

GUINEA GOLD

Vol. 1. No. 5.

In the Field, November 23, 1942.

NOT FOR SALE.

SMASHING RAIDS ON JAPS

500 GERMANS KILLED IN STALINGRAD FIGHTING

LATEST WAR NEWS FROM RUSSIA STATES THAT ENEMY ATTACKS AT STALINGRAD ARE STILL ON A REDUCED SCALE.

Five hundred Germans lost their lives on Saturday in another attempt to push forward in the factory area.

In the Caucasus, slight advances have been made by our Allies both in the Mosdok area and at Tuapse.

According to a German military spokesman, Russian attacks along the whole southern front from the Don to the Caucasus have become a "veritable offensive."

U.S. Casualties

Excluding the North African expedition, total American casualties since the United States entered the war are 48,596. They include 5694 killed, 3435 wounded, 1349 prisoners, and 38,478 missing—and cover the army, navy, marines, Philippine scouts and coastguards.

GOOD PAY FOR ALL

Shipbuilder extraordinary, Henry Kaiser, states that permanent peace after the war will depend upon every person receiving a fair return for his labor.

"It is essential, as a first principle, that the United Nations devise this when making post-war plans," he said in Los Angeles.

■ Mussolini's Dilemma ■

MUSSOLINI is confronted with a naval problem of far-reaching importance as a result of the Allied landing on Africa's Mediterranean coast. All the Allied countries are speculating what he may do.

HE must decide whether to seek open action with Allied warships, in an attempt to stem the landings in North Africa, or preserve his ships, in the hope that their existence as a "fleet in being" will be more useful to him.

3 SHIPS, 19 ZEROS REPORTED DESTROYED

AIR activity over the Buna-Gona area was on an unprecedented scale yesterday.

To-day's communique from General MacArthur's Headquarters reports destruction by Allied aircraft of a destroyer, two smaller craft and 19 enemy 'planes. The communique reads:—

"In face of heavy resistance our ground troops are steadily closing on all sides of the enemy's dwindling position. Enemy naval forces, under cover of darkness and adverse weather conditions which prevented successful employment of our air forces, apparently succeeded in landing reinforcements.

"During the day our medium bombers sank an enemy destroyer and two smaller craft. Supporting our ground troops, our medium bombers and attack planes bombed and strafed enemy ground positions. An enemy air force of 12 dive-bombers and 20 Zero fighters attacked in the morning but were met by our air echelons and forced to retire before reaching their objective."

"Our air units followed them to their base at Lae and bombed and strafed them on the ground. Nineteen enemy 'planes were destroyed either in air combat or on the ground in these operations. Our own losses were slight."

HOW R.A.F. BATTERED TURIN

Chinese Hit Back

Chinese opposition to the invader does not relax.

More than 40,000 Japanese in the Shantung Province have been forced back by fierce Chinese counter attacks.

In one region alone, 5,000 Japs. have been trapped and either killed or wounded.

CIVILIANS ARE TOLD TO LEAVE DEVASTATED CITY

WHEN the British raided Turin on Friday night they battered the town so much that the authorities have had to order its evacuation.

Our planes dropped 2 ton bombs at the average rate of one a minute, and incendiaries at the average rate of 30 lbs. every second.

The fires were so numerous, and the smoke so dense, that observers could not see some of their targets.

The raid was officially described as the heaviest yet made on any Italian city.

The R.A.F. is giving Italian industrial centres close attention. The hammering has been most severe since

Wife's Story Of Don Juan

Something of a Don Juan was George Francis Young (38), according to his wife, Dora Florence (37), of Watson's Bay, in the Divorce Court to-day.

OBTAINING a decree nisi against Young on the ground of his desertion, she told Justice Sir Percival Halse Rogers that only six weeks after her marriage she came home one night and found another girl sleeping peacefully in her husband's bed.

He brought girls home quite openly, she said, and often calmly announced to her that they would be staying the night in his room.

He told her he couldn't stand being tied by marriage, and that he would just have to do as he liked, so far as other girls were concerned.

One night he brought a strange girl home from a dance, and when she protested against him keeping the girl in their home all night, he attacked her and told her to get out, said Mrs. Young. She went, this time for good.

the opening of the North African campaign.

In a raid over Genoa a few nights ago, R.A.F. pilots—including Australians—flew so low that they could see a statue of Mussolini in a public square. The raid was carried out in perfect moonlight, and hundreds of 1,000 lbs. bombs—and heavier—fell in one part in less than 25 minutes.

Special A.L.P. Conference

The special conference of the Australian Labor Party to discuss the question of merging the A.I.F. and the militia will be held in January.

Must Be Popular

PHOTOGRAPHS of Lieutenant General Eisenhower, American Commander in North Africa, are as much in demand in the United States as those of movie stars.

One picture company alone has received orders for a supply of 25,000 copies of the General's picture.

Adelaide Blind Student Succeeds

IAN Nicholls, an 18 year-old blind student of the Adelaide University has completed the second year of his Arts course.

He is the first blind student to seek a Bachelor of Arts degree in South Australia. Nicholls lost the sight of one eye when 6 and the other eye went blind in sympathy.

Blind woman, Mrs. F. J. Gibbons of North Adelaide, translated the University examination paper into Braille for Nicholls.

SYNTHETIC VITAMINS

Ascorbic acid—a synthetic vitamin which protects against scurvy—is being manufactured by a chemist of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

It will be distributed in tabloid form to Allied troops in isolated areas where fresh fruit or fruit juices are hard to obtain.

Dried Mutton for U.K.

The Meat Industry Commission has approved a scheme to increase production of dehydrated mutton for shipment to Britain.

Equipment for treating huge quantities is to be installed at Bendigo and Portland, in Victoria; Bourke, Aberdeen, Daroobargie and Newcastle, in New South Wales; and at Brisbane.

Plants will be installed later at other towns.

Knight's Son Dies

Captain Ian Frederick McMaster, son of the well-known Australian grazier, Sir Frederick McMaster, of Cassilis, has died of wounds.

He was 31 and received his first commission in February, 1939, in the 12th Light Horse Regiment. He enlisted in the A.I.F. and served in the 7th Division. He was promoted to the rank of captain in April, 1941.

DIVORCES—FREE

After 12 years' retirement, Sir Ellis Hume-Williams, K.C., who is 78, has returned to the London Law Courts to conduct divorce cases free for Service men and women.

In the last war Sir Ellis drove an ambulance.

MAINLAND NEWS ITEMS

N.S.W.

N.S.W. State Cabinet has decided to give temporary officers of the Public Service the same privileges as extended to permanent officers. Should a temporary officer die before he can take his accrued pay for extended leave, the money will be paid to dependents.

Representation of women on public bodies in Australia is inadequate according to the Rev. B. Cockett, president of the Congregational Union, when speaking at Newcastle. He instanced the numerous representation of women on public bodies in England.

100,000 red flags, red stars, and Timoshenko and Stalin buttons were sold in Sydney and country centres for the Russian Medical Aid Committee's Sheepskin appeal.

A factory foreman told the Federal Arbitration Court that he wanted to resign to avoid friction caused through his invitations to girls to go out with him.

Queensland

NATIVE women belonging to the Mothers' Union at St. Paul's Mission, Moa Island, Torres Strait, held a bazaar and raised £20 for the fund for Christmas cheer for the services.

Closing down of the Gatton Agricultural College has caused many protests throughout the State. The College has been taken over for other national work. Students, if they wish to pursue their agricultural studies, will have to leave the State.

The Education Minister (Mr. Jones) considers that the State should run children's kindergartens through the Education department. The Government subsidises the kindergartens to the extent of £1330 a year.

Tasmania

Rev. F. Littlejohn, who has been in charge of the Church of England parish on King Islands, since 1941, has been appointed a chaplain in the C.M.F. and has entered camp.

Mr. J. E. Heritage has been appointed vice-chairman of the Launceston General Hospital.

Mr. D. Hardy, of Melbourne, will be adjudicator of the Launceston Eisteddfod which will be held in May, 1943. He is bass soloist of St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne.

The Postmaster-General (Senator Ashley) has appealed to the public to restrict postings of Christmas gifts and greetings to the minimum.

Victoria

An explosion at the blue metal quarry yards of the Merri Creek Quarry Pty., Ltd., flung rocks and debris for a distance of 300 yards. June and John Tyson, small children of East Brunswick, had a narrow escape when a big lump of metal landed at their feet.

Mr. S. T. Sanders, 60, head auctioneer of a firm at the Newmarket saleyards for many years, has died at his home, Newington Grove, Caulfield.

Dr. C. I. McLaren, Presbyterian Medical Missionary of Korea, has returned from Japan after being a prisoner of war. He was ordered to leave when an exchange of internees was arranged.

Lord Mayor Nettlefold is to conduct a "Keep your city clean" week in December. The suggestion was put forward by Mrs. John Downing, president of the Housewives' Association.

It was alleged in a Melbourne suburban court that a man played on the Sandringham golf links for years without a ticket. He was fined £3/3/- for trespass. The links belong to the Sandringham Council but are leased.

Registrations Down

THE number of motor vehicles registered in Victoria in October was 2,000 lower than in September and 22,000 lower than in October last year.

The present number of cars registered is nearly 225,000.

Arrest of two youths, 15 and 16, has cleared up 52 housebreakings in 14 Melbourne suburbs in three months, police say. The boys invariably stole money, which they spent. The arrest of the elder lad outside a pawnshop in Carlton was followed by the arrest of the other in South Melbourne.

The engagement has been announced in London of Elinor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wren, of Melbourne, to Edward, only son of the late Dr. Herbert Jones, Bishop of Lewes, and to Mrs. Jones.

The number of motor vehicles registered in Victoria in October was 2,000 lower than in September and 22,000 lower than in October last year.

The present number of cars registered is nearly 225,000.

Kooyong (Melb.) tennis courts which have seen many stirring international tennis matches will provide a setting for the Victorian Lawn Tennis Association War Fund's symphony orchestral concert on November 28. The Governor and Lady Dugan will attend.

South Australia

A sum of £9/7/- was recently collected by German and Italian anti-Fascist aliens in a South Australian internment camp to aid the sheepskin appeal for Russia.

Ten million additional stamps are to be printed for the State owing to the phenomenal success of "penny-a-plane" stamps sales. One Hindmarsh industrial Unit sold £50 worth in one day.

The Housewives Association is on the warpath following disclosures that impure milk is being delivered in certain districts. The secretary (Miss Nance Grant Allan) has declared that the association will fight to have the matter remedied for the benefit of the housewife and the mother, and the health of the State in general.

Admitting to 132 previous convictions, Richard James Slee, 41, cowboy, has been sent to gaol for 28 days by Mr. Muirhead, P.M. of the Adelaide Court, for having resisted arrest by Constable Horsnell and for drunkenness.

Many people have agreed to voluntary vaccination against small pox in the Mitcham, Blackwood, and Edwardtown areas.

Cheerful war news has resulted in increased munitions production in South Australia, factory managers said to-day.

In an important section of a big Adelaide plant last week output per head showed a steep rise compared with the previous week.

Westn. Australia

In heavy seas off Scarborough life savers rescued two women and a third swimmer was rescued by the surf boat in one day.

Four fires which could have done great damage in King's park, Perth, were checked by the prompt work of the seas scouts.

Brig-General A. J. Bessell Browne who recently retired from the position of Commander of the V.D.C. in W.A. is making a gradual improvement following a serious operation.

Leith Leslie, 11, of Trades Hall Flats, Beaufort street, Perth, was drowned while swimming in the Swan River near Port Lovegrove Sea Scouts' headquarters.

A heavy increase in business has made it almost impossible for the P.M.G.'s department in W.A. to handle all trunk line calls booked. The Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs (Mr. J. G. Kilpatrick) has appealed to the public not to use lines for private calls where other means of communication are available.

Keen Services Athletics

Army and Air Force Teams Meet In Competition

KEEN rivalry and good performances marked a Services sports meeting at Konedobu, yesterday. Probably the most exciting event was the tug-of-war, in the final of which an Army Unit defeated R.A.A.F.

A VARIETY of service wear clothed competitors. Most were content to run barefooted although some wore sandshoes. In the circumstances times were good.

100 yds.—R. M. Starrett (R.A.A.F.) 1; L. Simmonds (Army) and E. T. Leishman (Army) deadheat 2.

N.C.O.'s. 100 yds.—Sgt. McQueen, 1; W.O.II Cairncross, 2.

Broadjump—R. C. Auswald and Ryan (Army) dead-heat. (Auswald also won a 100 yds. sprint).

Sack Race—E. T. Leishman (Army) 1; R. S. Burns (Army) 2. 220 yds.—T. M. Strachan (Army) 1; T. Hughes (Army) 2.

Scott (Army) cleared 5 ft. to win the high jump. Knox and Lt. McDonald shared second place with 4 ft. 10 ins.

Grenade Throwing.—R. McLeod (R.A.A.F.).

Hop, Step and Jump.—Smith, 1; Bartlett 2; Keogh 3. All three were competitors.

440 yds.—Simmonds (Army) 1; Sgt. Milbourne 2; L. J. Moore 3. Old Buffer's Race.—Sgt. Clark (Army) 1; W. O. Gaston (R.A.A.F.) 2.

Relay Race.—Army (Perkins, Valli, Naylor, McAllister) 1; R.A.A.F. 2; Papuan team 3.

Adelaide Ground Not What It Was

SPORTING enthusiasts who have not seen the Adelaide oval for a number of years would get a shock if they walked in to the ground to-day.

Grass, three to four feet high, covers the mounds and the turf has lost its old standard of excellence.

War demands have reduced the staff on the ground from 12 to 5 and these men have to maintain two bowling greens, two cricket grounds, and tennis courts for servicemen.

When peace returns, however, it will not take long for the full staff to rehabilitate the famous ground.

FAST GIRL BEATEN

IRENE Talbot, who was Victoria's outstanding woman sprinter of last season, was beaten by the Eastern Suburbs flier, Jean Alway, at the opening of the women's athletic season at Royal Park.

This was over 75 yards in the time of 9 1/10th secs.

Patrick's T.K.O. Win Over De. Belin

VIC. Patrick was too versatile for Billy De Belin in the Australian welterweight boxing contest at Rushcutters Bay Stadium on Saturday night.

PATRICK received the decision at the end of the eighth round. De Belin's mouth was badly gashed and Patrick was well ahead on points when the contest was stopped.

De Berlin, a former amateur champion, made a creditable showing at long range but in close had to weather a variety of snappy blows to the head and body. This eventually won the contest for the more rugged Patrick.

More than £1500 was received in admission fees, and as the principals and officials gave their services free, the Comforts Fund will benefit considerably.

SIDE GLANCES AT SPORT

RYDER STILL IN CRICKET

CAPTAIN of Collingwood (Vic.) cricket club again is Jack Ryder, former Australian Test captain.

Ryder is not the copious scorer of his heyday, but his bowling, experience and leadership are invaluable.

It is doubtful if any player in Australia has a longer connection with one club.

His service with Collingwood dates back from 1912 and in 1942 he is still going strong.

Ryder is a non-smoker and a non-drinker.

OARSMAN DIES

The death of Mr. W. (Bill) Clift, at Ballarat (Vic.) is a great loss to rowing.

A Victorian selector in 1925, he coached the Essendon eight which won the Grand Challenge cup at Henley that year. He was associated with Wendouree club, and coached Ballarat college and Grammar crews.

At one time during his connection with the sport he lived in South Australia, where he coached numerous pairs, fours and eights.

NO CUP FOR CUP WINNER

BELIEVE it or not—There was no Melbourne Cup this year.

Instead of the usual handsome trophy, Mr. L. O. Menck, owner of the winner, Colonus, received an envelope containing £200 in Austerity Bonds.

He may buy a suitable trophy when the bonds mature.

WILLIAMSTOWN CUP

(RUN NOVEMBER 28)

First Acceptances.—Tranquil Star 9.7, Skipton 9.2, Velocity 8.12, Pandect 8.11, El Golea 8.10, True Flight 8.9, Maikai 8.6, Burrabil 8.4, Sir Romeo 8.4, Phoines 8.0, Gusher 7.13, Spearman 7.12, Dark Felt 7.11, Heart's Desire 7.10, Wilson 7.10, Great Britain 7.9, Koorenbeen 7.8, Millais 7.8, Hestia 7.7, Amazed 7.5, Colonus 7.5, Prairiedale 7.5, Similar 7.5, Sir Locket 7.5, Son of Aurous 7.5, Home James 7.4, Throttle 7.4, Portfolio 7.3, Queen Baccha 7.3, Grain Trader 7.1, Haros 7.1, Cloudless 7.0, Gay Revelry 7.0, Status Quo 7.0, Attorney 6.12, Fairway Freddie 6.12, Iridium 6.12, New Warrior 6.12, Phocion 6.12, Royal Peter 6.12, Agrosan 6.10, Mercury Bay 6.10, Pandini 6.10, Philander 6.10, Wanganui 6.10, Fast Company 6.9, Sunrocks 6.9, Azores 6.7, Basalt 6.7, Berry 6.7, Dealer's Choice 6.7, Emphatic 6.7, Illyrian 6.7, Manawatu 6.7, Marcuis 6.7, Port Patrol 6.7.

S.A. SPORTSMEN IN CHARITY BALLET

To aid Red Cross fund for Prisoners-of-war, eleven well known Glenelg sportsmen have formed a ballet, and their turn has made a hit in Adelaide.

The ballet includes former well known interstate footballer Steve McKee, and his son. The others are Cliff Warburton, Dick Lecher, Tom Conway, Bill Inverarity, Harry Smerdon, Dave Garvie, Joe Trowbridge, Bill Symonds, and Gordon Walde.

The costuming of some of the ballet was difficult because of their abdominal protruberances.

First Century in W.A.

W. Langdon of Claremont, Freemantle, made the first century for the season in W.A. club cricket. This helped to give his side victory against Subiaco by 165 runs.

Other good scores were Shea (Claremont, Freemantle) 90; Banks (Mt. Lawley, North Perth) 92; Lockwood (Mt. Lawley, North Perth) 90; and H. Rigg (East Perth) 60.

Frankish, 5 for 45; and Inverarity, 5 for 5; were the most successful bowlers.

American News:

U.S.A. SPORTS FOLK WAR-MINDED

Talking to American servicemen throughout the world from a San Francisco radio station last evening, the commentator remarked that the sports folk of America were fully war-minded and realised that the really big games were being played on the fields of Guadalcanal, Buna, Gona, and French North Africa, where so many of America's sons were fighting side by side with the Allies against the common foe.

"Football games lack something they used to have and Stadiums just don't fill up as in peace time," said the commentator.

Highlights of American football yesterday included Ohio State's 21 to 7 win over Michigan. Wisconsin 20 had a meritorious win over Minnesota 6.

Army's Great Victory
The Army were in brilliant form at the Yankee stadium to defeat Princeton 20 to 7. Yale 7 defeated Harvard 3. Michigan State 7 defeated West Virginia nil. Michigan had a 50 yards touch down.

University of California had a stirring battle with University of Washington winning 14 to 10. In their 49th encounter Stanford 26 defeated Colden Bears 7.

FILM STARS IN TAX NET

Income tax liens have been filed against 21 members of the Hollywood film colony for amounts ranging from £150 to £13,070.

The £13,070 is demanded on the 1941 earnings of Dance Director Busby Berkeley.

Others named are Basil Rathbone, £5280, and his wife, £5400; Dean Jagger and his wife, £566 each; Allan Jones, £2120, and his wife, Irene Hervey, £2529; Jeanie MacPherson, £504; John Meehan, £678; Eddie Moran, £684; Roger Pryor, £690; Wolfgang Reinhardt, £690; Ralph H. Blum, £1574; Carmel Myers, £1574.

Comedian Slim Summerville also has been named in liens for 1936-37 demanding £345 and £320 respectively.

NEW YORK'S MEAT RATIONING DRIVE

NEW YORK—More than 2,000,000 civilian defence workers have begun ringing door-bells in the greatest house-to-house campaign in history, explaining to the people the necessity for voluntary meat rationing.

JALOPIES VALUABLE

An unexpected source of revenue to the U.S. Government is steel and rubber scrap from the "jalopies"—aged and decrepit cars. It is hoped to requisition 3,000,000.

Nurses Praise N.G. Native

TWELVE women, including nurses, who have been in New Guinea for the past 12 months have arrived at an Australian port.

Several were stationed at Milne Bay when the Japanese made their invasion attempt and others were at Gona.

The nurses speak highly of a native, David Patapata, who, they say, performed skilled emergency operations on some wounded Australian soldiers when the battle was at its height. He had no book learning but had become skilled by watching doctors working at the Samarai hospital.

Willkie's Tribute To Britain

MR. Wendell Willkie told a New York audience on Saturday that the British were playing down their part in the North African campaign to give an extra lift to America.

He said that history would record that it was General Montgomery's ability at El Alamein that made possible what America was now doing in North Africa. The British part in the campaign would be one of the most noble sagas in history.

German Changed To Swiss To Claim Australian Inheritance

BARON Friedrich Elliott Von Frankenberg Und Ludwigsdorf, a lieutenant in the German Army in the last war, became a Swiss citizen so that he could obtain a passport to come to Australia to claim a big inheritance.

Ludwigsdorf, now a farmer at Camden, stated this in the Sydney Equity Court when telling of a £90,000 inheritance five years ago from the estate of his grandfather, Frederick William Elliott, of Sydney.

A large proportion of the estate is in Elliott's and Australian Drugs Ltd. The baron's late mother was a member of the Elliott family.

He is asking the court to have rectified a deed of settlement between himself and his mother to relieve him of the burden of taxation on certain outgoings and to limit his liabilities under the deed.

£6,991,060 PAID IN WAR INSURANCE

THE secretary of the War Damage Commission (Mr. A. E. Warburton) announced in Sydney that in 12 New South Wales municipalities and shires every property-owner had paid the war damage contribution for fixed property and buildings. This side of the scheme is compulsory.

Total contributions to the War Damage fund at the end of October were £6,991,000:—New South Wales, £2,871,000; Victoria, £2,147,000; Queensland, £817,000; South Australia, £624,000; Western Australia, £395,000; Tasmania, £137,000.

Nearly £6,000,000 has been placed in the Austerity Loan.

British Capture Benghazi

ARMIES MASS FOR TUNISIA BATTLE

Benghazi was occupied by the British Eighth Army on Friday morning.

This is announced in a message from Cairo which adds that our forward troops are in contact with the enemy at Agedagia, about 60 miles south of Benghazi and in a district where Axis forces are expected to make a stand.

"Stoppages Amount To Sabotage"

"To stop a mine over such utterly trivial matters as the shortage of potatoes, or alleged daylight saving hardship, or the theft of a pair of pants—especially in cases where it is impossible to prosecute because no witnesses can be obtained to come forward—amounts to reckless, if not wilful, sabotage against Australians fighting in the front line."

This forcible opinion of coal mine stoppages was given in Sydney by the Federal Attorney General (Dr. Evatt).

"We know that the great majority of miners and managers are loyal," he said, "but they seem incapable at present of dealing it out to the minority who are not. I shall support the most drastic measures that can be devised if the wretched and miserable coal stoppages continue," he said.

"In my opinion the industry as a whole—and this applies to both sides—is blame-worthy.

"However it is looked at, it is utterly pitiful and disgraceful to Australia that these stoppages recur while Australians are giving their lives in New Guinea or in Africa, or in Britain," Dr. Evatt declared.

Iraq Rejoices

The Prime Minister of Iraq has written to President Roosevelt saying that the whole Mediterranean scene has been changed within a few days, and the Arab races of North Africa are filled with rejoicing.

The Prime Minister (Nuri Pasha) is a devout Moslem, a distinguished soldier and statesman, and an outstanding personality in the Islamic world.

500 Miles In Month

SINCE the opening of the Allied offensive in Egypt just over four weeks ago the British have pursued the enemy over more than 500 miles, smashed the bulk of Rommel's army, and killed or captured more than 75,000 Germans and Italians.

Women For A.A. Guns

Australia is to have more mixed crews of anti-aircraft batteries. Women will soon be operating precision instruments at many searchlight sites in operational areas.

The first Australian Women's Army Service training school at an operational centre has now opened. Training includes anti-aircraft instrument work, transport-driving and signalling.

NEW POST FOR DARLAN?

International interest in the future of Admiral Darlan is very keen. Fighting French spokesmen in London and Washington have made it clear that the appointment of Darlan to a high Allied command in North Africa is causing dissatisfaction.

General de Gaulle and the French National Committee announce that they are assuming no responsibility.

Turks Think Nazis Tricked

Turkish opinion inclines to the belief that the usually astute German High Command failed badly to grasp the set-up in North Africa during the past six months.

Strategists in Turkey say that Germany kept several divisions idle in Western Europe fearing invasion, whereas they could have been effectively used to follow up the victories of Rommel and capture Egypt.

Owing to a typographical error, suggestions for "A New World Order" published yesterday, were attributed to "Sir Stanley Cripps." The reference, of course, was to Sir Stafford Cripps.

Fireman In Melbourne Threaten Partial Strike For Higher Pay

THE Melbourne Fire Brigade union has decided that unless better wages are offered by the Board by next Wednesday, a partial strike will be declared from that date.

If the strike is declared, the men will carry out only those duties essential to fire fighting.

They will ban cleaning work of any kind in fire-stations, special duties in workshops, quarters, or elsewhere,

except boat duty, and car driving other than for fire or boat duty.

They will refuse to play in the Fire Brigades Band, or to take part in gymnasium displays or rehearsals, and they will not drill or conduct drills except of auxiliary firemen.

Firemen receive £4/15/0 a week, rising in 12 years to £5/17/9 with certain added amenities. They are asking for £5/10/0 rising to £6/10/0 in five years.

BOTH sides are gathering their forces for the big battle of Tunisia but there is little fresh news from official sources. An American agency says that British and American forces are under intense air attacks, and violent air fights are taking place.

More fighting by French forces is reported. One account says that considerable forces of British and Americans took part in attacks on positions about 30 miles from Tunis.

One observer suggests that the air battle for Tunisia may be comparable with the battle for Britain, with the difference that on this occasion the Allies will be fighting, not a defensive battle, but what will be virtually the start of an offensive against the Continent.

The British Navy has closed the Mediterranean against Axis ships going to ports on the coasts of Southern France and Italy.

This Admiralty notice is understood to mean that the British Navy has mined the western Mediterranean.

The Allies are now supplying equipment for the French army in Africa.

OMINOUS MOVES BY JAPS

JAPANESE in Timor are showing ominous signs of activity. This was stated authoritatively in Canberra yesterday, when the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) drew attention to recent enemy movements to the north-west of Australia.

THE battle for the defence of northern and western Australia will have to be fought on Timor and the nearby islands," he said.

Mr. Curtin has not disguised uneasiness at the occupation by the Japanese by all nine anchorages in Portuguese Timor and the reported concentration of enemy transports in the area.

Australia, he said, was being defended by the actions in New Guinea and the Solomons, and by our hold on the New Hebrides, New Caledonia and Fiji.

If the enemy could be pushed out of the Solomons and New Guinea, they would have to retire to their base in the Marshall Islands.