

NEWS from HOME.

A U.S., A.I.F. SOLDIER

Determined to avenge the loss of his three brothers in fighting the Japanese, Pte. Charles M. Stewart of the United States Army is operating with an Australian Infantry Unit along the Huon Peninsular Coast. He was granted special permission by his U.S. Commander to join the Australians and the Australian Command put no obstacles in the way. Stewart who comes from Stockton, California is reported to have three hills to his credit, including one officer whose sword he captured.

A NOTEWORTHY TRAIL. Two men have been arrested on a charge of having stolen £22.?? in notes and silver from the Leinster Arms Hotel Collingwood (Vic) on Friday night. When the licencee was out, thieves entered through a side window and broke into the storeroom. When the licencee returned he found a trail of £1 notes from the storeroom to a garage. Some of the money has been recovered by the police but they learned that one man's share had already been lost in a two up game.

AFTER THE STRIKE. "Absentee summons against Tramway strike leaders which were to have been heard on Tuesday have been deferred indefinitely," said Deputy Crown Solicitor G. Watson yesterday. He said "Judge Drake Brockman wishes the summons to be adjourned until he has completed his investigation of transport conditions."

AFTER THE FIGHT. "Demobilization of the Australian Army after hostilities cease is now being planned," said Army Minister Forde yesterday. "A special committee on demobilization is sitting continuously in Melbourne, with the aim to provide satisfactorily for the return of servicemen: to civilian life," Mr. Forde added.

AFTER THE BLACK MARKET. Charles Waterhouse former manager of the Imperial Hotel North Sydney, was sentenced to 9 months gaol by the special Federal Court yesterday. Waterhouse was found guilty on two charges relating to Black Market liquor transactions - having given a false answer to an authorised person in relation to some wine and having sold 480 bottles of wine for £120 which was £40 above the maximum.

AROUND THE AREA

PICTURES Camp Theatre: "Midnight" and "Parole Fixer" Pioneer: "Oklohom Kid" and "Nancy Drew, Reporter" Capitol: "Stardust on the Sage" and "War Dogs"

The above performances are dependent upon weather conditions.

OPEN AIR DANCE. At the C. of E. Rec Hut Palais will take place as usual, weather conditions permitting, but if you are disappointed about the dance you would still be made most welcome in the delightfully appointed recreation rooms of the C. of E., where there is every facility for a good evening. There is of course no charge for admission.

If Cook VX37641 would contact the Amenities Officer Ext. 129 he will hear something to his advantage. It has to do with a BOOMERANG

L O S T. Town Area. Gent's Wristlet Watch - name HARVEY. Reward. Contact Amenities

STOP PRESS.

GEMBROOK RAILWAY CONVERSION. Expenditure of about £150000 on the electrification and conversion to broad gauge of the Upper Ferntree Gully-Belgrave-Gembrook railway line was justified by the estimates of £20086 for operating costs and £18900 additional revenue, said Mr. R.G. Wishart Railways' Commissioner to the Public Works Committee yesterday. He said the Department had based its estimates on the assumption that it would get a monopoly of the passenger transport. Annual current loss on narrow gauge line is £3767.

A RING UP QUEUE-UP. An automatic "ring up queue-up" telephone system, which has been in operation for a month at the Govt. Tourist Bureau has pleased the Railways' Commissioners. It ensures every telephone enquirer being taken strictly in turn, thus eliminating the danger of anyone being unnecessarily delayed.

CANBERRA BUSHFIRES. Cooler weather and easterly winds enabled the bush fire brigade to control the fires which threatened Fed. Comm. Territory yesterday. About 15,000 acres, and hundreds of stock and valuable property have been destroyed in the Canberra district.

FRONT LINE BONUS "A £10 bonus to every man coming out of battle," would pay only a small part of the debt the home front owes the fighting front," said Sec. Limless Soldiers And Limmy, yesterday when commenting on the proposals made on Tuesday by Alan Halls a War Correspondent for increased recognition of the services of combatant troops. Halls proposed a flat rate bonus of at least £10, a weeks special leave, a campaign ribbon and a bound volume of photographs of the campaign.

ATROCITY REPORT. The report of the Royal Commission into Japanese treatment of Australians in the S.W. Pacific, will probably be ready by the end of February said Army Minister Forde yesterday. Great distances had to be travelled and many witnesses examined by the Commission. The Fed Govt. had every confidence that when the report was ready it would be most valuable.

PLENTY OF RAIN IN QLD. TOO. Almost the whole of the Qld coastal belt has been drenched with heavy rain. Registrations for week ended 9 a.m. yesterday varied from 1 to 15". The far S.W. however which was very dry missed out altogether.

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