

Historical Officers Report
From the Pages of the Camden Advertiser
Thursday 2nd November 1939

BOY SCOUTS AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Training to prepare Scouts for national work has been intensified, and it now includes Fire Fighting, First Aid, signalling and message running.

"Under, our national emergency scheme the proposal is to use only boys of 14 years and over, with their parents' consent" stated Chief Commissioner Lieut. Colonel J. M. Maughan.

Apart from national service work, Scouts will be available for such service as they provided during the last war—assisting at Red Cross and similar fetes.

They will not, however, assist in any ordinary military work.

Organisations requiring assistance from Scouts are asked to apply to the local district scoutmaster.

RED CROSS NOTES Articles Needed

The chief needs of the troops at present are singlets and bags to hold smaller articles of equipment. At Camden, material ready for making singlets may be obtained from Mrs W. Larkin.

The bags should be 12 inches by 9 inches, of any strong material like cretonne for example, with a double draw-string at the top. Coloured material should have a white label of calico, 1 inch by 2 inches, sewn on the side so that the bag may be marked. All members and friend are asked to make a special effort to support the Tuesday street-stall at Camden during November, as proceeds will be used to purchase material.

A Red Cross garden afternoon will be held at "Hassell's Cottage", the home of Mrs. S. Onslow at Macquarie Grove, Camden, on Saturday, November 11 (Armistice Day), at 3 o'clock, when gifts from the Red Cross Handicraft Shop will be sold. Full particular will be advertised in next week's issue of this newspaper

The Road Safety Council informs this newspaper that motor vehicle Registrations cannot be renewed unless a certificate of vehicle fitness is forwarded with the application. Local motorists are advised to consult this Newspaper's advertising column for the list of authorised inspection Stations.

LOCAL MILITARY CAMPS -- Federal Minister Praises Troops

"These men are true sons of their fathers—and their fathers were one of the finest bodies of men the world has seen," declared the Federal Attorney General, Mr. W. M. Hughes, after he had made a whirlwind tour of several military training camps last week.

At Campbelltown he inspected the 1st Machine Gun Regiment, formerly the Royal N.S.W. Lancers—the oldest cavalry regiment in Australia.

It he expected that Mr. Hughes will refer to the Government the need for more serviceable tents at the Campbelltown Camp.

Later Mr. Hughes motored to Menangle Park racecourse where 600 members of the 20/19th Infantry Battalion were under canvas. A need here it was stated, was the provision of more board floor for the tents.

Mr. Hughes, who was Australia's Prime Minister during the Great War, was given a rousing welcome at each of the camps.

Thursday 16th November 1939

Renewing old acquaintances at Camden on Friday were Mr. and Mrs. James E. Reay, who now reside in Warby-street, Campbelltown. Mr. Reay, who had a boat-re pairing business at Camden from 1900 to 1929, described the improvements to the shopping centre as "wonderful." He served for almost three years as a Camden alderman in the day when Alderman Ronald Young and the late T. M. Sheil occupied the Mayoral chair. Mr. Reay was born at Hamilton (Newcastle).

When a horse attached to a milk delivery cart bolted last week in Broughton-street, Campbelltown, the driver, Ray Eggleton, sustained slight injuries as he jumped from the vehicle. Two days later the same horse displayed his galloping ability in Queen-Street, Campbelltown. Several plucky attempts were made to stop the runaway. Ray, by the way, is well known in district cricketing circles.

Thursday 23rd November 1939

Best wishes for a safe return to his Elderslie home from any war sphere in which he may serve, were conveyed to Mr. Ralph Larnach at week-end meetings of both Camden District Cricket Association and Camden Cricket Club. Ralph who is one of the first local cricketers to join the 2nd A.I.F. he filled the position of hon. secretary to his club for a lengthy period. He was a member of each of the three Country Week teams from this district to play in the city, and captained the 1937 team. A left-handed batsman, he holds the distinction of being the only district player to score a century at a Country Week carnival. This article is the only mention of men enlisting in the Armed Forces.

Accident

Alleged to have been forced off the road by an approaching vehicle on Thursday last, Mr. Des. Toovey, who was descending the Burraborang Mountain- road, had a remarkable escape when his truck, supported only by a telegraph-post, remained suspended for two hours on the brink of a cliff. The truck was eventually hauled to safety by another vehicle.

It is a regrettable fact that a few coal truck drivers will persist in "holding" the centre of the Mountain-road to the delay and danger of other traffic. Fortunately this applies to a minority, the average driver being very thoughtful.

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer