



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered for transmission by post as a Periodical — Category "A")  
(Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth, 6001)

Vol. 24. No. 227.

NOVEMBER, 1970

Price 1c.

## EDITORIAL

The Editorial of the September issue of the "Courier" has prompted me to put a few lines on paper with a suggestion for improving the lot of our consistent Editor, Col Doig. As he says, what the hell can I write about? May I suggest that there must be ten members of our numbers who could contribute one Editorial per year each, and leave, as Col says, one per year for him himself.

There could be up to 400 to choose from, or a potential of 40 years' supply. The fact that many of these would never be called upon because of effluence of time does not excuse some from making an attempt right now. Yes, time is running out. We have been in existence for almost 30 years, and as an Association for 24 years, and I venture to state that we are past the point of no return or half way mark as far as time is concerned. Another 24 years will no doubt write finis to most of us as individuals and as an Association.

Our very existence as an Association today is due mainly to the fact that we are a unique body of individuals, forged together under circumstances in the cauldron of war. I venture to state that there are few, if any, ex-service Associations left which can muster the same percentage of members as the 2/2nd.

Since demobilisation we have all gone our different ways, and in most cases achieved success in many diverse fields of human endeavour. In today's world of specialisation,

one just cannot encompass more than a smattering of other fields than the one or two wherein he has his livelihood and immediate interests. But do not tell me that the average man is not interested in other fields or people.

I would suggest that this is one avenue for exploitation. Almost any of us has a subject of interest to other members of the Association which the bulk of members have little or no knowledge, and certainly not the full facts and figures which are at the finger-tips of a man engaged in that industry or profession. I do not propose that we write a thesis or scientific document on any subject, but just a plain resume or description of some situation or subject as it appears to that man.

I myself thoroughly enjoyed contributions written recently by Paddy Kenneally, Twy Smythe, Max Davies, etc. They are human interest articles, about people, for people, by people—if I may quote Abraham Lincoln.

It is a fact that people are more interested in other people than any other subject. Being of a practical nature rather than a talker, may I kick this off with a few impressions of the situation in Malaya as I saw it during a recent visit. (Printed elsewhere in this issue).

May I also hope that this may draw similar comments from other members on other subjects and situations. The possibilities are endless, and more interesting than you think.

—JIM SMAILES.

# West Australian Whisperings

## Association Activities

### CALCUTT MEMORIAL TROPHY GAMES:

This most important and eventful evening took place on Tuesday, Nov. 3, at Anzac House Basement.

After a good night's sport the following winners emerged:

Bowls: G. Maley 1, P. Hancock 2.

Darts: G. Maley 1, J. Carey 2.

Table Tennis: J. Carey 1, R. Kirkwood 2.

Quits: P. Hancock 1, J. Carey 2.

After adding all the points scored on the two evenings on which this competition was conducted Jack Carey proved to be the winner for the third year in succession with 13 points. Gerry Maley was runner-up with 11 points and Percy Hancock was third with 9 points.

Once again this competition has proved to be lively but we would like to see a much greater participation by members. Our congratulations to Jack Carey on his achievement of three in a row.

### WORKING BEE KINGS PARK

A very successful working bee took place at Kings Park on Oct. 24. The prime purpose was to put the sprinkler system into tip top order ready for the summer. We have been assured that the piping is in better condition than we thought and that apart from reasonable maintenance our system should be good for many years.

Arthur Smith, who has been the driving force in keeping the sprinkler system in good order, experimented with various types of sprinkler heads and the most efficient from all points of view were the "Mountain Mist". If these can be purchased at a reasonable price the system will be covered with these as soon as possible.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

This is to take place on Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Highway Hotel, Claremont. We are hopeful that quite a number of the country folk will make it on this occasion. The last couple have proved to be outstanding successes and there appears to be no reason for doubt as to this particular night. Price is \$10 per double ticket. This is a very reasonable price for such an evening at today's inflated prices.

### MAMMOTH RAFFLE

This raffle is proving to be extra good. There still remains approximately 150 tickets to be sold between now and the drawing in July 1971. If you wish to be one of the participants please return the Application Form as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If you have not an application form write in to Box T1646 G.P.O. Perth, and you will be provided with one by return post.

### Committee Comment

The usual Committee meeting was held at Anzac Club on Nov. 17. President Len Bagley presided over a fair attendance of Committeemen.

Treasurer Dick Geere gave a resume of the financial position which is currently sound.

Col Doig advised that the Mammoth Raffle was going well with approximately 350 applications already received.

Jack Carey gave a report from the Sub-Committee for budgeting the Jubilee Safari and this was received most enthusiastically by the Committee who were pleasantly surprised that the Mammoth Raffle if it succeeds will comfortably cover our

## CHRISTMAS PARTY: HIGHWAY HOTEL, CLAREMONT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th

Be there with your wife and have the time of your life  
PRICE \$10 PER DOUBLE TICKET

financial troubles and allow for considerable subsidisation of accommodation.

Bill Epps and Len Bagley reported on the Working Bee at Kings Park and it was decided that the President make an approach to the manufacturers of Mountain Mist sprinklers to cover the system.

Len Bagley advised that all was in order for the Christmas Party at the Highway Hotel on Dec. 5.

The Committee expressed itself as well satisfied with the new beer drawing equipment.

Geo. Fletcher volunteered to make two new boards for the area in Kings Park.

### Personalities

Most pleased to see "Curly" Bowden at the Calcutt Memorial Trophy night. He looked extra well and gave us a good ear bashing on yatching. To prove he knew what he was talking about he got first and fastest in his Flying Fifteen "Somah" at the opening of Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.

Saw Les Glasson in town the other day. Les had been down for a check-up regarding stones in his kidneys and although not happy at what was found was in good spirits.

Ron Sprigg called on me during the month sporting a real Timor-type beard except that it was nice and grey. He was down to see the Repat. and managed a couple of noggins on the way.

### IMPRESSIONS OF MALAYA BY JIM SMAILES

Three aspects of the scene in Malaya impressed me greatly, and well worthy of mention for those interested in scanning our northern horizon.

#### Firstly the Impact of British Administration:

One has to visit a non-British country to fully realise what a tremendous influence the British race has had on such places and how it will affect that country for perhaps hundreds of years. To be honest, the only great development ever done in Malaya has been done by British engineers and capital, for since Independence in 1957 little or nothing has been done in this regard. The railways, roads, canals, power stations, rubber estates and

tin mines were all pioneered by the British during their occupation and are a credit to their designers and builders.

Agricultural research stations manned by British scientists have lifted rubber production to 1,500 lb. per acre, compared to 400 lb. in Indonesia. Malaya now produces half the world's rubber in a gigantic industry employing one quarter of the country's work force.

Almost another quarter are employed in tin mining which places Malaya in first place as world producer to the extent of one third of the world's needs. Here again the large producing mines are British owned and managed, while local mines are small, mismanaged and inefficient.

My point is that although the country is rich, it takes European capital and know-how to create an industry. The local population have not got that tenacity or plain guts to do a job thoroughly. Many top administrative jobs are as yet held by British personnel such as Chief of Police, District Officers and Mines Inspectors.

It is just obvious that in their desire for independence, they have not got the men of sufficient training and calibre to carry the top responsibilities. Yet Malaya was, I suppose, the best prepared country in the world before independence. It was envisaged before the war, and was not a hasty revolution or take over. This certainly explains why so many post war independent nations have foundered on the rock of inexperience and despair, civil war, and suffering.

Malaya will need European technicians and advisors for another 50 years to be able to survive.

#### Secondly, Racial Tolerance to a Terrific Degree:

The four largest racial groups are, Malays, Chinese, Indian and European. The two first are almost equal and comprise 80 per cent of the total, Indians 15 per cent and whites 5 per cent. To be truthful, they hate each other, but each is so dependent on one or all three of the others, that they must work together or die together.

Under their Malayan Constitution only Malays can own land and mineral leases. However the Mal-

ays being so lazy, sub-lease the land to Chinese who are clever, industrious but landless. They thus are both necessary for mineral production.

The big British owned mines employ all races in various categories from managers to coolies. On British owned and managed rubber estates, most administrative posts below manager are Chinese, with Indian tappers and labourers. Most businesses are run by Chinese employing their own families, and the Indians are mostly employed as policemen, clerks and such like in Government offices under Malay executives. It is really amazing how they work together in a seething state of exasperation, which appears so likely to explode any minute into a terrific blood bath. Each blames the others for mistakes and delays, but each has respect for the others qualities.

When you realise that they are of different colour, race, religion, and language, and come from diverse political thinking, it amazes one that they can even live in the same continent. But they live alongside each other in harmony. The Hindu Indian who abhors pigs and worships cows, will live next door to a Buddhist Chinese who raises pigs and enjoys his roast beef.

I am afraid in Australia we do not really understand racial problems or toleration. To be truthful I hope we never have to.

### Thirdly, the Graft and Corruption:

To say it like that is not correct. It is more of a way of life. I could just not get used to it. It is all done so smoothly and without offence. You give a man a present, not a bribe. We Australians are too blunt and crude I am afraid, but here again, let us keep it that way. These people are convinced that it does no harm, and that it helps the wheels go round, but to a visitor it is more than obvious that it is

sapping the very life and stamina out of the nation. They can never be great or strong, or stand for anything in world class while men of influence can be bought or manipulated. An appointment with a Government official just cannot be arranged unless some lesser light makes the necessary arrangement and naturally has to be encouraged to proceed. You can sit in a reception room till kingdom come unless Joe Blow at the desk has some encouragement to enquire if you are expected.

The application for mining leases can take years of enquiries, investigations, reports, inspections, etc., so that in desperation the applicant will either give up or give generously to those who can influence its passage through miles of red tape.

This aspect of life is typically Eastern, and has spawned into the administration mainly since Independence. I am told it was not so in pre-1957 days. I feel that to be so, otherwise the British would not have had the respect and success which they enjoyed in those times.

Malaya today is the diamond in the South East Asian ring. She is at the crossroads however. She could be the bulwark of the area, or could fall into the web after Cambodia and Thailand.

In my humble view three things can prevent this. Get back to the British administration and leadership, equality and improved race relationships, and a great house cleaning effort as regards corruption.

Human nature being what it is, I just cannot see one or any of these things ever taking place now. Let us not fool ourselves. The writing is on the wall. I cannot see these people ever being willing or able to defend themselves against an aggressor, and like France in 1940, the fighting will be over before it even starts.

# New South Wales News

Enclosed is a list of all starters for Safari 71. This will no doubt be revised from time to time as drop-outs will no doubt occur. The enthusiasm is great at the moment and I will be surprised if the number on the day of departure is less than 80 per cent.

I will have further information when we are sure of our return bookings which have been made via Adelaide and Melbourne, leaving a day earlier from Perth and arriving some 12 hours earlier in Sydney.

There will be a special division of the Indian Pacific put on for us which will leave some hours earlier than the normal train leaves. When we get to Broken Hill we will wait for the original train and hook on to that.

The reason for this is we have so many lead arses with us they haven't got enough powerful engines to pull us all over the Great Dividing Range at the one time. If Hilliard was coming with us we would have to get and put him on the engine and send it over the range on his own.

The delay in not sending out all the details which have and will be made from this end is that our agent is trying to get the pay date deferred as long as possible so that those of us who want to go will have a greater chance to save the dinero needed for fares, etc.

On Sunday, Oct. 25, we had a barbecue day at the Darges and as I say you meet the nicest people on Safari. You also meet the nicest people at a barbecue.

John and Joan and family were mainly responsible for a great day but without the unexpected turn up it would not have been the success it was.

Tom and Mildred Fields were a little early, 24 hours to be exact, but we the organisers were so pleased that Tom and Mil made such a long trip from Wyong for a few hours to be amongst friends it makes one wonder why more of the metropolitan crowd can't make the ef-

fort and this effort above all made our day in my humble opinion.

The families who came enjoyed themselves I am sure and it would be a good idea when we have the next one at Don and Ida Murray's or my place if those who have teenagers who didn't bring them yesterday (if the teenagers want to) would bring them along as we are not a bad crowd collectively and our daughters and sons can see what makes and made the 2/2nd tick. I know my two sons enjoyed seeing the oldies nattering away and the shiaking that usually goes on when we get together. My regret is that my wife and sons will not be with me on Safari 71. I think it helps them appreciate their parents by seeing the people they hear so much about but have never seen.

Paddy Kenneally is always a hit with my family and now the boys have seen Paddy and Nora and half of the Kenneally team and also so many more at our last cricket match when Mark Coker and he did so much good work at the crease.

Shane was a little disappointed at not seeing more Luby's but I believe this will be rectified at future barbecues, so if this of any interest to those with families let's have you next time.

I will only give the names of the men because I can't remember the ladies, children and teenagers and over, who were there: J. Darge, B. Bennett, P. Kenneally, A. Luby, A. Addison, M. Devlin, R. Hilliard, D. Murray, J. English, T. Fields, J. Hartley, R. Trengrove.

If I have inadvertently left out anyone please excuse.

We hope to organise a night out at the Neutral Bay Musical Hall the last weekend in November but as Christmas is close and so many organisations have parties at this time it may be difficult. However it will be at the earliest possible date.

Well, until the next time, cheerio and see you in 71.

—RON TRENGROVE.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT

TUESDAY, MARCH 7th

This immediately follows the Labor Day Holiday in March  
So Don't Forget It

**PASSENGER LIST SAFARI 71**

Mr. and Mrs. K. Craig, 1 son, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. B. Smith.  
 Mr. and Mrs. P. Kenneally, 3 sons, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. MacLachlan.  
 Mr. and Mrs. T. Field.  
 Mr. and Mrs. M. Devlin.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Peattie.  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Addison, 2 sons.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Dent, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Hallinan, 1 son.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Stanley.  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Bryant.  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Sharp.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Keenahan.  
 Mr. and Mrs. B. Bennett.  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Luby, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. B. Coker, 2 sons, 1 daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Darge.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. English, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. T. Chollerton, 1 son, 1 daughter.  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Press.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Greenhalgh.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Rose.  
 Mr. and Mrs. H. Botterill.  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Rogers.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Nicholson, 1 child.  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Joyce.  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Adams, 2 children.  
 Mr. and Mrs. M. Jones.  
 Mr. and Mrs. T. Snowdon.  
 Mr. N. Bray, 1 son.  
 Mr. M. Mannix.  
 Mr. R. Trengrove.  
 Mr. C. Mills.  
 Mr. C. Paff.  
 Mr. J. Tell.  
 Mr. T. Smith.

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

**BERT TOBIN, of 15 Beatrice-st., Burwood, Victoria, writes:—**

I am holding a further \$42.50 for donations to the Sousa Santos Appeal so had better send it on to you herewith as I doubt that any more will come in to Victorian Branch. This is made up of donations from George Veitch, Theo Adams, Arch Claney and myself.

The response from the Victorians to our circulars seems to have been very disappointing but I don't know what has been sent to you direct, if anything.

There hasn't been much activity in our Branch of the Association lately, I am afraid. We had a get-together at the Tobin household on Oct. 29 to draw our Melbourne Cup Sweep. Including wives we had about 30 present and I think it went off all right. The sweep was a lot of hard work but we cleared about \$190 for the Victorian Branch and about \$90 for the N.S.W. Branch so I guess it was worth while.

There is no apparent stampede from the Victorians to get to the Safari. I have been in correspondence with Theo Adams at Goroka, New Guinea, and Theo and his wife and two children intend going. Apart from the Botterill family the only other near certainty that I know of is Morrie Smith. Maybe there will be a few who will jump on to a plane at the last minute.

Appears to be different in N.S.W. where a large number seems to have definite ideas of going so I am sure it will be a success.

Herewith my application form and cheque for a ticket in the Mammoth Raffle. Hope the applications are coming in all right. If they have been slow from the Eastern States it could be because we have been trying to rip money off members for the Melbourne Cup Sweep, Sam Fullbrook prints, etc.

Some interesting letters and notes came in from Eastern Staters with the sweep butts. Harry Botterill took these away to make a summary to send over to you so if you have not heard from Harry yet you probably will soon. George Kennedy had a fall recently and broke his ankle. I saw him in hospital once but when I went back the second time was told he had been discharged. George recently changed his address without advising us so we are having trouble in re-establishing contact. All others are well as far as I know.

As mad Carlton supporters you can imagine the delight of the four Tobins with the V.F.L. grand final result. It still seems impossible to win after being so far behind at half time. Jack Renehan is Collingwood mad and has been showing distinct suicidal tendencies for the last couple of months.

# RANDOM HARVEST

**SYD JONES, of c/- Bell Bay P.O., Tasmania, writes:—**

Long time no see, and now what am I to say boy? I don't know where to start, there's so many questions. I have tried to locate you many times over the years, but until now, no luck, and then I lobbed on the idea of the Perth Branch of the R.S.L. and within a few days they found you.

However old cobber we are both still on deck which is the main thing after all these years. Memories of Timor are still very vivid, and I wouldn't mind going through at least some of the times again. I think in a lot of ways we were pretty lucky.

We had some funny experiences together, true. We didn't fight much but we made it bloody awkward for those that did, and enjoyed doing it.

I hope you had a happier homecoming than I had. My home was well and truly broken up and nothing could be done about it. However I remarried 15 years ago and although we had no family we are very happy and of course growing old gracefully together.

I've been a T.P.I. this last four years or so. My old legs went on me. I don't think I'd get very far on per foot in Timor now, but otherwise I'm in pretty good shape.

And how are you? I'm busting to know what you're doing. I guess you are married but then again you weren't a very romantic type, were you? Or were you? There was no way of knowing over there.

W.A. is the only State I haven't been yet. I'm hoping to go West. Many claim it's the best in Australia. Dear old Tassie is a beautiful old island, but by hec it's cold at times, and every winter seems colder than the last, but if ever you come to Tassy I'd like to be your personal guide. There's some lovely spots here to see if you know where to look.

If you happen to see any of our old mates please give them my kindest regards. There's not one I have forgotten, but I don't like asking of each one, just in case they're not still with us, but I took the risk on

you, somehow I knew you were floating around somewhere.

Well, I won't punish you too much this time, but don't forget I'm looking for your letter.

As you so aptely put it, best wishes to you and yours, and my wife, Enid, also sends her regards.. So for now Bon Notte Tuan.

Do you remember Fernando, my Timor boy, and "Pincher" the monkey? I brought back to Australia but they took him from me at Mt. Isa.

**BILL BENNETT, of 186 Warriewood Rd., Warriewood, writes:—**

Am enclosing cheque and application form for Monster Raffle, and wish the Association every success with this project.

Myself and June are keeping well but of course have now only ourselves to look after as both of our children are grown up and married.

Our son is a Flight Steward with Qantas so we do not see much of him as he always seems to be in some other part of the world.

Our daughter is living at Byron Bay where she and her husband have bought a small farm.

As for myself I am off to Darwin on an agent finding job for the firm. We think if we appoint a local Darwin man as our representative it will be much more satisfactory than going up from Sydney on regular visits.

Well, I must away and start packing. Hope to be in the West next year.

**ALLAN ADDISON, of 35 Railway Parade, Bankstown, N.S.W., writes**

Please find enclosed two application forms for Mammoth Raffle tickets. It has taken me a long time to find buyers but finally managed to convince two mates that it was for a very good cause.

I have entered my name along with my wife and two boys on the 1971 Safari list, all being well we will make the trip.

I attended our monthly meeting last night (12/10/70) at Arncliffe R.S.L. In attendance were Alan Luby, Ron Trengrove, Paddy Kenneally, Don Murray and Jack Darge.

Alan, Don, Jack and myself tried to win our fare money on the pokies, but as usual they won so we drank each others health before adjoining till next month.

**BARB PALMER, of 2 Reynolds St., Busselton, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed please find application form and cheque for two Mammoth Raffle tickets. Am working on another party and hope to pin him down soon.

Bob had Clarrie Turner in to see him for a while yesterday. If any of the boys are down this way any time they can easily find Bob at Dorsett Motors in the main street. He'd be pleased to see them.

Sounds as though the raffle is a popular idea and heres wishing it every success.

**NORM THORNTON, of Box 81, Denmark, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed find a cheque for two tickets in your Mammoth Raffle. I managed to talk one of the local bank managers into buying one but had to get him drunk first. It may have been cheaper to buy the ticket.

I am looking forward to seeing our Eastern States' members and everybody at the big re-union.

**MERV JONES, of 11 Rowan Street, Mona Vale, Sydney, writes:—**

Enclosed three tickets for raffle. I will send the full amount for the three within a month and I can possibly sell another one or two if necessary.

I am looking forward to seeing everybody next year and from what I hear a bumper crowd will be present.

I am certainly a very poor drinker but tell Joe Poynton I will go into training (say about a dozen a week) so that I may at least go most of the distance.

**STAN SADLER, of Box 24, P.O., Wongan Hills, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed are two application forms for tickets in the raffle and also a cheque in payment of same. I may be able to sell another couple of tickets if you consider it necessary.

Plenty of rain here recently. Enough to finish the season well. Cereal crops are very good in the

area and most cockies will be filling their wheat quotas and a large portion of next year's too. Only rust, septoria, root rots, hail or fire can prevent this now.

Charlie's boy, Donald, has drawn a marble in the ballot for the next National Service call up. Chas is not too happy about it and I don't blame him. Donald was shouldering a great deal of the responsibility of running the farm and now Chas has to face up to another two years on his own and farming has plenty of problems now.

No news of any 2/2nd boys from me. I think Don Young is still over Cadoux way. I haven't seen him recently.

All the best to you and all the rest of the boys.

**JIM CULLEN, of R.M.B. 760, Afterlee, Kyogle, writes:—**

Enclosed please find contribution to Sousa Santos Appeal. Regret that it is not larger. We do owe much to these people, who, in our hour of need gave such valuable assistance.

Regarding the Mammoth Raffle, I will take one and will see what we can do with the others. Will forward cash just as soon as we see how the remaining tickets go. In forwarding same make cheque payable to the Association? Changed mind. Sending \$20 for ticket and rest for appeal.

We are in the grip of a pretty severe drought at present and if rain is long delayed guess we'll be sweating blood. Of course many other areas have been in a more severe plight.

Catriana, our daughter, is attending Teachers Training College at Newcastle this year—her ambition is to teach junior secondary. Neil is sitting for School Certificate this year and at present seems to have only one ambition, to be a footballer. Is quite a capable prospect too—one of "Devlin's Mob", a half back. One of the little men.

Warmest regards to the crowd, especially 9 Section. Sprocky I have not forgotten the trip to the West. One day we'll surely make it.

Enclosed cheque, may not have it later.