Mr. Nalder’s Address At Katanning Conference

Following is the address given by Deputy Premier Crawford Nalder when he opened the R.S.L. group conference at Katanning last month:

It gives me great pleasure to have the opportunity of coming here today to open this latest group conference of the Returned Services League.

It is of interest that those of you who have come here today as delegates have been gathered from an area as big as Denmark or Ceylon and nearly as big as the Republic of Ireland.

This fact itself is a clear demonstration of the vast resources of this State when what we would call a relatively small part of our land mass is larger than many overseas countries.

THE STAKE

It is also a reminder that in an era of unprecedented growth in world population we need to be taking every step to justify possession of such a vast land, not boasting that large areas of it may be dry and difficult to handle.

We cannot deny that these difficult areas—our outback—contain some world-size mineral deposits, and so we are more than compensated for the climatic problems we face in those areas.

Many countries would love to have the amount of space for defence reasons alone. Many more would love to have the minerals in them, and nearly all would envy the big areas of cultivable land available to us.

With these thoughts in mind we cannot afford to forget that there is, only a few thousand miles to our north, a hungry nation with the quarter of the world’s people and an annual population increase far exceeding the total population of Australia.

I refer, of course, to Red China, which is undoubtedly our major worry today.

Captured papers have confirmed that Red China inspired the coup which failed in Indonesia and which was designed to take over that country of 100,000,000 people right on our doorstep.

Red China was the activator—power behind the vicious communist penetration of Malaya which was crushed by Britain.

Red China is a constant threat to India, to Burma, and to all those countries reaching down to the Malayan peninsula which points like an arrow at Australia’s heart.

RED CHINA

Notwithstanding the controversy which today rages over the war in Vietnam, no thinking person can avoid the fact that the now war was started by Red China.

That it is a new kind of war—a war by proxy in the guise of a civil war, or a so-called “entente liberation” does not alter the fact that it is still war in the plainest terms. It is still power politics in the cruelest terms.

It was this kind of power-politics which we chose to confront in Burma years ago. And there is therefore nothing inconsistent in choosing to confront it now, especially as our own interests are far more deeply involved.

It is undeniable that there are problems in Indonesia. There is nothing compared with the problems we would have if we moved out.

Not many people realise that we may be the last throw of the “long march” Communists in Red China who have tried to convince their followers over many decades that the proper course in world affairs is bloody revolution.

Let us recall that the cold-war confrontation with Russia helped finally to topple the old-guard leadership there and to replace it with a group far more acceptable to the Western world—so much so, in fact, that one commentator, and that Russia had now joined the nations of the world who could be said to be seeking peace.

If we hold firm we may yet achieve results at least along these lines. Red China as a younger generation more practical gains for its people—and goes about getting them in a more practical and acceptable way.

I am encouraged by the reports that the rate at which Viet Cong prisoners are being taken in Vietnam has risen from 7,000 a year two years ago to 25,000 a year today, while the percentage of these prisoners who believe in victory has dropped from 50 to 30 in the past 12 months.

VIETNAM

Vietnam will not be defeated, but neither was Malaya, where the British fought a 12-year war against the communists.

Nevertheless, the struggle there highlights the high purpose for which Australian soldiers have fought over the years. It was in the defence of these democratic freedoms that the creation of a world market that is worth fighting for and living in.

I am most impressed by the high level of public spirit which motivates the members of the R.S.L.—and which compelled them to make a great sacrifice in other conflicts—is causing them now to find other means of serving the community.

I am most impressed by the high level of public service given by active working of the R.S.L. men like yourselves—who have carried the fight for a good country War levels of public service which demand continued personal sacrifice of time and energy.

A situation in which I know you all have shown very keen interest is the War Service Land Settlement Scheme which will soon be coming to an end.

This scheme has been a magnificent investment of public funds for the long-term benefit of the country and the individual benefit of many well deserving ex-servicemen.

DEVELOPMENT

Because of the big areas of land available here the W.A. scheme was the biggest in the Commonwealth and undoubtedly the biggest planned land development scheme ever attempted in our State.

Nearly 2,200,000 acres was involved, and almost 1,000 men.

The capital expenditure exceeded $46,000,000 for the development and acquisition of land. A further $61,000,000 was advanced for the purchase of stock and plant and the sheep farms, and the gross annual income now being created as a result of this development ranges between $16,000,000 and $18,000,000 a year—a clear indication of the national value of the

(Continued Overseas)
KATANNING ADDRESS
(continued from Page 1)

this kind of development in rural areas.

Thinking back again to Vietnam one cannot help but think that it is, in a way, a pity to wind up such a magnificent development programme.

Undoubtedly there will be servicemen from the Vietnam conflict who are just as entitled to consideration on the land as all those men who have already benefited from the scheme.

While I realise that they would be small in number, their entitlement is just as big in personal terms and I feel we will have to face this fairly when the time comes.

Once again I commend you for your continuing interest in public affairs and it is with great pleasure that I now officially open your Katanning group conference.

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“...For some time I have been meaning to write a testimonial to Bex Powders so those who haven’t tried them can get some of the benefit. I have used them for years and years and can honestly say I haven’t found anything to come near them. I suffer from countless allergies and I depend on Bex for relief.”

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An Array Of Talent At The Katanning Group Conference

With Deputy Premier Crawford Nelder to open it and the State President, the two vice-presidents and three other executive members in attendance along with the Deputy Commissioner for Repatriation, Mr Alec Panton, the Katanning group conference on June 18 was impressive from start to finish.

The more so because the headquarters party included the chairmen of the Membership, Veterans’ Home, Defence, Housing and Youth Welfare committees.

Delegates were accorded a civic reception by the Katanning Shire president and councillors at the Federation Hall.

The conference was opened by Mr. Nelder, who pointed out the major problems facing Australia and Western Australia today.

He left no doubt as to his attitude towards Vietnam.

Mr. Panton, Commissioner for Repatriation in Western Australia, spent 30 minutes outlining the activities of his department and its efforts to assist ex-servicemen.

He illustrated many of his points by reference to actual cases and gave a very clear exposition of the Repatriation Act as affecting individual ex-servicemen.

The discussion on membership matters was led by committee chairman H. Holland, who reported on the current position and appealed for a special effort in association with the League’s jubilee year.

Mr. Morris, chairman of the Defence Committee, outlined the League’s policy and stressed the necessity for Australians to protect their own and those eyes abroad.

He also reported on a recent visit by committee members to the new Civil Defence control centre at Hay and the R.A.A.F. fighter patrol unit headquarters at Belmont.

Mr. Flanagan described the League’s Youth Welfare activities in this State and the increasing attention being assigned to this work.

Dr. A. King, State vice-president and chairman of the War Veterans’ Home Board, reported on affairs at the home and described the new chapel project.

Dr. King appealed for full support from sub-branches to obtain the balance of the sum required to carry out the work.

He gave an account of the tenders received.

Vice-president Stoddart, chairman of the Housing Committee, faced the tenders received and said the various subjects dealt with.

He went on to give a brief report on current activities of the League from both the national and State angles.

He appealed to every member to do his utmost to increase the strength of the League by enrolling more members.

It was at the League’s obligation, he said, to see that every ex-serviceman returning from current overseas duty should at least have the advantages that World War servicemen had on their return.

This required a strong R.S.L. able to fight for and obtain rehabilitation and other benefits.

An attendance of 90 at the Katanning sub-branch reunion at night provided a fitting finale to the occasion.

An address by the State President was received with acclamation.

He said the attitude of the RSL Shop, a Secretary Rogers and members of the sub-branch for their splendid conference arrangements.

Invitation to the Anzac Club Lately?
Educational Benefits For N.S. Trainees

The Minister for the Army, Dr Forbes, said during Reveille the appeal included Jeavling Army members, a large gathering for advice and assistance under the services resettlement Army education officers. They would have the same conditions as fees paid for university study during Mr Cowell wreaths were laid by scholars, G. Boworth and M. Gray, and by A. R. Duckworth for Harrismith citizens and C. B. Beattie for the Narrogin R.S.L.

Medallion Indeed!

(To The Editor)

Let me commend your publication in “The Listening Post” of the article “Anzac Medallion.”

For the last 50 years the world, and Australia and New Zealand in particular, have been led to believe that the Gallipoli campaign was a great epic of courage and endurance. To the Australians and New Zealanders it was the birth of a nation. Now, according to your article, those who served and are still living and to relatives of the boys who served on a medallion, or in other words a souvenir for exhibition on the mantel-piece is to be issued.

In future, if Gallipoli was what all Australians believe it was, the Government should strike a medal suitable to mark the occasion of such a great historical event in the lives of the Australian people.

Hugh Leslie's Health Is Improving

League members will be glad to learn that Mr. Hugh Leslie, who has been very ill, is making good recovery. It should not be many years before he calls in at Anzac House.

Hugh has been an active member in all phases of League activity, including the State Executive for more years than he cares to count. It will be good to see him around again.

FUND GROWING

As this issue went to press the War Veterans' Home all states appeal fund stood at $10,041. This leaves about $6,000 still to be raised.

Children Build Memorial

Narrogin R.S.L. members are proud of the efforts of the students at Harrismith School, 90 miles away, in building a Memorial Grove under the direction of their teacher, Mr. Cowell.

They used cement slabs and painted concrete, and flanked the garden beds with flowerpots. The memorial was officially opened by Mr. L. Manning, M.L.A., at the Anzac service on April 22.

A large gathering for the occasion included parents and also representatives of the Narrogin and Kulun sub-branches.

To say that all appeared is not really right as Andy Boyle, one of our vice-presidents, had to cancel his singing owing to a sore throat—which was a pity, as he definitely can sing.

His excuse—and he admits to being Scotch—is that he got the sore throat because he was "shouting" too much in the pub.

Whether from the accustomed scribe or no a breezy news summary is to hand from Marble Bar once more. Here it is:

The Marble Bar Story Again

The membership drive is going very slowly ahead, and there are still a few who could come in who keep on resisting. We hope our secretary has not lost her persuasive powers.

We are working for, and look forward to, the yearly race-meeting when the R.S.L. usually manages a get-together, and when we often see members who only visit the town once a year.

Fremantle City Dinner Soon

The Fremantle City sub-branch annual dinner will be held in the Wyla Club hall on Saturday, August 6, at 7 p.m.

Contact the secretary for particulars and tickets.
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**Returned Sisters Are Busy**

The Returned Sisters' sub-branch has donated $50 to the War Veterans' Home chapel fund and also—as a result of a very successful film evening—on May 25—has a further $65.20 in hand for the same purpose.

The sub-branch's foster child in Greece is still being assisted, the $38 per annum required being voluntarily donated by members. Also $10 is sent as a Christmas gift.

The visiting of ex-service patients in C-class hospitals continues, 207 bedside visits having been made in the past ten months.

The sub-branch suffered a great loss in the timely death of Miss S. A. Dalwood, a former treasurer and for many years a loyal and enthusiastic worker for sub-branch and League. She is sadly missed.

Up to seven weeks before her death, Miss Dalwood was on duty as a senior nursing sister at the Hollywood Repatriation Hospital.

**16th Battalion Notes**

During the month Messrs. W. Lileyman, N. Stehn and S. Smith spent an afternoon with old members of the battalion now resident at the War Veterans' Home.

The present list comprises Sir Charles Leatham and Messrs. P. Dawson, W. Whittie, R. Airey, M. Clegg, J. Turner and Bill Cornish (an active member of the local R.S.L. sub-branch).

They would all welcome a visit from any member of the association.

Recently a party of 2/16th Battalion men visited Arnold Potts at his home at Kojonup. One of the party reported to the secretary that he is still going strong.

Others passing that way would also be welcome, no doubt.

Colour patches can be obtained from secretary O. C. Young (28 Oakover Street, East Fremantle) for 50 cents plus a 5 cent stamp.

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50th ANNUAL REPORT

Sub-branch Visits

P. PEARSON: Capel; M.T.T. (2); Cottesloe; Belmont (2); Riverton; Bedford-Morley Park; Bunbury (multiple); Nledlands; Mt. Hawthorn (2); Koorda; Northam; City of Perth; Public Service; Returned Sisters; Midland; Highgate; West Leederville; Cottesloe; Brookton; Returned Ex-Service-women; Swanbourne; Nollamara; Canning; Maddington: Fremantle; Rockingham; Pingelly; Greenbushes; Donnybrook; Bridgetown; Albany; Manning; and group conferences at Dalwallinu, Geraldton and Katanning. (Quairading; Bruce Rock; Merredin; Nungarin; Kununoppin; Trayning; Wyalkatchem; Dowerin; Goomalourn.—N.B. weekend visit.)

A. KING: Hamilton Hill; Highgate (2); Public Service (multiple); Belmont (multiple); Returned Sisters; Corrigin; Geraldton; Balandra; Katanning.

R. J. STODDART: Pemberton; Cottesloe; Ravensthorpe; Norseman; Capel; Claremont; Rivervale.

S. A. McNAMARA: Subiaco (multiple); P.M.G. (multiple); Ex-Service-women; Boyup Brook; Boyanup; Bunbury; Boddington; Harvey; Yarloop; Public Service, Balingup.

H. A. LESLIE: Belmont; Canning.

J. JUCKLE: Blackboy-Hill; Riverton; Geraldton (2); Upper Chapman (2); Guildford; Darling Range; Upper Swan (2).

J. BREMMER: Kensington.

G. E. F. CHELL: Dumbleyung; Maddington; Midland (2); Brunswick; Welshpool; Carnamah; Gascoyne.

A. A. COOPER: M.T.T.; Mt. Lawley-Ingleswood; Glen Forrest (multiple); Upper Swan (multiple); Nollamara (multiple); Mundaring (2); Darlington; Bridgetown; Greenbushes; Bridgetown; Mur- ray; North Perth (multiple); Mt. Helena; Scarlet; Morredin; Wooroloo; City of Perth; Claremont; Gidgegannup; Canning; Moora.

W. EVANS: Blackboy-Hill; Victoria Park; Maylands (multiple); Scarborough.

B. J. PLANAGAN: Bedford-Morley Park; Geraldton; Kem- scott; Cottesloe and Katanning.

H. G. HOLDER: Boddington; Millen; Scarborough; Waroona; Hamel; Yarloop; Swanbourne. (Quairading, Shackleton, Bruce Rock, Merredin, Nungarin, Kununoppin, Trayning, Dowerin, Wyalkatchem, Goomalourn.—N.B. weekend visit.)

H. HOLLAND: Kellerberrin; Goomalling. (Quairading, Shackleton, Bruce Rock, Merredin, Nungarin, Kununoppin, Trayning, Dowerin, Wyalkatchem, Goomalourn.—N.B. weekend visit.)

Manning; Bicton; Katanning.

R. B. MARRIS: Geraldton; Waroona; Brookton; Riverton.

A. MAYOR: Darkan; Collie.

N. F. MOSEI: Mosman Park (multiple); Public Service; West Swan; Yealering; Kooum; Wyalkatchem (2); Harvey.

L. PHENNA: M.T.T.; Kenwick (2); Carlisle; M.T.T.; Balingup.

J. G. RANKIN: Yokeine-Joondanna; North Beach (multiple); Brookton; Mt. Hawthon; Claremont.

S. WHITE (Miss): Subiaco; Shenton Park; Applecross.

B. WILLIAMS: Mundaring; Bellevue.

F. GOMM: Mt. Barker (2); Katanning.

R. MESSENGER: Lake Grace; Dumbleyung; Corrigin; Narrogin; Yealering; Norseman; Boddington; Brookton (2).

M. WILLIAMS: Wagon; Dalwallinu; Northampton; Bindi; Bindi; Wongan Hills; Carnamah (2); Wubin; Geraldton (2); Meekatharra; Dongara.

Membership

The membership total for 1965 was 16,437, a drop of 466 on the previous year. Again the loss by death was heavy, reaching the figure of 657 for the year and over 2,500 for the last five years.

This figure speaks for itself, and it is interesting to note that the membership figure keeps reasonably stable despite this consistent drain.

Again the League is indebted to its voluntary sub-branch officers, who bear the brunt of maintaining membership and, in many sub-branches, most of the work.

State Executive liaison with sub-branches has improved considerably and most executive members have liaised closely with their allotted sub-branches, generally three to a member.

During July "reminder" letters were sent to all members who were shown as unfinancial in the Head Office records.

The Membership sub-committee is concerned that some sub-branches do not seem to realise the importance of forwarding Capitation Returns regularly. This requirement is of the utmost importance in keeping the central records aligned with sub-branch records.

The Membership sub-committee wishes to express its deep appreciation for the efforts of sub-branch officers who, during the year, made every effort to improve their membership figures.

Life Membership

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

W. J. Scoble (Fremantle City sub-branch); R. E. Marsh (Blackboy Returns); W. J. Nicholls, M.M. (Marble Bar); W. W. Edwards, M.B.E. (Nedlands); H. Holder (City of Perth); T. G. Rankin (North Perth); David John (Boddington); S. V. Stock- min (Mt. Hawthorn); S. D. Rankin (Claremont).

Certificates of Service

Forty-four Certificates of Service were approved by the State Executive during the year.

Group Conferences

Group conferences were held at Dalwallinu, Geraldton and Katanning during the 1965-66 Congress Year.

Two metropolitan presidents' and Secretaries' meetings were also held.

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

The League also expresses its deep appreciation to the presidents and members of the Dalwallinu, Geraldton and Katanning Shires for the courtesy and hospitality tendered in civic receptions before the conferences.

Receptions

The State Executive was pleased to extend informal receptions to distinguished visitors as follows:

July: Captain D. B. Law and senior R.N. officers from H.M.S. Bulwark.

August: Mr. Charles Johnston, U.K. High Commissioner.

September: Delegates attending the P.O.W. Conference.

December: His Excellency the Governor-General, the Right Honourable Lord Casey.

March: Captain Ian Cartwright and officers from H.M.A.S. Perth.

(Continued overleaf)
State War Memorial

During the period under review 15 wreath-laying ceremonies were conducted.

Following the death of Mr. Stan Watt on the 10th May, 1965, the duties of Warden were carried out by the then Assistant-Warden, Mr. C. R. K. Bannister, until the take-over by Mr. Charles Bannister on the 11th November. To the latter is extended grateful thanks and deepest appreciation for the dignified manner in which he has met the requirements of his appointment.

Subsequently upon the resignation of Mr. Bannister in October, Mr. Doug Dargle of the Highgate sub-branch was appointed by the State Executive in this capacity on the 3rd November.

Mr. Dargle is rendering excellent services and is highly commended for conscientious application to his responsible duties.

We are most appreciative of the friendly co-operation received from the King's Park Board and the loyal and dedicated services of the Highgate sub-branch as Sub-Wardens for their second consecutive tour of duty.


The League, in co-operation with the Police Department, made the usual arrangements for the Remembrance Day observance. Traffic was halted for two minutes at the main intersections to allow buglers to play the Last Post.

At the memorial the traditional wreath-laying ceremony was conducted, with participation by representatives of Commonwealth and State Governments, heads of services and unit associations.

Defence

In March this year the League's 1966 Defence Submission was presented to the Federal Cabinet. It covered a wide field of defence matters and strongly emphasised that our defence forces should be adequate to meet our commitments at home and abroad in the foreseeable future. The submission was fully publicised in the March issue of "The Listening Post".

While the first element in our defence must be alliances with powerful and reliable friends, these must be accepted as a supplement to and not a substitute for our own defence forces.

The League maintains that a C.M.F. of great strength, spread throughout Australia, would guarantee some measure of protection and provide training opportunities in the appropriate age-groups, which, with the National Service training scheme, would provide a constant supply of volunteers to the Regular Army. At all costs this supply should be maintained and made available if every effort made to have the A.R.A., C.M.F. and National Service integrated into one army eligible for the same privileges and benefits, at least while on service in operational areas, and with one designation such as Australian Military Forces.

In view of the controversy over Vietnam it is as well to remind all members that the following resolution was passed unanimously at 50th National Congress of the R.S.L. in October, 1965, at Adelaide:

"That this Congress wholeheartedly endorses the Commonwealth's action in sending troops to South Vietnam and Borneo."

In view of this resolution and the strong League efforts in previous years to have National Service training brought into operation (with the obligation for service overseas) endorsed by the State and National Congresses, it is only proper the League should give support to the present Commonwealth defence policy.

Anzac Day Trust Fund

Proceeds to the League from the Trust relative to Anzac Day 1965 amounted to $10,350, of which $1,800 was credited to the Aged Soldiers' Fund and the balance to the War Veterans' Home account.

In view of the difficult circumstances surrounding the observance of Anzac Day on a Sunday the result is considered to be most gratifying and we express thanks to the W.A. Turf Club and the W.A. Trotting Association for generously arranging special meetings during the Anzac Day period.

We also pay tribute to the members of the Trust for their honorary efforts on behalf of ex-serviceemen and their dependants.

Crowning Glory Quest

This joint annual appeal returned a net amount of £4,885/10/9 for equal distribution between the War Veterans' Home and Torchbearer for Legacy, the total for the seven years of operation thus exceeds £37,000 ($74,000).

Although the results have been encouraging it is noted with regret and considerable concern that sub-branch interest is on the wane, with a resultant loss in revenue. Many sub-branches could, and should, direct their energies in this field of activity.

First prize in this year's quest went to Miss Patricia King, of East Victoria Park, sponsored by the R.S.L. Auxiliary executive, and Miss Beverley Hunt, of Bayswater, sponsored by the Bayswater-Meltham sub-branch.

Seven contestants were awarded wristlets valued at 20 guineas each for having raised over £200. These were generously donated by Mr. D. A. Freecorn.

Warmest thanks are extended to Ansett A.N.A. Boons Ltd., the Joyce Spier Modelling School, J. C. Taylor and Co. and the judges and competitors, without whose aid the competition could not be conducted.

National Congress

The venue for the 50th annual National Congress was Adelaide, and all States and Papua-New Guinea were represented. Delegates representing W.A. were the State President and Dr. H. Hanrahan, accompanied by the State Secretary.

The official opening was performed by His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, Sir Edric Bastyan, who made a notable speech in which he placed emphasis on national service.

Sir Edric said that once the need for a National Service scheme became an instrument of national policy it was the duty of every loyal citizen to give support.

He stressed the advantages gained by the trainees, by contrast with the destructive criticism offered by the opponents of the scheme. His Excellency expressed the view that a period of National Service was reflected in the moulding of character, created adaptability and earlier maturity, all of which tended to hasten the process of making a good citizen of young men.

To these must be added the collective and accumulative advantages to the nation by the building of a reserve of trained and experienced men.

Other guests in attendance included the Minister for the Army, the Honourable A. F. Fenech, representing the Prime Minister; Mr. G. E. Whitlam, representing the Leader of the Opposition; the Honourable C. McKellar, Minister for Repatriation; Mr. H. W. Walsh, Premier of South Australia; the Honourable Sir T. Playford, Leader of the Opposition (South Australia); Mr. J. C. Irwin, Lord Mayor of Adelaide, and Mr. Hamilton Mitchell representing the R.S.A. In New Zealand.

The agenda contained 215 items, of which 15 were sponsored by W.A. The principal subjects were Defence, Repatriation, War Service Homes and Constitution.

The administrative arrangements, under the competent supervision of S.A. State Secretary Ken Hoffman, could not be faulted and the friendly hospitality extended by members of the S.A. State Council was outstanding.

Numerous composite defence items were prepared and subsequently accepted by Congress under the following headings: Defence (General); C.M.F.; National Service; Defence (P. and N.C.I.) and Cadets.

These became the framework on which the League's 1966 defence submissions were presented to the Minister for Defence on 15th March (see March issue of The Listening Post).

The 51st National Congress will be held in Perth and commence on Monday 24th October.

National Headquarters

We are indebted to the National Secretary, Mr. Bill Keys, and his staff for a continuance of friendly and helpful co-operation with this State branch during the year.
Local members will have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with Bill later in the year when he will be in Perth for National Congress. Those interested are informed that business sessions of Congress may be attended by observers.

**Women's Auxiliary**

Another successful year can be safely credited to State President Ethel Ames, State Secretary Veniile Rowe, the executive and branch members.

The response by the ladies to the ‘War Veterans’ Home chapel appeal has been on the usual generous pattern and at the time of going to press a total of $2,000 has been received.

Their many and varied activities include regular visits to 15 hospitals in the metropolitan area, the running of a roster system at the canteen of the veterans' home and general support of all League projects.

It is apparent that the auxiliaries have confidence in their office-bearers, as indicated by the unopposed re-election of both the State President and State Secretary for 1966-67.

We wish them well and ask them to accept our grateful thanks for their friendly co-operation and support.

**Finance**

The balance-sheet for the year ended 31st December 1965 reveals that the value of the League's assets increased by £40,500 ($81,000) during 1965, which was represented by an increase in the value of fixed assets of £44,900 and a liquid reduction of £4,400. This mainly reflects the completion of the Darby and Joan cottages and the Townsend Recreation Centre at the War Veterans' Home, the value and nature of the League's assets otherwise being relatively stable.

The administrative loss was £3,780 ($7,560) compared with £1,075 in 1964. This increase of £2,705 was due to a decrease of £50 in Trading Profit. In producing The Listening Post, an increase of £1,200 in salaries and wages and a decrease of over 500 in membership resulting in a decrease of £300 in income.

It will be clear that the recent increase in members' subscriptions, which returns a net 25 cents per member to the State branch, will only increase membership income by £4,000 even if membership be maintained at the figure of 16,000.

It is equally unlikely that expenditure can be significantly reduced without drastic curtailment of the League's activities. Therefore it appears that a further administrative loss of at least $4,000 must be expected this year unless some means can be found to increase income.

In this connection it is interesting to note that while there was again an overall increase of £1,050 ($2,100) in the interest earnings of all funds, this increase was almost entirely earned by War Veterans' home, and indicates the League's interest earnings being slightly less than last year and those of the Relief, Welfare and Trust Funds being relatively equal.

The capital of the War Veterans' Home increased during the year by nearly £34,000 to the figure of £280,587 ($561,174).

The operating fund increased by over £3,000 to the figure of £16,657 ($33,334). This reflects the increased interest earnings already mentioned, the application of Commonwealth Government's subsidy to the new building operations and above all the continued generosity of sub-branches and auxiliaries.

It appears, therefore, that while the general monetary health of the League is satisfactory, for which condition the committee is to be congratulated, there is a persistent indisposition in the region of administrative finance for which it is to be hoped some remedy will speedily be found.

**Anzac House and Club**

Club turnover for the year improved by nearly £1,500 but gross profit was only £20 better. Expenses increased by £700, mainly in salaries, $250; light and maintenance, $380. In discount amounting to $38 allowed to sub-branches and unit associations on special orders. These results show that while the club policy of keeping its prices down to members clearly increases patronage it equally clearly decreases the revenue.

During the year, assisted by substantial contributions from the Amenity Fund, air-conditioners were installed in the billiards room and T.V. lounge, the club furnishings were renovated and added to, several enjoyable party nights were held and the Darts Club continued to flourish.

A fair year overall, but if League members would only remember that they are also Club members, this and future years could be much better.

Anzac House rentals for 1965, although nearly £600 less than those for the previous year (when unusual circumstances prevailed), contributed a net £1,487 to League revenue and must be considered satisfactory.

The thanks of the League to the members of the Anzac House and Club board of management for their efforts during the year.

**Anzac Club Amenities**

During the year ended 31st December 1965 the Amenities committee purchased an air-conditioner unit for the T.V. lounge, re-upholstered the armchairs, bought dart-boards and playing-cards, made a donation of $25 to the Darts Club, spent over £200 on party-light entertainers and a similar sum for members' refreshment, made its annual contribution of £100 to the Charlie Mitchell room at the War Veterans' Home and finished the year with £923 in the bank.

Once again the committee sponsored the Miss Anzac Club candidate (Miss Dallas Jane Regan) in the Crowing Glory contest, but owing to the cessation of the house, gained the net amount paid in to the quest funds, £510/1/10, was less than half the sum contributed, the previous year.

Nevertheless, it was the second largest amount raised and the committee is to be commended for a good effort in the particular circumstances.

**War Veterans' Home**

A most interesting and comprehensive report was prepared by Major Howes, from which the following notes have been extracted. The full text of the report will be published at a later date.

The R.S.L. flats, opened during the year, have proved to be an excellent addition to the already outstanding work of caring for the aged. We are constantly being asked whether it is intended to extend this project of welfare work within the League.

The Townsend Recreational Centre, also opened during the year, is an ideal meeting place for our residents and a truly fine memorial to a grand man, our first chairman, Mr. E. C. Townsend, M.B.E.

Friendly competitive games are staged at regular intervals with visiting sub-branch members and friends; in particular the Belmont sub-branch, which has donated a shield for quarterly games between the residents and that sub-branch. To date the home is the proud possessor.

It is with considerable pride that we are looking forward to the completion of the inter-denominational chapel, a fitting memorial to a grand man, our first chairman, Mr. E. C. Townsend, M.B.E.

The most gratifying result of the appeal for funds for the chapel has been the response, and expressions of encouragement, from friends inside and outside the League. This, in itself, exemplifies the goodwill towards the R.S.L. here, and the War Veterans' Home in particular.

Without any direct appeal to our residents they have quietly given the sum of $719.10, also gifts for a street stall which the staff of the home are arranging for later in the year.

We are indeed indebted to Dr. R. Wheeler who gives unspingly of his time in the care of our residents. His contribution to our field is of an incalculable nature and he is a ready help and guide to all.

(Continued overleaf)
The R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary has rendered another splendid year of service. The continuous service of the canteen is no mean feat, and the fortnightly visits of some auxiliaries who come laden with morning or afternoon tea for the residents is very much appreciated.

Much has been written by various organisations of the unselfish and unobtrusive service of individuals associated with the Red Cross Society. Their service to the home is without a doubt, unequalled. They play an important role in diversional therapy by providing two occupational therapists two days per week, and by a bi-weekly visitor who provides sweets and has a friendly chat.

Transport is provided for outings to distant places.

To Mr. G. Rowe, his staff and volunteers, sincere thanks for their ready and efficient co-operation.

To the Rev. T. Wright, of North Perth, and the Rev. H. Cox and his assistants of Mt. Lawley, we are greatly indebted. They arranged the fashion parade, we are sincerely grateful.

Perth, men, efforts to raise funds. To Mrs. T. Townshend, who of which, was the year, although it had to be held indoors. The Australian Flag was well in evidence, and with it a small wooden cross made and given by a member of the 51st Battalion in its folds. As usual the service was conducted by young people.

The planting of the little wooden crosses in the Field of Remembrance on the 11th November each year has been kept up. In the year under review by Rev. J. Payne, Dean of Perth, conducted a moving service.

For the Miss Crowning Glory competition the home's candidate was Miss Marjorie Clark, to be thanked for her untiring efforts to raise funds. To Mrs. T. Townshend, who again arranged the fashion parade, we are sincerely grateful.

Mr. Howes concluded by paying tribute to the loyalty and willingness of the staff, and to the chairman (Dr. A. King) and members of the home board.

Anzac Day

In spite of threatening weather the 51st commemoration was appropriately observed by many ex-service men and women then and there throughout the State.

Some light rain during the Dawn Service was not sufficient to disturb the solemnity of the occasion, a notable feature of which, was the large attendance of young people. Following the official ceremony the 10th Light Horse Association and Jewish ex-service men conducted brief services at their respective memorials.

The main parade was well attended by units, and the Navy and Army were adequately represented. An item of interest was the presence of three National Service trainees in the Army contingent. They were officially on embarkation leave prior to departure for Vietnam but had been granted permission to take part in the parade.

Seen for the first time in Perth was the new Anzac flag, proudly carried by Colonel Harry Blades, of British Columbia. Harry, who was associated with the Light Infantry in W.A. and expressed his determination to take part in an Anzac Day parade. No participant derived greater satisfaction.

Incidentally Harry met up with a couple of his compatriots who were also taking part.

The State President delivered a splendid Anzac Day address in which he quoted members of a stirring address delivered by the President of the United States which challenged the youth of today to bring into being the kind of world we all so fervently desire.

Fine weather was maintained during the march and service but rain marred to some extent the race meeting conducted by the W.A.T.C. in aid of the Anzac Day Trust Fund.

The Turf Club very generously issued an open invitation to all participants in the march to be their guests for the afternoon.

We express our warmest thanks to all those who contributed to the undoubted success of the day and in particular, to the Army, Navy, Perth City Council, A.B.C., Police Department, St. John's Ambulance and the bands.

A special "thank you" goes to Jack Mitchell, and his assistant Marshals, who again carried out in a competent manner the many duties associated with the control and movement of the parade. Last, but not least, our thanks to the Anzac Day Transport Committee.

Repatriation

During the year under review certain variations in war and service pension assessments and benefits came into effect, the major being as follows:

Intermediate Rate War Pension

This new rate of pension caters for the special needs of war pensioners who are so severely disabled as the result of accepted war-caused disabilities that the pensioner is able to work only part-time or intermittently, and not so disabled as to qualify for the special (T. & F.I.) rate of pension, eligibility being determined on the basis of the pensioner's capacity to engage in some remunerative occupation. The weekly rate of pension for such cases is: Pensioner $20.25; wife $4.05; each child under 16, $1.375.

Service Pensioners

The supplementary assistance payable to certain categories of pensioners is increased from $1 to $2 a week.

The weekly rate of service pension payable to an ex-service man whose wife receives the wife's allowance was increased to the maximum rate payable to the single pensioner, that is $12.

The wife of a service pensioner who receives her pension on the grounds of age qualifies for the wife's pension allowance if she has one or more children and is not receiving in her own right a Social Service pension.

The age limit of student children of service pensioners was raised to 21 years.

Service pensioners (age) also became eligible for the additional pension in respect of the second or subsequent child.

A "guardian's" allowance of $4 a week is paid to unarmed service pensioners who have the custody, care and control of one or more children.

Sustenance Allowance

Amendment to this grant provided for ex-service men or women prevented from working because of the need for out-patient treatment for accepted war-caused disabilities over a period of four weeks or more, an increase in sustenance allowance from $12 to $28.50 weekly.

Funeral Grants

The provisions governing the grant were extended to provide for the payment of a grant of $40 to service pensioners who are responsible for the funeral of a spouse, a child or other means-test pensioner.

Pensioners Medical Scheme

The existing income limitations governing eligibility for entry to the scheme are extended as from 1st January 1964. This amendment should be of real assistance to those previously barred, including the wives and children of the T. & F.I. pensioners and pensioners who previously only received a portion of the service or age pension.

Conversion to Decimal Currency

Decimal currency came into effect on the 7th February on which date $10,000 pension cheques (all states) at the new rate were issued. The Repatriation Department is to be congratulated on the success of the changeover made without hitch after months of careful planning.

War Pensions

War pensions of all types totalled more than 660,000 in 1964-65.

Pensions paid in respect of the 1914 war declined from 180,000 in 1944-45 to 105,000 in 1964-65 because of the dwindling number of first-war veterans.

War pensions paid in respect of the second war increased from 102,000 to more than $141,000 over the same period.

War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunals

Tribunals set up at the request of the League during 1929 to hear and determine appeals against decisions of the Repatriation Commission rejecting war-pension claims were increased, following League representation of the establishment of a temporary appeal tribunal. This has permitted the hearing of appeals within a reasonable time and no undue delay is now experienced in this State.

Pension Appeal

The number of claims and appeals made shows no sign of decreasing.

Appeal tribunals sat at Perth for 35 weeks during the year, 756 appeals being advocated by the League before them.

In addition to the appeals to the Repatriation Commission, and claims, were submitted from headquarters to the department on behalf of ex-service men and their dependants.
Extension of Repatriation Benefits

Although much has been achieved by representations to attain hospital benefits for non-return disabilities by the grant of previous concessions to service pensioners and nurses of the 1914-18 war, requests submitted during the year seeking the medical and hospital treatment of all ex-servicemen of the Boer and 1914-18 war have been unsuccessful.

Reparation (Special Overseas Service) Bill

Important changes to the bill now provide reparation cover for those involved in contact with hostile forces outside Australia by the provision of regulations governing the allocation of duties and the times of allotment to and from special duty.

Appreciation

Country visits by the Deputy-Commissioner and officers of the Repatriation Department continued throughout the year.

The Repatriation Committee desires to express, on behalf of the League, grateful thanks and appreciation to Deputy-Commissioner A. H. Robson and members of the department for the generous assistance and advice so readily given to the numerous requests made from headquarters.

The continued partnership which now exists between the Repatriation Department and the League in W.A. has resulted in many benefits being obtained for ex-servicemen and their dependents.

The committee would also express its appreciation and thanks to the Director of Social Services and members of his department for the assistance given in all matters referred to them during the year.

Thanks are also expressed to the members of the medical profession who have assisted with advice and opinions given for the furtherance of pensions claims.

Finally, appreciation is expressed for the assistance received from sub-branch secretaries and officials with enquiries and claims concerning repatriation.

Hospital Visiting

The year under review closes with an appeal to sub-branches and members for assistance to meet the need to extend League activities in this important aspect of welfare. Ex-servicemen and women of the 1914-18 war are now in the age group from which admissions to institutions—homes and institutions providing care and maintenance beyond the scope of families, relatives or friends—are high.

Sub-branches have been centralised regarding this problem and hospital-visiting in general; it is hoped that many members will find the appeal worthwhile of support.

Corps of Hospital Visitors

The Corps was established in 1959 with a planned strength of 50; unfortunately this number has not yet been reached.

Enrolment in the Corps numbers 17, which, allowing for sickness, permits a working strength of ten.

Major activities have been directed to the visiting of sick ex-servicemen from country districts. During the year the Corps visited 1,056 individual ex-servicemen and women at metropolitan hospitals.

Since the establishment of the Corps its members have visited over 6,000 patients, a truly magnificent effort the magnitude of which may be gauged with the knowledge that the number visited equals the strength of an Anzac Day parade.

To the Corps members, the committee offers its thanks for the continued interest and support of the League during the year.


Hospital Visiting

Appreciation is also expressed to the Metropolitan sub-branches, the Women’s Auxiliary, the unit associations and Mr. S. A. Macnamara of the State Executive for continued and numerous visits to the sick.

Thanks are also expressed to country sub-branch members for their interest in, visits and welfare of the sick at country hospitals.

Finally an appeal is made to all members to give not only consideration to the appeal circularised to sub-branches during June but assistance to expand the work of “Hospital Visiting.”

Publicity

“The Listening Post” has been published regularly every month and endeavours have been made to give as wide a coverage as possible of League activities at national, State and sub-branch levels.

Weekly broadcasts have continued from 6AM, 6KY, 6KG Kalgoorlie and 6NA and 6GN Geraldton, throughout the year.

Television channels 2, 7 and 9 have assisted whenever requested, especially in appeals for assistance in special projects such as “Operation Friendly.”

We extend our thanks and appreciation to the management and staffs of the above organisations and also to Mr. Geoff Lefroy and Mr. J. Tillet, of West Australian Newspapers, for their help and co-operation.

A.S.S. Fund, Welfare, Relief, Employment

The sub-committee which administers the above funds meets fortnightly to deal with applications and acts daily with urgent cases when necessary. Twenty meetings were held during the period under review.

A total of 272 applications for welfare and relief and Aged Soldiers’ Fund disbursements have been dealt with during the period.

Details of disbursements were: grocery orders, $247; rail and bus warrants, $82; Christmas parcels (83 despatched), $166; clothing, $24; compassionate relief, $311; bed, breakfast, board, meals, etc., $130—a total of $960.

The committee’s work covers disbursement from three funds. These are—

(a) The Relief Fund: Grants from this fund may be made to any ex-serviceman or his dependents irrespective of age or eligibility to join the League.

(b) Aged Soldiers’ Fund: Assistance given from this fund is regulated by a special act. The fund is for the benefit of aged, invalid ex-servicemen and women or their dependents, provided that such applicants are eligible for League membership and are domiciled in Western Australia. The disbursement for the year amounted to $6,212.

(c) The Welfare Fund. This is a consolidation of sundry funds with the object of assisting 1939-45 ex-service men and women and Korea and Malaya veterans.

The committee was fortunate during the period to find employment for quite a number desiring work both in town and country, and our thanks are due to various employers in the State.

The balances of the funds at the end of the year were: Relief Fund, $25,161; Aged Soldiers Fund, $86,012; Welfare Fund, $23,359.

In conclusion the committee would like to convey the grateful thanks of the League to the chairman and trustees of the Aged Soldiers’ Fund for the constant attention to the affairs of the Trust; also to the committee and staff, for their willing support and co-operation during 1965.

Youth Welfare

Tasks performed during the year were:

Operation “Stand-In”—conducted on Father’s Day in September 1965; resulted in taking out 130 Naval Junior recruits—all those available—by 160 host families.

Operation “Friendly”—conducted on 12th June 1966, involved 290 hosts giving an outing to 638 children from 14 institutions covering the metropolitan area, Parkerville, Coogee and Pinjarra.

The television channels, radio stations and newspapers gave publicity which materially assisted in obtaining sufficient hosts.

The final arrangements kept many of the staff busy in sending out 650 letters, apart from innumerable telephone calls.

Corrigin Youth Club—again assisted in their annual visit to the city. The loan of refrigerators from E. and L. Baker; television set from Musgroves Ltd. and co-operation from many spheres was greatly appreciated.

(Continued overleaf)
Group Conferences—at Geraldton and Katanning were attended by the chairman who gave addresses on the youth welfare activity of the R.S.L. He also appealed for support.

In addition to the successful operations referred to in this report an effort was made to form an R.S.L. Youth Debating Group but to no avail. It is suggested that this proposal could be considered by the incoming sub-committee.

The chairman expresses sincere appreciation of the valuable work performed by the staff at Anzac House and in particular the staff officer (Mr. R. Nyman) of the sub-committee.

State Executive

At the first meeting of the Congress year a vacancy for a Trustee, rendered necessary by insufficient nominations, was filled by ballot. Two nominations were received—Messrs. Buckle and Holder—the former being elected.

Mr. Buckle’s appointment as Trustee and the resignation of Mr. J. Newman, owing to illness, resulted in the call-up of two emergencies, Messrs. B. J. Planagan and C. Dool.

Further changes occurred owing to the resignation of Messrs. J. R. Duncan and C. Dool. As replacements, the State Executive appointed Messrs. R. Carter (Public Service Sub-Branch) and J. Gabbedy (Highgate). Mr. P. Pearson completed, with credit, his first full term of office as State President and was ably supported by Vice Presidents A. King and R. J. Stoddart, and members of the Executive.

A considerable amount of important business was transacted during the 12 monthly meetings, held, and a highlight was the decision to proceed with the building of a chapel at the War Veterans’ Home at an estimated cost of $18,000.

For this purpose, an appeal for funds was launched and at the time of going to press the total received was of $10,000.

R.S.L. Building Society

During the 1965-66 financial year it was possible to assist 13 applicants from funds amounting to $83,000 which became available to the society through the State Housing Commission.

This amount in itself was not sufficient to meet the many inquiries received and constant efforts were made to raise funds from other institutions. Although these efforts brought no immediate success, due to the general overall shortage in the community of housing loan money, it is hoped that the situation will improve in the future.

Since the formation of the society in 1962 it has now been possible to assist 95 ex-servicemen with housing loans totaling $610,400.

A.R.M.S. Games

The 1965 series of the Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield Games competition started off with nine teams competing, but unfortunately three fell by the wayside.

The Shield was won by Gloucester Park, with Mt. Hawthorn in second place and thus qualifying for the new Bill Holder Shield.

The Yellow Cap Cup, taken on the rifle-shooting scores, went to West Leederville with a score of 147.6, bettering last year’s scores and beating last year’s winners, Mt. Hawthorn, into second place.

The annual shooting championship, held during Congress Week, was taken off by staff member Rolfe Nyman, of Applecross.

Tony Ericson, of Mt. Hawthorn, was second, while Bob Williams, of Gloucester Park, won the plate, with Eddy Morris, of P.M.G., second.

The 1966 series has opened to a good start with eight teams going strongly in the fourth round.

Housing

During the 1965-1966 Congress year, the Housing sub-committee held 21 meetings and handled over 94 applications for assistance, a large percentage of which were "difficult" or borderline cases. The requests for advice and assistance cover all types of housing problems from war-service homes to resumption of old homes.

Again the League has enjoyed full cooperation from the State Housing Commission and gratefully acknowledges this great help.

Land at a reasonable price for War Service Homes applicants has been the concern of the Housing sub-committee for a number of years, and as suitable building blocks rose in price, it became obvious that immediate action would have to be taken.

Representations from the State Executive through national headquarters resulted in the Director of War Service Homes making a special trip to Perth in March of this year. After considerable negotiations he arranged for the State Housing Commission to release a substantial number of building blocks in suitable areas and as, for agent for the War Service Homes division, acquire sufficient land for future War Service Home purposes.

It was also decided that the land position be reviewed annually by the director and the general manager of the State Housing Commission.

The operation of the R.S.L. Building Society is given in a separate report.

R.S.L. Shop

A profit of $2,596.18 was made. The R.S.L. shop in the trading year 1965. This amount will be paid into the War Veterans’ Home fund.

Although a large percentage of the shop’s turnover comes from the general public, it is gratifying to observe that R.S.L. members are showing increased interest in patronising their own shop. The image of an “old antique” shop has faded, and members have come to realise that they have their own men’s wear store with merchandise of quality and variety equal to any shop in Perth.

The support of all R.S.L. members is necessary to ensure successful trading, the result of which will mean considerable financial help for the War Veterans’ Home.

Staff

We have to report only one change in personnel during the year under review and this was due to the resignation of Miss Sandra Cook, who left us to get married.

The League is well served by its administrative staff and a friendly and co-operative spirit prevails. Every effort is made to give the type of service expected by sub-branches and individual members.

Warmest thanks to all members of the staff for yet another year of loyal and dedicated service.

Obituary

Notable among those who have passed to their rest are the following:

Mr. Fred Stahl.
Senator Sir Shane Paltridge.
Brigadier J. E. Lloyd.
Mr. S. A. Taylor.

Conclusion

In presenting these reports we feel confident that members will gain some knowledge of the variety of the activities undertaken by the League and, incidentally, of the work carried out by the State Executive committees throughout the year to the general public.

Concern must be expressed regarding a current drop in membership but it is by no means too late to arrest this trend. In fact, to put it bluntly, it must be rectified and the sooner the better.

Each year thousands of membership reminders are sent out by headquarters, but this is only a partial answer; only direct action by sub-branches will achieve the desired result.

We take this opportunity of extending to all members the best of good wishes for the coming year, secure in the knowledge that the League will continue to serve not only its members, but also Australia, in a manner designed to ensure an unshaken reputation and with a grim determination to uphold the League’s high ideals.

P. Pearson, State President.
W. Webb, State Secretary.
Cared For Once Again

A permanent home has been found for the handsome polished jarrah honour board you see here, which commemorates North Fremantle citizens who served in the Great War.

The roll-of-honour now adorns a wall in the secretary's office of the North-East Fremantle sub-branch of the R.S.L. in the Wyola Club premises, High-street, Fremantle.

For years the honour board remained in the North Fremantle Town Hall which, after being disused for several years, was recently sold and a portion sub-let to the Commonwealth for a post office.

During reconstruction of the premises the honour board came down and was recovered from rubble by North-East secretary Vince Durkin after a chance remark from Percy Green, at a general meeting, as to its whereabouts.

The board contains the names of 449 people, including Sister M. Wilkins, nine Railway Corps members and eight munition workers, who with all the other servicemen enlisted from North Fremantle.

A good many whose names are included are still on deck and quite a number are financial members of the sub-branch.

It is interesting to note that Vince Durkin was a member, a few years ago, of the Carlisle sub-branch of which his son Austin is now a prominent member as well as being secretary of the Army Medical Units Association.

If you do not know him, the man in the picture is Vince himself.

Drum-head Service In Wiltshire Downs

The following account of the Drum-head Service at Fovant, Wiltshire, on June 26, is from Mr Frank A. Kennedy, the League's honorary Press information officer in London.

The annual service took place, in fine weather, in the Garden of the Firs at Fovant and was attended by representatives of the Great War including parties from Old Comrades associations and members of the Returned Services League of Australia, whose badges are carved in the hillside at Fovant and Sutton Mandeville.

Australia's High Commissioner was represented by Major D. Patterson, D.A.A. and Q.M.G. Australian Army Staff, London.

The service was conducted by the Rev. J. E. Blachett, M.A., and the address was given by the Right Rev. Bishop A. W. Goodwin Hudson, a former Bishop of Sydney.

He said that in the Great War over 360,000 had volunteered for service overseas, and in the World War over half a million.

The service ended with the singing of the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" and the Blessing.

The chairman of the Badges Society announced that since the last appeal for funds, for the preservation of the badges donations had come in from all parts of the world.

The Australian Government and the R.S.L. make an annual donation.

Mr Kennedy also referred to a visit by R.S.L. National President Sir Arthur Lee to Buckingham Palace on July 6 to receive his knighthood from Her Majesty the Queen.

28th Battalion Notes

Recent monthly meetings of the 28th Battalion Association have recorded increased attendances. Newly elected committee members are anxious to make contact with as many as possible of the members of the battalion.

Attention is drawn to the altered time of the monthly general meeting.

To give increased opportunities for fraternisation, meetings of the association—held in Anzac House on the second Tuesday of each month—will commence at 2 p.m.

The mailman recently delivered a very pleasant surprise to president Bob Elesgood—a letter from the Australian Ambassador, Mr V. J. Blakeney, describing the Anzac Day Service at Cologne this year.

Bob's son-in-law, Captain Harris (with the British Forces in Germany) was present with his wife at the ceremony.

In connection with the Ambassador they mentioned Bob's service on Gallipoli, and this prompted the Ambassador to send Bob a description and photograph of the service. A kindly thought, Mr. Ambassador.

The British, Turkish, French, Indian, Pakistani and Australian embassies were represented, and also the British Forces and German Army and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Big Contest Wanted

Sub-branches and their auxiliaries are asked to consider the possibility of entering representatives for the 1966 Miss Crowning Glory competition.

An early start makes a big difference, and it is hoped that the competition will be the best ever for the League's jubilee year.

Last year the gross receipts were $11,122.24—shared equally between the R.S.L. and Legacy.

Sub-branches requiring further information on the competition should contact Anzac House immediately.

R.S.L. History

The R.S.L. History is now available at Anzac House. The cost is $1.40 if collected, $1.55 if posted.
Dick Field Returned
At Glen Forrest

At the Glen Forrest meeting on June 16, Dick Field, who was secretary in the days when Glen Forrest and Darlington were combined, was returned as president for his third term.

Dick has not enjoyed good health in recent months, but this has not impaired his ability to keep the branch in good order, and members of the Glen Forrest sub-branch wish him well for this ensuing year and many more to follow.

Sgt. John Hill has returned from service in Vietnam and has commenced instructing in Queensland.

John has served in Japan, Korea, Malaya and Vietnam. A special night might well be arranged if he is fortunate enough to be able to spend some time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Hill of Glen Forrest.

The sub-branch would like to hold a function for the occasion.

Sgt. Hill's wife and three sons will accompany him to Queensland. They are at present at Liverpool, N.S.W.

Annual Shoot

The R.S.L. championship shoot this year, will be held on Tuesday, July 19, in the Anzac House basement at 8 p.m.

Any financial member of any sub-branch is eligible to compete and entries may be made up to 8 p.m. on July 19.

The Games To Date

The A.R.M.S. games are going strongly with eight teams competing in the fifth round. Point scores to the end of the fourth round, with the Yellow Cap Cup points shown in brackets were:

- Mc. Hawthorn, 32 (588); West Leederville/Wembley, 16 (590); Millen, 8 (518); Nollamara, 8 (557); Swanbourne, 18 (436); Gloucester Park, 32 (579); Floreat/City Beach/Nedlands, 10 (560); City of Perth, 36 (559).

With three rounds still to go, these positions could change considerably. The grand final will be held on Monday, September 12, at 8 p.m. in the basement of Anzac House.

All those interested are invited to attend. Trophies will be presented to the winning teams and refreshments will be available.

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Lynwood
Today

Check the big features in every R.D.C. home

The luxury appointments in R.D.C. homes are standard features at no extra cost to you.

Right down to landscaped gardens with trees and shrubs supplied.

Find out how easily you can have a quality R.D.C. home at Lynwood only eight miles from Perth.
THE LAST POST (Deceased)

ANGLESEY, S., 1464, 5481, Royal Engineers, Belmont.
BARROW J. W., R49992, R.N., Ballarat.
BARRY J. R., 1306, 10th A.L.H., Mt. Hawthorn.
BECK C. R., 21481, R.A.S.C., Subiaco.
BOYENS G. T., 8848, Essex Regi., M.E., Rockingham.
BROWN H., 33905, 10th Garr., Cowaramup.
BROWNE E. A., 7062, 16th Bn., B. M. Mandurah.
BRYANT F. G., WX1631, 2/16th Bn., Gloucester Pk.
COLLINS W. F., WX172012, 2/6 Field Park, Busselton.
DEVINE T. C. J., TX2727, 2/6th F. Fremantle.
DIMOND C. L., 3102A, 48th Bn., Victoria Pk.
DROUST W. F., 1608, 28th A.L.H., N.E. Fremantle.
Elliott M. J., 867, 10th A.L.H., Mt. Leeley.
ELLISS A. N., WX2459, 2/11th Bn., City of Perth.
GREEN A. J., 39, 1st & 5th W.B. (W.A.), Perth.
GROSE R. S., WX11997, 2/28th Bn., Gosnells.

HAMPTON J., 798, 10th L.H., West Leederville.
HOCKIN W., 7563, 4th Div. Sigs., Gosnells.
JACKSON E. E., 2621, 48th Bn., Bassendean.
KEIGHTLEY J. E., 18404, 4th Div. Sigs., Medina.
KEMPSON S., WX2040, 2/11th Bn., Belmont.
KIRBY C. P., 6287, South Perth.
LORING A. G., 6003, 4th Royal Bns., Victoria Park.
MARTIN T., 6364, 51st Div. Subiaco.
MAY C. C., WX3662, 2/Fd. Coy., Albany.
MERCER S. A., 1376, 14 Fd. Bn., Subiaco.
MEYER H. S., WX10525, 2/16th Bn., City of Perth.
MORRELL J., WX11774, 2/1 A.I.B., Fremantle.
MCCARTHY S. T., WX3831, 9th Div. Quairading.
Mcgregor R., WX38042, A.A.S.C., Perth.
O'HALLORAN N. B., 73, 4th Imp. Bn., West Perth.
PATERSON G. A., M.N., Bexley-Palmyra.
PHILLIS E., 5096, Dorset, Canning.
PHILLIPS G. C. N., WX31666, 15 A.I.B., Bridgeport.
POTTER W., 3434036, 5th Bn., Rivervale.
RANFORD A. B., 18816, 3rd A.G.H., North Perth.
REGAN J. W., 293089, R.A.A.F., Central.
SHIELDS B. T., 2024, 11th Bn., Subiaco.
SLEEP C., 7446, 44th Bn., Central.
SMITH P. G., WX11574, 11th Bn., Subiaco.
TOMLINSON J., 85714, R.A.A.F., Mandurah.
VINDEN B. L., R.N.R., N.S.W.
WALLACE J. E., WX13251, 1 Amm. Co., Dwellingup.
WATSON J., 2252, 51st Bn., Becton.
WAUPOL J., 24444, 1060 How Bty., Bexley-Palmyra.
WILSON S. J., 8229, Royal Sussex, Fremantle.

Menin Gate Recording

Just released in Sydney is an unusual recording of a poem—by local author and composer Edmund Samuels—called “The Unknown Soldier speaks from Menin Gate.”

Produced by—Columbia. It is an excellent 45 r.p.m. which has D. John Clements reading the verse.

It is a most unusual record and should be very popular with servicemen and R.S.L. sub-branches and clubs.

Edmund Samuels, although possibly best known as the composer of such musical plays as “The Highwayman,” has been writing and publishing verse for many years.

He was a lieutenant in the first A.I.F. and from the thirties onward has concentrated on war subjects.

He regularly contributed poems read on the former 2UE Diggers' session conducted by the late Harry Yates.

As a result of his work he was asked to write a poem for the annual Armistice Day “Festival of Remembrance,” and this poem was the result.

It is dedicated to fallen soldiers and was first presented at the Sydney Town Hall on November 11, 1937, read by distinguished elocutionist J. Brunton Gibb.

Recently Mr Samuels decided that it would be an appropriate time to produce this poem in a new form.

The Menin Gate is a magnificent memorial at Ypres (France) and on its walls are engraved the names of 56,000 soldiers of the British Commonwealth whose bodies have never been recovered or identified.

The unusual cover of the record is from the original oil painting by distinguished artist Frank Hodgkinson.

Ex-P.O.W. Notes

At the Ex-P.O.W. Association committee meeting on June 1st Mr. Bob Delmelle, recently returned from Singapore, reported having had the pleasure of presenting a table lamp suitably engraved, to Mrs. Mary Seag (Angel of Changi).

The gift was a token of appreciation for the assistance given by Mrs Seag to ex-P.O.W.s from this State during the Japanese occupation of Singapore

Any British ex-P.O.W. of the Japanese now living in W.A. are advised that if in need of financial assistance they are entitled to apply for a grant from the W.A. ex-P.O.W. Association.

Application forms are obtainable from the office of the W.A. ex-P.O.W. Association, 3rd floor, Board Ltd., Perth.

Treasurer F. Brown had to resign recently owing to ill-health and Mr. R. Delmelle was elected in his place.

Visited the Anzac Club Lately?

Be with the League in its Jubilee Year!

1916—1966

Fifty years of service to ex servicemen in Australia

The 1966 Membership Fee is now overdue

Complete the coupon below and forward it with $3 to your sub-branch secretary or direct to Anzac House, Perth.

I enclose $3, my subscription to 31/12/66

NAME

ADDRESS

SUB-BRANCH

UNIT

Your badge deserves a financial clip.

The League needs your membership.

If you don't exactly need the League at the moment, yourself, one of your old service mates might.

The League is as strong as its membership.

DON'T—

wear a badge without a financial clip.

wear a badge with a clip years old.

wear a badge (soup plate type) issued 25 years ago.
**Geraldton Will Miss The Late Hal Jones**

When R.S.L. members at Geraldton faced the illuminated memorial inside Birdwood House at their June meeting president John Spendlove made special reference to their late colleague, Hal Jones, who died in hospital on June 12.

Mr. Jones, who was junior vice-president at the time of his death, had more than once led the monthly meetings in the recital of the ode “They Shall Grow Not Old.”

The President praised the outstanding services rendered by Mr. Jones in various capacities, and on the suggestion of Mr. Andy McDonald it was decided to place in the minute-book a written tribute to a person who, in spite of failing health, had set an example of service to many members.

The late Mr. Jones, who was a member of the Allendale Primary School at Geraldton, until ill-health forced him to retire in 1961, received a Certificate of Merit from State President Pearson at the

**Visited the Anzac Club Lately?**

**On Tour With The Browns**

By means of a projector and slides members of the Boulder sub-branch were visual participants, on May 30, in a world tour made by Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Brown.

The project took them through the British Isles, the United States, Canada and back via Honolulu.

The evening closed with a tasty supper provided by the ladies.

On June 2 president Tom Castlehow and his wife entertained members of the sub-branch and kindred organisations.

A highlight of the occasion was the presentation of a Certificate of Membership to sub-branch chaplain the Rev. Norman, an Athor, who is leaving the district to take up an appointment at Northam.

The honour was well merited, and various speakers eloquised his services to sub-branch and League.

The monthly meeting on June 16 was well attended. Routine business was dealt with.

**Geraldton Woman’s Big Handout To Veterans**

The Geraldton sub-branch has sent a letter of thanks to Mrs. Jane Grant of Moonyoolooka, for donating the proceeds from 25 acres of wheat to the War Veterans’ Home appeal.

The donation, over $380, is now being held in trust pending finalisation of arrangements concerning a proposal to establish a war veterans’ home at Geraldton.

Mr. Jones made a similar donation to the Geraldton women’s auxiliary last year.

All sub-branches in the Geraldton region have been asked by Anzac House to support the veterans’ home proposal.

A 12-bedroom building, envisaged in an estimated cost of about $2,000, on which two-thirds would be met by the Commonwealth Government. This does not include furniture and equipment.

Several of the sub-branches, including Northampton and Gutha, have expressed their support.

Other replies are awaited.

A sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Andy McDonald, Bert Lock and “Sandy” Sandford was elected at the June meeting to handle the appeal.

Anzac House has approached the Lands Department for an allocation of land, mentioning a favoured site at Wonthella.

The Geraldton sub-branch has again decided to stage a show in the Sunshine Festival.

The festival will be held from September 3 to 11.

**Anzac Day In Britain**

*(FROM FRANK A. KENNEDY)*

Whitehall was closed to traffic as Australian, New Zealand and British ex-servicemen assembled at London’s Cenotaph on Anzac Day.

The band of the Irish Guards was in attendance.

As Big Ben struck 11 the High Commissioners for Australia and New Zealand—Sir Alexander Downer, K.B.E., and Sir Thomas Macdonald, K.C.M.G., respectively—layed wreaths.


There was a big attendance at the commoration service in Westminster Abbey at noon.

The address was given by Right Rev. George V. Gerard, C.B.E., M.C., M.A., Assistant-Bishop of Sheffield and former Bishop of Walapu, New Zealand.
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND MARINES ASSOCIATION (W.A. BRANCH) - 2nd Floor, Wellington Buildings, Corner Stirling Highways and Wellington Road, Perth. Second Monday, President, J. A. Symes; Secretary, G. C. Holley.

SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (W.A. BRANCH) - House basement, third Monday at 2 p.m. President, A. E. K. Wing; Secretary, D. C. Loveridge.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION - 1st Floor, 117 Cathedral Circle, Subiaco. Secretary, E. H. Powell, 168 Alfred-road, Perth. Sub-committees:

1. ANZAC Day - 21st April...
3. Annual Reunion - Park Street, Subiaco, 1st July.

ROYAL ARTILLERY LIGHT ASSOCIATION OF (W.A.) - 2nd Floor, 117 Cathedral Circle, Subiaco. Secretary, A. A. McDonald, 177 Cathedral Circle, Subiaco. Meetings first Thursday of each month at 14th Anzac House, 14 Stirling Highways, Perth.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION OF (W.A.) - 2nd Floor, 117 Cathedral Circle, Subiaco. Secretary, E. H. Powell, 168 Alfred-road, Perth. Meetings second Friday of each month at 14th Anzac House, 14 Stirling Highways, Perth.

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BACK FROM VIETNAM

On the invitation of Shenton Park sub-branch secretary George Pringle and his wife members rolled up in force to welcome Brian Pringle, back from Vietnam.

Brian had got mixed up with a bomb (the four-wheeled type) a little while before but managed to get on parade with the aid of a walking stick and despite about 17 stitches, to be presented with his R.S.L. Badge by Mr. Sydney McNamara, chairman of trustees, for the League.

This could be the first League badge presented to a returned Vietnam boy.

The night went with a real swing, thanks to the music provided by Frank Coles and his able young drummer, together with a good supper provided by the ladies and a good old fashioned sing-song around the piano.

The sub-branch extends its deep sympathy to Mr. Clarrie Greedy on the sad loss of his wife.

She was held in high regard by all members.

Asian Language Study

Here is the official reply to a National Executive request for information on the opportunities existing in Australia at present for the study of Asian languages, especially Malay.

The Commonwealth Government has given proof for some years of its recognition of the importance of Asian languages by the provision of special financial assistance to the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne for the teaching of Malay and Indonesian.

Such studies are now available at Monash University and at the University of Queensland.

The question of priority is a difficult one. Bahasa Indonesian and Malay are less difficult than either Japanese or Chinese at the secondary level, and can be taught and learned at this level without real difficulty.

Chinese and Japanese require a greater degree of maturity if the student is to obtain real benefit from his study.

At present Japanese can be studied at secondary level in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

In 1962 about 60 students were studying Japanese at the secondary level, and in the same year some 1,100 school children were studying Chinese in New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

In 1964, in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, 150 schoolchildren were studying Malay.

Bahasa Indonesian, akin to Malay, is taught at one of the high schools in Canberra, and Asian languages are offered at a number of adult education classes.

You may keep in mind that the study of such languages should ideally be supported by a study of the history, geography, philosophy, religion and political systems of each of the countries concerned.

Fine Record of Service!

Following is a letter from a dedicated League of Pemberton, known far and wide as "Todd".

"This being the 50th year of the League's life, I thought perhaps some information regarding members may be of interest.

This being so, I, with due humility, submit my own record.

I was at Fremantle on disembarkation in November, 1919, by a Mr. Wilkins, of Mt. Lawley, who joined me up with that sub-branch.

I went to the Lancefield mine in 1920 and became a member of Laverton sub-branch.

The mine closed in 1921 and at the end of that year I returned to Kalanning and was a member and secretary there until April, 1927, when I became a secretary of Pemberton sub-branch for 12 months and continued as a member until 1929.

My next move was to Wongan Hills, where I was secretary from 1929 to 1932. Then I transferred to Goonmeal until 1935, and was secretary there for most of my stay.

I then went into business at Worsley, and there became a member of the sub-branch.

We established a sub-section at Worsley and held meetings there alternately.

My last branch—and the one to which I still belong—was Pemberton, to which town I came in 1932. During the intervening 28 years I have been president for 17 years, secretary for seventeen years, treasurer for two years and—auditor for a year.

I think this is a reasonable record of service, and I am still secretary of Pemberton with little hope of handing over.

Anzac Club the home of friendship.

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