



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered at the G.P.O. Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical)
Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O., Perth
Vol. 16. No. 161. SEPTEMBER, 1962 Price 1d.

Editorial

THANKS FOR THE CORRESPONDENCE

This column has been a procession of Editorial bellyaches for the last few months, so it is about time that a note of approbation crept in.

Oh! that Sweep! The letters have rolled in from all quarters of the continent. An Editorial oasis! Just shows how easy it would be if this could happen every quarter instead of once a year.

Should have very little trouble in the next two or three "Couriers" in giving readers the type of news they want to read, namely, letters from their mates.

If all those who have also promised to write more fully in the near future live up to expectations then the old Editorial pen will be working overtime to cope.

The pleasure of receiving letters is doubly good when so many have gone to the trouble to state how much they appreciate receiving the "Courier", and hope for a continuance of our journal. Every Editor is after all only human and a little bit of flattery goes a long way. The paper is our intercommunication and to be truly representative of all of us it is best if it contains mostly news from members rather than the Editor's opinions and views.

The financial result of the sweep also demonstrates the generosity of members when the appeal goes

out to rehabilitate the straining finances. Thanks very much to all who generously gave to the funds and to all who sold or purchased tickets in the sweep. Our sorely tried Treasurer can now repose at night without the spectre of nightmares brought on by the near approach of bankruptcy.

The publisher of the "Courier" need have no doubts that the "Courier" will continue to be published and that he will get paid for his efforts.

Thanks a million blokes, it does me good to bestow a modicum of praise once now and again.

ANNUAL DINNER

Please take note that the Annual Dinner this year is to be held on a **FRIDAY** night and not Saturday as has been the rule in past years.

The Date: **FRIDAY, Nov. 23.**

OFFICE BEARERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

PRESIDENT: R. McDonald
SECRETARY: J. Carey
TREASURER: R. Geere
EDITOR: C. D. Doig

Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth

West Australian Whisperings

Committee Comment

The September Committee meeting was held at Anzac House Basement on the 18th and an excellent muster of Committeemen attended.

The financial report presented by the Treasurer indicated that the finances of the Association were in a very healthy condition, thanks to the generosity of members with the sweep.

The Sweep Organiser presented a detailed statement of the sweep and the result was considered to be eminently satisfactory with an overall advance of some £20 on last year.

Bob Smyth was able to report that some finality had been reached with the Director of Kings Park regarding the signs to be erected in our area. These will now be worded more in keeping with the Association's wishes and should provide a nice indication of who is looking after the area. Bob has done a tremendous amount of work regarding this matter and he is to be complimented on his efforts. The signs should definitely be in position before the Games Re-union takes place.

The Committee was most happy with the August meeting and agreed that Ray Aitken's commentary on the growing of wildflowers, etc., could not have been better.

It was decided that a working bee be held at Kings Park on Sunday, Sept. 30, to get the area into shape by spreading sand, top dress with fertiliser and general maintenance work. It was thought that if the area is to be in top class condition by late November it was most necessary to get a start as soon as possible.

A sub-committee meeting to arrange details of the Ladies' Night during the Re-union period was arranged to take place at Bob Smyth's office on Tuesday, 25th. It was hoped that the meeting would be able to iron out most of the detail required for this all important function.

Bill Epps was given the go-ahead signal to get the Address Book printed as it was now felt that the address list was as complete as it

ever would be. It is hoped that this will be despatched with a very early "Courier" as a supplement.

Meeting closed at 10 p.m.

Association Activities

SEPTEMBER MEETING

We had the extreme pleasure of hearing Ray Aitken discourse on the growing of wildflowers and bush shrubs from cuttings using certain basic techniques and polythene bags. It all sounded so simple especially as Ray gave a practical demonstration of how to do the job. He assured us that, if his method was followed there was no reason to doubt that a very high degree of success in strikes would be obtained.

The method apparently applies to practically every sort of shrub which grows including Morrison, Lechanaultia, Geraldton Wax in all its forms, and many, many other wild shrubs which we may have from time to time desired to grow in the garden.

Ray showed a number of slides giving an indication of the beauty of native trees and shrubs which could be available for garden use either grown from slip or seed.

Naturally the talk was interspersed with Aitken whimsicalities and all present thoroughly enjoyed his presentation.

The opportunity was taken, because of the subject matter of the talk to invite the ladies to be present and there was quite a reasonable roll up of ladies present.

Mrs. Epps was the lucky winner of the "doover" Ray arranged, and was tickled pink to be taking home a miniature hot house full of potential shrubs (we hope).

Thanks to the ladies quite a nice supper was available.

Also present during the evening and obviously enjoying himself was "Mac" Walker, whom you will remember was C.O. of 2/4th Coy. on Timor, together with Norm Nicolay and "Wally" Marshall, all of 2/4th. "Mac" was in W.A. on holiday and has been getting around the State, especially the south west area and was quite taken with the wild flowers in the

State and I believe would return to Victoria laden with quite a few plants per favour of Ray Aitken. "Mac" who is with the equivalent of our Water Supply Department in Victoria was most interested in re-afforestation and allied problems so the evening was something in the nature of business as well as pleasure. He kindly brought along a few slides of Wilsons Promontory as it is at the moment to bring back a bit of nostalgia to the mob.

The evening panned out to be one of our real successes thanks to the ability of Ray Aitken.

COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE GAMES RE-UNION

This big re-union is a scant two months away and all the hopes and fears of over four years are within an ace of realisation. All who attend can be certain that it will not be for lack of hard work and organisation if they don't have a good time. The Association will have a varied bill of fare that should allow everyone to meet everyone else and at the same time not interfere too much with the actual events of the Games themselves.

The Organiser would still like to hear from those who require tickets for the Opening Day and also there is still a very limited number of tickets for the Closing Day available. Both of these events are going to be most difficult to obtain tickets for (the Closing Day is already completely booked out), so as stated in the last issue it is first come first served apart from our interstate visitors. So let your Organiser know as soon as possible and so avoid disappointment.

We look like still having accommodation available for any interstaters who make up their minds at the last minute to come over, so don't let that aspect deter you.

Personalities

Had a most interesting letter from Kevin Curran enclosing some newspaper cuttings and photos of himself and wife on the occasion of his winning a seat on the Bendigo Town Council. He says this will give him a foot into the political sphere and eventually he hopes

to go on from here. He sends his best regards to all the gang. Our congrats added to all the others you have undoubtedly received, Kevin.

Another very interesting correspondent was Tony Adams. He says he has settled down nicely at Southport having a fairly new home and bank premises. Manages to get in a bit of golf and tennis and generally enjoying life. He is able to get up to Brisbane and see his lad who is going to school there and also to see his mother. Tony wishes he could make it for the Games but apart from winning the Casket can't see how the finances will run to it. Thanks a million for your nice remarks about the "Courier" Tony. Believe me a little appreciation is highly desired.

Don Turton and family and John BurrIDGE and family have been holidaying once again at Murchison River and are still singing its praises. Don reckons it could become the Gold Coast of W.A. in the not very distant future. Don says he will be seeing as much of the Games and the various functions as time and money will permit. He has enthusiastically acceded to the Association's request to run a family day at the farm on Dec. 2, the last Sunday of the Games period.

Saw Jack Fowler briefly and he is also sparking on all six. He will be down for the opening day and of course for the big re-union. Says he has finished shearing and sold the wool with the cheque a bit on the light side this year. Sold his lambs most profitably though so that made up for it a bit.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Norm Parker's father. Norm flew West and I saw him briefly. He looks extra well and not at all the Norm of army days when he was as thin as a rake. He is in the P.M.G. at Katoomba, in N.S.W., and says he is very happy but always has thoughts of returning West.

Arch Campbell is a busy man these days running a school for Ampol. Just helped to organise the Australian Gymnastic Championships (he is President of the Gymnastic Association in this State), on the organising committee of the Squash Championship

recently held in Perth, preparing to be one of the commentators for the Athletics at the Games and still broadcasting the footy. A case of the old rubber handled broom some where about the place, Arch. He is looking forward to being host to Bert Tobin and Harry Botterill during the Games and says they can rest assured they will be well looked after.

It was lovely to hear from Major Stuart Love once again especially

as he was good enough to give the "Courier" quite a rap up. His letter printed in this issue, shows that he is as agile of mind as ever.

Another one to rejoin the fold was Charlie Vernede who wrote in to give his correct address and ask about how to be in it with the Association. You should have my letter by now Charlie, and we hope you will find time to come along to a few Association do's in the future.

Random Harvest

B. J. BARDEN, of 6GN, Geraldton, W.A., writes:—

At the outset let me heartily congratulate Col on yet another excellent Editorial; this time about the Indonesian "grab" of West New Guinea. Many of my R.S.L. colleagues have been shown the Editorial, and they were particularly interested in it because we have passed several resolutions on the same subject and had one of them submitted to the R.S.L. State Congress.

I'm sure you will be interested to know that at our September meeting we passed the following resolution: "The Geraldton Sub-Branch requests the League's Federal Executive (through State H. Q.) to censure the Federal Government for its attitude towards the Indonesian-Dutch dispute over West New Guinea. We ask that the Government's attitude in general be condemned and also these points in particular: (a) Its failure to give active support to the Dutch against Indonesian aggression by a firm protest to the United Nations and an offer of military aid; (b) the disgraceful conduct of the Federal Minister for Defence in wearing the uniform of the Indonesian armed forces while inspecting Indonesian troops; (c) the promotion of a goodwill visit by a Minister of the Crown at a time when such a visit could only have been construed as appeasement and the abandonment of the Dutch cause; and further that the League inform the leaders of all political parties that it would direct its energies against any political party which failed to accord the security of the territory of Papua-New Guinea the same

value as the security of the mainland of Australia."

Now, on to something more cheerful.

Brigades (of which I am secretary) won the football premiership of the Great Northern League last Sunday by defeating Rovers by 10.12 to 4.11. To quote the local newspaper: "Although three points in arrears at the final change, Brigades were in control; they then unwound their paralysing burst, and it was magnificent." Three of our stars were Angus Horwood (who had a run with East Perth early in the year), Ray Lawrence (a youngster from the Perth Club) and our captain-coach, 22 year old Barry Dalton (one of the Dalton Bros., of Perth). My son Ross (now aged 19) was amongst those to give a pleasing exhibition, so we are all naturally proud about the whole set-up. However, as is invariably the case in instances of this nature, we suffered for a couple of days as a result of the celebrations.

Please find attached, receipt for the lottery ticket I won in the sweep. I hope the sweep was extremely successful, because I realise that finance is a big question when such mammoth jobs as those done by the 2/2nd Association are being carried out.

Jack Denman and a few other "Double Red Diamond" types had a happy re-union the other night when Mal Herbert visited Geraldton as the representative of the National Rifle Association. Mal, who won the last Queens Prize, did not perform as well as usual in the North West Union shoot, which was won by Bill Mellows, of

Geraldton, who has two Kings Prizes and two Queens Prizes to his credit. Bill Mellows is "only" 44. However, the boys welcomed the opportunity of having a noggin or two (?) with Mal.

Geraldton's tremendous progress continues. The latest development in this regard was the laying of the foundation stone of a £78,000 civic centre last weekend at which my wife and myself were among the guests, with "Yours Truly" helping the stewards to get home earlier than usual on an occasion such as this.

Bill Drage also had occasion to be happy last Sunday. The Northampton football team won the "Seconds" premiership, when they defeated Brigades. However, we bagged the major premiership, and were also quite happy with the effort of our young "Seconds" team in getting into the grand final.

Well, I must be away for now, as duty calls. Kind regards to all the boys, and I must add that I was delighted to read all the congratulatory remarks you received on the "Courier" in the letters from Eastern Staters

MAJOR STUAR LOVE, writes:—

I put a note on the back of your envelope, posted a day or two ago, that the August "Courier" had arrived that morning. Our host and hostess were out yesterday (Saturday) evening and my wife wanted to go to bed early, so I sat down to read your Editorial—and what a splendid Editorial it is. I read it twice last night and again this morning. I wrote a long letter to "The Age" along much the same lines in May last year, pointing out that Indonesia had not the slightest claim to West Irian historically, ethnologically, linguistically or on any other ground. That it was a pure land grab and also what they are always inveighing against, undisguised colonisation. There was more in the letter than that, but I shan't waste space on that.

You will remember that Sukarno and Subriano paid a fairly long visit to Canberra and that Menzies told them both firmly that their only proper cause was to open negotiations with the Dutch and on no account to use force: and that they both promised not to use force.

Well, as we all know, their promises are, as the Irishman said: "Verbal orders, not worth the paper they are written on." As soon as they got back to Djakarta Sukarno mobilised an army of "Liberation for West Irian" and, as I pointed out in another letter to "The Age" that "Army of Liberation" meant an army of enslavement for the insigneous Papuan population. Very soon afterwards he started landing troops by light craft and then by paratroops from aeroplanes in Dutch West New Guinea.

And we know, too, that Sukarno's statement that he had no designs on Papua and East New Guinea is valueless. Personally I agree with Caldwell's statement in the House: "It is West New Guinea today and Papua and East New Guinea tomorrow."

We also know the rest of the story, that the Dutch as they truly said, "Deserted by their allies" (including Australia and Great Britain) and under intense pressure from Kennedy and the bloody Americans, the Dutch finally agreed to the final arrangement, which has just been signed by both sides.

In June last I wrote a long letter to "The Age" which I didn't think they would publish—but they did, in full.

I pointed out that Indonesia will soon have a coastline right along most of our north coast and that they are so tied up with Russia that they will always be a potential enemy and that if they make a move against Papua—we have no troops to defend Papua—let alone our own north coast and that it was essential that compulsory military training should be re-introduced immediately.

I ended with a quotation "slightly adapted" from Byron (you will find it in the poem "The Isles of Greece"):

"Trust not for freedom to the
Yanks,
"They have a Chief who buys
and sells,
"In native swords and native
ranks
"Our only hope of freedom
dwells."

You, of course, have the bitter memory of having to drive the Japs out of northern Papua (from Milne Bay) to East New Guinea. I know Eastern Papua and its

islands to the east of Samarai very well. I spent four years there (1933 to 1936) and I learnt to love my Papuans . . . the most love able savages I have ever known and I should hate to see the Indonesians with their claws into them.

I am sorry to weary you with another letter, but your Editorial called for support.

Wishing you all good luck and a good backing for your efforts to arouse the members of your Association to the new situation we now face, and with all greetings.

CAPT. J. A. CARDY, of 1 Norman St., Wollongong, N.S.W., writes:

No doubt you wrote the Editorial in the August "Courier" to provoke members who seldom write, into some form of correspondence. Well if that be the case I have "bitten", hook, line and sinker.

Now, when you were in the army, you, as an officer, did not make a statement or plan before knowing all the facts, but with that Editorial I think you failed to carry out your old teachings.

In the first place you say that the Australian Government accepted the situation because of outside pressure. Sure there was outside pressure, but it was pressure from people who were entitled to exert pressure, to wit the Americans, who as our partners in SEATO are contributing far more than we are (compare the amount the American taxpayer is contributing to defence to our individual contribution). Now, we all know that Timor is owned by two nations, Indonesia and Portugal, and this situation has existed for some time, but there has been no move by Indonesia to walk into Portuguese Timor, so why should they change their attitude in New Guinea?

The "grab" as you call it, was not conceded without a great deal of consideration. Remember it is not only the foreign affairs diplomats and politicians who advise cabinet in its foreign policy. High ranking officers of the services and joint chiefs of staff, constantly police the areas close to Australia and those covered by SEATO, and they also inform and advise the Government on the strategic situation and

many of our present senior service officers did as much fighting in New Guinea as you did.

You compare Korea and Malaya with this situation. There is no comparison. Korea and Malaya campaigns were fought to combat the spread of C——t (we call it Phantom).

I feel that all members of the SETAO consider that the spread of Indonesia to the north of Australia is a good strategic measure, and that we have no worries from any of our potential enemies in the areas occupied by them. Sure they have accepted help from nations which we regard as being on the other side of the fence, but why not? Why look a gift horse in the mouth even if the horse wears a "red" jacket?

The idea that the Dutch were let down made good Australian newspaper headlines at the time, but I suggest you read some Dutch newspapers which refer to it.

You ask if the state of our defences is such that we are not game to have a go. The state of preparation for war in this country is far superior to what it was in 1939, and if we do have to fight in any type of war we would be in action far more quickly, and much better equipped than we were when you went to war. The size of an army (which I am sure you are hinting at) is not an all important factor these days. Surely our own Unit proved this to some degree in Timor. In my experience with the Australian Army I have never seen it so well prepared as it is today.

Having got this off my mind, how are you, Col? Sorry it is so long since I last wrote (remember when I wrote and told you that the army had detailed me to look at the Timor film prior to its use in the T.V. series "Anzac"). The only excuse I can offer is the army which takes up most of my time. During the last seven years I have had three different postings, Adjt.-Q.M. of the Commandos 1955 to 1958 (I think Bloss Lawrence told you about me breaking my foot trying to do a parachute course at the age of 47). From 1958 to 1961 I was Q.M. of a Tank Regiment (that is when I last wrote). From 1961 to the present I have been 21.C. of B Coy. 3 Royal New

South Wales Regiment. I am stationed at Wollongong, N.S.W., and as you see by the address am living there. Whenever one talks about the old 2/2nd in this man's army people (particularly senior officers) invariably think of Bernie Callinan. I was talking to the G.O.C. 1 Div., the other day and he mentioned Bernie.

I found the modern Commando Unit very interesting and most strenuous. You have probably seen quite a lot of the type of work they do, if you have seen the S.A.S. in W.A. carrying out exercises. In today's Commando Unit to qualify for a Green Beret (their mark of distinction) you have to go down a 65 foot cliff in 25 seconds and up it in 35 seconds, do a 5 1/2 mile speed march in full marching order with rifle in 55 minutes; a 20 mile cross country march using map and compass in six hours; a "gut buster" called a "scramble course"; all the battle efficiency tests such as swimming 100 yards fully clothed with rifle and equipment, etc. I can assure you it is not easy. I was 45 when I qualified and it took a good three months' training. However there were quite a lot of young fellows who were half my age who took six months to make it. Incidentally I was the first officer to be presented in Australia with a green beret. The reason for this was that Max Grant the C.O. had received his in England and as I was acting 2I.C. to him I was the senior officer on parade for the first presentation and was therefore called out first.

What do you think of George Warfe (of 3 Ind. Co. fame) being made C.O. of the Royal Victorian Regiment?

By the way Jack Laffy can be found by writing to Lt. J. Laffy, Q Branch, Eastern Com., Victoria Barracks, Sydney.

Regards to all.

(In the interests of a "fair go" will not comment on your views, Alan, as you have not the option of replying till next month. Needless to say I don't agree. But thanks a million for your letter. —C. D. Doig.)

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

"CURLY" O'NEIL, of 85 Woorarra Avenue, North Narrabeen, Sydney, writes:—

Home again now and I thank you and many others for your congratulations and felicitations.

This probably will be the last you will hear of me for some time. We are leaving for England at the end of October and plan to live there for some time.

I would have liked to have seen Perth, the Causeway and where Roe Street used to be and how time has treated you all.

But the ship in which I intend to travel goes by way of Singapore.

Oh, well, that's life. Got no money, but I manage to get a kick out of living.

I wish everybody well. Incidentally, a Lionel Freeman was mentioned in the last "Courier". Is that the same "Curly" Freeman who used to sing "The Down and Out Blues"? Kiwi told me he was dead. Just goes to show.

I enclose without comment a copy of the latest proceedings of the Townies' General Assembly.

This non-profit, non-sectarian, organisation, you may recall, was formed by city slickers during the war. Its aim is to convert all gum trees to electric light posts and hang Griffin from the highest.

Marsh hasn't changed much.

**Townies' General Assembly
(Special Meeting)**

Meeting opened with Slickers' anthem: "Say, Can You See by the Neon's Flickering Lights".

Chairman: "I have a report from the Slicker King."

Voices: "Hear, Hear."

Chairman: "He has just completed a transcontinental trek, flushing bushies from their holes and driving them southwards to the sea."

(Dignified applause.)

Chairman: "He reports having seen the following slickers:

Ross Smith, William Street, Clare, S.A.

They met on a road outside the town on an icy rainy day. The following conversation took place.

Slicker King: "How did you know it was me?"

Smith: "I couldn't think of anybody else who would be out on a day like this with three horses."

They celebrated the impromptu re-union and Smith reported:

"Clare all clear of Bushies."

(Applause.)

Chairman: "Our Slicker King then met Joe Morrisey on road patrol outside of Adelaide. Morrisey reported: All Bushies cleared from roads."

(Applause.)

"Near Adelaide he met Bob Williamson, of the Sappers. Williamson reported: Demolition of Bushies proceeding according to plan."

(Applause.)

"In Adelaide our leader had a few drinks with Jack Poynton, finance expert. Poynton reported: All funds to Bushies now cut off."

(Applause.)

"On the way out of Adelaide he telephoned Dud Tapper and passed on his compliments to Keith Dignam. He also wishes to acknowledge letters from Dick Crossing and Bob Noakes (Glenfyle Ltd., P.M.B. Bordertown, S.A.), a call from Jim English and telegrams from Roy Martin and Alf Hodge and Neal Bray and Arthur Hurst."

(Sustained applause.)

Chairman: "As you can see the anti-Bushie drive is complete and all slickers are on the alert against any resurgence. No sign of Griffin was to be seen. He is now believed to have disguised himself as a slicker. However, our secretary, I believe, has a word to say on this."

Chairman's report moved and seconded. Adopted unanimously.

Secretary: "Correspondence, gentlemen. We have here a letter signed by one Jim Griffin."

(Uproar.)

Chairman: "Order, gentlemen, please. We are not a bunch of Bushies fighting over an unbranded sheep."

(Laughter at this appropriate sally.)

Secretary: "I fully expect that Griffin will claim that the letter is a forgery, particularly if we don't comply with his request. However, I think it is genuine and a typical Griffin move when he is against the wall."

Voice: "Read the letter."

Secretary: "I, Jim Griffin, King of Bushies, hereby apply to become a Townie—third class."

(Uproar and shouting.)

Some members throw transistor radios at the wall. Others come on guard with flick knives.

Secretary: "The letter continues: I know I am unworthy and have been treacherous in the past."

Voices: "Hear, hear."

"However, I, Griffin, promise faithfully to try to be a true townie I promise to wear tan shoes and pink shoelaces."

(Laughter.)

"I will also wear black stovepipe pants, an Elvis Presley shirt and a Frank Sinatra hat."

(Hysterical laughter.)

"I promise to dance rock 'n roll and ride on buses and lean against electric light posts. Please give me a chance. If you gentlemen will not accept me immediately, then leave the way open for another application later."

Slicker representative for Inner City: "I move that this letter be no longer read and that Griffin's papers be marked 'Never to be Admitted'."

Carried unanimously.

Meeting closed with members singing: "Oh, Give Me a Home Where the Double Deckers Roam."

"Happy" GREENHALGH, of P.O. Mungindi, writes:—

In haste as usual at work and also apologies for type otherwise you would not read my scribble.

Thank you for your letters. I have since had an answer from the old Max Davies who by this has had an operation for gall trouble. He seemed extra cheerful as is expected from him although was going in the next day.

Max is leaving early in November sometime and expects to stay a few days with Dud Tapper in Adelaide from all accounts.

From the publicity, etc., getting pushed out the road over should hold no terrors so long as a bloke uses common sense and doesn't try to fly too low. In an article I read last Sunday they advise to keep to about 45 miles per hour and everything will be O.K. That's my speed so will be O.K.

I am going to work hard on Blue Jones but it is a bit hard on him as it is right on harvest time and you know we all have to think of the old bread and butter.

Like Max I am looking forward to seeing all the old mates again and intend to have a bit of a look at your south west if possible. Am not going to stay in Perth all the

time. I may do that before the Games but am not making any arrangements. Am just going to let events work out for themselves.

Regards for now.

J. C. POYNTON, of 45 Catherine St., Lower Witcham, S.A., writes:—

Just a few lines to let you know that I am still in the land of the living. I was thinking that as the sweep usually brings with it quite a flood of mail you should hold them more often. My butts are enclosed with cheque. Balance may be used to bring subs up to date and for any other purpose you think fit.

A funny thing happened the other night when I was tripping the light fantastic at the Hotel Australia. I looked at a chap doing an equally good job and nodded to him as I felt I knew him somehow. He looked at me and said: "You don't happen to be a Poynton, do you?" On acknowledging the fact I was and was feeling the slightest bit embarrassed because of the quantity of grog (Barossa wine) previously consumed, for not knowing him. After much fluffing about and very much to my surprise it turned out to be Bruce McLaren and his good wife. He was over in Adelaide for the opening of another branch of the Lion Club. We joined Bruce's party, getting so wrapped up in past happenings we nearly forgot our own guests.

Recently returned from a trip to Alice Springs by plane then by car to Tennant Creek and plane to Darwin. I stayed at each place for a few days really enjoying the holiday at the bank's expense. Nevertheless I was pleased to return to my family.

I was sorry to have missed Curly O'Neill and his horse at Darwin because he had set off a week or two earlier. I am anxiously awaiting his arrival in Adelaide but he appears to have got lost on the way from Alice Springs to Adelaide. I am enclosing cuttings from several newspaper articles written by Frank. It's hard to get used to the name Frank after only knowing him as Curly. After flying over the country he is now traversing it. Will be a wonder he turns up, horse and all. If I'm lucky

enough to meet him I'll write you again.

My wife and I enjoy getting the "Courier" and looking back now I wish I had spent more time in attending the monthly meetings.

I shall be going to Sydney for a week in November and if I have time I would like to call on some of the chaps in the city. I will also be there for three months in 1963 and 1964 so will have more time to see everybody.

A Further Letter from John says:

Just a few lines to enclose some more cuttings about Curly O'Neill. I was fortunate enough to be able to spend several hours with him at the Hotel Australia, particularly so having the company of his better half and sipping the amber fluid. It was the first time I have seen Curly for nearly 17 years, and therefore had a few things to talk about.

As you can see from the various photos his trip took a lot out of him. He said he had lost two stone. I didn't know he had that much or many that he could lose. He has returned to Sydney and expects to journey to U.K. as soon as he is able to finalise his affairs. He didn't say whether they were love affairs or not.

The schools have broken up for two weeks so I have had to lay down what work is to be done matters had got out of hand each morning in the garden as cause of my interest in golf and tennis.

I have been toying with the idea of taking a trip to W.A. next year but will see what happens between now and then.

I only intend to say a few words because I am nearly asleep.

Kindest regards to all.

JOE HARRISON, Lands Office, Goulbourne, N.S.W., writes:—

I'm so very pleased to hear, re the "Courier" that you are still in the same world as I. Wouldn't it? I've no excuse, with the exception of the fact that I'd no idea of where to write. However if I started making excuses I'd be here for ever.

If you are interested, and I am, you could easily drop me a few lines and let me know what's going on.

You see, it's been that long since I've heard from anyone I'm inter-

ested in that I'm just a little afraid to ask. There are so many.

I see by your "Courier" that Ted's mother has passed away. Well give Ted my very sincerest bereavements and at the same time my kindest regards.

As far as Curly O'Neil and Jim Griffin goes give Jim my address, Curly knows it.

What about you Parry, Don Young, Brooker and a dozen and one others? It's that awkward that I just don't know how to start. However if by any chance you reply, I'll know.

As you will realise by the writing I'm as full as a boot as per usual.

If by any chance you deign to reply I'll try to be sober to answer your epistle.

T. PAULL, Box 78, Boyup Brook, W.A., writes:—

Well I know the hardest thing about anyone starting a letter is that first word, but here goes.

First of all if you have any tickets for Opening Day at the Games just let me know and the cost, etc., and it will be sent down. I have not got a ticket to anything at time of writing and am damned sure I am not going to queue up from Boyup Brook to get one.

Had about three weeks in Hollywood. Started back at work a bit too soon. Three weeks is long enough for us old jokers now.

The wife has been on to me for about two years now about sending the kids' names and ages in so here goes.

Females: Sandra Lu, 1954, 10 years; Anne Marree, 1953, 8 years.

We are getting to be old identities here now and they are a pretty good crowd so if any of you are ever down this way let us know. We haven't got the phone on yet but the interest on the money paid for having it installed must be doubled now, that's if we were to have it, it would be.

All the best to all.

ILMA MARTIN, of Box 40, Miling, W.A., writes:—

A note in haste to get the sweep tickets away in plenty of time. Enclosed in cheque to cover tickets, subs., and the rest for general funds.

Tom just doesn't write letters

any more, but likes getting the news letter each month. At the moment he is fully occupied with shearing in progress, but can manage to take a few hours off tomorrow to collect our eldest son from Guildford Grammar School. Next year our daughter will also be away at college, leaving one ten year old boy at home. It doesn't take long for them to grow up.

Tom no longer plays football or cricket, but if you city types should see a portly gentleman with a receding hairline flitting around the Swan on a ski that's he. In fact the whole family are ski enthusiasts.

We have made quite a few bookings for the Games which we hope to be able to leave the farm long enough to see, but it is the wrong time of the year for us with 1,000 acres of crop to harvest. However I guess we are lucky to have completed our cropping programme this year as other districts were not so fortunate.

LIONEL NEWTON, of 274 Kaolin St., Broken Hill, writes:—

I am returning the cash and butts for the Cup Sweep and am now looking forward to hearing from you saying that I have won first prize.

I am the only member of our old Unit from Broken Hill and I quite enjoy receiving the "Courier" as it usually contains such a lot of news of our old war-time mates.

While in Sydney last Christmas 12 months with the Scouts, I had a night out with six or seven of our N.S.W. members and didn't they give me a royal time. It was great to see them after so many years.

I am still mining in the B.H. mines. It's not such a wonderful job but the pay is good. We work under a contract system. We are paid so much a ton to bore, brake and fill the ore into trucks with an air or electric scraper. Very little shovel work these days, thank the Lord.

I have built my own home since the army days, and am now married and with two boys, David 10 and Keith 6.

Last Christmas while in Adelaide I saw Ted Timcki, old Saltbush or Lofty as we all knew him by. He is now married and has a boy called David. When he was in this

district wool classing he always stayed at our place. We expect him and his family up for a holiday with us soon.

My regards to all in "A" Platoon and best wishes to yourself and all who remember me.

JACK PEATTIE, of 11 Denne St., West Tamworth, N.S.W., writes:

Herewith sweep butts plus, to cover cost plus fees. Thanks again for keeping the "Courier" coming my way. I certainly enjoy it.

Well, the last year has treated me pretty well. I can still manage to hit a tennis ball and land a few fish while I spend my spare time running a junior boys' hockey competition and coaching a boys' rugby team.

I took the plunge last Christmas and loaded the tent on the trailer and set sail for Tassie. We certainly had a great time and I was lucky enough to see some of the old 5 Section faces again. Keith Craig divulged his address in the "Courier" so we ran him down at Young. He and Betty gave us a wonderful welcome and we wished we'd enough time on our hands to stay longer.

We next called on Arch and Dawn Clancy at Carboar. Arch has a nice little farm running dairy cattle and some sheep. He's leaner than in the old days and is certainly not frightened of work. Once again we'd have liked to have stayed but wanted to get on to Melbourne so that we wouldn't miss Bert Tobin when he had to go off to the opening of a T.V. station of which he is secretary.

We stayed with Wilma and Bert for the few days before we caught the "Princess of Tasmania". We enjoyed our stay in Melbourne immensely and after the wonderful hospitality that was extended to us we knew more than ever what we had missed by not being able to make it for the Olympic Games.

I met Bill Davidson and Jim Wall again and Jerry O'Toole for the first time—can see I've missed something here and have to admit Victorian beer has the edge on N.S.W. still. Managed to have a night out at Jim and Gay Walls before we left for the apple isle. Jim has a lovely home—must be a lot of money in this taxation business. Jim's certainly done well for himself.

Had a wonderful time in Tassie but won't waste your space by going into that except by saying—if you haven't been there you've missed something. Met Jack Rene han on the boat looking on top of the world.

Well, I arrived back home having seen some of the old mob for the first time since the war and had only been home for a few days when I ran into Jim Smith on his way through Tamworth, so once more had a good old ear-bash.

All the best to yourself and all others in the West.

ELVIE HOWELL, of 68 Randell St., Mandurah, W.A., writes:—

Please find butts for tickets and money order enclosed.

I've taken up the pen on Bill's behalf as he always seems to be so busy. Our family has grown somewhat in the last three years and now comprises four, Gary 9, born 15/3/53; Lee 3, 8/2/59; Kim 2, 24/4/60, and our latest addition Bryan, 2/6/62.

We hope to be in Perth for a few days at the end of the month so Bill may get around to seeing a few of his old mates. Who knows one time he may make one of the monthly do's, but as he works nights this seems improbable.

Well, I seem to be as lax as Bill in this writing business, but at least I've made the effort.

Regards to you all from Bill.

MRS. JOHN MOORE, of Dwelling-up, W.A., writes:—

Please find enclosed sweep butts and money for subs. Hoping the sweep will be a big success.

Johnny said he hopes to see you all when the Games are on. He hopes to get his holidays.

Please excuse this brief note but next time Johnny will write.

B. A. BROWN, of 26 Scaddan St., Wembley, W.A., writes:—

Enclosed pleased find sweep butts and money to cover same. Also wish you every success for the sweep. Have put extra in for subs. Don't know how I stand with them.

Congratulations on such a wonderful job with the "Courier". Certainly very guilty feelings aroused after reading your last Editorial, but afraid I don't seem to catch up with the enemy—time.

I am still on night work at W.A. Newspapers. Catch sight of Ray Parry now and again but that's all. Also had a few minutes' chat with Jack Hassen at his Leederville garage. He seems to be kept quite busy selling the mighty Ampol.

Regards to all the boys and sincerely hope it won't be long before we get the opportunity to attend some of your meetings.

F. P. CUNNINGHAM, of 182 Augustus St., Geraldton, writes:—

I am enclosing a money order for three bananas which is two for sweep tickets and one extra to help Association funds.

Visitors of the Association to Geraldton this year have been very limited. The only two I had the pleasure of meeting were Ken MacIntosh and Gordon Barnes. The former was on a flying business trip and as I had had a busy day when I met him I was unable to entertain in traditional manner as he was leaving the next morning. Gordon was here for a fortnight with his wife, staying in a beach cottage. We had quite a time together, consuming several noggins in the process.

Bill Drage and Brus Fagg came down to a swimming carnival the Sunday morning before he left and as they were all made honorary members of the Mercantile Club I had the pleasure of dishing out their potions. Bill has a particular palate that comes from bonny Scotland.

Niel Brady is working on a baker's cart here and was telling me that Joe Poynton was working in the district though I never had the pleasure of laying eyes on him.

I will close now trusting that the Cup Sweep is a huge success.

BERT BURGESS, of "Burlands", Broomehill, W.A., writes:—

Herewith sweep butts and cheque. Will you please let me know result and cost of Games tickets?

I am going to Esperence with one of the agents next month and would like to see any of our chaps who are down that way. I have enclosed a stamped letter hoping that you have Peter Campbell's address and will drop a line to him for me giving the following information.

The reason for the trip is to Khulman's Sheep Field Day on 6th

September. I will pick up the agent at Wagin from where we will go via Dumbleyung to Ravenshorpe. Will stay the night previously at the Ravenshorpe Hotel, then to the field day following, then return to the hotel where we will stay again that night. Next day return to Wagin.

That's not very good English, but trust you will understand. Previously in this case means prior to the field day.

The season is very late and backward here. Looking at the crops which are only a few inches high even though we are into August. However they are particularly healthy looking and provided we receive spring rains all should be well. Wool clips are generally lighter than last year.

I see by the "Courier" that I have for the coming year been given the title of Country Vice President. My thanks to the meeting for the compliment. I had intended to have a quiet year and relinquish some of my services to the country. However it appears that I have only exchanged one job for another.

Farmers in the surrounding districts of Katanning have formed and incorporated a Veterinary Club to establish a Veterinary Officer here and I am currently the club's secretary-treasurer.

Have seen Alf Hillman several times lately. His latest venture is into Local Government at Broomehill. Regards to all.

RON NEUZLING, of 110 Lewis Rd., Dover Gardens, S.A., writes:—

Herewith sweep butts and cash for same. Use the extra as you see fit.

The sweep tickets were put to one side to be sold but were forgotten till I got the "Courier" the other day and was reminded of them, so I've taken the lot myself. Who knows, I might get lucky and win something for once in my life.

I'm afraid I haven't been a very good correspondent over the past few years but I don't seem to get the time to sit and write as I've been living a rather busy life trying to make a few extra shillings to provide for my growing family (six kids now), and that's plenty.

I'm still on the same job with the Tramways Trust, as bus driver and in between shifts I've been do-

ing a bit for myself in the way of odd jobs. Now a friend and I have gone into partnership with a truck and intend to do a bit of carrying at weekends, etc., to make a few extra bob. If it turns out all right I might give the busses away and take it on full time. I'm always hoping to be able to put enough away to make the trip West, but never quite make it.

Col was asking recently for some data for "Historically Yours" How about filling him in with the details of 9 Section's attempt to get a prisoner (preferably one who speaks English). I recall that we spent some weeks watching the road junction above the Glano River and saw a party of Japs come into a hut there each evening and move out next morning but when we went down and sat round the waterhole to wait for them they changed their habits and gave us a bit of a surprise.

I can still see the look of surprise on that Jap's face when he dropped the cooking pot and ran screaming up the track, but the way Sep Wilson jumped up and yelled at him I reckon he had every right to be scared.

Ask Jack Wicks if he remembers sliding down that dry water course when the lead was flying overhead. Boy, did we move?

And how about the land mines we set and then had the doubtful pleasure of watching the Japs dig them up after only one was set off.

There's probably plenty of other incidents that would make good reading but the memory grows dim with the passing of the years and many things get forgotten.

Perhaps I've started something that the rest of you can add to and get good old 9 Section into print.

Well that's a pretty good effort for me. The longest letter I've written for many a long day so I'll say cheerio.

Give my regards to all the rest of the mob and keep up the good work.

COLIN CRIDDLE, of 124 Nanson St., Wembley, W.A., writes:—

Please find enclosed moneys covering ticket butts and annual subscriptions, with best wishes for a successful sweep.

I would like to mention that I'll be a definite starter for the Annual

Re-union as my part time job will not interfere on this night.

I read with interest relating to the "Courier" that somebody has learnt I've joined the W.A. Parachute Club. It so happens to be true, for the "birdies" information.

This club is only one month old to date and we are looking for more club members with our foremost aim to form an emergency squad for rescue work.

We are lucky to have the S.A.S. personnel stationed here to give us instructions and put us on a sound footing for our ground training.

Our biggest concern is the purchase of parachutes, which are quite an expensive item, and without a large number of members, our finance is limited to become mobile.

If anyone could help in the interest of this club maybe knowing some channel to follow through to purchase parachutes through army connections, please let me know.

If Blossom Lawrence ever gets stationed back in Perth I know he would be a definite starter to join the club. Do your best, Barry.

To close I'll leave you with the address of our training programme and where situated. Training at the Subiaco Police Boys Club in Raphael-st., Subiaco, on Wednesday nights, 8.10 p.m., and on Sunday mornings 10 to 12.

Trusting these few lines help

G. R. LEWIS, Newdegate, W.A., writes:—

Enclosed find cheque to cover sweep tickets, subs, etc. A little more than usual seeing that this is a special year as far as the Unit is concerned with all the entertainments involving visitors for the Empire Games from the other States.

I don't think I can make the Games because it will be our busy time but if it is possible I shall try and come along for a night.

Since I last wrote I have changed my job for a better one with much improved conditions and only 2½ miles from the township. Actually the farm adjoins the township and is the usual run of wheat and sheep farm. It is all cleared, well watered with good dams and practically all root and stone picking has been done over the years. I have to run the place on my own but that does not wor-

ry me with the equipment we have today.

The committee on Civil Defence visited Newdegate on July 28 but we were shearing and so I could not go. They were entertained by the local R.S.L. with a dinner at the hotel. I had to miss out on that also because it was too early in the evening for me but I believe they are coming again and I might be in a more fortunate position to go then.

I enjoy reading the "Courier" but I am surprised at the lack of letters from the boys of 5 Section. I never was a letter writer myself, but I have never forgotten the lengthy epistles some of those lads could write when we were in the islands. What's happened to all of them? Why can't they write now and show they have not lost the art?

Well, here's to a successful sweep and my regards to all.

RON MEARS, of 221 Hamborough St., Scarborough, W.A., writes:

Enclosed please find sweep butt and cash. Also extra to cover for our "Courier". Enjoy reading it thanks to Harry Holders for putting it our way. Quite a few names ring a bell.

After wandering in many parts have settled for Sunny West, it is great.

Next year could you send an extra book for sweep. Getting rid of last one was no effort.

CHARLIE GORTON, of 138 Mar-mion St., East Fremantle, W.A., writes:—

Just a few lines to let you have the sweep butts, also a few bob

It wouldn't be much good you relying on me for any news for the "Courier" as I'm more of a stay at home than anything.

Hoping you have all the success you need for the sweep.

Victorian Vocal Venturings

A meeting was held last Friday at Bert Tobin's office at which arrangements were made for the Melbourne Cup Sweep, organising, the printing of tickets, etc. Also a date was set for the annual meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 8 p.m., at the Masonic Club in Flinders-st., and I take this opportunity to ask all the boys to make this a must and roll up and give their support. We are getting a bit stagnant lately, only having the same turns each year, namely, Anzac Day, Cup Sweep Drawing, Annual Meeting, and Christmas Party. What is needed is new blood and new ideas.

The same old few have carried the weight for years, and I do not think it is asking too much for others to hop in and pull their weight. It's your Association and it sinks or swims on your efforts.

The Cup Sweep Drawing will be at the same venue, Commando Drill Hall, McWhae-st., Ripponlea, on Thursday, Nov. 1, and the Christmas Party this year will be on the second Saturday in December, the 8th. This is because some of us are going over to Perth and would be away on the usual first Saturday.

I see in the paper where Kevin Curran has been elected to the lo-

cal council in Bendigo. Councillor Curran does not intend to let Mayor Hooper get away with it. Good luck to you, Kev., on your new job. You'll do a good job too.

Margaret Monk was telling me that she saw in the paper where Stan Weppner and wife had adopted a little girl.

Jim Wall has given me a couple of letters sent to him, one from George Coulson, at Diddellibah-rd., Woombye, Queensland, bringing his subs up to date and he expects to be down in Melbourne for Christmas and hopes to see some of the boys then.

Also one from Norm Tillett at Mildura. Norm says he does not see many of the boys around his way. His visits to Melbourne are very rare and then only flying visits and does not get the chance to contact anyone. However he reads the "Courier" and says it's worth its weight in gold. Spends his time working and golfing and would be pleased to see any of the boys if they happen to be going to or passing through Mildura, and buy them an ale.

Well that's all for now until next time. All the best.

—HARRY BOTTERILL.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

Statement of Income and Expenditure for year ended 30th June, 1962

1961			INCOME			1962				
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
55	15	0	*Subscriptions	35	0	0				
46	6	1	Melbourne Cup Sweep Profit	100	9	0				
			Anzac Day Re-union:							
			Profit on Catering	11	9	7				
5	10	3	Raffle	9	11	3				
6	1	9	Bank Interest	8	9	10				
16	6	9	Sundry Receipts							
6	0	0	Donations	15	0					
<hr/>				<hr/>				<hr/>		
£135	19	10	TOTAL INCOME				£165	14	8	
			LESS EXPENDITURE							
5	10	1	Loss on Cup Day Re-union	6	4	0				
			Annual Meeting	2	0	10				
49	3	11	Christmas Party	47	2	8				
35	13	1	†Secretarial Expenses, stationery ...	5	11	8				
30	0	0	Courier	30	0	0				
6	3	0	Presentation							
<hr/>				<hr/>				<hr/>		
£126	10	1	Total Expenditure				£90	19	2	
<hr/>				<hr/>				<hr/>		
£9	9	9	NETT PROFIT				£74	15	6	

Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June, 1962

	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank	340	5	4
Against which must be set the following liabilities:			
N.S.W. Share of Cup Sweep Profits	33	4	8
Provident Fund	10	8	0
W.A. Branch — "Courier"	60	0	0
	<hr/>		
	103	12	8
Funds Available as at 30th June, 1962	£236	12	8

There is also £81/7/11 standing to the credit of the Provident Fund in a separate account under the control of the Fund Trustees.

Note:—

- * Subscriptions £35 includes £17/10/- subs. paid in advance.
- † Approx. three years' supply of stationery costing £17/8/- was purchased during year ended 30th June, 1961.

VICTORIAN COMING EVENTS:

The 1962 Annual Meeting will be held in the Masonic Club lounge on the 2nd floor at 164 Flinders Street, at 8 p.m., on Tuesday, 2nd October.

The Cup Sweep will be drawn on 1st November, at No. 2 Commando Company Drill Hall, at McWhae Avenue, Ripponlea. Return your money, butts and unsold tickets to Jim Wall before 31st October

A re-union will be held in conjunction with the Cup Sweep Draw, so a good roll up is expected

W.A. COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER MEETING:

October 2nd — Anzac House
Showing Olympic Film of Rome Games

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd:

Opening Ceremony Commonwealth Games
Party Immediately Afterwards

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd:

Annual Re-Union Dinner — Anzac House Basement

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th:

Barbecue — “Mick” Holland’s Home at Carlisle

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27th:

Ladies’ Night — Cottesloe Surf Club
In conjunction with 2/5th Commando Association
You may bring along a small party of friends

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2nd:

Family Party — D. K. Turton’s Property
West Pingelly