

2/2 Commando Association

Circular News
Letter No. 41.

11th August, 1950.



EDITORIAL

Progress

Although our Association has made quite reasonable strides over the past four years, we cannot afford to sit back and say "We have hit an all time high that is good enough" we must press ever onwards.

The record of membership in our ranks is the envy of all other like organisations and generally the conduct of the affairs of the Association are remarked on in most glowing terms by outsiders. We have gone a long way toward our ultimate goal of the best organisation of its kind in Australia, but we cannot become blasé as the moment we stop going forward we start going backwards as such organisations as ours never remain static.

When Mr. Burrige was first elected President some fourteen months ago, he wrote an article for the Newsletter and in it quoted some methods for Killing an Association, members would do well to bear this brilliant piece of satire in mind when thinking in terms of their Association.

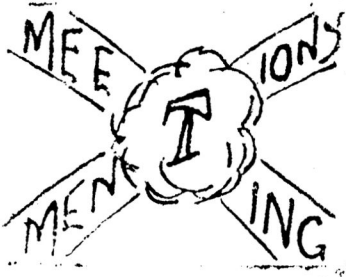
The Association only functions to promote the welfare of its members and once that object is lost sight of we might just as well pack up and call it a day.

Our catch cry must be "Onwards ever Onwards" or else it will not be long before we reach the end of the penny section and proceed to give up the ghost.

Members must give the Association their whole hearted support because in so doing, they are really assisting themselves and their mates and if we can weld a strong and virile organisation together and progress along the path to perfection, we will be doing the job we set out to do.

Your committee met on 18th July, and many matters of importance to the Association were dealt with including the conducting of our Annual Sweep. Tickets for this sweep are included in the newsletter. The sweep is to be drawn on 31st October and therefore all butts should be in my hands by the 27th October, to enable us to include all in the draw. It was also decided to organise a Working Bee or Working Bee's to Assist Charlie King to complete his house. The first of these was held on Sunday 30th July, and proved most successful the second will be held on the 13th August.





The usual monthly meeting was held at Monash Club on 1st August and an excellent roll up of over 25 took part. We were addressed by Mr. O'Connell of the S.R.D. on the formation and some of the exploits of that little known branch of the services during the war. This proved to be a most interesting lecture and held the interest of those present for a couple of hours.

The next meeting to be held on Tuesday September 5th is our second Annual Ladies Night and will be held at the Patch Theatre, Munster House, 357-365 Murray Street, Perth on the Second Floor. The evening is being arranged by Mr. Dave Ritchie and will take the form of two one act plays, plus a social and Dance. Supper will be served and the catering will be in the competent hands of Keogh's. This evening should be a really swell night out and will cost only 5/- for male members. I nearly forgot a little drop of the "doings" will be on hand to loosen up tongues and generally keep things on the move. So lads roll up in vast numbers and bring the wife or girl friend or your mother and have a really enjoyable evening.

Once again the Stork has not been very busy, but what was lacking in quantity was made up on quality as I have to record the birth of a 9lb.5oz. boy to Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Bingham, just after the publication of the last Newsletter. Congratulations Bing, on such a fine effort.

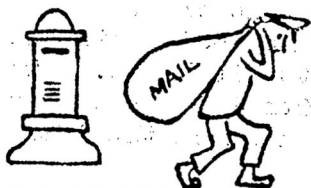


STORK
STAKES



Dave Ritchie is still hobbling around on crutches, but is having an Xray very shortly and should know the outcome of his indisposition quite soon. Dave has had a tough stroke of luck and we all hope his turn of good luck is not far around the corner. Ray Parry is OK again and his little accident does not seem to have upset his equilibrium to any degree. Gordon Holmes is out of hospital again and appears to have improved in health as result of his sojourn. Charlie King is now attending the Social Services Rehabilitation Centre at Melville and I believe going along well with his course.

Have had little news of sporting for some time and would appreciate any items you may have which would be of interest to the lads. Had news from Arthur Marshall of sport at Harvey where he and Peter Barden are currently playing football. Arthur had a marvelous season at Cricket last year, finished the year making 1340 runs at an average of 75 and took over a 100 wickets which you will agree is a bit tasty. Kevin Curran is back with Hawthorn again and that club did very well for a couple of matches being beaten by a couple of points only twice. We all hope that Kevin will see better things from Hawthorn next year.



CORRESPONDENCE
CHRONICLES

Had a few letters last month and it is heartening to get a bit of mail to answer. Stan King who is now at Pingaring (Lake Grace way), says the season has opened nicely out his way, but could do with a bit more rain right now to finish off the season well. Don Young is now on a station up Meekatharra way, Ethel Creek to be exact, giving away the Cow Cokie business for a while. "Robbie" Rowan-Robinson has written again to give me news of the Bridgetown area. Robbie is Vice President of the Local R.S.L. and owing to the indisposition of the President had to

give the Address on Anzac Day, says he managed to stagger through OK. Dick Darrington still pushing the dough around at the local Bakehouse and "Sparky" driving the locomotives from the local Railway Station. Sparky, also among my correspondents, says he is going along well except that the Stork is knocking on the front door, and the creditors on the back door, so the purse is a bit light. Have not heard of Tom Nisbet transferring to Bunbury, Sparky, he is currently holidaying with his wife at Albany. Geo Lewis, who is among the regulars, writes from Lake Grace to say he is doing alright has recently purchased an Austin Countryman, and feeling quite happy about it, Geo says, he saw Ken Mackintosh at Lake Grace recently and they had a natter over old times. As mentioned earlier, had a letter from Arthur Marshall to say he is carting stone for White Rock Quarries. Pleased to be able to give you some news of our Eastern States gang, but afraid you will have to go without this time Arthur, as no news to hand as yet from the East. If this should catch the eye of Jack Hartley, please suggest to Angus Evans in your next newsletter to write to "Marsh", Uduc Road, Harvey, as the "Marsh" is keen to hear of "Hagen" once again.

Peter Mantle writes once again from Bombay to give us a little local colour. Very pleased to get your letters Peter and pass on any of your comments to the gang. Newsletters, letters come out once a month Peter and if you can check up on your copies (I'm egotistical enough to think you might keep them) I will try and forward you any you might have missed. Peter says they are sweltering in the middle of the Monsoon and the laundry question becomes quite a problem as his "dhobi" who is supposed to call once every four days is inclined to come only once a fortnight. Peter mentioned a very interesting fact about only British people being able to spin a coin correctly, says he tried out his theory on a Frenchman friend who poo poed the idea, but when he tried to spin only could manage a floater, which would be barred in any "Sivy" school.

Subscriptions continue to roll in for the Jack O'Brien appeal and I would like to thank the following for their response. J. Fowler, C. Varian, R. Studdy, I. Goodall, J. Haire, A. Walsh, R. Burton, T. Crouch G. Pendergrast, J. Carey, P. Hancock, R. Dock, F.C. Sparkman, W. Rowan-Robinson, R. Harrington, H. Morgan, G. Boyland, W. Epps, J. Hasson, J. Burrige, G. Strickland T. Murray, F. Napier, D. Murray, D. Turton, G.R. Lewis, and A. Marshall. Further subscriptions will be welcomed and will be acknowledged in the next newsletter. This is a most worthy appeal and I hope as many as possible will respond.

Subscriptions are now well and truly due and if you glance at the foot of this letter you will notice your current financial status and therefore know if you are in our Debt.



That Ladies Night at Munster House, is going to be a beauty, be in it, with your womenfolk and have the time of your life, the date 5th September, 357-365 Murray Street, at 8.p.m.

By the time you read this you will have got your sweep tickets, try and sell them early, and avoid the spate of Melbourne Cup Sweeps which will be about later. If you require further books, just write in and ask and I will forward by return post. We ask you to make a real effort to sell as many as possible and put the Bank Balance where it belongs.

As some of our members are not too sure of the benefits which are obtained under Social Services, I have asked Geo Boyland to prepare a summary of benefits to which the community are entitled and here it is :-

Benefits payable by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services

1. Maternity Allowances: Payable to mothers to provide financial assistance towards the expenses associated with the birth of children.

Payments are as follows:

- (a) Where there are no other children - £15.
- (b) Where there are one or two children - £16.
- (c) Where there are three or more children £17.10.0.

For multiple births an additional £5 for each additional child is payable as follows :

- (a) Twins £20. £21. or £22/10/-
- (b) Triplets £25. £26. or £27/10/-

4.

An advance payment of £5 may be made, four weeks before the expected birth, on application.

Balance is payable immediately after the birth.

2. Child Endowment:

Payable to any resident of Australia who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years.

Payment as follows:

- (a) 5/- per week for the first child.
- (b) 10/- per week for each other child.

Payments are made at four weekly intervals by orders payable at a Bank or Post Office. Arrangements may be made to have the money credited to a Bank Account every 12 weeks.

Payment begins from the next four-weekly endowment period after a claimant becomes eligible provided a claim is lodged within 6 months of that date; otherwise payment is made from the commencement of the next four-weekly period after lodgment of claim.

3. Unemployment and Sickness Benefits:

Payments made to persons who, through unemployment, sickness or accident. Payments are available to eligible claimants in the case of men between the ages of 16 and 65 years and in the case of women between the ages of 16 and 60 years.

Rates of payment:

- (a) Unmarried claimants
 - 16 and under 17 years 15/- per week
 - 17 and under 18 years 15/- per week
 - 18 and under 21 years 21 years 20/- per week.
 - 21 years and over 25/- per week.
- (b) Married claimants 25/- per week plus an allowance of 20/- per week for a dependant spouse and 5/- per week for one child - Total 50/- per week.

Payments of these benefits are subject to a means test as to income, but not as to property.

Allowable income is as follows:

16 and under 17 years	5/- per week
17 and under 18 years	10/- per week
18 and under 21 years	15/- per week
21 years and over	20/- per week

Qualifications:

(1) Unemployment Benefit.

- (a) Must be unemployed and not due to being a direct participant in a strike.
- (b) Must be capable and willing to undertake suitable work.
- (c) Must have taken reasonable steps to obtain work.

(2) Sickness Benefits:

- (a) Must be temporarily incapacitated for work by reason of sickness or accident.
- (b) Has thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages or other income.

Persons in receipt of unemployment or sickness benefit may also be eligible for participation in the Rehabilitation Scheme and may be given treatment and vocational training at Commonwealth expense, provided that the disability is remediable and there are reasonable prospects of his engaging in a suitable vocation within two years after the commencement of treatment or training.

4. Widows Pensions:

Payable to Widows and other women as follows:

- (a) Class A A widow who has the care custody and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years. Maximum pension £2/7/6 per week.
- (b) Class B A widow, not less than 50 years of age who has no children under the age of 16 years in her custody, care and control. Maximum pension

£1/17/- per week.

(c) Class C. A widow, under 50 years of age in her custody, care and control, but who is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks after the death of her husband. Maximum pension £2/2/6 per week, payable for not more than 26 weeks immediately after death of husband.

(d) Class D A woman whose husband has been serving a term of imprisonment for at least six months, if she has the custody care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years, or if she is not less than 50 years of age. Maximum pension £1/17/- per week.

For the purposes of Widows Pensions the term "widow" includes, in appropriate cases, a deserted wife, a divorcee, a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane and certain dependant females specified under the Act. Widows Pensions are subject to a means test as to income and Property.

5. Age Pensions

Age Pensions are provided for women at 60 years of age and men at 65 years. There is a means test as to property and income.

A claimant must have resided in Australia for a continuous period of 20 years and must be a natural born or naturalised British subject.

Maximum pension payable is £110/10/- per annum. (£2/2/6 per week) payable fortnightly in cash at a Post Office or by cheque.

Invalid Pensions

Invalid Pensions are payable to persons aged 16 years or over, who are permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind.

There is a means test both as to Income and Property.

A person is deemed to be permanently incapacitated for work if the degree of his permanent incapacity is not less than 85%.

A claimant must have resided in Australia for a continuous period of 5 years and must have become permanently incapacitated while in Australia, but the latter condition may be waived if claimant has resided in Australia for a continuous period of 20 years.

Rates of payment are the same as for Age Pensions.

7. Wives Allowance:

An allowance, not exceeding £62/8/- per annum (£1/4/- per week) may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner if she is living with her husband and not receiving invalid or age pension in her own right. This allowance is also payable to the wife of an age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work.

An allowance of £23/8/- per annum (9/- per week) may be granted in addition to the above in respect to one child in her custody care and control.

8. Hospital Payments and T.B. Allowance

These payments are administered by the State Health department, for the Commonwealth.

The Admiral and the Bishop had both been blessed with a son and heir. They arrived simultaneously at the Maternity Hospital. The Admiral greeted his wife with a hearty Kiss, inspected his infant with pride, dashed back to his fleet and fired twenty one guns.

The Bishop kissed his wife on the forehead, gazed long and searchingly at his offspring, walked sedately back to his Cathedral and fired a Canon!!



You are financial to

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