

Anzac Bulletin



No. 74. (New Issue).

LONDON, JUNE 7, 1918.

Price 3d.

Issued to Members of the Australian Military and Naval Forces in Great Britain, France, and elsewhere, and to Australian Munition Workers in Great Britain; by Authority of the High Commissioner for Australia.



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Edited by Capt. H. C. SMART.

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Australian Light Horse Camp in the Desert.

(Australian Official Photograph.)



CABLE NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA



Recruiting Increase in All States.

Melbourne, 23rd May.

Complete figures for last week's recruiting show the number enrolled is the best since January of last year, and considerably over the total for the previous week. The figures show increases in all States.

The A.I.F.'s Record of Awards.

Melbourne, 25th May.

Senator Pearce has published a return showing that 9,739 awards of decorations have been granted to members of the Australian Imperial Forces. The newspapers describe this as a magnificent record. The total embraced 32 Victoria Crosses, 4 K.C.B.'s, 5 K.C.M.G.'s, 30 C.B.'s, 83 C.M.G.'s, 353 D.S.O.'s, 1,110 Military Crosses, 813 D.C.M.'s, 121 Meritorious Service Medals, 3,120 Military Medals, 2,750 Mentions in Despatches, 228 Allies' decorations.

No "Shouting" for Invalid Soldiers.

Melbourne, 25th May.

Senator Millen has announced that the Government has adopted the recommendation of the Senate Committee's report to prohibit the sale or giving of alcohol to returned invalided soldiers. The other recommendations were under consideration.

Enlistment of Minors.

Melbourne, 25th May.

Mr. Watt announced in the House of Representatives yesterday that the Cabinet had decided (1) that persons under the age of 19 are not to be enlisted without the consent of parents; (2) where sons are serving with the Australian Imperial Forces and the remaining son in Australia desires to enlist he must have his parents' consent in writing, if under 21; (3) where, subject to these provisions, sons under 21 have enlisted without their parents' consent, the parents could lodge with the District Commandant an objection within ten days of the son joining the camp; such objection must be forwarded to the States Recruiting Committee for its decision.

Mr. Tudor's Amendment Rejected.

Melbourne, 25th May.

The House of Representatives, by 30 votes to 13, has rejected Mr. Tudor's amendment condemning the Government in connection with the enlistment of minors.

Labour and Recruiting.

Sydney, 25th May.

The Executive of the Municipal Employees' Union of New South Wales have decided to withdraw from the Sydney Labour Council its delegate, Mr. Judd, who recently moved an anti-recruiting motion at the Council meeting. The union declares Mr. Judd has not correctly interpreted the attitude of the union towards recruiting. Mr. Morby, President of the Council, considers the breakaway of twenty unions ill-advised, and urges them to rally to a common banner to defeat Mr. Judd and his fellow extremists.

Labour not Inter-national.

Melbourne, 25th May.

The National Labour Party, at a meeting in Melbourne, carried a motion repudiating with scorn the contention that the Labour movement is inter-national, and severable from the national spirit. The Nationalists affirmed their allegiance to the principles enunciated by British organised Labour that their first duty is to the Empire and the Union Jack.

Sydney Trades Unions not Anti-War.

Sydney, 24th May.

The Press reports that officials of twenty trades unions in the Sydney Labour Council have decided to call a conference with a view to organising an industrial body pledged to act in accordance with the adopted policy of the trades union movement. Mr. McGrath, Secretary to the Union of Printing Employees, said it was necessary to sound a counter note to that struck at last Thursday's meetings of the Labour Council, to show that the union movement generally was in accord with its leaders and ready to dissociate itself from anti-war proposals.

Commonwealth and States.

Sydney, 25th May.

Mr. Beeby, Minister for Labour and Industry in New South Wales, in a speech at Quirindi, strongly favoured recasting the Federal Constitution after the war, contending that closer co-operation between the States and the Commonwealth must be achieved. The duplicated system of control was responsible for much muddling and expense.

Soldiers' National Political Party.

Melbourne, 28th May.

The Soldiers' National Political Party is arranging a demonstration in Melbourne Town Hall for the 7th June to further promote unity among the people and to encourage recruiting and give effect to the resolutions passed at the Governor-General's Conference.

No Useless Sacrifice!

Melbourne, 27th May.

The Governor-General, speaking at the South African War Memorial Service, said that the men whose services they commemorated have made no useless sacrifice. The Dutch leaders were now in the front rank of the King's Service and the struggle for liberty.

Empire Sunday.

Melbourne, 27th May.

The Churches observed yesterday as Empire Sunday. Special sermons were preached.

Red Cross Collect £40,000.

Melbourne, 27th May.

Later returns justify the expectation that the Red Cross collections in Melbourne and suburbs last Friday will realise £40,000.

The New Labour Federation in N.S.W.

Sydney, 27th May.

The first conference of the recently formed Labour Federation in New South Wales, embracing the more moderate Trade Unions which broke away as a result of the domination by extremists, is called for June 15th. In the manifesto to Trade Unionists the Federation states that the recent attitude of the Sydney Trades and Labour Council is contrary to the real sentiment of unionism.

Gift of a Home for Nurses.

Melbourne, 28th May.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Solomon have purchased the Sorrento Hotel and presented it to the Victorian Government for the use of returned Australian nurses. It is named the Nurse Cavell Home.

South Melbourne Cricket Club Honours Fallen Members.

Melbourne, 28th May.

A war honour board containing 66 names of members of the South Melbourne Cricket Club was unveiled on Saturday.

The Broken Hill Proprietary Co.

Melbourne, 28th May.

The Broken Hill Proprietary Co. intends to raise fresh capital, amounting to £687,988, to provide for the expansion of the Newcastle Steel Works.

Cable News from Australia - continued.**Opening of Queensland Parliament.
Governor's Speech.**

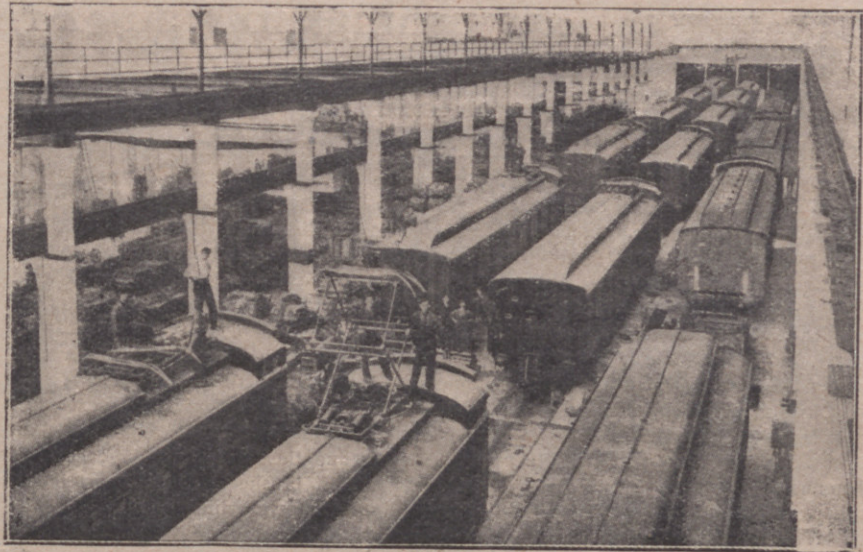
Brisbane, 29th May.

The Queensland Parliament was opened to-day. The Governor, Sir H. J. Gould Adams, in his opening speech, expressed regret that the war was not yet ended by an honourable and enduring peace, but declared there was consolation in the certainty that German's dream of universal dominion would not be realised and that the heroic and costly resistance which the Empire and its Allies were offering to her lawless ambition was not in vain. The Governor expressed his joy at the splendid services of Queenslanders in the great cause for which the free peoples of the world were risking all. The State meat shops, he proceeded, had thoroughly justified their existence. A comprehensive scheme for the supply and distribution to the whole State cattle stations was contemplated. A State fish supply scheme had been launched. The progress of the Crown Land section was greater than last year's. The closest attention would be paid to the conservation and increase of forest resources by the Government State agency. The distribution of farm products was working well. Producer and consumer profited by the elimination of the middleman. Notwithstanding heavy floods in the sugar districts and much destruction of both cane and sugar, the yield for one year was in excess of Australian requirements. Owing to the action of the wheat pool in other States, Queensland wheat growers were suffering inconvenience and loss. A conference would be called to discuss the matter. The gold output was still diminishing, but there was a marked increase in the yield of industrial metals. A Royal Commission having reported in favour of establishing a State iron-smelting plant capable of producing pig-iron commercially, steps were being taken to carry out the proposal. Oil boring was proceeding, and a depth of three thousand feet had been reached. A measure for the extension of secondary and technical education and social and temperance reform was promised. The state establishment of baby clinics had been so successful in Brisbane that a similar establishment would be opened in other parts. In railway construction special attention would be devoted to extending the north coast railway and building agricultural lines of urgent character. Owing to the rejection and mutilation of previous Bills by the Upper House, steps would be taken to prevent that House from flouting the expressed will of the people.—Reuter.

Recruiting for the Week.

Melbourne, 29th May.

Recruiting last week was slightly better than the average for the year, but the enrolments were below the previous week's figures.

**Victorian Railway Electrification.**

View of Jolimont car sheds showing the old carriages being converted into electric cars.

Institute of Science and Industry.

Melbourne, 29th May.

Mr. Watt, Acting Prime Minister, after discussing plans with Senator E. J. Russell, Assistant Minister for Trade and Customs, and the Executive Institute of Science and Industry regarding the future of that body, has promised next session to introduce a Bill to provide for the permanent constitution of the Institute, and to determine the powers of the directorate and the functions of State Councils.

Mr. Tudor in the Recruiting Campaign.

Melbourne, 29th May.

Mr. Tudor, speaking at a recruiting meeting at Richmond, said that nobody regretted more having to call upon Australia and other parts of the Empire to make a further effort to end the awful struggle, but he did not believe in pulling out and allowing the other side to win.

Triple Split at Sydney Trades Hall.

Sydney, 29th May.

The Trades Hall position in New South Wales regarding the attitude of unions on recruiting is becoming more complicated. There are now three distinct factions.

Commonwealth Purchase of Sugar.

Melbourne, 29th May.

Mr. Massy Greene, Assistant Minister for Trade and Customs, has announced that the Commonwealth has purchased this and next year's production of sugar in Queensland at £21 a ton raw, the Queensland Government guaranteeing that no new legislation affecting the industry shall be enacted during a two years' term.

Federal Shipbuilding in Sydney.

Sydney, 29th May.

The Wallace Power-Boat Company at Sydney has secured a contract for the construction of six auxiliary barquentines for the Commonwealth Government of 2,000 tons each. Australian hardwood is to be used in their construction.

Enlistment of Theological Students.

Melbourne, 29th May.

The Anglican Theological Colleges at Melbourne claim that all their eligible students have enlisted.

One Hundred Doctors Wanted for A.I.F.

Melbourne, 29th May.

Senator Pearce has announced that 100 young medical men of junior rank are needed for the A.I.F. in the next six months; of these 75 must be dispatched within four months.

A Melbourne Fire.

A nail works in South Melbourne has been destroyed by fire, the damage done amounting to £15,000.

Success of Red Cross Appeal.

The Red Cross appeal in Victoria has realised more than £100,000.

Obituary.

The death is reported of Mr. John Christie, of Hamilton, Victoria, who was probably the oldest breeder of Lincoln sheep in Australia.

Washing for an Army.

Baths and Laundries of the A.I.F.

The Soldiers' Health and Comfort.

By F. M. CUTLACK.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, March 20th.

It is probably still not regarded as proper in remote and polite circles at home to mention some sorts of vermin. Some people shudder at rats, for instance, and would be utterly shocked at the mere mention of smaller creatures, parasites of the living body, commonly associated with unclean animals. But the war has knocked out a lot of smaller scruples and laid life pretty open and naked to the view of most people, and anyhow, when this army goes home at last it will tell you about all these things itself. You will hear then of the perambulating blanket-fumigator, called officially, too, the Delouser. You will hear other details of respectable horror, part of the ordinary soldier's lot in the line, and realise some of the more intimate trials of war—borne with a jest, like all the others.

Conquering Disease in the Army.

Without hearing them you will never know what war means and what the plain fighting man has to stand up against. You will not realise half the work which is done by that noble staff department called Q, or understand how the army medical service and its auxiliaries have, under a splendid organisation, brought their science to conquer what has always been most horrible in all wars—the ravages of pestilence and disease. You must imagine what the conditions might be, and might produce, in order to grasp the benefit of the Australian military baths. The infantry in the line live in trenches in ground which has been a constant battlefield for three and a half years. They carry no change of clothes with them. The villages behind the lines, their alternate quarters, know in their natural state little (in the British sense) of sanitation. Yet in spite of these things this Australian force is the cleanest and healthiest army that ever fought in the field. And there is no prop to fighting moral like physical cleanliness.

The Baths.

The baths, managed centrally from Australian headquarters in the field, are a model of thoroughness and businesslike efficiency. They are scattered over the area which the divisions occupy and in most cases bath and laundry are established alongside each other. Under present arrangements every man in the force must bathe and put on clean clothes at least once

in ten days; soon the period will probably be shorter still. The men undress in one room, hand in all their clothes at a window, receive neck-string discs in exchange, and go on to another room full of rows of hot showers. From this they pass out to a drying-room, the floor dusted with constantly-changed sawdust, and here at another window they receive in exchange for their discs again an outfit of clean clothes and their tunic and breeches hot-ironed and brushed. They depart finally with a clean towel which must last till the next bathing parade. What these baths mean to grimed and weary men recently returned from a battle or a raid can be easily imagined. They add a touch almost of home and civilisation to teams that come in straight from the football field.

The Laundries.

Such is the bath as the bathers see it and go through it. In the course of reaching him again, and while the man is having his bath, his breeches and tunic in the ironing room are thoroughly brushed inside and out and ironed in all the seams. There are benches of ironing women upstairs doing

nothing else. The clean underclothes which each man gets are from the laundried stock, which is daily thus depleted, and daily also replenished from the washing rooms. These washing rooms are long sheds with a double row of trough-benches; the hot water is laid on to taps, one tap above each washer's place. Along the side are the rinsing tubs, and in the best-fitted of the establishments each garment goes through six rinsing troughs in turn. The clothes are first fumigated in a sulphur or steam chamber, then scrubbed at the troughs, passed through the rinsing waters, from clear water to a wringer, and then go either on to a great field of clothes lines in the sun or into drying rooms. In another room full of sewing machines, sewing women and darning women repair the dried clothes before they go into the store for re-issue. There is one room where condemned socks are examined, and what wool is still serviceable is unravelled from them, wound into balls, and used in the darning room for repairs.

Mademoiselle d'Armentières.

The women come from neighbouring towns and villages, engaged at a definite



Australian pall-bearers at the funeral of an old Frenchman.

(Australian Official Photograph.)



Aerial view of Turkish defences near Jerusalem. The trenches can be seen on the hilltops.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

hourly rate and overseered by a forewoman, and they work eight or nine hours a day. Where they have to come from any distance they are brought to and fro each day in motor-lorries, and a gay crowd they make on the road. They sing all day long over their benches some song about "Mademoiselle d'Armentières," an interminable refrain about Monsieur qui dit this and Ma'mselle qui dit that, and of a nature which permits of much blunt impromptu wit. You may hear one verse aimed at a long-legged Australian who reclines out in the sun, reading a newspaper on a big tarpaulin; near by him in his lordly ease is a mighty pile of socks, six feet high at least, a sight to turn the hair grey of any man's dear old mother; and the women move about it continually, adding more and more and occasionally drawing loads away to the darning room. In the darning room you may see Frenchwomen of almost every year of life from nine or ten to about seventy, darning, sewing, singing still—though for the singing the highest voices are in the washhouse over the tumbled

suds. "Mademoiselle d'Armentières" in fact reaches all over the establishment, and when the strain grows too monotonous, the shrill voices break out into English with "Baby Doll" or "Hold Your Hand Out, Naughty Boy." It is a comical sight all through.

Trench Feet Died Out.

These laundries between them, last week, washed a hundred and twenty-five thousand garments at an average cost apiece of less than one penny halfpenny. That price includes cost of fuel and other necessaries and the pay of all army and civilian workers employed, and the institutions, besides washing the clothes, bathed the men of the Australian Divisions as well. It is magnificent value in its results to the happiness and comfort of the men, apart altogether from the effect on their health. Under such an organisation as this, combined with preventive measures adopted by the Australian Army Medical Corps, it is not astonishing that the evil of trench feet almost disappeared during the past winter, and the fight

against vermin is rapidly succeeding. And the baths and laundries organisation affords a further valuable object lesson to municipal authorities who have in charge the care of the poorer populations in great cities far removed from this war. If you can bathe an army and wash for an army with such economic thoroughness, why not for a whole industrial district? It is the lesson of the canteens over again.

New Wine and New Tastes.

Mr. H. E. Laffer, the new Viticultural expert for New South Wales, in an interview, spoke of the scope which Australia offered for settling returned soldiers on vineyard areas and evolving a wine which would compete with beer.

Mr. Laffer added that a move in that direction had already been made in South Australia. What was needed was a wine which would be cheap and contain no great percentage of alcohol—a wine which could be drunk by the tumbler and leave no ill effects. This wine could already be made.

Australian War Relics and the Last German Advance.

By C. E. W. BEAN.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, May 7th.

It may interest Australians to know that when the Germans attacked Armentières, the whole of the recently-collected portion of the magnificent list of trophies and relics which was being gathered in for the war museums of Australia was still in Bailleul awaiting transport to the base. There appeared at one time to be no chance of getting these much-prized relics away, but the young Australian officer in charge of them finally managed to clear them from the town on the day of its heaviest bombardment, every single relic being moved from the shattered, burning town before night-fall, without the loss of any trophy or harm to any man.

The British authorities gave the most generous help, it being only by the personal assistance of the British Inspector of Trophies that this important portion of the precious collection quickly and safely reached the Australian officer in charge, and then reached England.

The only Australian relics which fell into the hands of the Germans were some in course of collection by a certain patriotic Australian Tunnelling Company which happened to be in the Cambrai salient when the German advance swept over the country, and it was impossible to bring them away.

Half-open Warfare Beyond Trenches. Australians' Astonishing Adventures. Captured German Letter.

By C. E. W. BEAN.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, May 18th.

The Australian front, despite this morning's attack, was generally quiet, though German long-range guns were pecking more constantly at the villages behind the front, while the villages near the line received occasional vicious gas shellings.

The Australian infantry still manages to keep up, out in front of the foremost trenches, a form of half-open warfare which is responsible almost every day for astonishing adventures. Our men, being able to find their way in the dark and endowed with the instant decision and courage normal to their race, are constantly out behind German patrols or between German posts. Several Australian stories have already been given, and it may be interesting to give the German account of them as contained in a letter recently captured from a German soldier, and dated Morlancourt, May 5th:—

"We are now in the neighbourhood of Albert," he writes, "and are in the outpost line, with the English two hundred metres away. We have Australians in front of us, and they are very quick and cunning. They

glide about in the night like cats and come right up to our trenches without our seeing them. Last night they were in our trenches and killed two men, and dragged one away with them. I am glad I am so far forward, for at least there is no artillery fire. Our regiment has suffered heavy losses through gas. It is the most horrible death man can have when he swallows gas; I therefore am very cautious always to have my gas mask by me. There are many soldiers round here, mostly Bavarians, Badenians, and Rheinlanders. The worst thing here is still the aeroplanes, against which there is scarcely any means of protecting oneself."

Resourceful Sergeant-Major. Incident at Ville-sur-Ancre.

By C. E. W. BEAN.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, May 23rd.

The quality which the Australian subordinate leaders have displayed during the recent fighting could not be better shown than in the case of an old Gallipoli soldier who went in to the attack south of Ville-sur-Ancre as acting sergeant-major of his company. No sooner had the line moved out than dense blackness began to be lit by German flares and machine-gun fire burst out. The company commander, also an old Anzac man, was severely wounded beside him. The acting sergeant-major, as the night was too dark to attempt to find the subaltern on the flank, who was normally the second in command, immediately took on the control of the company, the company headquarters, signallers, and runners by himself. He rallied his portion of the line and continued the advance. Presently a machine-gun burst out from ahead, firing at point-blank range. The sergeant-major, without hesitation, sprang out and threw a bomb, which landed beside the gun. He rushed at the position, bayoneted one German, and captured the gun.

By this time the men had reached a deep sunken road, which was their first goal in the attack. The sergeant-major then found himself faced by Germans coming out from a shelter built in a bank. He shot at and wounded two and captured six.

Once again he reorganised the line and held it on to the second and final goal of attack, and dug in there exactly where planned. Shortly afterwards, as the day began to grow brighter, his post out in front found itself being fired on from 150 yards directly in the rear by Germans belonging to a party which had been missed in the darkness in the road. The sergeant-major again went out straight towards them with only a revolver in hand. The Germans, cowed by his determination, put up no fight. He shot two who refused to come out of the shelter. Then thirty-two surrendered to this single Victorian.

France on Australia. Paris Newspaper's Tribute.

By F. M. CUTLACK.

Recent events are emphasising the good relations always existent between the Australians and the French people since the former first came to France. Civilians behind the lines are always fond of our soldiers, especially the children and girls; now French soldiers are also discovering the warmest camaraderie. During the past few weeks French papers have published a number of glowing encomiums on the Australian fighting spirit. One extract from the Paris "Figaro" especially has gone the rounds of our battalions, arousing amused delight. Referring to the Force generally, the "Figaro" said: "It is nearly four years since they left their distant land. What losses they have sustained! And they have not had one single home leave. But their spirit has remained the same as in the first days of the war. They could not defend their own villages more fiercely than they are defending ours. Our country has become theirs. All the ideals of the nobility of our common cause dwell in the broad bosoms of these bronzed men who come from the Antipodes and resemble the warriors on the bas-reliefs of the Aegean."

Sir Douglas Haig Reviews a Division. Fine Tribute to their Work.

By F. M. CUTLACK.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, May 22nd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, after reviewing one of the Australian Divisions which had been for many days in the lines along the Somme, the brigades of which had fought several hard fights, said he was proud to command troops of such magnificent fighting capacity, capable of making that splendid show and ceremonial parade after a long and trying time in the firing line. Their fighting powers, through which they had put up a magnificent and successful stand against the heaviest attack of armed forces ever known in history, had earned respect from the enemy and the admiration of their comrades in the British Army. Besides their courage and initiative in battle, he remarked that, by virtue of discipline and organisation the Australians had become great soldiers.

He said that he took the greatest pleasure in holding this review.

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of Pte. William Benjamin Biddulph, late of 27th Australian Infantry Battalion, please communicate with No. 100 L.-Cpl. T. Driscoll, 8th Australian Machine Gun Coy., Hotel Victoria, Chateau d'Oex, Switzerland.

Salvage Work of the A.I.F. in France.

By F. M. CUTLACK.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, May 22nd.

Not the least useful work done by the Australians since they came to the Somme area has been the salvage of French public and private property in towns and villages under constant German shell-fire. From factories, stores and mills many million francs' worth of wool, cotton and dyes have been saved and sent back to the French authorities; also groceries, wines and a large quantity of private household valuables, furniture and ornaments.

One unit calculates that it has saved six million francs' worth of such property in three or four weeks. Another unit estimates it has saved £100,000 worth of wool alone, apart from forage and foodstuffs, and 60 large cases of private household property, all this being from two or three villages. The salvaged material includes much valuable spinning and other machinery.

The work of salvage has proceeded day and night, often under the most trying circumstances, causing some casualties among the Australian soldiers and transport drivers engaged.

Many appreciative letters have been received at Australian headquarters from French civilian and military authorities, thanking the Australian troops for their gallant conduct in alleviating civilian hardship and distress. One French factory owner forwarded with thanks 1,000 francs to the Australian Red Cross and 200 francs to the Sports Fund of the battalion closely concerned, and 600 francs among the transport drivers.

Several hundred head of stock of various sorts have been driven back. Where the troops consumed material, such as forage and foodstuffs, this has been issued to them officially, and duly paid for in kind to the French authorities from stores at the base.



Transporting supplies for the Army in Palestine.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

The Reinforcements' Plea.

A reply to "An Australian Girl's Lament."

No, we're neither real Anzacs nor heroes,
For we were 'nt in a hurry to go,
And we were not there waiting or anxious
For the opening events of the Show.

We loved our own comfort too dearly,
We worshipped our freedom to boot,
We thought that ere we got to Europe
There'd be but few foemen to shoot.

And you lasses of dear old Australia,
Oh, such shirkers you thought we were
then!

For you sent us great bundles of feathers,
And said how you wished you were men.

Yes, you took on the mein of Cornelia
When you spoke of war's glorious joys,
Saying God has committed a blunder
When he made all the weaklings the boys.

But at last we donned raiment of Khaki,
And we bade our dear lassies "farewell,"
We plunged in the sea of red slaughter
And the thunder of shrapnel and shell.

Now, you hadn't the dimmiest conception
Of the perils you'd bidden us meet,
You thought it would soon be all over,
Soon again we should joyously greet—

But when months unto moments were
added,

When years dark and gruesome filed past,
You discovered that ardour of battle
Was an ardour not destined to last.

From Khaki you turned to starched collars
You revelled in music and dance,

And the boys with the bomb and the bayonet
It was they who had never a chance.

Now, some of you lasses are wedded
To the shirkers who still stay behind;
While others, though single, have broken
The vows that ever should bind.

Then why should you blame dear old
Blighty

If its girls for humanity's sake
Heal the hearts of the lonely Australians
That the girls of Australia break?

So listen, dear lass of my birthland,
Please answer me ere you condemn,
Is it wonder if boys are not faithful
To the girls who are faithless to them?

R.C.P.

GENERAL AUSTRALIAN NEWS



No Maternity Bonus for Alien Enemies.

The Federal Cabinet has decided that the maternity allowance is not payable respecting babies of unnaturalised enemy subjects.

More Aeroplane Construction Approved.

Senator Pearce states that the Ministry approved the proposal greatly to increase aeroplane construction in Australia.

Lieut.-Colonel Renolds, with his staff, is returning to Australia to take command of the Central Flying School at Point Cook, Victoria. Major Harrison is proceeding to England to gain up-to-date experience of aviation and aeroplane construction.

Wheat Guarantees not Increased.

The Cabinet has decided against the request on behalf of wheat-growers made by the State Premiers' Conference to increase the guarantee for the 1918-19 harvest from 4s. f.o.b. to 4s. 4d. a bushel at country stations, and to give a guarantee for the 1919-20 crop. Mr. Watt is calling a special conference of Ministers of Agriculture to reconsider the matter in view of the difficulties of storage and shipping.

"Strength of Empire" Movement.

A "Strength of Empire" movement was inaugurated at Melbourne Town Hall on May 22. Of the resolutions passed the first was to express loyalty and the determination to support the movement to secure men and money to assist the Empire, also the greatest possible national individual efficiency.

Another resolution urged the Federal Government to proclaim a war-time prohibition of alcoholic liquids; another urged the State Government to amend its Licensing Act, so as to provide for local option and permanent prohibition, and also to appoint an Advisory Board to deal with venereal diseases.

Humiliation and Prayer.

The Cabinet has decided that it could not comply with the request to proclaim May 30th as a day of humiliation and prayer for the Allied cause. It preferred to make representations to the British Prime Minister for a uniform day throughout the Empire.

Re-Registration of Trades Unions.

Mr. Justice Heydon has refused an application by the New South Wales Minister for Labour, Mr. Beeby, for the re-registration of the first of the industrial unions de-registered for participation in last year's strike, holding that the re-registration should be done by Parliament, as the matter was political rather than industrial.

Australia's Financial Liabilities.

Colossal Figures.

Mr. Watt, when moving the second reading of the War Loan Bill in the House of Representatives, said that the latest available figures showed that war loans raised in the Commonwealth totalled £148,425,110; war loans from Great Britain were £49,082,059, loans raised in London for the States £12,000,000, loans for Commonwealth works £11,997,543, Northern Territory loan £2,772,523, the Port Augusta-Oodnadatta Railway loan £1,759,003; making a total of £226,036,238. In addition, there was owing £10,789,738 to the States for transferred properties, £9,373,977 for accrued deferred pay to Australian Imperial Forces, making a grand total for the Commonwealth indebtedness £246,199,953. That involved an interest bill of £10,747,829. The States owed in round figures £375,000,000, of which £245,000,000 had been raised in London. The grand total of Commonwealth and State indebtedness is £621,612,933. Excluding £12,000,000 raised for the States and awaiting adjustment, the total indebtedness of Australia stood at £609,000,000. The total interest bill was £250,623,382. Mr. Watt mentioned in the course of his speech that £778,000 was being spent this financial year in the purchase and construction of ships; and that it was estimated that £2,657,000 would be spent in 1918-19.

Healthy Victorian Finances.

Mr. McPherson, Treasurer of Victoria, speaking at Hawthorn on May 22, forecasted a State surplus on June 30th, and said that the Government did not intend to ask the people to bear further taxation.

Recruiting Minister's Tour.

Mr. Orchard has returned to Melbourne, after an extended visit to New South Wales and Queensland. He is optimistic regarding the revival of recruiting, and was informed by the officers of the Liverpool camp that the recruits are physically equal to the previous ones.

Re-Registration of Unions.

The State Cabinet of New South Wales has decided to call a special session of Parliament to deal with the re-registration of the fifteen unions de-registered as a result of the recent strike.

Federal Public Service Enlistments.

The Federal Public Service Commissioner in his annual report states that the number of permanent officers on June 30th, 1917, totalled 23,028; enlistments from the Service totalled 3,889.

Empire Day in Melbourne. Great Demonstration.

There was a great demonstration on Empire Day in Melbourne in aid of the funds of the Red Cross. The people held a carnival in the city from morning until midnight. One feature was an impressive Red Cross procession, which is expected to realise £20,000.

The State Governor, Sir H. L. Stanley, speaking at the Commercial Travellers' luncheon, said freedom of action was almost thrust by Great Britain on her daughters and her dependencies, but in other countries there had been no such development, no such confidence, no such belief in free institutions. The German Empire, for instance, which sought to rule people by absolute power, was now in process of disintegration.

Mr. Watt, acting Prime Minister, addressed a big meeting at Melbourne Town Hall, and contrasted our pre-war ideas of Empire with those which the war had thrust upon us. We had a stronger and more intelligent conviction that Great Britain was even greater than we had known. If anything had been needed to burn into us as the most privileged portion of the British family a deep reverence for Great Britain, it was her glorious past life and her attitude at the beginning and throughout the present struggle. The British Empire was Australia's only shield. There were some spoiled fools in this country, who wantonly set at defiance the accumulated testimony of all the ages, when they led their brothers and sisters to believe that Australia could live a life unto itself amid the clashing forces of the world. Mr. Watt concluded by reciting George Borrow's prayer for England in 1842.

Another Empire Day function was a dinner to war veterans by the Defence Department. The Governor-General proposed the health of the veterans of Australia.

Opium Smuggling.

The police made a raid on a house in Kirkland Road, Beecroft (N.S.W.), in connection with the opium which was landed at Balmain on March 14th. Subsequently they visited vacant land in Beecroft, and in very rough country found secreted among the rocks over £300 worth of opium.



Jerusalem as seen from an Aeroplane.

*(Australian Official Photograph.)***Interests in Pacific.**

The New South Wales Government Tourist Bureau advises the receipt of information from the pan-Pacific Union of Honolulu to the effect that a movement is on foot to convene a pan-Pacific conference, to be held at Hawaii as soon as conditions warrant it, for the purpose of discussing and furthering the interests common to every nation of the Pacific.

Manufacture of Paper.

The Queensland Pine Company, at its works at Yarraman, is about to engage in the manufacture of paper from the tops of trees which have hitherto been of no economic value. The Minister for Lands has received two samples of the paper pulp, which promises much success. The Yarraman production will be sent to Sydney for the final stages of treatment and manufacture.

Idle Schooners.

An auxiliary schooner has been waiting 70 days in Newcastle (N.S.W.) for a permit from the authorities to load coal for an oversea port. During the time the vessel

has been lying idle she could have made four trips to Melbourne with a cargo of 2,000 tons on each occasion. The captain estimates that through the delays the vessel's owners have lost £7,000, being at the rate of £100 a day. Two other vessels belonging to the same owner are also delayed in Sydney and Melbourne respectively.

Train Robbery by Guard.

The guard of the Oakleigh train, John James Cadley, who took part in the robbery of £700 from the safe in the guard's van while the train was stopped against the signals near Jolimont on the night of November 30th, was, on March 27th, sentenced by Mr. Justice Hodges, to four years' imprisonment. At the first trial the jury was unable to agree, but at the second trial, before a special jury, Cadley was found guilty.

East-West Railway Fares.

In the West Australian Legislative Assembly the Minister for Railways opposed a motion by Mr. Green (member for Kal-

goorlie), that the Government enter into negotiations with the Federal authorities for the substantial reduction of the Great Western railway fares between Kalgoorlie and Adelaide. The motion, however, was agreed to by 21 votes to 16.

Freight Charges in Victoria.

Railway freight charges in Victoria will be reduced from April 1st, and the necessary by-law reducing mileage rates per ton in almost all classes of goods by 5 per cent. was approved by the Executive Council recently. Rates for the carriage of milk and cream and a few special items are not affected, but it is stated authoritatively that the reduced scale will apply to about 95 per cent. of the goods traffic.

The Albert Park Seat.

Mr. J. F. Hannan, former M.H.R. for Fawkner, has been chosen by a Labour pre-election ballot to contest the Albert Park seat in the Victorian Assembly for the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Elmslie.

Australians Capture a Village.

Night Attack by Victorians.

Battle of Ville-sur-Ancre.

By F. M. CUTLACK,

British-Headquarters, France,

May 21st.

The battle of Ville-sur-Ancre early Sunday morning resembled in many ways the attack which recaptured Villers-Bretonneux earlier this month. In each case the attack was a night attack. In each case the attack was up and along a hillside, and the village, a main objective of the attack, was first almost surrounded by attacks straight forward on its flanks and later mopped up as a second phase in the fight. But there the resemblance ceases. Villers-Bretonneux was on a hill-top and Ville-sur-Ancre in a marshy river valley. The one is a town and the other a village, and the relative importance of the two as battles for position was about the same. The quality of the attack was of the same high order in each case.

The First Phase.

Ville-sur-Ancre is a mean little village—bordered on north and west by the marshes of the little Ancre, flat and quite hidden by the trees in the green part of the year, the houses mostly small and of the farm variety, built loosely on the edges of three pretty, roughly-made little streets laid out in the form of a triangle—a bad place, as the Australians knew from the old Somme days, to be billeted in. On the south the ground rises not very steeply up the side of the long Bray-Corbie hill, and Morlancourt, towards which the Australians have steadily been advancing during the last few weeks, lies south-east in a cup up a valley in this same hillside about a mile away from Ville. The operation on Sunday morning was the direct result of the attack along the crest of the hill in the direction of Morlancourt on May 15th, which brought the centre of the Australian line between the Ancre and the Somme well forward and gave us a view of part of Morlancourt valley. The Ville operation advanced the line on the left of this position—in places for a distance of over a thousand yards.

The attack began at two o'clock in the morning with the assault of the German positions on the Morlancourt spur south of Ville by Victorians, with a party of New South Welshmen on their right. Their part was to drive straight forward and neglect the village on their left together. The New South Welshmen belonged to a unit which last month did some famous fighting—hardened night raiders of the German lines, men who, as someone said the other day, would go out at any time and cut Satan out of Hell. They had the least

distance to go, being in the part of the line farthest forward; they wanted only a few hundred yards to enable them to see into Morlancourt. The Victorians on their left belonged to an old and tried unit, which in this latest campaign on the Somme had deemed itself unfortunate in missing every important engagement the Australians have fought; they therefore had some leeway to make up, and there was no doubt about whether their attack would succeed. The length of this attack south of Ville was about two thousand yards. Simultaneously on the north of the Ancre and the village some other Victorians pushed out about five hundred yards on a short front between the railway and the river towards Dernancourt, keeping space with the larger attack on the spur to the south.

The Advance.

Contrary to general expectation there seems to have been more resistance from the enemy on the higher ground to the right, where the men had the shortest distance to go, than on the lower ground near the village, where there were definite obstacles to be attacked in succession—the Cemetery and the Crucifix at the south-west corner of Ville, the little sunken road to the right of it, and the big sunken road five hundred yards farther on. The two sunken roads, both about fifteen or twenty feet deep, are outside the village leading up the Morlancourt spur and lying therefore directly across the front of the advance. Both of them were well stocked with machine-guns, and in the layer of the two these guns were dug into little slots at the top of the bank. The right of the Australian line, well forward from the start, got considerable enfilade fire from this direction. Besides that, banks and fairly tall crops on the higher slopes of the hill gave good cover to some German light machine-guns, and made them hard to place. There was heavy sniping rifle fire from the front here, too. The New South Welshmen on the right thrashed the wheat-crop with their fire and bombed out these nests as they went forward, and finally dug in their posts among the wheat. This done, their men levelled a lot of it by rolling on it in order to give themselves a field of fire. The officers leading the companies on the right of the Victorians' line were all wounded during the advance. One or two platoons in the leftmost company near the village had officers and sergeants wounded as well. The opposition, however, was not serious, and in each case the machine-gun nests

were routed out by the magnificent conduct of Australians nearest the spot with Lewis guns. These infantry advancing are not held up for long by such obstacles; they know the art of skirmishing with the Lewis gun to the last detail; there is a whistle, a shouted word, or a signal from an officer, if he is there—or, if he is not, some non-commissioned officer has his own initiative—he dashes in from a flank, firing with the Lewis gun from his hip and using it like a garden hose.

The Sunken Roads.

While the right of the attack reached its appointed line by this means of progress, it had to sustain some amount of enfilade machine-gun fire from the left until the left companies had cleared up their ground. The left met machine-gun fire almost at once on their direct front from the roads running into Ville, but they were on the German gunners right on the heels of our artillery barrage as it lifted. The Victorians then swarmed on to the Crucifix and the little sunken road; two machine-guns at the Cemetery and the Crucifix were over-run and captured. There was a short burst of fire from the road, but a sergeant subdued that, too, with his Lewis gun at his hip. A thunderstorm just before the attack had made the ground slippery, and some of the men literally rolled down the steep banks of the sunken road, when they got to it; then on to the big sunken road another five hundred yards. Here some Germans put up a good fight, but it was over almost at once. The majority of them were in their "bivvies" in the side of the cutting, covered with waterproof sheets—some of them English waterproof sheets—and in a number of cases they were too frightened to come out. Others emerged without their boots and with only about half their clothes on—yet some of the prisoners said that they knew the attack was coming and that to meet it a special reinforcement had been sent up earlier that evening. Beyond the big sunken road the Australians dug in their line.

The Envelopment of Ville.

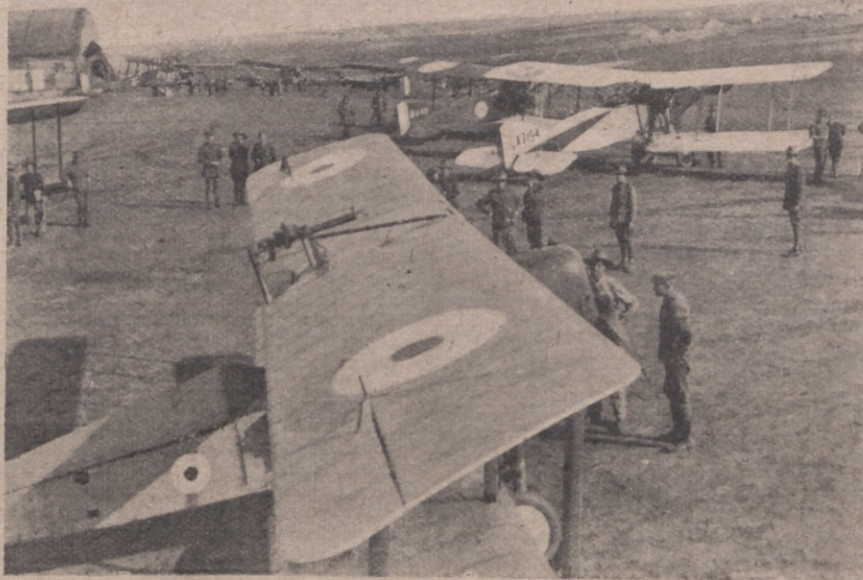
As this battalion advanced another force of Victorians, which had been holding the line prior to the attack, strung itself out on the left flank of its comrades, and this faced the village from the south. Meanwhile a party from another Victorian battalion on the north of the Ancre had pushed out its posts as required without opposition, and another party, crossing the river by some bridges thrown over by the Australian

Engineers, had spread itself out in line of posts in the marshes between the river and the north and the north-west of the village. There was daring enterprise in this, for there was little foothold on solid ground in that swamp, littered with smashed trees and deep water holes. There were only three narrow tracks across the waste; the Germans had them all covered by machine-guns in cunningly hidden positions; to step off these tracks meant getting into reeds and water, often up to a man's neck. The Victorians on the north worked down these tracks as far as they could and waited. Their time was not yet. Immediately north of the village the engineers had thrown one bridge, but were unable to construct a second owing to heavy fire from two cleverly-hidden German machine-gun nests close up to the river. A gallant officer with a small party of men crossed by the one bridge, crawled past the flank and killed the crew at the nearer gun; they manoeuvred on and surrounded the farther gun and captured that as well. All this time there was still a heavy concentration of fire kept up on Ville by our artillery. Towards dawn a party of Germans came out of the village—driven out by shell-fire—along the track leading north up to the river. The Australians were lying in wait on this track and scattered the party with Lewis-gun fire; the Germans preferred the shelled houses to our infantry lying in the swamp, and they ran back again.

In the marshes on the north side the Australians captured in all four machine-guns; in the advance on the hillside to the south they took fourteen machine-guns and minenwerfer, besides a large number of prisoners. At dawn they had reached their appointed positions on each side of Ville ready for the second phase of the battle. The story must be told in another letter.

Royal Sydney Show.

The Annual Show of the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales, which opened on March 26th, was the most successful in the history of the Society. There was an increase of some 450 entries in horses and 250 in cattle. Record numbers of dairy cattle were listed for competition—a total of 1,040 as compared with 774 last year—and, since the Society now insists upon every animal entered being



Australian aeroplanes ready to start on a bombing stunt.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

registered in the herd books of the respective breeds, a high standard of quality was the result. Western Australia was in the arena for the first time. Practically every stud and herd of note in New South Wales was drawn upon. Another feature in the rivalry was the competitive entries by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture made for the first time at these shows. At the Show, sales of cattle, shorthorns and Herefords fetched very high prices. One firm's sales totalled £26,880 for two days, and Baritone, the champion shorthorn bull of the show, aged 2 years and 7 months, was sold for 1,700 guineas, which is a record for New South Wales. A remarkable display of exhibits from Experiment Farms was made by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture.

Military Policeman Fined.

In the Melbourne District Court on March 21st, Frederick Benjamin, a military policeman, stationed at the Town Hall, was

proceeded against by Arthur Pierce Butler, a civilian, of Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, for alleged unlawful assault. Butler, for whom Mr. P. J. Ridgeway appeared, stated that while he was walking along Yarra Bank Road, near the Morgue, on the night of January 25th, he was attacked from behind by Benjamin, who knocked him down, handcuffed him, and with threats compelled him to go to Prince's Bridge. On the way Benjamin threatened to take him to the Town Hall. Benjamin also declared that if he found witness on the Yarra Bank Road again he would throw him into the river. When Prince's Bridge was reached Benjamin decided to release him, but found that he did not have a key to open the handcuff lock, and had to borrow one from a member of the civil police. Butler stated further that, as a result of the rough treatment he had received, he had lost three days' work and old injuries had been accentuated. Benjamin, who did not appear, was fined £5, with £4 4s. costs, and £2 8s. damages.

EXHIBITION of AUSTRALIAN BATTLE PHOTOGRAPHS and PAINTINGS, Grafton Galleries, New Bond Street, from May 25th to June 22nd. Photographs in NATURAL COLOURS will be shown for the FIRST TIME.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY BAND PLAYS DAILY.

Photographs by AUSTRALIAN WAR RECORDS (Photographic Branch).

Australian Red Cross.

Our Red Cross Correspondent writes:—

During last week an inter-allied exhibition was held in the Central Hall, Westminster, when the various schemes for the after-care of disabled soldiers were in evidence. The Australian Section gave even the casual visitor an idea that the men from the Commonwealth are not being neglected. It demonstrated the practical value of the training given under the Australian Red Cross Society—from whose workshops and training centres the articles on exhibition were drawn—and, it was satisfactory to note that visitors warmly praised the wise choice of occupations that it had been possible to encourage the disabled men to study.

A collection of boots, some old and some renovated almost equal to new, afforded a splendid example of what men, without former experience of the cobbler's trade, can do after a very brief period of training under a capable master. The soleing, heeling and patching was so admirably done that it could surprise no one who examined the work, to learn that the disabled men at the Southall workshop (whose work it was) had been entrusted with the contract of undertaking the repairs in future for the whole of the No. 2 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Southall.

Equally interesting was the collection of carpentry work. It comprised a wide selection of articles, but the keenest interest was taken in a most ingenious combination bedside-locker and writing desk, made by one of the men at No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott.

Another feature of the Australian exhibit showed what was being done in the way of training men to do electrical fitting work. The workmanship in all cases was so excellent, that it was sometimes difficult to realise that it was done by men suffering from disablement in various forms.

Of the other exhibits in the Australian section the bulk of them consisted of needle-work, which must first and foremost be regarded as being of value on account of the occupation it affords. Some extraordinarily neat embroidery work received special notice.

Probably many of these exhibits will eventually find their way to Australia and be held in great esteem by the mother or wife of the "handy man" whose deft fingers carried out the design.

Alfred Heiler, of Gilgandra, has had one of his legs broken again.

This is the forty-first time that he has had a bone broken. In addition, he has had many minor mishaps.

The Naval Officer and the "Little Grey Books."

JUST prior to the war, a brilliant young naval officer had a bad break-down—a break-down so complete that it looked as though his career were at an end.

He was ordered an entire and protracted rest—not only from professional duty but from every form of work. But war broke out, and his services—he was a clever expert—were urgently needed. He rejoined.

Despite his anxiety to serve, however, he found that he was utterly incapable of performing his duties. He was keen to give that service which he knew was in him, but neither his professional pride nor his patriotism enabled him to overcome his handicap.

He wrote to the Pelman Institute and became a student of the "little grey books." Within a few months that officer had so distinguished himself by ability and zeal that he was promoted to an important command *over the heads of senior officers!* He generously gives the credit to Pelmanism.

The officer's experience is remarkable, but by no means unique, in the Pelman records. Letters are constantly being received by the Pelman Institute from Army and Navy officers, business and professional men and women, telling of extraordinary advantages directly resulting from a few weeks' study of the "little grey books," in which the simple principles of Pelmanism are so interestingly expounded.

Is "Pelmanism" worth while?

Let any man of common sense reflect upon the fact that *nearly one hundred Admirals and Generals*, as well as over 30,000 other officers and men, are now Pelmanists. Would one of these waste a moment of their scanty and hard-won leisure over the study of Pelmanism unless they were convinced, by plain evidence and by the private testimony of brother officers, that Pelmanism is unquestionably worth while?

The extracts from letters published by the Pelman Institute during the past year or two constitute the most remarkable volume of evidence of its kind that has ever been made public. There is not a class or rank—from the highest to the humblest—from which there has not come *voluntary* evidence that the Pelman System—duly practised—NEVER FAILS TO PRODUCE ALL THE BENEFITS THAT ARE CLAIMED FOR IT.

All Classes Benefit.

Clerks, typists, salesmen, tradesmen, and artisans are benefiting in the form of increased salaries and wages. Increases of 100 and 200 per cent. in salary are quite frequently reported; in several cases 300 per cent. is mentioned as the increase of salary due to Pelmanism!

Professional men find that "Pelmanising" results, not only in an immense economy of time and effort, but also in vastly more efficient work. It says something for Pelmanism when members of such different professions as solicitors, doctors, barristers, clergymen, architects, journalists, accountants, musicians, and schoolmasters, have all expressed their emphatic appreciation of the value of Pelmanism as a means of professional advancement.

Members of Parliament (both Houses) peers and peeresses, men and women high in social and political life, famous novelists, actors and artists, scientists, professors and university

graduates and tutors—the "little grey books" have ardent admirers amongst all of these. Even Royalty is represented—and by several enrolments!

A National Institution.

Look where you will, the new movement is permeating every section of the community. The Pelman Institute has become, in effect, a national institution, and there are many who predict that, sooner or later, it must become so in fact.

But State control could add nothing to the efficiency with which the work of the Institute is carried on. The instructional staff includes psychologists of the highest reputation on both sides of the Atlantic, every one of our great Universities is represented thereon. And the organisation of the instructional work is, in itself, a splendid tribute to Pelmanism; for every student receives individual consideration.

All sorts of problems—some of them new and some of them familiar—are being brought every day to the Pelman Institute for advice and help; and it is safe to say that no "Pelmanist" has yet been disappointed with the assistance given.

Wounded Officers "Pelmanising."

There must be some thousands of wounded officers and men throughout the country who are studying "Pelmanism" whilst in hospital and these speak of the "little grey books" with real affection, not only as a source of present interest and pleasure, but also as a definite assurance of a more certain future.

Indeed, quite apart from any other advantage, the Course is well worth ten times the time and money, simply for the stimulus it gives. The "little grey books" fill one with a new sense of power, a new and greater belief in Possibility.

Playing the Game.

Here is a characteristic letter bearing on the point; it was written by a University man now in the Army:

"The course has prevented me becoming slack and stagnating during my Army life—this is the most virulent danger, I may add. It inculcates a clear, thorough, courageous method of playing the game of life—admirably suited to the English temperament, and should prove moral salvation to many a business man. Success, too, would follow—but I consider this as secondary."

Letters like this, no less than those which speak of salaries doubled, positions and promotions gained, or other material advantages, make it clear that "TRUTH" was well justified in declaring that "the work of the Pelman Institute is of national importance"; they also explain why such distinguished public men as Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Sir James Yoxall, M.P., Mr. George R. Sims and others, have not hesitated to endorse the methods and principles of the Institute. There is no man or woman who has expressed dissatisfaction with the result of his or her dealings with the Pelman Institute.

"Mind and Memory" (in which the Pelman Course is fully described, with a synopsis of the lessons) will be sent, gratis and post free, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report and form entitling readers of THE ANZAC BULLETIN to the complete Pelman Course at *one-third less than the usual fee*, on application to the Pelman Institute, 94, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.



The Return to Palestine.

"A mixed multitude went up."—Exodus xii, 38.
(From "Sydney Bulletin.")

Yarns from "Sydney Bulletin."

Black Brother Goes Motoring.

"Kola": A few months ago a small army of blacks, under a smart half-caste, had a job of putting up a big set of stockyards for a station beyond Meekatharra (W.A.). They finished the job and were paid. Then they had a confab on how to spend the money. As a result the whole tribe, men, women and kids, trooped down to Meekatharra. But not to the pub. Instead, they called on the local motor-garage boss, hired his cars, and for the next week Meekatharra had the joy of seeing loads of assorted nigger scooting over the landscape. The women and kids seemed to enjoy the fun best, and the way they squealed at a sharp turn was something to be remembered. When the money gave out a band of blacks, penniless but happy, took the road to the bush again.

* * *

Do Hares Like Being Coursed?

"Private Room" writes: I think that some hares enjoy being coursed. At the Colac (Vic.) plumption they keep a hare which draws the Old Age Pension. He has practically no fur on his back, and is hailed locally as "Baldy." Although he knows every inch of the ground

and could run blindfold to the nearest escape, he is always reserved for the final—and many a one the old battler has survived. Some day when his rheumatics are troubling him he'll slow up for a wink. Then—

* * *

No Sunday Clothes.

One comes across some strange tabernacles in the far-away places. At Bioto, which is a low-lying, evil-smelling village on the banks of the Ufafa River (Papua), there is a little, nipa- and cocoa-nut-thatched church where a haggard missionary preaches to an almost-naked congregation while the said congregation take it in turns to hunt the innumerable mosquitoes away from him with a horse-tail switch. Mosquitoes are so numerous and venomous at Bioto that every room at the mission house is fitted with a net that covers the whole apartment. At Dilava, in mountainous inland Papua, where the Mission of the Sacred Heart has a church with wooden sides and a thatched roof built on the edge of a great precipice, the priests lend the native women dresses to wear within the sacred walls. Then there was the Abo. Mission Station church at Mapoon, Gulf of Carpentaria, where the girls, after being kept away from the young bucks all the week, made goo-goo eyes and other glad noises across the pews. When the watchful missionary's eyes were closed in prayer there was a cross-fire of

signals that blistered the paint. At this station the girls' dormitory is closed and sealed every night by an ingenious tell-tale arrangement controlled from the head station. But discoloured Lotharios sometimes discover ways of beating the patent and making their way to their dusky loves, to the exceeding joy of all hands except the missionary. At Thursday Island there is the Quetta Cathedral, which is mostly galvanised-iron and wood and bits of shipwreck. It is the centre of what must be one of the largest dioceses in the world—including such fairly comprehensive lumps of scenery as the Gulf of Carpentaria and the Northern Territory. At Faisi, Solomon Islands, a Kanaka repatriated from Queensland used to exhort the brethren in a little thatched church on the beach amongst the palms. The pastor's knowledge of English was limited to what he had picked up on the sugar plantations, and included lots of things which the Archbishop of Canterbury has never learned. The congregation had a habit of sitting across the forms that served as pews and playing cards and smoking while the preacher gave a lurid version of the story of the God who told Adam and Eve that they could eat anything they liked in the garden except the sugar-bananas. One Papuan missionary used a big lump of a boat as a church, there being little dry land on which to build. As the floating church would only accommodate a limited number at a time, the missionary used to run three tables, so to speak.

SPORTING NOTES.

From Malmesbury (Vic.) comes breathless information that they are about to acquire a racecourse on which to settle soldiers. Nothing novel in that. Australia is studded with racecourses on which soldiers have been settled.

Davon was a big man, six feet four and about 25st. weight. On the night before the races at Moonee Valley he and some friends had made a good dinner at Menzies', when one of the party remarked that he had a pass to the meeting which he was unable to avail himself of. "Was it any use to Davon?" "Just the identical," said Davon. Next day he duly handed the disc to the gatekeeper, who promptly staggered. "Man alive," he gasped, "there are no elephant races here to-day!" Davon's friend had palmed off on him a jockey's pass.

The Draught Horse Race.

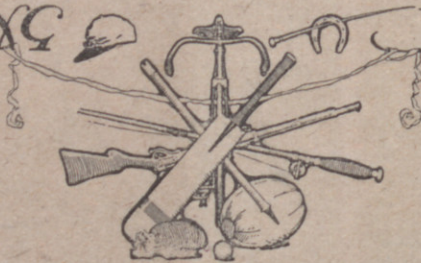
"W.A.C.": The most exciting item at a Bananaland bush meeting is the draught-horse race. Conditions—distance one mile; winner to pull a ton 100 yards. At the Dryrot meeting recently I was invited into a tip-dray to make up the necessary weight. The rest of the ton was local Cocky. Dobbin stepped out to encouraging howls. Then what we didn't expect happened. When I emerged from the heap of whiskers, boots and curses, someone whispered in my ear that he knew the person who loosened the tip-bolt, and was going to find him. Judging by the crowd in pursuit of a fleeting form around the track he didn't have the secret on his own.

Motor Cycling.

When Fred Barry (N.S.W.) tried to put up fresh motor-cycle figures between Sydney and Melbourne he smashed the forks of his machine at Wodonga (Vic.). As he was running just on schedule time he looked about for something to kick for his bad luck. Nothing being handy, he went on to Melbourne, and after a rest decided to have a tilt at the record from that end. Later, with C. Sainy in a side-car, Berry started on the 565-mile trip, and despite a 40min. block at Gundagai, pulled the figures down to 22hr. 20min. Jim Bolger put up the previous record (23hr. 40min.) on a solo machine. Berry was aboard a 7-h.p. Harley-Davidson.

A 50 lb. Jockey.

"Pick": The most diminutive jockey? At the '91 Pambula (N.S.W.) race meeting, Blackbird, owned by J. P. Secombe, and generally regarded as an outsider, was so



persistently backed to win the Town Plate that Ikey smelt mice, and started to lay poison. Secombe got a whiff of the proceedings and communed with himself. Then he loaded the mare with a big stock-saddle and lead, and hoisted his 3½ stone, six-year-old Edgar on top, with instructions to rush to the front and stay there. The police began to talk when they noticed the infant aboard, but as Secombe claimed he could do as he liked with his own property, the force retired to read up the law. The race was a pursuit of Blackbird, and at the finish Israel was smitten with woe.

A Promising Colt.

Always regarded as a promising colt, Eusebius did not win his first race until he captured the V.R.C. March Nursery. Eusebius was a well-backed second fancy, and, finishing well, won at the right end from Stratus and Whittader—a smart pair. Mr. M. Wenke, one of the owners of Eusebius previously, raced Delenda. Eusebius cost 625 guineas as a yearling, and should prove a good three-year-old. His dam, Lager, was a smart Malster mare who won in Melbourne.

The Fickle Racehorse.

Next to having a nag that drops into the soup when it has the cash aboard, the most exasperating thing that can happen to an owner is to have one which arrives in a hurry and snatches the stake when he thought something else was going to do it. This happened two or three times at Rosehill recently. The imported Snow King was one of the culprits. His performances generally have been as cheerful as a recruiting scheme; and when he went out for the flying on this occasion among a fairly slick lot, the fact that he ran nowhere in slower company a fortnight before made him an unmarketable commodity. It was something the same with Dame Ace; in the Rydalmere Mile, the supposition in this case being that the journey was too far. But they both turned up at the right end amidst frantic applause from Ike. Dame Ace won without effort, and as she ran the distance in "4," with 8st. 12lb. on top, it looks as if the stable idea about six furlongs being the end of her tether wanted overhauling, and that with 8st. in the Don-

caster the lady may be entitled to respectful consideration. Snow King has 7st. 10lb. in the Doncaster, and the record of having run last in the Epsom, for which he was a solidly backed second favourite with Wedge.

SPORTING CABLES.

The City Handicap, Adelaide.

Adelaide, 27th May.

At the Adelaide Racing Club's Birthday Meeting, the result of the City Handicap was:—Kingbier 1, Melboli 2, Aislabie 3; won by half neck. Wedge, the favourite, was beaten. The time 1 min. 26½ secs. is a record. Dividends, £25 3s., £1 12s.

Victorian Football Results.

Melbourne, 27th May.

Victorian Football League result:—South Melbourne, 85 points, beat Collingwood, 67 points; Fitzroy, 72 points, beat Richmond, 44 points; Carlton, 77 points, beat St. Kilda, 51 points; Geelong, 51 points, beat Essendon, 36 points.

Victorian Association: Northcote, 66 points, beat Brunswick, 44 points; North Melbourne, 108 points, beat Footscray, 37 points; Prahran, 122 points, beat Port Melbourne, 60 points.

Sydney Football Results.

Sydney, 28th May.

Results of Sydney Rugby League's matches are:—South Sydney, 13 points, beat Balmain, 2 points; North Sydney, 26 points, beat Annandale, 4 points; Western Suburbs, 5 points, beat Newtown, 2 points; Eastern Suburbs, 17 points, beat Glebe, 9 points. Association Football League: Y.M.C.A. beat North Sydney 3 goals to nil; Pyrmont beat Royal Navy 4 goals to nil; Annandale beat Canterbury 2 goals to nil; Balmain Kiaora beat Balmain Fernleigh 2 goals to nil.

Racing: Further Reductions.

Melbourne, 25th May.

The Federal Cabinet has decided to considerably reduce the number of racing fixtures for the 1918-19 season. New South Wales fixtures have been reduced to 716, Victoria from 500 last year to 204, Queensland from 669 to 477, South Australia from 142 to 82, Tasmania 100 to 71, West Australia increased from 228 to 232; total reduction 557. The recognised governing racing bodies, in conjunction with the District Commandant, are to allot the dates. Non-proprietary clubs have received more consideration than proprietary.

War Honours for the A.I.F.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the following Awards to the undermentioned Officers, in recognition of their gallantry and devotion to duty in the Field:—

The Military Cross.

Lieut. Irvine Julius Barton, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When, as one of a reconnoitring patrol, he was lying concealed well within the enemy outpost line, by the light of a hostile flare he saw a party of eight of the enemy approaching. He allowed them to come within a few feet of his position, and then summoned them to surrender. Revolver fire was opened on them and a bomb thrown, resulting in four of the enemy being wounded. He displayed coolness, dash and military judgment of the highest order.

Lieut. Alexander George Bates, D.C.M., Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a raiding party. He led his party of twenty men up to the enemy's wire and rushed the position as soon as the barrage lifted. Inspired by his splendid leadership and courage, his men captured seven of the enemy, put a number of others out of action, and returned without a casualty. He had previously carried out a reconnaissance which contributed largely to the success of the enterprise.

Rev. Ignatius Ernest Bossence, T./C.F., 4th Class, Aust. Chapl. Dept.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a raid on a strongly defended hostile position, he advanced with the foremost assaulting line under heavy shell, machine-gun and rifle fire, rendered first aid to wounded men and assisted them to safety. His fine example of courage and cheerfulness had a most inspiring effect on the men.

Lieut. Arthur Harold Castles, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When, as one of a reconnoitring patrol,

he was lying concealed well within the enemy outpost line, by the light of a hostile flare he saw a party of eight of the enemy approaching. He allowed them to come within a few feet of his position, and then summoned them to surrender. Revolver fire was opened on them and a bomb thrown, resulting in four of the enemy being badly wounded. He displayed coolness, dash and military judgment of the highest order.

2nd Lt. John Archibald Blair Churchill, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He commanded a party during a raid on the enemy trenches, and when his commanding officer was wounded he took charge of the operations and rendered valuable service. After his return to our lines, learning that some men of another party were missing, he organised a party, and at once proceeded to the enemy wire. Being attacked on his way by an enemy patrol of double his strength, he succeeded in securing two prisoners and driving the remainder off, finally assisting in bringing the wounded back to our line. His courage and devotion to duty were most exemplary.

Lt. John Gardiner, Arty.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of two trench mortars detailed to support a raid. These guns were subjected to heavy shell fire throughout the operations, and one gun being put out of action he transferred all the ammunition to the other gun and carried through his task as ordered with this gun alone. At the end of the shoot he with six other men were buried by the bursting of an enemy shell, and after being extricated himself he performed valuable work in saving the lives of the other buried men. By his courageous and gallant behaviour throughout he set a magnificent example to all under him.

Lt. William Hunter, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a raid on the enemy trenches, although wounded on the way across No-man's Land,

he continued to command his party and to direct operations from the enemy's front line. He refused to leave the enemy's parapet until satisfied that his party had withdrawn and then personally assisted to bring in the wounded. He displayed splendid courage and determination.

Lt. Donald Ivan Johnston, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Whilst acting as scout officer of a party raiding the enemy trenches he led the party along the routes, which he had previously prepared, without experiencing the slightest difficulty. On returning to our lines and hearing that a wounded man had been left out in No-man's Land, he at once went out to bring him in. On the way he encountered an enemy patrol of eight men. He attacked this patrol, put it to flight, and succeeded in rescuing the wounded man. His courage and devotion to duty were most marked.

2nd Lt. Ernest John Hugh Schlitz, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Although wounded during a raid on the enemy trenches he refused to leave his post until forced to do so through exhaustion, when he insisted on walking to the dressing station in order to save a stretcher for a badly wounded man. Throughout the whole of the training and preliminary reconnaissance in connection with the raid his courage and ability were of the highest order.

Distinguished Conduct Medal.

The following are the acts of gallantry for which the decorations have been conferred:—

10609 Sgt. (now 2nd Lieut.) S. Fountain, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as signalling N.C.O. He showed great ability in handling difficult situations during an engagement, and by his initiative and coolness succeeded in maintaining communication, in spite of casualties among his men and heavy shelling.

Lieut. C. V. —, B.E.F., France, writes:—
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War Honours for the A.I.F.—contd.

806 Sgt. C. E. Free, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty and consistent good work. He showed splendid courage and initiative in an attack. On many occasions he displayed great coolness and resource, and proved himself an excellent leader.

456 R.S.M. R. F. Gray, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty and consistent good work. He has always set a splendid example to the N.C.O.'s and men of his unit, and has displayed untiring energy in the performance of his duties.

2709 Sgt. L. G. Howe, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty and consistent good work, often under trying circumstances. He invariably displayed great courage and resource in the performance of his work, and set a fine example to his men.

1295 Sgt. L. G. Jarvis, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a platoon holding an important isolated post. He handled his men with great skill, and was able to secure very important information as to the enemy's movements. His never failing cheerfulness and courage were an inspiration to his men.

938 Sgt. J. H. Leach, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty and consistent good work. He has taken part in many engagements, and has always shown great courage and coolness under fire.

396 2nd Cpl. L. T. J. Marshall, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. His energy and determination in consolidating part of a captured position were most marked. He has frequently carried out difficult work of this nature, and set an excellent example of coolness and resource.

1455 S./M. A. E. McDonald, Fld. Arty.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. When the battery was being heavily shelled, he was, although suffering from shell shock, continually in the open, passing orders, and by his courage and splendid example under heavy shell fire greatly encouraged the men working at the guns.

386 S./Sgt. A. V. D. Moody, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He carried out his duties in connection with the installation of electric power for mining and pumping with great energy and initiative, and rendered valuable services by his skilful work.

1861 2nd Cpl. J. L. Mounsey, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of telephone communication. When a signal station near to his position was destroyed by shell fire he showed great promptness and resource in dealing with the situation. He laid a new line, and was the means of re-establishing communication with as little delay

as possible. He has always shown great skill and determination at his work.

1764 Sgt. B. F. Murphy, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a long period. He has always volunteered for any difficult or dangerous task, and frequently secured valuable information by leading patrols. He has taken part in many engagements, and has done splendid work.

2742 Sgt. D. T. W. Neville, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He did valuable work on patrol on many occasions, and frequently obtained valuable information. His cool and courageous conduct under fire has always had a splendid effect on the men under his command.

645 L.-Cpl. F. J. Perry, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as patrol leader during a period of several months. He has shown great courage and initiative at his work, and has frequently obtained valuable information.

1683 Cpl. J. Printer, Salvage Coy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while in charge of salvage parties in an advanced position. He carried out his work with great skill under most difficult conditions, and frequently under intense shell fire, and set a high standard of efficiency and courage to his comrades.

121 Cpl. T. G. Purdue, G. Arty.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an action when all communications had been cut by enemy shelling, he endeavoured to re-establish them under heavy fire. As no telephone wire could be maintained, he acted as runner between the battery and Group H.Q., and when the others, who were with him were wounded, he continued at this duty unaided for twenty-four hours. He set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

725 L.-Cpl. J. Reilly, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. With his sub-section he helped to repel two counter-attacks, and showed great coolness under a heavy bombardment. He kept his gun in action though all his men except one were casualties, and set a splendid example of courage and determination.

6504 Bombr. W. H. Ramsden, F. Arty.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was one of a forward observation party in an attack which suffered several casualties. When his officer was wounded he dressed his wounds, and, though wounded himself, went forward with another officer in the attack. He remained at duty throughout the day repairing and maintaining lines under very heavy fire. He showed splendid courage and determination.

275 T.-Cpl. B. W. Rickwood, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as scout. He carried out valuable patrol work, and took part in raids. His splendid example of courage inspired all under him

with confidence, even in the most adverse circumstances.

867 Sgt. H. Shatwell, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as scout sergeant. He has done excellent reconnaissance work, and proved himself a splendid leader. He has always displayed coolness, initiative, and resource in difficult situations which have been an inspiration to all ranks.

219 Pte. T. Smith, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On several occasions he has been in charge of the transport section engaged in pack work in the forward area. He always showed great initiative and courage, and by his determination and good leadership always got his stores forward in spite of heavy shelling.

106 Sgt. G. Taylor, Pnr. Bn.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has on many occasions shown great coolness and resource under heavy shell fire, and on two occasions saved a difficult situation by taking charge and restoring the situation by his example and determination.

4485 Spr. R. G. Thomas, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during lengthy operations. He constantly went forward, with magnificent courage and coolness, to attend the wounded and gassed under the heaviest fire.

4228 Sgt. F. T. Trevaskis, Pnr. Bn.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He frequently showed great initiative and courage when in charge of carrying parties under heavy fire. He always succeeded in completing his work in spite of casualties and inspired his men with confidence by his courageous example.

239 R.S.M. A. J. Vallis, Inf.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has done excellent work and rendered valuable service to his battalion. He carried out his duties with great skill and energy, often under heavy fire.

56 C.Q.M.S. F. Walker, M. Gun Corps.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty and consistent good work. He took part in several engagements, and at all times set a fine example of courage and determination.

The following is the correct description of an officer upon whom a reward has recently been conferred:—

Lieut. Ronald Albert Austin, M.C., Aust. F.C. (M.C. gazetted 26th March, 1918.)

The following is the correct description of the Non-Commissioned Officers upon whom the Distinguished Conduct Medal was recently conferred:—

(London Gazette, 4th March, 1918.)

120 Sgt. (now 2nd Lieut.) J. W. Gratton, Aust. Inf.

674 Cpl. D. C. Robertson, Aust. Inf.

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