



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## *Editorial*

### **THE SPIRIT OF ANZAC**

ANZAC—Just one of those built up words that seem to be coined by the hundred in times of war, but to those people dwelling under the Southern Cross, what a word! It embodies everything that means anything to us. It is the word that means nationhood to Australia. The coining of the word Anzac meant a change from being just a place in the Antipodes to being a telling force in the Councils of the World.

Australia entered World War I. as a small people on the side of right, helping the British Empire in its struggle for existence, and emerged a fully fledged power in world affairs. The inimitable William Morris Hughes was able to proudly say when twitted by President Wilson of the U.S.A., at the Peace Conference that followed World War I, "I speak for the Australian Nation and sixty thousand dead. Can Mr. President say the same?"

We, in a short space of time had arrived and were slated for greatness. Progress was rapid and the foundation of Nationhood was well and truly laid. The period between wars and during the last Great War saw the Spirit of Anzac carried to even greater heights.

But we seem to have fritted away the chance of even greater national development in the post war years by our inability to seize the marvellous chance to build and expand as never before. We seem to have fallen into a National sloth in which the individual, who after all is the small cog in the national machine, wants to leave everything to the other fellow or to the Government.

Let me put it to you fairly and squarely. Are you, as a citizen of Australia, doing all you might to carry on the Spirit of Anzac? Are you making sure that your job is well and truly done? Are you producing all you possibly can in these times of shortages to help Australia seize the chance for great development? Now is the time for searching of conscience to make certain that the cause for National stagnation is not upon **your** shoulders.

The Spirit of Anzac must not be allowed to be just a ghost of the past, it must become a beacon for the future. What those brave men and women of the past have bequeathed us must be turned to great account in building for posterity. The heritage we leave to those who follow shall not be less than what has been passed on to us.

Your Nation and mine is calling to us for greater effort and greater production. Let us answer it in the Spirit of Anzac, let us throw off this sloth and go forward to undying fame as did those men of Gallipoli.

—C. D. DOIG.

# West Australian Whisperings

## Committee Comment



Your committee met for its usual monthly meeting on April 15. Attendance was below normal possibly because of the proximity of the Easter holidays.

The General Secretary reported having written to the Medals Section of the army for medals due to members resident in W.A. and that a reply had been received from the Department of Army to say that the entitlement of all personnel enumerated had been checked and that the list had been passed to the contractors for engraving and despatch to the individuals concerned. So boys if you should receive your War Medals in the near future you have to thank your Association for your good fortune. Should you be lucky enough to receive your medals before Anzac Day please wear them on parade.

For those members in other States who have not received their medals write to Medals Section, Victoria Barrack, Melbourne, giving your number, name and address, and you should receive them within the month.

Several suggestions for future meetings were brought forward including one from the President in which he suggested we try and arrange with the City of Perth Sub-Branch to use their miniature rifle range. A long list of speakers and also other attractions were formulated and these will be acted upon in the near future.

To date no reply has been received from the Military History Section in regard to our query re subsidisation of any efforts we may make in writing a Unit history. Until we receive a reply this matter is in abeyance.

The same applies to our efforts to get recognition for our native helpers in Timor. We are eagerly awaiting an answer from the Minister for Army on the matter and you will be advised in the 'Courier' of the outcome.

## Association Activities



A really splendid roll up to the April meeting heard a most interesting address by Mr Eric Harrod of his experiences in escaping from a P.O.W. camp in Italy. Mr. Harrod's talk was followed eagerly by all present and at question time he was inundated with questions which showed the intense interest of his audience. Our thanks to Mr. Eric Harrod for his kindness in coming along and giving us such an interesting evening.

For the May meeting (6th) we hope to be able to get a film on the last Davis Cup tennis matches for screening. This is a wonderful film of about one and a half hours' duration and is in W.A. by courtesy of Slazengers Ltd. Here is a chance for you sporting types to get a really good look at one of the world's sporting fixtures. It covers the interzone final between Sweden and U.S.A. and the challenge round between Australia and U.S.A. So boys, roll up and have a good evening.

Of course we will be parading on Anzac Day prior to the May meeting so try and make that Anzac Parade. A wreath will be laid at the Dawn Service by a member of the committee on behalf of the Association. The following timings will operate for the Anzac Day Parade: Markers at 9.45 a.m., Fall-in 10 a.m., March off 10.15 a.m. We fall in near Pier-st., directly behind the 10th Light Horse. After the Service on the Esplanade we will march off and return to the 16th Battalion Drill Hall via Government Gardens and Bazaar-ter. We have always managed a good representation in the past so please don't let us down this year. We will be hosts to any other Commando Squadron chaps who can make it so if you have any friends or contacts in other squadrons do the correct thing by them and bring them along.

*Heard This?*

"Yes," said Smith at the Anglers' Club, "Florida's the place for snakes, as I found out when I was in the States. Rattlers, copperheads, moccasins, pretty little coral snakes that are worse than any others. I remember one day when I was all set to start fishing near the Okefenokee when I discovered I'd forgotten the bait. I looked around—and there, behind a log, was a dirty, big poisonous copperhead with a fat worm in its mouth.

"I needed that worm so, before the snake could swallow it, I whipped out my flask of whisky and poured a few drops down the brute's throat. It must have burned—it was strong whisky—for the snake dropped the worm and vanished in quick time.

"I landed my fish—quite a big one, too—and was considering hunting up some more bait when I heard a slithering in the grass behind me. I swung round—and it was the snake back again. He had another worm in his mouth"

\* \* \* \*

An elderly plutocrat went to a rejuvenating expert and asked:

"Can you make me twenty-five again?"

"Yes," was the reply, "but it will cost you a thousand guineas."

"Can you make me eighteen?"

"Yes—but it will cost you £5,000."

"I'll have the operation for eighteen."

Six months later the expert called for his money—"Nothing doing," said the patient. "I'm under age, and if you say I'm not, I'll sue you for fraud."

\* \* \* \*

He: If you love me, why did you refuse me at first?

She: Just to see how you'd act.

He: But I might have rushed off without waiting for an explanation.

She: Hardly. The door was locked.

*Personalities*

Tony Bowers sighted in town during the month. Looks as big and prosperous as ever. Has just taken delivery of a new Morris 6 car and it looks very nice. Tony says the saw milling business is booming and he is trying to cash in on the boom. Good luck to you, Tony.

\* \* \*

Joe Poynton had the misfortune to have an accident with his car. Apparently some truck driver was keen to have the piece of road that Joe was using and promptly tipped him over. Joe was unhurt but the car was badly damaged. Better luck next time, Joe.

\* \* \*

Percy Hancock has traded jobs. He has left the men's wear department at Boans to become a civil servant with Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. as a clerk. Perc seems quite happy in his new environ.

\* \* \*

Another of the unlucky ones this month was Dick Crossing. Not to Dick himself but to his good wife who was doing a spot of honorary work for the Red Cross driving home a blood donor or something when somebody ran into her car. Mrs. Crossing was badly shocked but other than the shock was unhurt. We wish your good spouse a speedy recovery, Dick.

\* \* \*

Len Bagley was a most welcome attendant at our last meeting. Len's job with West Australian Newspapers does not allow him many nights on which he can attend functions.

\* \* \*

Another face we hadn't seen for some time was that of Harold Brooker. Brook, in his usual good spirits says he thoroughly enjoys his job as a keeper at the zoo. Most eager to learn all he can about an-

imals so if any of you readers have a good book on the subject Brook would be keen to get hold of it.

\* \* \* \*

Dave Ritchie and Fred Napier did a small tour of the south west during Easter and reported a good trip. Only one of the gang they met was Steve Rogers at Brunswick whom they report to be doing quite well as the local baker.

\* \* \* \*

Don Turton and his wife busy tripping in the Eastern States. Don intended to take in the Sydney Royal Easter Show and have a good look at the machinery. They also hoped to see Tony Adams at Too-woomba.

\* \* \* \*

Keith Hayes is another who has been on annual holidays. Believe he and his family have been trying to hook fish at Mandurah.

\* \* \* \*

Ron Dook has recommenced work at the Migrant Workers' Hostel after three weeks spent at Rottnest. Says the shoes were a bit hard to take after rushing around in the bare feet. He had hardly got back to work before there was an influx of a couple of hundred Italian migrants so he has been rushing round like the proverbial blue bottle fly.

\* \* \* \*

Mick Calcutt is complaining that the Horse Sports are not treating him as kindly of late—says the punters are shooting too straight altogether. Mick reckons it's a long lane with no pubs in it, so that his turn will come again.

\* \* \* \*

Saw Wilf March at the trots recently. Wilf is getting as big as a house but still as cheery as ever.

\* \* \* \*

Ray Parry has been posted to Dubbo, in N.S.W., to assist in the training of the 2nd Australian Battalion for Korea. He wasn't too happy at having to uproot himself again after settling down nicely in

the West. Anyhow, Ray, good luck to you at Dubbo.

\* \* \* \*

Our good friend Fred Gardiner has been tripping to the Eastern States with his brother-in-law, Mr. Hasson, brother of Jack. Believe they had a wonderful time but found the prices a bit steep.

\* \* \* \*

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of one Ivor Goodall please advise the editor as he is keen to get him back on the mailing list. Have not heard of Ivor since he left the police force to take up farming in the Great Southern area and his 'Courier' has been returned "address unknown".

\* \* \* \*

With the advent of winter sports the boys are starting to get ready to take part in their various sports. Bill Epps intends umpiring baseball again this year.

\* \* \* \*

Tom Nisbet was sighted the other day watching his old team, Wests, train, so it won't be long before they rope him back into harness.

\* \* \* \*

Ernie Bingham in town recently. He looks really fit. He is still off-siding to Don Turton at West Pingelly. Bing plays a bit of football down there I believe.

\* \* \* \*

What's happened to Ajax Harrison? Must have gone into smoke. Haven't seen hair or hide of him for an age. Come out of the seclusion, Ajax, before you turn hermit.

## *Heard This?*

Telephone Operator: I'm sorry, sir, but that number has been taken out.

Man: Oh, yes! Can you give me any information as to just who has been taking her out?

## Reminders



Don't forget the Anzac Day Parade, Friday, April 25. This is usually a most enjoyable day and there is no reason to suspect that this year's function will be any different.



The May meeting on the 6th should be full of interest with the showing of the Davis Cup film, so be in it and have a good evening.



With the financial year drawing to a close those in arrears with subscriptions are asked to make the effort to send on their 5/- and so save the treasurer compiling a long list of subs. in arrears for the balance sheet.



If you receive your War Medals do the right thing and wear them on Anzac Day. You should be proud of the fact that you are entitled to pin them up.



The Annual General Meeting will take place on June 3, so please mark this date prominently on your calender and make certain to attend. This is the most important business meeting of the Association each year and merits your attendance.



Remember those Olympic Games in Melbourne are only four years off and that the Victorian Branch has most kindly consented to act as hosts to anybody wishing to go to Melbourne and see this event. What about starting a saving's campaign to ensure that you will have enough money in hand to pay your fare and petty expenses. Ten shillings a week from now on until the games will give you over £100 which will go a long way towards giving you the grandest holiday of your life.



## Victorian Vocal Venturings

Afraid that great stalwart Arch Campbell has been forced by business reasons to relinquish the secretaryship of our Branch. We are the first to realise that the commitments of commencing a new business are terrific in the initial stage but we were most reluctant to lose the invaluable services of Arch to the Branch. Since he took over the secretary's job the Branch has progressed mightily. His vigor in pursuing an ideal and his ever-present smile and cheery manner have endeared itself to us all and we sincerely hope that his loss is only temporary and that in a year or so his services will be available to us once more.

I appeal to all members in Victoria to rally behind whoever is selected to fill Arch Campbell's position and make certain that his job is made a little less onerous. A letter or two to make the editing of 'Courier' notes would be very handy. Just a plain note to say how you are going, what you do for a living or if you have met any of the gang recently would be most appreciated.

Because some unit booked the Drill Hall 12 months in advance our usual haunt is out for our Anzac Re-union and we are again indebted to Bruce McLaren and his father for helping us out of a jam and making their storeroom available. This year it is hoped that all members will take part in the march. Assembly point will again be with the Seventh Division immediately behind 7th Div. Headquarters. After the march it is requested that everybody sticks close to President Bernie Callinan so that the Unit forms a compact body for the service. After the service we will adjourn to the store just off 470 Flinders Lane (in the lower basement of the Rialto Buildings) between William and King Streets for the Re-union. Note particularly that the store will not be unlocked until after the service at the Shrine, that is, about 5 o'clock. If you would like to bring a mate along he will be made very welcome.

A committee meeting held on April 8 gave indications that the present committee is going to be the most active yet. It was decided that another committee meeting would be held at Anzac House on May 6 following dinner together. At this next meeting an agenda of activities for the next 12 months will be finalised. With the Provident Fund and the entertainment of our guests for the Olympic Games in mind particularly, the need for strengthening the Association's finances was apparent and it was decided that a sweep would be conducted on the Melbourne Cup. Tickets for this are now being printed and members will hear further details in the near future. Present at the meeting was Des Williams representing our 2/1 associate members. Des brought new ideas to the fore and he is going to be a decided acquisition. —BERT TOBIN.

## Heard This?



A man who did odd jobs of hauling, used as motive power, a gigantic mule of great age, profound deliberation and undaunted stubbornness.

"What's the name of your mule?" someone asked him.

"Public Works," was the answer

"What on earth made you give him that name?"

"Well, I thought it was the best name for a mule like that. He can stand more abuses and go right on having his own way than any person you've ever seen."

\* \* \* \*

"Mandy what's that light shinin' in yo' eyes?"

"Dat's de stop light, Rastus, and yo' bettah absurv it."

\* \* \* \*

"For two pins I'd stop and kiss you," said the wolf.

"Here, take these," the girl replied, "my hair will come down anyway."

## New South Wales News

Had a most enjoyable evening last Thursday. After eight years I had the very great pleasure of renewing friendships with two old mates, Jim Dent and "Bulla" Tait. A little welcome committee of self, Curly O'Neill, Alan Luby, Ron Tren grove, Micky Mannix and Tom Martin, met the boys in Adams marble bar. Also favoring us with the pleasure of his company was Cliff Paff, a fairly frequent visitor to the big smoke, currently in town for the Show. Cliff is as big and prosperous looking as ever, and very fit despite his size. When I arrived at Adams and found the boys I looked around for a tall, slim country grown bloke to identify as Jimmy Dent, but no such type could I see. Then Alan pushed forward a big publican-cum-bookmaker, city slicker type wear-

ing horn-rimmed glasses and said, "Do you know this joker?" I made a long and careful scrutiny and admitted that I didn't. Who would associate this opulent, corpulent bespectacled gentleman with tall, slim, eagle eyed Jimmy Dent—but it was he, about fourteen stone of him. Jimmy tells me he has given the hotel business away for the more lucrative S.P. racket. He's reefing it off mug punters at Murrumburrah and Harden. Also was able to say "Pleased to meetcha" to Jimmy's charming wife, Jean, who has been in hospital here for a throat operation. The gang invaded her room at Adams after the marble bar closed and proceeded to fight the battles of the Ramu and jungle juices over again. One particular brew held such vivid

## Reminders



### Anzac Day

We've got three times our usual quota of beer this year, boys (three cheers for the liquor inquiry), so please make a supreme effort to be in on it. The usual place near the Conservatorium, or later at Alan Luby's place, 23 Palmerston Street, Kogarah. Those early enough in the city can assist me to place our wreath on the Cenotaph before eight o'clock.



### Subscriptions

Well, boys, you've been getting the 'Courier' for nigh on a year now and this Branch has not yet paid one penny towards its cost, which means of course that we are up for a full year's share of the costs. Thirty three pounds to be exact, much less than we used to spend on the newsletter, and you get three times as much news. NOW, how about hitting the kick for those ten bobs?

memories for Bulla Tait that he got the shudders all over again.

The old "Bulla" is much the same bloke I knew eight years ago, perhaps a little heavier, but still full of the old dry humor. Bulla lives at Ayre in Queensland and says this trip is a last fling before he goes over the high jump in December. Let's hope the fling is not going to last until December. Alan Soper also lives in Ayre, and Jim Footé in Proserpine.

Jim Dent brought news also of Keith Waters who is doing well with the P.M.G. Dept. in Wagga. Poor old Curly was in terrible trouble after the night out. Betty tells me they got locked out of the flat next day, but Curly saved the day—he still felt so small that he crawled in through the keyhole. Curly and Betty recently returned from a camping holiday up the north coast and report having seen Bob Smith at Kempsey.

A very welcome note to hand from Clive Downe. Clive says his family has grown to four now, three girls and a boy. He's been having a run of outs since Christmas—got mixed up in a car smash and was ill over the Xmas period. Now he has to send the family up to Queensland for winter for health reasons, and unfortunately will be away on Anzac Day but hopes to make the next meeting. Many thanks for the generous donation, Clive, and I'll let you know when the next meeting is on.

Only one new addition to the 2/2 Junior Brigade this month. A pink booty job to Bill and Coral Coker on March 20, Kim Frances, weight 7 lb. 12 ozs. Congratulations Bill and Coral and thanks for the nice little card.

—JACK HARTLEY.

## Heard This?

"How did nudist colonies originate?"

"Back in the old days a ship was wrecked in the Hawaiian Islands and two hula dancers started drawing straws for a sailor."

## Heard This?

Two men were flying west in a passenger plane, making the first air trip of their lives. The plane touched down at Canberra and a little red truck sped out to its side to refuel it. The plane landed again at Mildura and again a little red truck dashed up to it. The third stop was Adelaide and the same thing happened. The first of the two men looked at his watch and turned to his companion.

"The plane," he said, "makes wonderful time."

"Yes," said the other, "and that little red truck ain't doing so bad either."

\* \* \* \*

A commercial traveller was telling a chap in a country town that a big circus in the city had a parade, and that a lady rode a pure white horse dressed exactly the same as Lady Godiva.

"Go on," said the country chap, "do you mean to tell me that a lady dressed in nothing at all rides round on a pure white horse? By cripes, I'm catching the next train to town; I've not seen a white horse in years."

\* \* \* \*

He: I thought you said you were a good motorist! Why, only yesterday you ran into a cow!

Sweet Adeline: Well, my dear, the cow was on the wrong side of the road.

\* \* \* \*

A newly-wed filling out his income tax return listed a deduction for his wife. In the section marked, "Exemption claimed for children," he penned the notation: "Watch this space."

\* \* \* \*

One hitch hiker to the other: That's right, just sit there and let me work my finger to the bone.

She: I shall return everything you gave me.

He: Begin with the kisses.

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