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This journal is published monthly on the third Friday, and all advertisements and matters for inclusion must reach our office not later than the second Friday.

Editors: E. S. Watt, L. Gibbons.

The only official League matter contained in this journal is embodied in the published minutes of Executive Meetings, and other items which are acknowledged as such in their text.

June 18th, 1926.

THE NEED FOR BATTLESHIP ASSOCIATIONS.

It would be difficult indeed to find one reason against Battalion and other Unit re-unions, while the arguments in favour of such happy functions are legion.

We have during the last few years, attended quite a number of these, in different parts of Australia, and organised by all kinds of units that saw service in the Great War, and our experience has been, that there is no other known way existing, for so successfully retaining the old traditions, for keeping alive the old spirit of mutual help and friendship, for renewing those wonderful friendships, which were cemented in the trenches when the true natures of men were laid bare and the real man showed himself, for keeping alive the memory of those gallant comrades who paid the greatest price, and for keeping in mind the claims of the mained and the dependents of the fallen, such as these re-unions provide.

Ingrained in every soldier who saw any length of service at the front, are the spirit of comradeship, the national spirit of "Play the Game," and a true sense of public service. In the turmoil of everyday life, in the struggle for existence, and in the keenness of business dealings, these splendid qualities are apt to be dulled or temporarily forgotten. The re-action too, is liable to promote a certain bitterness of feeling at times; for the men who have fought and won, must remember with regret occasionally, the verydifficult spirit that pervaded their units, among all ranks, even in the times of greatest stress.

But the Battalion Re-union, for the time at least, takes us back to the days of big men: and big deeds, and we put aside on those occasions, any selfish business ideas, as well as everyday worries. One sees on those all too few occasions, the eyes of men sparkle as they rarely do at other times, when old battles are recalled, when anecdotes are being recounted, when the stirring times which gave fame to their unit are spoken of with pride, and when the atmosphere is created, of being in the company of men you have proved and can fully trust.

If it is only to bring out the best and most generous qualities, one evening in the year, of those attending, the re-union is worth a lot. But it goes a great deal further than that, and the value of it will be more and more recognised as memories of the greatest war in history fade into the mist of years.

Speaking at the 28th Battalion Re-union, Sir Talbot Hobbs recalled the fact that it was with the greatest pride that veterans of the American Civil War, regardless of which side they fought on, made periodicu at such functions. Although their numbers were diminishing, their enthusiasm and camaraderie were increasing.

Precisely the same thing is taking place in the South African Veterans' Association, whose enrolment was greater last year than any since they were discharged.

The 28th Battalion has set a fine example in this State in the numbers that attend its re-unions, and in a lesser degree, the 10th Light Horse and the 31st Battalion; but other units could do better than they are—some of them doing nothing. However, there appears to be a general leaning by returned men in that direction, and doubtless the near future will see an improvement. Among the principal reasons, making a definite move, are ex-members of the 8th Battery, A.F.A., who propose to meet during Show Week.

No doubt, Sub-Branches of the R.S.L. are filling the gap to some extent, particularly in the country, which apart from the value of these re-unions as indicated, provides an opportunity for increasing membership of the League. Besides, there is no better way of securing and maintaining the aims and objects of the League than in banding together men together, even if the function takes place but once a year.

The 28th Battalion Re-union was notable, by the way, for the great number of R.S.L. Badges worn, but, as the original Colonel and present popular President of the Battalion Association is also the State President of the League, this is perhaps not remarkable.

We enjoin diggers to form Unit Associations for purposes of meeting periodically.

The State Branch of the League encourage and favour their formation, although in no way desiring to intrude, and has compiled a report recommending the grouping of certain units which were composed of men recruited from more than one State.

THE STATE REPATRIATION BOARD.

ITS NEW CONSTITUTION AND PERSONNEL.

The Repatriation Commission advise that, the State Repatriation Boards functioning in the larger States of N.S.W. and Victoria will retain their present constitution, i.e., representatives of the Government and the R.S.L., with an independent chairmanship; that a change of policy is to come into operation from the 1st July next in the four smaller States.

The present members of the Board will then consist of the Deputy Commissioner, a senior member of his staff, and a representative of the R.S.L.

The management of the W.A. Repatriation Board has been decided by the Commission, and will consist of Messrs. Chas. Taylor and George James from the Department, and Mr. E. S. Watt, representing the R.S.L. A senior member of his staff has been appointed Deputy Commissioner in this State for about three years, and is favourably known as a sympathetic administrator.

Mr. George James has been officer-in-charge of Pensions, and the time that the War Pensions Department has absorbed by the Repatriation Department. He is a capable and 'just officer, who has always given the ex-soldier a fair spin. Mr. E. S. Watt has been a delegate to the State Executive of the League for a number of years. He is the Managing Director of the Imperial Printing Co., Ltd., and the Editor of this journal.

WAR WIDOWS WHO RE-MARRY.

When a widow, with children in receipt of pensions, re-marries she is reduced to (in the case where deceased was a private) 47/- per fortnight, from 84/- per fortnight. This rate continues for two years dating from the day prior to re-marriage. This may seem a generous provision and is certainly a far better generosity than that which is provided by the Imperial Authorities: being approximately 17/- against the British Pensioner's 43/-15/- re-marriage.

The reduction is made retroactive to the pay Thursday preceding her re-marriage. This is obviously wrong. While the (pensioner) is living with children she is entitled to 84/- per fortnight and on the date of re-marriage she should be reduced to 47/-, not one day before. Thus she would receive the broken period at 84/- per fortnight during the fortnight she re-married and would collect 51/- pays subsequently at 47/-. On principle this should be looked into, for all things have small beginnings.
STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS. 26/5/26.

Present.—Messrs. Collett, McDonald, Philip, McAdam, Freedman, Shaw, Yeates, Logie, Wedd, Longmore, Zeffert, Fitzgerald, Watt, Pady, Bader, and Humphrey.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Riley, Nye, Cornell, and Cohen.

Railway Workshops.—Mr. Shaw reported on behalf of the deputation which waited on the Chief Mechanical Engineer in such cases in the case of Clarke, and stated that Clarke would not be overlooked when a permanent position became vacant, and recommended that no further action be taken. The report was adopted.

Appreciation.—Colonel Tilney expressed his thanks for the cordial message sent him on his re-appointment as the Soldiers’ Representative on the Repatriation Commission.

Federal Correspondence.—Anzac Day.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning the C.P.S. holiday on Monday, 26th April, and stating that the observance of Anzac Day was not uniform throughout Australia, some States holding it on the 25th and others on the 26th.

Moved by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Wedd, that this Branch has always considered that the celebration of Anzac Day should be held on that day only, that is the 25th April, and protest against the celebration of Anzac Day on any other day in any other part of the Commonwealth, and requests its delegates to voice the views of this branch at the next Federal gathering.—Carried.

Story of the 12th.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive stating that the Secretary of the 12th Battalion Association, Tasmania, had copies of “The Story of the 12th” for sale.

It was decided that the letter be handed to “The Listening Post” for publication.

War Memorials.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive showing copy of one from the Defence Dept. in respect to War Memorials, and stating that a collection of photographs of all war memorials of the World War had been made, and requesting photographs from this State.

It was decided that this matter be given all possible press publicity.

Re-Valuation.—Mr. Yeates read a report of the deputation which waited on Mr. Angwin, Minister for Lands, in connection with the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

Moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that the report be adopted.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Zeffert, that in view of the satisfactory manner in which the report of the thanks of this Executive be placed on record for the manner in which the question was handled by the State Secretary.—Carried.

Herne Hill.—A letter was read and received from the Herne Hill Sub-Branch stating that it was their opinion that a misunderstanding had arisen over a previous communication of theirs in connection with soldier settlement, and asking for their letter to be re-read, and requesting Mr. G. D. Shaw or another member of the Executive to attend their next meeting, to be held on the 2nd June.

It was decided that a suitable reply be sent by the State Secretary.

A further letter was then read, in connection with soldiers’ properties going to foreigners, and on the motion of Mr. Zeffert, seconded by Mr. Bader, it was decided that it be handed to the Re-valuation Committee for immediate action.

Anzac Day.—A letter was read and received from the Beverley Sub-Branch suggesting that arrangements be made in the future to broadcast Anzac Day addresses, and also suggesting that the State Secretary might now and then broadcast a speech to returned soldiers generally.

That part of their letter dealing with Anzac Day was referred to the Anzac Day Committee for consideration.

Regarding the latter portion of their communication, the State Secretary was instructed to make inquiries.

Soldier Settlers’ Conference Items.—Communications were received from the various Government Departments in reply to letters sent in connection with resolutions carried at the last Soldier Settlers’ Conference, and it was decided that copies of these letters be sent to the branches concerned.

District Committee.—The following resolution was submitted for consideration of the Executive: That the Conference recommends to the Executive the initiation and the formation of District Committees in accordance with the By-laws of the Constitution, from which Committees the Executive might obtain able members.

Moved by Mr. Zeffert, seconded by Mr. Wedd, that the Committee write to the various sub-branches named in the by-laws, asking them to send delegates to discuss the inauguration of District Committees.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Bader, that the information contained in the by-laws be conveyed to the sub-branches through the “Listening Post.”—Carried.

Sub-Branch Assets and Liabilities.—The Collie Sub-Branch submitted the suggestion that all sub-branch assets and liabilities be included in the annual balance sheet of the W.A. Branch, and that the Federal Executive include all assets and liabilities as shown by State Branches in their annual balance sheets.

Moved by Mr. Zeffert, seconded by Mr. Philip, that the Collie Sub-Branch be advised to introduce this as an item for the next Congress.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, that a copy of By-law 13 (6) dealing with balance sheets be forwarded to all sub-branches by the State Secretary with a covering letter pointing out the urgency of complying with this rule.—Carried.

Gold Bonus Campaign.—A letter was read and received from the Secretary of the Gold Bonus Campaign.

Communal Club Houses.—The President of the Argonauts, Mr. Boas, submitted a communication suggesting co-operation of the League in the organisation of communal clubs for the erecting of communal club houses in country districts.

The letter was received.

State Centenary.—The Argonauts submitted a communication suggesting co-operation to fitly celebrate our centennial year in 1929. The letter was received.

State Secretary’s Report.—The State Secretary read a report for the preceding fortnight, dealing with the visit of Mr. Boas to Bridgetown, Glenoran, Northcliffe, Pemberton, Kirup, Quairading, and Osborne Park, and other matters, including the which he stated that a visit had been arranged to Peel Estate for Sunday, 30th instant.
Mr. McAdam supplemented the State Secretary's report on the visit to Quairading.

It was decided that the Secretary's report be adopted and a delegation of three be sent to the Peel Estate, and Colonel Fitzgerald was appointed.

R.S.L. Co-op.—Mr. M. McDonald, the Executive delegate on the R.S.L. Co-op., tendered his resignation, stating that it was not possible for him to carry on.

Moved by Mr. Humphry, seconded by Mr. Philip, that the resignation be accepted with regret and that Mr. McDonald be thanked for his services.—Carried.

Mr. McAdam, being the next on the list elected by Congress, was appointed.

Glenoran Art Union.—The State Secretary delivered a report in connection with the Glenoran Art Union. The report was adopted.

Finance Committee.—Mr. Watt delivered a report of the meeting of the Finance Committee on the 25th instant. The report was adopted.

Art Union.—The State Secretary read a report of the Art Union Committee meeting held on the 25th instant, and the report was adopted.

Walsh-Pitman Fund.—A communication from the Secretary of the Walsh-Pitman Remembrance Fund was laid on the table for the information of members.

9/6/26.

Present.—Messrs. Riley, McDonald, Philip, McAdam, Freedman, Cornell, Shaw, Nye, Bateson, Longmore, Zeffer, Fitzgerald, Watt, Pady, Cohen, and Harvey.

In the absence of Colonel Collie, the Rev. Riley took the chair.

Foreigners on Abandoned Properties.—With reference to the letter received from the Herne Hill Sub-branch concerning foreigners on abandoned properties, and concerning which a statement had appeared in the press, a letter was received from the General Manager, Agricultural Bank, explaining the position. It was moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Bateson, that the letter be read and a copy of it be given to the subject matter.—Carried.

Federal Correspondence.—General Monash.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning the visit to Western Australia.

Moved by Mr. Watt; seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, that a reception be tendered General Monash at the most convenient time at the Soldiers' Institute on a date to be fixed, and that he be invited to a State-President's dinner in the evening.—Carried.

British Income Tax.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning British Income Tax. It was decided that this be given suitable publicity.

Sale of New Guinea Properties.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive concerning the sale of New Guinea properties, and also one showing copy of a communication from the President and-Secretary of the Rabaul Branch of the League, thanking the Federal Executive for the interest shown in connection with this matter.

It was moved by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Cornell, that greetings be sent to the Rabaul Sub-branch and that they be congratulated on what they have done for the Returned Soldiers in conjunction with the Federal Executive.—Carried.

Association of Associate Members.—The Federal Executive forwarded rules in connection with the formation of an Association of Associate Members in New South Wales. This was laid on the table for the information of members.

Immigration.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive in connection with Immigration.

Federal Congress Resolutions.—Letters were read and received from the Federal Executive concerning the Federal Congress resolutions Nos. 12, 18, 21, 76, 78, 83, and 86.

It was decided that these be laid on the table and that they be handed to the "LISTENING POST" for publication.

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Employment Bureau.—The Federal Executive forwarded reports of the operations of the Employment Bureau for the months of March and April.—Received.

New Branch.—A meeting of the returned soldiers at Narembeen requested permission for the formation of a Sub-branch. This was granted.

Employment Grant.—The Secretary read a communication which he had addressed to the Federal Executive setting out reasons why the employment grant should be continued. His action was confirmed.

Development and Population of W.A.—A scheme forwarded by Mr. W. Lowry of Osborne Park was placed before the meeting, and it was requested that, in the event of a conference being arranged that this League send one delegate. This was agreed to.

Repatriation Problems.—The South Australian Branch forwarded a communication dealing with repatriation problems. The letter was received.

Medical Benefits.—The result of the report showing the benefits granted by the Mt. Lawley Sub-branch, a scheme has been prepared for submission to the Federal Executive providing for increased medical benefits for deceased soldiers' dependents.

The scheme as submitted was approved for submission to the Federal Executive.

War Souvenirs.—The Secretary read a letter from the Australian War Memorial Committee stating that cartridge cases had been forwarded by the s.s. "Momba." It stated that the Chief ORDINANCE Officer, Midland Junction, had been appointed agent for the Australian War Memorial, and would hand the bill of lading over to us in exchange for a cheque. This action was approved.

Mr. P. W. Bateson.—Mr. Bateson stated that he had accepted an appointment as a group foreman in the Busselton area and would not be attending meetings in the future. The Chairman took the opportunity of conveying the good wishes of the Executive to Mr. Bateson and expressing the hope that his change would be for the better.
PRE-WAR DISABILITY AND WAR PENSIONS. DISCUSSION IN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT.

Dr. Maloney recently moved a motion in the Federal Parliament to the effect that no soldier who was accepted after passing a rigid and thorough medical examination and who actually went to the front and satisfactorily performed his allotted duties should be refused any rights under the War Pensions Act for himself or his dependants through certain present medical experts giving as their opinion the causes arose from pre-war causes.

In speaking against the motion the Minister controlling the Repatriation Department, Sir Neville Howse, V.C., and who is a medical man with much active service, stated that it was well known that men who were anxious to go to the war hid in a most masterly way every disability from which they were suffering, and that those who did not want to go to the war took the opposite course, and magnified in every possible way the disabilities from which they were suffering. It was quite clear that, however careful the examination of recruits may have been, many diseases could not have been detected, such as epilepsy, mental trouble, asthma and rheumatism. It was evident that latent and obscure weaknesses were rendered patent by hardship, as was demonstrated by the fact that 40,000 of those taken into camp in Australia were found after a certain amount of training to be unfit for service, and there were nearly 20,000 men who went overseas who were found, on examination in Egypt, or in England, to be unfit for front line service. The motion meant to give a pension to every returned man who suffered any disease until the time of his death. If an ex-soldier became deaf at 70 or 80 years of age, he would be entitled to a pension, as if he became deaf from war service at 25 years of age. There were already 72,000 ex-soldiers receiving war pensions and there were 242,000 who would be eligible for pensions under the motion.

It was quite clear that there could be only one definite principle upon which pensions were granted: "That pensions shall be paid to men suffering from disabilities due to the service rendered to their country, or to diseases that have been aggravated by such service." It had now been laid down that where a pre-enlistment disablement had been aggravated to the extent of 25 per cent. or over, it should be regarded as having been materially aggravated. Instruction had been issued that, so far as possible, the examining officers should give returned men the benefit of any doubt as to the time of origin of a disability. If it was not reasonably certain that disability existed before enlistment it would not be ascribed to pre-war troubles.

There was really no legal authority for much of the relief that they had given. The Act had been a failure of recognition. That had been done in order to carry out the wish of the Government that the Act should be administered on the most liberal scale. The Government had not refused any suggestion that he had made to improve the conditions of the men with whom he served for five years in the late war. He found that there must be an increase on the expenditure of last year of £220,000 for war pensions, notwithstanding that while he had been administering the department a number of returned men had unfortunately died. Widows had remarried and children had reached adolescence.

Sir Neville stated that war pensions were costing the country now about £7,200,000 per annum, and in continuing to give returned men the benefit of the doubt he did not expect the peak expenditure until 1929-1930, when he anticipated that the amount would be nearly £8,000,000.

Members supporting the motion eulogised the Minister for his generous and capable administration of the department, and asked what would happen if his administration ceased. They desired the Act to be made more generous, to remove the fear of an unsympathetic Minister. In reply the Minister stated that he did not know of any amendment of the law that was necessary to enable justice to be done to the comrades with whom he served.

Dr. Maloney’s motion was lost by 40 votes to 18, Mr. Browne being the only supporter of the Government to vote for it.

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PERSONALITIES.

Captain Berryman, now holding down a good position with the Wheat Pool, although he had some 25 years of service, mostly in India, to credit, before Kaiser Bill cut loose, found great difficulty in being accepted for the A.I.F. He is, in fact, credited with sitting on the door of Francis Street Recruiting Office for five months before they found a job for him as driver in the A.S.C. However, he made good use of his army training, eventually attaining to three stars in the Second Divisional Train before "Bill" beat it for Holland.

Con. O'Brien, the cheerful host of the Court Hotel, pulled the khaki on and joined the crimson 11th when the younger men declined owing to family responsibilities. Con. had a wife and family, but considered it his duty to go out and do battle for them. Son Stan, a chip of the old block, toured with the Y.A.L. boys some years ago and is now prominent in rowing and amateur theatricals.

Secretary Sharp, of the Peel Estate Sub-branch, is one of the most enthusiastic workers for the League in the State. President Bulloch and Committeeman Rickson, of the same sub-branch, are also valuable workers. With those three organizing matters, League affairs should soon boom on the Estate, official opposition notwithstanding.

Late of the 44th Battalion and now a successful farmer near Pithara, Jack Leahy, was in town last week, looking happy after putting in a big acreage of wheat. Jack lost a kneecap in the big disturbance, but the doctors gave him a good substitute and he can skip round with the best of them.

Vice-President of the Dalwallinu Sub-branch, Bill Patrick, is another wheat belt farmer who has made good. When Bill shed his khaki and started for the bush he made a vow that Perth would not see him again until he had 500 acres cleared and under wheat. He reached that mark last season, but is throwing in another year and larger acreage for luck. Bill did his bit in the Tunnellers and is now one of the keenest members of the League. We hope to have a visit from him after next harvest now.

In the capital for a few days during the month was Mr. R. Urguart, a prominent member of the Bridgetown Sub-Branch.

Sam Rodgers, who is well known in League circles at the metropolis, is out to supply fresh fruit and vegetables in case lots to the country, and has made his headquarters at Yarloop, where his new business is known as "The Diggers Markets." We refer those interested to his advertisement in this issue, and suggest that Sam be given a trial.

It is always pleasing for us to record the success of men who "did their bit" at the

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Drawn August 7th, 1926

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2nd Prize £500

3rd Prize £200
153 Other Cash Prizes

Profits to the Diggers' Club, Soldiers' Institute, Perth

Tickets 2s. 6d. from your Sub-Branch Secretary, or direct from the State Secretary, R.S.L., Perth
war. At least 80 per cent. of diggers were mere youngsters, who had just commenced to climb the ladder of success when the call came. Throwing aside purely personal considerations they went, and after returning, war-worn and weary, almost invariably had to make a fresh start at the bottom of the ladder. That returned men generally are forcing their way through and up is apparent to us who have been in close touch with them, and we opine that the day is not far distant when they will reach the peak of practically all the professions and callings in the Commonwealth.

We have digressed somewhat. What we started off to do was to express our pleasure at the step up of Leonard Gibbons, an editor of this journal, who was successful in being appointed to the vacant position of Town Clerk of Guildford. Len, who lost a limb when fighting with Collett's 28th, has been an official of the Repatriation Department for a number of years; his colleagues have made him a suitable presentation on severing his official connection with them.

Lost, stolen or strayed — Major Jim Croly, of the 11th Bat. Jim's store of humour is illimitable and perhaps there are more pleasantly humourous reminiscences told about and around him than any other officer of the A.I.F.

Mrs. Morrie Zeffert, who has been seriously ill, is now happily on the road to recovery.

"Curly" Tom Lennon, President of the Perth Sub-Branch, is at present holidaying in Sydney.

Harry Hocking, who, as the result of the war, was forced into hospital recently to have an eye removed, is back again at his desk at the Repatriation Department.

There was some doubt about Harry's other eye, but fortunately no more trouble is expected from that source.

Our war leader, General Sir John Monash, will be visiting this State shortly to attend the biennial meeting of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science. He is due to arrive in Perth on the 20th August. The State Executive of the League intend to hold a R.S.L. reception to this distinguished general at the Soldiers' Institute, at which all sailors and soldiers will be invited to attend. Further particulars will be published in our next issue.

H.M. writes: "I notice that according to last month's "Listening Post," our worthy, State Executive has taken unto itself a wife. Can't find anything about this sort of thing in the Constitution. However, we heartily wish Mrs. "Morrie" Zeffert a speedy recovery from her present indisposition. (No, more jokes, Mr. Linotype. — Ed.)"

Readers generally of this journal will regret to learn of the sad loss sustained by Jim Aker, of Collie, by the recent death of his 5-year-old son from diphtheria.

Bolted from his numerous municipal duties as Collie's Town Clerk, the genial Sam Simpson is spending a quiet holiday somewhere around Perth.

Recently seen having a fly around Perth, Alf Anderson, President Collie R.S.L.

Our sympathy lies with Mick Greatorex, of Duranillina, in his recent sad bereavement.

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THE PEEL ESTATE FIASCO

Who is Responsible?

Whether the Peel Estate was ever a sound proposition for Soldier Settlement, in view of the extremely heavy costs entailed in drainage schemes, bridges, and roads, is open to grave doubt; but it is not with this aspect of the case we propose to deal here. The selection of this property by a matter of the experts, but in view of at least some of the instructions, concerning subsequent development, issued by supposed experts, the public will have some doubts as to the wisdom of the experts who recommended the purchase of this Estate.

Of late, complaints from soldier settlers and others have been persistent, a number of these reaching the State Executive of the R.S.L., and stimulating last month a Sub-Committee from the Executive being appointed to visit the Peel Estate and report on the conditions there. A meeting of returned men was called, primarily with the object of re-forming the local Sub-Branch, but others who wished to ventilate their grievances, saw a chance of a sympathetic hearing from the visiting officials, and attended also. Settlers, both under the Group System and Soldier Settlement Scheme, attended from all parts of the Estate, some of them having to walk up to five miles.

Between forty and fifty, representative of all the Estate, and representing both A.I.F. and non-soldiers, as well as others who had not served, assembled in the Group 50 School, and under the chairmanship of one of their number, ventilated in clear and logical fashion, and in a most orderly manner, the many disabilities, irregularities and instances of mismanagement, under which they assert they are now suffering.

Put briefly, the settlers are in a state of seething discontent, and it goes without saying, that such a body of men, regarded as they were by the Sub-Committee, as a very good type of settler, and comprising both Australian and British born ex-soldiers, as well as non-soldiers, could not be so unanimously condemnatory of the System and Management, unless there was good and sufficient reason for their vigorously voiced complaints.

To begin with, the visitors were shown machinery and plant, that had obviously been left out in the weather, and Idie, for a considerable time and were naturally deteriorating in value. Complaints were made that excessive and unnecessary orders, whether by ignorance of design, had been placed with Perth firms, for unnecessary machinery and plant. Among these were four expensive tractors, that the officials had apparently not thought worth while to keep under cover. These were reported to be in their present position for over two years, while new drills and other implements were stated to be similarly neglected for over three months, and this lack of care and regularity of manure, too, which rapidly deteriorate when exposed to the weather, were reported definitely to have been left on the side of a road for some months, portion of it being dropped up to three miles from destination, although a good road ran past where it was required.

Without going further, we claim that such complaints as these demand the immediate and thorough investigation of the Government. We go beyond this, and claim, that as numerous complaints have allegedly been sent to the Government without apparent result, that an independent Board of Inquiry, composed of experienced agriculturists, be immediately appointed to make a thorough investigation. Such a course is due to the settlers on the Estate, but it is also due to the public who have perforce to foot the bill.

But this is not all, by a long, long way. For close on two hours, settlers regaled the visitors with instances of further gross mismanagement, gross stupidity, absurd restrictions, official ineptitude, ceaseless bickering with officials, instances of victimisation and petty spite by these officials, as well as pinpricks administered, of various nature, that in themselves would fill a large volume.

What is the cause of all this, and WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

Common justice, and British Fairplay, as it is claimed to exist, demand an immediate righting of these wrongs, if only a fraction of those complained of are correct. This journal will not let the matter rest until the unfortunate business is fully cleared up, and it goes without saying, that the State Executive of the R.S.L. whose strenuous efforts in the past have been, on behalf of the Soldier Settlers, well known, will take the matter up with the vigour for which that body are noted.

Getting down to bedrock, the bulk of the complaints are directed against the Field Supervisor and the Foreman, who, without doubt, appear to be entirely out of touch with the settlers. They are reported to be thoroughly apathetic to the just requirements of the men under them, to be deficient in their attitude as to any reports threatened to be sent in against them, to be neglectful of their duties in not visiting settlers, away from the main roads, even when requested to do so, to be guilty of giving indifferent orders, at times contradictory, and to be continually at cross purposes with the settlers. The feeling of bitterness is indeed strong against these two officials, and we maintain, there must be a cause for it that needs prompt investigation.

It is perhaps possible that the officials in question are quite incompetent and that the complaints made against them arise from this source, but be that as it may, an inquiry in equally necessary, and this waste of public money, as reported, must cease.

There is another phase to the question. The class of settler met with and spoken to, compares favourably with the wheat-belt farmer, who in the majority of cases is on the road to success after two years effort, and is often in possession of a motor car, motor truck, and tractor, after three to four years. Yet these men on the Peel Estate, after two or three years, are quite despondent, they see no hope of success, and it is obviously only the regular payments by the Government, that are keeping them there. This is a mighty bad business, and is the worst possible advertisement for West Australian Land Settlement. Worse than this, the migrant section are so disappointed with conditions, that many are writing to friends and relations, strongly advising against coming to this State.

What a damnable state of affairs this is, and what a condemnation of official methods it provides, whether viewed from the angle of Returned Soldier Settlement, or otherwise. After all, we are loyal to our State, and more than that, we are determined to clear this matter up. In doing so, we know too, we will have all good West Australians behind us.

For the benefit of readers, who may wish to know more of the complaints made, we have picked out the following list, as sample cases of those reported to us:—

(a) Settlers state they are not permitted to use unoccupied blocks for grazing their stock, although fodder is being purchased for feeding milk cows.

(b) A paddock of rye grass on one such block was officially burned off, although applied for by adjacent settlers for their stock.

(c) Easy clearing is being resorted to along the roads, in order to show high
Stewart Dawson's

DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RINGS.

BRIGHTEST DIAMONDS

FINEST WORKMANSHIP

LOWEST PRICES.

18ct. Gold Ring, set with three fine Diamonds. £10/10/-

New Design Six Diamond Ring, 18ct. Gold and Platinum. £16/10/-

Fine Single Stone Diamond Ring, 18ct. Gold, £12/10/-

Half Hoop Ring, with Four Fine Diamonds, Platinum Settings. 18ct. Gold. £13/10/-

Neat Style Five Diamond Ring, 18ct. Gold. £12/10/-

Dainty 18ct. Gold Three-Diamond Ring, £18/10/-

Dainty 18ct. Gold Three-Diamond Ring, set with three fine Diamonds, £17/10/-

18ct. Gold Cross-over Ring, set with three fine Diamonds, £17/10/-

When in town

Secure your fruit supply from

A "Jack" Michael

(Late 11th Bain.)

Barrow

In front of east end Boans Ltd.

Wellington Street - Perth

PHOTOGRAPHS OF WAR MEMORIALS WANTED.

The following communication was received by the State Branch from the Federal Secretary:

"I desire to show hereunder a copy of letter received from the Secretary, Department of Defence, in respect to War Memorials. I shall be pleased if two photographs could be obtained, one of which to be forwarded to the Imperial War Museum and the other for record purposes in this office."

"The Trustees of the Imperial War Museum are making a collection of photographs of the memorials of the War of 1914-1918, which at present comprises considerably over 1,000 records of such monuments in the British Isles and the several war areas. As considerable interest has been taken in the collection the Trustees consider it advisable, if possible, to make it more complete by including photographs of the memorials erected in the various Dominions, etc.

'I shall be glad if you will kindly advise whether you could furnish, for transmission to the Trustees, copies of photographs or other records of any war memorials erected in Australia in consultation with your League or under private arrangement.'"

We suggest that sub-branches or interested individuals make it their business to send the required photographs to the State Secretary, who would forward them to the desired destination.

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GLOBE HOTEL

For Superior Accommodation

Try our Six-Year Old Port

Only 2s. Bottle

WELLINGTON STREET, PERTH.
The Australian War Museum has a limited number of German brass cartridge cases converted into jardinières, vases, etc., which are being sold in aid of memorial funds administered by the Museum Committee. A portion of these has been reserved for sale in Western Australia, but owing to the distance and resultant heavy travelling expenses, it is impracticable for the Museum staff to attend to the selling. The Returned Soldiers' League, however, has purchased the whole of the quota reserved for this State to the value of £192, in order to give its members and their friends the opportunity of acquiring a unique and useful souvenir.

As an indication of the results of sales in the Eastern States, it may be mentioned that in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Hobart the gross receipts were £1,407, £171, £502, and £286 respectively. Sales are still proceeding in Sydney.

We have collated a few reasons why these ornaments should make good buying propositions.

1. The ornaments are guaranteed by the Australian War Museum to be genuine war souvenirs collected on the Western Front.

2. They are made of the best material and are practically ever-lasting.

3. They have most of their weight in the base, they are not easily over-balanced, and are therefore ideal for the purpose of displaying large branches of flowers, gum-tips, etc.

4. In converting the cases into useful ornaments, care has been taken not to lose the identity of the cartridge case.

5. The month and year of manufacture are stamped on the base. These sometimes coincide with great achievements of the A.I.F., e.g., October, 1917, and August, 1918. It is impracticable, however, to undertake to supply a customer with a case bearing any particular date.

6. They are specially lacquered and retain indefinitely the highly-polished finish in which they are delivered.

7. Finally, the sale of the ornaments will benefit war memorial funds.

These ornaments can be inspected at the Perth Soldiers' Institute, but for the benefit of country diggers the above illustration has been included, and the price list published. The prices stated do not include freight and packing, therefore sufficient money will need to be added to cover these charges. Where the amount sent exceeds the total cost a refund will of course be made. It is important that country men in particular should make up their minds as to requirements immediately and in case of the chosen variety being sold out it would be wise to state the second or third, etc., preferences.

THE PRICE LIST.
(Freight not included.)

In the following description “spun lip” means that the mouth of the case has been turned slightly outwards as shown in the accompanying photograph. Special finishes include copper in various shades, satin brass, and polished brass with shaded base.

No. 1 Size—77mm. Gun Cases, converted into Vases.

With Spun Lip or band and special finish; price, 16/- each. (Number received, 6.)

Usurp its functions is only asking the In Plain Brass finish, with spun lip and handles; price, 18/- each. (Number received, 3.)

With Spun Lip, special finish, and handles; price, 19/- each. (Number received, 10.)
Fruit and Vegetables — for the Family

SAM ROGERS
Late Van Salesman G.F.D.A., & A.F.D.A.

The Diggers’ Market, Yarloop

Cases of Fruit by Rail

Cash with Order

Bags of Mixed Vegetables from 5s. upwards

Add Freight unattended Siding

You always had — You’ll always get — a FAIR DEAL

Yours faithfully, Sam Rogers

3. If not yet finally determined, will the Commonwealth advise the States that, in making the financial concessions to the States, it was desirous of ameliorating the conditions of soldiers who had been re-patriated on holdings which gave little or no hope of success, and insist that, in the allocation of the sums contributed by the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth and the Returned Soldiers’ League should have representation on a board appointed for the purpose of making recommendations for the allocation of the financial concessions granted by the Commonwealth?

The Federal Treasurer in reply supplied the following information:

1. (a) Under the migration scheme the Commonwealth has undertaken to raise £4,000,000 for the States. Part of this money is to be expended on land settlement. The money will be lent to the States at 1 per cent. per annum for five years, and one-third of the cost for a further five years. The balance of the interest charges will be shared equally by the Imperial and Commonwealth Governments.

(b) Under the soldier land settlement scheme the following concessions have been made to the States:

   Rebate of interest charges at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum for five years on loan moneys amounting to £5,740,699.

   Amount written off indebtedness due by States—£5,000,000.

   It has also been decided that, from and after the 31st December, 1930, the rate of interest payable by the States on their indebtedness to the Commonwealth shall be reduced to 5 per cent. It should be mentioned, further, that the Commonwealth has paid sustenance allowances, pending productivity of farms, totalling £28,966 up to 30th April, 1926.

2. Beyond informing the States that the concessions made by the Commonwealth "would cover more than half the total losses involved in the soldier settlement scheme, and would enable the States to deal justly with all settlers in difficulty," the matter of dealing with the returned soldiers has been left entirely to the States.

3. The whole of the States have now notified their acceptance of the terms of the agreements with the Commonwealth. A bill ratifying the agreements will shortly be introduced, and Parliament will then have an opportunity of expressing its attitude towards the concessions and the conditions that should be associated.
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PERTH FREMANTLE KALGOORLIE

THE WOODS PENSION CASE.
STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER.

Speaking against Dr. Maloney's motion for amendments to the Repatriation Act recently, the Minister (Sir Neville House) made the following interesting statement regarding the pension claim of Mr. Woods of Colic, whose case is still being strenuously fought by the Colic Sub-Branch and the State Branch of the League:

"I am afraid that some honourable members get obsessions about certain cases. One instance is the Woods case, in which the honourable member for Forrest (Mr. Prowse) has taken a very great interest. I am very glad when any honourable member takes a definite and personal interest in a claim which he believes to be just, and I have no doubt that the honourable member for Forrest, in pressing the claim of Mr. Woods, honestly believes that that man is entitled to a pension. I have already reviewed the case four times, and the Medical Advisory Board, which consists of two of the best surgeons, and two of the leading physicians in Melbourne, has also considered it repeatedly. We can find no connection whatever between Woods' pre-war disability and that which he has since developed. Therefore, his case does not come within the category of claims to which the motion refers. In Woods' case, which has now become almost a classic in the department, I have gone to the extent of asking an independent surgeon of reputation in Melbourne to say whether he could find any possible connection between the pre-war disability and that which Woods now suffers. I took that action, first, because of the insistence of the honourable member for Forrest, and, secondly, because some medical doubt was expressed in the file. In every instance in which there is a medical doubt, I call for further reports, in the hope that reasonable grounds will be discovered for the payment of the claim. No one recognizes more fully than I do that certain promises were made to the soldiers before they proceeded to the war, and I can honestly say that every promise made by the Government has been fulfilled in its entirety.

Mr. Prowse—There must remain a doubt in Woods' case, because medical men in Western Australia disagree from the views expressed by the physicians and surgeons in Melbourne.

PENSIONS OF WAR WIDOWS.

Sir Neville House, V.C., the Minister controlling the Repatriation Department, made the following statement in the course of a speech on pensions in the Federal House recently:

"The Government has decided that widows who were being paid a pension of £1 3s. 6d. per week, or, if they had dependants, £2 2s., shall be sure of an income of not less than £2 2s. Thus, under the act, a soldier's widow receives a minimum of £1 3s. 6d. per week, and the Repatriation Commission has discretionary power to increase the rate up to £2 2s. per week where the widow has dependent children, or where her circumstances are such that, in the opinion of the Commission, an increase from £1 3s. 6d. is justified. In all cases where the widow has a dependent child or children, the practice has been, and is, to grant the £2 2s. maximum, inclusive of the pension of the child or children. It is found in some cases that when the child reaches the age of sixteen years, and therefore, automatically loses his or her pension, some hardship is thrown on the widow. The whole question has been thoroughly considered, and it has been decided that war widows without dependent children shall receive as pensions either the £1 3s. 6d. per week minimum provided under the act, or such larger amount as will, together with the widows' other income, if any, ensure to her a total income of £2 2s. per week. Consideration has also been given to soldiers' widows who, by re-marriage, have forfeited their pension, which, under the present regulation, continues for only two years after re-marriage. Some of the widows have married a second, and even a third, time, and the Government has decided that a soldier's widow whose pension has been cancelled because of her remarriage may receive a living allowance if she is without adequate means of support after the death of her second, or subsequent husband."
SUB-BRANCH NOTES.

KALGOORLIE SUB-BRANCH.

Members of the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch Executive have not been idle during the past month. Three meetings have been held and were well attended. At the last general meeting of members held on the 10th instant, the Secretary, Mr. D. Elliott reported on the activities of the Executive since the previous meeting of members.

The president, Dr. V. O. Stacy, presided over a large attendance. Several members of the Boulder Sub-branch were also present and took an interesting part in the proceedings.

The secretary in his report stated the work of the branch was going along smoothly, several cases of distress had been dealt with, and generally the finances were entirely satisfactory. Balance statements were submitted for the Anzac Dinner, also the Anzac Ball. Whilst the former showed a small debit balance, the latter had been the means of augmenting the branch funds considerably. A tribute was paid to the Ladies' Committee, who had worked untiringly to ensure the success of the functions.

Unemployed.—During the month the branch has been successful in obtaining work for all men seeking employment. Albeit the fact that a considerable number of men are out of work on the Goldfields, it is creditable that on the roster of the branch no returned men are awaiting employment.

Preference Matters.—At the general meeting of members held in April a complaint was received that Maltese were being employed on the construction work of the Trans. Railway. The members took a serious view of the circumstances and appointed Messrs. Kingsbury, Anderson, Vallender and the Secretary to confer with the Boulder Sub-branch the matter and report back. Mr. Kingsbury stated the application had gone into committee with the Boulder Branch and had gone fully into the report. It was ascertained that Maltese had been employed as stoneworkers until a circular was printed that preference would be given to returned soldiers. A reply had been received from the Department, in which they stated that in order to avoid a recurrence of the incident they would comply with the wishes of the Branch and insert an advertisement in the press when vacancies occurred.

Pension Matters.—Several requests were made through the branch to the Repatriation Department on behalf of returned men for a revision of their pensions. In one instance a member had his pension raised considerably and the branch was instrumental in obtaining a lump sum as a retrospective increase. Several anomalies in connection with pensions were satisfactorily dealt with.

Re W.A. Mining Board.—In connection with the recent formation of this Board, the members decided to make an application to the Minister for Mines for a returned soldier to be represented thereon. Mr. Sam Green was chosen to represent the Goldfields returned men in the event of the application being successful.

BRIDGETOWN SUB-BRANCH.

Unfortunately for this sub-branch, the long partnership which has existed between its president, Mr. C. W. Reid, and its Secretary Mr. T. Wyer, should be terminated so suddenly. Charlie Reid was happily attached to the district and it was hard luck on him to be told while on a trip to the Eastern States that he had been transferred to Perth. The interests of the sub-branch he consistently advanced and he was held in such high regard in the district that he was elected during his absence to the chair for the seventh year in succession. Appreciation was shown at a farewell social tendered Mr. Reid by the sub-branch, when he was presented with a silver coffee set. Mr. Tom Savory was elected to the vacancy and all anticipate that he will happily carry out his duties. On top of this came the resignation of Secretary T. Wyer for reasons best known to himself. Tommy's services have been invaluable during the past five years, but as he is remaining in the district and in the sub-branch, he will be able to impart the knowledge he has gained to his successor, Mr. Jack Hearne.

The sub-branch has agreed to conform to the conditions suggested by the State Executive in establishing a cot in the Children's Hospital.

Mr. Harry Klopper is herewith congratulated on his "promotion" to a dignified and austere position—that of member of the local Road Board. Of course, self-interests may be intruding; as he is now the local agent for Morris-Cowley trucks and has purchased one for his own use. Harry must have good roads for demonstration purposes.

COLLIE SUB-BRANCH

The fortnightly meetings of this Branch still continue to bring forth volumes of business regarding the many activities of the League. The attendances at these meetings is all that can be desired and the methodical manner in which members
dispose of all matters brought forward for consideration has proved to be the keynote of the success achieved by the Collie Branch. Pension cases easily predominate and amongst these cases is that of Branch member F. W. Wood. This case has been argued by the Branch with the authorities for the past 34 years, and at the present time a reply is being anxiously awaited from Mr. Prowse, M.H.R., Melbourne, regarding the result of a deputation he has arranged to wait on Sir Neville Howse, consisting of all the W.A. members of both Houses of the Federal Parliament. Mr. Prowse is to be congratulated on the very thorough manner in which he has taken this case in hand, and it is the sincere wish of the R.S.L. in this State that his efforts will be crowned by success. The story of this pension claim will prove highly interesting to readers of this journal when finalised one way or the other—and will show how easily cases of this nature can at the commencement be represented to the authorities in Melbourne, without proper consideration being given the case by those concerned in this State. However criticism must necessarily be held in abeyance pending the final decision. The membership of the Branch continues to rise and already last year’s figures have been left behind. In last month’s issue of the “Listening Post” it was noticed that several Branches have almost got their fingers on the coveted Newdegate Cup. They have this Branch’s assurance that they will need to have both hands well on it with their heels dug in in order to allow of any of them taking it home after the next State Conference. However, it is a healthy sign when more Sub-Branches are interesting themselves in this competition, and it would give every pleasure to the present holders of the Cup if every Branch was a competitor this year. Too much cannot be said in appreciation of the good work which is being accomplished by the Ladies’ Auxiliary Committee of the Collie R.S.L. Branch. It seems to be equal to the work of the official ladies are called upon to conduct social functions and so well acquainted have the members become with each other and so long have they worked together, that never is there anything in the nature of a hitch with their method of conducting these socials. The property of the Branch has recently been added to by the addition of an adjoining block of land, upon which it is intended to lay out another tennis court. The thanks of the Branch are due to the members of the Collie Municipal Council, who were instrumental in material assisting the R.S.L. to acquire this additional land. The property of the Branch has consequently been enlarged to such an extent that it calls for all the caretaker’s time to keep pace with the work it entails. However, the redoubtable “Sandy” Wilson, adhering to the proverb at all times, and the property as it stands to-day is a monument to the untiring energy of this loyal “Digger.”

The next undertaking of the Branch will be the building of an addition to the Hall in the nature of an up-to-date kitchen and caretaker’s quarters. Plans, etc., have been prepared and it is anticipated that the work will be commenced in the very near future. The Branch realises the valuable services rendered by its Ladies’ Committee, and is therefore determined that the ladies shall have every comfort and convenience whereby to accomplish their work that it is possible for the Branch to provide.

**MT. BARKER SUB-BRANCH.**

Following the successful re-union, held on the 28th April last, this Sub-Branch held a meeting on the 18th May. Twenty-six members attended, which, considering the inclement state of the weather, was particularly good, while some twenty apologies were received. The membership of 64, which is high for a country branch, shows the live interest that diggers in this district are taking in the League.

A considerable amount of correspondence was dealt with, and after discussion on the library, which has recently been started, it was decided to obtain a further supply of books and introduce a system of index cards for the lending of same.

A Social Committee, consisting of Messrs. Morgan, Stanley, Smith, Jenkins and Hickling, was formed to make arrangements for the running of a musical evening on November 11th, in conjunction with the Turf Club, which body are holding an Industrial Show on that date, proceeds to be on the 50-50 basis. This is expected to materially help the funds of the Sub-Branch.

It was wisely decided that the Sub-Branch should not dispose of the Picture Shares held at present otherwise it would not be possible to continue the annual free re-unions.

It was decided to hold the Annual General Meeting and election of officers on a date to be fixed, early in July. The Hon. Secretary wishes this to be a record meeting, and desires all members and intending members to keep a watch for the date notified.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

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**For your top piece, buy one of Grosse’s Hats from Grosse’s Hat Shop**

630 Hay St., or Forrest Place

Gent’s Felt and Panama cleaned, blocked, and re-trimmed for 4/6.

Ladies’ Panama, Leghorns, Straw, etc., for 2/6.

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**Good Cheap Fruit always procurable from J. Brown’s (Late 11th Bats.) Fruit Barrow**

Opposite Padbury’s Buildings, in Wellington St. (off Forrest Place)
Fruit Trees, Vines, and Roses. Now is the time to Plant
E. SYMONDS
Seed and Plant Merchant
200-202 William Street, PERTH

KALGOORLIE JOTTINGS.

"My youngest and eldest son." Thus spoke Millet Anderson on the 12th of last month when his good wife presented him with a bonny boy. Mill has always been a live wire. May the latest addition to the family follow in daddy's footsteps. Congratulations from all digger friends, "Andy."

"Tec" Fairley, he of the old 16th Battalion, and now a major in the Home forces, has joined the ranks of the motor hogs. His diminutive figure looks well behind the big steering wheel of his "Rolls Ruff."

RETURNED SOLDIERS' MONUMENTAL WORKS.

Only Address:
KARRAKATTA (near Station)

Write or Ring F832 and we will post Catalogue.

We call by appointment.

When in a reminiscent mood, Doc Stacy is brimful of anecdotes of his exploits with the digger. Though small in stature, the Doc has a large heart for any dinkum returned man who may claim his sympathetic ear.

"Unity is strength." Every digger should remember this. The League is the loud speaker for the returned men. So join up, you slackers. 10d. a month will keep you financial.

Col. Edwards, a unit of the good old 16th, is of a versatile nature. When he is not assisting with the generation of electricity at the power station, lending a helping hand to charitable stunts, or attending R.S.L. meetings, he is at his little ranch breeding thoroughbred egg layers. To talk fowls with Col. would be as wise as talking polities to Billy Hughes, or R.S.L. matters to Secretary Benson.

No sign of the Secretary, President, or any of the central Executive on the Goldfields for many, many months. Why the apathy, Secretary Benson? A trip to Kalgoorlie now and again would do a lot of good and cement the good feelings and co-ordination between the controlling body and out-back branches.

Wally Frankish, he of the police force, is about to retire from that department, and make a move in a private way in the East. Wally is a member of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch and was tendered a farewell at the last general meeting. Kalgoorlie's loss, someone's gain.

Mr. McMullen, the Central Red Cross representative, came to the Fields recently to confer with the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch executive on matters concerning the control of the Soldiers' Institute. Mr. McMullen has a sympathetic ear for the wants of returned men, and the Kalgoorlie diggers feel satisfied that any little misunderstanding re the Institute will be overcome by his heart-to-heart talk, with the members of the Executive.

George Williams, of the Water Supply Department, shakes the Goldfields dust off his feet on the 21st instant, and heads for the metropolitan area to take a position in the Taxation Department. G. L. W. was tendered an impromptu farewell by members of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch at their last general meeting.

THE BEST PAIR

Swan Lager
and
Swan Bitter

THEY BEAT ALL OTHERS

At a meeting of members of the Eighth Battery A.I.F., held at the R.S.L. Rooms on the 27th May, it was unanimously decided to form an Eighth Battery Association, with the object of keeping old members of the Battery in touch with each other. A provisional committee was formed, consisting of J. O. Clough, R. M. Timbury, Mick Taylor, and H. R. McLarty. It was decided to have a reunion of members during show week. All members of the battery and the original B.A.C. are requested to send their names and addresses to Mr. H. R. McLarty, the hon. secretary, c/o A.M.P. Society, Perth.

During the recent heavy rains the Meckatharra train was held up owing to washouts. A commercial traveller passenger, required by his firm in Geraldton at a definite time, wired as follows:—

"Cannot come as required, wash out on line."—

He was astonished at the reply, which read—

"Come anyhow. Borrow a shirt."
"THE DINKUM DIAMONDS." 28th BATTALION RE-UNION.

With their original Commanding Officer in the chair, Colonel H. B. Collett, C.M.G., D.S.O., the Y.D.D. to the re-union of the 28th Battalion on the evening of the 9th inst., filled St. George's Hall, and left nothing to be desired in good fellowship and the renewal of friendships, mostly made during the strenuous days of the greatest of all wars. The Battalion Association has a splendid organiser in its Secretary, Mr. W. L. Wilson, assisted by Mr. C. H. Flood. This fact, coupled with the efforts of a live Committee, and the undoubted great personal interest shown by the President (Col. Collett), accounts for the remarkable manner in which old members of this battalion assemble at regular intervals in such numbers. Other units have held very successful re-unions, and there is no doubt that as the years go by, the popularity of these social gatherings is increasing, but so far, no other unit in this State has achieved the success of the 28th.

The President had in his right, Major-General Sir Talbot Hobbs, Lt-Col. Margolin (16th Bn.), Lt-Col. Fitzgerald (20th and 24th Bns.), and Mr. E. S. Watt (Cameleers and 14th L.H.), while on his left was the Rev. Dean Brennan, original Padre with the 28th.

After the loyal toast, the Dean, in proposing the Toast of the 28th, as the Greatest Battalion that left West Australia or elsewhere, referred to elogetic terms to the Colonels who commanded the first type of men who composed the unit. In a fine speech he led his audience through the training in the Land of the Pharaohs, thence through the Gallipoli Campaign, where they first saw what war was, and then the splendid battalion they were, only the mangled remains returning. He recalled the names of Majors Walsh and McKee, and Captain Isaacs, as leaders of outstanding merit on that occasion. Nothing daunted, the Battalion returned to the attack after re-organising, within a week, and carried the position to victory.

Out and in and yet again, the 28th fought on. Then came Fiers, on November 5th, 1916, and later Paschendale, with the "Old Battalion" still going strong. Those present had something to inspire them with the memory of those who died, died beside them.

Colonel Collett, on rising to respond, was given a rousing reception. He modestly disclaimed all the credit. Other units had a share. The loyalty of the Battalion was great, and the Dean was one of the outstanding figures in it. His speech, interspersed with anecdotes and touches of humour, was listened to with interest. He mentioned that the liability, on the first volume of the battalion history was lifted by members of the Association. He hoped to have the second and final volume ready shortly, an announcement that was received with cheers.

He then proposed the toast of General Hobbs. There were Generals, and Generals, and persons who were referred to as having no parents, but he had no hesitation in placing General Hobbs in the first category. He had done his duty well at the war, and was continuing to do his duty equally well at home.

Sir Talbot, who was received with cheers, congratulated Colonel Collett on such a large gathering. The Americans looked on it as a great privilege to belong to such Associations. The men who fought in the Civil War of 1864 found that as their numbers decreased, their comradeship increased, and it would be the same here. A truer perspective by those outside of what the war meant was needed. Referring to the "Hislop Battalion" of 1864, he said, "God knows how so many came out of it alive." He had pleaded that night with his seniors to defer the attack. The name of Australian regiments would ever be connected with the name of Poyiere.

He paid a tribute to Colonel Collett for his great labour in compiling the History of the 28th Battalion. It was a valuable work that would be prized by the children of their children, brothers, grandfathers, and by generations to come.

A word of thanks was due to the "Tin Hats," for many years before the great war, trained themselves in peace manoeuvres and on Saturday afternoons, to become as they did, the leaders of the Australian Army when the big day came.

Mr. Robinson, in elogetic terms, proposed the toast of "Kindred Battalions," with whom the 28th had shared their pack of troubles during the never-to-be-forgotten days of war.

Colonel Margolin, in response, expressed regret that the 14th had not a President who could get so many old members together. The old traditions should be upheld, and the 28th was setting the best example. He would always be pleased to accept an invitation and to assist in reuniting this or other units.

Mr. Campbell, of the Maimed and Limbless Men's Association, put in a plea for all returned men to join their associations. And on their address, these associations helped to secure a fair deal for dependents of dead comrades.

Mr. E. S. Watt, who left W.A. with reinforcements for the 28th, and who saw service in the Camel Corps, and subsequently in the 14th Light Horse, also responded. He said he had a close connection with the 28th, as a brother of his was killed in that battalion at Bullecourt. He was envious of these re-unions, as the units he belonged to were scattered over Australia, and could not be brought together. They had rough times in the Camel Corps, although there was not the gas or heavy artillery of the French front out where he was. Then the time came when they charged Turks with swords in the Light Horse.

With touches of quaint humour and interesting anecdote, Mr. Watt passed on to the time when his unit made a name for itself in capturing a Turkish Divisional Band complete, thereby providing cheap music for his brigade. He hoped he would be invited to the 28th Re-union next year. He thanked Colonel Collett for the invitation that night, remarking that as there Generals and Generals, there were also Colonels, and Colonels.

The evening was interspersed with music, song and recitation, the principal contributors being Messrs. McLennan, Lewis, Ivan Campbell, Potter, MacKenzie (of the "Dads") and MacKenzie, Jnr., while anecdotes, reminiscences, and the renewal of friendships made in the trenches filled in a re-union to be remembered.

The final toast was that of the President, given by Capt. Sunderland, and supported by Col. Fitzgerald. The latter recalled early associations with Col. Collett, when three Majors of the 20th were killed on Gallipoli, by Turkish shells, in taking over from the 28th, on the famous "Three Musketeers" postition. He rejoined all present to use their influence with REMEDS to enable men to ensure the Return of Soldiers' League, the State President of which was Colonel Collett. There were still battles to fight and every eligible man was needed in the League.

The evening concluded with the singing of Old Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

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VARIA.

Senator Sir Victor Wilson in answer to a question asked in the Senate recently, stated that the Government had decided that in special cases where ex-A.I.F. or Naval men who took their discharges in Great Britain, and have not returned to Australia, and can establish that they propose to reside in the Commonwealth permanently, the High Commissioner in London may approve of assisted passages being provided where such men are of the migrant standard, and are, in the opinion of the High Commissioner, likely to make desirable citizens.

William Henry Lambert, M.H.R. for West Sydney, in the course of a speech in Parliament recently, made the following illuminating remarks:—Never mind the ex-soldier; he was paid for his job, and paid pretty well for it, too. No soldier was better paid than the Australian soldier. People may condemn me for these words, but I am speaking the truth. The Australian soldier received more than I was paid as a navy. He was an adventurer, and he received 6/- a day. He volunteered for the job, and I was one of the men who prevented him from being compelled to enlist. The £50,000 Australian soldiers who went away from these shores—some of them were killed on Gallipoli—were paid by this country and they went of their own free will. So now you know, comment is unnecessary.

The State Executive recently concerned itself about mentally and physically un-

sound migrants gaining entry into Australia and one particular glaring case was quoted and given much press publicity. This ex-service migrant was submitted to a medical examination and the doctor's finding favored the League's contention. The Commonwealth authorities were then approached, with the result that the man was repatriated to his homeland on board the s.s. Benalla, under the provisions of the Customs Act.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the State Executive to visit and report on Peel Estate matters found an astonishing state of affairs. Settlers were unanimous in their condemnation of methods and officials. The state of affairs existing at present cannot be allowed to continue.

Leagueites state—and there is ample evidence to back the complaint up—that a certain high official, who evidently was one of those too proud to fight, set out to break the League, or at least the Peel Estate Sub-branch. The fine roll-up at the meeting on the 30th of May, when the State Executive representatives were present, showed how futile the breaking effort was. Hindenburg tried the same game, but came a G.

Reunions of units are becoming the order of the day of late. The Eighth Battery, with Mr. H. R. McLarty as hon. secretary, is the latest to pull its grays together for a reunion about show time. Good-luck to them! there is nothing like the old camaraderie which was built up during the Great War.

S301—I wonder what the war widows feel about the controversy which was recently holding the attention of the press concerning the Walsh-Pitman Remembrance Fund. Although I hardly should breathe it in your columns, I am personally antagonistic to the Collier Government, but I consider if the Government felt any opposition towards the institution of such a fund they were right for once. Honestly there is more fuss over two good men
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losing their lives in the most honorable way possible—that of doing their duty—than there was when 10,000 good men lost their lives for the State's welfare in the war. The Government, be it Labour, United, or what you will, will ever stand to its legal obligations as well as its moral obligations. Heaven knows that they find it hard enough to do so with good grace; but to usurp its functions is only asking the Government to back-slide. For once I cannot see eye to eye with Jimmy Cornell.

28.—Re-reading Col. Collett's excellent history of the war, and again, I am sorely and fully sorr that so many old men hang back when the sale of a few more volumes will ensure the launching of Volume No. 2. I came across his passage on the censoring of the troops letters. The reason for censorship is obviously a war precaution, but I always found my officers treated the contents of the troops letters as confidential, and it seemed to me that the system of reading a letter to a man's platoon because he was not kind in his remarks concerning its personnel, was, although deserved, a breach of common law. Again, although necessary to preserve the caution of checking news given by letter, it had never appealed to me until I read this word. It was a really valuable psychologically to the officials to teach the troops private thoughts.

28.—Another reference which I will take the liberty of quoting, is deserving of retelling, and as the Colonel's wording is more than apt, I will set it down as he has it:—'A soldier who had been frequently sampling a ready brew of beer, encountered a certain warrant officer. An exchange of compliments took place, during which the private referred disparagingly to his superior's figure and parentage. On the next day he appeared at 'orderly room' and was awarded a brief period of enforced retirement. Declining to walk to the place of detention he was placed on a stretcher, but the stretcher bearers were so inexperienced that then after a journey of about 200 yards he elected to march. On his release, the offender, very contrite and desiring to make the 'amende honorable', approached the warrant officer and explained that the statement previously made in regard to his 'figure' was entirely without foundation.'

Rex.—In every Eastern State, paper which changes my way, I find that in their invitations for applications for public positions they invariably include the clause "preference to soldiers, whilst in our own papers we find that question is not made of this feature. Is it that W.A. exhausted its fund of patriotism (think of the State War Memorial) during the war, or is it that they prefer to do things than to talk of them?

Reggd.—What a harassing time we are living in! Here round about us we are in the vortex of football enthusiasm. Talk is of Easts and Wests, and on the other hand the circus of our overseas representatives is being overdue. Don't mistake me, I am not down on sport. Far from it; but what has it descended to? When we were boys, cricket was cricket and football was clean, too. The better team won. Spectators were few and players many. Sport was the token, and few did not participate in healthy activities. Now on the contrary, the so-called lions play the fools look on with cold feet and hollowed shoulders. Moreover, the saddest part is yet to come—the best team is not the winner to-day-unless it suits! Look at the unnatural bother and fuss over the test cricket, too, now—a days: it is a circus, and the good old games we used to play are taboo to our children.

FRIENDLY UNION OF SOLDIERS' WIVES, MOTHERS AND SISTERS.

Inaugurated in Perth in 1915, during a time of anxiety and sorrow, and held together by the ties of kinship, the members of this association fostered a friendship that has outlived the years.

Although peace brought relief for the anxious relatives of the soldiers, and caused a cessation of many of their activities, much good work remained to be done.

With unabated zeal, this devoted band of workers set to work afresh to provide for the education of deceased soldiers' children, before the Government had made a move in that direction, also to assist in a practical manner, the widows and orphans.

Three of their representatives are on the Board of the Soldiers' Children Scholarship Trust, while from the funds of the Union, scholarships and education allowances are provided to assist pupils, showing promise beyond the elementary stage. During last year alone 125 scholarships were allotted, while over 600 children have been educated by the Teaching Organisations of this State.

This is indeed a splendid record, and the harmony with which these ladies work, is reflected in the fact that practically the same officials have been elected year after year.

The organising abilities of Mrs. C. H. Manning, who has been President for some years, and Mrs. T. W. Clark, who has given similar lengthy service, as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, are well known, while the rest of the officials are consistently energetic and helpful.

Space unfortunately will not permit of more details in regard to the great work these ladies are performing. Suffice it to say that they have fully earned the highest gratitude returned men can pay them, and for that matter the public generally.

Others who have materially helped include Sir Thomas Coombe, and the Union Theatres, the lessees of St. George's Hall, "Daily News," W.A. Surf Club, W.A. Trotting Association, and the West Perth Sub-Branch of the R.S.L.

At the 11th Annual Meeting of the Union, held this month, the President welcomed Lady Campion as Patroness, who is both a soldier's wife and mother.

The disbursements during the year totalled approximately £100, over £50 being held in credit for the coming twelve months.

We wish the Union a continuation of the success they have worked so hard for.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF W.A.

THE WRONG CROWD.

Sergt. Major (addressing new recruit): Are you a mechanic?

New Recruit (from the Highlands): 'Deed am not. Ave been a MacIntyre all ma life.

Duff's
Liqueur Whisky

Mild and 'Mellow
THE COMMONWEALTH CONCESSIONS AND THE S.S.S.

LEAGUE DEPUTATION TO MR. ANGWIN.

THE POSITION CLEARER.

Recently a committee from the State Executive, consisting of Messrs. Yeates, Shaw, Watt, and the State Secretary, waited on the Minister for Lands, Mr. W. C. Angwin, in their endeavour to clear up a number of vexed matters affecting soldier settlement. Mr. E. A. McLarty, Managing Trustee of the Agricultural Bank and a member of the S.S.S. Board, was present.

The following were the main points to be cleared:

(a) What amounts were remaining for relief purposes from the operation of the first agreement?

(b) What was the Government's policy towards men who were qualified by the S.S.S. Board but not yet to be made eligible for assistance under the provisions of the Discharged Soldier Settlement Act?

In respect to (a), the Minister stated that the figure quoted by the Commonwealth Treasury, namely £696,000, was quite correct. The actual sum allowed the State Treasury was £557,240, but other adjustments were yet to be made which would bring the full amount payable to the State from the first agreement to £695,000. The losses to date were not ascertainable, but Mr. Angwin said that all credits remaining would be added to the proposed grant under the second agreement, and used for the benefit of returned soldier settlers.

Referring to sub-para, (b), the Minister announced that these men would be settled on Crown lands as the circumstances permitted and as land becomes available. They would receive land at half rates as well as A.B. assistance, and to provide a fund for concession interest he authorised Mr. McLarty there and then to earmark £25,000 from funds remaining in credit from the first agreement.

The Minister confessed his inability to commit himself to any obligation to men still outside the Soldier Settlement Scheme, owing first to the uncertainty as to what funds would be available, and secondly he did not know the number of likely applicants. In respect to qualified soldiers he admitted that consideration could be given to the Committee's suggestion, that a time limit should be announced so that definite applications for land might be lodged. The Minister considered that certain areas of Crown lands could be specially reserved for qualified A.I.F. soldiers.

The State Executive considered that a notable advance had been made and that the position had considerably clarified, and adopted the Committee's report, which recommended that immediate steps be taken to bring about the ratification of the amended agreement between the Commonwealth and State Governments, and thus make available for writing down purposes and further settlement the further sum of £796,000.

It must be pleasing to the State Secretary to find that the figures which he had collated after much diligent searching, showing the amount of money still available for soldier settlement, were substantially correct, and we join with others in congratulating Mr. Benson on the enlightened stand which he adopted in the interests of our soldier settlers.

Much yet remains to be done, but so much has been attempted and accomplished for soldier farmers by the League during the last few years that one wonders how any of the beneficiaries could be so mean as to remain outside the League. We appeal to these men to take careful stock of the position and then do as their conscience dictates.

DISCOUNT ON MACHINERY.

At the Soldier Settlers' Conference the following resolution was adopted in connection with discount on machinery:

"The Executive be requested to enquire into the del credere system as employed by the I.B." Upon enquiries being made at the Agricultural Bank, Mr. McLarty, the General Manager, advises as follows:

"In acknowledgement of your memo. of the 17th insta. on the above subject, I have to inform your League that the special discount allowed by machinery firms on account of sales to soldier settlers has been discontinued as from the 30th June, 1924."
THE ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY.

Much resentment was felt in local League circles when it was reported in the press just prior to last Anzac Day that Commonwealth civil servants had asked for and been granted a holiday on the 26th April, because Anzac Day fell on a Sunday, it being against the League's principle that the sacred day should be looked on as being merely an excuse for another holiday. It was subsequently ascertained that the Commonwealth employees had sacrificed Easter Tuesday holiday for that of Anzac Day, but we would have deferred an earlier request for the extra Easter holiday, seeing that Anzac Day fell this year on a Sunday.

The State Branch of the League also regretted the action of at least two of the States in celebrating Anzac Day on the 26th April, and the following reply from the Federal Secretary to communications sent is of interest:

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"The Commonwealth Public Service Act is very definite in respect to the holiday on the 25th April by saying that that day only will be regarded as a holiday, but on other days the following Monday may be observed. This is in accordance with the desire of the League and resolution passed at the 1922 Congress held in Sydney."

"The observance this year in the several States were as follows:—

"In Queensland, the soldiers had a combined service on Sunday, and on Monday, owing to the desire of the Anzac Day Commemoration Committee, church services were held as well as representative gatherings, and speeches being made at night time.

"New South Wales Holiday Act proclaims that should Anzac Day fall on Sunday, the 26th be observed as a holiday. I understand their observances were held on Monday.

"In Victoria celebrations were held on Sunday.

"In South Australia the holiday gazetted by the South Australian Government was Monday, consequently this Branch of the League decided to hold their celebrations on Monday, and I understand Tasmania held their celebrations on Sunday.

"So far as the Public Service is concerned, the 26th April was gazetted a holiday in Melbourne for eight hours day, but some of the country areas in Victoria had a different day proclaimed.

"A request was made by the Victorian Soldiers, together with the South Australian Branch of the League, for permission for the soldiers employed in the Commonwealth Public Service to have sufficient time off to attend the celebrations on Monday, which was granted by the Prime Minister."

ON MY DESK.

The pencil has made quite a number of pointed remarks about the sponge being soaked all day and the waste paper basket being full. The scissors are cutting up and the paper weight is trying to hold them down, while the paste is sticking around to see the stamps get a good licking. The ink's well, but appears to be blue, while hill is stuck on the file, and the calendar is looking fresher after having had a month off. The blotter is lying around taking it all in.
THE STORY OF THE TWELFTH

The 12th Battalion Association, Tasmania, forwarded the following letter to the Federal Secretary of the League, and it is hoped that all members of the old unit who have not purchased this well written history will avail themselves of this opportunity to.

"I do not know if you have read 'The Story of the Twelfth,'" by our Adjutant, Lieut. L. M. Newton, M.C., but I can honestly recommend it to your serious perusal, as it is indeed a book worthy to adorn any library.

"We published 2000 copies, and have now remaining about 250, and my reason for communicating with you is to seek your kindy assistance in making the fact known to State Branches that copies may be obtained from this office. The price is within the reach of all, viz: 3/6, plus 3d. postage.

"My Executive would be grateful if you could help us in some way to dispose of the number now in hand."

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DISTRICT COMMITTEES.
The State Executive of the League has recently received communications from individual Sub-Branches suggesting the formation of district committees as laid down in the League's constitution. Any three or more Sub-Branches can form a district committee, and it would be to the general advancement of the movement if Sub-Branches in close proximity, and having largely identical interests, were to send delegates to meet one another at regular intervals. The formation of these committees is not particularly a State Executive function, it being advisable for the largest Sub-Branch to take the initiative and circulate the other Sub-Branches in its district. By-laws governing the formation and control of district committees are included in the League's constitution book, from which the following By-law 1 is extracted:

1. For the purpose of:-
(a) Closer co-ordination and co-operation between Sub-Branches; or
(b) Resisting any concerted or mutilar attack upon the policy of the League, or upon the League's policy or preference of employment; or
(c) The raising of funds for any specific purpose in conformity with the aims and objects of the League; or
(d) The establishment and control of the control where established, of clubs or institutions. Any three or more Sub-Branches situated within any one area as is, respectively, defined by any of the following paragraphs:

(3) The State Electoral Districts of Claremont, East Fremantle, Fremantle and South Fremantle.
(7) The State Electoral Districts of Cervantes, Greenough, Irwin, Moora, Mount Magnet and Murchison.

Adolph Allender, State Secretary to Tour the Midlands.

State Secretary Benson will next week commence an organizing motor tour of the Midland and Wongan Hills-Mullewa lines. Leaving Perth on Friday, 25th June, he will attend a meeting of the Moora Sub-Branch that night, and another at Carnamah the 26th. On Monday, 28th he will be at Yandanoona, and at Geraldton on Tuesday, 29th; Northampton on Wednesday, 30th, and back at Geraldton on the 1st and 2nd July. He will address a meeting on Saturday evening, 3rd July, at Perenjori, probably calling in at Gutjah and Morowa on the way. Sunday, 4th July, will find him at Dalwallinu, and Monday, 5th July, at Wongan Hills, returning to Perth the next day.

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AN OLD FRENCH GHOST.

(By “Pale Face”).

We were billeted at St. Omer, and our quiet spell from active front-line work was, in our opinion, well deserved. Our billet was the upper storey of an outhouse. On the ground floor the cattle were housed, whilst the loft above served the dual purpose of quarters for number sixteen platoon, as well as providing accommodation for provender for the lean beasts below.

Last night we had been doing an open country stunt, which necessitated the crossing of Rens crust Forest. Brambles had accounted for numerous “headers” in the dark, while the uncertainty of officers had occasioned such delays, that this morning we were in no mood to be crossed.

Paddy Truscott, our platoon jester, was skilful enough to use his alert brain for the purpose of evading the parade, yet he had not slept in the loft last night, and we feared that roll call would be hard on him. Just as the unwelcome notes of “Reveille” had faded away, Paddy hustled into the ill-lighted apartment and threw himself on the generous straw to regain his breath.

“What’s up, Paddy?” We all cried in one breath.

“The devil’s up,” gasped the truant, and as he gained more composure, we saw that more than haste had upset our precious Pat. “Faith, boys,” he volunteered at last, “I’ve been fair scared. There’s ghosts in the Cathedral.” Here we guffawed and laughed joyfully and edged forward under pretence of smelling Paddy’s breath; but he was in deadly earnest, and being out of sorts ourselves, our mirth soon died down. Paddy was anxious to unburden himself and went on: “I was seeing the girl home and she lives near the Cathedral,” the mention of that building caused Truscott to shudder, “and all the wind howled through the trees, whistling the while round the towers and turrets of the church. Just when I reckoned it would soon be light and the real business of saying good-bye was my most anxious thought, the whole church seemed to moan. I was that nervous that my knees knocked together. First, I thought of rats running over the keys of the organ, but how could they work the bellows? It must be ghosts in that old place, centuries old; for all was pitch dark and yet the organ rumbled on. I cleared as soon as I could and all the way here I felt that haunting sound, so unnatural it was.”

So interested were we and so convincing was Paddy in his tone, that we did not chafe him very much, but when next morning we were awakened by Paddy bursting in on us more agitated than ever, we began to feel for his sanity. However, we promised that several of us would go along in the following early morning and investigate Paddy’s ghosts.

An hour before daylight, half a dozen of us went round by the cathedral, all was silent and cold. We waited until our very bones were frozen through and still no sound did we hear. We were talking of going back to our billet, and were cursing Paddy meanwhile, when we heard a sound, a faint ever-rumbling noise. It was a haunting wail breaking the darkness with such an unnatural effect, that our blood coursed in spite of the cold. Yet the whole place was so utterly dark, the sounds could not be produced by human aid; in fact, the chords seemed to shape themselves into such a weird orgy of fantasy that they must be beyond mortal production.

It happened that we were so spell-bound that we were rooted to the spot still, when the sounds ceased, and still we stood on, speechless. Starting from our kind of trance, we were shocked to see two forms emerge from the big door in the wall nearby: A key was fitted into the door as it closed, and the figures groped their way towards us in the faintly lifting dark.

These were no ghosts, we felt sure; but if they were responsible for the organ’s weird behaviour, why had they not turned on the lights? A hundred questions flashed through our minds, until these two night visitors passed so close that they must surely have seen us; but they did not appear to. One of our fellows coughed, and the two strangers started, and then, “Bon Matin,” said one in a polite voice. We heaved a sigh of relief and after a few frantic efforts to make our French intelligible, found that they were two blind French soldiers, one of whom was learning to play the organ and as light made no difference to him, he chose to learn when the organ was not required for services, and when he would not be embarrassed by onlookers.

Paddy took it very well when we heard the whole story, and lingered longer with his Antoinette on future ventures.
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