



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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

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## *Editorial*

### Courtesy

Courtesy is commonly regarded merely as politeness, but it actually goes far deeper. Politeness represents surface indications and may be misleading and deceptive, while courtesy emanates from the heart, and its first requirement is sincerity. No one can be truly courteous without being sincere. Hypocrisy and courtesy are the most deadly enemies of each other. A strong manly character does not require that one shall have the same amount of affection for all individuals with whom one associates, or whose lives may touch his in one form or another, but courtesy is required in all instances toward all people under all conditions.

Courtesy is a combination of many qualities, among them being consideration, justice, courage, and self-respect. Consideration requires that we be concerned with other people and their happiness; it requires the pleasant acknowledgement of good service, and an understanding and sympathetic attitude toward those who render inefficient service; also a realisation that the individual who has been somewhat inefficient may be deeply affected by emotions or troubles, or may merely be inexperienced.

Under such conditions we may each be able to help another individual over a crisis, which may be of great importance in his life, and a little encouragement, a kindly and helpful suggestion, may well be the turning point in his career toward a large measure of efficiency and success.

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## NEXT MEETING:

## Tuesday, Nov. 6th, Monash Club

## West Australian Whisperings

### Committee Comment

Minutes of Committee meeting held on Sept. 19, at Monash Club.

Those present were Messrs. Green, McDonald, March, Napier, Smith, Pendergrast, Cantrill.

Messrs. Dalg, Dook and Hancock were present also at the request of the Committee. Apologies were received from Mr. Carey.

Minutes. Minutes of previous committee meeting were read and received on the motion of Mr. Cantrill, seconded by Mr. Napier.

Business Arising. The Championship Sports Night was discussed and all present agreed that it was an excellent night, and were surprised at the small number who attended. The question of bringing guests to this particular sports night was discussed at length.

Ladies' Night. As arrangements for this affair were well in hand the discussion took the form of allotting particular jobs to various personnel.

Country Convention. As word had been received from Wongan Hills that the lads there were all in favour of a Convention it was decided to begin arrangements forthwith.

As Mr. Fowler would be absent at this time the Secretary was instructed to contact Mr. Stan Sadler. It was suggested that 4.30 p.m. at the Wongan Hills Hotel be our R.V. for Saturday, Nov. 10. Accommodation for Saturday and Sunday nights being required.

There being no further business arising from the minutes the minutes were then adopted on the motion of Mr. Napier, seconded by Mr. March.

Inward and outward correspondence was then read and received on the motion of Mr. March, seconded by Mr. Cantrill.

Olympic Games Convention. As it was intended to discuss a directive for Mr. March to take to this Convention the President then declared the Committee meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

### OLYMPIC CONVENTION

Briefly the following items are among the things to be discussed at the Melbourne Olympic Convention.

Any item which you think should be included should be written out and posted to W. E. March, 3 Bricknall-rd., Attadale, without any delay.

#### Finance (Expenditure):

- (a) Annual Dinner.
- (b) Courier (cost of production and publication).
- (c) Kiddies' Christmas Tree.
- (d) Honour Ave. Water Scheme.
- (e) Ladies' Night.
- (f) Monthly Meetings.
- (g) Legatees.

£300, now held in Commonwealth Bonds. Ideas to be sought re building of funds.

#### Courier:

- (a) Means of contact.
- (b) Mailing List.
- (c) Further correspondents to be sought.

#### King's Park Honour Avenue Water Scheme:

Taking over as many photos as possible of water scheme and avenue, showing water spraying, etc. Photo of spot where Commemoration Service is held. Colour photo of Honour Roll.

#### General Business:

- (a) States without organised branch of Association establishing contact between themselves and/or themselves and parent body (W.A.) for future reference in Courier.
- (b) Discuss possibility of members of kindred Units becoming associate members of our Association.
- (d) Seek utmost information regarding E.S. members—their livelihood, etc.
- (e) Endeavour to obtain more assistance for office bearers.
- (f) Discuss Association activity for ensuing year.
- (g) Greater liaison between States. Interstate movements of personnel, etc.

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### KNOW YOUR OFFICE BEARERS

**PRESIDENT.** Gerry Green—has previously been a member of the Committee but this is the first time Jerry has held a senior position in the Association. Jerry was Warden of the King's Park Honour Avenue for a year and saw a great deal of good work done.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ron "Sprig" McDonald—serving his first term of office but has had wide experience as office bearer with cricket associations. A regular attendee at meetings, conventions, etc.

**SECRETARY:** Arthur Smith—a man with his heart definitely in the right place. A tireless worker for the Association who could always be relied upon to assist anyone. Arthur has held office, one way or another, since the start of the Association so has the right grounding for a secretary.

**TREASURER:** Fred Napier—another with wide experience in Association affairs. Fred has been on Committee many times and has had many an important job to do and done it well. Fred can be relied upon to watch the shillings and so help guide us to another successful year.

**EDITOR:** Wilf March—has held this position in the past and can be relied upon to do his best.

**GENERAL SECRETARY:** Wilf March—also handling job of Editor

**COMMITTEE:** Jack Carey—couldn't help doing a job of some sort if he tried. Had been the Secretary for many years and handled this job with an air of ability that sets a very high standard for his successor. Jack's vast knowledge of Association affairs and contacts with different folk who have been able to assist us makes him invaluable as a committee man.

Jim Cantrell—a new member to the fold, and one of whose new blood infused into the Committee, it is hoped will give the Association renewed life.

Gordon "Blue" Pendergrast—No need to give you much on "Blue" as the "behind the scenes" work that this willing committee man does speaks for itself. Gordon put in a terrific amount of work in the King's Park Water Scheme and its success is due mainly to his untiring devotion to the job of laying pipes, etc.

### LADIES' NIGHT

One of the brightest functions of its kind to be held yet. There was not a hitch to the evening's proceedings. Gaily decorated aprons for the ladies and enormous ties for the gents, helped to make the night a bright spot.

Al Thompson's Entertainers presented music for dancing and individual items on violin, guitar and piano accordion. Items were given by Jim Willis, song; Johnnie Morris and Fred Withell, song. Johnnie Morris also gave a humorous sketch complete with wig, etc. Bob and Sally Freestone gave an exhibition of jive.

The guests for the evening were Jim Willis, John and Elsie Morrison, Avon Payne, Ted and Beryl Withell, Bob and Sally Freestone, and Mr. and Mrs. Sampey.

Among the country members seen were Vince and Grace Swan from Salmon Gums, Ernie and Verna Bingham of West Pingelly, Pigeon and Verna Pierce of Nornalup, Bert and Marie Burgess of Broomehill.

Fred Napier was presented with the Green Sports Championship belt. This is the second time Fred has won the belt in the three years the contest has been conducted. Fred's reply was typical of his dry humour, telling those present of having battled through cigarette smoke and beer undaunted to the end.

The catering arrangements were very ably attended to by Edie Pendergrast and her friend Mrs. Sampey. This must have taken Edie many hours to prepare. We really do appreciate it Edie and thank you for a wonderful spread.

### ADDRESSES REQUIRED

Would anyone knowing the addresses of the following please advise Arthur Smith, Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth, as soon as possible. Their Couriers have been returned with "Address Unknown" stamped on them.

There will be no Courier posted to them until their correct address is received.

K. McEachen, L. Marchant, R. A. Studdy, I. Goodall.



## COUNTRY CONVENTION

Nov. 10, 11 and 12 are the days set down for this year's Country Convention. The venue is at Wongan Hills and the meeting place is the Wongan Hills Hotel on Saturday.

The itinerary for the weekend is: Saturday, Nov. 10: Evening meal in Wongan.

Sunday, Nov. 11: Meet in Wongan R.S.L. Hall at 11 a.m. for Convention. Hotel cession 12-1. Go to Sadler's farm for midday meal and kags. Fill in afternoon with games, target shooting, etc. Barbecue tea in evening. Disperse to billeted homes as desired.

Monday, Nov. 12: Meet in Wongan for tennis. Picnic lunch in club house. Bring your shoes and racquet.

Anybody intending to go to the Convention please notify A. Smith, Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth, or ring him MJ1999 after 6.30 p.m., or Wilf March, 3 Bricknall-rd., Attadale, FX1231 before Oct. 23.

If you are having strife with your roofing or guttering, etc., contact Gordon "Blue" Pendergrast who is an expert in these matters. "Blue" has rendered the Association many a service so a little bit of thought in his direction could help him now that he is working for himself. Now chaps, don't forget "Blue". The address is 16 Henry-st., Subiaco, W.A.

## FISHING TRIP

"Sprig" McDonald is all for organising a fishing trip. Boats are readily available so if you feel you would be interested in future trips please write or ring and inform us and we can get the organisation under way.

## KIDDIES' XMAS PARTY

The Kiddies' Xmas Party is almost upon us again so if you have had an increase in your family since last Xmas Party please advise us so as we can keep up to date on this matter. Please treat this as URGENT as gifts have to be ordered early.

## MELBOURNE CUP SWEEP

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the return of sweep ticket butts from some of our members. Some of these chaps have asked for a further supply of books, and these books were sent forthwith. Most tickets seem to be selling quite readily and we look forward to having a bumper return from this sweep. We need it badly chaps, so keep on selling them till you've sold all you've got.

Please remember our sweep closing date is Oct. 25, 1956. IT IS IMPORTANT that all butts and unsold tickets (which we hope will be nil) be returned to Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth, by that date. If anyone requires more than one result slip posted to them will they please state the number required when returning butts, and we will post them to you.

## COURIER MAILING LIST

The circulation of your Courier now stands at 487. The distribution of copies is W.A. 189; N.S.W. 133; Vic. 119; Qld. 16; S.A. 16; Tas. 6; Overseas 6; and A.C.T. (Canberra) 2.

You can see by these figures that the Courier is widely read throughout Australia. While our Victorian correspondents write frequently, I am afraid that our other States have been letting us down badly. If you enjoy reading your Courier write over and tell us what you have been doing, also the activity of any other member in your vicinity. If you don't enjoy reading the paper, well still write over and tell us why.

We run this little paper to please you and to inform you of the doings of the Association branches. This matter will receive consideration at the Olympic Convention so try and help the Courier along by being a regular correspondent. Every letter received by me, your editor, will be published unless otherwise requested.

## KING'S PARK BUSY BEE

Recently a busy bee was held at King's Park to clean up the area around the trees in our section of Honour Avenue. Growth of the couch grass is improving and in

some spots was high enough to mow with a power mower. Further sowing of runners must be made so any of you gardening types that have a bag of couch runners to spare and can put them in are asked to do so. While working bees are not always possible to organise, a little bit of individual effort will help a lot. Now don't forget, bundle the kids into the car one Saturday or Sunday and pop up to the Park and plant a bag of grass.

## SPORTS NIGHT, SEPT. 4

What our annual Sports Night lacked in numbers was made up by the spirit and zeal of those of our members who had the good fortune to be present.

This evening was held at our usual meeting place, Monash Club, on the first Tuesday in the month, our usual meeting night.

Through the unavoidable absence of our usual caterer, Mrs. G. Prendergrast volunteered to help us out. The supper provided was indeed a great credit to her and we wish to express our gratitude for her kindness.

This supper, combined with 10 gallons of the best, went to make a most enjoyable evening.

All five events were keenly contested.

Darts winner was George Bayliss, our then ex-champ Fred Napier, came out tops in the hookey, while Harry Sproston headed the list at table tennis. Jack Carey beat all comers at penny on the line, and Fred Napier won himself another championship by winning the quoits. Congratulations Fred from us all. Two out of three is a pretty good average whichever way you look at it. You will soon have a mortgage on that belt it seems.

## Personalities

Jack Servante. For quite a long time now Jack has been on the sick list and is at present in Royal Perth Hospital in Ward 9. Sometimes visitors are allowed so if you intend visiting him contact his wife Isobel, or ring R.P.H. first in case visitors are too much for him. Jack's brother Harry is over from Melbourne on a visit to see him.

Keep a stiff upper lip Jack and get better quickly and don't worry too much.

Deepest sympathy to Jess and Colin Doig. Colin's mother passed away on Sept. 30, and also his brother-in-law on Oct. 7.

Roy Harris, of Sydney, is over in the West holidaying with his wife Mavis. They arrived in W.A. by boat recently and have made a trip up to Geraldton and surrounding areas. Most of the lads in the area were contacted and also those on the Wongan line. At present they are motoring through the south west. While in Perth they contacted me and I was able to take them on a tour of the beaches. They hope to contact quite a few of the boys while on their south west trip. On their return they intend to motor to Kalgoorlie and put their car on the train to Port Pirie where they will make a leisurely trip back to Sydney. In all about three months' touring—lucky folk.

Another late starter for the Melbourne Olympic Convention. This time Arthur Smith has announced his intention of making the trip. He leaves for Melbourne by train on Nov. 17. The W.A. branch of the Association should be well armed with the aid of the Secretary at the Convention. Editor/General Secretary Wilf March also leaves by train on Nov. 17.

Merv and Dulcie Ryan made the Ladies' Night O.K. but Merv has had to return to the Hollywood Hospital to have a skin graft on his leg.

## "LEST WE FORGET"

## October

Lieut. V. F. NAGLE, killed in action New Guinea, Oct. 4, 1943. Age 28.

Tpr. H. BROWN, missing New Guinea, Oct. 25, 1943. Age 29.

Pte. P. R. MITCHELL, killed in action New Guinea, Oct. 25, 1943. Age 20.

Pte. R. D. WORDIE, died of illness New Guinea, Oct. 30, 1943. Age 23.

## REMINDER

November Meeting: Guest Speaker. First Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1956.

## Random Harvest

Dave Ross writes expressing regret at being unable to attend the annual Ladies' Night. Dave expected to be away in Brisbane on that date but sends his regards to the gang.

(Sorry you couldn't attend Dave, it was a great evening and we hope to see you again shortly.—Ed.)

**John F. Fowler, of Box 73, Wongan Hills, writes:**

I have just received your letter which unfortunately went to my cousin Jack Fowler and he handed it on to me only today. Please accept my apologies for being so long in replying to your queries.

We plan to reach Melbourne on Nov. 21, after a stay in South Australia (we hope to leave here at the beginning of November, all being well).

We will be staying with our sister-in-law's brother but haven't his address yet. However his mother's address is: Mrs. Gething, 65 Cole-st., Williamstown, Vic., and we will be calling there first. We will send the other address on to you when we get it.

We hope the delay in sending you this information will not inconvenience you.

Work is proceeding at a great pace here on the farm and we hope to finish all that is planned before the Melbourne trip. Actually it is a race to get the hay baled before it becomes too dry. The crops are standing up remarkably well despite the drought conditions thanks to the thorough soaking it received when being planted.

**Gordon Rowley, of 20 Mount-st., East Manjimup, W.A., writes:**

At long last I am downing tools and making time to drop you a few lines or I have just this minute finished filing two chain saws, I really mean downing files.

Well all things in this neck of the woods are very quiet. I have not seen any of the old gang since the old Bagley was down here about this time last year. I do see Tom Crouch around but that is not very often. The last time I saw him he was looking well and says he is feeling much better since he had his appendix removed.

Once again I would like to congratulate our chaps who do such a fine job getting the Courier together and organising the other events such as the Xmas Tree, Reunion and Conventions. It would give me great pleasure to attend more of these gatherings, but I have traded my car on a truck and believe you me it is purgatory if one has to travel any distance in this vehicle. However the truck is what I need for my job so I guess I'll have to wait until I get financial enough to buy another car.

I am still in the falling game and am doing O.K. for myself. I have a circular saw and a chain saw and employ a chap to swamp for me during the summer. The last two years I have averaged over £1,600 a year. There's just one thing wrong and that is I don't know where the dough goes but it sure does go.

By the way please send me another couple of books of tickets. I have sold two and will return them all together when I receive the others. Also let me know how I stand in regards to my sub.

I'm afraid I have to call a halt as I am stumped for more to say. My regards to all the gang and to Tom Coyle, of Victoria, I'll still be writing, and to Bill Coker, how about a line?

(Pleased to hear that you are making out O.K. Gordon. Try and look us up in the city as soon as you can.—Ed.)

**Bert Burgess, of 'Burlands' Broome hill, writes:**

Congratulations on a very good Courier. Letters and contacts certainly make your task a lot easier.

Don Turton says he is in Perth fairly regularly and always contacts someone and therefore unnecessary for him to write. This of course is true but we don't hear of him much and perhaps news of other chaps is being lost in similar circumstances through not being passed on.

Shearing is the chief activity in this part at present. Most are satisfied with their clips though generally a bit lighter than last year which of course was an exceptionally good one.

Accompanied by my wife recent-

ly had a quick trip to Geraldton. Except for being stuck for an hour in the Greenough River attempting a short cut to the farm of my brother-in-law at Walkaway and a pebble through the windscreen, had a very pleasant trip.

Didn't see any of the Northampton chaps. Irish Hopkins, who still seems to be happily drawing ale at Sheppards Hotel told me that Bill Drage had been in Geraldton the day of our arrival there. Peter Barden looking extremely fit has been transferred to Geraldton by the principals of his paper and promised to write giving us news and a further promise to forward regular screeds from that area.

The Katanning ram sales were successfully held in Katanning last Tuesday and Wednesday. I thought the overall standard was higher than last year. The average price was higher than last year so apparently the buyers also considered it so.

I only went for a look for a little while late on Tuesday afternoon. Alf Hillman was just leaving and didn't sight any other members.

Read with interest the proposed date of the annual re-union. A good move I think though would prefer July to August.

Kindest regards to all.

(Bert, you can always be relied upon to come to light with a regular letter, chock full of information of the right kind. I rely on you a lot and appreciate your frequent writing. Thanks once again.—Ed.)

**Paddy Doyle, of 31 President-st., Kalgoorlie, writes:**

Just a few lines hoping the sweep goes with a good bang. I hope all the boys are in good trim and they have a good time at the Games. I don't see too many up here, not much news. Myself just out of hospital. Five weeks with pneumonia, but not too bad now. Sending few bob for my dues.

(Thanks Paddy, hope that you are now fully recovered from that bout of pneumonia.—Ed.)

**Arthur Marshall, of 7 Peet-st., Harvey, writes:**

After reading this month's Courier and Mr. "Bloated Capitalist" Robinson's little bit about semi trailers, I thought if that's the case I'd better keep the letters coming in. Most times semi trailers are

more of a liability than anything else, but Robbie, with those lovely "spuds" you farmers grow, being such a more than average price in the East, a semi has been a man's best friend. I'm only sorry I didn't have a dozen of them. In fact in an emergency like this I reckon us poor old truckies should be allowed to commandeer anything with four wheels. Just think of all those starving spud hungry people in the other States. Why they were all breaking out in foot and mouth disease for the sake of a few murphies. And there's us fairly falling over spare bags of them everywhere. I stuck it out (till I heard about Section 92) for a good while, then thought I had better help (myself) a bit too. I did a couple of trips in 20 days. That was to Adelaide. Fair effort I reckon, 5,000 miles on 1,100 gallons of petrol (Ampol exclusive). Which ever way you look at it, still was a fair effort.

Shorty Stevens, I'm sorry I could not stop and say "hello", because our State Parliament was in session and a Bill was being pushed through the House to stop our mobility. Just another way of stopping money coming into this State. I think I can say without doubt that the "spud board" did the farmers of W.A. and the south west in particular, out of more £.s.d. than Al Capone got out of the Yanks.

It's years since I've heard truckies singing but just about everyone you came up with was having a go. And the main song "It's a great wide wonderful world to live in", or "You've heard of Mr. Menzies and his Section 92".

This Section 92 of the Act reads: "There shall be free intercourse between States at all times".

Well I'm explaining this to Audrey and how it allows me to cart whatever—when out comes her case and clothes are going—flat out.

She said: "You can have any Section you like but I'm coming along to put a stop to that 92 one." And like the man from Snowy River, she came.

A few days have passed since I've began this and I'm not so sure that I want a dozen semi trailers or even one at all. You see I got a little careless and let the Trans. Board Inspector catch me more than 20 miles away from home when I had



a load of timber on. Good bye "20 bananas", and all because I stopped to have a cup of tea with Ping Anderson.

When I saw the man waving a little black book at me I thought of another song "The Sunshine of my life it now has fled".

Well chaps I'd better give this away for now.

(You certainly get around. Dodging the transport boys seems to be a pastime of yours Arthur. You would have been an asset to your friend Al Capone hi-jacking a little liquor now and again. A very interesting letter Arthur, and thanks for sending a note so regularly.—Ed.)

**Charlie Sadler, of Box 24, Wongan Hills, writes:**

I am enclosing my sweep butts with cheque for 30/-. Ten shillings being for my subscription.

Being a cocky, about the only thing I can think about these days is the weather. We have had about 70 points of rain in the last two months, which is about 1 1/2 inches below our average for those two months. However I believe our wheat crop will be about average, but our oats well below average.

I saw Royce Wilkinson a few weeks ago and he is looking really well. He tells me he is leading a fairly quiet life.

Well, news is very scarce around these parts so I'll say cheerio, regards to all.

(Cheque to hand, Charlie, and thanks for letter. Your Convention looks like being a record this year so will see you then.—Ed.)

**Jack Hassen, of Ballidu, writes:**

Thanks for the P.S. on the letter in with the tickets. Am now sending them back with a couple of postal notes. Hope I've sold the winner.

Sincerely hope the Ladies' Night was a great success. We were sorry we were unable to be with you all. Better luck next year. We may also miss out on the Wongan Convention because as far as we know now we are having folk from Perth that weekend. Still a lot may happen between now and then so time will tell.

The crops are not looking too bright at present—rain is badly needed. Thought we might have

got some the beginning of this week but no go.

Hope to see you at holiday time if not before. Regards to all the Unit.

(Thanks for letter and sweep money, Jack. Will be in Wongan for the Convention and hope to see you then.—Ed.)

**"Baldy" Balwin aboard S.S. Orontes at sea, slap in the middle of the Indian Ocean, writes:**

Bon deeya, tuan.

And do you think that, after perusal, you could hand this on, in any order that may be convenient to you, to: Doigy, the Doc., Geoff, Nizzie, and any other old comrades who may be round about the Queen city of Australia.

I trust they'll understand that, with all time on my hands, I find it mighty hard to write. You can see why it is. Miles of deck to loll about on, reasonable weather (though it's not so clever at that—I'd like to be about 15 deg. further north, where the sun has a little more kick), a few interesting blokes (all the Charlie Wheelers seem to be monopolised by the younger fry, striplings in their thirties—so let 'em go), and oceans of a remarkably fine and invigorating tonic called Milk Stout. I had heard of this substance before, in glowing terms, from various friends in the Old Dart, and it certainly is as good as its very fine reputation would make out. Doc ought to make it standard treatment, I should say, in all cases of bleeding ear, listener's neurasthenia, and basher's throat, and certainly prophylactic and curative doses of it should be given at all future meetings and conventions.

Well, it was a shame that I didn't get round to see you all, but there it was. Intentions were good but execution not quite up to them, as I explained to Arthur. Erry had wired me at Adelaide and he was there when the big ship tied up, rearing to show me as much as possible of your mighty State, and who was I to say no? We did intend to take in the city and its denizens on the way back, but by that time had dallied here and there. Anyway, I knew all of you would be too busy on a week day an' all.

Erry did pretty well by me, at that. Cottosloe, City Beach, Guildford, Boya, National Park, Mundar-

ing Weir, Kalamunda, the Ludlow tour of Perth and environs, the Uni., King's Park and Nedlands. All rich with memories of Darby and Tidal, fellers, and I reckon I could lie in a tent now, and beat any Groper alive at his own game of extolling the Mighty State. Only one point, though. Give you the river and that and that, but when are you going to secure some Casey Joneses that don't look like kids' toys?

Seriously, I was most impressed by the Avenue of Honour, and, of course, our little section of it. I wonder if it might be possible to put a few bulbs under the trees. I saw it done with some of the others, and thought it gave them a particularly cared for look in the brief time of the bulbs flowering. Lachernalias or freesias should give the touch, and no more trouble than the mere matter of putting them in—I don't think they need much watering, if any.

So much for now, tuans all. I trust you are not offended by this joint soorat.

I'm not quite sure how my subscription lies, but think it is O.K., until next Anzac Day, anyway. At all events, could you organise the Courier to keep coming to me at: Dean Close School, Cheltenham, Glos., U.K.

I promise faithfully: (a) to give you any news I can from t'other side; (b) to bring my sub. properly to date as soon as I lob back.

All the best.

(Thanks for interesting letter. Hope that you will be able to write quite frequently. A spot of humour brightens us all up. Have already passed on your good wishes to your old mates.—Ed.)

**Stan King, of Pingaring, via Lake Grace, writes:**

I received the extra tickets O.K., and managed to dispose of them without much trouble. A lot of my friends around here were asking me about the "Back to Front" raffle you had. They reckoned it was good oh, and were inquiring about tickets, so if the 2/2nd decides to have another one you can send me half a dozen books. We're having the usual cocky's moan at present, no rain, etc., but I notice a few new cars in the district so it can't be that bad. Personally I

couldn't care less as my wheat (about 80 acres is all this year) is looking pretty good, and as I got 97 pence for my wool, I'm one of the few that's not growling. The last couple of days it has been blowing a gale here, but only a few points of rain have fallen. Too windy I think. The oats are starting to ripen off now so I don't suppose it will be long before hay cutting starts, and then harvesting after that. I haven't run into any of the old boys for a good while, there aren't any at all around this area, so cannot give you any information on that subject. A mate and I are coming down to Perth for the grand final leaving early in the morning and coming back Sunday morning, so might meet a few of the blokes around Perth. Well that's the lot for now, a good effort for me, as I can't remember the last time I wrote a letter, and always leave that to the wife.

(Sorry missed you if you managed to make Perth for the grand final but may see you later in the year after harvest.—Ed.)

**Tom Crouch, of "Burnside", Donnelley Mail, Manjimup, writes:**

Here I am writing my second letter for the year. Quite a commendable effort I think for a semi illiterate.

Well, Wilf, let me tell you about my operation. I don't really know much about it except that I was wheeled into the op. theatre, then there was a short blank space and I woke up back in bed minus my appendix. They say it is an unnecessary appendage with which I heartily agree.

The winter down here has been exceptionally cold and the past two months have been pretty dry for this time of the year.

It started raining yesterday and I hope it keeps on for a while. I couldn't care less about Royal Show patrons.

The 34 cows I'm milking are doing fairly well, not that I don't grizzle about not being as good as they should be, but, of course, we cow cockies are always wingeing and if you ever meet or hear of one that's not there must be something wrong with him.

I'm returning the sweep butts, if you will pass them on and the cash to the treasurer. Have added

a couple of years' subs. I must be behind a couple of years by now. If I'm not, stick it in the lousy bag and if a sweep ticket with T.S.B. happens to be drawn and any thing accrues stick that in the bin too.

Haven't seen any of the boys except Gordon Rowley who has been appointed agent for Blue Streak chain saws down here. So if any of you city folk want to saw up your kindling wood just get in touch with Gordon who will be only too pleased to foist a saw on to you.

This I regret very much but owing to the rise in postage as from the publication of this letter I will be only writing once a year unless circumstances extra-ordinary deem it otherwise. Best wishes to everybody and greetings of the festive season which is almost upon us.

(Thanks Tom, sweep money to hand and noted. Don't think that only writing twice a year is worrying me. If I could average that many letters from the gang I would have a Courier of about 20 pages.—Ed.)

**Ron Kirkwood, of Commonwealth Bank, Kalgoorlie, writes:**

First of all my belated congratulations to Jerry and the rest of the committee on your selection. Although I'm one of the (I fear) many who don't say much, I follow everything with great interest and it's good to see that we're still getting capable executives. Good luck to you all.

I'm enclosing cheque for £2/10/- covering sweep butts and (perhaps) membership dues. I hope to be transferred down before summer and will enjoy seeing you all then, and being a constant meeting-goer too. Meantime regards and best wishes to you all.

(Thanks, Ron, for prompt sending in of butts and cash. It's good news to hear that you contemplate a transfer to the "big smoke". We will look forward to a yarn over a jar or two before long.—Ed.)

"My boy, I never kissed a girl until I met your mother. Will you be able to say the same thing to your son?"

"Sure, Dad, but not with such a straight face."

## Heard This?

"I don't understand why your parents sent you to see me," said the psychiatrist after completing a thorough examination. "You seem perfectly normal to me. In fact, I should say that you are just as sane as I am."

"Exactly," cried the girl happily. "That's what I keep telling my parents. But just because I like apple dumplings they think I'm crazy."

"That's absurd," retorted the psychiatrist. "Why I like apple dumplings myself."

"You do?" squeaked the girl in sheer joy. "Well really, you must come over to our house and try some of mine. I have cupboards full of them."

\* \* \*

Jeb who was 75 years young and 73-year-old Minnie decided to get married, so they went to the doctor to see if they were physically fit. After the examination, the doctor asked Jeb why he wished to marry.

"Well, you see it's this way: I have a little money saved and no one to leave it to so I would like to get married and have an heir."

To the same question, Minnie replied that she had money saved and wished to have an heir.

The doctor looked at them both solemnly as he said: "I see no reason why you shouldn't marry, but I think you are more heir minded than you are heir conditioned."

\* \* \*

**Personal Column Reply:** "Dear Worried, You say you have had a proposal of marriage from a man who says he is only 70 but looks closer to 85, and would like to know how you can make sure without offending him. Well, I ask you . . . does it really matter, 'Worried'?"

\* \* \*

A woman seeking to clean the window of the ground floor room, leaned too far out and overbalanced and fell into a garbage tin. A passing Chinaman remarked: "White people very wasteful. That woman good for 10 years yet."

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

Bert Tobin, of 51 Northernhay St., Regent, N.19, Victoria, writes:

Thanks very much for your recent letter—this will be a very brief note in reply. Pleased to see that you have at least three starters for the Games. I have passed the available details on to Harry Botterill and he has their accommodation arranged with some of our Melbourne chaps. We are expecting Jack Fowler to be accompanied by his wife and W. Pierce (is that Pigeon? What is his correct Christian name?) by his wife and three kiddies. Have you yet established whether Norm Thornton is bringing a wife or anybody else with him?

Do you know of any additional starters from the West? Harry has still got some accommodation offers which he hasn't used yet. Has the West Aussie Branch been successful yet in appointing an accredited delegate? It would be most helpful if you could let us have the full addresses of the above three and also of any additional starters. It is anticipated that their hosts will write to them direct and our branch may need to send them bulletins on our arrangements.

We have about 10 definite starters from N.S.W., two from South Australia, and one from Tasmania, plus another 10 or 12 wives. The interstate response has been somewhat disappointing but I guess it just can't be helped. Now that we have a fair idea of our number of visitors we have re-arranged our programme of functions somewhat and you will get a good idea of our present plans from the enclosed circular which Gerry Maley sent out recently to all the Vic. members. Gerry tells me that the response to the questionnaires has been excellent and we now expect an excellent roll-up of Victorian members (including country ones) to all our functions.

Have heard that Jack Servante is pretty ill and I wrote at some length to Col Doig on this matter a couple of nights ago.

Trust you will find time to drop a few lines again soon. We in Victoria realise the office of General Secretary is a difficult one but we congratulate you on your efforts

and hope you can find the time and energy to continue for many a day yet.

### OLYMPIC CONVENTION

Circular recently sent out by Victorian Branch.

Am enclosing a most important questionnaire which I trust you will complete and return post haste. The allowed time for planning is over and arrangements for our Olympic functions must now be made. You will no doubt appreciate that we must now have definite figures, so only replies received by Saturday Sept. 8, will be included in our allocations. Any received later will be advised immediately that they cannot be considered.

A revision of our programme has been made now that we know definitely who our interstate visitors will be. Also we are working in closely with the wonderful plans the Victorian Commando Association have made and a brief outline of all the functions is given hereunder:

First and foremost in importance is the dedication of the Memorial Plaque to honour our fallen, which is to be unveiled in the precincts of the Shrine, between the Shrine itself and St. Kilda-rd., on Sunday, Nov. 25. The actual time of the ceremony will be advised later. It will be a most impressive event, the actual plaque being mounted on granite, and flanked by four trees, each to be identified by a bronze double diamond. An enormous amount of work has gone into the planning of this dedication, and I think we should all make a point of attending in respect to our fallen comrades. The expense involved in the erection of the memorial is approximately £400, and your Executive Committee has asked me to urge you all to support to your utmost the appeal for donations to defray the cost, which will be launched very soon. This appeal will come direct to you first from the Victorian Commando Association, and warrants your immediate response. Please do not let us down.

The Opening Ceremony at the M.C.G. is on Thursday, Nov. 22. Our tickets are in a group on the



for part of the new stand, and will be allocated in the order of the questionnaire reply. We would like to attend to get there one hour before the start of proceedings.

In the evening is a social gathering at Kelvin Hall, Collins Place, City. Refreshments will be provided and a buffet supper. We have an orchestra booked, and plan barn dances and jolly games to mix us all up. The Association will subsidise the cost, and there will only be a nominal charge, about 7/6.

Saturday, Nov. 24, is our next get-together, this time with all Victorian and assisting Commandos at the Casino de Luxe, Rivedale. Dress will be informal for this dinner dance, the charge of 27/- covers drink, and you must bring your own refreshments. This will really be a super night, and you cannot afford to miss.

A Convention and Smoke Night Re-union is the next on the list, Wednesday, Nov. 28. Here again

the venue will be Kelvin Hall, and any charge will be purely nominal, with no bearing on the actual cost of the show.

Our final get-together will be the Christmas Treat in conjunction with a visit to the Maroondah Dam by parlour coach on Sunday, Dec. 2. Two coaches have been booked and it is hoped that we will not have to make any charge. The usual fun and frolics for the kids will be the feature of this outing.

The Melbourne Cup Sweep tickets will be in the mail shortly, and as this has proved to be the financial backbone of the Association, please make an extra special effort to increase your sales this year. The drawing will take place on Thursday, Nov. 4, and we will take the opportunity of holding a reunion on that night. I will let you know where in plenty of time.

In closing, I would like to once again ask you to support the appeal for the Memorial Plaque to the limit of your capabilities.



## Headlights

Hesitant Wolf: "What are my chances with you?"

New Girlfriend: "Two to one. There are you and I against my conscience."

\* \* \* \*

No doubt the saying "come across" was originated shortly after the invention of twin beds. Manufacturers' note: It's also boosted the sale of over-all carpet.

\* \* \* \*

"Doctor, this patient is very irritable and unreasonable."

"Well, nurse, it's your job to soothe him. Give him whatever he wants."

"Sir, I'll resign first!"

\* \* \* \*

"My father was a Pole."

"But how interesting—north or south?"

Hope: "When I get married, my wedding day will be on the 22nd or 23rd of December."

Gloria: "Why then?"

Hope: "Work it out for yourself."

\* \* \* \*

Millie: "Fred started to walk home with me last night."

Tillie: "How far did he go?"

Millie: "Don't be so nosy!"

\* \* \* \*

"Gladys, will you ever forget that glorious weekend at the Convention?"

Gladys: "Yes, but what was it?"