COMMENTS ON PRESIDENTIAL YEAR 1970

After perusal of this book you will have observed that Past
Presidents have listed with great care many of the procedures
and matters of protocol that you as President will encounter
during your year of office. I consider most of the material
written in previous years to be still very relevant.

with what appears to be a still increasing engagement loading it becomes more essential than ever to ensure Vice-Presidents appreciate before accepting nomination as such, that they will be deputising for the President on numerous occasions.

I attach to this report a 1970/71 Presidential Calendar listing normal engagements. I have updated the list prepared by Legatee Vance Dore as many functions listed by him no longer apply and the dates of others have been altered.

I refer to the hospitality extended by the President to guests at 12.45 p.m. each Tuesday prior to luncheon and consider it necessary to make it clear at the start of each Legacy year, that an invitation is extended to the Executive of the Board, Guest Speaker and his introducer, as well as any Guest of the Club plus visiting Club or Group Presidents that might be present.

In the case of the death of a Legatee it is essential for the Executive Officer to ascertain as soon as possible whether a Legacy Service is going to be held and at the same time whether this is going to be held at the Church, Funeral Home or the Cremetorium or graveside. When a Legacy oration is to be given it is important that the Legatee concerned knows the time and place.

Twice I found the Legatee required to give the Legacy oration missing in transit. If an R.S.L. Service is also to be conducted it is desirable to liaise with the Sub-Branch President, in order to arrange for a combined Legacy/R.S.L. Service. The start of a combined Service should be given by the R.S.L. from their order of Service and the Legacy participation includes the placing of the wreath and poppies by Returned Servicemen.

When visiting Clubs in Victoria and Groups of Melbourne Legacy it is essential to be well briefed on the items of interest in connection with the Club or Group to be visited. It is also necessary to be briefed as to the background of the Presidents - old and new. I consider it essential that the Liaison Officer concerned should provide the President - at least one week before the Annual Dinner - with particulars on a prescribed form which, over recent years it appears has been discarded. This would save the President the time in carrying out his own investigations.

(D. J. SIMONSON)