Over $21,000 raised in Crowning Glory quest

Saturday, November 15, saw a dazzling evening presentation of the winners of the 1969 Crowning Glory quest around the swimming pool at STW Channel 9 head-quarters.

This was the 11th quest, which has been run by a joint committee of the R.S.L. and Torchbearers for Legacy to raise funds for the War Veterans’ Home and the Legacy clubs in Western Australia.

The final result from this quest is shared evenly between these two organisations and to date the overall result has been a little in excess of $125,000.

The quest presentation introduced 29 girls from all over the State who were of a very high standard indeed. Many had worked extremely hard and this year’s quest result was $21,189.28 which is indeed a remarkable effort.

SECTION WINNERS

The Girl of the Golden West was Miss Eileen Kendle, from Bunbury, who had been sponsored by her fiancé. These two young people took their task seriously and raised $1275.

This is a most gratifying figure to have won the new award in this year’s quest, and it is believed that the prize will take the form of a honeymoon trip to Surfers’ Paradise. It is noteworthy that Miss Kendle had guidance and advice from 1968 Crowning Glory winner, Miss Lynette Bryant, who is now a hairdresser in Bunbury.

The interest aroused by the new section is most gratifying.

Miss Crowning Glory—(Katherine June Bartlett)

These 11 girls and the three winners make up 14 candidates who with their sponsors raised in excess of $500 each, a tremendous effort on their part.

Once again Sir David Brand, the Premier, crowned the winners.

Judging was made easier for the audience by the efforts of Mr Tony Howes and his band of merry minstrels. It took place in the lower basement of Anzac House.

The judges comprised Mr Charles T. Townshend (chairman) and Miss J. Spier and Messrs E. Servi, M. Langshaw, R. Mercer and S. Plante. Mrs S. V. Stockman was scrutineer.

Some details of the organisations helped by the quest should be of interest.

The War Veterans’ Home today houses 88 men, 21 war widows and 13 returned civilians. There are also 10 Darby and Joan cottages, all occupied. Of the 146 aged ex-service people at the home 39 are over 80 years of age and the rest over 70.

The home is fully booked for years to come. Legacy today has 2,736 widows and 2,478 children of school age, and under, enrolled.

These families are scattered throughout the State.

The funds raised thus go to aid the very old and the very young who are in want.

Memorial That Grows

A pine tree grown from the seed of the tree on Lone Pine Ridge, Gallipoli, was planted at Birdwood House, Geraldton, on November 9.

The tree was placed in position by Mayor V. Askew, who described it as a living memorial because it was something which would grow.

Gallipoli veteran Arthur Milford placed soil around the tree, as did a number of other Great War Diggers. They included a Greenvale man who served with the 10th Light Horse Regiment, Mr. Fred Morell, who was allowed out of hospital in a wheelchair.

After the ceremony 28 Great War veterans were guests of the Geraldton auxiliary at the annual “Diggers’ Luncheon.” This is held on the Sunday nearest Remembrance Day.

The veterans ranged in age from 70 to 92, the youngest being Mr. Dave Yule and the oldest Mr. George Brown. Their ages range from 2,098 years to give an average age of about 75.

The four octogenarians included set of twins—Mr. W. G. Stokes (10th Light Horse) and Mr Ernie Stokes (1st Battalion) aged 80—B.B.I.

YOU served us in WAR—SUPPORT us in PEACE
HELP the League to continue its good work!

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS are due shortly.

(Outing subscriptions are not required)
Gold coast holiday offer to wounded men from Vietnam

A scheme inaugurated four years ago by the Surfers Paradise Rotary Club offers a recuperative holiday on Queensland's Gold Coast to every Australian serviceman wounded or incapacitated in Vietnam—at no cost whatever to himself or the government.

The scheme, which also applies to New Zealanders, provides for married servicemen to take their wives with them at no cost. The idea has succeeded beyond the most optimistic expectations of its founders, and so far more than 450 men have taken advantage of it. It has been extended to include the blind-wounded and the paraplegic-wounded, who need an uplift in spirit from their afflictions.

The plan originated in the minds of some Rotary Club members who, disappointed at the apparent lack of general public interest in returned servicemen from Vietnam, especially the wounded, conceived the idea of making available all the health-giving properties of the Gold Coast climate and its surroundings.

Army authorities agreed to the club's proposal that it would make itself responsible for a two-week holiday for any wounded or incapacitated soldier returning from Vietnam. The then Army Minister, Mr. Philip Lynch, declared the Gold Coast a therapeutic leave area, which meant that wounded men could go there as soon as they were granted the therapeutic leave from hospital.

Surfer's Paradise Rotary undertook to accept full responsibility, not only for transport to and from the Gold Coast, but also for the considerable local expense involved in providing the convalescent holiday. The club arranges accommodation for the wounded at hotels, motels and guest houses, and the owners of these places don't charge anything for the first-class rooms they provide.

Rotary attends to all the details. It arranges interstate and local transport; provides the山县 in first-class restaurants or hotels; takes care of entertainment and recreation; and pays the fatherly eye on each beneficiary on his way to and from hospital and the holiday.

"Until 1968 the club itself raised the money needed, but last year for the first time it was compelled by the increased number of casualties from Vietnam, to make an appeal for assistance from some large Australian companies known for their beneficial outlook.

One of the first companies to respond to the appeal was the Bank of New South Wales, and this year the bank is again sponsoring the scheme.

In the World War the Wales bank had 65 per cent of its male staff in the armed forces in which members of the club had served in Vietnam. The general manager of the Wales, Mr. R. W. Norman, himself an ex-serviceman, has a keen interest in the welfare of returned men, so when announcing that the bank was going to further $1,000, commended the Surfers Paradise Rotary Club for its unfailing public spirited action in instituting and carrying on this imaginative scheme.

"This Rotary Club has set a worthy example to every community organisation in the country," he said, "its work merits the support of us all.

Marble Bar muster

Marble Bar's annual dinner attracted the customary muster of members from a wide-ranging area, and the usual conviviality ensued.

Visitors far out-numbered locals, although apologies received from our own members exceeded the total attendance.

Notwithstanding that apologies in most cases were accompanied with generous donations we naturally regretted the absence of the person.

With sub-branch president Wally Nichols guiding proceedings the evening went merrily along.

Secretary-Treasurer Ernie Lenihan enacted the duties of Toastmaster with the aplomb we have grown to admire.

An unexpected off-the-agenda toast to Ernie, proposed by Port Hedland sub-branch president Jack Hunt, evoked a boisterous favourable response from the assembly.

Another popular toast, to the management and staff of the Ironbed Hotel, aroused equal enthusiasm.

This was proposed by Osphat Richardson that it should itself on the memory.

Others toasts, efficiently rendered and gladly honoured, were: Best Wager; the Queen; the Armed Services; the League and State Executive; Visitors.

Anecdotes and active front of members enlivened the celebration with a warming glow. The contributions by our visitors particularly, enlivened the proceedings.

The aura of the good fellowship engendered continued into the small hours, and after a brief rest a repeat performance took place throughout the morning business session at the local.

Unanimous opinion voted this one of our most memorable occasions.

Come on, Fellows!

(To the Editor)

SIR—The near-abscence of sub-branch reports forwarded to the "Listening Post" is to be deplored.

This journal is published so that "Darcy" of Darwin will know what "Ern" of Esperance is doing, and thinking, about matters relative to the R.S.L., and if these reports are not received by the editor he cannot publish them.

The W.A. branch is not composed of isolated units but should be a united rather as one, and sharing the work and the play among all sub-branches.

R.S.L. members from Broome to Bunbury, and from Armadale to Alice Springs, can all contribute to the R.S.L., and if the editor neglects to present it in readable form to members.

If every sub-branch, however small, were to appoint a Publicity Officer to forward a report of its sub-branch activities, brief as they may be, the editor can be trusted to present it in readable form to members.

Yours etc.

H. A. Fisher,
Boorambik sub-branch.
A V.C. at Congress

In the presence of a distinguished audience the 54th National Congress was declared open by the Governor of Queensland, Sir Alan Mansfield on October 27 at the Anzac Club, Brisbane.

A feature of the opening was the presence of Victoria Cross winner, Warrant Officer George Payne, who was presented with honorary life membership of the League from National President Sir Arthur Lee.

In reply Warrant Officer Payne said his grandfather had served on Gallipoli and his father in the Islands in the World War I. His interest had been maintained by the present Government. He received the best possible advice from sources within and outside of Australia. Defence was of paramount importance.

Milestone reached

The Murray sub-branch celebrated its 50th anniversary at Pinjarra on November 22.

It was one of the first three sub-branches to be formed in W.A. in 1919. The others were at Bunbury and Albany.

A former Premier, the late Sir Ross McIvary, was first secretary of the Murray sub-branch, which received its charter on November 17, 1919.

To celebrate its anniversary it organised a gymnkhana—the first of an annual event to be held at the Great Southern Sports Ground—and 34 district organisations took part.

All money raised from the gymnkhana, which included races, footrunning, equestrian, cycling, athletic and golfing events and a band contest, was to go towards improving the sports ground.

Renovations at Memorial

After months of planning and discussions a programme of maintenance work on the State War Memorial will begin shortly.

This has been made possible by very generous grants from the State Government and the Perth City Council, to whom the League, and indeed the people of Western Australia, are much indebted.

The memorial will be "renovated" from top to bottom and the floor lighting to be installed will be more effective and ensure the memorial's prominence as a revered landmark.

The undercroft will be completely renovated, brass and copper cleaned and varnished to ensure longer life, and names repainted where necessary.

The work will also include sealing of the memorial to become an entrance which has done much damage in the undercroft.

At Boulder

The last three months have been active in a number of ways for the Boulder sub-branch, including the gaining of some new members in which the secretary played no small part.

The annual general meeting received a balance sheet that was the best for a number of years.

A gas-heating system and extra chairs—costing $700—were donated by the Eire League Women's Association.

The association also made many other donations to the brain and the women's auxiliary has also been doing a sterling job in sending parcels to Boulder men in Vietnam.

Grateful replies have been received from these chaps.

The sub-branch saw Stan Penner off from the Boulder Post Office in good style, 50 people being present, and our padre, Rev. Geof. Piesier, handed him a cheque for $280.

The money was donated by the sub-branch, the auxiliary, the ex-service women and the Ex-Servicemen's Club. A collection was also taken up.

R.S.L. MEMBERS: Your 1970 subscription ($3) becomes due on January 1. Payment may then be made either to your sub-branch secretary or at Anzac House, Perth.

DON'T—

- Wear a badge with no financial clip.
- Wear a badge with a clip years old.

DO—

- Wear your badge with pride.

Your badge deserves a financial clip.

The League needs your membership.

If you yourself don't need the League at the moment, one of your old service mates does. The League is only as strong as its membership.

I enclose $3, my subscription to 31/12/70

NAME

ADDRESS

SUB-BRANCH

UNIT

Xmas Greetings

The State President, members of the State Executive and of the Anzac House staff convey warmest greetings to all League members.

May the Season of Goodwill bring you and yours everything of the best and the coming year be one of health, happiness and prosperity!
Remember...
"It's the overall savings that count..."

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**NEW SERVICE PENSION PROVISIONS**

Are you missing out?
The Repatriation Department expects an increase in the number of new Service-pension claims following the introduction of the tapered means test which came into effect on October 2, 1969.

The tapering provision means that many eligible ex-service men and women previously disqualified because of income and assets can now qualify for some part of the pension.

Therefore, an ex-service man
- who suffers from pulmonary tuberculosis, or
- who served in a theatre of war, and has attained the age of 60

**Support for youth work**

A number of Geraldton organisations took part in the collection of items for a giant auction sale held in support of the Police and Citizens' Youth Club on November 29.

They include Rotary, Apex, the Y.C.W., and the R.S.L.

The auction was held at the old club premises and it was the last function at the premises before their handing-over to the new owner, Mr Laurie Millman.

The R.S.L. told the superintendent of the Police and Citizens' Youth Club that it would be delighted to be associated with the collection of items because the support of youth organisations was one of the planks in the League's platform.

B.J.B.

**Anzac Day funds are allocated**

The sum of $14,575 has been received from the Anzac Day Trust as the League's allocation for 1969.

Of this amount $2,475 is to be set aside for the W.A. Aged Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Relief Fund.

The money is allocated on the understanding that it will be applied solely for the purposes prescribed by the Anzac Day Act.
National Defence Submission

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

The right assessment, as to our place and our role in South-East Asia, is the great decision that we have to make in a nation and as a people. It is one that cannot be left delayed.

Recent trends and developments give this important decision an increased degree of urgency.

These include the firm intention of Britain to limit greatly her involvement east of Suez; the discontinuance of Britain's vital interest in United States with its role as the policeman of Asia, and finally, the increasing plan being put up in the Indian Ocean.

The clear warning for the small nations of South-East Asia, including Australia, is that they must accept individually and collectively a greatly increased responsibility for their own defence and the defence of the region.

Australia's position in South-East Asia is unique and challenging in that we are a developed and technically sophisticated community in an undeveloped region confronted with many social, economic and technical problems.

This situation offers us an unprecedented opportunity to provide an example, to offer friendship and leadership, and to take initiatives.

COURSES OPEN

The courses open to us in broad terms, be placed in three principal categories:

1. We can adopt a policy of "laissez-faire" in regard to vital international decisions. We can concentrate on our own developmental and social problems to the solution of the problems confronting our neighbours. We can concern ourselves and be passive with our own needs ignoring the world around us.

2. We must recognise that in following this course we will be led into the position of complete dependency on the strength of our allies for our security and, in the final analysis, for our survival.

3. We can rise to the occasion with which history is offering us an opportunity to play a leading role in determining the future, not only of Australia but of the region of the world of which we are a part.

The prospect and the possibilities are exciting and none can doubt that we have the capabilities to accept this role and its attendant responsibilities.

In the League's view we are left with no real alternative but one of involvement and commitment in South-East Asia, and finally, the United States and Britain.

There must inevitably be a reluctance on their part to come to our defence if we demonstrate an unwillingness to make our contribution to the defence of others. The Australian community there have been expressions of friendship to our neighbours in other countries. It must be kept in mind, however, that declarations of friendship must be efficient. These are only of value when they are accompanied by assistance in generous proportions—a practical evidence of the friendship we talk about.

For all practical purposes we are part of South-East Asia. If we do not accept in full our responsibilities as a partner in the association of small nations of the area, then the whole structure may well fall apart and result in our final isolation.

VIETNAM SITUATION

1. Australian forces were committed in fulfillment of our treaty obligations under SEATO. South Vietnam being included in the protocol to the agreement.

2. Our commitment represents a practical expression of our determination to resist aggression in whatever form it presents itself to free nations in the region.

3. This was the first example of aggression against a small nation in South-East Asia and action taken to constitute a precedent to similar action that might be required in support of any other country in the area.

4. Our limited objective was, and remains, to ensure that the people of South Vietnam are given the opportunity to express their views and to be governed.

These responsibilities and this limited objective remain, and in the region of the R.S.L. must be honoured.

The League believes that it is therefore timely to re-state Australia's attitude to aggression of this kind, to wars of national liberation, and to our responsibilities to our neighbours, in particular, the people of South-East Asia.

CLEAR TERMS

This should be stated in the strongest terms to clearly indicate Australia's determination to make our contribution, wherever and whenever it is required, to the international security of our part of the world.

Progress in Vietnam will be viewed with caution and unless and until it is hoped that the situation will permit a continuation of the policy of withdrawal of free-world forces initiated by President Nixon.

However a note of warning should be sounded. It is hoped that the objectives of the free-world forces in Vietnam remain what they were when the original commitment was made.

The rate of withdrawal should not at time compromise these objectives, for endanger the stability and peace which is now in sight in this tragic conflict.

Most importantly, the Australian Government, in the League's view, should reaffirm its fundamental resolve, no matter where it occurs, no matter in what form it occurs, aggression in this area shall not succeed.

MALAYSIA/S'PORE

The decision to retain Australian forces in the Malaysia/Singapore area after the British withdrawal is the most tangible evidence of our support of a collective-security policy in the region.

It has been clearly indicated that our troops are there not to assume the role that Britain has
(From previous column)

vacated but to work in support of and in cooperation with local forces. The force consists of two squadrons of RAAF Mirages, two naval ships and 1,200 men as part of a two-battalion organisation in conjunction with New Zealand.

Forces of this size are a useful contribution but would have only a limited effect in any large-scale conflict.

There are two great advantages from a purely military point of view. The first is that troops, and especially unit commanders and the officer corps, will have the opportunity of building up a personal knowledge of the terrain, and as a result, the population and other factors that certainly are of great significance in the event of operations.

In this connection the British concept of deploying an expeditionary force might be assessed.

Green, unacclimatised forces, having no local knowledge, without being linked up with local conditions, the population and other factors that certainly are of great significance in the event of operations.

The second advantage is that, in the event of a military situation arising, the forces would be at the spot for immediate deployment. If they were to be moved rapidly into the area and hold it, this would not be effective for a considerable period during which time the area might not be used. This is something that is important in matters of the area that is to Malaysia and Singapore.

AMBITIOUS

There are other advantages. The Australian troops are renowned as excellent ambassadors and their presence will do much to develop better understanding between peoples of the three countries concerned.

They will make a considerable contribution to the economy of the area in which they are stationed.

Both Malaysia and Singapore have their own internal problems to resolve. In Malaysia the inter-racial hostility will require great tact, patience and diplomacy on the part of Government leaders. In Singapore the expanding economy is an encouraging sign but this trend does not continue, and unemployment develops. The universal national services scheme under which many young men are trained and returned to civil life will enable forces to be employed in an embarras of sizable proportions.

The defence of the Malayan-Singapore area and the continued development of both countries into stable and prosperous nations is of as much importance to Australia as it is to the countries concerned. There is an area that will contribute to this!

INDONESIA

No country in South-East Asia is potentially so important to Australia as Indonesia.

Faced as it is with vast economic difficulties inherited from the Sukarno régime, the present Government is making valiant efforts to achieve stability at home while developing a mature and responsible attitude to international affairs.

Confidence in the Suharto Government has been expressed by both the United States and Australia and it is hoped that the much-needed financial assistance will be made available to the Indonesian Government to continue its programme of economic reconstruction.

Indonesia's desire to remain aloof from military pacts is appreciated. In speaking in Djakarta, President Nixon said: "It is on the basis of common values and ideals and not on the basis of alliance or alignment that my country seeks to co-operate with the Indonesian Republic." This sentiment will be echoed in Australia.

The formal union between West Irian and Indonesia represents a situation requiring understanding and imagination on the part of Australia.

NEW GUINEA

In Papua and New Guinea the Australian authorities have encountered, and in many cases overcome, the difficulties of the problems that Indonesia will face in its development in West Irian.

It is considered to be of the utmost importance that the Australian Government should at an early time offer every possible assistance to the Indonesian authorities in West Irian and seek a cooperative approach to many common problems.

In addition to this, we must consider Australia's financial aid to Indonesia has increased appreciably over the last 12 months. Further measures should be taken to encourage Australian commercial and business interests in Indonesia and to develop increased trade between both countries.

Australia is held in high regard in the Indonesian community. We should, by every possible means, through economic aid, trade, business interest and investment and cultural relations, seek to build on the good relations that exist at present between our two countries.

The development of Papua and New Guinea towards eventual independence has confronted Australia with a challenge of a subtle and difficult kind.

Responsible world opinion has recognised and commended our efforts. Our task is to proceed with this development so that the Territory has gained independence. Australia will have gained a friend and ally with whom they can continue close cooperation in our mutual interests.

COMPLEXITIES

Certain events of recent months have indicated the complexities of the task facing Australia and the need for imaginative planning.

In the League's view certain guidelines should be followed:

1. Progress towards independence should not be hastened but rather reflect the capacity and the desire of the community to accept greater responsibility.

2. Attempts by outside influences, often of an irresponsible kind, should be strongly resisted.

3. It should be recognised that there are disruptive influences in the Territory, and in Australia, that will concentrate on promoting discord with a view to creating a situation in which revolutionary action is feasible.

RUSSIAN MOVES

No event of recent months has attracted so much attention, but very obvious reasons, as the evidence of greatly increased Russian interest in South-East Asia and the Indian Ocean.

This situation presents a problem for Australia. Those who formulate Australia's defence and foreign policies. It is of the utmost importance that it should be properly evaluated, not in terms of East-West conflict, but in the context of the complexities that exist in the South-East Asian region.

There are a great many situations in the various countries which, if not countered, could provide a fruitful ground for Russian manipulation.

Inter-racial strife in Malaysia. Indonesia's desperate struggle to revive its economy, Singapore's predominately Chinese non-Muslim community situated between the largely Muslim States of Malaysia and Indonesia, the Vietnam war and continuing insurgency, in Burma, Thailand and the Philippines are among the complexities referred to and should be carefully considered in relation to the

(Continued overleaf)
THE LEAGUE'S NATIONAL DEFENCE PLAN

(From previous page)

the question of communist-Russian influence on free nations in East Asia. Diplomacy within the limitations of a well thought-out, pre-determined foreign policy must be flexible so that even in a situation which has apparently dangerous, benefits may be seen and exploited.

The possibility of Soviet influence acting to some extent as a counterbalance to China's militant support of subversion cannot be overlooked.

Nor can the need for Russia to be aware of Indonesia's financial situation and the policies which gave military advice and aid by Russia.

Having said all this it must still be recognised that Russia advocates and pursues a hard-line communist policy. Her presence in the Pacific Ocean, which cannot be prevented, must be closely watched and directions drawn from situations where her presence can be helpful and those where it opposes our interests and affects our influence.

The warning expressed by the Secretary-General of SEATO should not go unheeded. In his recent report he has this to say:

"it must not be forgotten that the long-range goals of the Soviet Union, like those of Communist China, are to erode Western influence and to replace democratic governments by communist regimes. How we are to react to such action will depend on the pressures that may be in the short term, the establishment of diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations will facilitate the covert introduction of personnel skilled in the subterfuge of communist theories and practices."

AUSTRALIA'S ROLE

The extent to which any nation can respond to those circumstances that bear on her security will depend on the two principal factors:

1. The urgency of the situation
2. Economic capacity, having regard to competing demands for finance.

Australia, with its great size and small population, must provide for development as well as defence.

This should not be seen entirely as a problem of conflicting requirements, but in the development for the use of our oil and mineral resources not only prevent vast increases, but underline the great assets to be protected.

They also indicate a need for outside international involvement in Australia's development.

DIPLOMACY

It is obvious in even a superficial assessment of Australia's possible defence resources that even if we devoted a major percentage of our gross national product to defence expenditure our security measures would still be inadequate.

This indicates immediately the importance of diplomacy as our first line of defence. Existing international arrangements such as ANZUS, SEATO and ANZAM must be strengthened and clarified.

Our will to contribute to our collective defence measures must establish our bona fides so that we can then expect our own assistance that others can give us should the need arise.

We therefore take bold new initiatives amongst our developing neighbours to assist them in their special problems and to promote a concept of the security of the region being fundamental to the individual nation within the region.

It cannot be stressed too strongly that Australia, as an associate, is from any previous colonial history, possesses technical skills, a strong economy, and a high living standard is in an unrivalled position to contribute real meaning to the principles of collective action to cope with economic, social, and security problems.

Certain fundamental requirements in Australia's international relations set out in the League's Defence Sub-

mission of 1968 remain valid. These are:

1. The over-riding importance of the United States alliance and the maintenance of an American presence and interest in the region.

2. The increased significance of Japan and Indonesia's defence of the region, especially in the longer term.

3. The necessity for the greater possibility of co-operation of our defence structure and planning with New Zealand. The recently announced agreement on standardisation of defence measures— including the procurement of defence equipment— the exchange of technical knowledge and production shall establish our bona fides still be inadequate.

4. The necessity of developing economic aid and assistance to those areas where it opposes our military interests.

5. The necessity of developing friendly relations with the United States and other countries in the region.

DEFENCE POLICY

(1) Regular Forces

1. With the threat to the security of the region being fundamental to the security of the individual nation within the region, it must be recognised and consistently stated that South-East Asia must establish its own stability and peace when a satisfactory solution in the social and political problems of the area.

2. Australia must, of course, balance these interests in the area against its own development and defence requirements.

3. It is important to recognise, however, that the solution of social problems in the area is not only attainable within the area itself, but that this must be supplemented by the provision of economic aid and assistance to the areas in the area.

4. Even so, the solution of social problems in the area must be supplemented by the provision of economic aid and assistance to the areas in the area.

5. In this light it seems reasonable to suggest that we can do more than we at present do to improve the living standards of the people in the area.

6. The experience gained in the protracted negotiations of the past few years has undoubtedly proved invaluable in decisions affecting the acquisition of aircraft and other arms. A sizeable body of opinion supports the proposal for an additional air-craft carrier, especially in the light of the increase in Russian presence in the Indian Ocean.

7. The possibility of a major increase in the total defence vote, and the wisdom of this expenditure may well be questioned.

It may be preferable to seek United States and British support in providing the naval strength in the Indian Ocean and for Australia to concentrate on her responsibility for large vessels, increasing those that will assist in a counter-insurgency or defensive role.

(II) Citizen Force

In Australia's strategical position an adequate citizen force is a fundamental in any total defence plan required.

Likely future commitments, however, suggest that the C.M.F. will fulfill essentially a watching or police role for an indefinite period.

Australia's probable military commitments in the immediate future will involve small mobile forces required for counter-insurgency and limited war.

This situation emphasizes the importance for incentives of various kinds to ensure that the C.M.F. is brought to, and retained at, the highest level of efficiency.

There is evidence of increasing difficulty in obtaining suitable leadership material in the C.M.F., and therefore the necessary training programmes that are of sufficient variety to maintain an adequate level of training programmes.

The Citizen Force is the most economical way in which Australia can be provided with a large force that does not make heavy demands on governmental revenue nor deplete in any appreciable extent the Australian work force.

It would seem important that a close and continuing examination of the training facilities and possible facilities that will add to the interest in the C.M.F. and the training programmes at first-class conditions of service.

III) National Service

The present National service scheme is an impr-
NATIONAL DEFENCE PLAN

(From previous page)

important and indispensable part of Australia’s defence arrangements.

CRITICISMS of the scheme, especially on the requirement for overseas service and provisions for conscientious objectors, continue to be the subject of public controversy. It is therefore important that the value of the scheme in the context of our nation’s requirements be re-assessed and the moral issues reassessed.

(a) Practically all the countries in the world that can be compared with Australia in terms of development and political structure have, rather significantly, all the Communist countries, have national services of one kind or another.

(b) In all of these countries there is the obligation for national defence engagement which must be re-assessed.

(c) In all of these countries National Service has long since ceased to be a subject of partisan debate. It has been accepted as a necessity from the security of the nation.

ADVANTAGES

(d) The existing National Service scheme has advantages in addition to maintaining a ready-trained Army at the necessary strength. By raising or lowering the intake, a quick response can be made to changing international situations; each year approximately 8,000 young men go back to civil life having had two years’ full-time service in the Regular Army; they constitute a front line reserve that is not available under a volunteer system and, finally, the C.M.F. and the R.A.F. are the “alternative service arrangement” is kept up to full strength.

(e) Under the system of volunteer forces for short-term service, to cope with specific military commitments, the total responsibility for Australia’s contribution is left to those young men who alone see their responsibilities and the nation’s need. The National Service scheme ensures that there is an equal liability on all young men to play a part in meeting the nation’s commitments.

There is in Australia a need for general recognition that the task of overseas service is an increasingly important part of Australia’s scheme, especially on the commitment of young men.

There must be an acknowledgement that if we desire to live as citizens of the world it is necessary for us to develop and maintain the will to adopt our responsibility in the world we must accept a personal commitment.

Individual rights must never be ignored but must be consistent with those national obligations to our future well-being.

The League believes that the present scheme is vital to our defence arrangements and is important in demonstrating to the world that we are prepared to adopt the most efficient measures to meet our defence obligations at home and abroad.

EXPAND

The League, however, believes that the scheme should be progressively expanded to cater for increased service in the C.M.F. and possibly the R.A.N. and the R.A.A.F., and for alternative service civil aid programmes and national development.

(IV) Indian Ocean approaches.

In many years the R.S.L. has emphasised the need to increase our defence capacity on our northern and western seaboard.

This requirement has gained an increased degree of urgency in developing events, notably:

(i) the British withdrawal from Suez;

(ii) the clear-cut warning by the United States that it will not continue to allow any large part of the responsibility for the defence of the region;

(iii) the Russian build-up in the Indian Ocean;

(iv) the increased agitation in South America for Western withdrawal.

(v) great mineral discoveries and progress in oil refinery and production in Western Australia and the resultant importance of these areas to Australia’s industrial and military potential.

It is apparent that the task of providing adequately for the defence of this huge area is beyond Australia’s nuclear capacity alone.

However, the first responsibility is ours. Action should be taken to expedite the development, in conjunction with the United States, Britain and New Zealand, of defence bases in Guam, Darwin, Cockburn Sound and possibly the North-West Cape area.

While such a concept should not be considered as an alternative to forward strategies in Malaysia/Singapore it must be recognised as giving depth to the whole of our strategic position in the Indian Ocean.

The part that Japan could play with a rationalised and greatly strengthened defence force in defending her trade routes, and especially her supply lines for essential raw materials, should be examined closely.

We have been too slow in reacting to these events and other recent events of great significance in relation to our northern and western defence. It is time now for bolder initiatives.

(vi) Nuclear Capability

The R.S.L. recognises and supports the overwhelming need to control the supply of nuclear arms to and from every possible source to eliminate the possibility of nuclear war.

To this end the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty represents the first tangible evidence of progress.

The League believes that for this reason, and because it is a practical symbol of agreement between the world’s two great power groups that Australia should sign the treaty subject to three essential qualifications:

(i) That we are guaranteed nuclear protection, under satisfactory international arrangements against nuclear threats or invasion forces;

(ii) that the treaty provisions for far forward defence arrangements that will be satisfactory from every point of view; and

(iii) that we not be party to the treaty will not inhibit or prevent research into and the development of our own nuclear capacity for peaceful purposes.

STRATEGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CIVILIAN FACILITIES

In the situation in which Australia is placed, economically and strategically, it is essential that every possible potential for coordinating strategic production with defence requirements should be explored and developed to the fullest.

Production needs for our own expanding industries should, whenever feasible, have a defence potential.

Shipbuilding could well form a nucleus and could be expanded both as a contribution to our economy and our industrial development, and to play a vital role in our military requirements.

Port and air base facilities, communications and road networks are some of the facilities which could be developed into a primary role for peaceful uses but which should have a defence capability.

This can extend to installations on neighbouring Pacific islands where the facilities of places such as Fiji might well be developed for strategic purposes.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

For Australia these are the years of opportunity and the time of decision. Our future is one of unrivalled potential.

The extent to which we accept this challenge and its attendant responsibilities depends not only on our financial capacity, but on our industrial capacity and the magnitude of our natural resources.

It depends most of all on our attitude as a people to the issues that confront us.

It is unreasonable to expect that in the easy going atmosphere of Australian life the community will automatically recognise the promise of the future.

It is time, then, for a concerted effort on public relations—a properly co-ordinated undertaking to promote a wider understanding of our international environment, of our capacity to influence and determine events.

(Continued Page 12)
A scheme aimed at raising a substantial amount of money towards the regional war veterans' home proposed for Geraldton was outlined at the November meeting of the local sub-branch.

Details of the scheme were given by a former mining engineer, Mr. Bill Power, who is living in retirement at Geraldton. The scheme includes the extraction of copper from water in the old mines in the Northampton field.

Mr. Power said that the plans would help Geraldton with its "dry town" efforts because discarded beer and cool drink cans could be used. He said that after removing the tops of the cans, the cans must be burnt to remove the protective coating. They were then packed in a drain and the copper solution was allowed to flow over them.

The copper replaces the iron in the cans, forming a copper cement which can be recovered metallurgically.

Mr. Power said he used about 3,000,000 gallons of water a year could return about $120,000. The plant consists of a sealed drain and a windmill to lift the water from a depth of 180 feet.

Mr. Power said that one ton of copper could be obtained from the use of 27,000 beer cans. This would result in a considerable amount of money for the Veterans' Home because copper was worth 65 cents per pound.

Mr. Andy McDonald successfully moved that steps be taken to analyse water in the Northampton mines as the first step in support of the money-raising scheme.

At the same meeting the President of the War Veterans' Auxiliary, Mrs. T. Ashplant, handed a donation of $100 to the sub-branch president towards the proposed veterans' home.

Thanking the auxiliary for its gesture, Mr. Spendlove said the fund now stood at about $1,000.

BRANCH SUPPORT

The State branch of the League has offered its full support to the Geraldton sub-branch's proposal to build a veterans' home in the town.

Senior vice-president, Len Phenna, gave this information to the sub-branch at its annual reunion in September.

A helping hand for the needy

At their August meeting the R.S.L. members at Geraldton were given an informative talk on the "Freedom from Hunger" campaign and "Assistance for Refugees."

A Geraldton businessman, Mr. John Anderson, said that in Asia alone, 200-million people were hungry and 700-million were undernourished. More than half of these people were under 21.

Mr. Anderson pointed out how the governments concerned were taking part in "self-help, chain-reaction projects."

He said each dollar collected for either appeal would grow $100 worth of food in Asia.

A number of young enthusiasts volunteered to take part in a door-to-door section of the local appeal "Operation Hunger Strike." - B.J.B.

He said the State Executive would assist the sub-branch in any way possible, through passing on the knowledge it had gained from the operation of the War Veterans' Home at Mt. Lawley.

As far as the financial side was concerned, Mr. P. H. Phenna said there would be assistance from the Anzac Day Trust Fund and from the proceeds of the "Miss Crowned Glory" competition.

The scheme would also qualify for the $2 for $1 Commonwealth subsidy — with the result that finance should not be any great problem.

Mr. Phenna asked neighbouring sub-branches to give their support to the Geraldton proposal for a veterans' home, and said that it might be developed as a community project.

He pointed out that there was no space available for further expansion at the Mt. Lawley home.

Mr. Spendlove said that about $1,000 had already been raised for the project, in addition to which a site had been made available.

The Mayor, Mr. Vic Askew, said he was sure the proposal would have the backing of the Town Council and other organisations.

He hoped the veterans' home would become a reality as soon as possible, so that more than 26 people on the waiting list for the Mt. Lawley home could be brought to Geraldton. - B.J.B.

Northam Sub-branch outing

The Northam sub-branch picnic at Seabrook (some six miles east of the town) on Sunday, October 5, was an unqualified success.

The picnic was held for the second year in succession. About 250 people attended, including about 60 from the Brothers of Charity sub-branch, 30 from the Northam Over-60 Club and a number from the Northam branch of the Pensioners' League.

Another very important and welcome element in the picnic was comprised of the 28 boys and girls from the Northam State High School Student Band. The Mayor and Members of Northam (Mr. and Mrs. T. Beavis) visited the picnic site shortly after noon, and after hearing the band, with its 26-piece-accordians and four play a bracket of three numbers, the Mayor (a former bandmaster) congratulated the band upon their performance.

The sub-branch provided beer, tea and coffee, and had half-a-dozen barbecues fires going. There was also a supply of ice cream for the young and older members and other youngsters in the party. Some of the not-so-youngsters enjoyed it, too.

In the afternoon there were foot races for the youngsters, with bags ofsandy as prizes, and a tug-of-war for the men. The weather was perfect and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Among the crowd was the Member for Northam (Mr. Kenneth F. McFiey) who is also a member of the R.S.L., and who was accompanied by his wife and family.

At Geraldton soon

At the November meeting of the Geraldton sub-branch, President John Spendlove reminded members of several forthcoming functions.

The annual Christmas meeting on December 8, to which members are asked to bring a plate of refreshments, the Christmas tree party on December 20 and "Carols by Candlelight" on December 30.

A darts competition between the R.S.L. C.M.F. and Police was scheduled for November 20. - B.J.B.
Farewell to Consul and Welcome to Dean

Joint guests-of-honour at an informal reception at Anzac House on September 12 were the Anglican Dean of Perth (the Very Rev. John Hazlewood) and the retiring United States Consul, Mr Earl Cleveland.

The Dean was making his first official call on the League here, and the Consul his last.

After 19 months in Perth Mr Cleveland was on the eve of his return to the United States for an extended holiday prior to his re-posting to duty in South-East Asia.

In a word of farewell to Mr Cleveland, the State President (Mr Pearson) thanked him for his ready co-operation at all times.

Recently, said Mr Pearson, the United States had taken a very big place in League thinking and there was no need to reassure Mr Cleveland as to the esteem in which his country was held here.

Mr Pearson hoped it would not be too long before a start was made with the naval base the League had long been pressing for, and that it would attract some American ships to these waters.

Mr Cleveland said it was with mixed emotions that he and Mrs Cleveland were leaving W.A. where they had made so many good friends.

They were shortly to become grandparents for the first time and were looking forward to a reunion with the various members of their family.

As for the future, although he would be living elsewhere his recollections would be very much in Western Australia.

The Perth environment was quite fascinating and to outsiders the rate of development in various parts of the State was almost incredible.

He felt much indebted to the League for the friendship it had opened up to him.

Mr Pearson introduced the Dean of Perth as a former bomber-navigator with the New Zealand Air Force, and a League member of some years' standing.

In his reply the Dean expressed his thanks for the hospitality extended and referred to the unit memorials in the cathedral.

Apply now for N.Z. Anzac visit

Applications are invited for inclusion in the 1970 New Zealand Anzac Day visit.

Information is available at Anzac House and any League member interested in making the trip should lodge his application as soon as possible.

Four major host-associations are: Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

As arrangements must be made well ahead please notify League headquarters as soon as possible.

Meet-up with your old mates at the Anzac Club
THE LEAGUE'S NATIONAL DEFENCE PLAN

(From Page 9)

that are important to our part of the world, of our ability to give leadership and provide assistance to neighbouring countries in South-East Asia, of the heavier responsibilities that we as a nation must accept if we are to make good the promise of a great future.

Fears have been expressed that the development of more comprehensive public relations machinery would lead to partisan abuse.

It is surely unreal to believe that in the interests of an important national facility the necessary safeguards cannot be employed to provide information, and at the same time guarantee the necessary degree of impartiality.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) That Australia take bolder initiatives in contributing to the defence of the area of South-East Asia.
(2) That there should be a clearly-stated recognition that our military presence in Malaysia/Singapore is vital to a concept of regional defence, and that the strength of our forces should be reviewed to meet developing contingencies.
(3) That while welcoming evidence of the growing self-reliance of Vietnam, it is emphasised that any programme of withdrawal must be consistent with the ability of South Vietnam to satisfactorily ensure her continued security.
(4) That every effort must be made to develop closer co-operation and friendship with Indonesia, including a combined approach to problems in the territory of Papua and New Guinea and in West Irian.
(5) That progress towards independence in New Guinea should be finely gauged to meet the capacity and the will of the people to assume this responsibility.
(6) That Russian build-up in the Indian Ocean should be closely watched and clear distinctions drawn between situations where Russia's presence can be helpful and those where it conflicts with the security problems of the region.
(7) That Australia should take new initiatives in diplomacy to strengthen old agreements, especially the United States alliance and the Anzac partnerships.
(8) That there should be an increase in Civil Aid and encouragement to private individuals and organisations to increase their activities and develop greatly increased people-to-people programmes.
(9) That our regular forces should be given increased mobility, flexibility and firepower.
(10) That the C.M.F., which is vital to Australia's defence requirements in the event of a large-scale war, should be given greater incentives through imaginative training, improved facilities and better conditions.
(11) That defence and service should be progressively expanded so that all young men can play some part in the nation's security and welfare, and that this expanded programme should include apprenticeships for civilian service.
(12) That bold decisions should be taken on the defences of our Indian Ocean approaches, involving co-operation with the United States, Britain and New Zealand and the possible inclusion of Japan.
(13) That there should be intensive investigation of means by which peaceful facilities can be developed for strategic purposes, especially in shipbuilding and aircraft production and transport and communication requirements.
(14) That we should sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty subject to certain important safeguards, including our own nuclear protection, a satisfactory inspection system and our ability to continue our own nuclear development for peaceful purposes.
(15) That much more should be done through the public-relation medium to encourage a full awareness throughout Australia of the role and responsibilities that this country must accept in meeting the promise of a great future.
The Last Post
EX-SERVICE DEATHS

August list

ALLEN, F. W., WX32375, 2/11th Bn., Scarborough.
BEACHAM, H. W., WC12696, 2/5th Bn., Murray.
BLAKEMORE, C., 3184, 2nd Pioneers, Collie.
BLIGHT, H. P., 857, 11th Bn., Fremantle.
BOWMAN, T., 4294, 28th Bn., City of Perth.
BRADLEY, P. C., WX9318, 9th Mobile Laundry, Central H.
BROWN, R. E., WX12335, 2/4th M.G. Bn., Wagin.
BRUCE, H. M., WX59022, 4 Aust. Base, Guildford.
CARRICK, E., WX11456, 2/4th A.F.C., City of Perth.
COLE, B. S. K., WX13757, Lt., Sign. Officer, Perth.
CONNELLY, F. K., WX59821, 2/48th Bn., N.E. Fremantle.
CORKHILL, M., 3437, 9th Bn., N.E. Fremantle.
CRAGIE, A. F., 3017, 11th Bn., N.E. Fremantle.
CURO, F. W., 248, 44th Bn., Mandurah.
CURRAN, W. E., 88264, 3rd M.D., Echelon Records, 4th Light Horse, Kalgoorlie.
DARLINGTON, A. R., 5293, Lt., 24th Bn., P.A.O., Maylands.
DAVIES, E. E., WX93654, 2/3rd Pioneers, Geraldton.
DICK, C. F., 260, 10th Light Horse, North Perth, Droog.
DODDS, J., 1923, 28th Bn., Mandurah.
DOWSETT, L. S., 630, 44th Bn., Victoria Park.
DRAPEL, E. A., 17881, 2/16th Bn., Highgate.
ESTCOTT, F. L., 5712, 16th Bn., Yarloop.
EIGHTEEN, W. G., Lt., Has- sara, Ku, Centres In Esperance.
FIDLER, G. M., 4393595, R.A.S.C., Denmark.
FILDES, H. A., 676, 12th Bn., Kalanning.
FINDLAY, B. R., WX1021, Subiaco.
FORD, F. H., 1759, 21st Bn., Geraldton.
GIDDENS, H. B., 2533, 10th Light Horse, Nanga.
GOODWIN, F. W. G., WX24194, 8 Div., M.G.C., Gloucester.
GRIFFITHS, A. W., WX8022, H.Q. Guard Bn., North Perth.
HALPENNY, G., 730, 37th Bn., City of Perth.
HANSEN, H., 241, H.M.G., 1/A.L.I.
HOOPER, T., 7007, 11th Bn., Mundaring.
HORTON, V. R., WX8376, 2/28th Bn., N.E.Fremantle.
HUNTINGTON, J., 21924, 5th M.T.B., Maryville.
IRWIN, G. W., 1160, 2nd Bn., Fremantle.
KEVAN, T., 2572, 4th D.A.C., Victoria Park.
LEONARD, R. J., 1744, 28th Bn., Fremantle.
LIDDLELOW, B. J., WX15231, 10th Light Horse, Gosnells.
LINDSAY, H., WX10076, 2/28th Bn., Belmont.
MANN, L. B., 4373, 48th Bn., Perth.
Masters, G. J. H., WX4441, 2/28th Bn., Mt Hawthorn.
MOORE, 40787, 7th F.A., Mounts.
MORRIS, M. E., WX351, 2nd Bn., Piara.
MORRIS, R., 2464, 48th Bn., Mandurah.
ODDOCKS, N., WX7448, 6th F.Pk., Victoria Pk.
PERKINS, E. (Miss), A.A.N.S., Returned Army Nurses.
ROGERS, A. E., 18440, R.A.A.F. W.L.W.F.P.
RICKS, C. F., 4677, R.A.R., City of Perth.
RUSSELL, S. H., WX14273, 2/16th Bn., Victoria Park.
SCHILLING, F. M., 570313, 17th London Rs., Carlisle.
STAY, M., 593, 27th Bn., Fremantle.
TELFER, H. A., 831, 4th Bn., Edgewater.
THOMAS, G. J. N., WX30706, 2nd Aust Fd Co.
WATSON, R. L., 6837, 2/22nd Bn., Rockingham.
WELLS, L. E., CMX32008, R.N., Fremantle.
WOOD, F. H., WX18422, 4th Bn., Victoria Park.
WOODS, T. S., 4040, 51st Bn., Maylands.
WRIGHT, A. S., 3122, 28th Bn., 11th Bn., Donnybrook.
YOUNG, L. R., 83823, R.A.F.F., Canning.

September list

BADGER B. K., 5050, 11th Bn., Albany.
BAXTER, W., 796, 16th Bn., Mukinbudin.
BEST S. H., 611, 12th Bn., Victoria Park.
BOVEY T., 1855, 11th Bn., Midland.
BROWN W. J., 15147, 11th Bn., How, Mandurah.

Bugler Neil Houot (14) of the Y.A.L. Band sounds the Last Post on the William-street-Raymond-street corner on the ANZAC Day.

October list

AMOORE, R. H., NGX278, 2/48th Bn., Maylands.
BICKERTON, R. L., 1544, 10 L.H. Collie Cardi.
HENNESSY, E. R., 3713, 3rd M.G., Kunanyupin.
CANN, A. E., WX40149, 2/24th Fd. Pt., Perth.
CHRISTODOLOU, P., WX17761, 2/32 Bn., Central.
CLARKE H. B., 3631, 51st Bn., Harvey.
CROWE, T. J., 2771, 1st Bn., Meekatharra.
DAWSON, H. D., 2317 11th Bn., Dumbleyung.
DAVIES, C. E., 1745, 9th B.H., Mandurah.
DOIG, F. E., 298, 11th Bn., Beliveul.
FALLS, J. P., 7974, 16th Bn., Collie.
HAMPTON, S., 4377, 2nd Bn., Mt Hawthorn.
HEARLE, C. K., 8959, 1st Bn., Kellerberrin.
HOUHAISAN, J. R., 516 Bn., Rockingham.
HOWARTH, R. L., WX37172, 2/8 Eng., Yokine.
JONES, W. A., WX15894, 2/16th Bn., N.E. Fremantle.
JONES, R. J., 9442, 7th Royal N.V., South Perth.
MANNING, N. H., 3578, 1st Bn., Swanbourne.
MORRIS, J. E., WX13198, Royal Navy, Gosnells.
MORRIS, W., WX3110, 2/20th Bn., M.T.H.

OMISSION: It is regretted that the name JOHN FORD was not included in the Last Post list for June, Mr. Ford died on June 29 at the Geraldton regional hospital.
Remembrance at Geraldton

In Geraldton all vehicular and pedestrian traffic came to a halt in Memorial terrace for the traditional observance of two minutes' silence on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

An R.S.L. spokesman said the excellent response by the public clearly showed that the young as well as old were well aware of the significance of the occasion.

The Last Post and Reveille were sounded on the crosswalk in front of the Post Office by three buglers of the Geraldton Town Band—Mr Les Backshall, Master Peter O'Dea and Master Richard Pozoga—under the direction of the bandmaster, Mr Wally Palmer.

On November 9, the Sunday nearest to Remembrance Day, members of the Geraldton sub-branch made their annual pilgrimage to the cemetery at Utakarra.

Fresh flowers were placed on the graves of 88 servicemen from various parts of Australia who died while serving in the Geraldton area during the World War.

A record quantity of flowers was donated, including many beautiful specimens from the Northampton R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary, following the Sub-Branch Reunion the previous night.

At a brief ceremony at the war cemetery memorial a wreath was laid by the sub-branch president. In addition Remembrance Poppies were placed on the graves of all ex-servicemen in the general cemetery at Utakarra.

Parcels for "the boys"

At its November meeting the Geraldton sub-branch decided to donate $40 towards the provision of Christmas parcels for servicemen in Vietnam.

The donation will pay for 20 parcels under a scheme being handled by the Australian Forces Overseas Fund.

A young man recently returned from service in Vietnam, Mr Doug Williams, assured members that Christmas parcels gave a terrific boost to the morale of servicemen.

Mr Williams comes from Carnarvon and is on relief duty at Geraldton in the District Post Manager's office.

He was welcomed to the R.S.L. meeting by the President.

Award for former Geraldton man

While at Geraldton for the local reunion in September State Vice-President Len Phenna handed the sub-branch a Certificate of Service for its former member (and treasurer) Bill Kynaston.

Mr Kynaston now manages a bank in Sydney.

Korea tour

The Korea and South-East Asia Forces Association of Australia is planning a commemorative tour through the Orient to Korea for the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Korean War.

Any ex-servicemen who served in Japan, Korea or Malaysia, and their families, may participate. Other ex-servicemen also are invited to do so.

The tour, starting from Sydney on May 31, 1970, is for 28 days.

Further information may be obtained from the State branch of the association (see notice on page 15).

A great effort!

A profit of about $700 resulted from the afternoon of entertainment provided by the Geraldton sub-branch on the opening day of the 1969 Sunshine Festival.

President J. Spendlove said the sub-branch would donate half the money to the festival committee.

The listening POST

November, 1969
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.B. SAILORS, SOLDIERS, AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION W.A. Meets third Monday each month at 8 p.m., at V.M.C.A., Mt. Pleasant, H. G. Kenny, 21 York-st., Nedlands (64 0788). Secretary, G. Piesley (21 5086).

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS' ASSOCIATION—Anzac House basement, third Monday at 2 p.m., President, H. Wilkins, 30 Explanade, Mt. Pleasant (64 3087). Secretary, Jack Syme, 28 Marquis-street, South Perth (68 2946).


16th BATTALION 2/2ND TRENCH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Committee meets Third Monday at 8 p.m. President, P. Lawrence, 67 Wood-street, Perth. Secretary, C. C. Young, 19 Water-street, East Fremantle (39 2934).

21st BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings bi-monthly at 8 p.m. President, R. F. Scott, 35 Rokeby-road, Nedlands (60 3034). Secretary, L. C. Lawley, 38 Oakover-street, East Fremantle (39 2046).

25TH BATTALION 2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meets third Monday at 8 p.m. President, C. S. McLeod, 26 MacLeod-road, Applecross (64 1952). Secretary, Des Beard, 20 Warner-road, Mt. Yakine (65 4143). Welfare Officer, W. Williams, 111 Oldham-street, Perth. Committee meets third Monday at 8 p.m. Meeting 8th March, 8th May, 8th July, 8th September, and 8th October. All members are requested to attend meetings, as minutes of meetings are sent to the Hon. Secretary, President, and Treasurer.


14TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION—Meetings 4th Wednesday each month. President, T. B. Head, 20 Warraburrama-street, Canning (64 1952). Secretary, J. A. Ramond, 111 A. W. C. P. Odgers, 28 Tennyson-street, East Fremantle (39 2923).

16TH BATTALION WOMEN'S AUXILIARY—Meetings 4th Wednesday at 8 p.m. President, Mrs. Oxenham, 86 Monash Av., Como. Secretary, Mrs. R. Young, Oakover-street, East Fremantle (39 2934).

BRIGADE OF GUARDS ASSOCIATION of W.A.—President, S. C. MacPhail, 149 Armadale-street, East Fremantle, Secretary, A. H. Price 20 Farm-street, Karriern (66 9386). Meetings are held on last Thursday of each month at Anzac House.
Women's Auxiliary notes

**OFFICIAL VISITS**

The State President, Mrs Rowe, has attended the following functions:

- July 30: Mandurah birthday party.
- August 21: Cunderdin 10th anniversary party.
- September 9: Belmont luncheon.
- September 17: Blackboy Hill fete and luncheon.
- September 25: Victoria Park birthday.
- September 26: Official opening of Mandurah's annual fete.

Attended Partially Blind Soldiers Social.

**SUB-BRANCH REUNION**

- September 26: Mandurah fete and Anniversary party.
- September 27: Air Force Association memorial service.
- 18th August 21: Cunderdin, the Country Cup won by the Geraldton R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary as outstanding country auxiliary in the State last year was on display at its August meeting.

The cup has now been won by Geraldton seven times in eight attempts.

It was recently brought back from Perth by the president, Mrs C. Ashment, and her co-delegate Mrs J. Buckle, who attended the State Conference.

The Geraldton auxiliary decided to celebrate its latest win at a luncheon to mark its 59th birthday anniversary.

Comprehensive reports on State Conference were given by Mrs Ashplant and Mrs P. Tullips. They were congratulated on their efficient manner in which the Geraldton motions were handled. B.J.B.

**Geraldton's giving**

Donations totalling $650 were decided upon at the November meeting of the Geraldton R.S.L. Women's Auxiliary, the details being:

- Hospital visiting, $150;
- Christmas Cheer for hospital patients, $100;
- proposed war veterans' home at Geraldton, $100;
- Legacy fund, $50;
- State President's appeal, $50;
- Geraldton Town Band, $50;
- Geraldton Community Centre, $30;
- Missions to Seamen, $20;
- Sea Cadets, $20;
- Junior Band, $20;
- Auxiliary Administration, $20;
- Police and Citizens' Youth Club, $10;
- War Memorial maintenance, $10;
- and Anzac Memorial at Walshaw School, $10.

Earlier this year the Auxiliary made donations of $200 towards a hot-water system at Birdwood House and $20 for hospital visiting.

Donations this year now totalled $922.

B.J.B.

**League has big job ahead**

At the Geraldton sub-branch reunion dinner in September, State Vice-President Len Phenna said he was delighted to see several young men who had served in Vietnam among those present.

He said that in its drive for increased membership of the R.S.L., it was looked to members of the younger generation to help with a job which was only just beginning.

Mr Phenna said that the R.S.L. could also stand for "Remembrance, Service, Loyalty."

The group of young returned servicemen was referred to included Mr Pat Sewell, of Geraldton, and Mr Delville Stickland, of Mullewa, both of whom served in the army in Vietnam, and job Buckle of Geraldton, who served overseas in the Royal Australian Navy.

Mr Phenna said a good example had been set in the metropolitan area where a young man who had served in Vietnam was now secretary of the Rivervale sub-branch.

A toast to the Geraldton sub-branch was proposed by Country Vice-President Merv Williams, of Coorow, who said that Geraldton had an extremely good record of service to both the league and the community in general.

He made special mention of the attendance of three sub-branch members who had been in the R.S.L. for half-a-century—Messrs Artie Milford, Bert Lock and Bill Cream.

City of Perth Sub-Branch

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Tuesday, 16th December, 1969

Bagatelle, Anzac House, 8 p.m.

Open to all members of the sub-branch Top class orchestra—artists—dancing Supper Provided

Ring 21638, catering requirements "THANK YOU"

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Printed for the R.S.L., (W.A. Branch) by Ernest James Petersen, at the West Australian Office, Newspaper House, St George's Terrace, Perth, and published by the Periodicals Division of West Australian Newspapers Limited.