

Anzac Bulletin



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Edited by Capt. H. C. SMART.

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A derelict engine close behind the Flanders Front.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

CABLE NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

New Australian Invention.

Melbourne, 15th September.

A chemist named Fraser, of Golden Square, near Bendigo, and Menesdorffer, of St. Albans, claim to have discovered a process for the manufacture of a fast dye from a by-product of eucalyptus oil. In distillation they claim to have produced 80 different coloured dyes.

Australian Meat Prices.

Melbourne, 18th September.

Mr. Greene (Assistant-Minister) has announced the details of the new scheme for regulating meat prices. The wholesale rates during the export season will be based on export prices with a small addition (probably a farthing) per pound, to enable the butchering trade to compete with exporters. The prices during the non-export season would be fixed for both fresh and frozen meat. Schedules would be issued in a few days. Purchases by the Meat Administration during the export season would ensure a supply of frozen meat to guard against an acute winter shortage and also to avert the defeat of the prices' regulations by abnormal competition for available supplies of fresh meat in the event of a shortage. He proposed to communicate with the Imperial and Indian Authorities to ensure that all negotiations for canning contracts should pass through the hands of Sir Owen Cox (the Meat Controller) in order that future prices might be co-ordinated with frozen rates, thus placing carcasses and canned meat exporters on the same level.

Federal Parliament.

Melbourne, 18th September.

The usual pre-Sessional meeting of the Federal Ministerial Party was held yesterday. Mr. Watt (Acting-Prime Minister) outlined the main financial taxation proposals. The newspapers forecast an increase of 35 per cent. in the income-tax, making the total increase of 60 per cent. since the war began; an increase of 20 per cent. in the land tax, a halfpenny war postage tax, and new revenue duties; increases on luxuries; an amendment of the wartime profits tax, with a view to encourage new industries and affording relief to the base metal industries.

The Opposition Party also met and discussed the recruiting ballot, and adjourned the debate for a fuller meeting.

The Opening Session.

Melbourne, 21st September.

Mr. Watt, Acting Prime Minister, in the House of Representatives, yesterday, outlined the programme for the session. After remarking on the encouraging character of recent information from the war, Mr. Watt said the Government observed with pride the important part played by Australians, and congratulated the nation on the cheering fact that casualties were light. The prosecution of the war to a victorious end was still the prime duty of Parliament and the nation. Arrangements for the voluntary recruiting ballot were nearing completion. The work of the Prime Minister and the Minister for the Navy at the War Cabinet and the Empire Conference had been of the utmost consequence to the future of the Commonwealth. They were now endeavouring to remove great difficulties surrounding the sale and shipment of our products.

The members of the French Mission were welcome guests. Everywhere they were met with popular enthusiasm. The Government trusted that their visit would cement the enduring ties between the great Republic of France and Australia.

The Government recorded its pleasure at their successful efforts to secure the return on furlough of veteran Australian troops embarked in 1914.

The Government intended to make the session a business one. Standing orders would be introduced to expedite public business. Growing financial burdens necessitated additional taxation. The following Bills are to be introduced: (1) To provide for the housing of returned soldiers. (2) To co-ordinate the electoral machinery of the Commonwealth and States, and to provide preferential voting for Representatives and postal voting. (3) For the statutory management of Government steamers. (4) To secure equitable contributions by the people to war loans in accordance with their means. (5) To place price-fixing on a more satisfactory basis than under the War Precautions' Regulations. (6) To give effect to the promise made by the Government at the Shipbuilding Conference, and to the agreements with unions. (7) To give effect to a scheme for the creation of a Science and Industry Institute. (8) For the control of waters in the vicinity of naval works and arsenals. (9) To encourage the manufacture of black steel sheets and galvanised iron sheets. (10) To amend the Naval Act, the Maternity Allowance Act, Service of Execution and Process

Act, and the Customs, Distillation, and Excise Spirits Acts.

Mr. Tudor, Leader of the Opposition, secured an adjournment till to-day.

Mr. Watt has announced that he would deliver the Budget Speech next Wednesday.

War Loan Campaign.

Enthusiastic Opening.

Melbourne, 19th September.

The War Loan campaign was launched throughout Australia yesterday. In Melbourne its opening was marked by a stirring appeal by Mr. Watt (Acting-Prime Minister) outside the Town Hall, in the presence of an enthusiastic crowd. Troops paraded with three war tank models. Mr. Watt pointed out that the Government was asking the people for £40,000,000 to finance Australia's war obligations for six months. Already the Commonwealth had spent £210,000,000 of War Loan money, some being subscribed in Great Britain. The term of this Loan was five years instead of ten, as with past loans; the interest was nominally 5 per cent., but actually equivalent to 5½ per cent. It was subject to Commonwealth, but not State, taxation.

At Sydney at noon the guns of all naval vessels boomed, ferry and factory whistles sounded, bells were rung, and the Governor (Sir Walter Davidson) and leading Federal and State Members of Parliament made an appeal in Moore Street from the large model of a destroyer, surrounded by troops.

In Queensland, the Governor (Sir H. J. Goold-Adams) opened an appeal outside Brisbane General Post Office, and announced that 30 Queensland districts had already completed their quotas, and won the honour of flags, the amount being £5,000,000.

South Australia had a striking display. A war tank led 150 motor-cars six abreast past Adelaide Government House in the presence of the Governor (Sir H. L. Galway), The Premier (Mr. Lefroy) opened the appeal. The Observatory gun was fired, and whistles sounded, and there was a military display, including a tank cruise.

Melbourne, 20th September.

Mr. C. J. Z. Woinarski (Crown Prosecutor of Victoria) has been appointed a County Court Judge.



A village occupied by the Germans, although close to Australian front line posts.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

Returned Soldiers' Hostel.

Melbourne, 20th September.

The Repatriation Department has purchased Kamesburgh the residence of the Hon. D. C. McBryde, M.L.C., for £17,000, for a returned soldiers' hostel.

The Labour Split.

Adelaide, 20th September.

The South Australian Labour Party has refused to take a ballot in conformity with the Perth Labour Conference recruiting resolution. The Federal Labour Caucus has discussed the whole position, but no decision has been announced.

Government and Shipping.

Melbourne, 21st September.

Mr. Poynton, Minister in Charge of Shipbuilding, replying to a question in the House of Representatives, said that the arrangement between the Commonwealth Shipping Board and the inter-state shipping companies was for the board to pay rental to the companies for the use of their ships, above which the profits on freights and passages belonged to the Commonwealth.

Houses at Lithgow.

Melbourne, 21st September.

The Standing Committee on Public Works, in a report on the housing of employees of the Commonwealth at the Small Arms Factory at Lithgow, recommends the erection of 12 brick cottages as a first instalment of 150.

Economy in Electricity.

Melbourne, 21st September.

A War Precautions' Regulation has been issued empowering chief engineers of electric supply undertakings to refuse to supply current, in order to conserve the supply for essential industries.

To Prevent Friction.

Melbourne, 21st September.

Mr. Groom, Minister for Works and Railways, has given notice in the House of Representatives, to move a resolution authorising the Speaker, during the war, to delete from Hansard reports considered by the law officers likely to effect adversely the relations between Great Britain and foreign Powers.

Substitute for Jam-tins.

Melbourne, 21st September.

The Science and Advisory Committee composed of Professor Masson, Dr. Heber Green, and Mr. G. Ampt has found that a combination of carbolic acid and formalin produced a resin soluble in methylated spirits and suitable for varnishing cardboard containers for packing foodstuffs, and leaving no taint. It is claimed that the new container will serve for most purposes for which tin is now used, and is cheaper than tin at war-time price.

Commonwealth Public Service.

Melbourne, 21st September.

Mr. Watt, replying to questions in the House of Representatives, said that in view of the many difficulties in connection with the Administration of the Commonwealth public service, under the Public Service Act and the Arbitration Act, Mr. McLachlan, a retired Commissioner, had been invited to report on the question of bringing the service under one form of Administration.

(Cable News continued on page 15).

Brilliant Australian Advance.

Smoke Fog Barrage. Our Indomitable Infantry.

By C. E. W. BEAN.

British Headquarters, France,
September 19th.

To-day, in one of the most completely successful operations in which they were ever engaged, the Australians not only captured the old British front line and outpost line, which was the object of the battle, but seized the opportunity allowed for by the day's plans, pushed on, and took the front trenches of the Hindenburg system itself, and established themselves beyond the crestline on which this line is situated, and which looks down upon the St. Quentin Canal and the main Hindenburg line beyond. The Australians took at least 3,150 prisoners, including 120 officers, one regimental commander, and two battalion commanders. Seven heavy guns and twenty field guns have already been counted besides many hundreds of machine guns and trench mortars.

As we know from prisoners' statements, the Germans were completely surprised by this attack. There are three distinct trench lines crossing the area penetrated by the Australian portion of the advance, which was $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles deep by the same width. The first of these is the old British support line on the ridge on which lie the remains of the village of Le Verguier. On a higher ridge just east of the villages of Hargicourt and Villeret, lies the second trench line, consisting of the old British outpost line. Beyond this, sometimes on the German side of the same ridge and sometimes on the further ridge with the valley intervening, is the third trench line which is the first or outpost line of the great Hindenburg system.

The Australian Spirit.

The German garrison had orders to hold the first of these systems on the Le Verguier line to the last man. At half past three this morning it began to rain. When the barrage came down with the dawn there was a mist over the country. This, added to the smoke barrage, made the fog so dense that sometimes it was impossible to see through it. This made it a matter of great skill to keep the direction of the attack and for the men to know where they were. Many youngsters, compass in hand, were guiding platoons and companies and leading a little world of "Diggers," in which they had most anxious quarter hours following, with the compass, the bursts, eruptions, flashes, and crashes within that dense smoke fog which meant the barrage. Unbelievable though it might seem, yet this morning proved

that, despite continuous and hard fighting since March, the spirit of this same veteran infantry was so indomitably elastic and possessed such almost youthful freshness, that one Melbourne youngster told us he almost wore himself out going up and down in front of his small brood preventing them from getting into their own barrage.

They worked literally under the flashes of their own shrapnel. In consequence, the Germans found them coming with the mist. The German machine gunners generally fired a few shots and then ran. We saw their guns later simply lining the parapets and trenches from which the enemy had run, with the strong entanglements uncut and trenches unbroken. In the northern sector the Germans fought well. A New South Wales battalion attacking beyond

Hargicourt, near Cologne farm, where the old British trenches run into the German trench system, found resistance constantly coming from these trenches. The advance was thereby hampered and slowed down. The artillery barrage went on with their programme and the infantry had to force their way ahead by sheer hard fighting. The Germans fired on them at point blank range with field guns. Yet that infantry, which at one time had the Germans on two ridges and in the valley below firing point blank with rifles, machine guns, and field guns, managed to extricate itself. Our Lewis gunners shot down the German artillerymen, and this battalion captured six German field guns and four howitzers.

Point Blank Gunnery.

Further south, a company of South Australians reaching the crest of a hill south



Australian machine-gunners waiting for the infantry to advance before establishing their new position. (Australian Official Photograph.)

of Villaret, suddenly ran into heavy machine-gun fire. South Australians worked round the wood and took 100 Germans, 12 machine guns, and one field gun. During the first advance the West Australians advancing in the smoke came on two German field guns, which were unable to escape owing to the wire behind them, and which remained firing direct through the sights. The gunners, owing to the smoke, did not realise that the Australians were close until they actually saw figures through the smoke around them. Several gunners were killed and the guns captured.

When the furthest outposts of the old British front line were reached, that moment the barrage was raised, and New South Welshmen, Queenslanders, Victorians, and South Australians pushed on towards the front or outpost trenches of the Hindenburg system. Our artillery had come up exceedingly fast, the gun teams moving up in little columns throughout moorland, a sight which did not fail to inspire the infantry. But some of the Australian infantry did not even wait for this. They had been driving the Germans demoralised before them. In order not to lose this advantage by delay, they crept up as close as possible to their own barrage, and then brushed through it and seized the German trenches beyond. Fighting on the Hindenburg outpost line continued without rest all the afternoon, the Australians thrusting, penetrating, prodding, and walking in wherever they could. By night our line lay well overlooking the rolling brown moorland on the opposite slopes on which can be seen the white parapets and broad bands of wire of the main Hindenburg line. Far across the long crest to the southwards rises against the horizon the great roof tower of the cathedral of St. Quentin.

More Prisoners Than Casualties.

So far as we have heard, each battalion took many more prisoners than its own casualties—some more than the total number of men which they themselves took into the battle. A Queensland battalion is said to have taken six field guns, seven five-nines, and one eight-inch gun. The cost of the operation is light in numbers, but never light in quality. The West Australians lost by the bursting of a shell when the line was reached one of the finest young officers ever produced in the West. He would have left on home leave within a few weeks. Our losses were again made much lighter by the splendid services of the British tanks. Praise for the manner in which they cruised out on the northern part of the front, in some cases right up before the Hindenburg line, is in the mouths of many Australians to-day.



Australian troops in support occupying a ditch near a village lately captured.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

Hospital Visitors.

Our Red Cross Correspondent writes:—

It is, in no mere perfunctory spirit that the lady visitors of the Australian Red Cross carry out their work in the hospitals. They almost invariably display a real live interest in the patients with whom they come in contact, and are rarely content merely to distribute such comforts as fall to the lot of each man. We catch something of the mutual regard which exists between visitors and visited in a letter received recently from a distributor in an English hospital:—

"It is such a pleasure," she writes, "to visit the boys; they are so pleased to see you, and, as is often the case, one of them said to me to-day: 'Come again soon, won't you. It is not for what you bring only; we are so pleased to receive a visitor.' And they are speaking so highly of the work of the Australian Red Cross in France. As one of them said to me: 'No matter where you are they hunt you up, and if you come across one man who seems to take it all as a matter of course, you come across dozens of others who don't know how to be grateful enough.'"

The work of the visitors, naturally, varies enormously from month to month. Their charges are constantly on the move, and, even in periods of comparative quiet at the front, fresh faces are continually met with. The recent heavy fighting had its inevitable result on the number of Australians

in hospital in England, and August was an exceptionally heavy month for the department of the Red Cross Society, which is responsible for supervising this important work. It is, however, satisfactory to note that, thanks to the energy and devotion of the lady workers, the situation was fully met. Nine new visitors were appointed, and, despite holidays, few, if any, of the wounded Australians were neglected.

Now that our repatriated Prisoners of War are arriving in England in ever-increasing numbers, special arrangements have been made whereby our representatives may immediately notify us of the arrival in hospital of each party of men, who are visited as soon as possible, and supplied with papers and any other comforts which they may require.

Colonial Exploration.

A party of twelve scientific men, organising to investigate British New Guinea (including the late German territory), assembling in England immediately after the war, desire to hear from a geologist, Australian, with tropical experience, and prepared to spend a minimum of two years upon exploratory work under difficult conditions.

Address full details, salary, etc., to
No. 3575 Neal McNeal,
23rd Batt., A.I.F.,
France.

Yarns from "Sydney Bulletin."

Melbourne to London.

The story of Spiers and Pond is one of the commercial romances of Melbourne. They started a small restaurant some sixty years ago at the top of Bourke Street, afterwards migrating to the front premises of the Theatre Royal, which they christened the Café de Paris, and converted into Melbourne's most luxurious dining palace; also they went in for railway refreshment-room contracting, and as an advertising side-line brought out the first All-English Eleven, and made a lot of money out of it. Melbourne then became too small for them, and they transferred to London, where they speedily revolutionised the eating business, acquired numerous hotels, restaurants and refreshment-rooms, built London's first underground theatre—the Criterion—and started a universal emporium that now covers the greater part of Ludgate Hill under the shadow of St. Paul's. They left half a million. Then the huge business passed into other hands, and for some years it has been in difficulties through unwise developments and risky "Empire Hotel" speculations at seaside holiday resorts. Thus one way and another the company came into the hands of a liquidator, who has just circulated among shareholders a scheme of reconstruction.

* * *

Something for Nothing.

The Brisbane Labour Council puts the matter plainly. It wants peace by negotiation, with "no annexations and no indemnities." So the Hun will get back his lost territories in good condition, for the Allies have committed no ravages upon them. On the other hand Belgium, Serbia, Northern France, Western Russia, and a bit of Italy will be returned to their owners with hardly a house or a tree standing, burnt with fire, stripped of everything of value that could be taken away, littered with the dead bodies of women and children and old men, and with the industries that took centuries to build torn up by the roots. And the beloved brother who did these things, who made the war, who charged Roumania £400,000,000 indemnity and Russia £800,000,000, and who announced that the figure for Britain would be £2,000,000,000, plus the loss of her dependencies—the beloved Hun brother isn't to pay, for his brother hereabouts is tender of his feelings. Apparently the "brotherhood of man" doesn't include much sympathy for the man who has been trodden on. It is all reserved for the reader.

The Midget.

Probably the smallest man in the British Army is an Australian—Private F. C. Wittman, 3ft. 8in., and a Geelong man at that. Two years ago he was dispenser at Osborne House in that Victorian seaside village. Rejected for active service on account of his size, he was passed in Blighty and sent to India. Here, at Deolali Camp, on the arrival of the Australian Pharmaceutical Unit, he took a light from the cigarette of his friend Warrant Officer Tubman, who had known him when Tubman was dispenser at Geelong Military Camp; and the warrant-officer has sent home a photo of the meeting as corroborative evidence.

* * *

The Pioneer.

Another man has settled on the land up north. Seventy miles south of Cape York, a high point with red-earth sides that make good long-distance landmarks juts into the waters of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Just round the point a tiny creek trickles a passage through the sand and mangroves, and relieves the monotony of miles of unbroken beach. It's about the loneliest spot imaginable. The nearest white man is 50 miles away, and the only evidences of human beings are glimpses of occasional pearling-luggers and the distant smoke of wandering Binghis' fires. Yet half a mile up the creek there is a white settler, a returned soldier and a man of good manner and address. He started his struggle with the stringybarks and the solitudes a few months ago, and already has a respectable

area cleared and a portion planted with peanuts. His idea is to plant a considerable acreage of the nuts and run the resulting fruit to Thursday Island in a small boat for shipment south. It's going to be a mighty single-handed task—Binghi in that part is shy and not inclined to bear a hand—and Billjim knows it. But courage and enduring hope are prominent factors in his make-up. Take off your hats to this man who, having fought and suffered at Gallipoli, did not wait for tardy efforts at repatriation, but got going on his own. The Far North wants more of his kind!

* * *

Premier Imitates the Small Boy.

When the numbers went up in connection with a by-election at Wellington (M.L.) the other day Premier Massey ascended to a high place with a view to making a few well-chosen remarks about the joy of the Government at getting its man in on a minority vote. But the assembled proletariat had no time for Bill, and raised loud yells of wrath and counted him out and otherwise misconducted itself. Whereupon Massey did what Prime Ministers usually restrain themselves from doing. Putting his thumb to his nose he publicly wagged his fingers at the multitude and gracefully took himself off. The interpretation put upon this weird performance is that William intended the masses to understand that he was determined to carry on the war to the bitter end and would make vulgar gestures in Berlin at the finish.



The battalion mascot poses for his picture in the mouth of a captured German gun.
(Australian Official Photograph.)



Disgusted Digger: "Anyone would think that I started this d— war!"

"Whaffor!"

When the dredging company started at Tween Bridges, the one-time populous Chinese camp was already in decay, but about fifteen Chows remained, hatters all, pigging in as many small huts. After eight months' operations the dredgers came in contact with the camp, and began to cut out the soil about it. Eventually the cluster of tumbled residences stood precariously on a sort of peninsula, almost entirely surrounded by slurry, and every few days another hut, its supports eaten away by the hydrant, tumbled into the pool. In each instance a distressed Chinaman, clutching at a few rags, fled to another homestead, still safe for a few days from the encroachments of the dredge. Bailes, who managed things for the company, often interviewed the Chinamen, and advised the removal of their villas to more stable estate; but John's facial expression was always the same, one of clay-like incomprehensibility. "Wha' for?" he said. Came a day when the entire inhabitants of the camp were driven into one lurching bark-and-slab hut, and here they herded for forty-eight hours, while the water devil still pursued them. Again Bailes called, and advised retreat. "Wha' for?" they said. The land was panning out handsomely, and Bailes had to consider his company. He got the constable up from White Flat to talk commonsense into the heathen, but "Wha' for?" was all

Coleman could get out of John Chow. "If you're goin' on wid this," said Coleman, "ye'll take me advice, 'n' have some strong men handy. Thim Choinese will get at ye when the worst comes to the worst." Bailes had been feeling uneasy on this score. He took Coleman's advice, and quietly filled the dredge-house with husky men armed with pick-handles. Then the hydrant got to work again, gnawing the gravel from under the overcrowded hut, the sole remaining relic of the Pekin of Tween Bridges. Presently the peninsula swayed a little, then softly settled down. The hut fell to pieces, and fifteen passive resisters came sprawling into the sludge, washed about a moment in the eddies, before finding their feet. Then, inches thick with slurry, they waded to the rock where Bailes stood prepared for the worst. "Wha' for?" they said, and went away.

* * *

Beer and Friendly Feeling.

Giving evidence before the Royal Commission on Beer, Padre White, of Westralia, not long back from France, said he was in favour of the troops having beer. Did he not think that it was ruinous to the efficiency of the army? No, certainly not; the only ruined army he knew of was the Russian, which had prohibited drink. And no one had ever accused the German army

of being demoralised, ruined or beerless. Troops in the course of a long war were apt to get "fed up" and to brood. "Beer," said this astonishing priest, "which sometimes inebriates, always cheers." Further, beer lent itself to friendly feeling and the knowledge that one had mates, thus building up a unit's *esprit de corps*. But no one could accuse cocoa of such an act. A somewhat Scotch person asked him if he could say the same for whisky. The reply was rather disconcerting. "The country which is believed to use whisky as a national beverage is noted for its lack of hilarity." "Did he think the Canadians were demoralised since prohibition had been carried?" He had not noticed any signs of it when the rum issue was on.

* * *

The "Aussie" Hat.

The Billjim hat originated in Queensland. Colonel Ricardo found that a turn-up on the left side gave good shade to the rifleman's right eye, with consequent improvement in sighting, and the necessary regulation was issued. Soon N.S. Wales recognised the improved smartness and devil-may-care effect, but did not grasp the reason. Therefore, to be free from any risk of being mistaken for the wild men of the North, the warrior of the Mother State was ordered to fasten up his war-going lid on the right side.

GENERAL AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Directorate of Munitions.

On request by the Acting Prime Minister, the British Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company has granted the Munitions Directorate the free services of Mr. McKinstry, general manager in Australia for the Company. Mr. McKinstry has been seven years in Australia. He is President of the Victorian section of the Electrical Association of Australia, and also a member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, London.

Pensions.

Returns issued on 1st July show that 113,722 war pensions have been granted, including 38,226 in Victoria and 35,419 in New South Wales, and representing an annual liability of £3,658,853. There were also in force 95,509 old-age pensions and 29,883 invalid pensions. Maternity allowances granted during the year just closed totalled 126,858, a decrease of 5,414 compared with the previous year.

Repatriation.

The Commonwealth Repatriation scheme for the settlement of returned soldiers in Australia has already involved the expenditure of nearly £3,000,000. Since 1915 nearly 60,000 men have come back, and the machinery dealing with the problem of restoring them to useful and satisfactory employment is reported to be working smoothly in all the States. Up to date 50,000 situations for returned men have been provided by the Department. Settlers on the land are allowed £500 as working capital, and men receive advances for the acquisition of businesses, while totally incapacitated soldiers, or the widows of soldiers are given rent allowance up to 12s. 6d. a week. Up to December 31st last assistance had been given to 7,327 people, entailing an expenditure of £73,286 in gifts, while £158,220 had been distributed in loans.

Six o'clock Closing to be Permanent.

The Victorian Premier, Mr. Lawson, in his speech, stated that the Government intended to enforce six o'clock closing of all licensed premises as a permanent measure.

Agricultural Science.

A report issued by the Commonwealth Advisory Council of Science and Industry regarding the results obtained as the outcome of the conference last year of agricultural scientists states that the area of flax grown in Gippsland this season shows a great increase. A special Committee re-

presentative of each State in collecting and cultivating native grasses and fodder plants. A number of promising native grasses of New South Wales were being tested in each of the States with a view to their general introduction, and work for the classification and improvement of cultivated crops had begun by the collecting of different varieties of wheat from various parts of Australia, which, classified and technically described, would be of great value when bulk handling of wheat came into operation, as it would then be necessary to grade the different varieties according to their qualities in order that the best prices might be obtained.

Italian Reservists.

The dependents of Italian reservists and conscripts called up in Australia for service with the Italian Army are to be paid the difference between the rates of separation allowance granted to the Italian Army and those granted by the Commonwealth. In addition to that, 2s. a day is payable to the wife or parents in receipt of a separation allowance.

Military Officers Retired.

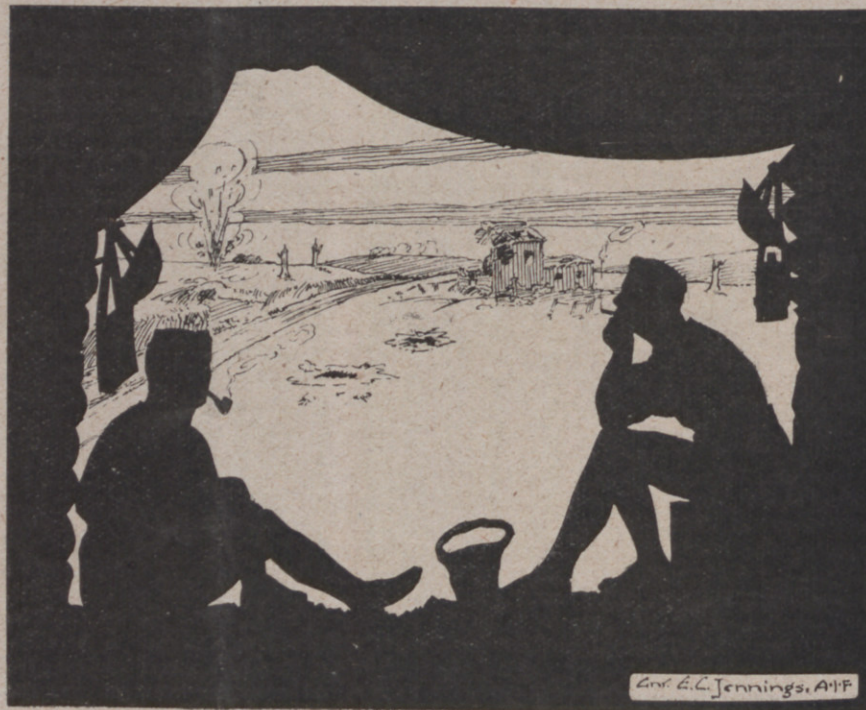
Colonel J. Stanley, C.M.G., Colonel E. T. Wallack, C.B., C.M.G., Hon. Colonel J. H. A. Lee, Colonel J. S. Lyster and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel M. M. Boam have been retired under the Military age-limit regulations.

Irish Republic Brotherhood.

The Victorian branch of the Irish National Association disclaims knowledge of the existence in Australia of the organisation known as the Irish Republic Brotherhood mentioned in connection with the recent internments. The I.N.A. has been in existence twelve months, has a membership of between 300 or 400, and is affiliated with similar branches in Adelaide, Sydney and Brisbane.

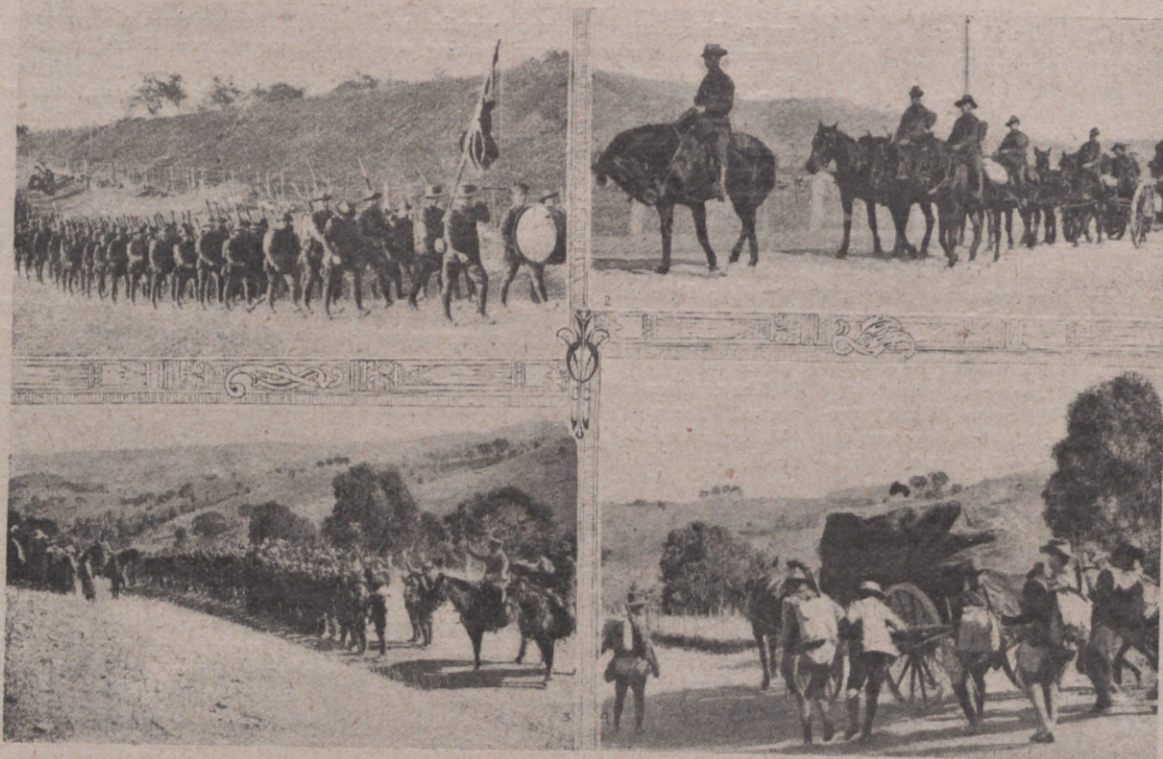
Electoral Reform.

Bills are being drafted by the Federal Government to give effect to the Ministry's promise of electoral reform. One measure will apply the principle of preferential voting to the House of Representatives, and another measure will deal with the question of uniformity in the State and Federal electoral laws, and probably provide for the restoration of the postal vote. It is not yet determined whether a system of proportional voting will be provided.



Art. E. C. Jennings, A.I.F.

Thoughts of Home.



Soldiers' "March to Freedom" through New South Wales.

1. Infantry leading en route to Wingen.
2. Artillery nearing Scone.
3. Halt at the Waldron Ranges, soldiers cheering Blandford citizens.
4. Transport team descending Waldron Ranges, putting on the brakes.

Work for Soldiers' Dependents.

The Federal Cabinet has decided to extend the policy of preference to returned soldiers. In February last the Ministry decided that preference should be given to the widows of soldiers and daughters who had been dependent upon them. This policy, the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Watt) stated, was to be extended to the mothers, if widowed, and to unmarried sisters of deceased soldiers, if they were dependent upon them. Where a married and a single returned soldier sought employment in the service, preference would be given to the married man.

Unseemly Conduct in Parks.

A deputation waited on the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor Stapley), and requested that action should be taken by the civic authorities to prevent the unseemly and immoral conduct of boys and girls in public parks and gardens. The views of the deputation were expressed by the Rev. Henry Worrall and the Rev. J. T. Lawton, who suggested that the City Council might help by providing more lights in the parks under its control, and by stringently enforcing the bye-laws forbidding people lying about on the grass. It was also asked that the Lord Mayor should convene a confer-

ence of mayors of municipalities to discuss the position, with a view to taking concerted action.

The Lord Mayor promised to consider the requests.

Price of Loyalty.

At a meeting of the Melbourne Trades Hall Council, recently, it was decided to cancel the affiliation of the Musicians' Union.

Recently the Musicians' Union declared the Eight Hours' Day procession "black," and instructed its members not to take part in it. This position was created by the Eight Hours' Anniversary Committee deciding to engage bands other than those affiliated with the Musicians' Union. It was alleged that this decision was due to the refusal of the Union to reinstate enemy alien members who had been suspended. The executive of the Trades Hall Council also asked the Union to reopen the case against the suspended members, but the Union declined.

Railway Loyalists Not to be Dismissed.

A substantial number of members of the National party of New South Wales had a consultation with the Ministry. The object

of the unusual meeting was to discuss the position of a number of employees of the Railway Department who were taken into that department during the strike last year, and who, it was suggested, had been given notice of the termination of their engagements because they were unable to pass the prescribed medical examination. The Premier (Mr. Holman) said that Mr. Fraser (Chief Commissioner) had been able to satisfy the members of the party that their general fears for the welfare of loyalist workers were unfounded. There was no intent to victimise these men.

Recruiting.

An embargo placed two and a half years ago on the enlistment of permanent officers of the Commonwealth Taxation Department having been removed, four officers of the Department last week enlisted and were accepted. The new recruiting depot in the western portion of Hyde Park was formally opened on 1st July by the Lord Mayor, who appealed for recruits for the Sydney Thousand. Twelve recruits were obtained, the first of these being a married man, who is an anti-conscriptionist and prominent labour advocate.

**The Palestine Victory.
Work of Australian Troops.**

By H. S. GULLETT,

Official War Correspondent in Palestine
with the Australian Forces.

Palestine, September.

General Allenby's great scheme promises to yield a sensational harvest. The Turks, smashed and outflanked on the western side, are everywhere retreating through Samaria on the Central Palestine Range. This message is written on the plain of Esdraelon, many miles behind the original Turkish position. Our troops extend right down the Jezreel Valley to Beisan, overlooking the Jordan. All railways are cut behind the Turk's army in Samaria. Yeomanry and Indians galloping across the Esdraelon plain raced up the slopes of lower Galilee at noon to-day and occupied Nazareth, which offered but slight resistance. The Nazarenes, like the inhabitants of all other villages entered during the operations, greeted the invaders very cordially.

The position of the whole Turkish advanced force in Palestine is precarious in the extreme. The enemy's one chance of escape is across the Jordan to the east. But Australians and New Zealanders are eagerly pushing up the Jordan Valley after the retreating foe. With the railway communications and the main road in our hands, the Turks have little chance of getting away with their guns, or any other arms of equipment requiring wheeled transport. General Allenby's success, in short, is a very severe blow to the enemy's 7th and 8th Armies. On the way across the Esdraelon Plain to Nazareth, Indian Lancers, mounted on their dashing Australian horses, encountered a Turkish force, and, charging at the gallop, made every man a casualty or prisoner.

It is impossible yet to estimate the number of captures, but prisoners are constantly streaming in, and a great quantity of rolling stock and motor and horse transport, is already in our hands, and is rapidly increasing. Every hour brings rich prizes. An Australian Light Car Patrol, armed with machine-guns, rushed the aerodrome at Afuleh, and, freely using guns, captured three planes ready for flight, together with all the airmen and mechanics on the aerodrome. To-night, for the first time in the advance, all the Australian Light Horse is actively engaged. The Third Light Horse Brigade brilliantly captured Jenin, an important road crossing, also secured some thousands of prisoners; some of our brigades are using swords, and are very keen on the new weapon. Owing to their magnificent advance, the British infantry is everywhere rolling up the enemy towards the cavalry from the south. Good roads are now open from our old line right

up to Esdraelon, and ample supplies are assured to the cavalry force, making our position very secure.

Owing to the Palestine harvest being in full swing, the country is overflowing with horse feed, and water is plentiful; and although thousands of the horses have covered fully one hundred miles within two days, they are still fit, and quite capable of a further big effort. Since their initial disaster yesterday morning, the Turks are showing little stomach for fight. Prisoners are unanimous that the Turks of all ranks are tired, and are looking eagerly for peace.

The captives include a few hundred Germans. The weather, except in the Jordan Valley, where the heat is still excessive, is cool, and ideal for campaigning. As showing the demoralisation of the enemy, two hundred Lancers captured 1,800 prisoners in a single village.

"Stop the War."

It is estimated that 30,000 workers at Newcastle are involved in the decision of the Newcastle Trades and Labour Council to withdraw its affiliation with the New South Wales Trades and Labour Council, owing to the latter's "stop the war" reso-

lution. Among the Unions represented on the Newcastle council are the following:— Gas employees, printing employees, musicians, Carrington coke and coal workers, shipping industry, clerks, colliery mechanics, sulphide workers, and storemen and packers.

More Mailbags Stolen.

The theft of three more mail bags from railway trains has been reported to the Sydney police. Two bags, containing registered articles and ordinary mails, were removed from a train bound for Richmond. The registered letters contained two cheques for £300 each. One parcel consisted of a number of £1 notes, and another contained a war bond of unknown value. The Kogorah mail bag was stolen from a Hurstville train, but it contained ordinary letters only.

Red Flag Prohibited.

A war precautions regulation has been issued prohibiting the exhibition or use of a red flag on any building, land, vessel, or in any public place, or in connection with any procession or demonstration, without the permission of the Minister of Defence. The regulation does not apply to the use of a red flag by public departments.



A front-line post on an Australian sector.

(Australian Official Photograph.)

Will HOPE
WITH THE COLORS



Δ "CANADIAN WONDER"



WHERE'S YOUR CHIN STRAP?

THE "WAAC" M.P.
(UNDER THE TUITION OF THE A.I.F. JACKS)
ARE MAKING THEIR PRESENCE FELT



GUN STOPS! GUN WONT FIRE! GUN GOES ON STRIKE! GUN WANTS MORE MORE

GETTING A INSIGHT INTO THE LEWIS GUN.



DOING CANTEEN WORK

REMINISCENCES



"BABY BLISS" WHO WILL TELL YOU HOW THE 4TH DIVVY DO THINGS IN FRANCE



SERGEANT INSTRUCTOR MCCLURE



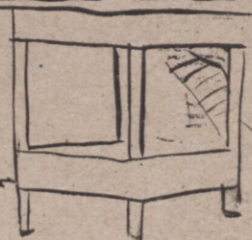
MAY YOUR AIM IN LIFE ALWAYS BE A CORRECTION



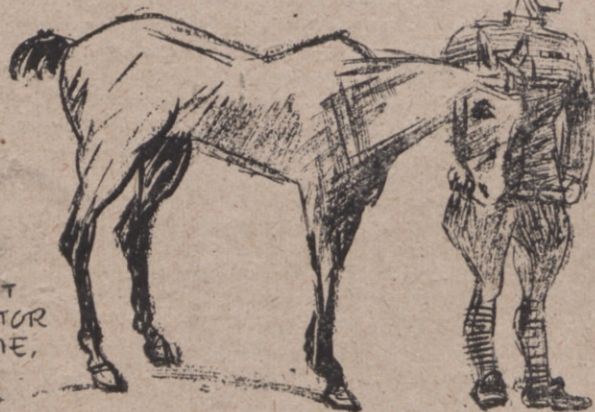
SERGEANT INSTRUCTOR BROOME, M.M.



AN AUSSIE ON THE "OUTSKIRTS"



SERGEANT INSTRUCTOR FORSYTH



TOMMY ATKINS WAITING ON THE FARRIER.

TYPES AT TIDWORTH.

(Drawn for the "Anzac Bulletin" by Will Hope.)

"Our Sisters."

By M.O.

Much has been written about our splendid Army Medical Service. There have been glowing descriptions of our stretcher-bearers—their cool heroism and grim, granite endurance. Our doctors have been deservedly praised for their whole-hearted work and resourcefulness—our equipment and organisation has been lauded to the skies—well-earned tributes—yet the crowning grace and glory of the A.M.C. remains almost unsung—our wonderful, our matchless women—"The Sisters." I speak from the depths of my heart—and I speak as one who knows—having been both doctor and patient with them. Sisters they are, and ever will be, one and all, to me and to countless others—Australians, Canadians, Scotch, Irish, English, Indians and West Indians, all alike, to whom in tender strength they have ministered. The name is no formal badge of office—it is a deep reality, and speaks of a comradeship which mocks at time or change—of ties of love and gratitude which nothing can undo—of memories ineffaceable. I wonder if they know it—if they have any conception what the boys really feel for them—if they realise how deep it goes. I was speaking once to a bearded sergeant—a short, thick-set man, strong of body, strong of soul. His deep-set eyes glowed as he spoke. "They are God's masterpieces, sir," he said, so quietly, yet with utter conviction. He spoke a true word—there are not many who have passed through their hands but would endorse it.

The Nurses in Egypt.

We had seven of them on the great ship which brought us to Egypt—with what a gentle dignity they bore their part in the daily life of the ship, though it must have been trying enough for them at times—seven lonely women amongst those many hundreds of men. One thinks of them as one saw them at the Base Hospitals—at Mena, at Ras-el-tin, on the hospital ships, and in France. Always bright and sympathetic—always utterly self-forgetful, utterly devoted—always capable and resourceful—cool and confident in an emergency—full of spirit—full of sweetness. One forgot almost—they never let one remember it—that they, too, were bearing their woman's burden during the war—sharing the sickening anxiety day by day with those other women in far-off Australia—never knowing from hour to hour what tragedy shattering life the Future might hold for them. We forgot they, too, had their lovers, brothers, dear friends, at the front; we forgot that for some—alas, all too many—the life of hope was already over—the future seemingly black, without any brightness of companionship and love. When their

lovers and brothers died we never knew it—for our sakes the grief would be hidden away, only at night when alone could they give vent to it—on duty they would be as brave and cheery and sympathetic as ever. How splendid in the great pushes—Passchendaele, Messines, Vimy and so forth—Matron was hard put to it to get them to take the rest they needed; very wisely she insisted, or they would have worked themselves right out. I heard the Padre on Good Friday preaching about the World's Greatest Life of Sacrifice—and how something of its beauty and wonder had come home to him as he watched our Sisters in the Passchendaele push: he realised, he said, what the Christ Spirit was—he enriched his conception of what truly is meant by "pure religion and undefiled."

Cheery Self-Denial.

Every word went home, and found an echo in our hearts who know the Sisters for what they really are. One thinks of how they just live for the wounded and sick—of their money (a pittance, when one thinks of the wonderful work they do) poured out like water on our boys—half a week's pay, perhaps, spent to buy flowers, chocolates, cigarettes or goodies of some sort. How often they give up their afternoons to go hospital visiting, when the longing of their bodies is to be out in the sun and open. They take their lavish presents with them, but take, too, something the boys prize yet more—their own sunny hearts and goodwill. One thinks of the hours given up to the boys, taking them on little expeditions into the country or poking round "town" with them and seeing the sights. How many scores of fellows have been kept clean and wholesome and self-respecting through their bright companionship—their frank comradeship. One thinks of the flowers bought for their own wards—the little food extras got somehow—the gramophone got by two or three clubbing together, determined to liven up their ward—the books they bring in for the boys, the letters written for those who cannot write—those other simple, tender letters to friends or relatives in "Blighty" when some poor lad has "Gone West"—the correspondence kept up with former patients, filling half their spare time, encroaching on their much-needed hours of rest and recreation, but done so gladly to keep the boys from feeling neglected when their home letters fail week after week through some delay in the post. I wonder if we realise how often a Sister's letter has helped us and kept us straight when on the point of "plunging" disgusted at the long silence from home—apparently neglected and forgotten. One knew quite well in one's heart of hearts

that the letters were somewhere—that we were not really forgotten—nevertheless, the long gap without one spark to keep the home fires of love and pure ideal burning made one dangerously bitter; then Sister's letter coming along sweet and wholesome and cheerful put one right with the world—one saw things straight once more. Those ten-ward Christmas entertainments! How they entered into them! How they worked for them! How they succeeded beyond belief! How cunningly they contrive to get round food restrictions, so that the boys shall have their due! "The boys have done their bit—the boys shall have their bit; if anyone goes short and has to pinch, let it be the comfortable officers in their cosy mess—or us in our mess, if you like, but not the boys who have faced hell to keep us safe from harm here." That's how they feel about the rationing of hospitals, God bless them, and I think they are utterly right in principle, though some may go a bit too far in practice occasionally.

I notice, though, we have our eggs and our wines, our whisky when we want it! Why, then, should those who have roughed it, as we have not—who have faced and mastered more than we can ever think of—why should they have less choice, less privilege, less latitude than we?

The Wards in Winter.

How skilfully they work the unsuspecting M.O. and get their way—contriving that some tired, nervy boy shall get "Blighty" instead of "Convalescent Camp and the line." I call to mind that long, bitter winter of 1916—the freezing tent-wards—the cold striking to one's very marrow. Why, the washing-up water would freeze as it was being used, the ink froze solid, tea spilt on the coverlets froze in a second almost, and had to be cut off with a knife!—the ground inches deep in snow—the wind howling through the wards—all water-pipes burst—only snow water—a poor, grimy pittance of it—to be had. I can see the sisters now—their noses blue and nipped with cold—their fingers like bulky sausages in thick woollen gloves, cap comforters peaking up over their hair and strapped round their ears—warm bed socks tied on over their shoes—a sight to laugh at, to chaff at, yet to love and reverence. We would make our rounds sharing a hot-water bottle, cuddling it alternately to thaw our hands; then, after a round, often perfunctory, in spite of repeated resolves to stick it out, off I'd go to a delicious "Fugg" in our mess, lying torpid in front of a roasting stove, sucking a most comforting pipe, chivalrously leaving Sister and the boys to stick out the arctic wards as



One on the Sergeant.

Sergeant (sizing the squad): "What do you mean by getting down there, Private Mickle? You ought to be among the big men!"
 Pte. Mickle: "Well, you have been making me feel small enough lately, sergeant!"

best they might. Oh, those bitter "night duties," with the snow drifting in, finely granulated, hard, like powdered sugar! How they managed to stick those long, long nights in the ice-bound tents beat me, but stick it they did, and never seemed out of temper—never seemed anything but kindly, eager to help, full of concern for the men—altogether lovely and lovable. One of the prettiest sights to me is to see a little sister on Sunday gather her "boys" as a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wing, and take them off to "kirk" and "padre" for their souls' good.

She sits in the middle with her boys about her, sharing a book with one of them, mingling her clear treble with their growling bass. Catch one of them unawares sometimes, when he thinks he is all unmarked, and see the look of love in his eyes as they rest on his little Sister in her Quaker-grey and bright red cape—you will know then what the Sisters are to our men. Censor their letters day after day, as I have done, and you will learn what

really goes home to their hearts—three things above all—not we doctors nor the orderlies, though both get an occasional mention—a sort of "also ran." No! "The tucker"—the clean beds—and the "Sisters"—it is always the same story. "The sisters are real sisters to us; they could not do more if they were our very own"—that is the constant comment of "the boys." The Sisters are the finest immigration agents we have; their wonderful work will people the lonely reaches of the back blocks with "the boys" from the old world who have passed through their hands and learnt from them to love and long for Australia, with its warm, sunny atmosphere of affection and freedom. Hats off to the Sisters, boys! the grace and glory of the A.I.F.! Australia has made history these past four years—a deathless heritage of generous self-sacrifice, endurance, heroism—the bounteous outpouring of her spirit—such are the foundations for the mighty superstructure of her future—amongst all her Master Builders there are none whose fair fame will shine with purer lustre—

none who have built more surely, more nobly, more enduringly than our great-hearted women of the A.I.F.

Repatriation.

Sussex Street (Sydney) merchants have formed an association to assist in the building of homes for soldiers. New South Wales has settled 700 returned soldiers on farms and placed 970 widows and disabled men in free homes at a cost to the State of £1,400,000. The Management is confident that the twenty returned men settled at Clinton, Inverell, will make a decent income from fruit growing. The citrus crop is turning out very well, the crop of oranges is estimated to yield 5,000 cases. The soldiers at Harvey Park, the Pinnacles and Ooma settlements have each put in an average area of 200 acres of wheat. Very valuable local assistance has been given them.

Into the Hindenburg Line. General Rawlinson's Tribute.

By C. E. W. BEAN.
War Correspondents' Headquarters,
France, September 20th.

During the night after the big attack before the Hindenburg line some miles north of St. Quentin, the Australian infantry worked into the Hindenburg out-post line along the whole of the southern part of their front. The Victorian infantry, with some South and West Australians, by a wonderful exploiting advance, passed the old No-man's Land, where, in certain places nearly a mile wide, they seized the German trenches overlooking the huge, deep cut into which runs the St. Quentin Canal near Bellenglise. They captured nearly five hundred Germans. This brings the total of prisoners captured by the two Australian Divisions in this fight to well over 4,000, including one regimental and about eight battalion commanders. It is officially reported that twenty-seven guns were captured, but when all are counted the number will probably be forty, or possibly more.

German Guns Hurried Off.

The German guns were yesterday removed in great haste, owing to the depth of our advance. New wheel-tracks are seen in many places. Every now and then teams could be seen on the further slopes, near the broad belts of Hindenburg wire and the white Hindenburg parapets, hurrying with sections or batteries of belated guns over some exposed hillcrest. Eight of our own Australian guns near Robecq were pulled out this spring by teams within two hundred and fifty yards of the advancing German infantry and machine-guns.

The Germans could not manage anything like that, but were often bold in saving artillery. From new positions the Germans to-day kept up a constant series of "shoots."

British General's Praise.

General Sir Harry Rawlinson, Commanding the Fourth Army, to which the Australians are attached, has sent the following message to the Australian Corps:

"Once more I wish to offer my warmest thanks to the First and Fourth Australian Divisions for their splendid victory yesterday. Their gallantry and dash, coupled with the skilful co-operation of the artillery with infantry, are beyond praise. I congratulate all ranks most heartily. Over four thousand prisoners for under twelve hundred casualties is about a record for a major operation."

A Splendid Record.

Since August 8th roughly twenty thousand prisoners have been captured by Australian Divisions. In the same time the Australians captured nearly two hundred and fifty guns and over two hundred square

miles of territory, including one hundred and six towns and villages. Most of these were, unfortunately, ruined by three years of fighting, but crops are now being mown over many thousand acres, which would otherwise have been lost.

Tramcar Bolts.

An electric tramcar got out of control while descending a hill in Mosman (Sydney) on June 12th, and, after having attained a great speed, it crashed into a loaded ballast truck near the Mosman Wharf. The driver of the car, J. Brown, sustained fracture of both legs. Five soldiers, seated in front of the tram, were cut by broken glass.

Historic Property.

"Cranbrook," formerly the home of the late Hon. James White, M.L.C., and the vice-regal residence of several successive governors, is to be opened as a Church of England school for boys. The property has cost between £35,000 and £36,000.

Motor and Horse.

A motor-car driven by a chauffeur named Percival Charles Watts (who has since been arrested on a charge of having been under the influence of drink while in charge of a motor-car) collided with a man on horseback on the Heidelberg Road on June 2nd. The impact is stated to have forced the horse into the car. Mrs. Rose Biggs, of Collingwood, was killed, and two other women and a child who were in the car were injured. The horse was killed, and its rider (Mr. David Walsh, farmer, of Templestowe) was severely shaken.

Larrikins Run Amok.

A band of roughs, known as the "Yarra mob," ran amok in Victoria Street, Abbotsford, on June 1st, after a dispute arising at a football match, and attacked a number of persons with bottles, which were still used as weapons when they were broken. William Lancaster, aged 18 years, who was passing with his father in a jinker, intervened to try to persuade the roughs to return another young man's hat. He was struck with broken bottles, knocked down, and kicked unmercifully while on the ground. An artery was severed in his forehead, and twelve stitches had to be inserted. An aged man was also brutally kicked.

Live Stock in Victoria.

A return has been issued by the Government statistician (Mr. A. M. Laughton) showing the total number of live stock in Victoria at the end of March. Sheep total 14,760,013 head, against 12,576,587 head at the corresponding date last year; horses 514,061 head, against 514,403 head; dairy cows, 534,388, against 488,086; other cattle 836,661, against 687,012, and pigs 323,159 head, against 254,436 head.

Bank Robbery.

At the William Street (Sydney) branch of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank, on May 30th, a man, after diverting the teller's attention, jumped on to the counter and seized several bundles of bank notes. When the teller gave chase supposed confederates of the thief jostled him. The man with the notes dropped about £189 worth at the door, but got away with about £300. Two young men who have since appeared on vagrancy charges were stated in evidence to have been seen to obstruct the teller.

Something like a record has been achieved by Miss Adelina Levey, of London, who, during the course of the war, has personally entertained 50,000 soldiers. Miss Levey marshals as many as a hundred at a time into matinees, and acts as hostess to parties of fifty and more at the tea-table.

Y.M.C.A. News.

Owing to want of space, it is regretted that the "Anzac Bulletin" is not able to publish the usual Y.M.C.A. notices.

THE ANZAC PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

Ballads of Australia's Army.

By Lance-Corporal COBBER.

Cloth 3/6 net. Leather 6/- net.

"Written in a soldier's unadorned, pungent speech. They are full of a blunt good humour."—*Times*.

"Here, then, is a virile, rugged, natural war-poet without frills or fussiness. It will be surprising if he does not become famous in a day or two, for we have been looking for him for the last three years."—*Morning Post*.

TAILS UP.

Adventures of our Airmen on various Fronts.

By EDGAR C. MIDDLETON.

With an Introduction by Major-General R. M. RUCK, C.B., and a Foreword by Col. JOHN BUCHAN.

6/- net.

"Many as have been the books devoted to the wonders achieved by airmen, "Tails Up" will challenge comparison with the best of them."—*Evening Standard*.

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON,
KENT & CO., LTD.,
4 Stationers Hall Court, London, E.C.4

CABLE NEWS from AUSTRALIA*(Continued from page 3).***Lord Forrest's Seat.**

Melbourne, 21st September.

The writ has been issued for the Swan by-election for the vacancy in the House of Representatives caused by the death of Lord Forrest. The nominations will be made on October 4th, and polling will be on October 26th.

The Unwanted Chamber.

Melbourne, 21st September.

Mr. Ryan, Premier of Queensland, has given notice for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Constitution, so as to provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council.

Concessions to Soldiers.

Adelaide, 21st September.

The third reading has been carried in the South Australian Legislative Assembly of a Bill extending the franchise for the Legislative Council, without other qualification, to sailors, soldiers, and nurses who have been on active service.

French Mission to Australia.**Warm Commonwealth Welcome.**

Sydney, 17th September.

The French Mission has had a triumphal tour of New South Wales. The newspapers have devoted much space to the visitors. The "Sydney Morning Herald" printed 11 columns of the festivities connected with their arrival. Among the places visited were Botany Bay, La Perouse (the monument to the famous French navigator, on which General Pau laid a wreath), the Long Bay Penitentiary, Fort Street State School, where the children sang the "Marseillaise" and were given a holiday at General Pau's request. The State Governor (Sir Walter Davidson) entertained the visitors at dinner at Government House on Wednesday, and afterwards a reception was held.

On Thursday the French Consul-General gave a dinner at which General Pau, in responding to the toast of his health, referred to the great loss occasioned by the death on the way out of M. Albert Metin. He remarked that every member of the Mission had served in uniform, and declared that each would do his best to bring Australia and France into closer contact.

Mr. Holman (the Premier of New South Wales), in responding to the toast of the State Ministry, made an eloquent speech, comparing the democracy of France and Australia. He said that he was convinced from a study of Australian politics during the war, that Australia would have done better and played a nobler part if she had had a dictator. She would have done better if there had been less freedom and less consideration for the individual citizen;

but in France, where there was a great free democracy and no dictator, the people had risen in the hour of crisis to confront a common peril with sacred unanimity. It was the example of France which held out hope for the future of humanity. Had there not been a democracy like that of France, ready on the instant to arise, the power of England and the United States would never have been manifested in this war. We would have been a prostrate world before one solitary blow had been struck in our defence. We had been saved by the readiness of the democracy of France, which gave us a respite to organise.

On Friday the Mission made a tour of inspection of the Port of Sydney. All the members expressed themselves as being much impressed by the up-to-date improvements. M. Motte declared that if Sydney had a population of 10,000,000 the port could carry it. After inspecting the immense stores, filled with wool, M. Motte, who represents the French textile industry, emphasised the necessity for proper organisation to carry this raw material to France after the war.

On Saturday the Mission visited the Blue Mountains. It will inspect the Small Arms Factory at Lithgow and the coal mines at Newcastle, and then proceed to Queensland for eight days, returning to New South Wales and then going on to Victoria.

The Premier of Victoria (Mr. H. S. W. Lawson) forwarded a telegram on behalf of the Parliament, people, and Government of Victoria, extending a most cordial welcome to the visitors. "Victorians," he said, "were filled with admiration for the glorious achievements of our gallant Ally. We rejoice at the tidings of certain victory brought by the Mission. We ardently hope that the sacred soil of France will soon be freed from the profane grasp of the invader, and that the noble efforts of our brave Allied Armies against the forces of tyranny and oppression will be crowned with complete triumph." He gave the members of the Mission confident assurances that the most hearty welcome awaited them on their arrival in Victoria.

General Pau, replying, conveyed his deep gratitude for the feelings of friendship displayed.

French Mission at Newcastle.

Sydney, 23rd September.

The French Mission received a rousing reception at Newcastle, New South Wales. After a civic reception the members of the Mission inspected the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's Steel Works at Port Waratah, and also the Walsh Island ship-building works. General Pau said he never expected to see works of such magnitude in Australia. He was much struck with the up-to-date plant.

The members of the Mission arrived in Brisbane on Saturday, and were entertained at a State dinner by the Premier (Mr. Ryan). General Pau, returning thanks, said the present satisfactory position was due to the fact that the Allies had realised the necessity for unity of command. Victory must be prompt and complete. It was time that the world was rid of the agony which destroyed its natural instincts and its more elevated sentiments. We must be in a position to dictate our conditions. If our victory is not complete the enemy will deny his signature on any treaty, as he has already done. The enemy will bow only before force. We must not give the Germans time to take breath, but take advantage of the present position, making it impossible for them to rise. He was sure that Australia would continue to give aid to win the war.

SPORTING NOTFS.**Racing.**

Melbourne, 17th September.

Ascot Thousand: Katiga, 1; Meccano, 2; Pipi, 3. Won by a neck. Betting: 5 to 1 against Ben Fuller; 10 to 1 against the winner.

Sydney, 17th September.

Tattersall's Chelmsford Stakes: Glowing, 1; Rebus, 2; Kennaquhair, 3. Betting: 9 to 4 against Rebus; 7 to 2 against the winner. Won by eight lengths; the time (1 min. 52 sec.) being an Australian record.

Baseball.

Fitzroy (11) beat Essendon (6) and won the Championship of Victoria.

Leave for 1914 Men.

The Prime Minister of Australia (Mr. W. M. Hughes) has received a cable message from the Executive Committee of the Victorian National Labour Party conveying its high appreciation of his successful efforts in obtaining leave for the 7,000 original Anzacs to visit their homeland.

Postal Employees to be Dismissed.

Owing to the difficulty experienced by the Government in obtaining cable wire, sixty Postal Department employees are to receive notice of dismissal.

Regulations Repealed.

The War Precautions military service referendum regulations under which the conscription vote was taken last year have been repealed. This is in fulfilment of a promise made by Mr. Hughes at the Governor-General's Recruiting Conference.

Australian's Sight Restored.

Australians will remember the blind Australian soldier-lecturer and poet, Signaller Tom Skeyhill, who lost his sight in the operations on Gallipoli in 1915. Recently he recovered his sight under what seems to be an extraordinary operation. The operation on the vertebrae of the neck, which restored to Skeyhill his sight, was performed by Dr. R. D. Moore and Dr. Carl Kettler, of Washington. Skeyhill himself said: "Within a few minutes after Dr. Moore began manipulating the back of my neck at the apex of the spinal column I experienced a sharp, excruciating pain. Then, as if by magic, little flashes of light began to come before my heretofore dimmed eyes, and before I realised just what was taking place I found that I could see. My first sensations were those of intense gratitude for the view of this grand old world, which for the last seventeen months had been a place of total darkness to me. Every object on which my newly returned sight fell seemed beautiful beyond comparison. Even the bare white walls of the hospital appeared to my startled gaze the most beautiful things on which I have ever looked." Before undergoing osteopathic treatment Skeyhill had consulted various specialists in England, France, and the United States, who appeared all to share the opinion that Skeyhill could recover his sight only by a miracle.

Entertainments at Havre.

Our Red Cross correspondent writes:—

The recent change whereby the Australian convalescents were concentrated in a large depot at Havre, has brought with it many modifications in Red Cross work, but the new order of things appears to be working well, and many developments have recently taken place which should be appreciated by the men. The provision of a good recreation hut was one of the first concerns of our works in this area, and they are now able to report that it has been painted and decorated and is ready for use, while a stage is in course of erection, and structure is being added to accommodate the cinema apparatus. The range of amusements is being increased month by month, and all are well patronised; while the gardens surrounding the hut are nearing completion, and are considered to be one of the most attractive spots of the whole depot. Convalescents detailed for the work of laying out these grounds have shown keen interest in the work, and the result is certainly most creditable.

The Red Cross is keeping interest in games at a high pitch by organising whist drives, cribbage and draughts tournaments, cricket matches, and inter-camp quoit matches.

A concert party has been formed, and impromptu concerts and other entertainments are daily occurrences, and it is hoped that singing and recital competitions will shortly be in full swing. Altogether, life at the new depot is made as pleasant as possible for the men whose lot is thrown there.

Further up the line—in fact, within close range of the fighting zone itself—excellent work is being done for diverting the minds of those in charge from the war. Thus at one of the Casualty Clearing Stations in the northern area of Australian activity, the Army Educational Scheme has been enthusiastically taken up. Lectures are given, and, at the request of the O.C., the Red Cross obtained from England—a number of text books dealing with commercial law, history, and other subjects, to enable study to be carried on among members of the unit.

Cecil Healy Killed.

A Reuter message from Paris says:—The "Journal" states that Lieut. Cecil Healy, the world's swimming champion for the 100 and 200 yards, was killed by a bullet at the Front, while at the head of a contingent of 500 armoured cars, which crossed the Somme, turned the enemy positions, and took possession of Mont. St. Quentin, the key to Peronne. Mr. Healy was serving with the Australian Corps.

The news of his death was communicated to the "Journal" by Major Middleton, the celebrated Australian Rugby football player, who was his intimate friend and commanding officer. Major Middleton's letter to the "Journal" contains the following passage:—

"By Healy's death the world loses one of its greatest champions, one of its best men. To-day, in the four years I have been at the Front, I wept for the first time."

Personal.

The death has occurred of Archdeacon William James Gunther, aged 79. He was born at Wellington, N.S.W., educated at Paramatta and in England, gaining his B.A. degree in 1862 and his M.A. three years later, and for 40 years was incumbent of St. John's, Parramatta.

Dame Melba arrived from America, spent a few hours in Sydney with a sister and proceeded to Melbourne the same day.

The Estate of Private Brian Templer Barton, of Wellington, N.S.W., who was killed in action, has been probated at £28,634.

Mr. Denny Day, 75, well known in banking circles, died on June, 22nd. His father was the N.S.W. police magistrate who distinguished himself at Matiland by capturing the Jew Boy gang of bushrangers.

"Why, Emma!"

With wives and mothers far away,
Who cares for Aussie's wants all day?
Ask any man; you'll hear him say,
"Why, Emma!"

When tired and thirsty from parade,
Who's ever ready "Bill" to aid
With tea, and ham, and lemonade?
"Why, Emma!"

Who knows the home folks' fears and hopes
—How mother longs and father mopes—
Gives paper out, and envelopes?
"Why, Emma!"

When work is hard, and days are long,
And every bally thing seems wrong,
Who'll buck-up Aussie with a song?
"Why, Emma!"

Who'll hear the troubles Aussie brings,
And give to him the hope that springs
From thoughts of God and highest things?
"Why, Emma!"

Who follows Aussie to the fray,
Where guns are roaring night and day,
And helps him there to fight and pray?
"Why, Emma!"

Who's out to keep him straight and true,
His highest self, the whole war through—
And afterwards, remember, too?
"Why, Emma!"

Ask any Aussie who's about
The last thing he would go without
In camp or at the front; he'll shout—
"Why, Emma!"

G. W. JEPHCOCK, in the "Sydney Mail."

For Italy.

Subscriptions for Italian Red Cross Day (June 28th) total, so far, over £10,000. The Chinese community is making remarkably good efforts on behalf of the fund.

Guarding Children on the Stage.

The Minister for Education states that he is determined to prevent, as far as possible, the employment of children on the stage in Sydney, and will rigidly set his face against little girls being engaged for stage dancing.

Dr. Arthur and Clinics.

Dr. Arthur, M.L.A., suggested to the Health Society that the Conservatorium of Music be devoted to the treatment of venereal disease. "There are plenty of places in Sydney," he said, "where they can hold concerts; there are plenty of private teachers; we might as well give Mr. Verbrugghen and his fiddlers a holiday."

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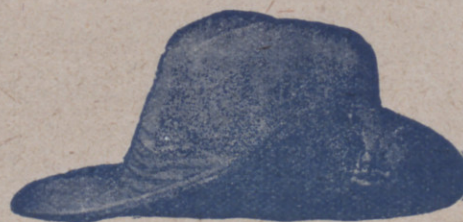


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