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Vol. 7, No. 4 April 20, 1928

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MARK DUNN
April 20, 1928

THE GLORY OF ANZAC

There are epoch-making days in the history of all nations—moments so safeguarded with memories and so fraught with vital issues that in the recollections of the nation they cannot die.

Such a day of days for Australia is Anzac Day; for it was on that day that the sons of Australia, thrown suddenly into the fierce test of battle, made the world gasp at their valour and proved themselves to be the bravest of the brave, giving thereby to the name Australia a new significance in the eyes of the world.

It was the example of Anzac Day that buoyed up in uncertain bravery the legions of Australia's sons that followed throughout the four fateful years of strife.

It was with the blood of the fallen on Anzac Day that the seal was set on the determination to guard our liberties with our lives. It was the opening page of a book of tragedy which, before the last page was turned, chronicled the sacrifice of 60,000 of the finest specimens of Australian manhood.

The anniversary of Anzac Day that we call to mind in yet another year, is a remembrance old mates of ours who were faithful unto death. It is on this day that our hearts go out in loving sympathy to those whose loved ones lie sweetly sleeping beneath the poppies and the daisies far from their native land.

But with the passing of the years will also fade away the personal memories of Anzac Day. It is now thirteen years since that fateful dawn and already there are young folk on the labour market who have no personal recollections of the years of war. But with the traditions of the Anzacs our country should be well fortified for the future, and it is the duty of every man who shouldered a gun for Empire to keep, as long as life lasts, the memory of our fallen comrades green, and the traditions of the A.I.F. alive.

It is so easy to forget. Perhaps a sign of this forgetfulness is the lack of public support of the State War Memorial. Surely all could be expected to give a mite towards such a worthy and sacred objective. We trust that all those speakers on Anzac Day, whether in public or in private, will do their utmost to keep before the minds of the people the glory of the sacrifice by which our country is preserved.

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

THE LISTENING POST

Subscription: 3/6 per annum, payable in advance.

Advertisements: Only reliable firms are allowed to advertise in our journal. Rates will be supplied on application.

All business communications should be addressed to the Manager, "The Listening Post," 70 King Street, Perth.

All other communications should be addressed "To the Editor."

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

THE LANDING

April is a month which has a two-fold significance. Easter, the supreme anniversary of Christianity, is usually celebrated during this month, and within it falls the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. There is a distinct analogy between the events that gave rise to both celebrations. In each case there are the common elements of sacrifice, self-immolation, and final triumph, for, just as the Redeemer of mankind accepted crucifixion in order that humanity might live, so our comrades, who charged across that fire-swept beach, cheerfully endured the ordeal of battle, wounds, sickness and even death, to save the British Empire from disruption, and to spare millions of Britons yet unborn all the horrors and bestiality of German domination.

Contrary to the generally accepted opinion, the Landing was not Australia's first effort in the war. German New Guinea had been taken during the previous year, and there fell Dr. Brian Antill Pockley, of Sydney, the first Australian to be killed in action. The Sydney had already sunk the Emden, and Australian engineers had been under fire during the Turkish attack on the 'Canal. Nevertheless, the epic of Gallipoli will always be focussed in our memory.

The battle-ground itself is famed in legend and history. In its vicinity on the Asiatic side is the site of Troy, the city of the famous siege during which gods and heroes met in personal combat. There, too, are the straits impregnable, the Dardanelles, the Hellespont of the Greeks, across which Leander swam nightly to meet with Hero, and across which that ardent phil-hellen, the poet Byron, swam in order to prove that the fact was possible. Less fortunate was Xerxes, for the bridge of boats over which his Persian hordes were to cross into Europe was shattered by a storm.

It is indeed meet that the Australian, whose alert mentality and love of outdoor exercise make him akin to the Hellen, should have played such a prominent part in the modern epic, and we may look upon the landing and the subsequent campaign with pardonable pride, with something of that triumphant spirit, that sense of victory over death, with which Christians celebrate Easter. There is nothing vain-glorious in such an attitude, nothing flamboyant nor jingoistic in the fact that throughout Australia, on this anniversary, men of every creed and of every social stratum will be meeting, united by the common bonds of patriotism, reverence, gratitude and loyalty to fallen comrades, to commemorate what was a glorious feat of arms.

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It is gratifying to note that the Digger spirit is waxing rather than waning. League and Unit functions are better attended than was formerly the case. It will be a poor day for Australia when the Digger ceases to be proud of being a Digger. Therefore, one cannot refrain from deploring the tendency manifested by returned soldier orators on various recent occasions to bluster and beat and almost apologise for mentioning the word "war." A modest demeanour is something every man should cultivate, but there is such a thing as being too darned apologetic. Too often does one hear the phrase: "We don't want to glorify war," uttered in tones which convey the idea of anticipating and disarming criticism. All the weeping philosophers of the world cannot alter the fact that, notwithstanding its fifth and beastliness, war has its glorious side. There were decidedly glorious aspects to such episodes as the Landing. The Somme, Ypres and the Hundred Days. No man need feel ashamed of having taken part in them. Why, then, this growing fashion of apology on the part of our speakers? Are they afraid of giving offence to the pacifist, the gold-foiler, or other of our country's enemies?

When we meet solemnly to commemorate the Gallipoli Landing we pay homage to the bravery, the heroism, the devotion and all the other qualities that made such a feat of arms possible; and it will be a mark of national decadence when we cease to be proud of such things.
STATE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS
28/3/28.


An apology was received from Mr. G. H. Philp.

Federal Correspondence: Member-B.E.S.L.—The Federal Executive stated that an electro die of the B.E.S.L. Badge had been forwarded them by the British Empire Service League, and it was the intention of the Federal Executive to have this printed on their letter-heads. They sought the advice of this Sub-Branch concerning any action it was prepared to take.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Yeates, “that this Executive does not favour the use of the Badge on its letter-heads, but is agreeable to including on the letter-head the fact that the League is a member of the British Empire Service League.” Carried.

Pilgrimage to France.—The Federal Executive forwarded copy of a resolution received from the Canadian National Railways giving prices for return fares from England to Australia, via Canada. This matter was laid on the table for the information of members.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Yeates, “that the Federal Executive be advised that individuals appear to be acting concerning the proposed pilgrimage to France in 1931, suggested by this State Branch some time ago, and that the Federal Executive be asked to advise if anything has been done in the matter, as it was considered that if such a venture was organised, the R.S.L. should take the initiative.” Carried.

Soldier Land Settlement.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive showing copy of one from the Secretary of the Tasmanian State Branch dealing with the investigations being made by Mr. Justice Pike in connection with Soldier Land Settlement. This letter gave the opinion that his honour would not permit representatives of the League to tender evidence, but if it was thought that some good may result, no doubt representations could be made to the Judge. The letter was referred to the Land Committee for a report.

Resolution 95—Widows’ Pensions.—The Federal Executive forwarded copy of a communication received from the Chairman of the Repatriation Commission dealing with Resolution 95 of the 11th Annual Congress. This resolution dealt with widows’ pensions, and it was stated therein that it was not found possible to increase the present pension rates. However, the practice was to see that the income, inclusive of pension, of at least £4 4s. was assured. The fact that the widow derived income from sons and daughters in the way of contributions for board and lodging was disregarded.

Gallipoli Film.—The Federal Executive advised that they were unable to answer queries raised by State Branches in connection with communications received from the Embassy Film Company concerning the Gallipoli Film. They pointed out that no definite proposal had been submitted to them by this Company. The letter was received.

Patron-in-Chief—B.E.S.L.—The Federal Executive forwarded a copy of a cable received from the B.E.S.L. stating that His Majesty the King had consented to become Patron-in-Chief of the B.E.S.L. The letter also showed copy of the Federal President’s reply.

C.P.S. Superannuation Act.—With reference to the Resolutions 71 and 72 of the 12th Annual Congress, the Prime Minister’s Department had communicated with the Federal Executive dealing with the subject of the resolutions, namely C.P.S. Superannuation Act. The proposals as outlined in the resolutions could not be agreed to. The letter was received, and it was decided to forward a copy to the West Perth Sub-Branch.

Invitations.—The Victoria Park Sub-Branch extended an invitation to the President, Secretary and members of the Executive to their Smoke Social to be held on the 5th April. Colonel Collett accepted the invitation, and as many others of the Executive as possible were asked to attend.

Leederville and Subiaco sub-Branches extended an invitation to the State President and Secretary to attend a combined Social to be held in the King’s Hall, Subiaco, on the 2nd May. The matter was left in the hands of the President.

Claremont-Cottesloe Sub-Branch extended an invitation to the Executive to their Smoke Social, to be held on the 2nd April. Messrs Collett, Tozer, Wells and Sadlier accepted.

Mt. Barker Sub-Branch advised that their annual re-Union had been postponed until the 4th May. They requested Executive representation. The matter was left in the hands of the President.

New Sub-Branch—Nabawa.—A letter was received from Mr. N. Henderson, Secretary of the newly formed Sub-Branch at Nabawa, requesting the necessary permission for the formation thereof. An invitation was also extended to visit that district in the near future. In this regard the matter was left in the hands of the President.
of the President.

Bert Hinkler's Visit.—The President explained that Mr. Bert Hinkler had been advised that the League desired to tender him a brief reception on his arrival in Western Australia. Arrangements had been finalised for the reception to take place at the Soldiers' Institute at 5 p.m. on Monday, 2nd April. The President's action was endorsed.

Mayoral Reception.—Sir Thomas Coombe extended an invitation to the Executive to attend the Mayoral Reception at 11 a.m. on Monday, 2nd prox., also offering the Prince of Wales Theatre for the use of the League on Anzac Day in the event of rain. It was decided to accept the invitation, and thank Sir Thomas Coombe for his offer.

Game of Housey—Boulder Sub-Branch.—In connection with the game of housey which is being conducted in the Boulder Rest Room, and which was brought under notice by the Commissioner of Police, the Secretary explained that the Boulder Sub-Branch had been communicated with and asked for further information. A reply had been received stating that the monies raised would be used for amelioration purposes, and the provision of furniture for the rest room.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Shaw, "that owing to the special circumstances existing in Boulder, the Commissioner be informed that the playing of "Housey" at the Boulder Rest meets with the approval of this Executive." Lost.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Wedd, "that in the opinion of this Executive it would not be in the best interests of the soldiers in this State or for the R.S.L. that the game of 'Housey' should be used as a means of raising funds for amelioration purposes." Carried.

Annual Sweep—Kalgoorlie.—The Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch advised that the Commissioner of Police had approved of the conduct of a sweep on the Perth Cup, 1929. They sought the necessary approval from the State Executive. It was decided to request the Sub-Branch to comply with the previous resolution of the Executive.

Soldier Matters—Federal Parliament.—The Perth Sub-Branch notified the Executive of their action in circularising all Returned Soldier Members and W.A. Members of both Houses of the Federal Parliament, requesting their support of the resolution tabled by Mr. McGrath in connection with soldier matters. The action was ruled out of order by the Chairman.

Moved by Rev. Rabbi Freedman, seconded by Mr. McAdam, "that the attention of the Perth Sub-Branch be drawn to the fact that it is not advisable, in matters of policy, for individual sub-branches to write direct to the Federal Members." Carried.

Moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Wedd, "that the Federal Executive be advised by wire that the motion tabled by Mr. McGrath concerning which wires had been sent to certain members by the Perth Sub-Branch, had not received the consideration of the Executive of the W.A. Branch of the League." Carried.

Settlement of Ex-Service Men.—The Secretary explained that the Minister for Lands had approved and asked if any scheme would be available for the settlement of migrants who were possessed of some capital. A lengthy reply was received, which stated that no special scheme of some capital. A lengthy reply was received, which stated that no special scheme could be provided, and that such settlers would receive similar treatment to other selectors. The communication went on to point out the advantages of settlement in Western Australia, stressing the fact that intending settlers should not consider the purchase of properties until arrival in this country. Also that responsible officers of the Lands Department should be consulted before any arrangements are entered into for the acquiring of land. It was decided to send a copy of the communication to the B.E.S.L. and also one to the Federal Executive and that local publicity be given to the matter, and also the fact that 200 blocks of land were at present open for selection, and before the end of June next, a further 800 would be available. Also, before the end of June, 1929, a further 2,000 blocks would be thrown open by the Department for selection.

Centenary Memorial Hall.—A letter was received from the Metropolitan Gleemen seeking the aid of the R.S.L. in strongly urging the proposal for the construction of a Concert Hall in Perth to be know as the Centenary Memorial Hall.

Moved by Rabbi Freedman, seconded by Mr. Wedd, "that a delegate as requested be appointed from this Executive, and that he report back to the Executive." Lost.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Saddler, "that the Metropolitan Gleemen be thanked for their courtesy in requesting League representation on their Committee, but it be pointed out to them that this matter is outside the scope of the League's work." Carried.

Ex-Soldiers' Funerals.—The West Guildford Sub-Branch requested the State Executive to approach the heads of the various religious denominations with a view to having ex-A.I.F. Padres at the funerals.
of deceased A.I.F. Soldiers wherever possible. The Rev. Riley and Nye submitted information in connection with this matter, and stated that it would be very difficult to arrange in view of the limited number of padres available.

Moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Sadlier, "that the West Guildford Sub-Branch be advised that their suggestion would be very difficult to carry out, but where any special request was made for an A.I.F. Padre, an endeavour would be made to comply." Carried.

House Committee Report.—The report of the House Committee as submitted to the last meeting was then considered. The report recommended the closing of the Dining Room at the earliest possible moment in view of the continued loss which had been taking place over an extended period. After discussion, the report of the House Committee was adopted, and the date of closing was left to the Executive. Carried.

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

Noombliing Sub-Branch.—Mr. Logie stated that the report in connection with the visit of the Noombliing Sub-Branch and Waroona would be submitted to the next meeting.

Quairading.—Mr. Sadlier reported on his visit to Quairading. The report was received.

Finance Committee.—The report of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 14th March, was received and adopted. Employment of Incapacitated Men.—Mr. Nye reported on the activities of the Pensions Committee in connection with the employment of Incapacitated men.

Investigation Committee.—Mr. Nye stated that owing to pressure of business he would be unable to act on the Investigation Committee, and tendered his resignation. The resignation was accepted with regret, and thanks tendered to Mr. Nye.

Interviews—Executive Delegates.—Moved by Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Longmore, "that it is the policy of the League that, where members of the Executive are approached by individual soldiers on League matters, they be referred to the State Branch office." Carried.

Repatriation Cases.—It was reported to the Executive that many cases handled by the State Executive Office and referred to the Repatriation Department, and which had received the full consideration of the Department were again submitted by sub-branches on appeal. It was decided that sub-branches be notified that to prevent over-lapping the appeals be forwarded through the State Executive.

Anzac Hostel.—Moved by Col. Margolin, seconded by Mr. Yeates, "that a letter be forwarded to Matron Dunn in appreciation of her kindly and sympathetic attention to all cases that were under her care at Anzac Hostel." Carried.


Present.—Messrs. Collett, Riley, McAdam, Philp, Watt, Freedman, Longmore, Shaw, Yeates, Tyler, Sadlier, Pady, Wedd, Bader, Lovell, Margolin, and Tozer.

An apology was received from Mr. Logie. Leave of absence for Mr. T. P. Lennon was extended one month.

Federal Correspondence: Influx of Aliens.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive showing copy of one from the Prime Minister's Department concerning the influx of aliens into the Goldfields of Western Australia. The letter stated that the position was being carefully watched by the Commonwealth Authorities, and due consideration being given to the question of imposing further restrictions on alien immigration into Australia if such action was found to be warranted.

State Repatriation Boards.—The Federal Executive advised that the Repatriation Commission sought the usual panel of three names for the selection of the League's nominee for the Repatriation State Board. Messrs. Watt, Pady, and Margolin were nominated.

Soldier Land Settlement.—The Federal Executive forwarded copy of a communication received from His Honor Mr. Justice Pike in connection with his visit to the various States to inquire into soldier land settlement. The letter related to one addressed to His Honor by the Federal Executive concerning the tendering of evidence by the League representatives in the various States. Mr. Justice Pike forwarded a communication he had received from the Prime Minister, which set out the subject of enquiry, and stated that the Enquiry was really one between the States of the Commonwealth to ascertain which of these Governments is to bear the losses due on Soldier Settlement. However, if thought necessary, evidence from the League would be accepted. The letter was referred to the Land Committee.

Pilgrimage to France.—In reply to the letter which conveyed the resolution carried at the last Executive meeting, asking if

steps were being taken to arrange a pilgrimage to France from Australia in 1930 or 1931, the Federal Executive advised that it was felt it would be better for Australia to participate with other Dominions, and the British Legion, than to organise a separate pilgrimage from Australia, consequently, efforts were made to fulfil the quota asked for by the B.E.S.L. for the pilgrimage this year.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Col. Margolin, "that the letter be received, and that this Branch re-affirms its original motion suggesting a pilgrimage in 1930 or 1931." Carried.

Anzac Day Message.—The Federal President forwarded his Anzac Day message for publication in the official organ of the League and other papers. This was received.

Poppies.—The Federal Executive requested the estimated requirements for this State Branch for Poppy Day this year. On
the motion of Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. McAdam, the matter was referred to the Anzac Day Committee for action.

**Appointment to Commission—Military Forces.**—In connection with resolution 79 of the 12th Annual Congress, the Secretary of the Defence Department advised through the Federal Executive that appointments to commissions from within the Citizen Forces must be made from those serving in the forces who have been successful in competitive examinations. Appointments to Commissioners by persons who have served on Active Service are made concurrently, and the Department is always glad to receive applications for Commissions from suitable returned soldiers.

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

**Invitations.**—The Kelmscott Sub-Branch extended an invitation to the President and Delegates to attend a Smoke Social to be held on the 21st April. The State President, Messrs. Tyler and Philip accepted.

**Screening of “Mons.”**—The Management of Hoyt's Regent extended an invitation to the President and Delegates to attend the screening of “Mons,” to be held on April 23rd. Hoyts also treated that reduced prices would be offered for ex-soldiers wishing to attend on that night.

The Northam Sub-Branch extended an invitation to their Rank Dinner, to be held on the 24th April. Rev. Riley accepted.

**The Australian War Memorial.**—The State President informed the Committee of Hoyts' Regent, extending an invitation to attend the screening of “Mons,” to be held on April 23rd. Hoyts also treated that reduced prices would be offered for ex-soldiers wishing to attend on that night.

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**State Centenary.**—The Secretary of the Committee requested the cooperation of the League in assisting in the efforts of the Local Committee to successfully celebrate this event.

Moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Mr. Riley, "that this League give all possible assistance, and that sub-branches be asked to assist and co-operate." Carried.

**Miniatures: League Badge.**—Messrs. Davies Bros., of Melbourne, forwarded samples, in miniature, made of gold and forming sleeve links or tie pins, and quoting prices for same.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Tyler, "that in view of the previous ruling of the Federal President concerning the League's Badge, the matter be referred to the Federal Executive." Carried.

**Certificates: Women's Auxiliaries.**—The Secretary explained that the Boulder Sub-Branch had requested a Certificate for a member of their Women's Auxiliary. The Branch had been written to, and it had been pointed out that the resolution passed at the last State Congress did not provide for the presentation of Certificates to individual members, but to the Auxiliary as a Body. The Boulder Sub-Branch was responsible for the resolution of Congress, and

in a further communication stated that the resolution had been misinterpreted: their intention was to move a motion that Certificates should be presented to individuals.

The Secretary was instructed to inform the Boulder Sub-Branch that the matter would have to be again referred to Congress.

**Reports.**—State Secretary: The State Secretary read the report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight, and dealt with his recent tour of the South West, he also recommended that Art Union Committee be appointed in view of the fact that permission had been obtained from the Police Department to conduct another venture. The report was received.

Art Union Committee: Messrs. Tyler, McAdam, Tozer, Bader and Philip were appointed.

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

House Committee: The report of the meeting of the House Committee held on the 5th instant, in which it was decided to close the Dining Room on the 30th April was received and adopted.

The Committee recommended that the Executive march in a body on Anzac Day, instead of joining their own units.

Moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Sadlier, that the Committee's recommendation be endorsed." Carried.

**Next Executive Meeting.**—In view of the fact that the next meeting of the Executive should take place on Anzac Day, it was decided that the calling of a meeting be left in the hands of the State President.

**Employment Bureau.**—The report of the operations of the Employment Bureau for the month of March was received.

**Narrogin.**—Mr. Watt reported that he had visited Narrogin over the Easter holidays. The report was received.

**Kulin.**—Mr. Tyler reported that he had been on leave and visited the Kulin Sub-Branch, and that there was promise of a very strong sub-branch in the future.

**R.S.L. Co-op.**—Mr. McAdam and Mr. Longmore reported on the position of the R.S.L. Co-operative Co. Limited.

**Yarloop Sub-Branch.**—The State President reported that he had visited Yarloop on the 31st March.

**Claremont-Cottesloe.**—The State President reported that he had visited the Victoria Park Sub-Branch on the 5th April. The report was received.

**Club Premises.**—Moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Shaw, "that the question of obtaining club premises for the benefit..."
THE TRUTH ABOUT WAR

Writing in the Sunday Express on the Cavell film censorship, Mr. James Douglas takes a point of view which must be considered in getting at a right view of the problem raised. He writes:

"If we are to be saddled with a political censorship based on expediency, this generation will never be told the truth about war. The story of Edith Cavell reveals war as it is really conducted. It lays bare the ruthless brutality and cruelty of war. It enables the post-war eye to see war naked and stark.

"If nations knew what war is they would abolish it, but they are not allowed to see its horrors in times of peace. The young men and women of Europe are to-day as ignorant of the truth about war as their predecessors were in the years before the Great War.

"Ten years of peace have reared a generation that has not seen or known the unimaginable bestiality of war. A rosier mist of romance hides the infamy of the abomination. The truth about war is terrible, and if it is falsified and idealised the nations will be led like sheep into the old shambles.

"If 'Dawn' tells even a part of the truth about the diabolical things that are deliberately done in war in obedience to the code of war, it is a service to humanity as a whole and to Germany as a part of humanity.

"The killing of Nurse Cavell was the fiendish work of a pitiless war creed or war code, and not merely the act of individuals.

"This is the lesson that mankind must digest, that war is only one law—the law that it knows of no law and obeys no law.

"There are no laws of war, for war destroys all law. It sanctions and sanctifies those crimes and cruelties which the laws of peace forbid and punish. There is no such thing as a good war, a holy war, a merciful war, or a humane war.

"The race which bred a Goethe and a Beethoven was not and is not a race of demons. It was and is a race like other races, with ideals and aspirations like theirs. But war thrust it with all its higher qualities into the nethermost pit of evil.

"Why should we shrink from showing the cannon-fodder and gas-fodder of 1914 the moral abyss into which war hurled the good German people with all their religion, all their philosophy, all their poetry, all their music, and all their humanism?

"War should be stripped of all its gilt so that our young men and young women should see all its guilt.

"Let us fear the mask off war. Let mankind see it in its nudity, and then perhaps mankind will learn war no more. This is more than expediency. It is plain duty."
the State Branch of the League referring to the alarming position being created by the arrival of aliens on the Goldfields, the letter shown hereunder was received from the Secretary, Prime Minister’s Department, through the R.S.L. General Secretary:

“With reference to your letter of the 21st February, relative to the influx of aliens into the Goldfields of Western Australia, I am directed to inform you that the facts set forth in the copy of the communication received from the Secretary of your Western Australian Branch have been carefully noted and will receive due consideration.

“You have been previously advised of the general restrictions already in operation as regards alien migration to Australia, viz, that every foreign migrant is required to be in possession of at least £40 landing money, or a landing permit issued as a result of his maintenance having been guaranteed by some relative or friend residing in Australia; also that in the case of Greeks, Jugoslavs and Albanians, the issue of British visas is limited to 100 a month for each of these classes.

“In view of the situation mentioned in the communication from your Western Australian Branch, special care will be exercised in regard to the issue of landing permits on applications by persons residing in the Goldfields.

“It is not practicable to control Italian migration by the British visa system, inasmuch as in pursuance of an agreement entered into some years ago between Great Britain and Italy, the visa requirements were mutually abolished. This agreement was extended to apply to the various Dominions, including Australia. However, the Italian Government has recently passed stringent regulations with a view to discouraging the emigration of Italians from Italy, and the Commonwealth Government has been advised by the Italian Consul-General that passports to leave Italy to settle in countries abroad will in future be granted as a rule only in cases where the intending migrants have been nominated by husbands for their wives, parents for their children, sons for their parents, brothers for their unmarried or widowed sisters, and grandparents for their grandchildren; also for fiancées. It is anticipated that these regulations will result in a considerable decrease in the number of Italians, especially males seeking employment, coming to Australia, during the current year.

“It is observed that your Western Australian Branch realises that there are difficulties from an international point of view in imposing drastic restrictions on alien European migration into this country. Apart from that aspect, there are also considerable difficulties in the way of regulating the flow of such migration in the absence of an extensive and costly organisation in Europe and elsewhere which the Commonwealth would hardly be justified in establishing at this stage of its development.

“You may rest assured, however, that the whole position is being carefully watched by the Commonwealth authorities, and that due consideration will be given to the question of imposing further restrictions on alien migration into Australia if such action is found to be warranted in the light of all the circumstances with the matter.”

**APPOINTMENT TO COMMISSIONS**

The following communication has been received from the Secretary, Department of Defence:

“With reference to your letter of the 1st December, forwarding copy of Resolution No. 79 passed at the 12th Annual Congress of your League, regarding appointment to Commissions in the Military Forces, I am directed to inform you that under Section 11(a) of the Defence Act appointment to commission from within the Citizen Forces must be made from those serving in the Forces who have been successful in the prescribed competitive examinations. The normal source of supply of officers of the Citizen Forces is under these provisions.

“I am to add, however, that appointments to commissioned rank of persons who have served on active service are made concurrently, and the Department is glad to receive applications for commissions from suitable returned soldiers.”

“How is that wayward son of yours getting along?”

“No very well at present, but no one can say he has not struggled from the foot to the very top.”

“How is that?”

“Why, he started as a chiropodist, but gave it up and became a barber.”

---

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THE LISTENING POST

April 20, 1928

THE MONTH

The recent naval court-martial was a regrettable affair and at this distance it looks as if the exercise of a little tact on both sides might have averted the trial and saved two highly-qualified senior officers from being butchered to pay a Fleet Street holiday. It is difficult to see how the court could have arrived at any other verdict. The method of making an official complaint by an officer who considers himself aggrieved is set forth in great detail in King's Regulations and apparently the convicted officers adopted an irregular method. Nevertheless, the sentences imposed seem excessive, and it is to be hoped that the Admiralty will reduce them to a simple reprimand.

The allegation that the Admiral called the bandmaster a__, brings up recollections of the old Digger story of the cook who complained that a member of a certain profession had called him the platoon and the platoon-commander asked for the culprit to be a man and own up. One digger took two paces forward.

So you're the man who called the cook a______ said the officer.

"No, sir," replied the digger. "But I wish to ask who called the cook a-- a cook?"

Outlawing War

That the phenomenon of war is something which can be abolished by resolutions, or outlawed by treaties, is a delusion dear to the hearts of humanitarians in all countries. It is on a par with those other pet delusions—it is an illusion which many in the public will accept and which few statesmen will believe. The idea of keeping down wages by killing off surplus population; and that men can be made moral by act of parliament. It is always the individual, or the nation that has had least experience of war, who is most prone to enlarge upon its horrors, a form of mental sadism akin to that of certain French soldiers who desire to erect a war memorial which will depict all the revolting aspects of armed conflict. Consequently it is hardly surprising to find the U.S.A., the country which did least and suffered least during the war, endeavouring, by means of treaties, to prevent possible recurrences of the world-tragedy. Why France should be selected as a target for all this peace propaganda is not very apparent. France is hardly likely to enter upon a war of aggression, but, as the rightly points out, every country is entitled to defend itself against invasion. Apart from the fact that history is for the most part a record of broken treaties, one would be more optimistic concerning the ultimate success of America's methods were they tried on the two European nations most likely to become involved in war. Mussolini seems to have succeeded the ex-Kaiser as the world's champion sabre-rattler, and the Russian disarmament proposals should be taken seriously. There the apostles of peace at any price would find two fitting fields for their missionary efforts.

The amusing part of the business is that the very cable-pages recording America's efforts to outlaw war contain in adjacent columns reports of-the despatch of U.S. marines to Nicaragua (the small State which cannot hold its general elections except under American control), the tea-pot dome scandals, the Ku Klux Klan, and the Chicago election outrages. That a country which tolerates armed force and gang warfare as incidents to democratic elections should try to force its ideas of perpetual peace on the rest of the world is truly laughable.

Before attempting to reform Europe the U.S.A. should set her own house in order, for some aspects of peace are more horrible than any war.

MISSIONARIES AND THE POLICE

At a recent missionary conference in the east a certain reverend gentleman allowed zeal to out-run discretion and expressed abhorrence because the two policemen who were charged with killing natives in the North-West are still members of the force. In other words, the State Government has been blamed, because these men were not dismissed. The facts of the case are these: The first magistrate who heard the inquiry found that the natives had been murdered while in custody, and that the two constables were responsible. They were arrested, brought to Perth, where they appeared before a second magistrate. This gentleman, who has had a long experience of police court work, decided that there was not sufficient evidence against the accused to warrant the case being sent to a jury. Accordingly, he discharged them and they returned to duty. To dismiss them from the service simply because clerical gentlemen in another State prefer the opinion of one magistrate to that of another, would be neither just nor legal.

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Annette: "Ralph told me last night that he's a woman hater."

Nannette: "Is he broke again?"

You never hear the bee complain
Nor hear it weep and wail;
But if it wished it could unfold
A very painful tail.

CAN WE FORGET?
By "Wings."

The crescent moon is dipping low over Constantinople's minarets and spires; the rugged Peninsula lies draped in shadow. It is a barren, broken and forbidding spot, with frowning cliffs fringed by the ocean, and the blue waves roll inward mysteriously, lapping the narrow belt of sand-strewn beach. The winds and the water chant eternally the name and fame of the dauntless band whose valour and sacrifice have enriched for all time the glory of our land. Their eyes are closed in slumber everlasting; sleeping in the bosom of the grey cliffs.

Keeping eternal vigil, these sentinels of God died to teach a world that was drifting into gross materialism that noble ideals are worth suffering and death. Here for honour's sake the fifty thousands and fought and failed and fell. Yes, we remember them.

An Empire with Anzac in its history can never die. Its destiny is divine; its glory ineffaceable. Its sons are immortal. That is the lesson of Gallipoli.

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F. W. BELL, V.C. (South African War).

J. CARROLL, V.C.

A. E. GABY, V.C. (Killed in Action).

H. V. H. THROSSELL, V.C.

T. L. AXFORD, V.C., M.M.
ANZAC MESSAGES

From CAPT. G. J. C. DYETT,
Federal President, R.S.L.

The 25th April, which is known throughout the world as Anzac Day, will be the thirteenth Anniversary of the Landing on Gallipoli by the 1st Australian Expeditionary Force, which, although effected at the expense of many heroic sacrifices on the part of late citizens of Australia and New Zealand, was an achievement having no parallel in the annals of warfare.

The courage, chivalry, fortitude and endurance manifested on that occasion won the admiration of the civilised world and also the undying gratitude of those who constitute the integral parts of the British Empire.

The legacy of our departed comrades is the obligation of the R.S.S.I.L.A. to do everything possible to minimise the difficulties and disabilities of their dependants and to ensure their happiness, as well as that of the ex-service men and women who were so fortunate as to return to Australia from the scene of hostilities.

It is regrettable that so many of those concerned are at present unemployed, which is generally due to the prevailing depression, but they can rest assured that the League is doing everything practicable to secure for them work of a lucrative character.

Non-members of the League can, by becoming members thereof, not only strengthen its efforts on behalf of those whom it is pleased to represent, but considerably increase its influence in the community and simultaneously help the League to discharge its responsibilities to those whose memory Anzac Day is intended suitably to honour.

From COLONEL H. B. COLLETT,
C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.,
State President R.S.L.

Year by year it is a source of great satisfaction to the Executive elected by the members of the League in Western Australia to note the increasing sense of importance of Anzac Day, and the growing numbers of those who are insisting upon, and observing, its fullest commemoration.

Our debt to those who fell will never be discharged. We still owe something to the living. Let there be no lagging in effort.

Over 70 years ago the great Tennyson seems to have visualised our League and its main objects. When Wellington died he wrote:-

"A people's voice! we are a people yet,
Tho' all men else their nobler dreams forget,
Confused by brainless mobs and lawless Powers;

Thank Him who isled us here and roughly set
His Briton in blown seas and storming showers.
We have a voice with which to pay the debt
Of boundless love and reverence and regret
To those great men who fought, and kept it ours."

From Field-Marshall Sir WILLIAM BIRDWOOD

Extract from letter recently received by General Hobbs from F.M. Sir William Birdwood:-

"This should be reaching you about Anzac Day, and conveys my most hearty and sincere greetings to all old comrades for that day. It is always such a real delight to me to know how very fully Australia honours the Anniversary, and I believe will continue to do so for all time. This is only right, as nothing should ever be allowed to dim the memory of our magnificent comrades."

17,650 Honours and Decorations, including 62 Victoria Crosses, were conferred upon Australians for bravery in the field, and distinguished service.
THE LISTENING POST
April 20, 1928

THE BATTLE OF PEACE
Are all the great deeds over?
Are there none yet to be done?
Have all the wars been fought
And all the victories won?
Must we meditate the greatness
Of those who have fought and gone.

We hope that wars are over,
And all martial victories won;
But there still remains a peace time fight,
And much there's to be done.
For every man of spirit, and every man of pluck,
There's a fight to fight for someone, say
A brother who's down on his luck.
There're so many who need our aid,
The weaker ones strive to rise,
There're so many who can't get a grip,
There're the small boats that always capsize.
If we hold out our hands to these weak ones,
As the great ones who've passed would have done,
Then we are taking our place in the forefront
And the battle of peace will be won.

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R.S.L. ART UNION
The State Executive of the League is launching another Art Union, the profits from which will be devoted to country hospitals and sub-branch amelioration funds. Tickets will be available within a fortnight.

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Winter-Flowering Sweet Peas in mixture or separate colors. Over 100 varieties to choose from.
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PERSONALITIES

Bert Hinkler was given a great reception in this State, and rightly so, too. It serves a useful purpose to honour those who display great skill and daring, as our guest did on his wonderful flight to Australia. Hinkler is a charming, unassuming little fellow who spoke little or nothing about himself or his feat. In all his utterances he preached the gospel of the light British aeroplane.

A much loved, cultured and highly respected nurse is Matron Dunn, who for many years was in charge of the Anzac Hostel. The recent closing down of this home gave the Matron the chance of a much needed rest. She has left to visit a brother who resides in the United States of America.

It is good to see returned men taking our President’s advice and entering into the public life of the community; and it is even better to be able to record their success in so doing. Therefore it gives us real pleasure to be able to congratulate Lieut. C. V. Abyjohnson on his election to the South Perth Road Board. George served with the 32nd Battalion overseas and now holds the job of Supervisor of Rifle Clubs at District Base Headquarters. During the war he gained the unique distinction of being made honorary corporal of the Chasseurs Alpins, an honour achieved by only four persons outside France, the present King of Italy being one.

Another successful soldier candidate in the Road Board elections is “Jim” Watson, of Kalamunda. “Jim” will now represent the Lesmurdie Ward of the Darling Range Road Board, having defeated such a redoubtable opponent as R. S. Sampson, M.L.A. The R.S.L. will now be well represented on this particular Road Board. Charlie Davies, another prominent Leaguer, has represented the Town Ward for some time past.

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Seventeen in town during the holidays, Tom Towers, the genial head teacher of the Dumbleyung State School. Tom fought with the Yanks in Cuba, with the W.A. Bushmen in South Africa, and with the 28th in the Great War.” He refuses to grow old, and to look at him one can hardly credit that his eldest son played international rugby with the Waratahs on their recent European tour. Tom himself has been a great athlete in his day. Football and bike-riding were the hobbies of his youth, and now goes in for golf and rifle-shooting. Incidentally, the bookmaking fraternity is always joyful when Tom returns to Dumbleyung, as his visits to Perth play the very devil with their profits.

Percy Barblett, who was Assistant Town Clerk for the City of Perth, resigned from that position to take up another as secretary of Lynas Motors Limited. Percy is an ex-secretary of the Subiaco Sub-branch.

Pat Hanna, of the “Diggers,” served during the war with the New Zealand forces, and has perhaps done more than any other individual in Australia, both on and off the stage, to keep the old war spirit of comradeship alive. His show is clever, clean and humourous, and he well deserves the bumper houses which he is enjoying in Perth.

A recent visitor to the capital was Major Whittel, of Bridgetown. The Major is a retired English officer who spent many years in India. He is an interesting fellow and is prominent in League circles.

Secretary H. A. Boyes, of Narembeen Sub-branch also visited Perth during Easter. H. A. is a great hustler, being the sparkling plug of all progressive movements in his district.

Mr. Charlie Latham, M.I.A., the president of the Narembeen Sub-branch, is at present gaining knowledge by travel, he being on a tour of the world.

Elector a good energetic man as secretary to a sub-branch and success is assured. Kalgoorlie Sub-branch was never so useful as when Milton Anderson was secretary. About six months ago he was transferred to Bunbury, where he continued his League interest. Milton has now been transferred to Perth, and we trust that his League activities will continue in one of our metropolitan sub-branches.

William Ellis, of Augusta, has always been a public-spirited citizen. His latest effort is to form a branch of the League in his district called the Karridale Sub-branch, which already is assured of success.

Mr. Jim Patterson left for the North-West on the 7th instant, to undertake an organising tour for the benefit of the School for the Blind. It is his intention to move through the north, then turning south, arrive back in Perth about November next. Jim served in the Royal Air Force during the war, being stationed for a long period in Italy.
PLAISTOWE'S TRIPLE BLEND COCOA
YOUR MEALTIME DRINK AND SEE HOW FIT YOU FEEL

MEMORABLE ORDER OF TIN HATS
AFRICA'S "OLD BILL."
Anzac Leads Army of 4000.

C. Longmore writes:
In the accompanying article, reprinted from "The Returned Soldier," it would appear to me that the South African Digger has successfully solved the problem of retaining the camaraderie which is perhaps the ex-soldier's most cherished recollection of all his experiences of the Great War.

In Australia the work of the R.S.L. is of such a serious nature that the social aspect has, of necessity, had to be neglected. Sub-branches have their smoke and express to you their concurrence or otherwise with the idea of a Tin Hat Order in this State.

An Anzac on Armistice Night led a parade of over 4000 former servicemen in Durban. The Anzac was Mr. C. A. Evenden, who served with the Australians at Gallipoli, drifted into the commercial side of newspaper work in Melbourne, and finally brought his bright ideas to South Africa.

Today he is known to thousands of former soldiers in the Union as "Old Bill," for he has started a movement that has spread like a veld fire over South Africa—the Memorable Order of Tin Hats.

The badge of the Order is a miniature tin helmet, worn in the lapel of the coat, and one sees it everywhere today. The first Moths were enrolled in Durban barely five months ago. Now dugouts and shellholes exist all over the Union. There is an "Old Bill" in each province, and on Armistice Day in Durban the Moths organised the biggest and brightest celebration that has been held since the Kaiser abdicated.

The Memorable Order of Tin Hats should appeal to Anzaqs. The chief objection is to revive the splendid spirit of camaraderie that was one of the most gratifying features of the Great War, and this has been achieved by borrowing some of the philosophy of Bruce Barinsfather's immortal "Old Bill."

Old Soldiers Never Die.

An equally famous war character in Mademoiselle from Armentieres has been enshrined as patron saint of the order, and the anthem is "Old Soldiers Never Die." All toasts are drunk—except by teetotallers, who have rations of lime juice—in rum, the original S.R.D., if obtainable, and it is the invariable custom for Moths to join in the chorus of any old war song.

The method of organising the Moths is interesting and effective. Durban, as the founder of the Order, is "base dugout" for South Africa, and it is "commanded" by "Old Bill" (Mr. Evenden), assisted by a staff of "brass hats." The rank and file take shelter in shellholes, elect their own commander, adjutant, and quartermaster, and run their own entertainments and meetings once a month. These take any desired form, but the shellhole must go through the Moth ritual—that is, lights are "doused," a candle is lit, and placed on top of a tin hat, which rests on a Union Jack, and the Moths sing "Old Soldiers Never Die."

Nurses in the Units.
As shellholes are formed in districts or amongst ex-soldiers and nurses, who served in the same unit, the monthly meetings are enthusiastic, and the ritual is wonderfully realistic.

In the appropriate atmosphere the staidest "old stager" recaptures some of the boyish abandon of the war, and usually enjoys a mild flutter on the Crown and Anchor board to wind up the evening. Base Headquarters weighs in occasionally with a muster on the grand scale, and then the town enjoys itself. On Armistice Night, for example, Headquarters arranged a joyous "back of the line" concert. Moths paraded in force, and in the march to the Town Hall, paused to salute the Cenotaph. This reverent tribute to fallen comrades was even more impressive than the official two minutes' pause observed earlier in the day.

The concert was full of novelties, such as an air raid, competitions with a trench flavour, and war-time choruses sung lustily, to the accompaniment of frantic bands. It was open to all ex-soldiers, and the great hall was packed.

Medal for Proof.
All ex-servicemen and nurses who served in any war are eligible for the Moths, the production of a war medal being demanded when the questions of field service is in doubt. During the hectic days of the flag crisis in South Africa several members of the Government suspected the Moths of war-like intentions, especially as it started in Natal, where opposition to the original flag proposals was strongest. Even the fact that it was specifically stated that the Moths was non-political and open to Boer War veterans, irrespective of the side they fought on, did not allay the fears of some of the official, who could not appreciate the humorous side of the Order.

Now that a flag settlement has been reached, and there is peace in the land, many Dutch-speaking South Africans are

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welcoming the vista of sociability opened up by the Moths.

And the Helping Hand.

Although the Memorable Order is concentrating on the social aspect, and is careful not to clash with the benevolent work of the British Empire Service League, it is not altogether a selfish organisation. Funds are raised for a comforts fund to lighten the burden of ex-soldiers who are still in hospital, and there is always a helping hand for any deserving case.

16th BATTALION NOTES.

On Sunday morning, the 15th inst., the 16th Battalion “History” Sub-Committee met for the purpose of hearing the reading of the draft of the 16th Battalion history to the 5th of May, 1925. With the exception of details of the trip from Fremantle to Melbourne, and the doings of those of the 16th Battalion who embarked on the “See Aug Bee,” at Alexandria, this part of the history is complete. Readers of the “Listening Post” who can help to fill in the above-mentioned gaps in the otherwise continuous record are requested to communicate with Mr. R. C. Yeldon, of 396 Hay St., Perth, at the earliest possible date. The history as read is by no means of the heavy type, it being well punctuated with good humour and wit, whilst fully recording the early humdrum days of Blackboy, Broadmeadows, etc.

It has been suggested that the volume he entitled “The Old Sixteenth,” as this unit was invariably referred to in those words, and that the book be so dedicated as to perpetuate the memory of the late Percy Black, an outstanding personality and soldier of “The Old Sixteenth.”

There has been a good response to the request for 100 subscribers at £5 each for the purpose of partly financing the printing, etc., but it is felt that many who cannot pay £5 in one sum would like to participate in the hundred specially inscribed leather-bound copies of “The Old Sixteenth.” It has therefore been decided to accept a deposit of £1 and eight regular monthly payments of 10/- each. This should materially facilitate matters for all intending subscribers, and no doubt the limited number of subscribers’ copies will very quickly be taken up under the generous time-payment scheme now available.

Owing to the closing down of the R.S.L. Dining Room at the end of April, the 16th Battalion Association luncheons will have to be held at some other restaurant, the location of which will be communicated to members so soon as definite arrangements have been made.

A PLAYTHING OF FATE.

Herbert was a small, illiterate person with a soul. Mainly by force of temperament, environment and heredity, his struggles for a crust and a blanket led him round in circles until he arrived at a position exactly where he started from. He followed his profession of caretaker in a block of buildings in the Terrace, to exercise his talent! His minutes were in his grey matter that he ought to be something better. The war came along, and a sympathetic doctor allotted him to a remount unit. Fate then took a hand and issued him with a cobber in the shape of a big, disolute, Englishman whose accomplishments commenced and ended with a superb grip of the English language. Herb would sit and listen to the cultured voice explaining the application of the integral calculus in relation to picking winners, and the dim idea so long held back burst forth. If he could learn to speak like that, fame would then be just a matter of course. Fate played his second card per medium of a horse, and Herb found himself in hospital with a broken leg. A stray visitor stopped at his bed, dropped some cigarettes and a book entitled “From Servant to Duchess,” by Charles Garbage, and passed on. The Duke spoke just like his English friend, and so the book was devoured. On the journey back to Australia Herb collected a store of big words, which he used indiscriminately. Owing to a shortage of suitable men at the time, he secured a position as a temporary clerk in the Repat. What an opportunity this was to exercise his talent! His minutes were a mass of heterogeneous verbiage, written after the style of the immortal Sam’l Pepys. Too much so, his chief clerk thought, as he appointed him an application clerk. Deprived of the minute-writing facilities, Herb tried his conversational powers on the applicants. One day he was asked to prepare a case for the Senate Board, and a discerning typiste severely sub-edited his report. Herb wasn’t concerned about that, but his recommendation agsonised him in its composition. It would be read by the secretary to the big men on the board. Here was his chance; he imagined the expressions of approval by the members and the curiosity of the chairman as to the author, and Herb trembled as he wrote—

“Metaphorically speaking, this man is illegible, but owing to circumstances over which I have no control, I recommend beneficial consideration.”

“Your supplication,” he sadly informed the applicant next day, “has been diffused.”

Herb is now a caretaker in a block of buildings on the Terrace.
VARIÁ

At a recent State Executive meeting of the League a delegate complained that he was continually being interviewed at his place of employment by persons desiring information or advice on soldier problems. He was anxious to assist to the limit of his capacity, but during working hours his time naturally belonged to his employers. Other delegates stated that the same state of affairs existed with them. It was decided to refer such callers to the State Executive office.

Some months ago Colonel Biles, the C.O. of the 11th Battalion of the Citizen Forces wrote asking the Perth City fathers if they could donate the colours for his regiment, pointing out that the rank and file of the unit were drawn from the residents the City of Perth. Cr. H. E. Wells, who is also a State Executive delegate, got the request past the general purposes committee, which body sent it on to the general Council meeting with a recommendation that the request be not granted. Cr. Wells in the full Council spoke of the war-shattered banners of the famous regiments seen in the halls and cathedrals of the older countries and of their glorious traditions as incentives of generations who have followed, and pointed out that the nucleus of the famous A.I.F. was drawn from citizen forces of pre-war days and although somewhat belated, it was up to the Council to show some recognition of the noble deeds of the fathers and brothers of the boys of the Perth regiment. The council eventually decided to present the colours as desired.

We trust that this newly found spark of patriotism discovered in the Perth City Council will be fanned to a flame which will not die until they do their duty by the soldiers who fell for their fair city and subscribe to a memorial to their memory.

Tom McGow (late 44th), of the Criterion Hotel, got another good one off his ample chest the other day. He had just issued three foaming tankards, and when one of the customers made a wry face after sipping his beer, Tom asked:-

"What's the matter with it?"

"It's tainted," the customer answered, thinking he was putting one across the redoubtable Tom.

"Taint enough, I suppose," was Tom's immediate retort.

Two sportsmen had done remarkably well over the Melbourne Cup. After a hectic week, Sunday arrived and they decided it would be a seemly thing to do if they attended divine service. The verger ushered them into a pew and handed them prayer books, but they were both more familiar with the Guide to Form than with the Book of Common Prayer.

"What day is it?" said one, frantically turning over the pages of the prayer book. His mate whispered: "It's the First Sunday after Flemington."

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IMMIGRATION OF EX-SERVICE MEN WITH CAPITAL

The Under-Secretary for Lands (Mr. Morris) recently forwarded the following interesting communication to the State Secretary:

With further reference to your letter of the 14th December last on the foregoing subject, I have to inform you that the matter has been fully gone into, and in reply I am directed to advise you in the following terms:

2. This State, of course, welcomes the migration hereto of ex-service men with capital, but it is not possible to provide any special scheme for setting them on the land, and they would therefore only receive similar treatment to that which is accorded other selectors.

3. A list of properties which the Agricultural Bank has for sale was recently forwarded to the Agent-General, from whom particulars of such properties can be obtained by intending migrants who possess the necessary means to purchase properties.

4. It is not considered altogether advisable, however, for intending migrants to purchase properties in London, as in the absence of a knowledge of local conditions they might easily arrive here on a wrong basis of expectation. The migrant would almost invariably find it a much better plan not to purchase any property until he has actually seen on the spot the exact position of affairs relating to settling on the land in Western Australia.

5. One of the great advantages that this State offers to men with capital as compared with the Eastern States is that improved and partly improved properties can be purchased here very much more cheaply than they could be obtained elsewhere, although our land is equally as good as that in the Eastern States.

6. It is recommended as being essential in almost every case that a migrant with capital should obtain local experience before engaging in farming on his own account, and for his own protection it cannot be too strongly impressed upon him that he should never enter into any arrangement for the purchase of private property (whether it be freehold or conditional purchase) without first consulting the responsible officers of this Department. This is a very important point.

7. In those cases where ex-service men possess capital to an amount that would ordinarily preclude them from obtaining assisted passages, the Hon. the minister has approved the Agent-General taking each case on its merits and exercising his discretion in the direction of nominating them to the Migration Office for assisted fares.

8. In regard to the selection of virgin land from the Crown, I have to state that during recent months sub-divisions of good wheat lands have been made, and the work is still being carried on with vigour.

9. It is expected that the Department will very shortly be in a position to make a large number of these blocks available for selection, and this, together with the fact that there are many private properties on the market at reasonable prices, should enable such nominees to be absorbed within a reasonable time.

10. It should be borne in mind, however, that there is a very keen demand for wheat lands, and therefore ex-service migrants cannot be given any guarantee that they would be able to obtain such land immediately on arrival.

11. I trust that the foregoing will furnish you with the information you desire, but if anything further is required, I shall be pleased to supply it on receipt of a request from you to that effect.

KULIN WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

The Women's Auxiliary Branch R.S.L. Kulin, held a meeting on March 24th, at Kulin Hall, in the afternoon, to welcome Mr. Tyler, a member of the Perth Executive of the R.S.L. It was proposed that a monument should be erected in a prominent part of Kulin as a memorial to the men who fell in the great war; also, that a hospital should be erected with funds already in hand, and further contributions. It is hoped that these two objects will be successfully carried out.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. Colbourne (President W.A.B.), and members to Mr. Tyler for his visit, and help in suggestions to this branch, which has only just been recently started.

The Trustees of the Leederville Fallen Soldiers' Memorial are the local Branch of the R.S.L. realise that no matter how careful the original committee may have been, some names which should have been included on the monument have probably been missed.

If any relatives or friends of fallen soldiers of the district whose names are not on the memorial, will communicate with the secretary of the Leederville Sub-Branch R.S.L., stating particulars, he will see that the names are added to the tablets; also that they will be read out with those already on the monument, during the service on Anzac Day.
TRANS-ATLANTIC FLIGHTS.

By "Wings."

The first crossing of the Atlantic by a heavier-than-air machine was accomplished by "N.C.4," a United States Navy Flying Boat, in 1919, assisted by units of the Navy.

Just prior to this event, Hawker and Grieve left Newfoundland for Ireland in an aeroplane, and when 900 miles out were forced to land on the sea. Owing to engine trouble, eventually being picked up by a tramp steamer. Later a companion of Grieve said to him: "Are you not astonished that the Admiralty did not put ships at your disposition along the course?" (As the U.S. Navy had done for the "N.C.4.") Said Grieve, "The British Fleet is made for the defence of the country and not for individuals."

Since the "N.C.4" crossed, Alcock and Brown, Chamberlain and Levine, and Lindbergh have accomplished the meritorious feat, but not without a certain amount of luck and favourable circumstances being present in each case.

The trip from East to West has not yet been accomplished by aeroplane, owing to the most unfavourable weather conditions usually met with. The British airship "R.34," however, made the round trip from Britain and back again with ease some years ago.

If there was ever a job for the airship, as against the aeroplane, surely this is it. Personally, I class the Trans-Atlantic aeroplane flight with the escapades of people who go over the Niagara Falls in barrels, or do tight-rope performances over the top. A serious attempt certainly means personal courage of a rather fool-hardy character.

There are evidently two ways of tackling the stunt. One is that of the individual who gets a good machine, tunes it up until he believes it to be perfectly reliable, and then trusts to luck.

The other method is what may be called the departmental one. Thus the United States Navy organised the "N.C.4" attempt. Now, if we put the whole naval resources of a great nation behind a venture of this kind, and if we prove successful, then the pilot who brings the trip off is certainly not the sole claimant to any honour accruing from the success.

Ground Organisation.

We simply get back to the old fact that long distance aeroplane or flying boat journeys are more dependent on what is commonly called "Ground organisation" than on anything else. We might string out all the ships of the British Navy, and the British Mercantile Marine at short intervals across the Atlantic, and then we could choose a fine day and make a start upon it. If anything went wrong, the aeroplane—it would, in fact, be a flying boat—could flop into the water somewhere near a ship, and the occupants could be got on board.

Referring to unorganised attempts, there are a great many feats which, though we may admire them in the individual, we must recognise as bad business for aviation in general. To the individual these stunts may be quite good business. Success means personal notoriety, and notoriety mostly means big financial gain.

I have no quarrel with the people who like the idea of flying the Atlantic, but I feel that some protest is needed against the silly contention to the effect that a nation can in any way improve its reputation by doing it first from East to West. The time and thought which must be given to creating an organisation sufficiently complete to

absolve a nation from the charge of having wilfully risked the lives of valuable citizens means a great deal of good value wasted. The organising brain needed would be much better applied to the scheming of routes along which regular services can reasonably be operated on a sound business basis in the near future.

There are some things which must be done in order to prove that they are possible of achievement. This is not one of them. We could prove the possibility of flying the Atlantic from East to West quite easily without doing it, if any such proof were needed. We know the distance, and that same distance could be flown by journeying a certain number of times—say, from London to Paris and back without stopping.

It is my opinion that for many years to come the aerial journey between Europe and America will be performed by large airships, aeroplanes being merely used as tenders to bring passengers to the point of departure, and to convey them from the point of arrival to their destinations.

(For—This article was written before the Germans' and Colonel Fitzmaurice's successful achievement.)
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SUB-BRANCH NOTES

PILBARRA SUB-BRANCH.

A most successful meeting of the Pilbara Sub-Branch of the Returned Soldiers' League was held in the Mechanics' Institute on Monday evening the 2nd inst.

Before settling down to the routine business, the President (Mr. Ross Keesing) spoke a few words of welcome to three new members in Messrs. M. Ford, E. Lamond, and W. Toltman, stressing that the future of the Branch depended on all Diggers in the town and district pulling together, and making an effort to attend meetings, as in their small community one absentee caused a considerable gap.

He, the President, stated that there was a most satisfactory report to be tabled, and there would be only one regret to mar the evening's proceedings, and that was in that they had to bid farewell to one of their members in Mr. F. G. Wroth. Mr. Wroth had always been prominent when a helping hand was needed by the Branch, and during his several years of residence with them, had served on the Branch Committee. He could be assured that the well wishes of his fellow members went with him to his new sphere of life.

The arrangements for Anzac Day were discussed, and left in the hands of the President and Secretary. After discussion it was thought that considering the point of efficiency the Library had reached, little could be done to improve the existing conditions. It was decided that a meeting should be held every second Saturday in the month, and arrangements were left in the hands of the President and Secretary, with strict instructions that a Pianist and ample refreshments should be provided. It is hoped that country members will make this a monthly date, and save up their business days in town to coincide with the second Saturday.

Nothing of note was gleaned from the correspondence in spite of the efforts of one Digger, who demanded that certain letters be re-read; he considered that correspondence was always galloped through, and one did not get the gist of things until it was heard a second time. (Another member thought his not hearing had something to do with the "Two bob in" held before the meeting.)

Messrs. Lamond and Toltman were appointed to the Finance Committee, vice Messrs. Winter and Wroth.

The President touched on the splendid state of the Branch's financial position in comparison with that of a few months back, when some of the "Old Hands" had to part up their subs. in advance to save the Branch from going bankrupt. He (Mr. Keesing) stressed that their present affluence was due wholly to the efforts of Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. E. (Bert.) Clark, and personally he wanted to express his appreciation of Mr. Clark's work for the Branch.

NAREMBOEN SUB-BRANCH.

By the end of the month the local R.S.L. Club will be built. Members are assured of a programme of interesting events for the winter evenings.

For the benefit of those who were unable to attend the last five branch meetings, we desire to state that the case of the soldier settlers, East of Narembeen, relative to appealing for a full loan, has been taken up by the Sub-Branch. Owing to the club being so near completion, a full report of work is held over. Watch this paper for future and interesting items. There are still a few subs. to collect.

QUAIRADING SUB-BRANCH.

Annual Dinner and Smoke Social.

The Annual Smoke Social of the above Branch was held in the Hall on March 14th, and a good gathering assembled to meet Mr. Cliff. Sadlier, V.C., the delegate from the State Executive.

The catering was good, and the tables with their vases of flowers looked very pleasing. After the toasts to "Fallen Comrades" and "The King" had been honoured, tongues were loosened, and the company attacked the dinner with "great glee."

During the dinner, Mr. D. McRae, one of the Vice-Presidents proposed the toast of the R.S.L., coupled with the State Executive, and spoke of the splendid work being undertaken by the League for returned men.

Mr. C. Sadlier, V.C., rising to reply was greeted with rounds of applause, and gave a resume of the work of the League throughout the State. Mr. Sadlier is an excellent speaker and his information was much appreciated. The League stands high in the esteem of the Government Departments.

Mr. R. Witford moved the toast of the Quairading Road Board and District, and complimented the Board on the splendid roads comparatively well maintained, and said that any in the Wheat Belt. The district was growing, and a increasing amount of wheat was being sent away each year.

Mr. C. Shenton, Secretary of the Board, replied giving much information as to the financial position of the Board for increased road improvement, and a water supply.

Mr. R. Beall, the Secretary, proposed the toast of the Women's Auxiliary, praising the way the assistants had always been eager to assist the parent body whenever called upon. Mr. J. Caldwell suitably replied.

Mr. T. Etteridge, Vice-President, later asked Mr. Sadlier to present the late Secretary (now President) Mr. P. V. Stienholdt, with a magnificent clock, a small token of esteem with which the Branch held him and his work for the League. Mr. Sadlier made the presentation with a short speech, and musical honours were rendered. Mr. Stienholdt in replying thanked the members very earnestly, and said he would value it more than anything he had. His services had been given willingly, and he was always eager to assist comrades and forward the interests of the League.

Mr. W. Brown officiated at the piano and gave two songs. Mr. Morris, who is undoubtedly an expert, controlled the jazz...
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MT. HAWTHORN-NORTH LEEDERVILLE SUB-BRANCH.

A largely attended meeting of the above Branch was held at the old Council Chambers, Oxford Street, Leederville, on Thursday, the 29th March, with Mr. G. Charles in the chair.

Most of the evening was taken up in a general discussion of the Building Fund Committee’s recommendations regarding the purchase of land and proposed erection of the Branch’s new headquarters in Oxford Street, Leederville, on land adjacent to Shaftesbury Street. Mr. Easton kindly presented the Branch with a duck, which was raffled at this meeting, resulting in the sum of £1 being donated to the Building Fund. All ex-soldiers in this district are urged to join this fine Branch.

A well attended meeting of the above Branch was held at the old Council Chambers, Oxford street, Leederville, on Thursday, the 12th inst., with Mr. G. Charles in the chair. After consideration had been given to the Building Fund Committee’s report, a motion was carried, “that this Branch hold a combined open-air service in the afternoon of the Sunday immediately following Anzac Day, to be followed the same evening by an ex-Soldier’s Service in the Galway Street Methodist Church, at the cordial invitation of the Men’s Council, the Pastor and the Superintendent, Minister of the Circuit.” Following the Pastors address, an address will be given by an ex-soldier on the aims and objects of the R.S.L., and a few remarks on “Lest we forget.”

**BRIDGETOWN SUB-BRANCH.**

It is encouraging to see members take an interest in the affairs of their sub-branch. Although we do not have to go and look for more chairs at any of our meetings, those who do attend are certainly not “stick in the muds.” At this time of the year there is plenty to do. At our last meeting members undertook to carry out the Anzac Service as usual, and it will reflect great credit on the committee if they can beat last year’s effort.

The annual children’s sports meeting will also be held, and as we are spending about £20, the children of the Nelson District are in for a good day’s enjoyment. The President, Mr. H. F. Klopper, will address the children.

In previous years we have appealed to the public to assist us in this venture, but from now on, we have decided to take the responsibility ourselves. With a committee of thirty, we should have no fear. We regret the departure of our official “clown,” Jack Smith, to another district. His antics last year caused many a kid to double up with merriment, so if any digger looks for more chairs at any of our meetings, he is a clown, nominations will be received by the Secretary up to the day of the sports.

A motion of regret was recorded on the departure of T. H. (Tony) Savory to another “front.” He has always been a battler for the League, and has in turn filled the office of secretary, president, and now vice-president. The next we hear of him will probably be in Perth, “Bobbing and shuffling.” Bob a time!

His partner in speech, Tommy Wyer, will have to find a new seconder for his motions now, and we fervently hope that the person responsible for putting the tacks in the seat of Tommy’s chair, will cease his practical jokes, and allow him to sit down sometimes.

**VICTORIA PARK SUB-BRANCH.**

The Smoke Social held by this Sub-Branch on Thursday, April 5th, was a tremendous success, notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Hinkler was unable to attend. President Wells was a proud man to preside over such a large and enthusiastic gathering. The Executive was represented by Col. Collett, and Mr. Philip. The Colonel’s response to the toast of the League was very interesting and instructive. The musical portion of the programme was supplied by Eric Leary, Tim Healey, Stan Bushby, Jack Owens, Bert Copeland and party, while Ted Gaved displayed a little bit of magic, and one of Bert Copeland’s party gave a good ten minutes’ ventriloquial amusement. These artists were reinforced later in the evening by Mr. Pat. Hanna and Jock Thompson of the Diggers. Mr. Thompson was encored several times, while Pat’s “chatty” tales kept him a prisoner until 12 o’clock. The Sub-Branches were well represented. An apology was received from Mr. Clydesdale, who was unavoidably prevented from attending what is now considered one of the best smokers ever held by any sub-branch of the League. During the evening the Easter Gift was drawn, the prizes being well distributed throughout the metropolitan area.

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