

2/2

Commando Courier

(Registered at the G.P.O. Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical)

Vol.5. No. 53.

SEPTEMBER, 1951

Price: 1d.

EDITORIAL . . .

THE WIDOWS' MITE

Once again a beneficent Government has recognised the justice of a claim and has seen fit to accept claims from next of kin and estates of deceased members who served in Timor. The Act of Grace Payments already extended to living members can now be claimed by persons who stood to the deceased in relationship of parent, step-parent, foster-parent, wife or child or were actually dependent on the deceased at the time of his death or provided that in special cases in which in the opinion of the Minister the circumstances warrant payment.

All applications must be supported by a statement from a fellow member who was in Timor, confirming that the deceased member was put to expense either in cash or kind in maintaining himself or other members whilst in Timor.

This constitutes a complete and final victory in regard to the subsistence claims for service in Timor and despite anything you may have read elsewhere, has been won for members by your own organisation. Your committees in various States have continued the fight when the case was dropped by other organisations as impossible of success. As usual when a fight has been won they are the first to climb on the band waggon and shout that here is another win for their organisations, but such is definitely not the case. This victory belongs to the 2/2 Commando Association and no other.

Members now have a chance to make this victory final by supplying State secretaries with names and addresses of next of kin of deceased members and where necessary arranging for the necessary statements that are required to make the claim effective. Remember that this Act of Grace Payment is only for service after May, 1942, and members deceased before that date will not be eligible for payments. This is only a small duty that you can render to relatives of deceased members who were your friends and you should do all you can as quickly as possible.

Your Association can now close the book on claims for subsistence for service in Timor and do so with pride in a job well and nobly done. It only now remains for us to pursue the case for recognition of the grand service rendered to the Unit by native helpers and we will have finished the Timor Campaign with the honor with which we started the fight.

—C. D. DOIG.

West Australian Whisperings

Committee Comment

Your committee met on 18th September and once again many matters of interest to the Association in general were discussed.

A review of costings of the 'Courier' was given by the Editorial Sub Committee and shows that the overall price to the Association of the 'Courier' posted to members is now £9/3/9 per issue. This will be met by a pro rata levee on the three member States.

The programme of further meetings was reviewed and attempts made to bring to members the type of fare they require at meetings. More of this under Association Activities.

Complete arrangements were finalised for Ladies Night to be held on Tuesday, 2nd October, 1954. This will also be dealt with more fully under Association Activities.

The working bee which will be held at Kings Park was also discussed and the course of action for our area in the park laid down. By the time this 'Courier' reaches you this working bee will have been held and we hope to report in the next issue that the day was a great success.

The General Secretary reported more success in regard to obtaining names of Native Helpers in Timor. The response has livened considerably, but was still below the requirements that would make an adequate case for the Minister.

A reply from the Minister for Army granting our request that Act of Grace Payments be made to next of kin was received. This has been dealt with editorially.

Heard This?

"Does she stutter?"

"Does she! Why once she started to tell a new boy friend about her past and before she was finished he was part of it."

Association Activities

Mr. Alex Mackay who prosecuted right through the Japanese War Crimes addressed us at the September meeting and gave a most informed commentary on the various trials held in all parts of South East Asia.

Mr. Mackay cleared up many points which had been besetting us since these trials started and all in all members learned a lot from his address. We have to thank Alex for coming along to our meeting and adding to our knowledge of trials of war criminals.

The attendance was quite good and was added to by the committee of the Perth Sub-Branch R.S.L. who came along and heard what was to be said.

Now for that October meeting to take place on the 2nd October (Show Week). This will be in the form of a Ladies Night and will be held at the Crawley Bay Tea Rooms. A barbecue and dance are lined up for your entertainment and we hope to have some entertainers to make the night go with a will.

Anybody who has to use public transport to get there should catch a United Bus near the Technical College. The 201 route bus will drop you right at the door. These buses leave Perth at 7.30 p.m., 7.50 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. If you catch a trolley bus get off at the Crawley turn off and a short walk will get you to the tea rooms. Any of the other United Buses that go down Broadway are also O.K. if you get off at Myer Street and walk down to the river.

A small charge of 5/- per member will be made for the dance and refreshments are provided free. So boys, tee up the wife or girl friend and come along and enjoy a really good night.

There is to be a Working Bee at Kings Park on the 23rd but this

'Courier' will be too late as a reminder. We give you the "Good oil" on its success or otherwise next month.

November meeting to be held at Monash Club on the 6th (Melbourne Cup night) will be a Bucks night and you can bring along a male friend to partake of the Association's hospitality. We have arranged for Major Burnett of the Ghuka Rifles to give us a short talk on the guerrilla activities in Malaya.

Personalities

Heard from Ray Aitken this month from that outpost of the Empire, Nyabing. Ray says he is going along quite well and seems to have found his way onto the committee of everything and anything that goes on in that neck of the woods. He is on the R.S.L., School Bus, Agricultural Society, Pasture Improvement Committees and also Adult Leader of the Junior Farmers Club and as he puts it, the rest of the time is his own. He says the lack of picture shows and the long cold winters seems to have an uplifting effect on the juvenile population in his area, as school enrolment figures are growing alarmingly.

Neil Brady is doing a good job with his sweep tickets at Midland Junction selling them like wild fire. What is the formula Neil? I'll hand it on to some of the others. Neil has been off work on compensation for a while, but hopes to return to work again shortly.

Bert Burges writes from Broome hill to give me his doings for the past while. Bert has just erected a new shearing shed on his farm and is very proud of the result. He has also made himself a new departure in wool rolling tables. A rotary job that saves miles of walking in fleece skirting. He is anxious to contact any of the gang who are in the engineering line with a view to patenting the table and making it for sale. If anybody

is in the engineering business Bert's address is "Burlands", Broomehill. Thanks for the information of your Timor helpers, Bert.

Understand Merv Cash has given away dairy farming and is now conducting a restaurant at Augusta. We all wish you success in your new venture, Merv.

Mick Calcutt, among the city visitors to Kalgoorlie for the Rounds. Says he saw Ron Kirkwood who is in the pink. Jack Sheehan still interested in the "Game". Tony Davidson, as big as the side of a house and going strong in the vegetable business. Mick had a most enjoyable trip, but says no good financially, just couldn't find the winners.

Fred Griffiths has been down from his lead show in the Onslow area. He has returned there again and hopes to be down again at Xmas time. Fred reports excellent progress with the lead mine and says that the future is rosy.

For the first time for many moons had a letter from Gordon Hislop. Gordon is domiciled at Carnamah and says he is going well. He sent for several more books of tickets in the sweep which is a good thing. He wishes to be kindly remembered to all the gang.

Charlie King is no longer driving a lift at Boans, believe he is now working at a garage at Fremantle. Charlie's outstanding knowledge of motors should be a real asset to his new boss.

"Spriggy" McDonald, the latest of the gang to go into double harness was married on the 22nd September. Our congratulations, to you, "Spriggy".

Saw Jack Fowler the other day looking well and prosperous. He reports a good season at Wongan Hills, says the crops never looked better and a bumper lambing season topped things off nicely.

Joe Poynton is among those who requested further books of sweep tickets. Sales must be good at Woomera Rocket Range. Good luck to you, Joe.

* * * *

Gordon Rowley seen in town during the month. He looks very fit and says the dairying business is not too bad, but an increase in the price of butter fat would make it a lot better. Gordon was chasing a good used vehicle.

* * * *

Gerry McKenzie writes from Margaret River to say that he is a proud poppa once more. The family now three. Two boys and a girl (the latest). Gerry is rejoining the army he says to make certain that the increase remains as it is. He is going back as a skipper and hopes to be in the city for his medical any tick of the clock. Gerry reports seeing Bob Palmer shout ing his footy team to victory.

* * * *

George Smith was another caller this month. "Gordie" says the building trade is still going apace at Denmark and that Norm Thornton has more than enough work to keep him going. They have started on a big government project at Albany which will keep them busy for a long time to come.

Heard This?

An American soldier in Western Australia was giving some illustrations of the size of his country.

"You can board a train in Texas at dawn and 24 hours later you'll still be in Texas."

"Yes," said one of his listeners, "we have trains like that here too."

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS For All Business Men

1. Thou shalt not wait for something to turn up, but thou shalt pull off thy coat and go to work, that thou mayest prosper in thine affairs and make the word "Failure" spell "Success".

2. Thou shalt not be content to go about thy business looking like a bum (Anglise: A vagabond, tramp disreputable fellow), for thou shouldst know that the personal appearance is better than a letter of recommendation.

3. Thou shalt not try to make excuses, nor shalt thee say to those who chide thee, "I didn't think".

4. Thou shalt not wait to be told what thou shalt do, nor in what manner thou shalt do it, for thus may thy days be long in the job which fortune hath given thee.

5. Thou shalt not fail to maintain thine own integrity, nor shalt thou be guilty of anything that will lessen thy good respect for thyself.

6. Thou shalt not covet the other fellow's job, nor his salary, nor the position that he hath gained by his own hard labor.

7. Thou shalt not fail to live within thine income, nor shalt thou contract any debts when thou canst not see thy way clear to pay them.

8. Thou shalt not be afraid to blow thine own horn, for he who faileth to blow his own horn at the proper occasion findeth nobody standing ready to blow it for him.

9. Thou shalt not hesitate to say "no" when thou meanest "no", nor shalt thou fail to remember that there are times when it is unsafe to bind thyself by a hasty judgment.

10. Thou shalt give every man a square deal. This is the last word and great commandment, and there is no other like unto it. Upon this commandment hang all the law and profits of the business world.

LADIES' NIGHT

Crawley Bay Tea Rooms

Tuesday Next, Oct. 2nd

Victorian Vocal Venturings

News is nice and scarce this month boys. What about a visit to the inkwell lads, and give your poor old scribe a bit of a go? The head is getting balder monthly as I tear the hair madly in a frenzied effort to supply sufficient news for our corner of the 'Courier'.

Personalities

Harry Botterill is in his new home much to his delight. Harry was recently in Tasmania and met Vic Pacey and Joe Loveless. Both are reported to be very fit.

* * * *

Bernie Callnan is 100 per cent fit and is unopposed as president of the Association this year. Bernie has done a great job in the past and is really keen.

* * * *

Bruce McLaren is a prosperous owner of a Taxi Fleet and a most active member of the Association.

* * * *

Kevin Curran the proud father of a son and heir (his first child) born early this month—name, Desmond. It is rumored that Hawthorn have already signed him up to take Kev's place in the ruck. Congratulations Kevin from all the gang in Vic., and I know W.A. will re-echo my sentiments.

* * * *

Saw Darby Munro the other day and he is looking in the pink, but is an extremely busy man. Darb is one of the Association's greatest stalwarts.

* * * *

Ted (Hash) Jensen is on our mailing list, but nought has been seen of him or heard of him. Does anyone know if he is still in the land of the living?

* * * *

The Commando Association in Victoria is swiftly becoming a most active body and our branch of the

2/2 is represented by Arch Campbell as delegate. This Association comprises all Commando Squadrons and M and Z Force members, and its ideals are to do the best they can by all members.

Reminders

Your subs are always most welcome chaps, so bring them into me as soon as you can.

* * * *

Don't forget a few letters if only to tell me you are still alive. If you meet any of the gang grab a ball point and let me into what in the past has been a deep secret.

* * * *

Remember those addresses we published last month and asked for any comments upon same? Well, here they are again, as the result last time was definitely—Nil.

Here is a list of chaps whose addresses are doubtful: R. Adams, E. Bourke, A. G. Coats, R. Eastick, W. Eley, J. Fenwick, D. A. Fryer, W. Gilchrist, G. Humphrey, A. L. Mitchell, W. J. Mountford, E. Mulcahy, T. Paull, B. Smith, V. P. Wilby.

This list of those persons of whom no addresses are held. If anyone reading this can help with an address or two, I would be most obliged: Keith Beer, Fred Bryant, A. E. Elder, Sam Fulbrook, D. C. McCallum, J. McLaughlin, Chas Pickering, Tom Snowden, Gerry Touhy, Wally Wordie, "Sailor" Ward—passing any knowledge you may have on to Arch Campbell, 23 Hazel Street, Camberwell; Col Doig 9 Barrack Street, Perth.

That is the lot for this month, boys. Hope for a better result next month.

—Arch Campbell.

Random Harvest

A letter to hand from Peter Mantle who has now taken up his position in Canberra. He is bedded down at Hotel Kurrajong where all the M.P.'s hang out when the Talking Shop is in full blast. Says he will be kicked out when all the big wigs arrive.

Peter finds the weather in Canberra a bit of a shock to the system after Bombay's sticky heat. Sitting shivering in the office is quite a new experience.

The Mantles have been allotted a house in the Capital, with rent at 50/- a week which after all is quite reasonable. Now all they have to do is untangle their furniture from the red tape surrounding it and start housekeeping all over again.

Pete doesn't yet know if he is among the 10,000 due for the axe. But he didn't seem very worried.

"The Mantle" story for the month—

Father Bear: "Who's been drinking my beer?"

Mother Bear: "Who's been drinking my beer?"

Baby Bear: "Hic!"

* * *

The next on the Random list is Tony Adams who writes from Toowoomba, Queensland. Tony firstly congratulates us on the 'Courier' for which we are duly humble. He says he has but little news of any of the old gang, in his little grey home in the West. He included a cutting from the 'Telegraph' of a case—Taxation Department v. Chaplin Bros. (Remember Chappie, a smart lad with a rugger ball and also no mean exponent at Kick and Catch?) in which the latter were fined £17,000, a bit out of my line of income I'm afraid. Tony says the last time he saw Chappie in Brisbane he was taking delivery of a new Buick and arranging a new trainer for his gee-gees. Tony has just become the proud father of another boy. Two boys and a girl. Says the family is now **complete**, thank you! Toowoomba is a nice spot to do your toil in, he says, nice climate, population about

38,000 which is nice and big but breaks down the aloofness of the city. He has quite a nice big old home with large verandah space which is excellent for the kids on wet days. Gardening is among his many hobbies and he has quite a decent plot to garden. Still plays a bit of tennis and cricket, but has given away competitive stuff. He enjoyed seeing the French Rugby Tourists play at Toowoomba.

Apparently Toowoomba has a very good rugby team at the moment, probably the best for 25 years, he says.

Tony sends his regards to all the gang in WX land.

Heard This?

THE GUYS WHO RISE

I hate the guys
Who criticise
And minimise
The other guys
Who enterprise
Who enterprise
Has made them rise
Above the guys
Who criticise
And minimise
The other guys!

* * *

EXIT OMNES

Stranger, pause and shed a tear;
Willie Mug lies buried here.

Only just a yard away
Lies his sweetheart, Dilly May.
Every Sunday they would dine,
Then go cycling—wet or fine.

Dilly clinging to his waist,
Willie raced and raced, and raced
Till one afternoon (bad luck),
Willie hit a motor truck.

Stranger, if you **must** ride pillion
Watch or you'll be gone a million

* * *

Montmorency: Terribly sorry
you buried your wife yesterday.

Fauntleroy: Had to—dead, you
know.

New South Wales News

Remember the good old days when every so often your conscience used to remind you that it was time to write home to Mum, and you never seemed to have very much to write about, except interesting things which wouldn't get past the censor anyway? Judging from the dearth of correspondence this month I think a lot of you blokes must have taken a vow then that you were never going to write any more letters. For the past fortnight the thought has been nagging at me that I should be preparing the material for this month's 'Courier' and I've kept putting it off hoping for enough correspondence to work on, but this hasn't been my lucky month. How about giving your secretary a bit of a break boys—drop him a line once every three months—if every man did that there would be plenty of news and your secretary would lose his perpetual winge.

raised the sum of £8/6/9 which has been passed on to Jack. I'll be glad to relay any further donations which you chaps may like to make.

The matter of our affiliation with the 8th Division Council was also discussed and it was decided to ask the other States to make the affiliation an Australia wide one with the costs to be shared equally. In view of the fact that we were an original 8th Division Unit and that the Council agreed to assist us in our fight for our Timor subsistence money, we should continue to support them until they too have gained what they are seeking, just compensation for the terrible sufferings inflicted upon them while P's.O.W.

Arrangements were made for a cricket match against the personnel at Moorebank Camp on the 9th of September, but unfortunately the plans fell through and we are now trying to arrange it for the 7th of October.

GENERAL MEETING

The last general meeting was held at the Gallipoli Legion on the 24th of August and 19 members were present. They were: Alan Luby, Jim Ward, Frank O'Neill, Fred Stewart, Bunny Anderson, Sam Fullbrook, Ron Hilliard, Micky Mannix, Ray Cole, Ron McArthur, Bob Field, Johnny Rose, Ron Tregrove, Alan Cardy, Tommy Pulliene, Jim Hallinan, Les Collins, Bernie Weir and myself. It was decided after a great deal of discussion that a sub-committee of five be appointed to investigate the possibility of obtaining financial assistance for Jack Sipple from the Canteen Fund or the Legal Aid Bureau to help fight his damages case against the owner of the truck which smashed him up early last year. Failing the committee being able to obtain this assistance for him, a loan of £50 is to be granted to Jack by the Association to retain the services of a K.C. for him. An on the spot raffle of bottled beer and donations

Personalities

It was nice to see Bunny Anderson at the meeting; he has given the truck driving away and is now working in the dispensary at the Watsons Bay Hotel. Ron McArthur was another welcome newcomer, but unfortunately Ron had to leave early to get back to Concord R.G.H. where he has been incarcerated for a considerable period for treatment. Alan Cardy and Tommy Pulliene were also very welcome, particularly as they brought a nine along with them. Les Collins is another army type, enjoying life with the C.M.F. Remember the day you ran the gauntlet down that mountain track in New Guinea Twi, there were too many spiders in the bush.

* * * *

After the meeting closed Sammy Fullbrook invited all those who were game enough to go up to his

studio at 68 Abercombe Street, Chippendale, to finish off the keg. Johnny Rose, Curly O'Neil and I left there about 0100 hours, and the party was still going strong when we rang at 0200 hours.

* * * *

Curly O'Neil had a letter recently from a gent named Kenneally, address, England. Paddy worked his way over there from New Zealand and of course made a bee line for the Emerald Isle. According to his letter he has been all over it and enjoyed himself immensely, but he says the best place now is the Republic where the only laws are the Ten Commandments, and a man can drink, fight and sleep any time he likes and there is practically no crime to worry the friendly coppers. Paddy says he'll be back to see us some time and mean while sends regards to all the boys.

* * * *

Charlie Anderson is still going strong up in Korea and in his last letter to Curly said he was going on five days' leave to Japan.

* * * *

Jim Dent writes from Murrumburrah to say he's well and gradually building up the membership of his girls club. He has three now—will someone please send Jim the formula for boys. Jim saw Keith Waters from Wagga a few months ago and he was quite O.K. and doing well. Jim sends regards to all and invites anyone passing through Murrumburrah to call in at the Commercial. Thanks for the sub., Jim, and I'm glad you like the "Courier".

TIMOR SUBSISTENCE MONEY

The final round of the battle has gone our way, and the next of kin of our deceased members are to receive the same amount as we did if they apply for it. At the moment I haven't any official data about it, but no doubt Col Doig will deal with it thoroughly in his columns.

TIMOR FILM

We are endeavoring to obtain a copy of "Guerillas of Timor" and have hopes of getting it at a reasonable price through army channels.

TRADESMEN

Any of you chaps who are in business or do a bit on the side for yourselves are invited to send your names in to me, so any work wanted done by any member can be put your way and the benefit kept within the Association. For instance, if anyone wants a plumber see Jack Iles, a bricklayer Ron Trengove, a painter Fred Ottway, ready cut homes Johnny Rose, light fittings Bill Coker, and so on.

Reminders

1. Subs:—

If you haven't sent yours in do so as soon as you can and do your bit to keep the Association financial.

2. Creados:—

Remember the debt of gratitude we owe to those boys who stuck by us when things were pretty grim. Send their names and village names or area in to Col Doig or me and help to build up a case to induce the Government to reimburse them for their loyal service.

Cheers. Jack Hartley.

Heard This?

Holly: The girl I'm married to has a twin sister.

Dolly: Gosh! How do you tell them apart?

Holly: I don't try. It's up to the other one to look out for herself.

(Printed for the publisher by "The Swan Express", 10 Helena Street, Midland Junction, W.A.)