

NEWS AND NOTES

MEREBIN GUESSING COMPETITION.

The winner of the guessing competition conducted at Merebin during one of the committee's local dances was R. Wallis, ticket No. 678.

KATANNING RED CROSS.

The President of the Katanning Branch Red Cross (Mrs. E. C. Pope) reports the donation of £5 from the scholars of the Katanning State School towards the Convalescent Home bed fund, also seven patchwork knee rugs from individual pupils of Standards V. and VI. These efforts by the school are greatly appreciated by members of the Red Cross Committee.

COMPANIES ACT.

A Joint Select Committee having been appointed to enquire into the Companies' Act and bring it up-to-date, Messrs. A. Thomson, M.L.C., and A. F. Watts, M.L.A., who were elected to the committee, will be in Perth on that particular business during the week, although Parliament itself went into recess last Thursday. The present legislation is based on a British Act of 1867 and has not been amended to any great extent since being adopted by the Western Australian legislature in 1899.

DECIDED TO STAY?

A Nazi pilot recently shot down in England had apparently a high regard for the prowess of the R.A.F. before he left Germany. Upon capture, he extracted from the remains of his Heinkel, a case with all the necessities for a holiday, including a bottle of hair oil and a winter overcoat. He admitted that he had taken off for the raid expecting, and prepared for, the worst.

BROOMEHILL FETE AND CHRISTMAS TREE.

Families of Broomehill and district are cordially invited to the Christmas Tree and Entertainment to be held in the Broomehill Town Hall on Friday, December 20, at 7.30 p.m. Meet

the Broomehill Town Hall on Friday, December 20, at 7.30 p.m. Meet Father Christmas who is to arrive by car.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' BILL.

The Medical Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly by Mr. Seward (C.P., iPngelly) and sponsored by Mr. Thomson in the Council Chamber, was passed by Parliament last week just prior to the adjournment. The Bill is designed to meet the shortage of doctors in country districts. It authorises the proclamation as "regions" of areas held not to be adequately provided with medical or surgical services, and the issue of regional certificates of registration to persons who have passed the regular course of medical study in places other than Australia. These certificates have a life of one year only, and must be renewed annually. The legislation is designed to facilitate the registration of suitable refugee doctors for work in country areas now not catered for medically.

KATANNING PICTURES.

Tonight's attractions at the Town Hall include Tom Walls and Eva Moore in "Old Iron," supported by Richard Arien and Beverly Roberts in "Call of the Yukon." Short features complete the programme. The offering for Friday and Saturday evenings (only) is "Raffles," starring David Niven and Olivia de Havilland, and "The Gang's all Here," with Jack Buchanan, and Edward Everett Horton in the leading roles. A Disney cartoon entitled "Beach Picnic" and Universal news balance the programme. For Wednesday of next week John Howard and Heather Nagel will be seen in an absorbing crime-thriller, "Bulldog Drummond's Bride," plus Dennis Morgan and John Payne in "Tear Gas Squad."

MAIN ROADS WORK.

The report of the Commissioner of Main Roads (Mr. E. W. Tindale) for the year ended June 30 last was presented to the Legislative Assembly last week. This revealed that receipts from Federal aid road funds (petrol money) were £844,824. The gross expenditure on permanent works, maintenance and other works connected with transport and on defence and military work during the year was £1,100,632, compared with £1,094,125

military work during the year was £1,100,638, compared with £1,094,125 in the previous year. Of the total, £85,135 was spent on defence and military works and £95,505 on developmental roads. The expenditure from loan funds was £210,984 in 1939-40, as against £126,483 in 1938-39.

During the year 31 bridges and larger culverts were constructed, 19 of these being built entirely of timber and 12 were of masonry and timber. A total length of 259 miles of roadway had received bituminous treatment during the year. The report stated that funds on a 50/50 basis with local authorities were allocated for improvements to existing aerodromes and construction of new ones approved by the Civil Aviation Board.

EARTH TREMOR AT ALBANY

A severe earth tremor was experienced in the Albany district at 3.55 a.m. on Saturday. This followed a loud noise resembling an artillery burst and many dwellings were so rattled as to awaken the occupants. Residents on the northern slope of Mt. Adelaide state that the shock was particularly severe in that locality. A dairyman on the Robinson estate on the western foreshore of the harbour said he was dressing when the tremor took place. It appeared to come from the western sea coast and travel east over the main portion of the town. The morning was calm, with an overcast sky.

AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE TRAINING.

The largest movement of R.A.A.F. personnel in the history of the Commonwealth began on Saturday, according to a statement by the Department of Air in Melbourne. The transfers included the call-up of air crew reservists from all parts of Australia to initial training schools at Somers, via Bradford Park New South Wales, Victor Harbour, South Australia, and Pearce, Western Australia. Between Saturday and next Thursday trainees will pass out of 18 units and pupils will be taken into 20 schools, and pilot, air-observer, and wireless air-gunner trainees will advance from seven different types of preliminary schools to more advanced courses.

CANTEEN ORDERS FOR FORCES

Canteen orders issued by the Australian Defence Canteens Service can

now be negotiated at all canteens operated by the Navy, Army and Air Force, Institute in the British Isles, Adon, Egypt, Gibraltar, Malta, Palestine, Takoradi, Gold Coast, Faroe Islands, Iraq, Ceylon, Sierra, Leone, Hong Kong, Sudan, Naironi, Singapore and Iceland. These orders purchased in Australia, may be used by members of the R.A.A.F. or A.I.F. at the British canteens in these places as well as in the Australian canteens.