



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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Editorial

A PRIORITY INVESTMENT

The greatest assets possessed by a person during his mortal life are the talents with which he has been endowed by Providence. But, unlike the inanimate assets of industry which are most efficient when new and then gradually wear out, our personal talents should improve with the years.

We all have talents, or capabilities, although some of us receive a greater share than others. Whatever the quantum of a person's capabilities may be, they are his and his alone. What he does with them, how he develops them and makes them serve him, depends entirely on himself.

To an investor the most attractive investment is one which produces a regular return at a good rate of interest accompanied by capital appreciation. If these talents of ours are to yield the greatest returns, we must invest time, effort and money in their development. If they are to become abilities which will work to our advantage, they must be continually cultivated.

There are many forms that this cultivation may take, but perhaps the most important is education. Education itself may take different forms,

but, briefly, these fall into two main sections: firstly, that which assists a person to become a responsible citizen of the world; and secondly, that which enables him to improve the efficiency with which he carries out his occupation in life. It may be hard, if not impossible, to draw a line of demarcation between these two aspects as they overlap, particularly for a business man.

The paramount importance of education cannot be doubted. In its fullest sense it is a lifelong process.

In skilled occupations today the trend is for employers to look for higher educational standards among employees. It would be an unwise officer who assumed that this trend is by-passing his particular industry.

The benefits of education to the individual are not only material, they are, to quote from the Martin Report on Tertiary Education in Australia, "the very stuff of a free and democratic society". Investment in his own education is top priority for everyone, and is one which all of us can make with a certainty of a good yield.

—MAX DAVIES.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1970
ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

FEBRUARY MEETING

We had a most enjoyable meeting at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, Feb. 3, when a film night was organised. That old faithful "Men of Timor" was shown for the umpteenth time and it is always good to see the bearded mugs of the old Timor gang. We also were able to show a film taken at the last Commemoration Service by A.B.C. Unfortunately our projector was working like a dog and we had to contain our patience while Arthur Smith, Len Bagley and Harry Sproxtton got it into working order.

Later some most interesting slides were shown which evoked much interest. One especially was a photo of the whole of "A" Platoon complete with beards taken at Laremah on the return from Timor. It was an interesting exercise in memory to try and put names on these faces. There were also some excellent slides of various events in the Great Safari.

We were treated to an excellent roll up and all in all it was a terrific evening.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This most important meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 3, at Anzac House Basement. The general idea underlying the change of date from the first Tuesday in July is to try and attract a greater attendance than we have had for many years.

Fundamentally the Annual General is the meeting which decides the fate of the Association for the next and ensuing years and as such demands the attention of all members who can make it.

With the Safari from the Eastern States due in W.A. in 1971 the year ahead will be one of the most important for many years and it is going to test the strength of the Association in successfully organising this event.

Please do your utmost to attend and if possible induce a member of your acquaintance to come with you. This meeting is your bounden duty.

ANZAC DAY

As usual we will be celebrating Anzac Day which this year falls on a Saturday, so members will have no real reason for non attendance. Our venue for the Anzac Day Re-Union remains the W.A. Rowing Club down on the river and you can be assured of a wonderful day.

Committee Comment

Your Committee met on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at Anzac Club, and we had a fully represented Committee for the final meeting of the old Committee. Bill Epps thanked all present for the services they had rendered during his term of office as President.

A count of heads seemed to indicate that there would be a number of positions to be filled at the next Annual General Meeting as our President is retiring, also Secretary Ron Kirkwood has expressed a strong desire to vacate office, and Arthur Smith our hard working Treasurer, finds he no longer has the time to devote to this office. None of these positions are going to be easy to fill especially following on the heels of such competent persons as Bill, Ron and Arthur.

The Treasurer was able to report that funds were in a bouyant state and it was decided to consolidate all accounts except the working account, under Town and Country Building Society, where interest rates are considerably higher especially as all banks have now withdrawn the facility for Society accounts to accumulate interest.

Geo Fletcher and Bill Epps were able to advise that Kings Park area is now in good shape as the result of the working bee held on Sunday, Feb. 1.

Personalities

Saturday, Feb. 14, was quite a red letter day for members of the Association. Three of our Jacks married off their offspring on that day.

Jack Fowler's lad Dexter (where do you think that name came from?)

was married to Pauline Smart, daughter of Sir Eric Smart. This ceremony was attended by President Bill Epps as Jack's guest.

Jack Hasson's daughter Kaye married Roy Hanson (not much change here) on the same evening and this function seemed like a Unit re-union especially of old No. 2 Section who seemed to all be in attendance. Can assure you as a privileged guest this was a wonderful wedding.

Then Jack Poynton's lad was also married on this day and brother Joe was, of course, in attendance.

This is quite a unique record for any Unit on the one day.

While on the subject of weddings Laurie Harrington, son of Reg and Dot, jumps the broomstick in a couple of weeks time.

It has been quite remarkable over the years as Editor in the changing pattern of Unit activities. Firstly just after the war it was watch the "hatch" column for births to Unit members (or should I say their wives?), then the "Despatch" for deaths of relatives and sometimes of course, members themselves, and lately it's the "match" column for weddings. We have just about gone the full cycle.

Saw Gordon Barnes the other day and he says he has his farm on the market as he is finding it increasingly difficult to attend to matters with his various aches and pains. We must all be getting old.

Jim Wall was a visitor to W.A. during the month over in the West on a job of work for four days. He looks as well as ever and was able to meet up with your Editor for an odd snort and a night out. Jim brought good wishes from Victoria to the gang in the West.

Saw Clarrie and Grace Turner at the Hasson wedding and Grace was suffering from a pinched nerve in her hip. Hope you have recovered ere this, Grace. Clarrie sporting sideburns a-la Jeff Bate, but not towing a poddy calf yet.

Col Criddle was at the same function and looks as young and fit as when he first joined up.

Still limping about with a bad back and hip is "Ping" Anderson and he is going through a bad patch of health and now is employed "upstairs" on the wharf and is not allowed currently to work below the holds. Hope everything clears up good and soon "Ping".

Those members who were fortunate enough to attend the Memorial handover ceremony will remember Vic Rebikoff who was the Secretary to the Consul. Since our trip he has returned to Canberra for a new posting. Last weekend he and his wife passed through Perth on their way to open up the new Consulate in Lisbon, Portugal. All members wish him well.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1970

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT

THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO YOUR ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE For Year Ending 7/2/1970

RECEIPTS:	\$
Account S3080	290.53
Account S3422	544.50
Bonds	600.00
	<u>1435.03</u>
Interest on Bonds	15.00
Donations	105.00
Cashing of Bonds	618.00
Account with Town and Country Per- Building Society No. 3225	600.00
	18.00
Timor Safari Picture Night	173.00
Expenses	162.80
	10.20
Sweep	455.00
Expenses	148.94
	306.06
Donations from Sweep	117.50
	<u>\$2,006.79</u>
TOTAL	\$2,006.79

EXPENDITURE:	\$
Monthly Meetings	83.15
Less Receipts	52.00
	31.15
"Courier"	142.00
Less Receipts	40.00
	102.00
Annual Dinner	236.36
Less Receipts	174.00
	62.36
Honour Avenue, Kings Park	37.11
Administration	86.43
Christmas Toys	38.91
Anzac Day (1969)	5.00
Miscellaneous	58.77
Cheque Book	2.50
Account S3080	488.06
Less Outstanding Cheque	50.00
	438.06
Account S3422	544.50
Account 3225 (Town and Country Building Society)	600.00
	<u>1582.56</u>
TOTAL	\$2,006.79

TIMOR MEMORIAL FUND For Year Ending 31/1/1970

RECEIPTS:	\$
Balance forward 1/6/1069	1761.68
From Independent Newspapers (for photos destroyed by them)	10.00
From members for purchase of photos of Dedication Ceremony	11.00
	<u>\$1782.68</u>

PAYMENTS:	\$
Sundry Gifts to Timorese and to friends, for services rendered	95.08
Photos of Ceremony:—	
For newspapers	6.00
For members and for 1 presentation	11.50
	17.50
Cost 400 Colour Prints sent to contributors	250.00
To Balance	1420.10
	<u>\$1782.68</u>

This is to certify that records pertaining to this Fund
have been examined and found to be in order.

R. S. KIRKWOOD, Treasurer of Fund.
R. GEERE, Auditor.

Random Harvest

JOE BRAND, of 31 Maisie Cres., Wembley Downs, W.A., writes:—

Well, here are the tickets at last, also something towards my fees. Hope I am financial.

I do not know if I will make the Christmas Party but you never know, a bad cut "Penny" once upon a time may get there.

Missed Anzac last time as I went to the old home town to march in the parade. It is only quarter the distance we march down here and I made it without losing much breath. Will have to give up smoking—like hell.

P. ALEXANDER, of 170 Forrest St., Palmyra, W.A., writes:—

Returning sweep butts and money for same. Anything over for funds.

Was pleased to receive photos of memorial. Certainly a credit to the person who took same.

Hope to make the Christmas Party.

Best wishes to Tony Davidson and other Unit members in Kalgoorlie.

EDIE PENDERGRAST, of P.O. Box 93, Collie, W.A., writes:—

Am forwarding cheque to cover sale of tickets. The people down here were quite amused and certainly thought them a novelty.

Everything going O.K. down here. Gordon is keeping a lot better now and plenty of work to keep him out of mischief.

Doubt if we can make it to the Christmas Party as between now and the New Year we have weddings and birthday parties to attend. However we will be thinking of you all enjoying yourselves. Please say a big hullo to everyone for us, also wishing all the members, wives and families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hope your raffle is a huge success.

DICK FITZGERALD, of Box 4, Mullewa, W.A., writes:—

Sorry for not returning butts earlier. It wasn't through not being able to sell them. Could have sold six books, so allow extra for me next time.

Leading a nice peaceful life up here. No ulcers. Can have a good night out and if the old dodger

is out a bit late next morning nobody worries. Bit different to the old rat race I had in Fremantle.

There is one of my old crowd up here, Boundary (Les) Clayton. He's working on the Shire. Also one of the 2/12th, Col Carter. We've knocked a drop of the amber fluid over together.

Have added a couple of extra dollars to the cheque. Help to cover the cost of the "Courier" which I appreciate you sending me, thank you.

Tell Joe Poynton if he is ever heading up north fishing or anything to come through this way. Might be able to arrange a bit of burley for him (liquid or solid).

See the Christmas Party is on. Wish I could make it, but I have a rush trip this weekend. The eldest daughter's birthday and engagement party Saturday night. That means leaving here when we close shop Saturday midday and back Sunday night. Unfortunately can't rely too much on my baker—he's a victim of the grape juice.

Best away now and strike a blow so I'll close wishing yourself and all members of the Association and families everything of the best for the coming festive season and new year.

BRUSS FAGG, of 109 Robinson St., Northampton, W.A., writes:—

A few lines with the raffle butts. These have been the easiest tickets I've ever sold. I am enclosing a cheque for the tickets, the balance to go into funds. It's about time I put something towards the "Courier" which I think is the best little news-sheet this side of the black stump.

I'm sorry I haven't written or taken part in Association activities, but at the present time I'm flat out. I'm in charge of the water supply here. That's not so bad, we are fairly well off for water, but Yuna, which is in my district, is a proper headache. Only one dam and that's going down too damn fast. I'm also, as you know, President of the R.S.L. here, and my secretary has been sick for about three months, and although I've got an acting secretary it's thrown a hell of a lot onto me. This is when one

realises what a good secretary is worth. (Thank God we have a beauty—Ed.)

Peter Barden mentions he was not too good a barracker after their reunion. What's he growling about. I wasn't game to open my mouth. I reckon what few brains I've got would have fallen out.

I'm going to get around Bill Epps for a few pointers on compiling an address. What a beauty he gave at the Commemoration Service. Give him my congratulations and thanks for such good reading.

By the way if any of the boys are coming through this way any publican, policeman, garage man or store-keeper will tell them where I live and I'm most times free after 5 p.m. Cheerio for this time.

J. WICKS, of 118 Brunswick Place, Albany, W.A., writes:—

Please find sweep butts and cheque enclosed. I'll let you work out what to do with the change.

Ran into Len Bagley and his family in Esperance early in the year and we had a good chat and a few drinks in Albany the same night. Thanks Len, for the "Couriers".

I am still working on the whale chasers down here. We have caught close on 600 whales so far this season and hope to catch about

650 to 700 by the end of the season which ends just before Christmas.

Well, that's about all for now. I'll try not to be so long in writing in future. Regards to all,

BARRY LAWRENCE, of Box 63, Newdegate, W.A., writes:—

Just a note enclosing ten bucks—five for the current sweep and five for the last one which I hung onto hoping I could turn it into four figures in the mining bubble. My horse was unplaced so I guess I had better coff up. Somehow I have managed to lose my butts so if you could arrange it put them all down to M.A.L. (Just found it.)

Business has slowed down which is not surprising as the drought and its effects make themselves felt. Everybody in the wheatbelt at some time or another will be touched by it.

I have seen over the past few weeks, Vince Swann, Tony Bowers and the Mayor of Scaddon—Peter Campbell. All looking in the pink.

Had a letter from Moira Coats, Boy's widow. She speaks very highly of the efforts of our Victorian brethren who are looking after her interests in the usual fashion. She is more than appreciative of all that has been and is being done for her.

Historically Yours

CDO. NEW BRITAIN

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JUNE

1st: French troops shell Damascus in Syria. Jap balloon bombs kill five people in U.S.A.

2nd: Interstate travel control declared invalid by High Court. Mr. Chigey announced the five year service plan for soldiers.

3rd: British forces act as policemen in the Levant and a curfew enforced.

4th: Tarakan reported strongly held by A.I.F.

5th: Sandakan in Borneo invaded by 9th Div.

6th: Germany cut into four parts, to be controlled by Russia, Britain, U.S.A. and France.

7th: Queensland to have 4ft. 8½in. railway guage. More balloon bombs fall in Michigan.

8th: Allied casualties from D Day to VE Day reported as 786,293 including 140,076 killed. King Haakon returned to Norway.

9th: Premier Suzaki assumed dictatorial power in Japan. Marshal Alexander and Gen. Tito reach an agreement on immediate future for Trieste.

10th: Chinese reach Indo-China border.

11th: Tokio Radio reports Tokio, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe and Osaka have been obliterated.

12th: 9 Div. gains firm hold around Brunei Bay. America agreed supply 6,000,000 bushels of grain to Australia. Jap casualties in Philippines reported as 392,000. Cyclonic storm hits N.S.W. coast and did heavy damage.

13th: A Three-Power settlement on Poland was reached. Fighting in Syria continues. King awarded General Eisenhower the Order of Merit. Italian Govt. under Signor Bonoini resigned.

14th: Cyclone in N.S.W. caused £1,000,000 damage. 9 Div. captured Brunei airstrip. Dr. Evatt was selected as the most vigorous delegate at San Francisco. Mr. Chifley made a member of the Privy Council.

15th: Lord Wavell announced that India was to receive a measure of self government. Brunei was captured by 9 Div. Price of gold is now £10/15/3 per ounce.

16th: Queensland and N.S.W. played the first Interstate Rugby game since war commenced.

17th: The Belgian Govt. resigned because King Leopold has decided to return. Casino and Lismore had food dropped by parachute owing to flooded areas.

18th: A British naval force bombarded Truk. 450 B29s hit industrial centres on Honshu and Kyushu. Britain built the world's largest and fastest flying boat.

19th: Chinese captured the port of Wenchow. Signor Parri formed a new Italian Government.

20th: Mackenzie King was defeated in Canadian elections. Honshu and Kyushu islands heavily raided by B29s. A new woollen fabric has been invented which will mean millions of pounds to Australia.

21st: 9 Div. made an amphibious landing north of Brunei Bay. A conference is being held to formulate Dominion status for Burma.

22nd: Battle for Okinawa won after 82 days of fighting. Flood warnings were given in Perth as the Swan River rose to danger level.

23rd: British Bomber Command dropped 955,000 tons of bombs on Germany. Lord Haw Haw standing trial on a charge of treason.

24th: 9 Div. captured the Seria oil fields. They are the richest in the world.

25th: It has been estimated that Aust. lost 20,000,000 sheep during the drought.

26th: Heaviest raid on Japan to date was made with 3,000 tons of bombs. Lord Wavell opened the Indian Conference at Simla. Aust. Govt. allocated £1,331,000 for training of service men under C.R.T. Scheme. World Security Charter was signed at San Francisco today. 4/8 a bushel guaranteed farmers as a first advance on wheat.

27th: 9 Div. captured the Port of Miri in Borneo. Mr. Stettinius resigned as U.S.A. Secretary of State.

28th: Luzon battle ended after months of hard fighting.

29th: Allies invaded Kume Island. 50 miles west of Okinawa.

30th: Chinese captured former U.S. airfield of Liuchow.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

That congratulations to Bob Palmer are in order?

That Jack Keenahan has lost his worried look?

That he nearly passed out when he heard it was only one?

That the "Sheriff" has a new Deputy?

That there is another little A.W.-A.S. in the Turton family?

That Alec Garbutt only got a life sentence for being A.W.L.?

That the "Bomb Throwing" has gone forward for pleasure?

That he is teaching his brother the art?

That a "Dutch Star" has ascended on the Edward's horizon?

That "Okinawa" O'Brien plays with fire?

That the "Pimpernel" was captured?

That he eluded the "Tribunal"?

That calves seldom "get away"?

That Hagan's ambition is to have five "routines" against his "royal"?

That "Finkie" was outpointed in the surf?

That the size of a crocodile varies considerably?

That ours is the best camp in the area?

That your contribution is needed for this magazine?

DOC FREDERICK'S FORECAST

Rainy with showers in between.