

Anzac Bulletin

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LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1918.

Price 3d.

Issued to Members of the Australian
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Australian troops in underground quarters.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

CABLE NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

A Unique Exception.

Sydney, 2nd February.

The New South Wales Agent-General in London has cabled to the Premier, Mr. Holman, that Australians are marrying English and Scots girls at the rate of 800 monthly. He expects that the habit will continue, and asks whether the Government is willing to grant assisted passages at a reduced price for wives wishing to come to Australia after the war. The Government is replying in the affirmative.

It is known from unofficial sources that Australians are specially susceptible to Scots lassies. "I am single, though I have been to Scotland," a returned man has said, with a laugh. Meanwhile many Australian girls are resentful, saying there are already not enough men to go round.—Exchange.

The Tornado in Melbourne. Destruction to Life and Property.

Melbourne, 4th February.

The recent tornado in Melbourne was unprecedented in the history of the city. It swept across Williamstown, Hobsons Bay, St. Kilda, Brighton, Ormond, Garden Vale, and Oakleigh. The velocity of the wind gusts is estimated at 200 miles per hour. The greatest damage was done at Brighton, where hundreds of houses, ranging from cottages to mansions, were wrecked and some churches demolished. Baths and other buildings on the foreshores were injured. The damage to property is roughly estimated at £100,000. Two deaths are reported, a boy who was picnicing was decapitated and a man fishing was drowned. Twelve persons were injured.

The Queensland Floods. Miles of Dead Animals.

Sydney, 4th February.

Hundreds of tons of debris and mud lie in the streets of Mackay, Queensland, and hundreds of families have been ruined by the cyclone and flood. The damage is estimated at £1,500,000, excluding loss of crops and properties in the surrounding district.

For miles the sea front is littered with carcasses of animals of all descriptions—snakes, wallabies, opossums, birds, and fish.—Exchange.

Brisbane, 4th February.

All schools at Mackay are temporarily closed. The hospital was damaged by the cyclone. The Rockhampton district is still submerged.

Brisbane, 5th February.

The Fitzroy River at Rockhampton is continuing to fall at the rate of a quarter of an inch per hour. The weather is now fine.

The Medical Standard for Recruits.

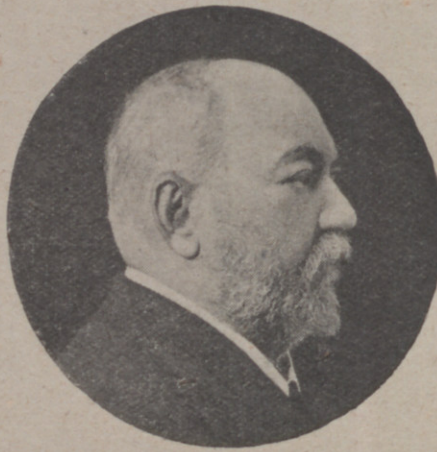
Melbourne, 4th February.

General Mackinnon, Director of Recruiting, has stated that he is not desirous of lowering the medical standard for the A.I.F., but rather of raising it to meet the British requirements, as many men have been returned from England without seeing active service.

Physical Standard of Recruits.

Melbourne, 5th February.

The Defence Department is investigating the reason for the return to Australia of



THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN FORREST, P.C., who has been created a Peer.

many men adjudged unfit without seeing active service. Possibly the A.I.F. authorities in England are insisting on a needlessly high physical standard. It is asserted that men rejected in Australia have proceeded to Britain at their own expense and been gladly accepted for service.

The New Commonwealth War Loan.

Melbourne, 5th February.

It is unofficially stated that the prospectus for the new Commonwealth War Loan will issue this week.

Policy of New Victorian Government.

Melbourne, 6th February.

Mr. Bowser, in delivering the policy speech of the new Government of Victoria,

said that the measures for the session were a Railways Loan application, a Water Supply Loan application, Municipal Endowment, and Country Roads Maintenance. General legislation was postponed. He estimated a surplus of £253,125.

The Williamstown shipbuilding yard has been sold to the Commonwealth at a cost of £200,000. He announced that it was intended to get an experienced railway commissioner from abroad.

Victorian Chairmanship of Committees.

Melbourne, 6th February.

The Victorian Parliament, by 31 votes to 22, has decided that the position of Chairmanship of Committees shall be honorary. It previously carried a salary of £300. The Government opposed the motion.

Salvage for Rescue of S.S. "Jeddo."

Melbourne, 6th February.

Chief Justice Madden, sitting in vice Admiralty jurisdiction, awarded £5,189 salvage to the owners of the steamer "Century" for salvaging the steamer "Jeddo," which broke its shaft in September, 1915, in the Great Australian Bight. He also awarded to the captain and crew of the "Century" £914.

A Pugnacious Centenarian.

Sydney, 6th February.

A resident of Singleton, New South Wales, 102 years old, volunteered for service, and offered to fight the recruiting officer when he was rejected.

Medical and Friendly Societies' Dispute.

Melbourne, 7th February.

A private conference took place yesterday between Mr. Bowser, Premier, and Mr. Wynne, Attorney-General, and Representatives of the British Medical Association, re the dispute with the Lodges. The Premier stated that the British Medical Association will convene a meeting of members of the Association to consider the Premier's suggestion.

Melbourne, 8th February.

At a conference in Melbourne of 400 delegates from the Metropolitan and Country Friendly Societies a resolution was passed that the Government and Parliament should settle the Lodges' dispute on a proper basis. The chairman, Mr. Naugher, stated that the fixation of income limit is strongly resisted.

Cable News from Australia—continued.

Australian Sailors Entertained.

Melbourne, 7th February.

One hundred and seventy Australian sailors who have had war service with the Grand Fleet were entertained by the Governor-General at a motor outing to Frankston, and subsequently tea at Federal Government House.

The Coal and Freight Pool.

Melbourne, 7th February.

The Federal and State authorities are arranging a coastal coal-shipping freight pool, controlled by a Board to ensure that available shipping shall be used to the best advantage. All consumers are to be placed on an even footing.

Site for Commonwealth Arsenal.

Sydney, 7th February.

A committee of investigation has decided that Tuggeranong, nine miles from Canberra, is the best site for the Commonwealth Arsenal.

A Coal Pool and Shipping Shortage.

Melbourne, 8th February.

Mr. Hughes has announced the formation of a coal pool to cope with the acute shipping shortage. The Government is considering the recommendation of a conference of State Ministers providing for a general increase, to be paid into a fund for levelling up the cost of transport.

No more Counter Lunches in Victoria.

Melbourne, 8th February.

The Brewers' Association and hotel keepers have decided that there shall be no counter lunches in Victorian hotels after March 1st. Hotel keepers estimate that this will save £50,000 annually.

Queensland Soldiers and the Vote.

Brisbane, 8th February.

Mr. Ryan, Premier of Queensland, announced that the names of soldiers reaching 21 since leaving Queensland are being placed on the electoral roll, in order that soldiers may vote at Queensland elections.

West Australian Finances.

Perth, 8th February.

Mr. Gardiner, the State Treasurer, delivering the West Australian Budget speech, stated that the deficit was £936,311 and the accumulated deficit to 30th June, 1918, at £2,997,633. He forecasted departmental economies, increased income tax and stamp duty, dividend duty, totalisator duty, also a tax on betting tickets. A tax on unimproved land and amusements will be considered during the recess.

Obituary Notice.

Melbourne, 6th February.

Mr. Thomas King, a member of the legal firm of Gavan Duffy and King, has died.

A Conference on Repatriation.

Important Recommendations.

Melbourne, 8th February.

A conference convened by Mr. Millen, composed of representatives of trades and labour councils, chambers of manufacturers and the Commonwealth authorities, have considered one recommendation by technical education experts, viz.: That some returned disabled soldiers shall be trained in private workshops under normal surroundings.

The conference recommended the appointment of district committees composed of a chairman appointed by the Minister, two representatives of employees, and two representatives of the union covering the trade concerned; its functions being to consider the opportunities of employment, to decide on the suitability of the applicant for the particular callings, to assess the efficiency



MR. E. A. BOX,

Who has been appointed Official Secretary to the Commonwealth Government of Australia in London, in succession to Captain R. Muirhead Collins.

of trainees and re-assess these every three months, periodically to review the facilities of training and to deal with disputes.

Other recommendations provide that the State committees shall be the final body to settle disputes;

That representatives of trades councils and chambers of manufacturers shall be appointed on vocational committees;

That all disabled soldiers obtaining training through the Repatriation Department shall come within the jurisdiction of District and State committees;

That employees' pay shall be 40 per cent. of the minimum wage pending assessment of efficiency;

That men undergoing training receive no less than the minimum or ruling wage, the trainees are not to exceed one in six of the fully-paid tradesmen in any shop, that no trainee is to suffer any disability by his part in any industrial dispute.

Sale of Apples to Great Britain.

Melbourne, 8th February.

Mr. Hughes has announced the sale to Great Britain of 1,800 tons of evaporated apples at 7d. a pound.

Australian Losses.

Melbourne, 2nd February (delayed).

The casualty returns of the Australian Expeditionary Force show:—

Dead	...	...	43,000
Wounded	...	...	115,000
Sick	...	...	67,000
Prisoners and missing	...	...	4,000

Total 229,000

—Reuter.

GENERAL CABLES.

Mr. Hughes has announced that the first American vessel built for Australia will be launched in a few days.

It is estimated by the New South Wales Government that loss through last year's strike amounted to between £3,500,000 and £9,000,000 (?). The total amount of wages lost is estimated at £1,700,000.

Two men have motored from Fremantle (Western Australia) to Sydney, approximately 2,600 miles, in 170 hours and a half, which is a "record."

Federal returns, says a Melbourne telegram, show that 17,500,000 Australian notes, to the value of £50,000,000, are in circulation. The Commonwealth Treasury holds £18,000,000 in gold.

Sir John Forrest.

The King has conferred a barony on Sir John Forrest, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Sir John, who has been styled the "G.O.M. of Australia," has spent the greater part of his long life—he is now in his seventieth year—in the service of his country and the Empire. A Westralian by birth, he devoted the early years of his manhood to the exploration of that vast State, and was the means of opening up several of the great goldfields. He was the first Premier of Western Australia; he made Fremantle, the port of Perth, and promoted the great water supply scheme which has transformed the conditions of life in Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie. Since Federation he has been prominent in Federal politics.

The Real Fritz.

How Our Men take Prisoners.

By F. M. CUTLACK, Assistant Official Correspondent with the A.I.F.

British Headquarters, France,
January 29th.

There are respectable places at home like Parliament and newspaper offices, where our enemy is coldly called the German. That, one supposes, must be. Such people think of him and talk about him from the dignified distance. When they descend to the familiar or are stirred to indignation about him they call him the Hun. In the mighty precincts of G.H.Q. his name is the Enemy, though in the messes they may also call him Hun and Boche. But when you come near the line you never hear him called by any of these names, save perhaps Boche sometimes. Among the soldiers who meet him and live in the same mud with him, and do the killing and capturing of him, he is never German or Hun or Boche. "Down in the infantry nobody cares," and a spade is called a spade. They know the enemy for what he is—and his true title is

Alleman or Fritz. The cold and dignified superiority, and alternately the vituperation, of his political judges are alike unknown—at least in those people's terms. Alleman and Fritz have something intimate and homely about them, and Fritz is the commonest name of all.

Fritz the Individual.

The reason is, of course, plain. Fritz is exactly what our enemy in the individual is—an ugly, short-haired, short featured, muddy devil, who hides like a rabbit and spends his life doing punctiliously what his ruling classes tell him to do; apt to be nasty if he gets a good opportunity, and suppressed only by the plainest of plain dealing. Hidden back out of hand's reach, where he shoots with his artillery, he is a pretty capable man. Plugged up in a thick cement pill-box with a machine-gun he spits maliciously. But out in the open, where

he has only his short legs and his fat hands to help him, he is just a Fritz. The Turk as a sniper was a king to him. Fritz the infantryman is a pretty woeful failure, unless in great numbers, and then he is noisy and vicious. A French author once wrote a story of how a colony of rabbits attacked an intruding hare: Fritz is something like that. The statisticians say he breeds like a rabbit, too. His High Command alone has made him just what he is, and you can tell what his High Command think of him when you capture a Fritz Colonel and study his character. He holds himself stiff with fury to think that he has been taken prisoner like any mere private. His superior officers are used to dealing with Fritz in the manner which Fritz rather invites upon himself—one of a mob who must never be allowed to complain or ask questions. Fritz, they conceive, may have a bra'n or a heart, which is a nuisance, because it is a



Lewis gun in action in the Front Trenches.

(Australian Official Photograph.)



Showing the difficulties of Transport on an exposed ridge.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

vital part, through which he may be shot or bayoneted. They hope, probably, one day to be able so to deaden these parts of his anatomy that they will be invulnerable, and so save losses.

Taking Prisoners.

Apart from the fact that he is this sort of an instrument, it is hard to discover that our men hate Fritz. His High Command have put lots of lethal weapons in his hands, when he would just as soon be carrying dishes or playing in a music band, and so Fritz is a dangerous devil. Fritz himself does not hate us, or, if he does, it would not do much harm as long as he was powerless. Temporarily, under his High Command, he is a fanatic. But catch him in the open out of his ditches and wire and he is his natural Fritz self. An Australian belonging to one of the escorts who brought back prisoners from the line at Ypres, when asked if he had had a good day, said, "Yes, it was a bon day, and he had got to the Fritz second line, but he had not killed one single Fritz—could not, they surrendered too easily. He had had twenty-five Fritzes surrender to him at one dug-out." And you will hear lots of that sort of thing in an attack. You cannot really hate such men; you just take them and make them work. A certain Brigadier-General, who was always going round the line and dodging shells and minnies, used in his

leisure moments to expatiate on the particular punishment he would ordain, if he had his way, for all Germans, especially the highest: he was none of the peace-and-forget-it sort; he would have vengeance. His brigade was one day going into an attack, and he arranged that all prisoners should be brought past him on their way in—"The marauding dogs." His brigade fought famously in a stiff fight, and there was competition in the line to be of the escort which took the prisoners back to him. "You're for it now, Fritz," they assured the square-headed collection as they marched off. But all the Brigadier said to them was, "Poor blighters; give them a drink of tea." He was a plain soldier that Brigadier, you see.

Cigarettes for Souvenirs.

The prisoners we take are uniformly well treated—some people say too well. But it is not in civilised humanity to ill-treat them, and for that reason our own men are infuriated most of all by reports of ill-treatment of prisoners in Germany. It argues the last depths of brutality, as they know from their own feelings. To them a Fritz taken prisoner is a curiosity satisfied; they drink him in with their eyes, this fellow who throws five-nines about and hides in the ground the other side of the wire. They accept souvenirs from him: not in robbery

of the helpless, but "Any souvenirs, Fritz?" they ask him, and Fritz replies, "Ja, souvenirs, Kamerad," and offers them. Then they give him cigarettes and tea, and converse in the "compree" language with him as friendly as can be, and the man who can claim "He's my Fritz" is a local celebrity. "Come on, Fritz," he says, to one or a dozen of them, indicating that they must move on to the rear; and then leads them away with the air of the only man in the battalion who owns a dog. Fritz, burdened with nothing but his gas mask, and chewing lustily on a lump of bread, plods off with the utmost cheerfulness. By-and-by, at the end of the most wonderful day of his life, he says he wants to write a letter, which he does, to his home, explaining that he is "in the pink" (using his own vernacular for it), and hopes all at home are the same. He soon finds that he has entered a blessed period of rest and repose behind the entanglements of a P.L. camp. He feeds well, and the guards take him out each day on gentle shovelling exercise.

The nearest approach in the British Army to real hatred of the Germans, when every man really saw red, was when they began using gas. The use of gas always maddened our troops, until the policy was adopted of paying Fritz back in his own coin.

Mr. Hughes Mobbed in Brisbane.

A Disgraceful Scene.

Brisbane, November 29th.

A disgraceful riot occurred at Warwick this afternoon when the Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes) alighted from the southward bound train to address an open-air meeting on the platform. The moment he stepped from his carriage he was surrounded by a howling mob. The platform had been beflagged, and a large crowd had gathered in the roadway below to hear Mr. Hughes' address, but about 50 men, most of them of military age, were waiting on the platform when the train came in. The moment they saw the Prime Minister they began hooting and groaning and hurling vile epithets at him. He had not gone more than a yard or two before a struggling, jostling crowd was wedged around him. Fists were flying everywhere, and the Prime Minister was in the thick of it, striving to get at the man who had assaulted him, and who was one of the biggest men in the crowd. He was hustled and jostled by men twice his size, but when he emerged it was his hand, not his face, that was bleeding. One of the men in the crowd carried a hammer, and another a heavy spanner, but the Prime Minister was daunted by nothing. It was a most flagrant case of flouting the authority of the Prime Minister and the laws of the Commonwealth, and this attitude of the police was persisted in to the end. Although Mr. Hughes demanded, in his capacity as Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, that they should take action against his assailant Senior Sergeant Kenny declined to do so, declaring that he recognised the laws of Queensland only, and would not act under any other.

Mr. Hughes then began his address. In a ringing voice he said—We have just had a demonstration before our eyes of the real motives of those who oppose the Government's proposal and the shameful abuse of the rights of free citizenship. But the law shall be obeyed by every man in this country, police or not. (Cheers.) Here, in this great crisis in the history of Australia and the Empire, when the citizens are asked to decide a question on which the safety and liberty of Australia depends, the Prime Minister is assaulted and denied the opportunity of free speech. I came here at the invitation of my fellow-citizens—

At this stage the man who first assaulted the Prime Minister approached Mr. Hughes in a threatening manner from the street.

Resuming his speech, the Prime Minister said I will keep law and order in

this country. Neither Sinn Fein nor I.W.W. will keep me from it, either.

A man in the front of the crowd here made a hostile interjection.

The Prime Minister: I am here to speak to you on a subject of vital moment to the welfare of Australia. On Dec. 20th you are to decide whether you are for Australia or against her, whether you will range yourself under the Union Jack alongside your kinsmen, the lads who are fighting for the cause of liberty, or alongside these men who are doing the dirty work of Germany in your midst. (Loud cheers and hoots.) These men who prate about liberty are endeavouring to prevent the voice of the Government being heard. The people of the Commonwealth have given me authority, and by virtue of that authority I will maintain law and order. (Cheers.) So far from assisting to preserve order the police actually connived at the assault on me and lent their aid to it. (Cries of "Shame.") I told them, and I tell every citizen of Queensland, that the laws of the Commonwealth are supreme and must prevail. (Cheers.) Now is the time when you must show under which flag you are fighting. I ask you to heed not the lies of those who wish to make you play the game of Germany. There is in this country, under the name of Sinn Fein, a body which wishes to destroy Australia and the Empire, but I will fight them as I will fight the Germans whose instruments and tools they are. If you are for Australia, fight for her. If you are for Germany or Sinn Feinism, for God's sake range yourselves under their banner, so that we may know you for enemies and deal with you accordingly. The Commonwealth has elected the Government to carry out the laws of the land and it will not allow any citizen or State through its instruments, the police, or anybody else, to stop us. (Cheers.)

Immediate Action Demanded.

Brisbane, November 29th.

The Prime Minister this evening sent the following telegram to the Premier of Queensland (Mr. Ryan):—

"At Warwick to-day, at 3 p.m., when leaving the train to address a public meeting, I was assaulted by a number of men. There was a great multitude, amounting virtually to a riot. I ordered the police to immediately arrest the two most prominent ringleaders, but acting under the senior-sergeant's direction they refused to do so. I called the attention of Senior-sergeant Kenny to the fact that a deliberate and violent breach of the laws of the Commonwealth had been com-

mitted, that the laws of the Commonwealth override those of the State, and as Attorney-General I directed him to take proceedings to prosecute these men under the Commonwealth law. He replied that he recognised the laws of Queensland only, and would act under no other. I then told him I would take proceedings against him for having broken the Commonwealth law, and that having issued instructions to the police under his control to do likewise he had not only connived at the disgraceful proceedings at the meeting but had broken the Commonwealth law himself. I have to request that you, a Premier of the State of Queensland, to suspend him from duty immediately, and take all such steps as are necessary for his immediate prosecution under the laws of the Commonwealth. Unless this is done forthwith, the Commonwealth Government will take steps to enforce its own laws, and will hold you responsible for any breaches of such laws.—William Hughes, Prime Minister."

SPORTING NOTES.

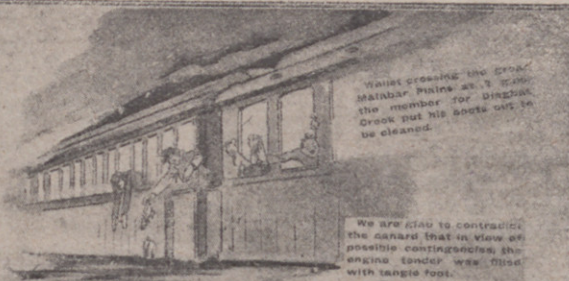
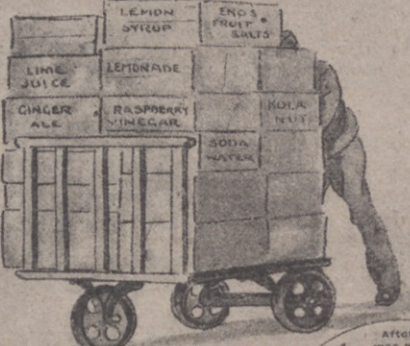
C. Fraser (Balmain), who topped the score-sheet with 67 points (seven tries and 23 goals), was the most noticeable all-rounder in N.S. Wales Rugby League this season. Last year he also headed the list with 95 points (nine tries and 34 goals). Wally Messenger (Eastern Suburbs), who was close up to Fraser with 58 points, headed the 1914-15 statistics with 73 points. Harold Horder, the fastest sprinter in the League, annexed 17 tries—the best individual effort of the year.

For two years Francis Birtles has been talking about crossing Australia by aeroplane, and at latest he had bought a machine and was trying it in Victoria. His original intention was to make a flight from Port Augusta to Broome, but the chances of a spill in the vacant North-West caused him to abandon that idea.

Among the champions past and present my vote goes to Stan Wickham as the best place-kick (Union or League game) Australia has produced. Dally Messenger was certainly a wonderful booter, and put up some extraordinary performances, but for consistent kicking, from all angles, on wet or dry grounds, and taking into consideration the difficulties under which a kicker laboured from the absurd Union rule of another player placing the ball and the opposing forwards charging like money-lenders, the wriggly player of a decade and more ago is entitled to go on top.



2. Everything possible was done by the authorities for the convenience of the visitors so as to enable them to carry away a clear idea of the resources of this great and glorious etc.



Whilst crossing the Grand Mainbar Plains at 3 miles the member for Dargoon took put his boots out to be cleaned.

We are glad to contradict the rumour that in view of possible contingencies the engine tender was fitted with tangle foot.

1. After digesting the latest war news and a supper of tea and chips, our special reporter dreams he attends the ceremonies in connection with the opening of the Grand Trunk Gait-Railway.



5. To break the monotony of the journey, speed trials were given by members of the Ministry.



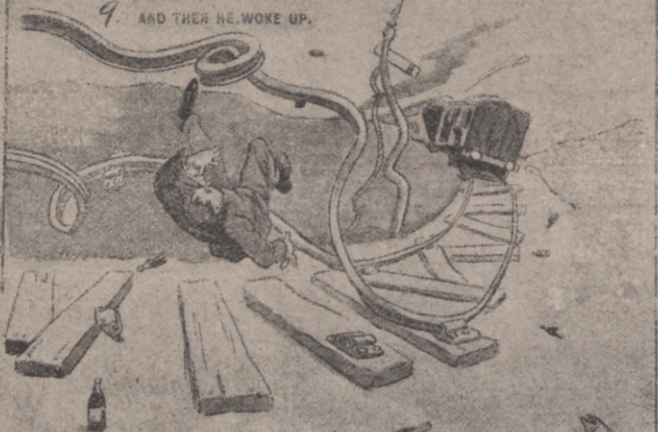
6. After discussing the lobster salad and railway matters in general at the banquet, the member for Sullivan demonstrated how he once crossed Australia on his plate.

On the homeward journey our reporter suddenly remembered that he had to SPENT AT DEADDOG Gully to see a friend.

7. One of the guests who had been over the track on numerous occasions mounted the footplate and directed the driver as to the direction to take, also the shortest cuts to the nearest waterholes.



9. AND THEN HE WOKE UP.



8. There seemed a certain lack of enthusiasm about the 'game' as it passed through no flags, no brass bands, and no cheering. This depressed the party somewhat.

Ben Stanger

Humours of Australia's New Overland Route.

(From "The Western Mail.")

GENERAL AUSTRALIAN NEWS



The managing director of the Oceanic S.S. Co., in Sydney, says he does not anticipate any immediate withdrawal of the company's steamers from the Australian service, but it is possible that the exigencies of war will render their use imperative before long.

Men of the A.I.F. who have shown conspicuous gallantry in the war were publicly presented with the medals they won by the Governor-General in the Domain, Sydney, on December 12th.

Australia and China.

The new Chinese Consul-General for Australia (Mr. T. K. Ouie) is a man of 35 years of age, with over ten years' experience in the diplomatic affairs of China, covering most of the countries of the world. Interviewed in Sydney, Mr. Ouie regretted that there was not more enterprise in trade matters between China and Australia. He stated that there is a splendid opportunity for trade between the two nations, which would have the effect of keeping Germany out.

Dr. "Chinese" Morrison.

After a residence of 17 years in China, Dr. Morrison has returned to Australia on a visit, and was the guest of the Institute of Journalists at luncheon recently. In the course of a speech on this occasion he drew attention to the possibilities of trade with China, and stated that America is now developing trade with China, which is of enormous service to the labourer in the United States. He added that a knowledge of English is spreading all over China, and this is being encouraged by the American Government.

Deceased Soldiers' Effects.

The Australian Imperial Force hold effects for the undermentioned soldiers, who have become deceased or prisoners of war, which they are unable to deliver on account of insufficient addresses of next-of-kin having been registered by the soldiers referred to. Inquiries regarding these parcels should be addressed to O.C., A.I.F. Kit Store, 100 Greyhound Road, Hammersmith, London, W. 6:—

702 E. F. Fieldhouse, 1022 M. H. McLarnon, 4867 G. F. Malt, 127 J. E. Smith, 1938 T. Hunt, 10034 E. J. Grieg, 6335 G. Mackenzie, 1872 F. Morley, 2660 R. Lindop, 228 E. T. Blake, 643 F. W. Clark, 2346 C. Feeney, 20873 J. M. Smith, 3401 W. E. Barre, 6471 A. Scroggie, 130 P. Rochford, 1503 W. Dwan.

The Australian Army Base Post Office, London.

Mr. Andrew Fisher recently inspected the Australian Base Post Office, London. At the close of the inspection, Mr. Fisher said that he was more than pleased with all he

had seen of the arrangements made for ensuring the delivery of parcels and letters to the men fighting overseas, notwithstanding casualties and endless changes and movements. Every conceivable method seemed to have been devised for effecting delivery, and he was sure it would be a source of satisfaction to the senders of letters and parcels to know that when such were undeliverable at the address given, communications were re-directed and ultimately reached their destination.

Australia and American Shipping.

The statement in the "San Francisco Chronicle" of November 15th that the Federal Shipping Board had decided to take over the whole of the American steamers capable of being converted into transports was partly confirmed by a cablegram received from Mr. G. A. Parkes from his New Zealand agents, stating "No steamers scheduled Australia any line."

Population of New South Wales.

During 1917 the population of New South Wales has steadily increased, though the increase has not reached normal proportions. In 1913 the increase was 54,494; in 1914, after the war had been waging for five months, the further expansion was still 29,572. In 1915 the increase dropped to 8,387, while in 1916 there was an actual decrease of 12,495. In that year the female population gained 17,554, while the males showed a reduction of 30,049. During the March quarter our population gained 3,632. In the June quarter it gained 5,704, and in the September quarter 7,889, and it is anticipated that with the quarter closing this year the increase will reach 25,000.

The net departures with the Expeditionary Forces in 1914 numbered 11,812 from this State. In 1915 33,961 and in 1916 51,721. In 1917 the outward flow has been curtailed, and in the September quarter the departures with the forces only exceeded the returns by 1,689 men. Last quarter the male population of New South Wales increased almost as much as the female population.

Magistrate's Body washed Ashore.

A rough sea in Hobson's Bay on December 12th washed ashore the body of Mr. S. J. Goldsmith, P.M., who disappeared in an unaccountable manner from the ferry boat "Planet" at about noon on December 7th.

Officer of Enemy Birth removed.

In pursuance of the Federal Ministry's policy to dispense with the services of persons of enemy birth who are now employed in the Commonwealth public service, one officer in the Defence Department has been suspended from duty.

Queensland Premier sues "The Argus."

Mr. Ryan, Premier of Queensland, is issuing a writ out of High Court of Australia against the proprietors of "The Argus" (Melbourne), claiming £10,000 for alleged defamation. Plaintiff's claim is for damages on account of defamatory matter printed and published of and concerning plaintiff in "The Argus," and more particularly in the leading article of the issue of November 29th.

Human Remains found in Queensland. Station Owner Arrested.

As a sequel to the finding of human remains in the vicinity of Mount Norma Station, situated on the Williams River (Q.), the owner of the station, Frederick Herbert, was arrested on a charge of murder. After evidence of the arrest had been given by a detective, the accused was remanded for eight days. The affair has aroused intense interest in the district. A person named Edwards, who worked for the accused, has been missing since August.

Victoria and New South Wales Coal Mines.

An agreement has been arrived at under which the Victorian Government will continue for a period of five years to work the Pelaw Main and Richmond Main mines in the Maitland district by Victorian labour. With the exception of supplies from the Pelaw Main for the Australian Gaslight Company, the output of these two mines, which are now working three shifts daily, is to be available for the Victorian Government.

I.W.W. Trials at Perth.

The commencement of the trial of nine of the eleven men who were arrested for I.W.W. conspiracy was marked in the Perth Criminal Court by an extraordinary challenge of jurymen. Each of the accused exercised his full right, and challenged six men arbitrarily. Callinan, one of the accused, insolently interrupted his counsel in his opening address by shouting "The foreman of the jury is asleep." Mr. Justice Rooth then informed Callinan that men who misbehaved in the dock could be sent to the cells while the trial proceeded.

Largest Ship Built in New South Wales.

The largest commercial ship yet built in New South Wales, and the largest dredge in Australian waters, the "Matthew Flinders," built by Mort's Dock and Engineering Company, Limited, for the Ports and Harbours Department of the Victorian Government was taken down Sydney Harbour on December 6th for her official trials. The principal dimensions are:—Length between perpendiculars, 233ft.; breadth, moulded, 37ft.; depth, moulded, 16ft. 6in. Mr. Kermode, the engineer-in-chief of the Department of Ports and Harbours, Melbourne, and Mr. Nicholas, the naval architect, were highly gratified with the results.

Sisters Murdered in Melbourne.

Mary and Julia Cummins, two sisters at 58, Shiel Street, North Melbourne, were killed on December 9th, and their brother, John Cummins, a single man, aged 51 years, who lived in the same house, was afterwards arrested on a charge of murder. In each case the victim had been knocked down with a hammer and her throat was cut. When arrested, Cummins, who was apparently in a demented state, was walk-

ing about the street and telling people what he had done. He was remanded to the Melbourne Goal Hospital till December 17th, to undergo treatment for nervous breakdown.

A Gross Offence in Perth.

John Doherty and Sidney George Taylor were sentenced in the Perth Criminal Court to imprisonment for life with hard labour for an offence on a married woman, Emily Lawson, at East Perth, on June 28th. Mr. Justice Rooth said he could not conceive of a worst case, and unless he had heard the evidence he could not have believed that two men calling themselves Britishers could have submitted a defenceless woman to such maltreatment. On descending to the cells from the dock, Doherty sang "It's a long, long way to Tipperary," in a loud voice.

State Retrenchment in Victoria.

The Victorian State Ministry is hopeful of being able to effect substantial savings in public expenditure. The Premier (Mr. Bowser) stated on December 12th that some economies had already been effected and

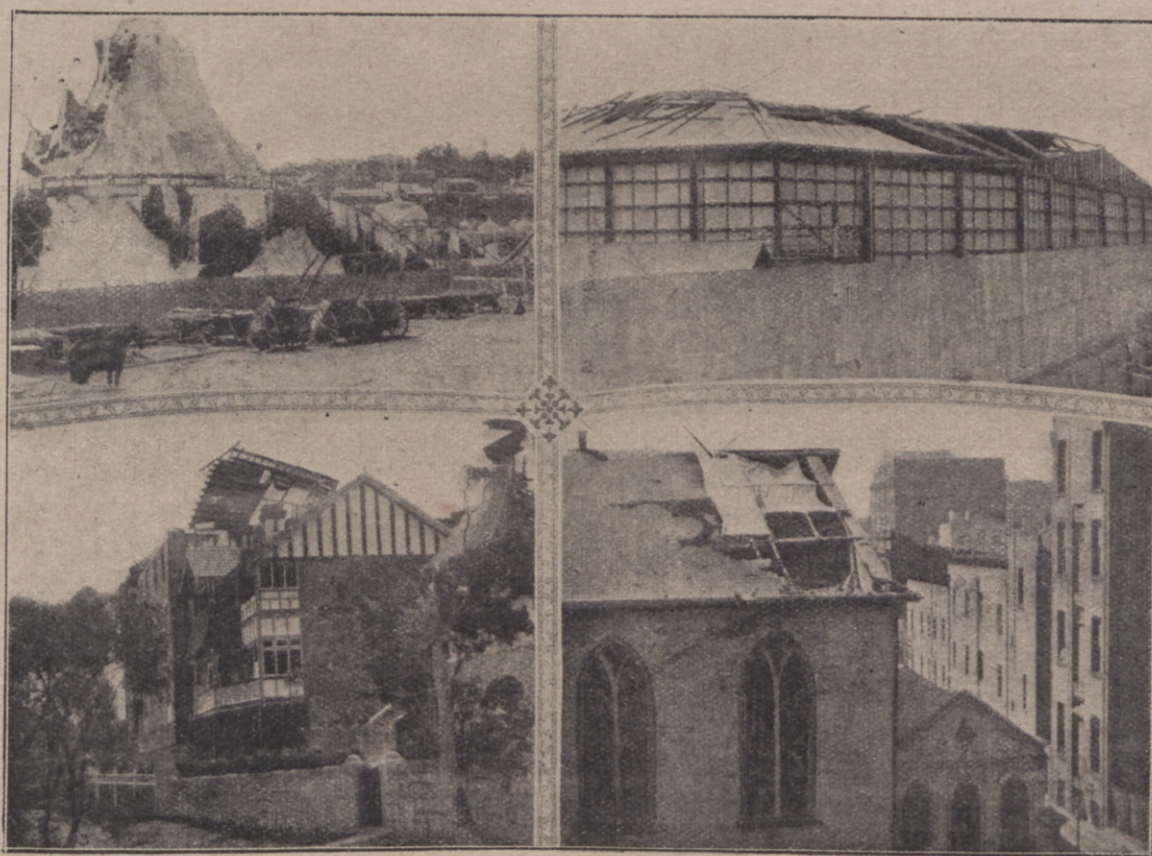
action to bring about further savings would be taken almost immediately. The Estimates submitted by the late Treasurer (Sir Alexander Peacock) would be presented when the Legislative Assembly resumed, but the Treasurer (Mr. McPherson) would indicate in a financial statement directions in which savings would be made.

Price Fixing in Victoria.

The Victorian Minister for Agriculture has stated that he will oppose any price-fixing which fell only on the producers. The difference between the ordinary price and the fixed price should be borne by the whole of the State. He had no objection to a fixation of prices on that basis.

No "Corky Scab" in Victoria.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Oman) announced on December 10th that after having consulted with departmental experts, he had decided that the embargo on Tasmanian and King Island Potatoes should stand. The importation into Victoria had been prohibited on account of the outbreak of corky scab. There was no ground for the statement that corky scab existed in Victoria.



Damage done by a gale in Sydney recently.

1. The White City was knocked about considerably.
2. The roof of the Stadium suffered.
3. Home at Cremorne that caught the full force of the wind.
4. Scots Church, on Church Hill, had a portion of the roof hurled away.

Back from Germany.

Experiences of Australian Prisoners.

Our Red Cross Correspondent writes:—

The wounded prisoners of war who were recently repatriated to England include 43 Australians, and a close examination of their statements has enabled the officers of the Australian Red Cross Society to gain reliable information as to the conditions prevailing at the present time in many of the camps where Australians are interned.

Despite the discomforts and hardships of prison life, the men look, comparatively speaking, well, and they report that those left behind are in excellent spirits and full of confidence that victory and peace are not far distant.

Complaints of ill-treatment at the hands of their captors are rare, and, where punishment has been inflicted, careful inquiry has generally shown that the victims have been guilty of some breach of discipline—the stringency of camp regulations are natur-

ally irksome to high-spirited men, and the temptations to escape have landed many Australians in trouble. Naturally the administration of the camps differs with the temper of the commandant, but, on the whole, no serious allegations against the authorities are made.

Bad Food Conditions in Camps.

On the other hand, there is absolute unanimity among the men that the food conditions in the camps are almost intolerable, and were it not for the parcels sent by the Australian Red Cross, our boys are convinced that they would not have survived. Most of the men, however, admit that it would be hardly fair to blame the authorities for the insufficiency of food, for, as one of them said, "They don't fare any better themselves, and our rations are a fair measure of the food situation in Germany generally. England is a land of

plenty in comparison." In the morning the men are served with a portion of black bread, which must last for the day, and they are given "coffee" to drink with it. All agree that this "coffee" is more like burnt barley and water than the genuine article. At mid-day vegetable soup is provided, but apparently it is not very nourishing. There is more "coffee" in the afternoon, and at night soup—sometimes barley soup and sometimes vegetable soup is available. Meat is very rarely, if ever, an ingredient of soup as served to prisoners of war.

The Society's officers were able to learn from the men some interesting facts as to the arrival of parcels, and it is satisfactory to know that they were received, generally speaking, in good order, and that their contents were well suited to the needs of men.

A Family of M.C.'s.

Mr. W. A. Horn, of Wimbledon Park House, has five sons serving, four in the Army and one in the Navy, as well as a son-in-law and a brother-in-law. Major Kelham Kirk Horn, R.F.C., and Captain Spencer Bertram Horn, R.F.C., have both won the Military Cross and Mons Star. Captain Trevor Langdale Horn, Lancers, has won the M.C. and Mons Star, and been mentioned in despatches. Mr. Horn's brother-in-law, Commander F. W. Belt, in charge of armoured cars, has been awarded the D.S.O. and two Russian decorations. Major Bell, A.S.C., who has been a prisoner in Germany since the early days of the war, is Mr. Horn's son-in-law.

Lieut. W. Denny.

Bill Denny the first and only M.P. from South Adelaide, to reach the firing-line, is a good sample of the Australian who does things. After leaving the Christian Bros. College in Adelaide, he began as a junior in the Telegraph Department, and became clerk. The editorship of the "Southern Cross" becoming vacant Denny applied for the billet with such persistence that, with no journalistic experience, but possessing a facile pen, he got the job. He made good and the paper prospered. Looking to politics he pushed into the City Council at 23, and put up for Parliament about the same time in opposition to Kingston and E. L. Batchelor at West Adelaide. Kingston was Premier at the time and Batchelor leader of the Labour party. At the last moment they joined forces, however, and Denny was defeated. But he put up such an amazing fight that he scored 1,600 against Kingston and Batchelor's 2,200 each. Shortly



Captured cupola and machine-gun near "Sterling Castle."
(Australian Official Photograph.)

after this Kingston resigned, and left his goodwill with his young opponent, who won easily. J. H. Gordon (now judge) advised him to study law. Resigning his editorship he matriculated and had passed the necessary legal exams. a year before the expiration of his articles. Almost at once he became Attorney-General in the

Verran Government. Deciding to follow the call, he enlisted as a private, soon won a commission and lately a Military Cross. Between times he has been captain and stroke at the Commercial Rowing Club, a keen cricketer and footballer, and of recent years an A.R.C. steward.

—"Sydney Bulletin."

GENERAL CABLES—continued.

An Arbitration Bill has been introduced in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly which provides for a secret ballot, prohibits anyone declaring articles "black," and also provides insurance against unemployment. The funds of the trade unions are to be held for penalties only. Strikes by Government employees will henceforth be considered illegal.

Mr. John Bowser, Premier of Victoria, speaking in the Legislative Assembly, stated that the Government, which had been elected upon the issue of economy, had already succeeded in making gross savings of nearly £200,000. The time was overdue, the Premier remarked, for the abolition of the expensive office of Agent-General, for whom should be substituted a Trade Commissioner.

Great Anzac Raid.**Heavy Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.**

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

General Headquarters,

Monday, 10 a.m.

A successful raid was carried out last night by Australian troops against the German positions south-east of Messines. In addition to other casualties inflicted on the enemy, twenty-eight prisoners were captured by us.

LATE BRITISH OFFICIAL.

Monday, 9.25 p.m.

The number of prisoners captured by the

Australian troops engaged in last night's raid south-east of Messines (reported in this morning's communiqué) is thirty-seven. Three German machine-guns and a trench mortar were also brought back to our lines.

The casualties inflicted on the enemy were heavy. In addition to losses caused by our preliminary bombardment it is estimated that 100 Germans were killed by our raiding party. A counter-attack delivered by the enemy was successfully repulsed. We had some twenty casualties.

Hostile artillery has shown intermittent activity during the day south-west and west of Cambrai. In this area a number of German working parties were engaged with effect by our batteries.

Australia's New Official Secretary in London.

Mr. E. A. Box has been appointed Official Secretary of the Commonwealth of Australia in London, in succession to Captain R. Muirhead Collins, who recently retired.

Mr. Box, who is 32 years of age, entered the Commonwealth service in 1903. He was Private Secretary to three successive Postmasters-General, and later on Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of Australia.

In 1916 he came to London for special duty with Mr. Andrew Fisher, and acted as Private Secretary to the High Commissioner.

A Poet of the Anzacs.

One of the strongest poets of the A.I.F. whom the war has inspired is Leon Gellert, whose "Songs of a Campaign," published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1917, is now in its third edition. The following Shakesperian sonnet, on perhaps the most familiar theme of war poems: the sacrifice of young life, is a good specimen of his style:—

I mind they told me on a noisy hill,

I sat and disbelieved, and shook my head:

"Impossible! Impossible! But still

These other men have died, and others
bled."

Knees clasped, I sat and thought, unheeding
war;

The trees, the winds, the streets came
back to me,

The laughter of his eyes, his home afar,

The memory of his hopes, his buoyancy,

His dreams, his jests, his moods of wistful-
ness,

The quaintness of his speech, his favourite
song;

And this and this the end so pitiless!

The man we knew! The man we knew
so long!

—To die—be dead—no more—and this
was he!

I rose and oiled my rifle, musingly.

The Broken Hill Jockey Club race meeting on December 8th was boycotted by the trades unions.



General Allenby thanking the Commander of the French troops for his help in taking Jerusalem.



**The way to radiate happiness
is to be happy — the way to be
happy is to cultivate good health**

An easy way to cultivate good health and happiness is to acquire certain simple habits of life. The Kruschen Habit is a simple habit, yet it makes for health and happiness as nothing else does — for it cleanses the system, braces the nerves, and alters one's whole view of life. "Kruschen Salts," it has been well said, "makes a million optimists a day!" Again, "The difference between an optimist and a pessimist is a dose of Kruschen Salts."

True sayings, both — a physician, writing recently in a well-known medical journal, means much the same thing when he says, "Kruschen Salts — which, by the way, is and has been all along a purely British product, emanating from Manchester, I have great respect for, as some hundreds of patients have found it 'just the thing'." If (as who does not?) you wish to know good health and the happiness that health alone confers, try Kruschen Salts — you, too, will find it "just the thing."

Get the habit—keep it That's the secret

KRUSCHEN SALTS—all-British for 160 years—is sold at 1s. 6d. per bottle by every Chemist in the British Isles, and is also obtainable at all B.E.F. Canteens. All high-class Chemists throughout Australia, New Zealand, and the Islands supply Kruschen Salts—but in case of difficulty a post-card to either of the Wholesale Distributing Agents mentioned below will bring the name of the nearest Chemist stocking Kruschen Salts:—

Australia—H. & W. Gear, 287-289 Clarence Street, Sydney.

New Zealand—Fairbairn, Wright & Co., Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, Auckland.

Sole Manufacturers—E. Griffiths Hughes (Kruschen) Ltd. 68 Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, England.

My Friend, G.R.B.

Brief as his youth, the message came,
 Just, "Killed in action"—then no more,
 A hero! yet unknown to fame,
 True to the name he bore.
 How often have I seen him run
 With nerve that brave men do acquire,
 To tend, ere half the fight begun,
 The wounded under fire.

God! when I think of him, the tears
 Well from their deeps and flood my eyes—
 The memory of the vanished years!
 The man that silent lies!
 My soul is filled with aching bliss,
 My sinews tighten and extend,
 And, oh! my proudest thought is this—
 To think he was my friend!

L.-Cpl. REGINALD J. GODFREY,
 No. 2 Aus. Aux. Hosp.

**The Conscription Referendum.
 Incidents in the Campaign.**

Sydney, 18th December.

On the eve of Referendum Day (December 20th) the whole of Australia is agitated to a degree unprecedented in the history of the Commonwealth. The campaign has been fought furiously on both sides, and the Prime Minister has travelled the length and breadth of the Continent addressing tremendous meetings, favourable and otherwise. Queensland gave him the worst reception, and the Hughes-Ryan dispute, which commenced with the seizure of the "Hansards" by order of the Prime Minister, and continued with actions and cross-actions between the two politicians, has roused great hostility in the Mother State. At Warwick Mr. Hughes was roughly used by a rioting mob, and, in order to protect himself, gave his alleged assailant in charge, but the sergeant refused to make an arrest. The sequel to this incident was the installation of a Federal Police Force in Queensland, manned by returned soldiers who have offered their services. The Federal Police will be also appointed to the principal towns in New South Wales.

The Prime Minister is spending the last few days of the campaign in New South Wales, and addressed a monster meeting in the Town Hall on the night of the 18th instant. He has declared emphatically that if the Referendum decides against Conscription he will refuse to carry on. This declaration opens up immense possibilities, for the general belief is that the "Noes" will carry the day. At the date of writing the case, *Ryan v. Hughes*, is being heard in the High Court of Australia, the plea being that "William Morris Hughes, Prime Minister for Australia and Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, be committed to prison for contempt of Court." The counsel for the applicants announced in Court that Mr. Hughes had not accepted service and did not appear, and an order was made by



Military Expressions Illustrated.
 "As you were."

His Honour, Mr. Justice Barton, for the motion to stand over and leave given to applicants to give respondent seven days' notice of motion.

Ships for Australia being Built in America.

In the course of his speech on the Conscription Referendum in Sydney on November 14th, the Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes) said:—"The welfare of Australia depends upon the disposal of her products overseas. What would have been the position of Australia if she had been deprived of a sum of more than £140,000,000, which the sales of produce and metals to England have meant to her? The key to the whole position is shipping.

"We must build ships, and more ships, and still more ships. It is proposed to build vessels in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania.

"The Government, recognising that there would necessarily be considerable delay before ships could in the most favourable circumstances be constructed in Australia, and that the need for ships was very urgent, decided to place orders with the United States of America for fourteen ships, which are now being built there for the Commonwealth Government. These ships will help to remove our wheat, and to fill the places of some of those sunk by the Huns. In order to assist immediately in relieving the urgent shipping requirements of Great Britain, the Government has detached seven large steamers, aggregating about 50,000 tons, from the coast, and placed them at the dis-

posal of the British Government. The withdrawal of this tonnage from Australian waters means that fewer ships must handle the coastal business of the Commonwealth. If this is to be done—and it must be done—then those absurd restrictions imposed by the unions upon their members must be removed. The price of freights has risen in other parts of the world by many hundreds per cent., but the freights on the Australian coast have not been increased by one penny. That is what the Government has done in regard to shipping. I leave it to the electors to say whether or not we have fulfilled our pledges."

First Aerial Post to Adelaide.

The Victorian Aviator, R. Graham Carey, flew from Enfield, Victoria, to Gawler, South Australia, on November 23rd, with mails containing 67 postal articles, which were subsequently handed in to the G.P.O. at Adelaide.

He got the Birds.

"What sort of a birdcage is that?" asked the new chum on a Lachlan run, when he first saw a lobster-pot. They explained its use, and suggested that if he took the trouble to bait and set the trap in the river he might get something interesting. Next morning the discharge of a gun was heard, and on going down to investigate they found that the new chum at the first attempt had made an unexpected haul. He had four large lobsters in the cage, and was shooting them.

War Honours for the A.I.F.

The following are the statements of service for which the undermentioned decorations were conferred:—

Bars to Distinguished Conduct Medals.

1915 C.Q.M.S. C. C. Garratt, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led forward a section to the attack on an enemy machine-gun post which was holding up the advance, capturing the gun, and destroying the garrison. During the consolidation he displayed the greatest coolness and disregard of danger under intense fire, and set a magnificent example to all. (D.C.M. gazetted 18th June, 1917.)

75 C.S.M. T. Kennedy, M.G. Corps.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of ration and ammunition supplies during the operations. He worked almost continually day and night getting supplies forward, and set a fine example of fearlessness to his men. (D.C.M. gazetted 3rd July, 1917.)

1422 Sgt. D. Poole, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O., noticing an enemy machine-gun, which had come into action after the barrage and first wave had passed, immediately rushed the post single-handed, captured the gun, killed the crew, and took prisoners a large number of the enemy emerging from the pill-box. But for the action of this N.C.O., a large number of casualties would have been caused and the advance held up. (D.C.M. gazetted 18th June, 1917.)

843 C.S.M. J. Burley, Aust. Rail. Oper. Div.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a train. A wagon containing shells was set on fire by hostile shelling, whereupon he uncoupled the remainder of the train and sent it to a safe distance, subsequently returning to the blazing wagon and endeavouring very gallantly to put out the flames. In spite of great efforts he was unsuccessful, and the truck exploded, but his energy had saved the remainder of the train, including a gun which was on board. (D.C.M. awarded S. Africa, 1900.)

989 L.-Cpl. F. Horan, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. He fought his way through several parties of the enemy, killing numbers with his bayonet and capturing others. When the enemy counter-attacked he led his men out to meet them, and broke up the attack before it reached our lines. Early in the operation he was wounded, but refused to leave until the battalion had been finally relieved. (D.C.M. gazetted 3rd June, 1916.)

Distinguished Conduct Medals.

152 Pte. N. Acton, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This man,

acting as company scout, throughout the whole day showed great courage and initiative. He single-handed approached an enemy dug-out, caused eight of them to surrender, and captured a machine-gun. He set a fine example to those near him.

321 Sgt. T. Austin, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He constructed a strong point near the front line under continuous heavy fire, taking charge of the work when his officer was wounded. It was due to his excellent example and control of his men that the work was satisfactorily completed.

6836 L.-Cpl. A. M. Baddon, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. When all his N.C.O.'s were killed or wounded, he collected a party of men and led them to the capture of a strong point which was holding up part of the advance. His prompt and courageous action enabled the advance to continue.

8567 Whr.-Sgt. H. H. Baker, Fld. Arty.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On the guns being moved under shell fire one gun became bogged. This N.C.O. remained under continuous fire until he got the gun cleared. Later, during a hostile counter-attack, when the battery came under heavy fire, he single-handed succeeded in extinguishing fires which had broken out in two of the pits. He subsequently rendered invaluable service in getting the guns back into position at a time when their fire was of the greatest value. His conduct had the greatest effect on the rest of the personnel and is worthy of the highest praise.

128 Sgt. W. Batten, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He successfully completed and wired a strong point under heavy fire. During a counter-attack he got in touch with the troops on his left and kept up communication at great personal risk. He set a magnificent example to his section.

878 Pte. (L.-Cpl.) C. E. Beadon, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Having lost his rifle in an attack, armed only with a shovel he attacked an enemy position single-handed and captured seven prisoners. His work throughout the operations was of the highest standard, and his coolness and gallantry inspired all ranks.

2863 Pte. T. Benoit, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an attack he captured an enemy regimental headquarters, taking four officers and sixty-two other ranks prisoners and securing many valuable documents and maps. He also searched all dug-outs and "pill-boxes" in his vicinity and secured identifications. He showed the greatest gallantry, initiative and courage.

1345 C.S.M. J. Breeze, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When some of his officers became casualties in an attack, he took charge and led their platoons to the attack in a courageous and effective manner. When the line became disorganised owing to casualties he reorganised it by his personal example and the confidence and determination with which he handled his men.

168 C.S.M. F. T. Brent, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. He took command of a party and attacked an enemy strong point, capturing twenty prisoners and two machine-guns. He also rendered valuable assistance in consolidating the captured position, and set a splendid example to his men.

1806 Pte. M. V. Brockfield, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When a gap was made in the line by an enemy counter-attack he rushed forward, rallied a party of men, and filled and held the gap under a heavy barrage. By his conduct in face of heavy opposition at a critical moment, and his courage and determination in the absence of officers, he inspired the men to hold on in a very difficult position.

1894 Sgt. T. Buckley, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On our advance being held up by machine-gun fire from a shell hole he was instrumental in bringing the fire of several rifles and machine-guns to bear on the hostile gun. The position was then rushed, and in the shell hole four guns were captured. On the objective being gained he accomplished splendid work during the consolidation, and set a fine example of coolness and cheerfulness to the men.

1894 Sgt. A. G. Cheney, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in command of a party on the right flank of the brigade, and showed great resource in a difficult position, saving many lives by his skilful dispositions. He personally reconnoitred the ground in advance of his position, gaining valuable information. Later, when the battalion on his right advanced, he maintained communication by establishing two posts under intense fire. He gave the greatest assistance throughout the operations, and showed great coolness, courage and contempt of danger.

610 Sgt. A. W. Clark, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. led his platoon with great dash and set a splendid example to all. When all his company officers had become casualties he took command of his company and handled his men in grand style under very trying circumstances. His conduct was most gallant and inspiring.

War Honours for the A.I.F.—contd.

2935 Cpl. (now 2nd Lieut.) W. Colborne-Veel, M.G. Corps.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his officer became a casualty, by his splendid courage and organisation he rallied his men and got his guns into action at the first objective. When the enemy attempted to turn the flank of his brigade he went forward on his own initiative and broke up the enemy's attack. He cut off a large number of the enemy, who surrendered. By skilful handling of his men he saved many casualties, and set a splendid example of courage and coolness throughout.

5073 Sgt. J. J. G. Colclough, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He constructed a Lewis gun position with great skill under heavy shell fire. When the enemy attacked he handled his men with great coolness, and, though wounded, remained at his post preparing against a flank attack when the enemy had gained a footing in the trenches on his right. He set a magnificent example of courage and determination.

3263 Sgt. (T.-C.S.M.) H. Collins, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He collected a small party and advanced on an enemy blockhouse which was garrisoned by about twenty of the enemy with two machine guns. He reached it, well ahead of his men, in spite of heavy machine-gun fire, threw some bombs into the blockhouse, and entering, forced the enemy out of another entrance into the hands of the men who were following. He set a splendid example of courage and initiative.

2484 Dvr. J. Cooper, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his platoon during an attack when all the N.C.O.'s had become casualties, and led them successfully to the objective. He remained in charge during the consolidation, inspiring his men by his fearless conduct under heavy shell and machine-gun fire. His initiative and example was of conspicuous merit.

4389 Cpl. T. A. Corbett, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He brought his machine-gun team to the objective, and when in position he was wounded. Later, when visiting all his guns, and though buried by a shell, he carried on until ordered away. Owing to casualties in his gun team he crawled back and remained on duty until the battalion was relieved. His courage and coolness went far to keep up the spirits of his men.

1851 L.-Sgt. O. A. Cropley, A.A.M.C.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He worked for long periods in the open under heavy shell fire during an action, showing great coolness and devotion to duty. He not only dressed many cases, but spent all his spare time outside the aid post looking after the comfort of the



A Winter Scene on the Western Front.
(Australian Official Photograph.)

wounded. He has continually done excellent work.

3495 L.-Cpl. R. S. Davies, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While advancing with his machine-gun section during the attack a shell burst, burying the gun. This N.C.O. and one other man were the only men who were not casualties. He recovered the gun and magazines, got the gun into action, whereby severe casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Later, he crawled forward alone through heavy shell fire and disposed of two enemy snipers. He showed great courage and dash throughout the action.

4472 S.M. E. F. Dawson, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in organising the carrying of ammunition and water to the front line and in clearing the wounded from the forward area. Though suffering severely from shell shock, he refused to leave his post until incapacitated. He set a very valuable example to all ranks at a critical time.

2272 Sgt. R. W. Day, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O., when in charge of a reconnoitring patrol, sent out to ascertain the dispositions of the hostile line, brought back valuable information, though attacked by a hostile patrol of superior numbers. By prompt and vigorous action he inflicted sufficient casualties on the latter to force them to withdraw. The information brought in by this and other patrols led by this N.C.O. proved of great value.

18 Sgt. (A.-C.S.M.) R. G. Dobbie, Engrs.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a party

making communications close to the front line. Throughout the day he moved about among his men under fire, encouraging them at their work, and continued to do so even during a heavy enemy barrage and counter-attack. It was owing to his magnificent example and determination that the work was completed.

3084 Pte. H. Eccles, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as runner during an attack. He was the only runner left in his company, and carried out the whole of the work, moving about through enemy barrages regardless of danger, and was more than once buried by shell fire. He guided a relieving unit to their position under a heavy bombardment, and showed the greatest courage and determination throughout.

5366 Sgt. S. G. Facey, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He attacked an enemy machine-gun post, killing three of the garrison and capturing one officer and ten other ranks. On another occasion he captured the whole garrison of an enemy pill-box single handed. He carried out difficult patrols under heavy fire, and rendered very valuable service throughout the operations.

5788 Sgt. C. J. Farnington, Infy.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the consolidation of a captured position his company was suffering heavy casualties from a machine gun in a strong point about 100 yards ahead. He went forward, rushed the position single-handed, and captured the machine and nine prisoners. He showed splendid courage and initiative.

Australians and the War.

What Australia has done.

No Australian can look back on the part the Commonwealth has played thus far without just pride, and the story of the deeds of our soldiers on Gallipoli, at Pozières, Bapaume, Bullecourt, and Messines will thrill the coming generations as it has thrilled us in the living present. We can all of us agree with Senator Pearce in this, but we can never forget that whilst our soldiers were fighting for us and calling for reinforcements—whilst they were dying for us—we at home, when the opportunity was given to us, voted against the only just and the only certain method of providing those reinforcements. And ever since then, for twelve months now, the enlistments under the voluntary system have dwindled and dwindled until now, as the Minister for Defence is compelled to admit, they are less than the casualties and wastage in the fighting ranks. Professor Macintyre, Chairman of the State Recruiting Committee, has stated the position in very striking terms. The enlistments for this year, he tells us, are 25,000 below the requirements. Instead of raising 70,000 men, on the basis of 7,000 a month, which the Prime Minister gave as the minimum that had to be raised to keep our five divisions in France up to full strength, we have only succeeded in raising 45,000. At the present moment, indeed, with five divisions to reinforce, we are raising only a small percentage more than New Zealand, with only one division to keep up, is raising by compulsory means. But that is not all the story. We speak of our five divisions, but in reality we have more men at the front than that. There are the transport and various other units to be considered, and many of these men are deserving of a rest, to say nothing of those of them who by dint of hard work and long hours have perforce had to be removed to hospital. Nor must we forget that we have a large mounted force operating in Palestine. In all, as Senator Pearce told us recently, we have sent over 300,000 men away. Of these some 34,000 have made the supreme sacrifice, whilst 70,000 have been put out of action by wounds or illness.

What, then, is to be done? If the voluntary system of raising men had been as successful as its advocates of twelve months ago assured us it would be, we might have been able to relieve the 5,000 men who remain of the famous First Division and let them have a short spell at home, but we are not even able to do this. Whether or not these veterans of ours would have accepted the offer of relief is beside the question. We have not been able to make the offer to them because we have not the

What is to be done.

men. The situation is so serious that every available man is needed at the front, and yet there are in Australia to-day at least 100,000 fit unmarried men, as well as many thousands of married men of military age and with slight responsibilities. The time has come for strong measures. When the State is in danger it is the duty of its citizens to protect it. The comfort of the individual does not count. The safety of a politician's seat does not count. Nothing counts save the safety of the State. It is because our people do not realise that the State is in real danger that they remain cold and deaf to all entreaty. The time has come when they must be made to realise it. And if, as Sir William Irvine remarks, the Parliament of the country is paralysed for any national effort, a way must be found to remove the paralysis.

—"Sydney Morning Herald."

Wheat Silo Contracts.

The acceptance of the tenders in connection with the construction of country wheat silos and a Sydney terminal elevator involve a sum of £1,172,000. The contracts accepted are:—Sydney terminal elevator: Messrs. Teesdale and Smith. Country silos: No. 1 Section, Messrs. Howie; No. 2 Section, Concrete Steel Contracting Co., Ltd., Adelaide; No. 3 Section, Messrs. Walter G. C. Cooper. Machinery and belt-ings: Messrs. Robinson and Co. Supply of material: Broken Hill Proprietary Co. and Messrs. Hoskins.

"Cranbrook" Auction Sale.

The State Governor's former residence, "Cranbrook," Rose Bay, Sydney, was auctioned on December 1st by order of the State Government. The sale was attended by one of the largest crowds of representative Sydney business people seen at an auction for many years. The house and five acres of land fell to Mr. S. Hordern's bid for £20,000, and the purchaser announced that he had secured the property in the interests of a number of Anglican residents for the establishment of a Church of England Grammar School. Twenty other allotments were offered and were sold for from £33 per foot to £12 per foot, the total sales realising £53,651 10s.

Disastrous Sydney Fire.

A thousand tons of copra, valued at £25,000, were destroyed by fire at the Texas Oil Company's Stores, Greenwich Point, on the night of December 6th. The copra, which was owned by W. R. Carpenter and Co., of Bond Street, was insured for about £23,000.

Anzac Book and A.I.F. Xmas Book.

A final sale of these two famous souvenirs is being made at the present moment by the Committee to the troops.

Copies can still be had by Units, if the orders are sent in soon to The Hon. Sec., Anzac and A.I.F. Book Committees, Headquarters Australian Corps, France. Orders should be sent in at once through the unit, as the distribution of the Committees remaining stock (if any) will be immediately made.

The Anzac Book (Gallipoli) has been stated in the Press to be the finest souvenir published during the war.

The A.I.F. Xmas Book has been described by an authority with the widest experience of all the photographs published during the war, as being "the finest collection of war photographs that I have ever seen."

Soldiers' Settlement.

The Minister for Lands is advised that since July 2nd last 77 applications by returned soldiers have been received for 52,858 acres. To provide 352 holdings for them 22,953 acres have been made available.

A.I.F. Pensions.

The Australian Annual War Bill for Soldiers' Pensions has reached a total of £2,245,991.

Lord Mayorship of Sydney.

Alderman J. Joynton Smith, M.L.C., was elected Lord Mayor of Sydney on December 10th. He defeated his only opponent, Ald. R. C. Hagon, by 15 votes to 11. Alderman Meagher was not a candidate.

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