Chaffcutters, combined Crushers and Grinders, Elevators, Handy-Baggers, and Sawbenches

Ensure the best results by using a "Buncle"

No. 5B 2-knife Chaffcutter with 8 inch mouth. A very serviceable cutter for small requirements. Larger sizes, both Portable and Stationary, also stocked.

Combined Crusher and Grinder with bagging elevator; suitable for maize, peas, oats, wheat, and barley. An excellent machine for poultry farmers, etc.

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H. J. Wigmore & Co. Ltd.
613-619 WELLINGTON STREET, PERTH SOLE AGENTS for W.A.
Most Power
HART-PARR TRACTOR
Made for Australian Conditions

12-24 £450
18-36 £575
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Cash or Terms

To have as much power as the Hart-Parr, a tractor would have to have 32-255 horse power on the draw bar and 42-85 horse power on the belt pulley.

Or, in other words:
The Hart-Parr is over 6 h.p. more powerful on the draw bar;
The Hart-Parr is over 6 h.p. more powerful on the belt pulley;
The Hart-Parr has over 1000lb. greater draw bar pull;

Thus the nearest competing tractor.

WHEN BUYING A TRACTOR BUY POWER.
The MOST POWER for the LONGEST TIME at the LOWEST COST, backed up by REAL EFFICIENT SERVICE.

Hart-Parr, the Daddy of them All
SKIPPER BAILEY MOTOR CO. LTD.
900 Hay Street, Perth, Western Australian Distributors
SEND FOR CATALOGS
November 18, 1927.

OUR CHANGING MOOD

The mood of the nation, as affecting the war and its associations, appears to those who have studied it closely, to be changing one. Nine years ago on Armistice Day the Empire gave itself up to a wild orgy of rejoicing; feelings long pent up were released in explosive violence; the tension of four years of almost breaking strain was lifted and in our simplicity, or perhaps blindness, we believed that a new and better world was in sight, and ignoring completely experiences gained throughout history of the tragedy of the aftermath of war, we looked for and expected immediate results.

The jubilant relief caused by the armistice was naturally followed by a re-action. The long strain had left us exhausted and depressed. We were convalescing, which usually brings with it the worst sensations of an illness because being the most conscious. The temperature fluctuated dangerously in the exertion of recovery and for a time no adequate results seemed to have been achieved by those faithful four years of pain and sorrow. We emerged overwrought and weak, desirous of forgetting our troubles. We were like a person who had awakened from an ugly nightmare which he naturally is anxious to forget. We wanted to forget the war and few people cared to read war literature or to see anything which recalled to mind the darker years. Our wounds were too raw and the memory of the passing of so many who were dear to us was too recent and hurtful to dwell on in public. We mainly thought of their sacrifice through many sad hours of silent solitude.

To cloak our true thoughts and feelings many of us lived feverishly, endeavouring to throw off the obsession by strenuous labour, or in searching after pleasant excitement. Most of us deliberately sacrificed the wonderful comradeship of the trenches in the effort to obliterate from memory the war and all its associations, and the R.S.L. and the unit associations were only kept alive by a comparatively few stalwarts.

This mood, caused by reaction, was abnormal, if natural, and the passing of the years has slowly but surely left in its place one more appropriate and less transient. The wounds of war are healing and we can now display our scars with a certain sense of pride. The sting is gone. To-day we view the passing of our loved ones in perspective, with the knowledge that true national nobility is only achieved through sacrifice, and we can talk of those who gave their all without the acute pain experienced a few years ago.

We are past the convalescent stage and we who passed through the ordeal, recall our experiences without the irritation which most rendered any reference to the subject intolerable. The brotherhood of the trenches is again calling irresistibly and we are flocking into our soldier organisations and are proudly calling it the "good old days." Books dealing with the war find a ready market and nothing shown on the screens is more popular than the pictures which depict the epic struggles of the war.

FORGET THE WAR.

By MALCOLM HUMPHREY

"Forget the war!" the loud cry starts
From empty lips and shallow hearts.
Since life is short, come and be gay,
Forget the past—now is the day.

What of the dead? Lo, they are dead;
More pleasant paths we choose to tread.
And so they leave the war behind;
What care they for the maimed and blind?

But many eyes are dim and sad,
Who lost their all—can they forget?
Will not the broken, too, remain
Always the memories and the pain?

They chose to grieve—and paid the price
In choosing greater sacrifice.
To them—your freedom's debt.
Brothers, will you soon forget?

We no longer desire to forget. Under the soothing influence of time the mood of the nation has changed and it is now our fervent desire to remember. In remembering we will do more towards gaining those objectives for which we strove during those tragic years 1914-1918.

To forget is to lose valuable experiences and lessons dearly bought.

Our mood today is to remember and profit from the experiences of the past, knowing that an analysis of the lessons of the war assists to a large degree in winning the peace.
STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.
26/10/27.


An apology was received from Mr. Leonard.

Federal Correspondence.

Resolution 44, Repatriation: The Federal Executive forwarded a copy of a communication from the Repatriation Commission dealing with the question of compensation for the officials of the Repatriation Commission on retirement. The letter was received.

Financial Clips: The matter of financial clips for 1928 arose from a wire received from the Federal Executive. The State Secretary considered that the figures "19" should be eliminated from the Crown so as to increase the size of the other numerals, thereby obtaining a more distinctive effect. It was explained by Mr. McAdam that the last Federal Congress had decided to adopt this procedure.

Mr. H. Fraser-East: The Federal Executive forwarded an extract from a letter received from Mr. H. Fraser-East in which he apologised for not calling on the State President and Secretary as he was passing through Western Australia on his return trip from the B.E.S.L. Conference.

Invitations.

The S.A. and Veterans' Association extended an invitation to members of the Executive to attend their Annual Memorial Service in King's Park on the 13th November.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. McAdam: That the Executive be represented and that the senior member place a wreath on the Memorial, and that the good wishes expressed by the Veterans' Association in their letter of invitation be reciprocated.

Armistice Thanksgiving Service: The Rev. Geo. Tulloch advised that he was holding a special Armistice Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 6th, at 7.30 p.m., and requested members of the Executive to attend. It was decided that the letters be suitably acknowledged and that the Secretary arrange with the President concerning representation.

Appreciation.

The State Secretary read a communication from Mr. S. Stubbs, M.L.A., who had been endeavouring to obtain justice for over three years. He had approached the League and the writing down of debt was the result of the efforts made. Mr. — also wrote expressing his appreciation.

The letters were received.

Newdegate Cup.

The Mt. Barker Sub-Branch conveyed their best wishes to the Executive in response to congratulations sent them on winning the Newdegate Cup.

War Service Homes.

Victoria Park: The Victoria Park Sub-Branch forwarded resolutions carried at their last meeting requesting the Executive to approach the City Council with a view to getting a rebate of the health and municipal rates on properties in Cargill Street.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Bader: That the Secretary investigate the position and suitably reply.—Carried.

Repatriation Matters.

A communication from Sir Neville Howse giving replies to questions brought before him by the State Branches of the League during his recent tour of the Commonwealth, was laid on the table for the information of members.

Anzac Day.

The Railway Workshops Sub-Branch wrote concerning one of their members who was an Imperial Reservist who resided in Australia prior to the war. He was not allowed the same concessions as A.I.F. men on Anzac Day; and the Sub-Branch requested the Executive to take the necessary action to obtain these for him. In view of the fact that men with such service were entitled to all other benefits enjoyed by ex-A.I.F. men under the various Acts, Mr. Lovell moved, seconded by Mr. Sadler, that the matter be taken up with the Minister for Railways, with a view to obtaining this concession.—Carried.

Congress Resolutions.

Mr. Yeates moved a resolution referring the resolutions referred to the Executive by Congress was then considered and dealt with.

Visits to Sub-Branches.

The State President submitted a report on the tour of the South-West by himself, the Rev. Nye, Mr. Yeates, and the State Secretary. An addendum, moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Yeates, was included in the State President's report endorsing the high appreciation of the other members of the delegation at the very able leadership of Colonel Collett through the South-Western Trip, and placing on record the cordiality that existed between the different members of the party.

The report was then adopted.

State Secretary's Report.

The State Secretary read a report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. The report was received.

Poppy Day.

The State Secretary read the report of the activities of the Poppy Day Committee, and suggested that buglers be placed in the city on November 11th to sound the "Last Post" at 11 a.m.

House Committee.

The report of the meeting of the House Committee held at 4.30 p.m. on the 26th was adopted.

Land Committee.

Mr. Yeates read a report of the Land Committee which had interviewed the Group Settlement Board—that afternoon in connection with Group Settlement cases. The report was received and adopted.

Kellerberrin.

Mr. Watt reported on the visit to Kellerberrin. The report was received and Mr. Watt thanked.

Various Sub-Branches.

Mr. Logie reported on the action taken by him concerning the organisation of

WESTERN ASSURANCE COY.

Goldsborough Mort Buildings, 29-31 Barrack Street, Perth

A. L. Ingram, Manager

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AND 41 MARKET ST., FREMANTLE

are providers of the highest quality groceries at the lowest possible prices.

For prompt, efficient, courteous service try any one of the three big stores

CHARLIE CARTER LTD.
various country sub-branches. The report was received.

Congress Delegates.
The opportunity was then taken by the
President of extending the best wishes of the
League to the delegates departing to attend the Federal Congress to be
held in Brisbane. The delegates suitably responded.

9/11/27.

Present: Messrs. Nye, Watt, Philp, Shaw, Lennon, Tyler, Sadlier, Pady,
Wedd, Bader, Lovell, Margolin, and
Tozer.

Apologies were received from Colonel
Collett, Rev. Riley, F. J. McAdam, C.
Longmore, A. Yeates, J. Cornell, and H.
E. Wells.

Leave of Absence.
Jas. Cornell was granted leave of absence
at the end of the present Parliamentary Session.

S.A. Veterans.
Delegates were reminded that the S.A.
Veterans’ Service would take place in the
King’s Park on Sunday 13th, and Mr.
Watt was deputed to place a wreath on the
memorial on behalf of the League.

Federal Congress.
A wire was received from the Rev. C.
L. Riley in which it was stated that the
Federal Congress was quite successful
and that nearly all Western Australian
resolutions were passed.

Transportation Facilities.
A letter was received from the Federal
Executive giving details of the concession
recently granted by the Repatriation Com-
mmission in the direction of transport
facilities for spinal and double amputation
cases. The letter was received.

Employment Bureau.
The report of the activities of the Em-
ployment Bureaux throughout Australia
was received.

Letters of Appreciation.
Letters of appreciation for successful
efforts by the League on their behalf
were received from the following: C. L.
Bills, L. G. Warton, and C. J. Rooney.

Colonel Manning.
A letter was received from Colonel
Manning thanking the League for con-
voying congratulations on his appoint-
ment as Director of Migration, and
expressing his desire to represent Aus-
tralia’s views to the British Authorities
in London.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr.
Pady: That endeavours be made to
arrange an interview with Colonel Man-
ning at the Executive Office in order to
discuss matters of migration and em-
ployment. The arranging of the appoint-
ment was left in the hands of the State Sec-
retary.—Carried.

3rd Biennial Conference.
“ The Minutes of the Conference and the
Report of the delegates to the Conference
were laid on the table for the information
of members.

War Widows’ Association.
The Secretary of the Fraternity Union of
Soldiers’ Wives in replying to a com-
munication from the State Secretary con-
cerning the formation of a War Widows’
Association, stated that her organisation
admitted widows to membership, and the

formation of another such body would be
unnecessary.

Moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Mr.
Philp: That the War Widows’ Association
of Victoria be advised of the position in
Western Australia as outlined in the letter
from the F.U.S.W., which association
admits widows to membership.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr.
Sadlier: That the State Secretary be re-
quested to attend the meetings of the
F.U.S.W. at frequent intervals in order to
advise them in matters of interest to
soldiers’ dependants.—Carried.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Watt,
seconded by Mr. Tyler: That the Execu-
tive appreciates the splendid work being
done by the F.U.S.W. and will continue
to place at the disposal of this organisa-
tion the full machinery of the League.—
Lost.

Invitation.
“The Mt. Hawthorn Sub-Branch extended
an invitation to members of the
Executive to attend their next meeting to
be held on November 10th.

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Correspondence Invited

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Head Office: HAY STREET - PERTH
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Mr. Watt reported that he had attended St. Andrew's Church, in company with Mr. Shaw, as Executive representatives on Sunday last.

Women's Auxiliary, Busselton Branch.

The Busselton Sub-Branch sought permission to form a women's auxiliary. The necessary permission was granted.

Sir John Monash's Book.

A letter from Mr. W. R. Staton, publishers' representative, concerning Sir John Monash's book, "The Australian Victories in France, 1918," was received and referred to the Finance Committee, on the motion of Mr. Watt and Mr. Lennon.

Pilgrimage to France.

A letter was received from Thos. Cook & Sons offering to give any information and advice concerning fares and sailings, if the League was interested in such project. The letter was received.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Tozer: That the Executive approves of the idea of a pilgrimage to France and appoints Messrs. Sadlier, Watt, and the State Secretary to draft a resolution indicating approval for submission to the Federal Executive. —Carried.

Wubin Sub-Branch.

The State Secretary read a communication from the Wubin Sub-Branch which, it was stated, at their meeting held on October 29th had been decided that each member donate a small sum towards a fund from the Sub-Branch to be forwarded to the State Secretary to use his own discretion to the advantage of a deserving widow or children.

The letter was received, and it was decided that the Executive forward its appreciation of the action taken and that steps be taken to inform other sub-branches.

Merredin Sub-Branch.

The Merredin Sub-Branch advised that one of their members had died and that his brother had framed his medals and badges, and wished to know if, by paying the yearly subscription to the League, he could get the badge and financial crown each year to add to the collection.

Moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Pady: That the matter be placed before the Federal Executive for their ruling. —Carried.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Wedd, seconded by Mr. Lennon: That a letter be sent to the brother of the deceased soldier appreciating his sentiment and expressing this Executive's regret that his request could not be acceded to. —Lost.

Reports.

The State Secretary read the report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. The report was received.

Finance Committee: The report of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 26th October was received and adopted.

House Committee: The report of the House Committee meeting of November 1st was received and adopted.

Employment Bureau: The report of the activities of the Employment Bureau for the month of October was received and adopted.

Goomealling Sub-Branch: Mr. Tyler reported in connection with his visit to Goomealling in company with the Assistant State Secretary on October 29th, and stated that the sub-branch had been definitely re-formed. The report was received and the delegates thanked.

"Lemnos."

Moved by Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Bader: That the Visiting Committee be requested to visit "Lemnos" on Monday morning next and report to the Executive. —Carried.

Employment at Midland Workshops.

Mr. Wedd reported on behalf of the delegation which waited on the Acting Commissioner for Railways, who had stated that he could not see his way clear to accede to the League's request. It was decided that the information he conveyed to the Railway Workshops Sub-Branch.

Headstones on Soldiers' Graves.

The headstones on soldiers' graves had been painted some two or three years ago because the printing on the stones was hardly legible. Mr. Watt reported having seen some of these stones recently, and that the paint used was lasting well, and the particulars on the stones were easily discernible.
PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE.

The R.S.L. has received advise from the British Empire Service League requesting members to participate in a pilgrimage to the battlefields of France and Belgium in 1928. The matter was discussed at the last State Executive meeting, when a committee consisting of Messrs. Sadlier, Watt, and the State Secretary was appointed to investigate the position and draft a resolution for submission to the Federal Executive.

Our readers will recall that "The Listening Post" has been trying to interest Diggers in a project of the kind for nearly three years. American Legion members who recently visited France had, under a special banking scheme, been saving up for the pilgrimage for about five years. Perhaps Australia could only be represented next year by a comparatively few, who would have the ready money for such a tour, but we suggest that the League take in hand almost immediately in organising a pilgrimage which would embrace a few thousand Diggers, to take place during 1930 or 1931. The task should not be a very difficult one. Field-Marshal Earl Haig, the Grand President of the B.E.S.L., recently stated that the pilgrimage to France next year "will be the simplest yet the most impressive of its kind that can be made."

In a special interview the Field-Marshal said that he was particularly anxious that the pilgrimage should be not merely national, but also Imperial. He added: "The intention is that the visit shall be in a very real sense a pilgrimage—not an ordinary tour."

"I have no doubt that most of the men now living who fought in France can have no clear conception of the magnitude of the operations in which they were privileged to take part. Their memories must be only of a very small part of them."

"If they had an opportunity, therefore, of going over the whole of the ground they would realise for the first time, perhaps, what they had helped to do for their country—what, in fact, a tremendous thing the British forces accomplished."

"At present it is suggested that 5000 men should take part in the pilgrimage, but this number might very well be increased if sufficient funds were forthcoming. A special committee has been formed which will deal with the question of the cost of the pilgrimage and all other matters."

"I want to make it quite clear that there will be nothing elaborate or luxurious about the pilgrimage—it will be made in a solemn spirit, quietly, reverently, thoughtfully, and in the simplest possible fashion."

"I want to see men from Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, and from every other part of the Empire who fought in the war joining hands once more with their old comrades of this country on the fields where they fought for the Empire."

"I am desirous not only that those men who fought in France and Flanders should be represented; it would be as valuable for men who served in other theatres of war to obtain a clear idea of what took place on the Western Front as it undoubtedly will be for those who were engaged on the spot."

"Although the question has yet to be considered, it is certain that a number of widows and other relatives of the fallen will be permitted to take part in the pilgrimage, which, it is expected, will be made towards the end of next July, before the rush of tourists begins.

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£1000, £500, £200, and 153 other Cash Prizes
£25 TO REGISTERED SELLER OF FIRST PRIZE

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D. M. Benson, State Secretary, R.S.L.
The American Navy

An editorial in a current number of the "Saturday Evening Post," one of the few American periodicals which is written in English, deplores the present condition of the U.S. Navy. The United States, it is asserted, has limited her navy, both in point of number of ships and in size of ships constructed, at the behest of other powers. Therefore the U.S.N. must be made the most efficient force of its kind, not only as regards construction, but in the training of personnel. This is truly a laudable and quite legitimate ambition, but the American sense of eternal righteousness blinds the writer to the fact that it was the U.S.A. who took the initiative in the matter of armament reduction, and, so far from limiting her own navy at the behest of other powers, demanded and obtained naval parity with Great Britain, while forcing other war-worn nations to reduce their naval establishments.

In fact, the assumption appears to be, any European nation has an inherent check to take measures for its own defence while still owing America money. It is further urged that if the navy provides facilities for training in specialised trades, a good type of recruit will be attracted to the service. Quite so, and if the United States can afford to maintain a navy for vocational training purposes, instead of for training professional seamen, that is purely the business of that country, though it will hardly make for efficiency. To our mind the man who enters the navy for the purpose of learning a shore job is rather like Thompson's horse. That historic animal swam across a river to get a drink. The article goes on to point out that the novels of Captain Marryat, and the poems of Kipling, Noyes, and Newbold have helped to foster naval traditions in Britain and have been a stimulus to recruiting.

It regrets that real writers have not done the same for the American Navy. But traditions cannot be built up without some effort. Australia has preserved her independence largely because Britain at the same time was fighting France, Spain, and Holland—a combination of the world's great naval powers—and temporarily lost command of the sea. In the war of 1812 the newly-built and heavily-gunned American Navy established a temporary superiority when pitted against the smaller English frigates which had become waterlogged during the long series of naval operations against Napoleon and his allies. Later on, when British ships met them under more equal conditions, as in the case of the Chesapeake and the Shannon, the ships were well watered. In the instance quoted, the British captain challenged his opponent to come out into the open and fight, and the enemy vessel was carried by boarding in the good old British style. There were naval episodes in the Civil War and in the war with Spain. Both in Cuba and in the Philippines the Spaniards faced the U.S.A. with obsolescent ships from which, in either case, guns had been removed in order to strengthen the shore batteries.

When the U.S. Navy does some real fighting there will not be any dearth of poets to sing of the glorious deeds, but action must precede tradition. This lament over the lack of publicity is quite amusing, and cannot be justified in the light of the insidious propaganda contained in recently shown American films. A loud-mouthed people can hardly be expected to evolve a silent service and, to parody Kipling, "If publicity be the price of admiralty, God knows they ha' filmed in full."

The King's Park Toll

Motorists will rejoice at the removal of the King's Park Toll as a consequence of the State Government's decision to make the Park Trust a grant from funds contributed by motorists in other forms of taxation. On the first Sunday after the new regulation came into force the number of cars that passed through the Park was something like 3000, as against the few hundreds that had previously paid the toll. Commenting on this, the Press gave a very broad hint that this indicates meanness on the part of those drivers who abstained from using the Park roads while the toll was in force. Snaps of this nature are easily made, very cheap, and generally quite beside the mark. It is a great pity that the majority of the community is too pig-headed to acknowledge the honor of the lovekin's omniscience and accept his guidance in all things. But the fact remains that a direct tax is never popular. It is resisted, not because people are mean, but because there is always the suspicion that it has been necessitated through inefficiency or ineptitude on the part of those imposing it.

The above Picture Is a story from Real Life where a Man lifted himself from hard toil The same opportunity presents itself to You
and inferior to the Americans. Of course, many of us are neither well-favoured nor well-dressed. The writer himself is no oil-painting, though he has been assured by his six-year-old son that he is not nearly so ugly when he laughs. Still, he has recollections of seeing a photograph of Miss Beryl Mills, the first Miss Australia, among a bevy of selected American beauties, and certainly our Beryl had no occasion for feeling jealous. We Australians saw a lot of the American troops in France, and we detected no evidence of any physical superiority on their part, while, in the case of the personnel of the U.S. squadron that visited our shores recently, there was a decided inferiority in this respect. It is hardly possible, then, that our women are, in the mass, less physically perfect than those of America.

Mr. Dexter apparently forgets that many Australian actors and actresses have made good in Hollywood itself. Sylvia Bremer, Enid Bennett, Clyde Cooke, and Snub Pollard are but a few of those Australians whose names are household words in Film-land. Australians, too, find little difficulty in securing lectureships at standard American Universities.

The writer remembers Bob. Dexter as a decent little kid at the old Forest Hill High School, in Sydney, where, though he achieved some success as a swimmer, he made no great splash in academic circles. Mr. Dexter, himself, made good as a journalist and story writer in the U.S.A., and he now writes the type of yarn that Hollywood producers delight in filming.

When one sets up in business as a critic, certain credentials should be present. (sound) knowledge of one’s subject is essential, and this should be supported by an unbiased mind. Mr. Dexter, though a very smart young man, knows very little of Australia outside Sydney. He is not the only Australian who has visited America, and he is not a recognised authority either on dress or physical culture. Moreover, he is not what lawyers would call good evidence. Though a scenario writer, and a film editor, Mr. Dexter is prejudiced in favour of the United States film factories from which he derives employment, and he speaks on their behalf with a cock-sureness that most of his own countrymen will find ridiculous.

The Canberra Dinner

The decision of the Canberra Sub-Branch to omit liquors from the menu at its Armistice Day Dinner is, to our mind, a wise one. It is not fair to such representatives of His Majesty, as the Governor General and the Federal Ministry, to make their acceptance of the League’s hospitality conditional upon their condescension at a breach of Federal law. The practice of getting Mr. Scandolo, the member, to aid and abet law-breaking or to protect the lawbreaker from the consequences of his act, is far too common. If the law is not upheld society crumbles at its very foundation stone; and an ordinance, even though many of us consider it foolish and unnecessary, should not be flouted by members of a body like the R.S.L., which stands for all that is best in our social life, including scrupulous observance of the law.

The Katoomba Incident

It seems to be a part of the regular routine, nowadays, for a vessel, about to sail from any Australian port, to be delayed for hours, and even days, while some aristocrat of the stokehold is surrounding his final issue of beer. The latest instance of the job control foolishness has been the holding up of the Katoomba through the cussedness of four or five men, which prevented their fellow unionists from taking the vessel to sea, while over two hundred intending voyagers were so messed about that many were compelled to cancel or curtail their trips. The “Listening Post” is not concerned with any dispute between a union and a shipping company. In this instance it is even doubtful if any dispute has occurred. We realise, too, that in the interests of safety at sea and the welfare of the travelling public, no vessel should leave port without its full complement of crew. But that is no reason why the public, without whose patronage neither shipping company nor

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From this date all sections will be represented on Board of Directors.

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Let little Daniel be your guide—

DANIEL CRAWFORD’S RED STAR WHISKY
and you can’t go wrong!
union could function, should be victimised
while individual members of the ship’s complement are getting full. We resent
the necessity for inoffensive travellers to endure the irritating tactics of a few
swaggering, irresponsible hoodlums. Also
we deplore the attitude of the daily Press
in tacitly accepting such situations as
normal conditions, and in referring to the
arch trouble-makers, usually gentry with
such grand old English names as Emil
Voight and Jacob Johannson, as if they
were eminent public personages. Because
the latter objects to being called by his
square-headed patronymic, most dailies
refer to him as “Mr. Johnson.” What
a good thing it would be for Australia
were we able to style him “the late
Mr. Johnson”!

Drastic action is imperative, otherwise
the long-suffering public will always be
between the hammer and the anvil. It
is not a matter that any individual State
can control. Federal legislation is re-
quired, and a Federal police force, with
Federal courts and Federal prisons in
reserve, should be employed to carry such
legislation into effect.

The Silence

The person who first thought of and
suggested the two minutes’ silence on
Armistice Day in memory of the dead of
the Great War performed an invaluable
service to the world. Its impressiveness
is enhanced in a great city. In Perth the
sudden quietness and stillness, the sight
of the “man in the street” wearing a
red poppy “in remembrance,” with bare
head bowed, donating a prayer from the
heart; the quietness then broken by the
shrill notes of the buglers playing that
wailing call of sad memory, “The Last
Post.” Then “The Reveille” followed by
the normal hustle and noise of the city.
It is wonderfully impressive and inspiring.

The news “columns” tell us that the effect
on London was “miraculous” and it was
followed by a remarkable wave of feeling
against all war-mongers, and in favour
of peace. Surely this is an evidence of
cause and effect, and yet we will have
people in our midst who honestly believe
that in recalling the sacrifices made during
the war we are sowing the seed for more
warfare. We believe that the true danger
lies in forgetfulness. Judge of the nations, spare us yet.

Lest we forget—lest we forget.

THE AMENDE HONORABLE.
A new song to an old tune.

Tune—Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Sheehan.

Oh, General Aspinall; Oh, General As-

pinall,

Did you really, really, truly, truly, say

That the dinkum Anzac coves

Hung about the Beach-in-droves,

And left other blokes to carry on the

fray?

No, Captain Bean; No, Captain Bean.

How could you think that’s what I really

mean?

For I never, never said

What they said, you said, I said.”

“Could you stop one, General Aspinall?”

“Mine’s a whisky, Captain Bean.”

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THE APPEAL OF THE POPPY.

No one who has kept in touch with
the public expression of remembrance on
Armistice Day and Anzac Day can fail
to notice that the intensity of feeling
evoked by these days is, with the passing
of time, becoming ever more deeply and
firmly established in the heart of the people.
The ideal enshrined in the Un-
known Warrior’s Tomb has taken pos-
session of the nation.

Good Cheap Fruit
always procurable from

J. Brown’s
(Late 11th Batn.)

Fruit Barrow
Opposite Padbury’s Buildings, in
Wellington St. (off Forrest Place)

Unfortunately many men who returned
after sacrifying career, fortune and health,
also widows and children, are in dire need
to-day and it is for this reason that we
welcome the knowledge that the generous
spirit of remembrance has come to em-
brace the living as well as the dead. Three
times as many poppies were sold in this
State on, Armistice Day than in the
previous year, and the funds raised will
be judiciously used by sub-branches to
assist those who returned and are now
in need, as well as the widows and de-
pendants of the fallen. The Press gene-
rously contributed by special articles to-
wards the success of the-endavour. Sub-
branches who sold poppies are requested
to send in their return to the State Sec-
retary as early as possible in order that a
complete return may be published.
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AUSTRALIAN AUTHORS’ WEEK.

“Bookseller” writes: Re the article on Australian Authors’ Week appearing in your September issue, your readers will be pleased to learn that the Week was a successful one, not only from a business standpoint, but also from that of publicity. The writer of the article, though correct in his main contentions, was, perhaps, a little hard on us booksellers. We cannot shoulder all the blame for the neglect of the Australian writer. I think he gave too much credit to the Press, or rather, he assumed that the whole of the Press shares with the journals he mentioned the honour of building up a school of Australian literature.

Certainly, papers like the Bulletin, its little sister The Woman’s Mirror, Smith’s Weekly, and Aussie, throw open their pages to local writers, and several eastern dailies publish Australian serials. The prize novel competition started by the Bulletin denotes breadth of vision on the part of those who inaugurated it, and, as the competition extends over a period of three years, it should give a great impetus to novel writing.

I am surprised that an article appearing in a Diggers’ paper like yours should have omitted all reference to “Aussie,” that pleasing paper which, born on the firing line, has developed into Australia’s most popular magazine. Several black and white artists, story and verse writers, who are doing big work now, first saw the light of publication in “Aussie.” The “Aussie” people pay well and promptly, and contributors are always notified of the acceptance of their work in a nicely worded letter from the editor, a pleasing courtesy rarely extended by other publications. How very few of our dailies that publish serials give the Australian writer a chance. Our own Western Mail gets its serials from overseas. The West Australian, the only morning daily in the Commonwealth without opposition, and which still charges twopenny, does not publish serials of any sort. The Perth Sunday Times runs a magazine section, but, though it reprints freely from John O’London’s Weekly and other overseas papers, the space available to local story writers is diminishing. The scope and wealth of the paper, surprisingly restricted. Incidentally the Sunday Times does not pay for verse. Consequently it gets just the type (or should I say trips?) of verse it prints.

I must not trespass further on your space, but do I think the writer of what to me, was a very interesting article picked on a few bright exceptions and assumed that they were the rule, for the bulk of the Press must share with us booksellers, the blame for the neglect of the Australian author in his own country.

R.S.L. ART UNION.

Diggers in possession of books of tickets in the R.S.L. Art Union are reminded that the drawing takes place in January. Prize money is again on a generous scale. £1000, £500 and £200 are the first three prizes, with 153 others from 15 to 50. There are 50,000 subscribers, and profits will go to League Funds, so trot the book out to all your friends, Dig, and don’t forget the last Art Union was over-subscribed.

32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the 32nd Battalion Association was held at the R.S.L. Rooms on Tuesday, October 4th, and owing to the Show being in progress, there was a splendid attendance.

The election of office bearers resulted as follows: Patron, Lieut. Gen. Sir Talbot Hobbs, K.C.M.G., etc.; President, G. V. Abjornsen; Vice Presidents: Metropolitan, L. St. J. Kennedy, Goldfields, C. Massey; Hon. Treasurer, W. Munne; Hon. Auditor, L. Dr. Lobacher; General Committee: Col. T. Pintoff, W. Flindell, F. Hewings, T. Wolfson; and Hon. Secretary, R. (Bob) Alexander, whose address is Government House, Perth.

The financial report showed a healthy state of affairs and it was decided to reduce the annual subscription to 2/6.

Country comrades are asked to send along their subs. to the Hon. Secretary.

“Art the completion of the business a social glass was enjoyed, bringing a very successful evening to a conclusion. Secretary Bob Alexander desires all country members to notify him of their present addresses.
VARIA.

"Wings"—Noticed in the "Inland Printer," an American technical journal, of October 1919, a reproduction of a poster bearing the words: "We've won the war, what now?" Naturally we wink and smile. The British Empire lost one million men, the U.S.A. 60,000. The "now" consists in raking in the shekels on money lent to the Allies during the war out of the immune profits on trading with neutral countries. Moreover, much of this commerce belonged to Britain, France, and Italy, but they were too busy to attend to it, so the astute Yankee collared it in a weak moment. The League of Nations, if nothing else, is sincere in its objectives, but there is still a vacant seat at the Table of the Nations. The precious Monroe doctrine is the most selfish and anti-social idea ever conceived by a nation and has only succeeded in bringing down upon our American "cousins" the scorn and iniquity of the world, striving for peace through co-operation.

"Scout"—We know that Australia is "God's Own Country," but if, reader, you are over in London, don't insist in ramming the fact down the Londoner's throat. They probably have the same idea about England. Another thing, don't tell them we won the war; he knows the Yankees won it, as they have mentioned it to him many times.

"Tourist"—Should you be in the neighbourhood of Australia House, London, and be accosted by a smart looking individual who claims to come from Melbourne, Sydney, or some such place, immediately grasp him by the hand, hail him as a fellow countryman, tell him you have had your pockets picked, and were wondering where you would get your fare home; by doing so you will beat him at his own game.

"Civvy"—It is not necessary to be blessed with the gift of extraordinary perception to notice that the returned soldier fraternity is a very definite force in the civil, social, political, and commercial life of this State; indeed, one might also say the domestic sphere. The "digger" is in every sense the backbone of the country. He has in most cases reached the age of experience, commonsense, and reasoning, and his terrible graduation in the course of life on the fields of Flanders, Palestine, and Egypt has stood him in good stead. There are those adherents of Moscow who would ruin Australia, but that there still exist about 250,000 ex-service men in the Commonwealth—men of proved loyalty—tends to draw the fangs of the spoilers and makes for national stability.

"Wowzer"—This is the age of gramophones, motor cars, tin hares, tin motor cars, cash orders, pianolas, speedways, aeroplanes, wireless, broadcasting, etc. If a thing is automatic, labour-saving, speedy, or a money-maker, it takes on immediately. Hoyts' new picture theatre is crammed every evening, yet its neighbourhood by has not suffered in patronage. As Perth's other theatres, in course of erection, are completed, they too will become popular. A rent collector confided to me his job has only recently become a heartbreak. He is told to "call next week" or wait until some "stunt" comes off. Perth's "homes" are empty every evening and week-end. The pleasure resorts are full to overflowing. Deficits and credits, both governmental and private, are piling up. Every man is living for today, for himself! Have we all gone mad?

"Wings"—The cable columns of our newspapers are replete with accounts of air races. The average member of the general public is prone to ask, "What purpose do they serve?" Air racing in itself ought to be very useful. If it were well supported by the sporting youth of Great Britain and by wealthy sportsmen of the class who spend vast sums on keeping racehorses which they hardly ever see, we might learn from air racing quite a lot about aeroplanes and engines, which would be of great use to the Royal Air Force and to commercial aviation. Even as things are, thanks very largely to success in air races, or at any rate to the publicity got by the illustrations and descriptions of air races, the De Havilland Company has, within a couple of years, built up a trade in Moths which is not approached by any other light aeroplane in the world. And, thanks to the competition of the Avian and the Bluebird and the Widgeon, also in air races, British light aeroplanes are far better known everywhere than are the light aeroplanes of any other country.

In reporting a football fracas that occurred in Adelaide, the "West Australian" stated that players, when leaving the ground, were attacked by "citizens," probably the term "citizens," as distinguished from "players," is apposite, for Eastern States football is becoming more like war every year.
Two Diggers were overheard discussing an institution which has been very much before the public eye of late. "What's the strength of it?" one asked. "Don't know exactly," the other explained; "but it seems to be a sort of returned soldiers' league for blokes that didn't go to the War."

Again the long arm and the bent elbow of coincidence. At the 51st Battalion Reunion, just as the Chairman called upon everybody to stand in honour of Fallen Comrades, one reveller, who had commenced the re-union some considerable time before zero hour, measured his length on the floor and remained a "fallen comrade" for the rest of the evening.

The sight of a hundred thousand German soldiers goose-stepping in honour of Hindenburg's birthday must have been magnificent, but we maintained a few years ago that the best view one could obtain of a German was over the sights of a rifle.

A political correspondent informs us that there is no foundation to the rumour that Evan Clarke intends to oppose the Premier for Boulder at the next General Election.

Health Hint.—An onion a day keeps the flappers away.

"Panza"—My mate and I were brooking away in our dugout. We'd been together from the start. The closest of pals always, a sort of confidence had sprung up between us, and many a horrible slaughter would lose some of its gruesomeness as we hung together on Fritz' heels. Often in the hell and confusion of bursting shells we would be separated. Then that deadly fear of uncertainty about each other would set in until we met again. It was just after a stunt at Sausage Gully. The night was very quiet, as was our case after a stunt. I could not say how long I had been asleep, but when I woke I found myself sitting upright. What had caused me to do this was a mystery, as there was not a sound on the whole front. The stillness was terrible. My cobber was asleep beside me and a peculiar startled feeling was running through my body. My heart pounded as a hammer. Then the awful realisation came to me. I yelled and tore at my sleeping pal, who woke. We waited together. Something was creeping stealthily into the dugout. Once again a presentiment had saved me. It was gas!

"Dig"—Was returning to Australia by the "Willochra." As most Diggers know, on a troopship there was a cupboard at the head of each table containing tin dishes, plates, pannikins, etc. One night the ship gave an extra roll, the catch of one locker became unfastened and the contents spilled over the table on to the deck with a frightful rattle. When the last tin plate had stopped spinning and the last tin pannikin had come to rest, a sleepy voice from underneath the blankets said: "Dad's 'ome!"

The chief objections to the Tin Hare Sport seem to be (1) it isn't tin; (2) it isn't a hare; and (3) it isn't a sport.

Mr. Theodore Finck, a wealthy Melbourne business magnate, who recently returned to Australia from a trip to Europe, had a good deal to say, during the course of an interview, regarding Southern European immigration. Among other things he warned us against that alarm we naturally feel concerning the introduction of indigestible elements into our population, and stated that he had had an interview with Mussolini, the particulars of which he is not at liberty to disclose. Of course, wealthy business men, especially those of the globe-trotting variety, are rather given to "blowing out their bags" every time a credulous reporter is willing to undergo a Pitman speed test, but, in view of the fact that the arrival of ships carrying hundreds of Mussolini's countrymen is almost a daily occurrence, there appears to be something behind Mr. Finck's statement. Nevertheless, assuming this statement to be correct, it is an astounding thing that a private citizen, however wealthy, should be interested with a secret and confidential mission to a foreign statesman. It is even more astounding that such an agent should even hint at the matter to pressmen. A man of Mr. Finck's business acumen should know that discretion is the better part of indecision.

Dryblower, Benjamin Buttonstick, and Pip Tok were seen in conversation near the Alhambra Arcade. "Ah!" exclaimed a ribald passersby; "Now I know what they mean by 'The Poets' Corner'."

From the "Agony" column. "The Times" August 26.—Wanted, a Royal Air Force man of high character, experienced, capable of taking an elderly business gentleman from Bedfordshire to Weggsworth, Northfolk, and fill an empty kitchen garden; must be able to rise and land cleanly and smartly. State experience, age, when at liberty, and references, to Mr. W. B. Ratkins, The Gables, Westoning, near Bedford. Perhaps Mr. Ratkins hopes to breed Moths in the kitchen garden. It is not clear whether references are required as to horticultural or aeronautical experience.

SELECTION.

They were telling one another "home truths" as children (and grown-ups) sometimes do.

"Oh," said the first little girl, "your mother and father are not your real parents; they only adopted you."

The second little girl thought for a moment and then she said: "Well," she said, "that makes it all the more satisfactory. My parents picked me out. Yours had to put up with what they could make of you."

His Medal.

"What did the boss say to you for being late on Friday?"

"He gave me the D.C.M."

"What's that?"

"Don't-Come Monday."

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PANSIES FROM FRANCE.

Written for a lady who had flowers sent from her son's grave in France, after eight years tending by the people on whose farm he fell.

Scarlet poppies, bloom and fade Where our dead in France are laid. Memory dies not with the years— Each Remembrance Day brings tears, As we wear the flowers of red Like the precious blood once shed. But to-day a kindly hand Brought me from that distant land, From my dear one's grave—some white Pansies, tender as the light Snowy wings of butterflies, Decked with glowing golden eyes. All the years that lie between In these lovely flowers are seen. Tender thoughts like seeds were sown In the kind remembrance shown, Causing flowers to bloom to-day On that grave so far away. Surely love will never fail. Peace must evermore prevail "Twixt Australia and France. While the scarlet poppies dance Round the graves where white and gold Pansies like pure, thoughts unfold. —Lilian Wooster Greaves.

NOVEMBER 11

Hushed are the guns, and stilled the marching feet That shook the roads from Flanders to Peronne. Gone are the strong brown legions. They have gone. With the trumpet's blare, the side-drum's clashing beat. What was their guerdon? Everywhere we meet Small men in high places, mimicking the great. Love still enthroned and Hate still breeding Hate. Was it for this they braved the battle's heat? Ah, no! That great and glorious brotherhood The torch of memory and example lit For us to grasp, and by its radiance shed. We'll spur the base and elevate the good. Make this, our land, for heroes' children fit. Live that we may be worthy of our dead. PIP TOK.

Perth, 11th November, 1927.

AD VALOREM.

Thoughts arising from a speech made at the unveiling of the statue of the late Lord Forrest in King's Park, Perth, 28/8/27. (Sir William Lathlain, in making a fervent appeal for funds to effect the completion of the State War Memorial, on the occasion referred to, intimated that in view of the fact that the amount available for the purpose at present totalled £3,000, there was an equivalent of ten shillings per head for each of the six thousand Westralian Soldiers who lost their lives in the Great Encounter.)

Figure of bronze, outcome of human skill, Upraised in pride of place on yonder hill. What time we saw the sculptor's art laid bare And there appear to crowds assembled there That mystic afternoon. Heard ye the words soon after that were said? "The value of Westralia's gallant dead Panned, up to date, at just two crowns per head."

Six thousand of her bravest gave their all, Their lives, no less, at West Australia's call. Were their great spirits hovering there unseen? In memory of the man—not Bronze—I mean That sacred afternoon. Heard they the words so poignantly said? "The value of Westralia's gallant dead Panned, up to date, at just two crowns per head."

Explorer, statesman, friend, above all, man Of purpose, will, and vision wide to scan Things big and worthy, was his soul not near? At the unveiling of his statue there That Sunday afternoon. What would his thought have been when words were said? "The value of Westralia's gallant dead Panned, up to date, at just two crowns per head."

Oh! Shade of Forrest, all who knew thee well, Say, in whatever sphere thou chancest to dwell, Hadst thou been with us still, no cause to fear The need which made those words so hard to hear That pregnant afternoon. Long since, the sun was found, the words ne'er said. "The value of Westralia's gallant dead Panned, up to date, at just two crowns per head." — A. Shaw, Bassendean.

"My darling," said the young lover, "you simply must marry me." "But have you seen father?" she asked. "Oh, yes, several times. But I love you just the same." —

Lady (engaging maid): "Why did you leave your last situation?" "The Maid: "Because they only had a crystal set."

Get it mended

Don't say—"That lock's no use." We'll fix it and make a new key for it. Don't scrap the Rifle, Gun, or Revolver that's out of order—we'll fix it. We open Sales, repair and adjust Scales, Lawnmowers, etc. Pleasing service at moderate Cost

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PERSONALITIES.

Never seen without his proud distinction—the R.S.I. badge—Managing Editor Smith of the “Western Australian.”

Kellerberrin sub-branch has a live wire guiding its destiny in Billy Chappell. Twelve months ago the membership was less than 10—today it is 70, and Billy and other enthusiasts say they won’t be satisfied until they rival Mt. Barker with a 100 per cent. membership. Billy was at one time vice-president of the Boulder sub-branch, where he was a city councillor for years. The 2nd Light Railways was his unit.

Agricultural Bank Inspector Butfield, of Kellerberrin and district, is a capable and just official. He came to Perth for the re-union of his old battalion, theLegs11, and made a couple of good speeches at the Kellerberrin R.S.I. Re-union. Soldier settlers in his district are, generally speaking, prosperous. Prominent to Southern Cross there has not been one S.S. property written down.

Vice-President Mann, who ably conducted affairs at the Kellerberrin smoke-o, is no stranger to the League, he having been secretary of the Southern Cross sub-branch in its rosy days.

Fred Harffey, State Secretary of the Boy Scout Association, is an old Territorial and saw service in India and the Persian Gulf during the war. He carried out some rather delicate, diplomatic missions and got the Meritorious Service Medal for his pains. Scouting in India felt his touch and the movement in Western Australia is progressing with Fred at the wheel. In his spare time our friend grows cabbages and eggs on the land at Bayswater.

J. T. Birtwistle, known as Ivor, who shouldered a gun at the war, is the editor of that progressive publication known as the “Western Mail.” Among other things he is secretary of the W.A. Historical Society, and executive member of the Boy Scout Association. The salubrious suburb of Cottesloe includes his residence, and a charming wife and bonny baby rule supreme.

Mr. Ernest Sheffield, the newly-appointed organiser for the Parkerville Homestead, is a travelled man with lecturing and organising talents which make him well fitted for the work he has undertaken. With war service as a commissioned officer in East Africa and Egypt he has been able to gather excellent material for lectures, which have been heard by large audiences here and in Great Britain. For the past year Mr. Sheffield acted as organising secretary for the Argonauts, and it is hoped that Parkerville Home will benefit as a result of his energetic personality.

Mr. Alec Weir was recently appointed in charge of the sales department of the Imperial Printing Company. He has won through to a large circle of friends in the pastoral, sporting and business world, by hard work and devotion to sport apart from business. With proved cartooning and journalistic ability, a good seat on a horse over jumps, and on the flat, and a light-weight boxing trophy to his credit, his versatility is marked. He was recently appointed honorary secretary to the West Australian Hunt Club. It was the cold weather of Cambridgeshire, while at Phantom House Stables, which are presided over by the soldier-trainer brother of Admiral Beatty, that set the seal to doctor’s orders for him to proceed to sunny climes, and to hear Alec speak of Western Australia and its people is a treat well worth while—and he has included America in his travels. Gazetted to the 8th Battalion King’s Liverpool, he served with them, also the 7th and 8th Battalions, in France, and was later invalided from the service as lieutenant in The King’s African Rifles, when stationed in Central Africa. Further service with the East Yorks in 1921 was rendered by him previous to his departure for Australia. Commercial men drawing Mr. Weir into conversation will strike a vein of experiences exceptionally wide-spread for his thirty-five years.

ROY HUGHES, Asst. Secretary Loco Sub-Branch.

R.S.I. Member—In giving honour where honour is due, the good work on behalf of the League by Roy (Diver) Hughes is worthy of special mention. He is employed in the Way and Works branch of the Loco Works. Blessed with a genial manner and pleasant smile and an ocean of enthusiasm, he has succeeded in getting as financial members of the Railway Workshops sub-branch every Digger in his section. “Diver” is still quite a young man and during the war he helped to put up cables which were so welcome to us foot sloggers, with the 11th Battery A.F.A.

At present holidaying in Perth is Bert Clarke, the new secretary of the far-away Pilbara Sub-Branch. Bert reports a re-enlivening of the League conscience in his district, and we hope that with Bert and Ross Keating at the helm there will be no more Rip Van Winkle slumberers.

Heartiest congratulations to Allan N. McDonald on being the proud father of twins. Mac is an active member of the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch, where he has acted as President, and he has also done useful service as a State Executive delegate. There must be thousands of virile Diggers in this State who will, no doubt, take up Mac’s challenge to “go one better.” We will be pleased to give publicity to any performance of outstanding merit.

Condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Percy Barlett on the loss of their infant son, who passed away during the month. Percy, who is the Assistant Town Clerk of our capital city, is an ex-secretary of the Subiaco Sub-Branch.

Collie Sub-Branch members and a host of others are mourning the loss of a true friend in Alex (Sandy) Wilson. “Sandy,” when fighting with the 11th Battalion, was very badly wounded in the head and body, and few people knew just what suffering he endured. Notwithstanding his handicap he bravely shouldered his civilian responsibilities and, like many more of his kidney, thought more of the trials of others far less afflicted than himself. He visited the Wembley Exhibition and whilst away seized the opportunity of visiting the battlefields of France and Flanders. On his return “Sandy” was induced to accept the position of manager of the Collie Soldiers’ Hall, which he held until his death. He was buried from the Soldiers’ Hall and over forty motor vehicles followed the hearse. “Sandy” was a soldier and a man and his passing has caused an unfilled vacancy in the ranks of the R.S.I. Vale.
THE TRENCH OF BAYONETS.

Near Fort Douamont, one of the circles of fortresses that protected the city of Verdun from the German armies of the Crown Prince, there is a concrete memorial. It roofs a trench.

In this trench, in 1915, several hundred Polis were standing at their posts. A huge shell whined over and exploded. The Polis were buried as they stood, their rifles protruding above the ground.

Since that tragedy the trench has never been disturbed.

G. F. Rand, an American, impressed by the scene, erected a memorial. Through the pillars, where the sun shines in the late afternoon, one may see the bayonets of the guns that are still held in the skeleton hands of those defenders.

"ABOUT K. OF K."

Every few months or so a fresh controversy arises in the Press concerning the tragic death (and probable cause of it) of the great Lord Kitchener. Perhaps no figure of the century commanded such awe, respect, and admiration as the famous British soldier. The following words from the pen of an airman in Italy written shortly after K. of K.'s death, are of interest:—"It was said of Kleber that it made men brave merely to look at him; to look at Kitchener gave a feeling of security and con­fidence. No man of our time had exercised the same domination over the mind of the public. He had become long before the war a legend, the legend of a man who commanded success, who rose with a silent, inscrutable power to the height of every argument, and carried with him the secret of victory. It was an impression not founded upon dazzling achievement, still less upon skilful personal advertise­ment. He had the taste for the footlights, bore himself on all public occasions with an air of absorbed and formidable detachment, disliked public speaking, and would have thought as little as Coriolanus of ingratiating himself with the crowd. Not that he cultivated the scorn of the public that the mere soldier like Coriolanus is apt to possess. It was not his habit to think scornfully of anyone, certainly not of the enemy, and his outlook was essentially liberal and sagacious. But the point here is that he never sought popular applause, and avoided with cold austerity any entanglement in the political field. There were moments when he could have upset Ministries, and when, had he been an adventurer, he could have aspired to anything. But there was not a touch of the adventurer in him. He was a plain soldier, passionately devoted to his calling, governed by a rigid sense of duty and by an unfailing loyalty to the civil power."

TWO MINUTES SILENCE

Silent, the streets, no sound on land or sea.

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THERE is a golden future for a man who invests now in a block or more of Canning Crest land. This unusual estate has already been favourably commented upon in the various metropolitan papers. It presents one of the most promising investments for your savings, large or small. Its promise is great—it will not only double in value but exceed the most optimistic forecasts, because the conditions governing it are unusual. May we tell you more about Canning Crest?

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WHIFFS OF WISDOM.

Advice is what we give away, because it is of no use to ourselves.

A bore is a man who persists in talking about his own troubles when you want to talk about yours.

A smile is a sign of good teeth.

Tact is the art of saying nothing when there is nothing to be said.

It is good to be one who sees his opportunities, and better to be the one to seize them.

Genius begins great works; labour alone finishes them.

Remorse is the echo of a lost virtue.

One vicious habit each year rooted out in time might make the worst man good.

Mistake is like an east wind—bracing to the strong and deadly to the weak.

Insurance is the proof that most men are worth more dead than alive.

An optimist is one who doesn't care what happens so long as it doesn't happen to him.

Luck is one's missed opportunities that have been picked up by someone else.

Cigarettes are pleasures which turn to smoke and ashes.

Some people are so miserly that one cannot even have a joke at their expense. Unfortunately afterthoughts come last.

There may be a time for all things, but a wise man tackles one thing at a time.

All the world's a stage, but the encore is few.

A thing of beauty—keeps you broke for ever.

Facts are stubborn things that never apologise.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

The Devil sends the winds that blow the ladies' dresses high.

The Good Lord sends the speck of dust that blinds the bad man's eye.

(Old Spanish Proverb.)
ANY SOLDIER TO HIS SON

(The following poem is said to have been picked up by an officer in France, who forwarded it to friends in England. It was eventually published in a Home paper as one of the truest and most vivid descriptions of a soldier’s war experiences and feelings ever written, even though it is written in light-hearted vein. The author has never been discovered—possibly he went West.)

What Did You Do, Daddy, in the Great War?

Well, I learned to peel potatoes and to scrub the barrack floor, I learned to use a shovel, a barrow, and a pick. I learned to get a “jerk” on and I learned to make ‘em click.”

I learned the road to Folkestone and to look my last at Home, As I heaved my beans and bacon to the fishes and the foam.

Then the Blighty boats went by us, and the harbour hove in sight, And they disembarked and sorted us and marched us “by the right, Quick March” along the cobbles, by the kids who ran along Shouting “Apo—Spearmin—Shokolah” through dingy old Boulogne; And the widows and the nurses and the niggers and Chinese And the gangs of smiling Fritzes, as saucy as you please.

I learned to ride, as soldiers ride, from “Etaps” to “the line,” For days and nights in cattle trucks, packed in like droves of swine; I learned to curse and “hop it” in a foot of muddy floor, And to envy cows and horses that had beds of “beauchop” straw; I learned to wash in shell-holes, and to shave myself in tea.

While the fragments of a mirror did a balance on my knee.

I learned to dodge the whizz-bangs and the flying lumps of lead, And to keep a foot of earth between the snipers and my head, I learned to keep my haversack well filled with “buckshew” food, To take the Army issue, and to “pinch” what else I could; I learned to cook Macaonachie with candle ends and string, With “four by two” and sardine oil and any darned old thing.

I learned to use my bayonet according as you please, For a bread-knife, or a chopper, or a prong for toasting cheese; I learned to gather souvenirs that home I hoped to send, To “hump” them round for months and months, and “dump” them in the end; I learned to hunt for vermin in the lining of my shirt, To crack them on my finger-nails, and feel the beggars spurt.

I learned to sleep by snatches on the fire-step of a trench, To eat my breakfast mixed with mud and Fritz’s heavy stench; I learned to pray for “Blighty” ones, and lie and squirm with fear When Jerry started “strafing” and the “Blighty” ones went near; I learned to write home cheerful with my heart a lump of lead, With the thought of you and Mother when she read that I was dead.

The only thing like pleasure “over there” I ever knew Was to hear my pals come shouting “There’s a parcel, mate, for you.” That’s what I did, but now for what I did not do, my son. Well, I never kissed a French girl, and I never killed a Hun,

I never missed an issue of tobacco, pay or rum,

I never made a friend, and yet I never lacked a chum.

I never used to grumble after breakfast in the line.

That the eggs were cooked too lightly or went out too fine,

I never told a Sergeant just exactly what I thought,

I never did a pack drill, for I never quite got caught.

I fell in a whizz-bang, though I’ve stopped a lot of mud.

For the one that Fritz sent over with my name on was a “dud.”

I never played the hero, or walked about the “top,”

I kept inside my “funk-hole” when the shells began to drop—

Well, Tommy Jones’ father must be made of different stuff—

I never asked for trouble; the issue was enough.

So I learned to live and “lump” it in the lovely land of War. Where the face of Nature seemed to be a monstrous septic sore.

Where the bellow of earth hung open like those churned and churned again,

Where all was done in darkness, and all was still in day,

Where living men were buried and the dead unburied lay;

Where men inhabited holes, like rats, and only rats lived there

Where cottage stood and castle once in days before “la guerre.”

Where endless files of “duckboards” wound through endless walls of clay,

Where life was one hard labour and the men were heard to say That the only chance a soldier had of ever getting rest

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Once upon a time

Consumers of printing believed in their ignorance that the buying public were impressed sufficiently with the printed message irrespective of the quality of its workmanship.

And then the light came

And it is now universally acknowledged that the BEST IS ONLY JUST GOODENOUGH. Shoddy printing denotes a shoddy business. You will only get the best from the

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Was when they laid him "westward" with a puncture in his chest.
And I read the Blighty papers, where the "warriors of the pen"
Told of "Christmas in the Trenches" and "the Spirit of Our Men."

And I saved the choicest morsels and I read them to my chum,
And he muttered, as he cracked a louse and wiped it off this thumb,
"May a thousand 'chaps' from Belgium crawl 'er them as they write,
May they dream they're not exempted till they die of mortar fright.
May the fattest rats from Dickebusch race 'er them in their beds;
May the lies they've written choke them, like a gas cloud till they're dead,
May the horrors and the tortures of the things they never tell
(For they only write to order) be reserved for them in Hell.

You'd like to be a soldier, and to go to War some day!
By all the dead in Delville Wood, by all the nights I lay
Between our "line" and Fritz's before they got me in;
By this old wood and leather stump that once was flesh and skin,
By all the lads who crossed with me, but never crossed back again;
By all the prayers their mothers and their sweethearts prayed in vain,
Before the things that were those days should ever more befall,
May God, in common pity, destroy us—one and all.

—HUMOUREDITIES—

Mrs. Neverley: "Hear that burglar downstairs?"
Mr. Neverley: "Nonsense! That's just the cat."
"Well, go down and make sure."
"Not-on your life! I'm not that sure!"

"And do you like our town?" said the French hotel manager to the American.
"The American glared. "I hate it," he said, "It's as hot as hell, and just as uncomfortable."
"Ah!" said the manager. "But there is nowhere you Americans have not been."

"Dad" Fanning
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"How did you get on with the new maid?"
"Oh, she couldn't get on with the children!"

"John's poorly."
"Is that so?"
"Yes, he's not so well."
"Is that so!"
"Yes, he fell off a truck and broke his neck."

Madge: "So you got square with Dolly?"
Marjorie: "Yes, I was ahead of her in the barber shop and made her wait an hour."

The Conversationalist (to well-known author): "I'm so delighted to meet you. It was only the other day I saw something of yours, about something or other, in some magazine."

Mistress: "Well, Lily, what did you hear at the meeting?"
Maid: "Please, 'm, the missionary told us about black men what was fair starved, and when they beat their tum-tums you could hear them miles away."

MONEY.
If you save all you earn you're a miser.
If you spend all you earn you're a fool.
If you lose it you're out.
If you find it you're in.
If you lend it you're always after them.
It's the cause of evil.
It's the cause of good.
It's the cause of happiness.
It's the cause of sorrow.
If the Government makes it, it's all right.
If you make it, it's all wrong.
As a rule it is hard to get.
It talks!
To some it says, "I've come to stay."
To others it whispers, "Good-bye."
Some people get it at a bank.
Others go to gaol for it.
The mint makes it first.
It's up to you to make it last.

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Sparklet Syphons, for making soda water. With the Sparklet Syphon you can make at home the most delicious sparkling summer beverages at a fraction of the usual cost. Size B holds 1 pint, 8/6; Size C holds 1 quart, 10/6. Spare parts stocked for syphons.

Bulbs for Sparklet Syphons, one bulb aerates sparklet syphon. Size B, 2/6 dozen; Size C, 3/9 dozen.

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Extension Curtain Rods, will not sag and easy to put up, brass plated, will not rust or tarnish, extends from 28 into 48 inches—Special 1/- each.

Double Extending Curtain Rods, brass plated, extends 28 to 48 inches—Price 2/-

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Coolgardie Safes, size 17 x 11 x 25in. high, 12/6; size 17 x 17 x 30in. high, 15/6; size 17 x 17 x 36in. high, 18/6; size 18 x 28 x 36in. high, 27/6. Any size made to order.

Hand Water Bags, Flex. size 10 inch, capacity 
½ gallon, 1/9; 12 inch 1 gallon, 1/10: 14 inch 1½ gallon, 2/–; 16 inch 2 gallon, 2/3 each.

Jarrah Trellis

Trellis, jarrah expanding, 12ft. lengths, 3ft mesh, height 3ft., 9/6; 4ft, 12/6; 5ft, 16/–; 6ft., 18/6; 7ft., 21/6; 8ft., 25/–. 2½in. mesh, height 3ft., 12/–; 4ft., 15/–; 5ft., 18/6; 6ft., 21/–; 7ft., 23/–; 8ft., 26/–.

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BEST OF STRINGS, RESINS, JAZZ EFFECTS, MUTES, FLEXITONES, ETC.
PARTS OF PERTH.

THE ALHAMBRA CATACOMBS.

From the Billjim's Progress.
By John Buttonstick Bunyan.

1. As I journeyed through the wilderness of this world I came to the stairway leading from the street called Barrack into those catacombs that are maintained for the benefit of pilgrims by the Brotherhood of the Alhambra. And there was a second of sweet music, for a choir of children were singing:

"Don't go down the Dive, Daddy, Come to White City with us. Keep a penny to spare For the tote or tin hare. You can buy it without any fuss. Take us to White City; Show us the right way to live. Help us to gamble our 'spoons,' Then we'll stow a few Johns, But don't go down the Dive!"

But I did not allow the thoughts of this world to divert me from my pilgrimage. Now, as I descended the stairway I beheld other pilgrims descending other stairways leading from the street called Barrack, and some from the arcade which is between that street and the street called Hay.

2. There is a well-lighted cell, the sanctuary of the Lord Abbot Don and the Prior Roy, past which lies the corridor leading along to certain cells where the most devout pilgrims might sit and meditate. And there lies also a cell with one of caves and grottoes, with arched roofs supported by massive pillars. Beneath the street of Barrack there is a large shrine, which is really a kind of spa, at which pilgrims may rest and wash themselves at tables and cupboards of the baked meats, of the mashed potatoes, and of the-boiled beans. The price thereof is but half a shilling, and there is pepper, salt, and mustard for all.

3. At right angles to the dining caves is the Grotto of the Two Sisters, frequented by pilgrims of the wealthier sort. Here they receive the waters from the fair hands of Sister Olive and Sister Patricia, but the waters are dispensed in smaller vessels. The cost is one shilling, and there are two songs and a fight in each bottle.

4. But the greatest concourse of pilgrims was in the Grotto of the Three Brothers. Here there was chivalry. Men raised their voices and all were speaking at once, as in the canteen at closing time, for tight men have ever loose tongues. And a voice within me cried "Lo! This is a part of Perth, it is a part of speech." Some said one thing and some another, but most of those things that were said were false. Here I saw a Captain of the King's Hosts. The stories that he told were ribald, but they made certain of the baser sort laugh exceedingly. There was also one, a mariner, who had sailed the Seven Seas, and men called him "Old Salt!" and "Old Shellback," though he is now a scribe, wearing his hat on one side and the white flower of a blameless life in his coat. There was also a man of Kent named Dick, a very pious man who builds churches, and many others whose names I knew no more. Here also was Brother George the Elder, who was once a soldier (even as Brother George the Younger, and Brother Charles who hath known the fleshpots of Egypt and the jackpots of France), but who is now under a vow of humility, and moves among the pilgrims sweeping up dead matches and the unexpired portions of cigarettes. Brother George the Elder is a devout man, and out of his purse he relieves the poverty of the tribe of the Bookmakers; for the horses that he backs have dead legs and the Bookmakers wax fat in the land.

5. Many of these pilgrims were under vows of poverty, and went among the throng performing the penance known as "Putting in the Nips," and when they did meet with others who were under the vow of obedience, these last would give them half a shilling, to buy them a vessel filled with the waters. But the brotherhood, by the rules of their order, are exempt from this penance. For even as I lingered, one arrayed in tattered raiment tried to meet it of Brother Charles, but Brother Charles waxed exceeding wroth and served him not.

6. While here, I conversed with Brother Joseph, who is a saintly man, keeping his eyes turned heavenwards, so that he sees visions through the skylight. And these visions are both thrilling and exalting. I raised mine eyes also but I saw nothing but the legs of maidens passing in the street above. Brother George the Younger told me to be of good heart as one must have a very trained eye before he can see the visions that thrill Brother Joseph.

7. Now must I speak of the effect of the waters upon the various pilgrims. All talked incessantly and all prophesied. Many spoke of one called the Boss. Now the Boss of any man was not the Boss of another, but in every instance he was evil; and it was prophesied, on all sides, that he will be met one night in a dark lane and beaten sorely with many stripes. Others prophesied saying "Lo! This horse will win," or "When I have done this thing I will be rich. My wife will go abroad in fine raiment. My flocks and herds will increase. I will buy me a car and find favour in the sight of the flappers." But I noticed, as I tarried, that only the prophecies of the simpler sort were fulfilled. Some said "I am going to have a pot ordinary," or "This time I'll have a pony." And it would come to pass even as they had prophesied.

8. The Grotto of the Three Brothers is sacred to the Swan (and the Emu). And I marvelled that the devotees of the Swan despise the Emu, and those who serve the Emu speak despitefully of the Swan, for when men speak after this fashion they lose blasphemous tongues. While there are so many great and potent waters in this world, let no man exalt one and revile the other for, behold, I have tried them all and found them all good.

**The Listening Post**
November 18, 1927.

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PERTH.
The Editor.

Here you see our Editor
Who fears no foe, nor creditor,
But plugs along and always pays his way.
Though his height is not immense
He is long on common sense,
And there's always meat in what he has to say.
The racquet, too, he wields
On the “Sooby” playing fields.
The man he plays is usually floored:
For among the budding “champs.”
Of the suburb’s tennis camps,
His name’s the name that often heads the board.
He soldiered at the war
With the Imperial Camel Corps,
When they chivvied Abdul through the Holy Land.
Now he runs the “Listening Post,”
And it’s still his proudest boast
That the R.S.I. his service may command.

(Written and inserted without permission by “Benjamin Buttonstick.”)

Decisive Enough.

Irishman: You’re a Canadian, you were born in Canada.
Scotchman: No, sir. My mother and father were Scotch, so I’m Scotch.
Irishman: You were born in Canada.
Scotchman: (heatedly) Well, if a cat had kittens in the oven would you call them biscuits?

Songs of Sophistication.

(By Benjamin Buttonstick.)

Baby, Baby Bunting,
Ikey’s come a-hunting.
A rabbit skin around a tin
And Baby does his sugar in.
Haw Haw, Athelstan Saw,
We have got a new milk-oh.
No T.B. in the quart we see.
It’s all as fine as silk-oh.

I love little Lovekin; gee whiz, he is warm.
If we don’t contradict him, he’ll do us no harm.
We’ll keep off his corns, let him have his own say,
And Lovey and we will continue O.K.

Dickery, dickery, dock!
Consider the Town Hall clock.
When the others go, it’s always slow,
It’s time it was put in hock.

Old Charlie Maley was a merry old soul,
And a stout old party was he,
He called for a donation
And a room for the formation
Of the party called “Smithy and Me.”
Tom, he was a Bishop’s son,
He learned to play when he was young,
And when the hockey stick he’ll wield
He’ll send us chasing down the field.
He’ll sell you a car or a tyre,
And once he sat down in the fire.
When we asked, “Is it hot?”
He said, “Certainly not.
I’m Tom Winterbottom, Esquire.”

An ex-German Flying Officer recently applied to Handley Page Ltd., London, for a position as pilot. He enclosed recommendations from German Squadron Commanders under whom he had served on the Western Front, and stated that he was familiar with English Territory, having flown over the Eastern Counties on many occasions!
The Story of the Sword

(By Captain C. R. Collins)

The Gaulish sword, though longer than the Roman, was not so well tempered and bent easily. The Romans, by getting to close quarters, and employing the thrust were able to gain the victory. Marius, himself a stout old ranker, besides making reforms in the Roman soldiers' equipment, established army fencing schools, employing the methods of instruction used by the gladiators in their training. The skill thus acquired in the use of his weapon, the consciousness of its superiority as regards temper to those used by the barbarian whom he was likely to encounter, coupled with the knowledge that the short thrusting weapon obliged him to close with his foe, greatly improved the morale of the Roman legions and imbued him with what we moderns call the spirit of the bayonet.

But the skill in fence acquired in Roman times disappeared almost entirely during the Middle Ages. In fact, the use of shield and complete armour made such skill unnecessary. The lance was essentially the weapon of the mediaeval knight, and the sword was brought into play only when the lance was broken, or the knight, by becoming unhorsed, was compelled to fight on foot. It was an age when brute force ruled in war and peace. Such blows as could not be parried with the shield were turned aside by the armour, and the knight's superiority in battle depended upon his being able to wear heavier armour, wield a heavier sword, and deal harder blows than his opponent. The quality and resisting powers of the armour, the strength and endurance of the wearer, determined the issue of the combat.

The romances and ballads of the time lauded strength rather than skill. William Wallace's sword could be wielded by no one but himself. The romancers and minstrels of the various nations even went as far as endow the swords of their heroes with magical properties. Malvolio (Morte d'Arthur, 113) makes the Lady of the Lake say, when giving King Arthur the sword:

"The name of it is Excalibur, that is so much to say as Cut-steel."

Other famous brands like the White Horse of Eric Brighteyes, La Joyeuse of Chaslemagne, Orlando's Durindale, and the Old Sol's, Caladoa, were enchanted blades which made victory certain for their owners. Magic, coupled with physical strength and endurance, were the deciding factors; skill did not enter into the matter at all. The sword was used for offence, armour and shield for defence. Accordingly, the sword of the Middle Ages was a ponderous weapon, with a long, pointed, double-edged blade, and an enormous hilt.
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hilt. This, in the age of Chivalry, the ideal which found expression in a combination of military adventure with religious observance, led to a practice which has a curious modern survival. The Crusading knight, in the wilds of Palestine, while at his devotions, used his cross-hilted sword in lieu of a crucifix, and to this day, when saluting with the sword, the hilt is brought to the level of the lips in the "reverence" position, because our forebears were accustomed to kissing the cross hilt.

It was left to the lower orders of mediæval society to re-institute the element of skill, as opposed to mere force, in swordplay. It must be borne in mind that the weapon of the knight was primarily the lance, and that his effectiveness in battle depended upon momentum and shock. The masses fought on foot, and were more lightly armed. Apart from the question of expense, heavy armour would have destroyed the mobility of the footman. Thus, a combat between two villeins, armed with sword and buckler, and unhampered by heavy armour, gave facilities for the development of skill. A further aid to the development of the sword was found in two of the characteristic amusements of the lower orders—the sword dances, which often took the form of a mimic combat between two individuals, or between two parties, armed with sword and buckler, and the performances of the gleemen or jongleurs, who, besides being musicians, were tumblers and jugglers, and who, not infrequently, juggled with swords.

The sword used was the broadsword, which remained the typical arm of the Englishman throughout four centuries. Though, during that time, it varied considerably in form: On the whole, it was similar in size and shape to the knight's sword, and bore at first, a plain cross hilt, to which, in the later Middle Ages, was added an outer ring. It was used for cutting and thrusting, the parties being made with the buckler, a small, disc-shaped ed shield which was carried on the left arm when not in use. Owing to the irksomeness of continually carrying the buckler on the person, it was gradually discarded, and this increased the necessity for skill in the use of the broadsword.

Egerton Castle points out, in "Schools and Masters of Fence," that "the universal feature of the history of all old schools of arms is that they arose among the middle classes." While knight and squire practised in the tilt-yard, the foot man perfected himself in the use of sword and buckler, his instructors being the jongleurs, the sword-dancers, or some old veteran of the wars.

Another factor in the acquisition of skill was, strangely enough, economic in its nature. As feudalism decayed the towns increased in number and importance, and there was an ever increasing tendency on the part of the towns, both in England and on the continent, to claim privileges and assert their independence. Commerce was replacing mediæval barter and the old feudal dues. Trade had to be protected and privileges maintained. The middle classes were beginning to assert themselves, and the only way for a class to assert itself was by proving and increasing its fighting value." Schools were founded," writes Mr. Egerton Castle, "where tuition in the art of fighting with every weapon used on foot could be obtained by anyone possessing the requisite pluck and sinews. On the continent, especially, where the fighting value of the middle classes was their chief safeguard against oppression, a number of fighting guilds arose, in which traditions of skill were handed down through generations; so that in the course of time it came to pass that men of all classes who wished to acquire great proficiency in the use of arms, found it necessary to resort to some such old school of fence." In fact, from the end of the Middle Ages until the end of the 18th century, when the French Revolution compelled aristocratic French refugees to eke out an existence as fencing instructors, all such instructors were of plebian origin.

Another type of sword which had a great vogue in Germany, though its use did not appeal to the mediæval Englishman, was the excessively long two-handed "Schwert," a cumbersome weapon, which, owing to its length, was carried at the rear, slung from the shoulders. Purely a cutting weapon, it was capable of dealing wide sweeping blows, though rather unsuitable for close combat. The
description in Scott's "Anne of Gerstein," of a duel between two men, one armed with a broad sword, the other with the Schwerdt, affords an ample illustration of the contrast between the two schools of fence.

The invention of firearms, not the least potent cause of the decline of chivalry, led to the gradual abandonment of armour, and the discarding of the steel gauntlet caused alterations in the shape of the hilt. The addition of the outer ring to the broadsword has already been alluded to, and further protection was necessary for the sword, hand. Rings and steel handguards were added until the modern hilt was evolved. The discarding of the buckler and the more cumbersome shield gave rise to more modern methods of parrying, though for a long time the sword was used for offence only. We turn again to Sir Walter Scott for an illustration of this transition period. In describing the combat between Fitzjames and Roderick Dhu, he says: "Ill fared it then with Roderick Dhu That on the ground his targe he threw/ For trained abroad his arms to wield/ Fitzjames's brand was sword and shield."

An apt illustration of mediaeval and modern methods, though Scott is guilty of an anachronism here. Throughout the Tudor period the buckler was replaced by the dagger, by means of which parries were effected. In the early 17th century the dagger was in its turn replaced by the cloak which was held twisted round the left arm. The old-fashioned, heavy, long sword of the knights gave way to lighter weapons. The replacement of feudal levies by professional armies did away with the necessity for every man to be a soldier, but gentlemen continued to wear swords as a mark of rank, and proficiency in the art of swordsmanship was long regarded, not only as a courtly accomplishment, but as an essential part of a gentleman's education. The knightly tourney was succeeded by the duello with all its punctiliousness and its complicated rules. With the disuse of armour came the increase of skill, and the superiority of the point to the cut gradually asserted itself. Incidentally there were many attempts on the part of governments to put down duelling. Queen Elizabeth found it necessary to issue a statute regulating the length of swords, and in France Richelieu made duelling a capital offence. However, the practice persisted until well into the nineteenth century, though the practice of wearing the sword went out with the French Revolution.

Among the new types of weapons were the small or dress sword, the rapier, the sabre, and the French sword or Épée. The smallsword was used in private life. It was a light arm with a straight thin blade, and was carried more for show than for actual use. The rapier was a long straight bladed sword, double-edged and inclined to be flat, tapering gradually from hilt to point and strengthened by a ridge running from hilt to point. Though in the 16th and 17th centuries the superiority of the point was beginning to assert itself, the rapier was probably an attempt to preserve the cutting and thrusting properties of the old long sword. The early Italian and Spanish rapiers were costly affairs, elaborately hilted, and frequently had motes inscribed on the blade. Ferrara in Italy, Bilbao and Toledo in Spain, were noted centres for the manufacture of rapiers, and weapons turned out in these places were greatly prized by connoisseurs. Here again it might be mentioned that, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica "Mechanical invention has not been able to supersede or equal handwork in the production of good sword blades. The swordsman's art is still a handicraft and requires a high order of skill."

The Épée differs from the rapier in being three sided like the old triangular bayonet. It has no edge, the point only being used.

The older type of sabre was a cutting and thrusting sword with a curved blade. The curve of the blade was probably due to an imitation of the oriental swords, the curve making a better cutting edge, necessitating a lesser expenditure of force, and thereby making the sabre a weapon eminently suitable for the mounted man. It is worthy of note that oriental peoples have always favoured the drawing cut and the typical Asiatic swords, the scimitar, the tulwar, and the yataghan, all have very curved blades especially designed for this purpose. However, even in mounted work, the superiority of the thrust is now recognised, and the present pattern cavalry sword has a straight blade, with a hilt specially designed, I believe, by Major J. Betts, of the Army Gymnastic Staff, a guardman who became the first Master at Aldershot Headquarters Gymnasium, a distinction which, up to 1919, had not been conferred upon anyone else.

That well-known effect of alcohol on the human system, the causing of double vision, was somewhat modified on the night the 11th and 44th held their respective reunions. The brews in one instance, though potent, were not administered in sufficient quantity, so that quadruple vision resulted, and many of the 11th were converted into 44th's. The chemical reactions received themselves into the following equation:

11 plus Thirst, equals 44 plus 11, plus Chaos.
TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES FOR SPINAL AND DOUBLE AMPUTATION CASES.

The League recently received the following letter from the Chairman of the Repatriation Commission giving more detailed advice relative to the above:

"I desire to advise you that the decision given by Cabinet in the matter is as follows:

That the Repatriation Commission be empowered to provide transport (or arrange for suitable transport at a cost not exceeding £10 per month per man) for recreation under Departmental medical advice for those soldiers totally and permanently incapacitated as a result of spinal, head, pelvic or hip injury, organic cerebral or spinal disease, and double amputation cases above or at the knee, whose means of locomotion, because of war disability, is permanently restricted to wheeled chairs or cots."

"It is estimated that there are approximately 120 ex-soldiers who are likely to come under that definition. The various classes of disabilities from which these ex-soldiers suffer are mainly as follows:

(a) Certain double leg amputations (above knee);
(b) Certain gunshot wound spine, resulting in paralysis of legs ;
(c) Certain diseases of spinal cord, resulting in paralysis of legs;
(d) Certain locomotor ataxia;
(e) Certain cerebral meningitis and haemorrhage;
(f) Certain diseased bone of spinal column;
(g) Certain gunshot wound head, resulting loss of locomotory powers;
(h) Certain tubercular spine—where classed as totally and permanently incapacitated.

In order to prepare a nominal roll of all ex-soldiers who are covered by the Cabinet decision it is necessary to examine some hundreds of files and many men in all parts of Australia, and this work

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is proceeding as expeditiously as practicable. It is, of course, essential that this be done as the initial step, so that it may be determined at the outset what the total requirements are in all States, and then devise the best ways and means of meeting all demands.

"Special officers are concentrating on this task in each State and at Headquarters, but the problem has proved a most intricate one to date, and many difficulties yet remain to be overcome.

"It may be some little time before the Commission is in a position to reach finality in the whole matter, but I may assure you that all avoidable delays will be eliminated, and the Commission will announce the arrangements decided upon as promptly as possible.

A TALE OF TWO CIVVIES.

There were once two civvies, who were of military age when the war broke out, and each was the Under Secretary of a government department. But one was rough, quite one of the bloys in fact, while the other cultivated a superb Oxford beat, wore grey garments, and held a species of military rank. When the war was on the outbreak as a Digger and although a treasure of an Under Secretary, continued to do his bit in the ranks. The other was voluntarily left, though he still wore the grey suit and still clung to his backsheesh rank. Eventually the Militray Board awakened and terminated the backsheesh rank, but the grey knight, despite his bloodless reputation, still continued to pose as an authority upon military matters.
SUB-BRANCH NOTES

MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE

This baby sub-branch, which is a little over a month old, is already a strong and sturdy infant and gives promise of growing into one of the strongest and soundest sons of the W.A. Branch. Already two general meetings have been held since the initial meeting. At that held on October 27 about 20 members attended and considerable enthusiasm was displayed. The election of officers resulted: President, Mr. G. Charles; Vice-President, Mr. Stan Gordon; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. Rogers; Auditor, Mr. J. Prendergast; Committee: Messrs. L. Vivian, T. Noble, E. Damo, W. Rowles, and C. Ash. A further meeting was held November 10th, at which five new members were enrolled, making a total of 25. The State Secretary and Mr. Lennon attended and gave interesting and instructive addresses on the League's activities. It is to be hoped that at least two executive delegates will attend each meeting until the branch is well established. Poppay Day yielded a profit of 15/10/-, which goes into the Amelioration Fund. This is considered entirely satisfactory, because of the short notice. It is hoped to organise a Women's Auxiliary at an early date. The next meeting will be held in the old Leederville Council Chambers on Thursday, the 24th inst. All soldiers in the locality are invited to attend.

MT. BARKER

The ordinary meeting was held on Friday, November 4th, before a good attendance as usual, with F. G. Saunders (President) in the chair. Among many things discussed was the Agenda Paper submitted forward by this Branch. Members finally came to the conclusion that if this motion was carried on to the Migration and Development Commission that they may also be able to use their influence in this district, so the Secretary was instructed to forward the resolution to the State Secretary. Re names plates for the trees planted by the relatives of fallen soldiers on ground prepared by ToC H, which includes several members of this sub-branch, it was decided to keep in touch with the Local Road Board Secretary who had prices for this class of work. Re invitations to Katanning on Friday, 18th November, to a district reunion, this was accepted and arrangements left with Secretary to arrange transport. Several have given notice to travel to Katanning. Re the unrolling of Honour Board in the new District Hall to be opened on November 17th, it was decided to await Col. Collett's reply as to whether it would be suitable for him to come along from Katanning to this job on Saturday, November 19th. If so, a committee has been appointed consisting of Messrs. Gorman, Clothier, and Morgan, with President and Secretary, to do the finalising. As the Colonel has been looking forward to his trip, it is to be hoped now that the event will happen, and a good impression is the result. In connection with the Honour Board, it was also resolved that the branch heartily appreciate the efforts of Mrs. Geo. Wall and the members of the Rainbow Concert Party for the funds raised to be expended on this splendid tablet. The pictures are doing well and shareholders are being handed out another small "divvy." Possibly the seating provided in the new hall will attract better houses. The chairs will certainly be better than the seats with three boards provided. "Sergeant" seats, as they are known, and if a rush was on patrons would strike the old "corporate" seat while at the back was a "lance jack" seat in reserve. Anyway, good padded chairs should not be hard to take after five years of hard sitting.

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the absence of the President, who was unfortunately out of town. Mr. E. S. Watt represented the State Executive and spoke on the many matters agitating the minds of Executive delegates. The usual toasts were honoured, the speakers being Messrs. Mann, Butfield, Chappell, George, Watt, and others. Appropriate stories were told and musical and elocutionary items of a high standard were enjoyed. A new departure was the toast "Rejected Volunteers," which was responded to by Mr. George (a son of Mr. George, M.L.A.) who stated that it was surprising that any returned soldier should be seen without the symbol of honour—the R.S.L. badge—in his coat. If they only knew how he and many more rejected volunteers like himself, envied men who had the honour to be eligible for League membership, they would recognise their distinction and retain their League membership until the call of Father Time. Mr. Mann and Secretary Billy Chappell said that they would take up a challenge thrown down by Mr. Watt to increase the membership to 200 within the next year. The function was a great success, finishing up in the wee small hours with Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

BRIDGETOWN

It is the first time in the history of this branch that a re-union dinner has been held, and those who were fortunate enough to be present will never erase that pleasing recollection from their memory. The tables, which were fully occupied, the number present being 108, which included the State President (Col. Collett), State Secretary (Mr. D. M. Benson), Rev. E. H. O. Nye, and Mr. A. Yeates, were loaded to their full capacity with the most tempting edibles, while Bob Vale and his committee kept marching round with the "drinkables." It was a grand thought to invite the "Dads" of all the men who enlisted in the Great War to be present. This mark of respect is one that will count for much in the opinions of those who sent their sons at the Empire's call.

Major Whitell (President of the branch) presided, and after the loyal toasts had been honoured, that to Fallen Comrades was drunk in silence, followed shortly by the triple toasts of the Navy, Army, and Air Forces, which was accompanied with musical honours. The next toast, the State President, was ably proposed by Major Whitell, and the following are the titbits of his speech: Since meeting Colonel Collett he knew two things, one that he (the Colonel) was a man, and that he is again State President. As a man, he had a distinguished career at the war, and is now one of Perth's most respected citizens. At the Congress there was none who wanted other than the Colonel to be again leader of the R.S.L. in this State. They didn't elect him—they demanded him.

On rising to respond the Colonel received an ovation of prolonged cheering, and his lengthy reply was typical of the eloquent speaker that he is.

In proposing the toast of Kindred Branches, Mr. Wilkes said he was a group settler, but all the returned men on his group were imbued with the spirit of the R.S.L., not so much for what they got out of it, but to assist those who were less fortunate than themselves.

The "Dads" was ably proposed by H. Armstrong, and to show their appreciation of their invitation all wanted to respond, but the three Dads who had the privilege to speak could not have voiced the general feeling better if they all spoke.

The toast, The President, was proposed by Mr. T. H. Savory, who said that this was a most important toast, especially to members of this branch. He (the President) was a great organiser, and thus was the principle of his many fine qualities. On behalf of the branch he expressed appreciation at the progress since he had undertaken the chief position, which he had carried out in a manner that did him great credit.

In replying, Major Whitell, who was greeted with prolonged and enthusiastic cheering, stated he was not a speaker and he thought that one of the reasons was that when he first joined his regiment he was told that he need not speak until he was spoken to. (Laughter.) He followed with a resume of the past year's workings of the branch.

"The State Executive." This toast was entrusted to Mr. J. Kirby, who made a good job of it, but not before he had made up his mind. His notes covered the width of the table. On rising to respond, Padre E. H. O. Nye, who was greeted with tumultuous applause, expressed his pleasure at having been one of the founders of the Bridgetown Branch, and also the fact that he had been its first President. He gave a long and interesting address, and when he finished he left the impression that a person would travel many miles to hear him speak again.

"The Ladies' Auxiliary and Red Cross" was proposed by W. Bowler, who said their good work would go down to posterity.

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“The State Secretary” was proposed by the Secretary of the Bridgetown Branch (Mr. R. Urquhart). In the course of his remarks he said that Mr. Benson was a very busy man and was really the ambassador of the R.S.L. Dave Benson’s was a very interesting speech and some of his figures were eye-openers. If we only knew what Dave knew — but then we could all be State Secretaries.

The last toast of the evening was that to Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Vale, to the splendid table that had been provided. In proposing the toast, Major Whittell said Mrs. Vale was a typical “digger’s wife.”

The singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought to a conclusion the most successful evening ever conducted by this branch. Many stayed behind to the “pow wow” which followed.

MUNDIJONG.

A most successful Memorial Service was held in the Mundijong Soldiers’ Memorial Hall on the evening of Armistice Day. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Hobbs, Church of England, and the Rev. Abbott, Methodist.

There were over 150 people present, but the outstanding feature was the solid representation of the local sub-branch. The Diggers sat in a compact body in the front of the hall, and their hearty rendering of such old favourite hymns as “Jesu, Lover of my Soul,” “Nearer My God to Thee,” “Onward, Christian Soldiers,” and “Abide With Me,” carried one back to other days. An atmosphere of deep reverence pervaded the service, making it a fitting and worthy tribute to the memories of those who made the supreme sacrifice.

Nor were those who sacrificed health and vigour forgotten, for the response to the Poppy Appeal was generous and the money so raised will form a useful nucleus for a local Distress Fund. The loyal support of the public demonstrated to the branch that its work is being observed and appreciated. This should encourage all ex-service men in the district to continue the good work and extend the scope of its present operations.

WAROONA.

“Shrapnell” writes: On Saturday, October 22nd, the President (Mr. G. Seager), Secretary (Mr. R. Roberts), accompanied by Messrs. Stan Weller and A. Tanner, attended a smoko taken at the Harvey sub-branch at Harvey. The weather was inclined to be damp, but it did not dampen the overflow of spirits — jovial and alcoholic — which prevailed that evening.

The guests of honour were the State Executive Officers, Col. Collett, C. M. Benson, and Mr. Yeates. With speeches, recitations, and songs, a very pleasant evening was spent, presided over by the Harvey President, Mr. Darnish, and the Diggers present. “Shrapnell” noticed six or seven members of the Yearloop Sub-Branch enjoying themselves immensely.

Sunday morning, October 23, Waroona was honoured by a visit from the Colonel and his “A de kongs,” the occasion being the unveiling of an Honour Board, which the Waroona Sub-Branch had presented to the District. The Agricultural Hall, in which the Board was hung, was crowded with the residents of the district by 10 a.m. The ceremony was performed by the Colonel in a charming and impressive way. Also the speeches of his two worthy aides were well worth hearing. Mr. G. Walmsley, a past president of the sub-branch, in a few well chosen words proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, which was heartily responded to.

After the ceremony Colonel Collett, Messrs. Benson and Yeates, the President, Vice-President (Mr. W. Stacey) of the sub-branch proceeded to the Branch Secretary’s (Mr. R. Roberts), home where a dainty lunch was partaken of, the visitors leaving for Perth at about 1 p.m. with the good wishes of all in the district.

The sub-branch intends to hold a picnic sports on the third Saturday in February next year to augment their Amelioration Fund.

FREMANTLE DISTRICT.

This Branch has been slowly forging ahead during the past few months and with the never-ending spade work of the Secretary (Jack Lynch) and President (Theo. Brennan), assisted by an energetic executive, the membership has reached the 300 mark. The Branch has also done a host of amelioration work, helping lame dogs over the stile, and a great deal of praise is due to the Ladies’ Auxiliary for the splendid help they have given. Every Digger in the Port is invited to join the R.S.L. Fremantle Branch, and see and hear for himself what the Branch does for both the Digger and ex-Imperial soldier, and also to see what can be done when returned soldiers cling together.

NAREMBERNE.

At the meeting held on October 28th, Secretary Boyce’s report on the activities of the branch for the past month was received. It was decided to ask Colonel Collett, Mr. Benson, and other representatives of the State Executive to be present at the branch anniversary social to be held in the first week in January next. The art union committee submitted a good report, and any Digger desiring tickets is asked to communicate with the Secretary. Credit is due to President C. Latham, M.L.A., for having obtained the necessary permission to draw the art union on 28th December, 1927. Next meeting is to be held on 25th November.

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