



No. 19.

15th October, 1948.

There seems to be so much news for this letter that I am in a quandry what to include and what to leave out. Correspondence for the month has been particularly heavy, for which I duly thank you, and of course the Annual Re-union has taken place and there is quite a bit to tell in regard to that event.

Without further ado I will proceed to give you my impressions of the Re-union. As you are aware, this was held on the 5th October, in the Victoria Park Town Hall. The attendance was a little below previous years and I am afraid I just cannot account for this, as at least a dozen country members made the trip down to be in the "swim", so, therefore, the blame for the smaller attendance must be given to the metropolitan members. The catering, which was carried out by Keoghs, was excellent, and an abundance of food was to be had by all. The tasteful arrangement of the tables left nothing to be desired. Of course, there was oceans of beer and it took the mob until 3 a.m. and a visit to the Esplanade, to finally finish off the last keg.

Our guests for the evening included Mr. Dave Ross, who you will remember was Consul in Dilli; Mr. Alan Bennett and Mr. Roy Helgar, who commanded the "Kuru" which used to supply us while in Timor. Also, Mr. Les. Dingle and Mr. "Billy" Hughes, who represented the 2/16th Battalion Association. All voted it an excellent evening and wish to thank the Association for their invitation to be present.

Toasts were cut to a bare minimum to allow those present to ear bash their mates as much as possible. However, I must make reference to the remarks made by our worthy President, Jack Denman, in proposing the toast of "The Executive". Mr. Denman praised the efforts of all concerned with the running of the Association, and who have helped to bring it to its present high level of success. The President made special reference to the work of Mr. Alf. Walsh, who was mainly responsible for putting the accounts of the Association on a sound business footing, and who proved to be a tower of strength to the Secretary and Treasurer in all matters pertaining to the business side of the Association.

A Flashlight photo of those present was taken by Mr. Doug Burton just before the dinner started, and the copy is excellent. These may be obtained on application to Ron Dook, enclosing the sum of 3/-.

Another matter your Treasurer has asked me to mention is the matter of subscriptions to the Re-union. Apparently in the hurry and bustle of the evening, and of course as the night wore on, the liberal imbibing of grog, quite a few overlooked this little matter. If it applies to you, will you please send Ron Dook the necessary 10/- to allow him to finalise accounts for this function.

Noticed among the country visitors to this Re-union, were Stan Sadler and Jack Fowler from Wongan Hills, Bernie Langridge from Donnybrook, Bill Rowan-Robinson and Fred. Sparkman from Bridgetown, Ted. Loud from Pemberton, "Wendel Wilkie" from Konongorring, Don Turton from West Pingelly, Gordon Holmes from Cranbrook, and Geo. Timms from Katanning. Apologies from others are far too numerous to mention except to say thankyou for your good wishes.

Now, a note about that Melbourne Cup Sweep. Please make certain that all books used or unused, are in my hands before the 26th October, as we will be making the draw on the evening of that date and hope to get the result of the draw to all sellers before the Cup is run. I appeal to you to make every endeavour to make this sweep an outstanding financial success. If you still require extra books, make your application as soon as possible as we still have a few on hand.

Regarding the matter of blood transfusions, I hope all metropolitan members are going to the trouble to register and advise that we have made arrangements to have the actual bleeding done the first Tuesday in December (7th) at 6.30 p.m., which is just prior to our meeting to be held on that evening. This matter is one which deserves your support and I hope all will rally round and make it the success it deserves to be.

The little matter of Annual subscriptions crops up again, and as the year is getting on, you are requested to send yours to the Treasurer as soon as possible, that is, if you have not already done so.

As I remarked earlier, correspondence for the month was particularly heavy, and ranged practically from the four quarters of the globe. A most interesting letter from Peter Mantle from Bombay, India. My strife is to try and condense what Peter had to say into a few words, as his quite long letter is chock full of interest. Peter appears to be enjoying his sojourn in India, but says the cost of living is terrific. A peg of whiskey costs as much as three Rupees, and when you think that the average wage for a labourer is only two Rupees a day, that is pretty "Dork". He says that India has lots of holidays per year - Hindu, Parsee and ordinary Christian ones. He relates that recently they had a Coconut Holiday, when the pious cast coconuts into the sea as an offering, and the less pious swam out and recovered same and sold them all over again. Not a bad lurk says me. Peter paid a visit to a swank Club which costs \$100 to join. He reckons its a bit beyond his income, so he sticks to his own modest Club where, he says, the service is marvellous. Pete is infanticipating around Christmas and we wish him all he would wish himself for the happy event.

Another letter from Bert. Tobin, who has just resigned the Secretaryship in Victoria. Bert. tells me that Alf. Grachan is the new Secretary and Peter Krause the new President. We wish them all the success in the world.

Don Young writes that he would have liked to get to the Re-union, but had an appointment with a large number of cows and couldn't find a proxy. Jim Waller from Wyalkatchem, is another who would have liked to have been present at the "Do", but owing to seasonal conditions, couldn't make it. Jim Ritchie is now with a shearing team up North and is hopeful of getting the Learner's Stand and eventually turning into the "Ringer". Good luck Jim. "Wack" Crossing is another who is up North with a shearing team. "Wack" is in the gentlemen's game though - a trainee Woolclasser.

into his own home about Xmas time and we all wish him luck.

Last but not least, a long letter from Alby. Martin, who is now domiciled in South Australia. Alby. went firstly to Melbourne and then back to Adelaide. He struck Jack Sevante in Melbourne and had a good wongi over old times; also Bert. Tobin and Alf. Grachan, who I believe, is Secretary of the Association in Victoria now. Since being in South Australia, Alby. went down to Port Pirie to see Bob. Williamson and Jimmy Veal, and says after a weekend they had to pour him onto the train. Alby. finds he is living a very few doors from Dud. Tapper at Everard Park.

Well, enough for this month, and just a few gentle reminders. Your subs. are now due, so don't forget to pay them soon. Also that Annual Re-union on the 5th - be in it - and, lastly, the Red Cross Blood Donations. Fill those forms in and go along and be tested. So, 'au revoir' till next month.

( C. D. DOIG )  
HONORARY EDITOR.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL RE-UNION.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, it has been found necessary to alter the venue of the Annual Re-Union. Instead of being held at Monash Club, King Street, it will now be held in the Victoria Park Town Hall, Corner of Albany and Rushton Roads, Victoria Park, on Tuesday, 5th October, 1948.

Any No. 10 or 11 Tram will take members to the Victoria Park Town Hall, and if you have no transport of your own you are asked to catch one of these trams.

( C. D. DOIG )  
GENERAL SECRETARY.