

## THE WORK OF 1941.

"It's not the individual who does the job, but team work and co-operation", said the new President at the annual general meeting, and he added that he was quoting the saying of a previous President. He expressed the opinion that he had been helped by a good team, not only on the Board of Management, but in the whole body of members.

Of him, it was stated that he had had a very full and varied career in Legacy, probably no-one had seen more of the various spheres of Legacy work, and by reason of this experience and his other sterling qualities, he was eminently suitable for the job of President.

Legatee Stanley T..... Parkes had made a favourable impression on his fellow-men in whatever field he entered, in soldiering in his profession as an architect - in which he was most successful - and now in Legacy, for his colleagues had elected him unopposed as their leader for 1941.

If the spirit of Legacy is service, as has been stated so many times and indeed is embodied in the Charter issued on the inauguration of a new Club, how many men were there in Melbourne Legacy to face the self-imposed tasks during this year? Records disclose that the active list was only 163, which was 12 less than the allowable number or establishment, to borrow the Army term. On a supernumerary list were now 35 names, and it was hoped that, when war-time commitments ended, 28 of them would again be available. ~~Thxaw~~ These supernumeraries did not include some Legatees who, though doing full-time duty with the Forces, continued to carry out effective



Legacy work. So well were the jobs allotted that there is evidence that Legacy tasks and active membership for all practical purposes, balanced.

Changes in membership were the election of five new members, the acceptance on transfer of two, the resignation of three and the death of three, namely, Legatees L. B. Rule, C. Goodchild and J. K. Clark. These three departed comrades had done a good job in Legacy and as useful citizens; a commendatory story could be written about each of them. Three totally different personalities but each with characteristics, earnestness and ability that made man take notice of them.

Now that three Junior Legatees had given their lives in War, it was fitting for the wording of the Ceremony of Remembrance, a feature of assemblies of Juniors, to be amended, and the following became the text recited by the Legatee in charge:-

"Let us stand for a moment in silence in memory of your fathers, our departed comrades, also those Junior Legatees who have given their lives for their Country."

On occasions, three of those words, "Our departed comrades", had a wealth of personal meaning to the Legatee who said them. While they related to the men who served with him in war, they specially included his son who had died a short time before in the war which was then scourging much of the civilised world.

Three of the 92 Junior Legatees on war service had been invalided to Australia and five were prisoners of war.



As the war progressed the national character of the work of the Merchant Navy was recognised, and Melbourne Legacy agreed in principle to a proposal to extend the facilities to the dependants of its men who lost their lives, and decided to place this matter before the next conference.

Casualties in the Navy, Army, Air Force and Merchant Navy were increasing, and although Melbourne Legacy had always frowned on any wholesale attempt to publicise its work, it was felt that there was a necessity to promulgate the work of Legacy if for no other reason than that of contacting those individuals who might be eligible for assistance or advice. This matter was considered by a special sub-committee, and as a result, a definite policy on the "Promulgation of Legacy" was set down, the whole tenor of which was -- "We are offering assistance". To implement this policy, a small but attractive brochure was printed with the title - "Legacy, What It Is and What It Does". It concludes with these lines - "Legacy wants to help, and will help you in your hour of need, if you so desire."

There is no dominating Central Authority of Legacy, and each unit is self-expressive and can handle its own affairs in its own way. However, there was, and is, a Co-ordinating Council, and the President of Melbourne Legacy in his annual report paid a tribute to what he called the splendid work of the Council. Getting together to discuss things was always helpful; the experience of Ballarat could be valuable to Bendigo; the problems in Sydney might be solved by something done in Perth; the better Legatees knew one another, the better it was for Legacy as a whole. During 1941



4  
the six Victorian Units and Albury met in Melbourne, and the fourteenth annual conference of Australia-wide Legacy was held in Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.

Melbourne Legacy also conferred with the Carry On Club, with which there <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ always been happy relations. In fact Legacy's cordial relationship with kindred organisations has always been apparent, and it was ready to acknowledge with gratitude their co-operation in its complexities.

Weekly luncheons, though a feature of Legacy, should not give rise to the thought that it is a luncheon Club - it is purely and simply an association of men who have served overseas in war-time who, by personal service, are ready to help in a practical way the dependants of comrades who gave their lives. In other words, they have accepted the legacy of departed comrades.

Prominent people who attended luncheons included the Right Hon. A. W. Fadden, M/P., who was the Acting Prime Minister, Major-General Sir Iven G. Mackay and Councillor A. W. Coles, M.P.

The talks by members of the Board of Management on the monthly Domestic Day luncheon continued to keep members posted on the many activities in which Legacy was interested, and the weekly Bulletin was a useful adjunct. It was necessary to reduce the size of the Bulletin because paper was among the shortages which war had imposed on the community.



2 In conducting ceremonies on the eve of Anzac Day, Legacy departs from its normal function of caring for the children of deceased ex-servicemen, but just as Intermediate Legatees take a worth while interest in the children of living ex-servicemen, the totally and permanently disabled, Legatees feel that all children should benefit by a proper realisation of what Anzac Day stands for, the significance of Victoria's War Memorial, the Shrine of Remembrance, what service to the nation in a time

Anzac Eve ceremony, on the day before Anzac Day, suffered by heavy and continuous rain, and the out-door section was abandoned. That part of the ceremony arranged for the inner-shrine such as the placing of wreaths on the Rock of Remembrance and the bugle calls was carried out.

Emergency arrangements were brought into operation for the broadcast from 3LO to schools and the general public throughout and beyond the State; reports received stated that reception was satisfactory.

Had the day been fine it was fair to assume that scholars and teachers representing 150 State and denominational schools would have attended. Fortunately, most of the schools withheld the departure of their scholars, but some 200 reached the Shrine of Remembrance, and they were sheltered within it and participated in the limited ceremony.

For this and similar Anzac Eve ceremonies at Victoria's National War Memorial, Legacy received considerable assistance from



the officers of the Melbourne City Council, the Victoria Police, the Postmaster-General's Department and other interested bodies and people.

Every sort of financial problem confronts the Welfare Committee from time to time; time-payment furniture accounts, lay-bys, inability to buy clothing, beds and bedding, arrears of rent are some of them, but this year, probably a sign of the times, the calls on the Committee's funds were considerably under the amount estimated. Among the helpful factors were the ease of obtaining employment and the availability of child endowment.

Four or five problems were referred to the Committee's weekly meeting. Blankets and clothing were made available in many cases and Christmas gifts or parcels were distributed to 85 families.

Help was sought on pension claims, probate and administration of estates, insurance claims, children's welfare allowance applications, compensation, disposal of business, adjustment of rent arrears and other debts, and the transfer of invalids to the country where climate might assist recovery. Mildura Legacy was most helpful in solving the problems of invalids.

Countless aspects of domestic existence, some grave, some gay, were encountered by Legatees in this period, in their efforts to help the mothers and their children. Informing, encouraging, inspiring and generally assisting the growing girls and boys is not always easy and, at times, there is an infinite variety of problems to be solved. Success in assisting the family to meet



7  
difficult situations or merely standing by as a friend to be trusted, often results in the Legatee concerned being approached for advice when the children reach maturity and the serious problems of life confront them.

Library facilities available to both girls and boys had been improved, and approximately 2,000 books were in circulation or on the shelves.

Legacy Probation Officers had been busy seeing that they had appeared in Courts on behalf of 27 boys and one girl. In every case the appeals to the Court were successful, and only two of the youngsters caused any further worry.

Legacy's prestige had increased in all Courts throughout the years, as it was known that the rule was never to fight for the boy who had let it down or for whom Legacy did not entertain a reasonable prospect of success with him. "Again", said the Probation Officers, "we would like to pay a tribute to the never failing assistance from the whole of the Police Department. In all cases the Police were just as anxious as we to save the boys from the Reformatory of Caol."

As in the past, each batch of Police recruits were addressed on the aims and activities of Legacy, with particular reference to the part of the Probation Officers in the general scheme.



Some 85 boys and 50 girls were examined as soon as possible after their enrolment as Junior Legatees, the boys and some of the younger girls by the professional members of Legacy and most of the girls by Dr. Margaret Anderson. Unfortunately Dr. Anderson's health necessitated a temporary respite and Dr. A. J. Boyd, who had in the past given some assistance to Dr. Anderson, again kindly offered to act as her relief. Grateful thanks to both Dr. Anderson and Dr. Boyd for their continued interest and practical help were recorded.

Specialist examination, and in some cases treatment, were given by Legatees or private consultants to whom appeal was made. In other instances the facilities of the public hospitals were utilised.

The provision of spectacles at cost was arranged by two Legatees who, in addition, arranged the supply of spectacles to any of the Club's beneficiaries when specialist examination <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ not necessary.

Special Physical Culture Class for corrective treatment by another Legatee was carried on as in previous years with great benefit to these Junior Legatees.

#### BOYS:

So far as the Major Boys' Club was concerned, again this year the attendance was down, but it was to be expected as so many of these boys had enlisted in the Forces for overseas and there were those in the C.M.F. Military Camps. The outstanding result of the year's work by these boys was their raising £20 as a contribution to the welfare work of Legacy. In addition to this they were



9  
instrumental in providing the Christmas treat for the Minors Section of their Club.

What was especially important was the fact that there was, every Wednesday night, a place in the city where a boy who had been a member of the Club could call in and be assured of a game of billiards and a yarn with Legatees and fellows of his own age, which more than justified the work put into this activity.

As to the Minors, it was a most successful year, the attendance having gradually increased throughout the year. The objective of Legatees was, as in all other work, to get close to the boys, and by various devices they achieved this. The basis of the year's work from the entertainment point of view was to teach the boys something which would be useful to them and the nation and the morse code was chosen and quite good progress was made on buzzers. On several occasions trips away from the club rooms were made to picture shows and newspapers for instance. The boys made great progress in and enjoyed speech-making, and one of the thrills Legatees had was to see boys who could not express themselves at the beginning of the year, making a really good speech before it closed.

Swimming: Swimming Classes were conducted weekly at the Y.M.C.A. Pool. Attendances varied with the weather, but a number of boys benefited.

Opportunities for employment again exceeded the number of those who sought jobs, and at the close of the year there remained on the list for placement only the children about to leave



10  
school. They had all been interviewed, were regarded as well-qualified and of a type that would be readily absorbed as soon as they had completed their school year.

Some cases in which physical defects created problems were met with and solved by finding a sympathetic employer or by the provision of equipment enabling the boy or girl concerned to earn by working at home. Apart from the efforts of members of the Employment Committee, the Welfare Committee co-operated in handling these cases as did other bodies such as the Victorian Society for Crippled Children.

A systematic survey had been made of all lads attending classes to see that they were in suitable employment. Of 42 interviewed, 26 needed some consideration, and of these it was found advisable to change the employment of 14. It was felt that these surveys should probably become an annual task, for as the result of this year's experience it was seen that some of the brightest of the lads were liable, without the knowledge of Leracy, to drift into unsatisfactory employment and thus jeopardise their future.

In collaboration with the Education Committee, the Employment Committee interviewed scholars, and is conducting further investigation with a view to directing them into avenues of employment likely to be advantageous in the future.

In February, the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation in Victoria sought the help of Leracy and other organisations in the problem of civilian employment for men who had been honourably



discharged from the Forces in the current war, and the Employment Committee was successful in rendering assistance by placing some of them and putting employers into direct touch with the Repatriation Employment Officer. Exclusive of temporary or casual placements, the total of male and female jobs filled was 534.

#### EDUCATION:

The purpose of the Education Committee was to ensure that all eligible children whose education was not provided for by the Repatriation Department received proper guidance and advice in regard to educational matters, the objective being that each child had an opportunity of qualifying for entry into the occupation for which he or she is most suited.

The Committee became actively interested in the child when the work of the Sixth grade was satisfactorily completed - usually at the age of eleven or twelve years. It was at this stage that a decision had to be made as to the post-primary course to be entered upon, and the Committee, by personal contact with the mother and child, assisted in deciding the type of school which the child should attend in order to take advantage of natural abilities and to fit him for the career desired.

When the course of study was decided upon, every care was taken to ensure that the child was not prevented from following the course owing to the family being in necessitous circumstances. Advice was given to the Guardian as to the assistance which could be obtained through the Education Department, Scholarship schemes and



the like and, after these avenues had been fully availed of, the Committee, if the economic position of the family still warranted, recommended that financial assistance be granted from the Baillieu Education Trust and, in cases not covered by the Trust, the Legacy Club.

During his course of study, each child in receipt of financial assistance was personally contacted, his progress watched, circumstances which may affect studies noted and ~~xx~~ remedial measures taken if necessary, extra coaching arranged in weak subjects, guidance and advice given as to vocational opportunities and, on completion of the course, suitable employment arranged through the Employment Committee.

The work of the Committee as summarised by it was :-  
The advising of mothers and children on the most suitable type of school;  
Considering cases requiring financial assistance and deciding the nature of such assistance;  
Arranging, where desirable and necessary, free tuition;  
Arranging for regular personal contact with the children and watching the economic circumstances of the family;  
Advising on vocational opportunities and maintaining close liaison with the Employment Committee so that satisfactory employment of the child may be effected at the conclusion of the course of study.



Under the Baillieu Education Trust constituted in 1937, and the Baillieu Education Trust No. 2 set up in 1938 to administer a most generous gift made by members of the Baillieu family, a considerable annual income was available for financially assisting children of deceased members of the Australian Forces who served in the War of 1914-1918. This year, a sum of approximately £1,500 was available to the Education Committee from these Trusts.

Legacy financed all assistance given to children who were not eligible under the conditions of the Baillieu Trusts, such as children of Imperial and Dominion soldiers, and also made itself responsible for all cases qualified for the benefits of the Trust when the funds available from the trusts were fully expended.

#### NUMBER OF CHILDREN ASSISTED:

By direct grants (for maintenance allowance, fares, books, clothes, etc.)	200
By arrangements made for free tuition at evening classes, etc.	19

#### CLASSIFICATION OF SCHOOLS:

Children receiving direct grants attended schools as follows :-

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Metro.</u>
High, Higher Elementary and Central Schools	19	49
Technical Schools	5	81
Primary Schools (above Grade VI)	-	7
Denominational	3	30
Coaching Classes and Business Colleges.	-	6



#### APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE:

By the Baillieu Education Trust	£1,000
By the Baillieu Education Trust No. 2.	500
By the Melbourne Legacy Club.	<u>1,900</u>
	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>£3,400</u>

#### CONTACTORS:

Legatees (Melbourne Legacy) allotted to duty  
as contactors in the metropolitan area.

99

In October, approximately 400 children took part, at the Melbourne Town Hall, in the annual demonstration of class work. For health reasons, the Senior Instructress for the girls, Miss Domec Carré, was granted leave of absence for part of the year and her assistant, Miss Jessie Young, one of Legacy's best and oldest members of the Girls' Physical Training Classes, was appointed in her stead. Miss Young capably and energetically handled this difficult task, which included the preparation of the girls for the culmination of the year's work, the demonstration.

From the foregoing it will be noted that Intermediate Legacy is a useful adjunct to the general plan of Legacy.

Thirteen of these deceased soldiers' sons were in the 2nd A.I.F. and R.A.A.F., and four others were in uniform for the duration. Canteen orders were sent regularly to those abroad by those who remained, who also visited their families from time to time. Being in "reserved" occupations, the Man-Power authorities would not allow some Intermediates to enlist.



Its members were attached to Committees of Legacy itself and assisted in the conduct of Junior Legacy classes, the annual demonstration, the Anzac Eve ceremonies and the Dawn Service on Anzac Day.

Intermediates continued its physical training classes for the boys of totally and permanently disabled ex-servicemen, and ran some picture nights and card parties to raise the funds. The senior girls of Junior Legacy undertook the ~~xx~~ honorary work of instructing the newly formed girls' class, which made its first public appearance at the Legacy demonstration.

These young men and women have proved that they have learned at least one thing from their association with Legacy - The Spirit of Legacy is Service.

CAMPS: Since 1927, when Legatee S. G. Savice had some Junior Legatees in tents on his property at Somers, when he did much of the cooking and supervised the rest, camps were a feature of Junior Legacy activities: they provided the only chance of a holiday away from home for many. The camp which commenced at Christmas time was the thirty-fourth in which a total of 2,317 girls and boys participated.

Owing to staffing difficulties, principally due to the prevailing unsettled conditions, one Boys' camp was held during the 1940/41 Christmas period instead of two as formerly. It was also deemed wise temporarily to abandon the camp for girls at Easter because of the proximity of Service training camps.



One hundred and two boys between the ages of 11½ and 15 years attended for 14½ days commencing on 25th December. Fourteen of the lads were from other Legacy Clubs in Victoria and New South Wales and four Baillieu Education Trust boys from Country districts. The behaviour of all these boys was beyond reproach and they benefited by their holiday. Melbourne lads learned something of the ramifications of Legacy elsewhere than in their own city.

The administrative staff was provided by Intermediate Legacy under the leadership of Intermediate Legatee W. T. Rawlings (a doctor) assisted by two members of the St. John Ambulance, St. Kilda Division, and Gym. Instructor F. Brown, together with the usual paid kitchen staff of three.

The sleeping hut containing 10 bunks erected just prior to the camp, and new lavatories, were part of the gradual improvements.

Among the visitors was Legatee F. Doolan, who in 1925 outlined to the Board of Management a scheme for work among children, an event of great importance. From it grew the widespread ramifications of Junior Legacy which had benefited materially hundreds of children in so many ways in the intervening years.

Senior girls, aged from 16 years, after their physical training class met in their Senior Girls' Club, and attendances were well maintained except for the prevalence of overtime worked by many of them, which was common in the war-time life of the period.



17  
Special efforts were made by the Girls' Committee to devise means to ensure an increase in interest and attendance at the Girls' Club. In place of regular lectures, arrangements were made for the girls to assist in some aspect of the war effort, such as silver paper collection and sorting, packing and addressing of parcels for overseas, etc. However, the outstanding effort, and one which effectively held the interest of the girls for many months, was the organisation and actual making of articles for the Girls' Bazaar held to raise funds for parcels for Junior Legatees now serving with the Forces overseas. The Bazaar was an outstanding success - over £90 was made, and this meant that three substantial parcels (one of which had already been sent) would reach each of the boys.

The Girls' Club again actively assisted in the fitting and making of the wardrobe (which was entirely renewed this year) for the demonstration at the Melbourne Town Hall.

Every effort was made to foster the Club spirit and a sense of responsibility among the girls who conducted their own Club.

The younger girls' physical training classes were divided into juniors, under ~~x3~~ 12 years, and intermediates from 12 to 14; intermediates were instructed in two separate classes of one hour.

Class attendances and the general good health were satisfactory, and the improvement in deportment was ample evidence of the value of the training.

Milk was supplied and apples and pears were freely distributed.



15

Those girls who attended the speech training classes reaped much benefit, and the instructress and the Legatees concerned were delighted with the results.

An appreciation of the class work among girls and boys may be had from the table of fixtures for a week in January, viz:-

GIRLS:

Tuesday,	21.1.1941.	7.00 p.m.	Senior Girls' (16 and over)
			Physical Culture.
		8.30 p.m.	Legacy Girls' Club.
Friday,	24.1.1941.	6.30 p.m.	Junior Girls' Physical Culture,
			Under 12.
		7.30 p.m.	Inter. " " "
			12 - 14.
		8.30 p.m.	Inter. " " "
			14 - 16.
		7.00 p.m.	Inter. Girls' Speech Training.
		8.00 p.m.	Junior " " "
		...	...

BOYS:

Wednesday,	22.1.1941.	7.30 p.m.	Junior Legacy Boys' Club (Minds)
		8.00 p.m.	" " " " (Majors)
		7.15 p.m.	Swimming Class, Y.M.C.A.
Friday,	24.1.1941.	7.30 p.m.	Boys' Physical Culture:
			Drill Hall, Maben Place, Malvern.
		" "	Percy Street, Brunswick.
		" "	Raglan Street, Preston.
		Depot.	(R.A.A.F.) Ireland Street
			North Melbourne.
			(Artillery) Batman
			Avenue.

Another group of girls and boys, the Don Esses Club, conducted by Intermediate Legacy, also met. Unlike those attending the above fixtures, their fathers were alive, but seriously disabled.



Army's generosity to Legacy was real; it had made drill talk available to Junior Legacy ever since physical training was undertaken. However, the demands of war necessitated giving up the Artillery Depot at Batman Avenue, and, for a few weeks, the Preston Drill Hall. Arrangements were made for the Central Physical Training Class to link up with the one at North Melbourne in using the K. R.A.A.F. Depot. Thanks to the efforts of the Town Clerk, the Preston Town Hall was available for the local lads.

Attending the various classes, the sons of men of the 1914-18 war were in these age groups :-

	<u>Under 12</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>12 to 15</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>years.</u>
Central	8	34	53
North Melbourne	9	16	16
Brunswick	7	20	13
Malvern	11	23	15
Preston	<u>16</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>
Total:	<u>51</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>114</u>

Eleven boys of deceased men of the 2nd A.I.F. should be added to those figures. One attended the Central Class, 7 at North Melbourne and 3 at Malvern, making a total of 290 boys with whom Legatees conducting the classes were in touch.

From February to the demonstration in October the average weekly attendances were :-



<u>Boys.</u>			<u>Girls.</u>		
Wednesday -	Majors	10	Tuesday -	Legacy Girls'	
	Minors	24		Club	35
	Swimming	10		Physical Training	45
Friday -	Central	45	Friday -	Intermediates	23
	Brunswick	25		Juniors	76
	Preston	31		Speech Training	35
	Malvern	25			
	North Melb.	28			

The total weekly averages were :

	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Average</u>
Boys	204	188	198	181	179	187	182	167	201	187
Girls	<u>209</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>169</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>177</u>
	<u>413</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>364</u>

Petrol rationing was now in full operation, and the use of private cars on Legacy jobs restricted their availability for the family purposes of Legatees. Despite this, the tasks allotted to individuals apart from contact work were covered, and these included the collection of clothing for distribution by the Welfare Committee, the meeting of country trains where Legacy children from elsewhere were arriving, the transportation of Junior Legatees to and from hospital and contacting families recently bereaved.

Experience had shown that, in the absence of a father, Legatees could give great assistance to the youngsters, and the Advising Committee saw to it that where a personal adviser was needed, a Legatee was detailed for this task until continued interest was deemed unnecessary. Class advisers were an asset and did their jobs so successfully that very few applications were made for the Committee to allot a personal adviser to a class-attending boy.



27

For over a year there had been Associate Members of Junior Legacy, and it had worked. Assistance which was available from Legacy would not have been received by these children who could not attend classes had this plan not been in existence, and Legatees not have undertaken the duty of linking up with them.

Where the place of residence was in the Melbourne metropolitan area, the children of nine years of age or more were invited to enrol in the nearest physical training class, and the Class Leaders were notified and, if they did not do so, the Advisers Committee was notified. A list of children under nine years was completed, and to keep in touch with them an attractively designed card (with a new design each year) was sent to arrive on the birthday of each girl or boy, wishing the child "Many happy returns of the day" and an invitation to "come and join us when you're ~~xxxxxxx~~ nine".

It will be seen that some means had to be devised for children outside Legacy areas to be helped, and this was listed for a conference of Victorian Legacy Clubs. All that need be said here is that a solution was found which, in the course of time, proved ~~it~~ to be satisfactory.

A Casualty Contact Committee was established, and the duties prescribed were to :-



1. Obtain records of dependents of deceased members of the Forces resident in Victoria.
2. Advise Country Legacy Clubs of any such cases resident in their neighbourhood.
3. Record cases resident in the Metropolitan area and its vicinity.
4. Arrange for contact with these cases by kindred associations able and willing to do so.
5. Receive and record the reports from kindred organisations.
6. Arrange for suitable action by the appropriate Committee of the Club.
7. Become thoroughly conversant with the conditions and administration of the Repatriation Acts and to advise the Board of Management of the Club to make such representation either directly or in collaboration with other bodies as may be necessary to safeguard the interests of dependants.

The drill was simplified by adopting separate forms showing necessary particulars to notify :-

- (i) the Casualty Contact Committee.
- (ii) country Legacy Clubs of deaths where dependants lived in these areas.
- (iii) kindred associations prepared to undertake investigations.

In addition, leaflets were made available to investigators and a master card was opened in each case to record the actions taken towards helping the widow and the family.

Arrangements were made with the A.I.F. Women's Association and the R.A.A.F. Welfare Association to undertake first contact on behalf of Legacy with dependants, resident in the/Melbourne Metropolitan area, of deceased members of the A.I.F. and R.A.A.F., and the Committee acknowledged with grateful thanks the work of these organisations on its behalf.



It was regretted that the Committee was unable to obtain similar assistance with regard to dependants of deceased Navy personnel and that it became necessary to enlist the aid of the Advisers Committee to establish contact in these cases.

In the case of casualties whose dependants resided in the Melbourne metropolitan area, particulars were forwarded on Form C.C.3 to the organisation concerned, accompanied by :-

- (a) A letter of sympathy from the President.
- (b) A printed slip giving details of what the investigator was ~~has~~ desired to do.
- (c) A leaflet describing the activities of Legacy.

On return of the Form C.C.3., it was submitted to the Committee at its next meeting and decision given as to what assistance, if any, was recommended, and, when necessary, the case was referred to the Welfare, Education, Employment or Medical Committee.

Particulars were sent of dependants resident in Country Legacy Club areas to the Legacy Club concerned, and the case left in the hands of that Club.

This, the eighteenth year of Legacy, was marked most clearly by an extension of activities, for, while the work among the dependants of comrades of the 1914-18 war was continued with undiminished enthusiasm, the work of establishing contact with the dependants of men who had given their lives in the current hostilities was carefully planned, and every family had been



contacted, and, where necessary, assistance and advice provided.

That was the tenor of the first paragraph of the annual report of Junior Legacy submitted and signed by Legatee T. M. Cosh, its Chairman, and without a doubt the Committees, sub-committees and individuals who had worked with him had done a great job in all the avenues in which they were interested. Three years later he became President of Melbourne Legacy.

During the year advices of 1939 war casualties within the various Legacy districts other than Melbourne metropolitan area in Victoria were -

Ballarat	12	deaths	representing	23	children.
Bendigo	6	"	"	13	"
Geelong	17	"	"	18	"
Ararat	3	"	"	-	"
Mildura	7	"	"	11	"

and Albury Legacy, which has always associated itself closely with Victoria because of its geographical position, had 8 deaths which orphaned 20 children.

These 85 children were in the following age groups :-

Under 3 years	14
3 and under 6	25
6 " " 9	20
Over 9	<u>26</u>
	<u>85</u>



In country areas not covered by Legacy were a further 56 children, of whom 14 were under 3 years, 15 under 6, 10 under 9 and 17 over 9 distributed in this way :-

Alexandra	(Narracan Shire)	3	Lakes Entrance	3
Yarragon	" "	2	Sale	1
Thorpdale	" "	1	Korumburra	3
Avenel	(Seymour " )	2	Kyabram	(Rodney Shire) 2
Barramunga	(Otway " )	1	Morwell	1
Broadford		1	Natimuk	(Aripiles " ) 3
Coleraine	(Wannon " )	1	Portland	1
Drouin	(Buln Buln " )	2	Portsea	2
Eldorado	(Wangaratta " )	4	Picola	(Numurkah " ) 1
Frankston		2	Rainbow	(Dimboola " ) 1
Hastings	(Frankston & Hastings " )	2	Terang	6
Healesville		6	Warracknabeal	2
Horsham		1	Whitfield (Wangaratta Shire)	2
				<u>56</u>

In the Melbourne metropolitan area, 100 deaths meant 204 fatherless children, of whom 32 were under 3, 48 under 6, 45 under 9 and 79 over 9 years of age.

Before proceeding any further it would be well to look at some of the financial aspects.

Receipts on account of Junior Legacy Club Account from all sources during the year amounted to £5,617 and expenditure on these activities was £4,949. Investments and cash totalling £2,893 were held for the purposes of the Junior Legacy Club.

The costs of administration of the Legacy Club were, as usual, borne by members, the credit balance in the Administration Account being £213.



26  
A notable gift of £1,000 was received from Miss Damaris Pike's Estate through Messrs. W. T. Weirall and O'Dell Crowther, the Trustees of the Estate. Substantial donations were received from the Victorian Amateur Turf Club, the Williamstown Racing Club, the Victorian Football League and the major Oil Companies.

Tye's Radio Revue donated the proceeds of Sunday evening entertainments broadcast over 3XY.

Legacy shared in the proceeds from Garden Week, The Electrical Industries Ball and the Father & Sons' Golf Day at Kingswood and the Advertising Arts Ball, the record sum of over £500 being realised as a result of this effort.

In spite of the difficulties attending the taking over of its new course, the Huntingdale Golf Club (known for many years as Eastern) again demonstrated interest in the work of Legacy by permitting the usual Golf Gymkhana and also assisting in what proved to be a most successful and enjoyable function.

The Annual Ball realised £468, and as the result of a Bridge afternoon organised by the Ball Committee, with the assistance of the Tyros and held at the Palais de Danse, made available by the Proprietors through Mr. G. Curwen, a sum of £362.14. 0 was raised, half of which was donated to the Australian Comforts Fund.



It will be seen that a variety of avenues were exploited and that Legacy has many friends outside its own ~~xxx~~ ranks.

Records show that at the close of the year the opinion was held that the substantial financial support accorded would enable Legacy to face its future obligations with the confident hope that it will be able to give the maximum help and assistance to those it had undertaken to serve. As obligations increased, much greater income and expenditure were involved.

At a conference, the City Health Officer was reported as stating that dental services for children were urgently required, as 90 per cent. or more suffered from decay of teeth. This had been apparent in the Legacy children, and active steps were taken to give dental attention. In the past, thanks to the efforts of dentists who were members and their city and suburban associates in the profession, much had been achieved, but it was recognised that this was insufficient: a Legacy Dental Clinic was established in Collins Street.

Now it was possible to ensure that dental health, fundamental to the general well-being of a child, would be systematically dealt with. Many of the children, owing to their neglect of their teeth, were required to attend the Clinic on several occasions before their mouths were regarded as satisfactory. It was a day-time clinic except on Tuesdays, when it was open for the treatment of its patients from 7 to 9 p.m.



As the volume of work was greater than expected, assistance was given to the dentist at both the night and day sessions. The School Dental Clinic did 132 extractions additional to those at the Legacy Clinic.

The work carried out at the Clinic during the year was :-

Porcelain Fillings	201
Amalgam Fillings	383
Extractions	184
Petrolit Fillings	40
X-Rays	38
Gold Inlays	5
Splints	14
Root Treatments	11
Prophylaxis	138
Crowns	3
Dentures - Full Upper	2
Part Upper	<u>5</u>
	1024

As the treatment of each child was completed, he or she was given a date three months in advance to return for further examination. In this way it was expected that the children's mouths would be kept in good condition.

The Committee placed on record its appreciation of the assistance from Mr. Callinan, of the School Dental Clinic, Mr. Bryce Thompson, of Middle Park, Mr. W. McFarlane of Prahran, Mrs. L. Newton, Mrs. H. C. Owen, Miss Pask and Miss Bartlett.

Now that it was time for Legatee Parkes to give up the presidential position, he said that momentous events of the past year had affected our daily lives in one way or another, but in spite of the additional strain to which we had all been subjected,



the work of Legacy had not been affected. On the contrary, it had brought us closer together because of the greater realisation of our responsibilities as Legatees, and because of the realisation that, through the incidence of the present war, the work of Legacy must continue for many years to come. "We all feel that, as we gradually hand over the organisation to our successors, the younger generation of ex-service men, it should be an organisation that is perfect in all its parts and capable of withstanding any strain to which it may be subjected", he added.

Handing over to a younger generation of ex-servicemen! That thought must have been in the minds of Legatees, but this was the first time it had been put into words. They looked back and realised that since "their" war finished in 1918 and the new war began in 1939 twenty-one years had passed, and there had been two full years of that war. Yes, there would be a younger generation of ex-servicemen pretty soon, in fact, many men had already been discharged from the Forces with war disablement. And there was a younger generation of war widows and their children whom Legacy was helping in their difficulties.

-----