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FORREST CHAMBERS, ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH
November 23, 1928.

**Pointless Propaganda**

Those well meaning idealists who fill agenda papers with a plethora of resolutions, in favour of universal peace and its corollary, disarmament, usually act on the assumption—

1. That there is an aggressive military caste in this country, which is working night and day to bring about another war;
2. That all foreign nations who advocate peace pacts are sincere in their efforts to achieve complete disarmament, and not merely striving to render the British Empire powerless;
3. That their hearers are profoundly influenced by their speeches instead of being aroused to feelings of amused tolerance.

In view of the fact that we, and all the other nations of the world who are least likely in any case to engage in another war, have already signed the Kellogg Peace Pact, the demonstration held last Armistice Day by various women's organisations, in favour of universal peace, appears to offer a useless expenditure of energy (and hot air), somewhat like that of the horse who swam across a river to get a drink, of the salesman who tried to sell Henry Ford a buggy whip.

As a demonstration, merely, the affair almost became a farce. It was badly organised and badly conducted... Had the gentleman at the head of the procession, and who seemed to be directing proceedings, been a returned soldier, he would have been better equipped by knowledge and experience for conducting a march through the city, and furthermore his advocacy of universal peace would have carried more conviction with the general public.

The speeches delivered, while amusing, were generally meaningless and unconvincing. There was a certain amount of thinly veiled political propaganda, as in the case of the lady who blandly asserted that all wars are brought about by soulless capitalists in search of world markets: futile hysteria, as for example, the lady who pronounced to prevent future wars by depriving little boys of their toy guns and aeroplanes: and a whole lot of sheer unadulterated silliness. In connection with the second category, the good ladies themselves, though it had been previously suggested that even Anzac Day processions might be eliminated in the interests of peace, marched to the Esplanade in semi-military formation behind a brass band: but then, as Oscar Wilde pointed out, "Consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds." No one, however, suggested that the Salvation Army, a body organised in conformity with the allegory of incessant warfare between Good and the Forces of Evil, should adopt some other name and compel its officers to refrain from designating themselves by military titles, lest the young Christian should aspire to become a member of a military caste. The only real contribution to the discussion was the plea put forward by representatives of religious bodies, urging the public towards fuller realisation of the meaning of the Christian life.

Frankly, we believe that demonstrations of this nature could be dismissed as futile were it not for the opportunities they afford the political propagandaist and others who cannot refrain from uttering sentimental twaddle in public. Political propaganda, merely as political propaganda, may be ignored in this instance. It is always one-eyed, invariably provokes counter-propaganda, and so defeats its own object.

Hysteria is quite another matter. It is infectious, and under its influence feeling supplants discretion, and causes people to say things which are avidly seized upon by those enemies of the Empire who, both within its confines and abroad, persistently advocate disarmament, so that we may be rendered helpless.

In view of the present condition of the world, disarmament, the only practical step in the direction of universal peace, is impossible. In view of the fact that our White Australia policy is a challenge to the rest of the world, while at the same time our empty spaces are a temptation to aggression, even if practicable, is a luxury we Australians cannot afford. That we are not an aggressive people is evident from the fact that our defence forces have been reduced below the margin of safety. We could not, however much we desired, engage in a war of aggression. Why then all this hysteria about peace abroad? Would not these women's organisations be more profitably employed bringing about industrial peace within the Commonwealth?

It was the spirit of the army—after all, the A.I.F.—that eventually brought victory to Australia. That same spirit is alive to-day among the best of the veterans of the Great War—who join the R.S.L. from a desire to help others. That spirit of charity, of unselfish endeavours, and the true form of comradeship is made apparent to the close observer in almost every action of the League. Occasionally a story of self-sacrifice is heard, and it is one of such that we have been fortunate to learn. We will tell the plain story without padding—

On Tuesday, 13th November, a digger farther of Lake Brown was accidentally killed, a tractor passing over his body. He left a widow and four little children, and things were not too good financially, and the widow's health was poor. The unfortunate fellow's remains were buried on the Thursday at Nungarin, diggers turning up from all parts of the district for the funeral. Immediately after the funeral the diggers invited the general public to join them at a meeting in the local hall to discuss the position of the widow and children. The response was splendid, and a committee was formed to look after immediate wants. The sum of £7 7s. 6d. was donated by those present to start a fund, and arrangements made from which a considerable sum is anticipated. Nungarin, Lake Brown, Goomarin and Mukinbudin, and residents of surrounding districts, will work together to render assistance. Two diggers who held P.N.'s for the sum of £16, payable in February against the widow's crop, not only stated at the meeting that they would cancel them, but also threw in some hard cash for present needs. Other diggers who live handy to the farm have volunteered to take off the crop for the widow.

Of such was the spirit of the A.I.F. and such is the spirit of the R.S.L.

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"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
State Executive Meetings
31st October, 1928.

Present.—Messrs. Collett, Parker, McAdam, Philip, Watt, Nye, Yeates, Longmore, Smith, Tozer, Pady, Tyler, Margolin, Cook, Lovell, and Freedman.

Visiting Committee.—The Management Committee recommended the appointment of the Committee to visit C.H.T. and "Lemnos" as follows:—Rev. D. I. Freedman, Rev. E. H. O. Nye, and the State Secretary.

The recommendation was adopted.

Federal Correspondence.—Soldier Settlers.—The Federal Executive forwarded a copy of a resolution passed by the Victorian State Branch Congress concerning further assistance to soldier settlers. The reply of the Prime Minister thereto was also enclosed.

A letter from the Federal Executive concerning the Repatriation Commission's Annual Report was received.

Hon. Membership.—The Federal Executive forwarded a copy of a communication from the B.E.S.L., which requested that the League arrange to make British migrants Hon. Members of the League on their arrival in Australia for the period of three months.

After discussion the matter was left in the hands of the delegates to the Federal Congress.

Armistice Day Message from the Federal President was received.

Employment Bureaux.—The report of the operations of the Employment Bureaux throughout the Commonwealth for the month of September was received.

Invitations.—The Subiaco Sub-Branch extended an invitation to the State President and State Secretary to attend an Armistice Social, to be held on November 13th. The President accepted.

S.A. Veterans' Association extended an invitation to members of the Executive to attend their annual Memorial Service and Parade in King's Park. The invitation was received and delegates were requested to hand in their names to the State Secretary if they desired to attend.

Southern Cross Sub-Branch invited the State President and members of the Executive to their re-union, to be held on November 10th. The matter was left in the hands of the President.

Wyalkatchen Sub-Branch advised that they were holding their re-union on November 10th, and requested Executive representation. Mr. Watt intimated that he might be able to attend.

Armistice Day Services.—Advice was received concerning services to be held in St. George's Cathedral and the Mt. Hawthorn Congregational Church.

The matter of representation was left in the hands of the State President to arrange.

Membership.—The Merredin Sub-Branch wrote concerning the admission to membership of allied soldiers, pointing out that the Sub-Branch had decided that no allied soldiers be admitted to membership, pending an opinion from the State Executive. The State President undertook to reply to the letter.

Women's United Effort for Peace.—The State Executive of the Women's Auxiliary advised that they had received a communication from Mrs. Joyner, Chairman of the Committee for the Women's United Effort for Peace, requesting them to take part in the demonstration. They had replied pointing out that the matter involved the policy of the R.S.L., and they sought the guidance of the Executive.

Moved by Rabbi Freedman, seconded by Mr. Yeates, that whilst the League is wholeheartedly in support of every effort to promote peace, it does not deem it necessary to take part in any demonstrations.—Carried.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Longmore, that the State Executive of the Women's Auxiliary be informed that the R.S.L. is in favour of any genuine demonstration towards world peace, and that the matter of their participation or otherwise in any demonstration be left to their own discretion.—Lost.

Art Unions.—Boulder Sub-Branch.—Boulder Sub-Branch knew that they intended to apply to the Commissioner of Police for permission to conduct an art union on the Sydney Cup in April of next year. They requested the permission of the Executive. It was decided to request the sub-branch to comply with the Executive resolution already carried in connection with art unions.

Campion-Geelakina Sub-Branch sought permission of the Executive to conduct an art union for the purposes of providing funds for a Memorial Hall. After discussion, the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Branch, pointing out the difficulties experienced by others conducting similar ventures, and also to advise the sub-branch that permission is never granted to conduct an art union for memorial hall purposes.

Imperial Pensions Appeal.—The B.E.S.L. forwarded a memorandum on War Pension Appeals (Ex-Imperial). This was referred to the Pensions Sub-Committee for information.

Congress Resolutions.—In connection with the following resolutions carried by Congress, a deputation consisting of Rev. C. L. Riley, Rabbi Freedman, Messrs. E. S. Watt, C. P. Smith and the State President, was appointed to interview the Premier:

"That ex-Imperial Soldiers employed on Government Works receive the same privileges as A.I.F. men on Anzac Day. That the State Government be requested to declare its policy in regard to Anzac Day, and, if declared, to the conditions of decision be known to employees at least one month prior to such day.

"That the Government be approached with a view to falling in line with the Eastern States Governments in commemoration of the fallen soldiers of the State."

Poppy Day.—The resolution referred to the Executive for action reading as follows was then considered:

"That, as next Poppy Day falls on Sun-

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day, the State Executive arrange its ob-
serve on the following lines:— An ad-
der by His Grace Archbishop Riley;
Combined Choirs of the Metropolitan
Area; Combined Bands of the Metropoli-
tan Area, The ceremony to take place on
the Esplanade, Perth.”

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr.
Watt, that the item be referred back to
Maylands Sub-Branch, which Sub-Branch
was responsible for its submission to
Congress, and they be advised that sufficient
time is not available to allow of the
necessary organisation—Lost.

Moved by Rabbi Freedman, seconded
by Col. Margolin, that this Executive is
not in favour of the observance of Armis-
tice Day in the manner suggested in the
resolution. Such ceremonies should be
confined to ANZAC Day.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Philp, seconded by Mr.
Cook, that the remaining items referred
by Congress to the Executive for con-
sideration be circularised amongst mem-
bers, and a special meeting be called by
the President for their consideration.—
Lost.

Federal Congress Items.—The considera-
tion of Federal Congress items was left
to the Management Committee, who will
advise the delegates to Congress thereon. Mr.
Nye was added to the Committee.

Reports.—The State Secretary read the
report of operations of the office for
the preceding fortnight. The report was re-
ceived.

Land Committee.—Mr. Yeates reported
on behalf of the Land Committee. The
report was received and adopted.

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Poppy Day Committee.—The State Sec-
retary submitted the report of the meet-
ing of the Poppy Day Committee. The
report was received and adopted.

Arising out of the Poppy Day Com-
mitee’s report, the question of more
suitable territory for Perth Sub-Branch
was referred to the Committee for its
consideration for future Poppy Days.

Pensions Committee.—Mr. Nye sub-
mitted a report of the Pensions Com-
mitee, held on the 24th October.
The report was received and adopted.

Notice of Motion.—Mr. C. P. Smith
gave notice of his intention to move at
the next meeting as follows:—

“That vigorous efforts be made by all
members of the Executive, and by all

Sub-Branches, to attract to the Returned
Soldiers’ League all returned soldiers in
the State, in order that during the centen-
ary year the R.S.L. might be brought as
nearly as possible to its maximum
strength.”

Enquiry Committee Report.—Further
consideration of this report was then pro-
ceeded with, and a number of items agreed
to.

14th November, 1928.
Present: Col. Collett, Messrs. Riley,
Parker, Philp, Watt, Nye, Yeates, Saddler,
Longmore, Shaw, Wells, Smith, Tozer,
Tyler, Cooke, Lovell, Freedman,
Apologies were received from Messrs.
M’Adam, Pady and Logie.

Correspondence.—Armistice Day.—The
Federal Executive forwarded copy of a
letter received from the B.E.S.L., in
which it was stated that it had been un-
animously decided to adopt the sugges-
tion made by the late Field Marshal Earl
Haig to arrange for a wreath of poppies
to be placed on the Western Cemetery or
other appropriate memorial in the capital
city of each Dominion. The letter was
received.

English Migrants.—A copy of letter
from the B.E.S.L. was forwarded by the
Federal Executive concerning the recep-
tion of migrants at Australian ports. It
suggested that committees be formed to
meet new arrivals.

It was decided to refer the letter to
Mr. Pady for report, and that the Albany
Sub-Branch be communicated with and
asked if they could make some such ar-
angement.

Empire Trade.—A letter from the B.E.
S.L. concerning the sale of articles manu-
factured by ex-Service men in all parts,
of the Empire was received.

Invitations.—The Midland Junction
Sub-Branch desired the President and
Secretary to attend their social on Friday,
7th December. Messrs. Riley, Lovell and
Cooke accepted.

Murray Sub-Branch desired Executive
representation at their annual meeting.
to be held on December 1st. Messrs. Cooke, Tyler and Wells accepted.

Visiting Committee.—Mr. Nye reported on behalf of the visiting committee. The report was received.

Condolence.—Reference was made to the recent death of Mr. T. P. Lennon, and it was resolved that this Executive express its deepest sympathy with Mrs. Lennon and relatives, and place its high appreciation of the services rendered on behalf of the League by Mr. Lennon.

New Sub-Branches.—An application was made for permission to form a sub-branch of the League at Dowak. As the constitution had been complied with, permission was granted.

Onslow.—Dr. Stenning, of Onslow, sought the necessary permission for the formation of a sub-branch in that district. Permission was granted.

Reciprocity, B.E.S.L.—The B.E.S.L. forwarded a communication dealing with the establishment of a system which would bring about that camaraderie which existed under similar conditions throughout the Empire, which was so much desired and striven for by the late Field Marshal Earl Haig. A questionnaire was forwarded with the communication. The reply was left in the hands of the State Secretary.

"W.A. Digger Book."—The Press Sub-Branch advised that it had appointed a sub-committee to consider the preparation of a book to be issued by the League during 1923, the suggested name being "The W.A. Digger Book." The necessary approval of the Executive was sought.

The recent State Congress had passed a resolution to this effect, and the Executive expressed its approval of the action taken by the Press Sub-Branch, and adopted its suggestion.

Membership (Aliens).—The Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch requested that delegates to the Federal Congress be instructed to strive for the deletion of the sentence "Members of the Allied Armies who have served in the present war may be admitted as members after investigation" from page 9 of the Book of Constitution. After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that delegates to the Federal Congress be instructed not to support the question raised by Kalgoorlie, as it would be inconsistent with the policy laid down by the B.E.S.L. of which we are a constituent part—Carried.

State Migration Advisory Committee.—A further letter was received concerning the cancelled visit of Lord Lovat, and stating that F. Skewton, M.B.E., T. E. Cruchley, C.B.E., and W. Bankes Amery, Esq., would be visiting Perth in December, and desired to meet organisations interested in welfare work and overseas settlement. They requested a delegation of two be appointed. The matter was left in the hands of the Land Committee.

Wheat Carting Subsidy.—The Kopinda-Karragar Sub-Branch requested the Executive to approach the State Government with a view to having a subsidy granted to assist soldier settlers on the Karragarin and Eastward areas in wheat carting, until such time as adequate railway facilities are provided.

The Secretary explained that the Member for the District had been making enquiries and intended to see him later.

Moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that the matter be deferred pending further advice from the Member.

Representative, R.S.L. Band.—Mr. G. D. Shaw was appointed representative on the R.S.L. Band.

Migration, ex-Imperial Men.—Lt.-Col. Manning wrote stating that he had been communicating with the B.E.S.L., the Hon. Secretary of which had informed him that he had endeavoured to ameliorate the treatment of ex-Imperial men. The letter was received.

Notice of Motion.—The notice of motion given by Mr. C. P. Smith at the last meeting was deferred until the next meeting.

Congress Resolutions.—Replies from the various departments to resolutions passed by Congress were placed before the delegates. These will be published in this Journal.

Congress Items.—Items referred by the State Congress to the Executive were then considered:

Congress reaffirms the principle of preference and instructs the incoming Executive to bring this matter again prominently before all employers and the public in general.

Moved by Mr. Lovell, seconded by Mr. Watt, that press publicity be given to this matter from time to time, and also that the Employers' Federation be communicated with.—Carried.

That a system of State Insurance should be inaugurated to cover all soldier settlers' properties in a comprehensive policy similar to that of the War Service Homes.

Moved by Mr. Longmore, seconded by Mr. Yeates, that the Secretary be instructed to obtain all information on this question from the State Insurance Department and Agricultural Bank officials, and submit to the Executive for its consideration at the next meeting.—Carried.

That the paragraph in the State President's report (page 14) which deals with the desirability of devising some financial means by which the "Listening Post" could be enlarged and improved, be referred to the incoming Executive for investigation and such action as may be found possible.

Moved by Mr. Tozer, seconded by Mr. Riley, that it be referred to a Committee consisting of the State President, Messrs. Parker and Smith, with power to co-opt. That Associate Membership, eligibility being defined by Congress.

Delegates to Federal Congress were requested to make enquiries and secure a definition.

That an Advisory Board of successful local settlers, not necessarily returned soldiers, should be appointed in each district of the South-West, with power to give relief under the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

Moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Shaw, that no action be taken.—Carried.

That Congress approved of the State Executive approaching the Dried Fruits Board of Western Australia, asking them...
not to enforce the Bill for the export of saltanas until after the 1928-29 season.

The Secretary was instructed to interview the State Fruits Board in connection with this item.

That all pensioners' children get a flat rate, irrespective of the pensioners' rate. It was decided that no action be taken.

Action to be taken was also decided on with regard to a large number of other resolutions passed by Congress.

Reports.—State Secretary read the report of the operation of the office for the preceding fortnight. The report was received and adopted.

Poppy Day.—Mr. Tozer delivered a report on behalf of the Poppy Day Committee. The report was adopted.

Moved by Mr. Tyler, and seconded by Mr. Longmore, that the Poppy Day and Anzac Day Committee as now constituted function for the coming year.—Carried.

Finance Committee.—Report of the Finance Committee meeting, held on the 31st October, was read and adopted.

House Committee.—Report of the House Committee meeting held on November 6th was received and adopted.

Relief Funds.—The report of the activities of the R.S.L. Relief Fund for the month of October was received and adopted.

In this connection Mr. Watt reported that a meeting had been arranged with the Employment and Aid Society with a view to securing the balance of their fund for amelioration. The meeting had decided that the balance remain as at present, and that the interest accruing from time to time be donated to the R.S.L. Relief Fund. The report was received.

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

Land Committee.—Mr. Yeates delivered an interim report on behalf of the Land Committee. The report was received.

Armistice Day.—Delegates reported on services attended by them on Armistice Day.

Fremantle.—Mr. Parker reported having presented the Executive at the Fremantle Smoko Social. The report was received.

Collie.—Mr. Wells reported having visited Collie. Report received.

Northam.—Mr. Doney reported having attended the Annual Re-union of the Northam Sub-Branch in company with the State Secretary.

Subiaco.—The President reported having attended the Armistice Social of the Sub-Branch at Subiaco.

Bunbury.—Mr. Yeates reported having visited Bunbury.

Congratulations.—It was decided to forward a letter of congratulation to Mr. Doney, who is a returned soldier and the successful candidate for the recent Williams-Narrogin election.

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CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS AND DEPARTMENTAL REPLIES

Suspension Group Settlers

Resolution.—That in the event of a Group Settler being suspended, the settler to have the right to appeal to the Advisory Board and visit from same before being put off his holding.

Reply from the Secretary, Group Settlement Department:

"In reply to your memo, of the 30th ultimo, the procedure, where the Group Settlement Board endorses the Field Officer's recommendation to retire a group settler, is to give him written notice of retirement in, with the right of appeal, in writing to the Board against the decision. On receipt of the appeal, the Board determines whether further investigation by it on the spot is necessary; and settler remains until advised on this point.

"In practice, the Board has to date investigated on the Group every case before giving a final decision."

Price of Clearing

Resolution.—That Congress is of the opinion that the maximum price of clearing on the wheat belt should be raised to 35/- per acre.

Reply from Mr. E. McClarty, General Manager, Agricultural Bank:

"At recent years of the 30th ultimo, with reference to increasing the price for clearing forest country, I have to inform you that this matter has been discussed by the Trustees on several occasions, and it was considered inadvisable to alter present conditions.

"Our experience is that settlers have no difficulty in getting clearing done by contract at Bank prices, and any increase made by the Bank would necessarily mean an increase in clearing costs.

"Our experience is that settlers have no difficulty in getting clearing done by contract at Bank prices, and any increase made by the Bank would necessarily mean an increase in clearing costs.

"The Bank price inevitably becomes the basic price, and any inflation in clearing costs would be detrimental to the interests of settlers.

South-West Drainage

Resolution.—That the Government be asked to view to getting deeper and wider drainage in the South West.

Reply from the Under Secretary for Works and Labour:

"I have, by direction, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, with reference to the desirability of further drainage in the South West.

"The Hon. Mr. Cunningham states that the Government is alive to the fact that additional drainage works in the South West are necessary in order to bring more land under cultivation. Apart from the fact that a large sum of money has just been expended on the completion of the Ruelston Drainage Works, the Government has authorised the expenditure of a considerable sum—an amount a making comprehensive surveys and investigations with a view to ascertaining the probable cost of more effectively draining land between the Peel Estate and Bunbury. Until these investigations have been completed and a scheme submitted, it is not possible for the Department to decide what works might be carried out. The Hon. Minister agrees with you that the question of costs in relation to the benefits which might be derived from additional drainage works is an important factor.

"When the Engineer-in-Chief's report has been received, consideration will be given to the request made by you."

Country School Shelters

Resolution.—That the Government be asked to build weather-huts for country schools.

Reply from the Acting Director of Education:

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th October, and to inform you that it is impossible to find funds for shelter sheds at all country schools. Nearly all our schools have verandahs, and instructions are issued to teachers some time ago that where these verandahs were insufficient in hot or rainy weather, the children were to be allowed to use the school room during..."
lunch time or other periods when the room was not actually being used for teaching.

AGRICULTURAL BANK TERMS
Resolution.—Congress considers that the settlement in heavily timbered country is being retarded by the heavy expenses of bringing this country into profit, and suggests that Agricultural Bank terms be made easier.

Reply from Assistant General Manager, Mr. W. Grogan:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, I do not see how the Bank's mortgage terms can be made easier. Improvement loans have a currency of thirty years, interest only being payable during the first ten years. The repayments, which begin in the eleventh year, are on a graduated scale, commencing with 2½ per cent. for the first half year, increasing by 2½ per cent. each succeeding six-monthly period.

Songs of Sophistication
(By Benjamin Buttonstick)

Voici le sabre! Le sabre! Le sabre!
Voici le sabre! Le sabre de mon pere.

(Interruption by "Pip Tork," who breaks in upon the wave-length: "Steady on, Benjamin, old son. You're in danger of becoming political. You know what that leads to, and in any case, there's no need for you to give the French Opera crowd a free advertisement." Therefore, more in sorrow than in anger, I retune my fire and switch off into Gilbert and Sullivan.)

Ho, I might assault my neighbour,
Or his wife and kids, belabour.
When I go out on the pace:
But, despite opponents' prattle,
The sabre I won't rattle
In the sovereign people's face.

I would toss on high the saber
To the sound of pipe, and tabour,
But I scorn to flash the sabre
In the sovereign people's face.

Yake Vonsson filled the office chair,
His flag nailed to the mast,
And he refused to move an inch.

Till Thomas Walsh went past:
But Thomas was a cunning man,
He saw a learned judge,
And now that Yake is doing time,
True Thomas will not budge.

Pershing's dashing Yankee Boys arrived late at the war,
Tommy's, Jocks and Poilus all were welling in their gore;

Candles, Australians and Enzedds bore the brunt as well—
No wonder old Sherman stated "War is hell."
The Yanks! the Yanks! the people of the past;
The Yanks! the Yanks! It is a solid fact.

It came in late to trumpet's sound, to squeal of fife and drum;
Now Kellog is ord'ring the millennium.

Armistice Reflections

Like the German Navy of the days before 1914, we toasted "The Day" and prayed for the Day, but in our case the day we hoped for was the day on which the Hun would cease from troubling and the guns would be at rest.

It was a consumption devoutly to be wished, and every musical show of those bitter years contained at least one number that visioned the bright day of peace dawning upon a war-redened world. A nation's songs, be they banal or otherwise, reflect the spirit of its people, and the songs of war years were true to type. Through some, like "Keep the Home Fires Burning," there breathed a spirit of wistful resignation. Others, like "The Laddies who Fought and Won," or "When the Boys Come Back," gave evidence of that stiff upper lip which men of British blood invariably wear when facing their troubles. Others again, like "The Night upon which Peace is Declared," forecasted the bacchanalian atmosphere likely to be experienced when the war would at last be over. None of them voiced the slightest pessimism, nor did any of them express the slightest doubt as to our ultimate victory. Pessimism and doubts were for the lesser breeds without the law. Surely there is nothing decadent about a nation that can sing in the face of adversity.

Even in the dark days of 1918, when the Allied line was crumbling before the knuckled-blow of Fritz, like sand-dunes being swept away by a tidal wave, our one thought was, "Well, this has added another year or two to the business." It was no mere flight of newspaper propaganda that declared "The spirit of the troops is excellent." In fact, when that extraordinary man, Horatio Bottomley, stated in "John Bull," that the war would be over by Christmas, the papers of the world could find space to give him for ommission rather than correction. Something like this must have been at the back of the mind of our battalion poet, when he wrote a song, very popular in our mess, to the tune of "Off the Philadelphia." After the lapse of years I can remember but a portion of the chorus:

"So in two or three or four years,
Or in five or six or more years,
Don't say you haven't had sufficient warning!

Won't the Old Maid be excited,
Won't the Mater be delighted,
When they find the war is over in the morning?"

Through all the frozen horrors of the 1916-17 winter, and throughout the uncertain days of the great Hun offensive, we clung to a blind faith in two things—

that the war would end with dramatic suddenness, and that we should emerge from it victorious. How war did end is for the historian, but it was quite fitting that the day of the Armistice should fall on the eleventh of November, St. Martin's Day, the day of a soldier saint.

St. Martin of Tours was a soldier of the Gallic Legion during the period of the Roman Empire, and during a severe winter campaign he bestowed his military cloak upon a semi-naked beggar. That night the beggar appeared to him in a vision, and Martin learned that he had given his cloak to the Saviour of Man kind.

At the time of the Armistice the Australian Corps was out of the line reorganising. Others more fortunate were at the Australian Corps School, which was located at Champ Neuf Farm, between Rue and Le Crotroy, almost at the mouth of the Somme. It was a quiet little back-water of the war. The Hun 'planes used to bomb us occasionally, for, about two kilos along the road, on the outer fringe of Le Crotroy, was a French aerodrome, containing the big Handley-Pages that were to be used for the bombing of Berlin.

We experienced an occasional airraid— that was all. But the place was glistening with history. A morning's ride away was the battlefield of Crecy, with a stone in the midst of a cornfield marking the spot where the blind King of Bohemia and his knights rode to their death. His ostler plumed crest and motto, "Ich Dien" (I Serve) were adopted by the third Prince of Wales, who won his spurs on that memorable day, and have been borne by the Princes of Wales ever since. Le Crotroy itself is a famous old town. A brass plate on the corner of a wall marks the place where Jules Verne, the novelist, once lived, and the street is called after him. The former residence of De Lesseps, the builder of the Suez Canal, is similarly indicated. More interesting still is the long rambling street of the prison

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We call by appointment.
of Joan of Arc, for the wonder maid
passed through this town-on the way to
her fiery martyrdom at Rouen. On the
river front is a beautiful statue of Joan
in her peasant garb, looking across the
Somme towards St. Valerie, the ancient
seaport whence William the Norman
sailed to conquer-Saxon England. Joan
of Arc, by the way, is the national hero
of northern France—not Napoleon.
Higher up the river may be seen the
glistening white sands that mark the ford
of Blanchetaque, where Edward III
and his sorely harried army crossed the
Somme on their way to Crécy.
But during a week of delightful excite-
ment one had little time to think of these
things. The Central Powers were giving
way. "The Day" was in sight. Bulgaria
gave in, then Austria and Turkey. We
celebrated each surrender, so that by the
time the arch-enemy submitted we were
more than a little dazed. The lights in
the streets that night seemed uncanny.
We missed the inky darkness, we missed
the roar of the guns, which could be heard
for miles behind the lines, like the rumbling
of thunder low down in the sky. The long-
looked-for day had arrived, and we were
too dazed to celebrate it as we had often
promised ourselves we should. But the next
night—well, as Kipling says, that is another
story.

PITOK.

16th Battalion and 4th
Brigade Association.

The above-named Association, under the
generalship of Colonel Margolin,
D.S.O., assisted by an enthusiastic com-
mittee, holds a prominent place among
unit associations.

Its main aims are to preserve the
memory of fallen comrades, to perpetuate
the close and friendly ties of comradeship
created by mutual service in the trying
days of 1914-1918, and to preserve the
memories and traditions of the 16th Bat-
talion and 4th Brigade.

Any persons who left Australia either as
members of, or as reinforcements, or as
drafts to, or any others who served with
the 13th, 14th, 15th or 16th Battalion can
become members by paying the nominal
subscription of 2/- annually, commencing
the 1st October of each year. This allows
any comrade who, on the reorganisation
of the 4th Division, was transferred to
other Battalions, Artillery, Pioneer, Ma-
chine Gun Battalion, etc., to become a
member.

The History of the Battalion, written by
Capt. Syd. Longmore, is reaching
book form, and the committee hope to
have it published in a few months. It
will be remembered that Capt. Syd.
Longmore was the first instructor to that
wonderful original 16th Machine Gun Sec-
ton, which included Percy Black, Harry
Murray (the best decorated soldier who
left Australia), "Tiny" Hatcher, and
others who made history in Gallipoli and
France.

As the expenses will naturally be heavy
for printing, etc., an endeavour was made
by the late Secretary, R. Yeldon, to raise
the sum of £500 by asking 100 members
to subscribe 5/- each, which will enable
them to receive a morocco-bound volume,
and the balance provide those comrades
who cannot contribute large amounts with
a copy at a much reduced rate.

The appeal is far, and in meeting with fair
success, many "fivers" coming along.
Owing to pressure of business, Mr. Yel-
don reluctantly resigned his position as
Secretary, but, in conjunction with Mr.
Chat. Taylor, he remains as a Trustee to the
History Fund.

Vic. Ketterer was elected hon. secretary
at the last general meeting, and he aims
to continue the drive for "fivers." With
this object in view, the committee are
drawing up circulars to be sent to every
member of the Battalion who can be
located. It may be that many members
would be prepared to subscribe, say, any-
thing from one to five pounds.

Any subscriptions or instalments for
books can be sent to V. Ketterer, c/o Rep-
atration Department, Perth, who will
post a receipt by return mail.

EVERY WOMAN'S MAN

Sing me a song of a fighting clancce,
Of barriers hurled by the hand of Fate,
Across the path of a man who dares,
Though the whole world mock him,
"Too late—Too late!"

Sing me a song of a myriad foes,
Grappled and vanquished one by one,
By a giant will and a high resolve,
To make and keep a place in the sun!

Sing me a song of a man who's a MAN—
Who, through years of storm and stress,
Keeps a level head and a gallant heart,
A soul unmarrred by bitterness.

Sing me a song of a man who's a pal,
Who's learned in the midst of pain and
strife,
To love his fellows—stretch a hand
To the bottom dog on the ladder of Life.

For that's the song of a man who's a
MAN,
Who laughs in the face of malignant Fate,
On whose brave strength the weakest
lean.
Till they learn his gospel, 'Tis never too
late!"
The Month
The Soviet's Latest Move
According to the Riga correspondent of \"The Times,\" a conference of the central executive of the Soviet has been held in Moscow to consider a programme prepared by the political secretariat for rousing the coloured races in the British Dominions and America. What exactly is meant by \"rousing\" is not very clear. If it means encouraging coloured people to improve their status socially and industrially, the conference will fail flat; as missionary and similar organisations are already operating along these lines, and operating more efficiently than any apostle of the gospel according to Moscow could do. But, knowing the methods as we do, we rather think an effort will be made to induce the coloured races to rise in armed rebellion against the whites. Should this be so, India and South Africa will most probably be the scenes of activity for these trouble-makers.

Fortunately, as far as India is concerned, leaders of agitation have been drawn from the Babu class, people who, like the Australian communists, are invertebrate talkers, but not fighters. So far, the fighting races of India, from whom the future Indian Army is recruited, have remained loyal to the British Raj. South Africa might present a more favourable field for communist intrigue; therefore, redoubled vigilance on the part of Government is required, not only with respect to the admission of immigrants, but also with regard to their activities within these countries.

Of course, the cabled report will be denied by local communists, as it is rather, think to tolerate them; but then, accepting as gospel everything emanating from certain sources, while repudiating as biassed all assertions to the contrary, is the outstanding feature of the gentle art of being one-eyed.

The Presidential Election
Notwithstanding all one hears of American graft and corruption in high places, when the citizens of the great Republic set about choosing their president, the choice invariably falls upon some man of outstanding mental and moral calibre. The long roll of U.S.A. presidents contains names of those who, like Washington, Lincoln and Woodrow Wilson, were not only leaders among their own people, but may fairly be looked upon as some of the world's great men. Mr. Hoover is a worthy successor, and we feel sure he will worthily maintain the traditions of his high office. His capacity, his organisating ability, and his wide human sympathies have been demonstrated so recently in Europe and elsewhere that they call for no comment here.

Having lived abroad, and having had first-hand experience of English social conditions, we British should congratulate ourselves—Mr. Hoover will strengthen those bonds of friendship between Britain and the U.S.A. whose existence and durability must make for the betterment of the world.

If you can't get
SWAN BITTER
where you go, go where you CAN get it
Ask for SWAN BITTER on Draught

With regard to America's domestic policy, Mr. Hoover's election would appear to indicate that Americans are quite determined to remain a \"dry\" nation.

Labrador
The recent suggestion that Labrador, the well known holiday resort where, according to a returned traveller, \"they fish and booze all the summer, and in the winter there's no fishing,\" a territory which is administered by the Government of Newfoundland, should be transferred to the United States, is one that would necessarily provoke hostile attention from Canada and other parts of the Empire. Happily the leader of the newly elected Newfoundland Government has given the assurance that the suggestion is utterly absurd, and that no one had authority to speak in this strain, either on his own behalf or on that of the party he heads. Even without this assurance, at this distance it seems inconceivable that Newfoundland, which is the oldest British colony and extremely proud of the fact, a loyal little place that rendered yeoman service during the Great War, would tolerate the transference of as much as a square inch of its territory to such a country as the U.S.A. By the way, when talking to a Newfoundlander, be careful how you pronounce the name of his country. The accent is on the first syllable, not on the second.

The Sydney-Emden Picture
No pains were spared in obtaining historical and technical accuracy when the Sydney-Emden fight was filmed. The German and British naval authorities co-operated in the production of the picture. Consequently there was an entire absence of those technical inaccuracies which made such American war films as the Great Parade, What Price Glory? and so on, such ludicrous farces. The setting at the Ambassadors' was worthy of the film. The selection of naval airs played by the orchestra, was both appropriate and inspiring, while the imitation of a naval shell on the Wurlitzer organ was grimly realistic.

Recurring Decimals
The fashion of resuscitating the illustrious dead, like recurring decimals and Tennyson's brook, goes on for ever. The latest example of this sort of thing is the cabled statement, attributed to a Russian priest, that the late Tsairewitch was not murdered by the Bolsheviks, but is living incognito somewhere unspecified. Recently, too, there was the claim of a female impostor that she is the Grand Duchess Tatiana.

Sometime, these resuscitations are pure impostures, impersonations for the sake of political or financial gain. Less than a century after Calvary, there were several false Messiahs. Stock examples from

Let little Daniel be your guide—
DANIEL CRAWFORDS RED STAR WHISKY
and you can't go wrong!
English history were the various pretenders who worried Henry VII by claiming to be one or other of the Yorkist princes who had disappeared behind the grim walls of the Tower; and also the notorious Tichborne Claimant.

When a boy, the writer, reading a newspaper account of the Chino-Japanese war, of 1894, came across the assertion that Marshal Yamagata, the victorious Japanese commander, was identical with an Austrian Archduke who had mysteriously disappeared some years previously. This type of myth is very popular, and as in the Tsarevich story, recurs frequently. The son of the ill-fated Louis XVI, was supposed similarly to have escaped, and to have been smuggled out of the country. The Man in the Iron Mask, according to one suggested solution of this famous historical mystery, was identical with Charles I of England, who had been rescued, smuggled over to France, while a devoted adherent impersonated him on the scaffold.

In our own times Kuruki, the distinguished Japanese general, in the war between Japan and Russia, was said to have been Hector Macdonald in disguise, and Kerensky was similarly identified with the late Lord Kitchener.

This refusal to admit the death of heroes, and other illustrious people is a curious trait in human psychology which has persisted from the dawn of history, and is especially noticeable with reference to the warrior class, from King Arthur and Charlemagne down to Macdonald and Kitchener. It is an aspect of psychology, the study of which is especially recommended to those old ladies of both sexes, who fondly imagine that they are going to bring about universal peace by eliminating all references to war from little boys' reading books.

28th Battalion Notes

The Committee are engaged in preparing for two very important functions which will be held during December. On Friday, the 14th, the Re-union Smoke Social, which promises to eclipse all previous efforts, will be held at the Soldiers' Institute, at 8 p.m. These Re-unions offer to many the only opportunity of meeting old pals. Thus is the spirit of other days re-awakened and Potters is again storned, and the "Bull Ring" again revised.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 18th. The fact that the Treasurer has promised to provide refreshments should make for a record attendance. Place: R.S.L., time: 8 p.m.

Attendances at recent monthly luncheons have been improving, but as we are still unable to completely fill the Dining Room on these occasions it is to be hoped that many members will do their best to take this objective between 1 and 2 pip emma on Wednesday, the 28th November. The Show Luncheon was attended by about 40 of the old crowd, most of whom were reluctant to quit talking about "other meals in other places" when "Cookhouse" blew.

The secretary wishes to call attention to notices which are placed on the board in the hall of the Institute.

Any ex-member of the Battalion who is able to give information regarding the war service of the late John Aspland is requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

The Social Committee (Messrs. Tozer, McKenzie, Bicknell and Moss) is desirous of adding one or two items to its programme. Bearing in mind that one volunteer is worth several pressed men, please let the gentlemen hear from you if you are willing to give an item or if you can advise them of a likely volunteer.

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Excellent Accommodation, Moderate Tariff. Phone B4502

Mrs. Harold Hopperton

Having proved herself capable as Hon. Secretary of the Perth Sub-Branch Women's Auxiliary, the women assembled at the Soldiers' Institute on 2nd October, to form a State Executive of their auxiliaries, choose Mrs. Hopperton as their Hon. Secretary. An English girl, she came to this State early in 1914, and goldfielders will remember her as Miss Poole, who interested herself during the war in the Red Cross and Belgium Fund. Her husband, Harold, served with the 12th Battalion from Anzac until wounded at Meterin, in 1918. He sings well and was for a time with the 3rd Brigade Concert Party.
Personal

The many friends of Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Wiack, D.S.O., will be pleased to hear that the Colonel was able to return to duty on the 4th, the 17th of October. It will be remembered that three months ago the Colonel was severely injured in a motor accident.

The Listening Post extends its congratulations to Mr. O. C. Campbell Egan, who has just been appointed Director of Music by the State Education Department.

"Cam," who is a returned man, is at present first assistant at the Perth Boys' School, and has already made his mark in the musical world both as performer and conductor.

One of Nature's gentlemen passed away recently at Boulder, in the person of Horace Sheehan. Horace saw considerable service on Gallipoli and France with the 11th Battalion. Five of the pallbearers were members of the original 11th and belonged to the same company as their late comrade. The funeral, which commenced from the Rest Rooms, was the largest that has ever started from that place. After an impressive ceremony at the graveside, F. Metcalf played the "Last Post."

That Horace was modest and unassuming was made more evident when his medals were handed to Secretary Vic. O'Grady. Amongst them was found the Military Medal; not only his most intimate pals were aware of the decoration which, it was found out, was awarded for carrying a wounded officer to safety under intense fire.

Heartiest congratulations to Vic. Doney, the new member for Williams-Narrogin. Vic. is the President of the Narrogin Sub-Branch and a well-known digger of the old 28th. This gentleman has had a most interesting youth and is widely travelled. Hailing from Cornwall, in his 'teens he took part in the middle and final phases of the Boer War. Afterwards he was in the service of the British South Africa Company at Mozambique, and in other parts of Eastern and Southern Africa. After a few years of successful business in the old country, he came to W.A. in 1911, where he farmed in the Lower Murchison until the "gong" went in 1914. Vic. went overseas with the 28th Battalion, and was pretty roughly handled by Fritz at Pozieres in 1916. Unfit for further active service, he acted as gymnastic instructor at Weymouth. He has served the R.S.I. actively in several centres, especially at Narrogin, where his powers of oratory have given yeoman service. His gifts in this direction have given him prominence with the local branch of the P.P.A., of which he has occupied a prominent position.

What he doesn't know about the vagaries of soldier settlement and farming matters in general isn't worth knowing, and it is expected that he will continue to serve his fellow diggers in his wider sphere of influence.

Most women who worked and prayed for the soldiers during the stressful period of the war will never forget. Such a one is Mrs. Higman, of Katanning, who, ever since the Armistice, has made the wreaths for the local sub-branch to place on the local memorial on Anzac and Armistice Days. The wreaths are a credit and Mrs. Higman won't even allow the boys to pay for the ribbon.

An altogether different type is the manager of the W.A. branch of a world-wide business concern, which made huge sums of money out of the war. On being approached for an advertisement for the "Listening Post," in a proper businesslike manner (sentiment not being used as a sales point), he boorishly remarked that the war was now over ten years, and the returned men had had things all their own way, and that it was time the people cut out all the silly sentimental rot. Certainly he would not advertise in a paper run for returned soldiers.

Vale Tom Lennon

Tom Lennon has "gone west" after many years of painful suffering, borne with a fortitude which few could display. His cheerful countenance and ready assistance have been missed from his old haunts. For Tom was a hospital patient for many weary months. He was laid to rest on the 10th Anniversary of the Armistice, and what those ten years, of suffering meant to him, few of us can conceive. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved relatives. We will miss the friendship of one who was always eager to help others, who did his bit, and more, to assist the widows and dependents of our fallen comrades or to help in the neediest of the struggling to a place in the sun. Tom was one of the founders of the League, and during the years that he was president of the Perth Sub-Branch, the League in this State, particularly his sub-branch, made splendid progress, both in numbers and achievements, and Tom's actions and influence played no mean part in this success. Dear old Tom was not possessed of outstanding intellectual talent, but he had a fund of sound common sense and a heart which knew no bounds. Somebody has said, "Pity is the mother of the higuest doth attain." If this be so, Tom Lennon has won his crown of glory.

The funeral, the arrangements of which were in the hands of Mead, Son & Gibb, of Victoria Park, left the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, at 1.45 p.m. on Armistice Day, headed by the R.S.I. Band, which played Sullivan's "Dead March in Saul" while proceeding along St. George Terraces. Following the chief mourners, marched numbers of old comrades and about forty motor vehicles, carrying numerous friends. The pallbearers were Colonel Collett, Messrs. Benson and Sadlier, V.C., of the State Executive; C. Langmore and G. White, Perth Sub-Branch; T. Strachan and G. Spencer Compton, 29th Battalion, and Mr. Lillyman, of the 16th Battalion. Padre Dean Brennan officiated at the graveside, and in the course of an inspiring address which was delivered with great emotion, paid a tribute to our late comrade, after which the band played "Abide With Me," and the bugler sounded the "Last Post." Most of those present then reverently dropped a little red poppy into the grave "in remembrance."

H. M. (Tony) Wolfson

Sells Quality Fruit at Cheapest Prices at his Fruit Barrow

William Street, Perth
Opposite Albany Church

Queen's Hotel
Beaufort St, Perth

Country Visitors Specially Catered for

Modern Tariff
Phone B4683, H. W. Heale, Licensee

"Swan" Brand Mustard Pickles—Appetising, Piquant
PHYSICAL TRAINING
THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD
BY CAPT. C. R. COLLINS
CHAPTER VIII.

The Renaissance, that re-birth of civilization which marked the end of the Middle Ages, was a period of stupendous intellectual activity, which found expression in a great revival of learning.

The old order was changed. Feudal institutions collapsed under the influence of newer economic conditions. The discovery of the New World, and the opening up of the sea route to India, gave a lively impetus to commerce and stimulated men's curiosity. Printing had just been invented, with the result that books became more numerous and cheaper. Men began to read and to think, and it was to this prepared field that Greek scholars, fleeing from Constantinople before the sword of the proselytising Turk, brought the culture and learning of ancient Helles and Rome. The art and learning of ancient times were re-discovered by Western Europe, and the works of classical authors were translated into modern tongues. Scholars flocked to Italy, which became the distributing house for what men called the New Learning. In an age of study and enquiry, when new seas were being charted, new stars swimming into ken, new discoveries made in science, and new systems of philosophy propounded, it was but natural that the science of education itself should receive considerable attention. In the Middle Ages wealthy landowners had endowed churches and monasteries; now the founded schools and colleges wherein the new learning might be taught, and education, no longer under the sole control of the clergy, became more secular.

Classical treatises on education, notably those of Plato and Aristotle, were translated, and in reading the authors of ancient times, scholars and educators imbibed more than a little of the old pagan philosophy. Long before the fall of Constantinople men had begun to question the authority of the Church. The old mediaeval asceticism had been found unsatisfactory as a regimen for laymen. The dignity of the body itself demanded recognition and achievement. Even art, though it retained a decorative trend, paid due homage to physical beauty. The Madonnas of Raphael and Titian, the sprints of Leonardo da Vinci, the Moses of Michael Angelo, were comparable in form and feature to the gods, goddesses, and athletes of the ancient world. The Renaissance artists discarded the abstractions of their mediaeval forerunners; they painted and chiselled the bodies of physically perfect men and women.

Educators began to recognize the unity of the bodily and mental life. This old Helenic conception of a unified existence found expression in those Renaissance schools which were founded throughout Italy and of which that founded at Mantua by Vittorio da Pellegrino, which he opened from 1423 to 1445, was the outstanding type. For a time it seemed as if it is 15th century Italy might evolve a system of education as harmonious as that of ancient Athens.

But there were other conditions functioning which militated against the establishment of a new Helles in the West. Wars were still a matter of everyday occurrence. Despite the New Learning, the training was still the normal occupation of many. Youth, even of isolated districts, responded to the lure of the sea and went adventuring to India or the Spanish Main. There was no peace beyond the Line. Commerce itself was rarely divorced from fighting; had to do with the upbringing of the sons of rulers. Machiavelli's "The Prince" is a notable example and in every system advocated military exercises occupy a prominent place.

In the sixteenth century, Sir Thomas Elyot, freely imbibed the ideas of the Italian writers of the preceding century and a general idea of their principles may be obtained from his "Boke named the Governour" published in 1531. Like most writers on education during this age, he devotes a considerable portion of his work to physical training, examining exercises in detail with respect to their advantage as a training for war. "A man must be arm'd with those exercises which are apt to the furniture of a gentleman's personage, adapting his body to hardness, strength, and agility, and to help there with himself-in peril, which may happen in war or other necessity." (Chapter XVI.)

Like the ancient Persians, Elyot considered hunting of special advantage as a training for war, especially if most of the disport be in pursuing with javelins and other weapons in the manner of war. (Chapter XVII.) He writes at considerable length on dancing, which he considers, leads to the development of magnanimity, constancy, honour, wisdom, continence, and prudence, provided only that the two sexes dance together.

Elyot's French contemporary, Rabelais, whose "Gargantua" was first published in 1531, had a breadth of view regarding education which no modern writer has transcended. Unfortunately, it is not the educational aspect of his work that causes the modern reader to dive into the pages of "Gargantua." His hero undergoes a
MEN'S SPORTS WEAR of Quality

BAIRD'S

All Wool Tweed Sports Coats — from 27/6
Navy Flannel BLAZERS, with coloured cords, 22/6.
Sports Trousers, all wool flannel, from 23/6
With new Hyda Belt, Grey and Fawn SPORTS TROUSERS, cream, all wool gabardine, hyda belt, 32/6.
SPORTS TROUSERS, cream cotton gabardine, 13/6.
Towelling Beach Gowns — 27/6
Latest patterns.

Men's "Jantzen" Bathers — 27/6
Plain shades, all wool, guaranteed, one-piece, with skirt. Cotton and Wool BATHERS, white top, black knickers, 8/6.

Carpenters' Aprons, Verandah Duck, Travelling Rugs, etc.

Mosquito Netting — from 1/6 yard
English, white, 1/2 in., 4/6; 80in., 1/9; 90in., 1/11; 108in., 2/6; green, 80in., 1/2 yard.
VERANDAH DUCK, English, white, 12in., 2/6, 3/6.
4/6 yard.
DRUGGET, for deck chair covers, etc., red, green, or blue stripes, 18in., 1/6 yard.

The element of skill, which replaced the brute force incidental to the older swordplay, made fencing a very valuable form of exercise, making for neuro-muscular co-ordination, and bringing almost every part of the body into action.

The custom of wearing swords and daggers led to the establishment of the fencing school, and gave rise to the practice of duelling. In 1565 Elizabeth found it necessary to issue a proclamation to limit and control the schools of fence in which not only gentlemen, but "the multitude and the common people" received tuition, and to regulate the length of swords and daggers.

It was left to writers of the latter half of the sixteenth century to recognize the influence of exercise on general health, apart from its value as a training for war.

Andrew Borde, in his tract on "Sleep, Rising, and Dress," published in 1557, gives the following advice:—"Before you go to your recreation moderately exercise your body with some labour, or playing at the tennis, or casting a bowl, or poising weights or plummets of lead in your hands, or some other thing, to open your pores and to augment natural heat."

[To be Continued]

"FOR THE CAUSE"

Now by this you shall prove you are men,
And of life everlasting the sons:
When the foeman comes up overwhelming 'twixt might
And you stick to your guns.
When the weak would make terms with the wrong,
When the coward looks round him and runs,
You shall know the sublime of all grandeur and bliss
If you stick to your guns.

Alone in the darkness of night,
At a point that the gallantest shuns,
Wherever it be you are posted by God,
And must stick to your guns.

For the strife that is better than peace,
For the light that is more than the sun's,
For the dream more enduring and truer than life,
We will stick to our guns.
—Harold Begbie.
Penfolds

Hospital Brandy

A good "Spot" for cold nights
Varia

In a Queensland town recently a local organisation held a meeting, at which resolutions were passed supporting the Kellogg Pact, condemning war, and suggesting that our compulsory training scheme be discontinued. The principal speaker and proposer of all three motions happened to be a local so-called artist. Next day the local paper published a full account of the meeting under the heading—

"WAR ABOLISHED.

The Pan is Mightier than the Sword."

According to an English exchange, the first baptismal service in a mill-pound since the days of the Canterbury Pilgrims was celebrated at Sittingbourne, in the vicinity of a church founded recently by one Father Jeffreys.

There was once a Judge Jeffreys who also gave many an English church a hidden drop, but in this case the rite had a closer connection with the burial service.

Caption from local daily:—

ITALIAN RUNS AMOK
SHOTS FIRED AT SOUTHERN CROSS

Is this an act of retaliation for certain recent happenings on the Melbourne wharves, or is it just a gentle hint to Mr. William Morris Hughes?

The prize recently offered by an Italian Society for the best original play was won by a gaol-bird with a very lurid criminal record. It was a striking drama of the underworld, the greater part of which was written while the author was in a lunatic asylum. Nevertheless, Italy still lags a long way behind the U.S.A. in this method of producing "crook" drama.

A musical correspondent requires information as to the price of a Wurlitzer Organ. He is saving up to buy one because, he tells us, it is every musician's duty to destroy one of these abominations before he dies.

Sir Oswald Moseley, of England (Great Britain), the Communist Member for Smethwick, has just succeeded to the baronetcy. His excuse for accepting the title is that "it is not worth having," and that "therefore not worth giving up, although it is absolutely worthless." Evidently, to use an Americanism, these stupid cabbages are familiar with their garlic.

In this age when Americans smack kerosene tins and call the resultant noise music, it is not surprising that artistic perverts should cultivate the bizarre. The latest example of this sort of thing is Maurice Lambert's sculpture of the "Mother and Child," with a halo of cast iron. The work is hideous. Its effect is ugly, and the whole conception, masquerading as a statue, is anatomically unfaithful. The tragedy of the whole business is that Maurice Lambert is the son of an artist.

A morning contemporary informs us that: Senor Don Pedro a Pacheco has been em-powered to act as Consul-General for Chile at Canberra.

While at Canberra he will probably meet West Australia's boy friend, Mr. Sir George Pearce.

Dig.—The Perth Sub-Branch are to be commended on their effort to have the League represented at the funerals of ex-diggers, who have passed "beyond the veil." It does not appear to be generally known that the Repatriation Department will pay certain funeral expenses of all whose death has been war-caused, and also in other special cases when the unfortunate digger has died without means to provide for a funeral. Another wrong impression which prevails is that certain undertaking firms only are contractors to the Department. Such is not the case, the relatives being free to make their arrangements with any firm they may desire.

"Sapper" writes:—My heart filled with pride when I read the report of Congress and found that the Listening Post had received its usual attack. Every year spirited efforts have launched a bombarding which has been repulsed in no uncertain manner. If they have missed one year since the League was formed—well, I must be pardoned because my mind leads me to believe it is a hardy annual. Anyhow, one thing is certain, and that is, they read it. You must feel gratified that your efforts to produce a paper of interest to diggers have met with so much success, because the criticism shows that both members and non-members appreciate it, even if it is only studied in lonely circumstances by some. I once heard you say that you had little time for politics or politicians, and you are, amplyfying your words by carrying on the good work knowing that politics will destroy the existence of our League quicker than anything else. No one can question your policy as being misdirected because any "kick" you have introduced has not been hurled at the one political body. The most trenchant of your critics are politicians or persons interested in politics, who represent all political thought under the rainbow, and this is good enough proof for any ordinary digger that you are doing your job well. There are many papers of organisations floating about this city that are destined for the waste paper basket immediately they are received; such a state of affairs being due to the non-expression of opinion in their columns. The matter contained therein is mostly reprinted from other journals, and when an attempt is made to publish anything original, its interest and force is lost in an endeavour to please everybody, and not draw any "crabs" so to speak. My sole purpose of penning these lines is to congratulate you and to give further encouragement for you to stick to your guns. The criticism that has been hurled at your paper ever since it has started shows that you make some of the right people look up and take notice. All that appears in its columns may not coincide with the views of the State Executive, or the majority of diggers, but if the policy of the past is continued it certainly will in the future give all the diggers good grounds for thought. The Listening Post is perhaps not as big as we would wish, still it grows yearly and greater things are ahead. To my mind this criticism is the best possible evidence of your paper's worth, and I wish you luck.

Imperial Printing Co. Ltd.
Perth's Particular Printers Returned Soldiers
FRANCIAS ALLEZ VOS PLONK

Thus the intelligent scribe who "does" the musical criticisms for the "West Australian" (W.A. 27/10/1928) - "Les Cloches de Corneville" or "The Chimes of Paris" - it is rather curious how the original French title persists in popular use in Australia," etc.

Possibly because educated Australians prefer the original French to the faulty translation, my dear Fidelio.

MATHEMATICAL

Final score of the English Eleven in Adelaide:

Duckworth .............. 0

Reads like an algebraical formula.

WHAFFOR?

Advt. from daily paper:

WANTED: An ex-officer for selling a line of goods to ex-N.C.O.'s and privates.

Now we know how the Army is going to dispose of the surplus copies of the 1914 Infantry Training.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF WAR

General Army Orders often gladden the heart of the war-worn soldier, but this one takes a lot of beating:

"Transport munis must not be tethered to fruit trees as they bark and destroy the trees."

EDUCATION.

(By Karl Reiland.)

It is strange how many young people deplore the circumstances in their lives which have made it impossible for them to go to college. College education is a great advantage, make no mistake about it, but any one who has the will to impose a strict discipline upon himself can achieve as much as the average man gets from his college. It is no hardship to have to earn a living and study at the same time. The secret, one who thinks in the demand it takes upon our powers, and the greater the demand the greater the benefit is likely to be.

Education is not a hypodermic of information administered by a learned professor. The word "education" is from the Latin E-duco, meaning to lead-to bring-to draw out. Education is then a drawing-out of one's ability, a bringing out into reality of one's potential powers; in other words, discovering what is covered, leading out what is latent. Get a capable friend to tell you of a few books, and in a very short time you will begin to accumulate information, but chiefly well, a little reading or study is a thrilling voyage of discovery, the principal feature of which is one's own ignorance. To get this is to get what many so-called educated people have failed to acquire. They may be educated, but they are neither intelligent nor cultured: that is, their education has not brought them comprehension on the one hand, nor a refined sense of proportion on the other.

There is a college education in a dozen books if one has the mental backbone called will-power to search it out. There is no evidence that Shakespeare went to Oxford. He, as thousands of others have done and may do, studied in the great university of our common life. Never confuse education with an institution. It is a matter of your own personal constitution and what you determine to do with it.

THE STUFF THAT COUNTS

The test of a man is the fight he makes:

The grit that he daily shows;

The way he stands on his feet and carries Fate's numerous bumps and blows;

A coward can smile when there's fought to fear,

When nothing, his progress bars, But it takes a man to stand up and cheer

While some other fellow stays.

Is it the victory, after all,

But the fight that a fellow makes;

The man who, driven against the wall,

Still stands up erect and takes

The blows of fate with his head high,

Bleeding, and bruised, and pale,

Is the man who, by-and-by,

For he isn't afraid to die.

It's the bump you get, and the jolts you get,

And the shocks that your courage stands,

The hour of sorrow and vain regret,

The prize that escapes your hands,

That test your mettle and prove your worth;

It isn't the blows you deal,

But the blows you take on the good old

That shows if your staff is real.

AIN'T IT FINE TO-DAY?

Sure, this world is full of trouble -

I ain't said it ain't.

Lord! I've had enough an' double

Reason for complaint.

Rain an' storm have come to fret me,

Skies are often grey;

Thru' an' branches have beset me

On the road-but say

Ain't it fine to-day?

What's the use of always weepin',

Makin' trouble last?

What's the use of always keepin'

Thinkin' of the past?

Each must have his tribulations,

Water with his wine;

Life; it ain't no celebration.

Trouble? I've had mine-

But to-day is fine!

It's to-day that I am livin',

Not a month ago;

HAVING, lovin', takin', givin',

As time wills it so.

Yesterday a cloud of sorrow

Fell across the way;

It may rain again to-morrow,

It may rain but say

Ain't it fine to-day!

THICK-TONGUED NAMES

As J. B. McSmore approached the baptismal font, bearing an infant on each arm, it was plain to see that he was intoxicated: quite sloppy, in fact. The Reverend Mister Slessby asked:

"Girls or boys?"

"One of each, fifty-fifty."

"And the proposed names?"

"Steak 'n Kidney."

As they hustled him out of the church, J.B. explained thickly that he meant "Kate and Sidney."
Fremantle's Tribute to Dead Heroes

WAR MEMORIAL UNVEILED

Colonel Collett's Address

On Armistice Day, the Lieut.-Governor (Sir Robert McMillan) unveiled the monument, at Fremantle, in the presence of a large gathering of citizens and visitors. It is an impressive and inspiring note of remembrance, and is ideally situated, towering, as it does, above the town and overlooking the ocean and that expanse which contained the last fond glimpse of the home country which so many of our comrades were privileged to see.

In the course of an inspiring address, Colonel Collett said:

“Anyone should be proud to be associated with the ceremony of to-day. I am especially so because I am privileged to represent the living comrades of those whose names and deeds this monument is intended to perpetuate.

“The progress of time brings few changes in some directions. For ages past there have been wars and rumours of wars, and the long record of history tells the agony of the peoples who have not survived the ravages of the scourge. The same stories are also replete with examples of what men and women will suffer in order to uphold right; of the sacrifices that have been made in the cause of freedom; and of the deeds of heroism perpetrated at the call of duty.

“And, abhor it as we may, and do, war brings out much that is admirable. It reveals the man and woman qualities undreamed of, such qualities as have gone a long way in the making of our race and in building up the Empire of which we are so justly proud. And that Empire has been the standard which, with all our examples, has led the advance of the world and will eventually, we hope, guide its peoples into the paths of perpetual peace. In the recent great war—a war commenced by enemies in a spirit of gross aggression against our part, and, to the everlasting credit of the race, it was played gloriously. The stake was a tremendous one—our hard-won liberties—and for four long years there was an insistent call for men, and yet more men.

“Few there were who did not hear that call, and of the great numbers that answered there were many who failed to return to receive their due reward. Patriotism is a great virtue. All of us to-day are beholden to it. The old Romans recognised the virtues and they erected a Temple of Honour which could be entered only through the Temple of Virtue.

“Now, the people of Fremantle, moved by gratitude, recognising the worth of the work of their fellow citizens, have erected, not a temple, but this Monument of Honour, which shall be a landmark by day and a beacon by night, and, through all, a constant reminder of those who did so much and will never again, on this earth, answer to their names.

“Today is Armistice Day. A day on which, ten years ago, the scourge was lifted and peace endured to resume its sway.

Let this mass of masonry remind us, not so much of the sacrifices of war, but of the tranquility which should come when the sword is fashioned into a ploughshare. Let it remind us of the blessings that will descend upon us if we ourselves are prepared to make some small sacrifices in order to live amicably with one another, and with our neighbours, and so by our example at home influence for good the stranger without our gates. It can be done, and this monument, visible to ships entering or leaving the first and last port of call in Australia, should be a sign to the visitor that here lives a race happy within itself and desiring calm throughout the world.

“There you have the dual objects of this structure—a monument to the dead and a sign to the living. To make it complete is the business of everyone around here to-day and I do hope that any appeal for funds that is to be made will not be made in vain. Let it be your symbol of service and a mark of gratitude.

“And those of you who have relatives sleeping overseas: when you visit this hallowed spot in the quiet of the evening, or on a Sunday afternoon, take this comfort unto yourselves—that the nation is not ungrateful; that this monument has been erected in his and your honour; and that this stone, cold though it may be, speaks to you in to-day's more eloquent words, and tells you, as Lord Plumer, told those at Menin Gate, "He is not missing—he is here."
November 23, 1928.

THE LISTENING POST

THEME:

for the standard of their oratory. That their efforts on League work were appreciated, and their competency acknowledged, was evidenced by the addition of officers, when, out of six members attending Congress, four were appointed to office. Mr. H. S. W. Parker was elected vice-president; Messrs. McAdam and Philip were re-elected League trustees, and Mr. Tyler was re-elected to the executive.

A matter which was the cause of much discussion at Congress was the formation of community of interest sub-branches. In regard to this question, a fact which may be of interest, is that at least four members of this branch hold office in other metropolitan sub-branches. Vice-President Philip is president of South Perth; Secretary Peter Ross is a committee-man at Subiaco; Jerry McKenna is president of Subiaco; and Ted Rogers is secretary of Mount Hawthorn. In addition, many others are members of their district sub-branch. The approval given by Congress to the amalgamation of associated representatives should do much to appease those sub-branches which have a grievance, on this subject.

It is pleasing to record that Congress placed on record its appreciation of the assistance given by the sub-branch by various bodies in connection with the maintenance of Honour Avenue.

For some considerable time succeeding committees have been engaged, endeavouring to obtain the permanent appointment of certain men employed under section 84 on the general division of the Federal service. It is with great pleasure that the secretary can now report that these efforts have not been in vain, as of the five officers concerned four have received appointment, and the fifth is assured of permanency in the near future.

The Secretary has received a letter from Mr. A. R. Thrush (a late president of the sub-branch), written from Cape Horn, Victoria. It will be remembered that Mr. Thrush was forced, through ill-health, to sever his connection with the branch, and go to Victoria. By the latest advice he has not yet returned to complete health. He wishes to be remembered to members, and would be pleased to hear from any of his old colleagues who can find the time to drop him a line.

Great praise is due to those ladies who worked so tirelessly for the sub-branch on Poppy Day. At the time of writing, the collection have not been finalised, but it is anticipated that the amelioration fund will benefit considerably as a result of their efforts.

BOULDER

That the members of the Boulder Sub-Branch were elected when President Ted Lennell wired, “Boulder won Newdegate Cup,” is but putting it mildly, and it was at once decided that a harmony meeting be held to celebrate the victory on Sunday morning, November 21st. There was a splendid attendance of members, and the routine business was quickly disposed of to allow of harmony, and a most enjoyable time followed. Mr. Vic. Whitley officiated at the piano, and the following artists contributed towards the morning’s entertainment—Messrs. A. H. Alderson, J. Hughes, T. Heron, F. Cahill and G. Newham. The mess orders were kept busy dispensing the cup that cheers and make glad the heart of man. The Newdegate Cup was filled with amber liquid and passed around, every member present having a drink. It was then filled and handed to the President, with a request that he must drink the lot, but, seeing that the cup holds about a half gallon, the President begged to be excused, and jibbed on the job. During the course of the morning the President presented the Secretary a gold medal, which was given to him at the last Congress, with a request that he hand same to the Secretary on his return to Boulder, as committee men from an anonymous appreciator. Vic. O’Grady, B.C.S., President, thanked the unknown donor most kindly for the handsome medal, which was to be one of his most treasured possessions.

Mr. B. Kingsbury, President of the Kalgoolie Sub-Branch, was present, and in the course of a most interesting speech congratulated the Boulder Sub-Branch on winning the Newdegate Cup for the second time. Harold is very popular with the Boulder boys, and is undoubtedly the right man in the right place.

The fact that many ex-diggers are only beginning to realize what a big factor the League really is, is evident by the large number of new members who have been enrolled of late, and the members of the Boulder Sub-Branch will soon leave no stone unturned to secure more during the coming year. A most pleasing and noticeable feature of late is the greatly increased attendance, some thirty members attending each meeting. Another pleasing feature is one that does much to cement the good fellowship that exists between sister branches. The paying of friendly visits is being extended by the young workers, both speech and executive.

At the general meeting held on Sunday, November 4th, the Chairman extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Schroeder, President, and Mr. Patterson, Secretary, of the South African Veterans’ Association. Both gentlemen suitably responded and thanked the members for their cordial welcome.

Snapshots.

Any digger requiring a job as a miner, please apply to Len. Baker, Shift Boss. If you doubt it, ask Bill Wilks.

Alec. Monger is the champion ticket

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“SWAN” BRAND PRODUCTS are made in W.A.
seller. Alec won't take "no" for an answer, and is now in training, not for a boxing contest, but for the branch sweep on the Sydney Cup.

All the nice girls love a sailor—is perhaps a reason why Billy Crump is so popular with the ladies. Seen in town during the week, Darkie Hodge, from "Zanthus," Trans. Line. "Darkie" was a good soldier and has quite a list of decorations.

NAREMBEEN

The committee of this branch decided to sell poppies on Friday, 9th November, and to hold special services in the Narembeme Hall on Sunday, at 10.30 A.M. Mr. C. G. Latham, M.L.A., was the speaker. Arrangements were made to hold a social evening on Saturday, 17th November, at the R.S.L. Club. President Latham promised something special for the occasion. To encourage greater membership the secretary has agreed, when having the annual report printed, that a full report of the work done by this branch, since its formation, be given and that members be requested to hand it to anyone who is a non-member. The consultation run on behalf of the hospital took up a good deal of the local branch officials' time, and it was through the indefatigable efforts of this branch that the consultation was a success. Full report on this sub-branch's activities with regards to collecting monies on behalf of the hospital, will be mentioned in the annual report. Members submitting particulars relative to claiming a pension are advised to give full explanatory details. Circulare will be posted to all members with regard to the next general meeting.

VICTORIA PARK

The Victoria Park Sub-Branch R.S.I. had a most successful evening at its usual monthly meeting at the Library Hall, on Friday night, the 16th inst. Fully 150 members were in attendance, and in addition there were some thirty ladies of the Women's Auxiliary. Nominations for office-bearers were taken during the evening, and the election will take place at the next monthly meeting. Poppy Day sales for this branch amounted to approximately £85, and the Ladies' Auxiliary are to be complimented for the splendid manner in which they worked. Thanks are also due to Messrs. Power and George Foley, who so kindly granted the use of their office as a headquarters for the Poppy Day Committee for this Branch.

After the business for the month was dealt with, Brigadier-General Jess delivered a most interesting lecture on the Gallipoli Campaign. This lecture was greatly appreciated by those who were fortunate enough to be present, and this Branch was extremely fortunate in being able to secure such a distinguished lecturer as Brigadier-General Jess. After the lecture was over, musical items were rendered by Messrs. Thos. Healey and Mackay, while Mrs. Hodgeski officiated at the piano.

It is the intention of the Victoria Park Sub-Branch in conjunction with the Women's Auxiliary, which has just recently been formed, to hold a Xmas Tree this year for the kiddies of ex-servicemen of the district, who are up-against hard times, so that these children will not be without a visit from Father Xmas.

The Branch is also holding a gigantic Smoke Social early in December, when the drawing of their Xmas Gift, in aid of the Amelioration Fund, will take place, the tickets for which, at this early date, are selling rapidly.

A Victory Medal bearing the number of H. St. Stack, of the 28th Battalion, has been found and handed in to the Secretary of the Victoria Park Sub-Branch, where it can be had on application by the loser.

FREMANTLE

At the last meeting of the Fremantle and Districts Sub-branch, the question of a fortnightly issue of the "Listening Post" was brought forward, and members unanimously agreed with the suggestion that a fortnightly issue be arranged for through the Executive. A further discussion arose as to why the Fremantle Branch, failed to take advantage of the soldiers' paper for propaganda work. This failure was solely due to the difficulty of obtaining anyone to do the work. The honorary secretary, Mr. J. Lynch, is an exceptionally busy man and cannot afford the time for this work. This you will understand when it is explained that the membership is nearly 400 and usually secretaries of sub-branches have more work to do for non-members than they have for their own members. To overcome this difficulty, Bob Guthrie has been appointed publicity officer.

Mr. J. Lynch, the honorary secretary, is a very busy man these days, being temporarily transferred to his firm's Hay Street branch: he can be seen on the road early and late every day.

Members are asked to patronise the R.S.L. Euchre Parties held each Wednesday-night at the Institute. Good prizes are given, profits going to Amelioration Funds.

The following service medals have been found:
- No. 7755. W. Holland, 16th Batt.; No. 2927, J. N. Holland, 51st Batt. Also a number of next-of-kin badges. These can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Lynch, Fremantle Soldiers' Institute.

OSBORNE PARK

Since the successful social of the Sub-branch, the president and secretary have been busily engaged in attending other functions, including the laying of the foundation stone of the new municipal buildings, and the opening was attended by the officers who figured prominently on the "menu."

Another function organised principally by returned men was the reception given

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"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS secured 1st Prize 1927 Royal Show
to young Alec Robinson, son of the president of the Agricultural Society (Mr. W. E. Robinson). The youth had just returned from the other state, having been one of the Schools Interstate Football team from Western Australia. Speeches were given by Messrs. J. Crawford, H. Nugent, and H. Evans (returned men) each speaking highly of the good work done by Mr. and Mrs. Robinson for W.A. soldiers during the war, and also of the continued help given by them to present members. The address was presented with a medal, and amidst loud applause was carried shoulder high by two stalwart diggers. Dancing and singing were continued and a speech was given by Mr. J. O'Malley, the soldiers' 'ugly man.'

Death has removed Mr. G. Edwagcs, J.P., a pioneer market gardener of Osborne Park. He was prominent in all local movements for the benefit of the district, a friend of the diggers, and one of his sons was in the A.I.F.

There is 'weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth' in the ranks of the Sub-branch because at the last annual meeting someone pinched the branch's mascot, a model gun and carriage, which graced the official table occupied by the local War committee. It was at first surmised that owing to Mayor Franklin's appeal for sorely needed men, a member was unable to find the money to buy a new trophy. Then it was learned that he was in constant touch with organisers of labour in the district who gave every consideration to the claims of the returned men. He also stated that there was a balance of 49 left from last year's Christmas Fund which was decided to hold an R.S.L. Ball on New Year's Eve. On the motess Geber and Wood, Mr. A. Beange was nominated by the Branch to contest a seat in the forthcoming municipal elections. In thanking members, Mr. Beange said that his fellow councillors had always supported him on behalf of the R.S.L.

Mr. J. Giblett brought up the matter of members visiting outlying centres. He mentioned the fact that there were several returned men at Worsley, who are unable to be present at meetings. The timber industry was now in a parlous condition, but these men should not be forgotten. The chairmen thought it would show their efforts to retain members, while much benefit would result from a social point of view. The secretary was instructed to communicate with as many members in outlying districts as possible and to arrange for meetings.

At the conclusion of the meeting a light supper was provided, and members spent a pleasant hour in discussing old-time and present topics.

KATANNING

A serious challenger for the Newdegate Cup for the Centenary year will be Katanning. In August, when H. A. Fildes was elected sub-branch secretary, his financial membership was 36; to-day it is a wonderful effort. Tenders will shortly be called for a club room 30 ft. x 20 ft., on a block owned by the branch in the centre of the town. Combining with Mt. Barker and Kojonup, the branch was awarded a grand prize at Tambellup early in December, where there was no sub-branch, with the object of extending the numbers of the League. A Ladies' Committee, working under Mrs. Barns, sold about 700 poppies and two wreaths on Poppy Day.

On Armistice Day the local band master and three members of his band played the 'Last Post' and after the silence they blew the 'Reveille.' The branch president, Mr. W. J. Cobb, laid a beautiful wreath of red roses on the memorial.

A smoke social held in the Masonic Hall during the month was easy the most enjoyable of the functions held by the sub-branch, the social committee, helped by a ladies' team under the leadership of Mrs. Ron. Moss, excelling themselves. The president, Mr. W. J. Cobb, presided, and right from the start matters went with a happy swing. The toasts were ably proposed and responded to, while the musical items were, without exception, excellent, every singer being right on top of form. The secretary informed the gathering that he was, hoping to arrange a monster re-union early next March, to which he hoped to have not only most of the returned soldiers in the Katanning district, but also a goodly representation from all parts of the Great Southern, from Narrogin to Albany, and from Bridgetown to Pingrup. He admitted it was rather ambitious, but as he had already received promises of assistance from several neighbouring sub-branches and many returned men outback, he was quite sanguine that all previous records for the Great Southern, or even the State, could be broken. Support for the suggestion came from Mr. A. Thomson, M.L.A., who felt assured that such a re-union would have the full support of the townspeople generally. Personally, he would do all possible to help it along. He further suggested that a 'Back to Katanning movement' could be successfully inaugurated in connection with the scheme. During the evening the following toasts were honoured: 'The Loyal Toast'; 'Fallen Comrades'; 'Parliament', proposer, J. W. Old; reply, Mr. A. Thomson, M.L.A.; 'Katanning Repatriation Committee', H. A. Fildes: reply, A. D. Smith. "Katanning Sub-Branch R.S.L.\'; Mr. A. Thomson, M.L.A.; reply, the Chairman. "The Artists," E. Stubb; reply, F. J. Coote. "The Chairman," H. Tylor. "The Visitors," A. Bune: reply, Sgr.-Major Bulton, Capt. Leich and others. "The Ex-A.I.F. Men."
Notes on Army Organisation

CAVALRY AND ARMoured CARS. (Article No. 2)

In this issue, it is proposed to deal with mobile troops; that is, cavalry and armoured cars.

The close of the Great War showed that, in the European theatre of operations, the day of large cavalry formations had passed. As one writer put it: "Cavalry merely added tone to an otherwise vulgar brawl." On the other hand, there was equal proof that, in Eastern Countries, such as Palestine and Mesopotamia, cavalry was as useful as ever, and was, in fact, a vital necessity if the full fruits of victory were to be gained.

Since the Armistice, a fierce controversy has raged between the supporters and opponents of cavalry, the former advocating its retention, and the latter its total abolition. To arrive at a correct appreciation of the position, it is necessary to consider what has brought about such a radical change of opinion in the last 15 years.

The main disadvantage of cavalry (this includes light horse) is that it is highly vulnerable to fire effect, and the man, the sword, and the horse are collectively incapable of achieving success against wire entanglements, the armoured vehicle and the machine gun. Further, although possessing great mobility itself, its transport is the same as that of infantry and can only move at infantry pace. Lastly, when dismounted, it is seriously weakened in fire power by reason of the fact that one quartet of its men are required as horse holders.

To overcome these disadvantages cavalry must be armoured, the rate of movement of its transport speeded up, and its fire power increased. The first is clearly impossible, as the horse is already overloaded; the second and third are in process of adoption as will be shown later.

If it is impossible to armour the cavalry itself, the two alternatives are to replace it by armoured vehicles or to equip it with such weapons as will enable it to deal with opposing armoured cars. The former alternative is that urged by the total abolitionist, the latter by the majority of rational soldiers who are still certain that, if only for reconnaissance duties, cavalry remains an essential arm in any force.

This now leads to consideration of the developments which have been made in cavalry in recent years. Most readers will be familiar with the old regiment of three squadrons with their machine gun section. As in infantry, any increase in machine guns has had to be met by a decrease in other directions, and the cavalry or light horse regiment is at present made up of two sabre squadrons and a machine gun squadron of 16 machine guns, a very considerable increase in fire power. To oppose armoured fighting vehicles, such as the tank, it is expected that cavalry will be equipped with an anti-weapon of their own. Lastly, there remains the question of transport, and already some of the cavalry regiments in England have been fitted with motor first-line transport. This enables transport to accompany the unit at all times, and in view of its greater carrying capacity than the horse drawn wagon, this move will go far to lighten the present heavy burden the horse is forced to carry and which averages at least 18 stone.

The regiment so organised is a handy, well-balanced command. It has sufficient mounted men for the duties of reconnaissance, its machine guns are adequate to overcome minor opposition and to give protection behind which the sabre squadrons can be collected for further action. It will have at hand a weapon to deal with the armoured vehicle; its transport eases the burden on the horse, can accompany the unit at its fastest pace, and enables the troops to have always hand such comforts as are obtainable in the field. No decision has yet been made as to the inclusion in the regiment of a light tank, which would be able to deal with the well-protected machine gun. It has seldom been looked upon as the role of cavalry to attack an enemy in a prepared position, and it is thought, as previously, that support in this direction will have to come from the other arms.

The chief characteristics of the armoured car are its speed, radius of action, and the ability to withstand small arms fire. Its chief disadvantage is that it is confined to roads, and its value as a reconnoitring unit is, therefore, not complete. Unless it is fitted for cross country traction, and to do so at once decreases its speed, it will be confined to countries where roads are plentiful, and it follows that it would be of greater value in Europe than in other possible theatres of operations.

Several of the old cavalry regiments in England have been converted to armoured car regiments, but, this is not because there is no further use for cavalry, but by reason of the fact that without increase of expenditure, personnel for new units can only be obtained from those existing at the present time. Although every true cavalry man regrets the passing of his horse, the dash and cavalry spirit still remain, and the "Armoured Carbiniers," as they are called, are striving to uphold in machines the honours they have achieved with their horses.

It should not, however, be assumed that the machine can ever supplant the horse. They are mutually supporting and complementary. The aeroplane covers great distances and gives general information over a larger area. The armoured car, always confined to roads, can go further than the cavalryman, but again cannot gather all the details of information regarding the enemy required by a commander. It is thus left to the mounted man, who can move over almost any type of country and who can search any area, to furnish the details of information to complete the framework of intelligence regarding the enemy built up by the machine. For this use alone the continuance of cavalry as a separate arm is justified and the claims of the advocates of total abolition defeated. Still, in this article it has not been possible to touch on the fact that cavalry can act in bush and mountainous country by day or by night; can achieve surprise by its silence as against the hum of the motor of the tank or armoured car; can live on the country independent of supplies of petrol from the rear; can scatter to avoid observation and casualties; and can re-assembly rapidly and successfully miles, away to still continue its operations against the enemy. Tanks and armoured cars must not cooperate and in formed detachments; the loss of one vehicle is seri-ously felt; they can neither move without petrol and oil, fight effectively by night, nor easily escape observation from the air.

These arguments will be thrashed out wherever members of the service congregate, but the day of cavalry has not gone. It still retains a high position in the constitution of armies though it has changed in some degree the nature of its duties and its old established organisation.

Along the Road

I walked a mile with Pleasure, She chatted all the way, But left me none the wiser For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow, And ne'er a word said she; But, oh, the things I learned from her When Sorrow walked with me!

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