

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

NEWSLETTER NO. 12.

5th March, 1948.

Well chaps your old lug pounder is back on the job again, after a month's spell. Firstly let me thank Joe Burridge for his very able effort last month. It must be a break for you chaps to get an effort like that after reading my epistles month after month.

As you will see by the number of this letter we have reached something in the way of a First Anniversary in Circulars. I think you will all agree with me that these communications have added considerably to the progress of your association. Since the first letter went out, financial membership has quadrupled itself, and attendance at meetings has considerably improved. Also the general news concerning the various members has increased tremendously.

Whether these letters remain as an active part of the Associations doings is wholly in your hands, as it is only by your cooperation that, whoever is Editor can get together the necessary information to make a newsletter a worth while effort. So Lads, don't be afraid to write in all the news from your area or give me a ring if you should receive any news you think would be of general interest to all members.

As usual the monthly meeting was held at Monash Club on 3rd March. As yet the committee have been unable to obtain new premises in which to conduct our meetings. So the battle of the dance band is still on. Quite a good roll up once again, and I think all who attended had a very enjoyable evening. There was a vast quantity of correspondence to be dealt with. (I will give you more of the correspondence later). The counting of the votes registered for the Welfare Committee took place immediately prior to the opening of the meeting. The resultant Committee comprise J. Hare, R. Aitken, who have been elected for six years and T. Nisbet and C. Doig, who will spend a 3 year sojourn on this Committee.

The meeting also decided to have the rules as adopted by the various States printed and distributed to all members in time for the Annual General Meeting in June. The General Committee have been instructed to prepare a workable plan to allow Country Members a chance to nominate and vote for all Officers at the Annual General Meeting. I will give you details of the proposed plan in the Next Newsletter. Mr. Aitken gave notice of motion that he would move at the next meeting to have Minute No. 5 of 5th May 1947, suspended. This particular Minute restricts the tenure of office of any office bearer to two consecutive years.

An Officer of the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction has kindly offered to attend one of our meetings and put everybody wise to the facilities available to them under the Rehabilitation Plan. The ramifications of this Plan are many and varied, and members may be missing out on Rehabilitation Matters through lack of knowledge. We hope to have this Officer (Mr. Watts.) attend our April meeting so make a point of attending and hearing something of what is available to you under Rehabilitation.

Quite a few of the Country folk have been in town during the last month. Rip McMahan and Arthur Marshall both down for Country Week and reports to hand indicate that both did quite well. Rip looks in the pink, but afraid I did not run into the "Marsh". Bernie Langridge was down for the Farmers Union Conference, and looking very fit and opulent. Mal Herbert is down having a well earned spell at the Sea-side (Scarborough will find him).

It is with regret we have to report the death of Mr. Airey, Senior, father of our late member Don; our Sincere Condolences go out to the bereaved family.

The only bigh I can rake up is now a little on the ancient side. A bouncing girl to Merv and Mrs. Ryan in January. Afraid an eagle eyed search of the Hatch Column has failed to produce any further results, the effects of the atobring must be wearing off!!

Jack Denman tells me that on his visits to the Bush, he has run in with quite a few of the boys. He struck Roy Watson at Collic, but failed to find "Huddy". While at Albany met "Pottsy" who is going well. Jack says Merv. Cash is going along quite well on his farm. Jack looks like being a regular source of material for the newsletter.

Now for some of that Correspondence. A very long letter to hand from Dave Dexter, Dave has only recently returned from America, where he was one of the Australian Delegation to U.N.O. Apparently he liked all he saw of America, but was not impressed by the delegations from Latin America. Dave sends his best regards to all the gang. Alex Boast who is now in Victoria writes that he has settled down in a job there, and hopes soon to take a Rehabilitation Course in Wood-Machining. Dud Tappor writes from South Aust. where he says he is going well with his course in Brick-laying. Dud hopes to visit this State in the near future. A letter from Tony Bowers at Kojonup, Tony has had another bout of the wog, but is feeling extra fit again now. Alf Hillman writes from Broomhill to inform me that my report of his wedding was a trifle premature as he intends to leap the Broomstick on 10th March 1948. Sorry Alf, if we arranged the nuptial bed a little earlier, but my informant usually most reliable apparently got his dates mixed up. Bill Rowan-Robinson, also among my correspondence this month. Bill has now taken up his own place at Bridgetown. He is still toiling solidly for the Local R.S.L. A note from Bert Tobin, Victorian Secretary. Toby tells me he is to take over a new job as Accountant to the Victorian Masonic Club, congrats Toby! Lew Marchant who is Secretary of the Combined Commando Association in South Aust. sent along some circulars also an invitation to any of the gang who may be in South Aust. to go to the Annual Smoko on Anzac Day. A long letter and circular from Jack Hartley in N.S.W. but am afraid space will not permit me to make comment this month, so I will give you N.S.W. doings next month.

Now lads, about that SWEEP sheet, must be in my hands by 18th March, so as to complete the draw and be able to advise country members in time before the Sydney Cup. So get stuck into your mates and fill up your sheets before that date and whiz them back to me pronto. We want to make this sweep the best ever.

The next meeting will be held at Monash Club, on 7th April 1948, so be in the swim with your mates for a really good evening.

Cheerio for now,

(C.D. DOIG.)
Hon. Editor.