

## PENZANCE BRITISH LEGION.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. Quick, Gulval, presided over a large attendance on Monday evening at the Ivy Leaf Club.

The meeting was called primarily to elect new officers, etc.

Col. Harvey, D.S.O., was re-elected president ; vice-presidents, Capt. Venning, Major Wilson, R.A.M.C., Col. T. H. Cornish, Capt. Latham, Capt. *Barrie* Bennetts, Capt. D. S. Motton, Qrms.-Lieut. W. H. Bartlett, Rev. F. R. Carr, Rev. Vernon Shaw. Capt. Simpson was re-elected chairman ; treasurer, Capt. W. J. Edwards ; hon. sec., Mr. J. I. Roberts ; assistant sec., Mr. J. Kenna.

The Chairman said he regretted to receive the resignation of the hon. treasurer (Mr. P. P. Blewett). He had been their treasurer from almost the *beginning* of the club's existence and had done his utmost to place it on a sound financial basis. He was undoubtedly the right man in the right place, and the club regretted his loss.

Mr. P. P. Blewett, replying, said it had been a pleasure to him to serve the club as treasurer, but his time was extremely limited, therefore he thought now the club was in a flourishing condition, the honour might well be transferred to someone else. He was not resigning from the club. He would be still only too pleased to serve the club in any capacity. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his services.

The Hon. Secretary reported that they commenced the year with 32 members. They had now 367 on their books, and 14 had joined since the 1st of January. He hoped that by the end of the year they would have 500 members. They had provided a new billiard table, and they all agreed that there was no finer table in Penzance. Many people still asked him what has the Legion done. He would take this opportunity of enumerating a few things it had accomplished.

1.-Advocated and obtained in innumerable instances preference of employment for ex-service men.

2.-Procured the concession that on relief schemes financed by the Government Unemployment Grants Committee at least 75 per cent. of the men employed shall be ex-service men.

3.-Obtained employment for no fewer than 6,500 men.

4.-By financing its Employment Schemes has found employment for a further 2,000 men.

5.-Assisted 100,000 ex-service men, widows, and dependants with pensions difficulties.

6.-Registered 69 per cent. successes in pensions cases taken before the Appeals Tribunal.

7.-Assisted 350,000 ex-service men of all ranks through its relief fund.

8.-Established 1,000 ex-service men in their own business.

9.-Obtained representation on all Government Committees dealing with questions affecting ex-service men.

10.-Obtained the concession that pensions should be stabilised for 3 years.

11.-Obtained the concession that the Ministry of Pensions should be maintained.

He regretted to report that they had several members still out of employment, but they had been able to get work for several men, and he hoped he would be able to place some of the others in employment shortly. He urged every ex-service man to join the British Legion and so give additional power to those who are out to look after their interests. He was certain that ex-service men were as good citizens as they were soldiers, and gave of their best, whether to employer, municipality or country.

*Transcribed from The Cornishman, 7<sup>th</sup> February 1923  
Some printing errors have been amended (marked with italics)*