



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered at the G.P.O. Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical)

Vol. 7. No. 80.

JANUARY, 1954

Price 1d.

Editorial

THE TIME OF ANNIVERSARY

To those of us resident in Western Australia the period of the year now coming up is one of Anniversary. Now is the time when we hope that the greatest possible number of Members will be joined together in Happy Re-Union and in Re-Dedication to the work of our Association. It is also the time when we, at our Commemoration Service, pause to give thought to those of our pals who paid the supreme sacrifice and to humbly reflect on their deeds and the deeds of the Unit when we lived and fought together.

The month of February was one of ominous importance to us when as a fighting force we first tasted the acrid fruits of warfare in its stark reality. This was the time when we suffered our greatest losses in manpower and materials and it firmed our resolve to fight to the bitter end.

Because this month of February meant something very special to us in our Genesis it has been selected as the most appropriate time to relieve those moments of awe and greatness and also to think with reverence on the past deeds of our dear departed.

This is all very good and performs a most necessary function in the calender of our Association but it is not enough to leave it at that, this month of Re-Union must be but a springboard towards work and service for the rest of the year. Anniversary in itself is all very nice but it becomes an empty thing if it does not also become a spur to greater things.

Anniversary should remind us of what we did when the heat was on but in the cold moments of peace please remember that there still remains much to do. Much of the ravages of war upon less fortunate souls than ourselves is still most apparent and we as a well organised and reasonably opulent body can do much to assist in many ways. The Victorian Branch with its adoption of Legacy is giving a most excellent lead in this matter of working for an ideal. It will be found that when a body such as ours stops finding work to do then the inevitable period of stagnation will follow. Stagnation breeds boredom and bredom breeds procrastination we will find that even the little work that we have set ourselves to do will be left to tomorrow and gradually we will suffer the "go backs".

Now is the opportune moment at the time of Anniversary to make firm resolve to go forward with solid purpose to perform deeds of equal magnitude with those performed in the welter of war. There is plenty to be done in this world of ours so don't be afraid that we will run out of work worthy of our attention.

Your Association is your bond with the past and your banner for the future do your best by it and your regrets will be few. —C. D. DOIG.

West Australian Whisperings

Committee Comment

The usual monthly Committee meeting took place at 9 Barrack-st., on the evening of Jan. 19. Those present were Mr. Doig in the chair, and Messrs. Boyland, Calcutt, Carey, Napier, Bowden, Smith Willis and Mr. Dook who was present by invitation. Apology was received from Mr. Walsh.

Mr. Napier produced plans and figures prepared by Department of Water Supply for the reticulation of our area in Kings Park. Further information is required by the Department to finally prepare these plans and estimates and Mr. Calcutt offered to make the necessary survey of our area to supply these details. This scheme is gradually taking shape and although it is taking much longer to arrive at finality than was originally intended many factors have arisen which were not taken into account in the original scheme.

A circular from the R.S.L. setting out plans for the Royal Tour was received and it was decided that the Association would march and arrangements would be as for Anzac Day. All members are asked to make a special effort to attend on this day as it will probably be our only chance of demonstrating our loyalty and at the same time go as close as possible to meeting our Queen. It was resolved that the President make arrangements with R.S.L. in regard to the fall in area.

Complete arrangements for the Annual Re-Union and Commemoration Service were made at this meeting with the kind assistance of Mr. Dook. The necessary working bees to implement these functions were also arranged and it was decided to circularise members in regard to all functions and working bees.

As the Motto Contest closed on Nov. 30, 1953, the entries submitted were examined at the December Committee meeting and brought forward to this meeting for final review. After much lengthy discussion all Committee members were unanimous in the decision that the entries submitted were be-

low the standard required by the Association for a Motto and it was decided to continue the contest indefinitely with the same prize in the hope that someone would eventually provide us with the Motto that the Association is so eagerly seeking. It was also decided to publish in the 'Courier' a list of the mottoes submitted to give members some idea of what was entered in the competition and hope that these would lead to us receiving an entry which would worthily represent the Association ideals.

Association Activities

Since the Editor received the subject matter for the December 'Courier' much has happened in the way of Association Activities. Firstly, the Xmas Party for the children. This was an outstanding success and was attended by 120 lovely, healthy children who proceeded to do their best by 10 gallons of ginger beer, 10 gallons of ice cream, two cases of oranges, one case of toffee apples (kindly made by Frank and Chloe Freestone at much trouble and expense) one case of apples and sundry other items. Amusement was provided by a picture show, a clown, a magician, Father Xmas and sundry items of playground equipment. Some very tired children headed for home at 5.30 p.m. Everybody voted it a good day and hope for a repeat next year. This Kiddies' Party is definitely one of the Association's successes.

The next function was one to welcome Arch Campbell who has been holidaying in W.A. This function was arranged in great haste and we apologise if anybody did not get warning of it. The evening was held at Monash Club on Tuesday, Jan. 12, and a good roll up of over 30 attended. After welcoming Arch the President asked him to give those assembled an account of the doings in Victoria and also to tell us something of the organisation for the Olympic Re-Union. Arch responded most readily and told us a lot of the details which

have gone into the planning of this Re-Union. He also conveyed to the W.A. Branch the best wishes of the Victorian Branch. Many questions were asked about the Re-Union by interested listeners and the enthusiasm for the Re-Union was most apparent. The Victorian Branch has arranged for a big Re-Union dinner for members and a Re-Union also for the wives. A business session for delegates from the various branches has also been arranged. They are in the throes of trying to arrange a weekend at Wilson's Promontory which should be a real good turn. Arch gave copious details of the billeting scheme and you can rest assured that this is in good hands and will be most adequate.

Quite a few of the gang also went to the station to farewell the old Campbell and believe me a good time was had by all.

The next and probably the main weekend for the Association will be the weekend of Feb. 6-7. This, of course, will be the Annual Re-Union and the Commemoration Service.

The Annual Re-Union will be held on Feb. 6 at the Shenton Park R.S.L. Hall, in Onslow-rd. It was found necessary to book this hall as all City halls were unavailable on this night. It is situated practically on Railway-rd. and is particularly accessible by rail to Shenton Park or by Metro Bus (Karrakatta) or Emu Bus (Hollywood Hospital). Please do your utmost to attend this Re-Union and make it a bumper roll up.

The Commemoration Service in Kings Park on Sunday, Feb. 7, will commence at 3.15 p.m. and this should be a MUST as far as members are concerned. Those without transport and those with vacant seats in their cars are asked to meet at Central Station a 2.45 p.m. and then proceed from there to our area in Kings Park.

A working bee will be held on Sunday morning, Jan. 31, to clean up the area and city members are asked to make every effort to attend at 9.30 a.m., bringing rakes, shovels, etc., and, of course, the more that attend the quicker the job will be completed. This is the first time for a long while that we have requested your attendance at

a working bee so please do your best to attend. Also would like quite a few to help prepare the hall at Shenton Park on the afternoon of the 6th. This working bee will take place at 2.30 p.m. If you can't make this then come to the dinner early and assist the caterers to put out the food and lay the tables.

Personalities

The personalities should reach quite mammoth proportions this month what with Xmas, New Year Greetings, etc., so here goes for a good effort.

Big news is that Bert Burges is to be married on Feb. 2 and will then tour by caravan the south and west coasts of this State. Our congratulations in a big way to the 'Courier's' Number One Correspondent. Had a letter from Bert only the other day and he had had news from Mrs. Spence, our original C.O.'s. mother, in which she said that Alan was a very busy man running the paper at Prosperpine in Queensland. Alan was looking marvellously well and was President of the local R.S.L., golf secretary, as well as numerous other interests. This is the first news of A.S. for many a moon and hope we manage a little more in the near future and hope it comes in the way of a letter from the man himself.

Noticed Merv Cash in town. Merv has sold out his interests at Augusta and is negotiating to purchase a property in the hills around Perth. Merv was looking fit and lean and not much changed from the good old days. Had more than an odd noggin with him and chatted on old times.

Those two "menaces" the Crossings seen about quite a bit lately. Warwick down from the North for a while and Dick now working for a chain of picture shows in South Perth. Good racket that, you see all the pictures for nothing. Both these lads look perpetually happy and bursting with rude health.

Jack Carey brings news of Tom Crouch down at Manjimup. Tom is still working like a horse getting his place into order. He did not experience a very good season in

the early winter and like quite a few more cow cookies down south, lost quite a few head of stock owing to lack of feed. The season has bucked up considerably since and generally it can be said that Tom is going alright.

Jack Denman was down from Geraldton for his annual holidays and I was fortunate enough to meet him on a couple of occasions. The big fellow is looking aces and says the family are also well. Second time I saw him was in company with his old side kick, Merv Cash and both of them had a merry twinkle in their eyes. Jack likes Geraldton very much and says most of the boys are going well up that way.

Talking of Geraldton types Joe Brand called to see us briefly during Xmas week and he also seemed to be blooming if that is the right phrase for such a character as the old Joe. He told me that Bill Drage, Bruss Fagg and himself were morals to make Perth for the Annual Re-Union so we can look forward to some enjoyment from our northern friends.

Bill Epps was a caller during the month and Bill was on his annual holidays after what has been a hectic year with work and home building. Bill's home is now nearing completion if a home is ever complete! He is battling with garden paths, etc. Bill is a near neighbour to that lively character "Dusty" Studdy, both living in Hackett-st., Greenmount.

These personal notes would be incomplete without some reference to Frank Freestone and his good wife Chloe. Frank under a little pressure from my most unworthy self, "volunteered" to make the toffee apples for our Children's Party and believe me they made a world beating job of them. Mrs. Freestone said it was a case of "when father papered the parlour" as that damned toffee managed to get everywhere. I would like to say just how much we all appreciate their efforts and how much the kiddies enjoyed them. Frank has turned in some really great efforts on behalf of the Association and we wish him well.

Fred Griffiths has been down from the lead mine at Onslow but to date have not managed to contact him as am not as frequent in

my old haunts as of yore. Can tell the world that he has one spanking baby boy who is a delight to behold nearly took the liberty of arresting him for loitering at the Children's Party and adding him to the Dog household.

Gerry Green was among the toilers at the Children's Party both at the working bee and as electrician's labourer in the afternoon. Gerry looks well as does his better half and the two smaller fry. You birds who knew Gerry's daughter in Queensland would be surprised at her growth. She is smartly becoming a teenager and as pretty as paint.

One who has swapped employment lately is Percy Hancock. He has given Commonwealth Hostels away (good thing too) and is now on the office staff of Bairds Ltd., one of the bigger general providers of Perth. Percy seems very happy in his job and we extend our hopes for a happy period of work.

Jackie Hanson is one of the busy men now as the crayfish season is in full swing and this is the Golden Harvest. There has been practically a shooting war among the cray fishermen over here but didn't notice if Jack was holding off the imminent boarders at the point of a cray pot. I'll bet he is still laughing anyhow and with his good wife is a ball of amiability and mark you, one of the best ticket sellers this side of the "Noogil Narge".

"Pop" Harding was a little late sending in his butts for the Xmas Club and in his usual big hearted style fined himself £2 for his omission. Now that is what I call being a good member. Thanks a million "Pop", hope to see you at the Re-Union.

Jack Hasson with family, made the Children's Party and rated it a boom. It's a pleasure for us Executive types to talk to Jack he lifts your ego no end. Jack Fowler was also down from Wongan Hills and worked like the proverbial slave. What a crackerjack member the Fowler is. You can turn on as many more like him as you like. Saw him conversing strongly with Alan Brown who joined us at the same time as Jack and they were meeting for the first time for an age.

Our Associate Member, Harry Holder, of 2/1st Heavy Battery on Timor, is now an Executive on the R.S.L. Harry was among those present at the Kiddies' Party and enjoyed himself no end. We would be able to use him up in his capacity of League Committeeman one of these days.

"Slim" Holly, another who has swapped jobs and he now is driving a truck for Kelly & Son, one of the bigger building firms of Perth.

The other "Slim", James to you, is battling along in the S.P. game at Scarborough. So if any of you who live in that direction want to speculate on your fancy "Slim" will oblige.

Big news for Tom Nisbet. Tom has been selected to lead the Colour Party from this State for the opening of Parliament at Canberra by the Queen. This is a terrific honour for Tom and must reflect some credit on our Unit. Tom is most hopeful of meeting any of the lads in Melbourne and Canberra during his trip East. We wish to add our very sincere congratulations to those of all others, Tom, and hope you will also have time to enjoy yourself as well as work.

Our thanks to Ron Dook for once again, acting as Catering Officer to the Association. The evening we gave Arch Campbell was "made" by Ron's capable handling of the food angle. Now he is all set to go on the Annual Re-Union.

Ray Parry is the big Amateur Furniture Maker at the moment, being really busy getting his furniture made prior to starting building one of these days at Mt. Pleasant. Married life seems to be agreeing with Ray as he looks in the pink.

Ted Potts was among those present at the Kiddies' Party and was working like a beaver. Good to see old Ted looking so well and obviously enjoying himself.

Joe Poynton is stuck into home building for himself at Mt. Claremont and from reports he is building an extra nice place with a ton of finish. Haven't seen Joe since Adam wore knickerbockers but one of the lads said they saw him at the beach at North Cottesloe looking the real bronzed Anzac.

Jack Poynton is the busy Executive of the E.S. & A. Bank, being manager of their new Commercial Loans Department. If you are thinking of buying a refrigerator or washing machine and want finance then Jack might be worth an approach. Jack is also vice president or president of the local Bank Officers' Association and with this and other activities he is kept good and busy.

Merv Ryan was involved in a nasty motor accident quite recently. The accident happened on the corner of Eric-st. and Railway-rd., Cottesloe, between a utility in which Merv and his wife and family were passengers and a car driven by Dr. Dunkley's son. Mrs. Ryan was badly injured suffering a fractured skull and possible fractured arm and her condition was only fair at the time of writing. Merv had lacerations as also did his son. We hope Mrs. Ryan has a speedy recovery and is restored to full health in the near future.

Stan Sadler was one of the fortunate ones who was able to trip East and see the Davis Cup in Melbourne. He got more than value for his money too. He intended to go northwards to Sydney after this event. Charlie Sadler and his wife are holidaying at Albany, I believe.

Jim Smalles was down from Kalgoorlie before Xmas and looked very well after his recent sojourn in hospital. He states that he is now in the best of health he has been for some time. Jim, I believe, is looking for fresh fields to conquer and may leave Kalgoorlie in the near future if his plans come to fruition.

Ron Kirkwood and his family have been holidaying at Safety Bay for the last three weeks. Saw Ron the other day and he also looked particularly fit and well. Says he still likes Kalgoorlie and that he and his family have quite a reasonable home. His path does not cross many of the Kalgoorlie boys very often and apart from "Boyo" Hewitt the only one he has seen is Jim Smalles.

"Rip" McMahon is back in the Metropolitan again after a most delightful sojourn at Albany which he reckons is some place but the hospitality just a bit too good. "Rip" is barman once again and is

working at the Kelmscott Hotel pulling the amber fluid.

Geo. Strickland is another who has recently got into his own home which he built mainly himself. Geo. and his better half were at the Kiddies' Party and enjoyed themselves no end.

Eric Weller is one who I hadn't seen for an age till just before Xmas when he and his wife and two children came in to see me. I talked them into staying over the weekend and take in the Xmas Party. They were most pleased in making this decision as they and their kiddies had a marvelous time and Eric was able to meet a lot of the lads he hadn't seen for a long time.

Nice to see Scotty Wares about again at Xmas time and also at the party to Arch Campbell. Scotty is in the Detection Staff with W.A.-G.R. and keeps an eye on the pilfering of goods from the goods yards, etc.

Ernie Dinwoodie is still in Hollywood Hospital and looks like being there some time yet. What about you blokes with motor cars making a few visits down there to make

his stay there a little more pleasant. Ernie is a born fighter and a bit of encouragement in the way of a visit or two will speed his cure in a big way.

Dave Ritchie is the proud father of a bouncing baby boy born just before Xmas. Shrewd type Dave, making the birthday presents also Xmas presents. Our congratulations Dave on your success as pater. Not many can get a son and heir immediately. Dave is hopeful of a start on his new home at Mt. Pleasant in the near future but he doesn't know what he is letting himself in for as it will be a life sentence.

A brief note from Mrs. Bill Cooper to say that Bill and she were O.K. and enjoyed the Xmas Party.

Don Hudson was in town the other weekend and he and "Curly" Bowden had a few noggins together and a most enjoyable day.

Well that is the end of a long session of personal pars and if we could supply something similar every month I think the 'Courier' would be even more appreciated by its many readers.

Random Harvest

Thanks to Xmas quite a few have written in to tell of their doings.

Firstly, Tony Adams writes from Toowoomba to pass on his good wishes to the gang and to obtain a copy of "Independent Company". Tony gave sad news of Athol McQueen. It appears that Athol and his daughter were both electrocuted from a swing which apparently cut through the wires under his house. His little boy who was also on the swing was in hospital but progressing favourably. We are all most sad to hear of this tragic happening as Athol was beloved of all in the Unit and especially his mates in "C" Troop. We offer our sincere condolences to his bereaved widow and family and hope the fortune will smile on them in greater magnitude in the near future.

Tony also brought news of Neil Hooper who as you know is Mayor of Roma. He will be among the privileged few who will be meeting Her Majesty the Queen during her

tour of Queensland. Good luck to you "Hoop", give the boys a rap up if you can. Tony himself and family were in good health and spirits and had had quite a good year in 1953. He had sold his house well and was living in a rented home and was thus in a position to move fairly immediately if the bank decided he should be moved to some other pasture.

A Xmas card from Bernie Callinan wishing us all well.

A Xmas card-cum-letter from Rolf Baldwin to say that he was off for a tour round Tasmania. Said he did most of his hiking these days by A40 or push bike and therefore the bowgangs are no longer required. He had had a lug punishing session with Gerry McKenzie recently and said that the tongue was a little swollen and the ears bleeding. I'll bet those battles, etc., got a good lacing.

Xmas greetings from Alby Martin, Peter Krause, Dan Thomas, Al-

an Luby, Bert Tobin, and Jack Hartley, all added little notes asking me to pass on their best wishes to the gang.

Freddy Grouns has been over in W.A. for a holiday trip with his wife and boy and girl. Managed to get to the station to see him off. Fred is a mechanic in S.A. with a firm of constructional engineers and keeps their trucks, tractors and concrete mixers in repair. Says it is a good job but he hopes to be able to swap it for a spot of wheat cockying in W.A. with his brother. By the way Fred's brother was in the Korean show and knew Ray Parry, Jack Stafford and Charlie Anderson quite well.

Ron Neuzerling also had a trip West but for a very different reason as one of his parents died and Ron had to make a flying trip West to attend to arrangements. Did not manage to contact him but Dave Ritchie did. We offer our heartfelt sympathy, Ron, on behalf of all the boys.

A nice long letter from Peter Mantle but most of it was definitely not for publication so suffice to say Peter is well and so are his family. Peter as you know is no beer drinker but he does love his wines and says he has joined the wine and cheese club at Canberra and has a wonderful time bibbing all the various wines and cheeses. Says the club buys most of its product direct and sells to members at prices showing a nice saving on ordinary retail rates. Peter is hopeful of buying a car, one of these fine days.

A Xmas card with a few remarks from Dave Dexter to say that he now owns an A40 and is most proud of it. His stay in Ceylon is rapidly drawing to a close and he may be back in Aussie about the middle of this year. Sends his regards to the gang.

That brings the Random Harvest to an end and I thank you once again for being so kind as to contribute.

Reminders

Annual Re-Union on Feb. 6, 1954, at Shenton Park R.S.L. Hall, Onslow-rd., commencing at 7 p.m. This is sure to be a good turn so be in it to win it, boys.

Commemoration Service, Feb. 7 1954, at Kings Park, at 3.15 p.m. THIS IS A MUST. The roll-ups have been improving over the years but this year we want to break all existing records.

March meeting, March 2, 1954, is worthy of marking on the calendar and come along. We hope that by then the Davis Cup film will be available for screening.

Those working bees mentioned earlier warrant your attention boys especially the one in Kings Park on Jan. 31. Bring along your rakes, shovels, etc., and turn on a morning's work.

"Independent Company" by Bernard Collinan. This book has created quite a furore in the literary world and the first print has sold out in all States. Don't be frightened that you won't get a copy as a second print is due on the market early in this year. The

critics in every State have been lavish in their praise of this book and the buying public have put it on the best seller list practically every week. If you require a copy please sent 26/- for an autographed copy, or 21/- for an ordinary copy to Box R 1273, C. D. Doig, or order direct from Alberts who will be handling autographed copies.

The Admiral and the Bishop had both been blessed with a son and heir. They arrived simultaneously at the Maternity Hospital. The Admiral greeted his wife with a hearty kiss, inspected his infant with pride, dashed back to his fleet and fired twenty-one guns.

The Bishop kissed his wife on the forehead, gazed long and searchingly at his offspring, walked sedately to his Cathedral, and fired a canon.

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

LIST OF MOTTOES ENTERED FOR COMPETITION

- "Transeat in Examplum" ("May it be an Example").
- "Loyalty and Comradeship".
- "For the Good of All".
- "Silent Night".
- "For Queen, Country and Comrade".
- "Fostered from Foster".
- "Alone or with Together".
- "Hamootik Nefarten" ("Always Together"). /
- "As one we stand United".
- "Brothers Always".
- "United We Stand".
- "Service Second to None".
- "United in Service".
- "United for Strength to Serve".
- "Courage in Adversity".
- "In Adversity, Courage".
- "Independent of All".
- "We Stand Alone".
- "Unity is Strength".
- "United We Stand".
- "Fear not Danger".
- "Courage Conquers All".
- "Courage in all Things".
- "In all things, Courage".
- "Death is Sure".
- "Front line in War—Forefront in Peace".
- "Mine to Have and Hold".
- "Our Honour to Serve".
- "Tempus Facte Memor" ("Time is Unforgetful of their Deed").
- "The Seconds Best".
- "Second to One".
- "United Independants" (In Boomerang and Double Diamond).
- "We Serve Queen and Country, Do You" (Superimposed on Double Diamond).

Addresses You May Require:

- Vic. Correspondent:
G. Maley,
10 Angus Street,
Noble Park, Victoria.
- N.S.W. Correspondent:
J. F. Hartley,
Creek Road,
Benowra, N.S.W.
- President:
Colin Doig,
Box 1273, G.P.O., Perth.
- Secretary:
J. Carey,
73 King Street,
East Fremantle, W.A.

Heard This?

"How in the world did you get that beautiful black eye?"
"I got it kissing the bride after a wedding."
"I don't understand. I always thought it was considered permissible."
"Well, this kiss was six months after the wedding."

What is the difference between a diplomat and a lady?
When a diplomat says "Yes" he means "Perhaps"; when he says "Perhaps" he means "No"; and when he says "No" he's no diplomat. When a lady says "No" she means "Perhaps"; when she says "Perhaps" she means "Yes"; and when she says "Yes" she's no lady.

Two men bearing identical names one a clergyman and the other a business man, lived in the same city.

The clergyman died at about the time the businessman took a trip to Southern California. Upon reaching the Pacific Coast he sent his wife a telegram informing her of his safe journey. Unfortunately the message was delivered to the widow of the clergyman. Imagine the surprise of the woman when she read: "Arrived safely—heart terrific."

Levy, the tailor, is on the point of dying. His family stands tearfully around his bed.

"Sarah, my wife, are you there?" asks the doomed man weakly.
"Yes, my dearest."
"An Isaac?"
"Yes, Papa."
"And Jacob?"
"Yes, Papa."
"And my little Ruth?"
"Yes, Papa."
"Then who's at the cash register in the shop?" came the feeble but angry question.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

To have a rope around your neck, a prize upon your head and be headed for hideous tortures is a condition only you can avoid.