

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

CIRCULAR NEWSLETTER NO.8.

20th November, 1947.

Once again I take up the pen to give you the doings of the month of all the old gang. Life has settled back again after the hectic rush of the Annual Reunion last month. This letter will chronicle the meeting held on the 5th November, and some doings from the Eastern States, as I have been lucky and have received letters from both N.S.W. and Victoria.

Now for the last meeting. This was held as usual at Monash Club and a really good attendance of approx. 30 took part. Joe Burridge took the chair in the absence of Jack Denman, who was unavoidably detained until later in the evening. When Jack misses a meeting it is worth recording as he has not missed a previous meeting either general or committee. Quite a lot of the correspondence was read and enjoyed by all present. Much discussion was given to the matter of future work for the Association to do, as all present realised that for our Association to keep going properly we must have ideals to live up to. Numerous suggestions were put forward by those present and it is hoped that country members will send in any suggestions that may come into their heads. This matter is to be taken up again by the committee and further presented at the next monthly meeting.

Another matter which occupied the meeting was one of increasing membership to include all of the ex-members of the Unit. The financial membership has grown to almost a hundred but we are not yet satisfied and we are driving for a big increase on this figure. So boys if you have not sent in your five bob to make you financial for this year, please do so without delay. Ron Dook whose address is C/- Department of Labour and National Service, 9 Barrack Street, Perth, will be only too pleased to send you a receipt. Please do not think me a harpy for continuing to labour this point of subscriptions, but this is your way of showing us that you are behind us and our efforts on your behalf.

It is the intention of the Association to start Hospital visitations, to make certain that any of our members in Hollywood or other hospitals get regular visits from some of their mates. Would anybody who has the misfortune to have to go to hospital please try and inform either Mick Calcutt or myself as soon as possible. This way the visitors will be able to know immediately who to look for and where. Also if anybody is in a position to supply a few cigarettes or anything else which would be acceptable to inmates of hospital, please bring them along to the next meeting or send them in to me. The reason behind this is the fact that cigarettes are very hard to get in bulk, but it is possible to get them in small dribs and drabs here and there and thus it will be possible to supply the hospital visitors with a few packets to take along to any deserving cases in hospital.

Now for a few items from letters received during the month. Firstly a letter from Pottsy at Albany, who appears to be in good fettle. I will try and fix up the couple of matters for you Pottsy as soon as I can, but to date no luck. Another letter from Jim Waller at Wyalcatchem who is just married and feeling very happy. A nice long letter from Rod Dhu, who is with the Main Roads Board at Derby, says he is likely to be seeing Peter Campbell at Fitzroy Crossing before long. Teddy Monk was a visitor to Perth, Ted is now a Store-Keeper at Latham.

A letter from Dud Tapper's sister, giving news of Dudley who is now domiciled in South Australia and doing a Rehab. Course in Bricklaying and doing very well. It is good to receive news of the old gang who are no longer in W.A. A long letter from Doug Dixon of Bondi N.S.W., Doug has been playing good Rugby in N.S.W. and generally doing well for himself. He also gives news of a lot of the other "Cornstalks". Charlie Anderson is working on a trawler which works from Sydney. Curley O'Neil doing well on the "Daily Telegraph" staff. Jim Dent is in his father's Pub. Jim Cullen, Blue Jones and Keith Wilson are all in the farming business and here's hoping they have all the success in the world. Mick Devlin, Pat Costelloe and Bill Hoy all going well. Doug says the wharf job appears to be good for Paddy Kennally who is as big as a barn door. Drip and Drop Hilliard also going well. Sid McKinnley and Jack Wicks are both doing well in Sydney. Tommy O'Brien just became a Proud Father. That is about all from Doug Dixon.

Now for a cracker jack report from "Toby" Tobin who has been elected Secretary of the Victorian Branch and judging by this letter is going to be the right man in the right place. "Toby" gives the following information of the Annual meeting held in Melbourne on 30th October, '47. President "Darby" Munro, Vice President A. Grachan, Secretary H. Tobin, Treasurer J. Roberts. Committee R. Jacobs, W. Tucker, W. Rogers-Davidson, J. Wall, G. Kennedy and K. Monk. Auditors G. Kennedy and Max Davies. Am sorry to have to record that Ted Mulcahy is in hospital with a broken hip sustained playing football. The following Vic. members have recently been married, "Blue" Bene, Bill Tucker, Charlie Browne, Dan Thomas. The following have recently become fathers, Geo Kennedy, Sep Wilson, Alf Grachan, Campbell Rodd, Bob Jacobs and Jack Servante. The engagement of what was thought was an uncatchable bachelor in "Blue" Stanley has just been announced. "Toby" gives news of two additional members who have made the inter state grade at sport, namely Don Fryer who went to Adelaide with the R.S.L. Team and "Blue" Hollingsworth represented Queensland at Hobart and was Kev. Currans opponent for a portion of the match !!! Sam Fullbrook who is studying art has been sighted by a few members. Reports say he has grown a beard and is living a typical Bohemian artist's life. Arthur Coats arrived back from Japan a few days before last Anzac Day and participated in the car-bashing and tea-sipping that day. We still hear occasionally from Mr. Baldwin back at Geelong Grammar School. Tuohy's Guest House at Hopburn Springs, is now regarded by most Melburnians as Victoria's premier tourist resort. Norm Tillett keeps in touch and would particularly like the addresses of members likely to depart this life in the near future. Monumental business is apparently good.

All Victorian Members send greetings and Salutations, Cheers and Beers to all Western Australian Members.

Well that is about all the scandal I can scrounge for this time chaps. Please don't forget that monthly meeting at Monash Club on 3rd December. Roll up and be in the swim with the old gang. Don't forget those subs, you who have forgotten up till now, and finally don't forget to continue to write in your items of interest, as I can then pass them on per medium of the circular and give all your mates a chance to hear of you.

Charlie,

(C.D. DOIG).  
HON. EDITOR.