



Lieut. Edgar Layton Bean



Played with Adelaide University



Cricket Club: 1912/13 - 1913/14

**Degrees: BA (1913 Adelaide), BA (1919 Oxon), MA (1922 Oxon)
& LLB (1922 Adelaide)**

Background

Coinciding with the Centenary of Anzacs our incentive behind the series of biographical publications is the Adelaide University Football and Cricket Club's desire to honour our players who served in the Great War (1914 - 1918). These brave men put on hold their academic, professional and sporting careers for King and Country in the name of peace and freedom. The AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee is endeavouring to identify every one of our players who served and prepare life stories on all. This is to ensure their sacrifices and further contributions to society will be recognised by future generations.

On Anzac Day 2015, the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the Adelaide University Oval Pavilion and this was followed by the erection of a picket fence between the pavilion and the scoreboard with each picket bearing a plaque with the name of an AUFC/AUCC player who served.

The following documentation relates to the life of Edgar Layton Bean. It is compilation of information and photographs collected from a variety of historical sources.

Published Biography – Australian Dictionary of Biography

Sir Edgar Layton Bean (1893-1977), parliamentary draftsman, was born on 15 October 1893 at Moonee Ponds, Melbourne, son of George Alfred Bean, accountant, and his wife Amelia Florence, née Davey, both Victorian born. Educated at Scotch College, Perth (1906-10), Ted enrolled at the University of Adelaide (B.A., 1913) where he had a brilliant career: he won the Barr Smith prize for Greek (1911) and a David Murray scholarship (1913). Having obtained through the university a free passage to travel to England, in 1914 he entered Merton College, Oxford, to read classics (B.A., 1919; M.A., 1922). World War I interrupted his studies: he enlisted in the British Army in August 1915, served in France with the Royal Field Artillery and was wounded in action.

After the war Bean returned to Adelaide. In 1920 he joined the Crown Solicitor's Department as a clerk and began a degree in law at his old university (LL.B., 1922); he was admitted to the South Australian Bar on 21 April 1923. From 1922 he had been an associate of Justice Poole of the Supreme Court of South Australia. On 8 April 1926 at Chalmers Congregational Church, Adelaide, Bean married Constance Mary Greenlees. Appointed that year as the State's parliamentary draftsman, he was to hold the post until 1959 and to frame some 1500 bills.

Although he was reputedly South Australia's finest parliamentary draftsman and possibly the best in the country, his greatest achievement was in editing, with J. P. Cartledge, the nine volumes of *The Public General Acts of South Australia, 1837-1936* (1937-40). Bean was appointed C.M.G. in 1937. In addition to being a member of the South Australian Government Superannuation Fund Board (1928-62) and of the State Public Service Board (1942-51), he chaired the local government commission (1930-34), the Insurance Premiums Committee, the education inquiry committee (1942-49) and the Teachers' Salaries Board (1946-64); he was also a director of Southern Television Corporation Ltd (1960-70) and of News Ltd. A member of the board (1960-71) of the Minda Home for Weak-Minded Children, he had become involved when his eldest son John went to live there.

On 25 March 1942 Bean was mobilized in the Australian Military Forces; promoted lieutenant in July, he served in the 3rd Battalion of the Volunteer Defence Corps before resigning in November 1944. He was knighted in 1955. Few people knew him intimately. Shy, well organized and neatly dressed, he was regarded as a 'workaholic'. Gilbert Seaman thought that Bean had the best and the clearest brain of all of his colleagues: 'he was not a harsh realist . . . he had the personal touch'. As (Sir) Thomas Playford's unofficial 'right-hand man', Bean exercised an extraordinary influence on the premier and was one of the few who were with Playford throughout his political career. They talked issues over and went fishing together; because Playford was largely self-educated, their friendship resembled that of pupil and teacher, with Playford the pupil.

Bean liked reading and walking. He belonged to the Pickwick, the Adelaide, and the Naval, Military and Air Force clubs, and joined the Eucalypts, an exclusive club of twelve members whose objectives were to promote truth, good fellowship, brotherly love and wisdom. The group met monthly in one another's homes for a ceremonious pipe and coffee, and to hear and discuss papers about literature, history or philosophy. Those read by Bean show his liberal ideals. Survived by his wife and two sons, Sir Edgar died at Leabrook on 28 July 1977 and was cremated.

Citation details

Patricia Sumerling, 'Bean, Sir Edgar Layton (1893–1977)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/bean-sir-edgar-layton-9459/text16637>, published first in hardcopy 1993, accessed online 7 May 2018.

This article was first published in hardcopy in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 13, (MUP), 1993



Summary

[General description] Head and upper body portrait of the Mr Edgar Layton Bean contrasted against a dark background. He had a brilliant career as a public servant, was a close confidant of Sir Thomas Playford and was knighted in 1955. [On back of photograph] 'Mr Edgar Layton Bean: Parliamentary Draftsman / Photograph taken in 1926' [Newspaper article on back of photograph] 'One of the most brilliant and valuable officers of the Public Service, the Parliamentary Draughtsman (Mr. E.L. Bean) will be credited throughout the service and the legal profession with having richly deserved the C.M.G. which has been conferred upon him. Apart from his purely legal and Parliamentary work, he has been of great service to the Government in connection with a number of matters of importance. He is a member of the permanent advisory committee appointed to keep the government informed on the working of the Road Traffic Act, and the chairman of the statutory committee responsible for the fixation of rates under the compulsory third party insurance of motor vehicles. He has been in charge of a three year task of consolidating the laws of the State, and condensing and simplifying them for publication in nine volumes, the first of which are now coming off the presses. Mr . Bean was deputy chairman of the committee which drafted the Road Traffic Bill, chairman of a committee which drafted the uniform taxation law for all States and a member of the first committee which formulated schemes for farmer's relief. For three years he was chairman of the Local Government Commission which revised the whole of the local government areas of the State. He was born in Melbourne 44 years ago. However he received his early education at Scotch College, Claremont, Western Australia. Subsequently he came to Adelaide and studied at the Adelaide University. He graduated with first class honours in classics. He went to England in 1914 to continue his studies and, on the outbreak of war he joined the British Expeditionary Force. He was three years in the front line with a trench mortar battery and was wounded in 1918. After the Armistice, he graduated B.A. in 1919 in London and took his M.A. two years later. Returning to Adelaide he took his L.L.B. degree in 1922. He entered the Crown Law Department in 1919 and was appointed Parliamentary Draughtsman in 1926'.

Additional Biography

Early Life

Edgar Layton (Ted) Bean was born 15th October 1893 at Moonee Ponds, Victoria, the son of George Alfred Bean and Amelia Florence Bean nee Davey. Ted's father was an accountant with the Lands Department and a well known cricketer.

Ted's siblings were Alan Reid Bean (born 1895, Essendon, Victoria) and Hilda Florence Bean (born 1897, Adelaide, Victoria).

By late 1903 the family had moved to Kalgoorlie, WA where George was briefly in the firm Bean and Shaw, he later commenced working for Dalgetys.

Education

Ted was educated at Kalgoorlie Central School from at least 1904. He was third in Standard VI in 1904 and passed his Primary Examinations in September 1905.

Ted was at Scotch College, Perth from 1906 to 1910. He passed his Junior Examinations in 1906, Senior Examinations in 1907 and Higher Public Examinations in 1909. He topped the list of candidates for the Higher Public Examinations and won a number of scholarships to assist him in studying at Adelaide University.

Master E. L. Bean, son of George Bean, of Dalgety's, Kalgoorlie, is apparently gifted with talents somewhat above those possessed by the ordinary youth. He is a pupil of the Scotch College, Claremont, and he has just succeeded in winning a £450 scholarship given by the Western Australian Government and tenable at any university in the British Empire. It is equivalent to three years free university tuition, the value being set down at £150 per year. He has also qualified for the Hartly Studentship of £130 per year for

three years at the Adelaide University. Master Bean has been consistent in his school progress, and he is not a novice in the matter of scholarships. In 1908, he won a £200 secondary school scholarship, and was top out of 864 candidates who entered for the Junior Public in South and Western Australia. He also in that year won the W.A. Government prize of £15 and a £10 prize given by the Adelaide University. In 1909, in the School Public Examinations, he topped the list against 621 other candidates from South and Western Australia.

In January 1911 he played cricket for Municipals against the Bohemians in a match in Kalgoorlie, playing alongside his father.

University

Ted studied a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Adelaide, graduating BA (Hons) in 1913. Ted won the Barr Smith prize for Greek (1911) and a David Murray scholarship (1913). He was granted free passage to England from the University of Adelaide in 1914 and entered Merton College, Oxford to read classics, graduating BA in 1919 and MA (in absentia) in 1922. After returning from Europe after World War 1, he studied Law at the University of Adelaide, graduating LLB in 1922.

Adelaide University Sport

Cricket

Ted had cricket in his blood. His father George and Uncle Ernie were prominent cricketers with the North Melbourne Cricket Club. Uncle Ernie played first class cricket for Victoria and later became a long serving administrator and Australian Test Selector. Despite the cricket heritage, Ted however did inherit his uncle's skills and only managed to play B grade cricket for the Adelaide University Cricket Club during the 1912/13 and 1913/14 seasons. He did manage to play a match or two along-side his brother Alan. In the match in January 1913 against Sturt, where the team was soundly beaten, he was involved in a run-out with his brother in the 2nd innings.

The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954)	
Sat 4 Jan 1913	
B GRADE.	
STURT V. UNIVERSITY.	
UNIVERSITY.	
Caust, c. Moffatt, b. Sharp	0
Stevens, run out	0
Richards, b. Sharp	4
Tuncke, c. Moffatt, b. Sharp	28
Wilton, run out	4
Fornachon, b. Barrett	9
E. Bean, b. Barrett	7
Bean, b. Barrett	0
McGee, c. Moffatt, b. Swann	1
Moore, not out	9
Black, b. Swann	2
Sundries	10
Total	74

The Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1923)	
Mon 13 Jan 1913 / Page 2 / CRICKET	
UNIVERSITY V. STURT.	
University	74
STURT.	
First innings	213
UNIVERSITY	
—Second Innings.—	
Caust, b. Barrett	0
Stevens, b. Barrett	7
Wilson, b. Barrett	0
Richards, l.b.w., b. Barrett	50
Timcke, c. Bailey, b. Barrett	2
Moore, l.b.w., b. Swann	0
Fornachon, b. James	5
E. Bean, b. Gray	19
A. Bean, run out	7
McGee, b. Barrett	0
Black, not out	4
Extras	12
Total	100
—Bowling.—	
Barrett, 5 for 13.	
Swann, 2 for 13.	
James, 1 for 11.	
Gray, 1 for 11.	

World War I

While in England, Ted joined the 47th (London) Division of the Royal Field Artillery (a British trench mortar battery) in 1915 and served in France where he was wounded in action. Initially having the rank of Corporal, he served for four years and later received a promotion to the rank of Lieutenant.

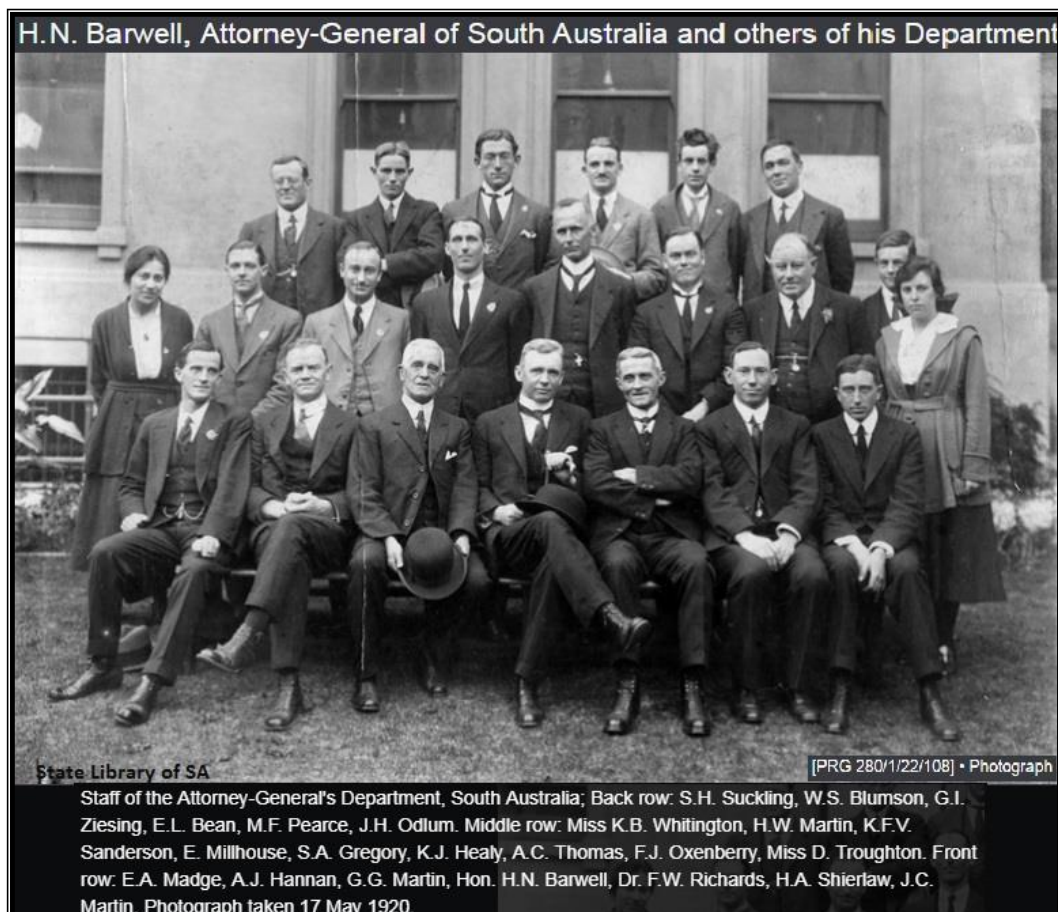
Oxford University Roll of Service WW1

76	MERTON COLLEGE
1918	Bates, R. B. (Aug. 19, 1914). Lce.-Sgt. 7th Bn. A.I.F. Suez Canal, 1915, 1916; Gallipoli, 1915; France, from 1916. M.M., Oct. 27, 1915; Bar, Dec. 16, 1916.
1898	Baxendale, J. F. N. (Mobilized Aug. 1914). Lt.-Col. Hampshire Yeomanry. France. D. France, 1917.
1919	Baynes, T. A. H. (Jan. 29, 1916). Lt. 7th Divl. Signal Coy., R.E. France, 1916-17. Italy, 1917-19.
1906	Baynham, A. G., B.A. (1915). ‡Lt. M.G.C., afterwards Lt. Tank Corps. France. M.C., Jan. 1, 1918.
1914	Bean, E. L. (Aug. 4, 1915). Sergeant X/47th T.M.B., 7th London Bde., R.F.A. France, 1916-19.
1905	Beech, Rev. G., M.A. (Jan. 1, 1916). Chaplain to the Forces (4th Class).
1919	Beighton, H. (Oct. 1916). 2nd Lt. 3rd Queen's (R. W. Surrey Regt.) France, 1917.

After the war, he returned to Australia after completing his studies at Oxford. Ted's brother, Alan Reid Bean studied medicine at Adelaide University, graduating in 1917. He had then served in the Australian Army Medical Corp from February 1918 to July 1920.

Career and Family Life

In 1920, Ted joined the Crown Solicitor's Department as a clerk. He was granted Exemption from the Rule regarding article clerks to allow him to continue working as a civil servant during the period of his articles. He was twice awarded the Stow Prize for Law.



Ted was admitted to the South Australian Bar on 21st April 1923 after the completion of his law degree. He was appointed assistant Parliamentary Draftsman in July 1923.



Mr. Edgar Layton Bean, M.A., LL.B., who has filled the position of associate to Mr. Justice Poole for some time past, has been appointed assistant Parliamentary Draftsman in place of Mr. G. I. Ziesing, who resigned recently with the object of practising his profession outside the service. Mr. Bean had a brilliant academic career, and but few students have left the University with higher honours than he secured. He was born in Melbourne in 1893, and his early education was obtained at Scotch College, Claremont, Western Australia. He entered the Adelaide University in 1911 and took a first-class honours degree in classics. In 1914 he left this State for Oxford,

and, when war broke out, he enlisted and spent three strenuous years with the British Army in France, where he had a number of thrilling experiences and narrow escapes. On returning to Oxford he continued his studies, and he took his B.A. degree there in 1919. Mr. Bean then returned to Adelaide, and once again went to the Adelaide University, where he took the LL.B. course, in which he was highly successful, and achieved the rare distinction of winning two Stow prizes. He was admitted to the Bar in the early part of this year. In 1921 he received the degree in absentia of M.A. of Oxford.

Ted married Constance Mary Greenlees in on 8 April 1926 (b. 1902). The couple had two sons, John Layton Bean, was born on the 20th April 1927 and Malcolm James Layton Bean born 24 September 1931.

In 1926 he became the SA Parliamentary Draftsman a position he held until 1959, framing approximately 15,000 Bills.

Ted and Constance lived at Northumberland Street, Tusmore and later at 18 Jasper Street, Hyde Park where Ted was an active member of the Hyde Park Tennis Club.

January 1929

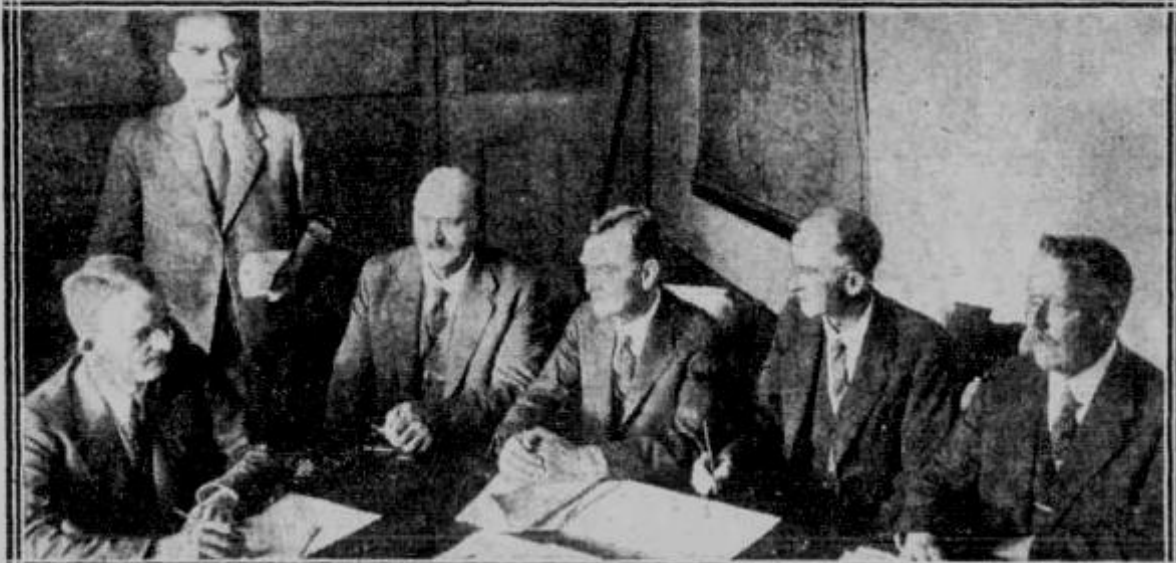


Mrs E.L.Bean

During his career he sat on numerous committees and boards including Minda Home where his son John was a resident. He also held directorships with Southern Television Corporation Ltd and News Limited. Ted's photograph appeared in the SA Newspapers regularly as a result of his many commitments.

April 1930 – Local Government Commission

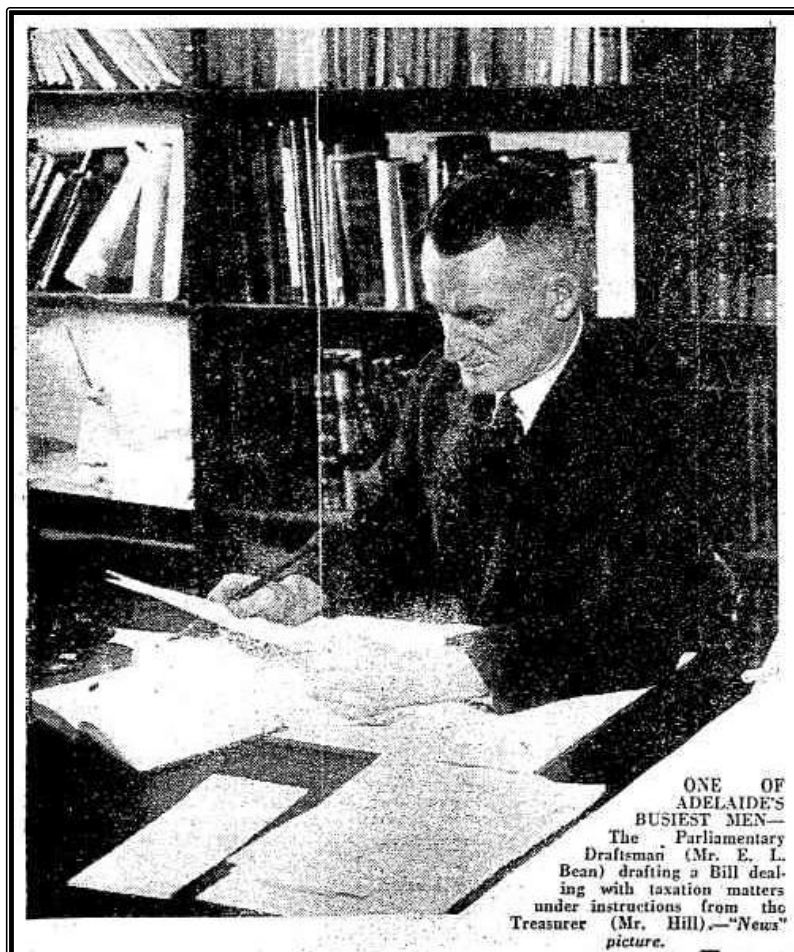
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TO MEET NEXT WEEK



The Royal Commission which was appointed on Wednesday last by the Executive Council to enquire into the re-arrangement of local governing areas held its first meeting at Parliament House on Tuesday. Members are (from left) Messrs. E. L. Bean (chairman), R. Cockburn (secretary), F. B. Wilson, S. Reeve, R. A. Gibbins, and W. E. Rogers.

E.L. Bean – Far Left

August 1932 – One of Adelaide's Busiest Men



ONE OF
ADELAIDE'S
BUSIEST MEN—
The Parliamentary
Draftsman (Mr. E. L.
Bean) drafting a Bill deal-
ing with taxation matters
under instructions from the
Treasurer (Mr. Hill).—“News”
picture.

E.L. Bean – drafting a bill dealing with taxation matters

December 1932 – With the Wheatgrowers' Representatives

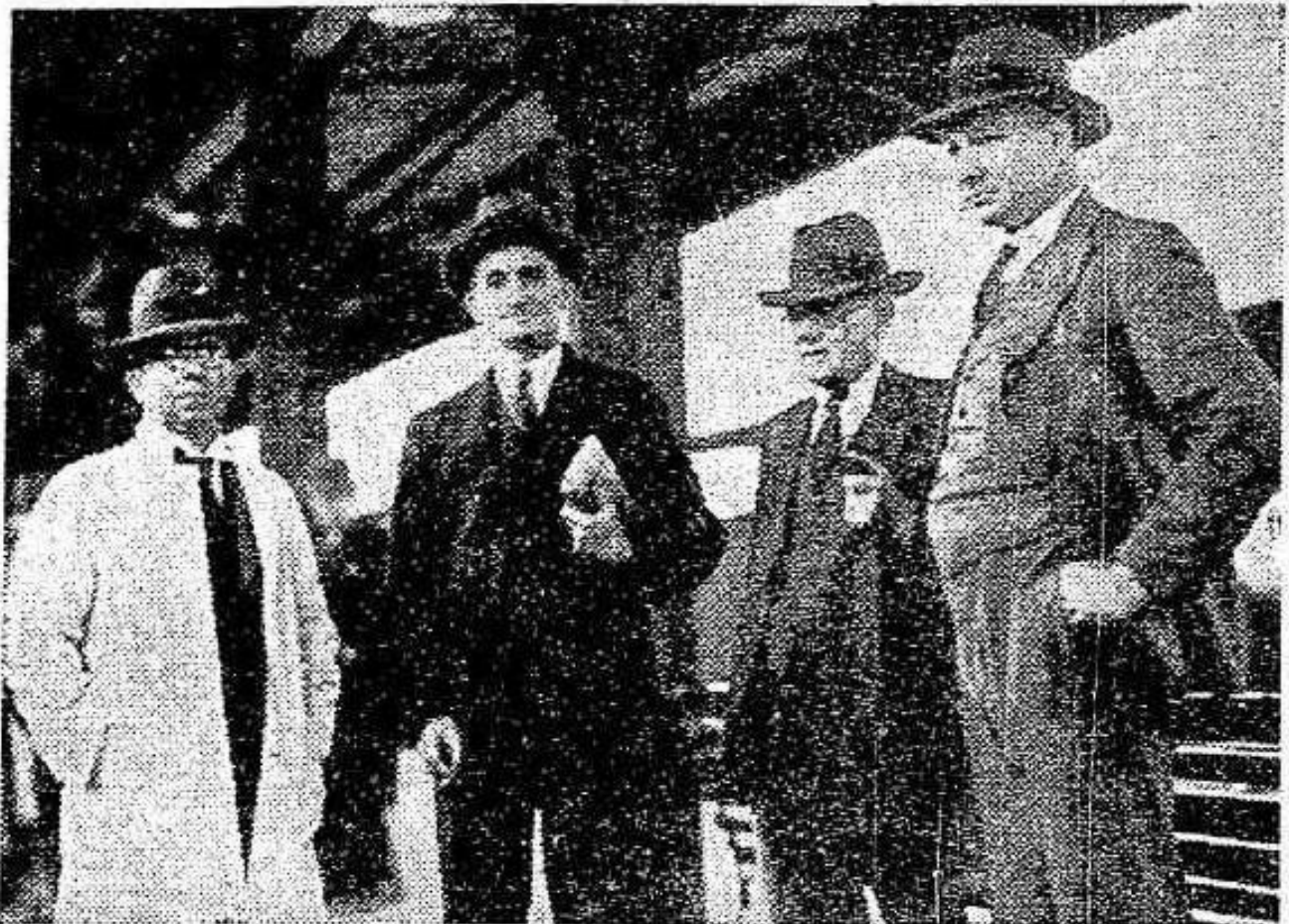


WHEATGROWERS' REPRESENTATIVES agreed with the scheme proposed by the Premier (Mr. Hill) for the allotment of 2.6 an acre to all farmers from the Federal wheat grant. At the conference (left to right):—Parliamentary Draftsman (Mr. E. L. Bean), Director of Lands (Mr. E. J. Field), Director of Agriculture (Professor A. J. Perkins), Messrs. H. J. Cadd, F. Coleman, J. Nairn, and H. G. Hawkins (representing wheatgrowers), and the Premier.

E.L. Bean – Far Left

December 1934 - Milk Bill Committee leaving for Perth

Milk Bill Committee Leaves for Perth



THE MILK BILL COMMITTEE left for Perth today to examine the working of similar legislation which has been operating there. From Left—Messrs. C. F. Pavy, E. L. Bean (Parliamentary Draftsman), P. T. Heggaton, M.P. (chairman), and T. Playford, M.P.

E.L. Bean – Second from Left

April 1937 – Remodelled Statute Law

The public general acts of the Parliament of South Australia 1837-1936 : reprinted pursuant to the Acts Republication Act 1934, by the Attorney General of the State, S.W. Jeffries / joint editors, E.L. Bean, J.P. Cartledge



THE FIRST of nine volumes comprising the remodelled Statute Law was handed yesterday to the Attorney-General (Mr. Jeffries). From left—The publisher (Mr. H. N. Lambert), of the Law Book Company of Australasia, Mr. E. L. Bean (Parliamentary Draftsman), and his assistant (Mr. J. P. Cartledge). Messrs. Bean and Cartledge did the work, which occupied three years.

E.L. Bean – Second from Left

July 1937

Enviably Record

"STILL in the earlier stages of 'the dangerous forties,' Mr. E. L. Bean, C.M.G., M.A., LL.B., our senior vice-president, has achieved an enviable record," says the latest issue of the "Commonwealth Club Commentator," circulated at the luncheon addressed by the Premier (Mr. Butler) this week.

"Mr. Bean was president of the Modern Pickwick Club a dozen years ago," the publication continued. "He served for four years with the 47th London Division, of which three years were spent in France."

"He has taken a live interest in the Commonwealth Club, the welfare of which will be in safe hands when he assumes the presidency next year."

"Perhaps his most enduring claim to the State's gratitude is the part which, as Parliamentary Draftsman, he played as editor and contributor for the simplified and condensed books of South Australian Statutes, which have been completed after three years' work."

“Who’s Who in Australia 1938’, Xth edition, Edited by Joseph A. Alexander described Ted as follows:

BEAN, Edgar Layton, C.M.G., M.A., (Oxon.), LL.B. (Adel.), S.A., Parliamentary Draftsman since 1926: son of G. A. Bean, Melb.; b. Oct. 15, 1893, Mel.; ed. Scotch Coll., W.A., Adel. Univ. & Merton Coll., Oxford; graduated B.A. Adel., 1913, 1st class Hons. Classics; Classical Scholar, Merton Coll., 1914, B.A. (Oxon.) 1919, M.A. 1921; LL.B. Adel. 1922, twice awarded Stow Prize for Law; served in France with 47th (Lond.) Div., 1915-19; associate to Hon. Mr Justice Poole, S.A. Supreme Court, 1921-23; chrmn. Local Govt. Commsn., 1930-34; memb. S.A. Superannuation Fund Bd., 1927-37; chrmn. Insurance Premiums Cttee, 1937; editor, *S. A. Statutes*, since 1934; *publications*, *S.A. Statutes*, 1837-1936, *with Notes*; m. Apr. 8, 1926, Constance Mary, d. Wm. Jas. Greenlees, Adel., 2 s.; *recreations*, walking, reading; *clubs*, R.S.A. (Adel.); *address*, 18 Jasper St., Hyde Park, Adel., S.A.

February 1939 – Farewell Lunch for the Governor



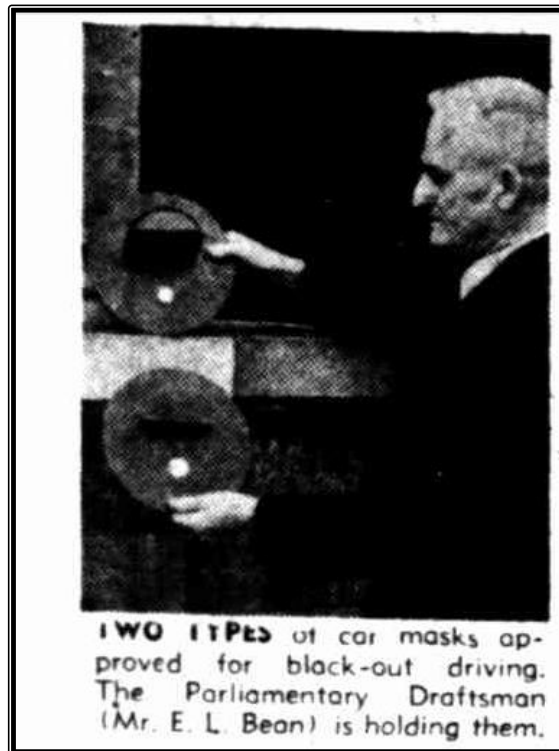
E.L. Bean Third from Left

World War II

Ted enlisted in the Australian Military Forces on 24th March 1942 and was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1942. He served with the 3rd Battalion of the Volunteer Defence Group until 6 November 1944.

Ted continued in his role as Parliamentary Draftsman throughout WWII. By that time the Bean family had moved to 128 Burnside Road, Burnside and Ted's parents appear to have been living with the family. Ted's father passed away on the 18th December 1941 and his mother passed away May 1943. They are both buried at the Mitcham General Cemetery, Old Belair Road, Mitcham.

March 1942 – Masks for Car Lights



E.L. Bean

The Mail - July 1945



Post World War II

On the 21st April 1948 Ted gathered for a reunion lunch with S.C.G. Wright, J.E. Ashton and J.L.S. Treloar to celebrate the 25th anniversary of their admission to the bar (picture below).

April 1948



E.L. Bean – Second from Right

The News -July 1949



June 1950 - Traffic Committee



E.L. Bean – Second from Left

Ted was said to have held an “extraordinary influence” over Sir Thomas Playford, SA’s longest serving Premier and was classified as his unofficial right-hand man. For his services to the State he was made a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George in 1937 and knighted in the New Year’s honours in January 1955.

Death

Edgar Layton Bean died on 28 July 1977 in Leabrook, SA, his ashes are interred at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Constance Mary Bean passed away in 1996, aged 94 years.

Legacy

John Layton Bean passed away on the 24th September 1988, aged 60.

Malcolm James Layton Bean studied dentistry at Adelaide University and gained his B.D.S. in 1954. He passed away on the 13th May 1917, aged 85 years.

Profile Compiled by: Beth Filmer (AUFC/AUCC WW1 Memorial Committee)

Sources and Acknowledgements

The AIF Project <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/>
RSL Virtual War Memorial <https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/>
The National Archives of Australia <http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/>
Australian War Memorial <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/>
The Adelaide University <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/records/archives/>
The National Library of Australia <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>
(Trove Newspaper articles tagged – Edgar Layton Bean)
SA Genealogy <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html>
Ancestry.com.au
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<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/bean-sir-edgar-layton-9459>
Department of Veterans' Affairs
<http://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au/veteran?id=729125&c=WW2>
Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide
<http://www.centennialpark.org/memorial-search/edgar-layton-bean-138591/>
"Who's Who in Australia 1938", Xth edition, Edited by Joseph A. Alexander
Rob O'Shannassy and Kym Beilby (AUFCA/AUCC WW1 Researchers)