

Historical Officers Report From the Pages of the Camden Advertiser

WEROMBI'S No. 1 SOLDIER

Farewell Social Tendered to Private Mundell

The first Werombi resident to join the 2nd A.I.F. Private William Mundell was farewelled in the local Parish Hall on Saturday night. There was a large gathering of friends to wish the popular young man God-speed and a safe return to Australia.

On his arrival in the hall, the guest was escorted by the Misses Joan Morris and Elaine Clowes through a guard of honour, formed by local members of the old A.I.F. to the centre of the throng, which sing "For he's a jolly good fellow" and the National Anthem.

Later in the evening Digger Oliver Morris made a presentation of a Parker pen and pencil to Private Mundell from the residents of Werombi and Orangeville. Eulogistic references were made to the sterling qualities possessed by "Bill," who for the past 12 years had made his home with Mrs. M. Stewart and the late J. B. Stewart; under whose influences he developed a very fine character.

"If all the men in the 2nd A.I.F. were of Bill's type, the upholding of the traditions of the old A.I.F. would never be in doubt," said the speaker. Private Mundell, who expects to sail with the first of our troops, suitably responded. Local members of the 1st A.I.F., who served in the Great War of 1914-1918, rolled up in full force. Digger G. N. Mackie, M.S.M., was the master of ceremonies. The ladies were responsible for the heavily-laden and beautifully decorated supper tables.

PRIVATE BREW ATTENDS.

A late, but welcome, visitor to the function was Private Ronald Brew, a son of Mrs. J. Brew, of Orangeville, who had spent the last nine years in North Queensland. Ron, who was home on week-end leave, is a member of the Queensland contingent of the 2nd A.I.F., encamped at Rutherford, N.S.W. The committee rose to the occasion when Private Brew unexpectedly arrived, and Mr. W. J. Angilley was asked to make a presentation to him on behalf of the gathering. The visitor then responded. Dancing whiled away the happy hours. Thanks are due to the musicians. Miss Cannan and Mr. J. Kennedy (Piano and violin) that helped to make the evening a success. Winners of the spot dance were Mrs. G. N. Mackie and Mr. J. Murdoch, senior while the Monte Carlo went to Miss Sheppard and Mr. Wal Dunbar. Master Jack Roberts entertained with the popular "Popeye- the Sailor Man,"

Sergeant F. Lloyd Jones, of Point Piper, who is at present stationed at the Eastern Command Training School at "Studley Park," Narellan, won the first Prize of £5000 in the 647th State Lottery on Tuesday.

10th January 1940

2nd AIF sailed for Middle East (First Convoy)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

002485/09

Thursday 11th January 1940

SHORTER HOURS IN THE ARMY

Formerly a dairy hand on a farm in this district, where milking commenced at 4.45 a.m., a good story is told of a recruit in the 2nd A.I.F. Camp at Ingleburn.

"How do you like being in the army?" asked his former employer.

"It's a great life," replied the soldier. "For one thing, you can sleep in until 6.30 a.m., and the pay is five bob a Week more."

Thursday 18th January 1940

Members of Camden branch of the Voluntary Services have been asked to knit 200 pairs of socks for the Navy within the next five weeks. The big task was commenced on Tuesday, but more knitters are urgently required if the work is to be completed within the specified time.

Residents willing to assist should apply to Miss Nancy Freestone, at the Camden Town Hall library, for supplies of Navy Blue wool as soon as possible

MENANGLE PARK NEWS

From Our Correspondent.

Menangle Park's 1939 rainfall of 1718 points was the lowest ever recorded at this centre. Mr. Fred Starr is the local weather man, and his records date back to 1909.

On Tuesday of last week a special train arrived empty at Menangle Park to transport members of the Sydney University Militia Regiment to the Anzac Rifle Range. It was then discovered that the soldiers were away on a route march.

The train returned empty. (This is one reason why we pay heavy taxes)

Will the railway authorities please note that the Camden Advertiser parcel of newspapers has been arriving one day late at Menangle Park?

(We receive a splendid service to all other centres; Menangle Park appears to be the Cinderella of the Southern Line).

Proposed Shire-Picton Merger

The Minister for Local Government (Mr. Martin) will withhold his decision for six weeks regarding the proposed merger of Picton Municipality with the Wollondilly Shire.

This announcement was made after several individual members of the two Council had interviewed the Minister.

The Picton aldermen told Mr. Martin that the merger would be a serious disadvantage to that township.

The shire councillors contended that residents and ratepayers of that wide area had not been informed of any advantage to be gained by them by

Tacking Picton on to the Wollondilly Shire; and. further, that the important services at Picton, such as water, electricity,-sanitary and town improvement, were purely domestic and should be handled by Picton residents as they were of no interest to the Wollondilly Shire ratepayers.

Thursday 25th January 1940

The Meritorious Service Medal, a decoration won by Digger G. N. Mackie of Orangeville, during the Great War of 1914-18. It is only given on rare occasions. This medal was instituted in 1845, and is awarded to Sergeants of the Army and Royal Marines as a reward for distinguished service in pence or war

ELDERSLIE LAD SHOT IN FACE.

The full charge of a No. 5 shot indicted a nasty wound to the cheek of 11 year old David Kerrigan of Elderslie, late on Monday afternoon. The lad had earlier taken the gun to the vineyard to frighten birds which were destroying the ripening grapes. He was seated on a trestle when he overbalanced; the gun-trigger caught on some obstruction and caused it to discharge the shot.

The wounded lad, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Kerrigan, was rushed to Camden District Hospital and admitted.

An X-ray examination will be made to trace the positions of the pellets.

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer