

**AWM4**

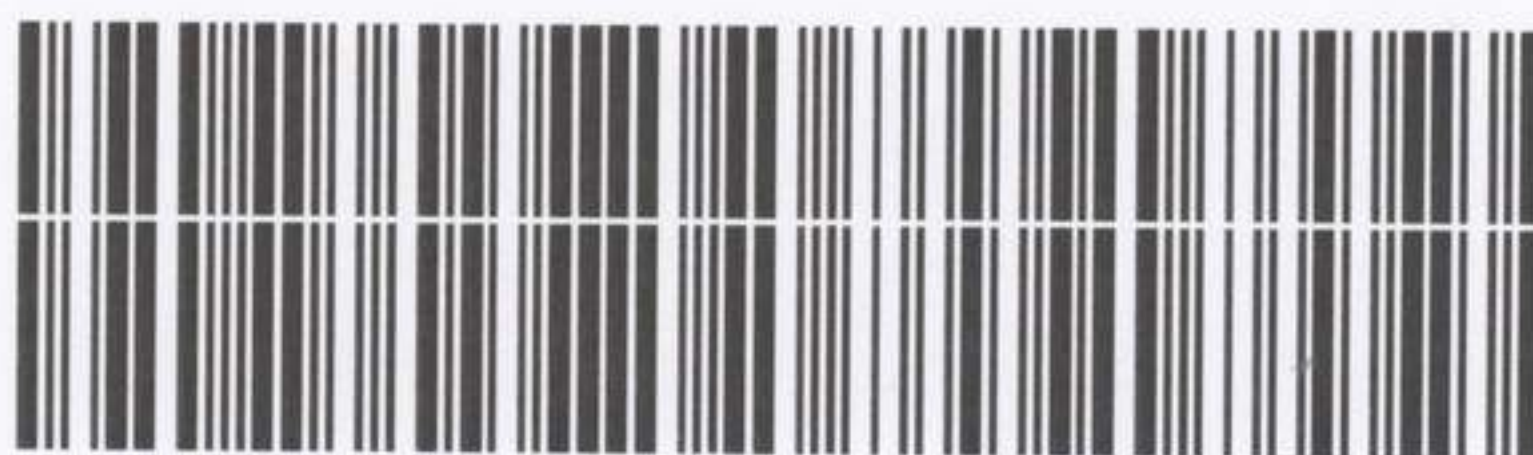
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Bases & Depots

**Item number: 33/16/11**

**Title: No 1 Australian Command Depot**

January 1918



AWM4-33/16/11

DIARY FROM 1st JANUARY 1918 to 8th JANUARY L(L'  
.....

469  
PRODUCTION 1.

The production of "A" class personnel for last week has been satisfactory. The figures are-440 "A" class men sent Overseas. In addition to this 300 men were sent to Weymouth for evacuation to Australia.

RE-ORGANISATION 2.

As was indicated in my last record, the Depot is to undergo a complete re-organisation, and will be in future divided into 2 Battalions, each under a Lieutenant-Colonel. Complete Orders for this are attached hereto.

It is felt that with this new scheme in operation far greater efficiency in all branches will result.

Visit of G.O.C. 3.

On the 2nd inst. Major General, The Hon. Sir James McCay, Commanding A.I.F. Depots in U.K. ,visited the Depot and made a thorough inspection of all Camps. He spent a considerable amount of time in the Detention Camps reviewing the various men there charged with Military Offences.

ABSENCE WITHOUT LEAVE 4.

During the late Christmas & New Year period, Absent without leave has increased alarmingly. The great majority of these cases however, are men who have been ordered to report to this Depot by Headquarters, and have failed to do so. Under the new organisation these cases will not be debited against the Depot ,but will remain on Headquarters Strength until their Furlough is complete.

BAND VISIT to LONDON 5.

From the 1st to 5th inst. inclusive, the Band has been performing daily in Trafalgar Square, London, and on the evening of the 6th inst., gave a Concert at the A.I.F. War Chest Club, Horseferry Road, London.

PAY OFFICE 6.

Starting Monday, 7th inst., the Pay Office has been brought under the direct control of the Chief Paymaster London. This scheme has many advantages over that of Depot Imprest Holder, and, in future, a great deal of correspondence will be cut out. The Paymaster at the

PAY OFFICE  
( Contd )

5. Depot will be able to decide far more detail and procedure than it was possible for an Imprest Holder to do.

HEALTH  
of  
TROOPS

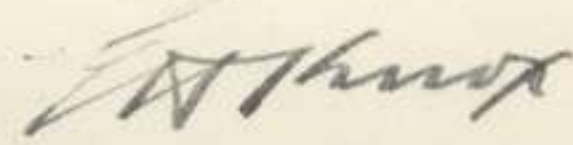
6. It is regretted that Venereal Disease has shown an increase over the same period last year, and, although all facilities are given to men to take precautions after intercourse with women, many fail to appreciate the dangers that they run .

Regarding ordinary sickness, considering the great numbers in the Depot, this is not on the increase, and the weather conditions have been most favorable during the last few days although this is the height of Winter.

DEPOT  
STRENGTH

7. The Depot Strength at the present time is :-  
141 Officers, 5167 O/Ranks. Of this total 126 Officers and 4151 O@ Ranks are actually in Camp.

The great majority of the Officers are those receiving Medical treatment , and are fit only for light duty.



.....Lieut. Colonel.  
Commandant. No.1. Command Depot A.I.F.

Reorganisation

On Wednesday last the Depot was reorganised into two Battalions, each of which is self-contained and they are practically Sub-Depots. The change over took place without a hitch. Already the effects of the change are being felt in that a much fairer distribution of responsibility is caused thereby. The out put of "A" class men was held up for two days in consequence of the change, but the Depot is normal again now and outgoing drafts are proceeding as usual.

The Battalions are commanded by :-

No. 1 Battalion Lieut.-Col. W.O.Mansbridge, D.S.O, 44th Bn. with Lieut. P.W. Pearce M.C. 23rd Bn. as Adjutant.

No. 2 Battalion Lieut.-Col. R.H.Beardsmore, D.S.O., V.D., Gen. List. with Lieut. W.W.Crampton, 18th Bn. as Adjutant.

Physical Training

Greater interest has lately been taken in physical training at this Depot and this has been made possible by the large number of men who are at present on strength. In a Command Depot it is extremely hard to obtain men for training parades when so many are sick and others are attending medical and dental parades. The average number of men, however, who are at present on training daily, is 1,500 and graduated training is given to the men of different categories. Copy of orders which have been issued on the subject is attached.

Visit of  
Commander-  
in-Chief  
Southern  
Command.

On the 10th instant, the Commander-in-Chief, Southern Command, and the G.O.C., A.I.F. Depots in U.K., visited the Depot and spent about an hour here. The Commander-in-Chief particularly interested himself in the physical training of the men and also visited the Group Clearing Hospital and Dental Hospital here. He was also particularly interested in a proposition put forward by the O.C. Messing for the saving of coal by having special stoves installed in the cookhouses. The Commander-in-Chief instructed this Officer to formulate a scheme and have the same sent forward for approval.

Officers in  
Command.

A scheme has been proposed in this Depot for the formation of a small Command Depot similar to a Convalescent Home for Home Service and Light Duty Officers. At the present time, all Home Service and Light Duty Officers who are likely to become fit for the Front again, are instructed to report from Horseferry Road here. With the result that, at the present time, there are over 80 such Officers. The accommodation which can be provided for them is extremely limited and the Messing facilities are not all that could be desired. The proposal is that this Command Depot would be situated somewhere handy to this Depot in a large house if possible and have accommodation for about 100 Officers. Leave would be granted from there and medical and dental treatment provided, also physical training. The Staff required would be very small and it is thought that Officers' condition would be greatly improved and that far better results would be obtained.

Absentees

The work of the Depot will be appreciably lessened under an arrangement regarding absentees, which has just come into force. Previously men who had been granted sick furlough from Administrative Headquarters, immediately were taken on the strength of the Depot to which they ultimately had to report, and as a result, such of these men as overstayed their furlough were considered to be absentees from the Depot concerned. This causes a great deal of work, and in cases where the absence is of such duration as to necessitate a remand to District Court Martial, great difficulty was caused in the preparation of evidence satisfactorily. The new arrangement is that all N.C.O's and men granted furlough from Administrative Headquarters will report back to those Headquarters on the expiration of their furlough,

and will then be conducted to the Depot by a Conducting N.C.O. Until these men actually arrive at their destination they are considered to be on Administrative Headquarters strength, and all enquiries regarding Absentees, District Court Martial cases, will be dealt with from there.

Return of  
1914 "C"  
Class men

On the 8th instant, about 25 "C" class men from this Depot, who had left Australia with the first Contingent in 1914, were transferred to Weymouth for embarkation to Australia in accordance with orders from Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in U.K. Arrangements have been made to transfer other batches of men as they accumulate in the Depot.

Depot strength

The Depot strength at the present time is 146 Officers 4,874 Other Ranks, of whom actually in Camp there are 130 Officers 4,227 Other Ranks. The balance being made up of nearly 300 in Hospital and over 200 on leave.

Sutton Veny, Wilts,  
12th January, 1918.

Lieutenant-Colonel & Commandant,  
No. 1 Command Depot, A.I.F.

DIARY FROM 16TH JANUARY 1918 TO 23RD JANUARY 1918.

Production

Production for week ending the 20th was 1030 all classifications, of which 660 were "A" class men and the remainder mostly sent to Weymouth for transmission to Australia or Hospitals. This is a record as far as the Depot is concerned. The Weymouth drafts were sent at short notice as several transports were leaving for Australia.

Changes in  
 Medical &  
 Dental Personnel.

The following changes should be recorded.  
 Major Maplestone, D.S.O., A.A.M.C. is now here understudying  
 Major McIntyre M.C., who is shortly leaving.  
 Major E.F. Mollie A.A.D.C. has taken the place of Captain Remington transferred to Australian Flying Corps.

New Organisation.

Except for a few minor difficulties, which can easily be overcome the scheme for organisation of the Depot into two Battalions is working splendidly, and will, I think, tend to far greater efficiency and production in the future. Under the old organisation, the Depot was becoming a little unwieldy.

Sutton Veny, Wilts,  
 22nd January, 1918.

Lieutenant-Colonel & Commandant,  
 No. 1 Command Depot, A.I.F.

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DIARY FROM 24TH JANUARY 1918 TO JANUARY 31ST 1918.

Production

The production of all classes of men from the Depot during January has been a record. A full detail of this including marchings in and out for the period under review is given in Appendix 1.

Absentees.

The alarming increase of absentees without leave for the Xmas and New Year periods is now reaching normal, and the present number of men A.W.L. is not excessive when compared with the Depot strength, and the proportion has in no way increased. It is a distinct advantage to the Administration now that Headquarters deal with all men absent from furlough granted after men leaving Hospital. Furthermore, after men have finished their furlough they do not report here individually but to Horseferry Road, and from there are sent down in batches.

Rations

It is understood that all Home Service Personnel are to be put on restricted rations from an early date. The distribution of the small ration will afford a considerable amount of difficulty, and the only practicable method is really to reduce every man's ration by a small proportion based on the number of Home Service personnel in the Depot.

Messing

During the last month special efforts have been made for the further economical working of the Messing Officer's Department. Lieut. Andrewes, the Messing Officer, has paid a series of visits to the Canadian Forces at Bramshott and the Naval Barracks at Portsmouth, and has gained some very valuable information. The waste per man from this Depot is only two ounces per day, and it is expected that this will be greatly reduced. The system of self-helping is working well. Under this, a man takes exactly what he wants and cuts out the waste of food which previously went on, in cases where men were served with more than they could eat.

Cultivation

Additional efforts are being made to cultivate every possible piece of ground in and around the Camp. It is estimated that about 40 acres will shortly be planted with potatoes. Arrangements have been made for our own horses carts, implements, etc. to do this work.

Battalion System.

After a few mistakes regarding the detail of Administration, the splitting up of the Depot into two Battalions is now working excellently and undoubtedly the production and efficiency have ~~gained~~ gone up.

Depot Paper.

Attached herewith as Appendix 2, will be found a copy of the Depot paper known as "The Dinkum Australian". This paper was published at the desire of a number of men and the future for it is confidently ~~is~~ looked forward to. There are many improvements which will come out in later issues and can only be covered by experience. The price is 5d. per copy.

Lieutenant-Colonel & Commandant,  
No. 1 Command Depot, A.I.F.

(G).

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appendix No 2

Receiving & Distributing Departments  
 No 1 Command Depot A.I.F.  
 Sutton Veney  
 31.1.18

To :- Adjutant.

Attached please find Summary of work carried out by these Departments during Month ending January 31st 1918.

Figures show that 3,194 N.C.O's and Men Marched In, and 2,782 N.C.O's and Men Marched Out, as against 3,828 and 2,196 respectively for Month ending December 31st 1917.

Month ending.	N.C.O's & men from C.D.	N.C.O's & men from T.U.	N.C.O's & men proc on Furlough	N.C.O's and Men from Furlough
December 31st	1216	87	128	2525
January 31st	1252	234	26	1708
Increase	36	Incr. 147	Decrease 92	Decrease. 717

*E.H. Cowan*

-----Lieut.  
 O.i/c Receiving & Distributing Depts.  
 No 1 Command Depot A.I.F.  
 Sutton Veney  
 31.1.18



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RECEIVING & DISTRIBUTING DEPARTMENT  
 NO 1 COMMAND DEPOT A.I.F.  
 SUTTON VENNEY

MARCHING IN STATE FOR MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31st 1918

Date	From O.Dep.	From Tng Units	From Furlo	Proc on Furlo	Absentees from Furlo	Absentees from leave
January 1st	28	3	62	-	21	98
" 2nd	82	8	143	-	24	27
" 3rd	36	2	104	-	17	7
" 4th	70	7	94	14	27	8
" 5th	32	6	65	-	17	3
" 6th	11	1	19	-	-	7
" 7th	62	9	74	-	7	-
" 8th	63	9	23	-	-	56
" 9th	33	8	13	-	1	2
" 10th	30	4	62	-	13	3
" 11th	73	6	57	-	24	9
" 12th	36	8	63	-	15	-
" 13th	-	-	-	-	-	6
" 14th	42	1	119	-	28	1
" 15th	37	2	42	1	8	34
" 16th	31	2	91	-	-	1
" 17th	75	10	29	-	-	1
" 18th	32	64	105	12	-	4
" 19th	39	2	68	-	-	-
" 20th	-	-	-	-	-	1
" 21st	52	1	79	-	-	-
" 22nd	93	21	76	-	-	6
" 23rd	65	5	56	-	-	-
" 24th	19	17	29	-	-	1
" 25th	65	7	77	-	-	2
" 26th	22	2	28	-	-	-
" 27th	-	-	-	-	-	1
" 28th	33	1	57	-	-	-
" 29th	52	14	19	-	-	1
" 30th	14	4	36	-	-	-
" 31st	25	10	18	-	-	-
TOTALS	1,252	234	1,708	26	202	279

*H. J. Row*  
 -----Lieut  
 O.i/c Receiving & Distributing Depts.,  
 No 1 Command Depot A.I.F.  
 Sutton Venney  
 31.1.18

1252  
 234  
 1708  
 26  
 202  
 279  
 -----  
 3701

469

## RECEIVING &amp; DISTRIBUTING DEPARTMENT

NO 1 COMMAND DEPOT A.I.F.

SUTTON VENNEY

MARCHING OUT STATE FOR MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31st 1918DIRECTION 1st to 5th 7th to 12th 14th to 19th 21st 26th 28th -31st

Overseas T Bgde	337	376	613	389	250
No 1 Group S.Veney	15	1	15	43	19
Tidworth	5	21	2	12	4
Bulford	8	3	10	X7	4
London	7	2	-	-	-
R.B.A.A Heytesbury	1	-	7	8	-
3rd T.B.Codford	11	-	10	11	-
Lewes Detention	4	4	1	4	8
Grantham MGC Depot	12	1	1	-	-
Wendover AFC Depot	2	1	2	2	3
Weymouth No 2 CD	1	26	353	2	-
Warminster ASC	-	1	-	-	-
2nd T.B.Fovant	-	1	13	18	11
Park House AMC	-	1	2	14	14
Shefford D.Sigs	-	2	-	1	-
Borden ALROD	-	-	1	-	-
Sutton V.Hospital	-	-	3	4	5
No 3 CD Hurdcott	-	-	-	42	2
Brightlingsea	-	-	-	11	-
Aldershot Sch of Inst.	-	-	-	-	3
Devonport "	-	-	-	-	9
Delhi Hospital	-	-	-	-	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>338</b>

Shewing a Grand Total of 2,782*L.H. Ross*

-----Lieut  
 Officer i/c Receiving & Distributing Dept.,  
 No 1 Command Depot A. I. F.  
 Sutton Venney  
 31.1.18

SPECIAL ORDER NO.1.  
By Lieut. Colonel G.H. Knox C.M.G.  
NO.1. COMMAND DEPOT A.I.F.

NEW ORGANISATION

1. In accordance with instructions from Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in U.K. ( Authority CR. OR. 1117 ) No.1. Command Depot, will, commencing Wednesday, 9th instant, be divided into two Battalions as follows :-

No.1. Battalion 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Infantry Divisions and all Artillery Units including *Heavy & Medium* Trench Mortar Btys.

No.2. Battalion 4th & 5th Infantry Divisions, and all other Troops.

N.B. Divisional and Brigade H/Qrs will be included with respective Infantry Divisions.

ALLOTMENT 2. No.1. Battalion will occupy Nos 8 & 9 Camps with Headquarters at No.9. Camp. No.2. Battalion will occupy Nos 7 & 10 Camps with Headquarters in Company Offices No. 7. Camp.

COMPOSITION 3. Each Battalion will consist of 4 Companies as follows :-  
OF  
BATTALIONS

NO.1. Coy. Receiving, Classification, Clothing, Furlough, No Platoon sub-division.

NO.2. COY Medical ( Bla1, Bla2, Bla3, category men) divided into four platoons as follows :- No.1. Bla1. No.2. Bla2.

No.3. Bla3, No.4. A 3 ( Drafting )

NO.3. Coy. Dental ( Bla4 category) divided into 3 Platoons as follows : No.1. Gum cases, No.2. Minor cases, for immediate treatment, No.3. A3 ( Drafting )

NO.4. Coy. A 4. Blb, and lower category men divided into two Platoons as follows:- A4, B2a, & C.1. available for duty.

NO.2. Blb, B3b, Cla, C 2, C3, ( For Evacuation to Australia except Blb, & not available for duty )

PERSONNEL 4. Battalions will be commanded by :-

NO.1. Battalion Lieut-Colonel W.O. Mansbridge  
D.S.O. 44th Battalion.  
Adjutant-Lieut. P.V. Pearce

NO.2. Battalion Lieut. Colonel R.H. Boardsmore  
D.S.O. V.D. Gen. List. Adjutant-Lieut.  
V.V. Jrampton.

Battalions will have the undermentioned Officer Personnel allotted to them :-

NO.1. Battalion

O. J. No.1. Coy. Lieut. J.L. Drybrough

O. J. No.2. Coy. Lieut. G.H. Shemalleck & 3 Subalterns.

O. J. No.3. Coy. Captain G.F. Mason & 3 Subalterns.

O. J. No.4. Coy. Lieut. W. Thurlow.

## SPECIAL ORDER (continued)

NO. 2. Battalion

- O. J. No. 1. Coy. - Lieut. W. L. Coach  
 O. J. No. 2. Coy. - Captain J. L. Gray, & 3 Subalterns  
 O. J. No. 3. Coy. Lieut. J. E. Cameron & 3 Subalterns  
 O. J. No. 4. Coy. - Lieut. Dickinson.

Total Combatant Officers per Battalion - 12.

DEPOT 5. Until further instructions, the following  
HEADQUARTERS will comprise Depot Headquarters Staff :-  
STAFF

Commandant.  
 Officer in charge of "Q" Services  
 Adjutant & Staff  
 Q.M. & Staff of Clothing Stores.  
 O. J. Provost with Office Staff & Detention  
 Staff and No. 5. Coy. Clerks.  
 Receiving Officer and Staff  
 Band. Physical Instructors.  
*Messing Messes and Staff.*

TRANSFER 6.  
of  
PERSONNEL

With the exception of the Staff referred to in preceding para, all other ranks in the Depot will be paraded on Camp Parade Grounds at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 9th January, with Kits and blankets complete. They will be divided into two parties to conform with Battalions as stated above. At 9.45 a.m. markers will be sent from each Company as under, to report to Camp R.S.M's - No. 1. Battalion to No. 9 Camp - No. 2. Battalion to No. 7. Camp. At 10 a.m. Companies will advance on respective markers. Adjutants of Battalions will then have parades checked and Nominal Rolls taken and will allot men to Companies according to Classification as stated in Para (2)

TRANSFER 7.  
of  
RECORDS

On Tuesday, 7th January, Depot Headquarters, Companies, Departments, Medical & Dental Departments, will split their cards into Battalions according to Division specified in para (1)  
 On Monday, Companies will transfer to respective Battalion Orderly Rooms, cards for men transferred. Battalions will check such cards with Nominal Rolls taken on the morning parade, and will report any queries to Depot Headquarters.

ORDERLY 8.  
ROOM STAFF

Battalion Adjutants may select from present Company Staffs, provided that Divisions are correct, suitable Battalion Orderly Room Staffs and Company Staffs. They will submit to this Office by Monday, 7th instant, the names of personnel so selected.

RECEPTION 9.  
&  
DISPOSAL  
of NEW  
ARRIVALS

The Depot Receiving Office will receive all incoming Drafts, and will check them off and immediately hand same over to their Battalions. Battalions will have an N. J. O. at the Depot Receiving Office No. 7. Camp, at suitable times during the day. The Depot Receiving Office will

(over)

## SPECIAL ORDER (Continued)

- 9 submit a card for each man to his Battalion and one to Depot Headquarters, and also a Marching In State to Depot Headquarters & S.M.O. *Q.M.* The Distributing Office will arrange for the Drafting of men for *draft* or evacuation.
- BATTALION RECEIVING JOYS. (No.1. Coy) 10. Battalion Receiving Companies will receive men from the Depot Receiving Office, and will arrange for the Primary Classification, Clothing and disposal of them to Companies according to Classification.
- LEAVE & Furlough 11. Leave and Furlough in accordance with the authorised scale, will be granted by Battalions. Numbers of men proceeding, showing destinations, will be submitted to Depot Receiving Office, 4 days previous to day of travelling, in order that Train arrangements may be made and Destination Rolls compiled. Depot Receiving Officer will hand over on signature to C's 3 No.1. Companies, a proportion of warrants and passes with instructions re safe-keeping of same.
- DISBANDMENT of DEPOT STAFF 12. Departments will arrange to disband their present Staffs except as stated in para 5. Battalions may utilise these men in a similar capacity if desired. The Guard as at present composed, will be disbanded, but will be employed on their present duty till Battalions are able to supply guards.
- ACCOMMODATION 13. The Quartermaster will arrange for the accommodation of Depots Headquarters Staff in No.10. Camp where it is not possible for men to be accommodated in their respective Departments.
- MEDICAL 14. (a) The Senior Medical Officer will appoint two Regimental Medical Officers to take charge of their Unit Sick Parades &c.  
(b) Medical Classification Parades will be held as at present.
- RETURNS 15. (a) Battalions will submit Returns to Depot Headquarters daily as follows:-  
(i) 3.4. State  
(ii) Daily additions and alterations  
(iii) Ration Indent.  
(iv) 9 a.m. Absentee and leave return.  
(b) Battalions will submit the following Weekly Returns :-  
(i) Weekly Classification Return  
(ii) Weekly Nominal Rolls  
(iii) Evacuation of 43 men  
(iv) Nominal Roll of 43 men held off Draft, showing reason.

## SERIAL ORDER (Continued)

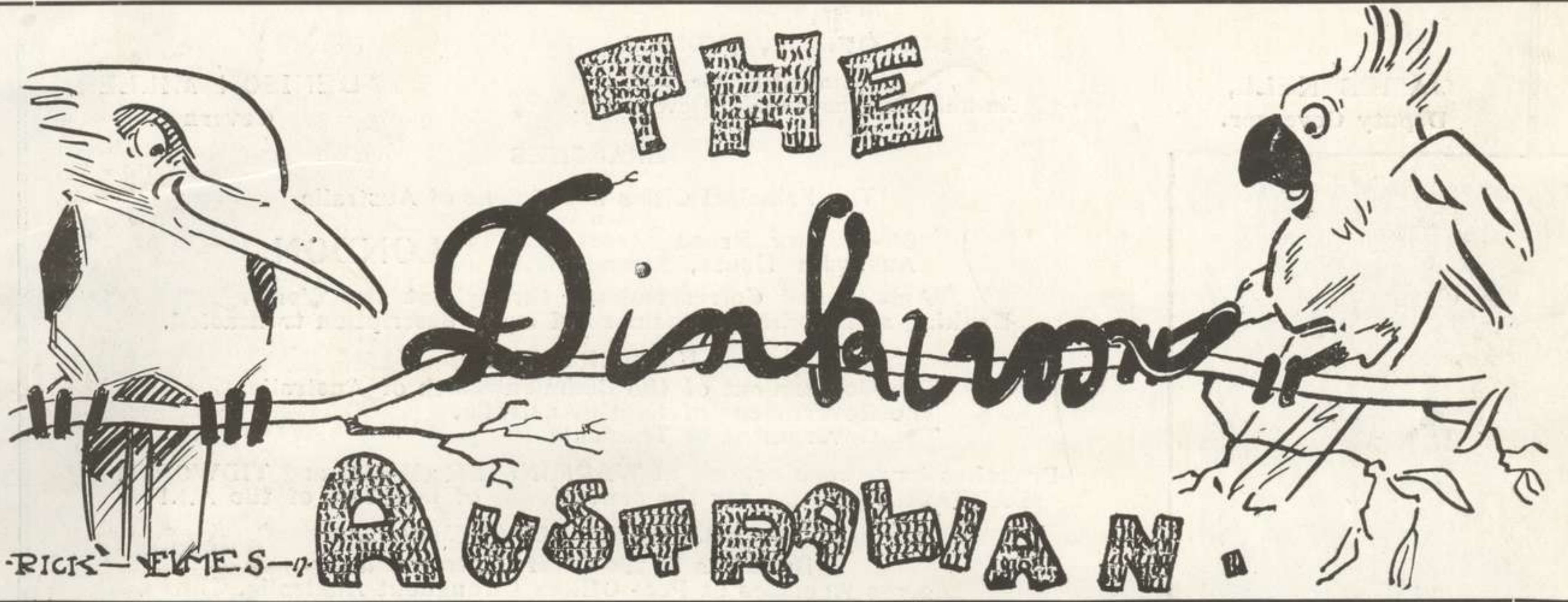
- ABSENTEE & 16. (a) All Absentees either from Administrative  
HOSPITAL Headquarters, Furlough, or Absentees from  
30Y. Department the Depot will be transferred after 6  
hours to the Absentee Company, with cards;  
Charge Sheets, in case of men breaking Camp  
will be made out by Battalions, and  
attached to the cards. In the case of  
Absentees from Furlough or men overstaying  
leave granted from this Depot, charge sheets  
will be made out by these Headquarters.  
When these men return Charge Sheets will be  
completed by No. 5. Company, and at intervals  
daily all men returned will be transferred  
to Battalion for Disciplinary Action.  
Battalions will keep an Absentee Register,  
which will be checked at Headquarters weekly
- (b) Men going into Hospital will be trans-  
ferred to this Company, and will be re-trans-  
ferred to Battalion on return at ~~90 mins~~  
daily. *intervals*
- Both Absentees and men from Hospital on  
return to the Depot will be re-classified  
in their Battalions.

- ADMINISTRATION 17. Until further instructions are issued, all  
"Q" Services will be administered from  
Depot Headquarters and carried out under  
control of Captain J. Gettlingby P.S.L.
- OFFICERS 18. Officers Records will be controlled as at  
RECORDS present.

*P. D. Davies*

Lieut. & Adjutant  
No. 1. Command Depot A.I.F.

# BARTLETT'S WARMINSTER ALES



No. 1.

JANUARY 30TH, 1918.

Price 3d.



"Ah! I remember  
I was nineteen when I  
enlisted in 1914, and  
will get my discharge  
in another five years.

Ah, ah, ah!"

Published  
Fortnightly.



A. L. CHAVASSE,  
Editor,  
No. 1 Command,  
SUTTON VENY.

**BARTLETT & Co.,** BREWERS, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS, MINERAL WATERS, **WARMINSTER**

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On 31st June, 1917.

356,344 Savings Bank depositors had balances .. .. .	£12,442,847
General Bank Balances .. .. .	36,341,502
Other Items .. .. .	1,718,813
	<u>£50,503,162</u>

LONDON BRANCHES: 36-41 NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.  
AUSTRALIA HOUSE, STRAND, W.C.

C. A. B. CAMPION, Manager.



Head Office:  
Sydney, New South Wales.

## WARMINSTER Motor Bus Service.

BUSES LEAVE—

Warminster.		Sutton Veny.	
2.15 p.m.	3.0 p.m.	2.35 p.m.	3.20 p.m.
3.45 "	4.30 "	4.5 "	4.50 "
5.0 "	8.0 "	5.20 "	8.20 "
9.15 "	10.15 "	9.20 "	10.35 "

## CARS FOR HIRE.

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THE BOREHAM GARAGE,  
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# The Dinkum

469  
THE CONTENTS  
OF THIS PAPER  
ARE COPYRIGHT.

Sketches. Cartoons.  
Short Stories.  
Latest Camp Doings.

# Australian

No. 1.

JANUARY 30TH, 1918.

Price 3d.

## Editorial Notes.

*We know no politics, and only one creed, namely to produce an article of such interest that every man in the A.I.F. will find it is his own personal paper.*

*This is the first of its kind ever published where all profits go to the Regimental funds. All expenses are defrayed privately.*

*We want you to feel that it is each man's duty to give this paper a push on; to write us for advice on any subject, legal or otherwise, and to feel that he has a friend and a personal one in the Editor.*

*If you cannot write articles or sketch, perhaps you know of some funny happening whilst in camp or on active service. Send it along, it all helps, we want it.*

*If you feel that your camp doings are not reported, blame your camp correspondent, put some ginger into him, also tell us, and we will back you up.*

*Send us a half-yearly subscription, it is only 3/-, and the paper will be sent to Australia or France just as you wish. Send a copy to your friends in England, it only costs a penny per copy postage.*

*Every article and sketch is given us by enthusiastic members of the A.I.F. We cannot pay for contributions.*

*Men of the A.I.F., you who have made history and the name of Australians so feared by foes, show what you can do to make money for our sick and wounded. Let the world see that our abilities are not wholly given to fighting to kill, but also to fighting to help those not so favourably placed as ourselves.*

*We have arrived—it's Dinkum. As you all know Dinkum means the real, true dinky die—absolutely it. So it is with us. We are all that, and will be more with your help.*

*Speaking now personally, I feel that this paper will fill a long-felt want. Every issue I will try and improve on, and to you as a whole and individually, each man, I ask as a brother in arms and doing his bit, his hearty co-operation and personal assistance.*

*Before I close these few remarks let me add one word of thanks to the managers of all canteens, Y.M.C.A., various church huts, and others who have so kindly undertaken to assist in its distribution.*

*To every one of our readers we wish a prosperous and happy year, trusting that their wishes as well as our own will be fully realised.*

THE EDITOR.

## Resolutions.

THE beginning of the year is a time when at least the more thoughtful of us usually take time to contemplate the past and endeavours to anticipate the future. Surely this is true of the year upon which we have just entered. We are thankful that 1917 has gone—gone for ever, and we look forward with curiosity and wonder to what the coming days have in store for us. If it were not for the fact that most of us have youth on our side the tendency to despair would be too great; but this fact, combined with the influence on us of the land we have left, is such that most of us are cheerful and are hopefully looking forward to our return home.

The beginning of the year is also a time for resolution making, and most of us have done our duty in this respect, for a man is not a man in the best sense unless he takes some thought for the days to come.

At a dressing station in France, as the wounded were being brought in, the men who had fallen out early in the action eagerly questioned the new arrivals as to the success of the advance. So long as the news was good, men forgot their wounds, content in the fact that something had been done that was for the benefit of their cause. Immediately the news of the success of the counter-attack and the subsequent retreat came a difference was noticed, and men were distressed to think that they had suffered and bled in vain.

In coming away from our far-distant homes we have made a sacrifice of which only those who have done it can know the meaning; we have cheerfully endured hardship, peril, and dangers, and in return our eyes have been opened, our minds broadened, our horizon widened. To quote one of our topical songs:

“We've seen some faces,  
We've seen some places,”

but if the experience ends merely with the seeing we shall have made all our sacrifices in vain. There is a very grave danger of losing what we have paid for so dearly. For God's sake, for Australia's sake, for our own sake let each of us go back determined to make our land politically, economically, and socially the greatest in the world.

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The Army Ten Commandments.

1. THE Commandant is thy boss ; thou shalt have no other bosses but him.
2. Thou shalt make unto thyself many graven images of officers who fly in the heavens above, of staff officers who own the earth beneath, and of submarine officers who are in the waters under the earth. Thou shalt spring up and salute them, for the Commandant, thy boss, will visit with divers punishments on them that salute not, and shower stripes on them that salute and obey his commandments.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Adjutant in vain, for the Commandant will not hold him guiltless who taketh his name in vain.
4. Remember that thou rest not on the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labour and do all thou hast to do : but the seventh day is the day of the Quartermaster :



3rd Training Battalion Concert Party.

in it thou shalt do all manner of work, thou and thy officers, thy non-commissioned officers, thy sanitary men, and thy prisoners that are within thy camp.

5. Honour thy staff officers, that thy days may be long in the ranks of the reservists, where one day they may send thee.
6. Thou shalt kill only Huns, slugs, lice, rats, and other vermin that annoy thee.
7. Thou shalt not adulterate thy section's rum ration (even though thou mayest be a quartermaster).
8. Thou shalt not steal from any but thy messmates.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness in the Orderly Room.
10. Thou shalt not covet the A.S.C.'s job ; thou shalt not covet the A.S.C.'s pay, nor his motors, nor his wagons, nor his jam, nor his quarters, nor his horses, nor his mules, nor any other cushy thing that is his.

Perham Stars Concert Party.

THE Perham Stars Concert Party, under the direction of Lieutenant G. H. Shemalleek, 26th Battalion, was formed in June, 1916, from ranks marching into No. 1 Command Depot, A.I.F., Perham Downs. Since its formation the party have moved to Sutton Veny, and owing to their popularity it was deemed advisable to retain the original title.

The party include some of Australia's leading artists, and has always received a good reception wherever it has shown.

Up to date they have given nearly fifty entertainments in various camps, towns and villages on the Plain, and have been instrumental in raising nearly £300 for Red Cross Hospitals and Prisoners of War Funds.

During the latter part of 1917 the party gave a series of entertainments at the Aldwych Theatre, London, to crowded houses.

Every member of the Perham Stars has seen active service, and the majority are "C" class men, who are doing their best to entertain and brighten the lot of men in camp and hospital.

The Derelicts of the North.

By LIEUT. M., A.I.F.

UP north, far away from the cities,  
Old comrades are waiting their turn,  
In the grip of a magic mateship

That only the derelicts learn ;  
With a glamour in every pint pot,  
With a romance in every thirst,  
The derelicts know in their wisdom  
That bubbles were made to burst.

'Tis the metal of life they live for,  
Not the husks, the dregs, or the sand ;  
Up north men give their praise to their Maker  
By lending a helping hand.  
They struggle with hopeful endeavour,  
They battle with hopeless reverse,  
They wring from the north land a pleasure,  
In spite of a failing purse.

In that land where the sun-rod ruleth  
Life's fires burn fiercely and keen ;  
Men live for the hour, not the morrow,  
And forget what they might have been.  
They drink to the health of each other,  
They play their life's cards with a slam ;  
When the bubbles burst in the making,  
The makers don't care a damn.

**Constitutionals.**

By RAMBLER.

To those whose interests are not wholly absorbed by "Tabbies" our new quarters are undoubtedly a great improvement on the old. And those fortunates whose love of rambling can be indulged in without fear of adversely affecting the matter of medical classification, the preservation of which occupies most of the mental activities of the troops, will find ample scope for their perambulatory habits in this locality. The writer, having exhausted the soul-stirring possibilities of Warminster, without, it must be confessed, becoming conscious of any signs of that lassitude which naturally follows upon any great excitation of mind or body, chose last Sunday afternoon, in search of food to satisfy his artistic soul, to wander forth by way of yonder melancholy mill. Alas! my noble heroes, that its walls no longer echo to the lilt and laughter of those fair "tarts" who once were wont to labour there. How, as once they spun and wove the shining silk, would they, could they, come again, spin their silken cords to bind our helpless limbs, weave their spidery nets to the undoing of us all, yea, even to the downfall of they whom the Padre loves, and those who sit in solemn holy state behind the library tables. Yes, brethren, even those war-worn veterans who, scorning to soldier, might have found courage to take the field against those three hundred lovely spinners.

Woe is me, to think that Time's babbling brook should have borne them hence, too soon, ah! all too soon, whose capacious crinolines might have rendered us such sweet and lovely service in the evasion of the godless "John"; how might we have taken shelter in that perfumed "pill-box," to dodge our ancient foe. Forgive these tears. For, alas! the mill-wheel now is as silent as a certain A.P.O. will ever be in regard to a recent event.

Well, my brothers, not to waste precious time in vain regrets, let us pass on, and after all, strange things happen to those who venture far in search of this (un-)holy Grail, who go even unto F—. For as we wend our way in search (ostensibly) of sylvan beauties, that wear the garb of nature only, as indeed all beauties should, mayhap we shall meet the granddaughters of those old-time spinners, and show them how we too can spin tales that would have shaken the shapely knees of the gallants of their granda's day.

To the left, as we strike the main road and then to the right, we discover a road that, so arched is it in places by towering trees, forms an ideal lovers' walk after the sun and other obstacles detrimental to the pursuit of le grand passions have gone to rest. One suggestion I would make as a result of observations made last Sunday night, it is this, that it would be in the interests of peace and decency if all other ranks were debarred from carrying

electric torches upon their persons. Will the C.O. please note.

Along this road the village of Horningsham is reached in four miles of pleasant walking. The villagers here I found very hospitable. Besides the parish church there is also a Congregational Chapel, a very interesting little building, being as it is the oldest Nonconformist church in England. It appears that about 1566, when Longleat House, near by, the seat of the Marquisate of Bath, was in course of erection, some Scottish artisans employed there, having brought their northern independence with them, caused this church to be founded and themselves assisted in its building. Although since enlarged, it remains much as it was in the year of its erection.

Warminster is reached in about four and a half miles. Altogether this walk is well worth the energy spent in taking it, quite apart from the possibilities that lie in all such voyages of discovery.



"Say, Mate! Where do you report when six months over leave."

## The Gambler.

By Lieut. M., A.I.F.

STANDING pensively on the mullock dump of the Forlorn Hope Gold Mine, North Queensland, Micky Maher, a born gambler and the owner of a block claim on Golden Hill, gazed wistfully down towards the shanty at the foot of the rise, where a little group of gold-miners were busily engrossed in their favourite pastime—a game of two-up.

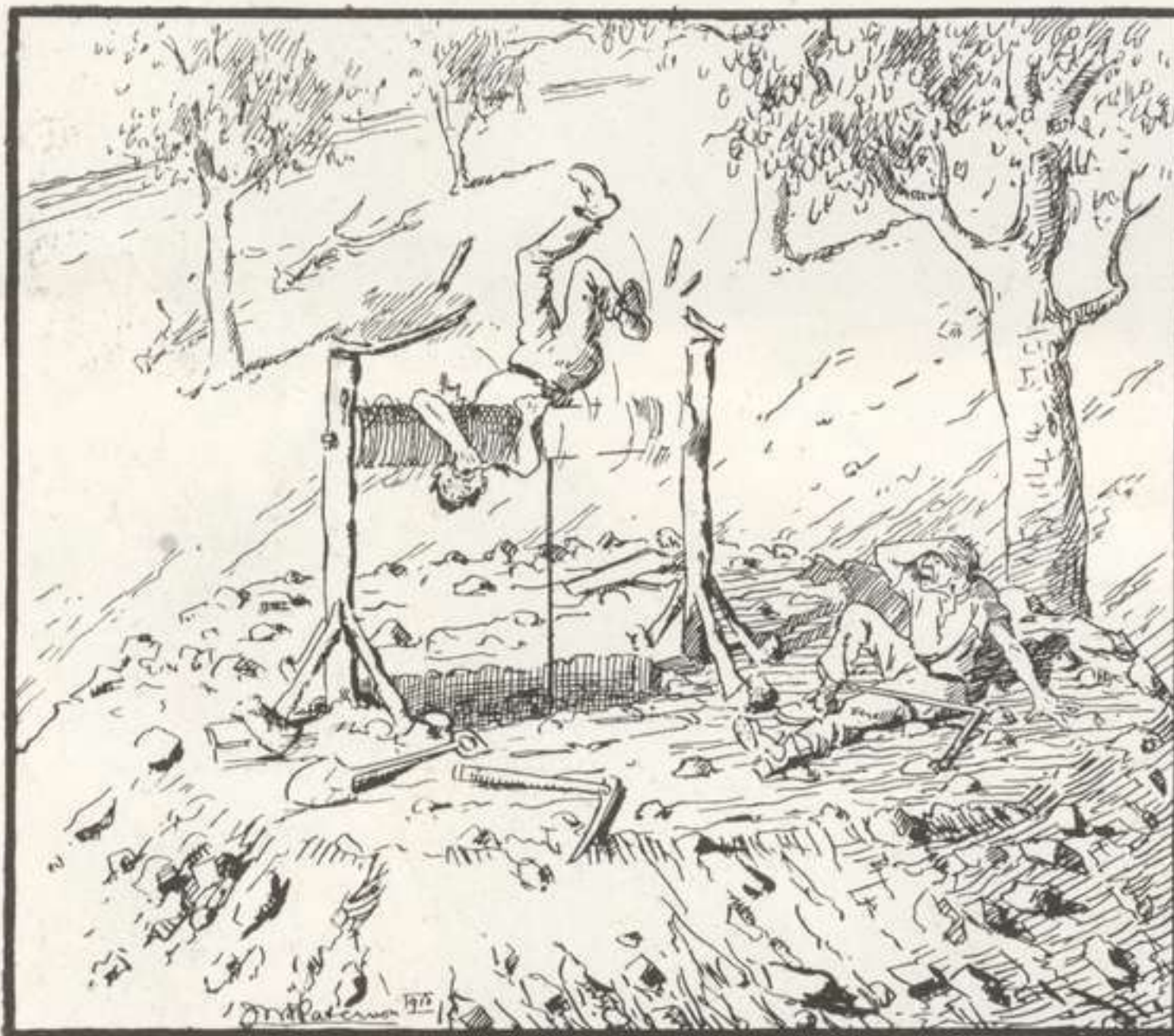
A blazing sun poised overhead. Amongst the scanty dark green leaves of the iron wood-trees fringing the hill-side a little brown bower bird fluttered and chirped, mockingly mimicking with unnatural reality the sounds of the toil that came from the mine; for had he not witnessed dozens of such futile attempts, had not thousands of pounds been spent in vain attempts to locate the dip of the wonderfully rich reef that outcropped along the whole crest of the Golden Hill.

Under the shade of a few rough boughs standing at a crude forge erected by the side of the mullock dump Jim Jackson, braceman, tool sharpener, and general surface hand of the Forlorn Hope, sweated and toiled in the sweltering heat of the midday sun, beating out the points of the hard three-quarter steel, whilst down the sink Tom Horton slaved with hammer and drill.

Daily the mullock dump of broken schist grew larger, and the Forlorn Hope shaft, on which Mick had staked his all, grew deeper.

"Low-er!" The trailing voice of Horton came up from the mine shaft.

Jim Jackson placed the sharpened steel in the swaying bucket, squared his feet on the rough planking of the brace, gripped the iron handle of the windlass firmly, and began to carefully lower the bucket of steel down



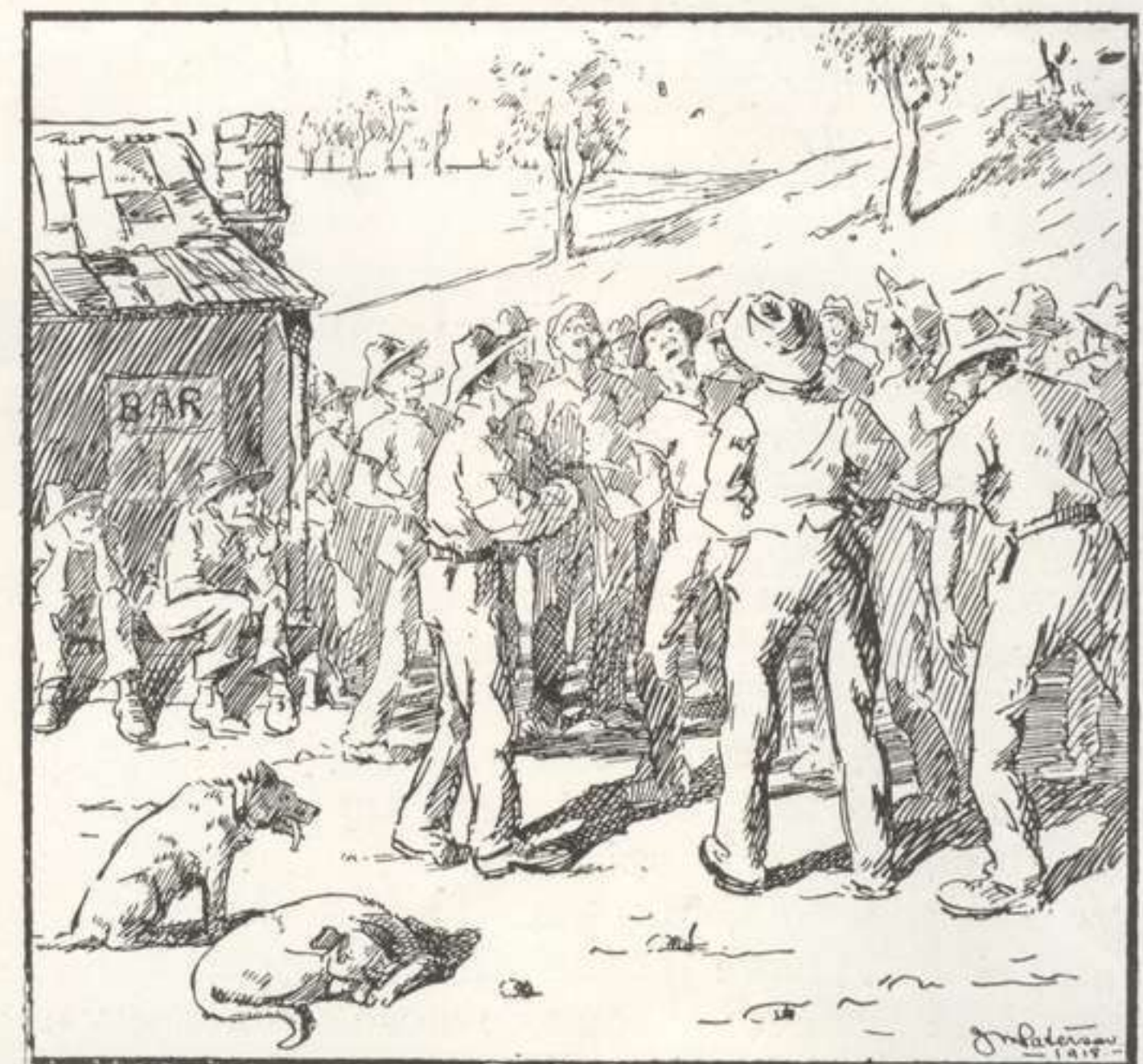
the mine. The rough-hewn windlass astride the shaft creaked and groaned under its heavy burden. At the ominous sound the man in the sink flattened himself against the wall of the shaft and glanced uneasily upwards.

A stifled exclamation from the braceman and the sound of a heavy fall caused Micky Maher to glance quickly towards the shaft. The windlass barrel was racing round, whilst Jackson lay huddled in a heap clutching the broken handle, from which the wedge had slipped.

Great God! the heavy bucket of steel was falling down the shaft, and Tom Horton was working fifty feet below.

For just the fraction of a second the gambler stood as if petrified, then with a muttered "It's a hundred to one!" he recklessly flung himself on to the whirling drum above the open shaft, and wound his arms round it.

Followed a rasping, searing sound, as the revolving windlass tore its way through his clothes and burned into his very flesh. Still the heavy steel descended, and still the drum revolved, carrying its clinging burden up and around. The stout planks nailed across from post to post above the windlass to steady the rickety contrivance snapped with a report like the explosion of a detonator. The man gambling with death, clinging tenaciously to the wooden drum, only tightened his grip; again and again his tortured body was drawn up and over the windlass.



Alongside the brace Jackson was staggering to his feet, but half conscious of the tragedy that was being enacted under his throbbing eyes. Still Maher clung to the revolving drum, and still the heavy bucket descended.

A prayer rose to his lips as he tried vainly to further flatten himself against the hard walls of the mine.

A shadow darkened the mouth of the shaft, then, wonder of wonders! a moment later the rush of descending steel stayed within a foot of his head. The palsied hands of the gold-miner groped blindly upwards, and guided the heavy swaying bucket to the floor of the shaft, and Horton's staring eyes glanced inquiringly and thankfully upward towards the narrow ray of sunlight fifty feet above. Another shadow for a second shut out the light, as Jackson reached out and dragged the semi-unconscious Maher from the smoking windlass.

Half an hour later the windlass of the Forlorn Hope Gold Mine had been repaired, and hung in repose over the gaping shaft. Up from the sink came the dull thud of the blows of a pick, where Tom Horton, a little more thoughtful perhaps, again slaved at his work. From the anvil by the mullock dump again rang the clang of hammer on steel; whilst from the shelter of the leaves of the ironwood trees above the shaft came a weird, consistent rrr-rr-rr, as the little brown bird diligently practised this new addition of strange noises—the rush of a whirling drum—to his already congested vocabulary.

Down at the shanty at the foot of Golden Hill Micky Maher, his arms swathed in bandages, stood watching the spinning pennies and casually staking his last dollar in the two-up school—for he was a born gambler.

WHY did we not get an invitation to this? Is it because some of the guests were afraid that their funny stories might have been published?

**No. 1 COMMAND DEPOT.**

**A.I.F.**

**SUTTON VENY, WARMINSTER, WILTS.**

**Christmas Day, 1917.**

*The Messing Staff  
(Assisted by the Cheer-e-o Society)  
request the pleasure of the company*

of  
*at an evening to be held in the Messing Office  
on Xmas Day, 1917, at 7.30 p.m.,  
to bid farewell to C.S.M. R. Sutton, who will be leaving  
the Depot at an early date.*

*Frank Wilson,  
Hon. Sec.*

R.S.V.P.

Private cars, taxis, and aeroplanes at midnight (petrol supplied gratis).

Arrangements have been made with the Anzac railway officials, in rear of Swill Farm, for London visitors to return to their homes by special trains. Last train will leave No Man's Land, H.Q. Officers' Mess, at 12.10 a.m.

The Swill cart will be placed at the disposal of visitors missing this train.

If a thaw sets in, and any guest wishes to slip home in the meantime, he can obtain dripping with which to grease his feet.

Interior economy is to be so far practised that guests will not be permitted to take any scraps home.

Visitors are requested to carry gas masks for use when passing Incinerator in No. 7 Camp, in the event of a gas attack.

**MENU.**

- Cold Roast Gallipoli Turkey.
- Lone Pine Stuffing.
- Cold Ham.
- Hot as Hell-as Sauce.
- Trench Mortar Pickles.
- Allied Trifle.
- Blancmange à la Bapumè and Howitzer Jellies.
- Assorted (18 pounder to 15 in.) Pastries.
- Gutzer Sweets.
- Assorted Nuts (two for a 'arf).
- Sphinx Dessert.
- Estaminet Wines and Spirits.
- Cigars and Cigarettes.
- Toasts, Drinks & Songs—Guests.

The programme will be added to by each guest relating something funny.

Absolutely no scratchings for this race.

**GOD SAVE THE KING.**

**A Thoughtful Act.**

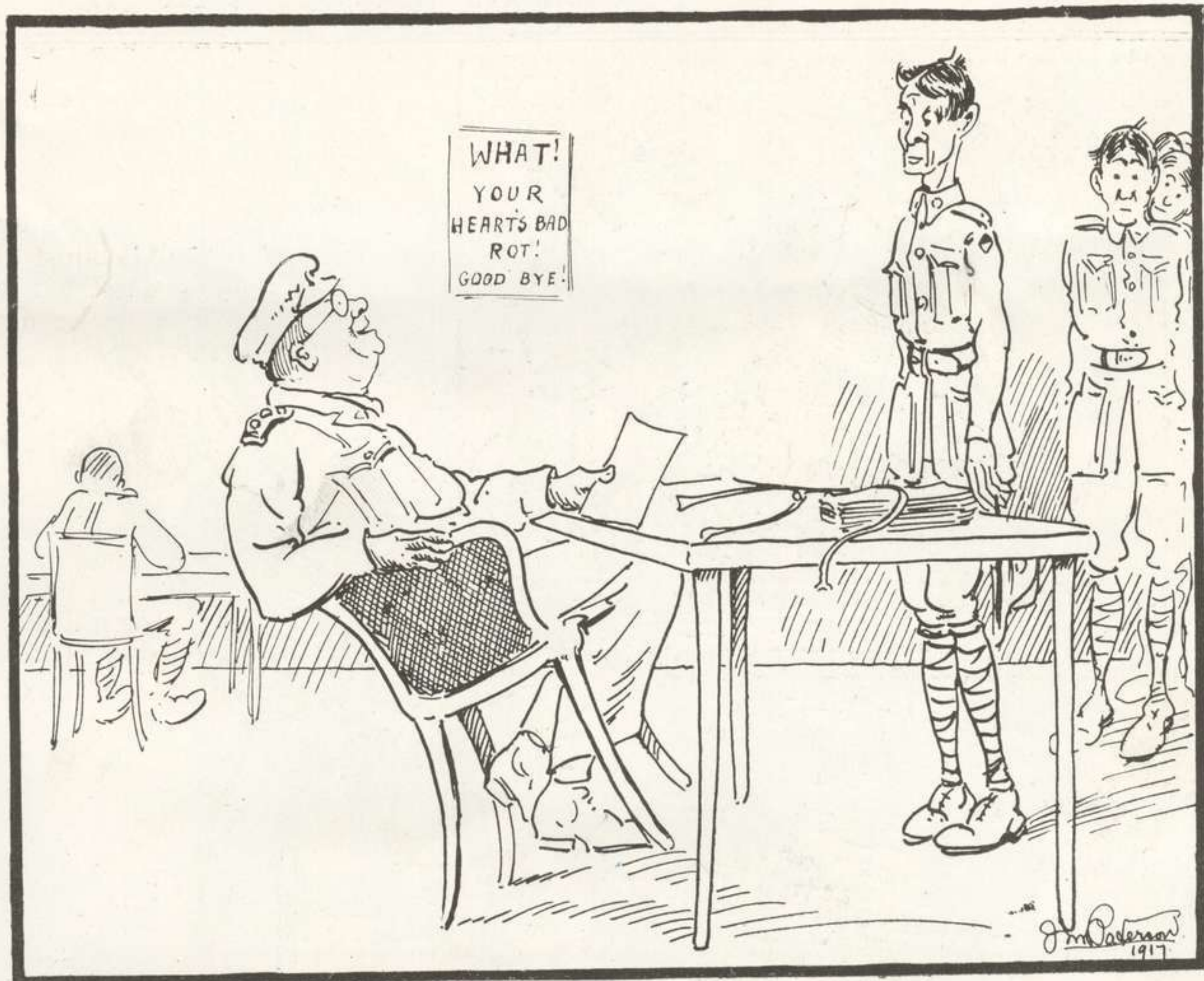
SATURDAY, Dec. 15th, 1917, was gala day for many of the patients in the hospitals at Brighton, when they were entertained at tea and a first-rate concert by Mrs. G. Evans, of Belmont School.

There were English, Scotch, Irish and Australians present, many having to be brought from their respective hospitals in cars.

The boys of the school entered heartily into everything, staging their breaking-up day's play, "Mary Queen of Scots." Much amusement was caused by one man thinking that the boy who took the part of Queen Mary was actually a lady, asking permission to write.

Tea was served in the school hall, after which a general concert and party took place.

Mrs. Evans, who is an Australian born, and a regular visitor to various wards of the local hospital, quickly proved that her knowledge of "God's own Country" was more than superficial. Her interesting stories of life in Adelaide and Brisbane quickly had everyone interested with a demand for more (fortunately they are not yet on the ration list). Time passed rapidly, and by seven o'clock everyone was moving back to their respective residences. One man expressed probably the feelings of all when he said, "It's worth while taking the risks we do when such spreads as these are to be had."



**Our Doc.**



Miss Olga Vernay.



Mr. Ernie Preston.

GADABATS CONCERT PARTY.



COLONEL M—C: "You know, Sister, the best of this battery is that it doesn't hurt the patient in the slightest."

With acknowledgments to "THE KIT-BAG."

**What We Want to Know.**

Who is the M.O. taking pleasure in a certain young lady's finger every afternoon, and why do his staff say they are his equal at such work.

\* \* \* \* \*

When will the necessary structural alterations be made in No. 9 Canteen.

\* \* \* \* \*

Who is the sergeant paying debts of honour lost in betting that a certain lady's hair was false. (We have personally inspected and found it *Dinkum*.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Where do we hear "Quick March!" "Left Turn!" "Salute!"

\* \* \* \* \*

When will a certain Orderly Room Sergeant learn that some people can have information of a confidential nature, and for the adjutant's ears alone.

\* \* \* \* \*

Who is responsible for the order giving to men of the 1st Division only the Anzac Star.

\* \* \* \* \*

Did not the men of the 2nd Division do equally as well, and land as soon as the 1st Division at Gallipoli.

\* \* \* \* \*

When will the 2nd Division men get their stars.

**Xmas Dinner in London supplied from Australia.**

At the Horseferry Road branch of the Y.M.C.A. about 100 men of the forces were entertained by the ladies of Deniliquin, N.S.W., to a Xmas feast.

The menu was composed of turkey, pork, pudding, custards, mince pies, fruit, etc. Everything had come from Australia, even the tobacco and cigarettes. During the evening every man present received no less than three parcels. It is easily understood why some men say others are lucky.

**Debating Society.**

A MEETING of all interested will be held at the New Tipperary Tea Rooms, Australia House, Market Place,

Warminster, on Tuesday, February 5th, 1918, at 8 p.m. Mrs. Cranswick is arranging with a large number of local people to assist, and trusts to welcome both officers and men of the A.I.F. forces.

We are pleased to note this new move, which should prove a welcome addition to the many so inclined among our fellows in the various camps.

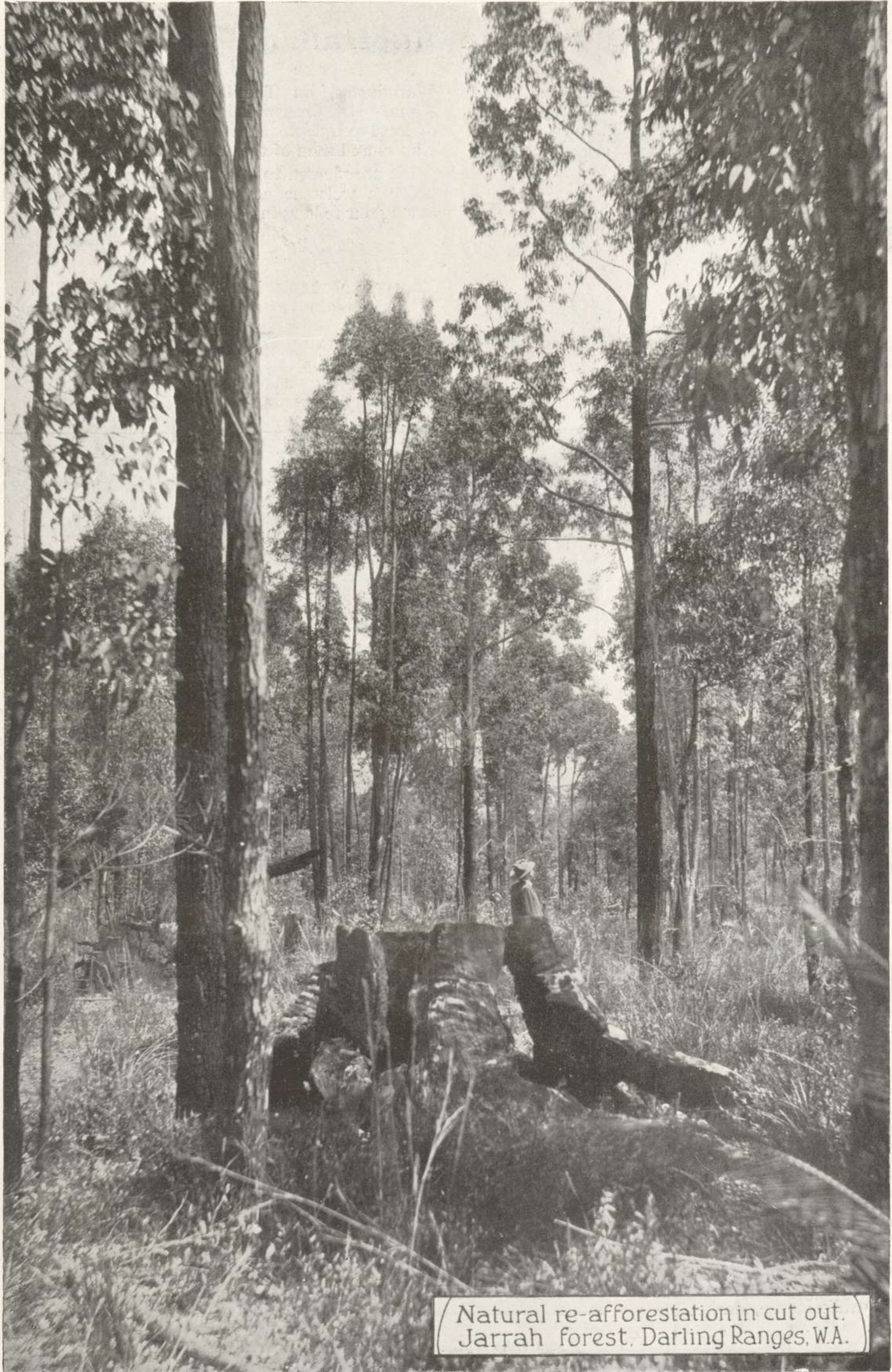
PRIVATE MURPHY had been reported killed twice. Whilst lying in hospital he received the following letter from his sweetheart in Sydney:—

"Dear Pat, I notice by last Saturday's *Sydney Morning Herald* you are killed. I do hope it's not true." Pat got the letter.



Front Line Optimist: "There goes a beauty for Headquarters. Hoo'ry!"

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Natural re-afforestation in cut out.  
Jarrah forest, Darling Ranges, W.A.



**Our Trans-Continental Railway.**

FORTY years ago it was suggested that the West be linked to the East by rail. Thirty years later £20,000 was allocated for surveying charges, etc. The survey was completed in 1909, and in 1911 it was decided by Act of Parliament that the line should be built.

On September 14th, 1912, the then Governor-General, Lord Denman, turned the first sod. On October 17th, 1917, the line was finished. On October 25th the first train travelled from East to West. This briefly is the history of the Trans. Line.

1,051 miles separate Kalgoorlie in the west from Port Augusta in the east. To facilitate matters construction was started at both ends.

The highest elevation attained by the line is 1,354 feet, 100 miles from Kalgoorlie.

The work was estimated at £4,000,000, but various alterations were made during the construction, bringing the cost to £6,500,000.

The tremendous organisation required to a considerable extent resembled the Army Service Corps of to-day. Nearly 800 miles of the route had no habitation. The equipping, feeding, medical attention, posting, and banking facilities for the many hundreds of men engaged required an ever-moving town.

Another difficulty was water, and until artesian wells had been bored and reservoirs built, every drop of water had to be carried forward for men, animals, and locomotives.

The line is capable of carrying trains at a speed of forty miles per hour. As soon as the necessary ballasting is completed an average speed of forty-four miles per hour can be maintained.

To-day East and West are joined together. The people of the most distant parts of our vast continent more closely united, and ever stronger and more self-reliant, will continue an outpost of the great English Empire.

**Ist Training Brigade.**

Lieut.-Col. Hilmer-Smith, C.B., is progressing favourably in Sutton Veny Hospital.

\* \* \* \* \*

Major Borwick, D.S.O., has again returned to France.

\* \* \* \* \*

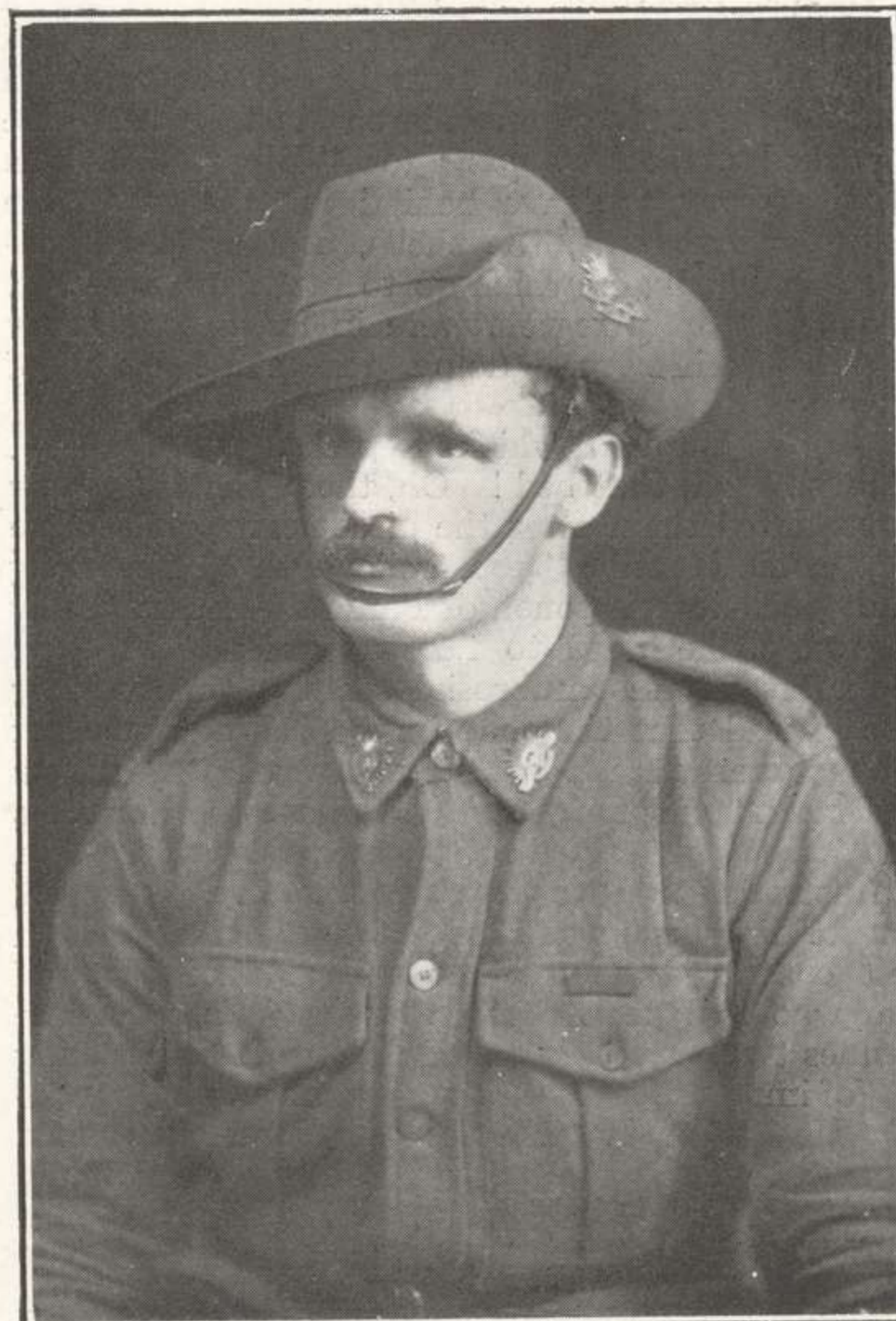
The Anglo-Scotch Concert Party gave an excellent concert in the Y.M.C.A. Hut on the 16th inst. to a crowded house.

**The Purple and Green.**

WEAR your colours, friend of mine,  
Green and purple will entwine;  
Green for life which shall endure,  
Royal Purple ever sure.

Kingship over self and life,  
Courage always in the Strife;  
Strength always to do and dare,  
Loyalty which all may share;  
Prayer which joins my life to thine,  
Friend of mine, friend of mine.

E. M. S. HORNSBY.



**V.C. Hero.**

Private Martin O'Meara, Australian Imperial Forces, for most conspicuous bravery. During four days of very heavy fighting he repeatedly went out and brought in wounded officers and men from "No Man's Land" under intense artillery and machine-gun fire. He also volunteered and carried ammunition and bombs through heavy barrage to portion of trenches which was being heavily shelled all the time. He showed throughout an utter contempt of danger, and undoubtedly saved many lives.

AN amusing story is told of two privates of the 13th Battalion during the Bullecourt advance. It appears these two men got well in advance of their section, and took prisoner a German major who spoke very good English.

"You can't take me," he said. "I must have two men of my own rank before I move. You are privates, I am a major."

To the most earnest entreaties of the Australians he turned a deaf ear, even the threat of the bayonet was useless. Time was valuable. So of one accord they attached themselves, one to either side.

Removing his sign of rank, they said: "Consider yourself reduced to the ranks from to-day on. Quick march!"

### A Trip to "Blighty" via France.

"LA BELLE FRANCE!" I don't think! Being a Padre I couldn't well tell you what our Adjutant called it. That like many things must be left to your own imagination. Anyhow, in March last, when the M.O. packed me off *en route* for "Blighty," I was in no wise sorry to leave behind me the mud, the everlasting duckboards, the shells, and all those uncomfortable "things" which go to make up war as it is to-day. My only regrets were in leaving so many good pals behind me, doing the same stunt of "carrying on."

The C.C.S. through which I passed was at—, near Albert. Oh, that bed! Oh, those sheets! How one appreciated them after the discomforts of "active service," some "active" too, believe me! Becoming gradually used to this touch of Paradise, one naturally looked round the ward to take an interest in one's fellow-sharers of this ambrosial state. Imagine my surprise to find that the chap in the bed on my right was none other than a pal of many years' standing, whom I hadn't met for years. Such are the incidents of war. How we talked of those peaceful days in sunny Australia when we were lads together.

My next discovery was that the screened-off bed on my left contained none other than Prince Karl of Prussia, who had been shot down with his aeroplane in our lines two days before. He was a decent-looking "bird" of immense stature, though a thorough "square head." He spoke English fluently, and was most considerate to his nurses, though he was very badly wounded and in ghastly pain. Poor blighter! he "went West" a couple of days afterwards at Rouen.

Next day we had a slow trip to — in the hospital train, though fast in comparison with the troop trains of France, the crawlers! There we were admitted to No. — British Red Cross Hospital, which occupies a pre-war Roman Catholic Seminary, and is eminently suited for its present purpose.

What can I say of this institution? It was a perfect delight, a "dinkum" home, and then "some!" The comfort of it all—the attention of M.O.'s, Sisters, and V.A.D.'s—it was a soothing balm to our wearied spirits. Truth to tell, I was loath to leave it, and it was only he thought of "Blighty" ahead that kept my heart from breaking.

The trip down the Seine was very charming, and to see the cliffs and meadows was uplifting after the war-torn parts of the country which had been "France" to us. The only event of interest on the way over was to sight a nasty "Fritz" periscope; but our boat was capable of twenty-five knots, and soon left it behind.

Arriving at Southampton on Sunday evening, we were unable to disembark until next morning, when we travelled up to London, and my friend and I were duly admitted to N. Ward, No. 3 London General, Wandsworth, known to so many of us—the Hospital, not, of course, "the klink!"

After a few weeks there I passed on for my convalescent stage into the hospitable hands of Lord and Lady Darnley at their charming home of Cobham Hall in Kent, known to so many members of the A.I.F. with feelings of gratitude.

A. S. M. MACPHERSON.



Christmas Day, 1917.

No. 1 Australian Command Depot,  
Sutton Veny, Wilts.

#### MENU.

##### BREAKFAST 8 A.M.

Porridge and Milk.  
Beef Rissoles, Gravy.  
Bread and Butter.  
Marmalade.

##### DINNER 1 P.M.

Roast Turkey, Cold Ham.  
Giblet Sauce.  
Roast Potatoes.  
Brussels Sprouts.  
Christmas Pudding.  
Brandy Sauce.  
Assorted Nuts, Fruits.  
English Beer, Mineral Waters.

##### TEA 5 P.M.

Cold Meats, Pickles.  
Christmas Cake.  
Bread and Butter, Jams, Tea.

##### SUPPER 8.30 P.M.

Cocoa, Bread and Butter.

#### DAY'S ROUTINE.

RÉVEILLÉ	..	..	..	7.0 a.m.
BREAKFAST	..	..	..	8.0 a.m.
CHURCH PARADE	..	..	..	9.30 a.m.
MARCH PAST	..	..	..	10.30 a.m.
DINNER (MEN)	..	..	..	1.0 p.m.
" (SGTS.)	..	..	..	1.15 p.m.
" (OFFICERS)	..	..	..	1.30 p.m.
TEA	..	..	..	5.0 p.m.
GRAND CONCERT	..	..	..	7.0 p.m.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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**Literary Column.**

THE opening of the packet containing a copy of C. J. Dennis's new book, *Doreen*, did more to remind us of home than anything for many months past.

There is an old saying, "Poison is made up in small parcels." This book is small, but there is no poison, in fact it is the essence of sweetness.

In the *Sentimental Bloke* he described the arrival of the baby. In *Doreen* he tells of this son and heir, now six years old, his tricks and pranks, and is proud that this son of his is following in his footsteps.

In *Villits* we read:—

I tips there 's somethin' wrong, the way 'e sneaks around the 'ouse.

An' then I seen 'is eye. Oh, strike! 'E 'ad a bonzer mouse!—  
A reel black-eye, that, in me day, I would 'a' worn wiv pride.

But I 'm a father now, an' sez, "'Ere, son, you git inside  
An' show yer mother that there eye. 'Ow did it come about?"

Sez 'e, "A big bloke gimme that. I knocked the beggar out!"

Many a long and dreary hour has been made brighter, even amidst the mud and snow of France, or lying ill in hospital, with the *Sentimental Bloke* or *Ginger Mick*.

Books like this are always welcome.

**"Digger Drawings."**

The most notable book due for publication just now is *Digger Drawings*.

It amounts to a very comprehensive record of the best humorous sketches and cartoons on soldiering drawn by our men while on active service, and includes much of the material prepared for the *Anzac Book*, *New Zealand at the Front*, *The Book of the Ballarat*, and other productions from the hands and brains of our diggers.

The price marked is 1/6. The quality of the paper used, the three-colour plates, and general get-up, apart from its value as an art curio, should establish it as something unique in the way of a war-time bargain.

The appearance of such a souvenir of the overseas men at this date should provide many people with a

timely opportunity of redeeming their past misfortunes in failing to procure any of the before-quoted books.

*Digger Drawings* will surely find its way into every Australian home.

**Our Orders.**

WE understand that a recent order has prohibited the small moustache on the top lip. The following is an account of a conversation as between a junior officer and his Colonel, who he has approached on the order. It will be noticed that the Colonel's remarks are not published:—

By the shortest possible route his right hand touched the peak of his cap, and thus addressing his commanding officer, said:—

"Sir, it's not right, this new order, absolutely interfering with a man's personal liberty. I would rather resign my commission than do it. Well, sir, will you send a letter on for me? I know that, sir, but my case is different. Yes, sir, I admit that, but I have an equal number of hairs on each side of the nose, there's not one more on the right than there is on the left. Quite right, sir, it does look well; and again, sir, if I take it off that boulder Blank is sure to cut me out. Oh, I thought you knew, sir. Well, I suppose I am a little foolish, but she is worth all the commissions in the world, and only last night she said it was the nicest moustache she had ever seen, and not nearly so hard as some fellows'. You advise me to let it grow a little more along each lip, but it won't, sir. I have trained it so long in the present position that it won't spread. Thank you, sir, I will let you have the letter to-night. Thank you, and by the way, sir, you'll recommend it, won't you."

Again saluting by the shortest possible route, he about-turned and marched off.



**STRAIGHT FROM THE DUG-OUTS! LOOK OUT FOR**

—A War-Time Bargain of Australian Art and Humour—A Book that must find a place in the Heart of every Home in Dear Old Aussie—

**"DIGGER DRAWINGS"**

IN LINE AND COLOUR—1/6.

Railway Time Table.

To Bristol, etc.

Warminster depart.	Westbury arrive.	Westbury depart.	Bristol arrive.
A.M. 8 21 10 58	A.M. 8 29 11 7	P.M. — —	A.M. 10 7 12 20
P.M. 1 35	P.M. 1 47	P.M. 2 20	Weymouth, etc. P.M. 3 50
3 32 5 40 7 39 8 38	3 41 5 50 7 49 8 47	— — — 9 20	Weymouth, etc. P.M. 4 57 7 15 9 10 10 35
<b>Sundays only.</b> P.M. 4 0	P.M. 4 10	P.M. —	P.M. 5 20

To Salisbury.

Warminster depart.	Salisbury arrive.
A.M. 7 38 9 54	A.M. 8 35 10 41
P.M. 12 54	P.M. 1 25
2 32	For Portsmouth, Southampton, etc. 3 18
5 30 6 38 7 55 9 54	For Bulford, Amesbury, etc. 6 15 7 21 8 45 10 25
<b>Sundays only.</b> P.M. 4 53 8 1	P.M. 5 30 8 45

From London.

Paddington depart.	Westbury arrive.	Westbury depart.	Warminster arrive.	Salisbury arrive.
A.M. 10 15	P.M. 12 10	P.M. 12 38	P.M. 12 54	P.M. 1 25
P.M. 12 20	2 15	2 45	3 0	3 26
5 5	7 10	7 40	7 55	Codford only. 8 45
<b>Sundays only.</b> P.M. 2 40	P.M. 4 38	P.M. —	P.M. 4 53	P.M. 5 35

To London.

Warminster depart.	Westbury depart.	Paddington arrive.
A.M. 8 21	A.M. 8 29	A.M. 11 10
P.M. 1 35 5 40	P.M. 1 47 5 50	P.M. 4 15 8 15
<b>Sundays only.</b> P.M. 4 0	P.M. 4 10	P.M. 7 45

The Battery Horse.

HE whinnied low as I passed by,  
It was a pleading sort of cry.  
His rider, slain while going back,  
Lay huddled on the muddy track ;  
And he, without a guiding hand,  
Had strayed out on the boggy land,  
And held there by the treacherous mire,  
He lay exposed to shrapnel fire.

He was a wiry chestnut steed,  
A type of good Australian breed.  
Perhaps on steep Monaro's height  
He had followed in the wild steer's flight,  
Or out beyond the great divide  
Roamed free where salt bush plains are wide ;  
Or through the golden wattle groves  
Had rounded up the sheep in droves ;  
Then slipped away to feed the guns,  
And help the boys to strafe the Huns.

His load was eighteen-pounder shells,  
The sort that in a barrage tells.  
I drew the shells from out their sheath,  
And cut his girth from underneath,  
Then lifted off his saddle pack  
To ease the weight and free his back.  
His muzzle softly nosed my hand,  
Because I seemed to understand.  
My steel hat from an old-time trench  
I filled three times his thirst to quench ;  
I brought my ration biscuit back,  
And fed him from my haversack.

No horse that had been stable fed  
More proudly tossed his chestnut head  
Because a stranger saw his need,  
And, passing, stayed to give him feed.  
But time pressed on, I must not stay,  
For weary miles before me lay.  
He made a gallant bid to rise,  
Then sank with almost human sighs.  
I hoped a train might see his plight,  
And draw him out before the night.

Now, you may ask why in this strife,  
When times were grim and death was rife,  
I should have ventured from my course  
To try and help a battery horse.  
I'll tell you why. I felt his need—  
I've owned and loved a chestnut steed.

Concerts.

NO. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, SUTTON VENY.  
Every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday in Y.M.C.A. Hut.

O. T. B.  
Every Wednesday and Friday in Regimental Theatre.  
Every Monday and Saturday in Y.M.C.A. Hut.

PIONEER, No. 6 CAMP.  
Every Wednesday and Friday in Regimental Theatre.

2ND TRAINING BATTALION.  
Every Thursday and Friday in Regimental Theatre.

HEYTESBURY.  
Every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday in Anzac Theatre.

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# The "Kiwi" Girl

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*to all the Boys*

*and wishes them*

*The Best of Luck and*

*A Jolly Good Time*

*in*

*The New Year.*

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**GIBRALTAR**—Alameda.

**CAIRO**—Chelmis Buildings, Sharia Kasr-el-Nil.

**BRUSSELS**—96 Rue de l'Eglise, Koekelberg, Bruxelles.

### Football History in A.I.F., 1917-18.

ON September 12th, 1917, a representative meeting of Australian football enthusiasts was held at Larkhill, the Australian Y.M.C.A. offering £500 for the purpose of a competition.

Rules were quickly compiled and a syllabus of matches arranged between the 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th T.B.'s, R.B.A.A., and Bulford.

This competition had only been in progress four weeks

As the season advanced the standard of play improved and excitement increased, and to-day there are men in hospital or the front line, 'midst shot and shell, asking who will win the final.

A combined Australian League team, representing Sutton Veny, played a combined team from the Fovant Area in London on Saturday, December 29th. Sutton Veny won by one point. Scores: Sutton Veny 4 goals, 10 behinds; Fovant, 4 goals, 9 behinds.

On the following Tuesday, New Year's Day, a combined team played A.I.F. Headquarters, and won by six points. Combined team, 4 goals, 6 behinds, A.I.F. Hqs., 3 goals, 6 behinds.

The game was introduced for the first time in to Scotland during the same periods, the 2nd Training Battalion playing the A.A.S.C., the two leading teams of the competition. This match attracted considerable attention, and the papers gave interesting accounts of this new game. Both teams had an even number of shots, but the T.B. made best use of the opportunities, scoring 7 goals, 6 behinds to the A.A.S.C.'s 1 goal, 12 behinds.

Great preparations are being made for the final match, which is to be played in London on January 26th. Proceeds to be given to War Funds.



when orders were issued for the immediate removal of all camps. This new move upset all arrangements, and a general meeting of all interested was called for and held at Sutton Veny on Monday, 22nd October, 1917. New competitions were decided on, and in addition. Soccer and Rugby were introduced, with the result that eight entries were received for Australian Rules and Soccer, and four for Rugby.

One cannot say too much for the umpires and referees, whose competency as officials has accounted so much for the smooth working of the competition during the season.

#### O.T.B. RUGBY FOOTBALL TEAM.

*Left to Right.—Back Row.*

Sergt.-Major Smith, N.S.W., McGarvie, Corpl. Taylor, N.S.W., Letts, N.S.W., Frawley, N.S.W., Stevenson Saml., N.S.W., Sergt.-Major Egerton, N.S.W.

*Second Row.*

Smith, N.S.W., Sergt. Francis, N.S.W., Lalor, Sergt. Wynward, Regt. Sergt.-Major Egan, N.S.W., Sheeley, Guider, N.S.W., Stenning, N.S.W.

*Front Row.*

Fennelly, Nicholson.

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AND BRANCHES AT

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**Camp Doings.**

9TH TRAINING BATTALION.

ON Monday, the 14th January, a team of six B.T. and B.F. instructors gave a display of bayonet fighting at the National Sports Club, London. The event was put on between two boxing bouts, and was hugely appreciated by 2,000 onlookers, among whom were a large number of service men. The speed and accuracy with which the various thrusts were delivered were superb. Defence as well as attack was illustrated, in every case the naked point being used. The officer in charge of the team faced a bayonet in the hands of an opponent unarmed. By side-stepping a vicious thrust he closed with the aggressor, and with a leverage on the arms turned him over on his back. The team were the guests of the National Club for the evening. A Major of the Grenadier Guards was so enthusiastic over the display, that he invited the team to visit the Wellington Barracks and exhibit their work before the Guards. This display was given in the Gymnasium before an assembly of officers and N.C.O.'s, each of whom might be judged as an expert with the fighter's weapon. That the display was "Dinkum" and not stagey was tested by a sergeant-major, who stepped into the ring for a bout with one of our boys. A very few minutes sufficed to prove the genuineness of the

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State your PERMANENT Unit—if away, the Postal Service will re-direct your mail.  
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show. In the absence of the O.C. the Major-in-Command thanked the officer in charge (Lieutenant Dickens, M.C.) and the members of the team for the display, which he characterised as magnificent, proving what a powerful weapon the bayonet is in the hands of a man who understands and appreciates its value. The members of the team were afterwards entertained in the Sergeants' Mess.



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**INFANTRY BREECHES** (Bedford Cord).—25/-; 30/-; 37/6.

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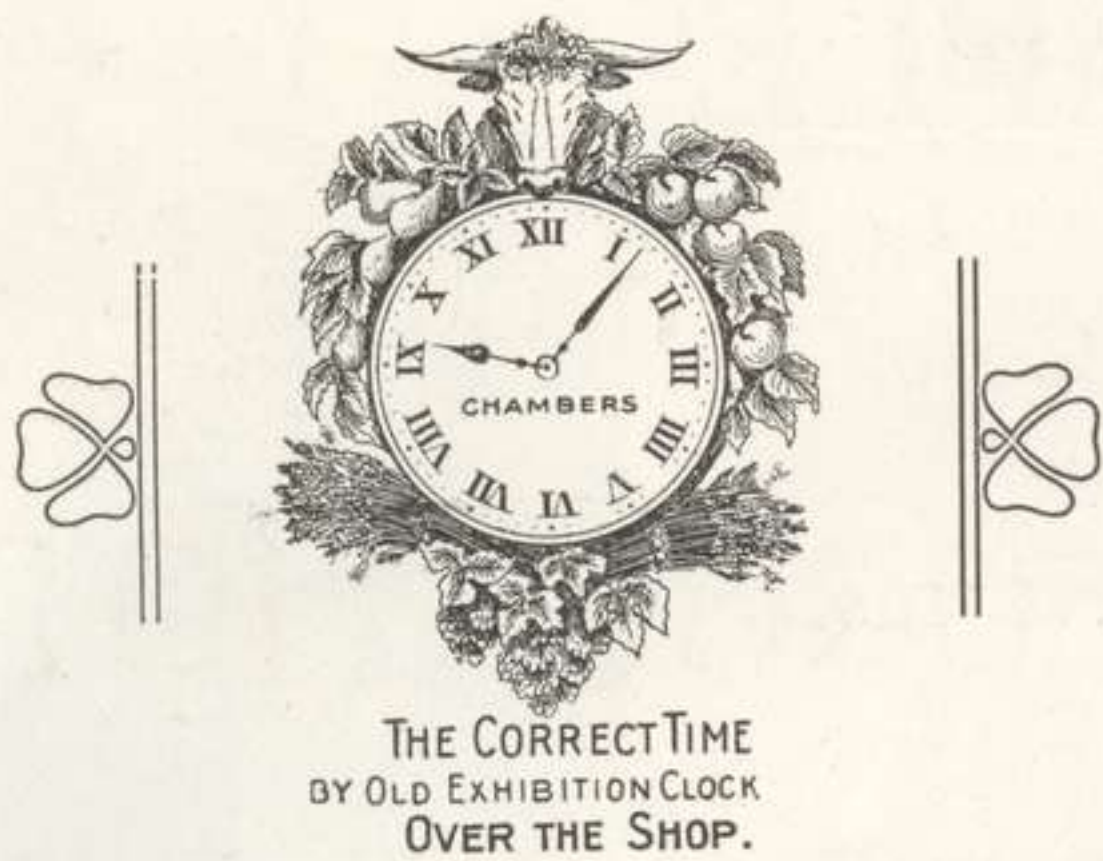
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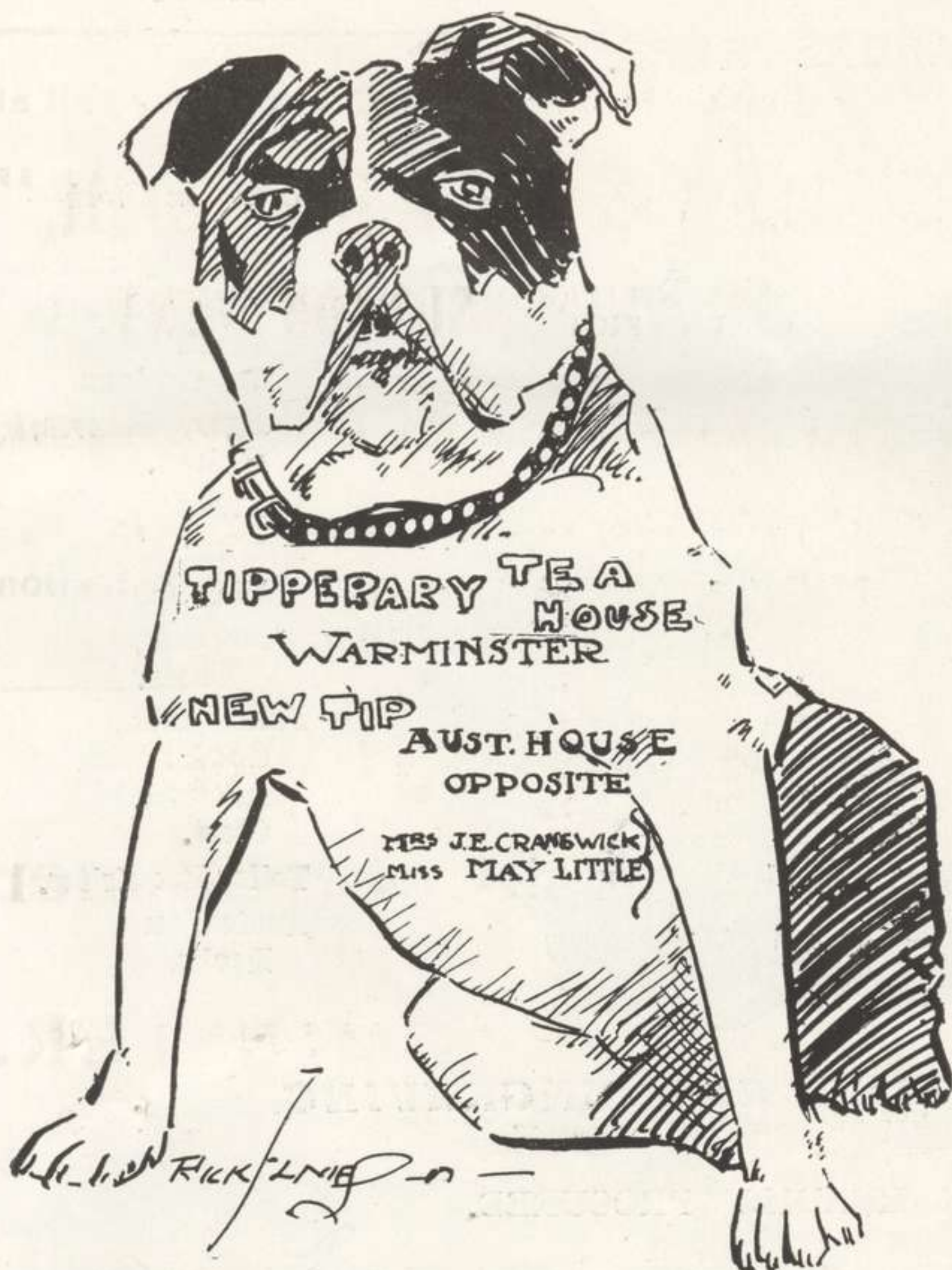
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„ 11th. Miss RENE SARA & CO.

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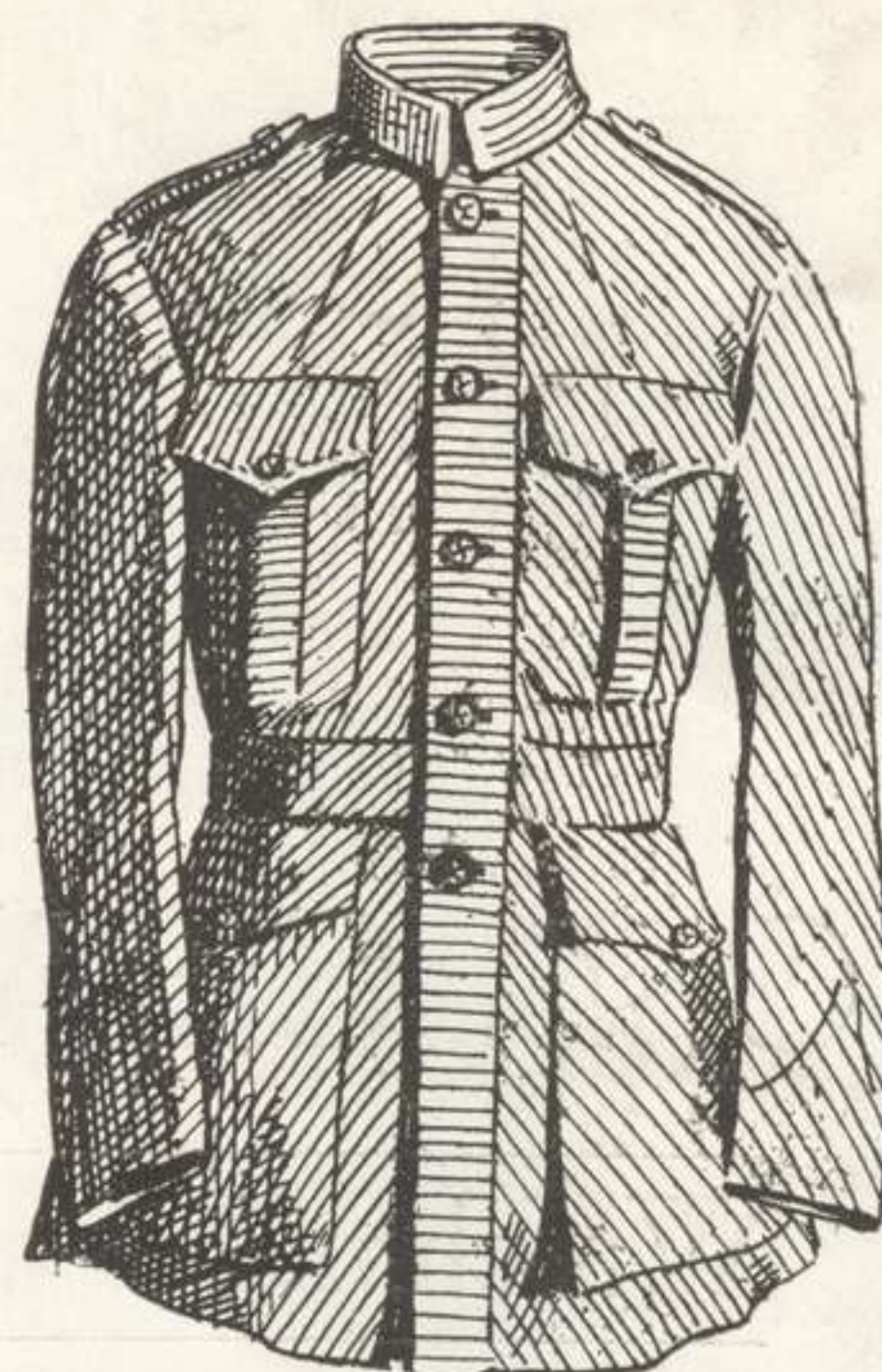
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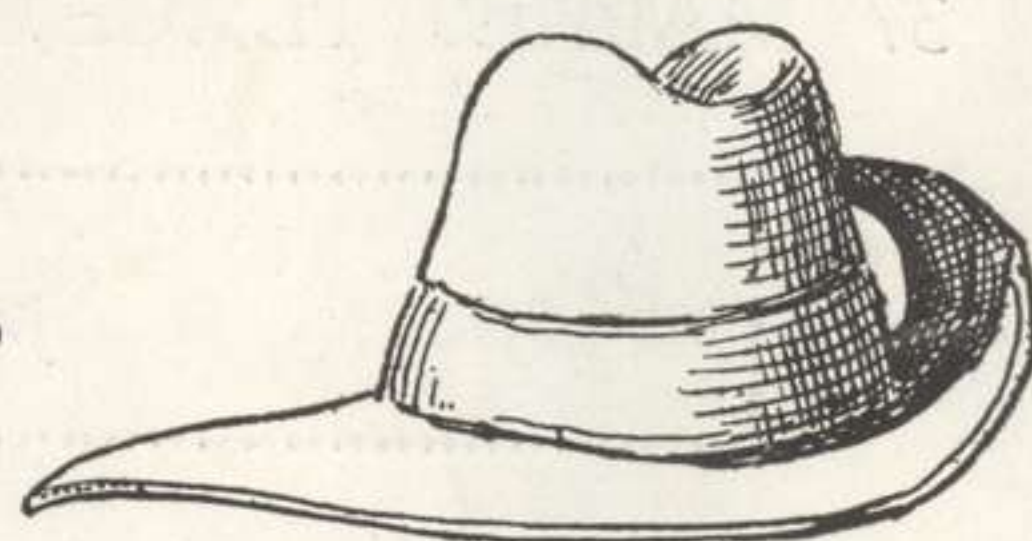
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