

PRESSURE POLITICS  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES  
(See page 4.)

# THE NEW TIMES

THE "NEW TIMES"  
IS OBTAINABLE  
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NEWSAGENTS.

Vol. 3. No. 17.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1937.

Every Friday 3d

# McGowan Confesses and Copland Owns Up



# Socialism Gives Heroes 8/- a Day



# WARNING TO UNIONS

## New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

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GROCER, W. M. Anderson, 14 Main St. WX 1233.

HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. L. Larsen, Station St., opp. Gilpin's.

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DRY CLEANING & REPAIRS "Saville," Leonard House, Eliz. St. 5th Floor

FROCKS, Coats; W., O.S.; Mod. Price. Kellehers, Block Court, 3rd Floor.

(Continued on page 3.)

# Owens Up

Two of the most amazing confessions that could be imagined have been made this month.

One of them comes from the leading industrialist of the British Commonwealth, the head of Imperial Chemical Industries, Lord McGowan, who has just returned to England after visiting Australia.

The other is from Professor Copland, economist in chief to Australian wage cutters and tax gatherers.

Both confessions cover the same conspiracy.

The Melbourne Herald of Thursday, April 15, contained the following:—

"Lord McGowan, the great British industrialist, prophesies the continued prosperity of Australia for at least two or three years, because of Britain's £1500 millions rearmament plan. A good proportion of the expenditure, he said, in an interview in London yesterday, would reach the British consumer, increasing his ability to buy Australian foodstuffs and raw materials, particularly wool, metals and dairy produce. After the period he mentioned it was impossible to foresee what would happen to Australia or anywhere else, he said."

The importance of this statement lies in its being a candid admission that:

1. Prosperity now depends upon adding heavily to the incomes, which consumers normally receive.

2. This addition to incomes must be made in such a way as not to add to the stock of goods, which are offered for sale (the people who make armaments don't buy them, but, as Lord McGowan indicated, use the money they get in this way to secure for themselves such things as clothes and butter).

3. Rearmament is a device for financial rather than for military protection, and is really aimed at an internal foe and not an external one.

*The clear inference of all this is that it is our money arrangements, and not our industries or defences, which urgently need to be overhauled and brought up to date.*

### Copland Fills Up the Vacuum

At about the same time as Lord McGowan was preparing to put his distinguished seal upon what the obscure *New Times* has been saying since its first issue, the great Professor Copland was moved to blow the gaff upon all the mysteries of finance.

Again, D. B. Copland says nothing that is original. But, coming from the Professor...

For the instruction and entertainment of its rural clients the Vacuum Oil Co. produces, and distributes gratis, a beautifully printed periodical called *Vacuum Country Journal*. And in the April pages of this something-for-nothing monthly, hedged about with illustrations of ladies' tattooed legs and seasonable hints on poultry, Professor Copland has written his confession—trying it out on the provinces, as it were. His contribution, entitled "Banking Policy and Economic Activity," is a lengthy one, and we would recommend readers to apply to the Vacuum Oil Co. for a copy of the periodical. (No need to mention our name.) Pending their being able to study it in full, we make bold to reprint the kernel of the confession.

Here it is (the italics are ours):

#### "Two Simple Facts"

"There are two simple facts about a banking system that *must be grasped* at the outset.

"First, *in making advances banks create credit, and they also create deposits* unless advances are made to one set of customers who use the proceeds to pay off previous advances extended to them. *Advances are made by trading banks to producers*, and if it be true that a net increase in advances is accompanied by a corresponding increase in deposits, why should not the process of increasing advances go on indefinitely? One reason is that *advances are debts on which interest had to be paid*

*and capital repaid, and there are not an unlimited number of projects in any country which can meet these conditions.* But the more important reason has reference to the effects of expansion of advances upon the cash reserves of the banks, and the ratio of these reserves to deposits.

"We now come to our second 'simple fact.' We do not always remember that *deposits are liabilities for a bank and that they have to be paid out from time to time.* The bank must be in a position to pay out such deposits as are demanded, and it must have cash available. Hence banks always watch the ratio of cash to deposits. If it falls the banks think their position is weak and they will decline to make advances. If it rises they feel strong and are prepared to launch out on a more expansionist policy."

#### What the Professor's Confession Means

If we put Professor Copland's "simple facts" into even simpler language, we find that he is telling us this:—

1. The trading banks (private institutions) issue nearly the whole

#### CARS AS PROSPERITY INDEX Compared with figures for the first quarter of 1936, there has been a substantial reduction in car sales this year.

Some of the new American models have been introduced later this year than in 1936, and the Government quota system has restricted sales in certain instances, but these factors do not entirely account for the falling off.

In March of last year 1549 new cars were registered, and the figures for last month were only 1371, a decrease of 178. In the first quarter of last year the registrations of new cars were 4454, and for the same period this year they were 3364, a reduction of 1090....

There has been a similar falling-off in the sale of used cars. The figures for March 1936, were 1283, and for last month 1121, a reduction of 162. The quarterly totals were: 1926, 4154; 1937, 3191; decrease, 963.—"Herald," April 19.

of what passes in modern communities for money. By making a bookkeeping loan ("advance") to client number one, they cause a deposit to be credited in their ledgers to client number two—that is, number one draws a cheque upon his overdraft, pays it to number two, who in turn lodges it to the credit of his own account.

2. Loans, when called up, can be repaid only by a similar reduction in deposits. But, as loans also bear interest, the sum total of deposits would not be sufficient to repay the sum total of loans plus interest ("there are not an unlimited number of projects in any country which can meet these conditions").

3. Although most business transactions are conducted by cheque, depositors have the right to demand "cash," or the nation's legal money (notes, silver, bronze). So the private banks creation of cheque currency is to some extent limited by their holding of legal money, or—what comes to the same thing—(a) their own deposits in the Commonwealth Bank, or (b) their credit balances in London, which latter the Commonwealth Bank will always buy from them. Once the amount of "bank cash" falls to one-tenth of deposits, the banks reach what is called the limit of apprehension (vulgarly put, they get windy for fear of a run of depositors will catch them short.)

And that is the basis of our magnificent money structure to which prosperity, progress, human happiness, and life itself must make obeisance.

#### "Advances to Producers"

Within administrative limits, you will see from the above that the private banks cannot always be blamed if our money supplies are insufficient. There is an upper limit beyond which they dare not make advances. But even if they were never short of bank cash, the community would still be short of money.

One reason has been given directly by Professor Copland—the fact that every bank advance carries its burden of interest. As only the bank, which has issued the overdraft, can issue the interest also, it is a moot point whether, if a borrower fought the case right through to the Privy Council, a bank could sustain its claim for interest, since a contract, to be valid, must surely be possible of performance. We commend this to Mr. James or any other enterprising litigant.

But, leaving interest aside, the Professor implied a graver reason when he said, "advances are made by trading banks to producers." If there is to be sufficient money in existence to enable the whole of production to be consumed, then it follows that these advances must be made in respect of all production, and to an extent equal to the retail selling prices of everything produced. If a bank advances the price of a cow, it must automatically advance the price of the calf, which the cow proceeds to bear. And if a retailer comes to his banker with invoices for goods, he must be advanced, not his cost price, but his selling price.

We know these things don't always, or even usually, happen. And so we come back to Lord McGowan and his dictum about armaments. Money shortages such as have just been indicated are made up, in part at least, by drafts of money issued to governments as national debt and expended on armaments or other forms of public works. As these public works are

not put up for sale, the money disbursed through such operations adds to consumers' effective incomes—as Lord McGowan said, "a good proportion of the expenditure would reach the British consumer, increasing his ability to buy."

#### What the Admissions Prove

This sort of discussion is technical. It is far too technical to be understood by the ordinary reader of the ordinary newspaper. And so even the startling confessions of these notable men create no furor. They don't even provoke leading articles or editorial comment—except, of course, in such obscure journals as this.

But they do show one thing quite clearly. They show that both our industrial experts and our economist experts know quite well what is wrong with things in general. And if these men know what is wrong you can bet your life that they also have more than a fair idea of how it can be righted. From which it follows that a clear and unmistakable demand upon Parliament by electors for results will speedily get results. Lord McGowan has let the cat out of the bag that he knows general prosperity requires only the giving of more money to consumers. Professor Copland has let the cat out of the bag that he knows all about how money is issued and cancelled, and likewise how and why it is in short supply. The very fact that such men are now becoming so candid is highly significant. It is almost an invitation.

There is no need, therefore, for members of Parliament to say, "But how am I going to abolish poverty?" Just as Monash conducted the brown coal of Yallourn to light and heat the households of Victoria; just as Bradfield and Dorman, Long bridged the gap between the North Shore and the city of Sydney; just as Dethridge and others distributed the wasteful waters of the Murray among thousands of orchardists and vigneron—so there are men in plenty who, if called upon, can readily distribute, without fuss or confiscation, the existing and far greater potential plenty of Australia among all its citizens.

Parliament can get this done. And Parliament will get it done just as soon as enough of us DEMAND it.

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## RUSSIA'S NEW CAPITALISM

### American Writer Claims That All the Basic Problems of Capitalism Remain Under Stalin

Max Eastman, one-time proponent of Russian Communism, rocked the newsstands of America recently with a blistering attack on the Soviet Union and the political and economic doctrines of its rulers (says *Social Justice* of March 8).

Writing in Harper's magazine, Eastman declared flatly "the experiment in Socialism in Russia is at an end" and roundly assailed American pro-Soviet writers and other defenders of the Stalin regime as "fabulous" idealists.

Eastman's remarks are significant, for he was among those who extolled Stalinism when the first of the five-year plans was instituted.

Commenting on the new Soviet Constitution, hailed by Communists as "an expression of true democracy," Eastman says "The real State under Stalin's Constitution is still to be the Communist party, now nothing but a pyramid of bureaucrats supporting Stalin, who will operate this unwieldy 'parliamentary' monster, and make it produce votes just as at the country fair a cardboard cow produces milk."

#### "Election" is Farce

"What," asks Eastman, "is the 'secret ballot' when only one party can run candidates for office, and that the party in power? What is the 'free press and assemblage' when no man can form, advocate or support the platform of any but the gang in power, and when ten to twenty thousand of those who have done so are in gaol or exile. . . . Is there any term in the American language to describe it except 'applesauce'?"

The new "democratic" constitution, contends Eastman, amounts to an abolition of workers' rule to make way for a totalitarian State similar to that of Hitler and Mussolini.

Speaking of sex and family relations under the current system, the writer adds:—

"In a country like Russia where mothers in hundreds of thousands are unable to produce, or buy, milk for their babies, and the problem of homeless children is openly acknowledged to be unsolved even in the capital, to come out with a proclamation advocating—or more accurately, decreeing—large families and wholesale human breeding, is not

only remote from Socialism, but from sane human kindness and sound reason in any of its forms. It is the madness of military nationalism in a power-clique which looks upon the masses of the population as its cattle and its cannon fodder."

#### Nation is a Prison

Russian power, the writer continues, is in the hands of "a dictator and an organisation of bureaucrats," who have made it a crime to "escape over the border," and who punish this crime by "shooting and confiscation of all property."

"Moreover, if it is a soldier who thus escapes 'abroad'—for 'abroad' and 'over the border' are the same word in Russian—the grown members of his family who knew of his intention and did not notify the police so that he could be shot before he went, get five to ten years in prison with confiscation of property, and those who did not know of it, but lived with or were supported by him at the time of his contemplated act, may be deprived of citizenship and exiled for five years to a remote region of Siberia."

Eastman charges that, despite claims to the contrary, a state of capitalism exists in Russia similar to that prevailing in the United States. While the standard of living in Russia is "extremely low" in comparison to our own, he says, the disparity between salaries of captains of industry and enslaved workers is about the same in both countries.

"In the *New Republic* for July 15, 1936, there appeared a table comparing the salaries of officers in some of our wealthier American companies with the average weekly wage of the workers employed by them. I learn from this table, picking it up at random, that Mr. F. C. Kelley, of the Chile Copper Company, receives 50,600 dollars a year, his average worker 23.58 dollars a week—a difference of 1 to 41."

#### Big Salaries to Few

Eastman cites a similar case in Russia where the salary difference between the executive of a corporation and one of his subordinates is 1 to 86!

"It is not necessary," he says, "to carry the comparison farther in order to show that the 'dif-

ferential reward' under what is called 'socialism' is not radically different, insofar as salaries are concerned, from that under American capitalism."

Eastman recently asked an "American Stalinist" for information about Victor Vaskov, once head of the Metal Workers' section of the Red International of Labor, and received this answer:

"He (Vaskov) has done pretty well by himself. He is now head of one of the trusts in the automobile industry, has a fine house with two servants, two official cars at his disposal, and a Packard of his own bought in America."

Of the Stakhanov (speed-up) movement, introduced in Russian industry several years ago to increase production, Eastman says:

"It is not only the adoption of American and German methods of labor organisation and effi-

**GOLD.**

In 1934 31,000 men were employed in the gold mining industry and in 1936 40,000.

The increase in the value of gold production was a pleasing feature of Australia's economic structure, said Senator McLachlan.

—Melbourne "Sun," April 15.

\* \* \*

The putting of an extra 9000 men to work digging holes in the ground to find gold to bury in bank vaults is not a sign of prosperity, but a sign of national insanity. If the men were digging sewerage excavations they would be usefully employed.

ciency. It is the building up

of a new privileged caste, an aristocracy of labor, who, together with the highly paid foreman and managers, can be relied on to support the dictator."

Leon Trotsky is quoted as saying:

"The real earnings of the Stakhanovists often exceed by 20 to 30 times the earnings of the lower categories of workers."

#### Trusts Own Farms

Turning to agriculture, Eastman declares that the collectivisation of farming is evolving into a "government grant of special privileges to vast corporations prospering at the expense of the masses of the peasants."

Wealthy land trusts have taken over the fertile farms of well-off peasants, who, according to Eastman, were expropriated "at the point of a bayonet" and shipped to Siberia in cattle cars by hundreds of thousands.

Speaking of the comparative profits of American and Russian investors, the writer declares:

"If an American man of money gets an average profit of five per

cent, on his various investments he thinks he is doing passably well, and he submits . . . both to an income tax and an inheritance tax upon his unearned increment.

"Under 'Soviet Communism' the man of money is guaranteed an income of seven and eight per cent, on his investments, and it is exempt both from income and inheritance taxes."

All the basic problems of capitalism remain in Russia, according to Eastman—"the inadequate buying power of those who live on wages, the consequent lagging of distribution behind production, the cycles, the depression, and in the end the race for foreign markets."

"The sole fundamental new thing left is the planning power in the hands of the State. This may prove a very fundamental thing. So long as the State is ruthless enough to let four to six millions of the population starve to death in order to build up foreign credit, as was done (it is now privately admitted) by Stalin's State in 1933, it will certainly be momentous."

### "No Enmity to Radio"

Under the above heading in the *Melbourne Herald* (April 15) Sir Keith Murdoch, of the *Herald* monopoly, set out that, "It is entirely wrong to suppose that newspapers are the enemies of broadcasting. They are just the reverse. Newspapers have been almost the main friends and supporters of broadcasting, and are so today . . . Newspapers have established stations in a limited way, and have proved that broadcasting and newspapers go well, hand in hand, each helping and increasing the potential value of the other."

They certainly do, especially when the newspapers set out to buy up all the radio stations possible, with the objective of having these as the second string to their news and advertising monopoly—as is unquestionably happening in Australia today. Those who have been reading the Fink-Murdoch press of recent weeks, however, have hardly noticed any great friendliness displayed from those sources towards the national broadcasting stations.

Significantly enough, Sir Keith, in the same address to his fellow newspaper magnates, went on to complain that Australian newspapers' advertising rates "are very low, and, in a country where newspapers are under heavy special penalties in costs of production, our advertising rates are not relatively anything like as high as they are in other countries." From which advertisers may beware. Give the big newspapers control of all the radio stations that matter—since the national stations do not cater for advertisers—and the firm that wishes to sell its wares on a national basis is pretty well hog-tied. It would be interesting, if it could be discovered, to ascertain to what extent the daily papers reduced their advertising rates when everything else was scaled down during the Premiers' Plan years. It would be surprising to find that they fell into line with their own editorial policy of imposing the heaviest possible cuts on everyone else. But now that prices are beginning to go on the upward spiral, thanks to rearmament, they are getting into line for a further raid on the advertiser—that is, mainly, on the small consumer, who ultimately pays the lot.

## New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

PATRONISE THESE ADVERTISERS.

Their advertisement helps your paper. Say you saw it in the "New Times."

### MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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JAS. JENNINGS, 211 Queen St., and 6 Regent Arc. Optician, 73 years est. Testing Free.

MAISON MERLIN, Natl. Bk. Bldg., 271 Col. St. Ladies' Hairdressers.

OPTICIAN and Hearing Aids. M. L. COLECHIN, Champion House, 4th Floor, 57 Swanston St. F 5566.

OPTICIAN, J. H. Buckham, J.P. Nat. Bk. Ch., 271 Collins St. C. 831.

PRINTING. E. E. GUNN, Off 600 Lit. Bourke St. Cent. 6021. QUICK SERVICE

TOBACCO KIOSK. Equitable Place. Buy your Smokes here! TAILOR, Dependable Suit for 130/-. P. Whitcroft, 215 Queen Street. TAILOR, High Class; H. Stackpole. Lang Arc., off 333 Lons. St.

**DARLING.**  
ESTATE AGENT, J. White, 1 Illowa St. UY 6521.

**ELSTERNWICK.**  
CARMICHAEL'S, Men's Wear. 233 G'huntly Rd., next Baptist Ch. H. L. SERCOMBE Pty. Ltd., 70 Glenh'ntly Rd. Dairy Produce Specialists. RADIO & ELECT'L SERVICES. Mackintosh's, 72 Glenh'tly Rd. L 4588.

**ELWOOD.**  
THE DUCHEY LIBRARY, 3 Ormond Road. New Books Weekly.

**FAIRFIELD.**  
BUTCHER, 93 Station Street. Arthur B. Heath Solicits Your Patronage.

**FOOTSCRAY.**  
BOOT REPAIRS. A. A. Taylor. Station Ramp, While U Wait S'vice. MASSEY'S GARAGE, W'town Rd. The Home of Motor Reconditioning

**GLENFERRIE.**  
OPTICIAN, W. W. Nicholls, 100 Glenferrie Rd. Haw. 5845. SUITS to order from 70/-. H. 5813. A. Sutherland, 184 Glenferrie Rd.

**HAMPTON.**  
BEAUTY SALON, Norma Bell, 33 Hampton St., next P.O. XW216C BOOKSELLER, S. J. Endacott, 75 Hampton St. for all book needs. CHEMIST, Rod Burgess. 156a Hampton St. XW 2424.

HAIRDRESSER, Ladies and Gents R. STEWART, 68 Hampton St. HOME MADE CAKES. BEANS, 140 Hampton St. XW1787 TAILOR, R. W. Simpson, Railway Walk. Suits Hand Made from 95/-

**IVANHOE.**  
BOOT REPAIRS. J. Fraser solicits your custom. 130 Upper H'berg Rd UPHOLSTERER. Blinds & Bed ding. Duke's, 111 H'berg Rd. Ivan 626.

**KEW.**  
ANDERSON'S, 141 High St. Authorised Newsagent. Haw. 1146 BUTCHER, S. Daw. High Street Opp. Union St. Satisfaction, S'vice C. KENNEDY, Grocer. Haw. 229 Opp. Cemetery Clock, Parkhill Rd DRY CLEANING, Depot & Library A. I. Fraser, 182 High St. H. 3733 E. WHITE, 109 High St. Confectionery and Smokes. FLORIST, "Mayfair," Haw. 1452 Cotham Rd., near Glenferrie Rd GIBSON'S, High St., opp. Rialto Hosiery, Underwear and Aprons. GIFTS, & All Jewellery Repairs. Old Gold Bought. Greaves, opp. Rialto LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 5605 "Burnie Salon," 81 Cotham Rd. M. J. MARTIN, 157 High St. Haw. 3794 Shoe Store, Shoe Repairs.

**KEW EAST**  
WATCH, CLOCK & JEWELLERY REPAIRS. I. Pink, 16 Oswin St. WICKER & Pram Repairs. L. Pavitt, 2 Hale St. Pick up and deliver.

(Continued on page 7.)

Dr. Robertson,  
Chairman,  
Victorian Health Commission

Dear Doctor,

In your retiring address to the Victorian Health Commission on Tuesday you added your voice to the many others which are being raised in protest against the abominable conditions under which so many of our citizens are forced to live. You dwelt, as others have, on four essentials: Proper food, proper housing, proper surroundings and proper recreation.

Then you went on to point out that your administration has constantly been hampered by two things—lack of authority to enforce health regulations, and lack of money. On the latter point, you are reported to have instanced that "if a municipal council refused to obey a Health Commission order to close down a house, the Commission had to apply for a mandamus to compel the council, Handicapped by lack of funds, the Commission often found it difficult to move the ponderous machinery of the law." What a tragic absurdity—not enough money even to police your own regulations!

In answer to your protests, it was announced on Wednesday that the Victorian Ministry has decided to introduce next session a Bill to provide for a Ministry of Health which will replace the Health Commission and "co-ordinate all medical services." Which sounds very nice. But it all depends upon that word, "co-ordinate."

Does the Ministry intend so to co-ordinate the services that service will be really given—that people will be assured of those four essentials

which you stressed—or does it simply mean that a new department will be set up which will meet all applicants with the stereotyped poser: "Where is the MONEY to come from?" We fear it will be the latter.

We were glad to see your protest Doctor for every word so spoken renders some help, however little, to the fight for better conditions. But we hope you were not merely having one of those parting shots, which are often made on retirement by gentlemen sore at the retrospect of years of frustration.

Even when you are no longer Health Commissioner you will still be a citizen, an elector—for many years yet, we trust. And with the weight of your experience behind you, you could give very valuable assistance to those citizens who are stirring up the community to DEMAND that Parliament take such steps as will ensure to every man, woman and child in Australia all the essentials of health. Good food and housing, healthy surroundings and reasonable leisure—in which of these is there any need for scarcity? The difficulty is only in that direction you already indicated—funds.

Have you ever thought what these funds are? Who makes them, or where they come from, or whither they mysteriously disappear, or what holds them up? If you haven't thought about it Doctor, will you please do so in your days of approaching leisure?

A little solid thinking, and you could even now do more for the health of your fellow citizens that you have done in all your years of active and valued medical service.

THE NEW TIMES



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FRIDAY, APRIL 23.

### Warning to Unions

There are whisperings abroad that secret conclaves are taking place of union executives; that, unheralded and unannounced, national conferences are being held to prepare plans for drastic action on a Commonwealth basis if industrial workers' claims for better conditions are not speedily granted. That these claims are just requires no argument. They have always been just, and, with rapidly rising prices of household commodities, their urgency becomes graver than ever. But what of the means, which it is understood, are now being canvassed?

We have never believed in strikes, whether of the stay-out or the sit-down variety, because, apart from any other considerations, history shows them almost always to have failed from one or both of these reasons: In the first place, they provide excellent grounds to the daily press for false propaganda against the workers, who are represented as a lawless body, led by Communists, and repudiating Arbitration Court and other allegedly mutual arrangements. Thus a sheep-like "public opinion" is regimented against the strikers at a time when this effect is more easily obtained as a result of public inconvenience. In the second place, the men on strike are beaten financially before they go out, or sit down, as the case may be. Their pay stops, and they have not the same access to the sources of money as have most of the big industrial combines which are now so closely allied or associated with the banks. If they do get some small concession in pay, it generally takes months, or more probably years, of the increased rates to put them back where they were before they stopped work. On top of which, the increase is almost inevitably passed

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on in prices. It is a bleak lookout. Figures have been quoted in these columns more than once which prove conclusively, from the official returns of the Commonwealth Statistician, that the general standard of living of the average Australian wage earner is no better today than it was when Justice Higgins gave his first basic wage award in 1907. Again, there is no need to demonstrate that a tremendous increase is possible, and that it would be as advantageous to employers who have goods to sell as it would be to employees who desire to buy these goods. Then why have living conditions not been raised substantially?

Mainly because the men and their leaders have insisted on methods, which they clearly do not understand instead of demanding the result, which no one can deny is possible. Many years of weary and ineffective Arbitration Court applications for higher money wages have brought the answer that wages are costs, that costs must go into prices, and that rising prices defeat rising wages. Yet the men, or many of them, still seem to believe that their salvation lies in a few shillings a week added to their pay envelopes. They have had additions to wages and deductions from wages—and where are they at the end of it all?

If the unions, instead of contemplating begging themselves by further strikes, will put their weight behind the campaign to quit arguing about methods and to concentrate the whole mass demand of the electors upon results alone, then they will achieve the results at which they are aiming. They will achieve them speedily and they will achieve them peacefully. If they turn to the strike counsel, they cannot win victory; but they will assuredly bring still further miseries upon their wives and children.

### Eight-Bob-a-Day For Socialist Heroes

Those who still hug the illusion that Socialism would be a paradise are invited to ponder on the reward just handed out by the State of Victoria to those heroes who some weeks ago risked their lives day after day in the effort to rescue the entombed Wonthaggi miners. Had these men been working for a private boss, and had they, during a period when they were at hots with the management, put aside their dispute in order that they might spend every minute of nine working days in Herculean toil and desperate peril, how would their employer have treated them? Would not their labours, undertaken with gas masks in a poisonous shaft, have been recognised by at least a sum sufficient to give them a month's holiday, and probably more?

But because they were working in a socialised industry they received the munificent

bonus of one shilling for each hour they voluntarily spent underground—in all, £3/12/- per man.

It is not that the State deliberately set out to insult them. But State mastership is impersonal and bureaucratic. It substitutes departmentalism for individual initiative and responsibility. To it men are ciphers rather than individuals. Any payments, any events out of the ordinary, put whole departments in a quandary. They break the even tenor of precedents, rules, regulations and red tape.

The Wonthaggi episode shows how the State treats its direct employees. And a visit any day to the nearby State enterprise at Yallourn—whence Melbourne derives its electric power and its briquettes—will show how the State treats their wives and families. For Yallourn is a State settlement in its entirety. There the State owns everything—every acre of ground, every house in the town. The State owns even the solitary store at which the thousands of inhabitants may do their shopping—what variety of choice! (Likewise the solitary pub—ditto!) And the State owns, presumably, the thick layer of briquette dust, which settles on streets and footpaths and flowers in gardens and washing on lines. (The briquette dust nuisance could be abolished, and it would have to be if private enterprise were responsible for it, but it would cost too much money for the State to do it.) Similarly the State owns the unsewered lavatories of Yallourn, and the street drains which at times give forth a most unpleasant odour. And the State boasts of this as a model settlement.

There you have the best and worst of Socialism. A little more security, perhaps, but no more liberty, either of body or of mind. And the drab sameness that could not distinguish between eight hours of rescue work and eight hours of hewing coal; the stolid sufficiency that provides all necessities at the Yallourn general store, but cannot understand how or why women might desire to look at five or six or eight stores before deciding on their purchases.

And all so unnecessary. For there is little if anything done by State organisations that could not be done more satisfactorily by private firms. A Bradfield to supervise the bridge, yes; but a Dorman, Long to build it. A people, as a corporate body, to see that all their members get justice and opportunities, but the individual citizens to do things.

### Pressure Politics in the United States

Readers will remember that at the last Presidential elections in the United States the candidate sponsored by the National Union for Social Justice, founded by America's radio priest, Fr. Charles Coughlin, polled most disappointingly. Whereas it was known that Fr. Coughlin had a radio audience of millions of listeners, and it was estimated that the National Union would have a polling strength of several millions likewise, the total strength of the party candidate was revealed to be less than a million votes.

Fr. Coughlin expressed himself as bitterly disappointed, and announced his retirement from the air, for the time at least. He continued, however to publish his weekly newspaper, *Social Justice*, which is understood to have a sale of between one and two million copies.

The failure of Lemke, the National Union candidate for the Presidency, was another proof of the difficulty of bringing about reform by the creation of a new political party, and was a sharp contrast to the success that had attended the activities of the National Union when it confined itself to a straight-out demand for concrete results. It was admitted that the pressure politics of the followers of Fr. Coughlin had been overwhelmingly successful when they demanded of their parliamentary representatives that the U.S. should not entangle itself in international affairs at the time of the World Court proposal. But when the National Union put forward detailed methods for party government it failed hopelessly to get a sufficient following.

Fr. Coughlin is nothing if not candid, and he was the first to admit publicly that his National Union party had attracted all sorts of political aspirants who were more interested in the possibilities of office for themselves than in the objectives of his party. So he disbanded his organisation, went off the air, and confined himself to giving his supporters through his paper the "inside running" on what was taking place in public affairs.

Shortly afterwards Bishop Gallagher, Fr. Coughlin's superior and strongest supporter, was seized with a fatal illness. Just before his death he sent for the radio priest and enjoined upon him as his dying wish that Fr. Coughlin should at once resume his weekly radio addresses. In deference to that request the radio hour has been resumed since the beginning of this year, but on a bigger scale than ever. The issue of *Social Justice*, dated February 22, shows that no less than 47 stations are now carrying the message to the American people, over a circuit extending from New York to the Pacific.

But the same issue shows more. It shows that Fr. Coughlin has not been afraid to learn from experience. "For many earnest and sincere friends of social justice," says his weekly message to his readers, "allegiance . . . simply must express itself in action. For many, perhaps, it has seemed that this expression would be most effective in political action. Our experience should, once and for all, dispose of this fallacy. . . . *Recognise that politicians who are in power are more susceptible to your pressure than politicians who are out of power.*"

That is the cardinal note of the campaign to demand results now being pushed forward in Australia. It is merely another way of saying: "Your M.P. is your servant; use him."

There are two ways of endeavouring to get things done politically. One is to start a party, to draw up a detailed schedule of things to be done, and to appeal to the people to support those who will promise to do these things if returned to parliament. In such an appeal many impediments will present themselves. However comprehensive the party programme, it is sure to have left out many things, which many electors will wish to have included; and, vice versa, it is sure to have included some things, which many will not accept (e.g., the socialisation objective of the Labor party. Even if the programme were theoretically perfect, it will have to run the gauntlet of the apathy of the people; of their well founded doubt as to whether members, even if returned on the

party ticket, will carry it out faithfully; if their impatience against the time that will be required to get a majority in both Houses; and of other obstacles.

The other way is to use the existing personnel of parliament, and to demand from it certain specific things, which from time to time seem desirable. This is the method outlined and counselled by the non-party campaign.

The proof of any pudding is in the eating, and those who advise pressure politics on existing members have all the proofs on their side. For illustration, one need go no further back than the Scullin Ministry. Here was a government returned in the interests of the under-dog—and no government in Australia's history dealt crueler or more slashing blows at those who returned it. Why?

Simply because the people who elected Scullin recorded their votes for him and then sat back; whereas those who did not elect him proceeded to subject him to a continuous process of pressure. Since Australia was never producing more real wealth than when J. H. Scullin was Prime Minister, it is abundantly clear that there was no real need for wage cutting, for reduction of old-age pensions and the like. Nevertheless, Scullin did these things because pressure to do them was more severe than pressure not to do them.

Up till now, all parties have been substantially the same to those who really ruled Australia. But those people are not the majority of the electors; probably they do not represent anything like one per cent, of the electors. The difference between them and the rest of us is that they have known what they wanted, and they have gone after it all the time. In Fr. Coughlin's words, they have recognised that politicians who are in power are more susceptible to pressure than politicians who are out of power. Let us, like the leader of the National Union, be not ashamed to learn.

#### THE INTERVENER.

A ripple ran round the London court last week as the intervener's name was at last revealed to be Francis Stephenson. On December 9, King Edward, then wrestling with the problem whether or not to abdicate, was told that an intervention had been entered which might leave Mr. and Mrs. Simpson holy deadlocked, and on December 10 his Majesty decided to abdicate. On December 14, the knob-headed little intervener moved to withdraw his intervention. He was in court last week to explain his series of actions—so suggestive of a successful effort to bamboozle an overwrought man in love, especially since knob-headed Stephenson plies the trade of managing clerk in a firm of London lawyers whose important clients unquestionably sided with the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin.

Emotion, not facts, carried the Prime Minister to magnificent success in the Abdication Crisis, and last week Intervener Stephenson explained his actions entirely in terms of most convincing British emotion. —*Time*, New York, March 29.



## THE "REPLY" OF MR. E. J. HOLLOWAY, M.H.R.

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

May I offer my thanks to Mr. Holloway for the letter, which you published from him last week. I am not at all surprised that he resented my criticism, but I am surprised that in attempting to "reply" to that criticism he should have so completely confirmed it. Let me say at once that I believe Mr. Holloway to be genuinely concerned about the shocking conditions in which so many, through no fault of their own, are being compelled to exist, and to be anxious to see an end to the disgrace. But it is no use just being sorry, and it is definitely harmful to seek to excuse Parliament when Parliament cannot be excused. Conditions will not be changed by emotional eyewash. We have to see that the mechanism, which is now being operated to make things bad, is operated to make things good.

In my letter of April 2 I called attention to the statement by Mr. Holloway, that "No government could deal with the great problems of industry and commerce unless the Constitution were altered," and showed that it was positively inaccurate. It was pointed out that industry and commerce have only one great problem that that problem is to find buyers, and that buyers are people who have money to spend. The three important constituents of our economic organisation are the people on one side, production on the other side, and money between the two.

### Section 51

Mr. Holloway does not need to be told that the people of Melbourne Ports who helped to put him into the Federal Parliament, and who help to keep him there, cannot obtain food and clothes unless they have money to pay for them. He also does not need to be told that they do not have to go without because of any shortage of food and clothes in the shops. He knows there has been no failure on the part of "the means of production," and that actually a great deal more is being produced than the people can get. He also knows that the only thing that prevents so many of his supporters from getting what they need is the fact that they are not supplied with incomes of money. But apparently what he did not know is that the only money used in Australia is Australian money, and that under Section 51 of the Constitution the Federal Parliament is already clothed with complete power to control Australian money, and therefore to deal immediately with every problem of industry and commerce.

Seeing, then, that finance, and finance alone, does prevent the people from obtaining an adequate share of their own production, and that the Commonwealth Parliament is already vested with power to control finance as it should be controlled, "for the peace, order, and good government" of the people, it is false for Mr. Holloway to say that an alteration of the Constitution is necessary before the problem can be dealt with. And yet the only "reply" he offered was that his statements "were so obviously correct that they answer for themselves." A reply of that character may be good enough for those holding the chief positions at the Trades Hall (although I sincerely hope otherwise), but it is not good enough for any responsible person of normal intelligence who takes his citizenship seriously.

### The Work Complex

Mr. Holloway then proceeded as follows: "Mr. Brown also charged me with ignorance and cowardice for not understanding and exposing the betrayal of our people by the financial groups who have usurped the control of the production and distribution of our money supplies. This is so serious, and so unfounded that I have asked the *New Times* to permit me to restate." etc. My criticism was intended to be

serious, and I offered it because I felt that Mr. Holloway was misguided himself, and that he was trying to misguide others. Unfortunately, his "reply" confirms my worst fears in that regard, for he still displays ignorance regarding money, and has given evidence of the work complex in a marked degree. He tells us frankly that every year confirms his belief that Socialism is the next natural and inevitable step in mankind's economic evolution.

It is a curious thing how all these socialistic leaders of "the workers" are so keen to keep the workers in slavery to work and a wage. That is precisely what the controllers of the Money Monopoly want, and we see from the examples of New Zealand and France that, although the Governments have brought about the socialisation of the Central Bank, the control of financial policy remains where it was before. This is why "the workers" see poverty and debt increasing even though they are producing more wealth than ever. The super emperor of the British Commonwealth (Montagu Norman, of the Bank of England) said that he would welcome the nationalisation of the banks, knowing full well that a change of ownership would not affect the results if policy remained the same. This is where the secret lies, and this is where Parliament has failed to exercise its function. We have socialised the Commonwealth Bank in Australia, but it is still being used as an instrument of oppression against us simply because Parliament does not control its policy.

Transfer of money from profits to wages cannot possibly rectify the fundamental flaw in the system as we now have it, under which the quantity of money in circulation is always less than the prices of the goods for sale. That can only be rectified by giving people money in addition to wages, as even G. D. H. Cole now admits to be necessary, thus showing the fallacy of Mr. Holloway's statement that wages are more important than dividends. They are not, and even their present importance must diminish rapidly as mechanisation expands. The wage system is obsolete, but the socialists are helping the bankers to retain it, instead of demanding the extension of the dividend system to the whole community.

### Who Makes Money?

Mr. Holloway objected to my saying that he was ignorant about the nature and origin of money, but immediately went on to prove that such is the case. He said: "... money is not made by nature, but by law. The law gives it efficacy. The law determines its value and quantity. . . . The law makes it legal tender." This is the clearest indication that the only money he knows anything about is that small portion which takes the form of notes and coin, and which represents less than one per cent, of the money actually used. He admits his ignorance of bank credit-money, which is used for more than 99 per cent, of our everyday transactions, which is not "legal tender," and which is controlled entirely by the private banks.

This is so important, Mr. Editor, that I feel we should go over it again. Mr. Holloway says, "money is not made by nature, but by law," when the truth is that it is not made by law but by the banking system. I do not ask Mr. Holloway to accept my word for it, but would refer him to numerous recognised authorities on the subject, such as the Encyclopedia Britannica; the Report of the Macmillan Commission. Mr. J. M. Keynes, Mr. R. G. Hawtrey of the British Treasury, Mr. H. D. McLeod, Sir Edward Holden, Hon. Reginald McKenna, Hartley Withers, and Major Douglas. Mr. Hawtrey, for example, has said this "I agree with Major Douglas that banks create money and that trade depression arises from faults of the banking system in the

discharge of that vital function." He went further and said, "When a bank lends, it creates money out of nothing!" How much of such money, I wonder, is included in the National Debt, for which we are taxed so heavily to pay interest?

Mr. Holloway says, "The law gives it efficacy," but the truth is that the controllers of bank-money are above the law, for their counterfeit money is more efficacious than lawful money, as the Premiers' Plan so clearly demonstrated. Professor Soddy, of Oxford, has put it this way: "It is a manifest injustice to those who have to earn money that private firms by a stroke of the pen should be empowered by the cheque system to create it. But it is infinitely worse that the money of the country, again by a stroke of the pen, should be suddenly and secretly destroyed. It puts into the hands of moneylenders, totally irresponsible to the public or to parliament, a greater power than ever possessed by kings." In controlling the creation and issue of money, the banks wield a power greater than the nation itself. They actually control the law of which Mr. Holloway speaks, and he has admitted that the financiers do make and unmake governments.

### Variations in Value and Quantity

Mr. Holloway says, "The law determines its value and quantity," but the truth is that the law has nothing to do with the question. The chairman of the Midland Bank has told us "the amount of money in existence varies only with the action of the banks in increasing or diminishing deposits." Variation in the quantity of money causes variation in the value of money, and in view of the manipulations of recent years it is not surprising

#### ANOTHER DOWNWARD SPIN

"There is no greater task now for the world than to take steps to avert depression. If nothing is done, or done in time, we may go into another downward spin, and crash worse in a few years' time."

—Report just issued by the Director of the International Labor Office.

that Professor Soddy has described the money monopoly as "the science of swindling, and the sooner it receives a little attention from the police the better."

Mr. Holloway says, "The law makes it legal tender," whereas the truth is that legal tender is used for less than one per cent, of the total purchases, and that legal tender in bank tills is equal to only about four per cent, of the money supposed to be on deposit there. The other 96 per cent was created by the banks as their own property, and this is the money, which is inflated or deflated according to bank policy. When it is inflated, the community is permitted to use more cheques and the value of money declines; when it is deflated, the community is permitted to use fewer cheques, and the value of money ascends. The former is mistakenly called "prosperity" and the latter "depression"! But Mr. Holloway labours under the delusion that these fraudulent practices are controlled by "the law."

### Wages and Consumption

We can agree immediately with Mr. Holloway about the importance of the consumer, but he is far behind the times when he says, "... the great army of people who work for wages or salaries . . . are not only inevitably necessary to produce commodities, but are just as necessary to consume them. Therefore the wages of the workers . . . must be so regulated as to bring about that necessary balance between production on the one hand and consumption on the other." In the first place, Mr. Crofts and his assistants have been trying to show the Arbitration Court that fewer and fewer workers are required to produce more and more goods,

which disproves the statement that "the great army is inevitably necessary to produce commodities." Even now, we could cut the number of workers in half if we made full use of our mechanical facilities. Regulation of wages to "workers" will therefore never enable a balance to be effected between production and consumption, for the simple reason that machines will do more and more of the "work," the number of workers will diminish, and machines get no wages. Consequently, whether it conflicts with his old theories or not, and assuming that he is sincere about the need for effecting a proper balance between production and consumption, he must face up to the fact that the wages of the machine will have to be distributed to the people whether their "work" is required or not.

### The Division of Wealth

According to Mr. Holloway's ideas, the wealth produced "is about equally divided between the capitalists and the workers." If this be true, why was it that at a time of increasing production unemployment extended alarmingly among "the workers" and the bankruptcy rate in the business community more than doubled? Who got the wealth then? It certainly was not "the workers," and quite a number of capitalists went broke. And who fixed the "values" in 1929-1931 so that almost overnight thousands of good people were swept from a condition of comfort to a condition of destitution? Was this also the work of "the law"? The wealth itself was just as valuable as ever, but something drastic had happened to the "money" value. Who manipulated the "value" of government bonds until they could be purchased for a mere song, who bought the bonds at the manipulated "value," and who sent the "value" back to normal almost immediately afterwards? The "law" could hardly be blamed for that! To whom is wealth transferred when "the workers" are below the breadline or on the dole? Do the workers still get "about an equal division with the capitalist"?

There is one other point to which reference should be made. Mr. Holloway wrote: "The purchasing power of the capitalists, which in the aggregate is equal to that of the workers, is shared amongst a very few people (10%) while the purchasing power of the workers is shared amongst a great many people (80%)—the capitalist share being very great and the worker's share being very insignificant." (He pointed out that the other ten percent were in the professional class.) Here we have the old fallacy that there is only a fixed and limited quantity of money, and that if we take it from the capitalist and give it to the worker everything will be right. It is quite true that an increasing proportion of the money distributed by industry is finding its way to dividends as against wages because machinery is displacing the wage-earner, but if all the money in existence in Australia (including cheque money) were equally distributed, we would receive 30/- each per week, whereas production is sufficient to give us £10 each per week. An income of 30/- would hardly entitle us to claim goods to the value of £10, would it?

There is no escaping the fact that the people have to be supplied with money; that control of money is vested in the Federal Parliament; and that members of the Federal Parliament are there to do as the people require. Every one of us must therefore hold the members of Parliament personally responsible for the destitution and misery in the community, for not only have they allowed control of financial policy to be usurped by a private monopoly, but they are guilty of the unutterable folly of borrowing non-legal money from this monopoly to be written up as debt against the nation.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

## JAPANESE EFFICIENCY

Some days ago Senator Payne, of Tasmania, who has recently been visiting Japan, gave to a Launceston club an account of his impressions. The Senator's account was so different from the tales which our Australian newspapers were dealing out to us at the time of the "trade diversion" effort last year that we repeat, hotch potch fashion, a number of the points he made in his address.

The Japanese fishing industry is probably the most modern in the world. Aeroplanes survey the ocean for shoals of fish, and proceed to signal their whereabouts to the fishing fleet by wireless.

The Japanese have over 14,000 miles of railway lines. Service, equipment and comfort are remarkable. The line from Kobe to Tokio, 500 miles, is electrified.

Hotel accommodation is excellent. Night lighting of cities rivals Broadway.

At Osaka, where the population of 3,000,000 devotes itself almost entirely to manufacturing, Senator Payne said he saw something of the establishments, which gave the lie direct to many statements concerning slave-like conditions.

He saw factories there the equal of which he had never seen in Australia for outfit, workers' conditions and general efficiency. One of these employed 850 hands, principally girls, who worked from the time they were about 15 until they reached 21, when they had to leave. It was their duty then to become housewives.

The dormitories for these girls were spotlessly clean; their beds were good, and the recreation halls and grounds all that could be desired. In addition, there were regular classes in which the girls were educated in order that they might develop mentally and as good housewives. One class, for example, taught them how to decorate the home.

Every girl must have at least five hot baths a week, and this was indicative of the general cleanliness of the nation.

The workers were paid a regular wage fixed by an authority, and at the end of their term they received a retiring allowance. There was also a system of bonuses and participation in profits, which applied in some small factories and shops.

#### NOTHING OBSOLETE.

Senator Payne was impressed by the absence of obsolete machinery, and the Japanese boasted that they were able to compete with the world because of their high efficiency.

"Every worker applied himself to the job as though he or she were the owner of the establishment. There seemed to be no discontent," said Senator Payne, adding that he did not speak as one holding any particular brief for Japan, but of things as he had seen them.

"It has been said that the Japanese are good copyists," he said, "but they are also inventive, and if you go to Lancashire you will find more than one mill using looms invented and manufactured in Japan."

Apart from their general intelligence, or rather because of it, the progress of the Japanese outlined by Senator Payne has been ascribed to two causes. One is that they are taking the fullest advantage of modern machinery; the other is that they are also employing their money system to get things done and not to hinder things from being done.

Whether one or both of these be the principal factor, there is no good reason why we in Australia should not vie with our neighbour in progress. And once the people of this country insist that whatever is physically possible must be made financially possible, we shall.

# "HE CHANGED HIS MIND WITH PROFIT"

## "Time" On Bolitho

The following review of Hec or Bolitho's literary attack on ex-King Edward (already noticed in these columns) appears in the New York news-magazine, *Time*, of March 29:—

In 1920 a likely young New Zealander named Henry Hector Bolitho made the friendly acquaintance of Edward of Wales, then aged 25 and dutifully touring the Dominions "down under" at the zenith of his infectious charm. Soon a book, *With the Prince in New Zealand*, by Hector Bolitho, was selling nicely, but not for a while did the author turn up in England, doing in 1929 a modest volume called *The Later Letters of Lady Augusta Stanley*, and branching out from the Prince of Wales, who remembered him, into quiet purloins of the Royal Family where a few not very exciting private papers began to be at his disposal.

In 1932 came *Albert the Good*, a dual biography of Victoria and Albert, by Mr. Bolitho, which first caught everyone's eye because it was illustrated with gaudy, excruciating Victorian colour plates and valentines—these discreetly printed with not a single reference to them in the text. This clever method of flash-sale got people to buy what they found to be just about the best Royal Family book since Strachey's *Queen Victoria*. Next year Biographer Bolitho did England's affluent Jew, a stuffily imposing *Alfred Mond: First Baron Melchett*. By last year he was the Royal Family's pet biographer, with *Victoria the Widow and her Son* and *The Romance of Windsor Castle* to his credit. Then Edward, his friend and original benefactor, came to the Throne. Promptly swank Mayfair's slick-papered smart chart bi-weekly, *Leisure*, bought and ran in serial instalments excerpts from his forthcoming biography, *"The New King . . . Exclusive . . . Intimate Life Study . . ."* by Hector Bolitho. The series ran for four months. Last week just about the biggest biographic surprise Mayfair has had came when a few people bought what they casually supposed was only the binding up in book form of the *Leisure* sketches, a friendly series of bi-weekly pieces about Edward VIII seemingly penned in deepest, sincerest admiration by his friend Hector.

It now suddenly appears in Mr. Bolitho's new book that King Edward "was harassed, unreasonable, and vain," whereas in *Leisure* of last spring he was remarkable for "the gentleness of his judgments" and "his standards were as rigid as those of his father," although Biographer Bolitho of course knew then about Mrs. Simpson.

In last week's Bolitho book, the New Zealand friend writes that as long as ten years ago Edward of Wales was estranged from King George and Queen Mary. "His son's friendship with Mrs. Simpson was a perpetual grief to him [George V.] . . . They [Their Majesties] shared distress and disappointment over him . . . secretive, stubborn . . . self-willed." King George V. died in January, and in May Bolitho wrote of Edward VIII that "his balanced judgment and dislike for self-pity made him turn to the problems of the living as much as to the veneration of the dead." This had changed by last week into Biographer Bolitho's conviction that "conceited . . . disloyal [Edward] expressed his real feeling for the past when he hit a golf ball from the summit of one of the pyramids." Bolitho continues that after the death of George V. the "unfortunate friendship" of Edward VIII for Mrs. Simpson "was not allowed to suffer in deference to sorrow." In fact, His Majesty merrily chartered a yacht and New Zealander Bolitho was finally able last week to give the honest English emotional reaction to seeing their King consorting with an American: "The pity of it was the photographs showed a happy King!"

So recently as the end of last June, *Leisure* printed, "If compassion ruled his [Edward's]

heart, common sense ruled his head. . . . He was equipped, in perception and knowledge, to be a leader and not merely a grand name . . . He was in the line of his great-grandmother, his grandfather and his father. He was morally brave. His conscience was his guide . . . Whatever muddles and distresses may come, there is continuity in what we know as British character and that its shrine is still the throne."

Of this same period last summer, Biographer Bolitho's new book says: "The power in his [King Edward's] hands was terrible to measure, and the Government and those who knew him well were keenly afraid . . . Many members of the Government resented his campaigns among the poor . . . He blundered on fiercely, loyal to his poor ideal . . . distraught . . . unreasonable no matter whether his twisted reason led him . . . Every hour he stayed in England was an injustice to his

### SIR OTTO AGAIN!

Those of us who are prone to late suppers are similarly prone to bad dreams. Nationally the worst dream that Australia has known followed on a visit of monetary dictator Sir Otto Niemeyer (says the *Countryman*).

After prescribing for Australia, Sir Otto in turn doctored the monetary system of India, Argentine and Brazil. He knew but one formula, whatever the ailment, and prescribed in each country "economy until it hurts."

After his visit, Sir Otto left Australia with a deflationary policy which contributed to widespread agricultural bankruptcy and made imperative first the introduction of moratoriums and ultimately Debt Adjustment legislation.

Now it is suggested that he has been diverting his attention to the relationship of the dollar, franc and pound. If this is so, then there can be little hope of any permanent stabilisation as the result of his intrusion.

Sir Otto has demonstrated beyond all doubt that despite his ability to sway the opinion of Australian legislators, he has scarcely the capacity to evolve or even advocate a system of long-range monetary planning.

brother's assumption of the responsibilities of the Crown."

Today popular Henry Hector Bolitho, more than ever pet of the Royal Family, is writing a new biography of King George VI, is reputed to be describing His Majesty in substantially the identical terms he used in *Leisure* to describe His Majesty when the king was Edward VIII.

With a pleased backward glance at his work and that of 100 per cent of British journalism in keeping the facts about Edward VIII from the 493,000,000 people of the Empire for as long as tender untruths could, Mr. Bolitho boasts: "English journalism showed its best in involuntarily keeping a barrier of silence between the Prince's [Edward's] private life and their readers."

With the Royal Family, the peerage, the landed gentry and the Old Etonians in mind, Biographer Bolitho in his new book discloses that the United Kingdom is "a country which knows neither the dark state of peasantry nor the rule of a rich and idle aristocracy."

In London the *Sunday Express* committed the surpassing blatancy of spreading clear across two pages the 14 column headline: *What Happened to Edward the Eighth, One of the Frankest Royal*

# Means Test Run Mad

Here is the most damning indictment for months of the present evil money system. It happened this week, Monday, March 8, says *Social Credit* (London).

Miners, many on crutches, some blind, all disabled, limped into Platt Bridge (Lanes.) Miners' Hall to draw their share of £20,000 compensation for which they had fought two years.

As they drew their money, Public Assistance officials demanded repayment of the money they had paid these crippled men during these two years of misery and semi-starvation.

Their tale of hardship started when two years ago Bamfurlong pit closed and stopped payment of compensation to those miners who had been injured. The Miners' Federation for those two years fought a legal battle for them, secured an award of 19/2 in the pound.

Three men refused to repay the Assistance officials. They are to be prosecuted.

One, Joseph Anders, who had not worked since 1931—six lean years of poverty because he could not work—received £116. The Assistance Committee claimed £115. Said he: "I will not pay until I have paid bills I owe tradesmen." He settled a grocery account for £44.

Figure out what happened. Because a redundant mine closed, coal production being sufficient to meet artificially restricted demand, miners first lose their means of livelihood, because they lose their jobs; second, having been disabled in the mine service are refused compensation for loss of earning power.

Public Assistance run by the Bank of England, via the Government, then keeps them just above starvation line, but with not enough money to buy the food they need. Result, tradesmen who would supply their needs suffer until the victimised miners get their just needs met.

# GAS PROTECTION FOR LESS THAN THREE HOURS!

If every family of Britain could afford to set aside a room for gas proofing as protection against gas attack it would at best secure protection for about three hours.

This is one of the conclusions drawn by Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War group in their published report, "Protection of Public from Aerial Attack," says *Social Credit*, London, in its issue of March 12.

Actually one million people have no such spare room, and another seven million would be living in conditions officially described as overcrowded if they adopted the recommendations.

Further conclusions are:— That no effective form of protection has yet been devised for children under five. That the official gas mask will give no protection against vesicants, which attack the skin, e.g., mustard gas.

That thermite bombs weighing about two pounds would be sufficient to start fires against which the ordinary householder would be helpless, for neither water nor any known chemical will extinguish thermite.

### OPTIMISTS.

The authors made no tests of the effects of modern explosive bombs on the ordinary house, but that even a modern fortress such as the Bank of England is not regarded as secure is shown by the report that the Bank is preparing to duplicate all its records and store the copies in a depository in Wales for safe keeping.

This report demonstrates a surprising optimism on the part of those whose financial policy of export or starve has brought about a situation which makes the study of methods for avoiding death by fire, gas and explosion a matter of urgent necessity.

They believe apparently that the survivors of another war will be content to continue to live under the system that brought it about. Evidently they think it possible

# How Public Opinion Abolished Slavery

G. M. Trevelyan, Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, in the following extracts from "British History in the Nineteenth Century," shows:—

1. The traditional method by which reform is brought about in British countries.

2. That Parliament cannot resist reform once the people are organised for it.

3. That Parliament never starts a reform, but only puts its name to it. He says:—

"In the year 1787 began the formation of the Anti-Slave Trade Committees with which the name of Wilberforce will always be remembered. The success of this agitation, then unique in the character of its aims and methods, is one of the turning events in the history of the world. It led to the abolition first of the slave trade, and then of slavery itself under the British flag, and thereby secured abolition by all those European nations, who, in the course of the nineteenth century, divided between them the helpless bulk of Africa. It was only just in time.

"If slavery had not been abolished before the great commercial exploitation of the tropics began, Africa would have been turned by the world's capitalists into a slave-farm so enormous that it must have eventually corrupted and destroyed Europe herself, as surely as the world-conquest under conditions of slavery destroyed the Roman Empire.

"It is good to think that a movement of such immense and beneficent import to the whole world

*Biographies Ever Published.* By this time two editions of Friend Bolitho's book had been sold out in London, a third was on the presses, and as the week opened he seemed well on the way to wealth.

to fool all the people all the time But many people today realise or whom responsibility will rest should war come, and therefore those responsible will be extremely fortunate if they survive it, and quite unbelievably lucky if they are allowed to maintain the financial system that brought it about by fostering the economic warfare that led to the real warfare.

# MUSSOLINI WORRIED OVER BIRTH-RATE

That Mussolini's birth-rate campaign is not proving as successful as anticipated is evidenced from the following note in the *Irish Press*:

"Anxious over the fall in the Italian birth-rate, Signer Mussolini has called upon Signor Giuseppe Bottai, Minister of National Education, to report on the situation at a meeting of the Fascist Grand Council. It is probable that fresh measures will be announced to check the fall.

"Already, writes the authoritative *Critica Fascista*, two regions of Italy, Liguria and Piedmont, have birth-rates lower than those of decrepit England."

"Liguria's rate is 13.8, and Piedmont's 14.1, to Britain's 14.8. The average family in Turin has 2.26 children, while the average in the whole of Italy has 4.11.

"Huge sums have been spent by the Fascist Party, but they have not prevented the birth-rate from dropping from 29 in 1924 to 22.2 in 1936.

"*Critica Fascista* suggests marriage allowances for workers. (At present they only get allowances for children.)

"Many parents restrict their families to one child in order that they may leave him or her comparatively rich. Therefore, the State should divide a man's fortune at his death into four parts—corresponding to the average family—and allow the only child to inherit only one-fourth."

If Mussolini and his supporters would concentrate their efforts on adding to the incomes of the Italian people, and their liberties as well, they would probably find that the birth-rate problem would tend to solve itself.

Two things mainly militate against larger families — poverty bordering on destitution among those in the lower grades of society, and, among those who appear more secure, the unnatural hustle required to preserve what they have. Insecurity is at the root of both. And insecurity in this era of plenty is unnatural and easy to remedy.

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA. **Listen in to 7LA EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AT 8.15.**

-J. H.

### TO OUR READERS—

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A WORLD SURVEY OF 1936

A Review by Aquarius

[The "King-Hall Survey, 1936," by Stephen King-Hall—obtainable from Social Credit Press, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne; price, 7/-.]

The mass of news which confronts citizens each day through the press, radio, screen and platform is so overwhelming in volume, noise and vulgarity that the after effects resemble that nausea which follows administration of a general anesthetic. Sensation follows sensation, and crisis follows crisis with such bewildering rapidity that the reader is left in hopeless confusion and despair.

This feature in modern life has given rise to a new profession—that of the commentator. It is this profession which Admiral King-Hall has embraced since resigning from his Majesty's Navy, and which he intends to embrace until such time as the next war shall render his services necessary in another direction.

The survey, which presents within the scope of two hundred pages the major happenings and trends of 1936, is the first of its kind prepared by the author, and he hopes to prepare a fresh survey annually.

We in turn hope that this hope will be fulfilled.

Events as seen by King-Hall

Slightly more than half of the book is devoted to an exposition of the author's own views of events and trends during 1936. The first portion of this exposition is concerned with the economic and political framework of living, the second with the actual business of living—i.e., what man has done in learning, arts, sports, etc.

Although the author's opinions are in most instances sufficiently orthodox to deserve the blessing of Montagu Norman, there is evidence that this is merely the result of a mental conditioning, the effects of which the author has not yet been able to shake off. This mental conditioning is inflicted on all of us by the controllers of high financial policy, and no adequate weapon against it existed until the publication of "Economic Democracy" in 1919. This weapon has not yet come to the hands of more than a relatively small number of persons.

It is safe to say that if Admiral King-Hall ever does grasp this weapon, he will make good use of it. For in two major points he already shows the same philosophy. He deplors the amount of attention, which has to be devoted to the framework of living (i.e., the business of making a living), and the relatively small time which man can devote to the real business of living.

At the end of his review he quotes with approval the Chinese teaching, that "When man is cultured, order reigns in his family; when order reigns in his family, it reigns also in his country; and when order reigns in every country, peace reigns in the world."

In other words, the cure for world troubles is to build up from the individual, and not down from the State (or by international action).

It will, we hope, dawn on Admiral King-Hall that the business of making a living, and the economic and political framework of living, have assumed such a terrifying importance solely because of a financial system which refuses to reflect facts. If the drainage system of a house works satisfactorily the owner can forget about its existence and devote

his mental energies to higher things. If it refuses to function, and experts fail to make it function, he must perforce devote his energies to its rectification. He must suspend temporarily the real business of living. And so it is with money. Issue and recall money on such a basis that incomes suffice to meet costs charged against incomes, assure citizens of economic security and the right to pay their way, and the mad scramble for money and existence will automatically cease. In point of physical fact there is no problem in the production of any God's quantity of goods and services.

So far from the proper distribution of this plenty leading to materialism, it will lead in a direction absolutely opposite, and give man a chance to live as he should live.

Facts, Not Words

This brings us to part three of the book—the vitally important part. It consists of two sections; the first a time chart, and the second a chronology—thirty pages in all of facts and dates in orderly arrangement. The scheme of the time charts may be judged from the two samples printed at the foot of this page.

A sample of the chronology is as follows:—

- "July 1. —Largest American budget deficit in peacetime history.
- " 1. —Bill nationalising French armament industry introduced.
- " 2. —The Emperor of Abyssinia's final appeal to the League: 'God and history will remember your judgment.'
- " 6.—The League Council raised sanctions against Italy as from July 15.
- " 7. —Long-term policy for British cattle industry announced."

Both the time-charts and the chronology present an overwhelming picture of unrest, crisis and crumbling institutions throughout the world. This picture in turn lends colour to the theory that these ills must spring from some common source. Dictatorship countries, socialist countries, capitalist countries, democracies are all similarly afflicted, and the affliction pervades all planes of life.

The source of this affliction is money and its mismanagement, both in the rate of its issue and the rate of its recall by the world's bankers.

Pictorial Record

The review is completed by the inclusion of nearly two hundred well chosen and excellently reproduced photographs, in themselves a striking commentary on affairs of 1936.

There is a thoroughly compiled index and the survey is excellently bound and printed.

This is a book, which no editor, propagandist or student of affairs can afford to be without, and those who keep their own record of affairs as interpreted from any particular standpoint will find both the chronology and the time-charts conveniently printed and spaced for the addition of extra notes.

For example, beside the item of December 9 in the chronology, "Conference of the Royal Family at Windsor," purchasers might like to note a fact which was not disclosed until a couple of weeks or so ago, viz., "Intervener entered in divorce suit, Simpson v. Simpson." This lends point to the announcement of his Majesty Edward VIII.'s abdication decision on December 10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MR. GROVER SAYS HEAR, HEAR

Your criticism of my book, "The Time is Now Ripe," is headed "Mr. Grover Gropes." I did not grope. If I am guilty of anything it is in being too cocksure; yet not one of the critics has laid that charge against me. I did not expect any press notices to be favourable, but, so far, not one has attempted to fault me on a fact or combat an argument. Each and every one, except the *New Times*, has relied upon satire and ridicule.

Your notice sums up and praise is given greater length than censure. But your reviewer has not followed my arguments closely. To take his rebukes seriatim: he says that Australia should not be slavish to the ideas of the Russian leaders, whatever those are. I did not say so. On the contrary, I chided those who assume that an Australian brand of Socialism will be a replica of that of Russia. We should be "Socialist in content; national in form."

The next complaint is that I suggest a dictatorship, which is the last thing in the world I would wish to see. What I argue—and the argument is just as applicable to a capitalist form of society—is that the Prime Minister of a State should be given the right to select his own ministerial heads—not that they should select him, after themselves being selected by a political party, which is really selected by irresponsibles outside parliament altogether. My socialistic Prime Minister would be in the position of the President of the United States today, save only that he would be subject to the will of the parliament. My aim was to abolish party government, but more important still, to abolish the control of the country by a handful of big capitalists and bankers.

Of the worker who won't work, whether he spends his time in the surf or the wilderness, the discipline is obvious, simple, but severe; he won't get any wages.

The complaint about quality of goods I fail to understand. The producers of goods under the State will have no such reason to turn out inferior stuff as private enterprise has today. There is no more reason to imagine that State-produced boots will be any less efficient than State-produced briquettes or electric current.

The next paragraph asks that consumers should have money to spend up to the limit of productive capacity "without any silly go-between." That is precisely what I want. The only go-between would be the public servant, who would take the consumer's money and hand over the goods. One such go-between is necessary; under capitalism we have an indefinite and ever-increasing number, each of whom takes a handful of cherries out of the basket as he passes it along.

The final paragraph asserts that, instead of a dictator, we should need directors of each realm of activity. Of course we should. The so-called dictator would be merely a political head. The various departments would naturally be controlled by men who were proved experts in their particular line of business.

As far as I can judge, the reviewer imagines that he is hostile to my proposals whereas he is

really supporting them up to the hilt; in short, he is a "comrade." MONTAGUE GROVER. Copelen Street, South Yarra.

LABOR UNITY.

"We can buy any of the Opposition when we need them."—(Cameron, M.H.R., South Australia.) There is one man in the Labor Party who does know the ins and outs of the money swindle, and who will attempt to straighten out this swindle if he gets the chance. The bankers cannot buy this man. The press—the bankers' press—is forever caricaturing him to create a psychological public antagonism. That man is John T. Lang.

But it would seem that whenever Labor unity looks like being brought about the bankers don't have to bring disruption into the Labor Conferences; there are always plenty within the ranks of Labor to do it for them. And still the workers won't wake up. J. ST. IVES.

MR. MENZIES AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Trying to kill two birds with one stone generally results in one or both birds escaping. Your article of the 16th inst, under the above heading seems to be an attempt to perform this difficult feat, with, it is to be feared, the usual result.

The question of the abolition of the right of appeal to the Privy Council is a matter for dispassionate consideration on its own merits or demerits, quite apart from the record of any politician who either supports or opposes it.

In your article it is asserted, "the appeal to the Privy Council is a definite limitation put upon Australian democracy." Many people in Australia hold exactly the opposite opinion, and recent history proves that the danger to Australian democracy lies near at hand and not overseas. It will be recalled that the Federal Constitution accepted by the democracy of Australia provided amongst other matters that trade and commerce between the various States should be absolutely free. Years later, politicians with Fascist tendencies, instead of submitting the issue to the people, attempted in defiance of democratic principles to drive a coach and four through the provisions of this section.

When the High Court of Australia upheld this illegality, it was left to that body of "estimable" "overseas" gentlemen who comprise the Privy Council to give to an Australian citizen the justice that the courts of his own land denied him. In spite of the activities of our "spell-binding" Attorney General, in this case the Privy Council proved to be a surer guardian of Australian democracy than our own High Court.

Despite your assertion to the contrary, there appears to be reasonable grounds for holding the belief that the right of appeal of any citizen to the highest court in the British Commonwealth of Nations is a very definite bond between "French Canadian," "South African Boer," "Hindoo," and Australian. W. E. P.

THAT SLOGAN SITE

Having read with a good deal of interest the many suggestions regarding a slogan for Flinders Street, the idea presented itself that as good or better a position would be St. Paul's Cathedral.

It should not prove difficult to

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

PATRONISE THESE ADVERTISERS.

Their advertisement helps your paper. Say you saw it in the "New Times."

MELBOURNE (Cont.) (Continued from page 3.)

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BOOT REPAIRS. J. T. Nolan, Holmes St., 4 drs. Moreland Rd.

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GRAY & JOHNSON Pty. Ltd. Leading Land and Estate Agents. 742 High Street, Thornbury.

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A. R. RYAN. SHOE REPAIRS. Opp. Stn. Tennis Racquet Repairs BIGGS & LOMAS, Tailors. First-class Workmanship. Suit Club. CONFECTIONERY and SMOKES. Gibson's, Bay Rd., opp. Theatre. GROCERS, McKAY & WHITE. Bay Rd., opp. Theatre, XW 1924. HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist A. E. Giddings, 13 Station St. HOME MADE CAKES. F. TAYLOR, 21 Bay Rd. XW2048 LIBRARY, 5000 BOOKS. COUTIE'S NEWSAGENCY.

PARKDALE.

RADIO REPAIRS AND SALES. C. Barnett, 19 Herbert St. XW2031.

SPRINGVALE.

DAIRY. M. Bowler, Buckingham Ave. R. MACKAY & SONS. General Storekeepers. UM 9269.

WILLIAMSTOWN.

DON B. FISKEN, Baker. 122 Douglas Parade. DUNSTAN, DAIRYMAN. 28 Station Rd. Phone. W'town 124. HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. C. Tomkins, 165 Nelson PL, 76 Ferguson St.

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E. COOKE, 49 Chapel St. W. 8044. High Class Butcher (Cash).

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Shareholders and Intending Shareholders' MEETING in WALLFLOWER CAFE, Nicholas Buildings, Swanston Street, City. TUESDAY, APRIL 27, at 8 p.m. (Roll Up and further the Cause)

secure permission from a Christian body to advertise true Christian principles, and the background of the church would carry more weight than a railway station.

H. TAYLOR.

FORD'S PHILOSOPHY

Re your article on Henry Ford (N.T., April 9), Ford's philosophy on life cannot be better exemplified than by the following public statement made by him:—

"We have never yet had a sufficient production of all the things which the family needs. It would be splendid if the world should seriously attempt to overproduce everything that everyone needs. We should then discover that our present machine facilities could not even catch up with the need. Give the world a money system that makes it easier for goods to flow from man to man, and all the factories on earth could not begin to supply a tenth of the demand."

ERIC BUTLER.

*	Great Britain	British Empire.	International Relations.	European Countries.	Middle East.	Far East.	North and South America.	Signs of the Times.
March, 1st Week.	King Edward VIII's White Paper on Rearmament. Debates on Estimates	First Broadcast. South Africa Renewed Subsidy to Italian Shipping Lines.	Hitler Denounced. Locarno and Re-occupied Rhine Zone.	Dissolution of Reichstag. General Elections in Germany Announced	Italian Advance in South Abyssinia. British Red Cross Bombed.	Compulsory Service Proposed for China. Hirota Non-Party Cabinet Formed in Japan.	Totalitarian State in Paraguay. Severe Frost in U.S.A.	Lt. T. Rose set up New Cape-U.K. Record — 6 days 6 hrs.
May, 4th Week.	Resignation of J. H. Thomas from Cabinet.	Australia Announced Licensing of Imports Indian Provincial Autonomy Formally Announced.	League Reported 50% Decline in Italian Trade with Sanctionist Countries.	French Stay-in Strikes Began. General Elections in Belgium — Rexist Gains.	Palestine Disorders Continue. Curfew in Jerusalem.	Anti-Japanese Strikes by Chinese Students.	Norman Thomas Nominated Socialist Candidate in U.S.A. Presidency.	World Production of Rayon, 1935: 505,000 tons (85,000 tons, 1925).



## ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

## VICTORIA.

We quite often read of someone in authority talking about "the existing prosperity," or some such phrase, and for the moment we really believe in what is said. Then we turn the page and read of thousands of youths without jobs or hope of jobs, or of millions of people all over the world on the bread line, and we come down to earth with a thud, and realise that, while some people are prosperous, there are many more that have a struggle to make ends meet, and in the lowest levels of living a great multitude that exist on charity.

Even here in sunny Australia, blessed with every wealth of nature, poverty exists in varying degrees. Starting at the low level of the appalling destitution of "Dudley Flats," on the West Melbourne Swamp, "Charcoal Bend," on the banks of the Murray at Mildura, and the slum areas of our great cities, we find above these a host of workers whose standard of living is between two and three pounds a week. This amount has been proved time and again to be insufficient to bring up a family in such a way that they can all have a good chance in life. With good management, and provided that the income is regular and secure, an existence is possible, but there is not a penny left over for either recreation or culture.

If we have any sort of a philosophy of life, we all realise that there is little that is good to be said for a life that is hardly more than an animal existence. As one commentator has put it, "we go to work to get the cash to buy the food to give us strength to go to work" etc., etc.

In such a life there can be no purpose, and little hope. From such an existence it is hopeless to expect to build a population such as we should look for in a land of boundless resources, so that it is perfectly certain that, whatever may be said of a small section who are well off, from a broadly national point of view prosperity is very far from existing in Australia.

New Groups. - The Federal Electorate of Wimmera is astir. A group has been established at Donald, and a communication from Ouyen indicates that shortly several groups will be formed in that subdivision. This substantial start will mean a quick and triumphal tour for John Hogan when he arrives in that electorate to complete the organisation. In the suburban areas South Melbourne and Moonee Ponds are recorded as working groups.

The formation of so many groups is very encouraging, as it is proof of how the idea of the Electoral Campaign is accepted with little propaganda work entailed.

Now for Action —The bombardment of the suburbs with Town Hall meetings is the opening barrage of ACTION. Our young dynamic John Hogan, who enters manhood next week, is going to show us what a man can do. He has decided to concen-

trate on Victoria as the First State in a Queensland Crusade. So hold on to your hat. Town Hall Meetings —The first Town Hall meeting will be at Caulfield on Tuesday, May 4. The Mayor of Caulfield will preside, and Dr. John Dale and John Hogan will be the speakers. It will be a crowded hall, as groups working to assure its success are Gardiner, Bentleigh, Elsternwick, Caulfield, Brighton and St. Kilda.

Following Caulfield - it is hoped during the same week—will be meetings at Box Hill and Ivanhoe. The next in line are South Melbourne, Moonee Ponds and Brighton. Others will follow until every suburb of Melbourne is ringing with Electoral Campaign. Then young John will take a well-earned "change" in the country.

Articles for Press—Articles are being forwarded to country newspapers. If requests to forward to specified papers are sent to Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, the articles will be sent on immediately.

U.E.A. Bank—There are nearly two million people in Victoria, and we haven't sent out half that number of Banks, so we expect you haven't got yours yet. Send in your name at once. We can send your badge at the same time if a shilling signifies you wish to have one.

Speakers' Class - Thursday evening class is held in the basement Tea Rooms of Central House, 174 Collins-street, at 8 p.m. If you wish to join, simply walk in without any preliminaries and you will be welcomed. The Tuesday evening class is still held at a private office, so, if Thursday is not convenient, arrangements can be made for you to attend the Tuesday class.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Headquarters Rally. - - The rally at headquarters on Saturday, April 10 again drew that enthusiastic band of people together who, for many months, have been standing by and ready for anything. The chairman, Mr. C. L. Tucker, told them that while they had been fighting for months to put into practice the principles of the Electoral Campaign, they had still to fight—if they had it in them. There was no sitting down on the job. Speaking of the Melbourne convention, Mr. K. Oliphant told the assembled members what had been achieved in the Eastern State. He pointed out that seventeen organisations were represented at the convention; and that those various bodies, through their delegates, did achieve a unity that was remarkable when it was considered how far apart the States were from one another. This unity, Mr. Oliphant emphasised, must be capitalised, and the enthusiasm arising from it must be directed into new channels, so that in action there would be a still greater unity—and a job of work done. Mr. E. H. Hergstrom spoke on the Campaign, saying that the more an individual took part in it, the greater his understanding of it. Gradually it was being realised that the old plan of enlisting

support, enrolling canvassers, providing for the systematic working of blocks of from 50 to 100 houses, was proving too slow. Signatures could not be worth much unless backed by the determination of an awakened public. The first thing, then, was to get the public opinion. The signatures will then come more easily and be worth much more.

Rousing the Public—At the rally just referred to, Mr. C. L. Tucker put forward a plan whereby this public opinion in favour of pressure politics could be roused. Again he would appeal to the Old Brigade to act. Let them but find the money for a big publicity campaign, show the public by that means that we very definitely had something to offer them, and that wider outside public could then be appealed to, to take up the fight by still further providing for big publicity. If what we are doing is right, then surely all we have to do is to tell the public, and tell them in such a way that they will know it is right—and feel impelled to support such a tremendous thing. Every big job requires a big effort. We are always saying that everyone wants poverty abolished. Then let us believe that; let us use the increment of association; let all the people prove that they want poverty abolished, and they will support any publicity campaign that will get them their desired result.

The Earl of Tankerville has recently said: "During the past 12

## BLOWING OUT THE STORY OF WHEAT-GROWERS' PROSPERITY.

Wheat farmers would not be able to meet their liabilities incurred in the depression for many years, in spite of recent improved wheat prices, said Judge Drake-Brockman in the Arbitration Court on April 4.

When the union advocate claimed that many farmers in Victoria were holding on to their wheat, and were able to release it at higher figures, at which large stocks had been sold, Chief Judge Dethridge replied: "Yes. Chiefly by speculators. I don't think the farmers held on to their wheat to any great extent. They were not in a position to hold on."

Judge Drake-Brockman added: "The wheat grower's position has not improved to an extent that he can keep on without relief. He has still to be subsidised. In my opinion he is not yet able to pay higher prices for implements and it will take him many years to overtake his liabilities."

\* \* \*

Which is quite true. But what is the wheatgrower going to do when the price drops again?

months many of us have been searching in our minds to discover what one might call the 'missing link' in the Electoral Campaign—namely, the missing factor which would cause people to come to us to avail themselves of the instrument we offer for making their will as a sovereign people prevail, instead of our having to go to them to try and persuade them to sign the Electors' Demand."

Division of Grey — At the invitation of the Port Lincoln group of Electoral Campaign workers, the Rev. C. D. Brock spent four days on Eyre Peninsula, going over by boat, and returning by plane in 1 3/4 hours. Addresses were given in Port Lincoln in the Civic Hall (the Mayor presiding) to the wharf labourers (90) and railway workers (50). Trips were made to Edililie, Tod River Scheme workers, and to Coultia. At Coultia a large group was formed to conduct the Campaign in the Subdivision N.W. of Port Lincoln.

The Division of Grey is the largest in S.A. and presents the biggest problem to the Campaign Director. However, the Port Lincoln group have accepted responsibility for conducting the Campaign in this Di-

## SPELL-BOUND

## A Playette by Dynamics

Scene: s.s. "The Queen Mary" (Exported from the Slum Areas of Scotland).

Atmosphere. —Internal: A blue haze of unreality borrowed wholesale from the real play, "Outward Bound." External: Clear sunlight of a summer's day.

Characters of the Play: Mrs. P. P. Acity and a full complement of officers, crew and voyagers.

(Mrs. A., having lately experienced a spiritual awakening, is unique among the passengers in not being befogged by the blue haze; and she had the prescience to bring a special telescope.)

The Scene opens in a Stateroom; thence Mrs. A. wanders to various parts of the ship.

Duchess B: We are indeed a favoured company to be privileged thus to float in such luxurious surroundings to our destined port of call; everyone should be at their ease.

Mrs. A.: My berth is near the propeller, and the vibration prevents me from being completely at ease; then I doubt whether those who have the responsibility of keeping the screw churning away so consistently day and night are free from care.

(Similarly, Mrs. A. challenges the inconsequential chatter of a number of passengers, and so she becomes increasingly unpopular.

She decides to push her way into the officers' quarters to see if the haze persists there.)

Mrs. A.: We passengers seem to be a happy, carefree company. In here no doubt there is felt the strain of responsibility?

Q.M.S.: By no means, madam. The Captain allots our tasks in detail, and they are easily performed without undue exertion. As it happens, I see likelihood of a famine in foodstuffs because our voyage is being prolonged; but the captain assures me that he has devised a way out; so why worry?

Chorus of Responsible Officers: So why worry?

(Mrs. A. strolls on the deck for some time cogitating, and scanning the horizon with the telescope, which has an attachment for converting infrared vibrations into visible rays. About dusk, by dint of great ingenuity, she manages to secret herself within the precincts of the navigator's bridge, and finds the captain on duty above.

Captain N.M.R.: About 2 a.m. ought to see us there.

Mrs. A. (whispers in a super-sepulchral voice): Keep you, then, a secret trust?

Captain: At present there is nothing mutual about the arranged meeting.

Mrs. A. (whispers): Is the course accurately set?

Captain: To a fraction of a point of the compass. There will be no need to alter it through the hours of darkness. I and my officers are devilishly efficient.

Mrs. A. (whispers): Extra larder stores are perhaps available at the appointed place?

vision. They were the first country group in S.A., and have undertaken a big job. Already they have secured over 30 per cent, of the votes in the Subdivision of Port Lincoln. This group, reports Mr. Brock, provides a wonderful working example of decentralisation and individual responsibility working under functional discipline.

Come to the Dance—On May 1 (Saturday) a dance in aid of the Campaign will be held at the Hansen-street Hall (near Wakefield-street). You are assured of a good time. Dancing is free. But the supper will remind you of an American afternoon—you are to bring supper that you do not want, and pay 1/- for supper that you do want. It is a basket supper. At this dance the results of the Picture Competition will be announced. Time has been extended to fit in with this happy occasion.

Captain: Food, yes; but for the sharks, not for people.

(Mrs. A. silently regains the deck level, and remembering the rocks ahead, which the telescope disclosed, she feels sure that the captain is mad, and returns to the scenes of gaiety to arouse passengers to a sense of their peril.)

Mrs. A.: (interrupting the duchess, who is discussing the value of pearls): But do you value your life?

Duchess B.: Never have I given the destinies of life a moment's thought—I know a little about food, apparel, music and travel; but let philosophers fumble with the problem of life as a whole.

Mrs. A. (interrupting the pianist, and so stopping the dancing): Our lives are in danger.

Pianist (indignantly): You impudent killjoy! What right have you to intercept the stream of our joyous experience?

(She revives the dance theme with increased vigour, and the dancing continues.)

Mrs. A. (to noted scientist, excitedly): Our boat is heading for disaster; I have excellent evidence that this is so.

Noted Scientist: I carry no scientific instruments with me while on holiday, so I am powerless to examine your proposition.

Mrs. A. (to a college Principal of a post-graduate seminary): I need your help so that we can arouse these poor benighted people to a sense of the dangerous position in which they find themselves.

College Principal: Dear Madam, what remote chance have I to influence a motley crowd like this? At college we examine each student by psychoanalytical methods, and so are able to work on settled lines with precision. Here all is hopeless pandemonium.

Mrs. A. (in a despairing tone to Rev. Beatitudo): Do wake yourself up and save the ship!

Rev. Beatitudo: Do you understand in what contradictory terms you speak, my dear woman? After I have prepared and delivered my sermon tomorrow, I will indicate to you that a ship is merely a tool or vehicle of convenience; it is the people in it which may be saved. The ship has no soul. (Then, sotto voce): Her given name of "Purse Pick" (it can't be a Christian name) gives the show away as to her characteristics.

Mrs. A. (to herself): How funny; he has seen the purser's misspelling. (To a group of officers): Sirs, the Captain is mad, and will wreck the ship.

An officer: Have no fear, madam. To doubt the qualities of a captain is traitorous under the law. Be gone!

BREAKERS! CRASH! !  
PANDEMONIUM! ! !

## WHEN YOU WIN YOU LOSE.

"War was more simple in the old Greek days. It was not wrapped up in cotton wool, whereby preparations for war are called preparations for peace.

"War was war. That was the way for the old front-line fighters—you lost and you went under; you won and took it easy for the rest of your lives.

"Nowadays, whether you win or lose, you go under. Even if you escape shellshock, blindness or poison gas, you go limping along for the rest of your days, with a millstone round your necks."

—General Sir Ian Hamilton, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Feb. 27.

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## CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH POVERTY

CONDUCTED BY UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA (NON PARTY), VICTORIAN DIVISION.

## FLINDERS ELECTORATE,

## BOX HILL.

A preliminary citizens' meeting will be held in the Small Hall, Box Hill Town Hall, on FRIDAY, APRIL 23, at 8 p.m., to establish the U.E.A. in that centre, and to organise a Monster Citizens' Meeting, to be held at a date to be fixed, in the Box Hill Town Hall, for the purpose of launching the campaign in the Flinders Electorate. This Monster Meeting will be addressed by Dr. John Dale and John Hogan.

All citizens interested in their own well-being and that of posterity are invited to attend the preliminary meeting.

## MELBOURNE PORTS ELECTORATE,

## SOUTH MELBOURNE.

A Preliminary Citizens' Meeting will be held in ALEXANDRA HALL, Nelson Street, South Melbourne, on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, at 8 p.m.

The object of the meeting is to formally establish a Group of the U.E.A., and to take in hand the organising of a Monster Citizens' Town Hall Meeting, to be held in the South Melbourne Town Hall, at which the speakers will be Dr. John Dale and John Hogan. All interested are asked to attend this preliminary meeting.