

GUINEA GOLD

VOL. 1. No. 53.

In the Field, Monday, January 11, 1943.

NOT FOR SALE.

RUSSIAN FORCES CONTINUE TO SMASH GERMANS ON WAY TO ROSTOV

RUSSIAN forces from the north are reported to be less than 40 miles from Rostov. This is the closest they have been to this key town on the Black Sea for German supplies to the Caucasus since the four-pronged drive on it began. German troops are reported to be in retreat on all fronts.

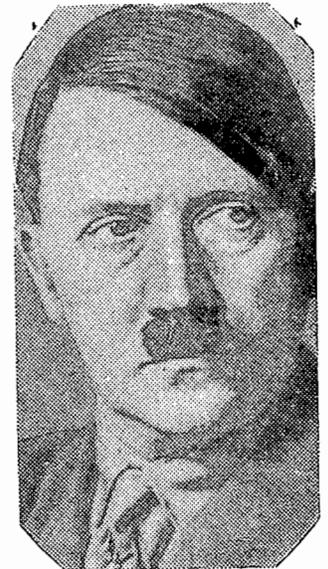
The advance on Rostov has been made despite serious opposition and all German counter-attacks have been repulsed with heavy losses in men and materials.

RUSSIAN units are driving on south-west from Sinovniki towards Salsk, a big railway centre on the Stalingrad-Black Sea line.

Further south the Russian force driving south-west from Elista is striking deeply into the German lines, and is now less than 50 miles from the spearhead of the Russian army battering its way north from the Caucasus.

A Russian communique says that Soviet forces pressing north from the Caucasus have captured Jeorgeivsk, which is 70 miles north from Mosdok and is a junction of the line from Baku. South-west and north-west of Veliki Luki heavy fighting is still in progress. The Russians say they have repulsed more German attacks at both these points.

Fat Fuhrer



"**H**ITLER is now fat and bloated," a neutral observer reported after the German Fuhrer had delivered his latest blustering speech to the Reichstag.

"He has a double chin, and a tightly drawn belt betrays a bulky waistline," the correspondent added.

A British doctor who knew Hitler well some years ago said it was hard to realise from recent photographs that he had undergone such rapid physical deterioration.

Service Chevrons For R.A.A.F.

MEMBERS of the RAAF who have served in overseas theatres of war will be issued with distinguishing blue chevrons, similar to those worn by the AIF, the Minister for Air (Mr. Drakeford) announced.

He said that chevrons on a drab background would be worn with the light summer uniform, and chevrons with a dark-blue background with the blue uniform.

All personnel would be entitled to wear one chevron on leaving Australia and another for each year of service.

The wearing of service chevrons by the RAAF would be based on conditions similar to those applying to the Army.

BEAUFORTS, FORTRESSES STRIKE AT JAP. CONVOY

IN a night attack against the retiring enemy naval forces from Lae on Saturday, Beaufort torpedo bombers claim two direct hits with torpedoes on a cruiser.

N.S.W. Record In Broken Marriages

AN all-time record of divorce petitions for New South Wales was lodged in 1942.

The total was 2897, an increase of 517 on 1941's figures of 2380.

Previous years' totals were: 1940, 2286 petitions; 1939, 2371; 1938, 2339.

Twelve years ago the number of petitions lodged was under 1700.

Petitions lodged in 1919 totalled 1312, compared with 602 in 1913.

SUBSEQUENT reconnaissance of the convoy showed a cruiser missing.

Flying Fortresses attacked soon after daylight yesterday and dropped 12,000 lbs. of bombs. At least one near miss was within 15 feet of a 5000-ton transport.

RAF Over Germany

BBRITISH bombers were out in force over Germany on Saturday night for the fifth attack in a week on German industrial targets. No details of the raid have yet been received.

PARSLEY FOR PEP!

MRS. S. MONKS, president of the Australian Fighting Forces Herbs Auxiliary, said in Melbourne yesterday that one parsley sandwich had more food value than 1lb. of steak.

In three years the Navy had received 24,000 four-ounce jars of dried parsley.

Enough herbs to flavor 2,700,000 meals had been sent to Australian and U.S. servicemen. One of the herbs most in demand was parsley. The auxiliary now had 500 voluntary helpers in Melbourne, and thousands throughout Victoria, Tasmania, N.S.W. and Queensland who grew herbs and sent them to Melbourne.

ZEROS SHOT DOWN IN SOLOMONS

A WASHINGTON Navy communique says that Flying Fortresses attacked Bougainville Island in the Solomons on Thursday, and shot down two of 12 Zeros which attacked them. All American planes returned.

Medium bombers, with fighter escort, started fires among enemy installations at Rekata on Santa Ysabel Island. Two American planes were shot down by A.A. fire.

The communique reports another attack by Liberators on Kiska in the Aleutians.

PATROL ACTIVITY AT SANANANDA

LAND operations at Sanananda yesterday were confined to patrol activity.

American forces which took Larakena village on Friday night are consolidating and exploiting their positions. They killed 40 Japanese in the occupation operation.

Nazis To Sterilise Norwegian Unfit

BERLIN radio, quoting an Oslo message, says that the sterilisation of all Norwegians suffering from mental, physical, and hereditary diseases or criminal tendencies has been ordered under a new law.

News In Brief From The Mainland

NEW SOUTH WALES

AFTER Nurse Daisy Barker's tonsils had been removed in Sydney recently, she found she had lost her ordinary accent and acquired the broad Yorkshire dialect of her forefathers.

Born in Newcastle, Nurse Barker has never visited England. She claims that she spoke the Yorkshire dialect for a year after the death of her brother and for a time after her mother died.

A BOY born last week in Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney, will have 50 godfathers. He is the son of Sgt. Russell Hughes, A.I.F. of Wahroonga, and is to be named Peter Russell. Sgt. Russell returned early last year from the Middle East where he and his 50 fellow-sergeants became inseparable comrades. It was arranged that when the baby was born, the sergeants would be godparents.

IT is believed that about 15,000 gallons of benzine has been lost as a result of an unknown person or persons drilling a hole in the pipeline from Glen Davis to Newnes.

When the pressure had dropped practically to zero, investigation revealed a 3-inch hole drilled in a 6-inch pipe, three miles from Newnes, in rugged country which is easily accessible by road.

ANOTHER APPEAL to N.S.W. women to accept employment in munition factories in South Australia has been made by the N.S.W. Deputy Director of Manpower (Mr. Bellemore). Women volunteering for work will be provided with accommodation in hotels at 25s. to 30s. a week and pay will be about £4 5s. weekly.

TASMANIA

DECLARATIONS that a farmers strike was on because of increased wages, low prices for products, and lack of men to perform farm work were made at a conference at Hobart of representatives of dairymen and other primary producers. Resolutions advocated a substantial increase in milk prices, and requested the release from the Army of experienced labor in cases substantiated by agricultural officers.

"Art Of Thinking" Out For Duration

AMONG the many anecdotes making fun of the trials of shortages and rationing, one both true and amusing comes from Tasmania.

A Hobart bookseller wrote to Great Britain for Andre Maurois' "Art of Thinking," and received the reply: "The Art of Thinking is out for duration of the war."

MR. ROBERT CRACKNELL, of 7 Regent Street, Sandy Bay, one of the last survivors of the Tasmanian whalers, has reached the age of 87 years. He was born in Hobart Town in 1855.

BECAUSE the December beer ration was consumed too early, New Norfolk has been through a record "dry" period. Holiday crowds on Boxing Day helped to consume all supplies available, and some hotels sold out of bottled ale and stout. The January quota has relieved the drought.

VICTORIA

MANPOWER officials in Melbourne disclaim all responsibility for the labor call-up last week which resulted in several old men, including two over 80, being ordered to present themselves at the Bureau of the Allied Works Council. They were sent away with promises of exemption certificates. The octogenarians were Mr. W. J. McWhae, investor, who retired from business in 1929, and Mr. M. Hanrahan, who was coachman to the late Mr. Septimus Miller for 50 years.

Not Too Old At 101

WHEN asked why he did not apply for an old age pension, George Doble, of Avoca (Vic.), who was born in Syria 101 years ago this month, said: "I don't want any pension while I'm able to work for my living."

Doble still works in his garden and grows many varieties of vegetables. He has reared a family of 16 children.

SENATORS KEANE and Cameron and Mr. J. M. Sheehan, a former member of the Senate, have been selected as Victorian Labor candidates at the next Senate election.

FINES TOTALLING £23 were imposed on five Chinese in the Melbourne City Court following a police raid on a house in Little Bourke Street on December 28. The Chinese were alleged to have been playing fan tan.

THE LATEST effect of the manpower shortage is seen in homes for aged men. Two hundred and thirty-eight inmates have left Mount Royal, Melbourne, to take employment, mainly as gardeners and odd-job men. They are replacing men who are now in essential services.

QUEENSLAND

THE Director of Education (Mr. L. D. Edwards) has announced that the approximate number of children who left State schools in Queensland last month after completing the seventh grade, was between 13,000 and 13,500, the sexes being about equal. There would also be several thousands from denominational schools, said Mr. Edwards.

A considerable proportion of them would not go on to secondary schools, but would seek employment immediately.

ACCTION to release manpower for greater production in Queensland of base metals, which are in urgent demand for war purposes, is expected soon by the State Minister of Mines.

QUEENSLAND TEMPERANCE LEAGUE anti-liquor campaign committee will call together the united campaign committee on January 28 to set in motion a drive against the liquor traffic.

FOR having had instruments of gaming in her possession on November 28, Agnes Richards, Terrace Street, New Farm, was fined £20. The prosecutor said that when police searched her house they found 267 bets, ranging from 6d. to 7/6, on racehorses on Brisbane courses.



BEACH BEAUTY.—She's Rosemary La Planche, latest United Artists' starlet from whom great things are expected this year.

CANBERRA

A SPEED limit for motor vehicles throughout Australia is being considered in Federal Government circles.

The main object is to make tyres last longer, and thus help to meet the ever-increasing need to preserve Australia's limited supplies of rubber.

THIRTY THOUSAND Guayule rubber plants raised from seed and 2000 plants from Canberra are progressing well in between 50 and 60 areas in South Australia. Plants will be sampled at the end of this summer, and the rubber content for each district assessed, to determine where rubber production has been greatest.

It will be at least 15 months before large quantities of rubber can be expected. In most cases the plants have formed seed, which will be collected for further plantings.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PROSECUTIONS for black marketing are pending in several cases in South Australia, according to the Deputy Director of Rationing (Mr. Bowden), who claims that many breaches of rationing regulations, especially as applied to tea, sugar and clothing, have occurred recently.

MORE than 1100 bicycles were stolen in Adelaide last year; all but 200 were recovered. This information was given in Adelaide Court when Ernest Frederick Klopfer, 30, painter, of Esplanade, Brighton, was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for having stolen two bicycles.

A WOODVILLE mother, who allegedly disclosed the location of certain munition factories in South Australia in a letter to her son in New Zealand, was fined £1 with 1/- costs in the Port Adelaide Court. She was Gertrude Elizabeth May Bown, widow, of Glengyle Street, Woodville.

WHEREABOUTS of six half-ton reels of copper wire, reported by Adelaide Electric Supply Co. Ltd. to have been stolen near Kapunda, remain a mystery. The heavy drums of seven-gauge nine-strand transmission line worth about £360 disappeared from the roadside. Wheel marks of a lorry were found nearby.

It will be difficult to dispose of the wire because only one or two agencies in the State are allowed to purchase scrap copper wire, which is frozen.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE quickest way to draw a crowd in Perth is to advertise a house to let. A city agent who advertised a small unfurnished house in Mount Hawthorn had his first telephone call at 6 a.m. and found 30 people outside his office when he arrived at 8.30 a.m.

LIEUT. CHARLES FRANCIS GERALD MCKENZIE, who has been awarded the M.C. for bravery during the defence of the Dillie aerodrome during the night of the Japanese invasion of Portuguese Timor on February 19 and 20 last, is a son of Mr. A. McKenzie, of Busselton. Lieut. McKenzie has three brothers in the services—one in the Army, one in the Navy, and the other in the R.A.A.F.

THE Keeper of the Privy Purse has received His Majesty's command to pay the King's bounty to Mrs. J. Gallagher, and a cheque for £3 is accordingly forwarded herewith.

This letter and a cheque from Windsor Castle have reached the Gallagher family of North Beach, Perth. The parents are both Scottish and came from Paisley to W.A. 14 years ago. This is believed to be the fourth time the King's bounty for triplets has been awarded in W.A.

DISCRIMINATION between States, W.A., in the fixation of commodity prices for such produce as eggs and honey, and a proposal said to be on foot to amend wheat handling and storage rates in a manner disadvantageous to that State, were subjects raised by a deputation to the Assistant-Minister for Commerce (Senator Fraser) in Perth.

Senator Fraser expressed sympathy with both requests and promised to go fully into them.

HARDSHIPS OF WAR IN RUSSIA

U.S. FLASHES

DURING his speech to U.S. Congress on Thursday, President Roosevelt said that it was within the realm of possibility that the Seventy-Eighth Congress might have the historic privilege of helping greatly to save the world from future fear. This prompted a newspaperman to ask the President whether he meant to convey that the war would end in 1944.

Mr. Roosevelt said that he was expressing a hope and that he was unable to define his use of the word "possibility" beyond that.

President Roosevelt's speech, declaring that the defensive phase of warfare in the Pacific was ending, has been warmly applauded by the United Nations.



EIGHT counts appear in the indictment against the Anacosta Wire and Cable Co., which is charged with conspiracy to defraud the government over contracts totalling £1,835,520 (5,506,000 dols.).

One complaint of defective war material came from Russia.

"This appears to be a reprehensible case of fraud, endangering the lives of soldiers and sailors," said U.S. Attorney-General (Francis Biddle).

A RE-DEFINITION of America's war-time post-war policies is the most important issue before the new Congress which is now in session. Several newspapers are urging a hard-headed business approach to world problems to prevent the United States being saddled with a burdensome war debt which would provoke internal troubles.

"The people are convinced," says the Washington Star, "that they were defrauded by friends, Allies and enemies in the last war, and are in no mood to repeat the performance."

American Edition Of "Guinea Gold"

COMMENCING tomorrow, a special American edition of "Guinea Gold" will be published daily. This will contain a complete page of news for U.S. personnel.

The Australian edition will be published as usual.

AT a rate faster than one crew a day, the United States Navy's new submarine-chaser school is turning out men who are specially trained to hunt submarines to their death.

The school is the youngest branch of the Navy. It was commissioned about the time the first new sub-chaser was commissioned. Yet its products in men and ships already have cut down the submarine menace.

AUSTRALIAN-BORN John Farrow won the New York film critics' award for the best directional job of 1942 for the film Wake Island.

German Officer Broadcasts Astounding Admissions

ONE of the most curious broadcasts yet heard by the German people from a German soldier has been transmitted by the entire German radio network.

The speaker, Colonel Braeur, was substituting for the regular commentator, General Dietmar, and his subject was the suffering of the German troops in Russia. Colonel Braeur seemed to go out of his way to paint the Germans' ordeal in the blackest possible colors.

Here are some extracts from his speech:—

"IN this second winter of the Russo-German war we face the same unspeakable hardships as in the first winter.

"We must appreciate the ordeal of the German soldier—how frost bites into his very marrow, how he fights breathless and exhausted through masses of snow and a paralyzing wind which pierces the thickest greatcoats. It paralyzes the soldier's will until he becomes apathetic, exhausted and lethargic.

"His only salvation is movement—and we cannot move in this terrible snow. There are no shelters, and soldiers pack into peasants' cottages and sleep either standing shoulder to shoulder or in shifts.

"Food freezes. Water freezes. Soldiers cannot take off their clothes.

They cannot wash, and their bodies become covered with vermin which deprive exhausted men of what little sleep they hope to get.

"Weapons freeze, paralyzing our striking power. Communications are blocked by tremendous snowfalls. Field telephones, and radio sets fail to work.

"We are facing an enemy in these conditions who is used to icy weather, and has generations of experience thereof behind him.

"We were forced last winter to adopt new strategy. We were forced out of the open into villages, but this had drawbacks because our concentrated masses made easy targets for the enemy's guns. Thus the battles deteriorated into battles for shelter."

SNOW FORTS USED BY NAZIS

AS they fell back in the Don battle, the Germans used forts made of snow, from which only heavy guns could blast them.

THEY withdrew for a few hundred yards, and immediately built new strong points. Holes were blown in the frozen earth, and walled with snow. Snow was then melted in huge boilers, and when it became warm the water was poured over the snow walls. Within a few seconds the loosely-knit snow froze into solid, remarkably resistant ice. These walls were sometimes several yards thick.

This new technique was swiftly and easily applied.

Correspondents said that tanks and infantry had been assisted by cavalry, which had forged ahead of the main armies to harry the Germans as they prepared their latest line of defence. German defences now run for hun-

dreds of miles across the steppes. Pill boxes, block houses, minefields, and barbed wire make up a so-called "hedgehog" defence system.

Strong-points are all built on a single plan. They are two-storeyed, one below and the other just above ground, with living quarters for the men below ground, and guns and machine guns at earth level. From these the Germans use flame throwers, anti-tank guns and hand grenades.

The strong-points are described as monuments to Nazi military ingenuity. They are devised so that no part of the vast terrain is beyond the defenders' vision.

Undelivered Mail

PERSONNEL named below should notify their addresses to Base Post Office so that mail awaiting them may be forwarded:—
 NX30360, Pte. O'Neill; NX100821, Pte. O'Neill; NX109732, Sgt. O'Leary; VX74629, Pte. Pearce; NX129018, Sgt. Pearce; V290389, Pte. Plum; N223222, Spr. Price; QX16900, Pte. Powell; V325618, Dvr. Pogson; NX105339, Spr. Pitstock; N49987, Sgt. Patterson; SX16947, Pte. Parsons; NX028, Pte. Pearson.

LOST & FOUND

(Unless otherwise stated, replies c/o Guinea Gold.)
 LOST.—Dark-brown wallet, between Murray Barracks and 11-Mile, contains photos, money, stamps. Reward.
 LOST.—Rain cape, branded D. G. Cole.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

BECAUSE the Newmarket and Australian Cup meeting will be held three weeks later than usual this year, nomination day for the big Autumn double has been advanced from January 19 to February 2. Melbourne owners of good horses are wondering whether the inter-State ban on racehorse travel will be any easier at Easter time. If it is, there will be a big batch of Melbourne horses available for the Sydney Cup meeting. Already the w.f.a. champion, Tranquil Star, has been entered for the Sydney Cup in the hope she will be allowed to be sent to Sydney by rail or road.

Laurie Meenan, Australia's leading rider over jumps, was injured in a fall when schooling a "new" jumper at Epsom on Thursday. X-ray revealed that a small bone in a thumb had been crushed. He will be out of the saddle for two or three months. This season he has had five wins in 13 mounts.

Last season Meenan rode 22 winners and a dead-heater from 56 mounts.

MR. H. BARTRAM, of Station Street, Fairfield, set a new Australian time gliding record when members of the Victorian Gliding Club held trials at Beveridge (Vic.) during the holidays.

Taking off at 12.48½ p.m. on Sunday, he stayed aloft until 7.53 p.m. His flight of 7 hr. 4½ min. beats the previous record of 7 hr. 2 min. established by Mr. R. Roberts on April 23, 1939.

WALTER LINDRUM, world's champion billiards player, is due in Adelaide tomorrow. He will play exhibition matches from January 16 to February 6 to raise funds for the provision of comforts, outside the range of other funds, for R.A.A.F. men in combat areas.

The expenses of the tour are being met by an Adelaide business man.

FORMER Brisbane trainer, A. G. Anderson, who has been in Sydney for some time and has won several races, has been granted a No. 1 licence by the committee of the A.J.C.

SOME COLONUS PUNTERS ARE STILL UNPAID

A NUMBER of punters who backed the Melbourne Cup winner Colonus are still "whistling" for their money. When their winnings first failed to come to light, the matter came into the hands of the V.R.C., and an official investigation began.

THIS revealed that despite attempts to raise the money to settle all unpaid Colonus wagers, there was not sufficient to meet some commitments.

It was then that a well known V.R.C. course bookmaker and layer of ante-post doubles was questioned.

Following those inquiries the V.R.C. Committee decided to remove

the name of a well known bookmaker from the list.

One of the aspects of the Colonus affair which came in for considerable attention at the V.R.C. inquiry was the venue of the wagers.

When the V.R.C. decided that the bets involved were made "off the course" all hope of collecting by the backers disappeared.

ALLIES HAMMER AXIS FORCES IN N. AFRICA HEAVY AIR RAIDS

THE defeat of Axis forces in the Fezzan area of Central Libya has become a rout, according to a communique from the Headquarters of General Le Clerc. The communique states that Fighting French forces, in continuation of their advance from the Lake Chad area, have captured Brach, 370 miles south of Tripoli.

SINCE they began the advance, Fighting French troops have covered more than 1000 miles of difficult terrain, and have fought several successful engagements.

Bombing attacks by Flying Fortresses on the harbor at Bizerta are reported in the latest Allied North African communique. Oil tanks and enemy shipping were hit. Two enemy fighters were shot down by the bombers, and four others by the escorting fighters.

In the southern area, medium bombers raided the railway between Sfax and Gabes and also attacked Kairouan. Allied planes shot down four enemy planes in this area. Six Allied planes were lost in all operations.

Bombers of the Middle East Command have also been active over Tunisia. On Thursday night they attacked targets near Tunis and Sfax, and raided Tunis again in daylight on Friday.

French headquarters in Tunisia report that French forces have thrown back another German counter-attack north-east of Pichon, and that on the Saharan front they have captured two points near the border of Tunisia and Tripolitania.

Allied planes are keeping up their attacks on enemy transport moving west along the coast of Tripoli, but the latest Cairo communique reports no engagement between the Eighth Army and the enemy's land forces.

ENLISTED AT 15

WHEN he was only 15, Tom Dunbar ran away from his home in Malabar and enlisted, writing to his mother about it when he was on his way to Singapore. He served in the Malayan campaign and escaped with nine others in a motor launch.

While he was being carried on a stretcher from a ship at Colombo, he saw soldiers wearing the same color patches as his father's. He asked if they knew his father and turned to find his father at his side. As a result, his age was disclosed and he was sent home.

MATRON-IN-CHIEF RETIRES

AFTER 30 years' experience in the Australian Army Nursing Service, Matron-in-Chief Jane Sinclair-Wood has retired.

She served in Egypt, France and England in the last war.

Present-day nurses are just as good and have to undergo greater trials than we did," she said. "They don't know what it is to be nervous."

Colonel A. M. Sage, Matron-in-Chief of A.I.F. nurses overseas, succeeds her.

OPPOSED NAZIS—GAOLED!

VICHY radio announces that General De Tassigny, the French General who tried to oppose the German invasion of Unoccupied France, has been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

General De Tassigny fought in the Battle of France and was French Commander-in-Chief in Tunisia for some time after the armistice.

LAE BLASTED FROM AIR BY BOMBERS & BEAUFIGHTERS

MITCHELL bombers (B25's) dropped 23,000lbs. of bombs on enemy installations at Lae yesterday. Explosions and fires were seen among buildings.

BEAUFIGHTERS followed the Mitchells in and strafed the town area and aerodrome. At least one enemy aircraft was seen burning on the ground after the attack.

Beaufighters also strafed along the coastal area from the Mambare River to Salamaua.

An Allied armed reconnaissance plane was intercepted by six Zeros south of New Britain. It shot down one of them, and probably destroyed a second.

Increased Tempo In Burma

ALLIED troops are in contact with the enemy on both sides of the Magu River in the Arakan district of Western Burma.

A New Delhi communique reports occasional encounters in the last two days. British bombers and fighters attacked targets in Rathedaung on Friday, concentrating on motor transport on the Matika Road. They also attacked Akyab on the Bay of Bengal. All planes returned.

Tokio radio says that the puppet government at Nanking has declared war on Britain and the United States.

It is not considered likely that this government will be able to give much assistance to the Axis, but the lives of thousands of Britons and Americans living in the territory probably will be affected.

AIRLINES OF AUSTRALIA LTD. have agreed to a merger with Australian National Airways Pty. Ltd. Airlines of Australia operate services north of Sydney, while A.N.A. operate services elsewhere in Australia.

REPATRIATION INCREASE "INADEQUATE"

THE Joint Parliamentary Committee on Repatriation has recommended an all-round increase of 20 per cent. in pensions for veterans and dependants of this and the last war.

This is regarded by returned men as inadequate. Saying it should be doubled, Mr. George Holland, Victorian R.S.L. President, said that Army payments and dependants' allowances had increased 40 per cent. since the last war, and pensions should rise with the rates of pay of the soldiers and allowances of dependants. There had been no increase since 1920 when the present rates were fixed. The proposed increase seemed a compromise.

Other branches of the Returned Soldiers' League have also considered the proposal, and several have adopted resolutions calling for a more generous scale of payments.

SOLDIERS GAOLED FOR ASSAULT ON PROVOST

AT a district court-martial at Newcastle, Private George Monaghan (40), was sentenced to two years' gaol for having assaulted a military provost sergeant at Newcastle races on November 14.

Private Allan Sydney Walden (20), who appeared on a similar charge, was sentenced to 18 months' hard labor.

Famine Conditions In China Province

A United Press message says that famine conditions in the Honan Province are growing worse. Families are exchanging girls for millet or wheat flour. Some people are eating grass and tree bark.

CLOTHES RATIONING EXPOSES FEMALE KNEES

SLIM women 5ft. 5in. to 5ft. 8in. in height are being forced by Australian clothing regulations to wear short skirts, and, in some cases, to show their knees whether they want to or not.

Under the regulations, length of a frock is determined by the bust measurement of the wearer.

Women over 5ft. 8in. are classed as abnormal in height, and are allowed extra length dresses.

But a woman of 5ft. 7in. and a 32in. bust is not entitled to a skirt more than 27in. long or a dress more than 42in. overall length.

A Clothing Council member said recently the regulations allowed

Food Shortage In Germany

TWELVE Australian women and one New Zealander, who have returned to Australia after being interned in Germany, have described the extreme shortage of food in both Germany and France.

Mrs. Lanigan O'Keefe said that, although the food position in France was desperate, the French welcome! the R.A.F. bombings because of the shocks they gave the Germans. Even those who had been luke-warm were now pro-British.

Taking France's food had been the Germans' biggest mistake. French people talked now about only two things—food and politics. They hated Vichy Premier Pierre Laval like poison, had been puzzled by Admiral Darlan, and had mixed feelings about Marshal Petain.

Mrs. Isobel Wilshire, of Sydney, who was interned in Germany with 350 other British women, said they got enough to eat, but only enough. She was a passenger in the Port Hobart when it was sunk by the Admiral Scheer. The passengers were transferred to five different vessels before being landed 119 days later.

Miss Kathleen Libbe, of Sydney, was allowed to live on a farm because of illness.

After six months of war, she said, the Germans had as rations only potatoes, skimmed milk, and three quarters of a pound of meat a week.

Overworked Women In Factory Accidents

ACCIDENTS to adult women in factories in Britain are now

three times greater than in 1940, according to a report on the health and welfare of women war workers.

The report, which recommended more safety measures in factories and the introduction of a five-day week for all women, revealed that many married women were working 15 hours daily in war factories, plus household duties. Furthermore, many factories were not allowing sufficient time for meals. Consequently the girls had to "bolt their food" or eat snacks at the work benches.

frocks an inch longer than an American schedule on which they were based, so they should satisfy Australian women.

A city dressmaker complained, however, that the regulations often forced her to make a dress too short for a client, and then give the client back a few inches of material that was of no use to her.

"The problem of the exposed knees may require Government attention."