

# Anzac Bulletin



No. 68. (New Issue).

LONDON, APRIL 26, 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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A good post for the machine-gunners.

## CABLE NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

### The Censorship of Films.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

Mr. Jensen has decided that all films entering Australia shall be viewed. He has appointed Messrs. Black, M.L.C., and Joseph Brown as Censors for Sydney.

### Badge and Medal Qualifications.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

It has been decided that the personnel of the Army Medical Corps enlisted for military service on hospital ships and other vessels, and transport officers on voyage duty only, are not to get returned soldiers' badges unless they have landed for service in England, Egypt, or other bases of war operations, or have been invalided. Badges already issued are not recalled. The authorities state they cannot differentiate between A.I.F. soldiers who have actually fought and those who have served on communication lines. After the war, medals will be issued to all who have been on service, with clasps for those who have been in action.

### Charges against Mr. Catts Dismissed.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

Mr. Catts, M.H.R., was charged under the War Precautions Act, at Melbourne City Court, with making statements likely to prejudice His Majesty's relations with other Powers. The statements were made in the House of Representatives during the "no-confidence" debate. Mr. Catts ordered 5,000 copies of his speech in pamphlet form. These were subsequently seized in Parliament House by the military. The magistrate, Mr. Moore, dismissed the case, holding that the statements were unlikely to prejudice relations with foreign Powers. Mr. Catts was further charged with procuring Mr. Mullett, the Government printer, to commit an offence in printing a publication without submission to the Censor. This charge was also dismissed. No costs were allowed to the defence.

### Demonstrations for the Troops.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

Mr. Orchard intends to supersede the system of quietly despatching troops at an early hour in the morning. The men are to be given a send-off in a befitting manner, with a parade through the streets and a public demonstration. Returning troops will also be welcomed home on a much more elaborate scale. They will be received at the railway stations or wharves with bands, and street processions to their destinations will be formed.

### The New South Australian Parliament.

Adelaide, 10th April (delayed).

Further returns of the South Australian elections show that the Treasurer, Mr. Butler, has regained his seat by a small majority. The strength of the parties is: Constitutionists 27, Labour 18, Farmers' and Settlers' Association 1. The following candidates have been elected:—Adelaide district, Messrs. Denny, Gunn and Edwards; North Adelaide, Messrs. Anstey and Ponder; Port Adelaide, Messrs. Prince and Verran, Junior; West Torrens, Messrs. Blackwell and McInnes; Sturt, Messrs. Blackburn, Smeaton and Vardon; East Torrens, Messrs. Coneybeer, Hamilton and Southwood; Alexandra, Messrs. Ritchie, Laffer and Peake; Wallaroo, Messrs. Richards and Pedler; Yorke Peninsula, Messrs. Tossell and Allen; Port Pirie, Messrs. Hill and Fitzgerald; Stanley, Messrs. Nicholls and Barwell; for other districts the returns are incomplete.

### Great Loyalty Meeting in Melbourne.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

At a monster loyalty demonstration in Melbourne Exhibition Building, it was estimated that over 40,000 were present. There were twenty speakers, including merchants, teachers, clergymen, professors, writers, doctors, and other workers, who spoke from four platforms. The audience sang patriotic songs and waved thousands of flags. They unanimously passed two resolutions: first, "That at this moment, when the men of our race were dying for freedom by the thousand, in the most stupendous battle known to history, this meeting affirms its passionate loyalty to the ideal for which their sacrifice had been made, and to that Empire which throughout Australia's existence has secured her in liberty, honour and prosperity, and which now stands before the world as the champion of civilisation, and of all that makes it precious to mankind." The second resolution was, "That this meeting records its keen gratification that the Commonwealth Government has created fresh powers for the suppression of disloyal utterances, demonstrations, and emblems, and hopes that in the highest interests of Australia there will be swift and drastic action should offences be repeated. The meeting also affirms its conviction that the vast majority of Australians are loyal to their country and to the motherland, and would eagerly support the Government in any measures taken against traitors who are striving for the disruption of the Empire, on which Australia's life and liberty depend."

### The Unwritten Law.

Adelaide, 11th April (delayed).

At the Adelaide Court, William Miller, a railway employee, has been found not guilty of the murder of Charles Mills, a tramway motorman. Miller stated he found his wife in Mills' arms on Henley Beach, and shot both, wounding his wife and killing Mills, who was a stranger. Miller has a family of four boys. Judge Buchanan first refused to accept the verdict. The jury retired a second time and returned with the same verdict, and the accused was discharged.

### Strong Speech by Politician's Wife.

Adelaide, 11th April (delayed).

The wife of Corporal J. H. Vaughan, a defeated Nationalist candidate at the South Australian elections, speaking at the declaration of the poll, said her husband was no longer a member of the Legislative Council, but he remained a member of the Legion of Chivalry. No elector, council, conference, or party could deprive him of that distinction. (Cheers.) She made no apology for the absence of her husband. On the contrary, there were probably men present who should apologise for not being with him. Those who with singular lack of chivalry had deprived her husband of his seat in Parliament lost more than he. Her concern might be lest ingratitude, more strong than traitors, should vanquish or discourage him in the awful task still before him at the front, but she knew he was made of braver stuff. (Loud cheers.)

### War-Loan Lotteries Sanctioned.

Melbourne, 16th April.

A new War Precautions Regulation sanctions lotteries to raise war-loan money, if the Treasurer consents.

### Mr. Peake on South Australian Elections.

Adelaide, 16th April.

Mr. Peake, commenting on the South Australian elections, stated that the last Parliament included 26 Labourites and now has 18.

### New Zealand Parliament and the War.

Wellington, 17th April.

Parliament has refused to grant leave of absence to Mr. Webb, the Labour member of the House of Representatives, who was recently sentenced to two years' imprisonment for disobeying military orders. His seat therefore becomes vacant.—(Reuter.)

## Recruiting in Australia.

### Governor-General Calls Conference.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Recruiting Conference convened by the Governor-General was opened at Government House yesterday. Forty representatives were present out of forty-five invited. The Commonwealth was represented by Mr. J. Cook, Mr. Hughes being absent on account of illness.

Those present included Mr. Tudor, Senators Millen and Gardiner, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Mr. Orchard, Minister for Recruiting, General Mackinnon, Director-General for Recruiting, Mr. Fairbairn, President of the Central Council of Employers. Each State Premier and Leader of Opposition was present, also most of the States' leaders of Political Labour, Industrial Labour and Employers' Organisations. The Press was not present.

A report officially supplied showed that Sir R. Munro Ferguson, in opening the conference, said that the readiness of those present to put aside all considerations of personal convenience in order to attend was a proof that their view of the gravity of the emergency coincided with his. There was a growing desire among all sections to close their ranks and face the national crisis with a united front. After referring to the situation on the West Front, he said the Imperial Government had issued an urgent appeal to the Dominions for reinforcements. The Anglo-Saxon race was unanimously determined to fight the war to a victorious finish. Australia was convinced of the necessity to overthrow German militarism, but there was a discrepancy between Australia's will-power and man-power, and this meeting had to consider how to bring the two into harmony.

The Chief Justice, Sir Samuel Griffiths, had reported before the great assault that a certain number of men were needed to replace existing shortages and for reinforcements. The position, now more serious, was sufficiently grave to justify sinking public and personal antipathies in one supreme united effort to find an issue from the impasse, so that Australia's name should stand high in honour when peace came. Voluntary enlistments had been definitely adopted by Australia. "Do not," he said, "let us waste one word regretting it or explaining the reasons for that decision, but rather bend all our energies towards devising means for making the voluntary system a success."

General Mackinnon was elected Chairman and Sir George Steward Secretary. The Conference is proceeding.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Recruiting Conference was suspended

yesterday while the Premiers consulted with Mr. Hughes regarding proposals by Mr. Tudor. The conference resumes to-day.

### More Enlistments in all States.

Melbourne, 10th April (delayed).

The enlistments of last week show an improvement in all States over the previous week.

### Trades Halls and Recruiting.

Melbourne, 16th April.

The Victorian and Queensland Trades Hall Councils decline to participate in the Governor-General's recruiting conference. The Victorian Branch of the Australian Labour Party decided to send a delegate.

### Man-Power in Australia.

Melbourne, 16th April.

The Commissioner for Railways states that it is not intended to comb out all eligible railway employees, but that a list of these will be furnished to the recruiting authorities.—(Reuter.)

### Improvement in Enlistments.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The enlistments last week show further improvement. The Sportsmen's Committee announced its quota of recruits had been secured. Mr. Billingsley, an anti-conscription leader in the Blayney district, has enlisted in Carmichael's Contingent.

### Recruiting in Sydney.

Sydney, 17th April.

A mass meeting in Martin Place, Sydney, on Friday, addressed by the State Governor, Sir W. Davidson, the Lord Mayor, Captain Carmichael, and Sergeant Howell, to raise men for Carmichael's Thousand, resulted in 120 volunteers. The Lord Mayor promised £500 to the first member of Carmichael's Thousand winning the V.C. and £200 for the first D.C.M. Mr. David Storey agreed to insure one recruit for £500. Mr. Storey, Assistant Minister, said in his private opinion the Imperial Government should pass an Act conscripting the whole forces of the Empire, including Ireland and Australia.

### War-Time Football in Victoria.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Victorian Football Association has decided to await the result of the Recruiting Conference before definitely deciding whether to resume football during the coming season.

### Age of Men in Front Line.

Melbourne, 17th April.

Senator Pearce states that the Govern-

ment is inquiring whether men over 45 have been sent to the firing line.

### At Bay!

#### Governor-General's Stirring Words.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Governor-General, speaking at the Salvation Army People's Service in memory of fallen soldiers, in Melbourne Exhibition Building, referred to the Western offensive, and quoted from Shakespear's "Henry V.":—

"Gentlemen now abed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not  
there,  
And hold their manhood cheap while any speak  
That fought for us upon St. Crispin's Day."

Sir R. M. Ferguson, continuing, said that the British Army standing at bay, undismayed by the avalanche of German divisions, was worthy of the dead whose memory they commemorated, but were those at home worthy of them? This at least was certain, they might count their loss but gain so long as they finished their work, and made it certain that their lives had not been given in vain. The lost lives were those of the men who failed their country in its hour of need, not of those who fell fighting for freedom and righteousness. Might the example of those who gave their years of life so that their country might have centuries of greatness, animate them all to respond to the call of patriotism and honour.

### War Intercessions: Message to Mr. Lloyd George.

Melbourne, 18th April.

War intercession services held daily at St. Paul's Cathedral and Melbourne Town Hall are being well attended. The Town Hall gathering decided to send a cable to Mr. Lloyd George conveying loyal greetings and a fervent prayer for his guidance, wisdom, courage, faith and blessing in this hour of weightiest trial and responsibility, and also urging a universal day of prayer throughout the Empire.

### "Eligibles" being Dismissed.

Sydney, 23rd April.

Several firms in Sydney have issued notices terminating the employment of men eligible for enlistment.

### Recruiting Marches.

Melbourne, 23rd April.

Arrangements have been made to send bodies of A.I.F. troops through Victoria on a recruiting mission.

Mr. Orchard has organised also a spectacular route march from Armidale to Newcastle, New South Wales, covering 52 days.

## Australians in the Great Offensive.

### Blocking the Advance on Amiens.

By F. M. CUTLACK.  
War Correspondents' Headquarters,  
France, April 16th.

It is now possible to state that the Australian divisions hurried down at the beginning of the last week of March to block the German advance on Amiens were the Third and Fourth. The Fourth Division holds the reputation throughout the force as the most travelled Australian Division about France: it has fought in every field, and invariably with the greatest distinction. The Third Division is the newest of all, never having fought outside Flanders. It came to the Somme country with the keenest enthusiasm. Its battalions long withstood the friendly chaff of other divisions as not being "dinkum" Anzacs, because they had never seen the Somme. They had the honour of bestriding the ridge between the Somme and the Ancre in the direct path of the Germans, and were sent in to battle individually as they dismounted from omnibuses. They flung themselves against the enemy advance guards coming on along the Somme with the utmost exultation.

On March 27th and 28th two brigades made a brilliant skirmishing advance south of Mericourt and drove in the enemy's advanced lines, and clearing the large Treux Wood, established a firm, well-sited line running down in the direction of Sailly, which was held against all attacks. In this advance a Tasmanian battalion made a particularly gallant fight.

#### Fourth Division in Action.

North of the Ancre the Fourth Division came into action contemporaneously to the west of Albert, after the magnificent forced march previously described. One of its brigades went in to action to support a tired British Division. This brigade, like the other two west of Albert, met with heavier fighting than the Third Division, especially at Albert, where it was called upon to withstand heavy German massed assaults, especially in the great battle of Dernancourt on April 5th, when, after an all-day fight it threw back the storming infantry of four German divisions.

April 4th and 5th were days which will long live in the history of Australian arms. They were days on which the Germans tried their utmost, with what forces remained to them, to hack their way through to Amiens. On April 4th was the effort south of the Somme against Villers Bretonneux, when the British cavalry and New South Wales battalions fought tooth and nail a heroic battle against great odds.

Their flanks were constantly hard pressed; the town itself, the centre of their position, was deluged with shell-fire; nevertheless, giving ground only by inches, and repeatedly counter-attacking, they finally saved the position, after eighteen hours' fighting, with a magnificent advance of the New South Wales battalion at one o'clock in the morning.

Since that day two New South Wales brigades, among British troops from south of the Somme to the French junction near the River Luce, have repeatedly engaged in skirmishes, wherein a little ground was lost among the woods, but only at the cost of the severest losses to the enemy.

#### Germans Sniped like Rabbits.

The outstanding feature of this fighting is the skill of the Australian soldier with the rifle and machine-gun. Day after day they sniped the Germans in the open like rabbits. The enemy efforts in this locality have lately side-slipped south, and been mainly directed against the French garrison in the village of Hangard, which has been several times taken and retaken.

On the morning of the 12th April the Germans launched a heavy converging attack on the village and moved towards it in one direction obliquely across the front of a New South Wales battalion imme-

### Rifles and Machine Guns.

diately to the left of the French. This manoeuvre was described by our men as either mad or colossal impudence. The artillery wrought havoc on the long enemy columns, which marched as on a divisional parade. It offered a target to our infantry and machine-guns at various points at 250 yards' range. The enemy captured the village, but the French farther on, cheered by the Australians who furnished help on their flanks with machine-guns, advanced and dug in later the same evening, and attacked and retook the village.

### Germans Caught Napping.

#### Skirmishes in a Wood.

By F. M. CUTLACK.  
War Correspondents' Headquarters,  
France, April 18th.

During the last fortnight's fighting in the woods and undulating fields between Villers-Bretonneux and Hangard to the south of the Somme have been mainly heavy skirmishing in which New South Wales troops have taken a particularly active part. This skirmishing is not little rushes of riflemen as in former wars, but deadlier combats between small parties of light machine-guns, wherein those who first reach a point of



Salving perishable goods in a deserted French village.

(Australian Official Photograph.)



Australian Tunnelling Corps setting out to wire a new Defence Line.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

vantage sweep the whole locality with streams of bullets. One Lewis gun sniper is often able to defeat a whole hostile platoon. Australians are a good match for the enemy advanced posts in this form of warfare, which is carried out well in front of the main defensive lines of each side. While skirmishers contend in these violent little engagements, the artillery field heavies of the opposing armies shell the rear lines and batteries incessantly. This feature also of our work is certainly superior to the enemy's, owing to the fine work in the air. Our aeroplanes are flying over and reconnoitring and directing the artillery all day and every day, while the enemy aeroplanes appear over our positions on rare occasions, and then only at enormous heights in the daytime, or after dark if they venture to fly low.

The enemy is undoubtedly collecting his forces for a further battle. The advanced skirmishes above mentioned furnish many incidents of the daring and resource of our soldiers.

#### Sleeping Foe Surprised.

On Monday morning at 3 o'clock a.m. a small detachment of New South Wales men undertook an enterprise against a wood which was believed to be lightly held. Contrary to expectation the enemy had moved in here a great force, probably intending to attack later. The Australians caught them asleep under waterproof sheets and tarpaulins. A party estimated to number 150 Germans, sleeping along a hedge were first surprised, and after a hurried effort to resist, the remainder

surrendered. Then in the wood beyond the garrison, several hundreds were encountered half awake. They probably outnumbered the Australians ten fold, but our men had the advantage of the dark and the surprise, and shot down many while groping for their rifles. A few surrendered, others fled beyond the wood.

Two hours later the Germans, counter-attacking on several sides in heavy strength, regained the wood, capturing a number of our party cut off inside. For half a mile north of the wood there is a broad ploughed field sloping down a valley with banked country and tracks cross-cutting.

Simultaneously with the attack on the wood, two other small parties of New South Welshmen skirmishing here engaged and routed considerable numbers of Germans who also were caught asleep. One party was heavily counter-attacked by fresh enemy forces at dawn and obliged to withdraw, after killing eighty of the enemy, actually counted. The other party, revealed by a flare which unluckily fell in their midst, withstood for a short time machine-gun fire at twenty-five yards range, then retired.

#### An Exciting Experience.

One New South Wales country lad belonging to this party did not hear the order to retire, and found himself, at daylight, alone in the shelter of a plough furrow with five dead comrades near him, and large numbers of Germans coming up the road. He lay still all day till 2 o'clock next morning, then got up, uncertain of his direction, and finally found himself in a sunken road

among Germans. One seized his arm, calling out to his comrades while endeavouring to reach a spade which was the nearest weapon. The Australian wrenched himself free and retraced his tracks to the friendly furrow, and finally found his way back to his own lines.

## Enemy Intrigue. Spurious German "Sympathy."

By C. E. W. BEAN.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,  
France, April 18th.

Some time before the German offensive started several of us were told by one of the authorities that the German attack was expected about the date when it actually started; that it would consist of at least three drives—a heavy blow at Cambrai, a lesser one at Armentieres, and a third great attack at a certain other point. The object of the Germans was then definitely stated to be to pin down the British army by heavy blows in order to render it unable to help the French, thus splitting British and French peoples and Governments. Also, it was plainly stated that the Germans hoped more from the moral split than from the physical effort. The Germans, of course, are trying every means they can think of to create such a split at the present moment.

After casting two-thirds of their whole strength against the British, they are proclaiming to the French, through their wireless and their war correspondents, that the British are unable to fight and are losing French territory, and so forth.

Meanwhile, a deliberate part of this plan consists in bombarding Parisians with a long-range gun, and the creation of all possible disturbance and anxiety amongst the French inhabitants along the whole front. This policy leaves no stone unturned in order to create dissension, with the simple view of defeating us as they defeated the Russians, and as a part of it the Germans are now again trying to sow dissension between Britain and the Dominions.

#### Seeds of Dissension.

German war correspondents have been instructed to proclaim that Britain, as usual, is placing colonial troops in the hardest and most difficult positions. Of course, this ponderous sympathy is handed out to us with the sole object of delivering us a crushing blow on the head if we fell into the trap, but it is worth while to state frankly what truth there is as to the employment of dominion troops during the present battle.

So far from placing dominion troops in the most dangerous parts of the line, Sir Douglas Haig, though he knew where the attacks were coming, had only English, Scottish and Irish troops there. One is inclined to believe this was done deliberately from a sort of pride, for the same reason which caused only troops from the British Isles to be employed in the opening stages of the battles on the Somme and at Ypres. No Australian, Canadian or New Zealand troops were involved in that first tremendous bombardment and massed assault.

#### "Beyond Human Endurance."

The history of that great battle, as of all great battles, was that at certain points in every stage of it there were found units ready to fight beyond all human endurance, ready to go on fighting without the hope of assistance, without even the chance that any living being except the enemy would ever hear or know of their grand sacrifice and deeds.

Such men as they in every great war have altered the course of history. On the sixth day of the battle Australian Divisions began to be thrown in as an important part of the British reserves in the southern battle, since when they have shown, especially at Albert and Villers-Bretonneux, that they are such stuff as can do what the third British Division and Fifty-sixth Division did at Arras, and the Fifty-seventh Division did at Givenchy and the Ninth Division did beyond Peronne; and for the second time they were thrown in at the desperate counter-attack on the old battlefield of Messines.

Australian troops far prefer to be classed as they are classed, with divisions which made these glorious stands, than to accept double-edged compliments which the German throws them with a view to their own ruin.

## Richthofen falls in Australian Lines.

### Possibly to an Australian Bullet.

War Correspondents' Headquarters,  
France, April 22nd.

Baron von Richthofen, one of the most celebrated airmen of the war and idol of Germany, patronised by the Kaiser, and victor in 79 aeroplane combats, was shot down yesterday while flying low inside the Australian lines. The bullet that killed him was probably fired by a Lewis gunner attached to a battery of Australian Field Artillery. Richthofen fell at the end of a severe fight between British and German squadrons. A British airman believes he fired the shot which brought down Richthofen.

Whichever of the two is responsible, Richthofen, while flying a triplane, was shot down when flying very near to the ground, and while himself chasing down a British scout. It was a dramatic end to a great air fight. The German champion crashed, smashing his machine to smithereens. Only one bullet was found in his body, and that straight through the heart, entering the left side.

The fight began when two Australian aeroplanes, out well behind the German lines, suddenly met six enemy machines above them. The Germans dived immediately to attack, sitting on our men's tails. The Australians, turning and firing over

their tails, caused one of the enemy triplanes to fall, apparently out of control. The Australians themselves went down in order to escape. Eventually recovering, they found themselves out of a battle which was proceeding over the Somme between fifteen aeroplanes on either side. A British squadron of fighting scouts had engaged an enemy squadron, whereof the Australians had evidently only met a part. Four German triplanes are believed to have been shot down, but none of the British machines. It was not recognised until Richthofen's dead body was identified that this was his famous circus. The identification is clear from papers and the watch of the deceased.

#### 727 Pairs of Socks!

A correspondent recently sent an extract from a Canadian paper, claiming an Empire record for a Canadian lady who had knitted 523 pairs of socks, and asks for the name and address of an Australian lady who can beat this record. Miss Lucy Nott, daughter of the late Dr. Nott, of Gawler, a native of South Australia, set herself the task of making 1,000 pairs, and, so far, has just finished the 727th pair. She is still working to complete her labour of love.



Australian Troops crossing the Somme Canal.

(Australian Official Photograph.)





An Orderly Retirement towards Albert.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

## IN THE GREAT OFFENSIVE.

### Red Cross and Medical Activities.

Although it was not until the German offensive had been in progress for several days that the Australian troops were moved into a sector of the battle line to help to stem the first German onrush, the Australian Red Cross was from the very outset co-operating with the medical services. Soon after the British retreat had begun an urgent appeal from the front for blankets and stretchers met with a ready response from their French Base Depôt, and motors were at once despatched to the centres at which these articles were required. The problem of rapidly evacuating the wounded must have caused the authorities great anxiety, and every available bed in Australian hospitals was soon requisitioned for the accommodation of British troops. Fortunately everything was in readiness. The hospital staffs were fully prepared, and so far as Red Cross equipment was concerned the stocks on hand were ample to meet the requirements.

### Preliminary Preparations.

As is well known, the German attack had long been expected, and during the protracted lull in the fighting that preceded the great blow it had been possible to make arrangements for meeting emergencies when they arose. Some interesting details

bearing on the preliminary preparations are given in the March report of the Australian Red Cross Commissioner in France. Says the Commissioner: "Until it was known what part or parts of the line they were taking over, it was most difficult to formulate a plan of working; consequently, and in view of the possibility of advance or retreat, arrangements were made to establish a small Mobile Depôt. This placed us in a position to take up, at a few hours' notice, any location that might be indicated by the Australian Medical Services.

Our first act in the undertaking was to despatch several lorry loads of goods to an already established Base Depôt; our intention being to replenish the stocks of the Mobile Depôt from there."

## SPORTING CABLES.

### The A.J.C. Autumn Meeting.

Melbourne, 8th April.

On the concluding day of the A.J.C. five favourites were successful. During the four days £167,583 was invested on the tote. The Government took 7 per cent.—approximately £11,725; club, 3 per cent., or £5,025; the sinking fund, 1 per cent., or £1,675.

Racing Results.—A.J.C. Plate: Lanius 1, Wallace Inginglass 2, Kandos 3. Betting, 5 to 4 on the winner; dividend, 16s. 6d. Won by a short head.

South Australia Tattersall's Autumn Handicap: Weegun 1, Meroo 2, Epistle 3. Won by four lengths. Dividends, £2 5s., £1 16s.

### City Tattersall's Cup, Sydney.

Sydney, 17th April.

Result of the City Tattersall's Cup at Randwick:—Mehi King 1, Rebus, 2, Bronzetti 3. Betting, 7 to 2 against the winner.

### Enemy Shares.

#### Re-assuring Official Statement.

The Australian Minister for Trade and Customs (Mr. Jensen) has issued a re-assuring statement concerning the disposal of enemy shares transferred to Public Trustees and standing on the London registers of Australian companies. It is understood that the number of shares to be sold is not as large as was originally anticipated. Instructions have been given that shares are to be placed on the market in such parcels and at such times as will not affect prices.

### Prime Minister's Son Wounded.

Corporal E. W. Hughes, son of the Prime Minister of Australia, was wounded in the recent fighting in France, and is now in the Beaufort War Hospital, Bristol. Cpl. Hughes has been two years in the Australian Imperial Forces.

# SPORTING NOTES.

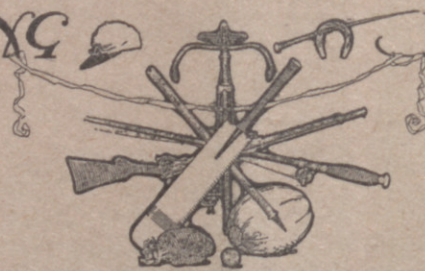
## Geelong Cup.

Rather a well-matched field contested the Geelong Cup, and on the strength of his second to Saracen at Aspendale with 7.12, Telecles at 1lb. less was regarded as the pick of the weights. He opened at 5 to 2, and started at 6 to 4, only, to run badly. Blackwood, ridden by Frank Bullock, came with a fast run from the distance, and won nicely from Manderston and Pretty Bobby, both of whom should score shortly. Blackwood had backing from tens to fives. He is an imported gelding by St. Denis—Miss Touchwood, and is a candidate for the Australian Cup.

## Swimming.

### New World's Record by Miss Durack.

There was a good attendance at the Glenferrie open-air baths, when the Australian Ladies' Championship carnivals were continued under the auspices of the Victorian Ladies' Amateur Swimming Association. The principal event was the 440 yards ladies' championship of Australia. There were five starters, namely, Miss F. Durack, the world's champion, and Miss M. Wylie (N.S.W.), Miss I. Amor (N.S.W.), Miss E. Venning (Queensland), and Miss L. Beaufort (Victoria). An excellent start was effected, and Miss Durack secured the lead early, and won as she wished in 6 min. 39 3-5 sec., which is 13 secs. faster than Miss Durack's previous fresh-water world's record. Miss Durack's achievement is a remarkable performance in that she had practically to make her own pace throughout, and finished 10 yards ahead of Miss M. Wylie, who covered the distance in 7 min. Miss Beaufort was third, in 7 min. 17 sec. The course was 11 laps. The 150 yards handicap, for which there were six entrants, provided an interesting race, and Miss Lawson (Albert Park), (23 sec.), won in 3 min., 42 sec. Miss M. Richardson (Albert Park) was second, and Miss J. Dennis (Albert Park) was third. Miss D. Shoppee (N.S.W.), (20 sec.), won the 80 yards breast-stroke handicap from Miss B. Lovelace (N.S.W.), (18 sec.), and Miss M. Springfield (Queensland), but they were all disqualified for exceeding their time limit. The deciding race was won by Miss L. Beaufort (Victoria), (scr.), who won the diving open handicap from Miss L. Fevver (N.S.W.). Miss A. Steele (St. Kilda), 3 points handicap, was third. The judges subsequently declared it no race. A novelty race, in which the competitors had to swim 40 yards with lighted candles was won by Miss I. Crossley (Victoria), Miss Jessie Evans (N.S.W.), was second, and Miss P. O'Brien (Queensland), was third.



## Motor Cycling.

At the conclusion of the hill climb held by the Victorian Motor Cycle Club, at Wheeler's Hill, sixteen miles from Melbourne, H. A. Parsons, Australia's crack racing motor-cyclist, essayed to reduce the record for the hill—1,158 yds., or a little over six-tenths of a mile, with a grade of from 1 in 5 to 1 in 7—established by J. Booth. Parsons, who rode a 7 h.p. Indian, succeeded in climbing the hill in 35 1-5 sec., or an average of 61 miles an hour—a wonderful performance considering the rough and uneven surface of the road and the severe grade.

## Sandown Park Races.

Imported horses in Jack Annandale and Hispania were successful at Sandown Park on February 9th. Hispania registered her best performance to date in winning the Welter Plate, in which the starters numbered 16. Jack Annandale is engaged in both the Newmarket Handicap and Australian Cup at 7 st. 5 lb. in each race. He is a five-year-old horse by Valens (son of Laveno) from overrated by Althotas. Fairwater, a half-sister to Jack Annandale, was imported to Australia in 1912. She did not race here, and is in Mr. R. M. Hawker's stud in South Australia. Jack Annandale raced in England, where he won at his first start. This race was the Sandown Park Stud Stakes of £1,074 (for two-year-olds). He did not win again that season, nor as a three-year-old.

The "bet of the day" at Sandown Park proved to be Poirino, who won the Welter Purse with great ease. She was a slightly better favourite than Mr. E. A. Connolly's imported colt, Henry the Eighth. The latter had given a circus display on the tracks at Caulfield earlier in the morning. He delayed the start by refusing to go up. When the barrier was released he was in line, but jumped back, and practically took no part in the race. Poirino led all the way, and was followed home by Fierce, who came with a great rattle, but too late, and King's Physician. The winner is a three-year-old filly by Piedmont (imp.) from Roseen by Malster from Princess Ena, by Grafton from Miss Clieveden, by Lochiel. She was narrowly beaten by King's Physician at Geelong, but her only previous win was in a Maiden Plate at Sunbury last season.

## Royal Tennis.

A Royal tennis match has been played in the court of the Hobart Royal Tennis Club, between W. Stone, professional, of the Melbourne Royal Tennis Club, and P. Finch, the Hobart professional. The play lasted two hours and twenty minutes. The individual strokes worked out at 176 for Stone and 156 for Finch, and the games were 26 to 20.

## Hurdles at Flemington.

It has been decided by the V.R.C. committee to use at Flemington similar hurdles to those at Randwick. The new hurdles, a pattern of which was made at Flemington for the inspection of the works committee, have a padded batten 9 inches in width on the top. Instead of being driven into the ground the hurdles stand on "legs," and are easily moved from place to place. Though more formidable-looking than the battens now in use, they are considered a great improvement.

## Trans-continental Record.

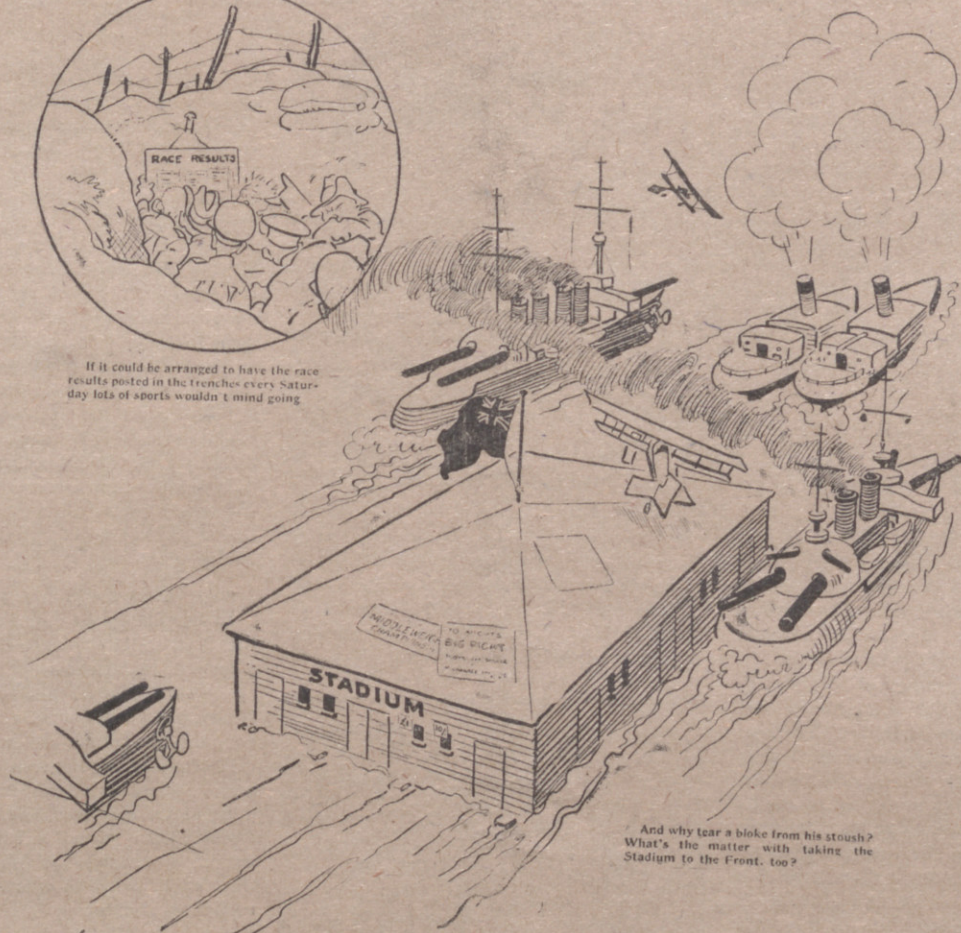
Messrs. J. L. Burton and T. Smith, two West Australian motorists, who left Fremantle recently, on a trans-continental record motor run *via* Broken Hill to Sydney, reached that city, over a distance of 2,600 miles, in seven days and two and a half hours, which easily is the fastest journey from west to east. They drove a Model N Hupmobile, shod with Barnet Glass Boomerang tyres, and came through without trouble.

## Boxed in Berlin.

"Joe," the Wirths' popular clown, is exchanging his capacious spotted garments for khaki. Joseph Bannister is his unprofessional name, and he has followed his strenuous calling for 23 years, 15 of them in Germany. While in Berlin he tried to popularise British methods of boxing, and asked permission to run a stadium. He gave an exhibition at Potsdam Palace, but Wilhelm, after watching for a couple of rounds, decided that there was not enough frightfulness in the game, and with a gesture of contempt walked away. At the Anglo-American Club, Berlin, Joe had a bout with Prince Eitel and did some damage to the royal countenance. Next morning he received an urgent official tip to get out of the country in twenty-four hours. He got. Now he reckons he'll return *via* Broadmeadows.



If it could be arranged to have the race results posted in the trenches every Saturday lots of sports wouldn't mind going.



And why tear a bloke from his stoush? What's the matter with taking the Stadium to the Front, too?



Bearing in mind our great national ability at barracking, the promise of a grandstand or two on the battlefield ought to prove a considerable attraction.

LOW

To Help Voluntary Recruiting.

(From "Sydney Bulletin.")

# GENERAL AUSTRALIAN NEWS

## War Repatriation.

It is reported from Sydney that arrangements are being completed for the payment of moneys due to New South Wales in connection with the Soldiers' Settlement Scheme. The fact that some 2,000 Australian soldiers have married in the United Kingdom having been communicated to the State Premier by the Agent-General in London has elicited from Mr. Holman the information that the benefit of assisted passages to Australia is extended to their wives.

## One Gaol One Prisoner.

Although there is only one prisoner in the Beechworth Gaol, which involves the expenditure of about £1,000 a year, a deputation from the Beechworth Shire Council informed the Chief Secretary (Mr. Bowser) that the State would be able to economise by keeping the prison open. The deputation, introduced by Mr. A. A. Billson, M.L.A., submitted proposals to utilise prison labour in crushing metal, forestry work, and the eradication of St. John's wort in the shire. Mr. Bowser replied that there was a number of county gaols which were not being made full use of, and, as the Ministry was investigating every means by which it could effect savings, they were on the list for inquiry. The Inspector-General (Mr. J. W. K. Freeman) had reported that should the Cabinet decide to maintain the Beechworth Gaol it was his intention to begin the manufacture of blankets there by sending, if necessary, prisoners from Pentridge. He would bring the representations of the deputation before the Cabinet.

## New South Wales Statistics.

The number of manufactories and works in the State during 1916-17 was 5,333, an increase of 123 during the year, but a decrease of 13 since 1913. Increases included clothing and textile fabric establishments, vehicle, saddlery and harness, drugs, chemicals, metal works, machinery, etc. The principal decreases during the year were in the heat, light and power establishments, treating raw materials, jewellery, time-pieces, and plated ware. The total number of persons employed was 117,732, of whom 88,698 were male. Compared with 1915-16 the males showed an increase of 974 and the females an increase of 357, the total increase being 1,331, or 1.1 per cent. Salaries paid during the year were £14,196,607, or £782,762 more than in 1915-16, the increase being 5.8 per cent. The value of the plant and machinery used was £19,372,430, or £1,161,326 greater than in 1915-16 and £2,505,448 greater

than in 1914-15. The largest increases were shown in the following classes:—Metal works, machinery, etc., ship and boat building and repairing, and food and drink. The land and buildings used in connection with the factories were valued at £12,293,567, being £1,523,050, or 8.6 per cent., more than in 1915-16 and £2,449,860 more than in 1914-15.

## A Finger-Print Trap.

Perplexed and annoyed by the repeated disappearance of small "change" money from an ice chest in which it was customarily left over night for early morning use in the bar, H. V. Temby, licensee of Phair's Hotel, Collins Street, Melbourne, sought the help of the Criminal Investiga-

tion Department, which quickly solved the mystery by a very simple ruse. Detective N. Oldham placed a quantity of marked coins, amounting to 30s., in a well polished tumbler, which was duly deposited in the ice chest, as usual, over night. The next morning 11s. 3d. was found to be missing, as the result of which two youths, William Horton and John Saunders, employed in the hotel as "useful," appeared in the City Court to answer the charge of larceny. The detective, the evidence showed, had been unable to trace any of the marked coins, but the finger-print department had had no difficulty with the polished glass tumbler, which was literally covered with tell-tale finger prints. Both accused were sentenced to a month's imprisonment, sentence to be suspended upon each entering into a bond for £25 to be of good behaviour for twelve months.

## New South Wales Politics.

In launching the censure motion against the New South Wales Government, Mr. John Storey, Leader of the Opposition, spoke for 4½ hours protesting against the Government's action in regard to the coal contract, the wheat silo contract, the violation of the pledges given to the people by certain members of the Government on the issue of Conscription, the Premier's secret memorandum upon recruiting, and their actions generally, "which do not warrant their continuance in office."—The Premier replied to Mr. Storey in a speech of ninety minutes' length, in which he justified the Government's doings in every particular, and carried conviction to a number of Nationalists who were alleged to have been dissatisfied with the party's actions.—Mr. George Fuller, Chief Secretary, who was Acting Premier at the time the coal contract was drawn up, stated that everything in connection with the coal contract was above board. It was, he added, the unanimous opinion of a committee of the coal miners of New South Wales that Mr. J. Brown's mines were the best to meet the requirements of the Victorian Government. There was no evidence at all that the Government had done anything to deplete the revenue, or that it would cost the State anything.—The censure motion was put on Friday, February 1st, and lost by 50 votes to 25.

In the Legislative Council Mr. Fitzgerald stated that £17,823 had been spent on the State coal mine at Lithgow up to January 31st.

The Government intends to go ahead with the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the operation of the card system at the Randwick workshops, in accordance with the undertaking given at the time of the recent strike.



The Aussie: 'Strewth! That's the second lot of tea I've spilled to-day!

**CABLE NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA***(continued from page 2).***Sales of Blood-stock in Sydney.**

Sydney, 10th April (delayed).

At Messrs: Inglis' sales in Sydney, the stallion Paddington was sold for 525 guineas and the racehorse Shadowland for 3,500 guineas.

**The Policy of the Government.**

Melbourne, 11th April (delayed).

Mr. Cook, on behalf of Mr. Hughes, who is indisposed and unable to attend Parliament, outlined the policy of the Government in the House of Representatives yesterday. Senator Millen made a similar announcement in the Senate. Mr. Cook, after stating the recent changes in the Government's decision to appoint Councils for Defence, Commerce, Finance and Industry, said that Mr. Hughes and himself would represent the Commonwealth at the Imperial War Conference. He also announced that legislation would be introduced to remove defects in the industrial machinery and to provide a more effective method for dealing with industrial problems. The scope of the measure would be limited to industries of national importance, such as transport, base metals, coal mining, metal-lurgy, and the manufacture of munitions, iron, steel, and the handling of wheat, etc. The debate was adjourned.

**Financial Statement by Federal Treasurer.**

Melbourne, 11th April (delayed).

The Hon. W. A. Watt, in introducing the three months' Supply Bill for £5,068,484, said that the Revenue for nine months totalled £19,209,000, or £1,291,000 below the estimate; expenditure was £22,953,000, or £2,047,000 below the estimate. The consolidated revenue was now £756,000 better than was anticipated at the beginning of the year, but when the £2,077,427, the balance of the Pensions Funds brought forward from last year, was taken into account, the figures showed a deficit of £1,666,573: this they would get temporarily from the Notes Fund. Experience showed that the bulk of the revenue from direct taxation was collected towards the end of the year. He expected to close the financial year with a moderate surplus, something above £750,000. Prolonging the war would necessitate the raising of large additional loans. Proposals for new taxation would be submitted early in the new financial year. Mr. Watt decided that in view of the fact that the special organisation inducing subscriptions to the war loan was only now making itself felt, he would extend the closing date until Wednesday, April 24th.

**Ministry of Defence Criticised.**

Melbourne, 16th April.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Boyd moved the reduction of Supply by

**Australian Signalling Section preparing a meal.***(Australian Official Photograph.)*

that the Defence portfolio should be transferred from the Senate to the House £1 as an expression of the view of Representatives. A corner of Ministerialists severely criticised Senator Pearce's administration. Mr. Cook vigorously defended Senator Pearce, and the debate was adjourned.

**Subscription of War Loan.**

Melbourne, 16th April.

Mr. Watt announced that over £36,000,000 had been subscribed to the War Loan, and business was still rolling in. He was confident that over £40,000,000 would be subscribed before the end of the extended term.

Melbourne, 17th April.

The War Loan total on Thursday night was £38,000,000, with money still rolling in. Arrangements have been made to enable a portion of the funds of enemy firms held by the Public Trustee to be invested in the Loan.

**Melbourne University Commencement.**

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Governor of Victoria delivered a stirring address at Commencement, Melbourne University, on Saturday, and said the British people had been through crises before, which only strengthened and purified them. We needed to maintain unity in our midst, and a firm front to perils. All faults must sink into insignificance in the great obligation which lay on our nation not to allow the tradition of freedom to

perish which Britishers, Australians, Canadians and New Zealanders had given to the world. Our work was not done. Heaven forbid it be passed over to the nation which revealed no devotion to the progress of the world. The world cannot afford to allow German's material ideas to get the upper hand.

**"No-Confidence" Motion.**

Melbourne, 17th April.

The Ministry views as a "no-confidence" motion Mr. Boyd's amendment to reduce Supply by £1 in order to give expression to his view to transfer the Defence Portfolio from the Senate to the House of Representatives. The amendment was defeated.

**Tobacco Prices.**

Melbourne, 18th April.

The Prices' Commissioner has issued an order disallowing recent increases in tobacco prices pending inquiry.

**Public Service: Increases of Pay.**

Melbourne, 18th April.

In the Arbitration Court, Mr. Justice Higgins has given an award by which substantial increases are provided for the Professional Division of the Commonwealth Public Service.

**Repudiation of Loans Resented.**

Melbourne, 23rd April.

Prominent unionists resent the resolution of the Victorian Railways Union favouring the repudiation of the Australian war debt.

# The Army Post Office.

## How Soldiers Are Traced.

### Difficulties of Distribution.

The war has brought about special postal conditions. Relatives and friends of members of the Australian Imperial Force are separated by many miles, and a large Army mail results. The Australian Army Postal Service was initiated to act as a postal "connecting link" between the addressor and addressee. Sometimes both criticise the Army Post Office for non-delivery of mail, but more often than not the trouble is the result of incorrect addressing by either.

Criticism is a valuable asset in all work, when the critic is aware of the nature and extent of the principles that govern such work, but it is a foolish and a dangerous thing when backed by mere prejudice and ignorance. Complaints have been rife, and since most of the statements made have sprung from an unavoidable ignorance of certain main facts, it is advisable to set these facts clearly before members of the Australian Imperial Force and their relatives and friends.

The object of a post office is to deliver mail placed in its charge, at the address stated therein, and when that cannot be done, to return those articles to the senders. Such is the general postal scheme throughout the world in normal times, and the same scheme is adopted in war by all the nations engaged in the present struggle except Australia. The Australian Postal Service is more than a post office: it is a combination of post office and missing friends bureau. It not only delivers the mail to the location stated on the address, but, if the soldier is not there, it sets out to find him. This necessitates the heavy work of re-direction, which is undertaken by the Anzac Postal Corps only.

Australia has the most difficult postal work of all army postal services. Distance means time. The A.I.F. soldier writes from France, and states his unit. Many months elapse before the answering letter arrives, and much has happened in France during that time. Probably the soldier has changed his rank, unit, and location several times.

First it is sent direct to the address stated on the envelope. If returned "undeliverable," reference is then made to the various military records for trace of the soldier. His new rank, unit, and location are discovered, and sooner or later he will be found and the letter duly delivered. From his old unit to the new unit is often a period of many changes. He is wounded, and goes to the Field Ambulance, Casualty

Clearing Station, then the French Base Hospital, and on to the English Hospital, Convalescent Home, furlough, training camp again, and then, perhaps, to a different unit in France. Who knows? In the colossal armies of to-day men are as the grains of sand on the wind-swept sand dunes, moved hither and thither according as the wind of military exigencies may blow. The Postal Service follows them doggedly, and finds them. You have but to ask those who have been there. There are few complaints of postal work from the army—they know.

The personnel of all units varies daily, and for this the modern methods of warfare are directly responsible. You can only state the soldier's number, name, rank, initials, company, and unit. No mention of location must be made for military reasons. The postal service has to find out that location.

Other difficulties arise when units are disbanded and the men attached to other units. Transfers from one branch of the army to another are frequent, and it takes time for their notification to reach the base post office. Men who become ill have a knack of eluding their own letters as they progress through a labyrinth of hospitals and base depots in France, and even in England the task of overtaking them through the Central, Affiliated, and Convalescent Hospitals, on furlough, through the command depots, back to the front again, is harder than one imagines. Although advised to notify their change of address to the base post office, soldiers are extremely careless in the matter. They seem to think a benign Providence will do what they fail to do. If this simple plan were only adopted, most of our complaints which beset the postal staff would be removed.

The Australian army post office never enters mail as "dead" until every means have been attempted to find the addressee. Nothing was easier than to have left all A.I.F. mail in the charge of the British G.P.O. to simply deliver the letter to the address stated, if the addressee was not there to return to the sender, but Australia insists on re-direction of all A.I.F. mail.

Arrangements were made whereby the British G.P.O. delivered all mail for the A.I.F. to the A.I.F. base post office, which undertook the work of sorting, grouping, re-directing, and delivering. This entailed the employment of a staff of about 500, over

400 of whom are girls. Their work includes the keeping of up-to-date rolls, a task of some length, because the rolls containing addresses at date of departure from Australia are incomplete and greatly out of date. Card index records are kept, whereon every change of the soldier's rank, name, and location is entered, and these changes average over 2,000 daily. As it takes eighty days for a letter advising change of address to go to and from France and Australia, you can see what this means for the post office in re-direction work. The new re-direction systems put in force at the Australian Base Post Office enable this work to be done without delaying the mail.

All letters returned from the field post office are taken to the re-distribution department, where they are "run" through the card records, re-directed, and despatched back again to the field. Some idea of the vastness of the A.I.F. army postal work can be gathered from the following figures.

For the first six months of 1917 the Australian Base Post Office in London received and despatched approximately—

101,034,000 letters.

175,360 registered letters.

815,640 parcels.

3,165,800 newspapers and packets.

A great deal of mail from Australia is addressed to men who are not with the unit as stated on the envelope. This means the re-delivery from 25,000 to 30,000 mail articles daily.

It has been found that 48 per cent. of the articles arriving in London are incorrectly addressed, probably owing to the soldier having changed his unit during the parcel's long sea journey from Australia; so duplicate lists are prepared in Australia—one is enclosed with the parcels and the other is sent by quick letter mail to the Base Post Office, London. These duplicate lists arrive before the parcels, and the addresses are verified by military records before the parcels actually reach London. Owing to this system, only 1.12 per cent. of all parcels are now found to be "undeliverable," and this without loss of time in delivering the parcels.

A great number of articles whose non-delivery has aroused criticism never had a chance of either delivery or return. If people insist on sending such perishable goods as eggs, boiled chicken, fruit, cake, and other foodstuffs in canvas bags or cardboard boxes to the front, the non-delivery of such parcels cannot be wondered at. The contents become broken and decom-



Instructors and Students at a Lewis Gun School.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

posed very quickly, the boxes fall to pieces, and obliterate addresses on other parcels.

Then there are submarines. Mail matter is also lost in the field—the wonder is that the occasions are not more frequent, for the enemy artillery drops shells into places least expected, and some of these happen to have been field post offices. A direct hit usually means the total destruction of quarters, staff, and the mail. A “Fritz” shell is no respecter of material or persons.

The Postal Department gets blamed for many errors of which it is entirely innocent. A soldier gets lazy and lax in his correspondence and so blames the post office. There are periods in some soldiers' lives when they cannot give their location—detention barracks, prisons, etc., and a certain class of hospital, are necessary adjuncts to every army. Being unable to acknowledge his mail from his correct unit and location another is given.

In many ways you can help in postal work. Here are some suggestions:—

Do be reasonable in the amount of mail you despatch.

Do instruct your friends overseas to state in each letter their last exact address.

Do address all mail matter direct to the soldier, not care of some friend or institution.

Do use such revised address for addressing your outgoing correspondence.

Do state clearly the full address, similar to this sample address:—

No. 11530,

Pte. Nonsuch, A.B.,

“B” Coy.,

24th Battalion,

Australian Imperial Force.

Don't use the abbreviation B.E.F. or A.I.F. The former (B.E.F.) is likely to

carry the mail item to a British unit of similar designation, and the latter (A.I.F.) may be confused with the American title, “A.E.F.” The word “Australian” written in full form must form part of every address.

Don't advise that parcels have gone to France until such are well on their way.

Don't say you have posted a parcel when it has been handed to the Comforts Fund for despatch.

Don't send perishable foods in insecurely packed parcels going overseas.

Don't fail to appreciate that correct addresses are essential, and that if you will guarantee the correct address, the Army Postal Service will do the rest.

Don't lower the morale of our soldiers by “complaining” letters.

Compare the postal services of the Allies, and you will recognise that the Australian Postal Administration surpasses them all, and, in place of blame, commendation is a fairer return for the care, energy, and forethought displayed by the A.I.F. Postal Service under the most difficult conditions.

Each Australian mail contains on the average 800,000 letters, of which 50 per cent. have to be re-directed. Before any letter is sent out, it is referred to the card index, so that it can be readily understood that the whole of a soldier's mail is not at once delivered. As the addresses are verified and corrected, the letters are sent out; and if mail for the same man is contained in different bags, he will not receive all of his letters at the same time. The letters will filter through to him as they are dealt with.

Let the public survey Army postal work through the large end of a telescope, and the work of fighting through the small end, and then they will get a true perspective of

the relative importance of the two. Remember there is a war on, and the Army mails are not delivered in the peaceful surroundings enjoyed by our critics.

#### Cabbages for the Troops.

In Mesopotamia the difficulty of supplying the troops not merely with food, but with food suitable to the climate, is greater, perhaps, than on any other front. One of the difficulties has been met by an offer, made on behalf of the excellent fund which has done an enormous amount of good work, to “raise, clothe, and equip completely a Madras gardeners' corps of 150 rank and file, to provide four units for the purpose of growing fresh vegetables in Mesopotamia for the use of the troops.” The scheme is, above all, a practical one. Each of the four units is estimated on the basis of the number of men required to cultivate fifteen acres, and consists of a head gardener—an Indian—six under-gardeners, and thirty garden coolies; and a further hundred men have been added to the complement as a reinforcement to ensure the replacement of casualties. The corps has an English captain in command, subaltern, and quartermaster-sergeant; an expert gardener with the rank of sergeant; a hospital assistant, and the necessary office and sanitary establishment. The corps has been at work since the end of March.

#### V.C. Wounded.

Among the wounded in the recent fighting in France is Lieut. Keyzor, V.C., of the 42nd Battalion, A.I.F. Lieut. Keyzor won his Victoria Cross for distinguished services during the operations in Gallipoli.

## War Honours for the A.I.F.

With reference to the awards conferred as announced in the London Gazette dated 26th November, 1917, the following are the statements of service for which the decorations were conferred:—

### Awarded a Bar to the D.S.O.

**Lieut.-Col. Frederick William Toll, D.S.O., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was ordered at very short notice to take part in an attack with his battalion on the following morning. Notwithstanding the limited time available, he made all the necessary arrangements and led his battalion through a heavy barrage to the assembly position. During the attack the unit on his right was held up, his flank became exposed, and heavy casualties were caused by enemy machine-guns in numerous points. He organised an attack on the strong points in a most able manner, capturing or killing the entire garrison, and taking fourteen enemy machine-guns. By his prompt and gallant action the advance was continued and the final objective was captured.

### Awarded the D.S.O.

**Maj. William Bannerman Craig, A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. After the aid post had been blown up he attended the wounded and organised bearer parties in the open. Though wounded he persisted in his work until disabled by another wound.

**Maj. William Allan Hailes, Aust. A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in attending four wounded men in the open under heavy fire and conveying them to cover. His example stimulated the stretcher-bearers to great efforts under most trying circumstances.

**Maj. Harrie Bertie Lee, M.C., A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of the organisation of bearer reliefs during an action, and hearing that the officer in charge of the forward bearer parties had been killed he at once went forward under heavy fire and took charge. He located the new regimental aid posts forward of the former front line, and with absolute disregard of danger arranged for the evacuation of the wounded from these new posts through a heavy barrage. His quick grasp of the situation and prompt and courageous action were of inestimable value.

**Maj. Robert Maxwell McMaster, A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in tending the wounded continuously for ten hours under shell fire. Several of his bearers were killed and wounded, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that he was able to save the wounded from being killed or buried alive.

**Lieut.-Col. Muir Purser, Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was ordered at very short notice to take part in an attack with his battalion on the following morning. Notwithstanding the limited time available he made all the necessary arrangements, and led his battalion through a heavy barrage to the assembly position. In the attack he overcame all resistance by assaulting numerous strong points and capturing large numbers of prisoners. After the final objective was captured he was instrumental in repulsing with heavy loss several enemy counter-attacks. He set a splendid example of courage and determination to his battalion.

**Capt. Percival Thomas Roberts, Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his battalion in an attack when his company officer became a casualty. As soon as the objective was reached he personally reconnoitred the whole front, laid out the line of defence and saw that communication was well established with both flanks. During the four days in the line he displayed great qualities of leadership and organisation, and set a most inspiring example to all ranks under his command.

**Lieut. Joseph Lindley Scales, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in capturing a strong point 150 yards in front of our line. This he did single-handed. By the effective use of his rifle he killed four of the enemy in the post and two more as they tried to escape. He rushed the post from a distance of fifty yards and captured the machine-gun. His devotion and courage inspired his men to further efforts, including the capture of five prisoners.

**Lieut. Henry Ernest Slater, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After the battalion had reached its objective with few casualties an enemy strong point with several machine-guns inflicted severe casualties on the right flank, and threatened the junction with the unit on the right. With a sergeant and two men he attacked the strong point, put the machine-gun crew out of action and captured the position with thirty prisoners. By his prompt and courageous action he saved many casualties. In the later stages of the fight by his courage and example he inspired his men to withstand and beat off a counter-attack.

**Capt. John Charles Merriman Traill, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. He took command of the whole line when another company commander became a casualty during the advance, and encouraged and inspired his men throughout the attack by his splendid personal example. When the whole line was held up by direct fire from an enemy field gun, he worked

his way to a flank under heavy machine-gun fire and attacked it single-handed, killing five of the crew with his revolver and capturing the gun, thus allowing the advance to continue. His splendid action not only saved many lives but relieved a very critical situation, and the success of the operations was undoubtedly largely due to his magnificent example.

### Awarded a Bar to the Military Cross.

**Capt. Harry Wilson Cuming, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the brigade was suddenly ordered to send forward two battalions to take part in an attack, he displayed great zeal and energy in the dispatch of these units, spending the greater part of the night under heavy shell fire directing the troops and issuing extra ammunition and stores. Later, he reorganised the supply of ammunition, water, and rations for the front line personally led the ammunition pack train, and supervised the establishing of forward dumps. Throughout the operations his devotion to duty and cheerful demeanour under trying conditions was a fine example to all.

**Capt. Joseph Walton Hopkins, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company most successfully in an attack, and not only captured his objective, but rendered valuable assistance in the consolidation of the battalion's position. He carried out a reconnaissance, and obtained valuable information, inspiring all ranks by his courage and coolness.

**Capt. Charles Herbert Leedman, M.C., A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He worked for four days in the open attending to the wounded, in the course of which he dressed 300 cases. Seven intense barrages were put down by the enemy, but he went on with his duties, showing a total disregard for danger. His courage, devotion to duty, and endurance greatly inspired all ranks, and undoubtedly saved many lives.

**Capt. John Edward Lloyd, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the mopping up of two "pill-boxes." He personally reconnoitred ground in front of the advanced position, and located an enemy strong point, which was blown up, and two prisoners were taken. Though wounded twice, he remained on duty for forty-eight hours.

**Capt. Patrick Joseph Francis O'Shea, M.C., A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He dressed the wounded in the open after the aid post had become congested, and organised stretcher parties under heavy fire. His resource and courage saved many lives. He afterwards went round the shell-holes with a party of



## War Honours for the A.I.F.—continued.

bearers, dressing and collecting the wounded with a fine disregard of personal danger.

**Capt. Frederick Sale, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of his company during an attack, and in the half-hour preceding it, when the battalion was heavily shelled. On the final objective he superintended practically the whole consolidation, and sent back most valuable reports.

**Capt. Edward Vivian Smythe, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in supervising the whole battalion front at great personal risk, after all other company commanders and many platoon officers had become casualties. His personal reconnaissance materially aided the clearing of a wood.

**Capt. Vernon Earle Smythe, M.C., Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was always in front of the advance, and displayed skill and leadership of a high order. After the capture of the final objective, he organised the defence and supervised the construction of posts under heavy rifle and machine-gun fire. He showed fine soldierly qualities, and inspired confidence by his cheerfulness and disregard of danger; it was chiefly owing to his efforts that a strong counter-attack was beaten off.

**Capt. Ingles Peter Stewart, M.C., Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in supervising the laying out of the jumping-off tape, and the forming up of the assaulting waves. In company with one N.C.O. he found himself in a position which had not been completely mopped up. He dealt with the snipers with his revolver and brought back thirty prisoners and three machine-guns.

### Awarded the Military Cross.

**Lieut. Calder Kernot Oliver, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the situation was still obscure, he reconnoitred the whole brigade front in daylight, and, being in the front line when a counter-attack took place, he returned through the barrage with an extremely accurate and valuable report. He took out wiring parties on several occasions to a most exposed part of the front which was the objective of repeated counter-attacks, frequently passing through barrages to reach this position.

**2nd Lieut. Eric Alan O'Malley, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. His sector was heavily attacked by the enemy, but he succeeded in preventing them from penetrating it, keeping his men together in most difficult circumstances by his splendid example. Had he allowed the

enemy to gain a footing in his trench the brigade front would have been seriously menaced. Later, he led patrols into the enemy country and gained valuable information.

**Capt. Patrick Joseph Francis O'Shea, A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While in charge of stretcher-bearers he displayed the utmost courage and devotion under heavy shell fire. His fine example was largely responsible for the maintaining of the lines of evacuation from the front line to the headquarters.

**Lieut. Albert Thomas Parker, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He rendered invaluable service in organising parties and assisting the wounded under heavy shell fire. He also carried out a difficult reconnaissance of a new position.

**Lieut. George Leigh Pentreath, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He organised a party and attacked a strong point which was giving trouble, capturing it and taking 100 prisoners. During the work of consolidation he moved about the line encouraging all ranks by his cheerfulness and contempt of danger.

**Capt. Simon Fahey Porter, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in command of a company during an attack, and led his men with splendid courage and coolness to the final objective. He consolidated the captured position most skilfully, and his cheerful bearing and fearlessness were a splendid example to his men throughout.

**Lieut. Edward Hugh Price, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. Though wounded early in the attack, he led his men with great gallantry to their objectives, which he consolidated most rapidly. He succeeded in protecting the flank of his battalion, which had been left exposed owing to a counter-attack. His great energy and courage were a splendid example to the company.

**Capt. George Duncan Shaw, Pnr. Bn.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a working party in a heavily shelled area, and several of his men became casualties. He assisted to dress and remove the wounded, and by his courageous example encouraged the remainder at their work under most difficult conditions.

**Lieut. Alexander Sladdin, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer led a party for burying cable soon after the attack commenced, and completed his task very speedily, though the work was effected through heavy and constant shelling. Through his personal example, splendid disregard of danger and energy the task was completed.

**Lieut. Roy Robertson Smith, Fld. Arty.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When a hit was obtained on a gun-pit of his battery, killing two non-commissioned officers and severely wounding a gunner and igniting ammunition and camouflage, he led a party of three men to the burning pit and succeeded, in spite of the great danger, in extinguishing the fire.

**Lieut. Granville Pritchard, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led forward parties and marked and formed a track to the captured position under heavy fire. Later, when he found that the neighbouring infantry were without officers, he immediately took command and consolidated the position with great skill under very difficult conditions. He set a magnificent example to all ranks by his gallantry and contempt of danger.

**Lieut. Richard Bentley Salisbury, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. His company were heavily shelled, and the company commander was killed on the way to the assembly position for an attack. He took command of the company, got his men into position, and led them with great dash and initiative to the final objective. Though wounded early in the operations, he remained at his post until the position was consolidated and secured against counter-attack.

**Lieut. Magnus Graham Saunders, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. His platoon came under a heavy barrage, and, though badly shaken by the explosion of a shell, he collected his men and led them successfully to the final objective. He consolidated the position, and by his splendid example and cheerful manner he kept his men steady under difficult circumstances.

**2nd Lieut. Howard Wilson Scudds, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in leading his platoon against a strong point which was holding up the advance. His prompt and skilful action enabled the advance to continue, and he then led his platoon to the capture of the final objective. He showed great ability and fearlessness during the consolidation.

**Lieut. George Henry Turner, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a party detailed to construct two strong points in the front line. He was wounded on the way to the position, but refused to relinquish his task, and remained at his post, though in great pain, until the work was completed. He set a magnificent example of fortitude and devotion to duty to all.

**Lieut. Algernon Denis Tynan, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in reorganising his company when it came under shell fire in the assembly position for

## War Honours for the A.I.F.—*continued.*

an attack. Later, he led an attack on a strong point with great dash, assisted in the consolidation, and organised carrying parties. He set a high standard of courage, energy, and devotion to duty.

**Lieut. George Vaughan, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his men with great dash in an attack on an enemy strong point, capturing two machine-guns and ten prisoners. Later, he took command of his company and displayed great initiative and gallantry under fire.

**Lieut. Phillip Edward Michael Vowels, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his men with great dash and skill against two enemy machine-gun positions and captured them under heavy fire. When the objective was reached he showed a coolness and determination during the consolidation under heavy fire which was an example to all.

**2nd Lieut. Joseph Dudley Westwood, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a fighting patrol. He captured an enemy patrol, and going forward again he encountered a large party of the enemy. After a fight against strong opposition, in which four of the enemy were killed, he skilfully withdrew his party, bringing back two of his men who had been wounded.

**Lieut. Walter John Whettam, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a construction party engaged on an important piece of work. For two days the party was under continuous shell fire, and despite heavy casualties he successfully completed a very difficult task. He set a splendid example throughout.

**Lieut. George Henry Wilkins, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon to their final objective and consolidated it under heavy machine-gun and artillery fire. His fearlessness and contempt of danger have on many occasions been a magnificent example to his men.

**Lieut. George William Young, Engrs.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as signalling officer. He carried out his duties under heavy shell fire, which caused many casualties, visiting eight batteries and organising and superintending the laying of lines for each. He remained at his post until all the batteries were connected up, setting a splendid example of energy and determination.

**Capt. Charles Ahrens, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company in the attack, and after clearing up all the objectives allotted to him he supervised, under heavy shell

fire, the consolidation of the right sector of the line. When the enemy put down a heavy barrage on one of his posts he saved many casualties by gallantly going into the barrage and leading his men forward in advance of the post. His tireless energy and personal example did much to maintain the spirits of his men under very heavy fire.

**Lieut. Herbert Trangmar Allan, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of his company. He lost two officers soon after the attack started, and also had to take over command of another company which had lost all its officers. He showed great skill in controlling these two companies.

**Capt. Douglas Lew' Barlow, A.M.C.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He advanced with the battalion, established his aid post, and dressed the wounded and assisted in their removal under constant shelling. Owing to casualties among bearers he was cut off from the ambulance clearing post for several hours, and it was mainly owing to his exertions that the wounded received attention and shelter during this period.

**Lieut. Fritz Newton Basedow, M.G. Corps.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He set a splendid example to the men of his battery by his untiring efforts under very heavy fire. When two officers of the battery on his right were wounded he supervised the firing of that battery as well as his own. His services were invaluable to the group commander.

**Lieut. Robert Kenneth Bazley, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as liaison officer with the flanking battalion. When his runners became casualties he continually passed through the enemy barrage himself and brought back valuable information. Later, he reconnoitred the jumping-off trench in daylight, and held the attacking troops into position. After the attack he again reconnoitred our new positions and led the relieving battalion to their line.

**Lieut. Leslie Waldron Blake, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of his company during an attack. His careful direction of the covering fire of his men on targets likely to hold up the position was largely responsible for the success of the operation.

**Lieut. Frederick John Blenkarn, M.G. Corps.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of two machine-guns in an attack. He moved them forward to the first objective, reorganised, and advanced to the second objective. He was wounded in the leg, but remained on duty until relieved the following day.

**Lieut. Cecil James Blomfield, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the enemy attacked on his flank it was owing to his supreme coolness and promptitude that the men of all units in the vicinity were enabled to make a determined stand. His action undoubtedly staved off a serious attack by the enemy. He showed the greatest courage and initiative throughout the operations.

**2nd Lieut. John Mountsteven Bristow, Inf.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. When all the officers of his company became casualties, he led his company forward and captured a strong point in spite of strong resistance, and consolidated his position. He showed great skill and judgment.

### Distinguished Conduct Medal.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to award the Distinguished Conduct Medal to the undermentioned for gallantry and distinguished service in the Field:—

**2418 Sgt. W. G. E. Woolley, Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the advance his platoon was held up by the enemy in a strong position. Seizing a Lewis gun, of which all the crew were casualties, he fired it till the enemy opposition was overcome and the advance able to continue. He then organised a Lewis gun team and covered the rest of the company while they dug in.

**2064 Pte. A. V. Yates, Infy.**—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He attacked an enemy dug-out single-handed, capturing a machine-gun and eight prisoners. On reaching the objective he took a Lewis gun forward and established it in a most advantageous position under heavy fire. He made a careful reconnaissance of the ground in front, and showed great courage and coolness throughout.

### The Military Medal.

The Military Medal for bravery in the Field has been awarded to the undermentioned:—

1085 Gnr. T. S. Berwick, M.T.M. Bty.; 2298 Pte. J. Boer, Inf.; 353 Sgt. W. T. Burn, Inf.; Aust./8054 1st Cl. A.M. W. B. Campbell, F.C.; 390 L.-Cpl. L. Clark, Inf.; 2051 L.-Sgt. E. A. Cook, Inf.; 4028 Pte. G. H. Donohue, Inf.; 1083 Sgt. F. H. Hale, M.T.M. Bty.; 860 Cpl. A. Jacobson, Inf.; Aust./120 Sgt. B. F. Jones, F.C.; 505 Sgt. A. Levy, Inf.; Aust./20 Sgt. R. Lonsdale, F.C.; 1623 Sgt. W. P. Meager, Lt. Horse; 1968 Cpl. A. W. Mitchell, Lt. Horse; 2125 Pte. D. R. Oates, Inf.; 2618 Pte. A. V. Olson, Inf.; Aust./1750 1st Cl. A.-M. H. S. Raphael, F.C.; 2425 Pte. P. C. Richards, Inf.; 2394 Pte. (A.-Cpl.) R. O. Swindells, Inf.; 353 Cpl. H. V. Tychsen, Lt. Horse; 246 Pte. J. A. Watson, Inf.; 737 Pte. G. Ward, Inf.; 2271 Pte. H. R. Ward, Inf.; 1905 Pte. V. R. Windsor, Inf.

















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