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Bulletin

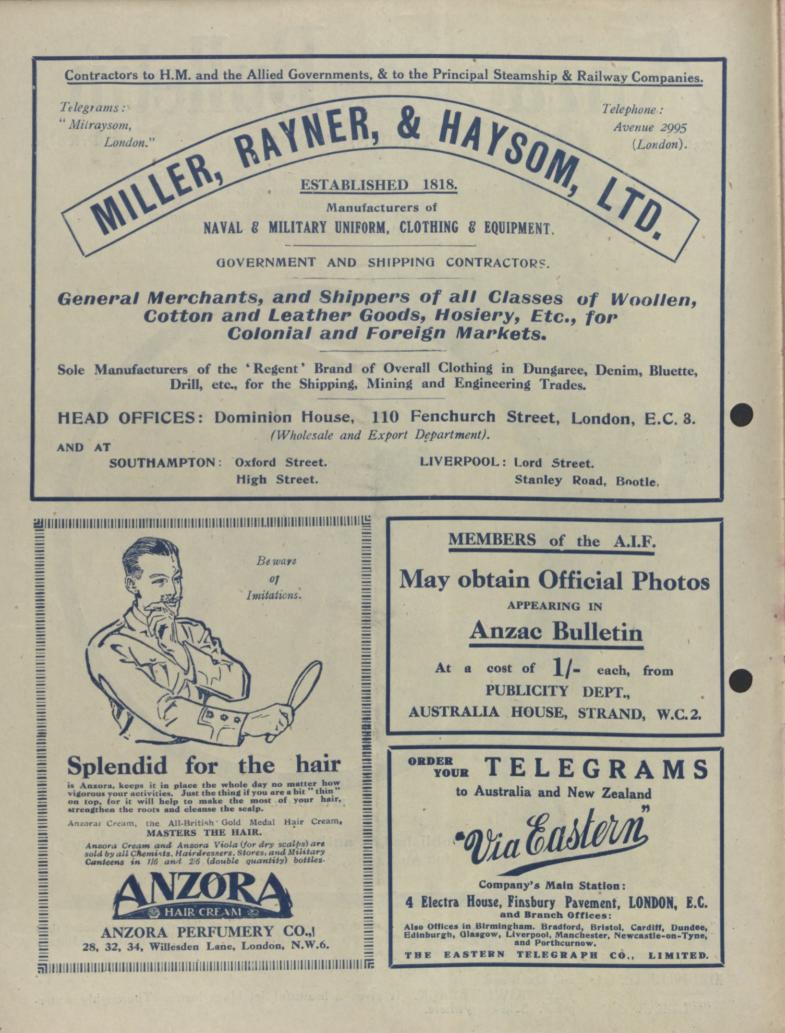
In the Desert.

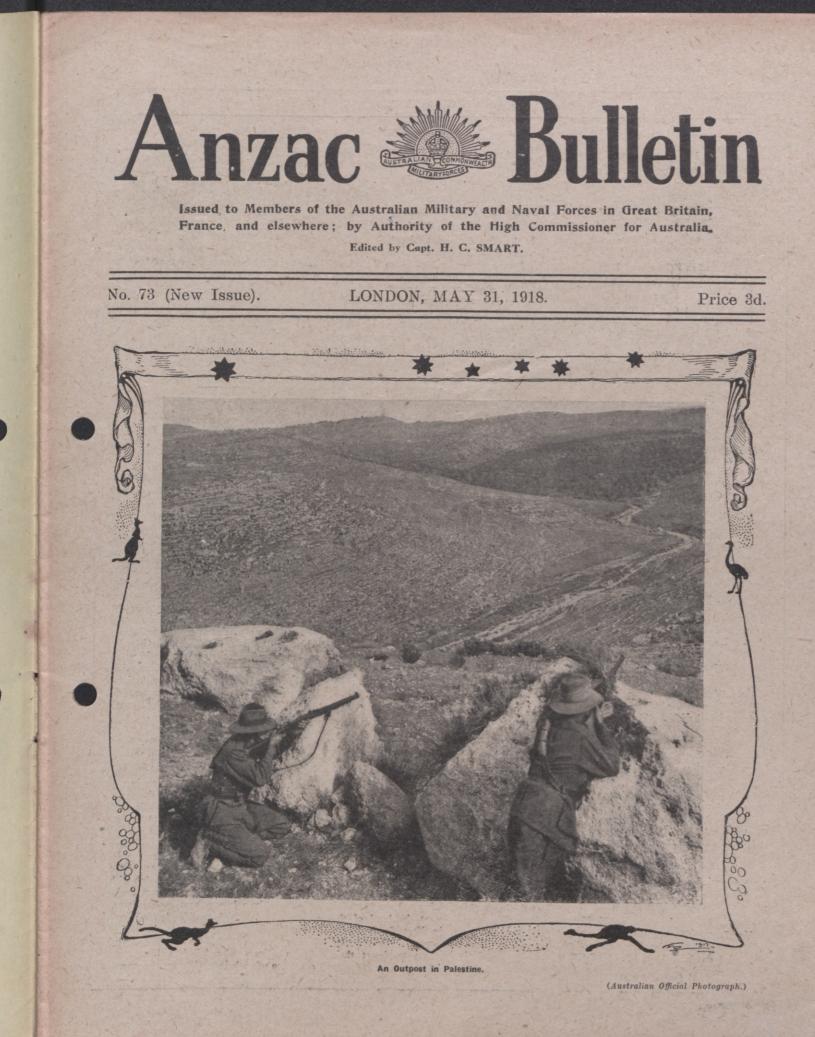
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Australian Prisoners of War. Melbourne, 7th May.

Senator Pearce has issued a statement showing that the numbers of prisoners of war held by the enemy on the 28th February totalled 2,728 men and 86 officers, including 14 officers and 2,649 men taken prisoner in France, 6 officers and 41 men from the Dardanelles, and 2 officers and 8 men from Mesopotamia, 4 officers and 40 men from Egypt.

The New South Wales Board of Trade. Sydney, 7th May.

Mr. Holman has announced the following as lay members of the Board of Trade under the new State Arbitration Act for New South Wales :- Mr. Willington, President of the Chamber of Manufactures; Mr. Routley, Secretary of the Boot Manufacturers' Association; the Hon. E. J. Kavanagh, M.L.C., Secretary of the Trades and Labour Council; and Mr. Cooper, Secretary of the Seamen's Union. Mr. Holman says the Cabinet considered that the main functions of the Board are industrial. An annual inquiry will be held regarding the living wage. Rural Districts Associations, representing primary producers and employees, will assist the Board on that issue.

Offensive against Blowflies.

Melbourne, 16th May. Mr. Watt has announced that the Federal Government has engaged Professor Lefroy to deal with the blowfly pest.

Recruit Spirit Strengthening. Melbourne, 16th May.

The Hon. D. Mackinnon, Director-General of Recruiting, states that a new spirit is manifest throughout Australia. Mr. Ryan, the Premier of Queensland, intends to tour the State appealing for recruits. Mr. Orchard, Minister in charge of recruiting, states that every man enlisting in Queensland will be asked if he desires to join the Ryan Thousand; if not, he would go into ordinary reinforcements.

A Merchant's Estate.

Melbourne, 16th May. Mr. Samuel William Gibson, a member of the Foy and Gibson Proprietary, Ltd., who died on April 10th, left £237,426 to his widow and children.

In the West Australian triennial elections for the Legislative Council, Official Labour failed in a determined effort to oust the National Labour retiring members. For the N.E. Province Mr. Ardagh, retiring National Labour member, has polled 1,297 votes, and Mr. Trusack, Official Labour, 664 votes. For the South Province, Mr. Cornell, retiring National Labour member, on active service, polled 1,089 ; Mr. Clifford, Official Labour, 750. The above returns are practically complete. For Central, Mr. Mills, Nationalist, polled 744; Mr. Drew, retiring Labour, 687; the results are incomplete. For Metropolitan District, Mr. Saunders, Nationalist, polled 1,870; Mr. Sommers, retiring Liberal, 1,351; result complete. For Metropolitan Suburban District, Mr. Sanderson, retiring Liberal, polled 1,310 ; Mr. Gordon, Nationalist, 483 ; result complete. For West Province, Mr. Lynn, retiring Liberal, polled 1,937; Mr. Baglin, Official Labour, 1,810; result complete. For South East, Mr. Stewart, retiring country Nationalist, polled 505; Mr. Teeks, Nationalist, 432; Mr. Durack, Country Nationalist, 321; Mr. Kealby, Country Nationalist, 134; result incomplete.

N.Z. Commerce and Australia. Melbourne, 17th May.

A conference of representatives in Australia of New Zealand co-operative companies held at Melbourne, has decided to form a Federal body with the title of "Australian Producers' Wholesale Cooperative Federation, Limited," with a nominal capital of £50,000 in £10 shares.

A.N.A. Opposed to Hereditary Titles. Melbourne, 17th May.

The Board of Directors of the Australian Natives' Association in Victoria and South Australia has passed a resolution that the creation of a system of hereditary titles is undemocratic.

"Labour" not Playing the Game! Sydney, 17th May.

Mr. Peter Bowling, Labour Leader, addressing a recruiting meeting at Martin Place, Sydney, said he was unable to understand why organised Labour in the Commonwealth was not giving all possible help to the brave men fighting to keep Australia free. The men now at the head of the Labour movement in New South Wales were not playing the game. He appealed to Trades Unionists not to desert their mates.

Physical Development for Recruits. Melbourne, 17th May.

Mr. Orchard, Minister for Recruiting, has made arrangements that men deficient in chest measurement or in other respects may enter physical training camps in a special battalion, where the work is not arduous. If after six weeks the defects are cured, they could be drafted into the A.I.F.

Four and Three Quarter Millions for Wheat Melbourne, 17th May.

Mr. Watt announced yesterday that further payments, involving £4,750,000, respecting wheat pools would be made as follows:--1915-16 crop, £175,000 on 15th June; 1916-17 crop, £1,750,900 on 15th July; 1916-18 crop, £1,250,000 on 15th August.

Acting Prime Minister on the Pacific. Melbourne, 17th May.

Mr. Watt, Acting Prime Minister, delivered an impressive speech at St. Kilda Town Hall on Wednesday night, emphasising the gravity of the war situation and the necessity for Australia to put forth every ounce of energy to avert defeat. Referring to former German possessions in the Pacific, he said: "Are we to lose those islands, captured for Australia by our splendid men? Are we, in a generous, Christianlike spirit to give them back to Germany, so that she might cause havoc to those who come after us?" The question was received with cries of "No."

Military Officers in Australia. Melbourne, 17th May.

Mr. Poynton, Honorary Minister, replying to a question of Mr. Gregory in the House of Representatives, said that very few permanent officers of eligible age were retained in Australia. These would go on active service as soon as they were relieved of their present duties. If any refused to go the question of terminating his commission would be considered. Officers of the Citizen Forces employed in connection with the war were being replaced by returned officers. The only ones now employed were possessed of special qualifications difficult to find among returned men. Action has been taken to cancel the commissions of citizen officers who failed without good reason to offer their services for the war.



A Parade of Australian Light Horse among the Ruins of Gaza.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

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Melbourne, 16th May. Mr. Hutchinson, Victorian Minister for Education, has expressed entire sympathy with the request by the deputation from the Soldiers Parents' Association and the Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' League that a scheme should be formulated to provide scholarships for the children of fallen soldiers and sailors. The Minister said the State would accept such children in higher schools without ordinary fees, and also meet the cost of school equipment. He promised to recommend the Ministry to establish competitive and nominative scholarhips for such children.

" Sans Cérémonie !" Brisbane, 17th May.

The Standing Orders Committee of the Queensland Legislative Council has decided that owing to the war no invitation cards shall be issued in connection with the opening of Parliament, and the Governor will wear morning costume instead of uniform.

Claims of Rejected Volunteers. Melbourne, 17th May.

The State Premiers' Conference has decided that pensions for active service in the Naval and Military Forces shall be exempted fron income-tax. The Conference expressed the opinion that Public Service Commissioners should into verlook the fact that rejected volunteers, if candidates for employment, had volunteered for military service.

Obituary.

Melbourne, 17th May.

Mr. T. K. Bennett, a pioneer in the butchering trade in Melbourne, has died at the age of 88.

Australia's War Loans. Only Ten Per Cent. of Country's Wealth Invested.

Melbourne, 19th May.

Mr. Watt has introduced a Bill in the House of Representatives authorising the raising of £80,000,000 by the next loan. The amount already raised is £149,325,058, leaving a balance of £18,674,942 to be

raised under Acts already passed. By War Savings Certificates an additional sum of £4,383,748 has been raised. Australia has also borrowed £47,500,000, making a grand total raised for war purposes of £196,825,058, excluding the estimated sum of £30,550,000 paid by the British Exchequer to June 30th in connection with Australian naval and military forces. The question of paying this £30,550,000 largely depended on whether it is to be considered as a debit against wool or wheat returns, but future indebtedness will be promptly met by Australia. The estimated war expenditure for 1917-18 was £84,051,230. This might be reduced, but is sure to be more than £80,000,000. There is no reason to believe, if the war continued during the coming financial year, that the expenditure will be less. Interest on future loans is to be subject to income-tax. Mr. Brennan questioned whether this decision was not too late, and Mr. Watt replied that very little of the available wealth of Australia had yet gone into war loans. Only about 10 per cent. of the inventory of wealth had been subscribed.

(Cables continued on page 7.)



An Adelaide Tragedy.

The body of Arthur Richard Priest, a well-known Adelaide land broker, was found above high-water mark on the beach near Grange, South Australia, on the morning of March 11th. There was a small puncture behind the right ear, apparently due to a bullet wound. Deceased was 39 years of age.

Peter Bowling's Expulsion.

The Mayfield (N.S.W.) branch of the Australian Labour Party passed a motion in favour of Peter Bowling being expelled from the Labour movement. The motion will come before the executive of the Australian Labour Party.

Melbourne Street Accidents.

The Victorian Minister for Lands (Mr. Frank Clarke) informed Mr. Merritt in the Legislative Council, that during the past five years 117 persons had been injured and 15 killed in Melbourne while entering or leaving trams. Commenting on these figures, the Minister for Public Works (Mr. McWhae) said that in Los Angeles no fewer than 1,532 accidents had occurred in 14 months. Melbourne's record, therefore, was particularly satisfactory.

Master Bakers at Work,

The master bakers at Kalgoolie (W.A.), having refused to entertain the demand of the Operative Bakers' Union for an allround increase of 20/- a week, the men ceased work on March 8th. The master bakers have combined, and are working three of the largest bakeries, which are equipped with labour-saving machinery. The operatives are reported to be making arrangements for beginning a co-operative bakery.

University Pace-Makers.

Mr. Kingham, representing the Association of Employees' Mechanical Branch, addressed the Sydney inquiry into the time and card system on March 11th. . He said that the men had the idea that the cards were being dragged in front of them like a red rag before a bull. He believed that there had been speeding up. Men had gone to the works from the University, leaving £10 or £12 a week, and had worked with a vim and a speed which he envied, but which resulted in a speeding up. These special men had set the pace, not the management or the foremen. Other employees had unconsciously followed the lead, hence an increased output.

Socialist Delegate to Russia.

A deputation representing the Trades Hall and the Socialist Party waited upon the Minister for Home and Territories (Mr. Glynn) with a request for a review of his refusal to grant a passport to Mr. A. W. Foster to visit Russia as delegate to a socialist conference. Mr. Glynn replied that in the opinion of the Government it was a political matter, and anyhow it would be injudicious for anyone from Australia to visit Russia at present. Until there was settled Government in Russia it would be useless for a delegate to leave Australia.

The Chinese Logician.

Ah Ling was complainant and witness in the case, and although he had been some time out from China his qualifications were questioned. "What will happen if you tell a lie?" asked the J.P. "Me go long to hell," answered the complainant, and the consequences, either way, seemed to be satisfactory to the bench. But counsel for the other side intervened with just another question. "What will happen if you tell the truth?" Ah Ling answered just as readily, "Me loosem case."

Mount Howitt Tragedy.

An extraordinary development occurred on March 11th in connection with the arrest at Balloong, 18 miles from Yarram, of a man supposed to be one whom the police believed could give information with regard to the murder of James Barclay. station manager, at Mount Howitt, late in December., When this man was apprehended by Constable Crown, of Rosedale, he gave his name as John Bamford, which is the name of the cook who is being sought for by the police in the hope that he may throw some light on the tragedy. The man arrested, it is alleged, made certain statements by virtue of which the police considered themselves justified in charging him with the wilful murder of Barclay. This they did, and the accused was brought before the Yarram Court of Petty Sessions, and remanded to appear at Melbourne on March 19th.

Lightning Strikes Cricket Pitch.

At Xavier College, Kew, Victoria, on March 9th, lightning struck the cricket ground, tearing a hole a foot deep and 2ft. long, and hurling sods in all directions to a distance of 65 yards. A water-pipe runs underground near where the lightning struck. A public schools cricket match, Xavier v. Scotch College, had been completed about an hour earlier.

Union Secretary's Crime.

Only four witnesses were examined at an inquest held in Melbourne touching the deaths of Thomas John Davies, his wife (Floris Rose Davies) and their infant daughter, Irma, whose dead bodies were found at their home at East Doncaster on the morning of February 26th. The coroner recorded that Thomas John Davies and his daughter Irma had died from gunshot wounds wilfully and maliciously inflicted by the father, and that Floris Rose Davies, the wife and mother, had died from strychnine poisoning.

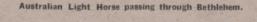
Settler's Wife Fired Upon.

A curious incident is reported from the holding of Mr. C. Hansen, Ballendella, near Rochester. At night Mr. Hansen was absent at a meeting, and towards 9 o'clock Mrs. Hansen was putting the children to bed when she heard a noise outside. On going out she was startled by the report of a gun. The shot whizzed past her, and hit her dog in the head and body. She would not be able to identify the man who fired, and his object is a mystery.

"It's an Ill Wind."

One now learns that not the least remarkable feature of the Brighton tornado was the lavish distribution of hens over distant places in the way of the wind. Since the storm, poultry dinners have been a feature of the domestic economy of many homes out Caulfield way. In one small locality about a mile and a half from the centre of greatest disturbance there was a literal shower of pullets. They rained into vards ;. they were blown through windows ; they were whirled through doors, and in some cases even flopped down the chimneys. One householder, two hours after the subsidence of the storm, found his upstairs bedroom window broken, and a choice assortment of poultry, including a fat duck, under the bed. Of course, there was no means of indentifying these birds of the air, so they were accepted as gifts from heaven and eaten. That is to say, what blew in provided a great blow out !





" Da Boiled Grasshop."

An enterprising Italian in a northern town of New South Wales established a fish and oyster shop as part of his business. They were a winter specialty for Saturday nights—the long railway journey from Sydney making summer supply impossible. "Why don't you get up salted prawns for summer?" asked one of the local squatters. "No fear of them going bad." The Italian arranged for a supply, but to his astonishment there was no local enthusiasm about them. The reason was suggested only when a countryman of his own, more enterprising in the matter of diet than Australians, asked. "How mucha da boiled grasshop ?"

Germans in Australia.

Much excitement was caused in the Culcairn and Walla Walla districts (N.S.W.) by the arrest of four well-known land-holding residents of German descent—Messrs. H. A. Paech, John Wenke, E. D. Heppner, and E. G. Wenke. The four men were taken to Culcairn at night, and were taken to the Holdsworthy camp by the express.

Attempt to Destroy Weir.

An attempt was made on March 23rd to blow up a weir constructed across the Macquarie River (N.S.W.) close to the township of Bathurst. The explosive removed a quantity of material, and lowered the level of the water, but the breech was later closed.

Aboriginal Butchered.

At the penal settlement at Rottnest Island, Western Australia, on March 6th, Wooby, an aboriginal prisoner, was done to death by Peter Jackson, another aborigine. It is understood that Wooby was lying asleep behind a bush about a hundred yards from the gaol, when Jackson crept upon him and killed him with an axe. Ill-feeling is said to have existed between the two.

Shark Attacks Bather.

While surfing in three feet of water at Newcastle (N.S.W.) on March 22nd, a youth was attacked by a shark, which seized him by the arm and dragged him under the water. He managed to escape, but it was necessary to amputate the arm.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

5

Regards.

About 1,000 names have been added to the barmaids' register, one-fourth being soldiers' wives. Barmaids were first required to register in Victoria by an act passed in December, 1916, and when the period for registration closed on February 1st, 1917, about 2,000 names had been recorded. An amending bill enabled the further registrations to be made. A woman who has failed to register cannot now serve behind a bar unless she be the licensee of an hotel or the wife or daughter of a licensee.

The Barmaids' Register.

Deepening Port Phillip.

Owing to the fact that explosives are required for war purposes, operations connected with the deepening of the channel at Port Phillip Heads have been arrested. The Chief Secretary stated on March 9th, that the channel at the Heads was now deep enough to admit allvessels with the exception of those having the dimensions of the Ceramic. The work might be continued by utilising explosives which had been condemned, but which were good enough for the purpose.

Australian Red Cross In the Great Offensive.

6

April was an exceptionally busy month for the Australian Red Cross in France. In addition to the great increase in the number of men admitted to hospital necessitating heavier issues of comforts and greater activity among the staff, many changes in organisation became essential to meet the changed military situation. The transference of troops necessitated a good deal of rearrangement.

A completely equipped small mobile depot had been put in readiness to move where required at the shortest notice, and it was sent to the new forward area. Owing to limited staff and transport difficulties a good deal of heavy work was entailed in carrying through the arrangements successfully, but the depot was established in time:

During the anxious early stages of the present battle, before the German advance had reached its high-water mark, the advanced depot in Flanders threatened to become untenable, and its evacuation to a site further back was decided upon. The operation was successfully carried out, and the new depot was established in the stables of a farmhouse convenient to the railway.

In the southern area, too, the advanced store, well stocked with comforts, is in a most convenient centre.

In the hospital centres further back, the month proved one of greatest activity.

A new feature of Australian Red Cross activity is marked by the establishment of an Australian Convalescent Depot at one centre, and it is expected that all Australian convalescents will be congregated there, greatly simplifying the work of those responsible for supplying comforts to the men, who would otherwise be scattered in various camps.

SPORTING CABLES.

Schools Rowing Championship. Melbourne, 13th May.

The races by the public schools for Head of the River on the Yarra resulted as follows :--- Melbourne Grammar School 1, Wesley College 2, Geelong Grammar School 3. A north-westerly breeze made the water choppy. Melbourne Grammar School had the most favoured position; Wesley College was three-quarters of a length ahead at the Botanical Gardens Bridge from Melbourne and Geelong, which were together. Melbourne Grammar School pulled up on Wesley College approaching the bend, Geelong being half a length behind. The Geelong boys caught a crab and appeared hopelessly out of it. Melbourne then passed Wesley College, and had a half-length's lead at the bend, which was increased to a length and a half at Branders. Ferry. They eventually won by two lengths

Guerilla Warfare by Australians.

Gains on the Ancre-Somme Ridge.

By F. M. CUTLACK,

War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, May 7th.

In the past month the Germans have not exhibited the slightest interest in the Australian lines between the Ancre and Somme, across broad high ground where the only chance of attack open to them has been a direct frontal attack. The enemy tried one flank attack along the Somme Valley, which was disastrously defeated. Since then all his efforts have been directed to remoter flanks, like those at Albert and Villers-Bretonneux.

During the past week Australian battalions have developed a steadily strong offensive action along the Morlancourt height, between the Ancre and the Somme. Patrol enterprises constantly informed them of the passive spirit of the Germans opposite, who, when nightly they encountered little bombing fights, invariably evacuated No-man's Land, losing prisoners to Australians, besides killed and wounded.

The enemy, with a position not inferior to ours, was utterly unable to check the swarms of Australians nightly engaged in guerilla warfare with little parties, among sunken roads, valleys and shell-holes in this straddled-ridge position.

Victorian patrols recently began to develop their tactics by stealing ground near the Ancre. In four nights, by constantly pushing out posts and ousting Germans where they resisted, they advanced the front line by about a thousand yards on one flank and the remainder by from five to eight hundred yards.

Last night New South Wales battalions made a surprise attack at midnight along the top of the ridge itself. The artillery without warning dropped a curtain of fire well behind the second enemy line, rendering the escape of the garrison hazardous;

and a half. Geelong made a wonderful recovery, being only half a length behind Wesley. Time, 5mins, 13secs.

Harry Gray beats his Son George. Melbourne, 6th May.

The veteran, Harry Gray, in receipt of 6,000 points, beat his son George at billiards by 12,000 to 5,457. George Gray never touched form. His jerky, cramped delivery suggested the muscular affection that spoilt his play last season.

Victorian Football. Melbourne, 21st May.

The Victorian football season started on

then a long line of infantry, which had already crawled out, dashed into the enemy's trenches. The attack caught the Germans completely by surprise, and was entirely successful, with insignificant casualties to us. Two lines of trenches were taken, together with some 160 prisoners and many machine-guns. The German losses were undoubtedly severe, at least 150 dead could be counted within the ground taken. Practically, fighting occurred only to the left of the advance, where subsequently small parties of the enemy, not properly organised, endeavoured to counter-attack. These were easily smashed and scattered by machine-gun fire during the spasmodic three-hours' fighting.

Germans Shy of Frontal Attacks.

The prisoners, 75 per cent. of whom are lads of 19, admit that the attack was utterly unexpected. Among the garrison thus caught were a large party of rationcarriers, who had brought up food a long distance on foot: they declared that the Australian artillery fire on several nights had destroyed their cookers, greatly to the discontent of the men in the line.

The result of this action was to advance our line some thousand yards along the ridge, giving the Australians a commanding position overlooking Morlancourt, Dernancourt, and the flats south of Albert.

Among the patrol encounters on nights preceding this enterprise it is worth mentioning the fight of three New South Wales officers in No-man's Land. They remained between the lines almost the whole night, marking posts and wandering everywhere. At one place they suddenly met four Germans and attacked them with revolvers: they killed two and took one prisoner. Subsequently an incoming party of Germans attacked the three officers with bombs, but they, with their Boche prisoner, laid low, and finally escaped.

Saturday for League football. Richmond, with 7 goals and 16 behinds—58 points, beat Carlton, 8 goals and 5 behinds—53 points. South Melbourne, with 12 goals 6 behinds—78 points, beat Fitzroy, 5 goals 8 behinds—61 points, beat St. Kilda, 6 goals 18 behinds—61 points, beat St. Kilda, 6 goals 18 behinds—54 points. Collingwood, 7 goals 6 behinds—4 points, beat Geelong, 5 goals 6 behinds—36 points.

Association.—North Melbourne, 11 goals 7 behinds—73 points, beat Port Melbourne, 6 goals 7 behinds—43 points. Footscray, 7 goals 15 behinds—57 points, beat Northcote, 5 goals 9 behinds—39 points. Prahran, 10 goals 10 behinds—70 points, beat Brunswick, 2 goals 16 behinds—30 points.

Cable News from Australia -continued

The Price to be Paid for Wheat.

Melbourne, 19th May. The State Premiers have presented to Mr. Watt, Acting Prime Minister, a resolution that wheat-growers be guaranteed 4s. 4d. per bushel for the 1918-20 crops. Mr. Watt promised Cabinet consideration.

Labour and Recruiting Conference. Important Suggestions by Mr. Tudor. Melbourne, 19th May.

As a consequence of the Recruiting Conference at Federal Government House, Mr. Tudor has sent to Mr. Watt a letter setting out the Federal regulations and proclamations, which are regarded by the Labour-Party as objectionable and likely to engender unnecessary bitterness. The letter states that the Labour Party is desirous of doing everything necessary and proper for the conduct of the war, and takes no exception to any regulation capable of a reasonable and equitable interpretation which can be employed only in helping to secure national safety and well-being, but it holds strongly that the essential con-ditions of freedom of discussion and public meeting should be re-established. These involve an uncensored Press, subject only to the limitations imposed by withholding matters advantageous to the enemy, or matters likely to give offence to Allied Powers, save where the paramount interests of our own country require, the clear enunciation of the whole truth. The letter further intimated the amendments required of the statutory rules relating to the censorship, the prohibiting of meetings in the vicinity of Parliament House prejudicially affecting the States' industrial organisations, to the limitation of sport, and to others not directly associated with the war but widening the scope of unemployment, to the rules prohibiting the introduction into Australia of papers and periodicals freely circulating in Great Britain, and to the rule relating to the incitement to disloyalty and closing of premises considered prejudicial. Mr. Watt has promised to give full consideration to these representations.

Senator Pearce on the Situation. Irresponsible Cliques Condemned. Melbourne, 21st May.

Senator Pearce, speaking at the annual Empire Service of the Protestant Alliance Friendly Society, Melbourne, on Sunday, congratulated the Society for affording an opportunity to loyal citizens to show that the discordant voice heard from time to time was not the voice of Australia. The British Empire was one of the strangest contradictions in history, containing within



Marching through the Judean Hills, Palestine. (Australian Official Photograph.)

itself every appearance of weakness and threat of disorganisation and anarchy, yet never was an Empire so strongly knit together. The links forged in the time of peace had stood the fiery test of to-day in the fight for liberty and freedom.

If all that the British Empire had done for humanity were blotted from the pages of the world's history that history would be poor indeed. The Empire stood for selfgovernment. Some people believed progress could be made at a sort of Donnybrook Fair, but Russia supplied a stern lesson. He deprecated the tendency in some quarters to sneer at Parliaments, declaring that if ever there was a time when Parliamentary institutions and British lives should be cherished it was now. Those institutions were being attacked not merely by the Kaiser and his army; they were being attacked from within. There was an attempt in this country and in the country from which our fathers came, to wrest from Parliament and political institutions the power of Government, and place it in the hands of irresponsible cliques, whether those cliques were trade unions or church. The beginning of that fight had been cabled from the United Kingdom, and the history of it in Australia for the last three years is well known. That fight had for long been conducted underground in secret, but today it was out in the open, and to-day there was a clarion call for every man and woman who was a Britisher to take an interest in this question, to take part in the fight. (Cheers.)

Honour Roll at Northcote.

7

Melbourne, 21st May. The Governor-General unveiled an honour roll in the Northcote Town Hall on Saturday.

Forty Million Postal Packets.

Melbourne, 21st May. The A.I.F. postal section abroad reports that last year the soldiers' mail approximated to 40,000,000 articles, including 35,987,673 letters. Assuming the total strength to be 200,000, the annual mail of each soldier comprised nearly 200 letters and parcels.

Enlistment of Labour Member.

Brisbane, 22nd May. Mr. Alfred James, Labour member in the State Parliament of Queensland, has enlisted.

W.A. "Labour" Bent on Winning the War. Perth, 22nd May.

Mr. Collier, leader of the official Labour Opposition in West Australia, speaking at a recruiting meeting at Midland Junction, said that, so far as he knew, the whole people of Australia was determined to continue the war to the end. We have to fight to the very utmost to avoid defeat, dishonour, and humiliation at the hands of the enemy. He disagreed with those who talked Peace. It was no use going out with the slive branch to a man carrying a flaming sword.

PORTING

Thrilling Performance. Wickyama Dives 200 Feet.

8

A sensational dive into the Yarra River from a platform 200 feet in the air was a feature of a patriotic carnival held at Melbourne on March 23rd. The very daring feat was pregnant with possibilities, and it would have required a very small error of judgment for it to have ended with very serious results to the performer. The item proved an excellent "draw card," and a crowd estimated at between 60,000 and 70,000 people thronged the vantage points on both banks of the river in the vicinity of Dight's Falls.

At about 5 p.m., after having competed in the Deep Rock £100 Handicap, in which he was defeated by Carter, a Fitzroy swimmer, Prince Wickyama (better known to the Australian public as Alec Wickham) crossed the river in a canoe and ascended the bank, followed by an eager crowd to the improvised platform from which he was to dive 200 feet. He walked out along the boards, and stood for some moments surveying the scene. Looking at his diminutive form one could more easily gauge the magnitude of his task, and it seemed too hazardous for any man to undertake. Wickyama turned and conversed with officials on the platform, then returned to the bank, and a feeling overcame the crowd that he would abandon the effort. This belief, however, was soon dispelled by a bugle call, in response to which the diver walked quickly to the edge of the platform, and stood awaiting a signal. When the second bugle rang out, and Wickyama crouched for the jump, there was a strained silence, broken only by gasps from hysterical women throughout the crowd. There was scarcely a murmur till the gallant Wickyama reappeared above the water, and then there was a burst of applause from every throat which might have been heard miles away. Wickyama did not hold imself rigid before the plunge, as many supposed he would, but instead stooped twice and sprang forward. His body quickly assumed the graceful curve of the swallow dive, and the speed at which he descended thrilled and even terrified the spectators. The manner in which he retained his balance by rapid revolutions of his arms was amazing. It seemed to many that he was in difficulties, and that he would hit with his chest, yet he took the water head on, with hands crossed to act as a break in as perfect a dive as could have been seen. Two and a half seconds elapsed between the time he sprang from the platform and his drop into the water. In a brief space he reappeared, and smilingly acknowledged the vociferous applause.

When seen subsequently Wickyama said



he had full control of himself after the first 30 feet of the flight, and experienced not the least anxiety. He described the sensation of the early stages of the descent as much the same as that experienced in a descent in a lift. In recognition of the fine performance, Mr. John Wren, President of the Deep Rock Swimming Club, gave Wickyama £100.

Immediately after the great dive an exhibition of plain and fancy diving from a height of 70 feet was given by Mr. W. Griffiths, champion amateur diver of Victoria. A very entertaining display of eccentric diving was given by Corporal Levison, Messrs. J. Ford, D. O'Connell and others.

Motor-Cycle Races. 200 Miles Contest.

At the Mortlake motor-cycle meeting, on Easter Monday, the 200 miles speed race was won by C. A. Arnold. Several thousand people witnessed the finish. It is expected that the financial result of the carnival will be better than last year, when £151 was realised. The profits will be divided between the local Red Cross Society and the State War Council Fund. The 200 miles speed race was over a course of actually 2031 miles, and it was covered by the winner, C. A. Arnold, on a 31-h.p. Indian machine in 4h. 24min. 45sec., his average speed being $45\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour. B. Eckhardt, who won last year, was second on a 7-h.p. Harley-Davidson, averaging a pace of 60 miles an hour. It was reported that J. McAloon, a competitor, met with a serious accident, being thrown heavily through striking a projecting stone or rock outcrop. He was taken to Terang by motor, where his condition was said to be critical. There were other minor accidents, while several competitors lost places through troubles. So fast was the pace that only twelve out of a field of thirty-four starters were checked by the officials at the finish. The following is the order of finishing, showing handicaps, machines used, and actual times :-- C. A. Arnold, 90min., Indian, 4h. 25min. 45sec., 1; B. Eckhardt, 12min., Harley-Davidson, 3h. 22min. 3sec., 2; W. J. Ousley, 12min., Indian, 3h. 24min. 11sec., 3; D. Y. Rennie, 72min., B.S.A., 4h. 35min. 8sec., 4; J. R. Booth, scratch, Indian, 3h. 23min. 15sec., 5; D. Brewster, 36min., Indian, 3h. 52min. 32sec., 6; C. Thomas, 371min., Henderson, 3h. 59min. 7sec., 7; C. Disney, 374min., Indian, 4h.
3min. 22sec., 8; F. Donnelly, 42min.,
Indian, 4h. 12min. 10sec., 9; T. Walker,
39min., Harley-Davidson, 4h. 9min. 50sec.,
10; J. Stoffers, 82min., Triumph, 4h.
58min. 21sec., 11; E. C. Tyler, 12min.,
Indian, 4h. 7min. 16sec., 12. Arnold and
Eckhardt will probably be awarded prizes
for the fastest times in lower and higher-powered machines respectively. Booth recorded the fastest lap for higher-powered
machines, doing nearly 34 miles in 31min.

OTES

Moonee Valley Incidents.

Backers began the afternoon well at Moonee Valley, on March 23rd, by declaring for Lord Capulet in the Hurdle Race, in which fifteen horses went to the post. Lord Capulet was always at or near the front. The recruit Wallwong was prominent early, and later Cotswold ran with the favourite for a time, but it was Uncle Abe who threatened most danger. However, Lord Capulet possessed too much pace for him in the run home and won easily, while the imported Parules, finishing well, gained third place. Bard of Avon, who opened at a short price and went out second favourite, was a long way back most of the journey, but finished fifth. The stipendiary stewards, with whom Mr. J. S. Fehan acted, held an inquiry into Bard of Avon's running. After hearing the evidence of the parties concerned, the stewards accepted the explanation tendered as satisfactory. This was the first victory gained by Lord Capulet for a long time, but he has had very little experience at hurdle-racing, and promises to do well in this department. He is owned and trained by C. T. Godby, and was ridden by H. Cairns.

A fine distinction, but one that makes a lot of difference, is that between a dead heat and a short half-head winning verdict. Mr. H. J. Buckland, judge at Moonee Valley, decided that Pinkerton had won the Valley Handicap by the narrow margin that cost Lingle the last Melbourne Cup. Kunegetis was a solid favourite for this race. F. Bullock, on Hispania, tried to win all the way, but the mare was beaten before reaching the home turn, where Smart rushed Kunegetis to the front. The favourite led into the straight, with Pinkerton and Uska handy. They fought out an exciting finish, and Pinkerton just got there, for Uska was in front a stride past the post. Pinkerton was well backed, but many doubted his ability to quite get the distance, though he won over it on the same course last July. Aides was a runner, but was very sore, and whipped in throughout. Rosanna was fancied, but ran a disappointing race. F. Dempsey was applauded when riding the winner back to scale.

SPORTING NOTES—continued. Bowling Championship.

M.C.C. won the championship of the Victorian Bowling Association, at the St. Kilda Green, on March 23rd. The scores were as follow :--

40

 $\frac{12}{25}$ 94

M.C.C., 107. 1.-Henderson, Warburton, W. Marsh,

A Oastler -Sarvaas, Macgregor, Robinson, Tenny Dyer, Trickett, Belinfante, Tatchell -Robins, J. Champion, Hooper, James CANTERBURY, 86.

CANTERBURT, Sc. 1.—Knight, Watt, Howie, Bowman .. 2.—Eley, Huckerby, Stephens, Hotchin 3.—Fisher, Potter, Shannon, Lusty ... 4.—Nathan, Sinclair, Wood, E. C. Belyea

Melbourne Boxing.

Harry Bell (8.10) proved too strong for Les Dawson (8.6) in their 10-round bout at the Melbourne Pavilion on April 1st. Dawson boxed cleverly in the first half of the contest, and established a good lead on points. He fell away, however, in the last two rounds, and Bell, finishing strongly, gained the decision of Val Quirk, the referee.

Private Joe Ryan (9.12) and Joe Craig (9.8) boxed six exciting rounds. The referee decided in favour of the soldier by a narrow margin of points. Johnny Roberts (8.3) showed good form in outpointing Paddy Young (8.6) in six rounds. Young was the more forceful, but Roberts gave a clever display, and created a most favourable impression among the spectators.

Jordan Defeats O'Grady.

Frank O'Grady, who once was one of the cleverest lightweights in Australia, was beaten by Chris. Jordan, at the Melbourne Pavilion, on April 2nd. O'Grady made a plucky showing, but Val Quirk's decision in favour of Jordan was a foregone conclusion long before the bout ended. O'Grady weighed 9.12, and was 7lb. heavier than his rival; but while Jordan was well trained, O'Grady obviously was out of condition. O'Grady had not had a contest for about three years, and he made the mistake of meeting an aggressive boxer like Jordan at short notice. When at his best O'Grady was as skilful as men like Hock Keys, Frank Thorn, Herb M'Coy, and the late Hughie Mehegan, and for ten rounds at least held his own with those champions.

In the first three rounds against Jordan, O'Grady showed a glimpse of his old-time brilliancy. He scored with his left hand, which he used to rely on mainly, and several times sent his glove into his opponent's face. Jordan bled from a cut under his right eye in the first round, and at times O'Grady's straight left steadied him.

After the fifth round, O'Grady tired, and Jordan set to work to wipe out the lead on points that his rival had gained. Jordan punished his opponent on the body with the left, and occasionally sent his right to the



Billjim (from the Dug-out): I say, Jack! Do you happen to know the second line of A Perfect Day!"

head. Jordan dropped O'Grady for seven seconds with a right to the chin in the tenth round, and it was only the loser's gameness that enabled him to last out the term.

Long-Distance Rides.

"Many years ago," states Mr. Seth Ferry, in the Adelaide "Saturday's Journal," "I was at Truro, when a captain of a river steamer approached me and explained that he had to be in Blanchetown in two hours to take charge of his craft, or he would lose his job. I sold him a horse called Red Rover for £30, and gave him instructions how he should ride the mount -particularly to nurse him in the early stages of the journey. He lived up to these, and the thoroughbred answered gamely, and the river captain accomplished the journey of 32 miles in two hours. Years afterwards the driver of the Willunga coach, chatting to me on the box, said one of the best horses he remembered was Red Rover, that he drove in the mail at Wentworth. He said the yarn was that a river captain purchased him from me, and rode him 32 miles in two hours. I confirmed the story. Red Rover was by Flatcatcher, that was imported by the late Mr. J. H. Angas. I put up a good performance with a thoroughbred horse bearing the brand of Mr. R. E. H. Hope's father. I rode it from Woodside to Adelaide and home again, and when I arrived in the hills township there was an important telegram awaiting me, which necessitated

my making the trip again, and as no other horse was available, I rode this thoroughbred. That was 80 miles in a day, up hill and down dale." It is related, in the same paper, that Mr. Dick Allen, a South Australian station owner, when a boy of seven, rode a horse named Warrior from Nairne to Murray Bridge and back, a distance of 60 miles, to acquaint the settlers of the fact that the Duke of Edinburgh had arrived. For this he received £1. Mr. Allen expressed the opinion that many trained bush horses in good seasons have carried their mounts while mustering more than 100 miles in a day.

Trap Shooting.

The galah championship of the northern district, held under the auspices of the Koondrook Gun Club, drew a widelyrepresentative number of wing shots together, including some of the metropolitan cracks. The event was won by " Carl," who grassed 26 out of 27 birds shot at, and took £7 18s. and the championship medal. Patterson was the runner up with 25 kills, and he got £7 18s. of the stakes, he and the winner having divided on the twenty-fifth kill. "Lattral," of Melbourne, was third, with 24 kills, and "Landon" fourth, with 19 kills, these two taking £2 each. In sweepstakes, one at 40 yards was divided by"Rowsley," "Carl" and "Strathfieldsaye," with 3 kills each; and one at 35 yards by "Rowsley" and "Strathfieldsaye," 7 kills each.

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THE ANZAC BULLETIN.

The Soldiers' Stories.

How they Saw the Battle.

The Night Attack in the Men's Own Words.

By F. M. CUTLACK,

British Headquarters, France, May 6th.

After the night attack of the Australians on the Villers-Bretonneux position, an attack completely successful, which re-won the town and the important hill to the north of it, an officer commanding a Victorian unit on the northern side of the attack requested the men who actually took part in the fight to write down their own personal experiences. In the course of the last few days he has received a deluge of paper in response to this request, and some of the accounts are too good for the general public to miss. The extracts from them which follow are all from stories of the attack written by sergeants or corporals of platoons. They are the natural untouched, unrestrained recitals by the men themselves of what they saw and felt and did in that attack-the truth all unvarnished as it seemed to them, when they sat down in their "bivvies" to write it after coming out of the line. Apart from the experiences of the battle these words of theirs reveal the spirit and great-hearted enthusiasm of the men of these five Divisions. Onlookers have expatiated on that again and again, but the men's own stories reveal it better than any illumination from with-

A Deluge of Aussies.

One man's account begins :- "It was with hardly suppressed excitement that the members of Number 1 Platoon fell in at about 8.30 on the evening of the 24th of April, and it was no wonder, for the Aussies were about to do, in their language, a stunt. The night was beautiful and clear, with hardly a breath of wind, and a promise of the moon to follow. During the advance the spirit of the men was excellent, joking among themselves quietly, as it was essential that silence be maintained as much as possible. By this time we were fast approaching the enemy, and upon reaching a sunken road we had a short halt to allow the battalion on our flank to come up. At this point it was forcibly brought home to us that there was a war on, as the enemy opened a heavy artillery barrage. This is where the men showed themselves in their true light-all excitement gone, now they had settled themselves down to take anything that came. However, in spite of the shells, organisation was kept throughout the charge. I should like to state here that our platoon officer showed courage and determination; although wounded in the

hand and face he still carried on, thus earning the admiration of every man in the platoon. At last we halted and formed in extended order, and waited for the order to charge. We could see the enemy moving about in front, all unconscious that a deluge of Aussies were about to pounce on him. Presently the word was passed along-the word that makes every man quiver with excitement and grip his rifle tighter-it was the the word "Charge," the word that has sent many good men to their death and yet at the same time has made records in history. With a cheer that would have turned a tribe of Red Indians green with envy, we hopped the bags, and then the

The Machine-Gunner.

"Here the enemy got wind of us coming, and the night was turned to day by his numerous flares, and he opened a terrific machine-gun barrage; but with never a check, we advanced upon him and got to work with rifle and bayonet. In very few cases did he put up a fight, and when he did he was quickly dealt with. Each man was in his glee, and old scores were wiped out two and three times over. I noticed an enemy machine-gunner using his machine-gun freely, and was still firing when our men were on him. With one hand up he was crying "Mercy, kamerad," and with the other firing his gun. One could not help admiring his courage, but at the same time he was dangerous, and was quickly dealt with. In some places the enemy had coiled himself up in a shellhole, hoping to escape, but he was quickly hauled out. After consolidating our position, parties were sent out to bring in prisoners, which they did thoroughly, bringing them in in batches."

The Haystack.

This was the fight as seen by a non-commissioned officer of Number 2 Platoon:--"Directly in front of us could be seen the enemy, moving leisurely about, little dreaming of the rude awakening he was to receive in a few minutes. The word to advance was given at 1.30 a.m., and with one yell, which must have struck terror into every Hun who heard it, the boys levelled their bayonets and charged. Away on to the right machine-guns began to bark, but did no damage to our company. The first of the enemy that No. 2 Platoon



Light Horse Bivouac on the way to Jerusalem. (Australian Official Photograph.)

encountered were half a dozen men and their machine-gun, which they never attempted to use. These men were all bayonetted or shot, and the advance went on with the boys yelling at the top of their voices. Here and there a Fritz would hop out of trench or shell-hole, only to fall riddled with bullets. All the time Fritz kept sending up his flares-red, green and white, When we reached the old reserve line we met with considerable resistance, especially a machine-gun which had been placed on a haystack just in front. I am pleased to say that one of the members of my platoon ran around the stack and bayonetted the gunner; a deed which must have saved a great number of the boys." Another man, describing this same incident of the haystack, says :-- "An extremely warm corner was a haystack, which gave excellent cover to several machine-guns. At this point our casualties were heaviest, but the position was soon stormed, and the Boches 'alleyed at the toot.' "

"Sometimes" (says another man) "it was extremely comical. As the men went forward into No-man's Land they would stop and salvage a shovel, afterwards quickening the pace to regain lost ground. One man who came upon an enemy sniper in a shell-hole was for a second undecided whether to use shovel or bayonet, but decided in time on the latter. Added to that were the cheers and howls with which the men called on Fritz to come out—the Australian characteristic language being very noticeable. Most of the Boches seemed to be very young and weedy."

Mopping up the Town.

A man in another platoon writes :--- " The enemy opened with a machine-gun barrage, but lucky for us he was shooting erratic and high. The O.C., in a calm, steady voice, gave the order to charge. With a verocious (sic) roar, and a cry of 'Into the blighters, boys,' .we were down on them before the Boche realised what had happened. What a rude awakening. There were too many machine-guns for us to show the Boches much consideration, especially as we were moving forward. The Boche quickly illuminated the heavens with his flares, but his artillery could not help him on account of us being so far into his line. The bombs we had came in very handy, because as soon as Fritz darted for his funk holes in went an iron ration-better known as a hand grenade. I was running along towards a strong machine-gun post, when suddenly my legs went from under me through a roof, which consisted of hay and covered a post, on top of several Huns. To my surprise, the straw became alight, as Fritz must have had a candle burning. To save myself, I freely used the bayonet, and the occupants of the funk-hole fell victims. A digger saw my situation and



assisted me. We had an exciting time taking prisoners who were cut off in Villers-Bretonneux. The Huns came along the road leading from the village, apparently quite unconscious, and smoking cigarettes. We had a small party of men posted each side of the road, and they done their work. 'Halt !' was the cry, and up went the Germans' hands, with 'Mercy, Kamerad.' We started to raid a building. We got in position in front and rear of it, and then the fun began. A party of eight Huns, in single file and hanging on to one another's coat-tails, were moving along a wide passage, when a false alarm was given, and Fritz started for the cellar. In went an iron ration-and what a mix-up ! We had to do a little coaxing to get them to come out. One young Fritz came forward with his hands up and crying for mercy. Our corporal patted him on the back and face, and he turned and brought his

Kamerads out with him. A Boche doctor dressed the wounded there on the road. The day we shall never forget was the anniversary of Anzac Day."

Charge of Murder.

Eric Hylton Glasson, 31, a soldier, was charged, on March 21st, at the Central Police Court, Sydney, with having, on November 26th last, at Faima, British Solomons, murdered a native named "Bluie." The prosecution stated that Glasson kicked a black boy during an altercation, and shortly afterwards the boy died. Glasson left the Solomons the same night, and enlisted in the A.I.F. in Australia. Accused was a planter, employed by Lever Brothers' Pacific Trading Company. He was remanded, bail being refused.

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Queensland Officer's Heroism.

By F. M. CUTLACK. War Correspondents' Headquarters,

France, May 12th. Australian patrol fights in the valley of the Somme often produce good stories of personal adventure. Among them deserve to be recorded the recent enterprise of a young Queensland officer, who, with his patrol, in the early evening observed a considerable party moving on, across the enemy front line, towards No-man's Land. He disposed his men in ambush, and awaited the German approach. Advanced enemy scouts drew the Australians' fire, and the whole party ran back. One of the scouts dropped and began crawling away. The Queensland officer chased him, calling out, "Surrender, you illegitimate." A voice from the darkness replied, "Very good, sir." The officer, momentarily nonplussed, on nearing the German, demanded, "Who are you?" The German replied, "I am a waiter in a London hotel, sir. Do not kill me."

The same Queensland officer figured yesterday in a heroic incident in front of the enemy lines. At about dusk a British airman was forced to descend after an airfight. Owing to his propeller being shot off, and to serious damage to his wings, he made a bad landing in No-man's Land. The machine turned over, and the pilot was partly stunned and temporarily unable to unstrap himself. The Germans opened fire with machine-guns, and splinters flew from the wreckage. The airman, freeing himself, lay down for cover. The Queensland officer promptly led a stretcher party with two bearers in full view of the German lines across several hundred yards in the open into No-man's Land, and brought in the airman. The splendid bravery apparently impressed the enemy, who refrained from firing on the little party during the whole time.

German Attacks on Morlancourt.

By F. M. CUTLACK, Assistant Official Correspondent. War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, May 14th.

During the night the Germans made two attempts to retake the high ground above Morlancourt which was recently captured by the Australians. The first effort directed against the southern slope of this ground above Sqilly-Laurette was easily beaten off by machine-guns and rifles, and consisted of a few little groups of men advancing half-heartedly. At three o'clock a more serious attack took place, and a detachment of two hundred and fifty strong penetrated between the Australian outposts near the top of the hill. The enemy temporarily occupied about 100 yards of our front line. The artillery fire was not heavy, and in the Australians' support trenches it was not at first believed that they were Germans. When the truth was discovered, the Australians immediately counter-attacked across the open, simultaneously bombing down the front-line trench from the north.

The enemy were mostly youngsters, and did not show much fight. Some escaped, but many were killed, and about 50 prisoners were taken, and the line of posts reestablished.

Prisoners state that they were specially brought up to recapture the high ground recently lost, owing to the importance of observation from there.

Capture of Ville-sur-Ancre by Australian Battalions.

A Smart Little Action.

By F. M. CUTLACK.

War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, 20th May.

The Australians in the early hours of this morning inflicted a sound defeat on the Germans in a smart little action, which resulted in a considerable advance of our line on a three thousand five hundred yard front and the capture of the village of Ville-sur-Ancre, south-west of Dernancourt, in the Ancre valley. The troops involved were mainly Victorians, with some New South Welshmen on the right of the advance.

Yesterday these New South Welshmen performed a preliminary exploit by capturing in a sudden surprise, in the full glare of mid-day, a German post in the open, with 23 prisoners and a machine-gun. The Australians did not have a man scratched.

The battle, which started shortly after

midnight last night, was a strenuous fight. The Germans, who had admittedly expected it, had brought up several companies of fresh troops to withstand it. A broad area of marshes separated the town from the Australians. The western side of these marshes was dotted with machine-guns in patches of solid ground, backed by stronger machine-gun posts. The hillside rising to the south of the village was the last portion of the spur between the Australian line and Morlancourt. At 2 o'clock in the morning New South Welshmen on the right charged the machine-gun positions, which were in a growing wheat-field, and dug themselves into their appointed positions. Simultaneously the Victorians on the left advanced with a splendid artillery barrage over the hillside, opening out as they went forward, leaving a defensive flank fronting the village on the southern side. Other Victorians similarly advanced on the north side of the village and the river. With the village thus surrounded on three sides, the Victorians proceeded to clean it up, attacking from the south and north-west.

The infantry were so eager in the advance that within a few minutes of receiving the order they crossed several hundred yards of marsh, captured half-adozen machine-guns, and then entered the village. The German machine-guns both to the west and the south-west of the village were completely silenced by the Australian artillery, which undoubtedly rendered the approach of the infantry on the village considerably less costly than was expected. The Victorians, entering the village simultaneously on two sides, met with furious hand-to-hand street fighting. The enemy fought bravely, but was quite outclassed by our men, who were in splendid condition



Bridge Built by Australian Engineers. (Australian Official Photograph.)



Australian Officers superintending the disembarkation of stores on the coast of Palestine. (Australian Official Photograph.)

and burning for a fight. The German losses in killed were very heavy, especially in the village, which the Australians now hold.

Eight officers and some three hundred and fifty other ranks were taken prisoner, and over twenty machine-guns were also taken.

WAR HONOURS.

The following war honours have been awarded to Australians :---

A Bar to the Distinguished Conduct Medal has been awarded to

10021 C.S.M. J. Beaton, D.C.M., Sco. Rif. (N.S.W., Australia). For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when with a relief battalion, which was caught in an intense hostile barrage. Many of the guides became casualties, and the task of getting the men into the posts would scarcely have been accomplished but for his magnificent conduct. He showed a total disregard of danger and the highest qualities of leadership until the relief was eventually completed. (D.C.M. gazetted 1st January, 1918.)

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the following awards to the under-mentioned Non-Commissioned Officers and Men:-

Bar to Military Medal.

2990 Gnr. A. E. Morris, M.M., Aust. Divl. T.M. Bde. (M.M. gazetted 23rd February, 1918.)

Military Medal.

-1151 Tpr. F. Arnott, Lt. Horse; 527 Sgt. D. M. Baird, Lt. Horse; 2307 Tpr. W. P. Bassett, Lt. Horse; 1622 Pte. J. Buckley, Inf.; 1562 Pte. G. J. Campbell, Camel Corps; 518 Cpl. C. R. Capel, Lt. Horse; 1300 Cpl. (L.-Sgt.) J. J. Casey, Inf.; 2355a Pte. (A.-Cpl.) H. E. Cottee, Inf.; 1719 Cpl. C. A. J. de Bell, Inf.; 620 Tpr. A. Dobbs, Lt. Horse; 2026 Cpl. W. F. Freemantle, T.M. Bde.; 1273 Pte. A. C. Harris, Camel Corps; 1663 L.-Cpl. W. J. McMillan, Inf.; 356 Sgt. S. G. N. B. McNair, Lt. Horse; 966 Pte. C. T. O'Connor, Inf.; 586 Cpl. W. F. Turner, Lt. Horse; 4620 Pte. J. White, Inf.; 5786 Pte. D. Whitfield, Inf.

The following is now correctly described: 2000 L.-Sgt. R. C. May, Aust. A.M.C. (Gazetted 4th February, 1918.)

Meritorious Service Medal.

6034 L.-Cpl., H. M. O. Manson, Inf.

Décoration Militaire.

'His Majesty the King of the Belgians has conferred the Decoration Militaire on the following members of the A.I.F.

His Majesty the King has given unrestricted permission to wear the decoration :---

4828 Pte. Bert Vincent Killian, 1671 Pte. Thomas Lowrey, 1276 Sgt. John William Raitt, 4000 Lce.-Cpl: William Overend Wilson, 2714C Sgt. Norman Francis Woodworth.

Australian Battle Pictures.

Display at Grafton Galleries.

Mrs. Fisher, wife of the High Commissioner for Australia, opened at the Grafton Galleries, on May 24th, an exhibition of pictures and photographs by Australian official artists and photographers, illustrating operations of the Australian Imperial Forces in Gallipoli, France and Palestine. The High Commissioner (Mr. Andrew Fisher) presided, and among others present were: Lord Denman (a previous Governor-General), Lord Oranmore and Browne, the Japanese Ambassador and Viscountess Chinda, Lady Northcliffe, Mr. J. F. Hope, M.P., the Hon, Mr. Eugen Wason, M.P., Major-General Sir Newton Moore, Sir J. McCall (Agent-General for Tasmania), Sir Peter McBride (Agent-General for Victoria), Major-General Sir J. J. T. Hobbs, K.C.B., and General T. Griffiths.

Mr. Fisher said that the splendid fighting qualities of the Australians had made him proud of the race and of the Empire of which Australia formed a part. (Cheers.) The Australians had shown clearly that the unity of the British Empire, loosely knit as it was, created a response from the remotest parts, which, for enthusiasm and patriotism, was not excelled in any other part of the world. (Hear, hear.) From the war correspondents of their own papers the people of Great Britain had frequently heard of the exploits of the Australian troops. The exhibition now opened would serve to display in the possibly more striking pictorial form various incidents in

the battle operations on three fronts— Gallipoli, France, and Palestine—in which Australians had figured. The Australian artists and photographers had undergone many risks in securing pictures which would faithfully portray Australia's part in the war, and their work would afterwards go to Australia, where it would be a record for all time of the stirring deeds done by her sons in the world war. He had the permission of the King to say that, although their Majestics were not able to be present at the opening ceremony, they took great interest in the exhibition, and hoped to visit the display at a later date.

General Sir J. J. T. Hobbs, Commanding the Fifth Australian Division, said that, in order to secure suitable subjects for pictures the artists and photographers went right into the front line and exposed themselves to danger quite as much as the men in the trenches. He remembered on one occasion seeing Mr. Leist sketching a scene amidst heavy shelling. When he looked again Mr. Leist was still there, but the subject of his sketch had disappeared. (Laughter.)

Lord Denman, in moving a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fisher for opening the exhibition, said that, in view of the close relationship of Australia to Japan, he was pleased to see the Japanese Ambassador and Viscountess Chinda present. (Hear, hear.)

The pictures, including oil and watercolour sketches, portraits and photographs,

The Opening Ceremony.

number nearly 300. Some of the photographs have been enlarged to panoramic size, notably pictures of Anzac Cove and of a section of the Western Front. The photographs were taken by Capt. F. Hurley, Lieut. G. H. Wilkins, and Lieut, H. F. Baldwin.

The paintings include examples by Lieuts. F. Leist, G. W. Lambert, H. S. Power, J. P. Quinn, C. Bryant, and Pte. F. R. Crozier. From the sketches shown at the exhibition these artists will later on paint large compositions to be placed in the National Australian Collection of War Pictures.

The exhibition will be open for over a month, and at intervals each day natural colour slides, in which the natural colours of the objects are faithfully reproduced, will be shown. These colour slides, taken by Capt. Hurley, show scenes on the Western Front and in Palestine, and are by a new photographic colour process, and short lecturettes explain each slide.

The exhibition has been organised by the Publicity Department of Australia House, working in conjunction with the War-Records Section of the Australian Imperial Forces.

Musical selections are given at intervals by an A.I.F. Band.

Arrangements have been made whereby anyone who desires to purchase copies of the official photographs shown at the exhibition may do so at a low price.

General Australian Cables.

Aid for Red Cross and Returned Soldiers. Melbourne, 21st May.

The O.H.M.S. fete in aid of the Red Cross and Returned Soldiers' Amelioration Funds, organised by the Victorian Branch of the Commonwealth Public Service, was opened on Saturday in Melbourne Exhibition Building, which was crowded. The doors had to be closed, and thousands were refused admission. It is estimated that between 15,000 and 20,000 persons were present. The takings of one day were £2,000.

The Governor, Sir H. L. Stanley, opening the fete, said they all knew of the great work of the Red Cross; as for returned soldiers, they require all assistance we can give to enable them to go back to their civil avocations, back to the life they left with such determination and with such patriotism. We want our returned men to be re-absorbed into the civil community on casting off military duties, but retaining in their minds an ever-glorious memory of the cause which they served, and the service they gave. We are proud of these men. We wish to see them receive every consideration, help and encouragement in returning once more into the great mass of the nation.

Recruiting Still Going Strong.

Melbourne, 22nd May. The recruiting revival continues, particularly in New South Wales, where they have had the best week for over a year.

The Corio Seat in Federal Parliament.

Melbourne, 22nd May. Mr. Ozanne has again been selected by the Political Labour Council in a ballot contest for the Corio seat at next Federal elections.

Swimming Bath for Caulfield Eospital.

Melbourne, 22nd May. The Warracknabeal branch of the Red Cross has donated £2,000 to establish a swimming bath at Caulfield Military Hospital.

N.S.W. Labour Council and Recruiting. Sydney, 22nd May.

The newspapers report the likelihood of a split in the New South Wales Labour Council, following last Thursday's meeting, when Mr. Morey's recruiting motion was ruled out of order. Mr. J. Mostyn, Presisident of the Electrical Trades Union, tendered his resignation'as a delegate in protest against what he termed the disgraceful scenes at Thursday's meeting. He states that there are enemies within their camp, and that other fair-minded delegates should withdraw in the best interests of the trades unionist and form a true blue Trades' Labour Council.





Australian Light Horse Bivouac in the Desert, Palestine.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

Detail of History.

When the Australians Came to the Somme.

By F. M. CUTLACK,

War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, May 14th.

To understand the Battalion's story-a Queensland Battalion-you must realise that it belongs to the Eggs-a-cook Division and has never been to the Somme before; and in the Great Trade Union of Diggers that was a considerable qualification, indicating, among other things, some absence of travel on its campaigns. Also, it had never seen any open fighting, and like every other unit which has never been outside Flanders, its idea of a battlefield was a more or less flat area of mud, full of waterlogged holes, larger or smaller. Hence the enthusiasm as it went out to meet the German advance guard marching towards Amiens along the top of the ridge between the Somme and the Ancre. The battalion had been two nights without sleep-one

night waiting by the roadside for a train which was delayed for eight hours, and the next night in 'buses on the great south road. When the battalion finally debussed on the high road between Amiens and Albert, and was drawn up facing towards the early morning sun and the tree-dotted hill beyond the Ancre, the fatigues of the march dropped from the men in a minute. They found it difficult to believe that they were called to do battle in the scene before them-a hillside budding green in a fresh spring morning; no rain, no shells; a clean countryside of unshattered villages. This, someone said, was the Somme. The Fritzes advancing had got as far as some distant woods on the far left of the high ground; stray rifle shots reached their ears, and some cavalry appeared now and again in the gullies up the hillside. "It will do me,

A Valley of Milk and Honey.

Digger," said one man, grinning, to another.

Where the Battle Began.

They marched down hill to Heilly and crossed the little Ancre. Finding that nearly all the villagers had left, taking what they could carry with them. Through open doors and windows here and there the Australians saw a table set for a meal; a bedroom abandoned in haste. A stray dog or two lounged about uneasily. A Tommy waved to them hilariously, and announced that he supposed he was Town Major of the place, as everybody else had cleared out. Heilly plainly spoke of a war near at hand, for all the peacefulness of the countryside. They began to march up the great long hill that stretches between the two rivers from Bray to Corbie. There were only three

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companies of the battalion-the remainder of the battalion was still on the great south road somewhere-and at the crest of the hill one of the two companies which formed the battalion's line of battle sloped off down the hillside to the right towards the Somme, while the other kept along the top of the ridge. The third company was in reserve against emergency. In this wise the Queenslanders marched for something over a mile. A few small shell whizzed about them, harming nobody, and then suddenly they met some cavalry, who informed them that they were " skirmishing with the Huns just ahead of them." So the Australians, two companies in line on a threethousand yard front, dug in then and there on the spur just beyond Sailly-le-Sec, straight up the hill and across the Bray-Corbie road.

Splendid Cavalry.

A young officer of the battalion tells the remainder of this story. Most of the fighting that day was done by the cavalry, and there were bursts of rifle fire in the little woods out in front, as their patrols' met parties of the Germans. In the afternoon they told us they were going to do a charge on some Fritzes collecting in Sailly Laurette, and the next village on along the Somme from our Sailly, and we told the diggers to watch, which they did with great delight. The cavalry detached one or two small parties to deal with a few loose bunches of Fritzes away from the village, and the rest of them went straight for the village at the gallop in extended order, and properly stonkered the Huns. It was a dinkum charge and the first we had seen : the diggers cheered like mad. The cavalry kept on sending in little batches of prisoners, and every night we got some ourselves as well. Now and again we saw riderless horses cantering back, but they would not go far back-just trot into the valley behind us, where their lines were. Next day the cavalry had to go over to the south of the river to help hold back the Huns on that side, and they left the Fritzes on the north entirely to us. The Fritzes dribbled on-apparently they thought the line was still going back when the cavalry left. Extraordinarily cheeky they were. One patrol of four or five of our men ran into seven Huns with their rifles slung. The Huns called out, "Hands up !" Without a gun in their hands the Diggers just went for them and stonkered the lot, except one whom they brought in prisoner. He told us they had orders simply to march on as far as they could get. A few other parties fell in the same way; two trenchmortar Huns rode on bikes into Sailly-le-Sec, and the Diggers there just ambushed them. One of them managed to escape our bullets-very wild he was at being caught-told us that he thought we had cleared out.

THE ANZAC BULLETIN.

The German Attack.

Next day the Fritzes made an attack in force on our position above Sailly. They came at first up behind the spur next ahead of us, and then appeared in view over the top and around the end of it. It was a perfect little open battle. A light wave of scouts, and then immediately behind them strings of machine-gunners-each machinegun party clearly distinguishable in its own little column-one carrying the gun and the remainder boxes of ammunition and spare parts. They would dash ahead and get their guns into action, and then thick waves of infantry behind them would run up and make good the ground. The machine-gunners would fire a few bursts, and then pack up and rush forward again. We got our Lewis guns and rifle-fire on to them properly each time they tried it; you could hear the Diggers making bets with each other about their shooting. The Fritzes never got more than half-way down the face of the spur opposite us. All the afternoon we shot them down as they tried to get down the spur, and those who had reached a bank half-way down could not get back or forward. During the afternoon one of our runners with the left company tried to get to us on the right with a message. The Fritzes wounded him, and although several men tried to get out to the runner and take his message, they were prevented from doing so by the Fritz machine-gunners. The Fritzes simply put a belt of machine-gun fire across the spot, and it was not until the evening that the runner, who was only wounded, managed to crawl in.

An interesting thing happened in the middle of the fight. We had in the company an oldish man, the father of fourteen children, and we put him on the company kitchen as an extra cook. At the height of the machine-gun duel he arrived in the firing line with a load of matton stew which he had cooked and brought up himself. It was a magnificent stew, made of fresh mutton, and the battalion commander recommended him for a military medal. When the commander presented him with the medal the other day he pulled out of his pocket a photograph of his family, and said to the general : "These are the people who will be proud of it, sir."

A Happy Hunting Ground.

The battalion speaks of Sailly-le-Sec with many happy memories, and its rather extraordinary reluctance in handing over to a relieving battalion some days after the battle confirms the stories of the good time it had there. The shooting it had of the Boches was not the only attraction, though the position was admirably situated for that. Some of the departed villagers had no time to remove their sheep and rabbits, and there were a few cows as well in the village. The village was practically in the front

line, and sooner than leave this stock to the Boches, each company staked out its own little area in the village and appropriatedas extra to rations the live stock and vegetables in that area. The line had grilled chops and rabbit or mutton stew, such as civilians in most countries beyond the zone of war would find impossible to obtain. The line had an extra breakfast at four in the morning and an extra dinner at nine at night. They had fresh cow's milk for their tea. They regaled on succulent beef steaks, and chuckled over them as they read in the newspapers of the Lord Mayor of London's appreciation of whaleflesh at a Mansion House luncheon. The result was that they worked day and night as few battalions have ever been known to work. In the defence of that little valley of milk and honey they dug defence lines, support lines, switch lines; they built strong points and erected wire entanglements; and it is creditably stated that for the number of men engaged the line dug and wired in the time is near a record on the Western Front. Their patrols roamed No-man's Land every night and swept it of all Germans who should as much as gaze upon this Australian valley. They left their positions with regret when they were relieved. And the temporary cook, the father of fourteen children-now back in the ranks and wearing the ribbon of the Military Medal-ate his breakfast this morning in rest billets of one slice of bacon, with his eyes fixed in wistful contemplation of the distance.

An Unlucky Beer-drinker.

Some fellows are undoutedly born under an unlucky star. Take the case of one of the railway-men charged at the Melbourne police court the other day with stealing beer. They had put a bamboo through the bung of a barrel, and by this means established communication between the beer and their mouths. When the turn of this particularly unlucky railway-man arrived he discovered, to his everlasting disappointment, that his mates had drunk the beer below the level of the bung, and that his share of the banquet consisted of only beer-laden air sucked through a beery bamboo. It must be conceded by all that that was as great a calamity as any thirsty worker could have been expected to bear on an exceedingly hot day. But, alas | just when this unhappy railway employee was beginning to realise his misfortune, who should appear on the scene but a detective. To be caught red-handed in the act of doing what he was unable to do; to be arrested thirsty on a charge of stealing beer which he had not even tasted ; and to go through life without one single happy recollection of that fateful day! Surely there can be no more unlucky man on earth.



