



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## *Editorial*

### TO BE OR NOT TO BE

Progress is not a simple jumping forward now and again and then remaining static, but a slow, sure movement forward all of the time. This is what our 2/2 Association wants, and must have, to keep alive, and really in the true sense, progress.

How can this be achieved? Good hard workers! Yes! we have them, but even this small majority can work and work and still just keep the Association's head above water only and not progress to any great degree. There is one way and there must be many more willing helpers and the Committee would welcome any number of suggestions—one is to give per medium of letter to the Editor what you think and how it can be achieved—improvements—something new—something old—anything to start a new train of thought. Such suggestions as "Should mother-in-laws be included in our Ladies' Night", etc.—all gives one ground for something new to think about and when you start thinking then you get doing—then you may start progressing. As some famous "Goon" said—can't remember his name or whether his mother and father eventually married, but, "Knowledge is power!"—i.e. Think a bit and you'll get on in life.

We find as a Committee we have much to do, think about, discuss and tear each suggestion apart, but now and again a slight tendency is a drying up of ideas—however slight this may be, it's had—so a bright idea to get suggestions from one and everyone will liberate us to progress.

Even if it develops into just a suggestion box—with just a few lines on paper, believe you me, fellows, it will be more than welcome.

As Will Shakespeare said: "Pull your skull in mate", doesn't now apply—let your cruet give forth on any ideas, ideals, whim or worries by way of a letter to the Editor and something may be achieved.

—D. RITCHIE.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Committee Comment

Another real bumper Committee meeting was held at Mr. Burrigge's office on 21st April and Arthur Smith was welcomed back to the fold after a long absence owing to his accident.

Further discussion took place on the purchase of sports material to be used at monthly meetings. It was finally resolved to purchase a dart board and darts, a set of carpet bowls, and draughts and checker boards and also to approach the City of Perth Sub-Branch for the use of their miniature rifle and shooting range. This should ensure that members attending meetings should have plenty of diverse sports to occupy their time and also make for good healthy competition.

Final arrangements were completed for Anzac Day and this should provide a good day out for those attending.

The question of outstanding subscriptions again was discussed and it was finally decided to make a concerted drive to have the outstanding amount of £30 cleaned up before the end of the financial year at the end of May. Letters will be forwarded to all persons in arrear requesting them to bring their accounts up to date. It was pointed out that the subscription of 5/- barely covered the cost of the 'Courier'.

The grassing and watering of "Honour Avenue" in Kings Park, was also discussed once again and it only remains for the Kings Park Board to agree to allow us free access to the water main and then we can proceed with the scheme.

It was proposed a job summary of all the Association activities such as Ladies' Night, Annual Re-union, Sweep, Children's Party and Anzac Day be prepared with a view to appointing an organiser for each activity in the new year and so distribute the burden of work more equally among the members.

It was resolved to try and get a good motto for the Association and to this end it was decided to offer a prize for the one accepted. This matter is advertised elsewhere in the 'Courier'.

### Association Activities

The April meeting was held as usual at Monash Club on 7th. Unfortunately the chap we had lined up to speak to us, Mr. Archie Jackson, was unavoidably detained and we had to battle along without his assistance. The night turned into a general discussion on many matters but could not be voted among our best. With the introduction of sports material meetings should be most pleasant and entertaining despite any defection of guest speakers.

The May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5th, and Mr. Colin McDonald, our old friend with a profound knowledge of China, will be along to have a few words and answer queries. Mr. McDonald has always proved to be most interesting in the past and if you come along on the 5th you should have a good evening.

The annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6th June, 1953. This is a holiday, being a special day for the Coronation. Your attendance at this meeting is essential to the running of the Association and some new blood is urgently required to relieve office bearers who have carried the burden for many years and also to bring some new ideas into the show. You will receive reminders in plenty of time and for once we ask you to make some sacrifice to attend this all important meeting.

Anzac Day will have come and gone ere you receive this issue and a full report of this day will be given in the May issue.

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## Personalities

Afraid the fount of Personalities is not running too freely this month and it will be something of a scratch list. As your editorial says this time what about a letter or two boys, so that the rest of the gang know how you are doing? Give us those accessions to the family, if the kids have mumps, how you are getting on with the Housing Commission or any other little thing which will interest the gang spread as they are throughout Australia.

Thank God for a couple of good scribes in Bert Burges and Ron Sprigg, both manage to keep a letter a month up to me.

Firstly from Bert Burges. Bert is trying to recuperate from a most strenuous tennis tournament held at Katanning over Easter. The tournament was a real success with a record entry and plenty of good competition. Ross Graham, of Narrogin, won the singles event and Chapple Ladyman and Peter Brown the doubles. Bert could do with a bit of the excess rain from the Yalgoo area down his way as they haven't received any at all yet. Only one Bert has met recently has been Alf Hillman who is the same genial soul. Bert is contemplating a trip to Melbourne later in the year so beware, you Victorian types.

Ron Sprigg has returned to Albany after a holiday up Northampton way. Was unlucky as the roads were bad around the Murchison River and they did not get much past Northampton. He saw Bill Drage at Northampton and says Bill is bigger than ever. Ron also saw Eric Smyth at Geraldton and says he was no end of help to them in regard to trips around the area and he can recommend Eric to any of the gang going Geraldton way as a guide and mentor. Ron had to break his holiday early as he received news that his baby was sick and they had to rush back to Wagin poste haste. Ron brings news of Rip McMahon who is now in Albany working back in the old game, pulling pots at the Royal George. Says Rip seems to like

Albany and had been out to see Ron on one occasion. He also saw Stan Sadler who was holidaying at Albany. The Spriggs and the Sadlers got together on a couple of occasions and had a good old chat over old times. Ron would like news of Tom Tierney and if any of you chaps have his address or what the old boy is doing now, please let Ron know, or Jack Hartley, or Col Doig. Ron's address is: 42 Hill Street, Albany, W.A.

Had a brief letter from Don Young who is still at Three Rivers Station out from Meekatharra. Is in the throes of mustering sheep for the shearing. Has been having quite a bit of trouble with his arm of late and expects to come down to Hollywood again for treatment. Dr. Dunkley is still practising at Fremantle, Don, and would no doubt be pleased to see you if you called on him professionally. Your subscription is well up to date, Don in fact to 31/5/55. Will pass on your message to Ray Parry should I see him.

Jack Fowler has been about town quite a bit receiving attention for his injured neck and back. Was looking much better the last time I saw him and we hope for continued improvement.

Herbie Thomas wandered in one day and looks quite well. He is hopeful of getting a start at Kwinana cooking for the men's mess on the building project. We hope to see him with the gang on Anzac Day.

Saw Bill Willis recently. Said he had had a peck of bad luck as his wife and kiddies had been ill. Bill is one of our more regular attendants at meetings and I know will be real keen to see the shooting gallery go into action.

Gerry McKenzie has not gone East yet. Expects to move on or about 28th April. He has big hopes of being with the gang on Anzac Day. Had Gerry down for the evening a week or so ago and fought battles round the Promontory, Timor and New Guinea over again. We both finished up with ear ache and jaw ache.

John Burridge is off again early in June for a business trip to Singapore, Ceylon and India. A six weeks flying visit to his firms'

business representatives in that area to liven up sales and generally promote good will. Has been in the hands of the red tape boys preparing for the trip. Says you need more copies of various things than we had copies of Nominal Rolls of Draft to come back from New Guinea, and believe me that was plenty—26 if I remember correctly.

My tame Dicky Bird tells me Alf Couplan is working in the bar at Brunswick Junction and looking as big as the side of a house.

Dame Rumor has it that the annual general meeting may bring about some big surprises and extra ordinary activities. It is believed that some of the gang are not too pleased with the way things are being run and will have quite a bit

to say on past, present and future policy. A good show if it denotes interest in Association affairs.

Jim Ritchie and Warwick Crossing are both away on their seasonal occupation of shearing. Jim is going right up to the Murchison and Warwick is mostly on the Northam wheatbelt.

Haven't heard of Alec Thomson and Ted Loud for an age. Beginning to think they must have felled a tree on themselves. What about a pen to paper boys?

Bill Epps one of the official umpires for the Baseball League again this year. Bill is a real stalwart to the ball game in this State.

Come along to the annual general meeting on June 2nd, it looks like quite a bit of fireworks will be in action.

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## Reminders

The May Meeting with Colin McDonald in action, plus a sports programme, should be extra good. Better come along and have a good night's fun.

Then, of course, the annual general meeting on June 2nd should be of great importance to you. Be in it and bring some fresh ideas to your very own Association.

Don't forget we are still anxious to know if you are intending to go to the Big Re-Union in Victoria in 1956. Just to make life a bit easier for the over-worked organisers, a few early statistics are more than helpful. Remember what you say now is not finally binding, but if all being well you think you will be able to attend then write and let us know.

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## Heard This?

There had been a head-on collision and both drivers were waiting for the police. Sandy offered Jones, with whom he had collided,

a flask. "Have a drappie," he said. Jones had a good pull. Then he said to Sandy: "Why don't you have a drop yourself?" "No fear, man," replied Sandy, "Not until the policeman's been."



## Random Harvest

A most welcome letter from Bob Williamson, from 2 Goldsworthy Crescent, North Gleneig, South Australia. Since he left Port Pirie in 1951, Bob has been employed as Maintenance Foreman for Kelvinator (Aust.) Ltd., and is doing well. Still keeping in good health and manages to take in a little of the old West End. He often sees Jim Veal who is still at Port Pirie, also Fred Grows, Morrie Wright and a few others. Bob and Fred usually manage to make Anzac Day a really heavy one and he anticipates much the same happening this year. Thanks for the compliment to the 'Courier', Bob, we try to keep the gang informed of the doings of the lads. Bob extends a welcome to any of the boys going through Adelaide and asks me to pass on his best wishes to all the gang, especially Gerry Green and the 'Sappers'.

A letter from Major Love to give the latest low down on Michael Calvert. As Arch Campbell has dealt with this matter in the Victorian Vocal Ventures, suffice for me to say we are all pleased here in W.A. to know that our old friend Michael looks like getting

justice done for him at last. Thank you very much Major, for keeping us so well informed on the doings of both Freddy Chapman and Michael Calvert.

One of the New Zealand officers who trained with us at Foster is now domiciled in Perth and has been for some considerable time but has only very recently come under our notice. This is Peter "Butch" Proctor. Peter is now working at Skipper Bailey's Service Station as a clerk and looks extra well. In a recent conversation with him he was not able to give much information of our N.Z. friends, except that Charlie Saxon has a sports store at Dunedin and that Ron Bush was in the family business at Wellington. Peter expects to be with us on Anzac Day and renew quite a few old acquaintances. Possibly will be able to give you a few more details after a long natter on Anzac Day. Peter has asked me to pass on his kind regards to all the old Foster gang with special reference to Bernie Callinan, Mac Walker, Arch Campbell, Dave Dexter, Ray Cole and Johnny Rose. That woops her up for this month, boys.

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### Heard This?

"Steven, dear," whispered the burglar's bride, as he started on his evening's work, "try to be a little more quiet when you come in tonight."

"Certainly, dear," replied the fond husband. "Did I wake you last night?"

"No, but you woke mother, and I don't want her running up to the gaol and complaining to father that I married an amateur."

□

Two old maid monkeys were chatting in a forest primeval. "Just look at that deer making a fool of herself for two bucks!" said one. The other sighed, "I need a little doe myself!"

The Department of Taxation received a typed income tax return from a bachelor who listed one dependant son. The examiner returned the blank with a pencilled notation: "This must be a stenographical error." Presently the blank came back with the added pencil notation: "You're telling me."

□

A merchant took on a fire insurance policy, and the same day his store burned to the ground. The insurance company suspected fraud, but could not prove anything. It had to content itself with writing the following letter:

Dear Sir: You took out an insurance policy at 10 a.m. and your fire did not break out until 3.30 p.m. Will you kindly explain the delay.

## MOTTO COMPETITION

The Association is anxious to get a suitable Motto for general use within and without the Association and to this end it has been decided to run a competition among members.

You are asked to submit any number of entries to C. D. Doig, Box R 1273, G.P.O., Perth, before the 30th September, 1953.

The West Australian Branch is prepared to donate a prize for the entry selected by the judges for use by the Association. This prize is one of considerable sentimental value, and is as follows: 1 Autographed Copy of "The Jungle is Neutral", by F. Spencer Chapman; 1 Autographed Copy of "Prisoners of Hope", by Michael Calvert; 1 Autographed Copy of "False Crests", by Bernard Callinan. This will make a great start to your library and is well worth striving for.

Mottos should be brief and pithy and very much to the point.

Examples: "Second to None", "An Association to be Proud of".

The judging committee will comprise President, Secretary and General Secretary W.A. Branch and their decision will be final.

When submitting entries please write or type plainly on a single sheet of paper for each entry and put your name and address on the bottom of the sheet.

Any member, anywhere, is eligible to compete.

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

At last I have found out why my 'Courier' has been failing to show up some months. I managed to get the last one before my good lady had opened it up, and lo and behold my address is Noble Park, W.A. I reckon I ought to be right from now on.

Our last committee meeting held on Tuesday, 7th April, saw a wonderful roll-up of 13 and we were given a very pleasant recital of his doings in W.A. by Pete Krause. The Sandgroppers extended him a very warm reception and also dragged him along to one of their committee meetings. Thanks for coming along, Pete, and thanks again for the most interesting news and photos. Jack Servante and Arch Campbell are also planning trips in the not too distant future.

Grand news at last, the Games are definitely on, so we can now carry on with our plans and keep the ball at our feet. We must not let up on our efforts to make this venture the most successful of the century. Already one or two of the local lads are thinking of going bush when the W.A. contingent sets off, but they may regain their courage after the first two hang-overs have come and gone. All Victorians must put their shoulders to the wheel, we would like at least another hundred pounds in the Olympic Fund this year.

I am very pleased to be able to report a most successful working bee held at "Harelands", Kew, a Legacy home for wards from country districts who are starting off careers in the city. It is another of Arch Campbell's brainstormings, and our thanks go to Arch for letting us know that the opportunity was there for a real job of work. We were pleased to have the following present, tools and all: Max Davies, Des Williams, Gerry O'Toole, George Robinson, George Veitch, Jack Robinson, Leith Cooper, Bert Tobin, Alby Martin, Geo. Kennedy, George Humphries, Arch Campbell, self and Anthony. My big son turned the sprinklers on us, bombed us from twenty feet with brooms, and generally helped

no end. Bernard Callinan was trapped with his sons birthday party, but is on the list to shovel concrete at our next outing in a month or two. A colossal amount of work was accomplished and we are truly proud of the spirit shown by the lusty laborers. We have volunteered to concrete the paths, and will let you all know when. We will need an extra big roll up that day, believe me, but we're just the boys for the job.

Have heard that the stork has called on Arch Claney and George Humphreys. Congratulations boys you are the first for a while, but the season is really starting now and they should be rolling in thick and heavy from now on.

Had a few lines from Norm Tillett in Mildura, who apogogises for not attending the Anzac Day show, a visit to Broken Hill precluding him from being present. Norm brings news of Bill Cornell, one-time Sig. in 'C' Troop, who desires to go on the mailing list. Consider it done. The address is 13 Murray Avenue, Mildura, 'Courier' please note! You can send your 10/- to Bert Tobin, Bill, and he'll see you receive your bills regularly. He's a hard man to toss, is our Toby.

Also have had letters from Blue Sergeant and Ted Malcahy, the Traralgon Terrors. Ted's address is now Koornalla, via Traralgon. We look forward to seeing you both on Anzac Day.

Arch Campbell sends in the following tit-bits of news: "Great news of Michael Calvert having a judgement given in his favor by three learned and well-known judges in London. Although they could not reverse the decision given by the Court Martial they wished they could. Witnesses and other odd bodies most unreliable. New investigation started in Germany by the army as a result of this. Great news for us all, and more power to Mike in his battle, his biggest yet. We are right behind him.

"Champion Barbecue held at Gerry Maley's place where Gerry and Margo played mine host to a team of 2/2 no-hopers. It was magnificent and nothing but praise is due to these two for such a turnout. Colored lights, beautiful night, chops, steak, sausages and lashings of nectar were but a few of the offerings at Noble Park. The form of the lads is still the no-hoper type, finishing time 4 ack emma. Finished is the word. Thanks Gerry and Margo, from all who partook of your, I repeat, magnificent hospitality.

"Still feel our Olympic Games will be held, whatever happens men, we are going to have a Reunion in 1956, come what may, we owe it to ourselves. Save the pennies and look forward to a bumper time regardless of Mr. Cain or the M.C.G. Trustees. This is the year we get together, and no one foils it, no one, I add!!

"Many thanks W.A. for looking after Pete and his good wife so well. It was a grand gesture of comradeship. Jack Servante is your next visitor, followed by this child at Xmas."

Back to business, thanks for the news, Arch, I must jump on the backs of some of the others who seem to have forgotten to send in any items of interest. They started off well, too.

However, Bern Callinan managed to sneak off a few moments to pencil a few lines. He has had another Tasmanian trip and saw both "Joe" Loveless and Vic Pacey. He thinks it would be a good idea to send the 'Courier' to the Victorian Commando Association, who could pick out pieces for publication in their own rag "Double Diamond". Perhaps it would be a nice gesture to put their president, Mr. J. Binks, 12 Carrum Street, Oakleigh, on the mailing list. How about it, Col?

Cheers 'n beers,  
GERRY MALEY.

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#### An Address You May Want

J. F. HARTLEY,  
Creek Road,  
Berowra, N.S.W.

#### THE THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Steadfast partnership under fire accustoms a soldier to the physical endorsement to oft uttered promises.

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### Heard This?

A bandit was once caught by the soldiers of the king who was noted for his fondness of games and riddles. When hailed before the king, His Majesty told the bandit: "You make a statement. If you tell the truth in it, you will be shot. If you lie, you will be hanged."

The bandit, without hesitation, put everything haywire by declaring: "Sire, I am going to be hanged."



The country lass was milking the cow one evening, near the fence by the road. A commercial traveller came by and asked the girl for a glass of milk. The girl insisted that she must get permission from her mother. When she told her mother the circumstances, her mother said: "You say he is a C.T.? Then come in the house and bring the cow too."



There was a sad incident one day in the heart of the Hill-Billy country. A farmer's mule had kicked his mother-in-law to death. At the funeral the mourners were made up mostly of men. The parson in charge of the proceedings commented: "The deceased must have been very popular for so many people to leave work and come to her interment."

"Maybe so," replied the farmer, "but most of 'em's here to buy the mule."



"I hear you caught the bloke who broke into my house last week," said Mr. Highslope, as he walked into the police station.

"Yes," said the Sergeant, "do you want to question him?"

"Well, I wouldn't mind. I'd like to ask him how he managed to get in without waking my wife. I've been trying to do that for nigh on twenty years."