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A Pasiflomanous Circular

Returned men in general cannot compliment the Western Australian Education Department upon the wording of an item in the April number of the Department’s official circular. This item, in setting out the manner in which Anzac Day was to be celebrated in the State schools, stated, inter alia, that there must be no attempt to “exalt militarism.” We have no wish to re-open the controversy which followed the Government’s withdrawal of the permission granted to returned soldiers to deliver addresses in schools on Anzac Day. At the time of the withdrawal, the charge was made that soldier speakers were in the habit of glorifying war, a charge which was never substantiated. However, every digger knows what motivated the Minister’s decision, and the Minister himself adroitly closed the incident, on the eve of a general election, by making the charge a feature of the election. The school celebrations are held on the school day either before or after the 25th, according to whether that day falls at the end or in the middle of the week, etc.

That is to say, the Department, while tamely acquiescing in the slur cast upon returned speakers by the Minister, is able to save its face by celebrating Anzac Day on a day when no returned men, other than teachers, can be present. The statement with which the public was gullied last year, namely, that suitable lessons were being given to the children by returned soldier teachers, is mere moonshine and pitiful hedging. In one of our largest State boys’ schools, there is but one returned man on the staff; in another there are none at all. Other large schools are staffed almost entirely by women. Now we do not assert that the Battle of Waterloo can be effective-ly described only by those who were there, but descriptions of any event by eyewitnesses are always more impressive than accounts based upon hearsay. A generation of teachers has grown up to whom the war and the sacrifices it entailed, are but memories of childhood. The day will come when ex-soldier teachers will have died or retired. Already they constitute but a relatively small portion of the Department’s personnel. Surely it would be a wise proceeding to allow other diggers to come to their assistance on this all-important day.

However, making the day a school holiday has precluded this, and quietened public indignation at the same time.

What we, as a returned men’s organisation, cannot excuse, is the wording of the circular. What exactly is meant by “exalting militarism?” What constitutes “militarism” itself? Mr. Andrews is presumed to be an authority on modern English. Perhaps he will give us a definition, for, amidst all the pacifist blemishes inflicted upon the public of late, no one has defined the term or even used it intelligently. The Department appears to be running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, to pose as eminently patriotic, while pandering to the forces of disintegration. In our opinion, the circular indicates a certain softening of the vertebrae on the part of those responsible.

May 24, 1929

EMPIRE SHOPPING WEEK

We are indebted to Colonel H. B. Collett, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., for the following message to members of the League, and others who are prepared to listen:

One of the planks in the League’s policy is the fostering of trade within the Empire. In furtherance of that object we should leave no stone unturned.

“Empire Shopping Week” is a “stunt” to educate us and bring us a stage nearer to the ideal.

Of the economics of trade between the Dominions and the Old Country a great deal has been written. Much of that is beyond our reach, and, perhaps, an equal amount beyond our ordinary understanding.

I do, however, suggest that we cannot go wrong in observing the following simple formula:

Firstly—Buy locally-made goods.
Secondly—Buy Australian-made goods.
Thirdly—Buy goods made within the Empire.

Then we will be:

Firstly—Providing more work.
Secondly—Keeping our money within the “family.”
Thirdly—Increasing the prosperity of the community.
Fourthly—Helping rapidly to reduce the great war debt.
Fifthly—Paving the way towards relief from the burden of taxation.

May 24, 1929

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 only official League matter contained in this journal is embodied in the published minutes of Executive Meetings, and other items are acknowledged as such in their text.
State Executive Meetings
1st May, 1929.


Apologies were received from Messrs. McAdam, Yeates and Logie.

Soldiers’ Institute, Geraldton.—The Secretary reported in connection with this matter. The report was received and further action was left in the hands of the Management Committee.

Federal Correspondence.—Statement in “Revellie”: The Federal Executive forwarded copies of communications to and from the N.S.W. Branch in connection with a statement appearing in the “Revellie” of February, 1929. The letter was received.

Nomination, A. H. Scarrott.—The Federal Executive, forwarded copies of a communication from the E. J. Finance, B.E.S.L., stating that this man is prepared to come to Australia, and desires to know of anyone who would be willing to nominate him.” The Secretary was instructed to make enquiries from the New South Wales Legislature.

Regimental Colours.—Letters concerning the incorporation of the history and significance of the Regimental Colours of the A.I.F. in the official war history were received.

War Service Homes Advance.—Advice was received from the Federal Executive that Resolution 62 of the 15th Annual Congress, which recommended the increase of the maximum advance under the War Service Homes Act from £100 to £1,000 had had consideration, and the Government had agreed to amend the Act, providing that the War Service Homes Commission be the prescribed authority under the Commonwealth Housing Act. This would enable ex-soldiers who so desire to receive an advance up to £1,800, the first £800 or £950, as the case may be, under the War Service Homes Act and the balance under the Commonwealth Housing Act.

Examinations, Junior Clerks.—A letter was received from the Federal Executive concerning examinations for Junior Clerks and it was decided to forward copy to the West Perth Sub-Branch.

Temporary Employees, C.P.S.—The Federal Executive advised that the General Secretary had been asked to appear before the Parliamentary Joint Committee of Public Accounts in order to give evidence on the question of temporary employment in C.P.S. The General Secretary requested items under this heading which should be submitted. The matter was left in the hands of the Management Committee, to meet a sub-committee of the West Perth Sub-Branch on Thursday, May 2nd, at 5 p.m., to further investigate.

Medical Benefits, Dependents.—A reply was again received through the Federal Executive by the Minister in charge of Repatriation, declining to extend the present provisions for medical benefits for deceased soldiers’ dependants. The matter was referred to the Pensions Committee.

Employment Grant.—The report of the operations of the Employment Bureau throughout the Commonwealth was received.

Invitations.—Toc H: An invitation was received by the State President to attend certain ceremonies in connection with the anniversary of Toc H.

Denmark Sub-Branch requested a representative at a smoke social to be held on May 11th. The matter was left in the hands of the President.

New Sub-Branch: Tambellup.—Approval was granted for the formation of a sub-branch at Tambellup.

Membership Appeal.—The Federal President advised by telegram that the membership appeal to officers of the A.I.F. had been forwarded.

B.E.S.L. Conference.—Advice was received that Colonel McCann would be passing through Fremantle on Monday, 6th May. It had previously been decided to entertain him at luncheon.

War-Pensions Appeal Board.—The Federal President advised that Mr. E. J. Dibdin had been elected as the soldiers’ representative on the Entitlement Board. Advice was also received that Messrs. Mighell and Howard had been appointed as chairmen of the Assessment Boards.

State Repatriation Department.—It was stated that Dr. McCowan, Medical Officer State Repatriation Department, had decided to relinquish his position and take up a private practice. It was moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Longmore, that this Executive express its regret that Dr. McCowan is severing his connection with the Department, but wishes him every success in the future.—Carried.

Official History, Gallipoli Campaign.—A letter was received from Messrs. Albert & Sons concerning this history.

Notices of Motion.—Mr. Lovell secured permission to alter the motion of which he had previously given notice to read as follows:—“That in future no sub-branch other than the Railway Workshops Sub-Branch shall obtain money in any shape or form at Midland Junction Workshops without the sanction of the sub-branch committee.”—The motion lapsed.

Mr. Cooke gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting that the resolution carried at the Executive meeting held on the 17th April concerning the activities of Women’s Auxiliaries be rescinded.

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

Finance Committee.—The report of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 30th April was received.

The Committee recommended that consideration be given to the motor car. Moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Pady, that a committee consisting of Messrs. Logie, Margolin and Tozer be appointed to consider the question of the motor car, and report to the next Executive meeting.—Carried.

The report was then adopted.
House Committee.—The report of the meetings of the House Committee held on the 19th and 23rd April was received.

Relief Funds.—The report of the operations of the Relief Fund for the month of April was received.

Anzac Day.—Colonel Collett reported in connection with Anzac Day observance in the city.

Further reports were received on services attended by Executive delegates in the metropolitan area and country districts. In every case an increased interest and attendance was reported.

15th May, 1929.

Present:—Colonel Collett, Messrs. Parker, McAdam, Philip, Watt, Longmore, Cornell, Logie, Wells, Smith, Tozer, Fady, Tyler, Margolin, Cooke, Lovell, Freedman and Dunkley.

Apologies were received from the Rev. C. L. Riley and Mr. A. Yeates.

Visitor.—Mr. Wilson, Secretary of the Busselton Sub-Branch, attended the meeting and was welcomed as a visitor to the President.

Nomination of A. H. Scarlett.—Action had been taken to secure a nominator for this man and the family through the Salvation Army.

Federal Correspondence.—Dismissal of Temporary Employees, C.P.S.—Federal Executive forwarded copy of a communication received from the Prime Minister's Department, in which it was stated that the dismissal of temporary employees in the Commonwealth Public Service is mainly due to the completion of a large works programme which has been in hand for some years. The letter was received.

Membership.—The Federal Executive forwarded a letter from Mr. H. J. R. Saint, with which he enclosed cheque for £5 covering subscriptions for the past ten years.

Invitations.—Bayswater: Advice was received that an effort will be made to form a Sub-Branch of the League at Bayswater on May 23rd. Messrs. Lovell, Ferguson, Watt and Parker were appointed to attend.

Calingiri.—This Sub-Branch had arranged a re-union dinner on the 1st June, and requested Executive representation. Left in the hands of the President.

Railway Workshops.—This Sub-Branch extended an invitation to a smoke social on the 7th June to the State President, State Secretary, and two members of the Executive. The State President and Messrs. Wells and Cornell accepted.

Wickepin.—Advice had been received that the Wickepin Sub-Branch had re-formed. They desired a visit from an Executive member on the 24th May. The State Secretary had arranged a tour to include this and other sub-branches.

Popanyinning.—Advice had been received that efforts were being made to re-form the Popanyinning Sub-Branch. They requested a member of the Executive to attend on a suitable date. The matter was left in the hands of the Secretary to arrange.

A.A.M.C. Association.—This Association advised that their 2nd Annual Re-Union would take place on June 5th. The State President accepted.

Federal Executive Meeting.—Mr. McAdam, delegate to the Federal Executive meeting held on the 7th March, submitted his report. Moved by Mr. Margolin, seconded by Mr. Philip, that the report be received and adopted—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Cooke, that a vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. McAdam for his able representation—Carried.

Anzac Day.—Premiers' Conference.—Federal Executive advised that, as the Premiers' Conference, to be held on the 28th May, is to discuss the universal observance of Anzac Day, it was desired by the Federal President to ascertain whether this State Branch desires any amendment to the policy adopted at the Seventh Annual Congress of the League on the 4th August, 1922. It was moved by Mr. Cornell, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Federal Executive be informed that it is the desire of this State Branch that Anzac Day be made a 53rd Sunday. Also that the Premier of Western Australia had been asked to act accordingly. A copy of the resolution carried by this State Branch to be forwarded to Federal Executive—Carried.

Merredin Sub-Branch.—The Merredin Sub-Branch complained that a branch of the Government Service at Merredin did not observe Anzac Day as it should have done. Details were submitted and the Executive was requested to endeavour to prevent a repetition. It was moved by Mr. Philip, seconded by Mr. Tyler, that this be referred to the Anzac Day Committee for its consideration and action in connection with next year's celebrations—Carried.

The Merredin Sub-Branch also brought under notice the matter of representation at country services, pointing out that all the highest military ranks were kept in the metropolitan area. It was moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Margolin, that the Merredin Sub-Branch be advised that the points raised are well appreciated by the Executive, and, in view of the
difficulties experienced in the past in arranging adequate representation at services, the Sub-Branch be requested to submit this matter to the forthcoming State Congress. —Carried.

Local—The Coastal Dock, Rivers and Harbour Works Union of Workers requested the assistance of the League by deputation or otherwise to the P.W.D. to see if something could be done to secure a day off for returned soldiers on Anzac Day. Moved by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Watt, that Mr. Pady and the State Secretary interview the Secretary of the Union in connection with this matter. —Carried.

Victoria Park Sub-Branch.—The Victoria Park Sub-Branch submitted a resolution in connection with representation at country celebrations. The reply was left in the hands of the Secretary.

Luncheon.—The Victoria Park Sub-Branch desired to ascertain the procedure of the State Executive in issuing invitations to the Anzac Luncheon. The reply was left in the hands of the Secretary.

Midland Junction.—The Midland Junction Sub-Branch protested against the inclusion of University students within the enclosure on Anzac Day. The reply was left in the hands of the Secretary.

Membership Appeal.—Letters were received from the Executive and the South Australian Branch in connection with the Membership Appeal.

War Pensions Appeal Board.—A letter from Capt. L. S. Braegirde in connection with the recent election to the Enrolment and Assessment Tribunals was received.

Method of Submitting Cases.—The New South Wales Branch advised that it had under consideration the question of what action should be taken regarding appearing before the Tribunals on behalf of returned soldier appellants. Before taking definite steps they requested the proceedings of this State Branch.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Philp, that the matter be referred to the Pensions Committee for consideration and reply. —Carried.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Correll, seconded by Mr. McAdam, that the Secretary endeavour to ascertain from the Tribunal if it is intended to set up machinery by way of regulation to provide for the submission of cases to the Tribunal and for the appearance of appellants.—Lost.

Secretary.—Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Philp, that Mr. George H. James be forwarded a letter of representation from this Branch and on his appointment as Secretary of the Entitlement Tribunal. —Carried.

Federal Secretariat.—A wire was received from the General President, advising that applications were being called for the Federal Secretariat at a salary of £500 per annum. Applications to be considered at a Federal Executive meeting to be held on the 23rd May.

Federal Executive Meeting.—Moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. McAdam, that Colonel Tinney be asked to act as this State’s representative at the Federal Executive meeting to be held on the 23rd May. —Carried.

Federal Congress, 1929.—Information was submitted to delegates concerning action taken to persuade the Tasmanian State Branch to allow Congress to take place in Western Australia.

Appointments, Leeuwin Lighthouse.—Advice was received from the Karridale Sub-Branch that a non-soldier had been appointed as a relief at the Leeuwin Lighthouse, although competent returned soldiers were available. The Secretary was instructed to take the matter up with the authorities.

Deceased Soldiers’ Children.—The Victoria Park Sub-Branch requested the Executive to take action to see that sons of deceased soldiers on completing their training under the Repatriation Department be employed. The Secretary was instructed to submit the matter to Mr. Gath, of the Repatriation Department.

War/Graves Pilgrimage.—Information from Burns, Philp & Co. in connection with War Graves Pilgrimage per the s.s. “Barradine,” to leave on the 17th June, was laid on the table for the information of members.

Tracing Sub-Branch.—Advice was received from the Tracing Sub-Branch of the Sutton death of Mr. D. Cosgrove. The Secretary was instructed to forward a letter of condolence.

Notice of Motion.—Mr. Cooke moved and Mr. Watt seconded that the resolution carried at the Executive meeting on the 17th April, reading as follows, be rescinded: „That this Executive does not agree with the Railway Workshops Women’s Auxiliary conducting entertainments in districts where other sub-branches women’s auxiliaries are established.” —Carried.

A letter from the Railway Workshops Sub-Branch in this connection was received.

Reports.—State Secretary.—The State Secretary read a report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. Mundaring Sub-Branch: He stated that he had attended, in company with Mr. Cooke, a meeting of the soldiers at Mundaring, and a definite effort would be made to open a Sub-Branch on Thursday, 16th. Messrs. Cooke and Tyler were appointed representatives and were empowered to take necessary steps to open a Branch.

Motor Car.—Messrs. Logie, Margin and Tozer reported having inspected the Chevrolet car and valued it at £60 to £70. It was considered advisable to dispose of the car, and a satisfactory quotation was received from All British Cars Ltd. for a new “Hillman” 1929 model. The acceptance of this offer was recommended.

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Tyler, that the Committee’s recommendation be adopted. —Carried.

Land Committee.—Mr. Logie submitted a report of the Land Committee meeting on the 13th May. Report was received and adopted.

Finance Committee.—A report of the meeting of the Finance Committee held at the Soldiers’ Institute on the 14th May was submitted by Mr. Tyler. The report contained a recommendation that a loan of £200 be made to the Bussloop Sub-Branch. The Committee had investigated the security and considered it satisfactory. After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the report be adopted. —Carried.

Art Union.—A report was submitted by Mr. Pardy in connection with the art union. Report received.

House Committee.—A report of the House Committee meetings held on the 2nd and 7th May was submitted by Mr. Philp. The report was received and adopted.

Lennox Visiting Committee.—Colonel...
Margolin, the League's representative on this committee, tendered a report for the quarter ending 30th April. The report was received.

New Settlers' League.—Mr. Watt reported on the recent activities of the New Settlers' League. Report received from Empire Shopping and Trading Council.—Mr. Watt reported having attended several meetings of this Council, and detailed the work it had in hand. Report received.

Denmark Sub-Branch.—Mr. Pady delivered a report on his visit to the Denmark Sub-Branch. Report received.

Merredin Sub-Branch.—Mr. Logie reported having visited Merredin on Anzac Day. Report received.

Air Force Association.—Advice was received that efforts were being made to form this Association, and the Secretary was instructed to give publicity to the movement.

Anzac Day—a Retrospect

The Western Australian Anzac Day 1929 celebrations were more impressive, more inspiring, and better organized than ever. If the League existed for nothing more than the organisation of this great day, there should not be an eligible outside the ranks. The onlooker, the soldier, and citizens of the metropolitan area was that the Grand Old Man, the much loved Archbishop-Riley, was too ill to actively participate, but his message, spoken from the lips of his son, Padre—"Riley", was as forceful and as inspiring as of yore.

A new departure was the laying of wreaths, at dawn, on the State War Memorial. It was a noble tribute to the glorious dead. It needs the pen of a master to portray the strange wonderment of scene and the deep impression created. One had to be there to understand. It was expected that a few representative war veterans only would be present to lay wreaths, but diggers and the public came in their thousands. The ceremony at dawn has not only come to stay, but it is our opinion that next year it will be extended throughout the country. Its simplicity is its attraction, and care will need to be taken not to spoil it by overmuch ceremony.

The laying of, wreaths, the "Last Post," the silent prayers, the firing of a gun, the "Revelle," constituted a ceremony of impressive simplicity.

A moving feature was the honouring of our fallen mates by requesting their orphan sons to join us in the march—and what a splendid lot of boys they were! The spirit of their heroic fathers was surely present with them. The Legacy Club are to be congratulated on initiating and organizing this important part of the celebrations. This Club is doing a great work.

There is need of improvement in many of the suburban and country services. In many instances there were far too many speakers, and too, many long hymns. The most suitable speaker for the occasion is one who has been to the war. Many of the speakers chosen failed to leave the true message of Anzac with the audience. These and other matters are being noted by the League Anzac Day Committee, who will, no doubt, circularise sub-branches before next Anzac Day, and perhaps suggest a more uniform type of ceremony.

Sea Breezes

(By "HUNGRY"

To Australians in general, but to ex-naval men in particular, the recent arrival in the Commonwealth of Rear-Admiral Evans, C.B., D.S.O., is a matter of keen interest. "Evans of the "Broke" as he is more familiarly known, is now in command of the Royal Australian Navy, and if he succeeds in winning the affection of "Aussie "Jack" as he has done in the case of rank and file of the Royal Navy, he will not in any way confound the critics. The writer has served with this officer and knows his man, and it will be one of the greatest surprises of his young life if Rear-Admiral Evans does not create a good impression, and maintain it, amongst all with whom he is thrown into contact. Firstly, he is a disciplinarian, but a just one; secondly, he possesses that feature lacking, alas, in so many "Brass Hats"—a keen sense of humour; and last, but not least, his courage is unquestionable. In proof of this last statement one may quote the local daily press, which hailed the new C-in-C. as the "most decorated man in the Navy." He is; and what does appeal to the fellows who have "gotten down to the sea in ships" is that row of precious ribbons, which adorn Evans' right breast. The serviceman in general knows that such decorations are for honours gained for feats of life-saving, not in the heat and excitement of war, but, rather, in cold blood, when one has a chance to really read the risk one takes in regard to one's life, when taking certain action to assist "the bloke" in distress. Evans possesses, in addition to war and foreign honours, Lloyd's Special Gold Medal, Royal Humane Society's Silver Medal, King Edward VII Life-Saving Medal, and George V Life-Saving Medal. The value of the last two honours will be most appreciated by sea-farers as they are awarded for special gallantry in life-saving operations to officers or men of the Royal Navy or Reserve. Evans' last exploit was the saving of over 200 Chinese lives when he swam ashore with a life-line to the stranded steamer "Hong Moth," in 1921. At that time he was in command of H.M.S. "Carlisle," a representative of the ex-Navalmen's Association welcomed this gallant officer on his arrival in W.A., and, to preface the reports from England, Evans' interest in ex-servicemen, as the Admiral promised to meet the members of that Association at a luncheon or some such function, when he visits W.A., in September next with the Fleet. Knowing the calls on his time—for official functions will be many—it is gratifying to know that the rank of the private functions the C-in-C promises to attend is one connected with the "boys of the Old Brigade." It is suggested that the R.S.L. collaborate with the Navy men in this matter and a jolly interesting function should be the outcome.

"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
The New War Pensions Appeal Tribunals

The amendment to the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act, making provision for Pension Appeal Boards, is now law, and is substantially the same as was submitted to the Government by the R.S.I. It is not a revision of the old Act, but rather superimposes an additional procedure upon that now operating. Perhaps it would be wise to refer briefly to the court adopted under existing legislation.

The present Act is administered by a Repatriation Commission, consisting of three ex-soldiers, one of whom is the nominee of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' League of Australia. A board, similarly composed, operates in each State. When a claim for a pension is made, all the relevant papers are referred to the State Repatriation Board, which may grant the claim, reject it or refer it to the Commission. If a claimant appeals against the rejection of his claim, by the State Board, his case is submitted to the Commission. The Commission fully considers all claims submitted to it, and if in doubt after obtaining the advice of its own medical or medical officers, a case is sent to the Medical Advisory Board, which consists of four of the most eminent medical practitioners in Australia, who have the additional qualification that they have had military experience.

The new principle established is the provision of separate tribunals to deal with appeals in regard to—
1. Entitlement to Pension.
2. Assessment to the rate of Pension.

The entitlement tribunal consists of three members; a chairman, who is a barrister or solicitor; a Government nominee, and a representative nominated by the R.S.I. (For this position Mr. Dibden, the Federal Secretary of the League, has been appointed.)

The Act provides that if any new evidence having a substantial bearing on a claim is submitted to the tribunal, the case shall be referred back to the Repatriation Commission, and, if rejected by that body, it will later be determined by the tribunal. Moreover, should fresh evidence be submitted within twelve months of the entitlement tribunal's decision, the Repatriation Commission will reconsider the case. Should the claim be rejected by the Repatriation Commission, the appellant may again appeal to the tribunal. A claim appearing before the tribunal may claim travelling expenses.

Two assessment tribunals have been appointed, each consisting of three members, the chairman being barristers or solicitors, and the nominees being medical practitioners, selected on account of their special knowledge of the disabilities from which appellants may be suffering.

It is provided on the Bill that the tribunals "shall not be bound by any rules of evidence, but shall act, according to substantial justice and the merits of the case, and shall give the appellant the benefit of the doubt." Provided, too, that if the appellant or a representative of the appellant shall make out a prima facie case in support of his claim, that the incapacity from which he is suffering, or from which he has died, was caused or aggravated by war service, the onus of proof that such incapacity was not in fact caused or aggravated, shall lie with the Commission.

Complaint has frequently been made that soldiers have no knowledge of the contents of their files on which their claims have been decided. In that connection, a new clause has been incorporated, which reads—

"An appeal tribunal, and an assessment tribunal, shall, so far as it is consistent with the interests of the appellant, and with any obligation to respect information given to the commission upon a confidential basis, make available to the appellant or his representative, information contained in the records relating to his case, provided that information given to the commission on a confidential basis may be disclosed to the appellant or his representative in any case, if the person who has provided the information consents in writing."

We understand that the tribunals will be functioning in June, and at date of going to press, no instructions have been issued regarding the form of appeal. Of course, the appeal will need to be lodged with the Repatriation Department, from where it will, no doubt, be sent on to the particular appeal tribunal, together with all necessary records. The hearing of appeal will not be open to the public. The appellant may appear in person before the tribunal, or may be represented by any person other than a legal-practitioner.

Appeals will be decided on the evidence available at the time of the consideration of the case by the Commissioner. If further evidence is tendered, which, in the opinion of the Tribunal, has a substantial bearing upon the case, it will be referred back to the Commission for review, but if the decision of the Commission is adverse to the appellant, the Tribunal will decide the appeal.

This amending act is framed in a generous and sympathetic manner, and should be considered as a further League achievement. The Western Australian Branch not only introduced the subject, but followed it up at the last Federal Congress, with a plan of operation which is the basis of the present amending Act. It is to be hoped that the concession granted will not be lightly treated by ex-service men and their dependents, and that no frivolous appeals will be lodged.

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Anzac Dawn in King’s Park

W.A. 1929. By MAY KIDSON

(To my younger Anzac Son and other Mothers’ Sons of the immortal 3rd Brigade of that historic Dawn Landing.)

Dawn flies her pennons o’er the world—
The red, the blue; and leaves unfurled,
Make music on the nearby trees,
Upon the viol of the breeze.
And ‘neath the Swan, a mimic sea,
Sings low the Song of Memory.
For those who loved each laughing wave
(Song of the Brave! Song of the Brave!)

Our holy day for all the years
(O day of pride, O day of tears!)
Our Anzac Day, our Anzac Morn,
When young Australia’s name was born.
We see afar the battling shore;
And vision there for evermore
Australia’s Youth, her men of might,
With bayonet based on that grim height.
Indomitable ’spite bursting shell
(Gallipoli, thou splendid hell!)
Beat back to Thee the hurled foe
Our dream never to be passed.
And “won the Cross, each Anzac soul.”

O wondrous Dawn! forever ours,
Through lingering years and leaping hours,
When souls once more stand at salute
And hearts—geranium since lips are mute,
As the “Last Post” shall clearly rise,
Breathing of Love and Sacrifice,
Until we see with inward eye
The silent hosts are passing by.

I hold it true—love shall prevail
Behind the veil—behind the veil—
And silent hosts are passing by
Where their Memorial rises high,
And, built of pride and blood and tears,
For all the glory of the years.
A perfect place for Anzac Days,
Our beacon o’er the City ways—
Afar the blue hills kneel in prayer—
A Shrine of Love we place it where
The Swan sings low of memory
“TILL THE DAY DAWN AND SHADOWS FLEE.”

The Picture Hall looked very pretty with
the flags and coloured streamers tastefully arranged.
Noticable amongst the dancers were Col. and Mrs. Margolin, Mr. and Mrs. Benson, Mrs. Randall and pretty Mrs. Alexander. The ladies are to be congratulated on the dainty supper. Griffen’s Orchestra was, as usual, very good.

New auxiliaries have been formed recently at Basseindean and Railway Workshops Sub-Branch, and letters have been received by the Executive from at least six sub-branches who expect to form auxiliaries in the near future.

On Wednesday, May 15th, the Ladies’ Auxiliary of the Maylands Sub-Branch R.S.L., gave an enjoyable social and dance in the Presbyterian Hall.

Although from an attendance point of view, the result was disappointing, the entertainment provided was an exceedingly enjoyable one. A splendid orchestra played excellent music for the various dances, one of which, a stringer waltz, was encored many times.

During the interval, supper, which alone was worth the price of admission, was provided by the ladies. Mr. A. V. Ross carried out the duties of M.C. in a competent manner, and announced that similar dances would be held at frequent intervals during the season. The next one will take place on Wednesday, 29th inst.

We tender our congratulations to Miss A. Quinn (Secretary and Organiser), and the other ladies of the Auxiliary, on their work, and wish them every success in their further efforts on behalf of the R.S.L.

**Women’s Auxiliary Notes**

An enjoyable “Balloon Carnival” was held by the Women’s Auxiliary R.S.L. State Executive, at the Soldiers Institute, on Friday, April 12th. Lucky Spot dances, caps and a plentiful supply of balloons added to the pleasure of the dancing. Mr. Jose and Mr. Wang held the lucky ticket numbers, and received prizes of chocolates and cigarettes.

Among those present were, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Dix. Mr. and Mrs. Hopperton; Mesdames T. Tandy, Richardson, Shand, Snashall, Jose, Thomas, Brawn, G. Page, Critchley, and Gregson. Misses Winning, Mohomet, V. Hopperton, and J. Sanderson. Messrs. G. Winning, R. Millman, J. Gregson, Chapman, J. Taylor, Duval, Griffiths, W. Smith, Buckley and Peter Wang.

Good music was provided by the “Centenary Girls” Orchestra.

President of Auxiliary: “Our Committee is so small and we are out of town, but I wish there was something we could do.”

Secretary of another Auxiliary: “Why! you can do something that most of us are not able to do, you are right amongst grape, vine and fruit trees, why not send a case in to the boys in the various hospitals?”

President of Auxiliary duly passed the idea on to the sub-branches; result:—Hospitals are now receiving gifts of fruit which are much appreciated by the patients. I think you can guess the name of this sub-branch and its small, but very efficient, Auxiliary.

Nedlands Women’s Auxiliary held a very successful dance on Thursday, 18th April.

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BOUIS E. HORNE, F.A.I.S., Secretary.

“SWAN” BRAND TOMATO SAUCE made from Tomatoes only.
The Membership Drive
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Most sub-branches in the State are at present organising a drive for members, with the result that it has been difficult for headquarters to keep up the supply of sub-branches. The splendid results obtained by the Nedlands Sub-Branch, by organised personal drives throughout their district each Sunday morning, which was reported in our April number, has acted as a guide and an incentive to other sub-branches, with the result that South Perth, Mt. Hawthorn, Leederville, Maylands, and many other sub-branches have greatly increased their strength.

There is no doubt about the personal canvass being the best method of increasing membership. Other sub-branches, including the Press, successfully placed an obligation on individual members to bring along a new member.

If there is a sub-branch not engaged on this important work, they are urged to get busy and not lose the special opportunity created by the distribution of the appeal circulars, and the healthy atmosphere as a result of Anzac Day.

Many members of community-of-interest sub-branches, such as the Railway Workshops, the W.M.P. and the Press, have availed themselves of the new associate membership provision to link up with the sub-branch operating within their district of residence. As this provision, which was passed at the last State Congress, is not generally understood, it may serve a useful purpose to explain that a financial member of a sub-branch may, on payment of 2/6 per annum, join another sub-branch as an associate member of that sub-branch. Associate members are entitled to all privileges of full membership, except the right to vote on matters which are outside the purely domestic sphere of the sub-branch.

The fee is wholly retained by the sub-branch.

Greetings from Ethel Campbell

We are in receipt of Anzac Day greetings “For Auld Lang Syne” from that fine little friend of the Digger, Ethel Campbell. She also sent a copy of the special book of poems prepared as a welcome to Durban to the H.M.A.S. “Canberra,” which we commented on in our March issue, in which we published Ethel’s poem, “A Cooeie to the Canberra.” Also included in the booklet is the following characteristic poem, which will appeal to our readers.

“HAIL! H.M.A.S. ‘CANBERRA’”

(Hail, H.M.A.S. “Canberra”! To you And your brave sailor men a welcome true, From every loyalist in Natal-day. We’re glad to greet you on your homeward way.

We welcome you as brave men great in war, Your little Navy proved itself before In Empire’s cause. You sank the raiding Huns. You convoys thousands, neat your watchful guns. To every front you took your army there, And never lost a troopship though your care! Hail! links so steadfast in the Empire’s chain.

Through such as you old England rules the Main.

We faint would show our love, our pride, our thanks.

To those war-heroes—many in your ranks—

Men of the “Melbourne,” and the “Sydney” brave.

And the “Australia,” proved on land and wave.

In Empire’s need those fateful years ago.

Great brave Australians that we used to know.

We welcome those who’ve joined you since the war.

The younger generation. As before

Your Navy showed its mettle—to will they, If e’er another war should come their way, Which God forbid! We hope the fighting fame.

The Aussies won’t keep the foemen tame

For many years to come. The Aussie breed A terror to the enemy indeed:

The Germans said, the worst day in the war

Was when the A.F. gave them “whatever.”

And well we know the Sister Service too

Is just as valiant. Aussie through and through.

We hail your as our kinsmen, brave and proved

Loyal hearts that guard our Flag and Empire loved.

We hail you! dauntless Southern neighbours. (Say—)

We’re very glad you’re not too far away,

If we’re in need we hope you’ll come across

To show the world the Britisher is boss

Within the Empire, ‘spite of rebel aliens.)

But, best of all, we hail you as AUSTRALIANS.

Gems from Anzac Essays, 1929

The West Swan Sub-branch donated prizes to the children of the West Swan and Caversham Schools for the best essays on Anzac Day. The following are a few comments of a rather candid nature which are extracted from those submitted:

Lord Kitchener arrived on Gallipoli and advised the soldiers to evacuate before the winter came on. They obeyed orders without delay.

“Anzacs”—they were rewarded by the Government giving them large pieces of land.

In 1914 the European war began! As England was drawn into it, the Australians trained their troops a bit.

(Referring to “The Landing”) Some managed to dig trenches at night while the others watched.

When the Australian and New Zealanders heard that the Turks were going over to Germany’s side, the Australians and New Zealanders stopped training at Cairo.

The soldiers left... for Egypt, where they endeavoured to continue training till they were fit for war.

Some were... shot off the ships before they could even have the pleasure of landing.

All through the war the Australians fought hardest to keep their country free from foreign foes.

The Australian soldiers won the war and they never lost their country. (No mention of equipment.)

After they landed, they hid themselves in trenches, and, by their bravery, they covered themselves with glory.

We celebrate Anzac... for the sake of the women whose husbands went to the war and have never returned.

J. H. LUNNON

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

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

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“SWAN” BRAND TOMATO SAUCE is Delicious
Personalities

Mr. E. K. Greville, of the Railway Department, has been transferred from Collie to Midland Junction. E. K. was a resident of Collie prior to the war, and since his return, had lived there. He is a public spirited citizen, having been secretary of the Collie R.S.L., and at the time of his transfer, was one of Collie’s Municipal Councillors. We understand that E. K. has political ambitions.

George James, who was Officer-in-Charge of War Pensions in this State, has been appointed Secretary of the new Pensions Assessment Appeal Tribunal. George was a member of the original 10th Light Horse, being badly wounded at Gallipoli. He has always been a good League member, and for a number of years was a trustee of the Immediate Relief Fund. We congratulate George on his appointment, and also the Tribunal on obtaining a very capable officer, and a man of sterling qualities. He will be missed at his home-suburb of South Perth, where he was prominent in a number of progressive movements, and also captain of the Henman Park Tennis Club.

Before leaving for Melbourne, George had to attend a round of functions in his honour.

On Saturday, 13th April, there passed away, suddenly, at his residence in Bayswater, a member of the Railway Workshops Sub Branch, in the person of Mr. Alex. McKinnie, ex-A.M.T.S., A.I.F. He was a true sport and a well-liked gentleman. He was a member of the East Perth Rifle Club, besides being an active worker in the Maylands Branch A.N.Z. A.

Twelve months ago Alex. met with a rather serious accident at his trade as blacksmith, necessitating an amputation of the fore-arm on the right, but everything seemed to be going O.K., and he was looking nice and fit. When, without any warning, he had a seizure of the heart, which was the cause of his demise.

Alex. leaves a widow and five children to mourn his loss, besides a host of friends, who regret the loss of a good husband, father and friend. The sympathy of Workshops R.S.L. members and all other ex-service men and women goes out to his bereaved ones.

Mr. F. D. Greenhalsh, ex-57th Battalion, A.I.F., a member of the Workshops Sub-Branch, has suffered a bereavement recently in the loss of his mother, Nurse Greenhalsh, of Bayswater. The sympathy of the Sub-Branch members and ex-service men generally, goes out to their comrade in his time of distress.

Colonel L. E. Tiley, D.S.O., has been re-appointed a member of the Repatriation Commission, as the representative of the soldiers of Australia, for a period of three years. The Colonel was an original member of the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch, where he has continuously retained his membership. He has been asked to represent the W.A. Branch of the League at a Federal Executive meeting to be held this month.

Padre Walker, of Subiaco, spoke to the members of the Press Sub-Branch, at their luncheon, on May 15th, on the problems of India. He is a fluent and attractive speaker, and his discourse was interesting and instructive. Padre Bird served with the Imperial Army during the war, and after in India. A few years ago he joined the Church. He is a broad-minded parson of the Riley and Nye-type.

Dr. McCowan has handed in his resignation as Medical Officer at the local Repat, and we understand that he will be joining forces with Doctor Jewett. “Mac,” is very popular with the diggers, particularly those in the Repat, ward of the Perth Hospital, who recognise that he has always done his best (which is a good one) for them, and always given them a fair spin. THE LISTENING POST wishes him success in his new venture.

Another good digger answered the final roll-call, when John James Walsh, formerly Lieutenant in the 12th Battalion, died in the Edward Miller Home, at the early age of 34. The deceased, who was a native of Perth, saw much active service before he was invalided home. Though a T.B. patient, he did not lose his grip on things, being an active member of T.B., Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Association. Readers of the “L.P.” who followed a discussion in our pages as to whether war is according to God’s plan, will doubtless recall one article, brilliantly written, and displaying a profound knowledge of history, which he penned. He was buried in the Roman Catholic portion of the Karrakatta Cemetery on May 3rd.

L. Perrin, Organiser for the Consultative Council, is Assistant-Secretary of the Ex-Naval Men’s Association. Barely out of his teens when the war was over, he had many interesting experiences while a Naval Officer in the North Sea. On one occasion, this while still under twenty, he and a rating were the only survivors of a torpedoed cruiser. On another, he was present at the trial and execution of a German spy.

Diggers owe a debt of gratitude to the nursing sisters of the war, and to none more than Matron T. G. Dunn, who was Matron, up to date of closing, of the Anzac Hostel. She recently returned from a trip to America, and is about to open a private hospital at 111 Great Road, Mount Lawley. We wish her luck, and should any digger or member of his family unfortunately need private hospital accommodation, we hope that they will bear the popular matron in mind.

The LISTENING POST regrets to announce the death of Dr. Valentine Osborne Stacey, who passed away at his home in Dugan Street, Kalgoorlie, on 10th May, at the early age of 48. The late doctor was born in the Mudgee district of New South Wales, and graduated at the University of Sydney. During the war he attained the rank of
The Listening Post

May 24, 1929

Non-Combatants and the League

"Y.S.Y." CONTINUES AN INTERESTING ARGUMENT

Since C.R.C. has broken into metaphor, let me follow suit and compare our controversy to a boxing contest. To blows, however hard, above the belt I take no exception; but I think the judges—the League members—will object to his shadow-sparring. He occupies himself with knocking down bogeys I have not raised, or, to stick to our metaphor, countering blows I haven't delivered. No one could read into my remarks that the A.M.C. were not members of the Army Corps. Nevertheless, they still remained non-combatants, with all the privileges and penalties of such. The enemy would have been perfectly justified in shooting any man found carrying rifle and ammunition and at the proper time wearing the Red Cross. On the other hand, no rule of civilised warfare would justify his deliberately sniping a Red Cross wearer attending to the wounded. But this another matter. My remarks were only to prove that eligibles (at present) for membership can be combatants or non-combatants. As regards other eligibles, while admitting that they were combatants in name, I pointed out that many hundreds never became combatants in fact. Yet the fact of being classified as actual non-combatants does not debar them from membership. His point is not sound. Men are not born, but raised. To return to my metaphor: "A bit on the point" generally secures a verdict, and the one point of all my argument is that the classes in dispute are soldiers, because they were employed in military operations by the military authorities. Reference to mercenaries may be regarded as a heresy across the trail, but, if C.R.C. will refer to his constitution, para. 3, sub-para. (a) distinctly says that the persons eligible must have been "employed and paid." The only qualifications, apart from service overseas, are attestation and payment, and, in the last clause of the section, an exception as regards payment is made in regard to certain women who served overseas. This leaves attestation as the only real item in dispute, seeing I am only pleading for those who can fulfil the same qualifications as regards overseas service, as our present members. The framers of the constitution were rather good reason for introducing that qualification; I contend that none exists now, and it is an opportune time to relax the qualification. No constitution has ever been drafted so perfect that it admits of no amendment.

I claim, therefore, that in calling our League the Returned Soldiers' League, the vision of the founders was wide enough to include all soldiers. They might have called it the A.I.F. or B.E.F. veterans, or each unit had formed its own association and then united into a League of associations. But they called it the Soldiers' League, and mere assertion does not disprove the right of my proteges to be regarded as soldiers. Re C.R.C.'s last para., these people are not clamouring to be "considered returned soldiers." I am putting their case out of a sense of justice, and a conviction that their inclusion would be of greater benefit to the League than League membership would be to them individually. And I hope that the State Branch will be the pioneer in this as in other forward movements of the League.

Personal

Major John Northcote, who has been appointed chairman of the Commonwealth Transport Committee, went to the front as adjutant of the 12th Battalion. He was dangerously wounded at the Landing. After the war he was stationed for some time in this State, which he revisited two years ago with the Duke and Duchess.

"Dad" Fanning

Late 46th Batt. & Dingup Sub-Branch

has purchased a

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FOR SADDLERY and HARNESS

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H. M. (Tony) WOLFSON

(Late 32nd Batt.)

Sells Quality Fruit at Cheapest Prices at his

Fruit Barrow

WILLIAM STREET, PERTH

Opposite Wesley Church

Twist Optimist and Pessimist.

Their views are quite diverse;

One sees the Golden Chariot.

The other sees the hares.
THE MONTH

A Misleading Leader

The week preceding Anzac Day, the "West Australian Worker" published a leader headed "Anzac Day and the Warmongers." Whom it means by warmongers is not quite clear, unless the term applies to those clergymen and others who deliver addresses on such occasions. With its general advocacy of universal peace we agree in the main. That war has its horrible and beastly side, we also admit, though how the devil the editor of the "Worker" found this out, we do not know. Apparently some busybody has told him. But we cannot allow to pass unchallenged the insinuations that those who meet to celebrate Anzac Day are warmongers, nor do we admit that the sacrifices of those who fought and fell were in vain.

The writer of this misleading leader is evidently not a regular attendant at returned soldier gatherings, or he would realize that the speeches uttered on such occasions are redolent of a desire for peace in future, that our sons may be spared the horrors we have seen and experienced. The returned man is the last person in the universe to endeavour to bring about a repetition of such experiences as Passchendaele or the Somme Winter. At the same time, he is determined to perpetuate the memory of his comrades occupying soldiers' graves in other lands. If the "Worker's" leader writer considers this attitude is warmongering, we advise him to consult a standard dictionary—or an alienist.

As to the sacrifices being worth while, we ask what sane man can honestly deny what would have been the result had we remained neutral, or had we been defeated? We would certainly be under the German flag today. We frequently hear crack-brained fanatics assert that the working man would be just as well off under German rule as under British. Again, we ask who, other than a prejudiced or subsidised communist, can honestly believe this? What would become of those ideals of liberty, freedom, justice, security, and prosperity, which the "Worker" seems to regard as its own exclusive copyright? Surely light of recent May Day happenings in Berlin, what would be the fate, under German rule, of those democratic strikers, who display a ten to one courage in brutally assailing strikers-breakers? The Labour Movement itself, which, for the past thirty years has been one of the most vital forces in Australian politics, would have become a curiously emasculated thing had the war resulted in substituting the German flag or the Union Jack. Surely the continuity of our political and social institutions and the liberty to evolve from them something even better were worth fighting for. Certainly it was said that the last war was to end wars and to make the world safe for democracy. It was also said, once upon a time, that arbitration courts and wages boards would end strikes. There is nothing more infernally stupid than judging the present generation by the catchwords of the past.

But, the "Worker" notwithstanding, much has been done for the returned men; more, in this country, than in any other. Our pensions scheme, the work of the Reparation and War Service Homes Commissions, to mention but a few post-war activities, have been nobly conceived and are, on the whole, liberally administered.

The mantle of the prophet must have smothered the head of the "Worker's" leader writer when he blantly asserted, "A generation to whom the horrors of those years are unknown has arrived, and to that generation the plagues and distortions of the Anzac Day spirit will appeal." Note the use of the future tense, and remember that the article was written before Anzac Day. However, the fact remains, that the question of rearmament is being seriously considered by the great powers, and, further, the desire to avoid future wars has been accepted as a sine qua non of international-relations. It is extremely doubtful if such aspects of world-consciousness would have manifested themselves so vigorously within our own lifetime had it not been for the great war.

There is an old saying that charity begins at home. If the "Worker" is honest in its advocacy of peace, he might help to bring it about within our own country by uttering some word of protest against the organised attacks on non-unionists in the Eastern States, or it might muzzle the egregious garden by telling him that under incitements to murder and other forms of violence are conducive neither to the peace of the land nor to the dignity of the workers as a whole. Perhaps, after all, the main objection to Anzac Day celebrations is that they occur almost immediately before May Day. The reverent homage paid to our sacred dead by so many thousands of every class and creed throughout Australia, also makes the May Day celebrations something in the nature of an anti-climax. We cannot help this, neither will it cause us to abolish the Anzac Day parade. Those who object to it are quite welcome to do as they did during the war years—stay at home.

An Aspect of Indian Nationality

A Bengali novelist, Mr. Sarat Chandra Chatterjee, has been telling the younger generation of his countrymen a few home truths regarding the British Raj. Unlike four-flushers like Miss K. Mazo, in her "Mother's Country" (incidentally—what should a "miss" know about motherhood?), Sarat Chandra Chatterjee does not rush in where "those others" hasten to write books. Hence his statements are more worthy of credence. His knowledge of India is derived from reality, the social environment of a lifetime in the country, and not from the counter-juncture-acquaintance of knowledge which make these five-minute globe-trotters so ridiculous. In his address in the Conference of Youth—a species of Hindu Y.A.L.—our novelist states: "A merciless society, a loveless religion, the existing communal and caste relations, economic inequality, and the heartless treatment of womenhood were all responsible for the present state of Bengal." In effect, his speech is but another of the signs daily growing more numerous, that Babu Indians are awaking and object to the fact that the inferiority of the vast majority of the Indian population is due, not to the evil machinations of the British Raj, but to their own enfeebling social customs.

The Talkies.

A few years ago the movies, pictures,
cinemas—call them what you will—were regarded as "the poor man's entertainment." For the nimbly, sixpence, one could see the best that Hollywood could produce. From that humble beginning the pictures have developed into "entertainments-de-luxe." As much as five shillings is demanded, and freely given, for the privilege of entering gilded picture halls and viewing the presentation of super-pictures costing millions of dollars, and featuring the soul-stirring gyrations of the Mary Thickfoots, Greta Garboages, and other exorbitantly rewarded stars.

The pictures are, to borrow the vernacular of the Yankee producers, "some show" these days. To justify the big admission fees, added features to the actual picture presentations are provided, in the shape of mighty Frankfurter organs, pony ballets, and stage prologues. Indeed, instead of these shows being the poor man's entertainment, it requires quite a lot of spending silver, nowadays, to take the wife and kiddies to the movies.

For some mysterious reason, the greater majority of the pictures shown emanate from the land of—the wooden nutmeg. Scenes showing exactly how and why America won the war have been displayed in their hundreds. The effect on the plastic minds of British children must be inevitably bad; but the war pictures are not the worst of the Yankee films. The writer has heard immature girls discussing how many times such and such a movie star has been divorced! American ways, American morality, American home life (what there is of it!) have little in common with British ideas, and it is deplorable that our youngsters should base their conception of right and wrong on movie standards.

The introduction of the "Talkies" (horrid word!) has been hailed as a revolution in the pictures industry. The first of these new pictures shown in Perth were not "talkies" at all, but "singers." Apart from half-a-dozen lines of dialogue, the only sounds "put over" were songs. The daily and weekly Press, mindful of the huge income derived from movie adverts, permitted the shrived showmen to blantly and untruthfully advertise "100 per cent all-talkie programmes." Since then, pictures are being shown that are really all-talkie. The effect is something like the efforts of an ancient gramophone, (with a scratching needle, but the results are improving. Doubtless, such defects will be remedied in time. But there is one grave defect that can never be entirely eliminated from talkies acted by Americans.

At the time of writing, a talkie is being shown which is certainly true to label. It is certainly "all talkie" but it is just as certainly not English talkie. It is acted in that peculiar language which our Yankee friends fondly imagine to be the King's English. But apart from a few words occasionally, an Australian will find it difficult if not impossible, to follow the dialogue. The high pitched squeaks of the women, and the hateful nasal drawl of the male actors, combine to produce a dialogue that is positively foreign to British ears.

A story is told that when the first telephone was installed across the Atlantic, an experimental conversation was arranged between New York and London. After speaking for some minutes, the New York operator enquired if the listeners in London could hear the messages. Back came the reply: "Yes, we can hear you perfectly, but for God's sake get somebody to speak in English. We can't understand a word."

That's exactly the fault of the talkie. It's acted, not in English, but in American. How the producers can expect a British audience to enjoy or even understand such a picture is a mystery. One might just as well listen to play in Hindustani.

In another Perth talkie show, although the production is also American, the chief actors are English, and the results are most pleasing. This producer has realised that if his shows are to appeal to the British public throughout the world, British actors must be employed, and the cables tell us he has gone to Britain in search of actors. The attitude of other Yankee producers seems to suggest that if British audiences don't understand American, they must be made to learn it. But if we are any judge, the Perth

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Men's OVERCOATS, black rubber, full belt, Raglan sleeves, 25/-
Men's Motor COATS, black rubber, double-breasted, extra heavy weight, 37/6
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Men's Pure Wool Flannel SHIRTS, collar and pocket, grey and natural shades, 12/6.
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The Bairds Co., Ltd., Wellington to Murray Streets, Perth.
Casualties in the Australian Artillery, 1914-18

(Compiled and kindly supplied by Colonel H. B. Collott, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.)

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NOTE.—Of the Artillery only Headquarters and the First, Second and Third Brigades served on Gallipoli. The figures 27 officers and 963 other ranks, under the heading “M.E.F.”, represent the casualties in those four groups. The figures for each Brigade are not available.

"SWAN" BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetising, Piquant
The Truth About the War

[There is an old and true saying, "If you throw enough mud some of it will stick." Unfortunately, there is a strong anti-British element in the United States which loses no opportunity, rightly or wrongly, to throw mud at England. One of the worst mud balls being thrown is the suggestion that Britain did not pull her weight during the war to the same extent as did the U.S.A. We, who had reached maturity during the fateful years, know that such a statement is a lie, but we have with us now a generation "who knew not Caesar," which is reading American literature and watching and absorbing American pictures showing America winning the war, and it is the duty of the ex-service man to counter such propaganda with the naked truth. For that reason we publish this article, which is a plain statement of facts, taken from a series of articles, "The British General" by Brigadier-General Henry J. Reilly, in the Canadian "Saturday Evening Post," and written by Major George A. Drew—Editor, L.P.]

In February of this year, the Cosmopolitan commenced a series of articles under the heading, "It's Time You Knew the Truth," written by Brigadier-General Henry J. Reilly. In the course of one of these articles, Brigadier-General Reilly tells us that the lack of Allied successes on the Western front was due to the British failure to enforce a draft law and their refusal to move their troops away from the Channel ports. This is but a sample of Brigadier-General Reilly's observations on the conduct of the British Empire during the World War, but it will serve to show the trend of his argument throughout the series.

An article under the suggestive heading "Who Won the War?"—appearing in Liberty, which told us that "a comparison by dates from entry into the war shows that we—the United States—put more troops more quickly in the face of the enemy than did the British, and that in the important last stages of the war we had more facing the enemy than they had."

Garet Garrett, in the Saturday Evening Post, says almost the same thing. In the moment of declaring war we began to mobilise our fighting power. Eighteen months later we had on the front against Germany more men than any other nation, excepting only France. These statements are absolutely false, and yet they are a fair and conservative sample of what is being produced for consumption by readers of the United States periodical press. Unfortunately, we cannot ignore the fact that the thought and general information of a large percentage of people is being subtly moulded through the medium of the United States films and reading matter. Many scout the idea that people in other countries pay any attention to such statements, believing that their palatable absurdity must impress anyone who knows anything about the war. They forget, however, that the majority of those who read these articles and see the films know nothing whatever of the real facts of the war, and that every year this majority will steadily increase. When one looks at it in that way, it is more comforting to realize that Canadians read—there are many more United States periodicals than their own. It must be presumed that they read what they buy, and it is therefore a logical conclusion that a very great percentage of what Canadians read concerning the Great War comes from such unreliable sources as have been quoted.

It is time that an earnest appeal be made to intelligent people to face the flood of misstatement which is pouring out, and to keep alive the truth concerning the Great War; not with an idea of belittling the really fine effort made by American soldiers after they did come into the war, not for the purpose of glorifying ourselves, but only that the vital lessons of the war, which cost us so much in men, money, and may not be lost, and the Empire now, and in the future, may feel the justifiable pride in the knowledge of a task well done— which should warm the heart of everyone who calls himself British.

Stephen Leacock, who people sometimes forget is Professor of Political Economy at McGill, in a recent address in Montreal, deplored the effect of United States war films, and said that unless it was counteracted, children would grow up to believe that the United States was the only place where brave men were to be found and bravery deeds done. In three recent pictures he had seen, the Great War had appeared as the Great American War. In his characteristic style, he summarised his impressions. It was occasioned by a quarrel between Woodrow Wilson and a lot of nations living in Europe. Woodrow Wilson, whose only claim was to be good to everybody everywhere, found his efforts thwarted by a crowd of people in Europe. At last he declared war, invoking the blessing of God, of Abraham Lincoln, the Southern Confederacy and the Middle West.

"A vast American army invaded Europe. They first occupied France, where the French people supplied a comic element by selling cigarettes, waving flags, and talking French, a ridiculous language, forming a joke in itself. Rushing through the woods, trenches, flames and trees, the Americans drove in front of them the Europeans.

"Exciting nothing in return, they went back to the Middle West, where they were met on the porch by their mother, the spirit of American democracy and the inserted shades of Lincoln.

This is a caustic, but not unfair, comment on the average United States war picture. It is almost equally applicable to many articles on the War, appearing in United States periodicals. It emphasizes the basic misconception of the cause of American participation, that has grown up in the United States, and perhaps elsewhere, which has started much of their discussion of the war in terms of the Middle Western hypothesis. This sentimental view point has not been confined to the civilian. Even Pershing had it in the back of his mind. The following appeared in his "Order of the Day," issued to United States forces on August 27, 1918, to be read to all ranks:

"You came to the battlefield at a critical hour for the Allied cause. In almost four years the most formidable army the world has yet seen has pressed its invasion of France and stood threatening its capital. At no time has that army been more powerful and menacing than when, on July 15th, it struck again to destroy in one great battle the brave men opposed to it, and to enforce its brutal will upon the world and civilization."

"Three days later, in conjunction with our Allies, you counter-attacked. The
Allied armies gained a brilliant victory that marks the turning point of the war. You did more than to give the Allies the support to which they were pledged. You proved that our altruism, our pacific spirit, and our sense of justice have not blunted our virility or our courage.

It may not have been intended, but it is difficult to escape the suggestion that American altruism and sense of justice was something so different than what had been experienced before, that courage combined with it was worthy of comment. Was their altruism and sense of justice greater than that of the British? It is true that Belgium was invaded for three and a half years before the first American soldier reached the front, had been fighting and dying to prevent the same enemy from enforcing “its brutal will upon the world and civilization.”

Even such a usually unsentimental civilian as Irvin Cobb, in the Cosmopolitan of March, 1917, said: “The debt of Lafayette was paid—with compound interest—in the first week after the first overseas contingent of the A.E.F. landed on French soil.”

Why was it the A.E.F. in France at all? The American President of War was an unsentimental document. In clear and succinct terms, it sets forth once and for all why the United States declared war. It commences thus:

“Whereas the Imperial German Government has committed repeated acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America: Therefore be it resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared.”

The wording is not susceptible to misrepresentation. There is no suggestion here of Uncle Sam entering the field “for the rights of nations great and small,” as Wilson expressed it.

U.S. Forced to Enter.

The United States entered the war because it was impossible for her to do otherwise. We entered the “United States” by “repeated acts of war” on the part of the German Government. Woodrow Wilson, in his address delivered at the joint session of the two Houses on April 2, 1917, summed up the situation in these words: “We enter this war only where we are clearly forced into it, because there are no other means of defending our rights.” He said in the same speech, referring to the German method of waging war: “It is a war without discrimination. The challenge is to all mankind.”

When altruism, pacific spirit, and sense of justice are emphasised as national characteristics in entering the war, remember that the same challenge was issued to all mankind in the Treaty of Tientsin signed by the United States in 1917. What better evidence was there of Germany’s intention, “to enforce its brutal will upon the world and civilization,” than its demand upon Belgium to permit German troops to pass through Belgium to attack France? Remember, also, when national altruism is discussed, that Great Britain was not committed to enter the war in support of France. There is no doubt this impression exists in the United States, and at least to some extent in Canada.

Germany declared war on Russia on August 3rd, yet on the morning of August 4th Britain was not only not at war with Germany, but Sir Edward Grey sent the following letter to the German Foreign Secretary:

“His Majesty’s Government are bound to protest against the violation—the threatened invasion of Belgium—of a treaty to which Germany is a party in common with themselves, and must request an assurance that the demand made upon Belgium will not be proceeded with, and that her neutrality will be respected by Germany.”

It was only when Germany refused and, in fact, invaded Belgium, that Great Britain declared war. The challenge to all mankind was in the breach of a solemn covenant which went to the very bedrock of international relations. The Hague Treaties guaranteeing Belgian neutrality had been signed by all the Powers, including the United States. Germany’s disregard of this inconvenient law and instrument of disarmament, “to enforce its brutal will” upon Belgium, declared to the whole world that Germany ignored every vestige of international law which makes civilisation possible and recognised only one law, the law of the sword.

Theodore Roosevelt told Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador at Washington, in October of 1914, that if he had been President in the last days of July he would have claimed the right of America as one of the signatories of the Hague Treaties to have Belgian neutrality respected. He believed the people of the United States would have been with him, and felt that a definite stand on their part might have prevented the war. It is interesting to speculate on what the effect on history would have been of a message similar to that delivered on the morning of August 4, by Sir Edward Grey. If one can read the answer, there is a lesson of major importance to Americans.

When we remember that the United States entered the war, not to pay any debt to Lafayette; not because of altruism, love of peace, or sense of justice, but because in the words of Wilson, they were clearly forced into it by repeated acts of war, we realise that it was as much their war as our war, and that every sacrifice by any of our Allies, which weakened the common enemy, was, as much a sacrifice on behalf of the United States as was any sacrifice of theirs a contribution to our cause. It was the same enemy, from August, 1914, to the end of the war, representing exactly the same principles which were ultimately as intolerable to the United States as to ourselves. Therefore, there is only one logical method of measuring the share in the ultimate victory of any of the Allied nations, and that is in terms of their total contribution throughout the whole war. Towards that victory every life lost, every shell fired, every dollar spent, was at least as much of a contribution in 1914 as it was in 1918.

Adopting this logical method of comparison, it is worth while examining some

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TOM STACK, Licensee and Proprietor
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"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS secured 1st Prize 1927 Royal Show
of the statements which have recently appeared in what might be classed as the more responsible type of United States publications, which have a very large circulation outside.

(To be Continued)

Variety

At a recent meeting of the Mount Lawley Sub-branch members listened to a most interesting lecture delivered by Mr. Harold Redcliffe on "Travels Through Spain." At their next meeting on June 4th, General Jess is going to give his address on "Gallipoli." The General is a splendid speaker and those who have been privileged to hear this address counsel diggers who have not heard it to lose no opportunity of doing so.

The West Swan Sub-branch donated six prizes to scholars of the West Swan and Caversham Schools who wrote the best essays on the theme of Anzac Day. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Wilson, the State President of the Woman's Auxiliaries, at a dance carnival run by the West Swan Woman's Auxiliary. The next dance carnival will be held in the Memorial Hall, Caversham, on June 15th.

Cluckety Click.—Met a German machinery expert in Perth a few days ago, with whom I discussed the war. I found out from him that he was a member of the German Flying Corps, and that he used to drop bombs on us when we were near Ypres. He was eventually knocked hors de combat by a bomb dropped from one of our planes on his aeroplane. He seemed a decent bloke, and at the risk of shocking one or two of your readers who learn about the war from the Press, I admit reading him to the Alhambra Dig-out, where we found the froth good and the substance better.

Clerical Sanity.

Sound horse sense characterised the remarks of several speakers when discussioning a motion in favour of supporting the Kellogg Pact and the abolition of compulsory training. It was pointed out that while no one wished for war it would be madness to neglect defensive measures. No one is expected to remain passive when being assailed, and the world war, terrible though it was, was not futile, as the evils it averted would have been greater than any of the horrors which marked it. Unfortunately for the reputation of Congregationalists as a body, a weeping, hysteria prevailed and the motion was carried.

"Culture."

One looks to our 'Varsities to set a standard of behaviour, let alone culture, to the rest of the community. Therefore, the writer, who is a graduate of Sydney, is still overwhelmed with shame for his old Alma Mater after reading of the hooligan conduct of undergrads in the Sydney Tivoli Theatre and elsewhere. Disorderly conduct in theatres has always been a recognised feature of a 'Varsity rag, and folks who are stupid enough to attend a performance on a students' night should know what to expect. However, the pelting of performers with defunct fruit is over the odds and one thrills with pleasure at reading of one offender receiving a well-merited punch on the nose. More dangerous still, is that to student hoodlums themselves, was the interference with wreaths and vases at the Cenotaph. If that sort of conduct is persisted in, diggers as a body must retaliate, and then these vandals will strike trouble in full marching order. The main trouble is that with the spread of secondary education, entrance to the universities is easier than it should be, and the wrong type of people get there.

It was told of Henry Kemble that on one occasion, being pressed for his income tax, when he quite conveniently addressed the tax collector in measured tones, thus: "Sir, I now pay you this exorbitant charge, but I must ask you to explain to Her Majesty that she must not in future look upon me as a source of income."

A crowd of youths were playing football on the local ground on Sunday afternoon when the Vicar passed. Calling one of the delinquents to his side, the clergyman said, "William, I'm ashamed of you. Playing football on Sunday. Whatever would your father say?"

"Well, sir," replied William meekly, "you can go an' ask him. He's keeping goal for our side."
32nd Battalion Association

Any member of the Thirteenth Second who succeeds in dodging Secretary Bob Alexander for more than seven days after arrival in Perth, is eligible for a course in the next "Camouflage School. There is no one more willing to lend a sympathetic ear and a helping hand than Bob, but he does expect every member of the old Battalion to join the Association, and make it worthy of the traditions we honour. Why not?

On Anzac Day, this year 68 members of the Battalion foregathered at St. George’s Terrace, and followed Col. Tommy Flitcroft on the Official Parade. It was a great advance on last year, and it is hoped to increase the numbers next year. Many were quite well known, but there were others who hadn’t been seen since Desores, Messines, or was it Sailly le Sec? The Committee were glad to see them, and know they will be with them again next year.

Orders have not been received from the C. in C. that a special endeavour has to be made in July to capture that enemy’s cook house. In order that there should be no argument about the bounty, a conference was recently held at the C. Estaminet, when over a few oeuvs and pommes de terre, it was decided to call on Lou. Lobacher, with the 29th Battalion, and Johnny Bull, with our Transport, to join us in the enterprise. The offensive will be launched on the 20th July, at 7.30 p.m., at the R.S.L. Institute. As all were taught at Fleur Baix that secrecy was not required for a stunt of this sort, it is hoped to give it as much publicity as possible, in order that there shall be no stragglers. We have it on reliable information that the booty is good and worthy of your efforts. To make the distribution equitable, tickets are available from all the members of the Committee, at 5/- each. Tony Wolfson, with his fruit barrow at the corner of Hay and William Streets, has tickets galore. Don’t forget this year at the R.S.L. Institute.

28th Battalion Association

On June 8th, 1919 the Old 28th sailed for Foreign Service in the good ship “Ascanius” — a great occasion, the anniversary of which will be fittingly celebrated at the Re-Union to be held in the Soldiers’ Institute, on Friday evening, June 7th. On this occasion, long speeches are taboo, so a sitting member of the Legislative Assembly, who once proudly wore the Blue and White Diamond, has offered to express himself in song!

That the "Child" is well and truly worthy of the "Parent" Unit, was amply demonstrated at the recent Weapons Competition, when teams from the Young 28th Battalion, led by Capt. Smith and Lieut. Herbert, respectively, won both the senior events—the "Matheson" and the "Hobbs." These events involve a knowledge of tactics and control, as well as accuracy with rifle and bayonet. Lieut. Herbert, who is now with the Police, proved that next year will be the biggest yet—and the best.

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as the foregoing, Colonel Dunkley won’t be able to complain “That the boys can’t fight like their fathers did.”

The newly appointed Vice-President of the South Perth Sub-Branch of the R.S.L., Mr. E. M. Parlarson, is an ex-28th Battalion man. The Association congratulates him on his appointment, and on the "bag" of 67 new members he recently enlisted in his Sub-Branch.

Like its sister organisations, the 28th Battalion Association has been slow to receive that measure of support which its good work deserves. The fact that its more serious function—the extending of a helping hand in cases of distress, the preliminary gathering and sifting of evidence in regard to possible war-caused disabilities, enquiries which need both patience and tact, and the constant vigilance required to ensure that no bereaved relatives are left to mourn without an expression of sympathy (which sometimes means much) from somebody in a position to express such, on behalf of a late digger’s war time comrades—has of its nature to be done quietly and unobtrusively by the Committee outside the knowledge of the average member, is probably the chief reason for this.

The greatly increased numbers who marched behind the Blue and White Diamond in the City last Anzac Day (to say nothing of those who turned up at Dawn to assist the Committee to fix the battalion colours over the names of Fallen Comrades in the Avenue of Honour), go to prove that the Association’s efforts are being recognised and supported.

The many functions organised throughout the year—Re-Unions, Monthly Luncheons, River Trips, etc., all have the one objective—the retaining and ripening of the comradeship of war throughout the days of peace, and the affording of opportunities for expressing such comradeship and keeping it green, and surely it is worth keeping green.

Recognising all this, the President (Col. I. E. Dunkley) expressed great satisfaction at the fine turn out on Anzac Day, when the subject was under discussion at the monthly committee meeting, also at the reports of the social committee, which lend colour to the belief that the Anniversary Re-Union to be held on the 7th June, at the Soldiers’ Institute, will be the biggest yet—and the best.

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"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS secured 1st Prize 1927 Royal Show
The Conversion
A Story with a Moral.

Two diggers were strolling gazing at a streamer suspended from the electric light wires in Roekey Road, Subiaco. One had a bright and cheery look, whom we will call the "Optimist," while the other bore a sad demeanour, which would well earn him the designation of the "Pessimist." "What's that in aid of?" murmured the sad one. "Oh," said the Optimist, "we are celebrating Centenary Year, and the citizens are boosting the Garden Suburb," "Can't see that it will do much, nothing is any good in these times," the dreary one replied. "Take the League, for instance: what has it done for the likes of you and me?—and now they are talking about doubling their membership." "Are you a member?" queried the Optimist. "Not on your life! You simply pay in your 10/- to keep some brass-hat in a job. Good gracious! I cried the cheery one, you have been back all these years and have not woke up to that silly tale. Why! if grew whiskers before it died of wounds long ago. The League is the greatest friend the digger ever had, and it is not a poor affair. Of course they have a contest, but it is not of the same class as your contest. Please consider. The League is a contest. But it is not of the same class as your contest. Please consider.

The pessimist grew even more gloomy. "There are many of the same opinion as I," he dismally replied. "Yes," said the Optimist, "we must admit that the L.F.E. carried a small percentage of mental deficient, but still, time is a great healing power. What you want is a tonic, and we have it right here in the Subiaco Sub-Branch. Come along with me; our rooms are just across the road. I can get a key from the Town Clerk and show you round. Now, here we are. This room was granted to us by the Council; yonder is the Branch piano, which at times rings out with the old marching songs. Here beautifully the windows have been draped—the work of our Women's Auxiliary. Over there is our billiard table, from which our members get heaps of fun. The pictures on the walls were donated by members, and that large cupboard at the end holds all kinds of good things on smoke-o-nights. These rooms are open on Monday and Thursday evenings, and all diggers are welcome to come along and spend a pleasant hour."

The pessimist suddenly became slightly animated. "That is a picture of Menin Gate," he said. "Yes," said the Bright One, "we have a member who reckons that Steenwinckel is Onaliser." "He is a damn liar!" suddenly cried the pessimist. "And," continued the cheerful digger, "another chap says that the 16th Bn. went over the top in the big push on April 21st. It was a lovely day, he said. "But the war is over."

The pessimist was passing away as, with a dying effort, he carefully folded his receipt and placed it in his vest pocket, and while his gaze fell on the picture of Menin Gate a far-away dreamy look came into his face. Slowly faded, to be replaced by a grin, when, turning to his fellow optimist, he said, "Come and have a drink!"

The Leadership of the League

"1st Battalion" writes from Sydney:—

"I am indebted to a comrade of the 16th for a copy of "The Listening Post," in which appears a letter signed "Outpost," referring to an article in the N.S.W. organ, "Reveille," singly out Sir John Monash as the natural leader of the League in Australia. "Outpost" has misstated the facts. Some years ago the N.S.W. Branch of the League nominated Sir John Monash for the position of Federal President, and no doubt would have persisted with its nomination over each successive year had there been any ground for hope that he would submit his name to a contest. But the fact is that the League will never secure the services of Sir John Monash unless it comes to a realisation that the nomination from each State Branch must be unanimous. Last year N.S.W. agreed to the nomination of Mr. Dyett because it was satisfied that Sir John Monash would not stand for election. If W.A., Victoria and N.S.W. can prevail upon the other States the importance of bringing in Sir John Monash as the national leader, it is their duty to start the work. In the eyes of returned men in general, Sir John Monash appears to be the only man with an outstanding claim for the leadership of the League.

"Outpost" did not misstate his case as "1st Batt." suggests. The facts are that the W.A. delegates to the last Federal Congress left this State with a mandate to try and get General Monash to if possible, place himself at the head of the League within twelve months. These delegates interviewed the great war leader in Melbourne, with the result that Sir John told them to submit their motion to Congress, and if it was passed would give it every consideration.

Knowing that Sir John was not the type of man to lead them on "a wild-goose chase," our delegates went to the Sydney Congress with every confidence that the other States would recognise the utility of such an inspired leadership as Sir John's would be to the League, and support their proposal.

The motion was the only one at the Congress considered in committee; but we understand that part of the blame (if blameworthy it be) for the sidetracking of the direct resolution requesting General Monash to become our Grand President, to the one that was passed inviting the assistance of three war leaders, should be borne by the N.S.W. Branch.

We are pleased to learn through the "Reveille" that the N.S.W. Branch is now definitely in accord with the desire of W.A. and it is to be hoped that at the next Federal Congress the whole six States will be unanimous in the call for our great war leader, General Monash.—

Ed., "L.P."

"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS are made in W.A.
Sub-Branch Notes
NAREMBEEN

Mr. F. T. Ward presided over a good attendance of members at the general meeting held on Friday, 12th April. On the motion of Mr. Dunn, it was agreed that this sub-branch render every possible assistance towards the success of Empire Shopping Week. The Secretary's report on the activities of the branch for the preceding six weeks was received and adopted. At this meeting it was pleasing to see representatives from Glenelg Hills (45 miles from Narembeen), Mt. Walker (20 miles away), Wogall (16 miles), and Emu Hill. On the motion of H. J. Webb, it was agreed to hold the next general meeting on Saturday, 28th April.

The Anzac Commemoration Service was held in the Anglican Church on Thursday, 27th April. More members should have been on parade on that day, and it is to be hoped that members will in future attend the parade of the local sub-branch to pay tribute to their fallen comrades.

An increase in the attendance of members at the meeting held on April 27th was commented on by Wally Dunn, as Wally is only accustomed to see the same old "diehards" at each meeting. Though the attendance was bigger than usual, there were no subs. put on the table. Surely the diggers of Narembeen are not going to be called shy blokes for the sake of 2d. per week! Members agreed to leave W.J.R.'s case in the hands of the Secretary. Re increase of loans for settlers east of Narembeen, it was agreed, upon the motion of E. V. Hawley, that same be left on the table until personal representations are made from members concerned. On the motion of W. Dunn, it was agreed to endeavour to get every returned soldier in the district to attend a special meeting to be held on Saturday, 29th June. The Secretary reported that M. C. Bowley had kindly consented to assist this sub-branch in their campaign during Empire Shopping Week, and he (Mr. Bowley) would be pleased to exhibit Empire products from 20th to 25th May, inclusive. On the motion of Mr. Ward, it was agreed that the Secretary submit a comprehensive report of the work of this sub-branch at the special

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meeting to be held on Saturday, June 29th. Members are requested to keep this date in mind. Circulars re this meeting will be sent to all returned soldiers in the district. Billaricay sent two representatives to this meeting. Joe Wallbank was in attendance with his listening set (Joe being rendered partially deaf during the big scrap).

Members are reminded that the Secretary of this sub-branch has been appointed Branch Secretary of the New Settlers' League, and is only too pleased to receive from members who employ new settlers a report on the migrant employed by them.

Members should send their income tax returns to Secretary, R.S.L., Narembeen, who has made this subject a close study.

**LAKE GRACE**

This branch held a very successful sports meeting recently to augment the fund for the erection of the Memorial Institute. Members mainly responsible for the success of the sports were Secretary G. Pelham, Doc. Fry, J. Bruce and Bill of mustard fame. The Women's Auxiliary catered for the afternoon tea with credit to themselves. The branch is indebted fortunate in having such a band of willing workers.

The weekly picture show run by the branch is turning out very satisfactory: the public evidently appreciates the enterprise of members. The committee are trying the show works hard and long, it being all voluntary labour. The old spirit is strong in Lake Grace. Jack, the President, is a great grafter, with his offsider Bill, the buckshoe secretary. There is Arthur of the R.N., who does the operating, and Bill the butcher, who helps to rewind the films and who, incidentally, knows all the latest lurphies. That great battler for the League, Doc Fry, also lends a hand. This study, always in evidence if there is any work to be done. A good band of digs.

**KOJONUP**

Anzac Day was fittingly celebrated at this centre. With each successive year, the parade shows an increase in the number of returned soldiers who fall-in and march to the Memorial Hall. This year there were 57 on parade and these, headed by the newly formed band and followed by the children of the local and surrounding district schools, mustered at the Royal Hotel and marched through the street to the Memorial Hall, where they formed into a hollow square in front of the Roll of Honour, while the Roll of the Fallen was called and wreaths were deposited. After this short ceremony, all filed into the main hall. Here again the number in attendance showed an increase for the hall was filled. Suitable hymns were sung as suitable addresses were delivered by Mr. A. G. Liddell. A choir, specially formed for the service, rendered Stainer's "What Are These?" and Sullivan's "The Long Day Closes." The Sub-Branch is thanked to two anonymous gentlemen for two fine flags—a Union Jack and an Australian flag—complete with poles and buckets, which were carried by the young sons of two ex-service men.

The Sub-Branch terminated its lease of the pictures on March 25th, and the figures submitted at the close of its activities were well worth recording. The total receipts were £4,554 17s. 6d. for the period 8/11/24 to 9/3/29. The disbursements were as follows—Total amount to Kojonup Road Board, £290 1s. 8d., or a weekly average of £5 14s. 3d.; film hire, freight, tax, and insurance, £1,111 6s. 9d., or a weekly average of £20 18s. 9d.; expenses exclusive of hall hire, staff allowance, etc., £205 8s. 6d. Sub-Branch receipts, £66 14s. 7d.; Kojonup District Hospital, £28 11s. 1d.; Methodist Church, £3 17s. 6d.; Wesleyan Sanatorium, £5 3s. 8d. It will be admitted that the above figures are a credit to the Sub-Branch.

Missed from the Anzac Day Parade: Max Hubbe. Hax is now in double harness and on that day Mr. and Mrs. Hubbe were away from the district on their honeymoon. The Sub-Branch wishes them health, wealth and happiness in their married life.

**Anzac Day at Pingelly**

Anzac Day was observed in Pingelly by a large number of residents of the district, among whom were many returned soldiers. The Mechanics' Institute was filled to overflowing, where a Commemorative Service was held, commencing with the singing of "O God, our Help in Ages Past," to the accompaniment of the Pingelly Orchestra. After the sermon by the Rev. T. Cook, an address was given by the Rev. J. Craven on the "Spirit of Anzac." The service concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, after which ex-service men (under the leadership of Mr. C. DeSteeds, W. Neighbour R.S.L.), and the local troop of Light Horse, marched to the Soldiers' Memorial, where several wreaths were placed.

**Anzac Day Reunion at Leonora**

Leonora held a reunion of all soldiers throughout their district, having extended an invitation to all discharged men north of Kalgoorlie. Many comrades travelled over long mileages and the gathering represented pastoralists, stockmen, well-sinkers, fencers, sandalwooders, contractors, and others following many hard and varied callings throughout this great expanse of country. Approximately sixty returned soldiers sat down to a number of tables well laden with refreshments, presided over by Mr. Flanagan, who kept the programme moving with a number of toasts, songs and other items.

Anzac Day of 1929 passed off successfully. Mr. Cuthbert Porter proved himself an efficient pianist, and every individual item was warmly applauded. Messrs. Hutchinson and H. Kingsbury represented Kalgoorlie Sub-branch R.S.L., and enrolled several new members. Sorrows was expressed at the non-attendance of two good solid workers in Mr. Cuthberton and Mr. D. Mills, who were receiving medical attention at the time. The public hall was decorated in red, white and blue streamers, and 25 to 30 different units were represented by those present.

Next year Laverton may return the compliment, or, as suggested, Kalgoorlie may hold a big voluntary reunion at an early date. If such is the case, many of the old branch scattered throughout this large area, and a large number of returned soldiers who are attached to no organisation, may throw in their weight and help to win the Newdegate Cup for what was in previous years one of the strongest and most loyal branches in Australia.

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