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# NEWS IN BRIEF.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Federal War Precautions Regulations regarding boxing contests have been revoked.

There are now four vessels held up on account of disputes with the crews—the Makura, Moeraki, Manuka, and Moira.

The officers of the New South Wales Public Works Department subscribed over £9000 to various patriotic funds during the war.

Bush fires are still raging, and doing serious damage in the country districts. Settlers are strenuously fighting the flames.

The Commercial Hotel, Molong, of which Mrs. T. Homer is the licensee, was burnt out recently. The damage is estimated at £3000.

Prominent Germans, including Resch, who has been interned in his own home, and Julius Blau and his son, have been released from internment.

A wharfie was sentenced in Sydney to a month for pillaging at the wharf. He was caught with pairs of corsets bound round his legs with a belt.

The Sutherland Shire Council has decided to erect a monument in front of the council chambers in memory of local soldiers who fell at the front.

Jean Baptiste (61), a Frenchman, who

The shocking tram accident which occurred in George-street, Sydney, on Christmas Eve, resulting in the death of Hyalmar Antton Lammi (25), a returned soldier, formed the subject of an inquiry by the city coroner. Lammi was knocked down and caught beneath the car, where he lay for 25 minutes before the breakdown car arrived and released him by lifting the tram with hydraulic lifts. A missionary to the Finnish seamen in Australia, John Oscar Boljer, stated that Lammi was an engineer and a native of Finland. He returned from active service in 1917, and was killed in the eve of his 26th birthday. A finding of accidental death was recorded.

The position in regard to the export of rabbitskins is relieved by an official notification received from the British Ambassador at Washington by Senator Russell, Acting-President of the Board of Trade. It is announced that the embargo imposed by the United States upon the importation of rabbitskins from Australia has been withdrawn in respect to consignments purchased in Australia prior to May 13 last, and not shipped, that being the date when the embargo was put into force. Skins imported into Canada before July 1 will also be permitted to enter the United States. The reason for the restrictions is stated to be that America had full stocks of skins.

Industrial matters in connection with the coal mines of the State give promise of an absence of complications for the opening of the new year. The secretary of the Coal and Shale Employes' Federation (Mr. Willis) stated, as far as he knew, work would be resumed after the holidays on all the coal mines of the State. He