BIG PLANS AFOOT FOR VETERANS

The League is negotiating the purchase of 3½ acres of land adjacent to the War Veterans' Home in Alexander Drive, Mt. Lawley.

The decision to do so was made at the October executive meeting following a report by the chairman of the board, Dr Alan King.

He told the meeting that the board believed it could obtain the land for about $40,000 or even less.

In the board's opinion, the location of the block and the economics of the proposition made it most attractive, Dr King said.

It would attract a two-for-one subsidy from the Commonwealth Government and would enable the League to proceed with the setting of a wing for the frail-aged as part of the existing veterans' home.

Envisaged, it would attract a subsidy of $60,000, which would be matched by another $60,000 from the funds available for the project to the War Veterans' Home.

Mr King's report was followed by a discussion of the sub-branch's location, and the members agreed that the building should be built at Geraldton.

The executive adopted a board proposal for making available to the Geraldton sub-branch, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to $10,000 for the establishment of a veterans' home at Geraldton.

Dr King said the sub-branch had been considering the project for several years and had already acquired a site. A two-for-one government subsidy could bring the funds available to the project to $20,000.

He said he would be visiting Geraldton at the following weekend with Mr K. Broadhurst (trustee and architectural adviser) to discuss the project further with the sub-branch.

The November executive meeting was conducted with the understanding that the subject had been included on the agenda for the Geraldton sub-branch conference on November 20.

Moving out

The executive also adopted a board proposal for making available to the Geraldton sub-branch, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to $10,000 for the establishment of a veterans' home at Geraldton.

Dr King said the sub-branch had been considering the project for several years and had already acquired a site. A two-for-one government subsidy could bring the funds available to the project to $20,000.

He said he would be visiting Geraldton at the following weekend with Mr K. Broadhurst (trustee and architectural adviser) to discuss the project further with the sub-branch.

The November executive meeting was conducted with the understanding that the subject had been included on the agenda for the Geraldton sub-branch conference on November 20.

Buying bricks

At the August meeting of the Geraldton sub-branch, the board announced that sub-branch stallwart Nick Pilatis had bought "bricks" in the Buy-a-brick campaign, as agreed with the sub-branch.

The campaign was launched that night to raise money for the regional veterans' home to be built at Geraldton.

Mr Pilatis's purchase (at 20 cents a brick) meant a donation of $30.

Following that meeting, the sub-branch arranged for the printing of books to be signed by all members and signed at 50 cents each.

The secretary arranged a sub-branch dinner for support of the regional home.

The personal aspect of remembrance

The personal aspect of remembrance was staged by Bishop Brian McDonald at this year's Remembrance Day ceremony at the Veterans' Home.

He was giving the address after blessing the Field of Remembrance, and following the traditional two-minute silence.

For Bishop McDonald's address, see page 4

Subscription up $1.00

President's letter to sub-branches

The State President has written to all sub-branches in the following terms:

The National Council, held in Hobart over the period 24th-27th October, approved the following annual subscription to $4.00 per annum with effect from 1st January, 1972.

Your delegates encouraged to have this deferred till next year to give ample warning to sub-branches at our State Conference, but the support we received was not sufficient to swing the vote.

Voting was 8 to 6 in favour of the increase.

Some States are in extreme difficulty so that the move was deemed to be imperative.

In recent visits, you will recall that as President I have been drawing attention to our increased needs, and we have invited sub-branches to conduct special projects to raise funds to be directed to Anzac House to assist us maintain the work being carried out.

Rises in salaries since the last adjustment of subscriptions, in 1966, which also included the current subscription of $3.00 total—$2.00 to State branches and $1.00 to sub-branches—and is calculated to the nearest 5 cents for simplification.

The foregoing is an interim decision, which will require adoption by sub-branch representatives at our State Conference 1972.

This allocation should prove equitable and allow our headquarters and sub-branches to cope with current rising expenses.

We have an important role to play in the inter-war years, and we are asking for the whole-hearted support of our members and women, and indeed in pointing the community to the important needs of this country.

To as responsible men and women I urge your whole-hearted cooperation in this and in our other matters, in which the League must address itself in the coming months.
1971 ball a big success;

At the ball: Percy Pearson, State President of the R.S.L.; Mrs Tonkin and the Premier, Mr John Tonkin; and Mrs Pearson.

Douglas Bruce, State Secretary of the R.S.L., and Mrs Bruce; and Lance Howard, State President of the Air Force Association at the time, and Mrs Howard.

Mr Mrs Dallywater and Air Commodore S. W. Dallywater (C.O. Force); Mrs Phenna and Len Phenna, senior vice-president of the R.S.L.; and Mrs Wedd and Athol Wedd, Police Commissioner.

1972 ball being planned

Hall booked for Friday, August 18

Next year's R.S.L. ball was discussed with enthusiasm at the September meeting of the State executive.

The enthusiasm was touched off by the encouraging reports of the 1971 ball, held on August 19 at the Subiaco Civic Centre (see picture at left).

State Secretary Bruce reported an attendance of 631 people, receipts amounting to $1600 and expenses of $1560, leaving a net surplus of $30.

With the previous ball it was a deficit of $137.

"A very memorable night," commented the State President. "Everything seems to be having a whale of a time."

There had been some congratulatory letters from official guests.

The 1972 ball is to be held on Friday, August 18, and the earlier have been booked in advance. The venue is the Subiaco Civic Centre once more.

This was reported at the November executive meeting by ball committee chairman C. F. Ferrie.

He said that on making inquiries for a booking he had found all Saturdays until September taken up. The August booking had subsequently become available through a cancellations, and he had snapped it up.

His action was endorsed.

Vietnam project ends

With the progressive withdrawal of Australian forces from South Vietnam, the League has decided to suspend its civil aid activities (Operation ‘Asian Life’) in that region.

State President Pearson said this at the executive meeting. He was reporting on the National Executive meeting held after the National Congress.

Mr Pearson said that over 130 tons of goods had been collected in W.A. and forwarded in the past two years.

The State Executive resolved to dissolve the local committee and thank its members and encourage others which had helped.

Enlisting help

When entering the Crownings Glory Quest a girl should enlist the support of her family, friends, work-mates or club-members to help in the organisation of her fundraising activities and generally help her in her undertaking.

The quest has received continuous support from the various R.S.L. branches and women’s auxiliaries and their future support is looked to with confidence.

For further information on the 1972 quest write to the Secretary, Crowning Glory Joint Committee, P.O. Box 1087, Perth, 6001.

Mr Herlihy receives the Certificate of Service from the State President, Mr Pearson.

Mr Crottill is presented with the Certificate of Appreciation.

League’s recognition of outstanding work

Two men who have served the League “in an outstanding way over many years” (State President Pearson’s words) received awards at the October executive meeting in recognition of their services.

They are Messrs P. (Phil) Herlihy and G. W. Bill cott, both with the War Service Commission of the State Housing Commission in the past.

Mr Herlihy received a Certificate of Service and Mr Billcott a Certificate of Appreciation.

Making the presentations, Mr Pearson said they had been well earned.

Mr H. G. Holder, chairman of the League’s housing committee, supported the president’s decision.

Asylum Society

Sailors made welcome

Sailors of U.S.S. Monticello during their visit to Fremantle from October 26 to 30 were made honorary members of the Amie Club while their ship was in port.

Helping hand for diggers and widows

For the first nine months of this year the League’s amenity and welfare section in W.A. gave immediate relief to 250 applicants.

This was reported to the October executive meeting.

The assistance included food parcels, medical treatment, spectacles, dentures and the provision of board and lodging for ex-service men.

Some oddments of furniture were supplied and some assistance given with fares to work.

The section arranged four funerals.

The report said that applications from 36 ex-servicemen for financial assistance had been investigated and $700 obtained from the British Commonwealth Ex-servicemen’s League.

That money had been used to assist with payment of outstanding hire-purchase commitment or repairs to homes, hospital accounts and furniture purchases, and to assist people to travel cheaper accommodation.

As well, widows of Australian ex-servicemen had been helped to move into State Housing Commission flats by the provision of two weeks’ rent in other ways.

Local ex-servicemen had been helped to obtain Cateesia Trust Fund grants.

More than 1,500 ex-servicemen and their dependants had been interviewed and legal assistance, and arranged for many of them.

Committees in private homes had been found for children of ex-servicemen.

Arrangements had been made for ex-servicemen to have medical treatment, and appointments made with the social service departments of local hospitals in public hospitals, and to district allocations.

There had been emergence requests by staff or executive members to homes needing immediate attention after accidents.

The section had received invaluable help from the Child Welfare Department, the S.H.C., churches and other institutions.

All but one man (aged 89) attended

All but one of the 27 R.C. members at Pen bertron turned out for the annual reunion of their section this year.

This was reported by the president, Mr Phenna at the September executive meeting.

The absentee, who had turned 80 that day, was indisposed.

HELPING HAND FOR DIGGERS AND WIDOWS

For the first nine months of this year the League's amenity and welfare section in W.A. gave immediate relief to 250 applicants.

This was reported to the October executive meeting.

The assistance included food parcels, medical treatment, spectacles, dentures and the provision of board and lodging for ex-service men.

Some oddments of furniture were supplied and some assistance given with fares to work.

The section arranged four funerals.

The report said that applications from 36 ex-servicemen for financial assistance had been investigated and $700 obtained from the British Commonwealth Ex-servicemen's League.

That money had been used to assist with payment of outstanding hire-purchase commitment or repairs to homes, hospital accounts and furniture purchases, and to assist people to travel cheaper accommodation.

As well, widows of Australian ex-servicemen had been helped to move into State Housing Commission flats by the provision of two weeks' rent in other ways.

Local ex-servicemen had been helped to obtain Cateesia Trust Fund grants.

More than 1,500 ex-servicemen and their dependants had been interviewed and legal assistance, and arranged for many of them.

Committees in private homes had been found for children of ex-servicemen.

Arrangements had been made for ex-servicemen to have medical treatment, and appointments made with the social service departments of public hospitals, and to district allocations.

There had been emergencies requests by staff or executive members to homes needing immediate attention after accidents.

The section had received invaluable help from the Child Welfare Department, the S.H.C., churches and other institutions.

All but one man (aged 89) attended

All but one of the 27 R.C. members at Penbertron turned out for the annual reunion of their section this year.

This was reported by the president, Mr Phenna at the September executive meeting.

The absentee, who had turned 80 that day, was indisposed.
League pressed for recall of troops from Vietnam

The withdrawal of Australian troops from Vietnam, announced by the Prime Minister on August 18, had been pressed for by the League. This was announced in a Press statement two days earlier by the National President, Sir Arthur Lee. Sir Arthur said the League had asked the Government to continue progress with the Vietnamesisation process, to lose no time in announcing a firm date for Australian troop withdrawal. The League had pointed out the importance of continuing aid of various kinds to South Vietnam. The League's request to the Government had been based on the following considerations:

1. In the League's view, the original commitment of Australian forces in South Vietnam against Communist aggression had been completely vindicated by subsequent events, and it now appeared that the South Vietnamese forces had developed their own defence capacity to provide adequately for their own defence.
2. It appeared that Vietnamesisation was progressing satisfactorily and could now be sustained on logistics, air and technical support to the South Vietnamese Armed Forces, together with continued economic aid.
3. The United States and other allied forces had already publicly announced their programmes for withdrawal.
4. It was essential that in this withdrawal of allied forces, definite decisions regarding the Australian combat element should be made as a matter of urgency, and the appointment of the R.M.F. as an important element of defence - it involves the community and stimulates interest in defence.
5. Intelligence and research facilities within the Joint Intelligence Organisation must be adequate to provide the defence forces with maximum warning of changing conditions of defence significance.
6. Foreign affairs intelligence should similarly contain a research capacity to detect long-range trends which affect defence
7. Five of the seven W.A. motions had been carried and the other covered by the Defence Paper.
8. In the War Service Homes section all five W.A. motions had been carried. The Congress had been addressed by the Federal Minister for Housing, Mr Kevin Cairns.
9. Motions on security, Communism and Fascism were similar to those previously submitted, but attention had been drawn to the growing strength of the Nazi Party in several States.
10. The National Executive had been asked for a survey of subversive organisations, and the Government a White Paper on Communism.
11. Rural land settlement and the problems of ex-service settlers had been discussed at length and Congress had asked for Government allocations for assistance to be increased to at least $5,000,000.
12. Congress had also called for a feasibility study of soldier settlement in the northern areas of Australia.
13. Only one Civil Defence item had come before Congress - seeking helicopters for North Queensland in the cyclone season.
14. The chairman of the Canteens Trust Fund, Mr E. Hardinge, had told Congress that the welfare grant had been raised from $210 to $300.
15. Congress had reaffirmed League support for Australia's restricted immigration policy.
16. An item calling for the internment of an unknown warrior at the National War Memorial had been rescinded.

Mr Holder said he had been much impressed by the League's public campaign on its new image.
Alf Farnham (85) of Maylands is first to receive new award

The league has adopted a new award—f0r 50 years of continuous financial membership—and the first recipient in W.A. is Mr Alf Farnham (85) of Maylands.

Mr Farnham is pictured (above) at his home receiving the award certificate from the State President, Mr Pearson. With them is Mrs Farnham.

Tie decision to inaugurate the award was made at last year's Annual General Meeting.

Meanwhile several other members have notched up 50 years of unbroken membership.

Application for the award is made through the sub-branch at a properly constituted meeting.

Many former VADs (members of the Voluntary Aid Detachment of the World War I) gathered in force in Sydney late in October to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the establishment there in the honour Queen Mary of the first 200 of their number to go overseas.

The decision was reached on November 23, 1941. Half the girls were placed with 2/6 A.G.H. in Gaza and half with 2/7 in Behrtech. All subsequent went to Alexandria.

Ever since their return from the Middle East these VADs have kept in touch with each other, mainly through a newsletter—"Salute."

They commemorated their 30th anniversary reunion in Victoria and the 5th in Adelaide.

At the Sydney rally this year there was much activity including a ferry trip to the spot where the Queen Mary was anchored and the placing of crosses at the Sydney War Memorial in honour of the 200 women who members since 1941.

There was talk of holding the next commemoration in a bigger parade where the local branch of the Legion was present.

Local VADs are also very active— in fact they had a very successful gathering at Anzac House on October 16 for afternoon tea, by way of celebrating the larger celebration scheduled for the end of that month.

More names on

The State Executive has agreed to a request from the Korean and South- East Asia Forces Association for the names of Vietnam War dead to be placed on the honour roll at the State War Memorial, and to help with the cost.

The dinner did credit to the hotel manager and staff and the organisation of a sub-branch meeting at Onslow, Mrs. Smith and Sally.
135,000 to benefit from increases in Repatriation rates

The new Repatriation pension rates provided in this year's Federal Budget are as follows:

**War pensions**
- Special (T. & P. I.) rate—weekly rate ($91) up to $30.50.
- Intermediate rate—weekly rate ($93.50) up to $50.
- Ordinary rate—weekly rate ($96.50) up to $100.
- Dependents' allowance:
  - Higher—rate ($104) up to $2.50.
  - Ordinary—rate ($8.50) up to $1 to $5.50.

**Limb loss**
- Increases in payments to ex-service personnel suffering from loss of a limb (limbs) or an eye in addition to the General War rate—were as follows:
  - Loss of one limb above knee and the other below knee—$4.10 to $11.50.
  - Loss of two legs below knee–up to $15.
  - Loss of arm and eye, or leg and eye—up to $20.
  - Loss of leg below knee or arm above elbow—up to $2 in.
  - Loss of leg below knee or arm above elbow—up to $4.
  - Loss of vision in one eye–up to $9.50.

**Service pension**
- Standard rate (max.)—up to $15.
- Wife's pension—up to $9.
- First child—up to $2.
- Other children—up to $1.

**Minister's statement**
In a Press statement on the increases, the Minister for Repatriation, Mr. Holten, said the total cost of the improved benefits would be $11,234,000 a full year. They would benefit more than 130,000 people.

He said the Government had concentrated on the benefits to those who had died. The payments were free of income tax, and rightly so. This increased the actual value compared with normal wages.

The annual expenditure on Repatriation (in 1960-61) was $151,000,000 and is expected to reach $160,000,000.

In addition to regular increases in pensions there had been benefits to veterans in recent years in other benefits, such as allowances under the Soldiers Children's Education and Training Scheme, Recreation Transport assistance and Attendancy allowances for the very seriously disabled.

Mr. Holten said that: In 1968 a new Special Compensation allowance had been introduced for those whose war-caused incapacity was assessed at from 75 to 100 per cent.

The conditions of eligibility for gift-cars extended.

**TP1 increases**
- Increases in basic payments for Special Rate (T. & P. I.) pensioners, and most war widows, widowers, dependents, and Special rate (T. & P. I.)—weekly rate up to $6.50 to $42.50.
- War widows' pension—dependency allowance-up to $2.75 to $5.75.
- War widows with two children—up to $17 to $39.50.

In addition to their basic pension all T. & P. I. members receive:
- Full medical treatment.
- Eligibility for sales tax exemption on new motor vehicles and essential space parties.
- Eligibility for radio and TV licence concessions.

They might also qualify for:
- Recreation transport allowance.
- Attendancy allowance, if very severely incapacitated and in need of an attendant to help with daily living needs.
- For the T. & P. I. pensioner with a family there are:
  - Pensions for wife and children.
  - Education allowances (including allowance for costs such as fees, books, etc., in certain circumstances).

Those who satisfy a means test and are otherwise eligible also qualify for service pension. The rates of service pension are increased substantially if there are children.

In some cases a married T. & P. I. pensioner with a family receives up to $70 a week.

**Gin Gin memorial to be moved**

The Gin Gin war memorial and the Gordon memorial plaque are to be re-located from Gin Gin Street.

The change was approved by the State Executive in August.

A letter from the Gin Gin Shire Council said the original site was unsuitable, and the memorial had been damaged by vehicles on several occasions.

The memorials are to be unveiled in their new setting on December 11.

**Distances make hard to meet**

Mackaybra had a good R.S.L. membership but sub-branch meetings seemed to be sparsely attended, Mr. H. G. Hold-er reported at the Sep-tember executive meeting.

He had said he had attended the August meeting of the sub-branch.

The town was wealthy enough but the membership was widely scattered and most members had to travel long distances.

**50th anniversary of foundation**

On November 17 the Subiaco Women's Auxiliary celebrated the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

Guests of honour were the President, Mrs. E. Costello, R.E.M., and Mrs. Florence Kel-ley, founder and president of the Soldiers Australian Army Nurses Fund.

**TOM'S STORES**

Shop and Save Consistently at Any of Over 200 Tom's Stores Throughout Australia (Metropolitan and Country)

With any purchase of over $5.

**Fiftieth Anniversary**

On November 17 the Subiaco Women's Auxiliary celebrated the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

Guests of honour included the Lady Mayoress of Subiaco, Mrs. Abrahams; Mrs. G. T. Davout, wife of Dr. Da-doux, M.L.A.; the State President, Mrs. RowE.; the State Secretary, Mrs. Philips; and past State Presidents Mrs. M. Mac-Kinlay and Mrs. A. Stock- min, M.B.E.

A letter of congratulations and good wishes was sent from the State President of the League, Mr. P. Pearson, was read by Mrs. Costello.

Congratulations to the Subiaco Auxiliary for 50 years of wonderful service to those in need.

**50th anniversary of foundation**

On November 17 the Subiaco Women's Auxiliary celebrated the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

Guests of honour included the Lady Mayoress of Subiaco, Mrs. Abrahams; Mrs. G. T. Davout, wife of Dr. Da-doux, M.L.A.; the State President, Mrs. RowE.; the State Secretary, Mrs. Philips; and past State Presidents Mrs. M. Mac-
Tribute to Jack Rolfe
A stalwart among stalwarts

At the November executive meeting the late Mr Jack Rolfe was described as a stalwart among stalwarts.

Former State President W. S. Lonnie, in a tribute to his one-time senior vice-president said:

"There has never been a greater stalwart than Mr Rolfe, a better member, a better man around this table than the late Mr Jack Rolfe, and his devotion to duty was boundless. His contribution to the Club in its early stages will not be surpassed."

"He was a man who did his best in years of war and years of peace, particularly when serving the League. Men of his calibre come infrequently." State President Rolfe said he had himself been encouraged to stand for the vice-presidency by Mr Rolfe when Mr Rolfe was first re-elected to the post.

"Our thoughts," Mr Rolfe said, "go to his widow and family tonight."

Mr Rolfe died during the night of October 5 suffering from a heart attack after a long illness.

In the World War he was a good soldier, never a casualty, and fortuitously a member of the R.A.A.F.

He joined the League in 1923 and rapidly became a life-member.

He was a member of the State executive from 1954 to 1962, a trustee from 1953 to 1957 and chairman of the sub-branch from 1957 to 1962.

Mr Rolfe was a member of the War Veterans Building committee, a member of the R.A.I.L. Building Society, chairman of the Swan branch of the Australian White Cane Club, and a member of the Belgium R.S.I. sub-branch.

In 1964 he was awarded the M.B.E. for services in (North 15th the welfare of ex-servicemen.

He left a widow and two married sons.

Any lenders?

Dr I. K. McGill of the University of W.A. would appreciate copies of any of the following books:

A.C.N. Odgen: "Weetman-Paterson's London Directory" (Melbourne 1921).


Walter G. Rolfe: "Legs Eleven" (Perth 1940).

ANZAC CLUB SPECIAL

Singapore Shopping Sprees

by B.O.A.C.

It will cost only $1.50 a day to live it up in Singapore. HOW—Return air fare: 14 days’ hotel accommodation (bed and breakfast); transport to and from the airport; and sightseeing tours of Singapore and nearby Johore... ALL FOR ONLY $442.

This is tremendous value for members of our Club, bearing in mind that the normal economy class return air-fare between Perth and Singapore is $620.20.

You will fly by BOAC. Hushpucker from Perth to Singapore and return, conveniently departing and arriving on Sundays.

You will be accommodated at the fabulous OR-CHID INN HOTEL and travel in modern coaches on extensive sightseeing tours.

You will have enough leisure time for shopping, duty-free shopping and exploring this fascinating, multi-racial city.

WHEN—At any time to suit your holidays.

Details and brochures are available from your Club Branch.

R.S.L. 17-DAY HONG KONG CHRISTMAS TOUR

Members are reminded of the above tour which was fully advertised in the May issue of "Listening Post", together with application for completion and return to ANZAC Club, Perth, Western Australia.

Time is running out and many things are to be attended to before the deadline.

Do not forget to have your May issue and are desirous of making the trip contact your Club Branch immediately. Please contact your Club Branch immediately.

House and a further application will be forwarded to the Club Branch concerned.

R.S.L. 17-DAY HONG KONG CHRISTMAS TOUR

May the season of goodwill bring you everything. The coming year be one of health, happiness and prosperity.