



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## **TOLERANCE—THE HOPE OF MANKIND**

We read from time to time lengthy, well versed solutions of the multitudinous problems besetting the world today, generally written by men and women of great knowledge and worldly experience. But somehow nobody seems to pay much attention to the outpourings of these learned minds, and the world continues on its unhappy way, warring among its nations, whose peoples should have learned from centuries of bitter experience that might is not always right, and the so called winners inherit not new lands and vast amounts of worldly possessions, but millions of broken homes, crippled minds and bodies and untold and incalculable quantities of human misery and degradation.

In these enlightened (?) days of modern warfare we first begin to plaster hell out of our enemies, and then when we have laid waste to his homes, his factories and capital industries, starved and beaten his people into abject submission, our Christian principles come to the fore once again and we begin the stupendous task of rehabilitating ourselves and the vanquished ones too. We find that we have millions of homes to rebuild and countless numbers of starving orphans, widows and displaced persons to succour and care for until they are able again to fend for themselves. We also create costly and controversial organisations to devise ways and means to avert future such holocausts.

But will the dream of lasting peace on earth and goodwill to all men ever become a reality, or will the unimaginable horror of an atomic war eventually be unleashed upon this long suffering world? No nation of people, unless they are entirely obsequious and devoid of national pride is going to willingly allow another to impose upon it. Every man has the right to think and believe as he sees fit, but the moment he tries to enforce his will and beliefs upon his fellow man he is exceeding his rights and it is only natural that the injured one will hit back.

What then is the solution to this universal failing? I'm not going to suggest that I have the answer, but I do believe that it is something which lies within the reach of every mortal. If we would only learn to be tolerant towards others, not necessarily tolerant to the point of condoning their misdeeds, but at least we should try to see things from their point of view. Tolerance, religious, racial, social and international, will go a long way towards bringing peace on earth.

If we believe in "The Fatherhood of God", and what good Christian doesn't, then we must also believe in "The Brotherhood of Man". Should we follow the example of Cain, who killed his brother, or should we endeavor to live in harmony with him and co-operate to the best of our ability? Let us begin today then, to practise tolerance in our own daily lives, towards the children who play too noisily, the wife who burns the steak, the motorist who forgets the rules of the road, or the barmaid who gives us a shirt with the collar on our beer, and see just how much happier our lives can be. Let all our thoughts be peaceful ones, for thought always precedes action and as we think, so we act. Let us pray for peace, too, for the power of prayer is divine and second to none in gaining results.

—JACK HARTLEY.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Association Activities

Will deal firstly with the Convention held at Bridgetown on week-end of October 25 and 26. This function reflected great credit on the organisation of Bill Rowan-Robinson who looked after all the details in a most efficient manner. The attendance was below expectations but all in all we can't complain, after all large oaks come from small acorns and as this was our first essay at a function of this character it must be conceded that it was a success. The convivial side of the Convention was outstanding and those attending had a wonderful time. After laying a wreath on the local War Memorial, those present adjourned to the R.S.L. Hall and a meeting was held. At this meeting many points of interest to country members were discussed and much good came from the various debates. One point made was that in subsequent Conventions the ladies should be asked to come along as well. This would be especially good for people travelling from the city as the meeting could be in the nature of a brief holiday. It was also agreed that Country Area Officers be appointed to organise their areas and attempt to straighten out transport problems and generally keep interest in the Association alive in their particular zone. Mr. Burrige who was in the chair, and Mr. Walsh, our treasurer, were able to answer a lot of queries which were exercising the minds of several country members and this all adds up to better co-operation between town and country. Many excellent suggestions were brought forward and these will be passed on to the Committee to deal with in the best possible manner. This Convention succeeded sufficiently for a further attempt to be made in the future.

Next on the calendar was the Annual Bucks Night held on Melbourne Cup Night when a good roll up heard an address from Mr. Woods on his experiences over a

long period in Burma. We have to thank Mr. Woods for kindly coming along and addressing us. Also at this meeting arrangements were made to hold a working bee at Arthur Smith's home on Sunday, Nov. 16.

This working bee was unique in our experience, the greatest muster that we have ever had turned up and the final total was 26. Thanks to Slim Holly who brought along a friend named Herbert Kjellgren who had a rotary hoe, the work was made a bit lighter for us sedentary types. The whole of the grounds were thoroughly cleared of scrub, hoed up, raked over, numerous piles of bricks and rubbish removed and a goodly portion of the frontage (which incidentally was over 140 ft.) planted with buffalo runners. Not a bad morning's work but listen to this, the chap who operated the rotary hoe had only one leg! Our thanks to all the persons who made this working bee such a success but our especial thanks to Mr. Kjellgren. This is just another way in which our Association is doing the things for which it was formed.

Next meeting will be the usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and once again we can guarantee a good evening to those who come along.

Now for that Children's Xmas Party to be held at the 16th Battalion Drill Hall, Bazaar Terrace, Perth, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14. A tremendous amount of time and money have gone into the organisation of this party and all you have to do is co-operate by bringing the kiddies along. The show will commence around 2.15 p.m. and should roll along well for most of the afternoon. Many novelties are planned and we won't spoil the fun for you by telling about them here. We want some eager toilers to come along on Sunday morning to get the hall into good order and arrange things so this is where all you good men-folk can assist.

It has been found that inroads into our financial position have been such that it will be necessary

to supplement our resources a bit more. The cost of the Children's Party has been quite a bit more than anticipated and generally our out-going has been terrific in the past couple of months. Reluctantly the Committee has been forced to run another small Xmas Club in the way of a raffle. It is hoped in this way to cover the cost of the Xmas Party and so leave the Association finances in a better way. If you receive a book of tickets you are asked to sell them as quickly as possible and return the butts immediately. We are running against time with this raffle so into it as soon as you can boys, and as the prizes are topical of Xmas and priced at only six pence you should have no difficulty in disposing of them in double quick time.

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## Personalities

Ron Sprigg has another budget of news of happenings in the Albany area. He sighted Norm Thornton recently and Norm is still working on the Albany School. Geordy Smith is still with Norm but Ron has not seen him for quite some time. Norm became a father recently, a daughter. Our congrats, Norm, stretch out for that pigeon pair! Ron says that both Geordy and Norm have high hopes of the Victorian Re-union in 1956. Ron gives Mick Calcutt's Editorial a nice rap-up.

Bert Burges sends in his report of happenings in the lower Great Southern. He opens his remarks with high approval of Mick Calcutt's hard hitting Editorial. Bert and Alf Hillman both made the Bridgetown Show and Bert says great praise is due to Alf for the effort as he travels over twenty miles further than Bert. A particularly noteworthy effort Alf, and we all appreciate it very much. Bert saw Ray Aitken and his good wife at the Katanning Show. Also Jim Menzies. Ray is confident of putting up a good performance at the State Championship Clay Pigeon Shoot to be held at Katanning this month. Bert finishes his note with a thanks to providence for the

best season he has experienced since he started farming at Broome hill. Once again Bert, our thanks for your interesting news.

Had a brief visit to the Great Southern myself very recently but only went to Wagin and Ken Mac-kintosh was the only one of the gang I contacted. Ken looks very well and working very hard with Elder Smith & Co. in that centre. We spent an evening together and bashed ears to some purpose. Ken is hopeful of seeing one or two of our shows in the near future. He sends his regards to the gang everywhere.

Geo. Strickland has become a parent for the first time, can't remember the sex, but will catch up to that in the next issue. We add our congrats., Geo.

Unit members still doing it tough in road accidents. The latest is Ernie Dinwoodie who was forced off the road between Collie and Bunbury by another vehicle. Ernie himself came out of it alright but his wife was badly injured and was still in hospital at the time of writing. The car was a total wreck. We wish your good wife a speedy and total recovery, Ernie.

Arthur Smith is progressing favorably but has an operation or two still to be done on his left arm and will be in hospital for quite a while yet.

John Burrige, Alf Walsh and his wife, Perc Hancock, Slim Holly and Curly Bowden all made the trip from the city for the Bridgetown show and had a wonderful time. Should be more of them, they reckon.

Alf Blundy reports from Beverly to say he is now a married man. We congratulate you Alf, better late than never they say. Alf said he was shearing for a chap who was left behind on the Promontory when our show was formed, by the name of Jack Sheehan, says some of the gang may remember him but that he can't. Sorry, can't oblige Alf, he is a new one on me also. Perhaps somebody can still recall the name.

Norm Thornton wrote to say he is still a busy man building houses etc., at Denmark. He flatters us by saying that he looks forward eagerly to receiving the 'Courier' and getting news of the boys.

Mrs. Friend sends news of Alby who is now in the butchering trade having sold out of the carrying and firewood business. Says by the time he has delivered meat to 160 women per day and comes home to five offsprings he hasn't much time to worry about anything else. Auby and his brother will shortly be going into a newly built shop at South-st., Hilton Park.

Saw Ray Watson and Don Hudson in town recently and both looked extra well. They were in militia uniform and were down to represent Collie in a team's shoot with other teams from all over the State. They had high hopes of success but as I left for holidays soon after did not obtain results.

Some news of Barry Lawrence. He had run into a bad patch of luck as he recently lost his brother. "Blossom" tells me that Jack Hanson is now in the cray fishing business and leaves for Lancelin Island in a few days. "Blossom" himself is quite fit and sends his best to the gang.

A brief note from "Ajax" Harrison who has been up at Onslow with the Staging Camp there. He says he was just a nice safe distance from the Atom Bomb, no desire to be any closer either. Says he felt the tremor about 80 miles away and saw the famous cloud in the sky for two hours afterwards. They have now dismantled camp and are heading for Perth.

Jack Denman writes from Geraldton to say cheerio to the boys. Jack tells me that Bernie Gile's wife had a nasty accident being burnt by some kerosene catching alight to her dress. He saw Bob Smyth on his way north on a trip and also Bill Drage and Joe Brand and had a couple of noggins.

Alan Brown wrote in to say that he had had a bad trot of sickness for the past week but was now on the up and up. Alan is still with West Australian Newspapers.

Heard of Gerry Green for the first time for many moons, but his note was so brief couldn't extract much from it except that he sends his regards to everybody.

Alf Brady is next on the list. He is still well out in the Never-Never at Kulja with the Permanent Way Gang of W.A.G.R. Says the

season up his way is terrible and crops a wipe off. He asks me to convey his regards to the gang.

"Boyo" Hewitt writes from Kalgoorlie to say that nothing ever happens in his neck of the woods and that he was still on the water wagon.

Tony Davidson also from Kalgoorlie, says he is going along well and appreciates the 'Courier'. He is disappointed that he has not been able as yet to attend a reunion but has high hopes for the future.

Mrs. Swann writes on behalf of Vince. She says Vince pleads a "Broken Arm" when it comes to writing. He had a nasty fall some months back and broke three ribs and was in bed for a month. The season has been just so-so at Salmon Gums. Geoff Junior is doing well and is now the proud possessor of six teeth probably be seven by the time you get this letter.

Les Glasson still busy in the Mortuary business at Kalgoorlie. Says the trouble with his line of business you just can't tell people to come back next week. I should say not!

Norm Wallace also has not been experiencing the best of luck with his family. His wife has been ill and Norm has been chief cook and bottle washer to the household. He had bad dermantitis himself and is awaiting entry into Hollywood so it is a case of "There aint no luck at our house" with the Wallaces.

Had a brief note from Tom Crouch to say that he was well and hoped everybody else was the same. He stated that the season had been good but a bit late and spring was just issuing in. Could still do with any surplus rain there happened to be about.

"Barney" Barnes still going strong at Manjimup and was one of those present at Bridgetown complete with the baby Renault car which was very useful for transport, they say.

"Pidgin" Pierce has changed his abode from Mt. Barker and is going to drive a bulldozer at the Rocky Gully Soldier Settlement area. He has hopes of getting onto his own place early in the New Year and start dairying. He was

anticipating being a father for the third time when he wrote as he has two boys and, of course, had high hopes for a girl this time. Wishes to be remembered to any of the gang.

A brief note from Ted Loud in which he says that he is going along O.K., except for too much work and an odd bout of the flu. He is another who passes his regards to the gang.

Alec Thomson, who is in the same line as Ted Loud, the Forestry Department, writes to say that he also is going well but that their busy season is rapidly approaching and they'll be flat out for months shortly. Like Ted he wishes to be remembered to all the gang.

Heard from Ray Aitken briefly also this month. But apart from best wishes to all it was not exactly newsy. He has been busy of late with the local activities such as the show so he is forgiven.

Ted Potts is now living in Perth and has had a bit of strife getting fixed up for a house. He looks quite well but says the old arthritis catches up now and again.

Don Murray writes from York to say he is flat out with work. Has been down to the city quite frequently but so rip bust and tear that he hasn't had time to look anybody up. Thanks for the information about the kiddies, Don. Hope you will be able to make it for the party. He has run into a small spot of prosperity and hopes that he can get the head up and keep in front. We wish him every success with his new venture at York and if good wishes mean anything you should be in the dough in no time at all, Don.

Peter Barden has changed his domicile from Harvey to Mullewa and is running the local paper there. Peter is a real live wire and should do well in Mullewa.

Ernie Hoffman still chasing the elusive metal at Porphyry. Thanks very much for the good wishes, "Hoff". They are mutual. The sweep was all you hoped it would be.

Ray Parry has arrived back in W.A. after a spot of duty in N.S.W. Ray is about to be discharged from the army and will be back in civvy

clothes in the New Year. He is looking very well and appears to have put on quite a bit of weight.

Charlie Sadler is another of the lads who wrote in briefly during the month to say that he was in good health but that the season at Wongan Hills had not treated him too kindly. He is eagerly looking forward to the next Annual Reunion so that he can renew acquaintances with some of the gang.

Had another welcome letter from Jim Smailes to say that his exams are now behind him for the year and that he hoped for good results and felt quite confident. If he successfully passes he may keep on with a couple of subjects next year and get a bit of metallurgical knowledge while still in Kalgoorlie.

Saw Reg Harrington during the month and also had a letter from him. Reg is looking fit and says the season has not treated him unkindly and that his crop of Wimmera Rye Grass is excellent. Reg is a farmer with very modern ideas on pasture improvement and will go a long way in his chosen sphere.

Nice to hear from Alf Hillman again. Alf also reports a good season with a slight improvement on the wool clip and the water supply position better than for some time. Alf had a success in the Katanning flock sheep competition winning with a flock of 1½ year old ewes from ten other entries and this was their first attempt.

Bill Drage is another to come out of silence with a note of his doings. Bill says that he is going along fine. The crops in his area are very patchy with some good ones and some terrible ones. He is one of the lucky ones. He sees Jack Denman quite frequently and manages a noggin or two some times a few too many. He passes his regards to the gang.

Mrs. Cooper wrote in on behalf of Bill to send his sweep butts and add her thanks to the Association for the ladies' night.

Had a letter from Ernie Dinwoodie which preceded his accident. He wants to be remembered to all his old mates in Kalgoorlie, especially old "Grump" Glasson and Tony Davidson. He is working for the same company as Don

Hudson and Roy Watson and so sees quite a bit of them. Ernie is the proud father of three children, two girls and a boy, so he is up with the average. He likes the work on coal fields and finds his health much improved since making the change.

As you will notice the list of 'Personalities' is quite lengthy these last couple of months, brought about, of course, by chaps returning sweep butts and enclosing a brief note. From a 'Courier' point of view it's a case of "Why don't we do this more often?"

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## Reminders

Firstly the December meeting to be held at Monash Club on Dec. 2. Attendances are definitely on the improve at these functions so if you come along you are most certain to meet a big heap of your old "china plates".

Then the Xmas Party for the kiddies at 16th Battalion Drill Hall on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14. Get the children there by about 2.15 p.m. and if you possibly can make it yourself come along in the morning and give a hand to get the place into order.

That Xmas Club we are running, get those tickets sold as soon as you can boys and return the butts so that we can get the whole matter cleaned up.

There will be no meeting in January as the first Tuesday is too close to the usual holidays and quite a lot of people will be on leave.

Dates to mark off on your calendar are 7th and 8th February, 1953. These are the Annual Reunion and Commemoration Service. Just put a red cross on those two dates and don't make any other arrangements that weekend.

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### An Address You May Want

C. D. DOIG,  
Box R 1273,  
G.P.O. Perth, W.A.

## N.S.W. NEWS

Owing to unforeseen difficulties and pressure of private business our scribe in N.S.W., Jack Hartley, is unable to supply any notes this month, but we have hopes of a bumper edition for our Xmas number in December.

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Just a shot at the printer man. Did you chaps notice how far ahead we were with the news last month—only a bare couple of months. Just had December instead of October on the issue. I always thought we were a mile in front of any other show but now I know it for sure! As long as we don't get behind that is O'K. with me.

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### Definition

A "Wong-Dong" is a National Service Trainee who reports to camp bodily but not spiritually. There have been case histories where the body has arrived, but the mind has been 500 miles away. Apparently the aim of every 'Wong Dong' is to have his body re-united with his spirit when his 14 weeks training period is over. Few realise this ambition as there is so little left of either after three and a half months.

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## Heard This?

"Go to father," she said,  
When I asked her to wed,  
But she knew that I knew  
That her father was dead,  
She knew that I knew  
What a life he had led,  
She knew that I knew  
What she meant when she said,  
"Go to Father."

\* \* \* \*

Willie: You know that in the spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of love.

Millie: But it's still winter.

Willie: Yes, but how about having a rehearsal?

## Random Harvest

My first letter is from Keith Dignum who is in South Australia. Keith lives in Seaton Park, a suburb of Adelaide and works for the Ford C., I believe. He still reckons he was the best looking chap in 4 Section, a point probably disputable by quite a few other chaps. He manages to see Dud Tapper now and again as they only live a couple of miles apart. He brings news of Ron Gurr who is down at Naracoorte on a farm and "Dig" usually spends his holidays on the farm. The Association subscription is 5/- per annum "Dig", which means you owe us an "Oxford Scholar" for this year which ends next June. Thanks for the letter Keith, hope it is only a forerunner of many more.

"Shorty" Stevens writes briefly from Snowtown to return his Sweep butts. He had received a letter from the old Litchfield to say that he was now receiving the 'Courier' and was most pleased to get a bit of news of the old gang once again. "Shorty" wishes every one of the gang wherever they be, the very best.

"Alby" Martin is last on the list with a newsy letter of his doings in Victoria. Going by the tenor of his letter he is enjoying life in the Victorian capital and says the things to do and see more than compensate for the things he misses from W.A. He is fortunate enough to have a flat quite near the shopping area in Camberwell and so makes life a little easier for all concerned. He has had quite a busy time of late conducting various relatives from interstate around showing off the sights of Melbourne town. Says the gardens and parks are just a sight for sore eyes. Had the pleasure of hearing the Australian Symphony Orchestra rehearsing for one of their Sunday afternoon concerts and said it was just wonderful and the setting couldn't be more perfect than in the Botanic Gardens. But just to show what a city of contrasts Melbourne is the actual concert was to be held the next afternoon and it rained like hell!!

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

The events of major importance during the October-November period were our General Meeting on October 30, the Melbourne Cup on the following Tuesday, and my own inability to keep up with any thing but my interior decorating. So far as the latter is concerned it is a case of either I finish it or it finishes Margo, and at present it is a neck and neck struggle up the straight. However, when Margo does give me away I will not know whether it was the house, the kids or the seventy odd chooks that did the trick.

Congratulations to all connected with the Melbourne Cup Sweep which was a resounding success. With a profit somewhere between two hundred and fifty and three hundred pounds for division between New South Wales and Vic-

toria who would deny the organisers, especially Bert Tobin, the flush of success. We must admit a little surprise at the New South Wales response. Jack Hartley must have given you boys some curry. And last but not least, congratulations to the prize winners. 'Twas a pleasure indeed to be sure to see a little bit of Ireland in the shape of Mrs. Cobcroft, no less than a sister to our one and only Paddy Kenneally, take out the largest of the spoils. Pity a Ladies' Night hadn't been lined up, you cornstalks, she would probably have turned on a niner.

It was most gratifying to welcome the extra ordinary goodly number of bodies who turned up at the General Meeting on October 30. There were over thirty names signed in our brand spanking new

Visitors' and Members' Attendance Book, including several who have not been sighted for many years, and two, Rod Dhu and Alec Boas, attending a Victorian meeting for the first time. We welcome them to our ranks. The main business of course was the drawing of the Cup Sweep, which, though a tedious business, was very ably and efficiently managed by Bert Tobin and Max Davies. Horses were drawn from the barrel by Senior V.P. Bruce McLaren, and the names by President Bernie Callinan. Much chynacking and beer drinking accompanied all this business. After all had been cleaned up the General Meeting was formally commenced.

Minutes of the previous general meeting were confirmed and a resume of the activities during the ensuing period was given by the secretary. All seemed to be progressing smoothly and the current year will finish up with our Christmas Party to be held at a Bayside beach on December 6.

An item of real interest to other States was the motion, that the sum of £100 be invested at the discretion of the committee, such sum to be held until required during the Olympic Re-union and Convention. A step in the right direction. It is proposed to purchase a Commonwealth Bond which will mature in 1956 at a discount.

The evening finished up with everyone in great form and high spirits at about 11.30 p.m. What a pity in this hour of need we didn't have all those bottles that were consumed with such abandon that Thursday night.

Saw George Kennedy a couple of weeks ago. George is now travelling for Balfours, and looks extremely fit. Since then I have learned that George's mother has passed on, and it is with sincere regret that I extend to George the sympathies of all his Unit cobbles in his sad loss.

Harry Botterill and I have a regular Monday luncheon these days and manage to chew the rag over quite a number of matters. Harry's good lady is now in much higher spirits and he is hopeful her health will stand up to the

trials accompanying the presentation of a daughter (so he hopes).

Our mail service is pretty crook and I am laying the blame on it for the non arrival of the October 'Courier'. If you have a spare over there you could send it on with the current issue. My file will then be in order.

Blue Sargeant reports no news from Traralgon. Hope your Tiger is sticking to you, Blue, our Carlton team has let us down with a vengeance and I foresee a very dry Christmas for yours truly.

As this will be the final issue reaching our many members during the year 1952, I would like to take the opportunity of wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, and may we all put our shoulders to the wheel and make the year 1953 an even greater one for our Association.

Cheers 'n PLONK,  
GERRY MALEY.

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## Heard This?

"You're looking bad, old man. What's the trouble."

"Domestic."

"But you always said your wife was a pearl."

"So she is. It's the mother-of-pearl that's the trouble."

\* \* \* \*

An overseas tourist, speeding along the Hutt Road at 80 miles an hour, was stopped by a traffic officer.

"Was I driving too fast?" asked the tourist apologetically.

"Good heavens, no," replied the traffic man. "You were flying too low."

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### An Address you may want:

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