Remembrance Day—50 Years After Armistice

At the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month"—just 50 years since the signing of the Armistice that brought hostilities in the Great War to a close—the Remembrance Day gathering at the State War Memorial observed the traditional two-minute silence.

There, and at local points throughout the city and beyond, buglers sounded the Last Post, and later Reveille.

The silence was brought to a conclusion with the firing of a 25-pounder gun and a flypast by four R.A.A.F. Macchi jets.

At the Memorial Service the address was given by the Premier, Mr. Brand.

He said that in gathering to honour those who had made the supreme sacrifice, the public could only reflect on the futility and suffering of war.

The ceremony was interdenominational, those officially participating including Rabbi Dr. S. Coleman, the Rev. W. Lutton (Methodist), Father E. Rogers (Roman Catholic) and the new Anglican Dean of Perth, the Very Rev. John Hazelwood.

An important part in the ceremony was played by the Army. It posted C.M.F. sentrymen at the war memorial at 6 p.m. on November 10.

They were relieved by Regular Army troops at midnight, and finally a cordon was mounted at 10.45 a.m. on Remembrance Day. Its members remained in position to the end of the ceremony.

Among numerous wreath-layers were Mr. Brand, Lord Mayor Wardle, British Deputy High Commissioner B. A. Pennock, Legislative Council President L. C. Diver, the service chiefs, R.S.L. State President Pearson and the Women's Auxiliary president Mrs. Ames.

The service at the Veterans' Home was conducted by the Rev. D. Bazely, in the Field of Remembrance.

A cross of red roses was placed there in memory of men killed in Vietnam.

Veterans' Home Medical Centre Opened

A special feature for the League on Remembrance Day this year was the official opening at the War Veterans' Home of the Medical Holding Centre.

The ceremony was performed by the Minister for Health, Mr. MacKinnon, in the presence of several hundred visitors. The centre, providing for the medical care of 12 residents at a time (in two four-bed and two two-bed wards) and including nurse's quarters and consulting room, has been built as an addition to the administrative block at its northern end.

The new building, harmonies and inconspicuously with the original structure and has been tastefully furnished and equipped.

To build the centre cost about $36,000, two-thirds of which was provided by the Commonwealth Government, in accordance with its policy of encouraging the construction of homes for the aged.

Declaring the centre open Mr MacKinnon said he must publicly thank the League for the great job it had done in preparing to care for invalid residents on the spot.

Such centres would do much to reduce the pressing demand for treatment at the big hospitals, he said.

He would be less than human if he were not pleased to have even a small role to play in such a progressive step.

Mr MacKinnon said the home signified a general desire among those caring for the elderly to set up a degree of total care.

The new centre was designed to cope with minor illnesses; more serious sickness would have to be treated elsewhere.

It promised to provide the ideal solution to the problem of ordinary sickness.

Resident veterans could now be treated on the spot like people living at home.

The bulk of the finance for the centre had come from the Commonwealth but the $10,000 donation by the North Perth sub-branch had also been a splendid gesture.

The home was now a magnificent community centre with all the standard amenities—now equipped with the new nursing facilities.

The Minister had been introduced by Dr. Alan King, chairman of the Veterans’ Home Board.

A plaque referring to the North Perth sub-branch donation was unveiled by Mr. R. L. Davises.

Providing accommodation for male and female war veterans and widows, the home was opened on its present site in 1961.

In 1965 ten domestic units for elderly couples—the Darby and Joan cottages—were incorporated, and the chapel was built in 1966.

At present in residence are 98 males and 99 females.

After the opening ceremony the visitors were shown over the new quarters and then entertained at afternoon-tea.
Proceedings At National Congress

In the presence of a most distinguished audience the 53rd annual national Congress of the League was declared open by His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Casey, on Monday, October 28, at R.S.L. headquarters, Canberra.

A significant feature of the opening ceremony was that the three main speakers—Lord Casey, the Prime Minister (the Right Honourable J. G. Gorton) and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. G. Whitlam)—all wore the League badge.

It is believed to have been the first occasion on which three such notable personalities were collectively indicated the high prestige in which the League is held and it is particularly pleasing to delegates to listen to the tributes paid to the League and its representatives in the highest offices that Australia has to offer. With a great deal of pride we look on with great interest to the Governor-General's address:

"I know you will all be very glad to hear the following message from Her Majesty The Queen addressed to Sir Arthur Lee, National President of the R.S.L.:

I send my warmest good wishes to all members of the Returned Services League of Australia as they meet for their 53rd National Congress. As patron of the League I wish them all a successful and enjoyable meeting.

ELIZABETH R.

MUCH DONE

"The R.S.L. has had a year of great activity, both nationally and internationally, of which you have been good enough to let me have a summary. As a result of this activity, Congress for the first time in its history met with the three main leaders of the country, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Governor-General."

"You have a long agenda for this Congress, made up of resolutions, reports and other items submitted by the National Executive and from all your branches, which between them cover many matters of great importance affecting your constitution and many dealing with matters affecting the welfare and interests of ex-servicemen and women and their dependants.

"I have looked through these many resolutions, which reflect the vigour and imagination of your branches. How you are going to get through this long agenda in the time available is beyond me; but this is your affair and not mine.

"However, I will be interested in due course to see the results you hammer out, which will give you a hint as to how to go about it. As R.S.L. representatives you are non-political; as citizens you have the right to express yourselves on matters that, directly or indirectly, have political connotations.

"I notice that your agenda includes resolutions that go beyond the direct or indirect matters of concern to ex-servicemen and women, and deals with matters of broad national and international policy.

TAKING NOTE

"You have an appropriate audience in this regard with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition present. I expect, with notebooks in their pockets, to have a notebook in my pocket but constitutionally it will have to remain there.

"Having read through the many resolutions that you will deal with, one thing strikes me and it is a very welcome thing, and that is I notice a thread running throughout them—the spoken and unspoken reflection of a widespread desire among your branches to strengthen Australia so that we can face with greater certainty what that future may hold for us.

"The strengthening of Australia can be promoted in a variety of ways by increasing our population as quickly as possible, without affecting our standard of living; education, on the other hand, requires our human resources to be used to their full capacity, without affecting the limit of our ability.

"In conclusion I would say how glad I am to know of your international activities in an effort to help our friends in South-East Asia: the R.S.L. and the League of the Orient in the Philippines, the details of which I have read with great interest over the last year, have done much to expand educational and other aid and the personal contact that this creates are of great importance.

"I would hope very much that you will be able to support this programme and extend our financial resources, are able to meet the cost. If I may say so the R.S.L. deeply appreciates the credit for what you have done and for what you are doing, which is in accordance with the national interest.

"It is good to read about the R.S.L. to the world at all times at all times to stimulate thinking on questions of national and community interests.

BALANCE

"It is only when every Australian takes the national interests into account, as well as the personal interests, that we will make the most of ourselves as a nation.

"The Prime Minister supported the Governor-General's address in the following terms:

"It is for me a great distinction to stand today and talk to the representatives of an organisation which has served me so well, and I think the three major objectives—those that I think of most importance—are:

"Firstly, to see that those who were injured by war, and the dependants of those who were killed, are properly cared for. In that area, I think, we have always been, and are so far as I know, are still conformed, how all the war, were looked after by the nation.

"The second, to try to ensure that the defences of this country were, insofar as our resources permitted, kept at a level which would be a test to our resources. This is not to suggest that this organisation has not clearly fulfilled its function of providing a military organisation for the nation. And the third, to see that, that which was retained in two world wars is used properly in peace for the benefit of the nation.

"In neither of the great wars fought did we win anything new, nor did we find out what we were able to do. But the contribution of the sacrifices twice made. And it is therefore most significant for us to see that the foundation upon which, and in which, alone, a great nation can be built, the foundation of freedom and participation in decisions—is used to build an enduring structure.

"These are three great objectives.

SQUEEZING

"As to the first two, the Governor-General has already indicated the difficulties of getting a quart out of a pint pot. But I am sure that if, for the sake of this organisation is concerned, they will never stop squeezing—If I can change the metaphor and regard it as a tube of toothpaste—never cease squeezing the tube to empty it—then we can arrive at the utmost possible.

"One thing of which His Excellency spoke was the number of items on your agenda, from which it will not need to take up much of the time—time which is precious and which we cannot afford to waste in any degree.

"The congress agenda comprised 388 items and two notices-of-motion and was decreased as follows: carried 168; referred 21; withdrawn 35; in operation, 11; out-of-order, 4.

"An item submitted by N.S.W. seeking amendment to Rule 5(f) of the nation.

(Continued Page 3)
THE LISTENING POST

November, 1968

THE DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

The following statement on the proposed constitutional amendment at National Congress comes from the State President, Mr. P. Pearson.

Recent press comments on the subject of a proposed constitutional amendment at National Congress were printed in this column. It is undoubtedly true that all sections of the community, whether they are trade unions, professional associations or other groups, have their own yardsticks for evaluating the merits of a proposal. It is, however, hoped that the recommendations of the Executive will be given serious consideration before a final decision is made.

In this connection, it should be remembered that the Executive was elected by the delegates to represent the interests of the members. It is up to the delegates to decide what action they will take, but it is hoped that they will give serious consideration to the recommendations of the Executive.

The execution of any such proposal will necessitate detailed planning and a substantial expenditure of time and money. It is, therefore, essential that the delegates give serious thought to the matter before making a decision.

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THE LISTENING POST

November, 1968

EDUCATION GRANTS CURTAILED

An unexpectedly large number of requests for educational assistance from the Services Canteens Trust Fund has led to a drastic curtailment of the benefits.

This is stated by the trustees in their annual report, recently released by the Federal Treasurer, Mr. Sir Arthur Calwell. Those standing to benefit from the educational grants are the children of service personnel of the World War.

Despite an actual increase in the value of awards to children over—instead of 12 years for orphans and 13 years for the others as in previous years—children under 14 years of age and the number of children increased from 2,348 to 2,524. The amount of each award for orphans has been decreased from $140 or $120 to $55, and corresponding decreases occurred in the value of awards to other categories of children.

Post-graduate scholarships, however, are increased and education awards and grants to children in receipt of educational allowances from the Repatriation Department are to be discontinued.

WELFARE

Assistance to eligible ex-servicemen and their dependants in the form of grants, allowances and pensions continues to be the greatest number.$95,000 a year was granted to widows and orphans from the inception of the fund for welfare of ex-servicemen and their families.

WIDOWS, ORPHANS

Assistance to widows and orphans during 1967 was $10,350 more than in 1966. Up to 31st December 1968, $4,414,000 had been spent in assisting 55,000 ex-servicemen and their families.

PROCEEDINGS AT R.S.L. NATIONAL CONGRESS

(From Page 2)

constitutional amendment caused a great deal of confusion and much adverse publicity. The final outcome was a committal of the matter, the decision of which was unreservedly endorsed by the delegates for their advice. A second issue which created something of a stir was the question of the British Commonwealth of Nations. As State President I was asked to make a statement and pointed out that the League to which we belong is the Commonwealth of Nations. As State President I was asked to make a statement and pointed out that the League to which we belong is the Commonwealth of Nations.

Dr. William Yeo, the President, Mr. Arthur Pearson, was the man who introduced the bill. He said that anybody who enjoyed free educational privileges and was convicted of riotous or lawless behaviour should be deprived of such rights.

Sir Arthur Lee, the opening, referred to those main purpose in life appeared to be one of disruption. The Federation, he said, was in direct contradiction to the efforts of the League to make peace in the world. The League must make through economic aid, and personal contact in its part of the world.

Mr. Pearson was asked if the organisation must remain in line with contemporary thinking from the point of view of the 'knockers' who sought to tear down established structures merely because they were established, and those who would protest for the sake of protest and dissent because it was fashionable to challenge everything that reflected tradition and heritage and old-fashioned terms like "patriotism" and "loyalty."

Sir Arthur Lee was one of the principal authors of the fundamental task was to care for those who had suffered in war, to call for the respect and support of a secure and progressive Australia.

Freedom both for the community and individually was threatened, while recognising the right to dissent and protest but rejecting those who sought to tear down structures merely because they were established, and those who would protest for the sake of protest and dissent because it was fashionable to challenge everything that reflected tradition and heritage and old-fashioned terms like "patriotism" and "loyalty."
Getting Ready For Swing-wing Jets

R.A.A.F. men at Amberley call it the Taj Mahal: to anyone else it’s the new king-sized maintenance hangar for the F-111Cs that now dominates the skyline of this R.A.A.F. bomber base in southern Queensland.

In recent weeks the Amberley base has been accelerating sharply to top gear as D-Day for the advent in Australia of the revolutionary strike-reconnaissance F-111C approaches. The towering new maintenance hangar, completed at a cost of $1,250,000, is but one of many construction projects—as well as training and equipment programmes—undertaken in preparation for the arrival of an aircraft (perhaps more accurately termed a weapons system) that will push this country to the frontiers of capability in military aviation.

No doubt ‘exists among the R.A.A.F. men at Amberley that the F-111C, with its many revolutionary features, greatly advances the state of the art in technology and that, like the Spitfire of the World War and the first jet plane to fly, it seems destined for an honoured place as one of the greats of aviation history.

Amberley, commanded by Air-Commodore Deryck Kingwell, D.S.O., who commanded a wing of Liberator bombers in the World War, has the

The aircraft in question—F-111C

delivery of 11 training aids from the United States," he said. "Each of these aids simulates a specific system, or number of systems, in the F-111C aircraft. These include the surface-control system, auto-flight control, electronic counter-measures, weapons radar, inertial navigation, terrain-following radar, electrical system and so on."

S/L Grantham said that "clean rooms" being reallocated for use by the radio and electronic sections would be far cleaner than most hospital surgeries.

The "clean" conditions are essential to provide an acceptable environment for the delicate equipment of the F-111C.

Special control equipment will count dust particles and measure their size. Vacuum cleaners built into the walls will remove particles, and air locks will control the passage of air.

A shoe cleaning machine will systematically remove all dust particles from the shoes of personnel entering the clean environment.

The main repair and servicing of the airframe and engines of the F-111C will be carried out at Amberley. No 3 Air Depot, commanded by Group Capt. J. A. Rowland, D.F.C., A.F.C., will have the capacity to overhaul, strip and rebuild the powerful turbofan engines of the F-111C.

A new electroplating workshop costing $800,000, and claimed to be one of the ten best in the world, is rapidly approaching completion at the base.

Not forgotten at Amberley is the comfort of the personnel who will work on the F-111C.

The latest designs in new quarters have been built in a delightful setting noted for well-kept lawns studded with shrubs and trees.

Amberley has a swimming pool, built by R.A.A.F. volunteer labour in time-off periods, and many playing fields and club facilities. So comfortable are the new W.R.A.A.F. quarters that they are locally referred to as the "Amberley Rex."

Predicted on the assumption that efficiency must rise the more those members directly concerned with the project know about it, everyone at the base—including cooks, guards, and the latest recruits—are put in the picture on the general aspects of the project with talks, films and lectures.

This policy extends also to the nearby population of southern Queensland, many of whose leaders—including industrialists, business and professional men—spend a day at the base absorbing information on the project and meeting the R.A.A.F. They go away with a much better understanding not only of the F-111C project but of the R.A.A.F. itself. "Air Force News."

[Latest information suggests delivery may be deferred for at least another six months.—Ed.]
Two-way Fares For Five To Visit North

The highlight of this year's R.S.L. annual reunion dinner at Marble Bar was the presence of five former residents and sub-branch members who are now living in Perth.

All veterans of the Great War, they were guests of members who contributed to a fund to cover their full fares both ways and their accommodation for up to ten days.

President Wally Nichols sparked the occasion in sponsoring the fund, heading it with a handsome donation and seeing his enterprise rewarded by the matching enthusiasm of all members.

Local residents, enthralled when news of the project erupted, joined the act with offers of transport whenever or wherever our guests felt travel-minded.

The dinner itself was a magnificent effort and a triumph for management and staff at the Ironclad Hotel.

A toast to these personnel, proposed in masterly fashion by Ossie Richardson, was responded to with acclamation by all present.

Apologies were received from Messrs Arthur Bickerton, M.L.A., and Harry Strickland, M.L.C.

The five guests of honour were Harry Griffin (28th Battalion), Sam Kennedy (11th Battalion) O.D. (Curly) Drew (16th Battalion), Laurie Corbett (10th Light Horse) and Billy Thomson (10th Light Horse).

The last-named, a former owner of Split Rock Station, was seeing Marble Bar and old friends after an absence of 19 years.

A foundation member of the sub-branch, Billy thrilled the audience with anecdotes of the early twenties when the branch was inaugurated.

He was replying to a toast to the visitors proposed by George Mallett.

Other guests who replied contributed to the homely atmosphere and camaraderie with their responses, some serious, some semi-serious, most humorous.

The reunion over our guests had about ten days in which to visit old haunts or old mates, or just laze about as the mood disposed.

One of their most rewarding decisions was to attend a gypsy camping at Coongan Station, conveying being provided by Matt Edwards and John A. Johnston.

The veterans returned flushed and animated after a day in the prairie wind.

Ironclad taxis were most helpful in providing a shuttle service to the club where all friends meet—all at no cost to the sub-branch.

If one of the vacationists was absent a mere whisper became a command for a search-and-delivery mission.

AERIAL TAXI

To avoid a tedious road journey by the travel-weary commuters, an aircraft was dispatched from Corunna by Drillwell Pty. Ltd.

The day spent at Port Hedland was a day spent in the prairie wind.

Port Hedland sub-branch and auxiliary took over the torch, fed and watered the returning visitors generally fussed and shushed around them during a seven-hour wait for departure time and finally tuckled them into cosy sleepapad chairs for the last leg of a beguiling and memorable operation.

For us who stayed, the essence of many a happy moment lingers: a savouring, a satisfaction, a quiet pride in something attempted and something done.—Sentinel.

* Shown here at the dinner are (from left) Marble Bar shire president Ron Edwards, sub-branch president Wally Nichols and Port Hedland sub-branch president Jack Hunt.

"My praise to BEX..."

Mr. John Parker, 16 Henry Street, CARDIFF, N.S.W., writes:

"My praise to Bex Powders. I could hardly walk twenty yards without stooping and hold my knees for the pain from rheumatism. But thanks to Bex Powders that I can go away working all day now."

There's no need to suffer pain when you can get relief quickly and safely by following the simple BEX directions. Within a few minutes the pain eases and fades away because the pure medicinals used in BEX and its time-tested formula are thoroughly effective. Ask for BEX.

BEX IS BETTER

Bex

PRICE 12c

The above testimonial may be inspected at the Head Office of Bexers Pty., Ltd., 651, Crown & Campbell Sts, Sydney.
Repatriation Provisions Of The Budget

The following comments have been received from the Minister for Repatriation (Senator McKellar) on the repatriation provisions of the Federal Budget.

I am writing to advise you formally of the Repatriation Budget decision. As you will know from the Treasurer's budget speech, the Government this year has been able to make substantial changes in the repatriation area and I am pleased to say that the changes will assist many thousands of ex-servicemen and war widows and orphans.

For the main pensions the Government proposes to increase the special (T. and P.I.) rate by $5, to $38.50 a week, and to increase by the same amount the intermediate rate of pension which is payable to those who, because of war-caused incapacity, can work only part-time or intermittently.

This will make the intermediate rate $24.25 a week. For war widows the basic pension will rise by $1 to $14 a week. This means that those who also qualify for the domestic allowance will now receive a total of $20 a week.

Again this year increased pensions will be payable to the children of deceased ex-servicemen whose deaths have been accepted as due to war service.

Where the mother is alive the increase will be $1, the first child receiving $5.40 and subsequent children $2.25 a week. Where both parents are dead the increase will be $2-up to $10.15 a week.

With a view to providing additional compensation for those who, although able to work, are nonetheless seriously incapacitated by war-caused disability, the Government has introduced a new allowance which will be known as the Special Compensation Allowance.

The maximum rate of the allowance will be $3 a week for those on the full general (100 per cent) rate, scaling downwards proportionately to $2.25 a week for those on the 75 per cent rate.

Because the eligibility for this allowance is based on actual severe incapacity it will not necessarily be paid to all those who are now receiving pensions between the 75 per cent and the 100 per cent rates. Some such pensioners receive those rates under statute, or long-standing practice, even though the rates do not reflect their present actual incapacity.

These pensioners are former tuberculosis sufferers who, under the statute, must receive the 100 per cent rate for life although their present actual incapacity may be less; and sufferers from defective vision and defective hearing who are in the 75 per cent to 100 per cent group because their pension rate is assessed on the basis of their vision or hearing being corrected by spectacles or hearing aids. These pensioners will not automatically be eligible.

(Continued, Page 7)

Budget Repatriation Details, 1968-69

The following table shows details of variations in pensions and allowances:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENEFIT</th>
<th>Previous Weekly Rate (Pre-Budget)</th>
<th>Present Weekly Rate (1968-69 Budget)</th>
<th>Increase (Weekly)</th>
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<tr>
<td>WAR PENSION</td>
<td>Special (T. &amp; P.I.)</td>
<td>$30.50</td>
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<td>Rate (Member)</td>
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<td>Also applies to:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>War Blinded, T.T.I. Rate, Class &quot;C.&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tus Rate special rate medical maintenance and rate payable to certain double amputees (Fifth Schedule—Items 1-6)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Intermediate Rate, (Member)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Also applies to Class &quot;B.&quot; Tu rate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>War Widow Pension</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>War Orphans—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>One parent dead—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First child</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Each other child</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Both parents dead—</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Each child</td>
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<td>SERVICE PENSION</td>
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<td>Married</td>
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<td>For each child (except first)</td>
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<td>First child</td>
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<td>Second child</td>
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<td>Third child</td>
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<td>Wife's Pension</td>
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<td>ALLOWANCES</td>
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<td>Applies to certain severely incapacitated members with 75%-100% assessed incapacity (details below):</td>
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<td>Total Pension plus Allowance for Eligible Pensioners</td>
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<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Pension (G.R.)</td>
<td>S.C. Allowance</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>9.00</td>
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BENEFIT | Previous Weekly Rate (Pre-Budget) | Present Weekly Rate (1968-69 Budget) | Increase (Weekly) |
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<td>Higher Rate</td>
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<td>$12.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lower Rate</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>7.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education and Training Allowances (S.C.E.S.)—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>General Education—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Age 12 up to 14 years—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living at home</td>
<td>$1.90</td>
<td>$2.18</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living away from home</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
<td>$7.28</td>
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<td>Age 14 up to 16 years—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living at home</td>
<td>$2.88</td>
<td>$3.30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living away from home</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
<td>$7.28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Age 16 up to 18 years or Matriculation—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living at Home</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
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<td>Living away from home</td>
<td>$9.78</td>
<td>$11.25</td>
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<td>Agricultural—</td>
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<td>Industrial—</td>
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<td>$2.30</td>
<td>$2.65</td>
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<td>Living away from home</td>
<td>$4.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clothing—</td>
<td>Allowance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leg and arm amputated</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
<td>$0.85</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Leg or arm amputated</td>
<td>$0.38</td>
<td>$0.43</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Both legs or both arms amputated</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
<td>$0.55</td>
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<td>Clothing Allowance, is payable also to members whose incapacity results in exceptional wear and tear to damaged clothing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training Allowance—</td>
<td>(Living away from home allowances payable under Repatriation Training Schemes)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unmarried Trainee</td>
<td>$5.50 for first 8 weeks of Training</td>
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<td>Married trainee with dependent child</td>
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<td>Married trainee with dependent child</td>
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<td>Married trainee with dependent child</td>
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<td>$5 p.w. during whole of training</td>
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<td>$21 p.w. during whole of training</td>
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The Spirit Of El Alamein

In the three or four days before the opening of the Battle of El Alamein on 23rd October 1942 the staffs, battalion commanders, officers and men of the Eighth Army were progressively informed of the objects of the battle, of the high hopes that were held for the outcome, and of the individual units’ roles within the battle.

The Army Commander directed that the briefings were to be made the occasion for lifting the troops’ spirits to the highest pitch. The excellent address reproduced here from the history of the 2/48th Battalion was given at a battalion parade by the C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Weir, just after dusk on October 21.

In 48 hours this battalion will take part in the greatest battle that has yet been fought in this war, a battle which in importance equals to be the turning-point of the war. It is possible that this great battle of El Alamein, will be known in history as one of the decisive battles of the world, such as Saratoga, the defeat of the Spanish Armada and Waterloo.

At 9.45 a.m. on October 21, a little over 48 hours from now—Eighth Army will launch a co-ordinated attack on the whole of the enemy front, a distance of approximately ten miles.

At exactly that moment, everyone available gun in the Eighth Army will open fire as a prelude to the battle. We, in common with every other battalion taking part in the attack, will be within 200 yards of the enemy positions when the conflagration starts.

Simultaneously the Air Force will pattern bomb known enemy strongholds and gun positions whilst the Navy will shell the enemy lines of communications in the rear.

The battle will thus be without precedent in the history of the war and has been planned to the last detail.

When I attended General Montgomery’s conference, his opening words were these: “General, our men are won before they are fought and this battle is already won.”

He went on to say that on reaching its first line of objectives the whole of the Eighth Army will swing clockwise, pivot of the right flank and thus closing a great arc from the south to the sea in which it is hoped we will have to receive the first fruits of our enemy’s strength will be trapped.

He added that he had seen the 9th Australian Division for the vital task of holding the right flank on which the whole battle will pivot.

He chose the Australians for two reasons: firstly because they were battle-seasoned and experienced in desert fighting, and secondly because he knew that they never wield one Yard of ground to the enemy.

BATTALION ROLE

Now I come to our part. The Australians in the division have been selected to open the attack on the right flank, and it is known that they will hold their own and then some.

They will hold a position facing the enemy flank and link up with the 2/48th Battalion flank.

Thus, both battalions will be in position to resist enemy attempts to turn the flank, whilst the rest of the army swings towards the sea.

We will hold the coastal sector against a break-out frontally, and all in all we have every reason to believe that the enemy will find themselves in an extremely embarrassing situation.

Tomorow night we move from here to occupy a rising-up area in camouflaged diggings which have been prepared by units of the 2/48th Brigade.

The last thing we want to do is to break up the area where we have all waited for so long.

We have the strength; we have the power; we have the experience and above all, the determination to succeed and the will to win. We have a friend in Arthur-Onslow, of the 9th Australian Division Cavalry, who will have a composite force under his command and will occupy a series of posts on our flank as we advance to discourage and maintain the morale of the enemy in this direction.

OBJECTIVE

When we reach our objective, and the 2/48th Battalion has passed through our positions to its objective, we will manoeuvre ourselves into a position facing the enemy flank and link up with the 2/48th Battalion flank.

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DEDICATION

Finally, I say this: if there is a man among you who has not the guts to stand shoulder to shoulder with us, and who hopes in some way to dodge his share of the job, let him go and let us have no one into this fight who is not dedicated to the task.

God willing, we may all have given our hearts to the battle that lies ahead and the knowledge that we do is done in the cause of freedom and the downfall of tyranny.

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November, 1968

THE LISTENING POST
National Defence Submission

Outright rejection of Fortress Australia thinking; unrestricted national service training; more emphasis on patrol-type naval units and less on anti-submarine warfare, and a large increase in air-transport capacity are among the main points of this year's R.S.L. Defence Submission—endorsed by National Congress on October 29.

The submission, which was to go to the Government without delay, was as follows:

To give credibility to any consideration of Australia's security we must think in terms of the security of South-East Asia.

The strategy of a Fortress Australia is not only inefficient, it is impossibly costly, defies any standards, an immoral concept unacceptable to the Australian philosophy.

"NOT FOR US"

Mr Whitlam, Leader of the Federal Opposition, in a recent speech expressed this philosophy in the following words: "An isolationist Australia would be rich, selfish, greedy, racist and reactionary."

It is fundamental to this thinking that anything threatening the security of the region threatens the security and well-being of Australia.

Few serious observers of the international scene would talk in terms of a completely monolithic form of Communism. The Sino-Soviet rift and the essential nationalism of many of the new Communist initiatives are all too evident.

Those, however, who refuse to accept the existence of a Communist threat talk in derisive terms of the Third World colossus thrusting down from South-East Asia.

Their main theme is the logistic impossibility of such an eventuality. This, of course, is not the nature of the threat to Australia and South-East Asia.

Church, obviously, has no intention of becoming directly involved in military activity when the objectives she seeks can be achieved by other means.

The policy she has followed with great patience, and no small measure of success, is one of manipulating insurgency, encouraging aggressive nationalism and exploiting social and economic injustices.

In Vietnam we are involved in the first major example of the so-called "Wars of National Liberation"; the guerrilla wars in which infiltration, subversion and terrorism are the principal elements; the type of strategy reminiscent of something like 10 to 1 to defeat.

GIAP'S VIEW

General Giap, North Vietnam's able military leader, has said: "If we win in Vietnam we will go everywhere. This is the nature of the issue that faces the Free World; to take a learning from General Giap, we in Vietnam we may well lose everywhere.

One bonus that has emerged from the Vietnam war is the fact that it has forced us to come to grips with the problems of the world and its economic problems of the countries in the region.

As, naturally, is a very long-term policy and while it is being implemented the work of the Vietnamese must be protected against all attack.

The Paris peace talks talk of the hope for a satisfactory political settlement of the war. The Free World, however, does not envisage in South Vietnam.

Any agreement must provide for eventual self-determination by the Vietnamese and ensure a degree of stability and peace that can enable this to happen.

The main challenge is to withdraw on any basis that does not provide for a satisfactory settlement they will lose face and the same problems in some other area.

Our principal task in the Vietnam war is to ensure that another Vietnam does not occur.

It is now clear to even the most zealous neutralist that Peking-backed revolutionary warfare campaigns are being launched against every non-Communist Government in the region.

The Chinese have established the Ho Chi Minh Trail to support her forces in South Vietnam.

In doing this they knew that the World forces, respecting the 1962 agreement, could not intervene or attack their supply routes with ground or air forces.

Unless there is a satisfactory peace settlement, there is no chance of the Vietnamese and the North Vietnamese are no longer committed in South Vietnam and could be the vanguard of a concerted action under the guise of an independence movement.

In Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk has pursued a neutralist policy involving consistent criticism of the United States.

In recent months, however, he too has publicly charged North Vietnam with developing an increasingly threatening Cambodian Vietnamese frontier—a threat that he claims is being directed by Peking, North Vietnam but solidly backed by Communist China.

"LIBERATION"

In both Thailand and the Philippines the so-called National Liberation Fronts have been established. The announcement of their establishment was made from Peking where insurgent training programmes are underway.

In Thailand particularly, it can be anticipated that the Vietnamese will develop and extend.

In Indonesia, the 1965 Communist revolt was followed by the P.K.I. (the Communist Party) which, under the leadership of the People's Movement, has been reconstituted and is gaining strength.

Both Governments are now turning back to the West for aid.

In Laos the neutralist Prime Minister, Souvan Phouma, has charged North Vietnam with aggression, claiming that there are some 30,000 regular North Vietnamese in his country.

In 1961-62 Laos was threatened by a neutralist, the great powers, including Russia, guaranteeing its freedom from interference.

In a blatant violation of the 1962 agreement North Vietnam has used the neutrality of Laos to establish the Ho Chi Minh Trail to supply her forces in South Vietnam.

To give credibility to this submission, the threat to the Federal Opposition, the type of strategy, the nature of the situation, we should consider the following:

1. The Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia has been a stern reminder of the dangers of the situation. This was not expecting too much from the apparent liberalisation of Communist Russia.

2. At the same time, while adopting a realistic attitude to the world's cold war situation, we should avoid the temptation of allowing this act of aggression to unduly distort our views on the nature of the threat. However, this can be achieved without endangering in any degree the security of the free world.

INSTABILITY

This, then, is the nature of the threat to the region. It is a complex picture of great economic and social instability allowing the fullest opportunity for Communist exploitation.

Statements by candidates in the United States Senate have made it clear that political instability in the Southeast Asian region is a major cause of United States involvement in the area.

In South-East Asia the economic race is a rapid one.

In Thailand, for example, the Thai economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low. In Indonesia, the economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low. In the Philippines, the economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low.

In the United States, the economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low. In the United States, the economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low. In the United States, the economy is growing at a rapid rate and the unemployment rate is low.
(The League's Policy On Defence)

nations of the area, individually and collectively to do more about regional defence and development.

In these circumstances the time is ripe for Australia to tackle its own reassessment in an imaginative way.

ANZUS remains the chief anchor of our several international defence arrangements. It gives us the assurance that, should our security be threatened, we will have the massive support of the United States and it should therefore be fostered in every possible way.

In view of the prospect of an international arrangement limiting the spread of nuclear weapons it may be propitious to seek clearly defined, defence safeguards under ANZUS should this be necessary. It is important also that the proposal ANZUS be clarified and reaffirmed at regular intervals, and certainly by the new United States President as soon as he is elected.

SEATO is to a degree discredited and in urgent need of rework. Signatories out of eight, for a variety of reasons, are largely ineffective in making a contribution to the type of situation in which SEATO is likely to be called to respond.

ANZAM, in spite of the recent five-power talks in Singapore, perhaps under the assumption of a mobile strike force, is at best a weak coalition, and looked at in the broad view, could even be by virtue of its restrictive Commonwealth bias detrimental to our overall interests.

CLOSE LOOK

This is not to say that in the foreseeable future, with our other Commonwealth partners in the area, but these must be considered in concert as the concept of broader, eventually more effective, arrangements.

As an alternative, the consultative body which includes Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand, South Vietnam, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand, with Laos as an observer, is an interesting beginning to an arrangement which may eventually play a large part in meeting the needs of the region.

It is essentially a forum for liaison. In terms of the Sabah dispute between Malaysia and the Philippines, it is a case in point of how our own people will be forced to provide the delicate balance between taking initiatives and refraining from interfering over which reasonable control cannot be exercised.

Agreements with a military commitment must be carefully thought through and clearly defined.

1. The need for Australia to contribute something in addition to our efforts in the territory of Papua and New Guinea.

In the League's view Australia should make a greater contribution than now is accepted in its international aid and, in doing this, should give priority to those countries of strategic significance for which Australia is concerned.

It can be said, of course, that Australia's contribution in a country like Indonesia would be so small that it would not make an appreciable impact on the problem. If, however, we are to expect other countries to differentiate between willingness to contribute and the proportionate way.

DEFENCE STRUCTURE

While the long-term defence objective requires a largely economic effort, the influences in the area must, in the short term, be contained to enable the social progress to proceed. Equally, civil projects must be protected.

Defense structures have already been made by the primary need of collective security arrangements as an element in regional defense. If Australia is not to continue this direction, or indeed if we are to contribute realistically to any arrangements, we must have a satisfactory defense structure.

PRIORITIES

The precise nature of such a defense structure depends on our assessment of the role it should fulfill. This, in turn, is related to priorities for the socially limited amount of finance we can spend on defense needs.

Under ANZUS, Australia has had the benefit of the extended and sophisticated might of the United States. It seems, therefore, in thinking of the future, that emphasis should be placed on a counter-offensive role for our armed forces and a degree of general preparedness for Australia as a whole.

(Continued on Page 11)
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THE CHEAP
GROCER
The League's National Defence Submission

(From Page 9)

REGULAR ARMY

The present regular army scheme is clearly backed by a national service scheme, which is likely to meet our requirements in the immediate future. It already has an unrivalled reputation for efficiency and training, and appears adequate to meet our requirements for the brushfire type of conflict in which we have been engaged since the end of World War II, and which we are likely to have to face again in the Middle East. It can be said to be of proved worth in any necessary rapid expansion of the C.M.F. component in any future A.I.F.

The need for modern weapons in a situation of defence emergency, and to provide for a large trained force capable of being immediately available in the event of total war. To adequately meet these responsibilities, C.M.F. must be up-graded in size and efficiency, on the following lines:

(a) An increase in size and efficiency could be accomplished by a progressive extension of the National Service scheme so that all young men in the 20-year age bracket not required for the regular army, or special civil projects, would undertake a five-year term of service in the C.M.F.

(b) Greater efficiency could be accomplished by an extension of the Bushman's Rifles system—a modification of the present National Service Unit arrangement. Under this scheme training would be done in one or two years, and again in three or four bienniums.

This scheme would be established to train the infantry specialist, N.C.O.'s and officers as quickly as possible, thus ensuring the availability of trained men for any necessary expansion of the C.M.F.
ANZAC DAY REQUEST REFUSED BY A.B.C.

A League request for a 30-minute re-play at night of the Anzac Day march telecast has brought the following reply from the Australian Broadcasting Commission's acting-chairman:

While I must apologise to you for the delay in answering your letter, I should like to assure you that your original letter of 24th June, in which you outlined the resolution passed by the League's National Executive, has been closely examined by the A.B.C. News and Programme departments and has also been discussed at management level.

I must advise you, however, that having given the fullest consideration to this matter, the A.B.C. regrets that it is unable to adopt the suggestion put forward by your executive.

Your executive will appreciate that the A.B.C. has a responsibility to its present listeners and viewers to ensure that its programmes are properly-balanced. As a matter of tradition the A.B.C. has always devoted a great deal of its programme time to the coverage of Anzac Day. The march is telegcast in full, and wherever possible there is also coverage of other Anzac Day ceremonies. In addition there are special local and imported programmes related to Anzac Day and its observance.

The need to maintain proper programme balance is thrown into even greater relief when one considers that A.B.C. news service. It must, of course, devote considerable time to providing a rundown of the most newsworthy events of Anzac Day in all States, including where possible pictorial highlights.

This takes up a good deal of the time allotted for news. As well as this, however, it must also ensure that adequate attention is given to the many matters of major domestic and international news stories of the day.

A further 30 minutes of evening viewing time devoted to a re-play of parts of the morning march could not be provided.

At the A.B.C. view, result in an imbalance of programmes which would not be justified.

It could also conceivably lead to resentment on the part of those marchers not shown in the re-play. An A.B.C. could expect protests from many viewers who, irrespective of the occasion, prefer to see normal programmes.

DEFENCE POLICY
(From Page 11)

and the issues involved in the complex question of nuclear capability—are all examples of this sort of thing.

There is an urgent need for all Australians to make special efforts to increase the efforts on the part of Government to take the people into its confidence on matters of national security.

After all, in the final analysis the nature of the war is such a matter of the will, the spirit and the determination of the people.

The need for the fullest possible co-operation in this matter is of such a nature that consideration might well be given to the establishment of special facilities to enable this to be done in the most effective way.

Prison Camp Escapee Dies At Albany

A man who was awarded the Military Medal for courage and initiative in a Great War prison escape died at Albany recently.

He was Mr. Syd Edwards, a former Australian infantryman who led a party of deserters out of a German prison camp and across the Swiss border to freedom.

Mr. Edwards was taken to various p.o.w. camps and was finally drafted for farm work in Bavaria.

On one occasion, while trying to escape, he jumped into a German guard on a bridge. While the astonished guard fumbled with his revolver, the equally astonished Syd pushed him into the stream where he soon became mixed up with the churning water.

At the Swiss border he led the party through an armed patrol station, there largely to catch their own deserters, and through shot at the escapee managed to cross into Switzerland without casualty.

Back in England Syd was given short leave in which to recuperate and then put on special assignment till he embarked for Australia on the troopship Barunga on July 14, 1918.

Next day the ship was torpedoed and its crew and passengers rescued by a British destroyer.

Mr. Edwards served with the 11th Battalion on Gallipoli and Egypt, and later with the 51st Battalion in France.

Grant Of Second Loan After Resumptions

Recent inquiries as to whether, and how, war-service home owners can be affected by land resumptions—such as for the purpose of constructing cafes or other public works—were referred to the War Service Homes Division director. He has replied as follows:

In connection with your letter of 24th September, 1938, forwarding an inquiry from the South Australian branch, the position is that the second-assistance policy provides for the grant of a second loan—не exceeding the outstanding liability on the first home—to an applicant whose property is required for public purposes.

The grant of a second loan is of course subject to the applicant meeting the usual eligibility requirements and contributing towards the cost of the second home. The net proceeds received from the first home.

Of course you are aware that the grant of a second loan is a matter of government policy. Every individual case requires the approval of the minister, and the grant of a second loan would be subject to the policy in operation at the time of receipt of the application.
THE LAST POST (Deceased Ex-Servicemen)

AUGUST LIST
ANDERSON, W. H., 3755, 51st Battalion, Bicton-Pal.
MAY, 1914.
BUCHAN, R. F. C., WX15512, 3rd Bn.
CASSIDY, W. J., 40440, 44th Battalion, Roleystone.
CRAWFORD, A. O., 2154, A.A.S.C., Maddington.
DICKIN, J. B. J., 40440, 44th Battalion, Wilsontown.
DUNLOP, M. C., 2669, 2nd Bn. N.W. Fremantle.
EATON, R. J., 7257, 5th S. A. S. Naremburn.
FLETCHER, G. W., 2135A, 44th Bn. Geraldton.
FLEMING, D. F., WX2221, 2/37th Bn., Nollamara.
FRANCIS, A. E., 7392, 8th L.H. Shenton Park.
FRENCH, C. B., 2219, 11th Bn., Albany.
GROVE, A. C., 2869, 44th Bn. Goomalling.
HARRIS, G., 29589, 7th S. A. S. Naremburn.
HARVEY, R. W., 83859, Bussendean.
HOLMES, T. R., 51023, 11th Bn., Bicton-Pal.
HOWE, T. J., 7392, 8th L.H. Shenton Park.
HUNTER, M. J., 2911, 9th Division, Applecross.
HUGHES, W. J., 5185, 2nd Bn., Fremantle.
JONES, A. W., 2135A, Bussendean.
POTTER, A. J., 579, 16th Bn., N.E. Fremantle.
POTTER, B. J., 8339, 2nd Bn., Fremantle.
POTTER, J. W., 6532, 3rd Bn., Centenary.
POTTER, R. A. F., Wilsontown.
POTTER, T. M., 5185, Fremantle.
PRINCE, A. J., 2231, 11th Bn., Albany.
PRICE, A. J., 2219, 11th Bn., Albany.
PRICE, W. J., 3915, 5th Bn. Vic., Park Oval.
PRICE, A. J., 2231, 11th Bn., Albany.
PRICE, W. J., 3915, 5th Bn. Vic., Park Oval.
PRICE, A. J., 2231, 11th Bn., Albany.
PRICE, W. J., 3915, 5th Bn. Vic., Park Oval.
PRICE, A. J., 2231, 11th Bn., Albany.
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Women's Auxiliary Notes

OFFICIAL VISITS
The following functions have been attended by State officers and executive members:

August 14: Mrs. Ames, Mrs. Phelps and Mrs. Tomich attended a rally at Pinjarra. Seven auxiliaries were represented.

September 11: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Phelps attended the Boyup Brook auxiliary's eighth birthday party.

September 16: Mrs. Phelps attended an Air Force Association gathering.

September 19: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Phelps attended the North-East Fremantle birthday party.

September 24: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Phelps attended the Victoria Park auxiliary's birthday party.

September 27: Mrs. Phelps attended the Partially Blinded Soldiers' annual social.

October 2: Mrs. Ames and Madame Ferris, Kemp, Holder and Guilani attended an At Home given by the Bassendean auxiliary.

October 18: Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Phelps attended the Coorow-Waddi Forrest sub-branch's annual dinner.

AWARDS
Certificates of Service have been presented to the following: Mrs. J. M. Resser (Northampton); Mrs. J. M. Williams (Northampton); Mrs. C. Watt (Murray District); Miss E. C. Breen (Murray District); and Mrs. L. Cloutt (Dwellingup).

The following ladies have been awarded life membership: Mrs. Wake (Brunswick Junction); Mrs. R. Young (North-East Fremantle); Mrs. L. Clues (Victoria Park) and Mrs. A. Gardiner (Bassendean).

THE SICK
Executive members congratulated their monthly visits to hospitals in the metropolitan area on behalf of all auxiliaries. Auxiliaries are reminded that the festive season is almost here and that early donations to Christmas gifts for hospital patients will be appreciated.

Council Support For Geraldton Move For Veterans' Home

In a letter received before its October meeting the Geraldton sub-branch was congratulated by the town council on its efforts to establish a war-veterans' home in the town.

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The sub-branch will now make a formal application to the Minister for Lands, Mr. Bovey, for the allocation of five acres of public reserve bounded by Drew and Bedford streets, for this purpose.

The sub-branch has earmarked the site for the annual pilgrimage to the war cemetery at Utakarra on November 10 and the dinner for aged ex-servicemen.

Additional function considered were the annual pilgrimage to the war cemetery at Utakarra on November 10 and the dinner for aged ex-servicemen.

Council further suggested that the sub-branch be designated a public place by the council to enable the two branches to have a headquarters at Geraldton.

A cheque for $467 is to be sent to the Australian Forces Overseas Fund in Perth. The Geraldton section of the appeal was closed at the October meeting.

A Steer With A "Kick"

Far-flung Meekatharra sub-branch reports a successful fund-raising venture—the raffling of a steer.

The beast was donated by R. F. Hall of Bulloo Downs Station.

Incidently the donor is the younger son of Wattle Hall, Ex-S1st Battalion.

The lucky player was Doug Stewart, of Onslow, who chose to take the cash value of $100.

However, the sub-branch showed a greater profit because when sent to market the steer realised $164.

Thanks are extended to the selling agent, Mr. Daloo, who donated his commission on the sale.

Net proceeds were $214.

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ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (WA) BRANCH
Floor, Wellington Buildings, 138 William St., Perth. Secretary, L. Symes, Secretary, G. Fieley.

SECOND AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—Associate House, third Tuesday each month at 2 p.m. President, A. G. Douglas, Box T1869, G.P.O. Perth (283366). Secretary, S. T. T. P. McSherry, 244 Canning-highway, East Fremantle (391872). Secretary, Jack Syne, 25 Marquis-street, South Bentley (682546).


16TH BATTALION AND 4TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION—Meetings on the second Monday of each month at the railway station. Secretary, J. Young, 28 Oakover-street, East Fremantle (392934).

1/34TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—President, J. S. Bryant, 150 Grey-street, Mosman Park, 6012 (347102).

1/4TH LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION—Anzac House bi-monthly Friday (2 p.m.) in January, March, May, July, August and November. President, J. P. McSherry, 244 Canning-highway, East Fremantle (391872). Secretary, Jack Syne, 25 Marquis-street, South Bentley (682546).

W.A. EX-P.O.W. ASSOCIATION—2nd Floor, Boast (Phone 231564). President, C. H. B. Dalkeith, Secretary, H. J. Brown, 122 Boundary St., Fremantle (264125).


11TH/211TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—President, D. MacLeod, 55 MacLeod-road, Wembley, 874405. Hon. Secretary, D. Keificate, 26 Warron-road, Mt. Yorke (814651).

2/4TH M.G. BATTALION—Vice-President, H. G. Bower, Phone 874064, Secretary, H. M. Porteous, 41 Radnum-street, Bentley.

44TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, E. B. Dalkeith, Secretary, W. T. Bower, Phone 26056, Hon. Secretary, J. F. Porteous, 41 Radnum-street, Bentley.

48TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, W. T. Bower, Phone 26056, Secretary, H. M. Porteous, 41 Radnum-street, Bentley.

51ST BATTALION A.I.F.—Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, R. A. Wood, 203142. Hon. Secretary, L. B. Alderman, 39 McKenzie-street, Subiaco (382088).

1/34TH BATTALION—Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, W. T. Bower, Phone 26056, Secretary, H. M. Porteous, 41 Radnum-street, Bentley.

2/4TH M.G. BATTALION—Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, E. B. Dalkeith, Secretary, W. T. Bower, Phone 26056, Secretary, H. M. Porteous, 41 Radnum-street, Bentley.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION-General meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, W. H. Grant, 70 Hobbs-avenue, Como (802445). Hon. Secretary, R. W. McDonald, 17 Crawshaw-crescent, Manning (604222).


BRIGADE OF GUARDS ASSOCIATION—President, S. C. MacPhail, 143 Armadale-road, Neutral Bay, Riverway, Secretary, A. H. Price 20 Fimtry-road, Karrinyup (467724). Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, E. D. Durkin, 99 Yelverton-street, Carlisle. Quarterly general meetings and annual reunion held at Anzac House. All members notified.

LIABLE SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF W.A. INC. ("Wingers and Stumpies")—President, A. E. Liston, Secretary, H. W. Blick (21 5888). Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. President, E. D. Durkin, 99 Yelverton-street, Carlisle. Quarterly general meetings and annual reunion held at Anzac House. All members notified.

THIRTY-FOURTH BATTALION ASSOCIATION OF Australia—Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

R.A.E. EX-SERVICES' ASSOCIATION: Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

ROYAL ARMOUR CORPS ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

GALLIPOLI LEGION OF ANZAC—Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

ROYAL EX-ARMY CORPS ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

EX-SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION—Meetings held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December, at 10.30 a.m. President, J. L. Fate, Secretary, T. B. McPhail, Box 976333, G.P.O. Perth.

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Queen Approves Design For Vietnam Medal

Approval by the Queen of a design for a medal for Australian and New Zealand veterans of the Vietnam campaign has been announced by the Prime Minister, Mr Gorton. He said it was the first medal to be designed in Australia in recognition of its defence forces. It will be manufactured at the Royal Mint, Canberra.

On its obverse side the Vietnam Medal will show the Queen's portrait, as is usual for service medals, and on the reverse side the words "Viet Nam" above the figure of a man standing between two spherical shapes—a symbolic representation of the ideological war in Vietnam. The design is the work of well-known Melbourne medallist Ando R. Messari. The Prime Minister said it was fitting that both Australia and New Zealand should be fighting together to help preserve national independence and freedom.

Personal of both countries who had served in Vietnam would be eligible to wear the medal, as would members of approved philanthropic organisations attached to the forces there.

Since the 1st Battalion returned to Australia in June of 1966, Vietnam veterans have been wearing the Vietnam ribbon. This shows the colours traditionally symbolic of the three services plus the red and yellow national colours of the South Vietnamese Government.

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 you support a worthwhile cause.

The RSL Shop
570 HAY ST., PERTH
Phone 2348883

Good Job At Rivervale

The posting of Mr Allan Richardson as Rivervale delegate to State Congress seems to have struck a happy note. He did a really worthwhile job.

A newly returned man, he has shown a fresh approach to a lot of old ideas.

As an item of interest was a presentation to Eddie Park (late president), Phil Board (late secretary) and Les Ramsay (late treasurer) for service to the sub-branch during the past five years. Good work, boys!

The branch continues encouragingly; at the last count there were 106 fully subscribed members for next year being 150.

A visit by Mr J. Wagland, of the State Executive, was enjoyed by all the members, provoking that Mr Norman Purcell of this member, the trio comprising, Mr Tom Chappell (life-member) and Frank Chappell and Graham Ramsay very proudly claims a "unique distinction", one of its new members, Mr Norman Purcell of this member, the trio comprising, Mr Tom Chappell (life-member) and Frank Chappell and Graham Ramsay.

A most successful cabaret was held recently, with another scheduled at the time of going to press.

Earthquake Appeal

SUB-BRANCHES

Bellevue $200, Childers-Mt. Lawley $100, Morley $100, Mundaring $15, Glen Forrest $100, Railways $2, Dwellup $100, Bayswater $50, Harvey $200, Boulder $200, Collie-Cardiff $20, Boyanup $10, Busselton $10, Gidgegannup $10, Kojonup $10, Upper Swan $20, Bakers Hill-Carcreen $25, Maddington $10, Osborne Park $10, Tamlin $80, Midland $20, Margaret River $10, Northam $20, Salmon Gums $20, Dumbleyung $20, Rocky Gully $20.

Canning Districts $20, Derriwi $10, Pemberton $10, Bindi Bindi $10, Waddi Forest $10, Returned Sisters $20, Kirup $10, Victory Park $20, Shenton Park $10, Maylands $20, Bayswater-Melville, $10.

OTHER SOURCES

Amalies Committee $50, Anonymous $50, Anonymous (Boyanyup) $10—making a total of $979 received up to November.

Venue Change At Victoria Park

A change of meeting-place for Victoria Park sub-branch members has been arranged for their convenience.

Future meetings will be held on the first Friday in each month at 8.30 p.m. at the Victoria Park Hotel, 7 Hubert-street, East, Victoria Park.

Enthusiasm Showed By Boulder Members

During recent months the Boulder sub-branch has enjoyed a good attendance at all its meetings, which considering some adverse weather, says much for the enthusiasm of members.

Women's auxiliary members have been supplied with new tables for their annual bazaar, and they have kept up the dispatch of parcels to Boulder men serving in Vietnam.

They had difficulty getting started with the parcels as relatives were reluctant to forward addresses at the last minute, but are now 18 names on the roll.

Mrs O'Grady, president of the auxiliary, attended the At Home given by the State Executive.

For its part the sub-branch has received the Decoration of Honour badge No. 3.

The Boulder auxiliary celebrated members birthdays on August 16 and the sub-branch extends congratulations.

The hall kitchen, which over the years has become the "centre of repair" of the Auxiliary, has been raised to "Three Stars grading" and the alterations are appreciated by all.

In addition the ex-service women have made a further donation of $50 to sub-branch funds, which has permitted many things that would otherwise have been impossible. Sincere thanks are paid to these ladies!

At the annual general meeting held on 23rd August, the resignation of secretary T. Ramsay was accepted by vote of the branch to the Ex-service women's Association in recognition of the work on behalf of the League.

Mrs Castelow, president of the association, expressed the pleasure that she and her members felt over the presentation.

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Leave the worries to us. We select tenants (No cost to you). Collect rents, pay rates, etc. inspect and report regularly and supply you with detailed statement and cheque every month. For more particulars:

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2 Canterbury Court, 285393 a/f a 687991

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