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STATE WAR MEMORIAL.

Despite the unqualified success of the recent Anzac Day celebrations, the general public must have experienced some disappointment at not having the opportunity to witness the unveiling of the State War Memorial.

The delay in the completion of the Memorial is a matter for which the general public has only itself to blame. The Memorial Committee has worked hard, and its efforts have been energetically supported by the League, and, had the public responded with a tithe of the enthusiasm displayed in promising the soldier the whole earth and the fullness thereof during recruiting campaigns, the appeal of the Archbishop, dignified and eloquent though it was, would have been unnecessary. Archbishop Riley's appeal has, so far, met with a good response, but a much larger sum will have to be collected before the Memorial can be completed, and the problem confronting us is, how is this sum to be raised?

It may be argued that a Memorial in the concrete form is unnecessary, that the memory of our glorious dead will be enshrined in our hearts for ever. So it will, but what of the generations yet unborn? Some tangible evidence of what Anzac valour meant must be placed before their eyes in order that they may fully appreciate the security which this valour has made possible. The form of the Memorial has been agreed upon, and though some of our citizens may have preferred some other form, to hold aloof and refuse to subscribe, as one prominent politician is said to have done, merely because one's personal inclinations are disregarded, indicates a very poor spirit. The attitude of the "sore-head" is both paltry and ridiculous. Even Achilles could not sink in his tent forever.

West Australian people are not mean. Only last year, in answer to the appeal of an overseas visitor, on behalf of an institution in a foreign country, £3,000 was subscribed in this community, in a very brief space of time. The generous spirit exists, and we are not a community of paupers. Therefore, the apathy of the public in the matter of the State War Memorial is disgraceful.

However, apathy cannot be cured by scolding. Just as heat is required before latent energy can be transformed into work, so is organising fervor needed to galvanise dull apathy into generous giving. Public bodies, such as Roads boards, especially now that many diggers are members of such boards, could render valuable assistance. Country sub-branches could hold dances or whist-drives to swell the funds. Above all let every digger constitute himself a canvasser on behalf of the fund. It will be no new experience for the troops, for it would appear that in subscribing to the Memorial Fund, the principle of preference to returned soldiers has been relinquished.

OUTLAWING WAR BY RESOLUTION.

America is making another bold attempt to outlaw war by resolution. The crop of such resolutions emanating from the U.S.A. is numerous; but if they alone could attain the desired objective then all nations of the world could, with safety, scrap their armaments without replenishing for many decades. It is an unfortunate fact, however, that whilst glibly talking peace the U.S.A. is vigorously preparing for war. It is also true that we seldom learn much from the other fellow's experience, and perhaps it is that the Yank didn't learn much after all from the World War. He wasn't in it long enough to learn from bitter personal experience, and the impoverishment of the more active belligerents meant the corresponding enrichment of this great western nation.

It may be that these pious resolutions will serve some useful purpose. They certainly make one give some studious thought to this important question. Thought brings knowledge and knowledge rightly applied will, we hope, eventually succeed in stopping war.

We are only beginning to understand that national preparedness involves something more than the mere maintenance of an efficient Army and Navy. A sound National Policy in international relations is only possible if there is in a country a large body of intelligent citizens, who will conscientiously inform themselves of the basic facts and lessons of world history. It must surely be the wish of all, certainly it is the prayer of all who fought that the nations shall arrive at a basis of understanding which will make war in the future impossible.

So far most organised efforts to promote world peace have been founded on sentiment and emotion. The League of Nations is probably the solitary exception, and for reasons best known to themselves, the Americans have refused to co-operate in its useful endeavour, thereby largely nullifying its efforts.

Resolutions raling at war won't give us peace. The life of a nation is its individuals, therefore let us begin with fundamentals, and educate our citizens in the solid facts of world history to fit them for the task of procuring lasting peace by a programme of intelligence and practicality.

An intellectual preparedness will eventually be the best insurance of a sound peaceful solution of all international problems.

J. H. LUNNON

F.S.M.C., F.I.O.O., D.B.O.A.

LONDON

(Late 28th Battalion, A.I.F.)

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EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

10/5/28.


An apology was received from Mr. E. S. Watt.

Leave of Absence.—Colonel Collett applied for two months’ leave of absence, owing to illness, which was granted.

Federal Correspondence.—Poppies.—The Federal Executive wrote asking this State Branch to call quotes for the manufacture of poppies for 1928. The matter was left in the hands of the State Secretary.

Removal Notices, Repatriation Wards.—The Federal Executive forwarded copy of a communication from the Prime Minister’s Dept., dealing with Resolution 129 of the 12th Annual Congress, which asked for preference in the letting of tenders to British-made material for foreign manufacture. The Prime Minister’s Department pointed out that a generous measure of preference in this direction was given.

League Badge.—In connection with samples of the League Badge in miniature in the form of tie-pins, sleeve-links, etc., which had been received by this Branch from Davies Bros., of Melbourne, and which had been referred to the Federal Executive, the Federal Secretary wrote stating that the firm had approached his office and that the disposal of these articles through the League would require an amendment to the Constitution. The action of this branch in referring the matter to the Federal Executive was appreciated.

Land Settlement.—The Federal Executive forwarded a communication concerning the visit of Mr. Justice Pike, asking that evidence to be tendered to the Commission by this Branch be forwarded at the earliest possible date in the form of a statement.

Mr. Yeates and the State Secretary reported on a meeting of the Land Committee which had been held to consider the tendering of evidence. The letter was received and the report adopted.

Pilgrimage to War Areas.—In connection with the suggested pilgrimage to War Areas in 1930 or 1931, the Federal Executive advised that this matter should be included as an item for discussion at the next Federal Congress. It was decided to refer the matter to the next Annual State Congress for consideration.

Repatriation Hospitals.—Concerning Resolution 19 of the 12th Annual Congress, which asked that all soldiers, irrespective of whether their condition is war-caused or not, be admitted to Repatriation Hospitals, the Federal Executive forwarded copy of a letter from the Minister in Charge of Repatriation, pointing out that in connection with the Perth Hospital ex-soldiers in need of treatment for non-war caused illnesses were admitted to adjoining wards, which were formerly used for the Commission’s patients when these were more numerous.

Old Age Pensions.—Resolution 24 of the 12th Annual Congress asked that in view of the proposed increase in Old Age Pensions, a proportionate increase should be made for all pensions. The Minister in Charge of Repatriation pointed out that this was not possible.

Spine Cases.—The Federal Executive forwarded copy of a letter from the New South Wales State Branch in connection with the travelling facilities granted by the Repatriation Commission for spine cases. The N.S.W. Branch considers that the privileges already obtained by the General President were inadequate, and they desired them extended. Moved by Mr. Philp, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that this Branch re-affirms the decision arrived at at the last Federal Congress dealing with the question of transportation of spinal cases.—Carried.

Educational Benefits, Blinded Soldiers’ Children.—Resolution 36 of the 12th Annual Congress sought the extension of educational benefits to Blinded Soldiers’ children. The Minister in Charge of Repatriation said that this matter had previously been considered and it had been decided that such children were not eligible for such benefits.

Soldiers’ Filing.—In connection with Resolution 28 of the 12th Annual Congress, asking that medical files should be avail-
able to the applicant soldier's private medical adviser, the Federal Executive forwarded a copy of a communication from the Minister in Charge of Repatriation, which explained the decision already come to and which had been previously placed before this Executive. The letter was received.

Late Field-Marshal Earl Haig.—A letter was received from the Federal President, in which he stated that in a personal letter received from the Countess Haig, he had been asked to convey to the ex-service men and women of Australia the most gracious thanks of herself and family for the sympathetic expression conveyed in the cablegram of the 31st January.

New Sub-Branch, Water Supply Department.—An application was received from the Returned Soldiers in the Water Supply Department at Loftus Street for the formation of a community of interest sub-branch. A deputation consisting of officials of that department attended the Executive meeting and addressed delegates. After discussion it was moved by Rabbi Freedman, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that the permission of the Executive be granted for the formation of a sub-branch. Carried.

Employment Incapacitated Men.—Letters were received from the Perth Sub-Branch and the Federal Executive in connection with the employment of incapacitated men. These were referred to the Pensions Committee.

Resignation.—Mr. T. P. Lennon tendered his resignation as a member of the Executive owing to ill-health. Moved by Mr. Longmore, seconded by Mr. Philp, that Mr. Lennon's resignation be accepted with regret and a letter of appreciation for services rendered be sent, and also sympathising with him in his illness. Carried.

Carried.

The Secretary was instructed to notify the next delegate appointed by Congress.

Visiting Committee.—The resignation of Mr. Lennon created a vacancy on the Visiting Committee. Mr. Wells was appointed in his place.

House Committee.—Mr. Lennon's resignation also created a vacancy on the House Committee, and it was decided to refer this matter to the next meeting.

New Settlers' League.—Mr. Longmore tendered his resignation as a delegate to the New Settlers' League. This was accepted with regret. Mr. Pady was appointed to the vacancy.

Employment Bureau.—Mr. Sewell had tendered his resignation as Employment Officer and this had been accepted by the instructions from the President, and applications had been called to fill the position. The President's action was endorsed and a Committee consisting of Messrs. Tozer, McAdam and Margolin was appointed to consider the applications.

Fremantle Complaint.—The Committee appointed by the Executive to consider complaints forwarded by the Fremantle Sub-Branch delivered its report. The report was received and adopted.

Anzac Day.—The Secretary said that a letter had been forwarded to the Minis-

ter for Education, requesting reinstatement of the practice of approved representatives of the League addressing school children on Anzac Day. A reply had been received in which it was stated that the Minister could not undertake the responsibility of saying who should and who should not deliver addresses. The letter referred to the Anzac Day Committee for their consideration before next Anzac Day.

Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch.—The Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch wrote congratulating the Executive on the arrangements for Anzac Day.

Sir Thomas Coome.—Sir Thomas Coburn forwarded a donation of £5 towards League expenses on Anzac Day. The Secretary had suitably acknowledged the gift.

Art Union, Fremantle Sub-Branch.—The Fremantle Sub-Branch wrote requesting the permission of this State Executive to conduct an art union under the auspices of the Fremantle Sub-Branch, Spearwood Sub-Branch, and the Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall Committee, the proceeds to be divided equally between the three organisations, the Sub-Branches' shares to be used for Amelioration, and the Memorial Hall Committee's share to go towards the reduction of the debt of £800 owing on the Hall.

Moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Col. Margolin, that the Fremantle Sub-Branch be asked for further information concerning the Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall, and their connection therewith. Carried.

Soldiers' Funerals.—The Leederville Sub-Branch forwarded a communication stating that at their last meeting reference was made to the short burial service at the graveside of a deceased soldier. The Sub-Branch suggested that the Executive try and arrange a meeting of padres in order that a suitable service might be conducted. Rev. Riley described the procedure adopted by the various churches for funeral services.

Moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Sadlier, that the letter be left in the hands of the Rev. C. L. Riley, Rev. E.
H. O. Nye and Rabbi Freedman.—Carried.

Sundry Matters, Wubin Sub-Branch.—The Secretary read a communication from the Wubin Sub-Branch dealing with various complaints. The letter was left in the hands of the Secretary.

American Films.—The Merredin Sub-Branch forwarded copy of a resolution carried at their last meeting supporting any action taken by the State Executive with a view to limiting or arresting altogether the increasing importation of American films into Western Australia. It was decided that the letter be published and that the matter be referred to the authorities through the Federal Executive, with the endorsement of this State Branch.

Reports.—State Secretary read the report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. The report was received. In his report he mentioned that several committees had not functioned for some time.

Enquiry Committee.—The resignation of Mr. Nye from this Committee caused a vacancy, which was filled by Mr. Wells.

Finance Committee.—The report of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 11th April was received and adopted.

Relief Funds.—The report of the expenditure for the months of April and March were received and adopted.

Employment Bureau.—The report of the Employment Bureau for the month of April was received.

Northam.—The Rev. C. L. Riley reported on his visit to Northam on the 24th April. The report was received.

Goldfields.—Mr. Sadlier reported on his visit to Merredin, Southern Cross, Kalgoorlie and Boulder Sub-Branches. The report was received.

Mt. Barker.—Mr. Philp reported on his visit to Mt. Barker. The report was received.

Belmont and Kalamunda.—Mr. Tyler reported on his visit to Belmont and Kalamunda on Anzac Day. The report was received.

STANDARD GAUGE OF RAILWAY LINES

The following reply to a Federal Congress resolution has been received from the Prime Minister’s Department:—

"I am directed to inform you that the Government is fully alive to the necessity of a uniform railway gauge, as will be noted from the following extract from the Governor-General’s speech at the opening of Parliament:—

‘A uniform gauge for the railways of Australia is a pressing national necessity. Each year of delay is adding to the ultimate cost of a scheme which is inevitable. The first instalment of this policy is being realised in the South Brisbane-Kyogle Railway now in course of construction, and proposals will be placed before you for a line connecting Port Augusta and Adelaide on the uniform gauge. The complete solution of this problem is, however, impossible without the co-operation of all the States on the mainland, and this co-operation has unfortunately not yet been secured.’

"This is the position to-day, and although some of the States are willing and ready to co-operate, two of them are not, and little progress can therefore be made. "It might be added, however, that by agreement between the Commonwealth and the States of New South Wales and Queensland, one section of the work recommended by the Royal Commission on Uniform Gauge, viz., the linking of Sydney and Brisbane via Grafton, Kyogle and South Brisbane, was proceeded with, and the work is now in progress. It is estimated to cost £4,000,000, of which approximately £1,840,000 has been advanced by the Commonwealth Treasurer to the Railway Council in charge of the work.

"The Commonwealth recently entered into an agreement with the State of South Australia regarding a standard gauge railway from Adelaide to Port Augusta via Red Hill. The agreement was ratified by the Houses of Parliament of both the Commonwealth and the State, and the building of the necessary railway extension will be undertaken as soon as the enabling legislation has been passed. This work would provide for a second section of the uniform gauge recommended by the Royal Commission.

"During the last session of the Western Australian Parliament, it was resolved by both Houses:—

"That in the opinion of this House the time has arrived when the Federal policy of extending the standard gauge railway be consummated in Western Australia."

"It is understood that this has reference to the provision of a standard gauge railway between Kalgoorlie and Perth and Fremantle, which would be a third section of the work recommended by the Royal Commission.

"The carrying out of the three foregoing works would still leave the conversion of the Victorian and South Australian broad gauge lines."
THE MONTH

Art and Atavisms

Some beauty-lover should rise in his wrath, waylay Sir William Orpen one dark night, inveigle him down a dark lane, and gently, but very firmly, smack him over the face with a manure-filled sock. The experience would not offend among people of taste and education. Every varying Ait and Atavism...

It is not Sir William's technique with which we quarrel. As mere laymen we realise that the canons of art are beyond the depth of men who merely think. The two and seventy wrath, waylay Sir William. Rather would he gather a depraved species of inspiration from it and call the resultant "stark realism."

Dr. Grace is an intellectual, much-travelled and very capable lady. She was one of the first women to practice medicine in Australia, but, since the war, she appears to have assumed the role of modern Cassandra, and she periodically startled the universe with her lugubrious prophecies. In a previous outburst, made on her return to Sydney from America, some five or six years ago, she sweepingly condemned prohibition, and in a highly sensational description of the effects of that much-criticised experiment, she succeeded in saying at least one bright thing. The narrative concerned one of those hectic dance affairs which flappers of both sexes attend, armed with the inevitable flask. Reaching the climax of her story, Dr. Grace broke off dramatically, concluding, "and the rest of the service was sung by the choir in Latin."

Nevertheless, the rising tide of colour has always threatened the white races. It did in the days of Cyrus, of Hannibal, of Xenghis Khan...and Tamerlane; and for centuries before the birth of Captain Cook Northern Australia was visited by Malay navigators. But the modern Asiatic is not a pioneer. He does not go forth to occupy the inhabitable waste spaces of the world, and there is no existing evidence to prove that he is any more adapted to living in a tropical climate than the horrors of a war they side-stepped. It may be realism to paint ulcers, gangrene, and mad women, so that "melancholy" and "Russian Reds" (Anglice, "yellow") may pat themselves on the backs and say, "Look what we stayed away from." Still and all, as they say in Queensland, while Castilian fountains sparkle, while banks of asphodel blow on Parnassian slopes, and while gods dwell on Olympus, why the devil should artists in search of inspiration rake about among garbage tins? Artists may call this sort of thing "realism"—the medical text-books call it Sadism.

Beware of Chu Chin Chow

What dreadful people we Australians are! Somebody or other is always warning us against something or other. Last month Sir L. Chiozza Money, who, as his name implies, is an eminent authority on financial matters, paused amidst his economic disquisitions and "told the world" (to use an Americanism) that the white races are in danger of being swamped by the coloured. Hardly had the resultant shudder died away when Dr. Grace Boelke issued the warning that if we do not soon fill our waste spaces with white people black, brindled or yellow people will come along and occupy them in spite of us.

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the white man. His tendency, on the other hand, is to come as a trader, market gardener or coolie, into the more temperate parts the white man has already settled. All the same, it is high time we did something to settle our empty North with the right type of immigrants—Australian babies, and our own fellow-Britons from overseas. The problem of the tropics is not climatic, but social and economic, and thus becomes the business of the politician and of those who elect him.

Mons

The Hoyt people recently presented the Mons film, and the producers and management are both to be congratulated on the production. As a picture it was a fine effort: a worthy successor to Armageddon. Ypres, and Zeebrugge, and, depicting as it did the indomitable heroism of the first seven Divisions, it forms a valuable contribution to the film-history of the war. It was a happy thought, on the part of the manager of the Regent, to dispense with the hackneyed prologue, its banal estaminet scene with its flirty "jokes" and "Where did that one go?" climax, and substitute the appearance of a number of Mons veterans. Booze and fear were not the normal conditions of the soldier's life behind the line, and it is really gratifying to learn that there are so many old Mons men still with us, and in Perth especially.

Thunder Pinching

The New South Wales Branch of the League is to be congratulated upon the success of its efforts in establishing the identity of the unknown soldier in the Callan Park Mental Hospital, and in restoring him to his mother. In spite of repeated disappointments, and even in the face of adverse criticism—some of us despairing of success and considered that pursuing the matter any further would only tend to arouse the false hope in the breasts of bereaved ones—the New South Wales Branch persisted until a happy mother from New Zealand was able to claim her own boy. Then an astounding attempt was made by the "Truth" people to assume the credit for the whole business. Notwithstanding post-war claims, "Truth" has never been the friend of the soldier. During the South African War, "Truth" raked the gutters and requisitioned the argot of that underworld to which it panders to find epithets vile enough to hurl at the men who enlisted for that campaign. It was "Truth," too, which dubbed the original Anzacs "Joe Cook's six bob a day tourists."

Crocodile tears on behalf of the injured soldiers are always to be treated with contempt when they emanate from such a source; and apart from the colossal effrontery exhibited, the attempt to steal the League's thunder is truly laughable. It would appear that fiction is no stranger to "Truth."

Fallen Among Thieves

The Amir of Afghanistan concluded his European tour by paying a visit to the band of hairy-heeled criminals who constitute the Russian Soviet. We say "paid" a visit advisedly, for hardly had he entered Russia when many of his personal effects were stolen, and history does not record whether these were ever recovered. His hosts, who subscribe to the doctrines of one Mordecai, better known by his pseudonym of Karl Marx, doubtless go further than their preceptor, and agree with Proudhon, who stated that "property is theft." It is not apparent who did the inhospitable deed. Mr. Bronstein, alias Trotsky, can be acquitted, as he has already grabbed enough loot to make his Siberian exile comfortable. Mr. Appelbaum, who now calls himself Zinoviev, was probably too busy trying to prove that he cannot write a note. But owners of valuable furs can hardly feel secure with gentry like Mr. Litvinoff hanging around, who according to Mr. F. Britten Austin, the well-known English novelist, is known to the continental police by a host of aliases, though he is best known to Scotland Yard and the Paris Surete as Flinkenstein, which would appear to be his real name.

At all events, commencing to wean a guest away from the affections of a previous host, by robbing him of his goods is a policy bordering on insanity.

The Horrors of Peace

(As imagined by Benjamin Buttonstick.)

1. The gloom that engulfed the Commercial Travellers' Club when Vic. Newton suddenly lost his memory.
2. The righteous indignation of the Marine Stewards' Union when Lord Kylsant refused to issue red ribbands for their underwear.
3. The consternation that pervaded heaven when a mere Archangel dared to contradict Mr. Lovekin.
4. The Saharan drought that occurs the day before pay-day.
5. The verses that occur in the "Sunday Times."
The Lessons of Anzac

(Colonel H. B. Collett, our State President, having been invited by the pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, to give an Anzac address to his congregation on the Sunday evening prior to Anzac Day, delivered the following speech, which, owing to its wealth, we are printing almost wholly in full.)

Of the events of the 25th April, 1915: thirteen years ago—I do not propose to say very much. They have passed into history. That day a seat of arms was performed that is said to be without parallel. Certainly, search as you may, no instance can be found equalling the parallel. Certainly, search as you may, there is no instance can be found equalling the parallel.

But it should be borne in mind that it was not the men who died; it was the men who died for something, for a cause. The men of France and Belgium and the plains and hills of Palestine. They excited the admiration of even their enemies. Masefield describes them as—"Those marvellous young men, they were the flower of this world's manhood, and died as they had lived, owning no master on this earth.

War is horrible. It is pitiless. The economist tells us that it is wasteful. The humanitarian says it is destructive. The textbooks indicate that war is the last weapon of diplomacy. God help our diplomats!

And those of us who have seen war do not desire to repeat that experience. It has its horrors; its destructive power is immense; it inflicts untold suffering. We have watched it take toll of our best and dearest. We have felt its terrors and pain. Those who pass should ask that never again may the world see such years as the period 1914-18.

But there are lessons to be learned from our recent tragic history, and those I would like to point out to you, as best I may, so that the future may be made from the experiences of the past. I refer to the "Anzac spirit," and what its value might be in the world today.

Great Britain entered the war in order to meet a sacred obligation to Belgium. Australia offered her help to the country, however it derived its birth and infant nurture, 417,000 men and women of our land enlisted and 332,000 of those served overseas.

Ours was a voluntary army recruited from all walks in life and from town and country. It contained men of diverse brands of religion and politics and some of both. All made the same offering; all were prepared to make the same sacrifice in a great cause.

Entering the army was like being poured into a melting pot. We emerged from it, as it were, a mould. A universal type—on a high level, be it understood—with a common life, a common environment, and a common objective. The business of our men was fighting. Their relaxation was thinking. There are few of the world's problems that were not discussed and threshed out on a firestep, in a dugout, or sitting around a brazier in the front line.

And there was capacity for very deep thought. You must remember that, viewed from the physical and mental standpoint, Australia's best was offered to the gods of war. And so, moving out into a world they acquired knowledge. They learned to know and respect and rely upon each other; to seek and offer help when such was needed; to be tolerant of other views and other opinions.

And it viewed in the mass one found them wonderfully attractive, readily responsive to good leadership, and marvellously tractable. Their behaviour was an improvement on a civil community of equal size. There was far less crime, less preventible disease, and a greater regard for personal hygiene.

If I might be permitted to quote my own experience, it was that of nearly 60,000 men who passed through my hands during the four and a half years that I wore the uniform of the A.I.F., I found one half per cent. only who might be described as vicious. Nor could the war be wholly blamed for even that small number. Heredity and civil environment had played their part.

This army of ours, situated as it was, consisted of men in the raw—bare of that false veneer which one hundred years of peace had conferred upon our civilization. By a wise provision, the Church was able to send its ministers amongst them. Some of those ministers got to know their charges. It is certain that the ministers were known to the men. Can we estimate how much the Church may have gained from that experience?

Let me say again that our soldiers were as well-informed as you and I. They had learned the history of Christianity of the last five hundred years. They viewed the world in the awful cataclysm which had overtaken it, and they wondered if the death of Christ had been in vain, or why He should be crucified again.

And yet, looking around amongst their comrades, and remembering His teachings, they saw a great deal that gave cause for hope, for in the stress of the campaign there was practised that which was mostly merely professed in other places at other times.

In fact, if their standard of conduct towards one another were to be gauged by our accepted code of ethics, one saw within a week more practical Christianity than would, in many other places, come under observation within a year. Why, then, they asked themselves, should we, when we return home to peaceful comfort, be again separated by creeds?

And then we pass to the subject of patriotism. I have not the slightest doubt that the experiences of our men abroad only enhanced their belief in the British race and its institutions. Nor did they witness such liberty as we enjoyed; nowhere was there a brighter outlook for the future of the people if wise government were maintained. And for Australia their love increased—the love of a fair home, an open country, a sunny sky.

In a garden in the south of England grew some eucalypts. I have known these...
intolerance had invaded politics. Class warfare threatened to break out at any moment. Every workman was said to be dishonest. Every employer was said to be something worse.

But the masses had visions. Back to civil life in their own towns, in their own districts, they spread the gospel of reason, of mutual respect, of a common object. By degrees the nation steadied down, took stock of itself; hope became the predominant note, and to-day that is there amongst us who cannot discern the silver lining to the few clouds that still obscure the horizon beyond?" 

Quite recently Sir Oliver Lodge said: "I look forward with hope, because of the goodness and self-sacrifice of the quite ordinary man.

It is true, and to that we must attribute the foundation and growth of so many associations and organisations having for their object the rendering of service to others—irrespective of creed, politics, or class. 

Think of the stupendous efforts made to win the war, and imagine what a similar effort, if it were launched this time, would accomplish towards winning the peace for Australia and the Empire.

And now, for a few moments, I want to speak about the Dead. Nearly a million of the Empire's sons and daughters lost their lives in the war. 60,000 of those were Australians. 6,000 were Western Australians, and another thousand must have since died through war causes.

Few who have not been on active service know the comradeship means. The soldier has enjoyed it, and to him, in spite of his calling, has been given an extraordinary reverence and sentiment in regard to certain things. He alone knows the magnitude of the sacrifice of those who sleep in foreign soil, and he will tell you, unhesitatingly, that the greatest Australians of them all did not return with the transports in 1919. In the very nature of things, it must be so.

It is known far and wide that they died. Their message was heard—"To you from failing hands we throw The Torch: be yours to hold it high; If ye break faith with us who die, We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields."

Hence the reverence for the dead; the glory of their memory; the resolve that they shall not have died in vain.

The graves on Gallipoli were dotted about on the hillsides and in the ravines. Some were marked with rudely shaped wooden crosses; others were barely marked at all. I remember one that I used to pass every day. It was that of a N.Z. Mounted Rifleman, and at the head a head in a rifle had been thrust into the soil and a single sparg hung within the trigger guard. Upon the stock had been pencilled the name of the dead.

During the evacuation some troops were moving very quietly down a valley towards the sea shore. An officer standing on the wayside observed one soldier glancing wistfully at the grave who, as he passed him, whispered "I hope they won't hear us leaving them."

The reverence for the dead, and the gratitude for what they did for us, is the main reason for holding the Commemoration Service on Anzac Day. And next Wednesday morning in Perth you may see a procession of thousands of men, no longer young, but, as Kipling says, no men with eyes that do not match their years, shaken beyond, speech or tears by the splendour and the grief of that memory."

"Remembering our dead, we may recapture a little of the morale of our race at the moment of its greatest peril and highest achievement: 

"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."

"We have a voice, we who are left, for we have but to name our friends, and the memories which their names evoke are more eloquent than poetry. But there is no voice which can tell our story to those who come after us; the men who might have had that power are dead, their voices are stilled for ever. Lord Plumer is right. He is not missing. He is here. But he is here only so long as his memory rests in the minds of those who were intimate with him, whether in the home or on the battlefield. When the generation who fought the war is dead, much will perish which might be of value to those who come after us. Is no record to be left?"—(Douie, "19th Century," March, 1928.)

In Western Australia the record is incomplete. This State was rightfully proud of its war effort; it has been singularly ungrateful to those who sacrificed themselves on her behalf.

Since two years ago, when a definite appeal for funds was first made, our 370-

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A SORE HEART COMFORTED

That the League is a necessity is known to all active members, who never need to ask the old question, "What good is the League?" They know that many a sore heart is comforted through League activities. The following letter received by the Fremantle sub-branch is a case in point. An old 11th Battalion comrade wrote to their President recently:

"I wish to thank your Branch for getting me a pension. As you know, there was a doubt as to whether my disability, tuberculosis, was an aftermath of my war service, but, thanks to the Fremantle R.S.L., my case has now been accepted as being war caused. It was a terrible shock to me when I was told I was tubercular, but this blow was not so hard to bear after I had interviewed the secretary, Mr. Jack Lynch, who readily helped me in the right direction, by getting me a medical report. I am now receiving a pension of £2 2s. per week, and my wife 18s. per week. I think this is a wonderful achievement for the Fremantle Branch, and it is indeed something to be proud of. I cannot say in writing how much it has helped me receive this pension, and also I cannot find words enough to thank your energetic secretary, Mr. Jack Lynch. I shall always do whatever is in my power to help the R.S.L., because I am certain that if a returned man has a genuine case the R.S.L. will help him."

CELEBRATING ANZAC UNDER DIFFICULTIES

Mr. F. Banks, and the organisation of which he is secretary, are to be congratulated on the successful celebration of Anzac Day in Laverton this year. The country north of Kalgoorlie is one of big distances, and transport does not deter the digger when he makes up his mind to carry a thing through. As on a certain historic occasion—"They came from near and far. And some by truck, some by aeroplane, And some by motor car." The manager of the Gwalia Mine, and other employers co-operated by releasing every man who could be spared. The average distance travelled by visitors was 100 miles, one in fact. Mr. Weitheimer, travelled 200 miles to be present. Distant Leonora was represented by a strong contingent.

During the day the returned men and citizens gave the children a sports-picnic. Each child (many of the youngsters also travelled 50 or 60 miles) received a present, and gold medals were donated by Mr. G. Brown and Mr. McDonald. Mr. W. Leonard acted as chairman, and judge. Musical items were rendered by Messrs. D. Mills and Taylor, and the Rev. Father Langmead delivered the address. The voluntary workers responsible for the eatables and comfortots were Mesdames Harris and Warran, while Mr. Dunham conveyed the children to and from their homes free of charge.

At 8 p.m. the Diggers held a smoke social in the public hall. Mr. J. McIntyre occupied the chair, and the following toasts were honoured: - The King, Fallen Comrades, the Navy (Messrs D. Cuthbertson and D. Mills), The Day We Celebrate (Mr. W. A. Ross), the Red Cross and Nurses (Mr. Flanagan), the R.S.L. (Mr. Weitheimer), Voluntary Workers (Mr. McDonald), the Visitors (Messrs W. Leonard and W. A. Ross). Messrs. D. Mills, Taylor, D. Cuthbertson, F. Banks, McDonald, and J. McIntyre contributed items, and Mr. C. Porter officiated at the piano.

Valuable assistance to the success of the function was given by voluntary workers - Mesdames L. Harris, A. Warren, G. Smart, and Mr. A. Warren.

It has been decided to hold next year's celebration at Leonora.
16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION NOTES.

It is indeed gratifying to be able to record such a marked increase in the number who marched in the Anzac Day parade, and it must have been very hard to separate the 11th and 16th Battalions for the purpose of allocating the prize. Heartied congratulations to the Golden Eleventh, who did so well on Anzac Day. In fact, all units are to be congratulated on the very creditable muster, and the R.S.L. Executive for the very able manner in which the parade was conducted. Men who had refrained from marching in years gone by, but came forward this year, were heard to remark they would not be out of any future Anzac Day parades under any circumstances. The "old soldier pride" seems to be awakened at last, and why should we not be proud of our having answered the call to arms?

Owing to the closing down of the R.S.L. Dining Room, it has been necessary to make other arrangements regarding the 16th Battalion and 4th Brigade luncheon, held on the 16th day of each month. Satisfactory arrangements for a special table, decorated with navy blue and white, the 16th Battalion and 4th Brigade colours, have been made with the proprietors of the Magnet Cafe, Murray Street (opposite Boans). A flat rate of 1/6 for any three courses from the menu for all ex-service men attending the monthly luncheon has been agreed to by the management. These very favourable terms and conditions, together with the fact of the rendezvous being central, will undoubtedly tend toward making these gatherings even more popular.

28th BATTALION ASSOCIATION NOTES

The annual reunion and smoke social of the 28th Battalion will be held at the R.S.L. Institute on June 8th. This function not only provides the married men with a reason for having a night with the boys, but it commemorates the anniversary of the departure from W.A. of the old battalion. Arrangements for the reunion are well in hand and a happy time is guaranteed to those who come along on that evening to renew old friendships and to yarn an hour or two with tales of other days.

As the R.S.L. Dining Rooms have ceased operations, the next monthly luncheon of ex-28th Battalion members will be held at the Cabin Tea Rooms on Monday, the 28th inst., from 1 to 2 p.m. The idea underlying this monthly luncheon is, of course, to keep touch with old mates, and it is hoped that the promise of fare superior to the Fray Bentos and Anzac wafer of other days will be merely an added inducement to the former wearers of the blue and white diamond.

The committee of the 28th Battalion Association is pleased to report considerable additions to the membership list. During the last two months two life members and thirty-five ordinary members have been enrolled as a result of determined activity on the part of committee men.

OBITUARY.

Cyril H. Flood, the energetic and well-beloved honorary secretary of the 28th Battalion Association, has passed away. Even during the long weary months of illness which preceded his death, the ready smile and sunny nature which we have known for years remained undimmed. Cyril served with the 28th Battalion Signallers, and his enthusiastic service on behalf of his old unit was continued to the end. A good cobber has passed to his rest, and we who are left behind will miss him. To his widow we extend our heartfelt condolence in her sad bereavement.

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VARIA

Camelo:-James Douglas put up a good argument in favour of the showing of such films as the Edith Cavell one ("The Truth about War," reprinted in April "L.P."), but I was not convinced. It will be a long time before the animosities of the war can be forgotten, but the spirit of the day is one of goodwill towards one another, including our late enemies. It is the main object of modern civilisation to make the nations live together in amity. This objective will not be fostered by the showing of screen incidents which tend to revive the smouldering embers of hate.

Nurse Cavell died leaving this message to her comrades or relatives: "I have no hatred or bitterness for anyone." What better argument could be used against the showing of a film which would arouse that very "hated and bitterness"?

Digger:-Sir Oliver Lodge speaks with much assurance of the life after death. Other famous scientists, including Sir A. Keith, believe that when death comes it is the end of individual existence. I am not a scientist, or a spiritualist, but I do think, with Sir Oliver, that we possess a soul and that what appears to be death is only transition. I base my belief on knowledge gained on the battlefields, where the gulf between life and death seemed very narrow and shallow. I know of many similar instances to mine where manifestations of the presence of departed comrades or relatives were made apparent in various forms. After all, what more can the man of great learning know of the hereafter than the most ignorant of us?

Traveller:-Having had occasion to travel from Bridgetown to Gnowangerup on Anzac Day, I was surprised to see men at work on the roads in the Kojonup Road Board area. The Kojonup people have a splendid record of patriotic endeavour and their War Memorial Hall is a credit to them. Surely, then, the employees of the Road Board could be given an opportunity to celebrate this day of remembrance in a fitting manner. Anzac Day should be the closest holiday of the year.

There was a certain amount of dramatic irony about the punishment of two local "hobbledehoy." These young men—before-their-time—had been creating a disturbance in Fitzgerald Street, pretending to be drunk and annoying passers-by. They were dealt with by the Children's Court.

The attempt by the East Perth Progress Association to stage a boxing match on Anzac Day fortunately proved abortive. The R.S.L. entered a protest, and rival fight-promoters, to whom one of the contestants is under contract, refused to sanction their man's appearance. Of course we realise that Mr. T. J. Hughes, the Secretary of the East Perth Progress Association has no special reverence for Anzac Day, but we returned men would have found it more gratifying had the proposed fight fallen through in consequence of the League's protest, rather than as the result of a frustrated attempt to infringe contract.

The N.S.W. Branch of the League is asking for legislation to close all bars on Anzac Day. Certainly some uniformity in this respect is necessary. In some States, notably Queensland and New South Wales, the law compels all hotel bars to be closed for the whole of Anzac Day. In New South Wales a publican may legally keep open, though the practice has been to close bars during the procession and the services. Last Anzac Day, it is stated, one city hotel, on the route of the procession, kept open; and now the N.S.W. Branch is asking that publicans who will not close as a matter of decency be compelled to do so by the law.

The Rector of Avening, Gloucester, denies that he is in the habit of swearing, though, he admits that when he is angry he says, "Tut! Tut!" to calm himself down. "Tut an' calm 'im."

A member of one of our State Government Departments, and who had served with distinction during the war, on his return called on one of his departmental heads. The senior man was of military age, but had not been able to bear himself away from the home front, and he spoke to the returned man in very glowing terms of a third member of the same department, who also might have enlisted, but did not. "He is a very fine man," the senior concluded. "You mean a very capable official," the returned man corrected him. "Oh, Mr. B.," protested the senior. "You shouldn't say a thing like that. Mr. B. is one of the men who stuck to the Department during the war."

Cables report that Charlie Chaplin will soon take up his residence in England. During the war Charlie was always going to enlist, and his heart, he announced, bled for the poor boys in the trenches. Nevertheless he went off to America in time to avoid being conscripted, and piled up a fortune in comfort. Charlie is said to be of Spanish descent, but the Spanish are a race with proud fighting traditions, so this cannot account for Don Chaplin's failure to don khaki.

A well-known member of the League was telling his W.A. lad a few bedtime stories, and wound up by relating the one about George Washington and the cherry tree. However, the point of the moral was wasted, for, sad to relate, the very next day the lad told his mother a fib. "Oh," she grunted. "After Daddy telling you, yesterday, about the man that never told a lie; and I don't suppose you can even remember his name." "Says I can, Mummy. It was George." "George who?" asked Mum. "George—George—George—" "Come on," Mum prompted. "You've heard your Daddy speak of him. He was a soldier." "I know, Mummy," said the kid. "It was George Hipe."
PERSONALITIES

Diggers in general and those of the old 11th in particular sympathise with Colonel Denton in the sad loss of his father.

A recent visitor to Perth was Rex A. Beall, of Quairading. Rex is a public-spirited fellow, no progressive movement out his generous assistance. The local sub-branch, of which Rex is the hon. secretary, is one of the most energetic in the State, and a round-up campaign is on foot to rope all diggers of the district into the branch. Rex will be pleased with a 99 per cent. membership, but won't be satisfied while one eligible remains outside the fold.

We are not sure yet whether our President should be envied in being surrounded by men of a saintly calling at State Executive meetings. That the influence of such men as Past President Rabbi Freedman, Vice-Presidents the Revs. "Tom" Riley and Eric Nye, to say little of Pious Peter, is a potent one is evident to all who heard Colonel Collett preach from the "Gospel according to the Anzacs" at St. Andrews' Church on the Sunday preceding Anzac Day. Executive delegates expressed the viewpoint that their President would have been as outstanding a success as the Rev. Herbert Collett, had he so chosen, as he has been as a soldier and leader of men.

Congratulations to Joe Gallagher, late of the 11th, on being appointed Chairman of the Bassendean Road Board. Joe is a good member of the Guildford-Bassendean Sub-branch.

Cliff. Sadlier, V.C., has also advanced another civic step, he having been elected Chairman of the Claremont Road Board.

Jack-Mulqueeney, of Lake Brown, is a splendid citizen, and his League activities are well known. His latest effort is to set a lead to other country districts by getting the Nungarin Road Board, of which he is a member, to donate £20 to the State War Memorial Fund. Members also gave £14 between them, and there is more to come, and Digger Ted Adamson, the Road Board secretary, has opened a subscription list for the district. Arthur Nugent ably supported Jack in his praiseworthy effort.

League members in particular regret the illness which has necessitated their President spending a term in hospital. Colonel Collett has been far from well lately, and it is the sincere wish of all his friends that he will soon be fit to once again carry the burden of his many public activities.

Peter Hopegood, V.C. (Peter does not swank the V.C., by the way) has now taken up his residence in Perth, after some years of jackerooing on a cattle station in the Wiluna district. Peter soldiered with the Essex Regiment in France, where he gained his V.C. A very versatile man—he writes and paints with distinction—he has written verses and articles which have appeared from time to time in the "Bulletin," the "Western Mail," the "West," and the Perth "Sunday Times." It is understood that Peter intends to go in for journalism professionally.

A popular speaker at the Mt. Barker function was Mr. Bill Cooper, who soldiered in Egypt under Wolseley. Bill's regiment was the 19th Prince of Wales Own Hussars, and he has many good stories to tell of army life in those days. The Mt. Barker boys reckon that Bill is the only old soldier living who can stand up and give the detail for loading and aiming with the bow and arrow.

At the same function Alex. Craigie, of Albany, who lost his sight while soldiering with the 44th, was, as one of his hearers expressed it, "the delight of all." No war injury could ever damp the eternal cheerfulness and indomitable soul of Alex. He gets about everywhere and it is as good as a tonic to meet and converse with him.

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Mr. Watt’s Historical References

As Mr. Watt has not met with a great deal of opposition along the purely historical section of his somewhat extensive front, I trust I may be permitted to enter the breach. His article contains some very definite statements in regard to the fate of nations.

The following are typical examples:—

“The decay of the morality of a nation has always been attended with a corresponding decay of the military spirit. The survival of the fittest has trampled on the weakest:”

“And in these assertions of Mr. Watt are of those very nations, the waxing and waning of whose fortunes he quotes as so many proofs of the correctness of his theory in general.”

The defeat of the Persians by the Greeks, says Mr. Watt, “was the triumph of a higher civilization and a nobler manhood.” I do not deny it; but I do deny that the height of Greek civilization, and the nobleness of its manhood were due to secondary causes of the overthrow of the Persians. For the primary cause we must look beyond Greece proper.

It is summed up in three words: Macedonia. Philip and Alexander. Macedonia was the illegitimate child of the Greek family, and for centuries remained outside the pale of civilization in a semi-barbarous state. Eventually, however, having assimilated some of the culture of her Grecian neighbours, she became a force to be reckoned with; and one of her sons, Philip, was ambitious enough to conceive the idea of making himself master of Greece.

Though Philip’s abilities were considerable, no more Grecian or unprincipled prince ever sat on a throne. He boasted he never forced a lock until he had first tried to open it with a golden key. He reckoned no force impregnable, into which a man laden with silver could find entrance. “Children,” he said, “are amused with playthings, and men with oaths.” Thus by bribery and corruption, rather than by force of arms, he gradually forged his way to the head of the Grecian states, and set the seal on his authority at the battle of Chaeronea.

Isocrates, the foremost rhetorician of the age, is said to have died of shock on hearing the news. Another has it that he abstained from all food and drink, being determined to die a freemason. Milton’s version of the affair is contained in one of his sonnets:

“... as that dishonest victory At Chaeronea, fatal to liberty, Kill’d with report that old man eloquent.”

Soon after this memorable event, Philip had himself elected Generalissimo of the Grecian states, but before his preparations for war on the Persians were complete, he was assassinated. Immediately Grecian hopes rose high, the Athenians even ordering a crown for the murderer. An alliance was formed against Philip’s son, who succeeded him, but Alexander silenced all opposition by razing Thebes, not long since the head city of the Grecian states, to the ground.

The stage was now set for the invasion of Persia, and Alexander set out for Asia. After the battle of Granicus, he sent the war trophies back to Greece with this inscription: “Alexander, son of Philip, with the Greeks, the Lacedaemonians excepted, gained these spoils from the barbarians in Asia. Should they find entrance into Greece, let them not enter, the Spartans, who with the Athenians, formed the two principal pillars of Grecian civilization, and who for about 500 years had kept their state the most military efficient in Greece, in fact the most military efficient that ever was, never took part in the expedition at all. On the contrary they revolted during Alexander’s absence, but were overwhelmed by Antipater and his Macedonian garrison, which force had been left behind for this very good reason.

Maybe Alexander had legitimate excuse for marching against the Persians, the hereditary enemies of the Greeks and Macedonians. But he had absolutely no justification for going beyond the boundaries of their empire, and attacking people of whose existence he could only have been dimly aware. A Scythian ambassador thus addressed him: “What hast thou to do with thee? We never set foot in thy country. May not those who inhabit woods be allowed to live without knowing who thou art, and whence thou comest?”

Without the slightest provocation, and for the sole purpose of satisfying his restless unbridled ambition, which made him wish to outdo the feats of Hercules—his ignominious attempts to rise to the level of that hero have been ridiculed by Seneca—he advanced into India, subduing anybody and everybody who happened to be in his path. Here we see him in the role of a professional conqueror, justly meriting the appellation given him of “a plunderer of nations.”

To Cicero we are indebted for the story of the pirate, Alexander once asked a pirate what right he had to infest the seas. “The same that thou hast,” he replied, “to infest the world; but because I do this in a small ship, I am called a robber; and because thou actest the same part with a great fleet, thou art entitled Conqueror.” “This was a just answer,” says St. Augustine, and that comment, I fancy, brings Mr. Watt in direct conflict with one of the greatest Doctors of the early Church.

Nothing less than the absolute refusal of his troops to go any further induced Alexander to return to Babylon. His dominions, however, had been extended to their greatest limits, and the Greeks, if we are to believe Mr. Watt, had entered the field prepared for them for their national virtue. But many of them could hardly have looked upon the matter in that light, for as soon as Alexander was dead—and he did not long after his return to Babylon—most of the Greek colonies he had established in Upper Asia announced their intention of returning to Greece, being fed-up with their sojourn in foreign lands, and apparently having no patriotic desires to act as filling for the vast empty spaces of their new empire. Nearly all the Grecian states took up arms against the Macedonians, and commenced what is known as the War of Independence. This was followed by the banishment and death of Demostenes. The Athenians placed this inscription on his statue:

“Demostenes, had thy power been as great as thy wisdom the Macedonian...”

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Mr. B

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Mars would never have triumphed over Greece. Yet in all probability, had this event not taken place, a Persian king would have sunk on the Persian throne till the coming of the Romans, and this despite the fact that their civilization was not as high, nor their manhood as noble as that of the Greeks.

The Empire of Alexander the Great was politically little more than a house of cards, and lasted only as long as himself. His family was barbarously and effectively wiped out, but the Grecian liberties lost at Chaeronea were never recovered, and with the advent of the Romans, some of the Greeks were philosophical enough to console themselves with the reflection that they were merely exchanging one tyranny for another.

Now let us consider the Romans. The following dialogue is from "Brown's Rome":

Q: What method did Romulus take to people his city?
A: In the first place he opened a Public Sanctuary in a little wood where all those were drawn as criminals, bankrupts, and others of the same quality, found protection.

Q: What did he do after this?
A: He published in all the neighbouring provinces that at such a time the Romans designed to celebrate some sports. The Sabines came to see the divertissement and brought their wives and daughters hither. Now when they were most intent upon beholding the sights, Romulus gave the signal, and the Romans immediately carried off the Sabine women and married them.

From such beginnings sprang the mighty Roman Empire. If there be anything in the law of the survival of the fittest it seems to me that somebody must have "asked the chair for a suspension of the rules," about this time.

With a lowered conception of morality, and a consequent decreased military efficiency, Greece's subsequent defeat by the Romans made for further progress. In making the foregoing statement Mr. Watt fails to realise that the Greeks and the Romans viewed military efficiency, and the aims and objects thereof, through a differently coloured spectacles. That is well illustrated by Cicero, who said that a victory at the Olympic games was, in the Grecian sense, equal to the triumph accorded a successful Roman general. The Romans erected triumphal arches and immense columns of enduring materials. Even at the present day, they say, no Jew walks under the arch of Titus—he goes round it. The Greeks, in the heyday of their glory, built their war memorials of wood, and it was forbidden for them. Generally speaking, the Romans may be said to have believed that one of the principal reasons for which they had been brought into the world was to "conquer."

"The desire for conquest," seems to have been, with the Greeks, more in the nature of a momentary passion that occasionally was allowed to over-rule their otherwise finer feelings. Some of the laws of Lycurgus were actually framed to prevent the Spartans from going far beyond the boundaries of their own country, lest they be corrupted by intercourse with other nations. For hundreds of years a ton of iron was worth more than a ton of gold in the City of Sparta.

The very constitution of Greece—a loosely-knit federation of independent, but mutually jealous states—together with the less ambitious outlook of the Grecian mind with regard to conquest and empire, prevented the Greeks from ever being a match for the all-conquering power of Rome, grown to maturity. So in truth it may be said that no matter at what period of its long history the Romans had come, Greece must have fallen, and neither the height of its civilisation nor the nobleness of its manhood could have possibly saved it.

The progress that Mr. Watt maintains was achieved through this conquest may have been of real worth or it may not. Progress is a term to which Einstein's theory of relativity can be applied—"It depends on the observer." Bernard Shaw, in his notes to "Caesar and Cleopatra," is frankly sceptical as to whether mankind has made any progress worth boasting about since the days of Plato. Assuming, however, that there was progress, I doubt that it was made in such a manner as to agree with Mr. Watt. According to him the Greeks must have been corrupted and degenerate, but Horace, a Roman himself, tells us something quite different. "Captive Greece," said he, "captivated her rude conqueror, and introduced her refinements into unpolished Latium." Pope, in his "Imitations of Horace," applied the idea very neatly to England's history—

"We conquer'd France, but felt our captives' charms:
Her arts victorious triumph'd o'er our arms."

That Greece was not wholly degenerate or Rome altogether a model of virtue, may be judged by the attitude of the Athenians to the gladiatorial contests. It was proposed to introduce these into their city. "First throw down," said a prominent Athenian, "the altar erected above a thousand years ago by our en­cesters to Mercy." That was enough.

Those unnatural combats were never seen in Athens, which long remained the metropolis of the sciences, and the home of the fine arts. Even in the Golden Age of Augustus no young Roman patrician's education was thought complete without a sojourn in that city.

Mr. Watt mentions the fall of the Roman Empire, but even a brief survey of that subject would require a whole paper to itself, if we are to judge from the experience of Gibbon who spent nineteen years in the compilation of his famous history.

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CLIFFORD W. K. SADLIER, V.C.

Cliff: Sadlier is as good a citizen as he was a soldier. At one time he was organiser for the State Branch of the League, and has retained his enthusiasm for the cause. He is a State Executive delegate and a vice-president of the N.Z. Sub-branch. Cliff is the Chairman of the Claremont Road Board, and a few years ago unsuccessfully contested for a seat in our State Parliament. He is an unassuming good fellow, with a promising future. It may be of interest to recall how Cliff won his V.C. The official gazetted record is as follows:

"For conspicuous bravery during a counter-attack by his battalion on strong enemy positions. "Lt. Sadlier's platoon, which was on the left of the battalion, had to advance through a wood where a strong enemy machine-gun post caused casualties and prevented the platoon from advancing. Although himself wounded, he at once collected his bombing section, led them against the machine-guns, and succeeded in killing the crews and capturing two of the guns."

By this time Lt. Sadlier's party were all casualties, and he alone attacked a third enemy machine-gun with his revolver, killing the crew of four and taking the gun. In doing so, he was again wounded.

"The very gallant conduct of this officer was the means of clearing the flank, and allowing the battalion to move forward, thereby saving a most critical situation. His coolness and utter disregard of danger inspired all."

PRESS SUB-BRANCH

At a general meeting of ex-soldiers and ex-sailors, connected with the Press and the printing trade, held during the month, with Mr. C. P. Smith in the chair, a Press sub-branch of the R.S.I.L.A. was officially formed and the necessary officers appointed. The list of recommendations drawn up by the sub-committee appointed for the purpose was considered, and in the main was acceptable to the meeting, a few only of the recommendations being referred back to the new permanent committee for consideration and amendment if necessary. The following officials were appointed:-President, Mr. C. P. Smith; vice-presidents, Messrs. R. F. Fitzgerald and E. S. Watt; honorary secretary, Mr. I. T. Birtwistle; honorary treasurer, Mr. S. F. Cusack; committee, Messrs. C. Longmore, J. C. Kent, C. L. Harvey, A. Hood, J. Pollard, F. Wittaker, L. Allen, G. Hodgson, H. J. Rutherford, and A. D. Stone. It was decided to hold a monthly luncheon at which business of importance may be discussed, also to hold monthly meetings of the committee.

The Presentation.

Mayor (presenting a clock and a purse) — "The contents of the purse will, in time, inevitably disappear, but (laying his hand on the clock) here is something that will never go."

The Appropriate Weapon.

Under a "sketchy little thing" exhibited by Jones, there hangs a card which bears the words:-

"Do not touch with canes or umbrellas."
An appreciative boy added the following postscript — "Take an Axe."

R.S.L. ART UNION.

Another R.S.L. Art Union is before the public. This time the profits will benefit country Hospitals and country Sub-Branch Amelioration funds. The total prize money is £3,125, with £1,000 first prize.

Last time the R.S.L. Art Union Committee promised £1,000 and paid £1,100. It is up to all diggers, particularly those in the country, to help the Committee by pushing sales of tickets so that "over-subscribed" will again be on the heading of the result slip.
PHYSICAL TRAINING
CHAPTER VII.
2. THE KNIGHTLY OR MILITARY IDEAL.

By Captain C. R. Collins

The institution of Chivalry which arose from the influence of the Church upon the Feudal System was of a distinctly educative character being in its essence an order of merit. As land tenure implied the obligation of military service, it became necessary for the land-holder to train himself and his sons in the use of arms. The holding of a fixed area of land made knighthood obligatory, and knighthood entailed other duties than service in the field. Attendance upon the king—himself, in theory, but first among his equals—was one of these, and gradually there became associated with the institution of knighthood a very definite code of honour. In the later middle ages the status of knight could be acquired only after a period of training and probation, during which the candidate must prove himself fit, and thus the chivalric virtue of knighthood was for the honour to which he aspired. The Church gave its benediction to the institution and the ceremonies of initiation into knighthood were religious in character.

Under the institution of chivalry the castle became the school for gentlemen's sons. As in most systems of education the training commenced somewhere about the age of seven, when the young aspirant entered the household and was taught as a page. He was instructed in the ordinary usages of polite society by the ladies of the castle. His cultural and spiritual welfare were looked after by the chaplain, and at the same time he commenced his military physical side. He learned all kinds of exercises—wrestling, boxing, leaping, running, riding, perhaps swimming, throwing darts or spears, archery, and perhaps tilting at the ring or quintain. The duties of the squires towards the pages are set fourth in the Household training. His first instructors on the Ordinances of Liber Niger. They were required "to learn them to ride cleanly and surely, to draw them also to jougs, to turn them wear their harness, to have all courtesy in words, deeds, and degrees ... moreover to teach them sundry languages and other learnings virtuous, to pipe, sing, dance ... with corrections in the like manners."

At fourteen the page became a squire, and though he still received training in politeness and the arts his lady's bosom the bulk of his time was spent in attendance upon his master, and his training was essentially military. He learned horsemanship and the management of the long lance which was the characteristic weapon of the knight. His weapon training took the form of tilting at a suspended ring so as to carry it away on the point of the lance, or in tilting at the quintain. This last was a target turning on a pivot. From one arm was suspended an object which took various forms, not infrequently that of a man, at which the tilter rode. If he struck it fairly in the centre it swung round, but a clumsy striker received a clout on the back as he passed from the meal bag which was suspended from the other arm.

Boucicaut, a marshal of France who was taken prisoner at Agincourt, left an account of the training he underwent as a squire: "Now in armour, he would practice leaping on to the back of a horse; anon, to accustom himself to become long-winded and enduring, he would walk and run long distances on foot, or he would practise striking numerous and forcible blows with a battle-axe or mallet. In order to accustom himself to the weight of his armour, he would turn somersaults whilst clad in a complete suit of mail, with the exception of his helmet, or would dance vigorously in a shirt of steel; he would place one hand on the saddle bow of a tall charger and the other on his neck, and vault over him ... He would climb up between two perpendicular walls that stood four or five feet asunder by the mere pressure of his arms and legs, and would thus reach the top, even if it were as high as a tower, without resting either in ascent or descent ... When he was at home he would practise with the other young squires at lance-throwing and other warlike exercises, and this continually." (Quoted by Lacroix in Military and Religious Life in the Middle Ages, p. 146).

Though the training was strenuous, and the institution of chivalry eminently suited to a continuous state of war, it was by no means one-sided like, for example, the training of the Spartan youth. "It regulated the warlike spirit and made it amenable to the laws of honour, and, as far as possible, to the dictates of religion" (Professor Welton).

But there were already existent factors that gradually brought about its decay. Economic conditions led to the consolidation of feudal fiefs into large estates. In the political sphere, as the power of the kings increased, that of the knights diminished. Opportunities for war became fewer. The practice of hiring and maintaining professional armies eliminated the necessity for universal service, while the invention of gunpowder put an end to the tactical superiority of the mailed horseman, a superiority that had already been challenged by the archer and the pikeman. The tournament still persisted, but it degenerated into a mere amusement and was no longer a training for war. The signs of decay began to manifest themselves in the fourteenth century; they were more marked throughout the fifteenth; and in the sixteenth chivalry, as an institution, finally died out.

Summing up its historical significance, Mr. Cornish writes: "Chivalry taught the world the duty of noble service willingly rendered. It upheld courage and enterprise in obedience to rule, it consecrated military prowess to the service of the Church, glorified the virtues of liberality, good faith, unselfishness, and courtesy; and, above all, courtesy to women. Against these may be set the vices of pride, ostentation, contempt of inferiors, and loose manners. Chivalry was an imperfect discipline, but it was a discipline, and one fit for the times. It may have existed in the world too long; it did not come into existence too early; and with all its short-comings it exercised a great and wholesome influence in raising the mediaeval world from barbarism to civilisation" (Cornish's Chivalry, pp. 27-28).

(To be continued)
SUB-BRANCH NOTES

PIBLARRA.

The first of the regular monthly meetings of the sub-branch was held in Port Hedland on Saturday, the 15th April, and it must be said that the "roll up" and the enthusiasm of the troops augurs well for the future. Members were happy to have with them a visitor in the person of Mr. Syd. Jellings, from the Marble Bar section of the branch, and the President in his welcome to him hoped that the evening would be enjoyable enough for him to carry the news inland and to assure all country diggers of a welcome to their evenings. Mr. W. Woods was also welcomed. He was a member of some months' standing, but this was his first attendance, and it was to be hoped that in future he would be making a regular appearance. It was regretted that owing to being out on the "track," our worthy friend "Transports" was absent. It was missed in debate, and later in the evening all desired his help in leading the choir. It was regretted that it had not been found possible to arrange a public function for Anzac Day, but the President invited members and all other returned men who happened to be in town on that day to come to his residence at about 11 a.m., to have a quiet yarn over old times and to drink a "spot" to the memory of departed comrades. The meeting went early into harmony, and the Admiral of the Harbour Fleet commenced to vie with the worthy Secretary for first place among the yarn-spinners. While no one could be induced to give a solo, the troops all joined heartily in the choruses. The evening was voted by all to have been a great success.

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PERTH

The invitation to the residents of Port Hedland and district to attend a social evening in the Mechanics Institute on Saturday, 28th April, issued by the members of the sub-branch, was accepted with an enthusiasm which delighted the organisers. The visitors were requested to wear a token to represent a song, and many clever and original representations were worn, giving great difficulty to those who competed in the guessing competition. Sister Fursden, of the A.I.M. Hospital, won the lady's and Mr. Bob Sutherland the gentleman's prize for the greatest number of correct versions. Other prize-winners during the evening were Mrs. J. Lawson (guessing the number of beans in a bottle) and Miss Meiklejohn (Monte Carlo dance). Mr. Beardman, who partnered the winning lady in this event, was presented with a handsome bouquet. Song, laughter, dance and a dainty supper (provided by the soldiers' wives) were the order of the evening, at the conclusion of which Dr. A. Davis, R.M., thanked the returnees on behalf of the visitors, for the most pleasant evening, which had been enjoyed by all. The Diggers' thanks are due to those whose most kindly assistance added to the success of the evening: Mrs. M. Ford, whose dainty songs gave great pleasure, and Messrs. G. Ackland (recitation) and Keesing (song) were meted acclamation. The dancers were well served with Mrs. Melrose and Messrs. Lawson and Bridge at the piano, without whose aid the function would not have been possible. Mesdames Clark, Ford, Keesing, Taplin, Watson and Woods are due for special mention for their labours in connection with the dainty decorations, their trouble in the provision of paper caps, and their care in connection with the supper arrangements. Prizes were kindly donated by Mesdames Keesing, Taplin and Watson.

Things learnt at the R.S.L. Social

S.W.: two good definitions—Soldiers' Wives, Solid Workers.

Uncle Bert as good at making coffee as eating hot pies. Nothing more need be said.

The President, although out of practice in both arts, is still able to sing a good song and organise an entertainment up to Pilbara R.S.L. standards.

Jack Lawson is still as ready as in the past to help digger entertainments.

Two W's of the old Eleventh (not standing for wowsers), but Watson and Woods—full of beans and past masters at "backing up."

QUAIRADING & DISTRICT.

The above sub-branch fittingly commemorated Anzac Day. Invitations were issued to the ministers of all denominations and to a civilian, and the service was jointly conducted by the Anglican and Methodist ministers. Mr. J. O'Dea spoke on behalf of the R.C. residents. Mr. H. Parker, a loyal and staunch friend of returned men, spoke for the civilian residents. The service opened at the Memorial at 3 p.m. before approximately 150 civilians and almost the whole of the sub-branch members. The President, Mr. V. Steinhardt, placed a wreath on the Memorial from the sub-branch, and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

KELMSCOTT.

On Saturday, April 21st, the sub-branch held their annual smoke social, and though the number present was
smaller than had been anticipated, a very enjoyable time was spent. The State Executive was represented by Messrs. Philip, Tyner and the State Secretary. All of these gentlemen, in replying to various toasts, gave a lot of interesting information about the work of the League. Mr. Benson, in particular, spoke in such terms that it will be some time before anyone who heard him will forget his expressive remarks and illustrations. Mt. Lawley was represented by Vice-President McDonald and Messrs. Ferguson and Hull. The former responded to Mr. Bunney’s toast, “The Visitors,” and the President of Gosnells sub-branch replied to Mr. L. E. Ward’s toast of “Sub-Branches.” Mr. Hull and Mr. G. E. Bunney helped with harmony to make an enjoyable evening, and towards the close stories were told, Mr. Tyler probably winning the cake with his famous tale of the skinned rabbit of Horseterry Road. The usual toasts being honoured and “Anjil Lang Sync” being sung, all departed for home.

Anzac Day was celebrated at Kelmscott by a service in the afternoon arranged by the sub-branch, which was conducted by the Rev. Lindsay at the Oberisk. Music was provided by the Seaforth Boys’ Band. Many floral tributes were placed at the foot of the memorial, including one especially made by Mr. L. Jones, which was placed by a fallen soldier’s niece on behalf of the sub-branch.

NAREMBEEN.

The attendance at this year’s Anzac Day commemoration service eclipsed all past attendances on Anzac Day. Owing to illness, Vice-President G. S. Webb was unable to attend. Diggers Webl, Reffell, Hedger, Hewer, and Ashton are thanked for their invaluable assistance.

Particulars and lithographs relative to blocks available for selection can be had at the local R.S.L. office.

For the benefit of the members who desired information relative to how many returned soldiers received preference for land at the meeting of the Land Board at Merredin on April 2nd, Secretary Boyes states that the result of enquiries proved that three blocks were given to ex-A.I.F. men, one to an ex-Imperial, one to a reject, and one to a civilian.

All members should give the tipping competition good support. Proceeds go towards the club fund.

A fancy dress ball has been arranged for Saturday, 16th June.

The next general meeting is to be held at the local R.S.L. office on Friday, 8th June, at 8.30 p.m.

PERTH.

President C. Longmore presided at the monthly meeting held at the Soldiers’ Institute on the 8th May. Messrs. L. H. Buckingham and W. H. Stockdale resigned from the committee, and Mr. Mullins was elected, vice Mr. Buckingham, and Mr. Stockdale was asked to nominate a railway representative in his stead. The financial statement showed a balance of £1,779 in the general account and £42 in the amelioration fund. A motion was carried “That if no invitations were extended to the blind soldiers to attend the Anzac Day luncheon, this meeting regrets the fact, and requests that it be made the practice of the Executive to do so in all similar functions.” It was also decided to instruct the delegate representing Perth branch on the Executive to take the matter up of re-opening the dining rooms. A long discussion on the foreign influx took place, and it was resolved that in view of the likely misrepresentation to intending migrants in various countries regarding the existing labour conditions in Australia, that the State Executive, through the Federal Executive, take steps to bring before all intending migrants the real conditions existing as far as unskilled labour is concerned. It was also decided to again bring before the State Executive the menace of the continued influx of foreigners into this country, and that they be asked to use every legitimate means to prevent these men coming into the country.

A motion was passed, “That the Ladies’ Auxiliary be requested to approach the manager of the Exhibition Hall with the object of getting a display of goods manufactured by disabled soldiers.”

MT. BARKER.

Annual Re-Union Dinner.

The Mt. Barker Sub-Branch held its Annual Re-Union Dinner and Social in the new Mt. Barker Hall, on the 4th of May. About 160 men attended, and the following visitors were present:—Brigadier-General C. H. Jess, C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C., 13th Mixed Brigade, Mr. G. H.
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Phlip, representing the State Executive of the R.S.L.; Colonel Rockliffe, Colonel Birt, Major Dobson, Messrs. G. H. Little, and M. Hubble, of Kojonup, and Mr. Jules Ascenay, late Royal Artillery; Mr. T. G. Sounness, President of the Mt. Barker Sub-Branch, occupied the chair.

The Rev. E. J. Pennant proposed the toast of Fallen Comrades, after which the Last Post and the Reveille were sounded by Mr. J. T. Martin. The toast of the Navy was proposed by Mr. W. le Fort, and responded to by Mr. A. Potts.

Mr. J. H. Morgan proposed the Army in one of his characteristically humorous speeches; General Jess, in replying, stated that the Army and the Navy were the Nation, and out of these forces grew the Air Force of to-day. Colonels were just as necessary as cooks, and the latter just as important as the men who brought tucker for him to cook. The General instance his own cook, who, though a hard case, ended the war with the M.C. and the D.C.M., and tripled. Out of the experiences the men went through during the conflict, the youngsters of to-day are being trained, and he looked forward to Australia having as good, if not a better, type of fighting man than their fathers before them. When toasting the Army they were toasting the Nation.

Mr. A. V. Martin, in toasting the Air Force, alluded to the feats of such men as Sir Alan Cobham, Major Breamley, &c., who, after their war service, are doing even greater work to-day by giving confidence to the nation, and establishing safer means of transport. Mr. G. R. P. Wall, an ex-Air Force man, responded.

Mr. H. V. Jenkins, who, it will be remembered, received the Newdegate Cup on behalf of the Mt. Barker Sub-Branch, at the last Conference, proposed the toast of the State Executive, eulogising the work of Colonel Collett, the State Secretary and others, while Mr. G. Philp responded.

Mr. Sam. Jones proposed the toast of the Visitors, and the following responded:—Mr. G. H. Little (British Legion), Col. Rockliffe (Katanning), Col. Birt (Tambellup), Messrs. Hubbe (Kojonup), L. Armstrong (Cranbrook), Jacka (Albany), Alderman (Denmark), J. Whitten (Torbay), and W. Rickarby (Merredin).

An amusing interlude occurred when Mr. J. H. Morgan formally presented Major Dobson (of District Base Headquarters) with a R.S.L. badge and received a vote in return. General Jess congratulated the Mt. Barker Sub-Branch on its 101 per cent membership. Major Dobson in reply stated that he thoroughly enjoyed his trip to the district, especially the outing to the Porongorups, and mentioned that owing to wearing rubber heels he slipped on the wet rock of the Devil’s Slide and received a wet tail, but no fish.

Other toasts on the list were the Mt. Barker Sub-Branch (Proposer: Mr. G. H. Philp, reply by Mr. T. G. Sounness); Nurses’ and Sisters’ Association (Proposer: Mr. G. Smith; replied by to Col. Birt, and Messrs. Prideaux and Alex. Craigie, of Albany); the Men Who Made History (Proposer: Mr. Ken. Sounness, responded to by Mr. Bill Cooper, a veteran of the 19th P.W.O. Hussars); and that of the President and Secretary (Mr. Percy Gillam), proposed by Col. Rockliffe.

Musical and other items were contributed by Messrs. G. H. Smith, W. Cobb (of Katanning), G. H. Philp, S. Illha, and J. H. Morgan.

ANZAC DAY AT BRUNSWICK.

The celebration was held in the Memorial Hall, at which Mr. Sagar, the president of the local sub-branch, presided. About 150 people attended. The service consisted of hymns, a solo by Mr. Carter, a lesson read by the President, and a spirited address by Mr. F. W. Steere. We regret that lack of space forbids us publishing Mr. Steere’s address. The service was instructive and inspiring. In the course of his remarks he stated that he had recently travelled through the battlefields of France and Flanders, across country that when he last saw it was pitted with shell craters. He passed through villages that when he last saw them had hardly one brick upon another. To-day a wonderful transformation had taken place. Villages had been rebuilt—where they got the material from he did not know—but the houses were more comfortable and more hygienic than the original buildings. The fields had been ploughed up and planted, and when he was there in August bore crops five feet in height. The shell-shattered trees, remembered by all diggers, which raised their gaunt trunks as though in silent protest against the ravages of war, had been replaced by new trees. On all sides was new life—life carrying on their work, even by the light of twilight. Then he turned a corner and saw thousands of headstones that marked the last resting place of those heroic sons of our country whose souls had gone to their Maker, their bodies were buried in the soil of France, and the headstones on each grave seemed to him to appeal against the ravages of war.

ANZAC DAY AT KELLERBERRIN.

(By “Mark Time.”)

Following the usual custom, the Anzac memorial service was held in the grounds of the Eastern Districts Memorial Hospital at 10.45 a.m. on Anzac Day. The local Boy Scouts and Girl Guides participated in the service, and a large number of returned soldiers and citizens were also in evidence. The Rev. E. C. W. Limbert gave an interesting address on Anzac Day. Mr. H. Craven-Griffiths, M.L.A., in the course of a particularly fine oration, described the Anzacs as "the flower of the world's manhood." Mr. Bill Cooper made an inspiring appeal to the children of to-day, and appealed to the diggers to help the returned soldiers who through war-caused disabilities were “up against it.” At the conclusion of the service, “Digger” Mof-
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