

MILLICENT R.S.L. CLUB ROOMS.

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PROVISION FOR RED CROSS AND C.W.A.

BIG RODEO PLANNED.

A general meeting of members of the Millicent sub-branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. was held at the institute on Wednesday night, March 13. The roll call was made as follows :—Messrs R. E. DeGaris (president), V. A. Willshire (hon. secretary), E. Pennell, R. Heuzenroeder, E. Aberle, J. A. Sullivan, W. J. Humphries, E. J. Mitchell, G. W. Hart, V. T. Delaporte, G. I. Major, J. H. Clifford, C. M. Watson, Neil R. Major, Jack Walker, C. T. Heuzenroeder, D. J. Hargraves, A. C. Shepherd, W. A. R. Dean, H. L. W. Dean, A. S. Galwey, W. S. A. Galwey, R. Grigg, W. T. Tilley, R. Bowering, J. W. Stenner, A. G. Turner, R. H. H. Stratford, W. W. Farmer, A. J. Holland, Alan Heuzenroeder. There were several apologies for absence. Arising from questions asked at the previous general meeting, the president stated that stamp duty to the amount of £12 was being refunded by the government on all land purchased by soldiers who intended to live on the land.

Eligibility for Membership.

The president explained that, at a meeting of presidents and secretaries held in Adelaide on January 25, it was decided to recommend to the

was decided to recommend to the State board that sub-branches be asked to give special consideration to the question of eligibility for membership of the league, altering the constitution to provide for this. The matter would be dealt with at the conference to be held in Adelaide on April 26. Some of the suggested categories for admission were:— (1) All those who volunteered for service anywhere, including R.A.N., A.I.F., and R.A.A.F.; (2) odds and ends—war correspondents, Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, welfare, civilian pilots, etc.; (3) those who were in camp and discharged during the 1914-18 war who volunteered; (4) those who volunteered for malarial tests. Other categories might be suggested by sub-branches.

Mr Mitchell moved in favor of suggestion (1). He said conditions in the last war differed from those of 1914-18, with Australia in danger of invasion it was necessary to keep many volunteers in the Commonwealth. Many volunteers had been sent to Canada for training, and were brought back to Australia and discharged. Others did much training at home and were not sent abroad. The motion was seconded by Mr C. T. Heuzenroeder, and supported by Mr Watson.

Mr Aberle.—Does that include men who were called up for service, and afterwards volunteered for the A.I.F.?

The President.—Yes.

Mr Mitchell said he intended his motion to apply only to volunteers who were accepted for service. Many men volunteered, but were rejected. They would not be eligible for membership under his motion.

The motion was carried without dissent.

Referring to category (2), "odds and ends," Mr Sullivan said that men

and ends," Mr Sullivan said that men who were chosen for active service were required to take an oath that they would serve their King and country. He would not extend membership to anyone who had not taken such an oath. Mr Shepherd said the word "etcetera" would include members of the civil construction corps who went into the Darwin area.

On the motion of Messrs Shepherd and Grigg, it was agreed to admit volunteers under category (3).

The president said he understood that about 200 men were involved in category (4). Malaria was a bad enemy, and men had volunteered to be bitten by malarial mosquitoes and undergo injections for experimental purposes. Two of them had died.

Mr Mitchell moved that the men in category (4) be admitted.

Mr Sullivan.—If they were attached to the forces they would be admitted automatically.

Mr Shepherd.—Not unless they went overseas. Some of them may have been call-ups who took the lesser of two risks.

Mr Hart supported this view.

Mr W. A. R. Dean.—If you admit them, you cannot reject militia men.

The president said that all members of the A.M.F. who served outside Australia were already eligible. That had been decided at the last conference.

The motion was defeated by a considerable majority.

Memorial Club Rooms.

The president reported that subscriptions to the fund for the erection

savings certificates. Mr C. T. Heuzenroeder had drawn up a rough plan of the proposed building, and desired members to examine it, and suggest any alterations.

The plan was for a building of two storeys, occupying the whole of the block of land donated by the Millicent district council, and situated at the rear of the district council offices. It has a frontage of 28 feet to Davenport street, and 120 feet to the council right-of-way linking George and Davenport streets. The ground floor plan provided for a cafe, ladies rest room, accommodation for the Red Cross, country women's association, and mothers and babies' health centre, and laboratory conveniences. The upper storey was planned for a billiard room (two tables), large assembly hall, reading and writing rooms, refreshment bar, lavatories, etc.

The president said he was confident that a large sum of money would be contributed by the people of the town and district towards the cost of the club rooms. They wanted to make the building something worth while. He had heard that some people were not giving because they did not want to be associated with a "booze house." So long as he held any position of responsibility in the sub-branch he knew that he could rely upon the members using the premises in a worthy manner. They all wanted something that would be beneficial to the whole community, as well as a fitting memorial to the men and women who served in both great wars. Those women who had stayed at home had done a magnificent job throughout the last war. The work of the Red Cross and C.W.A. had not finished. Mothers and babies' health service must go on. The club would be controlled by the comrades of men

of club rooms, up to that night, totalled £765, including gifts of war savings certificates. Mr C. T. Heuzen-

be controlled by the comrades of men who had made the supreme sacrifice, and no conduct that would be disrespectful of their memory would be tolerated.

The proposed plan was examined and discussed at some length. Mr Aberle suggested that the top floor be carried over the right-of-way to a wall abutting the property on the southern side, thus making an arcade of the ground floor portion. Mr Heuzenroeder said it was a practical suggestion well worth consideration. Mr Walker said he understood that the district council had an idea of building a model council chambers in the near future. The provision of a babies' health centre was a district matter, and could be taken up by the council in connection with its building plans. It was not the soldiers' job to provide premises for the purpose. On the motion of Messrs Sullivan and Hart, the preparation of a complete plan was referred to Messrs C. T. Heuzenroeder and J. Tothill, for submission to a general meeting to be held at a later date.

Mr Hart moved that the premises be named "Millicent War Memorial Club." Seconding the motion, Mr Mitchell said many residents of the district who did not serve in the war desired a suitable memorial to local soldiers who died on active service. They would give freely to such a memorial. After discussion, an amendment moved by Messrs Sullivan and Holland, that the name be "Millicent R.S.L. Memorial Club, Incorporated" was adopted.

The president read the reply to a letter he had written to Messrs Davison, Hunt and Laught, solicitors, of Mount Gambier. It stated:—"Re incorporation of club. The same steps are necessary as in incorporation of the sub-branch. The main virtue in

the sub-branch. The main virtue in the incorporation of the club is that it provides a perpetual entity to hold the assets that may be accumulated from time to time, including money in the bank, land, etc. The question of incorporation of the sub-branch is one that left the members in Mount Gambier in no doubt whatsoever. Although the sub-branch as such does not hold much property (it barely having more than the capitation fees each year to handle), by having it incorporated it has a standing as a separate legal entity and fixed set of rules and fixed procedure for the conduct of elections, meetings, etc. We suggest that you form a club, so that the block in due time will be transferred to the club. . . The writer was rather inclined to combining the functions of both the Mount Gambier sub-branch and club under the one constitution, but this idea was opposed by the majority of the committee, and we can now see the wisdom of having both entities apart, for legal reasons. The committee combines in important matters, such as the selection of the secretary care-taker."

Mr C. T. Heuzenroeder moved:—"That this sub-branch make application for incorporation of the Millicent R.S.L. Memorial Club, under the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1929-35, and that V. A. Willshire, of Millicent, be authorised to take such steps as may be necessary to secure such incorporation." The motion seconded by Mr Walker, was carried.

Other Business

Messrs R. E. DeGaris and Jas Corcoran, M.P. (vice president) were appointed delegates to attend the annual conference of sub-branches, to

annual conference of sub-branches, to be held in Adelaide at the middle of April. Mr S. S. M. Smith was appointed proxy delegate.

At 9 o'clock members paid the usual tribute to "Fallen Comrades," the president reciting the lines, "They shall grow not old"

Mr Mitchell moved that the delegates to the annual conference support any move made by the league for compulsory military training. Mr Shepherd said the question was being considered by the federal government. The old scheme of training was useless from a military point of view. No doubt some concrete scheme would be brought forward before the end of the present Parliament. A majority of the people would be opposed to the pre-war system of training. - The motion was not seconded.

In reply to Mr Hart, the president said Mr Heuzenroeder had been enquiring into the question of priority for soldiers in purchasing building materials, but had so far received no reply from the authorities.

The president said it had been the custom of the sub-branch to elect officers each year at the annual meetings. Members who did not attend were disfranchised. He suggested that nominations for all offices be invited before the date of the meeting, and, if necessary, ballot papers be issued, returnable at the annual meeting. Mr Hart moved that the suggestion be adopted. The secretary said the system, which was similar to that followed by headquarters of the league, would save a lot of time. The motion was seconded by Mr C. T. Heuzenroeder, and was carried.

Two-day Rodeo in June.

Mr Heuzenroeder said members would have to get busy raising funds

for the club room. He suggested holding a two-day rodeo in June. Messrs Jones and Company would be travelling through the South-East during that month, and had suggested a rodeo for June 15 and 17, two public holidays. Many of the boys who had been away at the war had not seen what Millicent could put on in the way of a steer riding and buck-jumping show. Over £600 had been raised from the two held in competition with local queen competitions. He had the gate ready to put up, but a lot of work was necessary, apart from erecting the corrals, and all hands would have to put together to assure success.

It was resolved that the rodeo be held on dates to be fixed, in June. The following committee was appointed:—Messrs C. T. Heuzenroeder, J. Walker, Garfield Major, W. A. R. Dean, and D. Delaporte. They will co-operate with the general committee, which will determine the prize-money at a later meeting.

Surplus fruit and vegetables gladly received at Thyne Memorial hospital.
