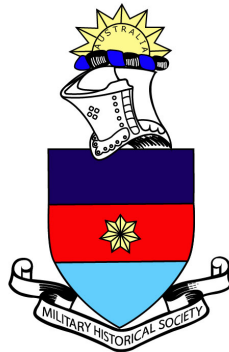


Military Historical Society of Australia  
*Sabretache*



Copyright © 1957-2019 Military Historical Society of Australia on behalf of the Society and its authors who retain copyright of all their published material and articles. All Rights Reserved.

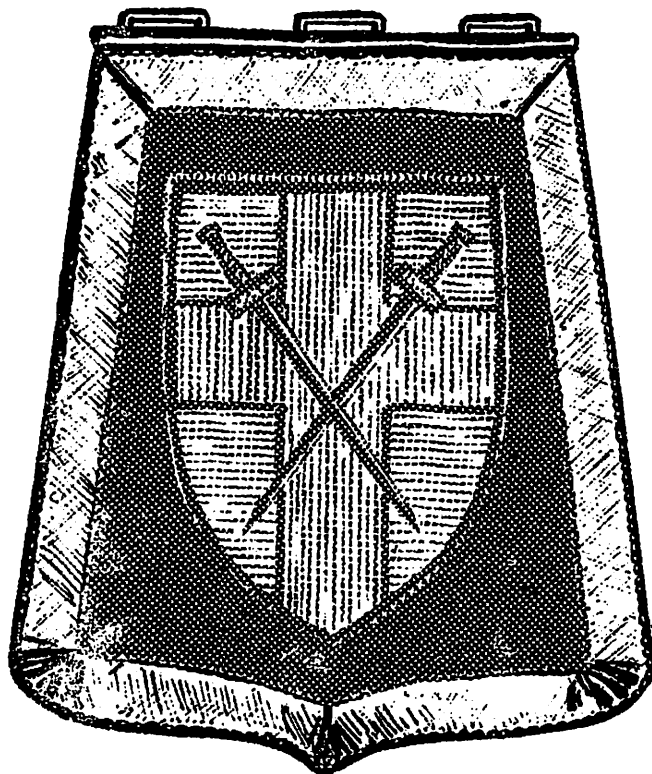
*Sabretache* policy is that the submission of material gives the Society permission to print your material, to allow the material to be included in digital databases such as the MHSa website, Australian Public Affairs-Full Text, INFORMIT and EBSCO. Reprints to non-profit historical and other societies will be approved provided suitable attribution is included and a copy of the reprint is sent to the author. Copyright remains with the author who may reprint his or her article or material from the article without seeking permission from the Society.

The Society encourages the download and distribution of *Sabretache* for personal use only and *Sabretache* can not be reproduced without the written consent of the Society.

[www.mhsa.org.au](http://www.mhsa.org.au)

Military Historical Society of Australia  
PO Box 5030, Garran, ACT 2605.  
email: [webmaster@mhsa.org.au](mailto:webmaster@mhsa.org.au)

SABRETACHE



The Journal of  
THE MILITARY COLLECTORS SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 5

June

1959



## BADGE

Inset on the flap of our Sabretache is a representation of the Society's badge, which is based on the formation sign of 21st Army Group.

THE BLAZON: "Argent, a cross gules engrailed or, charged overall with swords in Saltire of the same; all within an orle gules bordered gold," (provided by Mr. H.K. Hall, a member of The Heraldry Society).

BADGES: Lapel badges may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary for 5/- each. Cuff links bearing the badge are also available for 12/6 per pair.

## SABRETACHE

Subject to availability, additional copies of written articles may be obtained from the Editor at 6d. per sheet. Extra copies of photographic illustrations will be priced according to costs. Back numbers of "SABRETACHE" will cost 3/- per copy (members only).

Members' advertisements may be inserted for a flat rate of 5/- each, except Trade advertisements, which will be the subject of special arrangements.

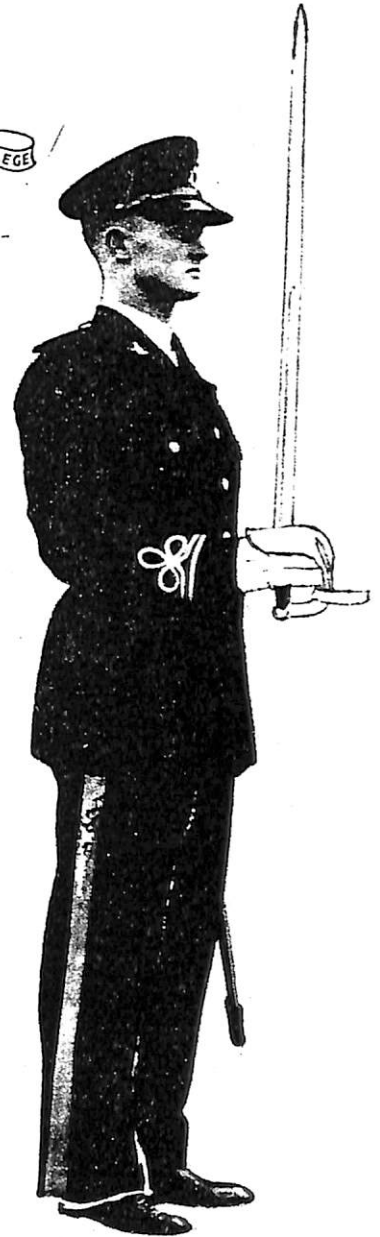
## THE COMMITTEE

Hon. President:	R. Powell, 11 Daff Ave., MOORABBIN, Vic. 'Phone XL4131.
Hon. Secretary:	A.N. Festberg, 2 Springfield Ave., TOORAK, Vic. 'Phone BJ3584.
Hon. Treasurer: & Editor	B.J. Videon, 1 Harper Ave., BENTLEIGH, Vic. 'Phone LU3708.
Hon. Librarian:	J.K. Lyons, 34 College St., ELSTERNWICK. 'Phone XM3917.

-----



# THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE DUNTROON



Since its establishment nearly half a century ago, graduates of the Royal Military College have served their country well in peace and war. Though half a century is a mere tick of the clock in the register of time, it is a significant phase in the history of this young nation, in which white settlement began as late as 1789. The record of service by Duntroon's graduates is proof of the value of the College in the maintenance of Australian security.

In continuance of its role, Duntroon seeks to attract the very best of the nation's young men and train them to become leaders of men in the Australian Regular Army. The recorded history of the locality in which Duntroon is situated is closely linked with that of Australian exploration and settlement.....it has, as well, some very early and interesting military associations.

The first white men to enter the area, afterwards known as Canberra, were Joseph Wild, James Vaughan and Charles Throsby Smith, who, under directions issued by Colonel Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of New South Wales, were seeking the Murrumbidgee River. The party camped near present-day Duntroon on 7th December, 1820. Charles Throsby Smith was an ancestor of Major-General Sir Wm. Throsby Bridges, KCB, CMG, who, ninety years later, became the first Commandant of the Royal Military College of Australia.

The first settlement in the Canberra District, then known as Limestone Plains, was a stock station established in 1824 by Joshua John Moore, a former Lieutenant of the 14th Buckinghamshire Regiment of Foot.



The second settlement in the area was made in 1825 at Pialligo, later known as Duntroon, by James Ainslie, who was employed by Robert Campbell, a leading merchant in Sydney at the end of the 18th century. Ainslie was an ex-trooper of the Scots Greys and had been wounded at Waterloo. Mt. Ainslie, to the north of present-day Duntroon, is named after him.

Ainslie's principal, Robert Campbell, was a descendant from a younger branch of the Campbells of Duntroon Castle in Argyllshire. Curiously, Robert Campbell, the first owner of the property on which Australia's first Staff Cadets would be trained nearly eighty-six years later, is referred to as a "Cadet of Duntroon" on his memorial tablet, dated 1846, in St. Phillip's Church, Sydney.

The need for a military college to train regular officers for the Australian Army became apparent in the early days of Federation.

In 1901, when the Commonwealth Government assumed responsibility for defence, the re-organisation and integration of the military forces were immediately undertaken. These forces had previously been maintained by the States.

As the new army took shape, it was realized that the types of officers required to lead it would be produced by only an Australian military college. Field Marshal Lord Kitchener endorsed this opinion in a comprehensive Memorandum on the Defence of Australia, when he visited this country in 1910 at the invitation of the Federal Government.

As a result of Lord Kitchener's report, Colonel W. T. Bridges, later Major-General Sir William Throsby Bridges, KCB, CMG, was instructed to inspect the leading military academies of England, Canada, France and the United States of America.

From his studies of the instructional methods of these academies, Colonel Bridges drew up proposals for the establishment of a military college, which, while adapting the best features of the older institutions, would be essentially Australian in character and outlook.

The Government agreed to Colonel Bridge's proposals, directed him to establish the college as soon as possible, and appointed him its first Commandant. The Government decided the college would be established near the Federal Capital if a suitable site could be found in the district.

After inspection of several areas in the locality, the homestead block of "Duntroon" sheep station was selected as a site. After negotiations the property was acquired from the descendants of the pioneer, Robert Campbell.

The College was officially opened on 27th June, 1911, by Lord Dudley, Governor-General of Australia, and thus antedated by some sixteen years Parliament House, Canberra, which was opened as the seat of Commonwealth Government in 1927.





At the opening ceremonial parade of thirty-one cadets drawn from all States of the Commonwealth and ten from New Zealand, Lord Dudley announced that His Majesty King George V had been pleased to grant the title "Royal" to the College. Thus, from its foundation day, Duntroon was the "Royal Military College of Australia".

Less than 4 years later, most of Duntroon's first class of cadets and its first Commandant were present at the epic landing at Anzac. On the evening of 23rd April, 1915, on board the troopship "Minnewaska" at Mudros, Major-General Sir William Throsby Bridges, who had been appointed Administrative Commandant of the whole of the first Australian Imperial Force, remarked to the Australian Official War Correspondent: "I think it worth mentioning, upon its own merits, that each of the three artillery officers chosen to observe for the naval guns when we land is a Duntroon boy".

General Bridges died of wounds a few weeks later but the calibre of Duntroon's graduates, which inspired his remark, has been maintained in France, Flanders and Palestine in the first World War, the Middle East and the Pacific in the 1939-45 war, and more recently in Korea and Malaya.

In peace Duntroon's graduates have always played and will continue to play a large part in maintaining the Australian Army's high standard of efficiency.

In the civilian sphere many have at the end of their Service careers filled high executive positions in industry, commerce, the professions and civil administration.

The Royal Military College will continue to produce national leaders in peace and war in fulfilment of its role in the life of the Australian community.

The College curriculum is being constantly revised in the light of experience gained in military and civilian spheres in Australia and overseas, and from a continuous study of the methods and policies of military colleges in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States of America.

The cadets are paid and maintained without cost to their parents and, at the end of their courses, many reach a standard in civil studies equal to that reached at the end of the second year of a University Course.

To qualify them more fully for the Arm or Service to which they are allotted, selected cadets, after graduation, are sent, at Army expense, to Universities or Technical Colleges to undertake full-time degree or diploma courses in Civil, Electrical or Mechanical Engineering, or Science. During these courses, the officers receive the full entitlements of their commissioned rank.

Many other Duntroon graduates are eligible to receive from Universities or Technical Colleges substantial credits for subjects studied at Duntroon. These credits are of material assistance in the later completion of degree or diploma courses.



The course at Duntroon is an exacting but an interesting prelude to a career as a commissioned officer in the Australian Regular Army. Today, this remains one of the few economically sound careers offering the prospect of travel and adventure, coupled with the privilege of serving Australia in an interesting variety of appointments.

The various Corps of the Army, including Armour, Artillery, Engineers, Signals, Infantry, Army Service Corps, Ordnance, and Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, all provide their special appeals.

The Royal Military College cadet is, on graduation, granted the Queen's Commission in the rank of Lieutenant and allotted to the Army or Service in the technique of which he has received special grounding during his last year at the College.

Graduates are posted usually to Regular Army or National Service units to obtain further experience in management, leadership and regimental duties. Those officers selected for full time courses at Universities or Technical Colleges obtain this experience in suitable postings after they have obtained their degree or diplomas.

Subsequent appointments are arranged according to a long-range programme, under which the Army plans the careers of its officers carefully and ensures that their training and experience are suitably balanced so as to fit them for more important appointments and higher ranks.

Since the dress worn by the CSC has changed so much since 1911, it would be impossible to tabulate the changes and differences that have occurred.

Basically, however, the Corps of Staff Cadets wear the current dress of the service with their own distinguishing badges and buttons. White gorget tabs, for example, are NOT worn.

The cuff rank distinctions and NCO badges for the Corps of Staff Cadets are as explained. They are fully set out in Standing Orders for Dress for the AMF. NCOs below the rank of Colour Sergeant wear normal NCO badges of rank and in Orders of Dress other than No. 1 and No. 2, an SUO wears the normal badge of a WO, a UO the normal badge of a WOII and a Colour Sergeant the normal badge of a Staff Sergeant.

The various orders of dress, and details of NCO rank badges, as at the present time, are set out in the following appendices.

(Information by Courtesy The Royal Military College.)



## Appendix 1.

CSC STANDING ORDERSORDERS OF DRESS AND EQUIPMENTPART I ORDERS OF DRESSNO. 1 DRESS (CEREMONIAL):Articles to be worn:

Cap forage blue  
 Jacket blue  
 Shirt white with collar  
 Trousers blue  
 Tie black  
 Boots ankle black dress  
 Socks black  
 Gloves cotton white  
 Greatcoat DB officers' pattern to be worn when ordered.

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Ceremonial Parades
- (2) Guards of Honour
- (3) When ordered

NO. 2 DRESS (WALKING OUT):Articles to be worn:

Cap forage blue  
 Jacket blue  
 Trousers blue  
 Shirts white with collar  
 Tie black  
 Shoes black  
 Socks black  
 Gloves leather brown. (Gloves white cotton will be worn in lieu when ordered.)  
 Greatcoat DB officers' pattern may be worn at the discretion of the individual.

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Evening meal, night lectures or studies - less gloves. Recreation dress may be worn during studies at the discretion of the individual.
- (2) When on leave after retreat. (Civilian Dress optional Sundays.)
- (3) At balls or other evening entertainments for which uniform is ordered.
- (4) At official functions.
- (5) When ordered.



5/6.

NO. 3 DRESS (FIELD SERVICE WINTER):

Articles to be worn:

Cap forage khaki  
Hat to be worn when ordered  
Blouse battle dress  
Trousers battle dress  
Shirt khaki officers with collar  
Tie khaki  
Boots black  
Socks khaki  
Anklets web except during indoor classes  
Greatcoats DB 46 pattern to be worn when ordered  
Raincoat to be worn when ordered  
Lanyard scarlet or khaki. SOVEREIGN'S Company only  
will wear scarlet lanyards.

(Note: In warm weather and according to the nature of duty on which engaged removal of blouse and braces may be ordered. In this case the web belt will be worn through trouser loops and rank badges worn on the shirt.)

Occasions when worn:

- (1) For general training parades by day except when other dress is ordered.
- (2) Defaulters parades.
- (3) When under arrest pending investigation.
- (4) Shopping Leave.

NO. 4 DRESS (FIELD SERVICE SUMMER):

Articles to be worn:

Cap to be worn for drill and defaulters parades.  
Hat  
Shirt khaki with collar attached  
Trousers drill khaki  
Boots black  
Socks khaki  
Anklets web  
Belt web  
Jersey pullover when ordered  
Raincoat when ordered

Occasions when worn:

- (1) For all field training.
- (2) Defaulters parades.
- (3) When under arrest pending investigation.
- (4) Drill parades.





NO. 6 DRESS (GENERAL DUTY, SUMMER):Articles to be worn:

Cap forage khaki  
 Shirt safari  
 Trousers drill khaki  
 Boots black  
 Socks khaki  
 Raincoat - when ordered  
 Lanyard scarlet or khaki. SOVEREIGN'S Company only  
 will wear scarlet lanyards.

Occasions when worn:

- (1) For general training parades by day except when other dress is ordered.
- (2) Shopping Leave.

PROTECTIVE DRESS (SUMMER):Articles to be worn:

Hat  
 Beret khaki - when ordered  
 Blouses AFV or other type if issued in lieu  
 Trousers AFV or other type if issued in lieu  
 Boots black  
 Socks khaki  
 Anklets web  
 Greatcoats DB 46 pattern - when ordered  
 Raincoat - when ordered

Occasions when worn:

- (1) When ordered.

PHYSICAL TRAINING DRESS:Articles to be worn:

Singlets gymnasium  
 Shorts blue gymnasium  
 Track suits - when ordered and during winter  
 Socks white woollen  
 Shoes canvas gymnasium white  
 Hat - when ordered  
 Boots black - when ordered  
 Raincoat - when ordered

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Recreational and physical training parades.



RECREATIONAL DRESS:

Articles to be worn:

Shirt white with collar

Tie RMC

Trousers grey

Blazer RMC.. (Fourth Class Cadets may wear Sports Coats of approved pattern until Blazers RMC are issued.)

Socks black

Shoes black

Scarf RMC white in lieu of tie, RMC. (To be worn with white shirt with collar attached. Only worn when proceeding to or from sport in which the Cadet is participating.)

Raincoat

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Attending sporting activities.
- (2) When exempt duty (lectures).
- (3) Off duty.
- (4) During night studies.
- (5) When on leave before Retreat only.

SPORTS KIT:

As ordered.

Occasions when worn:

- (1) When actively engaged in sport.

PLAIN CLOTHES:

Articles to be worn:

Lounge Suit approved pattern - grey or blue.

Hat approved pattern

Shirt with collar

Tie. (Cravat/scarf of approved design may be worn in lieu of a tie; together with a white shirt with collar attached, may be worn with Sports Clothes in certain circumstances.)

Shoes

Socks

Overcoat to be worn in inclement weather

Raincoat to be worn in inclement weather

Occasions when worn:

- (1) As authorised by the Commanding Officer.
- (2) Off duty, within RMC bounds, during weekends and public holidays.
- (3) When on leave, Sundays only. (See No. 2 and Recreation Dress.)
- (4) When moving to or from CANBERRA to accompany a partner to a Company function for which civilian clothes are authorised.



NOTES:

5/9.

- (a) Raincoats will be considered as either Military or Civilian Dress.
- (b) Dress in the Mess will be as follows:
- (i) Weekdays:
- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <u>Breakfast, Lunch</u> | Dress prescribed for training, excluding Physical Training Dress. Protective Dress will be clean; also see Section 9. |
| <u>Dinner</u>           | No. 2 Dress.  |
- (ii) Saturdays:
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Breakfast</u> | As for weekdays.   |
| <u>Lunch</u>     | Field Service (Summer or Winter as applicable), or Recreational Dress. |
| <u>Dinner</u>    | No. 2 Dress or Civilian Dress.   |
- (iii) Sundays:
- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <u>Breakfast, Lunch</u> | Field Service (Summer or Winter as applicable), or Civilian Dress. |
| <u>Dinner</u>           | As for Saturday dinner.  |
- (c) Church:
- (i) Church within RMC No. 2, No. 3 or No. 6 Dress as applicable, or Plain Clothes.
- (ii) Church outside RMC No. 2 Dress or Plain Clothes.

BADGES, R.M.C.

The present badge ( gilt ) of the R.M.C. is illustrated on page 5/1 .

It will be noticed that the boomerangs are distinctly angular in shape.

The brass badge worn prior to W.W.2 was similar in design and size, but the boomerangs were curved, rather than angular.

Another difference between the two is that the ends of the lower scroll did not return to touch the upper scroll.

At the beginning of the War, badges were oxidised copper.

Cap and collar badges are exactly the same. The Imperial Crown is still in use.



5/10.

PART II - ORDERS OF EQUIPMENT

CEREMONIAL:

Articles to be worn:

Belt sword buff white with slings - when ordered.  
Sword officers infantry pattern - when ordered.  
Scabbard steel sword officers infantry pattern -  
when ordered.  
Knot sword buff white - when ordered.  
Belt web white  
Frog web white  
Scabbard bayonet  
Rifle  
Bayonet  
Sling web white

(Note: White webbing will only be cleaned with the  
cleaning agent issued by Bn Store.)

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Ceremonial parades.
- (2) Guards of Honour.
- (3) When ordered.

DRILL ORDER:

Articles to be worn:

Belt web khaki  
Frog web khaki  
Scabbard bayonet  
Bayonet  
Rifle  
Sling web khaki

Occasions when worn:

- (1) Drill parades.
- (2) When ordered.

(Note: Web equipment will be marked with Cadet's  
name block.)

BUTTONS, R.M.C.

Prior to W.W.2, buttons bore the badge of the College, less the scroll and title "Royal Military College". The words "Corps of Staff Cadets" were employed instead, reading anti-clockwise around the edge of the button, commencing from the left-hand side of the crown.

The present button, of the now standard hollow-backed bright gold finish, bears the College badge, with the Saint Edward's Crown, less the lower scroll. Neither the title of the College nor the Corps appear.





BASIC ORDER:Articles to be worn:

As for Drill Order plus Pouches left and right, Straps supporting left and right. These will be worn LEFT over RIGHT.

Ground sheets - when ordered.

Occasions when worn:

(1) When ordered.

FIELD ORDER:Articles to be worn:

As for Basic Order plus Haversack containing tins, mess knife, fork and spoons FS. water bottle, capes half shelter.

Straps haversack left and right.

Helmets steel - when ordered.

Hat

Entrenching tool to be carried vertically on the haversack inside the straps which will be crossed left over right as viewed from the rear when worn.

Occasions when worn:

(1) Infantry Training All Arms.

(2) When ordered.

MARCHING ORDER:Articles to be worn:

Pack containing:

1 Blanket, 1 Groundsheet 1 Housewife, 1 Boots black prs., Cleaning kit, boot and brass, 1 Singlet, 1 Underpants, 1 Shirt khaki, 2 Handkerchiefs, 1 spare laces black pr.

Straps pack

Hat - when ordered, helmets steel will then be strapped to the outside of the pack.

Helmet steel

Haversack(i) To contain mess tins, knife, fork and spoon and toilet kit.

(ii) To be carried on left side of body.

Cape

Water bottle - to be full of water and worn on right side of body.

Occasions when worn:

(1) Defaulters parades.

(2) When ordered.

(Note: On defaulters parades, helmets steel will be carried strapped to the outside of the pack.)



5/12.

Appendix 2. NCOs OF CORPS OF STAFF CADETS

The braid for the insignia of rank worn on No. 1 and No. 2 Dress by the senior under officer and under officers, Corps of Staff Cadets, is supplied in suitable lengths and will be attached to the sleeve under local arrangements as follow:-

- (a) Senior Under Officer - The braid will be  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch between rows, with the first or lower row  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the lower edge of cuff. The crow's foot will be formed in the braid of the top row, from which it will extend  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches and measure  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches across the middle loops at the widest part. The point of the cuff will be turned under to provide a plain surface for the crow's foot, which will be placed centrally on the sleeve facing outwards.
- (b) Under Officer - The braid will be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the lower edge of the cuff with the crow's foot as for Senior Under Officer.

The three bar chevrons with crossed union flags and crown above, worn on No. 1 and No. 2 Dress by colour sergeants of the Corps of Staff Cadets and of the OCS will be placed on the upper sleeve as follows:-

- Chevrons 3-bar - Lowest point  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches from top of sleeve.
- Crossed union flags and crown - Above chevrons with the lower ends of flag poles between and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch below the top points of chevrons. The crown is between the flags with the centre of the crown level with the top points of flag poles.

oooooOooooo



## "THE FORTS IN PORT PHILLIP BAY"

5/13.

One small saluting gun today guards the entrance to Port Phillip Bay — once the Empire's Gibraltar of the Southern Hemisphere.

Obsolete in an age when an enemy submarine could blast Melbourne with guided missiles from 200 miles off the coast, the mammoth fortifications round the Bay are today being overgrown by trees and filled with sand.

Only once was a shot fired in anger from the fortifications...and that was the first shot of the First World War fired from the Point Nepean battery across the bows of the German freighter S.S. Pfalz, trying to clear the Heads on August 4, 1914, soon after the declaration of war.

The freighter, on its maiden voyage, turned back for Melbourne and internment with its captain in tears.

But it was fear of Imperial Russia's aims in the Pacific — not of the Germans — which persuaded the Colony of Victoria to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds fortifying Port Phillip Bay and the Victorian coast line in the late 1800's.

Victoria bought dreadnoughts for its Navy, too — and never used them in war.

Most powerful fort in the chain guarding Melbourne from the Russians was the Point Nepean battery overlooking the Heads.

Together with the heavily armoured "Eagles Nest" overlooking Bass Strait, Point Nepean was one of the most powerful forts in the world in those days.

Today, the deep underground galleries, passages and magazines of the fort are deserted. The barracks where hundreds of men were quartered before the turn of the century and during two world wars, have been torn down and removed.

Huge gun emplacements commanding a panoramic view of the Heads are still intact, but the six inch guns guarding the entrance to the Bay were taken away and scrapped in 1946.

The fortress with its deep, dark ammunition lifts, is not open to the public — it is in the defence area at the Heads now used by the Army as an Officer Cadet School and by the Health Department as a quarantine station.

It would take years to blast the vast underground network of tunnels, fill in the holes, and make it safe for the public to wander round the area.

But, although Fort Nepean looks like a section of the Siegfried Line after the Allies swept over it, another key fort in the chain remains almost as it was in the middle of pre-1900 Russian scare.

It is South Channel Fort Island, to most people no more than a speck on horizon in the Bay off Rye.



5/14.

Today the island, built up from a shoal on the edge of the Bay's main channel to Melbourne, is barred to the public. It is used to store the mines used by the Ports and Harbors Authority to blast the Rip.

In the 1880's the island took more than £60,000 to fortify -- and it was built to last.

Today the rusty 8in. gun turrets remain. One huge barrel lies half-buried in the sand, sea bird's nests fill the dark, lofty galleries and magazines.

The piles projecting above the water to keep enemy boats at bay have long since rotted away, but the old raised breastwork and musketry parapet on the island are still intact.

In our Bay it is rotting away, unknown to most people who visit bayside beaches. Even its history is hard to trace today.

In this atomic-age the island would be considered too small for even a Nike base. Yet less than 100 years ago it was our last line of defence, powerful enough to prevent any ship from sailing up the channel to Melbourne

Army records at the Victorian section of the National Archives Library in Brighton contain dozens of beautifully drawn plans of the South Channel Fort and the other Victorian forts. But no record remains of how the fort was built up from the shallow shoal, how many men formed the garrison, how long they stayed there.

Most ambitious part of the plan to keep the Russians out was never completed. It remains today a spearfisherman's paradise in the middle of the Bay a few thousand yards back from the centre of the Heads.

I went out to the ring of big blue-stone rocks that shows where Pope's Eye fort was to have been.

At the Archives Library I had seen an old Army memo from Major-General Steward, R.E., Military Adviser for the Colony of Victoria. In this 1886 memo the general said: "All are unanimous that a fort on Pope's Eye shoal would immeasurably strengthen our inner lines of defence."

Estimated cost of the fort in those low-cost-of-living days was £330,000.

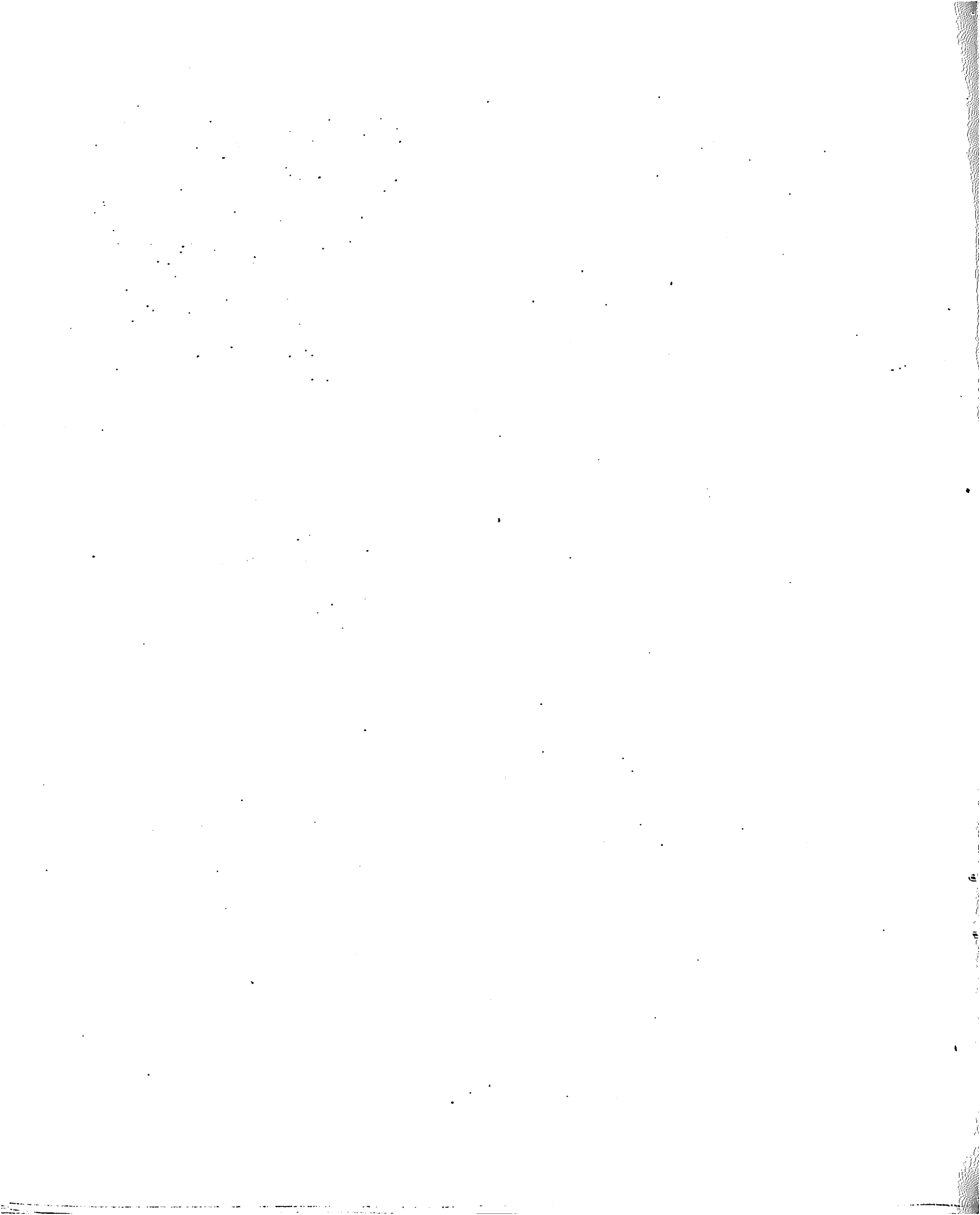
Sailing ships carted thousands of tons of rock out to the shoal and dumped them in a circle into the ocean until they rose above the water.

The circle was nearly complete and soon the centre of the circle would have been filled in and turned into a fortress -- but then the Russian threat ended and the work stopped.

Other powerful forts guarded Port Fairy and strategic coastline areas. Queenscliff had two huge 9.2 in. guns and other heavy artillery.

In the Bay itself forts at Gellibrand, Williamstown and Swan Island waited for the Russians who never came.





5/15.

Some of the old fortresses may soon be used as Nike bases to protect Melbourne, but to-day the question of Melbourne's defence is a top level secret.

It is certain though that Port Phillip Bay will never again be able to carry the title of the Gibraltar of the Southern Hemisphere - even if we do have to face an "On the Beach" ending.

JOHN MONKS  
( By courtesy "The Herald", Melbourne).

---oOo---

NEDERLANDSE VERENIGING " De VERZAMELAAR".

( Dutch Collectors' Association)

The Committee has pleasure in reporting that an exchange of magazines has been arranged with the Dutch Collectors' Association.

A leaflet received from their General Secretary, Mr. L. AKERSHOEK, of 84, Columbusstraat, The Hague, advises that the Association has over 2,500 members, who collect all kinds of "collectable" objects, and who arrange exhibitions and hold study groups.

A monthly journal is issued.

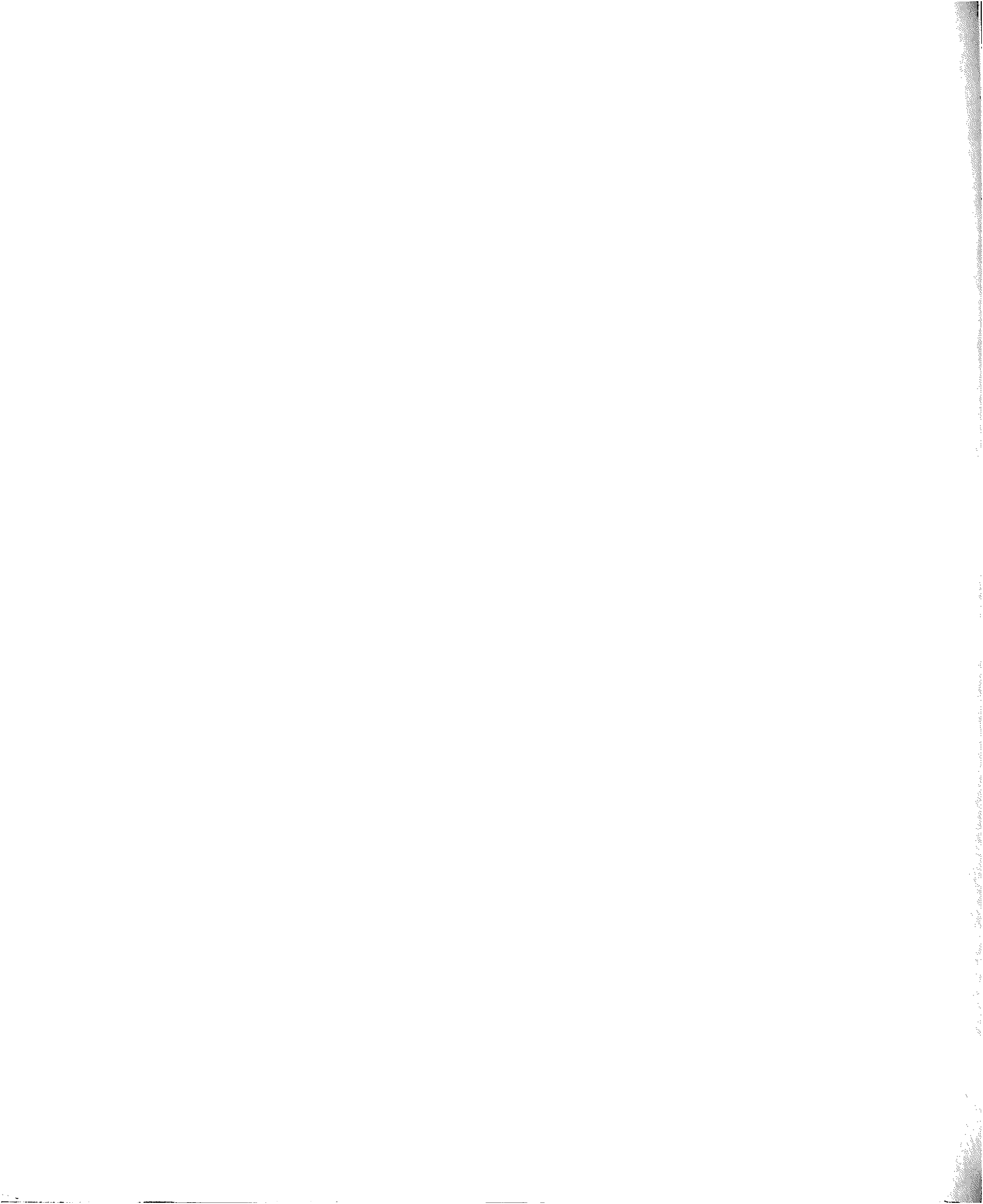
---oOo---

MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Capt. K. G. Kendall, of Ralston, Alberta, Canada, writes that a Canadian Model Soldier Society has recently been formed. Dues are 2 dollars.

Those interested are invited to contact Capt. Kendall for details.

Best wishes, Canada!



5/16.

### HISTORIC AIRCRAFT FINDS A HOME

An historic RAAF training plane - Wirraway No. A20-103 - has just made its last journey, by road from RAAF Tocumwal, N.S.W., to Canberra.

The Wirraway is the aircraft flown by Pilot Officer John S. Archer when he amazed the RAAF (and himself) by shooting down a Japanese Zero fighter off the New Guinea coast on Boxing Day, 1942. It will be placed on permanent display alongside other historic aircraft in the Aeroplane Hall at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The Wirraway had been stored at Tocumwal since its last flight in October 1957.

Mr. Archer, who received the US Silver Star for his achievement, is now a business man living at Gardenvale, a Melbourne suburb. He is still "soldiering on" as a Captain in the CMF attached to 6 Infantry Brigade Headquarters, Camberwell. "I was thrilled to hear that my old aircraft will be displayed in Canberra", he said this week. "It will be a fine tribute to those Wirraway pilots who were killed on operations against the Japs".

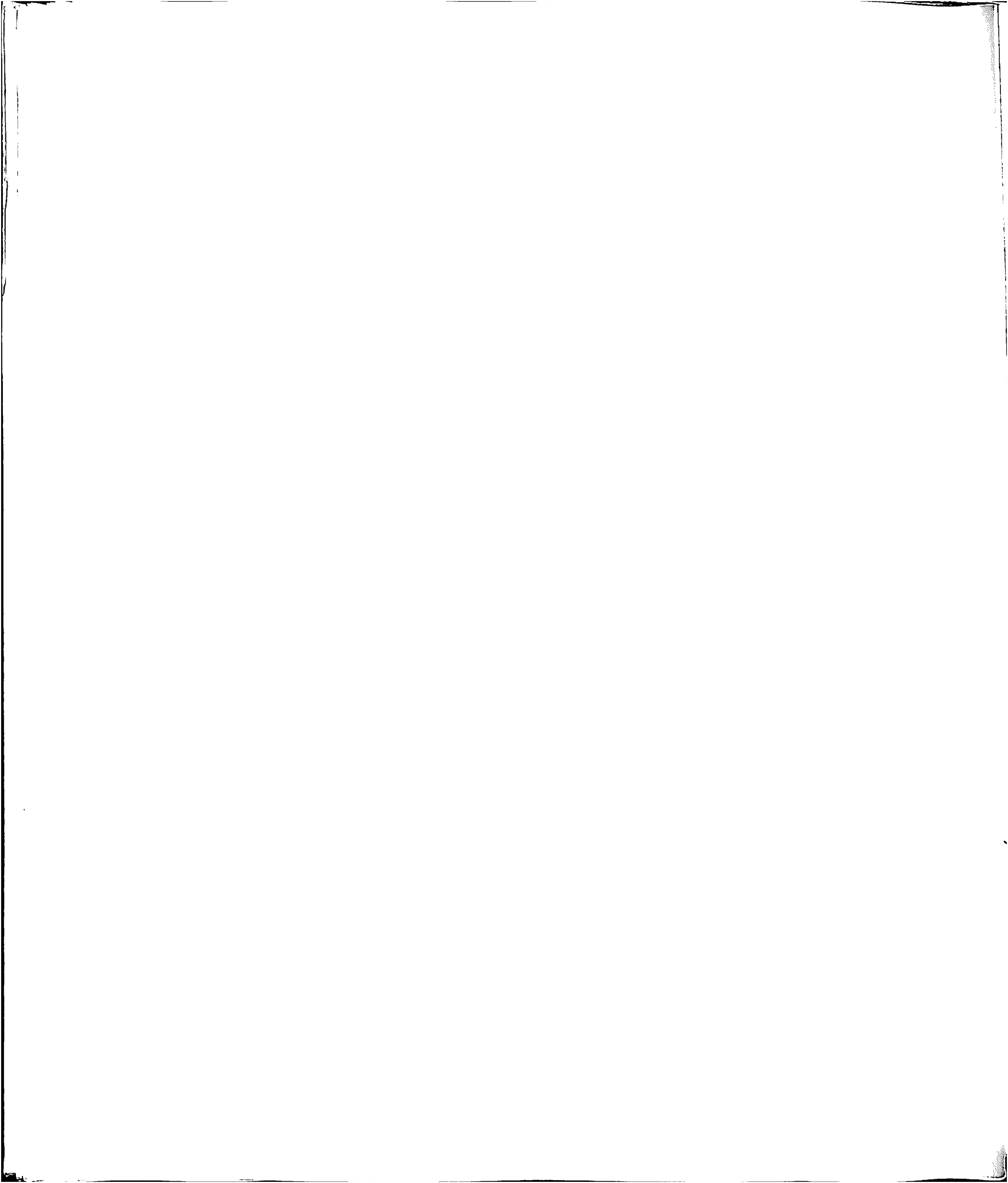
The Australian-built Wirraway trainer was never intended for use as a fighter aircraft. RAAF pilots flying them in New Guinea went in daily fear of Japanese Zero fighters, which flew twice as fast.

Mr. Archer says to-day that he was just as surprised as anybody else on that Boxing Day in 1942. He was patrolling the coast when he saw an aircraft below him which he thought was another Wirraway. In those days the difficulty of distinguishing at a distance the difference between a Wirraway and a Zero made Wirraway pilots very nervous of being shot down by American fighter pilots who mistook them for Zeros.

When he realised the other aircraft was a Zero, he fired a quick burst and got away. The Zero crashed into the sea - a bullet had passed through the Jap pilot's head. Archer was a lucky man.

From "RAAF News", 11/3/59.

ooo)(ooo



FIREARMS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR - V

Now to the big fellows, the cannon. American Robert Parrot designed a cast iron rifled cannon which had heavy wrought-iron bands around its breech to hold it together at the point of maximum strain. Captain Rodman, a fellow countryman, devised big smooth bores something like the Dahlgrens, which were cast around a chilled core so that the inside surface was hardened first and then squeezed by the contraction of the outside metal. Wrapping with steel tape was used successfully but guns treated this way had a tendency to "whip" when fired.

Rifled Parrots did service as field, siege and naval guns and came in 7 sizes ranging from 10 pounders to 300 pounders. The latter fired on Fort Sumter from a range of 2 miles in the war's opening battle.

The Rodman smooth bores were used for coastal defence and siege work. Rodmans of up to 15 inches were not uncommon and the largest known had a 20 inch bore. This giant threw a shell in excess of 1,000 pounds weight. Thirteen inch mortars had a range of two and a half miles.

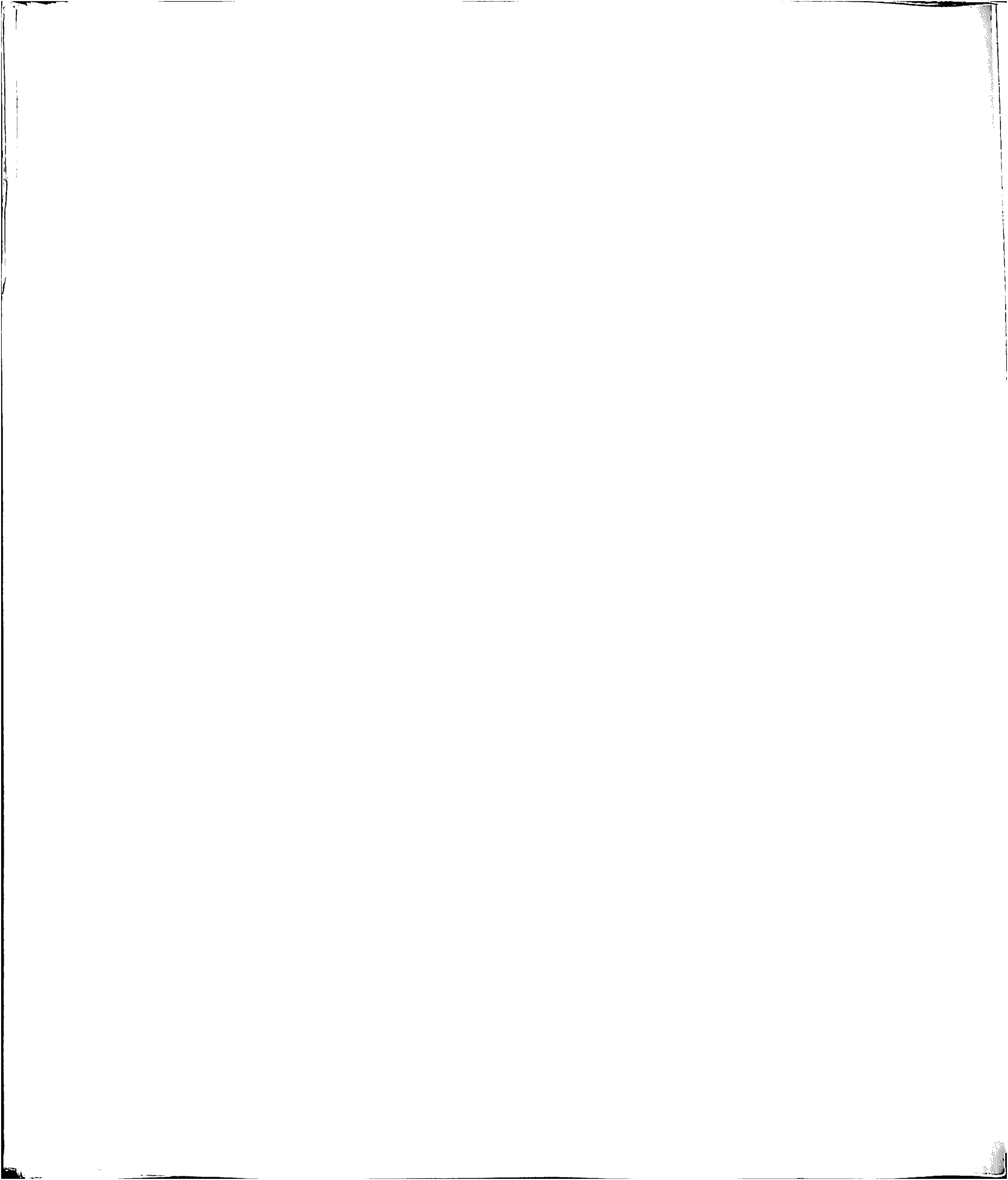
John Dahlgren gave his name to a smooth bore naval cannon and a rifled Howitzer. The naval gun was a muzzle loader shaped like a soda bottle the huge mass of metal at the breech being able to stand up to hefty charges of powder. From the huge breech the gun gradually tapered down to something like a normal muzzle.

Chain shot, solid shot, explosive shells and bombs, shrapnel, grape and canister were all in use. Light shells were sometimes thrown by the infantry during sieges as a sort of make shift hand grenade. The confederates on one occasion buried shells under a light covering of earth as impromptu land mines. These practises were rare and isolated.

Undoubtedly the greatest weapon of the war was neutral disease! Lack of sanitation and poor rations plus rather inadequate medical services accounted for more deaths than the actual fighting. Over a million perished altogether.

(Contributed by Mr. A. Watson)

---oOo---



5/18.

## ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES LANDERS MUSEUM

The Royal New South Wales Lancers have established a museum in the Lancer Barracks, Parramatta.

The prime object is to preserve articles and records of historical interest appertaining to the Regiment, but also accepted for the museum are interesting military items, preferably cavalry or armoured corps, not directly connected with the Regiment.

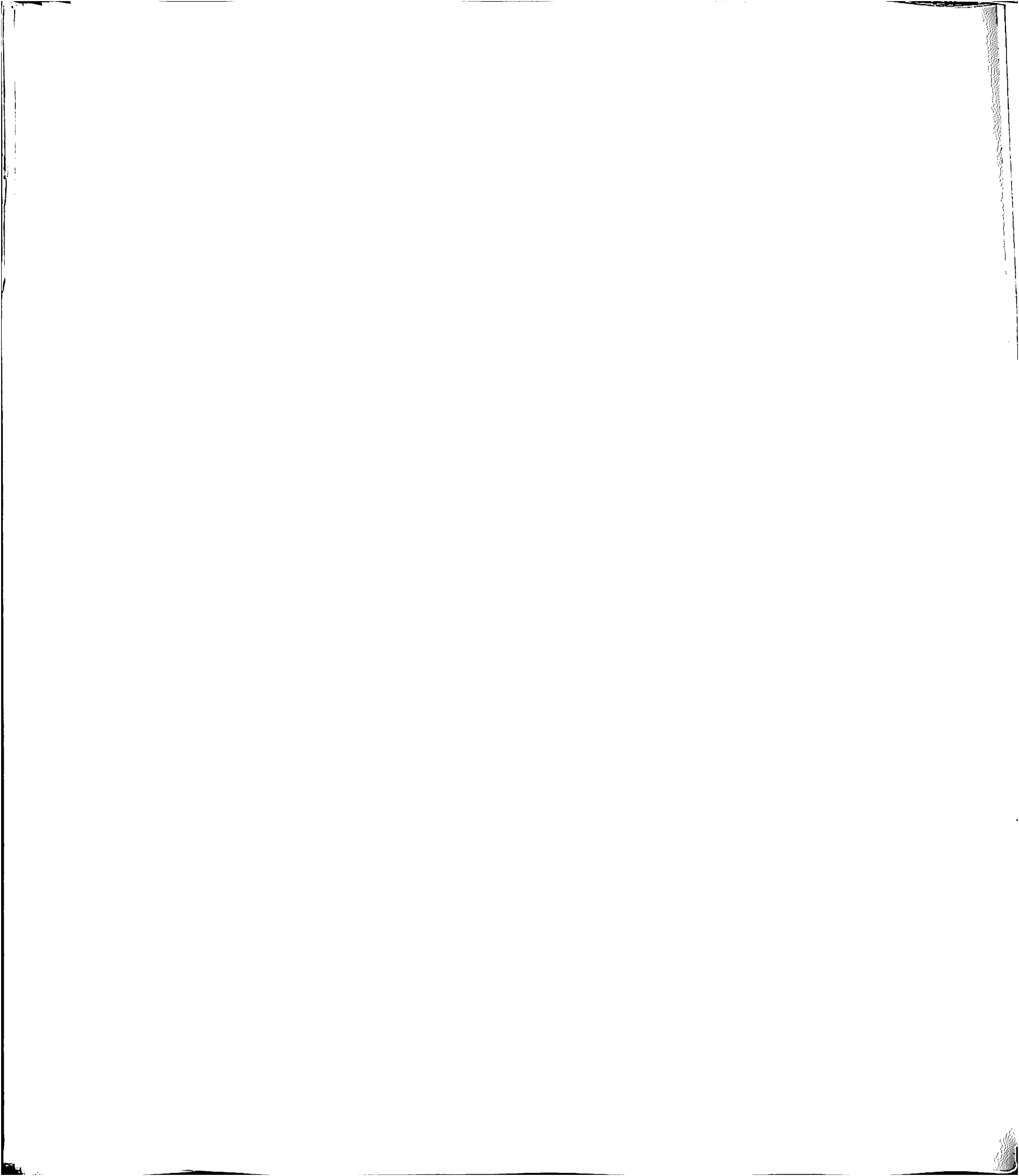
The museum is under the direction of the honorary curator, Lt. N. R. Grinyer, R. of O., who is assisted by a small committee of serving members and by some of the members of the RNSWL Association. Mr. Grinyer served in the Australian Tank Corps, in 7 Div Cav Regt (Middle East and New Guinea) and RNSWL. He is full of enthusiasm for the museum project and the Regiment is extremely fortunate to have secured his co-operation.

One room, measuring 20ft. by 16ft, has been allotted by the Regiment for the museum. In view of the current needs of the Regiment for accommodation for other uses the museum is probably lucky to have a room at all, but nevertheless it is already too small for the purpose, and steadily becoming more so.

The following outline list will give readers an idea of the contents in April, 1959:-

1. Weapons - British carbines, mid-XIX Century; Mauser and Spandau rifles, Boer War period and later; Jap light machine gun; lances; swords, assorted, including cavalry and infantry officers' of various patterns and Japanese.
2. Pictures - many framed pictures of regimental personnel and scenes from 1886 on and scenes in the Palestine campaign.
3. Saddlery - saddle and bridle, officers' pattern, of Sir John Northcott.





4. Uniforms and Personal Equipment -

NSWL: set of officer's uniforms, 1892 (Lt. J. Sulman), complete except for slouch hat; set includes full dress field service, mess dress, blue cavalry cloak, knee boots, half-Wellingtons and all accoutrements (pouch belts, sword belts, sabretache, etc.).

NSWL: full dress tunic, girdle, lines, O.R.'s pattern, about 1903, with farrier's badge on sleeve, and same owner's F.S. cap of regimental pattern.

NSWL: additional items of officer's uniforms, 1912, including full dress (incomplete), patrol jacket (blue with frogs), undress blue jacket, Commonwealth F.S. tunic.

NSWL: bandsman's uniform, period 1933.

NSWMR: breeches (drab Bedford cord, double black stripes); aiguillettes of red and black cord (O.R.'s pattern).

1 Aust. Horse: officer's full dress tunic and overalls and F.S. cap, 1898.

S.A. War: helmet, bandolier, spurs.

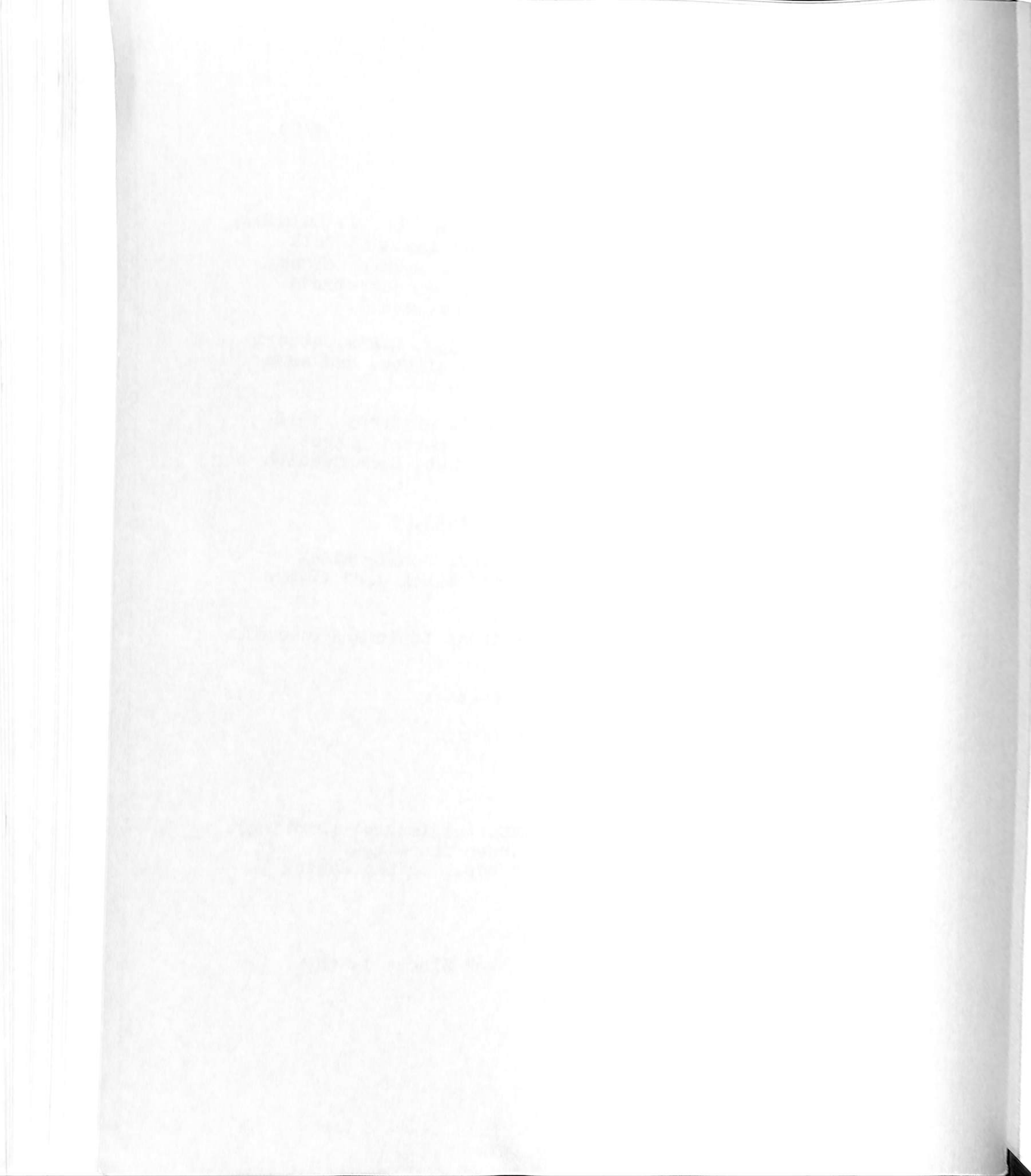
W.WI: Light Horse trooper's uniform.

5. Trophies -

The Royston Shield (pre-WW2 inter-regimental shooting).  
15 L H Regt shield for inter-troop shooting.  
Various Regimental competition cups, mainly dating from the nineteen-thirties.

6. Australian Tank Corps -

Flags and trophies which have been placed in the custody of the RNSWL.



5/20.

7. Documentary -

Photograph albums, covering the three visits to England in the nineties, etc.  
Scrap book containing regimental items, 1897 to 1921.  
Adjutant's outward letter book, April, / December, 1891.

8. Miscellaneous -

Jap platoon flag, New Guinea campaign.  
Small battlefield souvenirs (mostly German origin) from Jordan Valley, 1918, and 1917 tin of "bully beef".  
NZMR mess tin in leather case.  
Sundries.

Some of the additional items that have been promised for the museum are a Uhlan's helmet, a Bengal Lancers sword, a 9th Lancers sword, NSWL Cadet uniform and accoutrements (c.1905).

Other things are sought to strengthen the collection of uniforms and equipment of patterns used by RNSWL - notably universal pattern saddlery, tunics LH & RNSWL 1933-1940; RNSWL colour patches (in which 3 changes occurred during WW2).

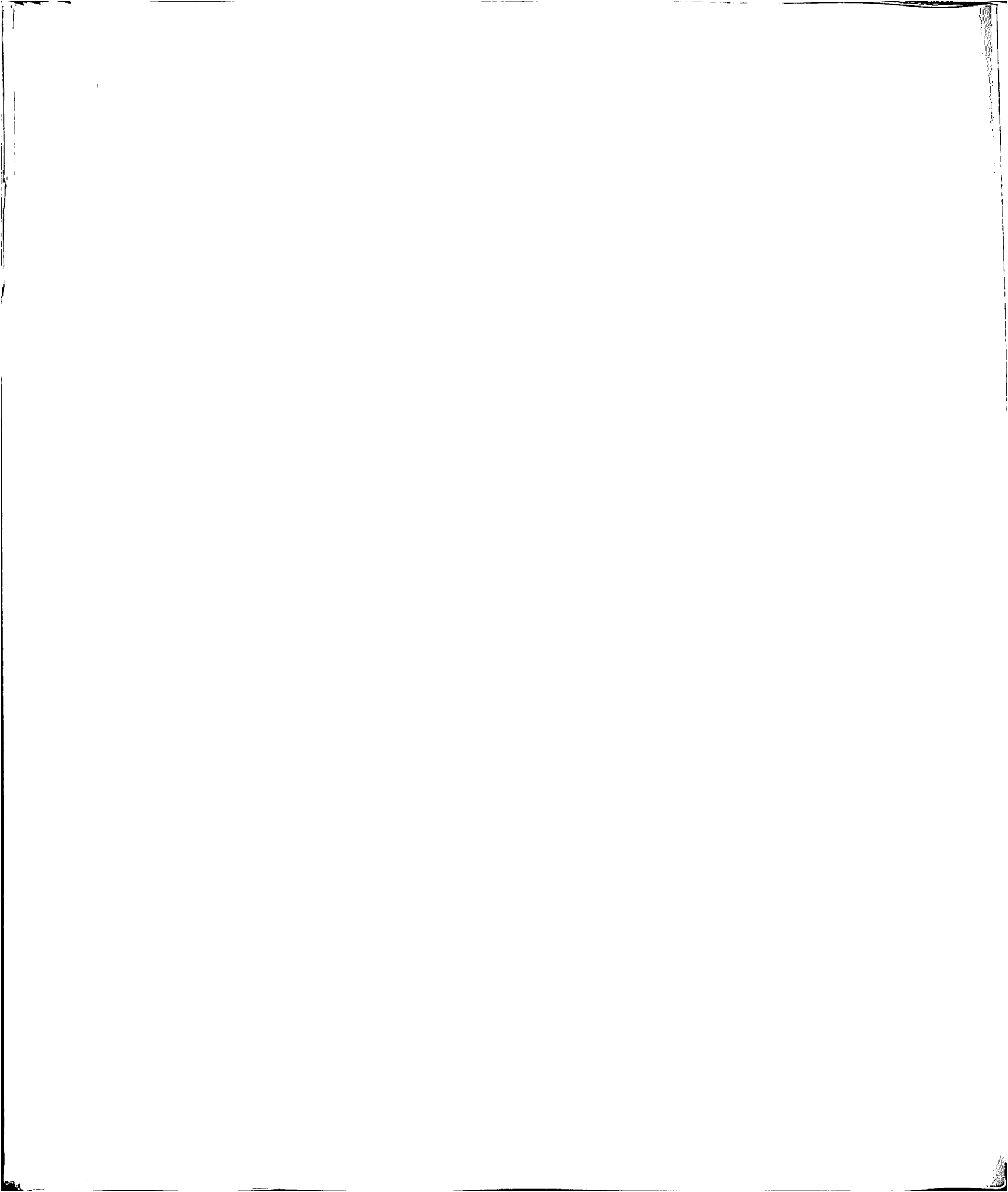
The first public airing was on March 1, 1959, when there were many visitors to the Lancer barracks following a Regimental Church Parade and unveiling by His Excellency the Governor of a tablet commemorating the laying up of the guidon in St. John's Cathedral. On display and ticketed was an interesting selection of uniforms referred to in Item 4 and practically all the other relics except those in Item 7. Display models, borrowed for the occasion were dressed in some of the uniforms. When not on display uniforms are stored in boxes, some of which have been specially made.

On an evening in May it is planned to entertain a party from the Parramatta and District Historical Society, and preliminary plans are being made for the museum to be televised.

(Submitted by Lt. Col. P. V. Vernon)

Note:- Mr. Grinyer's address is 144 Chetwynd Rd., Guildford, N.S.W. (Telephone YU7688). We feel sure that he would be delighted to receive any items which would be of interest to the museum.

---oOo---



5/21.

QUEEN'S COLOURS FOR NTH. SHORE REGIMENT

On Sunday, June 7th, 1959, the State Governor will present New Queen's and Regimental Colours to the 17/18 Infantry Battalion (North Shore Regiment) as a direct representative of Her Majesty, who normally performs this ceremony for Regiments in England.

The Battalion proceeded to Annual Camp at Singleton on April 26 and intensive training for the intricate movements involved, will commence towards the end of the camp. This training will be continued later in two weekend sessions at the Sydney Church of England Grammar School Memorial Fields, Northbridge, where the actual presentation will be made. The School Council broke precedent in making the playing fields available for the ceremony because of its importance, and because Shore Cadets are affiliated to the Battalion.

The Colours are beautiful emblems representing the proud history and traditions of the 17th Battalion (The North Sydney Regiment) and the 18th Battalion (The Ku-ring-gai Regiment) and have inscribed thereon the main battle honours won by these battalions since their formation. The earliest battle honour is in the 17th Battalion colour being "Suakin 1885". Original members of this battalion fought in that campaign being one of the four Australian Infantry Units that contributed to the force. This is Senior Battle Honour in the Australian Army.

Actually the Regiment's history goes back further than 1885.

The origin of the unit commenced with the formation of the St. Leonards Rifle Corps in 1860, which over the course of some years became the 17th Battalion (The North Sydney Regiment). Thus in 1960 the 17/18th Battalion (The North Shore Regiment) will celebrate its Centenary.

The Hon. Colonel of the Regiment is Brig. C. E. Cameron, M.C. and Bar, who won his M.C.'s with the 18th Battalion. Brig. Cameron is an ex-mayor of Ku-ring-gai.



5/22.

The C.O., Lt. Col. E. S. Marshall, O.B.E., was commissioned in the 7th Battalion in 1940. He was awarded the O.B.E. for distinguished Service in the C.M.F. at the time of the Singleton Floods.

The Second in Command who is Major D. H. Wade-Ferrell, M.C., of Pymble, won his M.C. against the Japanese in Bouganville. He was commissioned in the 17th Battalion and later became Adjutant during the war.

Former C.O.'s of 17/18 Infantry Battalion are Brig. J. R. Broadbent, D.S.O., E.O., who commanded the 2/17th Battalion in New Guinea and Borneo, and Lt. Col. P. H. Pike, who was commissioned in the 17th Battalion and later become Second in Command of 2/17th Battalion and Post War C.O. of 17/18 Infantry Battalion after Brig. Broadbent.

(By courtesy - The Ku-ring-gai Recorder  
April 29, 1959).

---oOo---

### CADETS GO TO "WAR"

From "The Mercury" of 16/5/59 we learn that some Tasmanian Cadets learn their military duties in the most interesting way - by experience. The report reads:-

" Cadets of the three services and planes of the Aero Club of Southern Tasmania will combine today in a realistic miniature "war" for possession of Fort Direction.

Members of the Air Training Corps will defend the fort against a combined operation by Army Cadets and Sea Cadets.

Sea Cadets will strike the first blow when they make a landing in Mary Anne Bay to move overland and secure a beachhead.

The first wave of Army Cadets will land on the Ralphs Bay side of Gellibrand Pt. to "fight" their way inland up heights behind Opossum Bay.

The second wave of Army Cadets will land at Seacroft Bay near the fort.

Sea Cadets will man the whalers in which the cadets will be landed. A naval vessel towing the whalers will take the Sea Cadets to the area early this morning.

Smoke, blank firing and controlled explosions will heighten the atmosphere, while light aircraft will provide support for the A.T.C. defenders..."

---oOo---

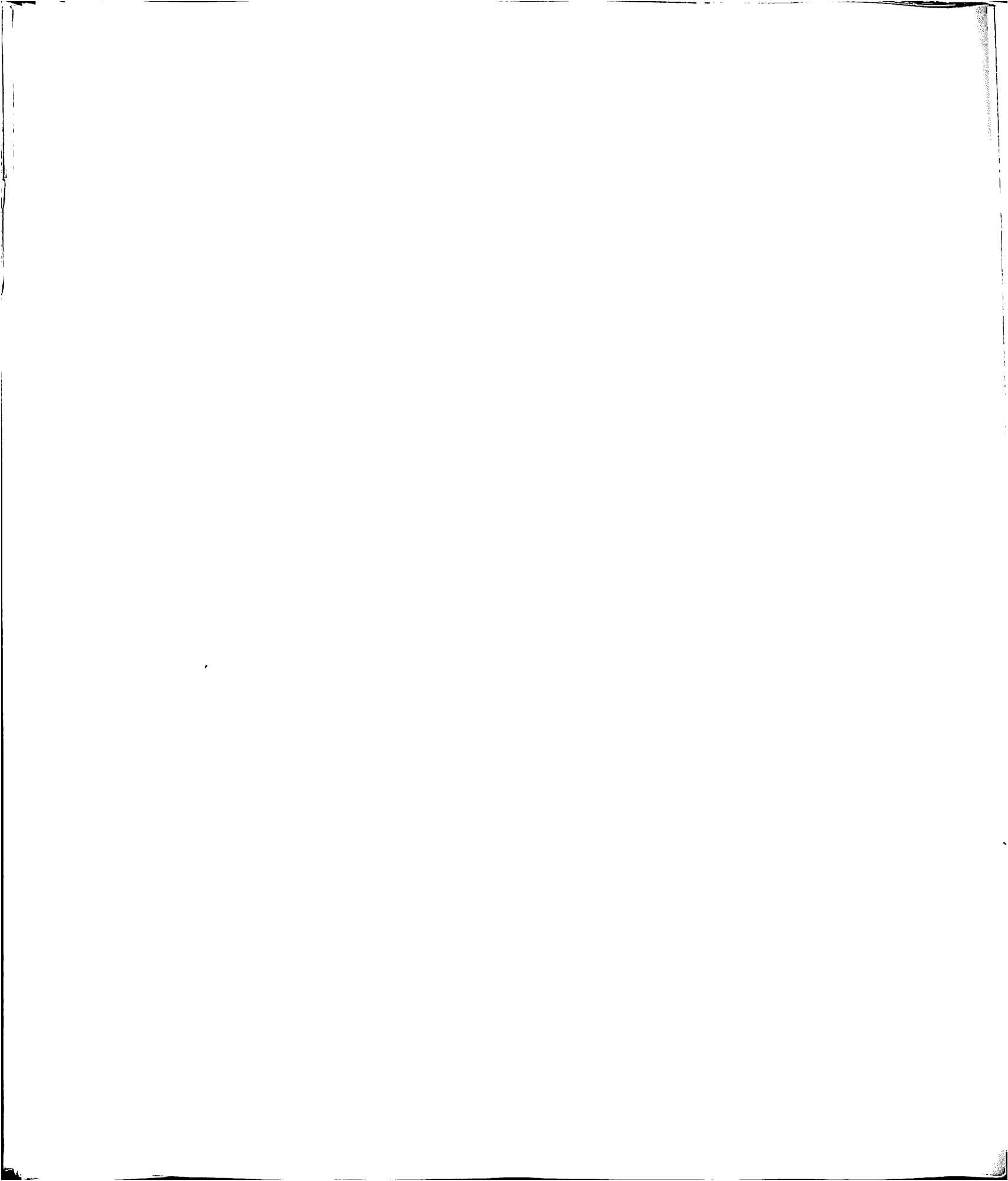






AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSEMAN, 1930.

by Capt. V. J. T. Sharpe, N. S. W.



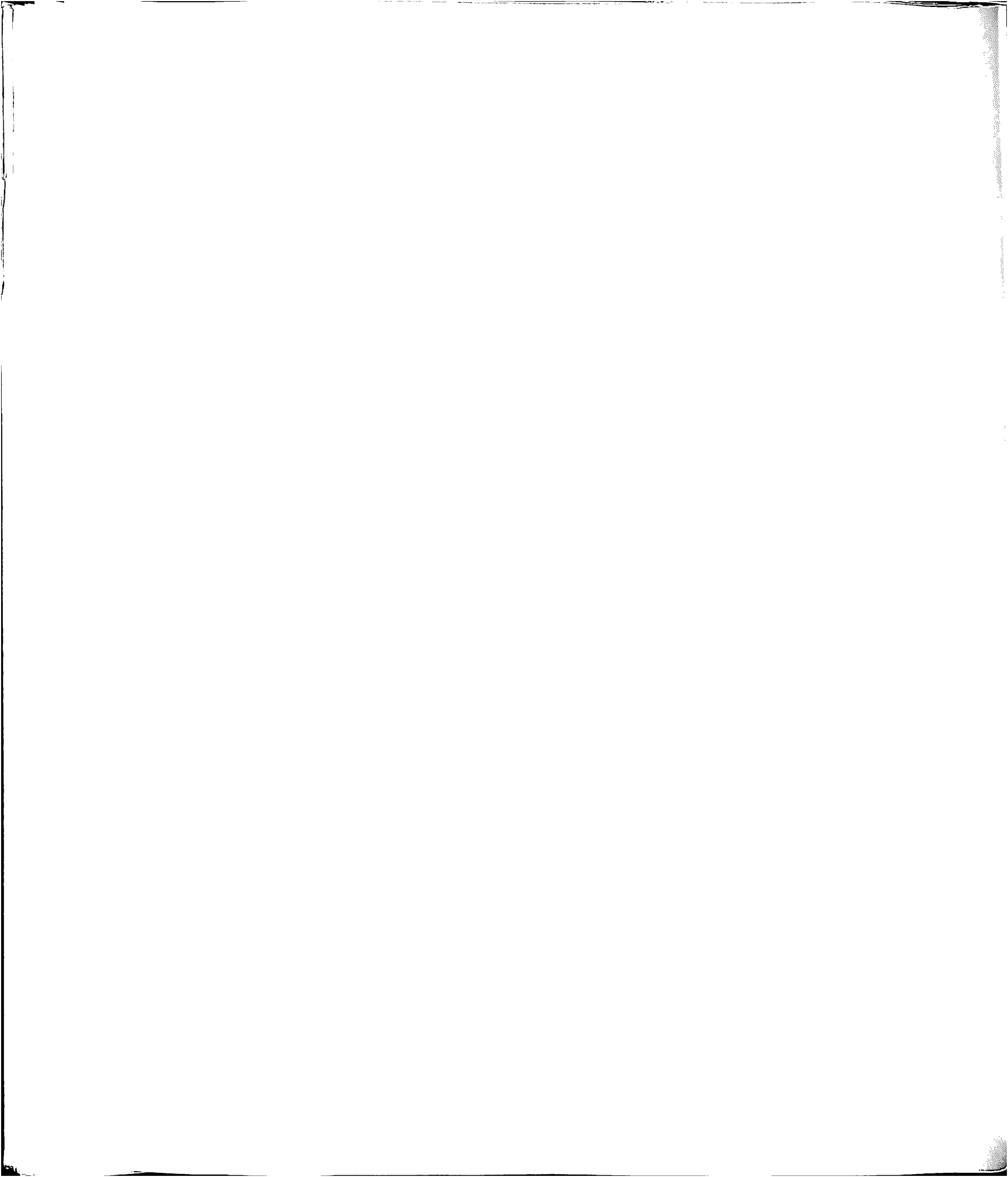
"CAVALRY SNIPPETS"from Lt. Col. P. V. Vernon E.D.

The Cavalry Journal, which has become the Royal Armoured Corps Journal, abounded in interesting and informative references. Here are three examples:-

- (a) - The Silladar Cavalry of India, 7 p.p. by "Thistle", July, 1934 - The Silladar Cavalry was inexpensive and extremely mobile and the system attracted a superior class of men into the ranks. After a century of existence this unique system of raising cavalry disappeared in the aftermath of the Great War.
- (b) - Sam Browne - Himself, His Cavalry, His Belt - 8½ p.p. (illus). by "Invicta" April, 1939. The subject's full title: General Sir Samuel J. Browne, V.C., G.C.B., K.C.S.I. Always of an inventive turn of mind, he originated sewing chain burnishers on to the shoulders to mitigate heavy sword cuts (which chains were for many years a feature of cavalry dress), as well as designing the belt which bears his name. Incidentally, the S.B. belt is nearing its centenary.
- (c) - Pipers in the Cavalry! "Invicta" wrote an article (illus.) on this - July, 1939. He records that the 17th Bengal Cavalry had a mounted pipe band when it was under Colonel Muir, 1895-1902 (and a photograph of it accompanies the article), but a later C.O. yielded to Sassenach pressure and disbanded it. "Invicta" states that in 1939 the only mounted pipers extant belonged to the Scottish Horse, and he describes their uniform. At the same time Lovat's Scouts maintained a pipe band but it was not a mounted one.

---

16/5th Lancers - From a recent London newspaper cutting (about early April, 1959):- "The Queen presented a guidon to the 16/5th Lancers in the garden of Buckingham Palace yesterday.....her cypher has been used as the centre badge of the guidon, where the battle honours will in future be carried. This is a return to the pre - 1834 custom. Since that date they have been carried on the drum banners." There is an illustration of one side of the guidon; the unit designation appears as XVI/V and  
L



5/24.

one reads 24 battle honours won up to 1902, the later ones being emblazoned on the reverse side.

---

The Queen's Own Hussars - Formerly 3rd and 7th Hussars - The Queen Mother presented a guidon on the day following the presentation to 16/5L.

---

The Royal New South Wales Lancers have an unusual link with a number of famous old Indian cavalry regiments that are now in the Pakistan Army. His Excellency, Lt.Gen. Mohammed Yousuf, High Commissioner for Pakistan, has presented the Regiment with 30 lances on behalf of the Pakistan Army. The heads and butts of these lances are plated and on each of the first 10 to be received are small plates (just below the point where the sling is attached) inscribed "Royal N.S.W. Lancers from...(unit) ....Pakistan Army, 1 April, 1959", the names of the presenting units of these 10 being:-

Sam Browne's Cavalry	13 D.C.O. Lancers
5 Probyn's Horse	19 K.G.V.O. Lancers
6 D.C.O. Lancers	20 Lancers
10 Q.V.O. Guides Cavalry, F.F.	15 Lancers
11 P.A.V.O. Cav., F.F.	Pakistan Armoured Corps Training Centre.

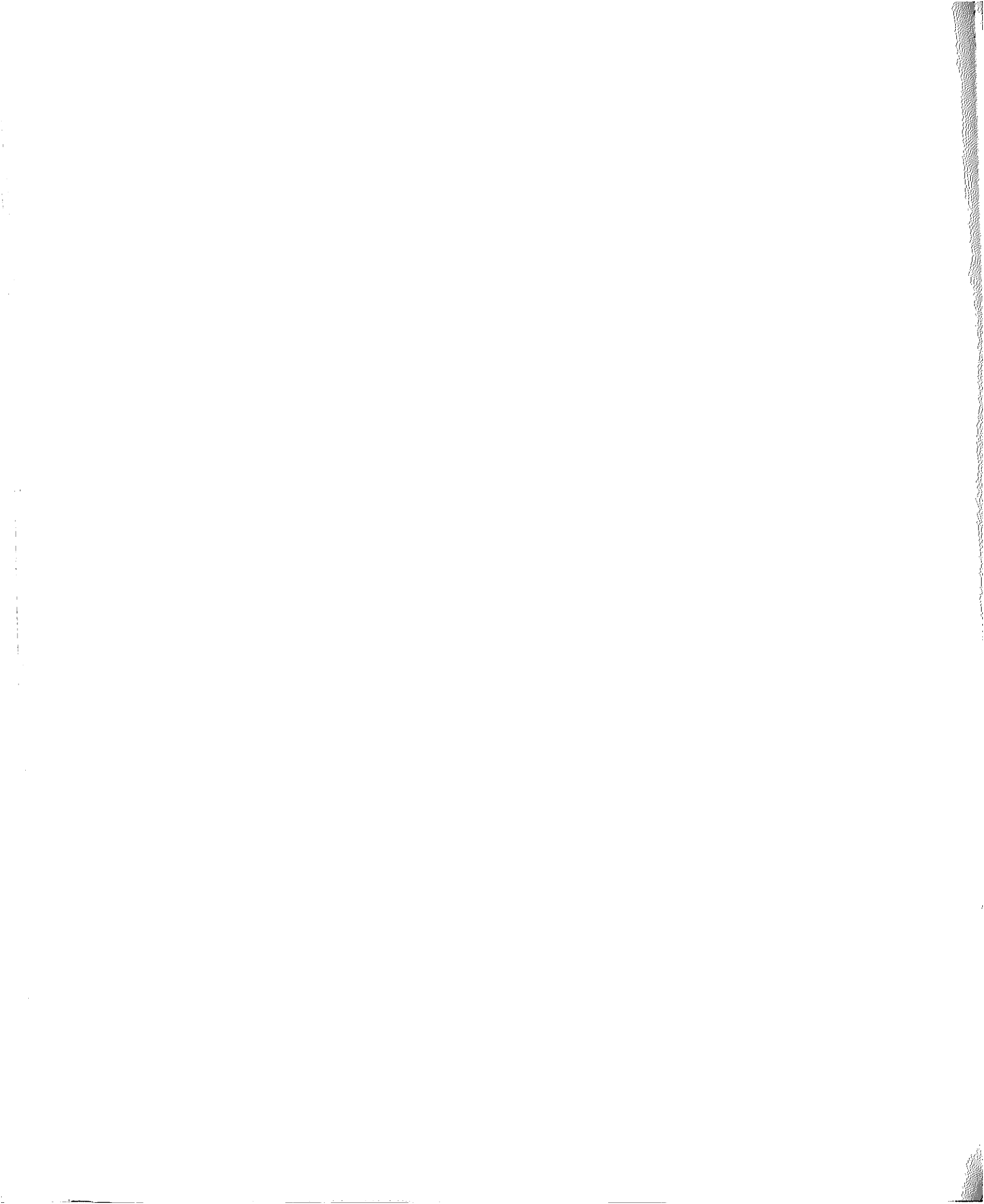
---oOo---

#### MORE ISRAELI BADGES

The illustrations opposite are from an Israeli Training Manual of 1955 - "The Flag of Freedom".

They supplement those which accompanied Captain Kotler's article "The Israeli Army" (Sabretache 2/26).

---oOo---





ISRAEL DEFENCE FORCES INSIGNIA

Top Centre: Infantry; 1st row (l. to r.): Armoured Corps, Navy, Artillery; 2nd row: General Service, Air Force, Signals; 3rd row: Ordnance, Nahal, Engineers; 4th row: Supplies, Intelligence; 5th row: Transport, Military Police, Medical





5/26.

SOME MORE AUSTRALIAN FORMATION SIGNS

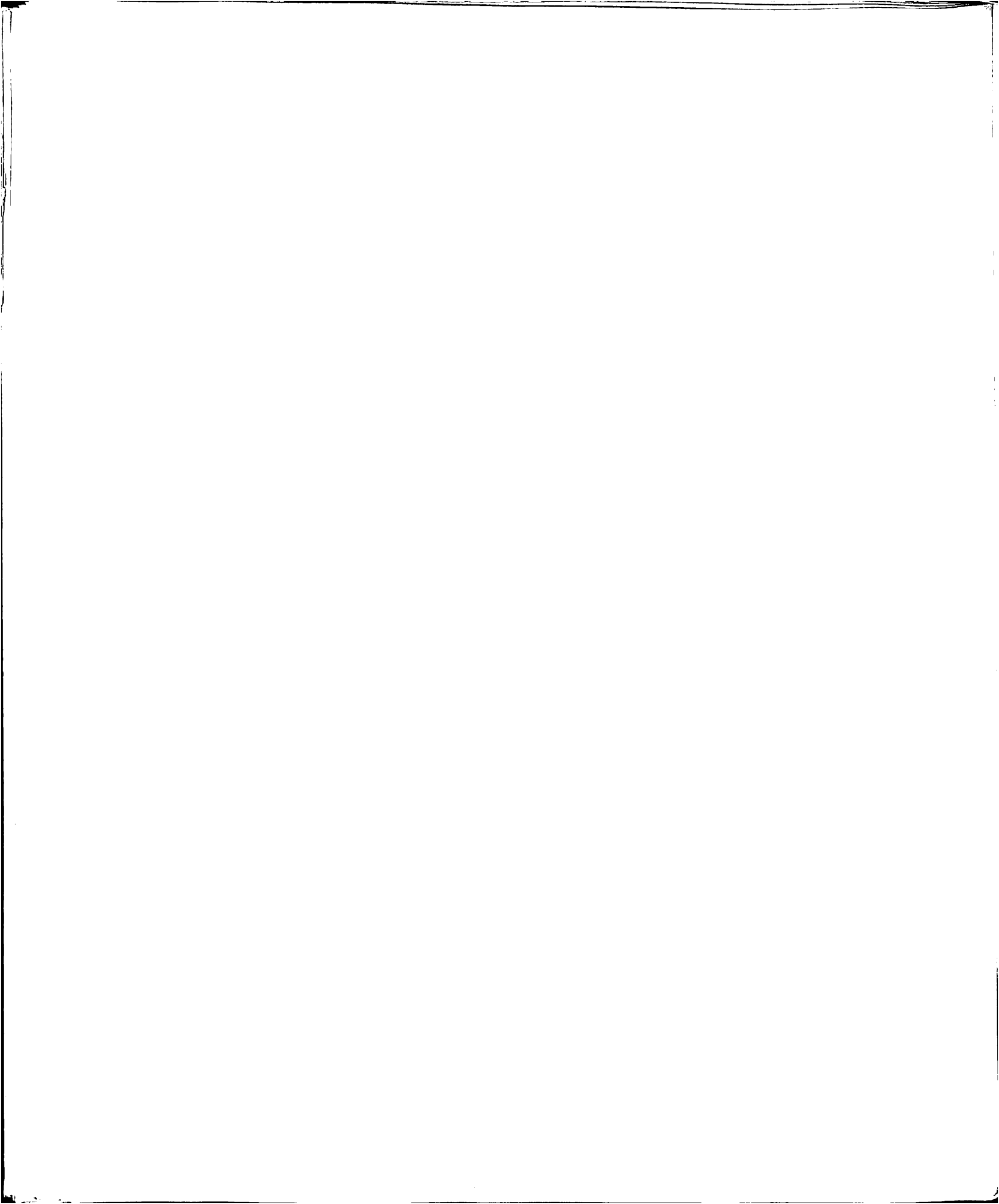
1. "Army Groups, Royal Artillery" - A cannon with a rammer in red on a blue background. The number of the formation (in Arabic numerals) appears in yellow beneath the cannon. Numbers are 1, 2, 4 and 5.
2. "7th Infantry Brigade" - A male griffin rampant in yellow (outlined in brown) on a scarlet shield; all on a khaki background.
3. "Northern Territory Command" - Black buffalo head (white horns and eyeballs) on a gold circle in a green frame, all on a gold square background.
4. "Tasmania Command" - Lion rampant in red on a gold shield, all on a khaki background. Lion and shield are edged in brown.
5. "13th Infantry Brigade" - white mailed arm and dagger arising out of a red and blue wreath, on a green shield; all on a blue background.
6. "1st Infantry Brigade" - Gold crossed swords over a gold boomerang, on a red shield; all on a khaki background.

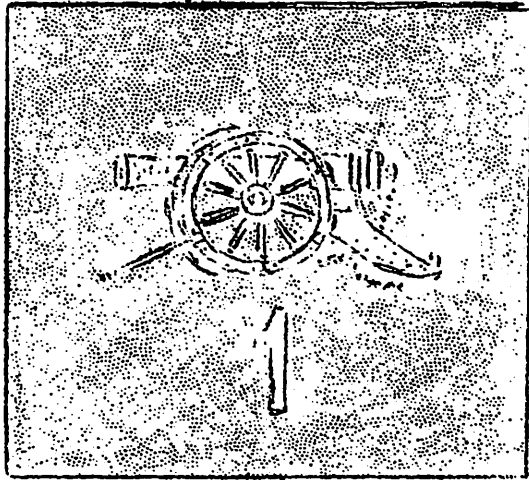
\* A second type of Tasmania Command sign exists. In it the shield is somewhat broader towards the bottom. The lion is more upright, and his mane is rougher in outline. The brown edging on the lion is lighter, thus making him appear more reddish than the first type. The brown edging to the shield is heavier at the sides.

N.B. In addition to the various distinct differences mentioned above, and in the previous issue of SABRETACHE, it is possible to detect minor variations which occur in different lots manufactured.

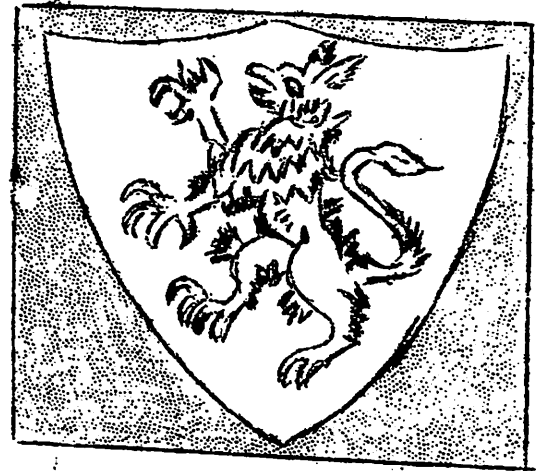
B. J. VIDEON

---oOo---

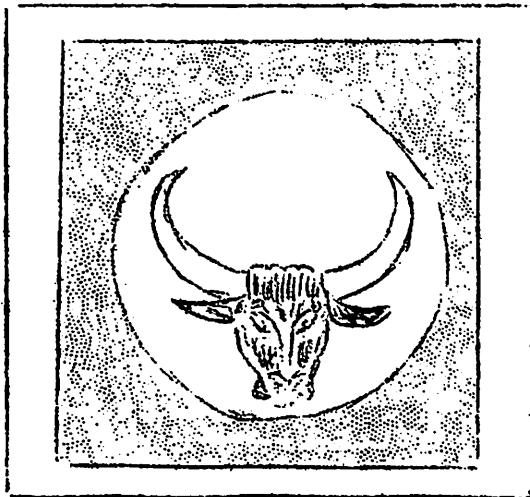




1.



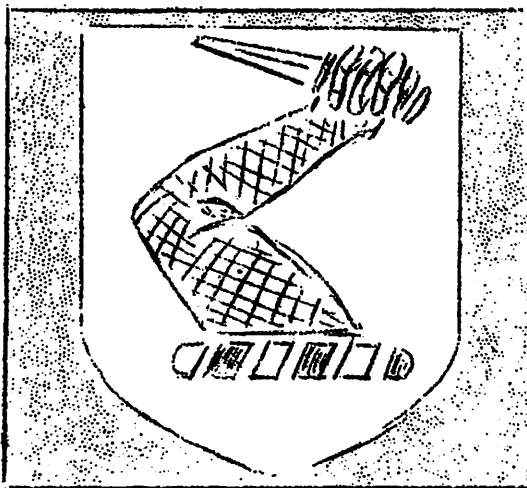
2.



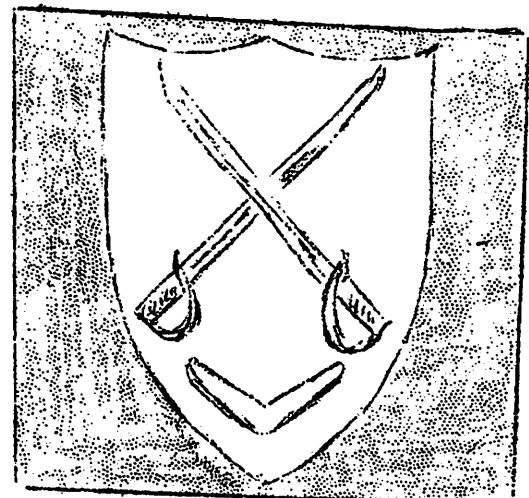
3.



4.



5.



6.



5/27.

VICTORIA POLICE SHRINE GUARD

MEN OF THE SHRINE GUARD CARRY RIFLES, NOT BATONS

They all served with distinction in Her Majesty's armed forces, some in World War 1, most in World War 2, their uniform is Army patterned, and instead of batons they carry .303 rifles with bayonets affixed.

But they are Policemen and it is the Force's silver badge in the shape of a five-pointed star surmounted by a crown that they wear on their slouch hats, and their shoulder titles bear the words, "Victoria Police".

They have been recruited for one distinct duty - they are the men who guard Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance.

Though theirs is a branch of the Force little publicised they have good reason to be proud of their war-time service and the importance of the job they are doing so efficiently in peacetime.

Soldiers Parade at Police Depot

The formation of the Shrine Guard goes back to early 1935, when some 300 ex-Servicemen paraded at the Police Depot in St. Kilda Road and were told by the then Chief Commissioner, the late Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey, that the Government was sorely concerned at acts of vandalism at the Shrine of Remembrance.

It was proposed, he said, to recruit 14 men with distinguished war records, to form a Shrine Guard. They would be sworn in as police constables and undergo the same recruit training as regular police candidates. They would have all the powers of policemen, but their service would be solely confined to duty at the Shrine.

Two men of the original 14 who formed the Guard are still serving. They are 1/C's Tom Gosbell, M.M., and Pat Hayes, D.C.M.

Others included Lt. George Ingram, V.C., M.M., Capt. Bruce Forsyth, M.C., Lt. Tom Griffith, M.C., George Cook, D.C.M., Medal Militaire, Frank Burrell, M.M., D.C.M., and Arch Boadle, M.M.



5/28.

In the last war Capt. Forsyth re-enlisted and was appointed Commander of the 6th Division Provost Corps (which he formed) as Lt.-Colonel. He returned to the Guard after the war as its O/C; he has since retired.

Lt. Griffith also re-enlisted and as Lt.-Colonel was O/C Training Barralions; he too, returned to the Guard and has now retired.

### Queen Dedicates Forecourt

The foundation stone of the Shrine of Remembrance was laid on Armistice Day, 1927; the dedication service, conducted by H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, was held on Armistice Day, 1934, when a crowd estimated at about 300,000 attended.

On February 28, 1954, during the Royal Visit, Queen Elizabeth dedicated the Shrine's new forecourt in commemoration of the men and women who served in Australia's armed forces during the last war.

The Guard's first O/C was S/C L. Newland (since retired) who was given the task of organising the duties of the Guard. His 'system' is still faithfully adhered to.

At night members of the Guard wear normal police uniform. This was found necessary because they are still only too often mistaken for soldiers by civilians visiting the vicinity of the Shrine and its spacious parklands.

Guard's present strength, 21 members, O/C is First-Const. Tom Gosbell, M.M.

### Shrine Guard Uniforms

The original uniform consisted of slouch hat, khaki serge service tunic, webbing belt, khaki breeches, puttees and tan boots.

A chrome V.P. (Victoria Police) badge was worn on the side of the slouch hat, and the constable's registered number in chromed metal was worn on the neck band of the tunic.





5/29.

The tunic's buttons were the normal police type; chevrons of rank were worn on the lower right sleeve.

After the second world war, a battle dress type uniform was adopted, consisting of slouch hat, khaki serge blouse and trousers, webbing belt and gaiters and black boots; with khaki shirt and tie.

"Victoria Police" shoulder flashes, and the Victoria Police cap badge were worn.

The new-type uniform was first worn on April 24, 1959.

It consists of slouch hat, with police badge at side; a khaki wool barathea tunic, buttoned to the neck, with "Victoria Police" shoulder titles (metal) and tan leather belt with chromed buckle.

Khaki corduroy breeches are worn, with police-style tan leggings and tan boots.

---oOo---

DESPATCHES - (cont'd from p.33)

No.5. Collectors of American Distinctives may be interested to hear of a distinctive which has been procured from the wartime manufacturer, K. G. Luke of Melbourne.

This insignia is in the form of a shield of the United States, and on it appear a muscular sailor with steel helmet, bared chest, holding a sledgehammer, and wearing a slung rifle, and a revolver belt, western-style. At the sailor's right hand side appear crossed oakleaves, and at his left is an anchor tilted at 45°.

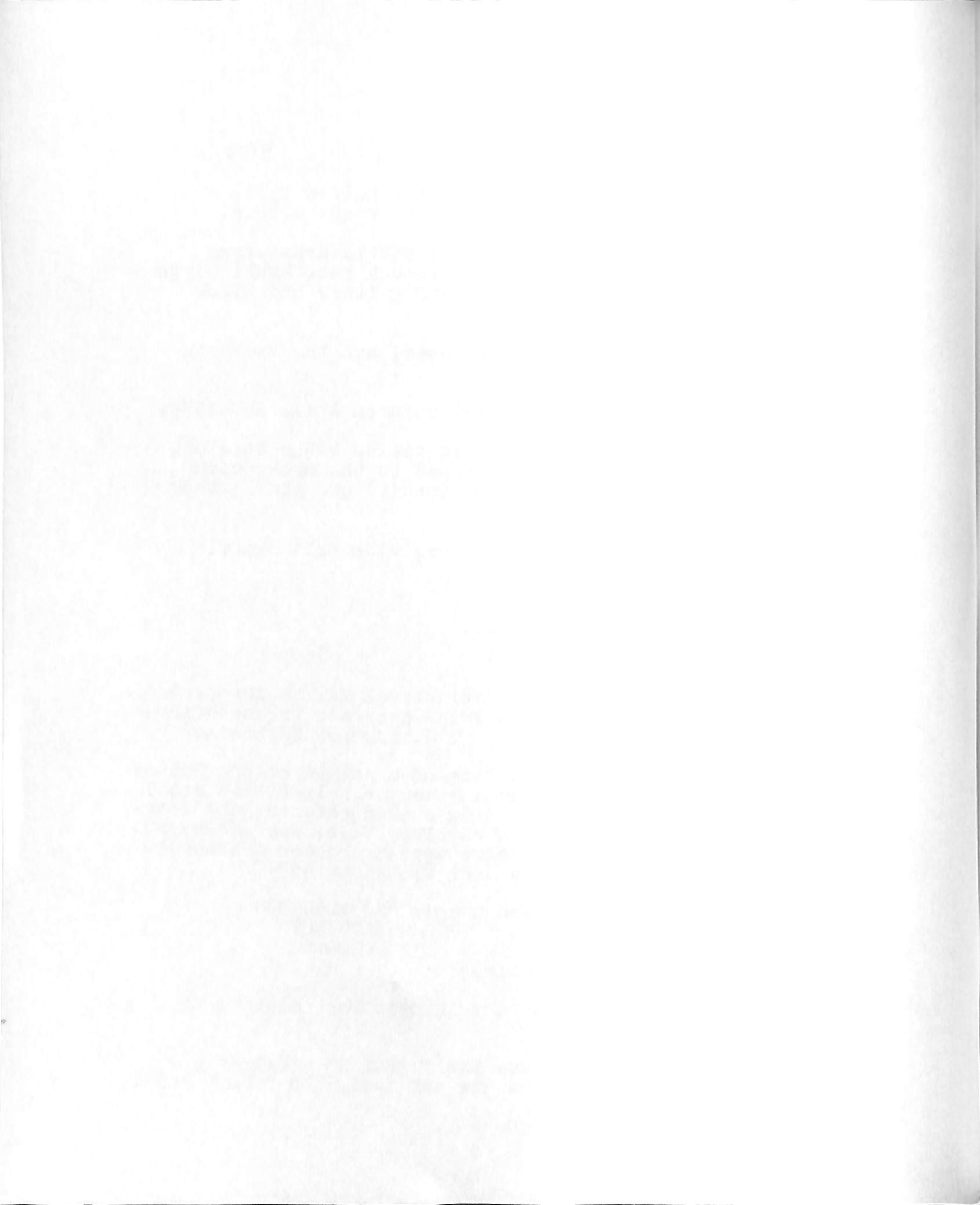
Beneath these appear the words "CONSTRUIMUS  
BATUIMUS  
U.S.N."

Finish is oxidised bronze.

Can any member provide any information relating to this insignia?

A limited number are available from Mr. Festberg, at 2/6d. each. (Badges are not available from Lukes).

---oOo---



5/30.

## SOCIETY NOTES

### 1. New Constitution and Rules

As a result of two years of experience in handling the affairs of this comparatively new and growing society, your Committee drew up a revised draft "Constitution and Rules" which were presented to a Society meeting held on 17th April, 1959.

This draft was discussed, amended, and substantially adopted by the meeting.

The new "Constitution and Rules" accompany this issue of SABRETACHE, and replace all previous copies and amendments which have been issued to the present time.

#### 1A. New Name

It will be noticed that the name of the society has been altered to include the term "RESEARCH".

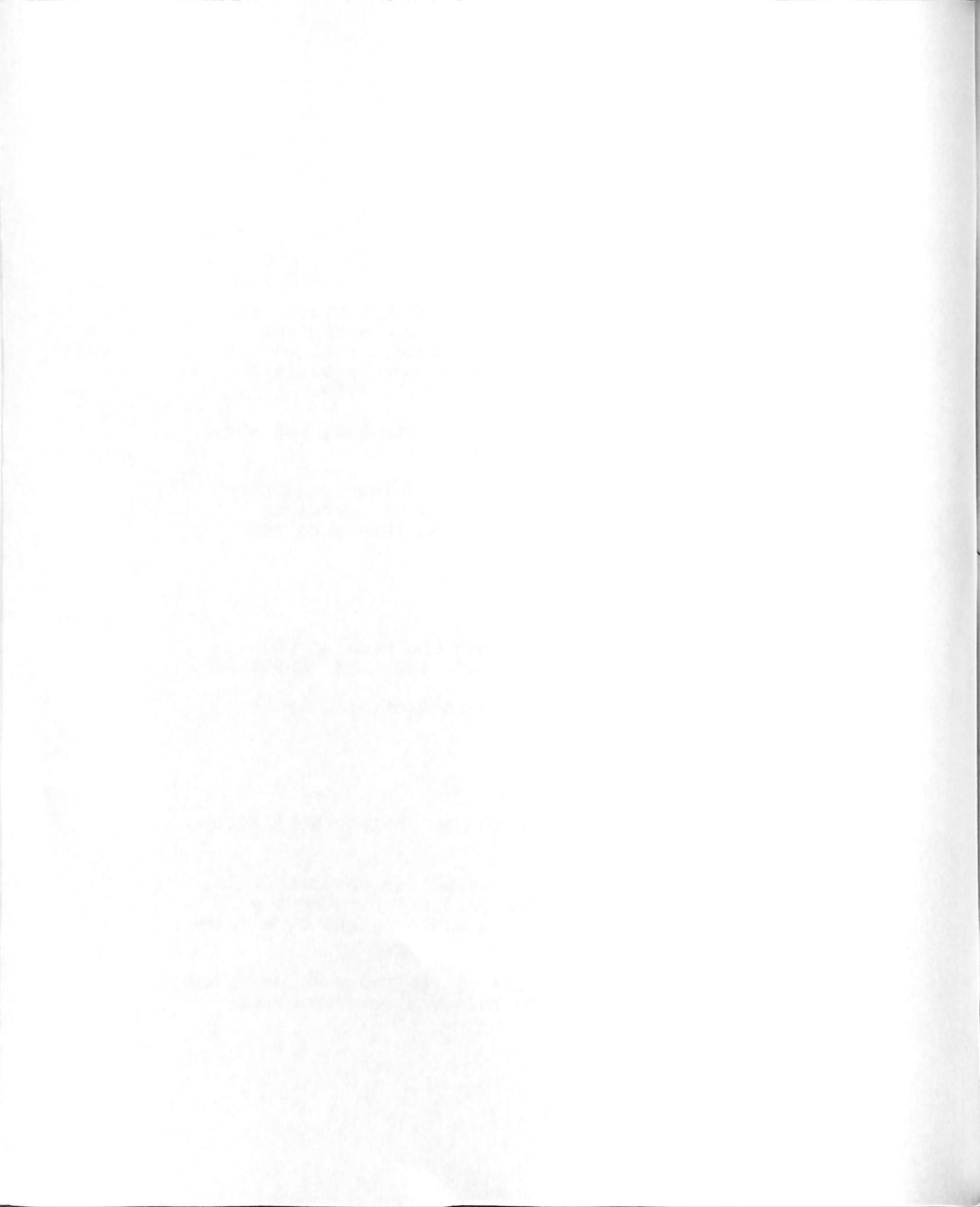
This new name will be used officially as from 1st July, 1959.

### 2. Badges for Sale

Attention is drawn to our Society Note No.6 SABRETACHE 3/50.

Orders have been received for several of the badges mentioned, and two (Australian Tanks Corps & A.A.V.C.) have been forwarded to members, who we believe to be very satisfied.

The following badges can be ordered, provided that additional orders can be received to make up the "1 dozen minimum".



5/31.

3rd Bn. (Tasmanian Mtd. Rifles)	- 6	(to date) ordered
15 LH (Northern Rivers Lancers)	- 5	"
29 BN	- 10	"
12 LH	- 5	"
N.S.W. Lancers	- 6	"

### 3. Discussion Group Syllabus

It has been decided to add interest to our meetings by including on the agenda for each meeting a period during which a pre-selected subject will be discussed.

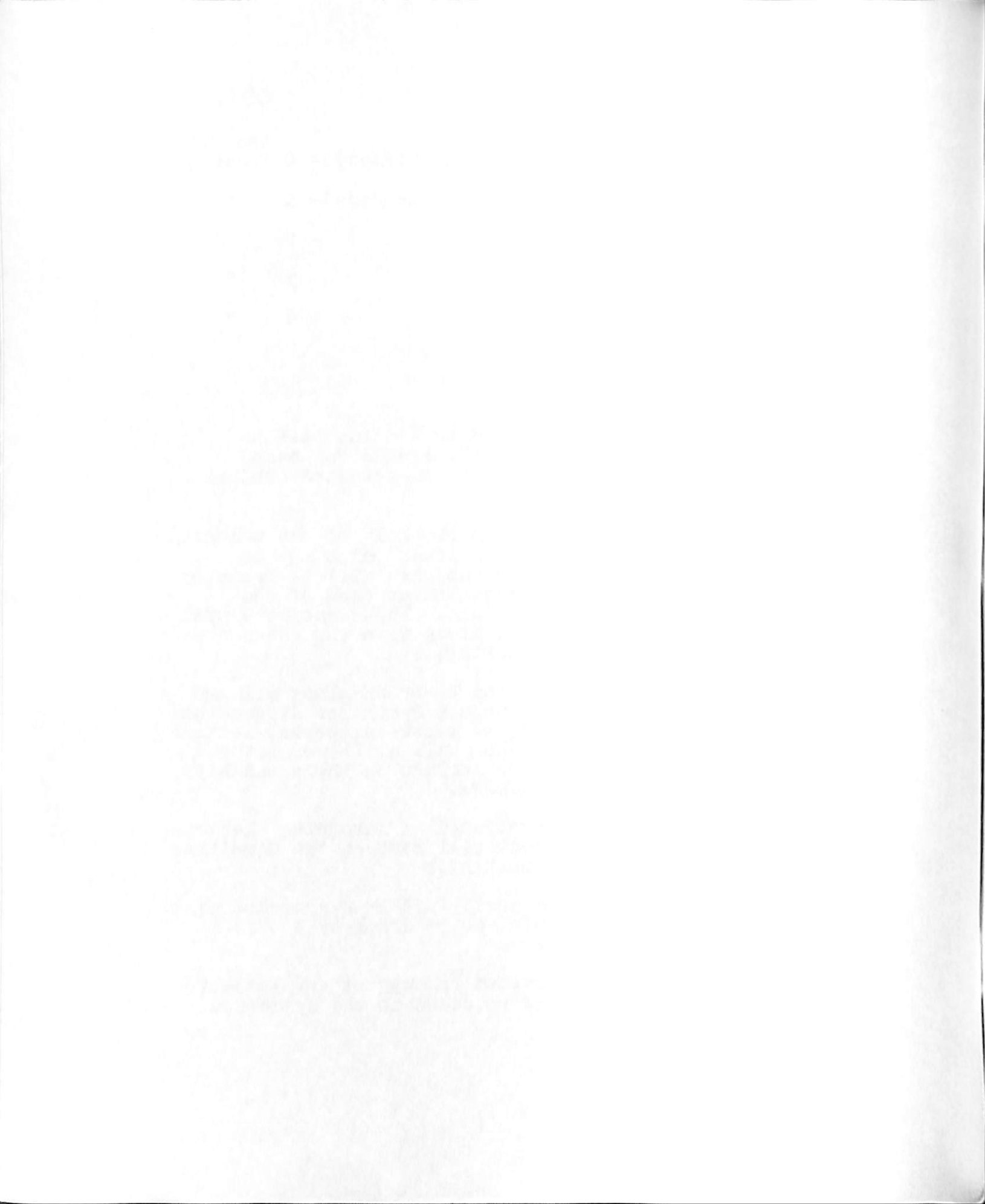
The Committee, with the help of the members, will draw up a schedule of all items which may be profitably discussed. These subjects will be drawn by lot in each quarter for discussion at each of the following three monthly meetings. These subjects will be advertised in SABRETACHE, along with the dates and places of the next three meetings.

Members are invited to bring along all and any items relating to the subject drawn for discussion. Books, badges, medals, models, pictures, poems, letters, cigarette cards, weapons, etc. will all be of interest. Exhibitors need not speak or lecture on their exhibits, but may do so if they so desire.

It will be appreciated if intending "lecturers" on any syllabus subject will contact the Committee prior to the date of the meeting.

Subjects which merit further discussion will be replaced on the schedule, to be drawn by lot at some future time.

Members are invited to suggest any subject which they consider should be added to the syllabus.



5/32.

Subjects initially discussed will probably be in general terms (e.g. British Cavalry).

In due course it should prove possible to narrow the field to be discussed. For instance, a sub-division of "British Cavalry" for a subsequent discussion group could well be "Lancers"; a further breakdown could then be an individual regiment of Lancers.

By this means, it is hoped that members will derive the utmost in interest, enjoyment and education from their present hobbies.

#### 4. Agenda for Meetings

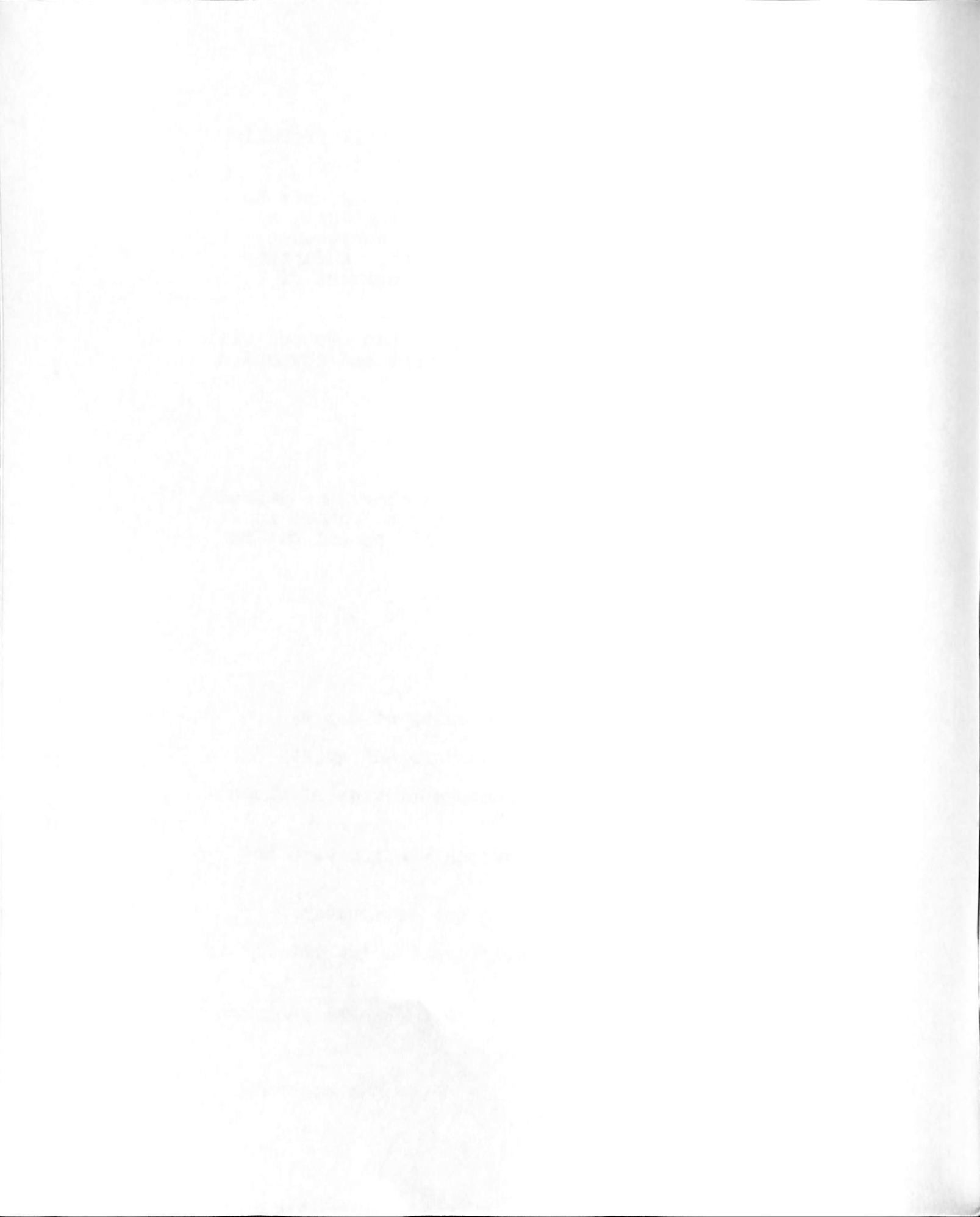
The Committee feels that members who attend meetings will appreciate our intention to adhere in future to a standard agenda, which will be set out in future issues of SABRETACHE.

#### AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
1	Chairman opens meeting at 8 p.m.
2	Welcome to new members and guests
3	Secretary presents apologies of those unable to attend
4	Minutes of previous meeting read and passed
5	Business arising out of minutes
6	Correspondence presented (as briefly as possible)
7	Business arising out of correspondence
8	General business

(agenda cont'd).





Agenda (cont'd).

<u>Item</u>	<u>Subject</u>
9	Guest speakers
10	Librarian
11	Discussion group (as per syllabus)
12	Members display any new acquisitions
13	Close of official business
14	General discussion, sales, exchanges.

+++++

Exhibition by

ANTIQUÉ ARMS COLLECTORS SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

The abovementioned Society held its first annual exhibition on 14th and 15th March, 1959 at the 34th Infantry Battalion Drill Hall.

The exhibition was opened by Brigadier F. C. Galleghan, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D.

A first rate catalogue of exhibits was prepared and it draws attention to the many interesting and historical items which are in the possession of the members.

+++++

DESPATCHES (cont from p.34).

4. From Mr. Robert Gray.-

The felt hat has been the headdress of many British and Colonial forces, both military and police. It has been worn also by foreign countries ( e.g. the German forces in South-west Africa).

In South Australia the only wearers prior to 1903 were the Headquarters Staff, who wore it for fatigue work. When the war broke out in South Africa all the contingents leaving South Australia wore it.

As far as the writer knows, the hat was first worn in 1795 by the Cape Corps.



5/34.

# Despatches

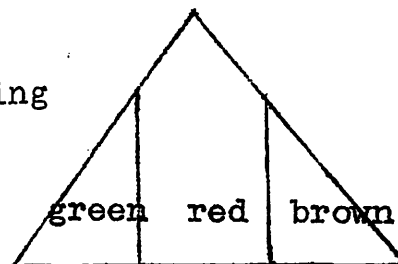
COMMENTS, QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

from READERS

1. MR. ROBERT GRAY states -

Further to your article "Armoured Car Regiments" (SABRETACHE 4/14), the following colour patch was worn by the 2nd Armoured Car Regiment.

The regimental badge which you illustrated was worn by this regiment.



2. Lt. Col. VERNON has sent in the following extract from "The Bulletin", 15th April, 1959.

Service page, under the heading "Wants" :-

- (1) To contact members and others connected with 34th Inf Bn, A.I.F., to learn the history of this regiment. Information required by present member.
- (2) Australian infantry regiment museum in process of formation asks for gifts or loans of weapons, uniforms, souvenirs, books, curios, medals, etc., of all periods. - 6815.

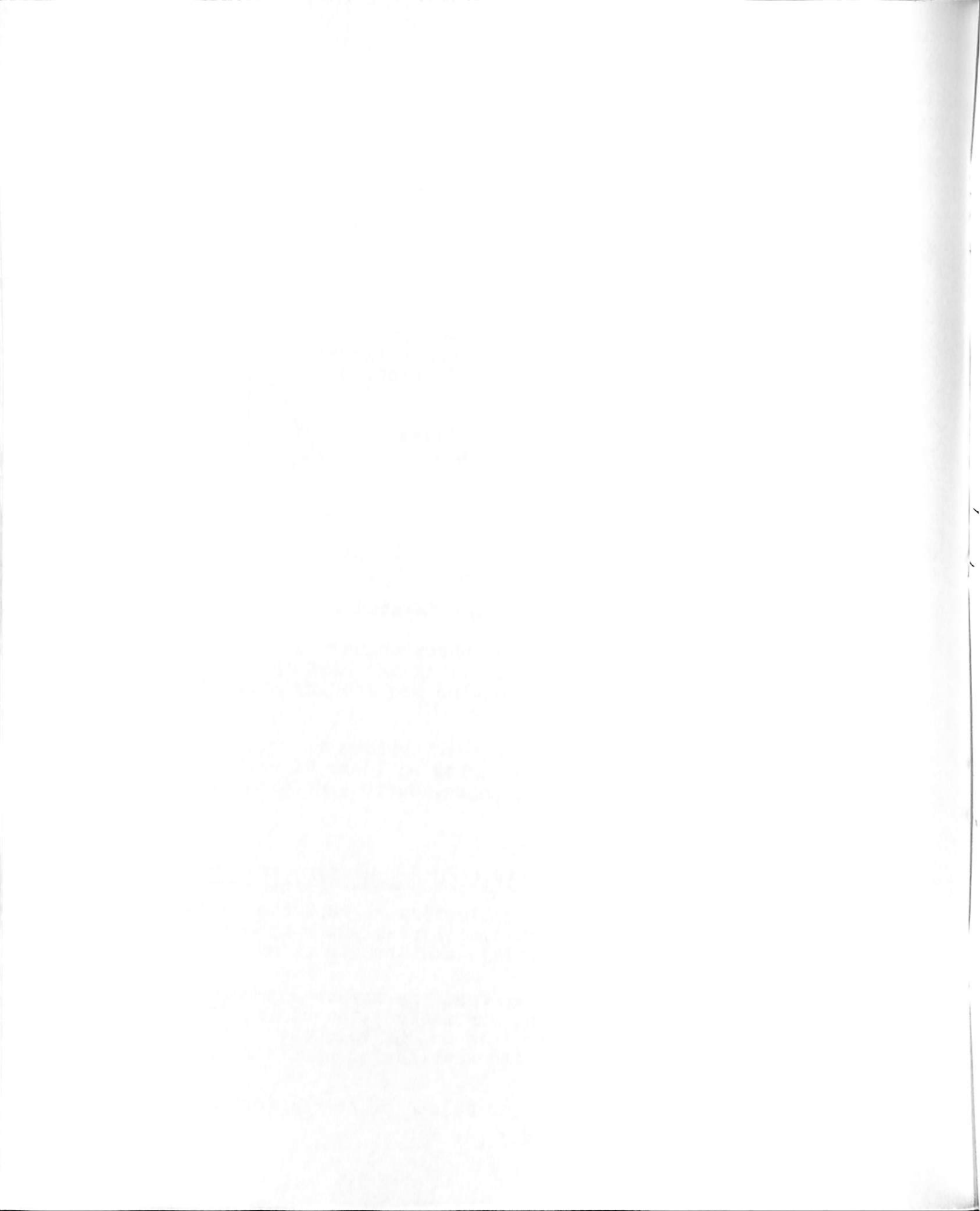
3. From Mr. B. J. Videon - CIVILIAN AUXILIARIES IN WAR

All too often we military collectors neglect the badges etc. of the many civilian auxiliaries which spring up in wartime, and occasionally, continue to flourish in times of peace.

I shall be pleased to hear from any member who can send me for publication, any information similar to that contained in the article on the Volunteer Air Observer Corps. Australian Auxiliaries should receive first preference.

Illustrations of badges (or a loan of actual insignia) would also be appreciated.

---oOo---



DIRECTORY AMENDMENTS

June 1959

The Committee extends a warm welcome to the following new members:-

Sgt. Matthew J. CREEGAN, of U.S.A.F., Box 361,  
Suffolk County A.F.B.,  
Westhampton Beach,  
LONG ISLAND, N.Y.,  
U.S.A.

-----  
Mr. Norman HOBSON, of # 2822/61st Ave.,  
OAKLANDS 5, Calif., U.S.A.

-----  
Major Warren PERRY, c/- A.N.Z. Bank Ltd.,  
351 Collins St.,  
Melbourne, Vic.

Interests - History of the Australian Army from  
1850's to Sept. 1939. Collection of books and  
other documents relating to this period of the  
Australian Army's history.

-----  
Mr. A.J. Simpson, of 480-43rd Ave., Lachine, Quebec,  
Canada.

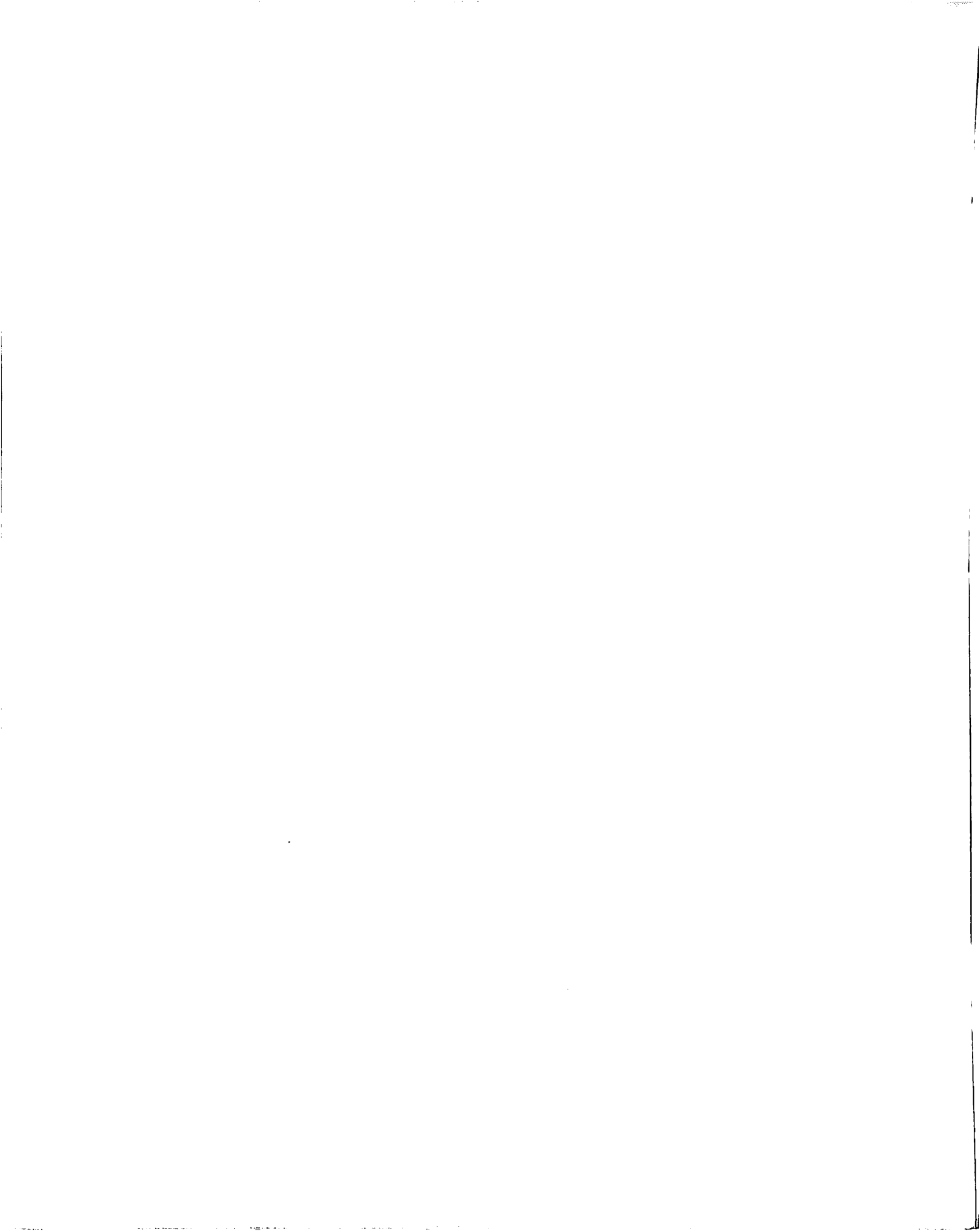
Collects orders, decorations medals from all  
countries, wishes to hear from medal collectors.

-----  
Major J. C. Gorman, Jr., of Bunyip, QUEANBEYAN, N.S.W.

Interest - Cavalry uniforms. Converts model  
cavalry soldiers.

-----  
Lt.Col. Charles T. Bauer, of 6 Vining Lane, Westhaven,  
WILMINGTON, Delaware, U.S.A.

Collects military prints, books and miniature  
figures.



Mr. Daniel O. Atkinson, J.P., F.R.N.S. (N.Z.), of  
Takanini, Auckland, New Zealand.

Collects medals, and badges, especially colonial.

-----

Lt. John J. Frewen, of 44 Warwick St., Ascot Vale, W.2,  
Victoria.

Collects war medals and decorations, military  
insignia.

-----

Mr. Paul Lober, of 7 Margaret St., East Brighton, S.6,  
Victoria.

Collects badges, medal ribbons, etc.

-----

Mr. John P. Lauth, of 142 Evarts St., Newport, Rhode Is.,  
U.S.A.

Collects headgear, uniforms & insignia of the  
world.

-----

CHANGE OF DESIGNATION - for "Capt. J. B. Gale" read

"Major J. B. Gale". Congratulations to Major Gale on  
his promotion.

-----

RESIGNATIONS

We announce with regret the resignations of:-

Mr. Harold Donald, of Auckland, N.Z.

Mr. Rudi Hazenberg, of Panmure, N.Z.

---oOo---





FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOST</u>	<u>SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION GROUP.</u>
June 19	Mr. K. Pryor, 28 Jersey St., Balwyn.	Imperial German Forces - general.
July 17	Mr. K. Gilkinson, 36 John St., Oakleigh.	British Cavalry
August 21	Mr. C. Murray, 64, Donald St., Footscray.	American Civil War - general.
Sept. 18	Mr. B. Videon, 1, Harper Ave., Bentleigh.	Indian Army.

Members are invited to bring along items of all descriptions relating to the subject for discussion.

BASIC AGENDA FOR MEETINGS

(as set out in "Society Notes" this issue.)

---oOo---

7

4

7