



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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

Vol. 9. No. 97.

JULY, 1955

Price 1d.

Editorial

Tangled Topics

I don't know which has been causing me more mental strain recently—solving 'Tangled Towns' or figuring out public statements by public persons. Only last week that genial personality, our Federal Treasurer, announced, apparently with the greatest of sorrow, a Budget surplus of £70,200,000. It seems that if we have a deficit of £70,200,000 it calls for a period of nationwide mourning. Similarly, if there is a surplus of £70,200,000 we must not be foolish enough to greet this news with enthusiasm and applause as a surplus is apparently almost as tragic as a deficit. "No-one should base great hopes upon the Budget surplus of £70,200,000 for the last year," said Sir Arthur, "I am not basing any hopes upon it myself." One day maybe a Federal Treasurer will be human enough to say: "Ain't it beaut? We have collected more from you suckers than we thought we would and we haven't spent as much as we thought we would have to spend. Ain't it beaut?" Probably Sir Arthur has keen grounds for his pessimistic air, but I refuse to be downhearted. If we can continue to have a surplus, I am prepared to remain mournfully happy about it.

Tangled Towns has been driving the town nuts. Even Col Doig was bitten. His wife Jess, tells me that he would awaken in the middle of the night muttering "BALLIBILLACAE", "BALLABILELICA" and snore off again with a troubled look on his regal old features. One thing has emerged from this blasted competition however—if you blokes don't write to your Editor a bit more, I'll start a Tangled Towns competition in the 'Courier'.

This is a sorry Editorial, fellow Taxpayers, but Sir Arthur started it all. Now if the BILLACABELLA Road Board (if there is such a damn place) had a surplus of seventy million, wouldn't . . . but that's enough!

Address All Association Correspondence to Box T 1646, G.P.O., Perth

West Australian Whisperings

The new Executive is now in full swing and two Committee meetings have been held with a good attendance.

Our July monthly meeting was a very successful one. Some 27 bobs saw a variety of films, including the production of the Holden car, Ampol's exploration in the Far North West, and early exploration for oil in Pennsylvania. The films and projector were kindly made available by Geoff Laidlaw on behalf of Ampol. The films were splendid and of great interest to everyone. The evening wound up with a touch of the old amber and a sing song.

There have been insistent demands from many quarters that the 'Courier' should formally pay tribute to the long and untiring service of our Immediate Past President—COLIN DOIG. Since the very earliest days of our Association, there have been a number of members who have worked unstintingly for the progress of our body. At the vanguard of these stalwarts has always been "THE DOIG". There have been three separate and distinct phases of our existence. Firstly the construction of our entity and the formation of our Rules and Constitution. They were hard days and called for long hours of solid work. Col was there working harder and longer than most. Secondly there was the "falling off" period. This was a period when we had an entity, a fine book of Rules and Constitution but little else. It was a period of heartache when the Executive battled to promote an interest in Association affairs. It was a battle against boredom and a continual striving to increase attendances and stimulate interest. It was a period that well could have sounded the deathknell of our Association, and would probably have done so without the example set by Colin. Thirdly, commenced the period in which we now find ourselves. This is a period when the interest has been aroused, the attendances are good and the Association is ticking along like a well-oiled machine. It is perhaps the most difficult period of all, for in the last few years, there has been the constant problem—"We have the interest and the attendances:

now we must maintain and increase them." To this problem our worthy Past President has applied himself continuously and strenuously.

These references in no way exclude the many others who have worked so unselfishly, but as THE DOIG has now retired to a well earned rest from executive positions he is singled out. We can only say: "Thanks, and well done, DOIGIE."

The monthly Committee meeting was held on Tuesday evening, July 19. Main topic was how we could best assist Victoria in the difficult Olympic task. This is dealt with elsewhere.

Don't forget to attend the August meeting. This is to be a musical evening with other features, somewhat different from previous get-togethers. We can promise a good night.

The hall at Crawley Bay has been booked for Tuesday, October 4. This year's Ladies' Night will be bigger and better than ever. It is your Committee's job to make it better: your job is simple—you can make it bigger simply by coming along.

Annual Dinner has been fixed for the last Saturday in January (28th) in lieu of the first Saturday in February. Please note this alteration. The place is Shenton Park R.S.L. Let's make this year's Annual Dinner the biggest ever.

At the working bee in King's Park about 16 attended. The whole area was weeded and raked over. Earthenware pipes have been placed over the sprinkler nozzles. Many thanks to those willing helpers who can take a personal pride in the spick-and-span appearance next Commemoration Day.

A lady had lost her pet, a curly-haired poodle. She called on the police to find it. The next day one of the force came with the dog, very wet and dirty. The lady was overjoyed, and asked a number of silly questions. "Where did you find my darling?" she asked finally. "Why, ma'am," said the officer, "a fellow had him on a pole and was washin' windows with him!"

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31/5/55 (Comparative with 1954)

	Balances		Balances		1954/55	
	31/5/54	31/5/54	31/5/54	31/5/54	Gain	Loss
	Payments 54/55		Receipts 54/55			
Current ac. at 31/5/55	148	12	11	279	11	6
Commonwealth Bonds	546	10	0	546	10	0
Savings Bank Ac.	33	12	1	26	17	0
	728	15	0	852	18	6
						124 3 6
Honorarium Typists, Donations	15	5	0	7	13	6
Commonwealth Loan and						
Savings Bank Interest	83	2	6	17	13	10
Sweep Contributions	11	19	8	244	4	0
Administration, Postages, etc.	80	13	11	11	4	
Annual Re-union	76	17	3	48	10	0
Monthly Meetings	33	7	6	27	12	9
Anzac Day and Wreath	47	4	10	33	8	0
Ladies' Night	82	18	4	20	3	0
Xmas Party	91	17	5	4	4	0
"Courier"	300	9	3	60	1	9
Kings Park Memorial	37	4	10	156	9	4
Convention (Geraldton)	28	7	11	12	15	0
Raffle	5	16	7	91	11	0
Legatees					63	3
Poem				1	17	0
Olympic Trust				11	42	0
Subscriptions				32	15	0
	£1624	0	0	£1624	0	0
				£288	2	11
				124	3	6
				Total Loss		
				£412	6	5
				£412	6	5
				£11	12	0
Trust Money Due to Victorian Branch						

Personalities

Had a beer or two with STEVE ROGERS and his father the other day. Steve has taken over the bakery in Burracoppin and we wish him good luck. Thanks for the donation Steve, and your pre-payment of subs. Through the medium of the 'Courier' the Editor wishes formally to admit liability to you for one dozen beers, although actually the debt is now statute-barred! Also the size of bottle has yet to be determined!

G.P.O. Box T1646 has now been cleared twice and the total bag has been eight accounts and receipts and only two letters. How about some of you mugs writing something to your poor old Editor?

BERT BURGESS dropped us a letter from Broomehill and voiced what we feel—regret at Col Doig's retirement from office. However, as you say Bert, he is still among us with his fountain of knowledge and experience. Your message has been passed on. Your suggestion re correspondence is gladly accepted. Bert tells of a Diggers' Day rifle shoot which is being held on Sunday, August 7, by the Broomehill R.S.L. Any visitors will be welcomed. Sounds a good idea Bert. Maybe we might cook up a similar scheme in Perth. Bert remains as busy as ever and writes: "The season is still treating us favourably and rain duly falls as soon as we begin to look anxiously for it. Have a full programme on 'Burlands' for several months to come—lambling is not yet completed. I have commenced laying bricks (addition to house) and material is to hand for construction of a hay shed to be erected before shearing. On top of this have been giving two days a week assisting construction of a new community telephone line." More power to you, Bert; it is good of you to find time to write to us.

DON TURTON seems to have been coming to town rather frequently lately but now his wings will be clipped. The 'Courier' announces with pleasure the arrival of a daughter—making two girls and a boy. Congratulations Vida and Don. More power to you too!

Your Editor saw both KEN MACKINTOSH and BILL ROWAN-ROBINSON recently in Bridgetown.

The scars of the fire on Bill's property have healed on the surface but he faces a lot of future toil in mending fences and putting up another shed. No matter what time I call on them, it is always "cup of tea time" with the R.R's. Thanks Mrs. Robbie. Had only the briefest of chats with KEN MACKINTOSH whom I flagged down as he was belting back to Bridgetown from a Balingup stock sale. Ken drives some monstrous-looking car—a Cadillac or a Rolls or something. He had the wireless full blast playing "Cow Cow Boogie" and from his satisfied demeanour he had sold plenty of cow cows. Regards to Betty and the kids, Ken. I hope to see them all next trip.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

To the Editor

Your paragraph in the June issue of the 'Courier' under "Do You Remember" certainly stirred the nostalgia in me especially the reference to "Paddy" Knight. Perhaps the following anecdote will stir an odd memory among the gang.

This also concerns the famous "Paddy" Knight (incidentally this name was not his real name as he joined the Company under an assumed name and his correct name was William Patrick Cotter). When first we went to Wilson's Promontory to train, Paddy found himself with sundry other chaps on six weeks permanent fatigues while the "Chosen Eighty" did the Cadre. Paddy with his usual aplomb smartly found himself what was for him the tastiest fatigue. This consisted of a daily round of the camp to collect the pig swill and then he and the driver would deliver same into the piggery at Foster returning usually, with any stores that had to be picked up from the railway station at Foster, early or late the same evening. As you can well imagine with "Paddy" at the helm the day in Foster would not be wasted and according only to the amount of coin available could the amount of lager consumed be measured.

The drive back to the Promontory under these circumstances with the usual normal hazards of

hairpin bends, straying cattle, dense white dust was quite a thrill. The inevitable was due to happen any old tick of the clock and in the words of "The Knight" this is how it went. "We were smartly approaching a bend and I could see that we weren't going to take that bend so with great alacrity I became a pedestrian." The truck and empty garbage cans went over the side with the driver without a great deal of damage to either the truck or driver.

The Army-being what it is with the passing of time a "Court of Inquiry" into the accident was duly convened by which time Private Knight was a fully fledged member of "B" Platoon of 2nd Indep. Coy., being worked as hard as Tom Nes-bit could persuade him to work. Paddy as you know cut a dashing figure in a giggle suit with his enormous bulk and there was usually about three square feet of bare midriff between where the trousers started and where the giggle jacket left off, and it refused to button up. The normal Army overcoat issued to Paddy failed also to cover this nudity.

The night set aside for the hearing of the "Court of Inquiry" by the duly constituted court of one Major and two Captains followed a particularly arduous piece of training carried out in wet weather and all Paddy had to wear was his magnificently revealing giggle suit and overcoat which of course fitted in perfectly with his particular line of disrespect for higher authority any-way. Moving into Head Quarters at Darby to give evidence, Paddy in this attire quickly provoked the ire of the Court, the President asked: "What do you mean Pte. Knight coming to this Court in that attire?" Paddy belligerently thrust another acre of bare flesh in the region of the President and said: "I'll have you know Sir that down at our Company we are working all the time in this wet weather and everything else I have is wet and these (a further belligerent thrust of bare belly) are all I have to wear and furthermore Sir I think it would have been easier for you to get in a staff car and come and see me than for me to come here on a cold night on the back of an army truck."

By this time the Court was aghast at this "lese-majeste" and when he had recovered his breath the President said: "That will be enough from you Knight."

Paddy not in the least abashed by this, promptly said: "Sir I wish to register a formal protest." and the Clerk to the Court was forced to take up his pen to take down this "protest" in writing. Paddy went on: "Sir you are interfering with my religion, I am a Roman Catholic and tonight is the only night in the month on which a Priest is available to me and consequently my devotions are being interfered with." I don't think anyone remembers "Paddy" as such a devout religionist especially on leave! Anyway the President of the Court was forced to have this formal protest registered and that was all the Knight required to inflate his ego. Then the normal processes of the Court were able to get under way and Paddy once again proceeded to tell "how with great alacrity he became a pedestrian." —"Seedy".

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER: Sports night.
OCTOBER: Ladies' night.
NOVEMBER: Visit to W.A. Glass Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
DECEMBER: Kiddies Xmas party.
JANUARY: No meeting.
FEBRUARY: Annual Re-union.
MARCH: Davis Cup film. Guests.
APRIL: Guest speaker.
MAY: In abeyance.
JUNE: In abeyance.

Green: "Is the air always clear around here?"

Brown: "Yes, except when it is blowing from the golf course."

"Dear Clara," wrote the young man, "pardon me, but I am getting so forgetful. I proposed to you last night but really forget whether you said 'yes' or 'no'."

"Dear Will," she replied, "so glad you wrote. I know I said 'yes' to someone last night, but had forgotten just who it was."

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

Victorian Vocal Venturings

The Annual General Meeting was held in the George-st. Drill Hall, Friday, July 8.

Seventeen members present, with our popular President, Bernie Callinan, in the chair. Two apologies were received.

The President's report followed with Bernie briefly dealing with our various functions throughout the year. The Xmas Party was very well attended, with 10 country members with families, helping to swell the numbers and make this a very enjoyable day.

The Anzac Day Re-union was one of the best ever with 78 members present with a very good representation from the country. Our usual brief but very solemn ceremony of Remembrance with the laying of a wreath by Major Love, preceded the re-union.

The Melbourne Cup sweep was as usual, a big success financially, and as this is our main source of finance it is pleasing to see this good result.

Two advances were paid from the Provident Fund during the year and the trustees report that they were very deserving cases.

The President wound up his report by conveying his thanks for the assistance he received from the executive members and also all the members for giving their support to the various functions.

The Treasurer's report followed and as usual Bert gave a very thorough and exacting account of monies received and spent throughout the year and with the aid of the balance sheet he had prepared, we were all able to follow him and see just how financial we are. (This report will be published in the 'Courier' later.)

The election of office bearers followed and the following members were elected: President, Bernie Callinan; Vice Presidents, Bruce McLaren, Jack Servante, Alan Munro, Harry Botterell; Secretary, Gerry Mailey; Treasurer, Bert Tobin; Auditor, Max Davies; Committee, Rolf Baldwin (Baldy), A. Claney, L. Cooper, R. Dhu, S. Humphries, G. O'Toole, J. Roberts, G. Robinson, M. Smith, J. Wall, H. Wilkins, D. Williams, H. Roberts.

Gerry MacKenize as chairman of

the Olympic Re-union Committee, gave a very good report on the planning that has been done—and what has to be done, and so brought everybody up to date with this important event; and as finance is going to be a very important factor, ways and means of raising the necessary money was discussed fully and it was generally agreed that the best way of raising money is through sweeps and raffles—so everybody is asked to be prepared for extra raffles and to give them their most wholehearted support.

The President declared the meeting closed and we then enjoyed a few beers and eats and the usual natter which finished off a very enjoyable evening.

Bernie had a letter from John Whittaker who most will remember as the offsider to Dave Ross, the Australian Consul at Dilli during the war. John is now the Australian Consul at Dilli, and he gives some very interesting news on the present plans of the Portugese in Timor. I quote. "There are vast development projects here—vast for Timor—the new residential area west of the lighthouse now contains a number of very handsome stone houses, plus public gardens facing the sea—most attractive. Plans for a wharf of 520 feet have been approved, money granted by Lisbon, and work will commence early in 1956. Work has commenced on the centre block of a services publicos building, there will be three blocks, inter-connected, for the various sections. 4,000,000 patacas a new law courts, new Captain of Port Buildings and so on. A promenade from the lighthouse east to the end of the waterfront is half-way completed. Waste ground overlooking this promenade will be turned into public gardens. I would say that by 1957 Dilli will present a most attractive front to the visitor. They also plan to build a new Cathedral somewhere near the site of the old one. However, there is no definite plan as yet to supply the town with electric light."

THE THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Don't let impotence embitter you and make you live only for the seen horizon.

Olympic Bulletin

Harry Botterill writes from Victoria and gives the first Olympic Bulletin. He requests that all future matters be publicised under the same heading for the sake of clarity. O.K., Harry.

The first Bulletin reads:—

"Meeting of the Olympic organising committee was held recently in which all aspects of the organising were discussed, very thoroughly, and we make the following report.

We have booked 200 seats (in the one block) at 11/- each for the Opening Ceremony on November 22. This is so that we can all be together for what we think will be the most important and spectacular and most impressive event of all the games. All intending visitors are asked to arrange their own individual bookings (in their own States) for any other events, they may wish to see, as we will NOT, repeat NOT be making any other bookings for other events throughout the games. This all applies to all Victorian members, too.

It is up to all us Victorian members to make an all out effort to get the necessary accommodation in our own homes, or with friends, etc., and to make an urgent appeal to all members to complete the form recently sent them and let us have them back as quickly as possible. The members that have already done so have been very generous with their offers of accommodation and we thank them. We shall need lots more accommodation and we suggest that if you haven't room in your homes, you may be able to put up a tent or have a caravan in your backyard; make no mistake, this is a big job we have to do but we can do it.

* We appeal to all intending visitors who are coming over, to let us know immediately, as we have now reached the stage where we must know how many visitors we have coming, how many we have to billet, their estimated time of arrival and how they will arrive (on road or sea) bearing in mind that we would like everybody to be here and settled in before November 22

(date of opening ceremony) as this will add the organising tremendously."

Members in other States, particularly W.A. which is furthest from the Olympic scene, can see how earnestly and thoroughly the Victorian Branch is working to smooth the visit of our Olympic sightseers. It behoves us to do everything we can to lighten their job. W.A. members who are planning the visit should, if they have not already done so, write in to Box T1646, giving the fullest details available at the moment. Accommodation will be a difficult problem for the Vic. lads and this is one which surely can be cleaned up immediately. Don't forget the Vic. Branch is purchasing only the seats for the Opening Ceremony—each visitor must do his own booking for individual events (W.A. agents: Boans Ltd.). Obviously Vic. cannot arrange these individual seatings as the matter is too unwieldy. Anyone requiring a programme, write to T1646.

Heard This?

The boss walked up to the sales-girl on Friday afternoon.

"Have you a date for tonight Miss Jones?"

"No, sir."

"Have you a date for Saturday night?"

"No."

"Then you have a date for Sunday night?"

"Oh no, sir." (Very hopefully.)

"Then please don't be late for work on Monday morning."

"Hello! Is this the city bridge department?"

"Yes. What can we do for you?"

"How many points do you get for a little slam?"

"Major, yesterday's paper carried three headline stories of your drunken escapades."

"Yes, I was plastered all over the front page."



Headlights

Then there's the story of the girl who wore red flannel underwear. We understand that she was hot but not bothered.

* * * * *

Two girls were looking at the new display of paintings in the gallery. Suddenly they came before a nude which one girl recognised at once as a painting of her companion. "Why, Dorothy, I didn't know you ever posed in the nude," she said in astonishment.

"I never have," was Dorothy's indignant reply. "He must have painted it from memory."

* * * * *

Mazie: "A fresh guy tried to pick me up yesterday. Boy, what an apartment he's got!"

* * * * *

Feminine compliment: "My dear, what a perfectly stunning dress—didn't they have your size?"

* * * * *

"Oh mother, may I take a swim?"
"Why not, my darling daughter, You're so near naked, anyhow, You'd be safer in the water."

* * * * *

The girl was sounding out her soldier friend as to his bravery.

"Would you come to me in distress?"

And he answered bravely. "Babe it wouldn't make any difference to me what you were wearing."

* * * * *

Beach Inspector: "Don't you know that a two-piece bathing suit is not allowed on this beach?"

Young Miss: "Very well, officer, which piece shall I take off?"

* * * * *

Dad (to son): "Do you want to play with your toys, or just go to bed with Nursie?"

Son: "What would you do, daddy?"

The roving eye of Rastus Jones fell on a luscious, dusky belle who was eating alone in a Harlem cafeteria. He suggested that they might have a few dances together at the Savoy Ballroom.

"Just one minute, big boy," replied the young lady. "Is you a member of the 23rd Infantry, the 57th Coast Artillery, the 22nd Cavalry or the 141st Marines?"

"No, I am not," admitted Private Jones.

"Go 'way big boy," replied the siren, "I'se private stock."

* * * * *

Last night I held a little hand,

So dainty and so sweet.

I thought my heart would break in two

So wildly did it beat.

No other hand in all the world

Can greater solace bring

Than the hand I held last night—

Four aces and a king.

* * * * *

He: "What makes people walk in their sleep?"

She: "Twin beds."

* * * * *

He: "Darling, how can I ever leave thee?"

Bored She: "By train, bus, tram, taxi, or preferably by jet plane."

* * * * *

A movie magazine is authority for this statement: "... the area in which Miss Garson was injured is spectacularly scenic."

* * * * *

"Is your boy friend fast?"

"Fast? Before you can tell him you're not that kind of girl, you are."