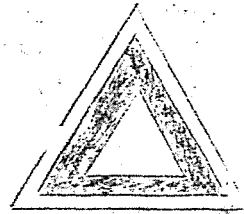
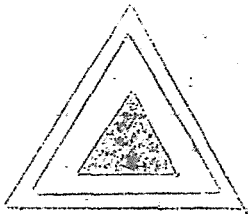


DECEMBER, 1952.



PIONEER

NEWS

EDITED

BY

LAW & CHEAL

The Office Bearers of the Pioneer Bns. Association 1952-53

PATRON - Mrs. L. O'Malley Wood.

PRESIDENT - Hector Page (2/2 Bn.)

VICE PRESIDENTS - Laurie Fitzhenry (2/1 Bn.)

Bill Robertson (2/2 Bn.)

SECRETARY - Max Law (2/1 Bn.)

ASS. SECRETARY - Frank Cheal (2/2 Bn.)

TREASURER & WELFARE OFFICER - Rod Pegg (2/1 Bn.)

PUBLICITY OFFICER - "Monty" Montague (2/1 Bn.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"The happiest people are those who touch life at the greatest number of points. People who suffer are those who have only one interest of which fate robs them".

The truth of these words of Theodore Roosevelt, is brought home very forcibly to each of us as we grow a little older.

It is now seven years since the 2nd World War finished and we have all gone our separate ways and concentrated our thoughts and efforts on the task of rehabilitating ourselves.

This task has, of necessity, demanded that we focus all our attention in usually two or three main directions, e.g., establishing a home, securing the best employment, rearing a family, etc.

But in pursuing our efforts we should not allow ourselves to lose contact with our many friends made over the years past. There is an innate tendency in all of us in times of stress to retire within ourselves and thereby focus our interest in one direction only.

One of the purposes for which your Association was formed was that of maintaining social contact with our friends and acquaintances.

BUT your committee needs YOUR help. Your assistance can best be given by advising us of the names and addresses of EVERY member of the two Pioneer Bns. known to you.

This newsletter is being inaugurated with this issue with the idea of maintaining contact with those members whom we already know and re-establishing our relations with those whom we have not seen for some time.

Accordingly, I commend it to you with a request that you help us to help you.

Thank you,

Hec. Page.

PATRON'S MESSAGE

Mr. Dear Boys,

Your Executives inform me that you are to have your own Newspaper. What a splendid idea !

Though I have not seen many of you for quite a long time, you are often in my thoughts, and I wonder how you

all are, where you are now, what you are doing - and Oh, so many things about you.

Do you realise that it is just twelve years ago that I became associated with you, and so much has happened in that time.

I remember you all so young, so gallant - and so determined to "do your bit" for Australia - and I think sadly of those who have not returned and of those who have passed on since their return.

I must say it made me feel rather old to meet so many of my Boys with quite grown-up families at last year's Xmas Party. I'm afraid one is inclined to forget that children have a habit of growing up - and it comes as quite a shock to suddenly find that that chubby little baby you used to see is now a young man - to say nothing of finding that some of our war babies are now married with families of their own.

As last year's Christmas Party proved such a grand success and such a happy occasion, my Ladies Committee and I decided to have another one. This party will be held at the Feminist Club Rooms, 77 King Street, Sydney on Saturday, 20th December, at 2.P.M., and I would like to see as many of you as possible there. I still feel you are all "My Boys" and I would love to see you.

My love to you all. May God guard you, and grant a much more peaceful and happy world for the Boys of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Lilla O'Malley Wood.

FROM THE SECRETARY

At the request of many members of our Association, we are launching out in a new field - to get a small paper under way. This new venture is not just for the sake of "something to do" - but an attempt, as the President has said, to keep the ex-members of the two Bns. in touch as the years roll on.

This first bulletin is not intended to be in any way elaborate, nor is it intended to give you all the news of the world. We must be like all babies and crawl first.

The success of our efforts depends largely on one person-YOU.

If you maintain interest and bear with us till we get on our feet, the Committee feel sure they can turn out something regular and worthwhile.

It is anticipated that this magazine can be produced quarterly and to help with expenses, we ask you, who were not at our last Smoko, to do as some 90 members of those present did, - send in a donation of 2/6d.

This will guarantee one year's subscription. If you like the idea of the magazine and would like further issues forwarded, please send your 2/6d. to the Secretary as soon as convenient.

For our country members particularly in districts where several members reside, why not send the names and addresses of those contributing together with one Postal Note for the total amount involved.

Cheerio for now,

Max Law.

SMOKO CORNER

At our last (and very successful) Smoko held at the Drill Hall at Miller's Point, on the evening of the 5th September, we were pleased to see two of the boys from Newcastle - Peter Seddon and Jack(Griffó) Griffiths.

Peter and Jack told me that they saw the notice of the Smoko in the papers, and jumped a train especially to be present.

We now have their addresses, and future notices will be forwarded on - Correction, we have Peter Seddon's address, Jack wrote his in the attendance book as folloes- "Jack Griffiths, Newcastle". Are you that well known, Jack?

How about a few more of the boys from that area coming along next Smoko? We will give you plenty of notice and would be very pleased to see you.

We were also pleased to see a well known gentleman of both Bns. present - Sar. Major Thalberg. "Thallie" was on his way to Lithgow when he read of the Smoko. He alighted from the train and returned to Sydney.

It is good to know the Smokos mean so much to our members.

Thanks, Sar. Major!!

INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION ROOMS. The rooms are situated at 19 Hunter St., Sydney on the 2nd Floor. If you need any information, wish to leave any message or require the address of an old mate, call at the rooms at any time during normal office hours. The phone number is BW7482 - "Pioneer Bns. Assoc."

WELFARE. If you are in need of advice or assistance, our Patron Mrs. L.L. Malley Wood is available at the Association Rooms each Friday - 10.a.m. to 4.p.m.

REUNIONS. These are held periodically to enable old friendships to be renewed and to enjoy some convivial company, which of course is always assisted by an ample supply of the necessary "liquid".

To ensure success we ask you to publicise the functions to other members as soon as a notice is received, as there are still many ex-members who are not listed with the Committee.

MEMBERSHIP. Remember, to be members of the Association. Merely register your name and address. No subscription is necessary.

CHRISTMAS PARTY. Our Christmas Party is to be held this year at the Feminist Club Rooms, 77 King Street, Sydney at 2.P.M. on 20th December.

Our Ladies Committee, who are organising the party have asked us to request you to return Guessing Competition butts and money as soon as possible, as time is getting short, and they are in need of this money to complete the purchase of presents.

Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

LAST POST. It is with regret that we announce the death of Bill Douglas (ex C.S.M. "A" Coy 2/1st Pioneer Bn.). A floral tribute was taken to the funeral by an Association Representative. The sympathy of all members is extended to Bill's family.

"IN PASSING"

"Big Joe" Lang - well known ex-Pioneer, is now 2nd Engineer on the Burrinjuck Dam! Good luck to you, Joe, we would like to hear from you. Also, understand Joe's son has graduated from "The Royal Naval College" in England with his commission and is now on his way back to Australia to take up an appointment with the R.A.N. We wish you luck in your career, Lieut. Lang R.A.N.

It's pleasing to see Bill Adlum still on his feet, another identity known to both Bns. With the First at Tobruk, and bashing Rookies of the Second at Bathurst. All is forgiven, Bill, and we noted at the last Smoko that you can still consume as much Ale as previously.

Although he has at last been convinced that his age is too much for further Army service, the Adlum tradition is being perpetuated by a son, commissioned in the A.R.A. and a Korea veteran.

Eddie McCourt may be seen these days saying "Fez Pliz" on the toast racks or 'choofing' some pedestrian off the tracks by means of that tinny gong, that is if he isn't towing one of his three kids around Bondi, or is it four now Ed?

Temporarily the services of Frank Allen have been lost to the Committee, a tower of strength to the Association, since the date of inception as President, Secretary, etc. Frank has his nose to the grindstone in a new position, managing a Flour Milling concern.

Best of luck in the new job, Frank, and we trust you will shortly be back on the Committee in an active capacity.

Clayton Davis, a C.O. of the 2nd Bn. is still flitting from State to State as a member of a Repat. Pensions Tribunal, he's hardly "fairy like" but he does move in that manner.

SICK LIST.

We are very sorry to announce that the first name on our list is that of President, Hec. Pago. Hec collapsed suddenly with a coronary occlusion, while driving his car, and is now in Yaralla Military Hospital. However, we are pleased to say that Hec is now out of the rough and on the way to recovery, and the Committee look forward to having his able direction at our meeting in the very near future.

Also an inmate of Yaralla is John Flood who has been very ill. We understand John is not allowed any visitors and we sincerely hope to report a quick recovery very soon. Good luck, John.

Our special reporter tells that "Popeye" Edwards is in Yaralla with an ailment necessitating an operation of the eye. "Popeye" is still 'battling' along as W.O.11 at the L.T.D. Marrickville, and it's our bet that they miss him. Hurry back on your feet "Popeye".

"RESCUE". Trust a Pioneer to seize an opportunity. Congratulations to Kev Heagney (2/2) for a bit of quick thinking. In a recent publication of a Sydney Paper, a front page group of pictures showed the plight of a cat caught "up a pole" for three days and Kev's children were shown taking part in the rescue. The point is Kev works for the said paper!!!

STOP PRESS!

Congratulations to Maj. Harry Nicholls who gained a Bar to his M.C. whilst serving in Korea. Maj. Nicholls won his original Decoration in Tobruk as a Lieutenant. Well Done!

Len Hope, our hard working carrier on Smoko nights and Committee member, was presented with a son by Gwen, just eight weeks ago.

Our best wishes are extended to Gwen and Junior 'Pioneer'

8.

Jack Allison has again been successful, having recently been admitted as a Barrister. Jack obtained his previous degree as a C.R.T.S. Student - a very fine effort.

The Committee and members now take this opportunity to sincerely thank our Patron, Mrs. O'Malley Wood and her band of helpers for the work they have done for us over the years, in particular we mention the Xmas Party of 1951 and know that the Party of '52 will be an even greater success.

We are unable to express our thanks adequately but are deeply grateful and realise no one person is better suited for her work than our PATRON.

COMPETITION. This news sheet even though possessing parents is still nameless and therefore we announce a competition.

"Provide a suitable name for our Paper"

Entries will be judged by the Committee and he who submits the winning title will be acknowledged in PRINT.

P.S. The name of the paper's mother will be provided upon application together with 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp:

Don't forget to send your 2/6d. to the Secretary if you would like future copies of the magazine. Of course if you would like to send a larger donation, it will be gratefully acknowledged, - in print.

Address your envelopes :-

Secretary (Magazine),
2/1 & 2/2/ Pioneer Bns. Assoc.,
19 Hunter Street,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

The Committee sincerely trust you like our paper and we would very much like to have your comments.

Wishing all our members a very Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year for 1953.