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From Congress to Congress

The annual route march of the months has brought us round to Congress time once more, and in this, our Centenary Year, the Federal Congress, following closely upon the heels of our own, will also be held in Perth. It is interesting to note in passing that our present-day parliamentary institutions originated centuries ago, in just such assemblies of soldiers as these. Far away on the other side of the threshold of written history our Nordic ancestors were in the habit of gathering together for the purpose of discussing public business. All freemen, that is to say, all warriors, for the right to bear arms was the jealously guarded privilege of the free man, attended the local assemblies, carrying weapons and shield, and all had an equal voice in deciding issues, though, as in our modern public meetings, the right of speaking first was conceded to the more distinguished men, or to those possessing the most information regarding the subject under discussion. The more distant assemblies, and that which decided the destinies of the people as a whole were, for obvious reasons, attended by selected delegates. It is from such gatherings, the Thing and the All-Thing of the Scandinavian branches of our race, the Town, Shire, and Folk Moors of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, that we have derived our modern town councils, road boards, and parliaments. As society became more complex the freeman has found it necessary to delegate his powers and rights to his elected representatives, thus bringing into being those blemishes on the fair face of democracy, party government and pre-selection ballots. It is just such institutions which tend to beget that undemocratic principle of the state within the state, which now tinges the activities of most of our public organisations.

So far, the League has been happily free from such weakening influences. Untrammelled by sectarian bias and political partisanship, the diggers' parliament has met year after year, and discussed dispassionately (of late-years, at any rate), not only matters concerning the welfare of returned men, but also such subjects of national importance as education, national defence, immigration, Empire trade, and public health. The armed neutrality we have been able to maintain in these respects has 'strengthened' our hands, and has added weight to the advice we, from time to time, have been able to tender Ministers of the Crown. Consequently, we view with disfavour the proposal, emanating from an Eastern branch, of forming a soldiers' party and entering the political arena. Such a course would mean the disruption of the League as a body, and the weakening of its influence. It would render future proposals on behalf of the returned men's interests suspect, and provoke opposition that would not have been aroused otherwise. Eastern branches should remember the fate of a soldiers' party that was formed in New South Wales shortly after the war, when the general public showed more concern for the digger's future than is, unfortunately, the case now. The new party was routed at the polls, and its leader, an ex-State minister, with a brilliant parliamentary and an equally brilliant war record behind him, realised that he had committed political suicide. The League, one and indivisible, should be our ideal, and, at a time like this, when we are endeavouring to widen our sphere of influence by increasing our membership, we should be ill-advised to embark upon any course that may debar men of all religious beliefs and all shades of political opinion from joining our ranks.

It is the very fact that we include representatives of all the existing political parties that gives weight to the decisions of Congress, and prevents us from pestering governments with trivial or sectional grievances. That cabinets recognise this is shown by the willingness and courtesy displayed by ministers, throughout Australia, in meeting soldier deputations, even when it was not always possible for them to fall in with our views. Sub-branches should bear this in mind when submitting resolutions for discussion before Congress. The voicing of trivial grievances and the advocacy of impracticable courses, not only lower the prestige of their own delegates in the eyes of their fellows, but bring the League, as a body, into contempt.

It must be clearly understood that these remarks are general, and not intended to reflect upon any individual sub-branch, but such things have occurred. To guard against their future re-occurrence, every man eligible should be an active as well as a financial member of his own sub-branch, attend meetings and speak up when necessary, combat the apathetic attitude of "let George do it," and so add to the dignity and prestige of the League.

The League has done much in the sphere of employment and amelioration. Already the Federal Government has reaffirmed the principle of preference to...
returned soldiers. However, there is still a great deal more to be done.

Only the other day an advertisement appeared in the local press calling applications for the vacant position of Director of Education in this State. The advertisement contained no mention of the preference principle. There are among the senior men of this department, as in the departments of other States, men with brilliant careers, whose seniority, attainments, and that wide experience in dealing with subordinates which comes of years of war service, render them eminently fitted for the post. It would be regrettable if the vacancy were filled by appointing a man whose qualifications are respectable rather than outstanding, and who, though of military age during the war years, remained steadfastly at home. As we have said before, there is something fundamentally dishonest in giving expression to the preference principle when appointing a yardman or a caretaker, and ignoring it altogether when appointing a highly salaried head of a department. The League should not allow such an occasion to pass without registering a vigorous protest.

This incident, which is quoted by way of illustration, will indicate the necessity for increased vigilance in the guarding of our rights, and the necessity for all degrees of political thought being represented in any protest or other form of considered opinion emanating from the League as a body. To resolve ourselves into a political party, as suggested by the Eastern branch referred to above, would narrow our functions, weaken our prestige, and stultify beforehand any cause we may espouse.

Already our members are following out the precept laid down on a former occasion by our State President, and serving their country at home as they did abroad. Diggers are rendering valuable public service on road boards, in progress associations, in educational and literary circles, while it is gratifying to note that many digger candidates will be contesting seats at the next general elections in the interests of all three political parties. Peaceful penetration is a more effective weapon, and one harder to parry, than the bludgeon strokes of a mere party offensive.

On the social side of things, we wish our country delegates a pleasant sojourn in Perth. Old friendships will be renewed, and old battles will be fought again. The big agenda paper will not leave much leisure for festive occasions, but the interchange of ideas will prove beneficial, and delegates will return to their centres like giants refreshed. In the meantime, we hope that all who have not already so done, will become financial and active members of the nearest sub-branch, for, only by means of a gradually increasing membership will we be able to strengthen the hands of the League, and add to its dignity, prestige and influence.

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**Maylands Memorial Park**

Recently the Maylands Sub-Branch protested against the action of the Perth Roads Board in leasing a small strip of the Memorial Park to the local bowling club. The land constituting this park was purchased by subscription, and handed over as a memorial park to the Perth Roads Board. Therefore, much indignation was aroused locally when it was found that a private body, such as the Maylands Bowling Club, had been allowed to encroach upon it. Mr. Hamer, the Chairman of the Roads Board, has now presented the other side of the case.

There is, he stated, an entire misconception of the position. The Board provided a site for the soldiers' monument, and a delightful open space was maintained all the year round so the use of a small patch of ground for the bowling club should not, in the circumstances, be cavilled at.

The Board, at its last meeting, received a letter from the Maylands Sub-Branch, protesting against the action of the Board in allowing the Maylands Bowling Club to build a pavilion on the memorial park. After going fully into the matter, it was resolved that the Sub-Branch be advised that, after careful consideration, the Board was of the opinion that no injustice was being inflicted upon any person or body, by the erection of a club house on a portion of the memorial park, but on the contrary, the pavilion was a distinct asset to the district. It was also resolved that the League be informed that the Board dedicated a block that was purchased by the Board for the erection of the existing monument to the fallen soldiers of the district.

We do not like the principle of filching portions of public parks of any description for the benefit of sporting bodies. Yet the practice is fairly universal, and in this respect the Perth Roads Board is no worse than the King's Park Trust and other bodies. Still, it must be admitted that bowling and other clubs must find grounds somewhere. Bowls is a clean sport, and bowlers are the most sociable of all sportsmen, while a trim, well-kept bowling green is an acquisition from the aesthetic point of view to any park. As a matter of abstract principle, we disagree with the Perth Roads Board's action, yet we must confess that the Board's discrimination in favour of a bowling club displeases us less than would a similar discrimination exercised in favour of other sports we could name.
State Executive Meetings 21/8/29

Present—Messrs. Collett, Riley, Parker, Freedman, McAdam, Philip, Watt, Sadlier, Logie, Walls, Smith, Tozer, Pady, Tyler, Margolin, Cooke, Lovell, and Bader. Apologies were received from Menzies, Yeates and Cornell.

Centenary Celebrations—Pageant Committee.

Mr. Watt reported, on behalf of the committee appointed to consider this matter, and stated that steps were being taken to arrange five tableaux, the details of which had been allotted to different metropolitan sub-branches. The report was received and adopted.

Federated Correspondence—Local Repatriation Committees.

A communication was received from the Federal Executive with reference to resolution 16 of the 12th Annual Congress, which asked that enquiry be made into the accounts of all local Repatriation Committees with certain ends in view. A reply from the Minister in Charge of Repatriation contained the opinion that the action would not be a wise one.

Federal Grant.—Mr. S. B. Ex-Soldiers.—The Federal Executive advised that representations had been made to the Minister in Charge of Repatriation in accordance with resolution 12 of the 12th annual congress requesting free medical treatment for widows and children of ex-servicemen who had contracted T.B. as the result of their association with the ex-serviceman suffering the same complaint. The request was declined.

Non-British Migrants: Communications with reference to the admission of non-British migrants to Australia were received.

Statement by Mr. Redfern.—A communication was received from the Federal Executive concerning statement by Mr. Redfern during the War Graves Pilgrimage concerning the formation of a branch of the British Legion in Australia.

Reparation State Boards.—The Federal President had advised by telegram that the Government proposed to abolish State Repatriation Boards as a corollary to the establishment of the Entitlements and Assessment Tribunals. He recommended that hon. boards be appointed to supersede the existing State boards, provided the League had representation thereon. After discussion it was moved Mr. Riley, seconded Mr. Wells, that the State Boards perform functions not within the ambit of the Entitlements and Assessment Tribunals, and this branch considers that the interests of ex-service men necessitates the retention of the boards without alteration of status. Carried.

Proposed Imperial Government Cancellation Preference Dominions.—Advice was received through the Federal Executive from the hon. secretary of the B.E.S.L. that a cable in connection with the withdrawal of Empire preference had been brought to the notice of His Majesty's Government.

14th Annual Federal Congress.—Advice was received that State branches had approved of the 14th Annual Congress being held in Western Australia.

Appointment of Delegates.—Nominations were then taken for this branch's delegates to Federal Congress. The State President and Rabbi Freedman were nominated and duly elected, with the Rev. C. L. Riley as a waiting delegate. It was also decided that the State Secretary be permitted to attend.

Agenda.—Items for the agenda submitted by other State Branches were laid on the table, and the appointed delegates were asked to peruse the items, and, if necessary, bring them before the Executive at a later stage.

Nomination Federal President.—Correspondence from L. S. Bracegirdle, the Federal Treasurer, Sir John Monash, and the Federal Secretary, was read and received. Correspondence was in connection with a resolution submitted by the N.S.W. Congress asking for the Federal President's resignation. The request that the letters from L. S. Bracegirdle and Sir John Monash be published in the official organ was not agreed to.

After discussion, it was moved that the matter of the election of the Federal President be left in the hands of our delegates to Federal Congress to decide.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pady; That Major White, Member of Parliament for Balaklava, Victoria, be nominated.—Lift.

A telegram was received from the N.S.W. Branch stating that General Sir Charles Rosenthal had been nominated as Federal President by that State Branch, and requesting this State's support. Also another wire from Queensland, stating that Captain Dyett, had been nominated for the same position. It was decided that the reply of the above resolution be sent to the N.S.W. State Branch.

Invitations: Lord Mayor's 77th Anniversary. A request to assist in the arrangements of a fitting celebration of the Rt. Hon. J. T. Franklin's initial association with the Lord Mayorality of Perth, was received.

Southern Cross.—Delegates were advised that the State President and Mr. Cornell would represent the League at Southern Cross on the 24th August.

Maylands.—The following delegates were appointed to represent the Executive at the Maylands Sub-Branch half-yearly smoke social, to be held on the 23rd August: Messrs. Parker, Philip, Wells, Sadlier, and the State Secretary.

Trayning.—An invitation from the Trayning Sub-Branch was received in the hands of the President.

Corrigin.—The Corrigin Sub-Branch requested the attendance of the State President at a function to be arranged. The matter was left in the hands of the President.

Merredin.—Further information was received concerning the Wheatbelt Ra-Union to be held at Merredin, 19th September.

World disarmament.—Correspondence in connection with the World Disarmament Movement was received.

Marketing Bill.—The Minister for Agriculture advised that it had been decided to introduce, during the coming session of Parliament, a Topping and Grading Act. At this matter was arising—From a Congress resolution, it was decided that a report be made to Congress.

Foreigners on Mines.—The Secretary submitted information concerning the proposed Bill which Parliament was considering for the restriction of the employment of foreigners in the Mining Industry.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Cooke: That this matter be referred to a Committee to report to the next Executive meeting.—Carried.

Messrs. Tyler, Watt, and Smith were appointed.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Mr. Wells: That discussion be adjourned until the next meeting.—Lost.

Sub-Branch Election Action.—Advice from the Mullewa and Nedlands Sub-Branches concerning their election of officers was received.

Power Development in Australia.—A report by the Development and Migration Commission in this connection was laid on the table for the information of members.

Foreign Labour Roads, Boards.—The Maylands Sub-Branch advised that upon representations being made by them to the Perth Road Board, a clause had now been inserted in all contracts affecting certain wards that only British subjects of the wards would be employed. The Sub-Branch asked that other sub-branches be communicated with, with the object of approaching local Road Boards with the same end in view. It was decided that this be included in the Secretary's next circular to sub-branches.

Mons Service.—Mr. Parker reported having attended the Mons Service on Sunday, 11th August.

Late R. S. Hitchcock.—Mr. Wells advised that the Victoria Park Sub-Branch was arranging a concert on September 1st, in the Broadway Theatre, to assist the widow of the late R. S. Hitchcock.

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

Finance Committee.—The report of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 12th August, was submitted.

There was an amendment that certain sub-branch balances be taken into the accumulated funds of the League was referred to Congress.

Fairbridge Farm School.—A request from the School for the provision of band-instruments was referred to the senior Vice-President.

Firm Deposit.—It was reported that fixed deposit for £1,998 11s. 8d. would expire on

"SWAN" BRAND PURE MALT VINEGAR—Best Obtainable.
the 25th August. It was agreed to renew the deposit for a further two years.

The Finance Committee's report was then adopted.

Art Union Committee.—The completed Auditors' report in connection with the No. 9 Art Union was laid on the table until the next meeting.

Land Committee.—Mr. Logie read the report of the Land Committee meetings held on the 10th and 13th August. The report was received.

State Congress Entertainment Committee.—The recommendations of the State Congress Entertainment Committee were received and adopted.

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

Women's Auxiliary State Executive.—The report by Mrs. Hopperton, in connection with the activities of this Executive, was received.

It was decided that Mrs. Hopperton be asked to submit a report on behalf of the Women's Auxiliary State Executive on their operations for the last twelve months, for submission to the State Congress.

Lennox Visiting Committee.—The report of the Lennox Board of Visitors on a visit held on the 6th August, and for the quarter ending 21/9/29, was laid on the table.

Present.—Messrs. Collett, Riley, Farkas, McAdam, Philip, Watt, Freedman, Yates, Sadlier, Longmore, Cornell, Logie, Wells, Smith, Pady, Tyler, Margolin, Cooke, Lovell, Dunkley, and Bader.

Visits.—The State President submitted a report on his visits to Southern Cross, Kalgoorlie and Boulder Sub-Branches. The report was received.

Souvenir H.M.A.S. "Sydney."—The Secretary reported the receipt of a Riding Lamp, and the placing of it in the Institute was left with the House Committee.

Federal Correspondence.—Arms Act.—The Federal Secretary advised that the Minister for Trade and Customs had been approached concerning the issue of Arms Act medals being imported for duty. The Minister regretted that there was no item in the Customs Tariff which would allow of such an importation.

Memorial Plaques and Scrolls.—It was decided that publicity be given to a communication from the Federal Executive concerning Memorial Plaques and Scrolls.

Civil Aviation.—A communication in connection with Resolution 84 of the 11th Annual Congress dealing with civil aviation was received.

Employment Grant.—The report of the Employment Bureaux throughout the Commonwealth for the month of July was received.

Institutions.—Invitations from sub-branches as follows were received and accepted:

Kondinin, September 14th—State President and State Secretary.
Corrigin, September 14th—State President and State Secretary.
Bunbury, September 6th—Messrs. Parker, Wells, and Tozer.
Kalgoorlie, September 28th—State President and State Secretary.
Wheeler, September 21st—Left in the hands of the President.
Gnowangerup, September 10th—Rabbi Freedman.

Employment of Foreigners on Mines.—The Committee appointed by the Executive to enquire into the proposed Bill in connection with the employment of foreigners on mines submitted its report.

A communication was also received from the Boulder Sub-Branch advising that the Executive re-affirming previous resolutions concerning the restricting of the influx of aliens, and appealing to employers to give preference to British labour.

Moved by Mr. Watt, seconded by Mr. Smith: That the Committee's report be adopted.—Carried.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Sadlier, seconded by Col. Margolin: That Clause 5 of the report be deleted.—Lost.

A further amendment was moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Wells: That recommendation No. 1 in the report be deleted.—Lost.

Moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Logie: That a copy of the report be sent to Kalgoorlie and Boulder for their information and remarks.—Carried.

Sub-Branch Election of Officers.—Kojonup Sub-Branch advised that Mr. V. B. Sewell had been appointed Secretary vice J. G. Finlay resigned.—Appointment approved.

Mr. Bigger Sub-Branch advised that Messrs. T. G. Sounness and Percy Gillam had been re-appointed President and Secretary, respectively.

Maylands Sub-Branch had appointed Mr. R. Waddington secretary, vice Mr. R. Cooke resigned.—Appointment approved.

Sub-Branch Boundaries.—The Maylands Sub-Branch wrote asking the Executive to define the boundaries of the Metropolitan Sub-Branch.

The question had apparently arisen owing to the Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch over-lapping with Maylands in its membership drive. Moved by Mr. Yeates, seconded by Mr. Sadlier: That the officials of the Maylands, Mt. Lawley, and Bayswater sub-branches confer in this connection in an endeavour to arrive at a satisfactory adjustment of boundaries, and, if necessary, further confer with the Management Committee of the Executive.—Carried.

Alleged Violation of Preference.—Wongan Hills Road Board.—The Secretary read a communication from the Wongan Hills Sub-Branch, in which it was alleged that the Local Road Board had violated the policy of preference to returned soldiers in the appointment of its assistant secretary. The Secretary further drew the attention of delegates to a report in the Sunday Times of the 1st September, 1929, where it was stated that at a further meeting of the Wongan Hills Sub-Branch they had recommended the expulsion of three of its members from the League. The three members concerned had journeyed to Perth, and it was a serious business to them, he had informed them that the Executive would, no doubt, be prepared to hear their side of the case. The Chairman of the Local Road Board, Mr. Ackland, in detail set out the circumstances which led to the change of officers of the Board. Mr. Scobie had supported the remarks of Mr. Ackland.

Moved by Mr. Cornell, seconded by Mr. Wells: That having heard the case from the point of view of those three members who attended the meeting, the Wongan Hills Sub-Branch be invited to send a delegation to this Executive to explain its side of the case, and in the meantime the President be asked to make a statement in the Sunday Times from a constitutional point of view. Moved and seconded by Mr. Cornell.

“Dad” Fanning
Late 46th Batt. & Dingup Sub-Branch
has purchased a Fruit Barrow
stationed in front of Commonwealth Bank in Forrest Place, Perth
where he sells the Best of Fruit at the Lowest Prices

“SWAN” BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
of view concerning the proposed expulsion of the three members.—Carried.

Federal Amusement Tax.—A letter was read and received from the Victoria Park Sub-Branch concerning this matter.

Deputation to Minister.—The Secretary presented a letter from an individual soldier settler of Harvey, asking that arrangements be made for a deputation to wait on the Minister for Lands, on the question of rents. The matter had been referred back to the writer, pointing out that such requests should come through the sub-branch, and asking for further particulars as to the matters to be submitted to the Minister. The Secretary’s action was endorsed.

Associate Membership.—A communication from the Tampellup Sub-Branch concerning this matter was received.

Efficiency Trophy.—The result of the Infantry Battalion Competition for the Efficiency Trophy presented by this League, was received, and showed that the 28th Battalion had been successful.

Perpetuation of League.—A communication from Mr. J. Allen, of Collie, submitting suggestions for the perpetuation of the League was received, and it was decided to refer same to Congress.

Land Settlement.—The Secretary advised that Mr. Justice Pike’s report had been received, and was referred to the Land Committee.

Case of L. Harrow.—Consideration of the matter of the permanent appointment of this Commonwealth Public Servant was deferred.

Respectfully.—The State Secretary read a report of the operations of the office for the preceding fortnight. Report received.

Finance Committee.—The report of the Finance Committee meeting, held on the 2nd September, was received and adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Wells, consideration of the balance of the Agenda Paper was left over until the next meeting.

Free “Dings”

The members of the Three Springs Roads Board are “peved”—we hope we may be forgiven this Americanism, but advocates for foreign labour should not cavil at a foreign word—because their decision to give preference in employment to Southern Europeans has provoked a certain amount of well-merited criticism. At the last meeting of this august body, it was stated that the matter was one of contract work, into which the question of wages does not enter. Further, members were of the opinion that if the people complained of were allowed to come into the country, there could be no possible objection to their being employed by anyone.

No one is objecting to their being employed. What the LISTENING POST took exception to was the Board’s decision, as reported in the West Australian (a report, which, by the way, remains uncorrected), to give preference to Southern Europeans on the score of their cheapness. It is fully realised that in many places the struggling farmer must depend on foreign labour for his clearing, or he would never get it done at all. No doubt, too, that ninety per cent. of the residents of the Three Springs districts would rather employ Australian labour, as Mr. Hunt, the Board’s President, states, if that were available at a fair rate. But what constitutes a “fair rate”? The employer’s idea of a fair rate does not always coincide with that of the man actually doing the work, and this seems to be the crux of the matter in Three Springs. While a private individual is entitled to obtain his labour as cheaply and as expeditiously as possible, the declaration of a public body on a question of preference is a horse of another colour. Further, in spite of the Board’s disclaimer, even a roads board member should be capable of understanding that the question of wages does enter into the matter of contracts ultimately, and if the Board is not directly sweating, it is conniving at this reprehensible practice. The only preference the LISTENING POST recognises is preference to returned soldiers and sailors, and the economy that runs counter to this principle is merely cheese-paring dressed up for a board meeting. We consider that members of a local governing body, who definitely express preference for foreigners when so many returned men are workless, should be voted back into private life as soon as possible. Therefore, notwithstanding the aspects of the case put forward by the President and members of the Three Springs Roads Board, we see no reason for withdrawing or modifying in any way, the remarks we made in our last issue concerning their bad Australianism.

11th Battalion Association, A.I.F.

The Annual Re-Union and Smoke Social of the 11th Battalion takes place at the R.S.L. on Show night, October 9th, at 8 p.m. emma. Don’t miss this hop-over, as it’s good to swap lies with proved pals of the good old Battalion occasionally. Tickets are priced at $3, and may be had from the Secretary, Wally Blair, Tel. B 7486, or the Committee, who are organising a special patrol to distribute the tickets. A terrific “bitter-barrage” is already in preparation, so Nuf Sed.

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THE MONTH
An Old Farce Refurbished

From the days of old King Midas, who turned into gold everything he touched, scientific workers have been endeavouring to find some means of making gold. The mediaeval alchemist followed two definite lines of research—one to discover, or concoct, the elixir of life; that is, a fluid which would prolong life indefinitely; the other, to find the philosopher's stone, whose touch would transmute base metals into gold. The latter idea was always a pleasant one for men's minds to toy with, and attracted even such pioneers of science as Roger Bacon. There are instances known to history of charlatans who imposed on credulous rulers by pretending that they had made the long-sought-for discovery, or were on the verge of making it. They thus obtained free quarters from their patrons, though sometimes they were unable to decamp before their trickery was exposed, with the result that they attained a very high position in the world—on a high gallows at the end of a rope. Yet, all mediaeval research workers were not tricksters. The old haphazard studies of alchemy begat the modern science of chemistry. There was, after all, something in their ideas. Modern science has been able to prolong life, and who knows what the thyroid method of rejuvenation will lead to. Moreover, not only gold, but diamonds as well, have been manufactured in the laboratory. However, the results were so small, and the expense so great, that the manufacture of either valuable by chemical agencies will not pay. The mediaeval alchemists certainly made discoveries that have been improved upon by their scientific heirs. It is not unlikely that some of our most astounding modern discoveries are merely re-discoveries. Publicity was neither practised nor desired in the middle ages. A little learning was a dangerous thing, then, in the physical sense as well as the intellectual. It was liable to bring a man under the ban of the church for heresy, or the state for sorcery. The rulers of those times always had a hot stake or a cold "chop" on the menu for those who differed from them in religious and political matters. In one of Conan Doyle's earlier novels, "The Doings of Raffles Haw," the subject is that of a man of intellect and high moral principle, who has discovered how to make gold, and use it as he needs it. His generosity and the demoralisation of all his friends that it causes, form the theme of an arresting theory. The claim of the New Zealand experimenter that he has made a discovery of this nature, though it is open to doubt, must not be treated lightly. He may have made an epoch-marking discovery. Still, we think that his countryman, Lord Macaulay's cobber, will be sketching the ruins of St. Paul's from London Bridge, before men will be able to turn out gold in payable quantities from laboratories, and when that happens the world will have to reconstruct its standard of values.

The Schneider Cup.

While we rejoice at Britain's success in retaining the Schneider Cup, we con- dole with Italy on her misfortune. It is a pity that those in charge of the arrangements could not see their way clear to postpone the event, in view of the Italian flyers' mishap. Nevertheless, we feel sure that any thought of refusing a postponement in order to place the Italians at a disadvantage was the last thing that would enter the heads of the British authorities. The remarks of a certain section of the Italian press against British sportsmanship are, therefore, uncalled for and beside the mark. British airmen seem to have imbibed the old naval tradition of unassmusning efficiency. They are not publicity-mongers, nor do they indulge in the sensational and the spectacular, yet when it becomes a question of doing something really worth while, they are well to the fore. It is worthy of note that despite America's much vaunted prowess in the air, there were no American entrants for this contest.

Officers' Photographs

The War Office has decided to simplify the identification of officers by numbering them on the graduation lists. The Admiralty has gone one further by asking all naval officers as lieutenants, commanders, captains, and relative ranks to forward photographs of themselves so that the records may be made more complete. It is pointed out that these photographs are not to be a charge against public funds, and, therefore, should be modest, "preferably of the passport type." This recalls a story told of Lord Charles Beresford, who commanded the 'Condor' during the Bombardment of Alexandria.

Shortly after the bombardment, Beresford was requested by the Admiralty to supply his photo. He forwarded a large-sized back view of his head, neck and shoulders, inscribed, "You flatter me so much, I cannot look you in the face." In view of the "Royal Oak" courtroom, we tremble to think how such levity would be dealt with in these more prosaic days.

Asylum or Asylums.

Those half-baked individuals who, because Britain sheltered such distinguished political exiles as Mazzini and Garibaldi during the last century, rend the welkin because we refuse to admit every frowsy foreigner irrespective of his subversive views, were sufficiently answered when Mr. Clynes, the British Labour Minister, gave his reasons for denying Trotsky, alias Bronstein, the right of asylum in England. The British constitution does

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not recognise this alleged right of asylum; and the purveyors of stupid claptrap concerning this matter are eminently eligible for incarceration in a different type of asylum themselves. Mr. Clynes stated that Trotsky's application was judged on its merits, and was refused by the Government because Trotsky would inevitably become a centre for mischief-making and intrigue.

Religious Rancour.

While Jew and Arab are indulging in mutual slaughter in Palestine, the fires of hatred between Hindu and Mussulman are being fanned in India. Assertions have been made by agitators that Britain has been actively fomenting this disension. Insinuations to this effect have rarely emanated from Mahomedan sources. On the contrary, all the available evidence points to their having Hindu origin. The Hindu offends more frequently in print, and some of the statements about Moslems and their faith, which have appeared in the Hindu press are scurrilous in the extreme. Indian and English papers report the trial and imprisonment of Swami Chidderband, the editor of a Hindu monthly, for publishing articles insulting the religious tenets of Moslems, thus creating class hatred. A swami is a type of Hindu mystic, who, when he travels to other countries, usually surrounds himself with a coterie of feather-brained women and male sopranos, and establishes some ridiculous cult. The fact that the British authorities pounced upon friend Chidderband gives the lie very effectively to those who persist that Britain is participating in these attempts to accentuate religious rancour. The Hindus seem to be fitting themselves for that home Rule, for which they are persistently clamouring, by going out of their way to insult the seventy millions of Moslems, with whom they would have to cooperate should the British evacuate India.

In the meantime, we, in Australia, allow all manner of Marx worshipping asses to print their ill-digested propaganda from printing press and soap-box, and stimulate what they call class warfare, with impunity.

When the Chemist Gets Into Khaki.

One often wonders whether we are not progressing too rapidly, whether our ethical development is keeping pace with the march of science, whether there is not some justification for the pessimistic dictum that our boasted civilisation is not, after all, a mere increase of efficiency in the manufacture of man-slaying devices. Such thoughts occurred to the writer on reading two newspaper reports dealing with chemical warfare in the future. At the Medical Congress, held recently in Sydney, Dr. E. A. Maguire read a paper on "The Use of Gas in War." In future wars, he informed his hearers, gas would be used as a most potent weapon, and the nation not prepared to deal with it would be quickly overwhelmed. Many arguments had been advanced in favour of the use of gas in war. It was claimed that it was economically produced, did not damage property, and was more humane in its action than high explosives or bullets. During the last war gas was twelve times more humane than the traditional weapons of warfare. Again gas could be used to disable troops, yet at the same time greatly reduce the fatal casualties. On one occasion, 2,000 French troops were rendered temporarily blind by German tear gas, and were captured without resistance. This was the ideal way of waging war—blind the enemy temporarily, and then capture him without casualties. Even with trained troops the effect of gas was great. It would be still greater with the civil population whose idea of gas was a choking death, from which there was no escape. There was, therefore, great need to educate the public about what they might expect from gas, and to let them realise that there were simple precautions, which, if taken in the mass, could give a reasonable degree of safety. The effect of gas upon trained troops was rarely a panic, and it should be possible to guard against this.

With the civilian populace, Dr. Maguire continued, we should educate them in the various types of gas likely to be used against them, and instruct them in the methods of combating each form. It is now possible to give complete protection against noxious and poisonous gases, but this requires the issue of a separate respirator to everyone with instructions for its use. With plenty of notice of war, it might be possible to give every citizen a respirator, and instruct him how to use it, but in a sudden emergency this would be almost impracticable. It is a matter of grave consideration by the government and civil authorities whether they should not provide a reserve of box respirators, or at least organise methods whereby they could be produced at short notice in great bulk. The Defence Department has made provision for the troops, and it is a question of what the civil authorities are going to do to meet their proportion of the responsibility.

A city of the size of Sydney or Melbourne could not be subjected to a successful gas attack, except by an enemy in command of the sea and the air. If the population could be sheltered for twelve hours, the sunshine and air currents would clear the city, and with adequate measures for the decontamination of the area the people could then go about their business in safety.

Less reassuring is the statement by Professor Leonard Hill, made at a sanitary inspectors' conference in England. Professor Hill is one of the Empire's most distinguished physiologists, and is director of the National Institute of

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Medical Research. He referred to the existence of a bacillus which has been known to scientists for some time; which can be dissipated over wide areas as a white powder from aeroplanes, and of such high toxic power that there is no means of immunisation.

For obvious reasons, he refrained from giving further particulars regarding its discovery and preparation. "My real object in mentioning it," he said, by way of further amplification, "was to show that such a toxin might be scattered by aeroplanes over wide areas with a deadly effect on millions, causing a lingering death lasting three days. It is scarcely worth while continuing to build armaments in these circumstances."

If this is so, the front line will be the safest place in future war; and those who make them will incur deadlier risks than those who fight them.

But this brings us back to the original question. Is all this scientific progress such an advantage after all? Men like Professor Hill naturally refrain from broadcasting the full particulars of a discovery that can be made so deleterious. But what of the criminal lunatic? Some of the world's most dangerous criminals have been men distinguished in the world of science. Already in America and elsewhere, criminals have been shown to use tear gas and other products of the laboratory in carrying out their nefarious schemes. Imagine such a toxin as that mentioned by Professor Hill in the hands of the saintly communist. Gas warfare may be made more humane than high explosives, as Dr. Maguire points out, but only on the assumption that the other fellow is going to "play fair" too. There is neither humanity nor chivalry in the promiscuous spreading of deleterious toxins, and the possibility of their use by a criminal pervest for the perpetration of crime is too horrible for thought. We would suggest that those ladies and others who can never resist an opportunity of moaning in public about the horrors of war, should make some effort to mitigate this potential horror of peace.

**BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSOCIATION**

The British United Services Association intend to celebrate the Centenary Year by holding a Monster Re-Union and Smoke Social for all Imperial ex-service men, on Monday, October 7th, at 8 p.m., at the R.S.L. Headquarters.

Colonel Collett writes to states that he will be along, and also Mr. C. P. Smith. Other prominent personalities in the Returned Soldier Movement are also lending a hand.

A good programme, good cheer, and good company. To all we say: "Come and bring a pal."

Accommodation is limited to 250, so those wishing to attend are advised to apply early for tickets, at 2/- each, from the Hon. Secretary, 229 Charles Street, North Perth.

**WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NOTES**

R.S.L. STATE EXECUTIVE

A United Auxiliary Meeting took place at the Soldiers' Institute on the 10th September. Perth, Victoria Park, Railway Workshops, West Leederville, Subiaco, Kelmscott, West Swan, Fremantle, and Bayswater Auxiliaries were there in full numbers.

Approximately 90 cups and saucers were presented by the ladies for the use of any Auxiliary using the Soldiers' Institute for social functions.

Many subjects of interest were discussed. A letter was received from Queensland regarding a soldier at present an inmate of Wooroloo. This was read, and Mrs. Clarke (Perth) moved, and Mrs. Shand (Subiaco) seconded: That the letter be forwarded to Mrs. Dean, Secretary of the Wooroloo Comfort Fund.

The meeting closed with refreshments provided by the ladies.

Any digger visiting Wooroloo will oblige us by getting in touch with ex-soldier C. P. Worth, late of Konwala, North Queensland. Most of his friends reside in Queensland.

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Personal

Dear old "Margie" is always "true to his salt." Outside his newly-established and very active service station, at Hollywood, the lettering of his name is displayed in the colours of the old Sixteenth.

In Perth now, in his capacity of Judge’s Associate to Sir Adrian Knox, is Lieutenant Colonel "Dickie" Dowse, D.S.O., Colonel Dowse, who belongs to an old Queensland family, commenced his soldiering with the Queensland Mounted Infantry. He and General Chauvel were squadron-commanders together, and he first smelt powder chasing the elusive Boer. During our recent unpleasantness with Fritz, he officiated as A.O.M.G. with the sorely-strafed Fourth Division. There is an old Latin proverb: "Inter arma leges silent," but on his retirement from the permanent forces in 1922, "Dickie" Dowse turned honest and gave up soldiering to adopt the law as a profession.

Captain Bracegirdle, R.A.N., the Federal Treasurer of the League, who arrived here on the lawful occasions of the senior service, and who was a guest at last week’s Legacy Club Luncheon, is one of the foundation members of the Australian Navy. In his boyhood he lived at Balmain, one of Sydney’s waterfront suburbs, and the swimming and boating experience he gained there naturally gave him a naval bias. He was an officer of the old N.S.W. Naval Brigade, a voluntary organisation of the pre-compulsory days, which was recruited from ex-members of the Navy, the Mercantile Marine, and Sydney Harbour yachting men. During the Boxer Rising, Australia sent a naval contingent to China, and Captain Bracegirdle went with it as Paymaster-Lieutenant. After that he went to South Africa with a cavalry regiment. The long lean figure that filled his uniform in those days assimilated more nearly to the traditional Australian cavalryman than the squatty “rollinglick William” physique usually associated with His Majesty’s quarter-decks. Captain Bracegirdle went to Gallipoli in command of the Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train. This unit did the work of field engineers, and wore a similar uniform. Their shoulder patches were the red crown and anchor of the Navy on a navy-blue background. They were dubbed "crown and anchor kings," and as, in common with other engineer units, they wore spurs, the infantry used to call them "Nelson’s Light Horse." They were never reinforced, and most of the surviving personnel received commission with—the sappers. Another unique thing about the unit was this: Early in 1918, a research student at Horsemanure Road, discovered that they had not been attested. The surviving members were asked would they attest. They replied in that phrase made famous by George Bernard Shaw: "Not likely." However, contented with pulling the fetlocks of Horsemanure Road, they soldiered on, and gained well-merited promotions.

Mr. W. Marks, the Federal Member for Wentworth, whose defection at the last moment was largely responsible for the Government’s defeat on the amendment to the Marine Industries Bill, is an enthusiastic yachtsman. He served in the Great War as an officer of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He is a methodical and painstaking politician, though rather addicted to such fads as Armageddon prophecies and forecasts of the end of the world.

We extend hearty congratulations to Warrant-Officer W. Hackfath, D.C.M., of the Permanent Staff, the genial Area Officer at Subiaco, on his splendid achievement in winning the King’s Prize,—the rifleman’s blue ribbon—at the recent N.R.A. Meeting. W. O. Hackfath served in France with the 11th Battalion and the Anzac Railway Corps, where he gained the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and joined the permanent military forces after the war. He is a native of Goulburn, N.S.W., but has been in this State the greater part of his life. An excellent shot, especially when shooting under active service conditions, he has won the King’s Medal, awarded annually to the forces in each military district, three times. What is more, he knows how to win the confidence and respect of the human boy.

THE LATE DAN HUGHES, who passed away last month, from the effects of his war service.

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“SWAN” BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetising, Piquant
Digress should show personal preference by patronising the aerated water factory recently established in Perth by Captain A. H. O'Toole, formerly of the 1st South Lancashire Regiment. Captain O'Toole is of the old army, and has had a long and varied experience, including service on no less than four fronts during the Great War. In addition to the three war medals, he is entitled to wear the M.C., the Croix de Guerre, the Delhi Durbar, and the Afghan War medals. He was wounded at the Marne in 1914, landed from the Clyde with the Lancashire Fusiliers on Gallipoli, where he was wounded on the second day. His next experience of active service was in Mesopotamia, and he collected his third issue on the Tigris, in 1916. During 1917 he served in the Palestine Campaign, and was invalided to the depot of his regiment in India for a well-earned rest. He arrived there in time to take part in the Punjab Rising, and in the Afghan War of 1919. Mentioned in despatches and recommended for accelerated promotion, he held several staff appointments, and was a specialist in musketry, P.T. and bayonet fighting, and at the same time a boxer of no mean skill. Two decorations, three wounds, and service on four fronts constitute a war record of which any man might feel proud. Of the eleven men now employed by Captain O'Toole, six are returned men, and the remainder are sons of returned men. Digress should recollect this when ordering their sphyons for the summer.

Our congratulations to Captain Cecil L. McVilly, ex-amateur sculling champion, and the only Australian to win the Diamond Sculls at Henley, on being appointed to succeed Mr. R. J. Lowe as Inspector of Charities for the State of Victoria. Mac., who belongs to an old Tasmanian family, served with the 40th, the only complete battalion Tasmania sent to the war. Before receiving his new appointment, he was a member of the medical section of the Repatriation Department, in which capacity he recently visited Perth.

Local diggers will be pleased to learn that the genial Captain Dick Bond has transferred his business interests from Adelaide to Perth. Dick served with the R.G.A. during the Retreat from Mons, and was awarded the M.C. Last year, when the train left the rails and crashed into the E.S. & A. Bank, at the corner of Milligan Street, he stood at the rear door of the compartment and prevented the panic-stricken passengers from risking their lives and limbs by jumping off. His pal, Lyle Syme, was the young man who was so severely injured while endeavouring to apply the brakes. By their presence of mind they averted what might have been a terrible tragedy. Dick belongs to the honourable order of "Stout Fellahs," and we are glad that he has decided to reside here permanently. It's just another bond between the A.I.F. and the Good Old Contemporaries.

Captain Shephard was billed for a lecture in the Collie Theatre Royal, on September 16th, in aid of the funds of the Parkerville Home. As several Collie children are inmates of this home, the Collie Sub-Branch deputed Messrs. C. Hutton and S. Simpson to give all possible assistance in connection with the arrangements for the lecture.

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*The Listening Post* September 20, 1929
A. W. Senior, head teacher of the Collie State School, takes a lively interest in R.S.I. matters. An infantryman during the Great War, he gave the country the benefit of his experience when he came home, by continuing to serve as an officer of the Citizen Forces. While headmaster at Albany, he commanded the local company of garrison artillery, but rapid transfers compelled him to desert artillery for intelligence work.

Dr. Hugh Fowler, a distinguished graduate of our University, and formerly Captain Fowler, M.C., of the 44th Battalion, was recently appointed Assistant Principal of the Auckland Training College. Unlike a couple of his departmental heads, whom we could name, Hugh did not consider himself too important to take a sporting risk for his country, but set them an example by interrupting a brilliant academic career and getting into khaki.

The Railway Workshops Sub-Branch has received a letter from one of its members who was recently transferred to Kalgoorlie. The writer is very pleased with his new position, and is so grateful to the members of this Sub-Branch for the assistance they have given him in the past, that he does not intend to transfer his membership to Kalgoorlie. In thanking the R.S.I. generally for the good it has done, this member points out that there is someone at least who appreciates the work of the League, and he also recognises the fact that in the Workshops Sub-Branch there are officers, including Bill Lovell and Bob Gibson, and members worthy of a special mention for their own efforts.

Harry Birkin, of Kojonup (late 51st Battalion) would be glad to know the whereabouts of R. Ward, of the same battalion. Will anyone who can help Harry drop him a line? Sufficient address—Kojonup.

Dave Burton, the President of the Bayswater Sub-Branch, is the right man in the correct place. Commonly known as "Jock," he is the local butcher and served as C.Q.M.S. with the 11th Battalion, winning the Distinguished Conduct Medal. "Jock's" newly-appointed secretary of the sub-branch, R. B. Anderson, is also a live wire. "Longyu," as he is known, is the district area officer, and served abroad with the 7th Battalion (Victorian).

There will be many who will have learnt with feelings of utmost sorrow of the passing of Clif. Watkins, at the early age of 32 years. Clif entered Blackboy Hill towards the latter part of 1915, but, owing to his youthful age, was not permitted to embark for overseas service until the early part of 1917, when he left as a Lance Jack, in charge of a small reinforcement of eight 4th Division Signallers. He saw service in France and Belgium with the Wireless Section of the 4th Division Signallers, and was going strong when the Armistice was declared. Many will have happy recollections of Clif as the kettle-drummer of the Blackboy Hill band, which was the task allotted him during the greater part of the irksome period of waiting until he reached the age when he was permitted to go forth to the "Big Stoush." After discharge from the A.I.F., upon his return, Clif commenced in business on his own account, and built up a successful undertaking, trading as the Pyramid Agency Company. The war left its mark on him and some months ago his medical adviser sent him to Kalgoorlie, from where he was fated never to return. He was held in great esteem by all with whom he came in contact, and was a good loyal League member. He leaves a sorrowing wife and a small daughter, and the sympathy of all who knew Clif will go out to them.

The "Last Post" and the three volleys recently sounded over the grave of Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Bruggie, who died in Sydney recently. The late Colonel was, with the possible exception of Brigadier-General Godfrey Irving, the tallest man in the permanent forces. Enlisting in the Royal Australian Artillery, he was transferred to the Instructional Staff, where he was eventually promoted to commissioned rank. He served in South Africa, and went to the late war as a regimental officer. For some time he was A.Q.M.G. on Third Division, and at the end of the war he was Commandant at Horseferry Road. A capable, if somewhat harsh administrator, those who knew him well enough to see beneath the veneer of austerity, can testify to the kindly nature and the innate sense of justice it concealed. In his younger days he was esteemed one of the smartest instructors that ever trod the barrack square. After the war he specialised in "Q." work, and was A.Q.M.G. Ist Cavalry Division when death came as a relief from a long period of ill-health.

One by one those men who were big figures in the Army when we were younger, are fading from the scene. Cables announce the demise, in England, of Major-General Joseph Maria Gordon. The feminine part of the late General's Christian name was an heritage from his mother, who was a Spanish lady.

Originally a British regular, he graduated from Woolwich and was gazetted to the Royal Artillery. But his Spanish connections got him into trouble, for during the last Carlist rising, he went to Spain and fought for the Carlists in a British artillery jaillery. When the War Office, quite naturally, took notice of this escapade, the next step in his adventurous career led him to South Australia, where he joined the Mounted Police.

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While in South Australia, he helped to form the first Citizen Force Field Battery raised in that State, and eventually became an officer of the permanent forces. He saw service in South Africa, and from 1902 to 1905, was District Commandant in Victoria. From 1905 to 1912, he held a similar appointment in New South Wales, during which period he saw the transition from the old voluntary system to the system of universal training. He retired from the service on attaining the age limit, but at the outbreak of the Great War, he went to England and offered his services to the War Office. He was given command of the 52nd Reserve Brigade, and subsequently promoted to that of the 10th Reserve Division. In his younger days he was an expert swordsman, a crack boxer, and a superb horseman. Standing well over six feet in height, he was always a very soldierly figure, and those who served under him will remember him as a courteously gentle man, in whom were blended the old Highland courtesy, and the traditional Spanish chivalry. He was one of the men who made the A.I.F., possible.

Arthur Wheen, the translator of "All Quiet on the Western Front," hails from Roseville, one of Sydney’s waterside suburbs. He went away as a signaller with the 54th Battalion, and gained the Military Medal with two bars. Possibly he has often wished the added distinctions were called by some other name than "bars," for he neither drinks nor smokes. After the war he continued his varsity year, and was a winner of the coveted Rhodes Scholarship. He is now on the staff of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

The jokemith has been at it again. Wearing a vacuous grin, he invaded the editorial sanctum and enquired:

"If a C.B.C. boy was running away from school, what make of car would he use?"

"Dodge Brothers, of course," we replied, as we reached for the ebony rule.

O’Gorman, O’Grady, and O’Rourke, had been unlucky during the Goldfields Race Meeting. The horse they had backed "straight out" ran second, therefore, they had many unkind things to say about him.

"I don’t know why you are all growling," put in McPherson. "After all, Appian Way is a good Roman road."

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PERTH

"SWAN" BRAND SWEET MUSTARD PICKLES are worth having
the State Secretary left to return to Perth, whilst General Bessell-Browne conveyed Mr. Watt and myself to Bruce Rock, where we called on Mr. Burton, the local President, and thence went to Kondinin. We were met by Mr. Andrew and Mr. Young, President and Secretary respectively, together with a number of members, and provided with a much appreciated lunch. Afterwards we repaired to the public hall and discussed various matters with a larger gathering. We were given to understand that the pressing need of the settlers in the Kalgan part of this area, which is one of the biggest and richest in W.A., is the construction of the proposed Lake Grace-Kalgan Railway, and we were asked to urge the Government to proceed with

The whole tour was interesting and will, I hope, prove of considerable benefit. We are indebted to all the country members for their kindness to us, and I am particularly grateful to General Bessell-Browne for the help which his presence and personal efforts afforded.

---

Alhambra Bars

Basement Royal Arcade
Cr. Hay & Barrack Streets
PERTH
All Beer Direct from the Wood
M. De PIFERO, Proprietor

RETURNED SOLDIERS’ MONUMENTAL WORKS
Only Address:
KARRAKATTA (near Station)

Write or Ring FA832 and we will post Catalogue
We call by appointment.

When in town
Secure your fruit supply from

A “Jack” Michael

(Late 11th Bn.)
Barrow
In front of east end Boos Ltd.
Wellington Street

Extravagance.
Sammy’s wife rushed up to him one day and exclaimed, “Look, papa, Ikey’s cold is all better, and we still got a box of cough drops left!”
“Ow, not extravagance!” exclaimed Sammy, “Tell Abe to go out and get his feet wet!”

“SWAN” BRAND PURE MALT VINEGAR—Best Obtainable
# R.S.L. Sub-branch and Unit Association Directory

- **Note:** The State Executive have a circular to Sub-Branches and Unit Associations, inviting them to advertise in a Directory to be included in the Listening Post at a cost of £1 1s. per annum. The following is obviously far from complete.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President and Address</th>
<th>Secretary and Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALBANY</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. E. Potts, State School, Albany</td>
<td>F. W. Thorn, P.O. Box 60, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BASSENEAD</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bannister</td>
<td>1st Thursday other months</td>
<td>C. R. Gillett, Bannister</td>
<td>A. E. Murray, Stephen St., Bannister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUNBURY</strong></td>
<td>When and where called</td>
<td></td>
<td>R. B. Anderson, Bayswater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BAYSWATER</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall, Bayswater</td>
<td>Alt. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Burton, King William St., Bayswater</td>
<td>C. Francis, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLIE</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Hall</td>
<td>Tuesdays before pension day</td>
<td>H. May, Johnstone St., Collie</td>
<td>J. I. Williams, Collie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COWARAMUP</strong></td>
<td>Cowaramup State School</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>R. McKinnon, State School, Cowaramup</td>
<td>Cowaramup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DENMARK</strong></td>
<td>Institute, Denmark</td>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>H. J. Worsh, Denmark</td>
<td>J. Holm, Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GUILDFORD</strong></td>
<td>Council Chbrs., Guildford</td>
<td>1st Thursday, alt. months</td>
<td>N. Graham, commencing January</td>
<td>H. L. Kirke, 6th Avenue, Bassendean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geraldton</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>W. Macdonald, Geraldton</td>
<td>J. Dunn, Box 81, Geraldton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HERNE HILL</strong></td>
<td>Herne Hill Hall</td>
<td>Every 3rd Thursday from</td>
<td>J. Brindle, Herne Hill</td>
<td>F. C. Blake, Vine St., Herne Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KATANNING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>29th August, 1929</td>
<td>W. J. Cobb, Katanning</td>
<td>H. A. Filde, Katanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KARRIDALE AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>W. Flanagan, P.O., Karridale</td>
<td>Charles S. Smith, P.O., Karridale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KELMSCOtt</strong></td>
<td>Kelmscott and Roleystone,</td>
<td></td>
<td>R. G. McLean, Roleystone</td>
<td>E. Franklin, Roleystone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KELLERBERRIN AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>P.P.A. Room</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>G. L. Ogilvie, Kellerberrin</td>
<td>Geo. W. Mann, Kellerberrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KIMBERLEY</strong></td>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>J. V. Hay, Broome</td>
<td>H. E. Thurlke, Broome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KOJONUP</strong></td>
<td>Memorial Hall, Kojonep</td>
<td>4th Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>H. Roche, Mallingup</td>
<td>V. B. Sewell, Kojonep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KOORDA</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Room, Hotel</td>
<td>Friday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>W. C. Chappell, Koorda</td>
<td>L. J. Carter, Koorda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MERREDIN</strong></td>
<td>Road Board Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td>J. Kendall, Merredin</td>
<td>F. A. Law, Merredin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAKE GRACE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>J. Collinson, Lake Grace</td>
<td>H. H. Pelham, Lake Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAYLANDS</strong></td>
<td>Supper Room, Town Hall, Alt. Thursdays, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>L. G. Butcher, Maylands</td>
<td>W. J. Fairweather, Maylands</td>
<td>R. Waddington, 11 Morrison St., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIDLAND JUNCTION</strong></td>
<td>Town Hall Committee Rm, 1st Thursday</td>
<td>P. F. Jameson, Midland Junction</td>
<td>Edward Gray, 36 North St., Midland Junction</td>
<td>H. Parren, Midland Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MUNDARING AND DISTRICT</strong></td>
<td>Alt. Mundaring and Mt. Helena</td>
<td>3rd Thursday, 7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>T. A. Scott, Mundaring</td>
<td>L. G. R. Challen, 49 Fourth Ave., Mundaring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MOUNT LAWLEY</strong></td>
<td>Lyceum Theatre, Mt. Law-1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>S. J. Scott, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>W. A. Duffield, 59 Broadway, Mount Lawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEDLANDS</strong></td>
<td>Broadway Theatre (Lesier 2nd Tuesday)</td>
<td>Col. T. Flintoff,</td>
<td>A. J. White, Northampton</td>
<td>A. S. Pennington, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTHAMPTON</strong></td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>3rd Avenue, Mt. Lawley</td>
<td>W. L. Owen, Northampton</td>
<td>S. E. Pennington, Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOOMBLING</strong></td>
<td>Alt. Codjbatin and Wan-1st Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>A. S. Laney, South Wandering Rd, Pinjeb</td>
<td>C. Longmore, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Geo. S. Meller, Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERTH</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>C. P. Smith, C/O West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>I. T. Birtwistle, C/O The Western Mail, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESS</strong></td>
<td>At Luncheon</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday, noon</td>
<td>J. P. Smith, C/O West Australian, Perth</td>
<td>T. F. Birtwistle, Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PILBARA</strong></td>
<td>Port Hedland</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>R. A. Keeving, Port Hedland</td>
<td>A. E. Clarke, Port Hedland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAILWAY WORKSHOPS</strong></td>
<td>In the &quot;Mill&quot; at Work-Alt. Tuesday, 12:10 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Gibson, From 3rd September</td>
<td>E. M. H. Farquharson, S. Perth</td>
<td>W. J. Lovell, 98 Sixth Ave., Maylands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOUTH PERTH</strong></td>
<td>Masonic Hall, Cr. York and 3rd Monday</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. M. H. Farquharson, Forrest St., South Perth</td>
<td>J. H. Adam, 260 Goodwin St., S. Perth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WAROONA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V. Walker, Waroona</td>
<td>R. H. Roberts, Waroona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEST PERTH</strong></td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>Alt. Thursdays, 5 p.m.</td>
<td>H. S. W. Parker, Howard St., Perth</td>
<td>P. L. Ross, Workers' Homes Board, Perth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICE MEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Place of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS ASSN.</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When called</td>
<td>Reece Price</td>
<td>T. A. Burns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRITISH UNITED SERVICES ASSN.</td>
<td>Executive at 229 Charlotte St., 8 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Capt. E. W. Edmonds, 238 Railway Parade, West Leederville, North Perth.</td>
<td>Geo. E. Cattermole, 229 Charlotte St., North Perth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>Soldiers' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>When necessary</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. J. E. D. Dunkley, Mr. W. James, 86 Angove St., N. Perth</td>
<td>19 Marion St., Leederville.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX-SERVICE ASSN. OF SOLDIERS' Institute, Perth</td>
<td>1st Monday, 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Col. Lt.-Col. I. E. Dunkley, 1 to 2Lt. Lt. Col. I. E. Dunkley, 28th of month or 86 Angove St., nearest weekday thereof, North Perth.</td>
<td>A. D. McLennan, 40 Mabel St., N. Perth.</td>
<td>H. B. Kahan, 69 River St., S. Perth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINEERS AND ALIRED UNITS</td>
<td>Cabin Tea Rooms (opp. Monthly Luncheon, 1 to 2Lt. Col. I. E. Dunkley, p.m., 28th of month or 86 Angove St., nearest weekday thereof, North Perth.</td>
<td>General Meeting, October 22nd, 1929, Nedlands</td>
<td>V. Ketterer, C/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWELVE-EIGHTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Cabin Tea Rooms (opp. Monthly Luncheon, 1 to 2Lt.-Col. I. E. Dunkley, p.m., 28th of month or 86 Angove St., nearest weekday thereof, North Perth.</td>
<td>General Meeting, October 22nd, 1929, Nedlands</td>
<td>V. Ketterer, C/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIXTEENTH BATTALION ASSN.</td>
<td>Cabin Tea Rooms (opp. Monthly Luncheon, 1 to 2Lt.-Col. I. E. Dunkley, p.m., 28th of month or 86 Angove St., nearest weekday thereof, North Perth.</td>
<td>General Meeting, October 22nd, 1929, Nedlands</td>
<td>V. Ketterer, C/o Dept. of Repatriation, Perth.</td>
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</table>

Varia

"Johnny Turk": In reply to "Jacko," who claims in your last issue that the Turkish word "Anjac" means "right and fair," and not "almost," as stated in another newspaper, may I most respectfully make the assertion that either "Jacko" has not properly graduated in the intricacies of his own language, or the British Official Historian is wrong. On page 115, of the "History of the Great War—Military Operation, Gallipoli," it states that "Anjac" is Turkish for "almost."

The last monthly meeting of the Upper Swan Sub-Branch was held in the Herne Hill Memorial Hall, so that when the meeting was over, members could attend the Herne Hill Sub-Branch's annual smoke social. Mr. Minchin, who is extremely popular with both sub-branches, was the guest of the evening. Also present were Len. Thorn, who is a candidate in the next elections for the Toodyay seat, and Alf. Yeates, who is contesting Middle Swan.

Like the poor, the fatuous fellow who will persist in asking unnecessary questions is always with us. Last week's bad example to the young asked his fellow diggers, "Do you fellows know the schoolmaster at Mr. Barker?"

A South Perth digger, who is by way of being a bit of an Adonis, was being discussed at a flappers' afternoon tea party.

"He's a thrill," exclaimed one, enthusiastically.

"Yes," her friend replied, dreamily; "he's the answer to the Maiden's Prayer."

An English paper suggests that Einstein's hideous stone carvings, "Night" and "Day," outside a London underground railway station, should be renamed "The Morning after the Night Before."

The solitary Jewish resident of Aberdeen, whose father, we are informed, sent him there to acquire business experience, is sorely perplexed. He is wondering how he can resolve himself into a public meeting to protest against the Palestine atrocities.

The Barrage Rises.

We have just received the first number of a bright little magazine, The Barrage, which is the official organ of the South Perth Sub-Branch, and the first paper of this kind to be produced in this State. Incidentally, it has some very nice things to say about the Listening Post. We are referred to as "a valuable little paper," but later on we are promoted to the rank of "Big Brother." We quote a couple of sentences, the candour of which will, no doubt, appeal to business men over the river.

"Mention our paper when you purchase from advertisers. That will make them realise that their advertisements in our magazine are business propositions, and will enable us to put up the price of ads."

Messrs. H. K. Kahan and W. H. Jones are to be congratulated upon the quality and neatness of their publication. We wish them all success in a venture that other sub-branches would do well to imitate.

John Dixon struck a match to see if there was any petrol in his tank. There was. Aged 56.

Billiardists!

During Congress Visit the

BILLIARD PARLOURS
DE-LUXE
ELEVEN TABLES
Don MacNicol (late 11th Batt. A.I.F.)
and Bert Welsh (late 20th Batt. A.I.F.)
of Mt. Lawley, Licensees

Hay Street, Next Savoy Hotel

BILL HARRISON
A.T.C.

The Digger Pianist

Specialises in Soldier SMOKE SOCIALS

64 Bruce Street, Nedlands
Or care of Perth Sub-Branch Office

ANDY DAVIDSON
Tailor

BRENNAN'S ARCADE,
PERTH

High-Class Tailoring and Reasonable Prices

"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS are stocked by all leading Grocers.
The Dependability of the Tailoring makes this offer Unbeatable!

RETURNED SOLDIERS' CO-OP.

BE in this, Men! It's what you're looking for. Our huge purchase comprises picked suitings of finest quality:—WORSTEDS, TWEEDS, Pure Wool Indigo-dyed FINE TWILLS, CHEVIOTS, MELANGES in newest crisp tones and snappy Basket Weaves, Herringbones, etc.

MARK! These are HAND-FINISHED SUITS!—TAILORED-TO-ORDER MAGNIFICENTLY!

It's an Unusual Sale Offer for an Unusual Time!

8 Guinea Suits for £5 17 6

Tailored-to-Order

THE R.S.L. CO-OPERATIVE TRADING Co. Ltd.
570 HAY STREET and 425 WELLINGTON STREET

THE R.S.L. CO-OPERATIVE TRADING CO. LTD.
570 HAY STREET, PERTH and at 425 WELLINGTON STREET

“SWAN” BRAND PRODUCTS secured 1st Prize 1927 Royal Show
Bouquet for the League

Colonel Collett has received a letter from Mr. E. W. Edmonds, the President of the B.U.S.A., in which the writer expresses the satisfaction felt by himself and his organisation at the League's efforts on behalf of ex-Imperial soldiers "We know," writes Mr. Edmonds, "how difficult it is for the League to get satisfaction in all pension cases, &c., brought to them by us, but we also know that the League does not differentiate between the A.I.F. and ex-Imperial men in its endeavour to obtain justice," and goes on to say that British ex-service men have no intention of trying to make their organisation supplant the League. This, and the percentage of ex-Imperials in the League, should be sufficient answer to those irresponsible nonentities who have been making assertions to the contrary. Mr. Edmonds has neglected no opportunity of stressing this point at union reunions, smoke socials, and at gatherings of ex-Imperial men. "Personally, I feel," he continues, "that as we are making our homes here, and being absorbed into the community, surely it is our duty to help, by all means in our power, the work of building a nation, and what better way than standing by our wartime comrades, strengthening their hands by joining the League, which stands as an example of service to the whole of Australia."

Mr. Edmonds is very outspoken in his condemnation of the State Government's attitude in differentiating between A.I.F. and Imperial men on Anzac Day. Among other absurd anomalies, he points out, is the case of two brothers at present employed at Midland Junction. The elder, an ex-tommy, landed on Gallipoli, on April 21st, 1915. The younger, who soldiered with the A.I.F., was not on Gallipoli, yet the former is debarrred from joining his A.I.F. comrades on Anzac Day unless he sacrifices a day's pay.

Mr. Edmonds wishes us to inform readers that all A.I.F. men are invited to join in the parade on Mon's Sunday, which is now definitely fixed for the third Sunday in August. He concludes by thanking the President, the Executive and other officials of the R.S.L. for the unvarying interest and kindness shown to the British United Services Association, and assures us of the latter's loyal support in our efforts to live up to the high ideals of the League.

Casualties in the Australian Machine Gun Corps

1914-1928

(Compiled by Colonel H. B. Collett, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>With E.E.F.</th>
<th>With B.E.F.</th>
<th>In U.K.</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total D'ths</th>
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<td>O.</td>
<td>O. R.</td>
<td>O. R.</td>
<td>O. R.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st M.G. Battalion</td>
<td>64 1,042</td>
<td>96 1,194</td>
<td>96 1,194</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd M.G. Battalion</td>
<td>74 1,130</td>
<td>74 1,130</td>
<td>71 960</td>
<td>71 960</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd M.G. Battalion</td>
<td>66 1,058</td>
<td>66 1,058</td>
<td>66 1,058</td>
<td>273</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th M.G. Battalion</td>
<td>22 338</td>
<td>22 338</td>
<td>22 338</td>
<td>22 338</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th M.G. Battalion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66 1,058</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.G. Squadron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22 338</td>
<td>371 5,384</td>
<td>49 662</td>
<td>571 1,579</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note.—The M.G. Corps was not constituted until 1916. The casualties in the Gallipoli campaign are included with those of the Regiments or Battalions to which the M.G. Sections belonged.

The State President Visits the Eastern Goldfields

At the meeting of the State Executive held on September 4th, Colonel Collett, in commenting on his visit to the goldfields, stated:—

"Since the last meeting of the Executive I have had the privilege of visiting three important sub-branches of the League, namely, Southern Cross, on the 24th/25th August, and Kalgoorlie and Boulder on the 31st August and 1st September. On each occasion the benefit of the assistance of Mr. J. Cornell was much appreciated, as was also that of the assistant State Secretary on the second journey. Needless to say, we were most hospitably entertained and afforded opportunities of gaining useful knowledge of the people and the resources of the districts."

"At Southern Cross the roll shows a very satisfactory membership of '62. There is a spirit of optimism prevails as regards the future of agriculture in the area, which, to us, seemed to be justified, after we had been conducted over the Yilgara State Farm and inspected the interesting and valuable experiments being carried on. Mr. Keightley, the president, who is a veteran of two armies and two campaigns, and Mr. Penglase, the secretary, are keen enthusiasts, but, unfortunately for the sub-branch, the latter was transferred to Kalgoorlie on the day following our visit. Unemployment was not conspicuous amongst members and one or two personal cases of other disability requiring investigation are being dealt with by the State secretary."

"At Kalgoorlie, there had been arranged a joint re-union of both ex-service organisations of the eastern goldfields. This was presided over by Mr. Schroeder."

It's Here!

The New

SWAN LAGER

"SWAN" BRAND PRODUCTS secured 1st Prize 1927 Royal Show
PLAISTOWE'S
ALL BRITISH CHOCOLATE & NEW WORLD CHOCOLATE
THE CHOCOLATE THAT MEN LIKE

the president of the S.A. & I.V. Association. Little fault could be found with the attendance, although an outbreak of influenza kept many others away, including Mr. Col Edwards, the president of the Kalgoorlie sub-branch. It was an enjoyable function, and amongst the guests were the Mayor of Boulder, the President of the Legislative Council, and other Parliamentary representatives.

"I would like to compliment both Kalgoorlie and Boulder on the possession of capable and enthusiastic officers and for the great degree of self-reliance evinced in promoting the objects of the League and dealing with local and personal matters. It is a condition that might, with advantage, be more general in its application. I must also refer to the excellent state of the Institute at Kalgoorlie, and the wisdom with which it is administered."

A talk with the committees at both Kalgoorlie and Boulder elicited a request that more frequent visits be made by members of the Executive; that the books of sub-branches should occasionally be inspected, the general system, and reports made referred back to sub-branches for future guidance.

"A discussion of the alien question with the Boulder sub-branch, on Sunday morning, brought under review the Mines Regulation Bill, now before the State Parliament. The members were not prepared fully to endorse the measure, but unanimously resolved to re-affirm the desirability of preference to British subjects and to appeal on those lines to the patriotism and good sense of all employers of labour."

"I returned to Perth feeling grateful for the opportunities afforded by the tour and to our comrades who are doing so much for promoting our collective welfare."

Naval and Military Tournament

WEDNESDAY, 2nd OCTOBER

At the request of the Centenary Committee, a naval and military tournament is being held on Perth Oval on Wednesday, 2nd October.

The tournament will consist of unit displays, bringing prominently before the public the activities of each unit, while in addition there will be numerous competitive events, emphasising the more spectacular side of recreational training.

The personnel carrying out the work is being drawn from the Royal Australian Naval Reserve and the Citizen Forces and the greatest keenness and enthusiasm is being displayed in the desire to make the occasion a worthy event in the Centenary celebrations and to uphold the prestige of individual units.

The Royal Australian Naval Reserve are giving a display of curless drill, a sailors' hornpipe, and a naval field gun display. The Army are providing a musical ride by a troop of the 10th Light Horse Regiment, a musical ride by a battery of 3rd Field Brigade, and displays of assault bridging and signal communication by the 13th Field Company and 13th Mixed Brigade Signals. The infantry will give a display of ceremonial drill, concluding with the firing of a feu-dejoie.

Competitive events consist of tent pegging with sword and lance, mountedasked to pass the good word along.

Tenth Light Horse Association

The Annual Re-Union will be held at the Soldiers' Institute, on Tuesday, October 8th, at 8 p.m. This Association embraces in its membership all units which served on the Palestine front, including members of other light horse units, the Imperial Camel Corps, and the Machine Gun Squadrons, and all are invited and will be welcome.

There is always a wonderful spirit of good fellowship when the old Unit, with their cobber units, meet together, and this being the Centenary Year, a bumper house is expected.

If you want to know more about it, get in touch with Secretary Roy Perry, at the Reap., Arthur Sweetapple or Padre Tom Riley. The beer, the mungaree, the harmony, and the short speeches will be all of the best. The election of officers will also take place. It's going to be a night of nights, and all Old Boys of the Palestine front are

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"SWAN" BRAND MUSTARD PICKLES—Appetising, Piquant
Non-Combatants and League Membership

J.S.Y. has the final say. Before welcoming C.R.C. back into the Force we must take up his point of order, and refer it to you, Sir, Editor, as chairman. My sole reference to hitting below the belt was to compliment ourselves on its absence from our contest. This is another example of what I ceased as shavo-sparring, upper-cutting an argument that was not used, but which C.R.C. thanks I might have used, or he would have made a point to have used. The same label should be fastened to the mighty swipe at my narrative about the Red Cross. As an A.M.C. man, I was issued by the quartermaster with a Red Cross armband, and my instructions were to wear it specially when in action so that, whatever way the action went, it would indicate that I was legitimately engaged in my non-combatant occupation. So I can assure C.R.C. that the Red Cross did go into the forefront zone, and that front line, though that, for strategical reasons, was not its usual habitat. His implied definition of the forward zone seems a very limited one. Y.M.C.A. secretaries were attached to Brigade Headquarters, and Commissaries to Divisional Headquarters; and it is surely a quibble to suggest that any part of a division in the line was outside the forward zone. I don't know where official correspondents and artists were attached, but I do know at least one who was wounded, getting his information while an action was in progress.

His contention that he rests upon the letter and spirit of our Constitution, and his previous references to being in or out of the Corps Organisation marks him out as an old regular soldier. In imagination, I can see him as president of a court-martial, with myself arraigned for a breach of King's Regs. I know that I have produced the one perfect constitution of the world, requiring no amendment. Even the nation that "won the war" has got as far as an eighteenth amendment to its constitution.

Challenging the assumption that my case rests on exception only, and his on broad principles; I take his reference to "clink birds" in the sense of absolute shirkers and deserters. Even their most ardent upholder would admit that one per thousand enlisted men would not be an exaggerated estimate of their numbers. And that would mean between 200 and 300 of them eligible for membership of our organisation. Probably, the number of non-combatants whose case I rest upon, would be the most ardent supporters of our Constitution, is not in the least out of order. Re the hair-splitting argument of atestation, this is the constitution's and not mine, and I aim to have it removed. My point, which has escaped all C.R.C.'s swings is that these men were in fact, if not in name, real soldiers. And if I have understood aright our Executive's activities, "ethical" considerations have not been the least factor in their accomplishments for their less fortunate fellow-soldiers.

16th Battalion Association

The Annual Re-Union takes place at the Soldiers' Institute in Show Week, when many old comrades, who are down for the show, will meet and spin tales of old. Friday, October 11th, has been selected for the date.

The Annual General Meeting takes place at the Soldiers' Institute, on October 21st (Friday). A good muster is requested. Colonel Margolin will have some interesting news regarding the History of the Battalion.

32nd Battalion Association

The annual meeting will be held in the Soldiers' Institute, Perth, on Monday, October 14th, at 8 p.m., when the presence of a large number of members is expected. The election of officers will take place and Bob Alexander promises light refreshments.

The Centenary dinner of the W.A. Branch of the ex-Naval Men's Association will be held at the Returned Soldiers' Institute on October 4th. Captain G. L. Massey, R.N., of the H.M.A.S. "Canberra," will attend on behalf of Rear-Admiral Evans. He served with destroyers in the war, but the years of peace have filled out the contour lines and compelled him to take an outsize in cummerbunds. Still, it was hardly cricket for a local contemporary to refer to him as a "prominent naval man."

As a result of the Defence Department's retrenchments, H.M.A.S. "Penguin," formerly the "Encounter," which has been anchored in Sydney Harbour as the depot ship for the Garden Island Naval Base, for the past seven years, is to be broken up. She will be replaced by H.M.A.S. "Platypus," now the submarine base depot and repair ship, which will be renamed "Penguin." The "Encounter," a cruiser of 5,880 tons, was a gift from the Admiralty to the Commonwealth Government when the Royal Australian Navy was formed. In 1914, the "Encounter" formed part of the Naval and Military Expeditionary Force which captured German New Guinea. She was afterwards engaged in patrol work to protect the Pacific cable, and later in the war period made regular cruises round the Australian coast.

Last week a Southern European appeared before the Perth Police Court, and was sent to prison for molesting white women in William Street.

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"SWAN" BRAND PURE MALT VINEGAR—Best Obtainable
The Truth about the War

(Concluded)

What of Equipment?

But perhaps the criticism is not of our fighting. It may possibly be directed against the equipment with which we fought. After all, airplanes and tanks were of as vital importance as men toward the close of the war. What of the guns? Apart from the great naval guns mounted on railway trucks, and individual siege guns, the British at the time of the Armistice, after having lost thousands by shell fire during four years of war, had 6,993 guns of all calibres, from the 18-pounder to the 15-inch Howitzers, organised—in batteries, while, the Americans had 3,008. But that does not seem a very large proportion of guns from the greatest industrial nation in the world, with all the wealth at her command to embark on an almost limitless production of the sinews of war. But the interesting fact is not the number of guns as compared with the British. It is the fact that so few of those were American guns.

An authoritative work entitled "The American Army in the European Conflict," by Colonel de Chambrun, tells us that "Almost all artillery material and ammunition used by the Expeditionary Forces were procured in France, and, to a much smaller extent, in Great Britain. Only a few heavy guns and 109 seventy-five mm. were imported from the United States by November 11, 1918.

The argument is often advanced that the war did not last long enough for the United States to reach active production of raw material. Remember this that when the British declared war on August 4, 1914, their artillery consisted of 13-pounders, 18-pounders, 4.5-inch Howitzers and a few 60-pounders. They were faced with a much greater problem than the United States, because they had to make their plans for the production of new guns under the stress of supplying replacements for the guns they already had, a problem which the United States never was required to face. Yet it is only thirteen months after the declaration of war that one heard the deadly symphony of the British guns at Loos, announcing to Germany in ceaseless thunder that British workshops were behind British men. A year and a half after the declaration of war the American artillery men were equipped with a vast number of 28-inch, 92-inch, 12-inch and 15-inch Howitzers, production of all of which had been commenced after the war. A year and a half after the United States declared war the American army had received "only a few heavy guns and 109 seventy-five mm. of their own manufacture." If the British had been that slow in supplying their artillery with guns they would have been no second year of war.

What of the Air?

Since the first successful flights of the Wright brothers, Americans had been pioneers in flying. Here we might reasonably expect to find them pre-eminent. Several factors pointed to this being the branch of the service in which most might be expected to make a comparatively short time to build once the planes are determined, and they had a great number of skilled flyers. When the United States declared war they had the advantage of all the British and French designs being placed immediately at their disposal. Here at least the British had no advantage over the Americans, because during the war the last word in machine work was almost obsolete the next. Yet what do we find?

At the date of the Armistice the British had in action on the Western Front alone 1,758 battle planes and the Americans 740. But figures covering the period of American participation tell more of the story. Up to the date of the Armistice 6,364 airplanes were supplied to the American Expeditionary Force, half of which were instructional machines. Of these, 1,213 came from the United States, all the British De Haviland IV model, and the remainder were bought from France and Britain. 9 of these, 1,213 American-made machines only 628 ever reached the front. As opposed to that, the British had 22,000 of their own machines in use at the date of the Armistice. The first American-made machine ready for active service arrived at Col durante-les-Belles on July 14, 1918. Fifteen months after the United States declared war. The British had forty-eight machines at Mons fourteen days after they declared war.

The first American combat group appeared at the front in June of 1918. To this was transferred the famous Lafayette Escadrille, a squadron of Americans who had been distinguishing themselves with the French since before the United States declared war. The American Air Force during the whole war brought down 753 enemy planes. To compare with American participation, British airmen, on the Western Front alone, from June 1 to November 1, 1918, destroyed 1,837 enemy machines. In the year prior to that, from July, 1917, to June, 1918, the British brought down 4,102 enemy machines, or a total of 5,939 in a period commencing three months after they came into the war. During the whole war the British brought down considerably over 8,000 enemy planes, as compared with 753 by the Americans.

Photography was a vitally important part of the work of the observation units. It was dangerous work. It told the artillery where its targets lay, and provided maps of the enemy defensive systems. During the whole war American observation machines took 18,000 photographs. The British took 500,000. These figures only tell a small part of the story, but they show who did the fighting in the air.

Canada in the Air.

There was a particular interest in the record of the Royal Air Force. Thirteen thousand Canadians joined that branch of the service during the war and had a considerable share of the 50,000 victories fought by British and American airmen, General Seely said in the British House of Commons: "It is in a large measure due to the splendid quality of the man-power of the Empire, of which Canada supplied so large a proportion, that the Canadian became master of the air, and has raised her air-power to a higher pitch than any of our Allies.""
of the total loss of the Allies, the American, 3 per cent. The British Navy lost
163,000 tons to the total of 550,000 tons. All the other Allies combined lost
warships to the total of 253,000 tons and the United States lost none. The British Navy
escorted half, and British transports carried sixty per cent. of all American troops
who reached France.

We have heard much of the intensive American anti-submarine campaign, and
have read and seen many pictures of the work of her submarine chasers. Those
that got there did their work well. All credit to them. But it is well for us to
remember that in the protected waters there were £4,000 anti-submarine craft operating
day and night, and of these only 160 were American, or a total of 3 per cent.

The contribution of the American Navy was chiefly its work in escorting half of
the United States troops to France. It maintained destroyer flotillas in European
waters, which assisted in escorting the transports. They contributed sixty
hundred miles. It also contributed one squadron of battleships under the command of
Admiral Rodman to the Grand Fleet, but the Grand Fleet was never called upon to
sail. When the German fleet did not come to sea, as Jutland had finished the fighting
of the German surface ships once and for all.

Obviously, there is no comparison to be made. To answer the question of whether
any criticism can be made of the British Navy, a quotation from an article of
Admiral Sims, who had command of the American Naval Forces in European waters
during the war, will suffice: "Our right shoulder is a bit of all.

The Allied commerce would not have been the prey, not only of the submarines, which
would have operated with the utmost freedom, but of the German surface craft as well.

When every British food supplies would have been exhausted. There
would have been an early end to the soldiers
and munitions which Britain was constant-
yly sending to France. The United States
could have contributed to the Western Front, and the result would have been the
surrender which the Allies themselves, in the spring of 1917, regarded as a non remote
possibility. America would then have been an easy task to the German armies, for
and to face it long before we had an opportuni
ty to assemble our resources and equip
our armies. The world was preserved from all
these calamities because the destroyer and
the submarine chasers were the contributing
forces, and because back of these agencies of victory lay Admiral Beatty's
squadrans, holding at arm's length the German
surface ships while these comparatively
frail craft were savages the liberties of the
world.

At sea, as on land and in the air, a war
is won by fighting. The Grand Fleet which
achieved the most complete naval domina-
tion in all history, comprised, on the day
of the abject surrender of the German High
Seas Fleet, two hundred and eighty-two
warships of all sizes. Of these, five were
American, three French, and the rest were
British.

The facts and figures used are mostly from
the respectable official records, and all are
from authentic sources. On sea, on land, and in the air the story they tell is the
same. Without attempting to go into details, they show how a silly and empty
play on words is the statement by an American that "if either is to make a criticism
of the other as a result of the last War, it's one we are entitled to make it.

They show how equally silly and meaningless
is the claim 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."

All members of the British family will
ever forever thrall at the recognition of the epic
stand of "The Old Contemporaries" at Mons for forty-two days after the declaration
of war. They were but one hundred thousand,
it is true, but that was many times
more than the Americans had in action at the
time of their first battle at Chateau
Thierry, fourteen months after they de-
clared war. Whether we say that one thing
else how little confidence should be
inspired by such seemingly guileless assurances of good faith as the editorial
comment which introduced Grand Reilly's articles in the Cosmopolitan.

American achievement, in science, medi-
cine, commerce and the arts, to say nothing
of actual achievement in war, calls for our
unqualified admiration, and thinking people
have sent no forces with the utmost free-

The old man was sitting on the roof,
gazing placidly at the little rising waters.
"Washed all your fowls away?" asked
the man in the boat.
"Yes, but the ducks swam," smiled
the old man.
"Then up your plum trees."
"Don't mind it much. They said the crop
would be a failure."
"But the flood! It is up to your windows!
"Well, them windows needed washing,

"SWAN" BRAND PURE MALT VINEGAR—Best Obtainable
Sub-Branch Notes

MOUNT LAWLEY

The membership drive started some weeks ago by the President and Committee has met with very great success. About 30 new members have been enrolled, and as many more have promised to join.

On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., we were honoured by a visit from the late Mr. Bird of Subiaco, who delivered a most interesting address on "India and the British Empire," which was very heartily appreciated by all present. At the instance of Mr. A. N. McDonald, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Bird. Members will appreciate the fact that the lecturer has promised to visit us again at an early date.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 1st, when Colonel A. C. N. Olden, D.S.O., will give the second half of his lecture on "The Palestine Campaign." (Continued)

SOUTH PERTH

The social and dance held on the 3rd inst. was, despite the inclement weather, well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Misses Gillette and Wells, and Messrs. Philip and Perrin added much to the enjoyment with their songs, and a couple of games helped to make those present forget the wintry weather.

The President, Mr. Farquharson, took the opportunity of presenting to Mr. Philip a framed Certificate of Service, emphasising the fact that Mr. Philip had done yeoman work on behalf of the Sub-Branch in particular, and for the League in general. In a speech of thanks, the recipient told of some of the more important work which the League was done, and he stressed the importance of the R.S.I.

Assistant Secretary Jack O'Dea, and his fellow members on the Social Committee are to be congratulated upon the works they have carried out during the past month.

The September meeting held on the 16th inst. was well attended, and a lengthy agenda was discussed in a business-like manner. Conference items occupied a large portion of the evening, and the interest, displayed in many of the matters of the Congress Agenda testifies to the fact that the average digger is keenly alive to further the aims of our League. A matter which may prove to be of great importance to the Sub-Branch is the appointment of a committee to enquire into the question of securing our own premises. The membership of the body is daily growing, and the time is fast approaching when the accommodation of members at monthly meetings will present a problem. This committee feel somewhat proud of their own magazine, The Barrage, and they look forward to seeing it perform many useful acts to help the Sub-Branch and its aims.

President Farquharson, Col. Olden, and Padre Bell comprised the S.P. team for Congress, and Mr. H. S. Peirce will stand by as No. 4, in case his services are required. We know that they will do their best to add lustre to a notable gathering, and we know, too, that they will return from Congress with a stimulating report of the doings of that important body.

PERTH

At the last monthly meeting of the Perth Sub-Branch, the Secretary was instructed to send a copy of the following resolution to the bodies concerned, expressing the fact that the Sub-Branch is of the opinion that the Main Roads Board and other public bodies should have inserted in all contracts a stipulation that the contractor employs British subjects only, and that no work be done on behalf of the Sub-Branch in particular, and for the League in general. In a speech of thanks, the recipient told of some of the more important work which the League was done, and he stressed the importance of the R.S.I.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 21st July, 1929. The President reported the enrolment of fourteen new members, bringing the total membership to 52, but regretted the loss of nine members through removal from the district. During Christmas time, the Branch provided presents for the children of deceased soldiers in the district, which were much appreciated. The Branch held one dance at the Karridale Hall, which was well patronised, and resulted in a profit; and also a smoke social for ex-servicemen. Members of outlying districts were present at the latter function, including Mr. H. Morris, of the Busselton Sub-Branch. Further entertainments for the ensuing year were announced, including a masked ball for New Year's Eve at Karridale Hall. The attention of A.I.F. members of the Branch was drawn to the importance of keeping their medical history sheets up to date, by frequent examinations at medical boards, held in the district, and to the New Appeals Board now functioning in the State. Through the efforts of the Sub-Branch, a military headstone has been erected over the grave of Corp. J. Eddison, at the Karridale Cemetery. Various matters affecting members of the Branch have been dealt with satisfactorily, and members of outlying districts were present at the latter function, including Mr. H. Morris, of the Busselton Sub-Branch. Further entertainments for the ensuing year were announced, including a masked ball for New Year's Eve at Karridale Hall. The attention of A.I.F. members of the Branch was drawn to the importance of keeping their medical history sheets up to date, by frequent examinations at medical boards, held in the district, and to the New Appeals Board now functioning in the State.

COTTONSHEE BEACH

A General Meeting, held on the 28th ult., the following officers were elected to replace the 

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The Listening Post

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been sleeping so long, but we're getting more kick every day.

BUNBURY.

The Annual Dinner and Social, held on Friday, the 6th of September, took the form of a "Troopship Evening." Entrance to the hall was gained by a properly constructed gangway, and about 200 troops, in some strikingly original fancy dresses, clambered over it to the seating at the mess tables. Each table bore the name of some well-known troopship, and as the diggers sorted themselves out to their own boats, many wore the remnants of one-time shipmates.

The notable Jack Levy caused a sensation by arriving with an eighteen foot boat and a crew of six dressed in a way which would have made the old buccaneers green with envy.

President "Chet," E. Gillett occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings in the usual impressive League way, and after Doug Wallace had rendered the "Last Post," "Come to the Cook House Door" was sounded. Thereafter, mess orders were kept, busy until the tables presented a very ship-wrecked appearance. When a lengthy list of toasts had been honoured and responded to, troops moved to the upper deck, where, amidst harmony, chorus singing, and games, the fun was carried on in the good old way until "Lights out" was called.

At the conclusion of the evening, visitors and the representatives of other sub-branches unanimously expressed the opinion that it had been the most novel and enjoyable entertainment that it had ever been their lot to attend.

MUNDARING AND DISTRICT.

The Mundaring and Districts Sub-Branch held their initial entertainment in the Mr. Helens Hall, on Saturday, 7th September.

Nipper" Patten, the genial Secretary, had charge of the arrangements, and due to his untiring efforts and organizing ability the hall was crowded to the doors. Mr. Spencer Reynolds' Company provided the entertainment; one half of the proceeds was in aid of the Branch's Amelioration Fund.

The Mundaring Branch is perhaps one of the youngest in the R.S.L.; it was formed four months ago, and has a membership of sixty. Their next activity will be the Picture Night, next Friday, September 20th.

BAYSWATER.

The initial enthusiasm which was evinced at the formation of the Bayswater Sub-Branch is being fully maintained, and the whole-hearted support of its members augurs well for a wider field of usefulness. The membership has now reached a total of 63, all of whom are financial. The Ladies' Auxiliary, formed in connection with the local Branch, holds, we believe, the proud position of being the first in the State, its membership exceeding the century.

A programme of social activities has been arranged by a joint entertainment committee, formed from the R.S.L. and the Ladies' Auxiliary. The funds so raised will be used for the amelioration of camps within the district.

At the recent General Meeting of the Branch, Mr. W. Bengough, who, for the past four months, acted as secretary, tendered his resignation owing to pressure of private affairs. His resignation was accepted with regret, and Mr. R. Anderson was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. V. W. White, the local Headmaster, was appointed as assistant secretary. The number of the Committee was increased to include representatives from each ward in the Roads Board District, and Messrs. Kuser, Brown, Lenagan, and Ratcliffe were elected.

In conclusion, the Branch urges all returned soldiers in the district, not already associated with it, to become financial members of the League, and thus strengthen the hands of the Committee in the many actions it has taken on behalf of returned soldiers and their dependents in the district.

WAGIN.

The Wagin Town Hall presented a gay appearance on the night of August 27th, when over 100 people assembled for the R.S.L. Masked Ball.

Red, white, and blue streamers formed a colourful overhead decoration, while various flags draped their folds on the walls of the building. Mr. Noonan, Secretary, and Mr. Lloyd, Organiser, assisted by an able body of helpers, supported by a Ladies' Auxiliary Committee, of which Mrs. Wallard was the hard-working Secretary, and Mrs. Holland, President, were responsible for the evening's entertainment and (sumptuous) supper. Fancy costumes were in the minority, but the few were exceptionally well carried out and all worthy of mention. Mr. Harry O'Brien was a capable M.C., and things went without a hitch, despite the fact that during the morning, Secretary Noonan had nursed a very troubled mind for an hour or two—some trouble near a little matter of taxation, but a wire to Mr. Stubbs, M.L.A., brought forth an almost immediate reply denouncing "All's well!" Only one more confirmation of the fact that Mr. Stubbs has proved himself a "friend in need" to many.

Since last Anzac Day, when a meeting was held, and it was decided to reorganise, this Branch has increased from something like 4 or 5 to 45 members—almost unbelievable progress for such a short space of time.

PILBARRA.

The usual monthly meeting of the Pilbara Sub-Branch was held on Friday, the 16th August, the President, Mr. Ross A. Keesing, occupying the chair.

It was decided to forward one Guinea to the Listening Post, as per the terms of the State Secretary's circular, and at the same time to write the Editor expressing that the members of this Sub-Branch appreciated his action in carrying on for so long under the old adverse conditions. The Listening Post is most necessary to sub-branches situated so far away.

Messrs. Keesing and Watson reported having visited Marble Bar for the 10th Annual Ball held there—this function it due mainly to the hard work of Vice-President R. V. McCracken and his good wife, the latter being greatly assisted by Mesdames Good and Martin, and many other ladies, who sent along dainties for the tasty supper. The decorations, both for the hall and the supper room, were provided and erected by the Steenevillie diggers, and reflects great credit on their taste and hard work. A meeting of diggers was held on the 2nd instant, and later the Memorial Bed and Tablet to the memory of the late Captain D. McLeod, 12th Battalion, was unveiled and presented to the Marble Bar A.I.M. Hospital Committee by Captain W. J. Lynas, D.S.O., M.C. The Chairman of the Hospital Committee (Mr. W. H. Maher) thanked the donors, and Mr. Keesing thanked those who had assembled to do honour to their late...
The annual meeting of the sub-branch was held on Friday, August 21, Mr. T. G. Sounness presiding. Secretary Percy Gillam presented his seventh annual report. He remarked on the flourishing state of the sub-branch's finances and declared the fact that there were many eligibles in the State, particularly those in good positions, who were not members of the League. Much success was reported regarding pension claims, also in finding employment. Anzac Day proved that the people had not forgotten. Distinguished visitors had been entertained. Very little relief had been distributed, the calls being few owing to work and money being plentiful. The membership advanced eleven during the term. Mr. Gillam thanked members for all the assistance they had given him.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted: President: Mr. T. G. Sounness (re-elected); vice-president: Mr. F. Goundry; secretary and treasurer: Mr. F. Gillam (re-elected); auditors: Messrs. B. Hickling and H. V. Jenkins; committee: Messrs. McKenzie, Lefort, Clothier, J. Gorman; picture committee: Messrs. W. Millions, J. Pickles, H. Ortis, B. Hickling, F. Goundry, D. Lefort.

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comrade. Later, it is hoped to place a bed in the Port Hedland Hospital. The Souvenible diggers, strongly backed by the members of the 12th Battalion Association, are the mowers in a plan to present and endow the two beds, the members of the local Sub-Branch having been asked to co-operate and are working to assist in this worthy object.

On the motion of Messrs. Larmé and Gallop, it was decided to hold the next monthly meeting of the Sub-Branch at Marble Bar, on Saturday, the 28th of September.

Unfortunately, no pianist has yet come forward to take the place of Comrade Wild. However, the boys being in a good mood, many new and wonderful warts (wartime and otherwise) were told, and by the end of the evening, it was found that the crew of the "Frombisher" could sing their sea chantes as well without as with music, and they were instructed to get into practice for Marble Bar.

On Friday night, the 23rd August, the sub-Branch started the social events of Centenary Race Week with an Old-time Costume Centenary Ball. All present were unanimous in their praise of the function, and the galaxy of colours and various beautiful costumes, made a sight which could not have been excelled in any ballroom. The various singles, doubles, and sets of period costumes were carried off in perfect style by their wearers, and the damness of the ladies made one realise that the belles of olden days must have been equally as alluring as their modern prototypes. The ball was artistically decorated in a style never before used in Port Hedland, which was made possible through having electric light as a speciality of the scheme.

Music was beautifully and rhythmically supplied by a seven piece orchestra, which was led by Miss Doreen Crameri at the piano.

A dainty and well conceived supper was served during the evening, with members of the Sub-Branch acting as waiters, and thanks and credit are due to the wives of the returned men, who worked so hard in the preparation of the items, to see that the supper was as excellent as it was possible to produce.

The various members who worked in the decorations and other preparations and organising, had well earned a glowing tribute heard on all sides regarding the complete success of the ball.

Special thanks are due to the Presidents, Mr. R. A. Kening, for the general organisation of the whole scheme, Messrs. Woods, Larmé, and Nelligan; who ably acted as Social Committee; Mr. Clark, Secretary of the League; and Mr. Taplin, for arranging and supplying lighting effects to members of the orchestra, who, whilst others were enjoying themselves, worked so hard for the success of the ball, and to the ladies who worked so hard on the production of the costume.

The Ball opened with the Grand March, which showed to advantage the varied costumes, then followed a full programme of dances, which continued until 3.30 a.m., "and so to bed," as the immortal Samuel remarked, save some enthusiastic spirits, who remained festive until morning broke.

KOJONUP

The annual general meeting of the sub-branch was held on 23rd July, when thirty members were present. When one takes into consideration the fact that quite a few members have to travel big distances to attend, this number must be reckoned as very satisfactory indeed. It certainly goes to prove that the ex-service men of the district are taking a keen interest in the work of the League.

The retiring president, Mr. H. L. Roche, in his "swan song," stated that the membership of the sub-branch was on the increase. Last year the branch set out to get 100 members, and succeeded in ropes in 112. This year the figure of 120 had been set, and so far 121 have paid up. If eight more members can be obtained, the branch will have 100 per cent. members. Can we do it? We certainly have great hopes. Mr. Roche also touched on all the activities which have engaged the branch's attention during the past year and congratulated the members on their success. He also expressed his special thanks to those ladies who have assisted us with our social events. In conclusion he commended to all members the principle that our State President has so ably presented, namely, the necessity of the returned men of Australia taking more interest in the public affairs of the State and district.

The "swan song" of the president was referred to above, but the members decided that he should yet again "flute a wild carol ere he takes the flood," for he was re-elected to fill the position of president for the ensuing year. The election of officers resulted as follows: President: Mr. H. L. Roche; vice-presidents: Messrs. J. G. Finlay and R. H. Reid; secretary: Mr. W. B. Sewell; treasurer: Mr. J. E. H. Robinson; trustees: Messrs. J. G. Finlay and J. E. H. Robinson; committee: the executive officers, as shown above, with the addition of Messrs. M. U. Hubbe and A. E. Ousey.

Jack Finlay has handed over the reins of the secretarieship of the branch after having ably filled that position for some years. Jack is an enthusiast and it is largely due to his efforts that the sub-branch is in such a healthy condition.

**MOUNT BARKER**

The annual meeting of the sub-branch was held on Friday, August 21, Mr. T. G. Sounness presiding. Secretary Percy Gillam presented his seventh annual report. He remarked on the flourishing state of the sub-branch's finances and declared the fact that there were many eligibles in the State, particularly those in good positions, who were not members of the League. Much success was reported regarding pension claims, also in finding employment. Anzac Day proved that the people had not forgotten. Distinguished visitors had been entertained. Very little relief had been distributed, the calls being few owing to work and money being plentiful. The membership advanced eleven during the term. Mr. Gillam thanked members for all the assistance they had given him.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted. President: Mr. T. G. Sounness (re-elected); vice-president: Mr. F. Goundry; secretary and treasurer: Mr. F. Gillam (re-elected); auditors: Messrs. B. Hickling and H. V. Jenkins; committee: Messrs. McKenzie, Lefort, Clothier, J. Gorman; picture committee: Messrs. W. Millions, J. Pickles, H. Ortis, B. Hickling, F. Goundry, D. Lefort.

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