



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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JUNE, 1953

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Editorial

The New Brooms

As a result of the elections held at the Annual General Meeting the West Australian Branch now has a considerably changed Executive and for good or for ill these men will guide the Association throughout the year to come.

A minor transfusion in the way of new blood occurred but not to the extent that will make for sweeping changes. It is a pity that more new faces will not be seen on the Committee but the members in voting thought otherwise and we must abide by their decision.

Many changes in position did take place and this places burdens on different shoulders and should make for some essential training of new officers. All this is a very good thing and must make for a better continuity of good officer-ship within the organisation.

The writer has been elected President for the year and pledges himself to do his utmost to carry out the objects of the Association and direct its work to the best of his ability. With the able assistance of Mr. H. Calcutt as Vice President, Mr. Geo. Boyland as General Secretary, Mr. Jack Carey as State Secretary, Mr. Wilf March as Editor, Mr. Alf Walsh as Treasurer, and a Committee comprising Messrs. K. Hayes, K. Bowden, W. Welles, W. Epps, F. Napier and A. Smith, with Messrs. J. C. Burridge and D. Geere as Auditors the Association can look forward to a team of solid workers at least.

A word in passing to those people who have served so faithfully on the Committee in the past year. The Association owes them a deep debt for the terrific amount of work they put into organisation affairs and their thanks for another most successful year.

Retiring President Mr. C. F. G. McKenzie, who has been transferred East in his Army appointment and is no longer available for positions in this State, Mr. J. C. Burridge and Mr. D. Ritchie who because of increasing calls upon their time find it difficult to give the necessary time to Association matters and therefore declined to stand for Executive positions this year. These men have performed prodigious work over many years and we are sorry to lose their valuable services but realise that they must give preference to their private affairs.

The new Executive asks for your co-operation in making this a year of progress and can assure you that if hard work counts for anything this will be the year of years.

—C. D. DOIG.

West Australian Whisperings

Committee Comment

Country Convention:

At the committee meeting on Tuesday, June 16, tentative arrangements were made and discussion at length took place in an endeavor to hold a Country Convention in the Wongan Hills area.

While many suggestions were forthcoming, nothing concrete was decided. The long weekend, Nov. 14, 15, 16, was suggested as a likely date.

All interested please contact Col Doig because we want to make this convention a bumper one. Lack of interest will only hamper the committee in their arrangements.

Yearly Calendar:

Probably the most important piece of work decided by your committee on June 16 at their last meeting was the formulating of a programme for this year.

A lot of thought has been given to this subject in the preceding years so while it may come as a surprise to a few there are many who have envisaged something of this nature.

The idea is to set out some sort of a programme for the future 12 months. While this programme does not have to be strictly adhered to it is intended to keep to it where possible.

In the event of there being more than one event for the month, the event will be in black type.

July: Sports Night.

August: Guest Speaker.

September: Film Night.

October: Ladies' Night.

November: Bucks' Night.

December: Visit.

Kiddies Xmas Party.

January: NO MEETING.

February: Annual Dinner.

March: Film.

April: Guest Speaker.

Anzac Day.

May: Debate.

June: Annual General Meeting.

Personalities

Quite a few callers and letters during the month—here is a brief summary of persons seen or heard of.

Michael Calvert arrived in W.A. and unfortunately his job at Kwinana did not eventuate and he has moved off East where prospects in his line of business are much more sound. Michael appeared to be a very sick man and goodness knows with all the troubles, worries and everything else that has happened to him since last we saw him he is entitled to be below top form. I was able to see him on three occasions and had quite some interesting talks with him. Quite a few of the old Foster hands in Joe Burrige, Tom Nisbet, Geo. Boyland, Doug Fullerton, Keith Hayes, Mick Calcutt and Dave Richie were able to meet him and have a few convivial drinks and chat over old times. Michael has since arrived in Victoria and is in the excellent hands of Major Love and Bernie Calman. In passing I would like to tell you that he has a high regard for our crowd, and from a man of his wide experience that is high praise indeed.

Jack Fowler called during the month and is looking much better and says he is improving more than a little bit in health. Like all Wheat Belt cockies he is complaining of too much rain which has delayed wheat seeding in a big way and will probably result in very small acreages being seeded but this is offset to some extent by the tremendous amount of green feed about for sheep.

Bert Burges who has both written and called is a bit the opposite to Jack as his area, Broomehill, has had a very light year and seeding was delayed owing to hardness of the ground. Bert will be going to Melbourne very shortly leaving Perth by air on July 22, and of course will be most anxious to meet as many of the gang in Victoria as possible. His first big job in Melbourne will be to buy an engagement ring and we offer our

heartiest congratulations on the happy event. Bert brings news of a successful Diggers Day Golf at Katanning. Alf Hillman was there enjoying himself but playing atrocious golf. Bert found after numerous beers at lunch time he bettered his morning round by 13 strokes. Reckons he should have indulged earlier. He also brought forward a suggestion of purchasing of Life Membership which he thinks should be considered by the Association as it would save the treasurer considerable work and would give quite a sum to invest. Can assure you Bert, that your idea will receive the attention of the committee.

Steve Rogers called to say that he was heading back to the mulga and when I say mulga I mean mulga. His destination is Mt. Magnet and places distant. Steve has found that the southern climate does not suit his wife and that the northern arid zones are his kettle of fish.

Saw Eric Weller for the first time since the war, the other day when he called to see me. He has not changed a scrap and doesn't seem to have put on a pound of flesh. Eric brought his wife down to hospital and we wish her a speedy recovery. Eric has been doing building right through the Midlands and is now living at Moora. He expects to go into partnership with another chap in the building trade in that area. He has completely given up the sporting activities and says he has been working seven days a week.

Saw Tony Bowers a couple of times this month and he is not too hopeful as regards the sight of his eye which was damaged by flying timber. The latest report indicated that he would have to wear glasses. Other than that Tony looks well and happy and says that Gordon Rowley is doing very well with him at Kojonup.

Don Turton was in town for our Annual General Meeting and came along and assisted us. As usual Don had a weeks work to do in a day and was scampering in all directions. Don is my idea of a really busy man. The old one armed paper hanger has nothing on Don.

Dick Crossing has taken a job with War Service Land Settlement in the Albany area and is hopeful of getting himself a block down there eventually.

Saw Jerry Haire for a short while the other day and he has not changed any. Jerry was most helpful in identifying some photos that Bernie Callinan sent over for further elucidation.

Fred Napier is still in Hollywood Hospital with dermatitis and is having a really rough spin. Was most pleased to see that Fred was elected to the Committee in his absence as he is a very strong worker for the Association. By the way, chaps, what about an odd visit to Fred in hospital?

A brief note from Slim James forwarding his subs and saying he was O.K.

"Bruss" Fagg wrote in haste to send his subs and say good-day to all the gang. He promises to write more fully in the near future.

Tom Crouch wrote in to say that the high wind storms had wrecked his apple crop and saying that as a result he would be unable to donate any to our Xmas Party. The idea being that we were going to put them in cool storage but of course once they had been bruised that was the end of that. Have any of you other apple growers got any apples available to us?

A long letter from Reg Harrington in which he was bemoaning the excess rain that he was getting. Said that you put a paddock in one day and it was a sheet of water the next. He had just purchased a D4 tractor to get his crop in and now he has to get the crop in to pay for the tractor. He says there is feed to burn for the sheep and Reg is seriously thinking of getting some beef cattle to cope with the excess feed. Reg had seen Tommy Martin recently and he was in strife with the weather. Tom had a big programme of share farming mapped out for the year and of course the wet season is not helping any. Reg still playing football (when will he ever cease?) and says he has been relegated to the wing but still managed to get his share of kicks.

Ron Sprigg with his usual budget of news. He saw Norm Thornton recently and Norm is still doing a job in Abany—this time additions to the High School. Also saw "Pigeon" Pierce who was shifting back to Rocky Gully with a bulldozer. Your fees for the current year 1953-54 are now due. "Pigeon" but you don't owe any past dues. Ron you are paid up to 1956-57. Ron ran into Ernie Nicholls recently and said he looked rather lean. Ron rarely sees Ernie to talk to. "Rip" McMahon is pulling pots at the Premier Hotel and living at the Goldfields Coffee Palace. Albany has been having a good spot of weather and this had allowed Ron to get stuck into the fishing which has been good. On one trip five of them caught 13 salmon and 15 dozen herring which is a nice catch. He anticipates weekly trips to the salmon holes for the next couple of months, says it is great sport. Thanks once again for your newsy letter Ron.

A couple of brief letters from Fred "Blue" Wilkes to send along his subs. Thanks for the cash "Blue". was hopeful you would note that it was not enclosed in the first letter. "Blue" sends his regards to all the gang.

My thanks to Bill O'Connor for sending in £1 for his subs. Bill was most apologetic for being so long but says it pigeon holed along with the rest of the bills.

Personalities

About that motto contest. Keep on sending those entries in because those books by "Mike" Calvert, "Chappie" and Bernie Calnon are sure worth winning. The contest closes on September 30, 1953.

* * * *

Your subs were due on June 1 and we will appreciate it if you become financial as soon as possible. Keep that cash rolling in, chaps, we need YOUR support.

NATIONAL FLOWER DAY

The Silver Chain Nursing Service will be conducting the National Flower Day again and we are already well into swing in regards entering the good old "double diamond" color patch in flowers.

Designs etc., are already receiving consideration and as always we want to see the good old "double red" to the forefront.

THOSE SUBS CHAPS!

Now, chaps, what about those subs? There are still about 30 or so of the regular Association members who have not paid their subs which are now due.

—And you other lads who up till now have not kept yourself financial with the Association, what about it? Come along to a meeting and see what you are missing. Apart from meeting your old mates again and having a chinwag there are numerous other entertainments and amusements arranged for you. Sports nights, film evenings, talks on interesting subjects and visits to places like the Observatory, etc., are planned by your Committee to give you an ever-changing fare for YOUR night.

It is very discouraging to see only a few turn up after so much work has been put into these arrangements.

Now give it a go—you won't be sorry.

The usual "spot or two" is always on.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Mick Calcutt's notice of motion which was reported in last month's 'Courier' was defeated at the Annual General Meeting on June 2.

Mick Calcutt's notice of motion read: "I hereby move that the words of five shillings be deleted from rule 4 (a) Subscription of the Rules and Constitution of the Association."

President's Annual Report

Gentlemen, In the absence of our President it is my pleasant duty to present this our annual report.

The Committee looks back with pride and pleasure at our achievements over the past year.

First and foremost we have presented our first Christmas Children's Party and what a success? When the idea was first mooted we were naturally a bit sceptical about the success or not of such a party. We need not have had a moment's worry. The attendance was excellent and everyone had a wonderful afternoon's enjoyment especially the kids. After all it was their show.

Annual Re-Union:

An alteration in policy was made. For the first time the Committee undertook the catering for this function. As it was voted by those that attended the best show yet the alteration was justified. For the first time we were able to balance the budget, as a matter of fact a small profit was shown. In passing the attendance can and should be very much improved on. Our thanks to all those who by donations or personal assistance (especially Mr. Dook and staff for their expert knowledge) made this function such an outstanding success.

Commemoration Day:

Once again held in February, the attendance was good, but there are still many absentees. We should make this a real Remembrance Day. The ONLY excuse for non-attendance should be sickness. Improvement of the ceremony for this day has been discussed at some length by the retiring Committee and many suggestions have been recorded for consideration by the incoming Committee.

Anzac Day:

Well, frankly gentlemen, I don't think our parade state is commensurate with the number of members who should be able to attend. In all fairness to the relatives of the deceased who attend the parade and applaud when they see the Unit

Flag aloft, we should make a special effort to attend. After all we will be defeating the objective if we look upon this day as another holiday to take the family out.

Melbourne Cup Sweep:

Once again an improvement on previous results. Keep up the good work. This is the financial dividend of the Association.

Convention:

This was held for the first time at Bridgetown on the weekend October 25-26. Its outstanding success was in fact a tribute to the organising ability of Mr. Rowan-Robinson. Those that attended were very generous in praising the hospitality of the country people. We hope that other Conventions will be held in the future.

Ladies' Night:

Held at Crawley Bay Tea Rooms in October was THE social function of the year. This night which will be held annually during Show week is really something to look forward to.

Working Bee:

During the year Arthur Smith met with a serious accident. Unfortunately he had only just moved into his new house. We organised a busy bee for Sunday, Nov. 16, and created an all time record for attendance. 26 chaps turned up including a one legged friend of Slim Hollis who operated a rotary hoe. To put it mildly, it was a crack-a-jack show. Also on Sunday, Feb. 1, we held a busy bee at King's Park to ensure that the area was at its best for the Commemoration Service. Another mighty muster, 25 chaps all eager to work and show the truth of that old adage many hands make light work. The enthusiasm that these chaps show at these working bees is really something to be seen to be admired. A grand show all.

"Courier":

Our thanks are due to the Editorial Committee headed by Col. Doig. We are indebted to them for its progress from a single page News Sheet to such as it is today.

Here I wish to stress the fact that in each issue we read a plea not only from your Editor but by each Sub-Editor in the other States, for news and more news. Don't depend on your Editor to gather all local news, some of us in town must at times get on to something that is of mutual interest, either jot it down or ring your Editor, he just wants a few facts, he will do the rest. Country chaps make it a point of writing in at least twice a year, you would be surprised just how much you can lighten the Editor's task by doing this. If you wish to write a par yourself, don't hesitate, write it.

Financial:

This will be fully covered by the Treasurer's Report. Sufficient for me to say that despite heavy expenditure our assets are increasing.

Now in conclusion gentlemen, may we extend our thanks to our President, Mr. McKenzie, for the capable way he has guided the affairs of the Association since he has been in office. Unfortunately he has been transferred East and we look forward to the time when we can once again have him with us.

I wish to thank the Secretary, General Secretary, Treasurer, Committee and Members for their co-operation and support given to me on the occasions when I have had to occupy the Chair. The task has been made much easier by their loyalty.

To all those that have given aid when asked, to those that have attended the several busy bees which have been held during the year, I proffer my grateful thanks. Their generous gesture, in giving a few hours of their leisure time so good naturedly is really an outward expression of the meaning of the word comradeship.

To those who have suffered a bereavement during the past year we proffer our sympathy.

Finally to the incoming officers I extend my heartiest welcome and can assure them of my loyalty and support at all times.

H. CALCUTT, Vice President.

WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

Annual General Meeting held on June 2 managed to entice only a meagre 24 to do their duty and elect their office bearers for the ensuing year.

That's a pretty poor response, chaps, when the evening was bright and fine and no WEATHER excuse for non-attendance.

This sitting on the fence on the business nights is not quite sporting, seeing that your Committee handles the bulk of the "hard yak-ka" to do with the Association.

Next time let's see a better turn-up and so make the Association really "hum with activity."

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

No sort of greatness is ever lightly achieved. It is always a triumph over obstacles.

CORRESPONDENTS & SCRIBES

Now that Wilf March has been elected to the Editorship of your 'Courier' it would be appreciated if you would direct any tit-bit of information and news to him at the address below:

W. E. MARCH,
Lot 81 BRICKNALL ROAD,
ATTADALE, W.A.

EASTERN STATES' CORRESPONDENCE

We regret that at time of publication Eastern States' correspondence was not to hand but they will duly have their say next month.

An Address you may want:

G. MALEY,
10 Agnes Street,
Noble Park, Victoria.

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

Random Harvest

"Shorty" Stevens sends a letter from Snowtown, S.A., to help along the "Harvest" this month. S.A. unlike W.A. is in the throes of a dry spell. "Shorty" had just returned from a holiday. He travelled north as far as Cairns and had a week on a Tropical Island without having to line up for mess parade or do fatigues. Says it was alright too. He had a good night in Brisbane on his return with Ron Host and quite a few of the gang. "Shorty" sends his thanks to the Hosts for being such good "hosts". He says everyone he met is trying to make it a must to be in Melbourne for the 1956 Re-Union.

That good reliable Peter Mantle weighs in an effort this month. He had had the good fortune to meet the new Governor General Sir William Slim on a couple of occasions recently said he was most charming and utterly natural. He and Peter found common ground in that the G.G. was quite a scribble himself. Peter said he seemed well "clued up" on the Timor show—said "A Good Show That". He had the good fortune to have afternoon tea with Sir William and his aides and said everyone acted most naturally and cordially. Said at one time the conversation got around to those little clock things for timing operations in the kitchen and all seemed surprised that we had such things in Aussie. When Peter pointed out that they were made in England there was a general bend on the subject of "Yes but you get all the best stuff and we in England get only the rejects." Peter said the whole experience was wonderful and he has formed the highest possible opinion of our new G.G.

A brief "How do you do" from Dave Dexter to enclose a cutting from a Cairo paper about Colonel Fred Spencer Chapman. Fred plus wife and three boys aged 6, 4 and 2, are on a caravan tour from Capetown through Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Tanganyika and Kenya, thence down the Nile to Cairo along the North Coast of Africa to Spain. Colonel Chapman expects the journey to take from six to nine months. I'll bet the "Je baraks"

will have to be "awfully fit" to stand up to the Chapman grind.

Gerry O'Toole sends his regards to the gang and brings news of Max Davies who is in Heidelberg Hospital with a clot in the leg. We all wish Max a speedy recovery. Gerry wishes me to pass his special regards to Geo. Timms and Percy Hancock. Gerry's letter was a little disappointed as he was taking in the Rinso Hour and also the cricket. Thanks for the letter Gerry, also the motto.

A letter from Major Love giving me details of Michael Calvert's arrival in Melbourne and also of Bernie's book which is now to be called "Independent Company". Thank you for your offer about the book, Major, but the local book sellers, Alberts, are well on the ball here and have already requested advertising in the 'Courier'. Can assure you that the sales in this State will be excellent. Will be writing you personally as soon as possible.

Heard This?

Willie: Every time I take castor oil, mother puts a penny in my money box.

Little Friend: And what do you do when the money box is full?

Willie: Mother buys me a new bottle of castor oil.

* * * *

Not By Bread Alone

A hungry tramp stopped at a farmhouse and asked for food. The farmer's wife brought out a plate of food, and he sat down under a tree to consume it. As he ate, a little red hen suddenly appeared, squawking happily and being pursued by a gay young rooster. As the rooster flashed by, the tramp tossed a piece of bread at him, and the rooster, putting on his brakes, slid to a quick stop and greedily attacked the bread. The tramp looked on and shook his head. "Gosh," he said, "I hope I'll never be that hungry!"

FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING 31st MAY, 1953

	Balances 31/5/53			Balances 31/5/52		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Current Account	143	4	5	145	10	6
Commonwealth Bonds	546	10	0	546	10	0
Savings Bank Account	20	4	11	13	16	2
Petty Cash carried forward				3		2
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	Payments			Receipts		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Interest Loan and Savings Bank				6	8	9
Interest Loan				10	18	9
Sweep Contributions	75	2	3	267	5	0
Postages	19	2	10			
Stationery	18	6	4			
Annual Re-Union	53	2	3	69	19	0
Monthly Meetings	49	11	0	15	9	0
Anzac Day and Wreath	25	2	10	15	15	0
Ladies' Night	44	3	7	19	14	0
Xmas Party	70	3	4	51	17	6
Guest Night	16	4	0	4	0	0
Annual General Meeting	6	11	5	3	3	6
Working Bees	9	13	0			
Publication "Commnado Courier"	102	2	6	29	7	9
Equipment	5	15	0			
Donation "Fighting Forces Fund"	5	0	0			
Legatees	6	5	7			
Tap Hire				17	6	
Donations				3	5	0
Subscriptions				44	0	0
Country Convention	23	14	0			
Dishonored Cheque	3	5	0			
Miscellaneous	4	16	4			
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	1248	0	7	1248	0	7

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT as at 31st May, 1953

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Subs in Advance	32	0	0	Gross Profit	4	2	8
May Issue 'Courier' ...	9	5	0	Subs in Arrears	23	5	0
Sec's. Postage	4	11		Dishonored Cheque ...	3	5	0
Nett Profit	33	15	9	Int. Loan 15/5/53 ...	5	9	4
				'Courier' N.S.W.	39	3	8
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£75	5	8		£75	5	8

BALANCE SHEET Year Ended 31st May, 1953

Liabilities	£	s.	d.	Assets	£	s.	d.
Subs in Advance	32	0	0	Loan Account	15	8	0
Capital as at 31/5/52				Subs in Arrear	23	5	0
Nett Profit	33	15	9	Dishonored Cheque ...	3	5	0
C/wealth Bonds	546	10	0	C/wealth Bonds	546	10	0
Bank Current Ac.	145	10	6	Bank Current	143	4	5
Bank Savings Ac.	13	16	2	Bank Savings	20	4	11
Loan Account	15	8	0	Int. Loan 15/5/53 ...	5	9	4
'Courier' May 1953 ...	9	5	0	'Courier' N.S.W.	39	3	8
Secretary Postage	4	11					
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£796	10	4		£796	10	4