President visits Israel as guest of Government

In December the State President, Mr Percy Pearson, and the South Australian President, Sir Thomas Eastick, undertook a fortnight's tour of Israel as representatives of the League.

They were guests of the Israeli Government in company with promotoers of a proposed series of tours from Australia to the Middle East to begin within a few months.

Here is a condensed account of a verbal report Mr Pearson made at the January meeting of the State Executive.

Departure (by air) from Australia was made at Sydney.

India's declaration of war caused a change of route, New Delhi being ruled out as a port-of-call.

From Sydney the R.S.L. representatives flew to Hong Kong via Colombo and thence to Teheran (Iran), arriving very early in the morning after 30 hours in the air.

They had there visited a mosque which was also used as a theological college, and then one of the palaces of the Shah—the original one, reserved for State occasions.

They had then inspected the royal jewels, said to have been even better than those in the Tower of London—"something out of the box."

The national R.S.L. president, Sir Arthur Lee, has praised the tours available to R.S.L. members to visit Israel.

The tours enable the fighting men of Australia and New Zealand to return to the place where they fought two world wars.

They have been encouraged for returned soldiers by the Israeli Government Tourist Office in Sydney.

The first group to make the journey may leave in April and be in Israel for Easter or Anzac Day.

They had been warned not to touch the glass of the display cases, and had almost come to the end of their circuit when there was a loud clanging of bells and the whole place was cleared up.

A young child, attempting a closer look at the jewels, had touched the glass and set off the alarm. But the doors were soon opened again.

There was an early start next day for Aviv, with arrival about 7 a.m. and departure shortly after for Jerusalem.

The afternoon was spent on a tour of new Jerusalem, including the university and the memorial erected on a high mountain top honouring the 6,000,000 Jews exterminated by the Germans. Depicted there were the concentration camps and the atrocities perpetrated within them.

At the memorial was a library with archives recording the names of all inmates, and dossiers on the people commanding and on guard-duty within the camp precincts. The last of those named was Adolf Eichmann, who had met his fate.

In the evening the delegation had been entertained to a dinner in VIP visitor of honour by the Director of Tourism. She referred to the good name Australian servicemen had left behind them during the World War.

Night at a kibbutz.

Mr Pearson said Australia was visiting the Holy Land could be sure of a warm welcome.

At Jerusalem he and Sir Thomas had visited the parliament and met the Speaker, and then lunched with the man in charge of the Pacific area in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The next day, after touring both old and the new Jerusalem, they had set out for the Dead Sea, then along the Jordan Valley through Jericho to Gaza, having a short stop at Tiberias, and had spent the night at a kibbutz.

The settlement had included a creche—a need which, as with each family both parents in the kibbutz were required to work.

The settlers would rate highly for their citizenry, Mr Pearson said.

In the communities the children of both sexes were kept together until the age of about 15, when the boys were sent out to start their national service duties, to which they remained subject until the age of 55 years.

The League representatives had visited Tel Aviv. They had there seen many old people on the beach at dawn playing games to keep fit.

Continued on page 6

New memorial (in France) recalls heroic feat of arms

The restored 2nd Division A.I.F. (Great War) Memorial at Mont St. Quentin, France, restored after desecration.

The unveiling was performed by Dr D. Coutts, leader of the 2nd Division A.I.F. Memorial Association Pilgrimage, and Dr Daniel Beilseth, former Mayor of Peronne, representing the French ex-service men of the Somme.

The Australian Charge d'Affaires in Paris, Mr Douglas-Scott, and thousands of people from the surrounding area watched the ceremony.

West Australians present were Messrs T. Jackson, F. Salter, E. Maguire, G. F. Chipper, J. H. Cotterill and H. Glick.

All had come to pay homage to the gallant Australians who fought and died on August 30, 1918, in what was described as "the final single feat of the war." Towards the end of the Great War the G.O.C. 2nd Division A.I.F., Maj.-General Rosenthal—a veryvigorous, energetic and capable commander—thought it would be very fitting to have a memorial erected to commemorate the division's fall.

He arranged for each serving member of the division to donate a day's pay to a fund established for the purpose and a sculptor was commissioned to produce a satisfactory piece of statuary. Arrangements were made for the construction of the memorial.

The site selected for the monument was at Mont

Continued on page 2
**ANZAC DAY PARADE**

Vietnam men may march in van

Vietnam veterans of the three services are to be invited to march behind the State Executive in this year's Anzac Day parade.

The decision was made at the January meeting of the executive.

At the previous meeting, on a request from W.A. national headquarters, it had been resolved to do this subject to the unit associations being invited to express their views on the proposal.

All associations were invited to attend Anzac House on December 13 to discuss the question.

The meeting was presided over by senior State Vice-President L. Phen

One association had at first expressed concern about the proposal because of the increase in the number of members of the association who were Vietnam campaign men.

However, in the upshot he had supported the general view that it would be beneficial to the young men concerned and to the League itself.

The proposal would apply to this year's parade only.

In the main, said Mr Phen:

**Memorial—from page one**

St. Quentin, considered to be the scene of the division's greatest military achievement—ranked as outstanding not only by the Allied authorities but also by (in particular) Generals Liddell and Rawlinson.

General Rawlinson, commanding the 4th Army of which the Australian Corps formed part, issued the following congratulatory message:

"At the meeting the State President paid tribute to the very considerable contribution to R.S.L affairs by the late Mr B. Laughton. Mr Laughton was secretary of the Maylands division's executive put on record his regret at his passing. It was reported that a message of condolence was sent to Mrs Laughton."

**Nice 'Christmas present' for veteran couples**

The Department of Lands and Surveys has made a grant to a three-acre homestead land about half a mile away from Mrs. Ernest Bickerton's Home at Mat Lawy.

At the party, Mrs. J. Lloyd, Mr. J. Ward, director of the War Blinded Association of W.A., and Miss Sylvia Perry.

Mr George Baron-Hay, Mr Douglas Dargie, Memorial sub-warden, Mr Albert Wolff, formerly of W.A., and Mr Roy Bell, members of the State Executive's annual Christmas party held at Anzac House on December 10.

**AT THE R.S.L.'s CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Brigadier G. Larkin, Councillor Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and Mr Roy Bell, a member of the State executive, at the Christmas party.

**Ministers reply to Congress resolutions**

Several of the resolutions of last year's State Congress have been submitted to Government departments for their comment.

Some of the resolutions submitted include the name of the initiating sub-branch in each instance in brackets were:

**Housing for ex-service men**

That Congress approach the State Housing Commission in regard to the provision of accommodation for single ex-service men capable of looking after themselves.

**Reply:**

I refer you to the letter of September 9, addressed to the Hon. A. D. Taylor M.L.A., the former Minister for Housing, in which you advised of Resolution No. 49 carried by the 56th Annual State Congress of the R.S.L.

The question of Commission assistance for single elderly males is one which has been under consideration for some time.

Whilst appreciating the need for the provision of such accommodation, it must be pointed out that the light of the number of elderly single women who are awaiting assistance and the present funds available for its Statewide activities.

The Commission has recently agreed to consider applications from elderly single males for accommodation in houses in those country towns which are in a downturn in the rural economy, there being no vacant homes not required by families.

Beyond this, it is recognised that it would be possible to offer assistance in the future until such time as the present waiting list of elderly single women is reduced, or additional funds made available to the Commission.

May I suggest that the Returned Services League, as an institutional body, consider the establishment of additional single accommodation for its members by means of the $2 for $1 subsidy available under the Commonwealth Government and Veterans' Affiliates of the League.

**ANZAC DAY PARADE**

At Geraldton

Dr King reported that the project to establish a regional veterans' home at Geraldton was now going ahead, the plans were to be completed, and tenders should be called fairly early in the year.

At the party, Mrs J. Lloyd, Mr J. Ward, director of the War Blinded Association of W.A., and Miss Sylvia Perry.

Mr J. R. EWING

The W.A. branch of the League has a new trustee - Mr J. R. (Ron) Ewing.

New Commissioner of State Taxation and form­ly Under-Treasurer, Mr Ewing is a member of the Public Service sub-branch.

He fills the place last vacant by the death of Mr J. B. Rolfe early in November.

Mr Ewing's appointment was announced at the December executive meeting.

**Car concesssion to pensioners**

**Concession to pensioners**

That the R.F.I. pensioners are given a 10 per cent concession on their licence fees with disregard to the means test.

**Reply:**

In reply to your letter of September 9, I advise that the State depends a great deal on Common

wealth matching monies for its tremendous amounts for road development.

This matching money is derived from other sources which not only generally has higher vehicle li­ability increases but also does not grant concessions on this scale to the extent this State does.

This, of course, means that we are risking a great deal more in monetary terms but the actual amount of any direct concession to the pensioners.

To a limited number of invalid pensioners now granted a concession is for the critical reason that they have not kept the field.

While deeply sympathetic to the position of all invalid pensioners, the problem of lack of funds is one properly in the function of the Commonwealth Government.

If we cannot, at the present time, extend vehicle concessions any further than it has done already.

**John R. Saunders**

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AND KALGOORLIE

Page 2—THE LISTENING POST, February 1972
Death of a League stalwart

Pastoralist William Edward Butcher, who died on New Year’s Eve at the age of 77 after a long illness, was described by State President Pearson at the January executive meeting as a stalwart in the first order.

During the Great War Mr Butcher served with the 51st Battalion in France and won the Military Medal. He enlisted as a private and was commissioned in the field.

On his return to Western Australia he took up a soldier settlement property near Carnarvon with his brother Harold and built it into a pastoral empire.

Their holdings totalled several million acres and they pioneered the introduction of cattle-trains to the north.

Mr Butcher was an executive member of the Pastoralists and Graziers Association and its vice-president from 1956 to 1967. For 18 years he served on the Pastoral Appraisal Board and was one of the W.A. representatives on the Australian Woolgrowers and Graziers’ Council.

Mr Pearson told the executive that Mr Butcher was always to the fore in the 51st Battalion Association.

"Each Anzac Day," Mr Pearson said, "he would ring up during the afternoon giving me a rundown on the reaction to the speech of the fellows within hearing on his part of the ground."

"After a radio interview you could be sure Bill Butcher would be on the phone within half an hour."

"In passing on the street he would always stop to discuss the affairs of the League."

"He was one of the old school—a down-to-earth chap with plenty of this world’s goods, but you would never have known that because he conducted himself with humility."

He was one who took an interest and tried to encourage when others were doing some knockin’.

The executive recorded its sorrow at Mr Butcher’s passing. It was also agreed to write a letter of appreciation to the battalion association.

Enlisted as private; commissioned in field

Four fifth-year West Australian medical students who were sent to Indonesia during the Christmas vacation with the League’s backing received the congratulations and good wishes of State President Pearson at the December executive meeting.

They were on the point of departure.

In Indonesia the students—Miss K. Grif-"fith and Messrs C. D. Anderson, A. M. Cogh-"an and I. R. Medcalf—were to work in hospitals and villages to gain further knowledge of the problems of that country and for further experience in their own studies.

Their journey was spon-"sored by the R.S.I. Jubile-“e Commemorative Fund. The fund provides return economy air fares plus $50 spending money for each student selected for the under-"taking, and has been doing so for years.

Accommodation within Indonesia is arranged in that country.

Widows of ex-servicemen

That more consideration be given to widows of ex-servicemen in the allo-“cation of State Housing Commission homes (Albany).

Reply:

The Commission’s current criterion, as far as income is concerned, for eligibility of single women for assistance is that the weekly income must not exceed:

The maximum aged pension or its equivalent, plus the supplementary rent allowance, plus $3.

At the present time this totals $21 per week. It is appreciated that the War Widows’ pension is in excess of this amount.

This criterion is under almost constant review, and is considered in the light of eligible single women already waiting for assistance and also the funds which are available to the Commission for the carrying out of its State-wide responsibilities.

As at June 30, 1971, the Commission held 420 applications from aged eligible women desiring assistance. During the last financial year, 85 units of accommodation for single elderly women already waiting for assistance and also the funds which are available to the Commission for the carrying out of its State-wide responsibilities.

At the December meeting the State Executive decided to support action by State or other authorities in measures to check the spread of pornographic publications in Western Australia.

It also decided to notify the Premier of its decision.

The decisions followed a report by the State Premi-er on a discussion of the subject at National Congress in Hobart last October.

New South Wales delegates, Mr Pearson had referred to “filthy publications produced by unscrupulous methods and distributed within university campuses and even high schools.”

Concern had been expressed at the distribution of standards within the community, Mr Pearson said.

He had himself seen some of the material complained of and would not like to see it introduced here.
Mr H. G. Holder, who was appointed an M.B.E. in the New Year honours list, has been a member of the State Executive for 15 years and president of the City of Perth sub-branch for a considerably longer period.

At the January executive meeting the State President, Mr Pearson, said he was sure the honour accorded Mr Holder by the Queen for his services was well merited. Since Holder took over the leadership of the Sons of Soldiers League he had conducted with the same energy and enthusiasm as when he was a member of the State Executive for 15 years in which to prepare for a considerable longer period.

One has always agreed with his views, perhaps, but no one had ever double-crossed him.

“We wish you many years in which to enjoy the honour bestowed,” Mr Pearson said.

Mr G. Sheerinton said Mr Holder had been connected with the Sons of Soldiers League since he was a boy in knobkerry.

Mr Pearson said Mr Holder, who had been a member of that body’s “rewarded—honour”, the other day, had said that the meeting had started earlier in the presence of the Royal Mail for health reasons.

Mr Pearson said Mr Holder had an excellent record of service over many years in which to prepare for a considerable longer period.

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**Action sought to meet rural crisis**

The League is seeking the implementation of far-reaching rural reconstruction measures. During its August national executive meeting in Canberra it issued the following Press statement:

"If immediate and far-reaching action is not taken to cope with the disastrous situation affecting the primary industries of Australia, the economic depression in the countryside will ultimately have damaging effects on the new Australian community.

The situation represents a national disaster of major proportions which will have adverse effects on decentralisation; the problems of the cities, such as education, housing, transport and pollution; defence; and finally, the very quality of life in Australia."

During the executive deliberations it was reasoned that the problems affecting some thousands of ex-service families on the land could be resolved only within the context of solutions for difficulties facing the entire rural industry in Australia.

Proposals for submission to the Prime Minister included:
- Long-term, low-interest-rate loans with repayment periods up to 40 years.
- Acquittal and re-valuation of uneconomic holdings at reasonable values.

**Giants Christmas cake for pensioners**

Once again in mid-December a giant-sized R.S.L. Christmas cake was presented to London's Chelsea Pensioners.

The presentation has now become traditional, the various State branches of the League in Australia taking turns to do so.

This time it was Victoria's turn to present the cake and it was handed over (by the Agent-General for Victoria, Sir Murray Porter) to the Governor of the Chelsea Royal Hospital, General Sir Charles Jones.

The ceremony was held as usual in the Great Hall of the hospital. It was very colourful, with over 200 pensioners in their scarlet coats and tricorn hats for the occasion.

**Members active at City of Perth**

In a precis of recent City of Perth proceedings, the honorary secretary praised President Harry Holders' report on the deliberations of the National Congress in Hobart.

A similar statement to the State Executive was published in the last issue of this journal. City of Perth's sports director Bill Hood was said to be nursing his post-operating wounds after the sub-branch's narrow defeat in last year's A.R.M.S. Games.

Old and new members were asked to start their training earlier this year.

Mick Hall was commended for an excellent job in organising the sub-branch's first car rally late last year. Those interested in this event will be pleased to learn (next column).

**Sir Arthur warns against ‘campaign of insurgency’**

At National Congress in Hobart, the president, Sir Arthur Lee, warned of a “propaganda campaign of insurgency” aimed at the destruction of Australia’s free society.

Sir Arthur said many people and many influences were trying to gain political and moral advantage.

Their aims and objectives were in violent conflict with Australia’s well-being, he said.

“We see the situation in which patriotism has become almost a dirty word.”

He called for positive thinking to make sure that the league did not alienate the community, particularly in Australia’s national crisis.

Sir Arthur said that the peculiarity of the family was no longer inviolate and there was a rapidly decreasing reverence for authority.

The South African cricket tour had been called off because of the irresponsible actions and attitudes of a few. Visiting international sportsmen were being treated as pariahs and worse because of the politics of their governments.

Later the congress rejected a move to widen the membership of the R.S.L. to include ex-service women who enlisted for overseas service in either of the world wars but were kept in Australia.
Australians in nine wars

Peter Firkina's new book, "The Australians in Nine Wars," starts with the Boer war and finishes with Vietnam. It is very good.

Most of the book deals with the European wars and the special place of the Australians in the Allied cause.

With the present-day nation-wide row about publication.
Why Army numbers have been cut back
By Air Vice-Marshal F. M. Blodin, chairman of the League of National's Defence sub-committee.

Regular Army numbers have been cut back from 44,000 to 40,000, National Service trainees will serve 18 months instead of 2 years, and 36 years on the reserve instead of 5 years.

Cost
The waggon bill is now $14.67 per cent of all Defence expenditure and the Army's share is now $156m. The 9 per cent cut in numbers therefore saves about $50m.

With the re-location of all Army units in Western Australia, it means that the only complaint is how to get the Army on the road, which is all in line with Govt. policy to reduce Govt. spending in the public sector.

The RSL has hoped that the extra numbers would have been located in Western Australia, but this does not look to be on at this time.

Alternatives
Apparently the Army wished to retain its "three task-forces" (detachment, "battalion" structure)--are N.S.W. and did not wish to reduce the numbers. It was not decided whether the A.R.A. would have to be increased.

The adopted policy therefore reduces the number of N.S.W. serving at any one time giving a total of 2,500 to 3,000 men, which is almost halved and will serve 18 months instead of 2 years, and 36 years on the reserve instead of 5 years.

The alternative policy advocated by the RSL would have decreased the intake to 16,000 N.S.W. This would have enabled more youths to share in the resources of the defence for defence and have given a more realistic Reserve.

The term "realistic" is not mean by a cut in numbers but because membership would be relatively low and that the Royal Waggoners would be rapidly losing their skills and therefore would require re-training.

The extension of 3 to 5 years is necessary for an academic exercise.

The future
It is intended to look at several courses through which the Government has any plans to:--

1. To expand the officer and senior N.C.O. elements of the Reserve;
2. To obtain mobilisation equipment for it;
3. To prepare the C.M.F. into a more meaningful element of our defence forces, which would be ready reserve for the field force.


UNHEADENED SOLDIER'S PRAYER

During the World War battle of El Alamein in the Western Desert an Eighth Army soldier wrote a piece of paper on which were written some simple words considered to be among the finest produced in that war. No trace of the author has been found, but the poem--"A Soldier --" has been preserved in a recently published volume "The Australian Army League Membership certificate." It is pictured above (at right) receiving the certificate from Colonel J. G. M. MacMaster, president of the Australian Army League. Many of his articles have appeared in these columns over the years.

All goes well at Boulder

By P. R. Allen P.T. Ltd. 908 Beaumont St., Inglewood Phone 711437

W.A. members compete in bowls at Sydney

Twenty members, with five of the wives, visited New Zealand, Christmas and the New Year to compete in the "Jack Hamilton V.C." and the National R.S.L. Four Trophy events conducted by that State.

The W.A. bowlers were not successful in either event but were presented with the "Friendship, Tolerance and Sportsmanship" trophy to mark the inaugural entry of W.A. to the national competition.

The next series will be held in Brisbane in December, and W.A. will be the venue in 1975.

Morrie Crewe and Norm Fraser were elected to the National R.S.L. Bowls Council as the W.A. State representatives.

For those interested in visiting Brisbane late this year for the R.S.L. national events, the Queensland bowls section is prepared to provide facilities.

The W.A. contingent offered to extend the same facilities to the Queensland representatives in 1973.

A large number of members prepared to billet a Queensland bowler for about ten days during Christmas and New Year. Please contact Norm Fraser at Amie House.

Scarborough wins

The annual Committee for the Morrie Crewe Perpetual Trophy was held at various greens on January 20 and 29. Fifty teams participated and the event was won by a Scarborough team consisting of Bruce Wyatte, Claude Clarke, Tom Stockton and Steve Fuller, members of the Doubleview Bowling Club.

The winning country team comprised Bob Gardiner, T. Corrigan, Tom Taylor and Stan Martinson from Bunbury.

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The LISTENING POST, February 1972—Page 7
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

FEDERATED T.B. SALISBURY & ASSOCIATES' AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (W.A. Branch) - 3/11th Battalion (R.A.A.F.) - President, C. L. D. Stannard, 113 Henderson Street, Victoria Park.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION: W.A. Meetings third Monday at Anzac House at 5 p.m. President, A. M. Coles, 2 W.A. Sub Branch, 774 Hay Street, Perth, last Monday, President, C. D. Chalmers, Grey Street, W.A. Branch.

16TH BATTALION and 48TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION (W.A. Branch) - Meetings held Monday at Anzac House at 7.30 p.m. President, H. R. Bevan, 92 Woolner Street, Perth. Secretary, A. S. Heales, 25 Wilcox Street, Applecross.

2/16TH BATTALION and 48TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION (W.A. Branch) - Meetings third Monday (2 p.m.) at Railway Institute (main hall) Perth, President, H. R. Bevan, 92 Woolner Street, Perth, last Monday, President, C. L. D. Stannard, Grey Street, W.A. Branch.

WOMEN'S AUXIL. meets same time, same place, President, Mrs. C. M. Cameron, 113 Henderson Street, Toorak Hill, Secretary, Mrs. J. Aker, 64 Oakover Street, East Fremantle (6220).


2/8TH BATTALION (2/16TH) ANTAF . COY. ANZAC Day - President, J. Pitchtel, 22 Central Road, Rockingham. Secretary, W. G. Goggin, 17 Eliza Road, Victoria Park (621748). Annual Remen Show Week.

2/8TH BATTALION (2/16TH) ANZAC DAY - President, J. Pitchtel, 22 Central Road, Rockingham. Secretary, W. G. Goggin, 17 Eliza Road, Victoria Park (621748). Annual Remen Show Week

2/4TH BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION - President, J. Garnett, 41 Kennedy Street, Maddington. Secretary, F. P. G. Curnow, 201 Wellington Street, Victoria Park. Treasurer, J. B. Griffiths, Maddington (190027).

BAD ASSOCIATION meeting 2nd Sunday March, 2nd and 4th Saturday and December at W.A. Sub Branch. Secretary, H. O. Dobson (613827).


11TH and 2/11TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION - President, L. Thomas, 76 Tweeddale Avenue, South Perth, Secretary, D. Beard, 20 Warren Rd, Mt. Yokine, Treasurer, T. M. Chalmers. Meetings 3rd Wed. each month at Anzac House ballroom Fri. 29th May (216844).

2/4TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION - Committee meetings held every 1st Monday of the month Anzac Show Week Mon. President, Roy Collins, 134 South Perth Rd., East Fremantle. Treasurer, G. D. Cardwell, 131 Circle, Dalkeith, Secretary, A. L. Thomas, 39 Ashton Street, Subiaco (6202).


PERMANENT SLOIDERS ASSOCIATION - President, H. J. Vandere, 15 Station Street, N. Fremantle. Secretary, F. G. Tan, 75 St. R.V. House, Air Force Village, Baldivis, 6385. Treasurer, H. Runson, 469A Hector St. Yorkine. Meetings 2nd Sat. each month at Anzac House.

PRESIDENTS OF RET. MEN'S ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN - Meets the first Monday of each month at Anzac House.

2/16TH and 48TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION - President, G. S. Elsworth, 113 Henderson Street, Toorak Hill. Secretary, J. A. Beresford, 56 Lockhart Street, South Perth. Treasurer, E. J. Quill, 19 Arcoy Street, Stirling. (621980). Committee meetings held each 1st Monday of month.

KOREA & SOUTH-EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION - President, W. A. Smith, 55 St. Catherine's Crescent, East Fremantle (714852).

R.G.L. ASSOCIATION - President, M. Smith, 175 Wellington Street, Guildford. Treasurer, J. A. Watt, 172 Wellington Street, Guildford. Meetings third Monday of each month at Sub-Branch.

LIMELIGHT SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION ("Wingies and Wumpies") - President, J. L. Yeates, Secretary, P. G. O'driscoll (658860), Treasurer, H. F. Lillicraven 0662 (860448) business.

PRESIDENT'S OF RET. MEN'S ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN - Meets weekly at sub-branch level.

THE MARBLE BAR STORY

New heart in the ranks

By Wally Nichols

From branch-suburb the past year's R.S.L. activities at Marble Bar.

We made a profit of $350.

Poppa Day produced a mixture of rugs-some smoked, some not. We disposed of 200 poppies, the branch-suburb's share of the lot was $550 for which we thanked our faithful public.

The coronation was the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month which was given to the branch-suburb this year by the cooperation of Bob Johnstone the President of The Crescendo who had a loudspeaker installed in Princess Street.

By this means the traditional bugle calls became more meaningful.

The branch-suburb's annual Citizenship Award went to DES Dhu this year-a boy for whom we have a great deal of affection.

We resolved later to call ourselves in order to celebrate a period in which we came as far as we have.

Poppa Day, Nagullen and Port Hedland and received their M.C.'s from the R.M.C. from Perth, Bill Dwyer, the Bar Manager and his lovely bride of 51 years (noted up from Dingley) and to the Hedland Guards was a big "pat on the back."

Spokesmen were brief but no one seemed bored.

League to extend aid in S.E. Asia

The R.S.L. is to continue its aid work in Malaysia, Singapore, New Guinea and to develop closer contacts with veterans' organisations in those areas. This was decided at the branch-suburb's executive meeting in January.

Plans for the future include extension of youth-leadership training and the appointment of a swimming instructor for the purpose of increased welfare grants and assistance with school services and after-school help projects.

Report by Sir Arthur Lee

The decisions followed a consideration of a report by the National President, Sir Don, when he visited our branch-suburb as part of his six-week tour of Indonesia, Singapore, and South East Asia. He also visited Thailand.

Sir Arthur said the League had done more than to provide assistance to the neediest people over the past five years. Its work had had a far-reaching and beneficial effect on Australia's foreign policies and, in particular, the security and defence of the region.

It was self-evident that the success of the South-East Asia moving film depended on the living standards and their desire for friendship. Australia's problems in the future through subservience and instability would be very much reduced.

1040 years a widower

Mr Jack Carroll, V.C., who died in Perth last October aged 75, was a widower for about 40 years and had no children.

He was living at Bedding and had formed the habit of taking a bus into Perth each day (except Sunday) with his friends in Forrest Place. Mr Carroll was born in Melbourne in 1916 and came to Western Australia when about 33 years of age. He was on the Victoria Cross for bravery in France, in June 1917.

Change in State body

The resignation of Mr N. A. M. Sayer was accepted by the State Executive in January.

Mr. Sayer, described himself as the "youngest to come to and to go," has been transferred to a committee in Victoria with which he had made contact while he was there.

The place vacated was taken up by Mr D. M. Jones, who was then in the City of Perth sub-branch.

"BIENVENUE": The street-suburb of a French hotel in Sydney the branch-suburb finish the year with a total of 2 life members, 26 financial members and two associate members.

Nine meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 40 people.

Three members were present at the schools ball which was the first Anzac Eve service and at the 14th of Anzac Day dawn service. Over 100 people attended the main service and 22 Moree people.

Four members died during the year—Andy, Loes and Betty.heten, Harry Griffin and Laurie Corbett.

On the financial side $30 was donated to the War Veterans' Home to the Marble Bar Christmas tree fund, $10 to the Salvation Army, $200 to the Royal Artillery Association—Coventry and $5 to the overseas forces Christmas fund. Donations received from the Marble Bar C.W.A. ($20), the Marble Bar P.C. ($10) the Marble Bar Guides and Brownies ($6). Swaps run on the Marble and the Royal Artillery Cup will be $3.50 and $10 respectively. $88.87 was spent on entertainment. There was $94.55 on hand June 1 and $89.57 on December 31. Subscriptions became due on January 1.

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when, single-handed, he attacked a gun-team of four, killing three of its members and capturing the gun.

Later, under heavy fire, he rescued two comrade who had been buried by enemy action.

After the war he worked as a railway truck examiner for a man who supplied fine goods at Lakewood, near Kalgoorlie in 1917.

He was a member of the old Kalgoolie R.S.L. sub-branch.