



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## *Editorial*

### WHEN IS A MAN A MAN?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own smallness in the vast scheme of life, and yet have faith, hope and courage.

When he knows that, down in his heart, every man is as noble, and as lonely as himself, and as vile, as divine, as diabolic, but yet seeks to know, to forgive and to love his fellow man.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laughter of little children.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When starcrowned trees, and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters, subdue him like the thought of one much-beloved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain and no hand seeks his without response.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and, above all, how to keep friends with himself.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any mortal lay hold of things and see majestic meaning in life, whatever that faith.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see beyond the mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond the sin.

When he knows how to pray, to love, and to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a song—glad to live but not afraid to die.

—G. S. ROBINSON.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Committee Comment

The committee met in Colin Doig's office, at 9 Barrack-st., Perth on Tuesday, May 18. Present: Messrs. Colin Doig, Arthur Smith, Curly Bowden, Mick Calcutt, Fred Napier, Bill Willis, Jack Carey and Wilf March. Apologies, George Boyland.

#### Anzac Day

Bill Willis laid the wreath at the Memorial in company with Mick Calcutt.

Mick Calcutt states that the wreath which was in the shape of a double diamond was the finest wreath laid there by the Association.

Bill Willis was fortunate to be able to lay the wreath in the front of the Memorial in pride of place.

Congratulatory note on the good workmanship of the floral tribute is to be sent to Wilson & Johns.

Committee very disappointed at the poor muster at the Anzac Day parade.

Committee extends thanks to Ron Duke and Bill Hollis for the excellent rolls provided at the "get-together" after the march at 16th Bn. Drill Hall in Bazaar Terrace.

#### May Meeting

Alf Winter's address on his experiences whilst P.O.W. was considered to be the finest delivered to the Association. Congratulations of the committee to this fine soldier.

#### King's Park Water Scheme

Fred Napier stated that a letter had been sent to the Water Supply applying for connection. Original plan will go ahead and will be discussed at length at the annual general meeting and election of officers on June 1.

#### Picnic or Party at Xmas

This subject was discussed at length and it was resolved that the committee recommend that party at Xmas be continued.

#### Repatriation Anomaly

Mr. Fred Napier suggests a let-

ter to the authority concerned (Repatriation) explaining that anomalies exist in the present set up in payments in Repatriation Hospitals throughout Australia for periods of less than three months. Request review of T.T.I. rates for periods of less than three months.

Committee meeting then closed.

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### Personalities

#### JACKIE SPENCER:

Our old friend Jackie popped in to the meeting the other evening and had quite a chin-wag with the boys.

#### GEORGE BOYLAND:

Committeeman George has had the misfortune to break his leg. George was walking along Murray near William-st., and slipped on something on the pavement with the resultant fracture high up on his leg. We are all very sorry and surprised to hear of your misfortune, George, and hope that you won't have to endure too much pain on the road to recovery. There's no harder worker on the committee than George Boyland and his absence at the meetings will be missed considerably. Whenever there's a job with a fair amount of work and organising to do with it you can rely on George to volunteer with his cheery "I'll handle that."

#### HAROLD BROOKER:

Following on "Brook's" mention in the last 'Courier' came the picture of him giving an elephant a manicure at South Perth Zoo. The old elephant seemed to be enjoying it. By the way, did you notice how the muscles in "Brook's" arms and legs stood out—must be from bullying and throwing elephants around.

#### FRED NAPIER:

Once again about after a fairly lengthy spell in Hollywood Hospital. Fred has spent a considerable time there in recent years so here's hoping that you will be away from there in the future, Fred.

**MAY GENERAL MEETING**

Rarely in the history of the Association has an address been delivered with such utter humility as that made by Alf Winter at the last general meeting.

What a shame that there was such a miserable attendance (15). The brilliance of the speaker, and his ability to inform us of his harrowing experiences, without giving himself "the big rap-up" was something we have never heard at our meetings before. It was generally conceded that Alf Winter's contribution to our evening's entertainment was by far the best heard by our Association.

Alf meandered through the numerous stages that led up to the time when he was taken P.O.W. in Malaya.

A contingent of P.O.W. were being shipped away by the Japanese and were torpedoed by an American submarine. After spending some time in the water Alf managed to reach a raft on which he and a few others floated around for a few days before being picked up by another Yank sub.

By then the damage had been done to Alf's eyes by the floating oil on the water and he was blind for three weeks.

Altogether a grand night's entertainment—duly assisted by the inevitable drop of the doins.

**WATER SCHEME DONATIONS**

Further donations were received during the month, the latest of whom are: Ray Aitken, Don Turton, Mrs. Trowbridge, Reg Harrington, Bill Epps and Merv Wheatley. Progress figures are not to hand but this information will be passed on to you as soon as treasurer makes out a statement.

*Heard This?*

Judge: "Lizz, you're charged with running around in the nude."

Lizz: "It's diss way, Jedge, when my Henry comes home drunk and wants to beat me up, I pulls of my nightgown and runs out in de dark so he can't see me."

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

"Following on the overwhelming success of the last Country Convention several members have expressed the wish for another Convention to be held in the near future.

"There were quite a few of us who were unable to be present at the Wongan Hills' 'do' but are looking forward to taking part in the next.

"The success of the Conventions as a means of furthering the cause of the Association by bringing country members into contact with the committee and town members cannot be questioned.

"What is the opinion of others? I would like to hear per medium of the 'Courier' what their opinion on the subject is.

"I would be obliged if you would bring the matter before the committee as soon as possible and so speed up the next Convention.

"—Interested".

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

—Abraham Lincoln.

*Heard This?*

A suburbanite, wearing his old clothes, was mowing his lawn when a woman in a fine car stopped and asked him: "How much do you charge for mowing lawns?"

"I don't do it for money," he said, "but the lady who lives here lets me sleep with her."

The lady in the car, without comment, drove quietly away.

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It was a very hot day, and she was dressed accordingly. A young man approached, lifted his hat and remarked that it was a very warm day. "How dare you speak to me!" said the girl. "I don't know you from Adam."

"So far as that goes," replied the young man. "I'd scarcely know you from Eve!"

## Random Harvest

Arch Campbell in town now share farming at Moulyinning and looking really fit and likes the idea of farming for a living. Arch reckons the standard of W.A. football is miles below Melbourne (he saw the East Perth-Perth clash at Subiaco recently).

Peter Campbell wrote in haste to donate to King's Park Scheme and to send his good wishes to the gang. Ray Aitken in town for school holidays and looked really well. Ray reports good shooting in Katanning-Wagin area with the ducks.

Doug Fullerton has changed his vocation after 25 years. He has left Bunnings and is now in business with his sister in the clothing game at Victoria Park.

Saw Don Turton this month and he reports quite a good clover season at Wandering and was anxiously awaiting rain when seen as the season was late in opening.

Geo. Boyland had misfortune to break his leg (you have all the dope Wilf). His progress is more than satisfactory and he hopes to leave hospital very soon and convalesce at home.

Ernie Dinwoodie is now out of hospital and is living at South Perth. When seen on Anzac Day he looked very fit.

Bill Epps is now one of a committee of five appointed to get night baseball going in W.A. If we know Bill then night baseball is as good as on its way. Good luck to you Bill.

Saw Ralf Finkelstein recently and he said he was going along very well in his business. Incidentally Ralf made all the furniture for the office building for W.A. Petroleum and believe me it is a bit tasty.

Mick Morgan was again chief bearer of the banner on Anzac Day and the debonair Mick looked well but said he still had plenty of trouble with his back.

Dave Ritchie has high hopes of getting into his new home early in July and is absolutely flexing the muscles to get at the making of his garden.

Steve Rogers seems to have disappeared into the blue not a word from him since he buzzed off up north. If this should reach you,

Steve, what about a letter to tell of your doings.

Saw Tom Towers in a city bar one day but did not have a chance to talk with him. He was in uniform and his shoulder flashes indicated he was stationed somewhere in N.S.W.

Saw Doc Wheatley recently and he was in the throes of trying to sell his farmlet at Byford. Or should I say give it away because that was my opinion of the price he had on it.

I have heard that there's a working bee being cooked up for the King's Park Water Scheme very shortly so keep this in mind, lads. Your help is really needed.

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### Addresses You May Require:

President:

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Box 1273, G.P.O., Perth.

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East Fremantle, W.A.

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N.S.W. Correspondent:

J. F. Hartley,  
Creek Road,  
Benowra, N.S.W.

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### Heard This?

"What do you do nights when you go out with the fellow who owns the pet shop?"

"Oh, just talk shop."

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"Is the pleasure of the next dance to be mine?" said the rather stout gentleman to the sweet young thing.

"Entirely," she replied.

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## Victorian Vocal Venturings

### Anzac Day

There was a good roll-up for the march and service, and all told about 70 came along to the Re-union. This was voted as perhaps the best to date, and I feel sure all present will agree that the spirit and atmosphere of the show left nothing to be desired. The boys have certainly not lost any of their ability so far as the consuming of the amber fluid was concerned, and the ear-bashing also reached a new high. By closing time the greater percentage had their rocking shoes on. Amongst those who travelled a long distance to be present were R. Baldwin from Geelong; I. Briggs, Lilydale; A. Coates, Culgoa; K. Curran, Bendigo; W. Mountford, Bandiana; T. Paull, Mansfield; C. Rodd, Traralgon; R. Snowden, Wodonga; G. Veitch, Sunbury, and S. Weppner from Collinabbin. Ken Monk was unfortunately laid low with flu and was unable to make it, the first Ken has missed in years. The competition for the tankards and tray was won by ticket No. 1416, L. A. Mitchell, who is now in the Army and stationed at Ballarat. During the evening several other small raffles were conducted, the big winner being Maurie Smith, who copped a bottle of Scotch and about 60 yards of garlic sausage. A highlight of the night was the sight of Baldie, with bowyangs, handling the squeegee like a veteran. Many thanks to all the lads who assisted in cleaning up, and to Des Williams who handled the ale; Bruce McLaren and his helpers who prepared the eats; Bert Tobin and Max Davies, the financiers, and auctioneer Sep. Wilson. Also our deep appreciation to Curly Carlton whose generosity we know so well, who provided the bar and fittings.

Working bees have been held at George Kennedy's and Bruce McLaren's homes, and much has been accomplished as a result. Those who painted the Kennedy Ranch on March 21 included Sep. Wilson, Des Williams, Gerry O'Toole, Arch Campbell and yours truly, while on Easter Saturday at Baldwin the following turned up to assist Bruce: Bert Tobin, Leith Cooper, Sep Wilson, George Kennedy, Arthur Brand, Harry Botterill, Alan Munro,

George Humphreys and G. M. Both George and Bruce wish to express their thanks per medium of the 'Courier', but believe me, it was a pleasure, and a great thrill, to see the gang sticking together and toiling so willingly. By the time this is in print we will have had another day on Bruce's place, and I will report on that later.

Am very sorry to report that Arch Campbell has returned to Perth to go on the land. It is a great loss to the Victorian Branch, but happily a big step up for Arch. Since Arch came to Melbourne in 1949 he has built this branch of the Association from a state of near dormancy into a really live and flourishing body, and I am certain that the good wishes of every member of this Branch go with him, and we wish him every success and happiness in his new calling. We missed his presence on Anzac Day, and we will miss him much more in the future, but our loss is the West's gain, and all who know Arch also know how dear to his heart the Association is, and therefore will realise that it will be a tremendous gain for W.A.

Have the pleasure of reporting the arrival of a brand spanking new son and heir to Pete and Elvina Krause. Only a matter of five weeks overdue, but better late than never they say. Keep up the good work, Pete.

A note from Father Crowe, now in Morwell, who is looking forward to our meeting in Traralgon. We will definitely give plenty of notice of this function, and hope to see all the locals and not too distant members.

Lionel Newton writes from Broken Hill thanking us for the book we sent young David at Xmas. Lionel sent his regards to the boys at the Re-union which he was unable to make this year. Will let you have a list of Adelaide addresses, Lionel.

Jack Campbell's fiance, Fay Motton, dropped a line to let us know Jock will be working in Sydney for some months, but he sent his regards to all the boys. Thanks for your letter, Fay.

Jack Benson also wrote to say he hoped to be along on Anzac Day,

but to apologise for him if he didn't make it. Didn't see you, Jack, so apology accepted. Hope nothing serious kept you away.

Bill Weir couldn't make it but hopes to next year. Bill wished us well for the good work we are doing. Thanks, Bill, we love it.

Pte. L. A. Mitchell, I think remembered as "Mitch", who was fortunate enough to win the tankards, sent in his tickets and also advised having unfortunately had an accident and suffered two broken bones in his foot. He was sorry but this meant Anzac Day was out. Hope you are up and about again now. I'll ask Bert Tobin to check up on your subs. and let you know how you stand.

Ivan Brown also dropped a few very welcome lines, and expressed the wish that the raffle was a success.—It was Ivan, to the extent of £32/15/-. Grand news, Ivan has located Sapper Tex Richards at the Goliath Cement Works, Railton, and his home address is Latrobe, North West Tasmania. Tex has been doing battle with the Repat. over a back complaint, and Ivan advises that he wasn't walking too well at the time. Thanks muchly for passing on the news, Ivan, we will see that Tex goes on the mailing list.

Bill Petersen wrote in from Poverty Ridge, Fish Creek, to say he is as busy as a bee, and amongst other things asks if I know of a carpenter or a reliable chap useful with tools who would like a job in the building trade. Afraid I can't help you there, Bill, but I'll keep my eyes and ears open. Hope the book reached you alright. Bill Connell writes from the Sanfose Estate, Nambour, Queensland, and conveys his sympathy to Bruce McLaren and is sorry he can't assist at the working bees. As for Sig. Petersen, after whom you enquire, that is he coupled up with you in this paragraph. Cunning aren't I? Address and all. Jack Maley who was killed at Wesa, was not a relative of mine, Bill, but a very fine friend. Many thanks for your letter, I trust you and yours are keeping well.

Dick Adams writes from Yarra Glen and wishes all the boys good drinking on Anzac Day. Sorry you couldn't make it Dick, but have no doubt that we'll be seeing you in the near future, no luck with the

tankards either but who knows, next year?

Blue Sargent sent down his tickets and hoped to be down for the Re-union. Sorry we didn't see you Blue, transport worries I guess. Or were the fish biting?

Hugh McDonald forwarded his tickets with the news that he is improving a great deal in health. Let's hope it is not long before we can get together Hugh.

That's all for now, folks.

Cheers 'n beers,  
GERRY MALEY.

### *Heard This?*

Conductor: "You must pay full fare for that boy. Surely he's over fourteen."

Passenger: "How can he be when I've only been married twelve years?"

Conductor: "Madam, I'm here to collect fares, not to receive confessions."

\* \* \* \* \*

A big tom-cat was rushing hither and thither, over fences, through alleys, across streets, as if demented. A neighbour who recognised the cat immediately reported its goings on to the owner.

"Oh, yes," said the owner, "I know. Tom's just had an operation and he's rushing around cancelling engagements."

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Overheard outside the telephone box in front of the G.P.O.—the lady inside the phone booth: "... and since I saw you last I had my appendix out and a new sink and hot-water system put in."

\* \* \* \* \*

Husband (reading from newspaper): "Three thousand, four hundred and twenty six elephants were needed last year to make milliard balls."

Wife: "Isn't it wonderful that such great beasts can be taught to do such delicate work!"

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Sign on the bulletin board in front of church in small town: Subject for this Sunday: "DO YOU KNOW WHAT HELL IS?" "Come and hear our new organist."