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THE LISTENING POST

The policy of the R.S.L.

Price 3d

Issued Monthly

Annual Subscription 3/- Post Free

Written, printed & published by returned soldiers for returned soldiers.

Vol. 5, No. 7

Under the Patronage of the R.S.L.

Registered at the G.P.O., Perth, for transmission by Post as a Newspaper.

JULY 23, 1926

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"REQUIESCAT IN PACE"

Mr. Lovekin, who is at present holidaying in Europe, is reported to be conducting negotiations for the removal of an unknown Australian soldier from Flanders for re-burial in King's Park.

Although the sentiment of Mr. Lovekin may be worthy of kudos, we hope that the Government through the Agent General will not grant its sanction to such an undertaking. The Unknown Soldier resting at the heart of the Empire is representative of the Empire's fallen heroes of the Great War, and in that grave is resting perhaps our particular loved one who made the supreme sacrifice. The wealth of sentiment behind the burial of the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey is a joy to those who lost loved ones who lie sleeping in foreign soil, but to extend the idea does not, we think, appeal to returned soldiers. Our fallen comrades are better left lying undisturbed in the many beautiful gardens of sleep over the seas. The miserable response of the people of the State to the appeal to perpetuate their memory by the erection of a fitting memorial no doubt in the belief that the dead are already forgotten in the hearts of all but a few of our citizens. Disturb not their slumbers to bring their poor bones into the midst of a forgetful ungrateful people.

"Requiescat in pace," old comrades.

EXPROPRIATED PROPERTIES IN NEW GUINEA.
PURCHASED BY RETURNED SOLDIERS.

Some time ago the Commonwealth Government called for tenders for the purchase of expropriated properties in New Guinea and before conditions were finalised the Federal Executive of the League made representations to the Minister concerned in respect to favourable conditions being included to enable returned soldiers to become purchasers of the plantations. Several deputations waited on officials and many letters were exchanged, with the result that a preference in tendering was granted to returned soldiers in respect to the amount of deposit required, which was 5 per cent. with the application, and 10 per cent. on acceptance, the balance being payable at 5 per cent. over 20 years. Others were asked to deposit 30 per cent. and the balance to be paid in 10 years at 6 per cent. Other concessions were also secured.

The Government received three syndicate tenders from overseas, and although it was natural for the highest tender to be accepted, the interests of ex-service men were concerned with the highly satisfactory result of 75 per cent. of the properties for sale being secured by returned soldiers.

RESOLUTIONS OF 10th ANNUAL FEDERAL CONGRESS.

Following the last Annual Federal Congress of the League, held at Perth, a number of resolutions, bearing mainly on improved conditions for incapacitated and partly incapacitated soldiers, as well as dependants, were forwarded by the General Secretary (Mr. Dibdin) to the Minister for Repatriation (Sir Neville Howse).

Several replies and decisions of the Minister have now been made available, most of which are of a lengthy nature. We briefly give the text of the first instalment herewith:

In regard to Regulation 89K, the Minister considered that a married man was entitled to the extra difference of 2£ a week, to provide for the maintenance of his wife. The provision, for both married and single men, was considered to be very liberal.

The request in Resolution 86, that the pension for the daughter of a deceased soldier be continued to the age of 18 years, where no education allowance is received, was declined. There may be a tendency for daughters to prefer the pension to the education allowance, which would not be as much value to the child or the community. Provision is made for children, who in the opinion of the Commission, are unable to earn a livelihood.

Resolution No. 12 asked that children of blind soldiers should receive the same benefits under the Education Scheme, as the children of totally incapacitated soldiers. This was declined, as blinded soldiers receive 5£ a week personal pension, with full pension for wife and children, without regard to any earnings they may have, whereas a widow with three children receives only £3 4s. 6d. a week. Where a blind soldier has other disabilities, which totally incapacitate him from earning "more than a negligible percentage of a living wage," his children are eligible for the benefits of the Education Scheme.

Resolution No. 21 desired that the minimum pension to war widows and widowed mothers be increased to £3 3s. per fortnight, and the maximum at £5 5s. per fortnight. This was also declined, as provision is made already where circumstances justify it, for payments up to £2 2s. per week in addition to the pensions now paid to deceased soldiers' children. The suggested increase would call of assessment, at an increased amount, of all ex-soldier disabilities up to 100 per cent., as well as total, temporary incapacity, and the increased cost would be enormous.

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THE LISTENING POST

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STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.
23/6/26.

Present.—Messrs. Collett, Riley, McDonald, Phil. Cornwell, Friedman, Shaw, Nye, Yeates, Wedd, Longmore, Fitzgerald, Watt, Bader, Pady, Cohen, and Humphrey.

Apologies were received from Messrs Zelfert and Harvey.

Leave of Absence.—Mr. Bateson was granted leave of absence indefinitely.

Invitations.—The Perth Sub-branch extended an invitation to the State President and State Secretary to attend their quarterly meeting, to be held on the 13th July, 1926. It was decided to bring this matter up at the next meeting.

An invitation was also received from the Beverley Sub-branch for the State President, Mr. Shaw and the State Secretary to attend their re-union on the 10th July, which was accepted.

Darling Range.—Mr. Shaw explained that in view of the State Secretary's visit to Geraldton, he would not be able to visit the Darling Range Sub-Branch on Saturday, 26th, and requested other delegates to be present. The Secretary in the hands of the Secretary to-arrange.

Federal Correspondence.—Ex-Imperial Men's Association.—A letter was read and received from the Federal President showing copies of cablegrams sent to the British Empire Service League concerning the formation of a separate organisation in Melbourne. Also copy of a reply from the B.E.S.L., pointing out that the action was unconstitutional and requesting an Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Union to unite as a branch of the Returned Soldiers' League.

State Repatriation Boards.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive showing the appointments of the soldier representatives in the various States on the Repatriation State Boards, and pointing out that no alteration had been made as regards the personnel of the Boards in New South Wales and Victoria, but in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania the Government had decided that the Board's representatives comprise for a period of two years from the 1st July, 1926, of the Deputy Commissioner, a senior member of his staff, and the soldiers' committee.

Mr. E. S. Watt was the successful nominee for Western Australia.

In this connection a letter was received from the South Australian Branch protesting against the constitution of the Board in their State as suggested. The letter was received.

Employment Grant.—The Federal Executive forwarded the result of operations of the Employment Bureaux in the various States for the month of May.

The report was received.

United Services Fund.—The minutes of the meeting of the Trustees of the United Services Fund, held in Melbourne on the 12th June, 1926, were received. The allocation showed a grant of £100 to Western Australia.

Soldiers' Children Scholarship Fund.—The Trustees of the Soldiers' Children Scholarship Fund reported that £1,006 6s. 4d. had been received as interest on the investment of the fund, which originated with donations from the recipients of War Gratuity Bonds. The amount then realised was £2,623 8s. 903 12s. of the interest received had been paid to the S.C.S.T. and applied in payment of school fees, books and travelling expenses for children of deceased soldiers.

The report was received and the Secretary was instructed to compliment the Trustees on behalf of the Executive on the result of their efforts.

Case of Wood.—The Secretary reported that after the last Executive meeting a wire had been received from the Federal President stating that the appointment which had been arranged for the Friday was postponed until the Tuesday, when it was agreed that no announcement be made pending certain developments. He stated that further advice would follow in due course.

Development and Population of W.A.—In connection with this matter, which had been discussed at the previous meeting, Mr. Lowry now requested the name of the delegate to be sent to the suggested conference.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Yeates, that Mr. Pady be asked to represent the League, and that he be instructed to oppose the proposed title of the scheme, namely, "The Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Scheme."—Carried.

Notice of Motion.—Rabbi Freedman gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting that the resolution carried at the Executive Meeting held on the 9th June, 1926, concerning the development and population of W.A. be rescinded.

Pension Reviews.—Mr. Cornell stated that the Pensions Department was endeavouring to obtain information from laboratory tests under the Miners' Phthisis Act. He stated that the results of such tests on examination of persons were strictly confidential, and should not in any way be used as a deciding factor by the Department in pension appeals. He quoted a case in support of his remarks and requested that the State Secretary be given instructions to act with him to counteract this action. The Secretary was instructed accordingly.

Report on State Secretary's Report.—The State Secretary read a report of the operations of the office for the previous fortnight, which was received and adopted.

Peel Estate.—The Secretary submitted a report on his visit to Peel Estate in company with Messrs. Fitzgerald and Harvey. The report was supported by Colonel Fitzgerald, and on the motion of Mr. Wedd, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, was adopted. The report provided that a committee be appointed to collect concrete cases of inefficient administration on the Oaklands, Bateman's and Peel Estates, and that the League's repeated requests for a Board of Enquiry be again submitted to the Minister for Lands.

Messrs. Fitzgerald, Wedd and the State Secretary were appointed.

House Committee, Finance Committee and Art Union Committee reports were submitted and adopted.

Mental Hospital, West Subiaco.—The State President announced that the new Mental Hospital would be opened on the 12th of next month.

Pensions.—Moved by Mr. Cornell, seconded by Mr. Riley, that the Federal President be asked to ascertain that in the event of any ex-soldier in receipt of a war pension being granted an old age and invalid pension, if any portion of the pension is deductible from the latter, and if so, take action for the rectification.—Carried.

THE LISTENING POST.
23rd July, 1926.

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FOR BETTER PRINTING.
7/7/26.
Bader and Harvey.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Cornell and Cohen.

Letters of Appreciation.—Letters of appreciation were received from the following:—Miss Minnie Nightingale and Mr. R. C. N. Smith.

Invitations.—The invitation extended by the Perth Sub-branch to the President and Secretary or any two members of the Executive to attend their quarterly meeting to be held on July 13th, which was deterred by bad weather, was again submitted, and the President and Secretary intimated their intention of being present.

Mr. Watt stated that he had received a communication from the Secretary of the Jarandup Sub-branch, stating that they were holding a Re-union on the 24th July and wished representatives of the Executive to attend.

It was decided that the invitation be accepted and that an endeavour be made to have the executive represented at that gathering.

New Branches.—A letter was read and received from Mr. Bert Bevan, requesting permission to form a new Sub-branch to be known as the Carilla Sub-branch in the Pickering Brook District. Approval was granted.

Mr. G. F. Cahill applied on behalf of the Returned Soldiers in the District for permission to form a Sub-branch, and requested the State Secretary to attend on the 24th July in order to open the Sub-branch.

The Secretary explained that he did not think it would be convenient for him to go and it was agreed that Mr. Logie be asked to represent the Executive.

Captain Gee, V. C.—At this stage, Capt. Gee, V. C. M. P., a visitor from England was welcomed by the State President, and a suitable response was made by the visitor.

Federal Correspondence.——(a) Balance Sheet.—The Federal Executive Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st. December, 1925, was read and received.

(b) Repatriation Boards.—The Federal Executive forwarded a communication stating that the Minister in Charge of Repatriation had agreed that where the Board cannot agree and a minority report is submitted by the Soldiers’ representative, he will personally peruse the case so that full consideration may be given to the views expressed.

M. Watt reported that he had commenced his duties on the Repatriation Board and offered any assistance in his power to the Executive in connection with Repatriation problems.

(c) Apprentices Commonwealth Line of Steamers.—The Federal Executive forwarded a communication stating that some years ago each State had nominated a dependant of a fallen soldier for an apprenticeship with the Commonwealth line of Steamers. Most of the apprenticeships expired this year and it was stated that representations had been made to the Marine Superintendent of the Commonwealth Line for boys, who absconded. These boys, as 3rd. Officers, this request was not granted. A further request that another six candidates be supplied on the same terms was made by the League, and a favourable reply was received. Before putting this suggestion into effect, they requested the opinion of this branch. Moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by the Rev. Nye, that recognising the difficulties re the employment of Ships’ Officers on the termination of their apprenticeships, we see no good in forcing preference in employment to these officers when there are qualified Returned Soldiers now seeking employment. Carried.

(d) Service Medals.—A letter was read and received from the Federal Executive stating that the War Office had issued a quantity of new British General Service Medals for issue to two officers and 50 other ranks of the 1st. Australian Wireless Signalling Section, which served with the British Forces in Kurdistan from July 14th, 1919, to October 7th, 1919.

Peel Estate.—A letter was read and received from the Minister for Lands stating that he could not agree to any further Board of Enquiry being appointed on the Peel Estate. A further letter was read and received from the Peel Estate Sub-branch protesting against the inclusion of Mr. P. E. Wedd on the Sub-Committee appointed by the Executive to deal with the Peel Estate question instead of Mr. Harvey, who it is stated was the nominee of the Sub-branch. The motion was carried.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Harvey that the letter be received and no further action be taken. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Longmore that the Committee be increased by two members and that Messrs Bader and Harvey be appointed. Lost.

Moved by Mr. Riley, seconded by Mr. Longmore that this Committee be instructed to investigate complaints of Returned Soldier Group Settlers on the Peel Estate, and to obtain, if possible, such complaints on affidavit. Carried.

F. W. Wood.—The Secretary read a communication from the Minister for Repatriation concerning this case. The Minister stated that in view of the medical evidence that Wood’s condition was neither caused nor aggravated by war service, that he was not eligible to receive a War Pension. Moved by Mr. Bader and seconded by Mr. Harvey, that an opinion be obtained from Dr. Hadley and Dr. Gillespie of the reply received, for the guidance of the Executive. Lost.

Moved by Mr. Watt and seconded by Mr. Zeffert that the matter be adjourned until next meeting. Carried.

Preference to Returned Soldiers.—The Secretary dealt with correspondence received from the Acting Under Secretary for Works and Labour in connection with the appointment in the Government Actuary’s Office. It was stated that consideration had only been given to the merits of the applicants, and the question of preference was not considered.

It was decided that the matter be deferred until the return of the Minister for Works and Labour.

Ex-Imperial Organisation.—The Perth Sub-branch drew attention to the fact that the United Kingdom Natives Association had formed an Association for ex-Imperial Soldiers contrary to the policy of the British Empire Service League.
Moved by Mr. Watt, and seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald that the State Secretary and Mr. Watt investigate this matter and report to the next meeting.—Carried.

Reports.—State Secretary: The State Secretary read his report dealing with his visit of ten Sub-Branches since the last Executive meeting. The report was received.

Employment Bureau: The report of the Employment Bureau for the month of June was received.

Glenoran Art Union: The Secretary reported that the Art Union had been finalised and the results had appeared in the “West Australian” of the 6th July. The report was received.

S.S.S. Interest:—Moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Watt “That the question of the payment of interest being demanded by the Soldier Settlement Scheme in advance be inquired into by the Soldier Settlement Sub-Committee.”—Carried.

CONTROL OF KALGOORLIE SOLDIERS’ INSTITUTE.

For many years now the Executive from time to time who have controlled the destinies of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch of the Returned Soldiers’ League have been in doubt as to who actually are the legal owners of the extensive and up to date buildings known as the Kalgoorlie Soldiers’ Institute.

In some quarters it was suggested, and logical arguments have been advanced in its favour, that the Institute is virtually the property of the Soldiers and that they, as a body, should control and administer the affairs in connection with it. The R.S.L. being the recognised official medium, of the Returned Soldiers, therefore would in the ordinary course of events, act as Trustees of the property on behalf of the soldiers.

When the present Executive of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch were appointed, they immediately took steps to settle once and for all the actual position of the Institute so far as the soldiers were concerned, and, if possible, to obtain possession of it.

Enquiries elicited the information that the Institute was handed over to the Australian Red Cross Society as Trustees on behalf of the Digger, and that body appointed Trustees in whom the building is now vested. The Red Cross Society on the 3rd August 1925, by virtue of a certain Deed of Trust, handed over the control of the building to the W.A. Trustee & Executor Agency Co. Ltd.

All efforts to upset any legal claim the Red Cross have on the Institute proved abortive. However, the Branch have at least succeeded in obtaining from the Red Cross Society, after many months of conference and correspondence, an agreement which provides for the purchase by the Institute on terms which indirectly are tantamount to ownership of same.

To the writer the agreement is entirely satisfactory from all points, and the League will, by the many clauses contained therein, be free from any undue intrusion by the Executive of the Red Cross Society.

There are many arguments which have been advanced in favour of the R.S.L. claim on the building, but when the pros and cons of the whole matter have been boiled down and submitted to careful scrutiny, the privileges of the present arrangements far exceed the responsibilities and obstructions which would fall on the shoulders of the League of the building was handed over to them as owners in common. In fact, the arrangement would be in more than one way totally unwieldy.

To Mr. McMullen, the Red Cross representative, and Mr. E. J. Wellstead, an endowment member of the Kalgoorlie Soldiers’ Institute, must go considerable credit for the diplomatic and tactful manner in which they have assisted in finalising the agreement.

The agreement of lease, which is of a voluminous nature, has now been adopted by the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch and contains the following clauses, inter alia, which will come into force as from the 1st August of this year:—

1. The Lessee will pay annually a nominal rental of 1/-.

2. The lessee will also at his own cost and expense from time to time during the term of the agreement, keep and maintain the Institute, its fixtures, etc., in good order, repair and condition.

No furniture, fittings, chattels or effects, the property of the Red Cross, are to be removed or otherwise disposed of without
the written consent of the lessor.

The lease is made out in the name of the President of the Returned Soldiers' League, and on the death of such President, or by virtue of change of office, the incoming President shall act in his stead.

The League, under the agreement, have the right to sublet the Institute, the proceeds of which shall be credited to the Institute account, which is operated and controlled by the League.

The lessor or his agent is permitted at all reasonable times to enter upon the Institute premises and to review the condition thereof.

The lease shall, during the said term of the agreement, punctually pay and discharge all rates, taxes imposed or charged upon the Institute.

The Institute is at all times to be used as a Soldiers' Institute for the use and benefit of all Returned Soldiers, irrespective of their being a member of the League.

The lessee will not be allowed to have sold or stored on the Institute premises any alcoholic liquors, nor will they at any time apply for a license for the sale of such liquors.

The Institute is not to be allowed for any party, political or sectarian purposes. Another Clause states that the premises be required by the Society by reason of the outbreak of any war or in consequence of any public disaster, or for the purpose of enabling the Society to carry out any object under its constitution the lessee shall after one calendar month's notice in writing vacate the Institute.

The Red Cross Society to pay all insurance premiums.

The lease is subject to renewal after the expiration of the first three years.

From the foregoing it will be readily seen that the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch have at last come to a tangible and satisfactory conclusion to a problem which has faced the returned man, not only on the goldfields, but throughout the whole of Australia since the cessation of war hostilities; but this only after eight years of continual negotiations. Good on you, Kalgoorlie. May other branches in the same fix enjoy the same happy position.

ARTILLERY COMRADES' ASSOCIATION.

The above association has been formed and the rules and by-laws are available for those eligible to join. The list of office-bearers is as follows:—Patron, General Hobbs; Vice-Patrons, Archbishop Riley, Lt.-Col. Spurgeon, Major H. S. W. Parker, H. Parker; President, Gen. Bessell-Browne; Vice-President, Lt.-Col. Mitchell, S. A. Taylor; Committee: Messrs. J. W. Finlay, F. J. Bray, H. Ingle, G. W. Leslie, S. H. McNamara, C. Chappell, J. Clough, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, J. L. Smyth; Hon. Auditor, Messrs. J. G. Canny and J. Finlay.

A meeting has been called for Friday, 23rd July, in the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, to form an Association comprising members of all Engineering units of the Great War, consisting of Field Engineers, Fortress Engineers, Railway Corps, Mechanical, Boring and Mining, Tunnelers, Pioneers, etc. A large roll up is expected.
PERSONALITIES

After a few weeks' holidaying in Perth, Frank Le Cras, the Secretary of the Mt. Marshall Sub-Branch, returned to his home at Bencubbin during the month. Frank was at one time the Secretary of the Maylands Branch, and has been one of the League's stoutest stalwarts since his return from the war. Joe Hart has migrated to the city from Trayning, and has made his home at Mt. Hawthorn. Joe intends to act for his old Sub-Branch at the capital, and is anticipated that he will become an active member of the North Perth Branch. If so, North Perth will be fortunate, for Joe is most enthusiastic and thorough.

A. W. Gibbings, who during the big stanch spent years stretcher bearer in the 11th Battalion, where he was known better as "Gibbie," is steadily climbing up the hill of progress at Maroondah, where he manufactures by the thousands fruit and other cases. "Gibbie," not only employs returned soldiers at his mill, but as far as possible gives preference to his old war colleagues in his business transactions. Digger fruit growers should give him a trial.

Another worthy member of the R.S.L. to launch out in business on his own account is A. D. McDonald, late of Bairds Ltd., having recently purchased the business of J. J. Snigg, the location being near the corner of Murray and Barrack Sts. Mac. serves with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade in Gallipoli and Palestine, going through the roughest of both campaigns. He is now in his second term as president of the North Perth Sub-Branch. We wish him every success in his new venture.

On the 24th June there died at Claremont, G. J. S. and C. A. A. and C. A. of the 11th Battalion, where he was not only not an easy one since he was badly wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans at Fleurbaix in July, 1916, when serving with the 32nd Batt. After eighteen months in Germany he was one of the first batch of exchange prisoners and was invalided home in 1918. About two years ago he was riding a bicycle at Claremont when he was run into by a motor car and carried on the bonnet for 250 yards. The car, which had been stolen, was abandoned by the thief, and Gordon Hard, who had received fearful injuries, was left unattended for some time. The Manned and Limbless Men's Association opened a fund to assist this unfortunate digger, to which many sub-branches of the League subscribed.

On the same day another well known and popular digger in Sid. A. Murphy, of Fremantle, passed away suddenly. Sid. was a member of the 48th Battalion and lost an arm as the result of a wound received at Pozieres.

We would like to draw the attention of our readers to the advertisement in this journal of the Rich Sign Coy. The firm was W. A. Rich, late of the 51st Battalion, and A. J. Wells, late of the 12th, 52nd, and 42nd Battalions. As two good diggers who did their bit against Fritz, and are now fighting for a place in the sun, in the business world of Perth, we wish them the success they deserve.

"Terms. Cash, Balance, Delivery." So reads a prominent sign over the cashier's desk at FitzGerald and Gould's tailoring business in Wellington Street. We are not sure how there can be a balance if cash is paid (not part-cash), but we can recommend our readers to two good tailors who have donned the khaki.

"Fitz," who was on a visit East when the big mix-up started, joined in Sydney and served in the 30th and 45th; while partner Gould, now a City Councillor, was prevented by the medics from leaving W.A., but served a considerable time in the training camps at Blackboy and Bunbury.

In town from Penerinjori, where he recently sold a farm, is Jack Leonard, late of the 28th. The lure of the land is still with him, for he seeks another farm.

Another digger farmer making good is Jim Day, of Burrellie, in town last week after further acreage. Truly these returned men in the wheat belt are making great strides.

Goldsbrough, Mort and Company
LTD.
Auctioneers, Land & Financial Agents
Stock and Station Agents, Woollen and Produce Brokers, Valuers, Insurance and Shipping Agents, Merchants and Importers
Branches and Agencies throughout the State

Regular Stock Sales held at Midland Market and Country Centres.
Consign your WOOL to North Fremantle, Adverts to Perth
All descriptions of Merchandise Supplied

Head Office in W.A.: 29-31 Barrack St., Perth
Telephone A5651 (3 lines)

Telephone A5979
378 MURRAY STREET, PERTH

"Nu-Tred" Tyres (W.A.) Ltd.
Rebuilders of Old Tyres by the Full Circle Special Process

FULL-CIRCLE PROCESS.

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Three Ribbed Price is still one-third the cost of a new tyre—and gives Service as good as new.

The Full Circle Process.

3rd July, 1926.

KEEP THE MONEY IN THE STATE—R.S.L. ART UNION CLOSES AUGUST 7th.
A distinguished visitor in W.A. is Capt. Gee, V.C., M.C., Member of the Imperial Parliament, Member of the British Legion, etc., and late of the immortal 29th Division. When present Prime Minister Bruce commanded a company on Gallipoli. Capt. Gee was his Second-in-Command, and later took command when Bruce was wounded. He readily admits he is not here to supersede the Prime Minister in his present job. He really came to Australia on a health trip and was on his way to Sydney when fate took a hand. Being too ill to go on, he left the boat at Fremantle, and so rapidly has his health improved, that he now proposes to take up land and remain in W.A. If this comes to pass, and as the gallant captain has left to inspect land in the Mulluwa district, it looks much like it, then what an advertisement it will be for W.A. A Member of the House of Commons resigns his seat to take up farming in Western Australia. Nearly as sensational a paper headline as "Hobbs Fails to Score."

Down from Dalwallinu to meet his old friend and O.C., Captain Gee, is Jimmy from a simple branch of the R.S.L. Jimmy, who served as a Lieutenant in the Fusiliers, has been gaining experience around the State, on the Groups, at the Timber Mills, and latterly in the Wheat Belt, and in company with his old captain fishing a wheat and sheep proposition, after both had consulted the Minister for Lands Mr. Angwin. A defective heart sent him to this country in the first place, but the out of doors life has fully restored him to health. We could do with many more of the Gee and Hills type.

"Dad" Fanning, late of Dingup fame, has broken out in a fresh place, he having recently purchased a fruit barrow in Forrest Place, where he hopes to do good business with his many digger pals. "Dad" has been at League sessions, where his quaint mode of expression has been the cause of much levity being introduced otherwise, serious debate.

The sympathy of a host of friends is extended to Vernon Ferguson, of Arnito, on the loss of his mother, who passed away at the Three Springs hospital on the 7th inst. Vern. is a very active worker in the interests of the League in his district.

Our wonder cricketer, C. G. Macartney, did his bit at the bigger game of war, where he served in the artillery. At the latter end of the war he was a staff sergeant on 3rd Divisional Artillery Headquarters.

Many men who braved the dangers of years of active service have met their death in a simple and often peculiar manner. Such a one was D. Lutterell, of Narembeen, who was driving along a road on the night of July 9th, and in endeavouring to turn into a pool of water his vehicle struck a stump and he was thrown out. The fall injured his back and he was drowned in the pool he tried to avoid.

Mr. E. S. Lazarus, O.B.E., who recently retired as chairman of the Repatriation State Board, after a number of years of good service, was the recipient of a presentation from the staff of the department during the month. Mr. Lazarus has at all times held the respect and esteem of returned men who have come into contact with him, who felt that in him they had a friend and good advisor.

The other retiring members, Messrs. "Stumpy" Wright and Harry Bolton, were also eulogised by the Repatriation Staff and presented with mementoes as a token of the good feeling existing between them and the Staff.

Charlie E. Bloomsom, the enthusiastic secretary of the Jarnadup Sub-branch, is at present organising a big reunion social of Imperial and Aussie returned men, with their wives, families and relations, to take place in the Jarnadup Hall on the 24th July. Given fair weather, the function is sure to be a huge success.

Passed into the great unknown during the month, Dave Lyons, of Fremantle. Dave was a member of the Fremantle Sub-Branch and was always ready to assist in any of the Sub-Branch activities. He will be sadly missed.

After acting as Hon. Secretary of the Beverley Sub-Branch, Mr. Ken. Young has been forced to resign, owing to his interests being transferred to another district. His Sub-Branch was not unful of Ken's splendid work on their behalf, and made him a suitable presentation before leaving. Mr. T. Sten (late 44th Bat.), who is the local schoolmaster, fills the vacancy.

R.S.L. ART UNION.

Before we go to press again the R.S.L. art union will have been drawn and many hearts will be cheered as a result thereof. The R.S.L. art unions are by far the most successful sweeps conducted in the State, the reasons being that the public are always assured of a fair go, that a higher percentage of the funds are distributed than with any other venture of a like nature, and that the prizes are well worth winning. £1,000 is the first prize and the total prize money is £3,125. The profits will be used to improve the Soldiers' Institute at Perth. Diggers, particularly in the country, are advised to procure their tickets early and thus avoid disappointment. It is hoped that the sweep will be fully subscribed before the closing date, August 7th.

There is still a number of war souvenirs available at the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, consisting of beautiful lacquered jardinières and vases made from German shell cases, and all who desire to purchase can either inspect them or send for an illustrated price list to the State Secretary R.S.L.
Stewart Dawson’s
DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RINGS.
BRIGHTEST DIAMONDS
FINEST WORKMANSHIP.
LOWEST PRICES.

- Neat and historical
- over Rlington set with
- BRIGHTEST DIAMONDS world;
- with Four Diamond Ring,
- 18ct. Gold and Platinum,
- £10/10/-

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

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

- Neat Style Five-
- Diamond Ring, 18ct.
- Gold, £15/10/-

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

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

- Fine Five-Diamond
- Ring, 18ct. Gold,
- £9/10/-

When in town
Secure your fruit supply from
A “Jack” Michael
(Late 11th Bn.)
Barrow
In front of east end Boons Ltd.
Wellington Street - Perth

paid a small commission. Worked well.
this stunt should prove its worth.
Vic. O’Grady, the energetic secretary
of the Boulder Branch, was an interested
spectator at the last Executive meeting.

Bert. Rogers, he of the good old
fighting 43rd Battalion, and now the
wielder of the most important pen in the
Water Supply at Kalgoorlie, is one of
the jovial old diggers who can at all
times tell a funny story when remorse
is on the horizon and when a dull mo-
ment is imminent.

Jack Hughes, one time a combatant
in the 16th, and latterly of the Emu
Brewery, is now back on the Goldfields
and takes an interesting part in the
affairs of the Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch.

We have received a copy from Mr.
John Crockett, of Ruby Street, North
Perth, of a 40-page booklet of patriotic
verse and historical notes, the title of
which is “Britannia, Empress of the Seas,
Queen of the Earth and Mother of Fre-
dom, Claims Affinity with the World.”
Despite the rather lengthy title, the
volume is interesting, being well written
and carefully compiled. Mr. Crockett’s
own versifying consists of three poems.
“Britannia,” “Honour Bright,” and
“Deeds of Daring,” which are all full of
fervent patriotism. Mr. Crockett is an
old soldier and is therefore imbued with
the spirit of the British Empire, which
has no doubt inspired him to compile
this production. The volume is on sale at
all newsagents, the price being 1/-.

Monaghan’s
GLOBE HOTEL
For Superior Accommodation
Try our Six-Year Old Port Only 2s. Bottle
WELLINGTON STREET, PERTH

KEEP THE MONEY IN THE STATE—R.S.L. ART UNION CLOSES AUGUST 7th.
"Dad" Fanning
Late 46th Batt. & Dingup Sub-Branch
has purchased a
Fruit Barrow
stationed in front of Commonwealth Bank in FORREST PLACE, Perth
where he sells the BEST OF FRUIT at
THE LOWEST PRICES

LEMNOS MENTAL HOME.
Officially Opened.

His Excellency the Governor, Colonel Sir William Campion officially opened on Monday 13th July, in the presence of a large gathering. Lemnos Home for mentally incapacitated soldiers. The speeches delivered at the opening by the Governor, Mr. S. W. Munse, M.L.A., Colonel Semmens, Dr. Anderson and Colonel Collett have been reported in the daily press, as has also a full description of the buildings and their lay-out. It is not our intention to recapitulate on these matters. We only desire to express our pleasure at the consummation of a hard fight by the League and its friends in the endeavour to secure for their most unfortunate comrades the most modern treatment with comfort in congenial surroundings; to give them as much happiness as possible and therefore a better chance of recovery.

All this appears to have been achieved at Lemnos and we desire to add our meed of praise to the Inspector General for the Insane, (Dr. J. T. Anderson), the Principal Government Architect (Mr. W. B. Hardwick), and others concerned with the erection of the home. There is barely a trace in all the buildings of the old institutionalism, the impression being that of a beautiful peaceful haven of rest. The home will be occupied by patients in about a month.

LEMNOS HOSPITAL AT WEST SUBIACO.
Officially opened by His Excellency Colonel Sir William Campion on 12th July.

Modern Equipment makes Farming Worth While

Purchase your equipment from the firm with
a quarter of a century's experience

Malloch Bros.
Office & Showrooms: 50, 52, 54 William St., Perth

DRAWN AUGUST 7th—R.S.L. ART UNION—GET IN QUICKLY.
The State Secretary's Northern Tour

Mr. BENSON FINDS AN AWAKENING OF LEAGUE ENTHUSIASM.

At the last meeting of the State Executive the State Secretary presented a very glowing report in connection with his recent trip through the Midlands, Northampton and Morowa, Wongan district, and instanced the enthusiastic manner in which the diggers of Geraldton were now reforming the local Sub-Branch.

Ten Sub-Branches of the League were visited in the fortnight intervening between Executive meetings.

On Saturday, June 26th, the Soldier Settlers of Carnamah gathered at the local hotel for the purpose of meeting the Secretary of the League (Mr. D. M. Benson), who had journeyed by road from Morowa that day.

Mr. A. L. Trotter presided, and a splendid evening was spent in song and story, with a midnight high of close on two o'clock. Mr. "Paddy" vacated the position armed with some refreshments for the morning.

Paddy by the way was noticed next day with a searching look in his eye disconsolately wandering around the yard and when interrogated as to what was the reason for such a close search, Paddy volunteered the news that he had lost his store of the previous evening, having hidden them amongst some lying round about. He sadly reflected that he had no intelligence, not even the intelligence of a dog, because a dog could always remember where he had hidden his bit or sup, but damned if he could remember where he had hidden his "drink."

The progress made by Soldier Settlers at Carnamah would hardly be believed by some of our comrades in the South-West, who have been fighting against adverse circumstances for years, with no prospect of any brighter hopes.

At Carnamah, however, the diggers talk in thousands and the ambition for the future seems to lie in the direction of acquiring more land for the purpose of bettering their already well-established position.

One party of three brothers have in three years taken over £14,000 worth of wheat off their holding, and expect 10,000 bags this year.

Other cases of ex-soldiers could be quoted whose rise to fortune in a few years has been almost romantic. The progress made by ex-soldiery is general, not isolated, proving the oft-quoted contention that the men who took up properties in the South-West and have since claimed re-consideration of values were the same stamp of men and possessing the same qualities as those who were settled on wheat properties.

The popular President of Carnamah R.S.L., Mr. A. L. Trotter, is a local business man, and speaks in appreciative terms of the excellent outlook for the future of the district, and defends and tirelessly the betterment of the position of all soldiers fortunate enough to have interests there.

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 Bales of Mixed Vegetables from 5s. upwards

Cash with Order Add Freight unattended Siding

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

Yours faithfully, Sam Rogers

KEEP THE MONEY IN THE STATE—R.S.L. ART UNION CLOSES AUGUST 7th.
In conclusion, he conveyed the greetings and best wishes of the State President (Col Collett) and all the twenty-one delegates on the State Executive, as well as the best wishes and encouraging messages from all the other 99 Sub-Branches of the League in Western Australia.

An excellent musical programme was carried out, and the Geraldton Town Band played martial music, both before and through the Re-union, which in its spirit and enthusiasm brought back the memory of the days of the great war.

The State Secretary of the R.S.L. speaks in highly appreciative terms of the reception and hospitality accorded him in Geraldton, which he takes as a compliment to the League as a whole. He states that no one could have been kinder or more considerate to him than Mr. C. W. Lane, the President, who is the driving force of the revival now taking place in Geraldton: the courteous and conscientious Secretary, Mr. H. V. Mountain, and the assiduous care with which Mr. and Mrs. Brown, of the Soldiers’ Institute, attended to the wants of himself and wife. Mrs. Benson having accompanied her husband on this trip. No report would be complete, the State Secretary says, without referring to Geo. Houston and his wife, of the Freezrison Hotel, to whom nothing was a trouble, and whose kindly hospitality was one of the most pleasing memories of a twelve days’ tour.

The only unhappy men in Northampton on Tuesday, June 29th, were those who through various reasons were absent from the diggers Re-union organised to hear from the State Secretary of the R.S.L. something of the League’s doings. Mr. Benson had journeyed from Geraldton, accompanied by an advance guard of Geraldton ex-soldiers, followed later by the Geraldton President, Mr. Lane, with a party of leading Sub-Branch members. Reaching Northampton, one is immediately reminded of the old goldfields hostelries, and if Jack Lee, ex-soldier of the A.I.F., now the proprietor of one of Northampton’s attractive hotels, has never been a Mayor, he should certainly aspire to that honour. He could do the welcoming business full justice. Amongst other R.S.L. identities to receive the visiting-party was Mr. Jim Wait, one time of the State Executive, who had motored down from Ajana, where he is reported to be doing well in a thriving business. It appeared to the visitors that after cosily stowing the car away in one of Jack’s garages, all named after famous battle points on the Western front, that all the population of Northampton seemed to send their way down to Jack Lee’s head-quarters, and, of course, the uppermost topic was the war days and work of the R.S.L. in peace times. The hotel, where hospitality and the best of everything was dispensed, and where the League Officials stayed, was at one time used as a Government House, in the early days of the Colony of Western Australia, and possessed many of the charms of an old English Manor house. Apart from the unique characteristics of the proprietor, whose heart and other attractive qualities had been spoken of even before Geraldton was reached, the hotel itself is worthy of a visit in any hundred miles to see. Later in the evening the local hall was the rendezvous for all those eligible to join the company and for other patriotic business men, the guests of the former, who had assisted the diggers during and since the war. Prominent amongst these was Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. James (senr.), the father of George, of the Repatriation Department. It was stated that A.H. Glance, the Hon. Secretary, had anticipated probably 30 attending, and accommodation was made for this number; when however, the last table was laid out near the door, and the President’s table flanked by another, there was about 60 or 70 ready to rise when the first toast of “The King” was announced. Mr. V. Whiteley, of Geraldton, presided at the piano, and the whole evening went with a rollicking swing that carried everybody away with enthusiasm. In addition to the duties of presiding, Mr. Alf. Barlow contributed musical items, and incidentally possesses a very fine voice. The usual topping up was afterwards done in the comfortable atmosphere of Inverell Street hotelings. It was stated, by the way, that one digger had come from some junction north, and journeyed over 60 miles to be present. The hospitality was again continued next...
morning in the rounds of visits to the various town notables, and instead of getting away in the morning it was afternoon when the League Official and Geraldton friends finally pushed the car out from an atmosphere which had undoubtedly become mellowed and moist by those who were anxious to do the right thing in the true Northampton way.

On Thursday, 1st July, after returning from Northampton, the R.S.L. State Secretary met the Hon. President, and Citizens' Committee in connection with ascertaining the history of the past dealings of this Committee, which had done many fine acts in the soldiers' name. The various duties of the past were represented to Mr. Benson, who placed before the Committee certain grumblings and grievances of those who were now endeavouring to consolidate the cause of the League in the Geraldton district. He appealed to the members of the Committee to give representations to the opinions of R.S.L. members and expressed regret that not one R.S.L. badge could be seen in the room, although it was stated that eight soldiers were on the Committee. The Rev. Vine said that so far as he was concerned, as an A.I.F. Padre, this would be promptly remedied. Mr. Kempton, M.L.C., the Chairman of the Committee, was courteous and kindness itself, and in the course of his remarks over the last efforts of the Committee, as well as expressed sympathy towards those amongst R.S.L. members who are endeavouring to better the soldier's standing in the district. He promised that when the public meeting should be held to determine the fate of the Soldiers' Memorial at Geraldton, that the State Secretary of the League would be invited to take part.

Breaking away from the hospitable roof of Geo. Houston on Friday at noon, the R.S.L. State Secretary made Dongarra for lunch, and after a brief stay at Mingenew, and a meeting of a few diggers centred in the town, Morawa was reached just after dark on Friday night. A meeting of about 20 Morawa ex-soldiers gathered in the local hall later in the evening, and after the usual preliminaries, a new sub-branch was formed at the meeting with Bob White as Hon. Secretary. Morawa is a rising centre, and it was freely admitted that a sub-branch of the League from consolidating the benefits already enjoyed, could also be used as a means to promote the general welfare of the whole community. Mr. Sid. Valentine very kindly placed the best room in his comfortable house at the disposal of Mr. and Mrs. Benson, and accompanied the R.S.L. Secretary twenty-six miles next morning, where at 11 a.m. the ex-soldiers of Gutha assembled under the warm and hospitable roof of Phillipson Bros. This happened to be quite a gathering, comprised of males only, many of whom had journeyed miles to enjoy themselves and incidentally show their loyalty to the soldiers' organisation. Of 34 eligibles, 32 were members of the R.S.L. At just about noon, the League Official ventured to express mild surprise that the meeting had not been formally started, when one digger indignantly asserted that they could not start until the lorry arrived with the beer; but for anybody inclined, ample whisky and milk was available in the meantime. Eventually the lorry arrived with the beer, this being eloquent testimony if any were needed that the Acting-Quartermaster of the day knew his job. Forethought must have been shown as the liquid refreshment had been sent all the way from Perth, and happened to arrive by some lucky chance when the day lent itself to enjoyment. During the meeting it was not safe to have a hand free, immediately one hand became empty either a sandwich of ample proportions or a great mug of beer was placed in it. There was no need here during speech-making to remind any person that one was dry, as when applause or 'hear hear' were heard that became the signal for another drink. At 3 o'clock constitution was expressed that the State Secretary had to get away to Perenjori (about 60 miles south), where a meeting had been called at 7.30 to form another Sub-Branch. After the usual descriptive speeches and hearing one or two matters for adjustment, car seats were again occupied, the tune of much cheering and many promises that the next visit to Gutha the visitor would be prepared, like the diggers there that day, to make his stay at least long enough to see all the refreshments used up. Mr. Sid. Valentine possesses two very fine properties at Morawa, and thoroughly deserves them. He and his wife were early pioneers of the district, 15 or 16 years ago, and have seen Morawa cast down into the despair incidental to droughts in the early pioneering stages, now to be lifted, however, right up into the proud position of one of the biggest wheat producing districts in the State. In fact, last year it was stated that Morawa achieved a record. Mr. McGuinness, who presided at the Morawa R.S.L. meeting, had experienced land conditions of all the States, from Queensland right around, and without hesitation, affirmed that Western Australia was on its own, so far as the possibilities of Soldier Settlement were concerned.

On Saturday, July 3rd, the Perenjori Branch of the League was formed under the presidency of Mr. H. Thorpe, and with Mr. Battams as Hon. Secretary. Those who attended the meeting at Mr. Elliott's store promised that the Perenjori Sub-Branch would be a circumstance in the future, and the members of which would be out whole-heartedly in the interests of the diggers of the district and the R.S.L. generally.

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LAST DAYS—R.S.L. ART UNION, DRAWN AUGUST 7th—LAST DAYS.
SUB-BRANCH NOTES.

CLAREMONT-COTTESLOE SUB-BRANCH.

The above branch held a successful ball on the 22nd June, in Wills' Hall, Cottesloe; in aid of funds for the Soldiers' Widows' and Orphans' Xmas Cheer. An energetic committee, led by the worthy president, Mr. Thompson, went heart and soul into the organising details, and succeeded in raising £7 for the cause. It is proposed to hold a fancy dress ball for children in September, when it is hoped to add still further to the funds.

BRIDGETOWN SUB-BRANCH.

The Anzac Children's Sports balance sheet has come to hand, and it may be interesting to those comrades who have, since left to know that over £7 was cleared on the venture; a very satisfactory position, when one considers that the initial expenditure was close on £30. There were between two and three hundred children present, and every one of them received a prize, and a bag of lollies.

Special mention must be made of "Chief Cadger," Will Low, who topped his "cadger list" by a donation from the Members of both Houses for the district. His completed list ensured the financial success of the day, together with a mistake on Tom Savory's part in inadvertently banking about three "quid" of his own money with the sport's fund; but, being a great philanthropist, he left it there. Some say "good old Tom!"

Two members of the community, who have very little to do, but try and make themselves "good fellows" in the eyes of a certain public body, are trying to have the Sub-Branch "stouched" out of the Picture Committee. It seems that since the Commonwealth took over a tax, which is recent, the Branch interest is causing the other two interested bodies to pay an extra tax of 20 per cent, which they could avoid if the Branch withdrew. The position is farcical. The Branch is not allowed, except from taxation because the profit is used for soldiers in distress, but the other two bodies in the same committee are exempt, because the pictures are said to be educational. We fail to see where the educational part comes in, as nearly all the pictures shown consist mainly of shooting, or the life of debauchery, which some American society people evidently lead. There was a different tale to tell at the formation of the Picture Committee. There was only a State tax then, and by using the League's name they were exempt from taxation. So by taking a small interest the League saved themselves. Opposed to the unempathetic act of the Commonwealth Government, the Branch is now asked to "hop it," but their representative on the committee, Bill Chevis, has got to have his say yet. Bill has a smink umb, up his sleeve, so we await the smell.

The President extended a welcome at the last meeting to latest recruit, ex-Capt. Naylor of the Royal Air Force. Is sleeper loading better than dropping bombs, Capt.?
Fruit Trees, Vines, and Roses. Now is the time to Plant

E. SYMONDS
Seed and Plant Merchant
200-202 William Street, PERTH

It behoves every member who is within range to make an effort to be present, as not only will President Thrush's report be well worth listening to, but it is essential that the election of officers for the ensuing year will result in the most capable men being elected, and only a full meeting can insure this.

The election of delegates to the State Congress, which will be held sometime in September, is also of great import, as on its deliberations the welfare of the League rests. This year the Sub-Branch is entitled to send five delegates—good men and true, who have the interests of the League at heart and who will voice their opinions at the meetings. Members should think over this and have their nominations ready.

RETURNED SOLDIERS' MONUMENTAL WORKS.

Only Address:
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Write or Ring F832 and we will post Catalogue.

We call by appointment.

The Treasurer's report will be very pleasing to all, and in this respect the highest praise is due to departmental secretaries, who so unselfishly worry up the members on pay day. The finances of the Sub-Branch would be at a very low ebb but for their efforts.

Another point for thought is the re-suscitating of the Ladies' Auxiliary, which has temporarily ceased to function, owing to insufficient attendance at the meetings. Quite recently the Secretary has been asked to assist female civil servants who are dependants by relations of soldiers. Had they been members of the Ladies' Auxiliary he might have been of assistance to them. By joining and thus becoming members of the League, the Ladies' Auxiliary would become of great benefit to the many ladies throughout the civil service—both Federal and State. Let all members "talk" this, and see if it can be brought to a successful issue. To wind up, watch out for the date of the annual meeting and go and hear the account of your committee's stewardship personally, and by so doing show your confidence in them.

CARILLA SUB-BRANCH.

Carilla district has formed up, and a new Sub-Branch started on Saturday, July 11th, 1926.

Mr. C. Bader, a Member of the Executive, paid a visit, and after his most interesting address on League activities, diggers present decided to form a Sub-Branch. Enough members, and more, signed up, and the Sub-Branch elected the following officers:—President, J. R. Shaw; Vice-Presidents, J. Paget and D. Neaves; Hon. Secretary, B. Bevan; Hon. Treasurer, J. Lees; Committee: Messrs. Cant, G. Holroyd, and R. Thorley.

These diggers have an excellent hall which the citizens and soldiers, erected co-operatively as one big family, and to pass away the winter evenings, some first-class events have been fixed.

These diggers are all interested in local affairs, and are mostly prominent on the local Progress Association.

BOULDER SUB-BRANCH.

The half-yearly meeting of the Branch was held on Sunday morning, the 11th inst. The President (Mr. E. Bogustow) occupied the chair. Ernie has been a popular president the Branch has had, and is the right man in the right place. Routine business was dealt with and the Secretary then presented his report for the six months ending the 30th June, which disclosed that during the past six months the Branch had made a very decided improvement, fifteen new members having joined up during the past eight weeks, and everyone has renewed their intentions of joining up next pay day. The Branch, with the co-operation of the Women's Auxiliary Corps, are endeavouring to bring members, their wives and friends closer together, and create a spirit of good fellowship by holding reunion socials at least once a month. The first of this kind was held on Sunday, evening, June 26th. The ladies provided a dainty supper, and dancing, games, etc., were indulged in until midnight. Everyone voted the night a huge success.

The finances of the Branch are in a very healthy state at present, in fact, the Branch is in a far better position at the present time than it has been for many years. During the past six months the Branch has been instrumental in securing several pensions for members who are suffering from war disabilities, and in gaining many concessions which a lone hand could not accomplish. Emblems has been found for a great number of returned men on the line, and elsewhere, and the Branch extend to the Commissioner (Mr. Bell) of the Commonwealth Railways their sincere thanks, for the kindness and consideration extended to returned men seeking employment.

It is with deep regret that we have to report that since last meeting three members have "gone west." Henry Weston, late of the good old 11th Battalion, was the first to go. Poor old Sammy Eddy, who had been billiard marker for the Branch for the past two years, was the next. Little Sam was loved by all, and one member expressed the opinion of all when he said: "They don't make 'em any whiter than Sammy was." Sam saw service with the 44th Battalion, and was a silent sufferer for many years prior to the call of the 'Great Reaper. Poor old Jim Robertson, of the 3rd Tunnellers Coy., was the next one to be called—all three within twelve days. Poor Jim had some terrible wounds. Jim was one of the worst "shoot up" cases of the war, and no hope was held out for his recovery. However, he surprised all the doctors by making a recovery, but was always a sick man, up to the time he received his final release from suffering.
PLAISTOWE'S All British CHOCOLATE

Is absolutely Pure Chocolate sweetened with Cane Sugar

3d. and 6d. Tablets and big 3d. unwrapped Bars or 1s. 6d. Cakes

The funerals were well attended. The flag was flown at half-mast from the flagstaff in front of the Institute, and motor cars were provided by the Branch to convey the members to the graveside to pay their last respects to departed comrades. The coffins were draped with the Australian Flag, and many beautiful wreaths were placed on the graves.

There were very few dry eyes as the last mellow strains of the “Last Post” sounded over the silent graves, and members turned away with mingled thoughts of other days and other comrades, lying in other graves in other lands.

The elections of officials resulted: - President, Mr. C. Sherville (re-elected); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. A. Brenton and R. Corlette; Committee: Messrs. Blair, Nuttall, (ex-President), Crawford, and M. Walsh; Secretary, Mr. J. Godfrey (re-elected); Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Nugent; Auditors: Messrs. J. Mason and H. Cooke.

The customary thanks were given to retiring officials, and a substantial acknowledgement of the services rendered by the Secretary was made.

Subsequently a social was held, at which several toasts were honoured. The President outlined the progress of the Branch, and spoke of the good work done by the Secretary, the Vice-Presidents and retiring Committee.

Mr. Godfrey, in response to the toast of the Branch, thanked the members for their token of appreciation and spoke of the uphill work experienced in the resuscitation of the Branch, and he hoped that while he was Secretary the same progress would be made during the ensuing year. At the last annual meeting they had 15 members present out of a membership of 19, and that evening they had 44 members - an increase of over 100 per cent. Mr. J. Nugent also responded and asserted that all the work that had been done for the purpose of improving the Branch, and to let the public know that Osborne Park was on the map of Western Australia. A musical interlude ensued. It was stated that substantial gifts had been made by Guelf Bros, local producers, and Mr. C. Chantler, local representative on the Perth Roads Board.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF W.A.

MT. BARKER SUB-BRANCH.

The Annual General Meeting of this Sub-Branch was held on Tuesday, 13th July, at the Club Rooms. Despite the "dirty" weather the attendance of members was 30, and was about the most enthusiastic meeting yet held in Mt. Barker. All members are elated at the progress League matters have made in the district. Thanks to the comradery that exists, the sociability and other means of encouragement given to returned men generally, the membership now stands at 72. On Nov. 11th, the R.S.L. and Sports Ground Committee are having a day out (20 hours of it) in a big show, sports and concert and dance in the evening. Funds to be raised 50-50 for each association.

At the meeting was also discussed the conference which resulted in Mr. T. G. Sounness being elected as our "Rep." Tom should be able to give a good account of himself. The agenda paper, we decided on three questions to go down for approval. The library lately installed by us has also been well read and is certainly a payable proposition. Disappointment was expressed at the absence of some members, who although local residents, could not spare the evening for this important meeting that only events annually. A smoke social is also on the cards for an early date in the library society.

I might state that some members drove long distances to attend; good luck to them. The election of officers resulted: - President, Mr. T. G. Sounness being elected President for the third term; Vice-President, S. James; Vice-President (second term) and P. R. Gillam again Secretary and Treasurer (for the 4th term). The balance sheet discloses a good financial position of the Sub-Branch, and the Secretary was given an honorarium of $2 5s. for his services, for which he thanked all members very kindly for their co-operation in making the Sub-Branch so progressive. The Secretary of the Pictures (R.S.L. Company), Mr. J. F. Stanley, also produced interesting figures to member shareholders. Since re-organising everything in connection had gone on very progressively with the "Flickers." The Entertainment Committee, Messrs. Hickling and Jenkins are also butting in well with their work in connection with armistice night concert. Padre Penistave mentioned that his Excellency (Sir Wm. Campion) was to visit Mr. Barker in connection with the laying of All Saints’ foundation stone on August 17th. The R.S.L. Sub-Branch will provide the Guard of Honour for that occasion.

After general business had been concluded, the Vice-President (Sam James) presented Mr. Tom Sounness with the Past President’s Certificate. In a natty speech Mr. Sounness suitably responded, and Mr. Sounness also presented one to the Secretary, for which he also responded, thanking all members for their support to him and confidence in again electing him as their Secretary for another term.

OSBORNE PARK SUB-BRANCH.

A pleasing tale was told at the annual meeting of the Osborne Park Sub-Branch, held in the Soldiers’ Hall, Main St. on the 7th Inst, by Mr. C. Sherville (President) being in the chair. There was a full attendance of members. The Secretary (Mr. J. Godfrey) reported an income for the year of £107 4s. 11d., and expenditure of £58 16s. 8d. This branch was formed in 1919, and meetings were held in the local hotel, subsequently in Mr. Tyler’s store. There were many energetic members, and special functions were held to popularise the branch. However, the branch of Mr. C. Sherville was a local one and the affairs of the branch got into some difficulty from the district acted adversely on the membership, and the affairs of the branch got into low water. However, a special effort at revival was made last year, and with the advent of Mr. C. Sherville, Mr. J. Godfrey, Mr. J. Nugent, and Mr. Brown and other enthusiasts, a new era was ushered in, and to-day the members possess a fine hall, solely erected by themselves, furnished, and is used by the local athletic society.

The election of officers resulted: - President, Mr. C. Sherville (re-elected); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. A. Brenton and R. Corlette; Committee: Messrs. Blair, Nuttall, (ex-President), Crawford, and M. Walsh; Secretary, Mr. J. Godfrey (re-elected); Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Nugent; Auditors: Messrs. J. Mason and H. Cooke.

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VARIA.

"Old Soldier" writes from Claremont. — Some four years ago district committees existed and were doing good work. I have never been able to discover the reason of their disbanding. Although our own did not get on very well, still I think it is a most useful help to the League to have delegates from sub-branches meeting to discuss various items and to exchange views. I would be glad to see district committees functioning again.

"Old Soldier." — I was interested to read your article, "Need for Battalion Associations" in your issue of 18th June, and I quite agree with what you state, viz.: "that there is no other known way existing for keeping alive the old spirit of comradeship."

At the present time I am afraid that the majority of diggers are just at that age when all outside sports, such as football, cricket, tennis, yachting, etc., appeal to them more than any meeting of units, and it is because of that, in my opinion, that we get so few at our branch meetings. As the years go by, however, and age begins to tell, it is then that diggers will surely be looking for those with whom they can spend an evening talking over old times and renewing acquaintances. Then is the time the League will be sought after and unit associations will be much more appreciated.

Peel Pleased Apology. — I read in the "West" last week that the Minister had declined to grant an inquiry on the Peel Estate, in response to the appeal of the R.S.E. Executive. As a "Peelite," who has been "peeled" on that never-to-be-forgotten sand waste, his attitude, as it strikes me, is quite natural. A man who has a dirty house does not invite his critical neighbours to come in and inspect it.

100 Years. — From time to time the Argonauts (I would call them Argue-lots) have put over a lot of useless stuff, but in their battle for a start in the Centenary Celebrations, I am right with them. What is wrong with the Government? They will lose nothing at the next election by starting a stunt to advertise this much-neglected wing of the Commonwealth.

"Victoria Park." — I have been a member of the League for five years, but somehow I think my wife is a more useful member than I am. She seems to know every business man and every tradesman who has served in the war, and she has a sort of "blacklist" as well. When I want a new suit, woe betide me if I don't go to a digger tailor; she sees that all boot repairs go to a digger bootmaker; and, of course, the butcher, grocer, etc., have all mixed it with "Fritz" or "Jacko." She even overlooked an extra load of "hops" with which I came home loaded the other night when I informed her the harman was a cobbler in France.

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

DRAWN AUGUST 7th—R.S.L. ART UNION—GET IN QUICKLY.
Ginger Mick.—State Executive meeting debates should be free from all that is harmful and productive of much moral uplift, with three padres present in the persons of the Revs. D. I. Freedman, C. L. Riley and E. H. O. Nye. From my knowledge of things, however, the League in this State is fortunate in having such broad-minded gentlemen to guide its footsteps, but what a time Colonel Collett must have in keeping them in order!

F.P. No. 2 writes.—The most welcome news published in your last issue was headed "A.I.F. Pay Books Destroyed." Now when my children ask me the question, "What did you do in the great war, Daddy?" I can talk to them of battles, front line trenches and of recommendations forwarded for Victoria Crosses which were destroyed by jealous generals, etc., etc., without the haunting fear of my red ink paybook turning up eventually to bowl me out! Hurrah!

As a result of the Great War, 9,000,000 men were killed and 30,000,000 wounded. The cost of the carnage in money was £50,000,000,000.

Robert Tyler, late of 3rd Tunnelling Coy., writes:—Your article on "The Need for Battalion Associations" (June, "L.P.") was timely and appropriate, and like you, I would like to see every digger in the State in a unit or a unit's group association. It should be possible to form an association of Engineers, Tunnellers and Pioneers, and I would be glad to receive names or suggestions from any of the above mentioned, with the object of forming such an association. My address is care Taxation Department, Perth.

(Since the above was in type we have been notified that it is being held for this purpose. Particulars are published elsewhere in this issue.—Ed.)

REPLACEMENT OF LOST A.I.F. DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES.

5th Military District, Defence Department, advise that the issuing of statements of service to ex-members of the A.I.F. who have lost their A.I.F. discharge certificates will, in future, be done by the Officer in Charge of Base Records, Victoria/Barracks, Melbourne.

Applicants for such statements will therefore address their applications accordingly and enclose therewith a statutory declaration setting forth the circumstances under which the discharge certificate was lost, proving that the loss was unavoidable and that to the best of applicant's belief the certificate is not in the hands of another person.

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M. De PEDRO, Proprietor

Camelos.—"Anzac Day has my profound sympathy," so said that "friend" of the ex-soldier, Mr. M. Drew, at his Anzac Day address at the Modern School. What did he mean?

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PRE-WAR DISABILITIES AGGRAVATED BY WAR.

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION.

The following letter was received by the League's Federal Secretary from the Minister in charge of Repatriation. This concession will be the means of many diggers receiving substantial additions to their pensions:

"With reference to your request to be supplied with information concerning the recent decision in regard to acceptance of liability for disabilities of prior to enlistment origin, but which have been aggravated to a material degree by war service, you are advised as follows:

"The Repatriation Commission regards war service as having contributed to a material degree to the incapacity of a member, where such service can be held to have aggravated a condition of prior to enlistment origin to the extent of one-fourth or over of the aggregate of the assessed incapacity due to prior to enlistment causes and aggravation by service.

"No liability will, of course, be accepted for disablement due to post-war causes and not contributed to by war service, but where material aggravation of disablement of pre-enlistment origin has been accepted, and where such aggravation of the disablement is of a progressive nature, liability will be accepted for the full amount of incapacity as assessed from time to time."

"What became of the Cromwell relics you had on exhibition here?" asked the visitor of the museum attendant. "Let me see," said the man, who was new to his job. "I fancy they were returned to Mr. Cromwell last week, sir."

Duff's

Liqueur Whisky

—Mild and Mellow

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW IN R.S.L. ART UNION—LAST DAYS.
Mr. Garnet Philp.

Mr. Philp was born in South Australia about 36 years ago. Prior to the war he spent a number of years on the Eastern Goldfields. He served abroad with the 16th Battalion until wounded on the 8th August, 1918, at Chipilly Ridge, eventually being invalided home. For about three years he was an employee of the Repatriation Department, and for the past two years Mr. Philp has made himself agreeable to diggers at the office of the Workers' Homes Board. Perhaps that League stalwart, Harry May, of Collie, can be thanked for waking Garnet Philp to the need of self-sacrificing endeavour on behalf of war comrades and their dependants. Garnet's activity certainly dates from the time that Harry roped him in and "put in the spurs" at Fremantle about four or five years ago. Mr. Philp has been a member of the State Executive, where his opinion carries weight, for three years, and at the last State Congress he was elected as a Trustee of the State Branch. He has made his home in the wilds of South Perth. Mr. Philp possesses a fine baritone voice, and his company is therefore in great demand at digger social functions. His hobbies are chopping wood, trimming lawns, and tennis.

MT. BARKER NOTES.

The sympathy of all local digger comrades is extended to Comrade Alf. Board in his recent bereavement, his mother, well known on the G.S.R., having crossed the "Great Divide."

Mr. J. H. Goldsmith (West Kent) has taken over about 1800 acres at Woogennellup, 12 miles out. May good luck attend his venture. It is also pleasing to state that he is a keen member of this Sub-branch.

Another who at last has "woke up" is Digger Cameron (late 11th). Put in his sub, a few days ago, and it is to be hoped that "Dig" will now settle down to League work as a good digger usually does.

A recent arrival here from Northam is Fred Lally, having purchased a pro-

perty on the Kalgoorlie River. Fred was one of "C" Company who had to accompany Fritz back from Lagnicourt on the 15th April, 1917, and, hopes now he is dug in, with his better-half and son and heir, for life, on the river. Will be a good asset for our branch. "Northam's loss."

Diggers here have given the Branch very good support. About 97 per cent. of the returned men in the district are in the Sub-branch, being great believers in "Unity is strength" at 10d. per month.

Jim Clothier, with his W. & G. truck, has put in some good work during the fruit season, and is now waiting for wool carting. Don't forget, you "digger squatters," when a carrier is wanted to remember Jim.

Old veteran Bill Cooper while on the mail route last week struck trouble with a creek. His "Chev." is one of the best, but Bill had to do a bit of submerging to get through.

Our old comrade Billy Millons has had a long spin at No. 11 Ward, but latest reports are good. Hope to soon see him with us again looking after the club rooms. Cheer up, Bill!

"Blucher" was in town last week looking well but was absent from the annual meeting on Tuesday. "Fluitis" and crook weather to come in about 30 miles.

Jack Adams (48th Battn.) won't budge since he has one of those "airless plants" that link up with Blighty. Jack must have somebody there who broadcasts to him. Are you listening in, Jack?

"Now, Charles," said the teacher, "if your father can do a piece of work in one hour and your mother can do it in one hour, how long would it take both of them to do it?" "Three hours," answered Charles, "counting the time they would waste in arguing."

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The address is W.A. Trustee Buildings, 135 St. George's Terrace, Perth (opp. Foy & Gibsons).

Item from 'Soldier Settlers' Conference referred to the Agricultural

"That in the opinion of the Conference the Agricultural Bank Inspectors should be required before appointment to qualify before a duly constituted Board of Examiners, consisting of three practical men of success in the industry concerned, with a chairman appointed by the Government and positions allotted to those men only who have in the opinion of the above Board the necessary theoretical knowledge, practical experience and goodwill to carry out their duties successfully."

The Assistant General Manager, Mr. Grogan, has replied as follows:

"In making appointments to our Inspectorial Staff we have adopted the principle of preference to returned soldiers with practical experience in farming. It would have been quite impossible to have recruited our staff from the ranks of returned men possessed of all the qualifications the resolution postulates, and I am afraid a considerable number of returned men who are giving meritorious service to the Department would have been debarred from employment.

"We fully appreciate the advantage to the Department and its clients of competent inspectors, but feel their selection is a matter which must properly be left in the hands of the Department."

"NU-TRED" TYRES (W.A.) LTD., beg to announce to all their patrons past, present and future that they have enlarged their plant by new machinery and are now prepared to retread tyres of different sizes according to the list published in this issue. They also wish to announce that in the very near future they will be able to retread balloon tyres with the full circle patent mould. This mould is now under construction. They wish to ask their clients to watch this paper for a fresh announcement when they will commence operations with the new full circle mould.

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CATTLE FOR GROUP SETTLERS.

The following resolution was carried at the Soldier Settlers’ Conference and submitted to the Group Settlement Department:

"Conference is of the opinion owing to the present excessively high prices being paid for cattle for Group Settlers, that it is in the interests of all parties concerned that settlers themselves should be given the necessary authority to purchase all stock they may require subject to inspection and approval by the Dairy Expert or his staff."

The Under Secretary advises as follows:

"In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, the resolution of your recent Conference re purchase of cattle has been submitted to the Superintendent of Dairying, who controls all purchases, and who advises as follows:"

I am of the opinion that the prices at which stock have been purchased for Group Settlers have not by any means been excessive. It is pointed out that, in this regard, my staff are in a unique position in regard to the purchase of stock, as the Government is without question the principal buyer of dairy stock and has the regulation of prices entirely in their hands, especially as I have a system of purchase which does not permit of the sellers of stock offering animals which have been refused by one buyer to another buyer, and so tending to force prices up. We have repeatedly refused to buy stock owing to prices being, in our opinion, too high, and it is generally acknowledged by stockmen who were not interested parties that both buying in regard to quality and prices has been good.

"It should be borne in mind by the settlers that they are without doubt getting very much higher average quality dairy cows than obtain throughout the State, as large numbers of stock have been rejected not on question of price, but because the stock was inferior."

"When settlers select stock for themselves they are inspected by Agricultural Departmental Officers or Field Supervisors, and passed if suitably provided that the location of the stock is accessible. If inspected on Groups, cost price is loaded 5/-, but if inspected on owner's farm the loading is 10 per cent, plus freight charge if incurred. This loading is to cover buyer's expenses, handling, trucking, feeding and insurance to delivery."

EXPERIMENTAL PLOTS.

The following resolution was carried at the Soldiers' Settlers' Conference in connection with the above:

"That Conference is of the opinion that the Government should conduct a series of subsidised experimental plots throughout horticultural, viticultural and agricultural areas."

This item was referred to the Minister for Agriculture, and in reply the Minister stated:

"With reference to your letter of the 10th May, covering a resolution passed at your last Conference, regarding experimental plots, I wish to inform you that the Department is at the present time carrying out experiments on settlers' holdings in each of the branches of agriculture mentioned by you.

"In my opinion, by this means much useful information can be obtained, and, when necessary, I am quite prepared to extend these experiments in approved localities."

"MONEY OR YOUR LIFE!"

Two robbers bailed up Scotty and challenged him to produce his wealth. Scotty instantly took to them, and very soon, by making things willing, knocked out one man. The second had gained a slight advantage when his mate recovered and rushed Scotty again. The unequal combat continued until at last the Scot lay prostrate and unconscious on the ground. The ruffians spelled for a while, and then, fearing Scotty might soon "come to," and having had a sufficient taste of his devilry, they proceeded to "go through" him.

Well, they found a "tray bit" and no more, though they searched right through. Struth," remarked one of the robbers, "I'm glad he only had three-pence and not three pounds, or sure we should be corpses!"
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