experiences.—B.J.B.

EX-P.O.W. News

A recent letter from the federal executive of the Ex-P.O.W. Association in Sydney advised that four Ex-P.O.W. in Tasmania had lost everything in the bushfires and that an Australia-wide fund had been organised.

Queensland and South Australia had each decided to donate $200; N.S.W. had yet to decide its contribution.

The local branch has offered to assist and when all donations are received the association will forward them to the 2/40th Battalion Association for distribution among the four fire victims.

The urgent need for the establishment of a convalescent hospital for ex-servicemen in this State was stressed at the March committee meeting and it was decided to draft a motion for the 11th federal conference to be held in Sydney in September.

The photograph reproduced above was taken on the first day of the Anzac landing at Gallipoli—April 25, 1915. It shows Australians leading away a blindfold Turkish officer who had been captured on a hill close to the beach.

At the left stores are piled in crates waiting to be carried to the forward positions on donkeys.

The picture is one of a number which for 52 years Gallipoli veteran Sgt. Donald MacLean (4th A.A.S.C, 3 Inf. Brigade, A.I.F.) has kept a secret, or near-secret. They are claimed to be a unique pictorial record of many facets of the famous campaign.

Described by fellow Anzac the late Sir John Northcott as "historic," the photographs were taken with "a small camera smuggled in an Aussie kitbag."

The words are those of Donald MacLean, now a spry 83-year-old, of Kingsford, Sydney, and that's as far as he'll go. He won't elaborate on who the Digger was who took the photographs, and how he managed to beat regulations in doing so.

For half a century Donald MacLean has kept the graphic photographs carefully, and largely to himself. Very few have seen them.

However, at last he has decided to release them for publication and they can be seen in a big Anzac feature in the special Anzac issue of the national magazine "People," on sale April 12.
Visits To Hospitals

In the last six months of last year members of the R.S.L. Corps of Hospital Visitors made 475 bedside visits. Up to April 5 this year a further 202 visits were made.

This was reported at this month's State Executive meeting by the chairman of the Hospital Visiting Committee, Miss S. White.

The committee's appeal for funds had brought in a sum of $217. Miss White said this would enable the visiting work to be carried on for a while.

The number of Corps members remained at 16, and most of them were old.

At no time had the working number exceeded nine.

The committee appealed to sub-branch members with spare time or finance to support the work of the Corps.


**THE LAST POST (deaths)**

BARRY W. M., 1777, 2nd A.R.C.O., Scarborough.
BENSON J. M., 20th, 44th Bn, South Perth.
BLOOMER L. F., WX1757, 2/11th Bn, Gloucester Park.
BRANLEY R. C., 42nd, 10th L.C.R., Calliope.

**BISHOP CURRY J.**

COOK W. E., 4697, 28th Bn, Midland Junction.
COOPER E., 4700, 28th Bn, Busselton.
GREEN W., 2805, 11th Bn, Gilling.

**COURTNEY**


**CURRY J. F., 51159**

CURRY J. F., WX19325 Artillery, Gairder River.

**DANIEL G. L., WX26470**

2/4 A.G.H., Mt. Hawthorn.

**DAVIS C. R., WX32016**

1/2 Guards Regt., Carlisle.

**ELLS M., Mifs, WFX-36892, 106 C.S.S., Ret. Sisters.

**DEWAR R. J., 3390, 44th Bn, Swanbourne.**

**DOW J. J., 40, 51st Bn, Mt. Lawley.**

**DUNCAN C. G., 4452**

Seaforth Highlanders, Mt. Lawley.

**ETHERINGTON R. B., 3684**

28th Bn, Yokine.

**FLEAY R. O., 17139**

R.A.A.F., Fremantle.

**FOXALL J. S. T., Coy. Public Service.**

**GLIDON M. H., 5982**

27th Bn, Mt. Hawthorn.

**GORDON W., 10419 28th Bn, South Perth.**

**GOSSELOW F., J. G., G.P. WX37282, A.D.O.S, 16th Bn, Nedlands.**

**HANDLEY F. R., 51st Bn, Mosman Park.**

**HARRIS H. L. N. Fus, W. Leederville.**

**HIGGINSON G. L., WFX34384, 10th G. King's Own Yorkshire Lt. Infantry, Perth.**

**HILTON R. J., 1626, 48th Bn, Rockingham.**

**HOPKINS L. M., 2397, A.I.F., 9th L.H., Cranbrook.**

**HORTON W. J., 2830, 39th Bn, Belmont.**

**HUNTER R. R., F3700**

Fremantle City.

**JAMES E. T., WX21731**

54 A/A Wshops A.E.M.E., Perth.

**JOHNSON R., 387, 5th R.A.O.D, Midland Junction.**

**KRUGER L. R., WX7012**

2/28th Bn, Mosman Park.

**LAYTON S., 81752**

R.A.A.F., Kalgoolie.

**MC DONALD D. J., WX20151, 18th Bn, Fremantle.**

**MEADOWS S. H., 5045, 28th Bn, Bicton-Palmyra.**

**MONTY A., WX12923**

2/11th Bn, Karagul.

**MORGAN H. P., 22625, 11th S.W.B., Central.**

**McDONALD R. A., 3435, 7th Fld. Coy., Busselton.**

**McGOW, 764, 44th Bn, W. Leederville.**

**McSILLAN M. M., 926, 10th H.L., Carham.**

**NULSEN A. E., WX38617 R.S.D., City of Perth.**

**PARKINSON J. J., 5966**

11th Bn, Perth.

**PATTEN E. B., 4442, 3rd Tan. Coy, Murray.**

**PRESTON L. A., 361, R.A.F., WP8373, 10th Gn. Bn, Harvey.**

**PURCELL V. E., WX 38749, 2/5 Bn, Canning.**

**WILSON J. G., 3301, 2/4 A.G.H., Mt. Hawthorn.**

**WILSON W. R., 5482, 11th Bn, Fremantle.**

**WOODLEY J. F., 3433A, 43rd Bn, Meckering.**

**YIRRELL L. C. W., 29023, R.A.P., Victoria Park.**

**RAYCROFT W., 3889, 11th Bn, North Perth.**

**REID T., 149, 28th Bn, Mosman Park.**

**REGAN J. W., 38805, R.A.A.F., Midland.**

**RICHARDSON J. P., 128, 4th D.A.C. (A.F.A.), Shenton Park.**

**ROBINSON M. J., ST. 286, R.I.A.C.S. and Cunnamulla, City of Toowoomba.**

**SCOTT J., 37782, 2nd Gordon Highlanders, Kalgoolie.**

**SNAPP J. W., 3259, 28th Bn, Midland Junction.**

**SHEPPARD D. M., 1782, 11th Bn, Midland Junction.**

**SQUIRES A., WX28661, 3rd Aust. Line Sec., Gosnells.**

**STEWART J., 5138, 12th Bn, Royal Scots, Dalwallin.**

**TAYLOR W., 4610, 11th Bn, Bunbury.**

**TRELOAR C. A., R.A.N., N.E., Fremantle.**

**WATTS A. R., 7562, 11th Bn, Midland Junction.**

**WOODLEY J. F., 3433A, 43rd Bn, Meckering.**

**YIRRELL L. C. W., 29023, R.A.P., Victoria Park.**

**Question Extending The National War Memorial**

Prime Minister Holt has replied as follows to League representations for an early start on extensions to the national war memorial in Canberra.

It is a fact that approval was given in 1947 for extensions to the memorial but such approval was subject to the proviso that proper regard be paid to building priorities.

Because of the housing situation and general shortage of material and labour at that time, work on the project was not begun and over the years priorities have dictated that funds for these extensions could not be made available.

Nevertheless the League must be aware that considerable improvements have been made to the memorial and its surroundings in recent years, including completion of the Hall of Memory and the Roll of Honour and the forecourt and surrounding landscaping.

I have been informed that recent consideration of the proposal to extend the memorial has indicated that an expenditure greatly in excess of the 1947 figure of £250,000 ($500,000) will be required to build suitable extensions to the memorial that will be in harmony with the present structure.

I have also been informed that specific proposals for extending the memorial are at present being developed by the Department of the Interior in conjunction with the National Capital Developments Commission. However, any detailed proposal will have to be considered by the Government on its merits and bearing in mind the broader context of the Government's future programme of capital works.

---

**Invitation to...**

**RSL Family Participation**

Is an invitation to members and families to support the R.S.L. Shop, whose operation is solely for the benefit of the War Veterans' Home.

"Dress up" the family at the R.S.L. Shop and support a worthwhile cause.

**The RSL Shop**

570 HAY ST., PERTH
Phone 23 4883

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CIVIL TARGET FOR DIGGERS IN VIETNAM

"The Drill" For "New Life"

Donations for the League's "New Life" operation in Vietnam have been coming in well but the organising committee finds that some sub-branches seem to be in doubt as to the correct procedure. Here it is:

1. Collect as soon as possible and take it to the local depot, which could be the sub-branch hall or the secretary's garage etc.

2. When there is sufficient staff and some spare time sort it and pack it. Sorting means three piles—
   (a) Useful stuff;
   (b) Items of category (c) are packed sufficiently well to carry to Karrakatta where they are re-packed into tea-chests
   (c) Listed items, or similar.

3. If sufficiently close the sub-branch should deliver the material to the Department of Supply depot, Asquith-street, Karrakatta.

4. If the consignment is too large to handle arrange for it to be collected by ringing 31591 (or 34267) for Mr. B. J. Flanagan.


The war in South Vietnam will be won in the hearts of the people. Operation New Life will be more effective than all the bullets fired against the Viet Cong.

The smiles of these Vietnamese school-children speak volumes as they open new books in the new school library at Vinh Tan (40 miles from Saigon) for the first time. 1st Aust. Logistic Support Group, camped nearby, was the benefactor; it built the library and stocked it with books.

Sharing in the joy is Victorian Major K. O. Peterson. This is the type of activity that the R.S.L. Operation New Life aims to assist.

Matters Dealt With At National Level

Matters discussed at the quarterly meeting of the R.S.L. National Executive in February included the League's 1967 Pension Plan.

Other issues considered were: Details of the League's Defence Submission arising out of decision of the last National Congress; aid for ex-servicemen affected by the tragic Tasmanian bushfires; decisions following the return of the R.S.L. delegation to South-East Asia.

The deputy National President, Sir Raymond Hulst, and National Secretary A. G. W. Keys returned recently from visits to a number of countries in South-East Asia.

Recommendations resulting from their visit were considered by the executive.

One of these referred to a conference of South-East-Asian veterans—to be held in Canberra this month.

Other matters included assistance to be provided to needy British Commonwealth ex-servicemen in the South-East Asian area and arrangements for the implementation of the League's Jubilee Fund programme.

Under this programme a number of scholarships will be provided for young people from South-East Asian countries to study in Australia.

High on the priority list was consideration of proposals for further assistance to Australian troops serving in Vietnam, and the continuation of the provision of supplies for the civic-action work they are undertaking.
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Veterans Play Bowls at Midland

The Midland sub-branch was host to a number of War Veterans' Home residents for an afternoon of bowls recently.

A raffle was conducted among the old-uns, the winners receiving a pair of white socks.

Tickets were given to each Veteran and the winners received a small token. Back to the game which was concluded on time, and results awaited.

The Local boys were the victors. A prize for the highest rink score made by the veterans resulted in a win for a rink comprised of Diggers French, Hurstfield, John and Ottaway, each receiving ball-point pens.

The runners-up were Messrs. Gray, Rober, Tierney and Booth.

The thanks of the veterans were returned by Digger Pat Irwin and he with four tickets which class victories.

The électant charm of a colonial home is reflected in the design of the "Logonville", another new addition to the R.D.C. range of quality home plans. See "Logonville" and "Sunvalye" at Lynwood today.
Mt Barker Story Is One Of Success

Mt Barker sub-branch president R. K. Bell reported at the recent annual meeting that although the sub-branch had won its first membership pennant in 1965 with a record membership of 102, this had been eclipsed in 1966 with a new record of 105 financial members.

Attendance at the annual meeting was 43 over 40 percent of the total membership.

Mr. S. P. J. Reeves, a past sub-branch president and country vice-president, who took the chair for the election of officers for 1967, said he was amazed at the attendance, and at the record membership achieved in the past few years.

This, he said, was almost entirely due to the personal qualities and leadership of President Roy Bell.

All meetings throughout the year were particularly well attended, and members enjoyed many happy hours of social activities following the conclusion of business.

QUIET WORK

Behind the scenes was a great deal of quiet work gone in providing advice and assistance of many members or their dependants.

Mr. Bell commended Mr. Eric Poett, who, as Marshal for the Anzac Day ceremony, was responsible for a particularly well-organised parade.

He also expressed his gratitude to all members of his committee, whose staunch support and immediate acceptance of many varied duties had made his task very much easier than it would otherwise have been.

Mr. Athol Boyle was warmly thanked for his unselfish work over the past few years for invalid returned men.

On behalf of the sub-branch Mr. Bell expressed sincere gratitude and thanks to the members of the R.S.L. women's auxiliary who, apart from furnishing the memorial hall, provided it with a fine piano.

They had also provided—without cost to the sub-branch—the reunion dinner, which was enjoyed by 56 members and guests early in December.

To the shire president, shire clerk and councillors Mr. Bell extended sincere thanks for their understanding and assistance with sub-branch problems.

AGISTMENT PROGRAMME

The sub-branch stock-agistment programme, with a number of cattle in hand and re-stocking plans well established, should put finance on a sound footing in the near future.

Several visits have been made to other sub-branches and inter sub-branch games competitions are well under way, organised by the social sub-committee members, Arthur Richards and Geoff Baker.

When funds are available it is planned to turn the present committee room into a reading and sporting room for the convenience of members when in town, and also for the use of ex-service people.

During the past year the State Executive conferred awards on the following members for services rendered:

Messrs. N. W. Burnell and B. A. Crofts (Certificates of Service) and D. W. Duthie (Commission).

Engineers Invited

The president of the R.A.E. Ex-Servicemen's Association, Colonel F. M. H. Taylor, who also like as many ex-members of the R.A.E. as possible to attend the Anzac Day ceremony, immediately afterwards, the light luncheon and refreshments at the W.A.C.A. Press Pavilion.

What about it, you engineers?

Long Life Ends At Boddington

The recent death of Mr. C. W. Hewson has deprived the Boddington sub-branch of one of its foundation members.

He was born in Yorkshire, Charlie arrived in W.A. over 60 years ago. He first went to the Kojonup district, then to the horse and cart and having opened several gates along the Albany road, the first about the 3 mile peg.

When war was declared he enlisted in the A.I.F. and served with the 47th Battalion. He was wounded in action.

It was in hospital in 'Eligity' that he met the lady who later came out to marry him when he settled on the land near Bannister.

He took an active interest in local affairs and was a member and chairman of the Wandering Road Board.

In Boddington he presided over the hall committee which built the first hall, before the Marrara Local Board erected an office and transferred its meetings to that town.

A Change At Geraldton

The Geraldton sub-branch has decided to hold the annual reunion on September 9 this year. It is usually held in February.

There are several reasons for the change. The crayfishing season will be finished; it will be the second week of the school holidays; the attendance is likely to be boosted by visitors still in town after the Sunshine Festival.

A programme of social entertainment is being organised for R.S.L. members. Social committee chairman Dick Firman outlined plans for another social evening had been arranged for April 8 following which a vehicle raised over $40 for the Tasmanian fire-relief appeal.

This amount will augment the sum of $50 already donated to the appeal—B.J.B.

Belmont Honours Two Deceased Members

Belmont sub-branch executive members on Sunday, March 5, visited the War Veterans' Home for the presentation of books in memory of two deceased members—former president Stan Thornton and Fred Gould.

President Jolley, making the presentations to the resident interpreter by the late Mr. Howard, said it was the policy of the sub-branch to present a book to the home library in memory of each deceased member instead of sending a wreath or sheaf of flowers to the funeral.

When accepting the books Major Howes spoke of the good work performed by the late Mr. Thornton for the sub-branch and League in general.

Members and wives will also be visiting the home on Friday, April 14, for the first of a series of games for the year against the residents.

It is hoped that the shield which was presented by the sub-branch to the home will carry the inscription:

"The Stan Thornton Memorial Shield"

On Saturday, April 29, the annual dinner for members and wives will take place in the hall at 7.30 p.m. All bookings are to be in the hands of the "Secretary by the 23rd.

Hospital Visiting Fund Supported

The State Executive decided to acknowledge the following donations to the Hospital-Visiting Fund: T. E. Muggeridge, $473.50; Coorow-Waddy Forest, $10; Mr. A. J. Harney, $2; Kukerin, $1; Collie, $20; Mr. E. A. Key, $1; Dunsborough-Yallunup, $10.50. TOTAL, $57.

The State President At Mosman Park

Mosman Park sub-branch members were honoured by the presence of State President Pearson at their February meeting.

The Rev. Arthur Williams, B.A., President of the Methodist Conference, was installed as president for the ensuing year.

Entertaining him with the warrant Mr. Pearson referred to the recipient's work as a signaler in North Africa and later a prisoner-of-war in Italy.

His interest in R.S.L. activities was well known in various centres, as well as his social and church work in Western Australia.

Mr. Fred Harris, who has been president for the past six years, was presented with a past-president's certificate and thanked for his work in the sub-branch continuously since 1950.

After formal business Mr. Pearson gave an informative talk on the National Executive meeting at Canberra and the aims of the League generally.

Mr. Pearson spoke in some details of the jubilee commemoration fund and the bringing to Australia of Malaysian students.

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April, 1967
16th Battalion Association

In the list of battalion officers published in these columns last month Bert Sykes' name was overlooked.

Bert did not receive his commission until he transferred to the Machine Gun Battalion.

Referring to a recent Press letter asking where Simpson's donkey came from, Wally Corbett said he had been one of the wounded carried down to the beach on it.

Another member has suggested that the donkey was brought from Lemnos for use in the machine-gun section and finally finished up in the care of Simpson. The secretary ran into Harold Blich, during a recent holiday at Bunbury. He is still an enthusiastic crapper and fisherman. He has retired from the position of secretary of the Bunbury R.S.L., a position he held for years.

John Guthrie is another member who has retired in Bunbury.

Bert Arnold, the association's sick-victor, reports having interviewed 45 members at Hollywood during March (Thanks, Bert, you help the committee immensely!).

The committee hopes that the usual large number will be at the Railway Institute after the march on Anzac Day.

Visitors' Work Appreciated

In a letter to State Secretary Webb the Bridge-town sub-branch has expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the members of the League's Hospital Visiting Corps for their services.

Their visits to Bridge-town members who are undergoing hospital treatment in Perth are greatly appreciated by the sub-branch.

The letter says the progress reports sent by Mr. Okely are very helpful when the sub-branch is arranging visits to the families of sick members.

Slow Learners Get Boost

As a result of the cooperation of various organisations with the R.S.L. the Geraldton Slow Learners' Group will benefit by more than $334.

This was revealed by Mr. W. J. Cunningham, the main sub-branch organise of the annual fete.

He considered the result most gratifying, particularly in view of other appeals held about the same time including the Tasmanian bush fire appeal. B.J.B.

R.S.L. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

OFFICIAL VISITS

State Executive official functions for the month of March were as follows:

Tuesday, 7th: Mrs. Ames attended Board meeting at Leenons.

Friday, 10th: Soldiers' and Children's Education Board meeting attended by Mrs. Ames.

Saturday, 11th: Members of the League's Hospital Visiting Corps for their services.

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Encouraging Roll-up At Upper Swan

Sixty per cent of the financial strength turned up for the annual general meeting of the Upper Swan sub-branch last month to see all office-bearers returned.

President H. de Burgh, secretary Don Barrett, Leonard and treasurer John McLaren all signed on again for another year on the executive of a sub-branch so happy, the branch was able to recall many interesting facts.

Others of the older generation present included Harry Tompkins (who now lives at Fremantle), Tom Connor, Don Ferguson, (currently President of the Swan-Guildford shire), and Jack McLeod.

Today's active members are very conscious of the work done and tradition established. Upper Swan is by the old brigade, and it is hoped to have similar gatherings at least once a year to maintain some of the traditions.

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ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.A. SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (W.A.)—Meets every Monday night at 8 p.m. in the Old Union House, East Fremantle, President, J. M. Durkin; Secretary, R. A. Caldwell.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, South Fremantle, President, H. R. Lawley; Secretary, J. C. B. Smith.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION INC.—Meets second Tuesday in Forestville Hall, East Fremantle; President, A. J. Reed; Secretary, R. E. Smith.

11TH AND 2/11TH BATTALIONS A.I.F. ASSOCIATION—Meets first Monday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, W. E. Butler; Secretary, R. H. Smith.

2/11TH BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, J. F. Price; Secretary, R. E. Jones.

4TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on 2nd Sunday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, W. J. H. Smith; Secretary, R. H. Smith.

8TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, A. J. Reed; Secretary, R. E. Smith.

1ST BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on 1st Tuesday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, W. E. Butler; Secretary, R. H. Smith.

2/11TH BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, J. F. Price; Secretary, R. E. Jones.

TOTALY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (T.P.I.)—W.A. Branch—T.P.I. Memorial Hall, 211 Stirling Highway, East Perth; President, W. P. Quinn; Secretary, G. H. Leary.

2/11TH AUS COMMAND ASSOCIATION—President, C. A. Broom, 142 Margaret Street, East Perth; Secretary, J. M. Durkin, 142 Margaret Street, East Perth; Treasurer, R. B. Smith, 142 Margaret Street, East Perth.

W.A. EX-P.O.W. ASSOCIATION.—2nd Floor, Boans Building, Perth; President, A. W. Westley; Treasurer, J. B. Smith, 142 Margaret Street, East Perth; Secretary, J. M. Durkin, 142 Margaret Street, East Perth.

LIVELY SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF W.A. INC. ("Wingates and Stusts")—Meetings held on 4th Thursday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, W. H. Grant; Secretary, R. H. Smith.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION W.A. INC.—Meetings held on 2nd Thursday of each month in the Anzac House Ballroom; President, W. H. Grant; Secretary, R. H. Smith.

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Collection Of Cap Badges

As a memorial to all those who served a branch of the Royal Canadian Legion is assembling a collection of regimental cap badges of the Commonwealth. These will be mounted and displayed in a prominent place of honour. Any donations from R.S.L. members will be greatly appreciated and will be recorded in a book. It is suggested that duplicates could be traded with other ex-service organisations with projects of a like nature. The branch undertakes to pay all shipping charges.

ANOTHER LOOK AT THE MEANS TEST

Social Services Minister Sinclair has replied as follows to a League request for abolishing the means test for age and service pensioners:

"The present Government has, during its period in office, done a great deal towards assisting those who have made provision for their retirement. The rates of pension have been steadily increased over the years, and the means test has been progressively liberalised. As a result many people previously ineligible have been brought within the pension field.

The merged means test introduced in 1951 was, of course, the most not able step forward. As a consequence, over 53 per cent of people of pensionable age now receive pensions, as compared with 42 per cent in 1943 and 39 per cent in 1949.

As you will appreciate, finance is a major obstacle to complete abolition of the means test. At current pension rates it is estimated that abolition of the means test on age pensions alone would add approximately $340 million a year, in additional pension payments, to expenditure on social services. Although in these circumstances it is difficult to foresee the early abolition of the means test, the Returned Servicemen League may rest assured that the Government will continue to receive close examination. Present Government policy is to assist those in the community who are in the most need and at the same time to modify the means test as much as possible, so that an increasing number come within the range of pension benefits."

Service In Vietnam

Details of the relief effort of the two Australian infantry battalions now serving in Vietnam with the task force were recently released by the Minister for the Army, Mr Malcolm Fraser. The 5th and 6th Battalions, Royal Australian Regiment, would complete their tour of duty in Vietnam by June this year and would be progressively replaced between April and June, he said.

The 5th Battalion would be relieved by the 7th Battalion from Puckapunyal, Victoria, and the 6th Battalion would be replaced by the 2nd Battalion from Enoggera, Queensland.

In Grateful Memory Of Lady Blamey

To The Editor

Sir—Many Australians (men and women, ex-service personnel and their relatives at home) have cause to be grateful that Lady Blamey, who died in Melbourne in January, followed the example of the wives of commanders of the British and New Zealand forces and joined her husband in his area of command.

I was privileged to initiate Lady Blamey in the work of the Australian Red Cross field force and to be associated with her for three years in the Middle East and North Queensland. I was immediately impressed with her keen powers of observation, and I have tremendous sympathy for the sick and wounded and genuine desire to be of help.

As the wife of the General Officer Commanding, Lady Blamey was able to achieve quickly whatever could have taken time or not have been accomplished at all.

SHORT CUT

In common with members of other welfare organisations, through Lady Blamey I was able to discuss Red Cross work and our difficulties with Sir Thomas with prompt and effective results.

Nursing sisters and voluntary, aids on leave to Cairo had good reason to be grateful to Lady Blamey, who ranged social activities which assured them of a bright leave period.

She was a frequent visitor to Australian patients in hospitals in Egypt and so was able to send up-to-date reports of their conditions to relatives at home.

She also toured casualty clearing stations and field ambulances in Syria after the Syrian campaign.

It was there that the carelessness of a guard nearly cost her her life. She was on duty, too, on more than one of many air trips with her husband. Once, when travelling from Brisbane to Mareeba, she was in a plane which was forced to return to Brisbane on one engine.

Later Lady Blamey travelled to Singapore to visit former prisoners of war and for many years continued to serve on the council of the Australian Red Cross Society of which she was created an honorary member, the highest honour the society can bestow.

Elizabeth Calvert.