



Private Charles Leonard Hughes, son of the Prime Minister, and a former student of the Melbourne Grammar School, has sailed for the front.

Corporal Harold H. B. Skewes, one of the founders of the Coburg (Vic.) Harriers, 21 years ago, and Corporal Harold Lomas, another Coburg runner, have been killed in action.

Capt. Eric Darling, hon. secretary of the Riversdale (Vic.) Golf Club, who won the Military Cross in France twelve months ago, has been seriously wounded in the recent big offensive in France, necessitating the amputation of one of his legs below the knee.

Private Andrew Wallace Maxwell, 46th Battalion, was recently awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. He was well-known in Daylesford and the Western district as an expert axeman. He enlisted at 22, and was in the Pozieres and Bullecourt battles, being wounded in each.

Lieut. Richard Cornish, D.C.M., formerly of Ballarat (Vic.) has died of wounds in the recent fighting in France. Enlisting in October, 1915, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in France. He was a well-known amateur boxer and wrestler.

Sergt. R. Vicars-Foote, second son of Major R. Vicars-Foot, general manager of the Bank of Victoria in Geelong, was killed in action in France last month. He was a good cricketer and footballer. Enlisting in 1914, he was torpedoed on the Southland, was wounded and buried by an explosive shell in Gallipoli, was wounded once more in France, and was in hospital on more than one occasion with trench feet.

The Pellews, of South Australia, are noted for prowess on the fields of sport. The name has been prominent for many years in representative cricket and football. Captain C. E. Pellew, the brilliant young cricketer, whom we saw in the flannels against New South Wales in the last Sheffield Shield matches, is doing fine work in France. He has made a name as soldier, on the authority of fighting men on the spot. He was distinguished as an all-round athlete, but there are others.

At the St. Peter's College annual athletic games the other day the College Cup was won by L. V. Pellew, with 21 points, his brother E. L., being next with 13. The winner was first in five events: 100yds in 10 2-5, 220yds flat 23 1-5, 120yds hurdles, 16 1-5, running broad jump 20ft 1 1/2 in., and running high jump—a kind of C. B. Fry performance. The four first

1 1/2 in., and running high jump—a kind of C. B. Fry performance. The four first mentioned were good performances, & the times are beyond question.

Visitors to Sydney in connection with the Premiers' Conference include Mr. Harry Blinman, the South Australia cricketer contemporary, with George Giffen, Jack Lyons, Ernest Jones and Joe Darling. He is now Chief Secretary of South Australia. Mr. Blinman was a very steady, dependable rungetter of the good-at-the-pinch type, a most excellent fieldsman, and one of the best sportsmen. New South Wales cricketers have met on the field in the last thirty years.

Flanders is the tomb of the gallant ones of Australia as well as the horde of Bosches. The killed and wounded lists coming through show sportsmen being still hit hard, but the battle scars and graves are glorious things in such a cause. The latest to fall is Percy White, the flying Eastern Suburbs forward, who blossomed with the Rugby Union and attained his full development in the Rugby League team. Like club mates Harold George, Robert Tidyman, Harold Corbett, Fred Thompson, Jack D'Alpuget, Doss Wallach, John Stuntz, Tom Bruce, B. Fitzpatrick and others he has fallen with his face to the foe. He was as hard as nails, playing year after year with little in the shape of injury to keep him from the fray. Further reference to his qualities as player and his career is made on page nine.

Mr. Spencer Cornford (Early Bird), one of the first turf writers on the Referee in the early eighties, and for many years afterwards associated with the Sun in Sydney, died last week. The Sunday Times was started a few years before The Referee was first produced, and Cornsey, as he was popularly known, did the callopa. When the late Mr. Edward Ellis, assisted by John Woodhill who was sub-editor, started the Referee Early Bird joined the turf staff, and after a while became turf editor. He and Nat Gould were the principal turf writers for some few years. Early Bird then joined the Star, now the Sun, and Veras went to England to give his whole attention to his novels. Mr. Cornford looked remarkably young for his years, for he was 66.

Sergeant-Major William Keith Willis, who died of wounds, in France, on April 21, was the younger son of the well-known sporting Pressman, Mr. Tom Willis (Milroy, of the Sydney Mail), and brother of Mr. Norman Willis (Wolaroi of the Referee). The deceased soldier was a fine stamp of Australian, 6ft 3in tall, and a splendid athlete. He played a lot of football in the country districts, representing the Robertson and Denman Clubs for some seasons. While in Sydney he played with the Randwick Presbyterian Club, one of the best combinations in the junior ranks. He was a prominent member of the Clovelly Life Saving Club, and also made a name as a boxer, being successful in several competitions both here and at the front.

boxer, being successful in several competitions both here and at the front. Although only 24 years old, Sergeant-Major Willis had seen nearly three years active service, and his last letter, received here on the same day as the news of his death, contained the intimation that he had been recommended for a commission. A few months ago Sergeant-Major Willis was married to Miss Evelyn Dand, daughter of an English Treasury official.