

THE "NEW TIMES"
IS OBTAINABLE
AT ALL AUTHORISED
NEWSAGENTS.

THE NEW TIMES

GLACIARIUM
I C E SKATING
THE WORLD'S OLDEST
PASTIME
Two Sessions Daily,
3 and 8 p.m. Admission 2/2.
Boots and Skates, 2/- pair

Vol. 3. No. 32.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d

A £300 Million Railway Swindle



MR. CASEY HELPS LABOR



J. A. Lyons and "Outside Organisations"



Child transportation

WATCH THIS SPACE

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

For years I was a martyr to chilblains, insomnia, pains in the back, eczema, and ingrown moustache.

My hair and teeth came out in handfuls, and my friends used to say, "Why doesn't someone tell him?"

I spent thousands of pounds on doctors' bills, to no avail, and I was on the point of stepping off the curb to end it all when a friend suggested Sniffkins Silicated Soap.

After one wash my chest-measurement increased 20 inches, beautiful women threw themselves at my feet, and I was promoted to the head of the department.

* * *

In spite of this, there was a note of sadness at the recent Advertisers' Conference at Brighton.

Sir Harold Bellman and others complained that modern publicity still fell short of the standard set by the slogan, "Truth in Advertising."

magical herb, the secret of which was wrested from its savage guardians by some intrepid explorer.

The authorities regarded such information as misleading, and legislation compelled makers to inscribe upon the package the exact chemical constituents of the contents.

Thus, it became no longer possible to present a pennorth of camel, coated with sugar, as a magic potion with occult properties worth a guinea a packet, but bequeathed to suffering humanity by a philanthropist at the trifling sum of half a crown.

It was found, however, that the public was even more impressed by scientific analyses than by tales of Oriental magic, and that such formulae as Tinct. Cal. Glyc. Mist. Alb. H.O. made a stronger appeal than cabalistic signs or occult incantations.

And thus Truth came bubbling

WHAT AMERICA IS DOING ABOUT INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Time, the New York newsmagazine, of July 5, publishes the following account of the attempts of medical science in the United States to combat infantile paralysis.

As the annual summer epidemic of infantile paralysis was about to break upon the country last week, expert prophylactic teams

deployed over the nation to prevent it by spraying the noses of children with zinc sulphate.

This is a new but thoroughly tested method of preventing a disease, which has crippled thousands of people of the U.S., including the President.

heart-searching and strike a bolder and more constructive note. It was once more asserted, with all the force of pious conviction, that Advertising is Good For Trade. And the logical deduction from this is that people would spend more money if they saw more and better advertisements.

If, as many shopkeepers assert, the people do not spend enough money, clearly the advertisements are at fault. We have a vision of millions of people going about with their pockets bursting with cash but not buying anything because they do not know what to spend it on.

The working-class, in particular, show a most deplorable indifference to publicity, and this is the cause of most of the problems that keep our statesmen awake after breakfast.

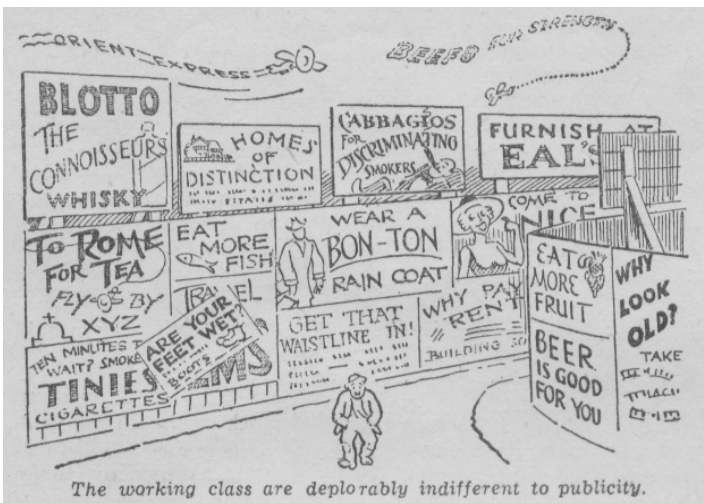
Take malnutrition. Half the population is under-fed. Why? Because there is no publicity campaign to bring home to the people the pleasures and benefits of eating. It is no use placarding the hoardings with "Eat More Fish." "Eat More Eggs." The ignorant public will only ask, "Why should I?"

When it is announced, quite truly, that "Beer is Best," will not the working-man only say, "What is it best for?" and turn away, shaking his head, and mumbling irritably at the inadequacy of the information?

Economists are always complaining that supply is always greater than demand. Why is this? Because our salesmen do not make sufficient efforts to Overcome Sales Resistance. Our advertisers do not Study the Psychology of Good Approach.

It should not be beyond the wit of our leading publicity experts to solve this question of why the working-class does not spend more money, and I await next year's gathering with confidence for the final solution.

As the examiner said to the P.A.C. inspector, as he pointed to the gap between his waistcoat and his abdomen—"Watch this space."



In vain Sir Charles Higham uttered his faith that modern advertising was "decent, honest and straightforward."

The Conference has left us with the disturbing thought that there is still some advertisers in whose bosoms the lamp of truth burns with but a flickering flame.

Nevertheless, I was surprised that Sir H. Bellman should have cited the advertisements of patent medicine as among those which occasionally verge from the path of strict exactitude. One would have thought that they, above all others, corroborated the assertion of several delegates that "Truth in Advertising Pays."

A generation ago it was the custom to draw upon the imagination when presenting such wares to the public, and an aperient pill was apt to be based upon some rare and

out of her well and flooded the market, and the medical prescription paid higher dividends than the fairy tale.

* * *

All the same, Truth should be subject to discretion, even in regard to patent medicines. Man cannot thrive without Faith, and if he insists on attributing his recovery from a complaint to the last thing he happened to take for it, why not satisfy his soul's yearnings?

The nation's greatest need is better trade. And if the makers of a remedy were to advise the public not to take it until they had first sought medical advice as to its suitability for their particular complaint, trade would suffer and the medical profession would be overworked.

* * *

Let us, however, postpone these

The Hon. R. G. Casey,
Federal Treasurer.

Dear Mr. Casey, —

So, in spite of having cut the painter and sold your London home, the first important bit of news you had to tell us on your return from abroad was that "London," although it turned down rather coldly your effort at raising a new loan to pay off an old debt, still entertains a comparatively high opinion of Australia and Australians (with certain exceptions). Dear, oh dear! How a long line of defunct Caseys must turn beneath the Ould Sod to see their descendent so ready to bask in London's sunshine! What does it matter what that little group you envisage as "London"—meaning a few dozen internationally minded money-grubbers—thinks of Australia, whether well or ill?

To be sure, you yourself gave what you doubtless consider a satisfactory answer. Investment of English capital in the Commonwealth, you said, had been limited to some extent by the fear of the return of a radical Labor Government, though you did your best to disabuse the minds of the (unnamed) investors against any such unreasoning fears.

Thank you, Sir!

But what a wonderful, if unintended—and perhaps undeserved—compliment you paid to Labor! If Labor had its mind definitely made up to stop both "London" loans and "London" investments in the future, it would be doing a signal service to Australia and enhancing its already rosy chances of throwing out the Ministry to which you belong. For your "London" investments can come out here in only one of two ways. The first is by our increasing our imports of English goods without any corresponding increase of exports.

This your Government clearly does not want, since it is boasting this week of the increase in our "favourable" trade balance—that is, the increase in exports at the expense of imports. The second way is for your investing friends, instead of collecting in England the annual interest or dividends on their existing Australian "investments," to take payment in Australian money in Australia, and to use the proceeds to get a further stranglehold over such of our remaining capital assets as do not already belong to them. In other words, a compounding of usury. And you did your best to disabuse your London friends' minds against any unreasoning fears that Labor would be given the chance to stop this happy game of grab!

A long experience of politics, dear Mr. Casey, has accustomed the Australian people to the spectacle of Labor men deliberately setting out to betray those whose support returned them to Parliament in the first place. But it would be quite a novel note to find a man from the U.A.P. setting out to defeat his own side. Yet, if you continue to threaten people with the idea that Labor stands for freeing us from the incubus of the overseas investor (or, as your Irish forbears would have said, the absentee landlord), you will be doing Labor a far finer service in the coming elections than if you came out openly on their platform.

Don't you think you'd better fall back on some of the old stories about "confiscating the people's savings"?

THE NEWTIMES

P.S. — We're dying to hear what answers you got to the hundred questions you promised to ask Monty Norman.

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.)

CITY.

DRY CLEANING & REPAIRS. "Saville," Leonard House, Eliz. St. 6th Floor. FROCKS, Coats; W., O.S.; Mod. Price. Kellehers, Block Court, 3rd. Floor. GINGER JAR CAFE, 238 Flinders Lane (4 doors from Swanston St.) Best 3-course meal in city. 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 Lt. 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. Stackpoole. Lang Arc., off 333 Lons. St. WATCHMAKER and Jeweller. M. Chapman, CAPITOL HSE, 6yrs. Hardy Bros., in charge Repair Dept.

DARLING.

ESTATE AGENT, J. White, 1 Illova St. UY 6521. ELSTERNWICK. BRIDGE & SON. Men's & Boys' Wear. Opp. Station. Phone L 5383. CARMICHAEL'S, Men's Wear 233 G'huntly Rd., next Baptist Ch. H. L. SERCOMBE Pty. Ltd., 70 Glenhantly 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, White 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. XW2160 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.

BEAN'S, 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 & Bedding. Duke's, 111 H'berg Rd. Ivan. 626.

KEW.

ANDERSON'S, 141 High St. Authorised Newsagent. Haw. 1145.

BUTCHER, S. Daw. High Steet. 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.

(Continued on page 7.)

THE NEW TIMES

Published every Friday by New Times Ltd., Elizabeth House, Elizabeth and Little Collins Streets, Melbourne, C.I. Postal Address: Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Telephone: M 5384.

Vol. 3. No. 32.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1937.

Parliament and "Outside Organisations"

In making his speech of thanks to the audience which welcomed him home at the Melbourne Town Hall last Friday night—and whose welcome was carefully stage-managed by restricting admission to those holding special tickets of invitation—the Prime Minister struck a note which is regularly sounded at election times. "It is idle for the Federal Labor party," he said, "to assert that it is free from outside dictation... Not once since I have been in office have I received dictation from outside organisations." And the statement was, according to the daily papers (the *New Times*, strangely enough, did not receive a ticket to the harvest festival), received with general applause. Why?

For our part, we do not see anything to be ashamed of in a Member of Parliament, or even the Government itself, receiving instructions from outside organisations. What is a Parliament, or a party within a Parliament, or a member within a party, in the House for? To carry out their own sweet will, to impose upon the people what they conceive to be in the people's best interests, or to do what the people want? Surely the latter; otherwise, why not have a Stalin or a Hitler right away? Hence Parliament, and every one of its members, should be receiving outside instructions all the time. If Mr. Lyons by "outside organisations" meant secret conclaves of dictatorial minority groups, then we should find ourselves in agreement with his sentiments. But we do not think he meant any such thing. His whole lamentable history indicates the opposite—as witness his constant keep-out-of-the-ring-and-trust-me-to-do-what-is-best speeches of the years since he rattled on the Labor party. The certain fact is that J. A. Lyons, once he is re-elected for another parliamentary term, regards himself as a dictator who not only will not listen to the views of electors, but who publicly resents electors even daring to express views for themselves at all. We know this in his attitude at the time of his disastrous attack on our trade with Japan last year; we saw it again at the time when King Edward was hustled off the

throne; and we have seen it on numbers of other occasions, both major and minor.

It is high time that these puffed-up political servants were deflated. It is their job to be dictated to by "outside organisations" all their political lives. And it is the job of the majority of their constituents to band themselves into "outside organisations" and do the dictating.

"Reconstruction"

Another of the pearls of wisdom which fell from the Prime Minister, and which also will doubtless be repeated *ad nauseam* before election day, was this: "Throughout its term of office the Ministry has been engaged on a colossal task of reconstruction and progress. Not only has it built where before there was ruin. It has gone ahead and built where before there was nothing."

Reconstruction from what? From the plenty that oppressed us during the time of the Scullin Ministry? And, if not from that from the growing national, municipal and private debt? From ever mounting taxation? From the rapidly increasing list of those who upon reaching mature years, found themselves so destitute as to qualify for the old age pension pittance? From our inability to trade with our overseas customers because we could not buy their goods against our goods? From the public and private insecurity oppressing us on all sides?

Look over the list and see what the Ministry has achieved. We still have destitution and near-destitution in the midst of an embarrassing abundance and a capacity for still greater abundance. The public debt goes up from year to year—if the Commonwealth puts on a better face in its own department, this is merely on account of its superior taxing powers. This Ministry has broken all records in taxation, both in its total and in its amount per head. The list of old age pensioners grows longer and longer. What trade treaties has the Lyons Government made? And were we ever in greater fear of being dragged into war at the coat tails of internationalists working in the name of the British people for objectives that mean nothing at all to the great mass of the people either of Britain or of the Dominions? Epilogue: "I cannot imagine that the people of Australia are likely to turn from a Ministry which has built up such an imposing edifice and hand over their country to unknown forces which, through rashness and experiment, will bring this edifice to ruins. (Prolonged applause.)"

"Time for Apprehension"

The following appeared in last Friday's Melbourne *Argus* under the signature of its financial editor:

"It is unfortunate, with the gradual dissipation of the building boom, which now seems well under way, that its place is, as it were, being taken by greatly increased expenditure on armaments, which

gives promise of continuing for five years at least. When the capital expenditure associated directly or indirectly with armaments begins to taper off, apprehension may justly be felt about the future of industry in Britain."

Those of us who may at times become discouraged, and who may feel that our small voices crying out for financial reform are lost in the wilderness, should derive fresh heart from reading such editorial remarks coming from such sources as the above. For when our propaganda begins to percolate through the citadel of the *Argus*, then indeed there is hope.

The opinion of the *Argus* followed its statement that "the sums which the British Government is now spending on armaments are so large that the attempt to defray them from current taxation has been frankly abandoned, and £80,000,000 a year is to be borrowed over the next five years." We have thus the admission that the money disbursed by industry is quite insufficient to enable its own output to be sold at a satisfactory price, that such money must be supplemented from some source which is not reflected in increased costs or prices, and that rearmament—which comes under this head, since arms are not marketed—is nothing more nor less than a temporary prosperity device, at least in its financial-economic implications. Which will do us nicely.

The financial editor of the *Argus* has now only to grasp that the money for rearmament could be issued free of interest by the Government, instead of being borrowed as an interest-bearing loan; and that it could be distributed for more useful works, or even *given* to those who need it, not for five years, but continuously and indefinitely, and he would just about have learned what the "cranks" have been trying to teach such as him for years. He would have learnt the secret of permanent prosperity and permanent peace.

Still, even the most conservative are on their way.

Child Transportation

The announcement this week that some of the children in England whom it is proposed to send to "farm schools" in Australia have expressed mutinous intentions hardly comes as a surprise. "I don't want to go to Australia," said one lad of 13. "I don't know anything about Australia. I have friends here. I am going to be a gardener."

When the above and similar reports were referred to Colonel Heath, superintendent of the Northcote Trust Farm at Bacchus Marsh (Vic.), his comment, according to the Melbourne *Herald*, was that it probably would be unwise to send out boys of 12 or 13 who did not wish to come, because at that age they were old enough to choose for themselves. Younger children would naturally need more guidance, and some childish opposition to being removed from their accustomed surroundings could be expected. In any case, home-sickness was to be anticipated when a boy was told that he would be leaving his

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, LET US MAKE MORE MONEY"

From Rev. A. C. Stevens, president of South Australian Council of Churches:—

Money dictates how much goods shall be manufactured, how much consuming-power shall be distributed amongst the people. The high priests of high finance tell us how much air we shall breathe, and whether or not we shall have sufficient clothing and food, whether mothers and children shall starve or be made widows and orphans. The sufficient answer is given to every cry for social progress and Christian reform: "We have no money."

The world is full of the gifts of God, and magical machines wait ready to our hands to stamp out myriads of products; thousands of people stand idle in the market-place crying, "No man hath hired us." It is blasphemy against God to forbid the people to make ample goods to satisfy all their legitimate needs. That is what the dictators of our present civilisation are doing. That is what our money system does. If we need more money to liberate the flood-tide of making and distributing mere goods, then let us in the name of God and humanity make more money, just as we have made money in the past sufficient for the needs of commerce and humanity.

Our present woes spring from the fact that for years finance has ruled industry, and the people have lived from hand to mouth from the fruits of what industry has been allowed or not allowed to perform. The community has got to face a fundamental revolution in its thinking, and cease to regard the great golden idol of Mammon as all-powerful. The money-system, which produces gluts and famines, has got to be scrapped, and a monetary system devised which produces a planned and a constant stream of necessities to supply the needs of the peoples of the world. When the wolf is driven from the doors of the people's homes; when the nations cease to be driven by the raging devils of artificial economic scarcities, then international hatreds will wane, international greed be laid to rest, and the mantle of God's peace be spread across the world.

for a new land.

And apparently the Colonel was quite satisfied to leave it at that.

Younger children . . . more guidance . . . childish opposition! Without any disrespect to the Colonel, who doubtless means well, are not his reported views a terrible reflection on the alleged humanitarianism of this twentieth century? Is his viewpoint so very different from that of the doubtless equally well-meaning people who, for the theft of a bunch of carrots, transported English children to the penal settlements of Australia a century ago? It was all conceived as being for the children's good, and doubtless there was some childish opposition and a certain amount of homesickness then, as now.

The circumstances, you will say, were entirely different? The farm school is not to be compared with the barbarous penal settlement? Perhaps not; but the exile, the tearing away of every childish association, is hardly less keen. If there is not the physical torture, there is the same mental cruelty.

The unit of society is the family. Once you attempt to break this down you introduce slavery, whether that of the old

mart where bodies were sold or its modern counterpart, the totalitarian State of Nazism or Communism. Migration should be a matter either of families or of individuals old enough to found families for themselves, and especially migration of the type which requires "guidance" and meets with "opposition."

But what if the child is destitute, an orphan, and without relations or friends? In these circumstances, if the name of civilised society is to be anything more than a mockery, such a child should be the object of the penal settlements of Australia a State's tenderest care. And more than a mockery, such a child should be the object of the State's tenderest care. And it was all plucking it up by the roots from its native heath, and transporting it to the other end of the world (with an odds-on chance of finishing up as a farm labourer) is a damnably poor type of State solicitude.

Thousands of insects are being shipped in cold storage to Fiji, in the hope that they will prey upon another insect, which causes plague.

This idea of setting one nasty parasite to wipe out another nasty parasite is popular with scientists, but I doubt if it works.

In this country, when one set of parasites comes up against another set they aren't such fools as to go on competing. They amalgamate and form a combine.

—"Reynolds News."

"MERE COMMERCIAL COMMODITIES"

In addressing the American Bar Association at its Annual Meeting, Lord Hewart, Lord Chief Justice of England, said:

"Thirty and more years ago there were already signs in many newspaper offices of a contest for supremacy between what might be called the editorial department on the one side and the business—which is to a great extent the ADVERTISING—department on the other side.

"The contest seems to have been decided in that interval," said Lord Hewart, "and in an enormous number of cases it appears to have been decided in favour of the business department.

"Well, there is no law at present to prevent newspapers from being treated as MERE COMMERCIAL COMMODITIES, as if they were so much soap, or oil, or tinned meat. If the function of newspapers is to be simply TO INCREASE AND INFLAME THE ALREADY DEPLORABLE POWER OF MERE MONEY IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS, is there any reason why in any respect whatsoever the law should exhibit any special tenderness toward them?"—

THE PRINTED WORD

in Pamphlets, Booklets, Leaflets, Weeklies, Monthlies, Annuals, Newspapers, Magazines, or Books

EXCELLENTLY AND ECONOMICALLY PRODUCED

By THE ADVOCATE PRESS 143-151 a'BECKETT ST., MELBOURNE.

Phone: F 2673 (3 lines).

THE MAN IN THE TOWER

The Case of George Elliott

The case of George Elliott, the man who last week took possession of a forestry tower near Mornington (90 miles from Perth), in order to draw public attention to his plight, is set out below in his own words, as published in the West Australian papers.

It will be remembered that the brief accounts in the Eastern dailies recorded how Elliott was persuaded to surrender to the police. A doctor reported that he was not insane, but was undernourished (as were his wife and children).

Elliott's statement reads:—

"I was put out of work on account of the depression in July, 1931. After having used up my resources, even to the children's money in the bank, I got sustenance at the rate of £2/2/- a week. After having walked the streets for two months I could see no way of getting work. Then a scheme was started to put men on abandoned farms as caretakers, doing work to the value of sustenance to the satisfaction of the local Agricultural Bank inspector. To this I agreed and an agreement was put before me to sign. This contained two clauses: First I would work for sustenance rate, less 7/-; and, second, I would vacate the property on the order of the local bank inspector.

"I was sent to a property five miles north of Mornington Hills, and, as I was going out with the intention of making good, I got myself out to the property without any cost to the department.

WENT TO WORK

and carried out the orders given by the inspector. I cleared extra land in the swamp for a garden. During May 1932, I had to send my wife to Perth on the advice of Dr. Jacob, of Harvey. The Salvation Army took the wife into their hospital at Fremantle for the bonus, for, unfortunately for us, we were to have another child. I had to run a back debt for other expenses.

When my wife returned home I sent the birth certificate with an application for the extra 1/- a day to bring me up to my agreed rate, but I have been rebuffed every time I have asked for it.

The bank said they only found the work; it was a matter for the relief department. The relief department replied that 35/- was the maximum. As I had done a lot of work on the place and had a fair garden laid out, I decided to carry on. A kind neighbour lent us a cow on account of the young baby, and when the cow went dry about five months later, I saw the vital need

vital need of a cow for the children. Another neighbour let me have one for £7—pay as you can. I still continued to carry on the work as instructed. . . . The garden proved a failure through lack of artificial manure and iron seepage into the swamp. I again suggested other work, but was told if I left where I was I would be classed as having left a job. My position

WAS PRETTY DESPERATE. I had my wife, self and five children to feed, clothe and get to school, pay to get stores out, medicines and pay hospital tax, etc., out of 35/-. I wrote to the Education Department and they allowed me 6d a day per child to get them to school, and I found that by putting 9d a day to it, it could be managed. I looked around for means to make something to help things a bit, . . . the weekend would be spent catching wild pigs. When in the Mill, I would pick up slops at the houses. The pigs I would kill and sell, and out of my share I was able to buy another cow. . . . With other pigs I was able to buy four yearling heifers for 35/-.

" . . . Seeing I had about 12 head of stock, I needed feed for them badly. I went to Perth to try and get the R.S.L. to help. I could not get through to see Mr. Benson. So I asked Senator Collett to help. He had an inspector from the Relief Department sent out, and he reported that help should be sent. And that was all I got. . . . "Miss May Holman had tried several times before to get help, but with the same answer: 'It is very difficult to get any help for anyone on farms.' . . . I went on till I was fed up. I then went into the police station, Harvey, and asked for relief. I was given another form to fill in. They sent it in and by return post was told that it could not be considered as I was already in receipt of the maximum rate paid to caretakers. What could I do? My children were not getting the food they should have, and I was ashamed to see them RUSH THE PIG BUCKETS from the Mill to get the tit-bits from them.

"I decided to ask for a transfer to another property six miles east of the Mill which had more feed for the stock. . . . "I wrote Miss Holman and asked her to put the matter personally before Mr. McCallum. . . . However, I got nothing. Having accumulated a lot of dockets for handles, tools, fracture, etc., used for the work, I put in for a refund. The account went backwards and forwards several times. I got no refund. The amount was about £2/12/- odd.

"Eventually I wrote the local inspector that I could not carry on any further work unless tools were provided. . . . He informed the branch bank and Mr. Fox came out and we agreed that I could not carry on indefinitely without some help, and he would get the matter settled one way or the other.

"I was to get help or be put off. I was told to be off by July 20. Sell everything and be off by that date. To keep within the law I have done so at a great loss, not realising enough to cover debts.

"My wife and children have nothing to thank the relief department or the Government responsible for the harsh treatment received at its hands. We are now worse off than when we started.

"I still hold this agreement good.

MADNESS OF THE PEOPLE

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

"The noise of the waves and the madness of the people", says the Psalmist. The thoughtful student of history must often marvel at these sudden waves that shake crowds, nations and peoples. "Whom the gods wish to destroy they first deprive of reason", and certainly destruction follows close upon such periods of madness. Religious madness that causes self-torture of mind or body and the inflicting of torture, persecution and death on others. Money madness, that causes men to sacrifice every decent instinct to the acquisition of wealth; that has made parents insure the lives of their children, and then murder them; that lets life and its beautiful possibilities go by while waiting feverishly for dead men's shoes; that causes the miser to live in sordid poverty, rags, cold and hunger while the useless pieces pile up, who, if he were not possessed with this form of madness, would know that he will one day die and another will take and spend his hoard. Hate madness that is capable of the awful deeds that cause such lynching as have been recently described in the *New Times*. But of all these madresses, surely none can equal war-madness, since not the most terrible experiences, the most blasting showing-up, the most logical demonstrations of its utter futility, most powerful books, poems or plays—not all these can cure men of this worst of all forms of madness.

We have an illustration of this in the recent decision of the Australian Trades Unions to the effect that whereas no worker would fight in "imperialistic" wars, he would be quite willing to make war on Fascists. It seems incredible that grown people should fall for this sort of stuff, should really believe that such issues can be decided on the field of battle. And by what necromancy are we to discover what wars are imperialistic and which are not? If Empire leaders tell us that it is our duty to fight Italy, Germany or Japan, and we agree, we are fighting in an Imperialistic war, whether we know it or not.

Two Reasons

Surely these innocents know that in the whole history of wars there were always two reasons for them

and must be paid, and amount to £94/1/- back sustenance. My loss through having to sell the stock is £35/12/1. There is £2/12/- odd for back tools account.

"My whole family should go under doctor's care until they are back to good health again. There is not a good rug or garment in the house. I am not asking for any more than that which is ours by right and by law. "My family consists of eight, and 35/- is not half the basic wage. I have fulfilled my part of the agreement with the relief department. Let them fulfill theirs. At the time I had to sell I had 15 head of stock and 25 pigs.

"I want now a proper inquiry into my case and not by department officials. "I want the whole system inquired into by the Chief Justice of Western Australia. I have taken possession of a forestry tower and I don't intend to shift till I get justice, and as my position gets desperate I shall shoot to kill. I am well armed."

Postscript.—Mr. Elliott may not have heard that, according to the Prime Minister, WE ARE THE MOST PROSPEROUS NATION ON EARTH.

COLD GLUES, DEXTRINE PASTES AND GUMS. INDUSTRIAL ADHESIVES PTY. LTD., 155 Yarra St., Abbotsford, N.9, Vic. Phone J 2478.

—the real, hidden reason, and the one given out for purposes of recruiting.

To quote a remote instance, the real reason why William the Conqueror made war on France was because of the coarse joke the King of France made on William's increasing corpulence, but that monarch had no difficulty in persuading his thousands to the slaughter on another pretext altogether. That he came to his own end there was a piece of poetic justice that unfortunately has had few, if any, parallels since. His successors have lived to make bad treaties and sow the seeds of the next murder campaign.

War-makers think nothing at all of human life as such. We can most of us remember the slogan of the last war, "To the last man and the last shilling", but the man who so bravely said it was not that last man, nor did he lose his last shilling. Very far from it. He was one of the New Rich after the carnage. We need never flatter ourselves that officials of the War Office are thinking in terms of widows, orphans, desolated homes and broken hearts. That has been made abundantly evident by the sudden concern shown for the physical fitness of the nation when war preparations began. Men are war material, that's all. Pawns in the murder game. And the A.C.T.U. does not seem to have grasped that.

Should We Slay the Oppressed?

Because some nations have been so unfortunate as to be dragged at the chariot-wheels of dictators, the Trades Union movement thinks it would be a fine thing to kill them for it—people just like themselves. If we make war on Italy or Germany, will that set German and Italian workers free? Can we not remember that in 1914 we were told that we were fighting to make the world safe for democracy, but the result instead was a crop of Fascist dictatorships, and freedom receding from every country? Australia did not escape, for remnants of the War Precautions Act stayed with us, and robbed us of our ancient rights of free assemblage, free speech, free access to literature and freedom of travel. Should another conflict appear in the offing, we may expect a "Defence of the Realm" Act that will subject us to new forms of slavery.

So war actually not only seeks to enslave some other nation or people, but actually enslaves those whom it employs and all belonging to them. You cannot pluck good fruit from a bad tree—and so to talk of getting liberty, stability and wise government from war is a dangerous form of madness.

This is, of course, more true in these days of mechanised warfare than ever before. As I. A. R. Wyllie points out, victory is not due to brave men and strong hearts, but is settled by a spectacled old gentleman in a laboratory. The madness of it! What has poor old Hans or Antonio done to me that I should thirst for his blood? Is he not, like myself, a victim of a bad system, does he not feel bewildered by the same frustrations, and even if he acquiesces in the form of government that he lives under (and we have no real evidence that he does), might it not be because he has failed to discover the real cause of the confusion and sorrow and deprivation in the world?

"My Friends, We Have Failed"

Low has an excellent cartoon that illustrates this. A crocodile on the platform, with a crowd of wolves and tigers behind him, is addressing a gathering of sheep, and saying (the scene is the hall of a disarmament conference): "My friends, we have failed. We just couldn't control your war-like

passions." The sheep are the common people of the world.

Do you think that that Australian soldier who blew "Fritz" to fragments in the daytime, and swapped cigarettes with Fritz's comrades-in-arms at night, was not seized with the wild anomaly of it all? Did he not have fleeting visions of a blue-eyed Fraulein wistfully waiting for the return of her Fritz, just as a sun-tanned Australian girl was waiting for him? And what about Antonio of the dark curls, and melting black eyes, sunny-hearted and warm-blooded—do we really want to blow his gay head off, and mutilate his lissome body? And all in the name of freedom and democracy!

Let us not be deceived. War settles no problems. It can only create new ones, more difficult by far of solution. The last one took idealistic boys, and when it didn't kill them, filled the asylums with

WHO WANTS PEACE?

Australia's biggest industrial undertaking—the Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd.—reported yesterday record net profit of £1,183,171 for the year to May 31, 1937. This compares with £850,361 for 1935-36 and with £670,442 for 1934-35.

The past year's profit was struck after providing £670,442 for depreciation (£615,052 in 1935-36) and £18,406 for debenture interest (£23,305).

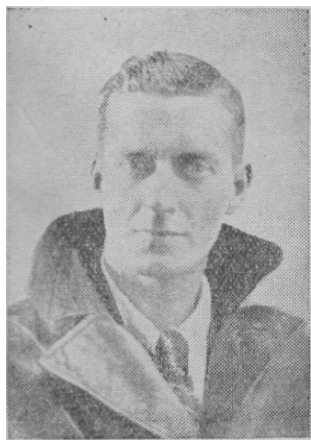
The unprecedented demand upon heavy industries caused by widespread rearmament programmes, which demand is not met fully, was a major reason for the big expansion of the company's earnings. —Melbourne "Sun", July 24.

them, or made them bitter, disillusioned cynics, or, worse, taught them new and horrible vices, hardened them to human suffering, made even private murder lose its horror, and destroyed their faith in God and man. Dictators die, and systems are changed, but not by war. Will Adolf Hitler fall on the field of battle, or Benito Mussolini? Not on your life. Just poor Fritz and Antonio, as it ever was. It has been truly said that war settles nothing but the soldiers.

Why, anyway, think of nations only by their tyrants or their particular form of government? Why should Germany mean Hitler, Goering and Goebells rather than Goethe, Schiller and Mozart? And why should Italy mean Mussolini, with the out-thrust jaw, rather than Caruso, Garibaldi and Marconi? How would we like it if England was to foreigners just Charles Peace, Oswald Mosley and Cosmo Lang?

Let the Australian trades unions' Council think again, therefore, before they pass hastily hot-headed resolutions founded on these old, exploded fallacies.

Electors' Campaign to Abolish Poverty A MEETING will be held at the IVANHOE HALL on SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, at 3 p.m. (sharp). Speakers: DR. JOHN DALE (Melbourne City Health Officer) and MR. BRUCE H. BROWN.



FREE YOURSELF FROM The Shackles of Debt Finance In 1937.

WORK and VOTE FOR:

J. AMESS FLINDERS

1. Australia is Over governed and needs only one Parliament. The Parliament of the People and No Party Politics.
2. Parliament Exists to Make the Will of the People Preval. The Initiative Referendum and recall must be embodied in the Constitution of Australia.
3. Money Must be made Man's Servant, Not Man's Master, and Must Be Issued Interest Free and Without Debt by the National Credit Authority to the Government for all National Works.
4. Abolition of All Taxation, National Credit Authority to Equate Effective Demand with Production, and Abolish Poverty.
WE NEED YOUR HELP. (Write for Literature)
Authorised by W. HOLLWELL 90 Abbott St., Sandringham, S.8. (Campaign Sec.)

THE REPORT OF THE MONETARY AND BANKING COMMISSION

A Monument of Incapacity

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

Although there was really only one question of importance before the Monetary and Banking Commission, an examination of its Report shows that it discussed almost every conceivable aspect of the subject *except* the one with which it was most vitally concerned. What the people wanted from the Commission was a straightforward answer to each of these questions:

1. Should money *subserve* production and its distribution, or should production and its distribution *subserve* money?

2. If the very purpose of the existence of money is to facilitate the production and distribution of the material things required by the people, what is preventing its being used for that purpose, and what should be done to remove the cause of such prevention?

The Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Tasmanian Parliament were not afraid to speak the truth on these points, but they were men with definite responsibility to the electors. Everyone knows that deliberate steps have been taken to restrict production even while millions of people are dying of starvation, and it is obvious that if we do not terminate this madness we must inevitably recede to the law of the jungle. Indeed, there are signs in parts of the world that this recession has already begun, and no less a person than Stanley Melbourne Bruce has awakened to the fact, and warned the world, that unless a way is found by which the benefits of science and machinery can be extended to the masses, then violent revolution will be unavoidable. That, surely, is serious enough to cause every responsible person to take stock of the situation, but instead of dealing with fundamental practices which stand between the masses and the benefits referred to, and which have brought about malnutrition, starvation, disease, misery and premature death in the midst of material abundance, the Commission spent its time in search of unimportant details and of excuses for the failure of the present system and those who control it.

It also seems clear that the Commission entered upon its work with the definite intention of trying to divert the people's attention from the principles of Social Credit, for although it thought it was showing the ideas to be based on wrong premises it actually proved their accuracy and indicated the inevitability of their adoption.

A body which could convince itself that there is not a permanent shortage of purchasing power under existing conditions could make itself believe that there is no sun in the heavens; and by seeking to prove an absurdity the Commissioners have placed themselves in company with all the well-meaning but ignorant people who have always stood in the way of progress, and denied the truth of wonderful discoveries.

The Terms of Reference

Now the terms of reference were as follows: "To inquire into the monetary and banking systems at present in operation in Australia, and to report whether any, and if so what, alterations are desirable in the interests of the people of Australia as a whole, and the manner in which any such alterations should be effected."

It will be noted that at the very outset of the proceedings the terms of reference were, shall we say, carefully worded. The commission was appointed to inquire into the monetary and banking systems, apparently on the assumption that there was a monetary system and a banking system, whereas the terms

are synonymous. The banking system is the monetary system, and the monetary system is the banking system. Even the Melbourne *Argus* has admitted this. In its financial leader of July 27 it said: "Under modern industrial conditions practically no branch of industry can be carried on without adequate supplies of bank credit. In practice this is controlled by the trading banks." When we speak of bank credit we mean cheque-money, and when we speak of cheque-money we mean the sort of money, which is used for 99 per cent, of our business transactions.

Responsibility of Trading Banks

On page 74 of the Commission's Report there is confirmation, and we are told that "the Central bank is responsible for regulating the volume of credit and the trading banks are responsible for distributing that credit amongst different industries." Credit, of course, is finance; and finance, of course, is the very life-blood of our business, domestic and social life. Those of us who have been trying to point this out have been called cranks, mushroom economists, well-intentioned but misguided enthusiasts, and all that sort of thing, but here we have the open admission that the private trading banks may distribute this financial credit as and to whom they choose, they may withdraw what has been distributed, they may withhold it from distribution, or they may actually cancel it.

Who now will deny that our community life-blood is controlled by the private banks and that when we are short of life-blood we must blame these controllers, who have been, and still are a law unto themselves where finance is concerned?

It follows, therefore, that a financial emergency must necessarily arise from shortcomings or improprieties on the part of the finance controllers, and as the so-called "depression" was nothing but "a financial emergency", the Commission contradicts itself and flies in the face of facts when it says, on page 209, that "no action by the monetary and banking system of Australia could have avoided some depression", and that "monetary measures alone did not produce recovery." What then, in the name of common sense, *could* have avoided the depression and produced recovery? Surely the Commission is mistaken in believing us still so innocent as to swallow the "depressions are inevitable" dope. *Depressions are due to the deliberate act of man, not of God, and man can prevent them.*

Anyone who may read this will know from his own experiences that all the difficulties encountered in the years of "depression" were entirely due to the falling away of his income, and that it was always a question of *money*. And if we have "recovered", as the Commission says, why is it that we are more deeply than ever in debt and are getting less and less of the necessities of life? Somehow, the facts do not tally and it will be shown in due course that manipulation of finance was the sole cause of the depression, and that there was no sign of any "recovery" until a reversal of that self-same manipulation had taken place.

Commonwealth Not a Serious Competitor

The Commission further contradicted itself when it said in one part that the Commonwealth Bank is the regulator of the volume of credit, but in another part that the distribution of credit is a matter for the private banks, and that "by

far the greater part of the sums lent consists of advances by way of overdraft." When banks lend on overdraft they create credit and permit the use of cheques, and they do it without any consultation or arrangement with the Commonwealth Bank. In fact, the Commonwealth Bank deliberately keeps out of their way, for on page 69 we are told, "Since 1930 at least it (the Commonwealth Bank) has not been a serious competitor of the trading banks. Neither has the bank made much use of its trading activities for the purpose of expanding or contracting credit." Here, you see, is an admission that credit is expanded or contracted by the trading banks, but thousands of words have been written about the "Monetary and Banking System, 1901-1936", with the idea of giving us the impression that the "central bank" has been the controlling institution.

Closing Down on Governments

And there is another significant aspect of this control business. On page 56 of the Report it is recorded that in December 1930, there was a conference between the Commonwealth Bank and the trading banks at which it was decided "future banking accommodation to the Governments should be provided only

TATTOOS AS "WHITED SEPULCHRES"

An attack on military tattoos has been made by the Vicar of Ewell, the Rev. C. G. Holland, who describes them as "glorifying mass murder and a foul blot on humanity."

Writing in his parish magazine, he says:

"Hundreds of thousands of our people will witness one of those whited sepulchre euphemistically called tattoos. Whited sepulchre because they present war under the aspect of a glorious adventure instead of showing it as it really is—a filthy, bestial shambles. Whited sepulchre because they show our own side always victorious, the enemy always ignominiously routed. They glorify a foul blot on humanity."

"If you are going to be present at one of the tattoos think of the millions of slain and mutilated in the Great War."

"When the grand finale of that heart stirring pageant comes, when the strains of 'Abide With Me' have died away, will you remember that you as an individual have been glorifying mass murder and worshipping a whited sepulchre?"

—Liverpool *Weekly Post and Mercury*, June 19.

by treasury bills issued under the authority of the Loan Council. Both Commonwealth and State Governments had previously borrowed money for temporary purposes by means of overdrafts either from the Commonwealth Bank or from trading banks." You see, the privilege of working on the overdraft system was deliberately withdrawn from our governments and a small body of private individuals dictated not only the methods by which the governments were to be financed, but the conditions and extent of the finance to be made available to them. It did not matter what the community needed, we were to get only what those fellows thought fit. They closed down on governments just as they had closed down on our businessmen. Notwithstanding this, the Commission calmly said that our difficulties did not arise from monetary considerations.

"Impose a Strain on the Community"

In addition to the foregoing, on page 273 of the Report, in an addendum by Mr. J. P. Abbot, we may read this: "...whenever the banks find their cash reserves being depleted, they put up the rate of interest

on their advances in order, as one banker put it, 'to warn their customers', and they must call on their borrowers to reduce their advances. Both actions impose a strain on the community which causes shocks throughout the whole economic structure."

Could anything be plainer than that? It is the banks that put up the rate of interest. It is the banks that call in the credit required by, and being used for the community. It is the banks that impose the strains on the community. And it is the banks that cause the shocks throughout the whole economic structure! But the Commissioners shut their eyes to all this and actually recommend the continuance of conditions which would enable the trading banks to go on imposing strains and causing shocks. These actions can always be avoided by depleting the cash reserves of the trading banks, and the Commission has admitted that it is already within the power of the Commonwealth Bank to do so. In fact, Sir Denison Miller did so in 1920, as will be shown later on in these criticisms, and the Commonwealth Bank could have done the same in 1930 had it been so minded, thus avoiding the suffering so needlessly endured by millions of Australians.

But it was not so minded, and it was allowed to betray Australia to her enemies almost without protest. Indeed, the man who took the leading part in that betrayal was held up to us as the embodiment of all that was pure and honourable.

Commonwealth Bank to "Advise" but Not "Interfere"

Still another contradiction is to be found in the Report. On page 201 it is stated, "the general objective of an economic system for Australia should be to achieve the best use of our productive resources, both present and future. This means the fullest possible employment of people and resources under conditions that will provide the highest standard of living."

Yet on page 237 we read: "We do not suggest that the Commonwealth Bank should interfere in any way with the granting of particular advances by trading banks, but rather that it should advise as to the general direction of advances."

Fancy that! The Commonwealth Bank would merely "advise" and the trading banks would continue to please themselves. They would still be in the position to control the distribution of the credit, and unless there were some effective penalties for failure to observe the "advice" of the national institution, then the idea of the Commonwealth Bank "paying some regard to the distribution by the banks of the

volume of credit amongst different industries" is entirely farcical. The Commission professes to be concerned to ensure "a wise distribution of credit" (page 238), but "is satisfied to leave the distribution of credit to privately-owned trading banks" (page 252). In other words, money is still to be regarded as something greater than wealth, the production of money is still to be the monopoly of private interests "working for profit", and money is still to be brought into existence as interest-bearing debt.

While all this is going on, the conditions in which the great majority of the people have to live are descending from bad to worse, and it is unlikely that any worthwhile remedial measures will be adopted until there is a stirring in the community followed by unequivocal demand. Herein lies our salvation. Let all the know-alls argue as much as they like about methods, but let us, the people at large, demand the *results* we want, viz.: the distribution of all production and freedom for the individual from the fear of insecurity and poverty. The opportunity will soon be at hand, and every elector should see to it that the opportunity is grasped. Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

AN ULTIMATUM IN ALBERTA?

Our daily press recently" indicated that Mr. Aberhart, Premier of Alberta, had delivered what amounts to an ultimatum to the banks in his province, demanding that they co-operate in making available the money he required and concluding with this significant statement:—

"The type of action which must be taken immediately is indicated by the fact that for every 1/- owned by the people of Alberta there is only 2d. with which to pay it now available to them."

A long while ago we suggested that any Government sincerely desirous of effecting monetary reform could (even without that Senate majority which Mr. Scullin has always lamented) bring the private banks to heel overnight. In Australia, as in Canada and practically everywhere else, the banks' holding of legal tender is only a small fraction of their liability to pay legal tender on demand, which is represented by the current account deposits of the public. A run on the private banks engineered by the government (thus preventing the banks from getting government assistance) would expose the whole financial swindle IN ONE HOUR.

Third Edition Now On Sale

The Story of Money

And Its Management

64 Pages, 1/-; posted, 1/1

Every advocate of monetary reform knows that his greatest obstacle is the deliberately fostered and widespread opinion that monetary principles cannot be understood except by experts. The Story of Money has been written to explode that false belief, and to set out in the simplest and clearest of language just how our money system is operated and where and why it fails to work.

Its contents include: The

beginnings of money; the coinage; the banknote and fixed deposit; the structure of Australia's money system; how bank credit is supplied, and cancelled, and why it is inefficient and insufficient; the velocity of money; how international trade is financed; international loans; the flight of capital; Australia's money monopoly and how it is composed; the need to finance consumers; the national dividend, its meaning and justification.

The Story of Money

is obtainable from

NEW TIMES LIMITED

BOX 1226, G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE

"LIKE BEING IN THE MIDST OF A BUBONIC PLAGUE"

An American Newspaper Man Describes the Russian "Purge"

The following despatches from Harold Denny, Russian correspondent of the *New York Times*, have been starred in that paper as "Uncensored":—

"The anxiety that broods over Moscow was painfully palpable the other night at a diplomatic reception. Dozens of faces of Russians we were accustomed to seeing were missing. Everyone was watching for confirmation or proof of the falsity of the rumours that this or that high official who ordinarily would have been there had been arrested. And many so reported did not come. 'It is like being in the midst of a bubonic plague,' said a foreign woman guest from the Far East, 'watching to see who have been stricken.'

"If one accepts only what is authoritatively published here and only what has admittedly happened, two conclusions suggest themselves—either the Government and the Communist party leadership, which in reality are identical, have staged a frame-up on a gigantic scale or there exists a situation of discontent, unrest and active disloyalty in the Stalin regime amounting almost, if not fully, to a counter-revolution . . .

"There have not been any riots in Moscow and probably no place

leadership has been destroyed by execution, exile or imprisonment. If Lenin were to return to life in this Red State that he founded he would see few familiar faces . . . The happiest people here now are those in middling jobs. It is only obscure people who feel safe. That is true in every field, including the Communist party ranks . . . This city's aspect is not different from ordinary times and no more troops than usual are in evidence . . .

"The prestige of the Russian Communist party undoubtedly has suffered a severe blow in the eyes of the people of its own home country.

"These men, these great Bolsheviks, turn out to be crooks and traitors,' they say to themselves. And they wonder who the next of their heroes will be branded enemies of the people . . .

"Commenting on the above, *Time* (New York, July 5), says:—

"How Harold Denny could keep sending reams of this off to Manhattan day after day, using only the ordinary means of communication open to any Moscow correspondent, was itself a commentary upon the difference between conditions in Russia when the State was not honeycombed with uncertainty and today.

"As a postscript to his series, Harold Denny came through with some official statistics showing that in the past five months the Soviet birth rate has doubled. This major phenomenon is due of course, to Dictator Stalin's having suddenly last year made abortion no longer legal in the Soviet Union. Communist sex morals had been so loosened by nearly two decades of abortions in State clinics that millions of Russian females have continued promiscuous relations and, without abortions, the increase in births has shot up so sharply that Moscow, with 2000 maternity beds last year, has had to be swiftly equipped with 2000 more."

WARNING

The history of the Great Depression and the not-so-great Recovery has surely taught us that Governments must accept responsibility for deciding the main direction of national economic development. It would be calamitous if, during the best of the fat years, the Government, for want of forethought and active preparation, allowed lean years to come upon us again. We can, no doubt, stand minor recessions in the curve of business activity. We can certainly not stand—nor, perhaps, will our familiar social institutions stand—anything like another Great Depression.

—*Economist* editorial, June 26.

else and there probably will not be. Few, if any, qualified foreign observers appear to believe there is a likelihood of anything more dramatic happening here than a continuation of the arrests, dismissals, trials and shootings . . .

"Soviet industry is still functioning, though in a manner that would be totally intolerable in any advanced capitalist country. Soviet industry and supply have not actually broken down, but are sadly disrupted, and they are becoming worse instead of better.

"And the significant thing is that the Kremlin's' apparently frenzied efforts to arrest the decline by wholesale dismissals of executives and engineers, setting the whole population on a hunt for Trotskyists,' is making matters worse instead of better . . . Now it becomes evident that many past figures of industrial output were false because executives, under pressure from the Kremlin to fulfill their plans, simply faked them . . .

"Recent disclosures of foreign engineers who have now left the country as a result of the Soviet Union's drive to get rid of foreigners, form a vivid picture of industrial chaos from top to bottom. Foreigners having business with Soviet organisations report them in confusion. They start dealing with one set of executives only to have them disappear and be succeeded by another, who know nothing of what has gone before and who themselves soon disappear, to be succeeded by another set of novices....

"Nearly every mind that might have disputed with Stalin for

A RAILWAY SURPLUS, AND HOW!

Some Sidelights on Sound Finance as Practised by the Stevens Government in N.S.W.

The announcement that the Railways for the year just closed showed a "surplus" of £30,000 as against a deficit of £4,500,000 in the mid-depression year, 1932, is interesting, says an editorial in the *N.S.W. Railway and Tramway Officers' Gazette*.

Had award wages been paid to all railway employees during the year, the £30,000 surplus would have been turned into a deficit of £120,000, while the restoration of basic wage cuts would have added another £1,250,000 to the loss on operations.

In addition, a further nett amount of £625,000 for per. way maintenance charged to a "special loan" account instead of to working expenses would have increased the deficit to £1,995,000.

In 1935, a unique method of producing bookkeeping prosperity by meeting working expenses on the time-payment plan was introduced by the present Government.

A "special loan" of £3,300,000 was made available to the Railway Commissioner for the maintenance of railway tracks during the years 1935-36-37 and '38—work properly chargeable to working expenses in the year in which the money is spent.

This £3,300,000 is to be repaid out of working expense over a period of 20 years.

Thus to show favourable figures up to June, 1938, the date, incidentally, of the State elections, a fictitious result has been produced, which might tide Mr. Stevens over the elections, but which will have a detrimental effect on the railway accounts for 17 subsequent years. Of the "special loan," £860,000 was expended in the financial year ended June, 1935; £1,156,000, in 1936; £725,879 in 1937; leaving

£558,121 for the year ending June 1938.

Of the amounts expended to date, under the "20 years to pay" plan, £43,000 was charged to working expenses in the year 1935-1936; £100,800 in 1936-1937; and £137,093 will be paid in 1937-1938, leaving £3,020,107, or £177,653 per annum, to be charged for 17 years, commencing on 1st July, 1938, and providing Mr. Stevens with a fictitious credit of over £3,000,000 in the railway books—up to June, 1938—with which to face the electors.

* * *

Neither Mr. Stevens nor Mr. Hartigan has claimed responsibility for the worldwide depression that hit Australia in 1931-32, but neither is averse to shining in the reflected glory accompanying the gradual worldwide emergence from the depression.

Mr. Stevens' sole contribution has been wage cut after wage cut. True, Mr. Hartigan, with his personal popularity, has been able to secure the full co-operation of the staff, despite the low-wage policy of the Government, and we admit—boast—that the railways are being run efficiently.

It would be idle to deny that an efficient staff working in co-operation with the Commissioner, added to the drive for new business, has contributed to the "surplus" for the year just closed, but wage cuts made the biggest contribution.

In 1929, 37,361 employees were paid £10,474,189 to earn a gross revenue of £19,615,616. In the very depth of the depression, 1932, 36,615 employees, after allowing for deductions, by way of rationing, were paid £8,572,636 for a gross revenue of £15,001,022.

In the year of prosperity and railway "surplus," 1937, 36,850 employees, working full time, received £8,100,000 for a gross revenue equated to 1929 rates of £18,700,000. For 1938, only £8,620,000 is estimated for wages and salaries to perform work exactly equal to that performed in 1929 for £10,474,189. Thus, railway men will transport prosperity traffic for depression wages.

* * *

However, the railway accounts have disclosed a "surplus" of £30,000 for the year. Mr. Hartigan says a further surplus will be shown for the year ending June 1938. We doubt this very much and, so far as the next following year is concerned, undoubtedly there will be a big deficit, unless further wage cuts are made.

Before then there will be an election. If Mr. Stevens is returned, the 1939 deficit, prior to an adjustment of the wage bill, will be a considered plan of reconstruction. If Mr. Stevens is defeated the deficit will be the result of losing his guiding influence.

MONTAGU NORMAN TO STRENGTHEN THE TIES

Last week's cables reported the inclusion of Montagu Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, as one of the trustees nominated by Stanley Baldwin to administer the Imperial Relations Trust. This is the name given to the £250,000 anonymously placed at Baldwin's disposal "to endow any object best calculated to strengthen the ties between the Do-minions, and the United Kingdom."

Montague may be relied on to do his best towards strengthening the ties, all right.

Some of Those "Imperial" Interests for which You May Be Asked to Fight

Notes extracted from the London *Economist* of June 26 (our italics):

"Shell" Transport Meeting

" . . . Lord Bearsted then reviewed the company's interests in *Mexico* and *Venezuela*, remarking that the Mexican Government appeared sincerely desirous of reaching an agreement on outstanding questions. It was disclosed that the group is now actively prospecting in *Colombia* . . . As chairman of an *international trading company*, Lord Bearsted was naturally critical of economic rationalism. Self-sufficiency, he said, could only result in the lowering of the standard of living throughout the world. Happily the company had reached an agreement in principle with the *Japanese Government*, whose new petroleum law had threatened the foreign oil companies with eviction."

Anglo-Iranian Review

"Anglo - Iranian shareholders could not fail to be gratified by Lord Cadman's speech. The remarkable increase of 38 per cent, in the net trading profit (£9,443,950) was due almost entirely to the growth in oil revenues, and 60 per cent, of this growth was attributable to larger turnover, the net price realised having advanced by on 7½ per cent. The year's production amounted to 9 ½ million tons, of which 8,198,000 tons were obtained from the fields in Iran and 1,219,000 tons from the Iraq Petroleum Company in which the company hold a 25 per cent interest. It is probably true to

say that the Anglo-Iranian is the cheapest crude oil producer in the world. In the absence of all *competitive* drilling it has been able from the outset to apply scientific principles to the *control of production*.

" . . . Shareholders will be gratified to hear that a new oilfield has been discovered at Gach Qaraghuli, which lies 125 miles south of Haft Kel and 155 miles east of the Abadan Refinery. This field is expected to be as large as Masjid-i-Sulaiman. Two other areas are being explored which should yield promising results.

" . . . Lord Cadman referred to the improvements, which had been effected in refinery technique, and to the *enlargement of the tanker fleet*, which now consists of 84 vessels with an aggregate dead-weight tonnage of 843,000 tons. During the last 20 years the company has been spending on new tonnage approximately £1,000,000 a year. Lord Cadman was optimistic of the future."

[In addition to "Imperialists," motorists now paying higher prices for petrol should be gratified to read the above. "Remarkable increase of 38 per cent, in the net trading profit . . . enlargement of the tanker fleet"—and the companies, when crying a poor mouth and slugging us with their last rise, were complaining of the *extra freights* they had to pay for transportation of their products! — Ed]



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.)
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.

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

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

SANDRINGHAM.
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.

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

R.S.L AND FOREIGN POLICY

Expressing concern at the manner in which the Commonwealth Government informs the public on international affairs, delegates to the State conference of the Returned Soldiers' League demanded yesterday that the Ministry "should clearly and openly declare its policy before committing the country to any obligations with Great Britain or the Dominions."

Mr. G. L. Maynan (Glen Iris) accused the Commonwealth Government of giving the public insufficient information on international affairs and of pursuing an unnecessary "hush-hush policy" in matters, which might even involve the country in war. Australians, he said, had to rely for their information on statements made by the British Foreign Secretary (Mr. Eden). Whenever money was required, Commonwealth Ministers found time to address the public over the air; surely they could find time also to make responsible utterances on what the people wanted. Australian people were ignorant about international affairs, and did not know to what their Government was committing them.

— "Argus", July 24.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

Very soon now will appear, in some mysterious way, the "Election Issue." Where does it come from? Do the people proclaim it? No! It is formulated by a small coterie of men, and is accepted by all parties. Some minor detail is allotted to each party, to convey to the public a semblance of difference. The election campaign takes place, when the people are harangued to vote yea or nay on some triviality that has no intelligent meaning to them. They are cleverly, knavishly divided into sections; and every endeavour is made to inculcate hatred in them, hatred of each other. Elections over, with victory for one party or another. How farcical! Promptly the "Issue" is forgotten, and "Government" carries on as usual. This is the travesty called Democracy—a dividing of the people and setting them to rend each other in order to gain

August 9, at 8 p.m. Dr. John Dale (Melbourne City Health Officer) will be the principal speaker. This promises to be one of our most successful meetings. Ministers of religion in other suburbs, please note that the date and place of this meeting, and the purpose for which it is being held, were announced from the pulpits of ten churches in the Malvern district at the morning and evening services last Sunday; and the announcements will be repeated next Sunday. Also, members accepted leaflets advertising the meeting for distribution.

Moonee Ponds Town Hall—Leaflets are out and work commenced to make known the Essendon, perhaps better known as the Moonee Ponds, Town Hall Meeting. Extra workers would be welcome, so send in your names and addresses to Head Office and the organiser will be glad to get in touch with you. The date is fixed for Wednesday, August 18, at 8 p.m., so you have plenty of time to let all your friends and neighbours know about it—that is, if you realise that you haven't got plenty of time left.

Ivanhoe Hall Meeting is to be a Sunday afternoon meeting, and will be held on Sunday, August 22, at 3 p.m. No evening fire and slippers holding you like a magnet, but early spring sunshine—what a crowded meeting it will be!

State Electricity, Richmond—Invitations have been circularised to all employees to listen to an address to be given on the Campaign during their lunch hour on Thursday, August 5.

Mount Evelyn—This is the way the Campaign is gaining momentum. A young man from Mt. Evelyn walked into the office and informed us that he had had a talk with a dozen or two people in the district who had given a promise to attend a meeting if he made the arrangements. "I have engaged the Evelyn Hall for Thursday next, August 5, and thought I had better call in and see what advice and help you can give me." A representative from Head Office will attend the meeting. This young man has undertaken to arrange similar meetings in other centres in the district. And so the Campaign relentlessly goes on.

Best Carmen Potatoes—Our good Gippsland friend has donated two bags of potatoes a month; the proceeds are allotted to assisting to meet the rent of the rooms.

Central Council—The United

Electors of Australia (Non-Party), Victorian Division, has dropped its waddling clothes and grown to vigorous youth. The six months that the Provisional Committee asked that it might have to place the Movement on a solid base expired on August 2, and on that evening Central Council was constituted. It is formed of two representatives from each electorate in Victoria. The new Council got to work immediately, and appointed executive officers to fill the positions of Chairman, Campaign Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Revenue Officer, Publicity Officer. It was decided to have patrons invited to support the movement.

Speakers' Class—The Speakers' class will be discontinued for a time. Notice of resumption will appear in these columns.

Riverina Electors—The Movement is now well under way and is being actively canvassed in Barellan, Binya, Leeton and Griffith. Inquiries are coming in from outlying centres, and, like the snowball, we gather and grow. Will all interested please communicate at earliest with the secretary, P. T. Crane, Barellan.

Brighter Times Club held their annual executive meeting on Wednesday evening last. New members were taken on to the committee, and the policy of the Club generally widened. The

ployed person and dependent over 14 years, and 7/6 to each child; such payment to be made to all except those who accept Government - provided work, when award rates shall be paid. This objective involves active support of the Citizens' Forward Movement, of which Mr. Brock is vice-president.

3. Immediate—(a) Survey of area re slums and destitution; (b) social activities to raise funds; (c) maternity kits for destitute expectant mothers; (d) Sunday afternoon tea for outpatients at Adelaide General Hospital; and (e) a picnic for the children of unemployed and distressed families, to include a procession through the city with banners re suffering, distress, and poverty and plenty.

The programme is one of "results wanted", and we expect this to prove its unifying power amongst a group of people who have previously been divided by divergent views and methods.

Walkerville Group—On Wednesday night a meeting, arranged by Mr. W. H. Thompson, leader of the Walkerville Group, proved an outstanding success. The meeting was arranged with the Gilberton Men's Brotherhood and the subject of the Abolition of Poverty was introduced by Mr. B. T. Moran. Taking the lead from Mr. Moran, Mr. R. H. Curnow delivered an address, which created a splendid impression. It appears that Mr. Curnow, according to his usual methods, gave a philosophic talk on the trend of world affairs. This subject is one with which Mr. Curnow is quite at home. The result is that there was an almost unanimous agreement with the aims of the E.C., and this agreement was supported by the local minister.

Wakefield Division (Berri)—While Berri does not report anything spectacular, they report (what is, perhaps, just as good) that they are quietly plodding along. The leader of the Group says that his daily work brings him in contact with almost all of the people in the district, and, having the E.C. at heart, he is thus continually on the job.

Grey Division: Port Lincoln Group—The latest report from Port Lincoln states that they are going well, and that the previous week was a "gay one." The work of this group is having a tremendous influence on the West Coast, with the result that Groups are springing up in a number of other places. One of the best results of this work was the formation of the Coultla Group. The leader of this Group, Mr. Fred Radford, has so worked his small band of helpers that the results have been immediate and outstanding. Literature was distributed freely to introduce the Campaign. This was followed with socials and dances, which also had the effect of focusing the limelight on the Campaign at Coultla. This was sufficient to set Mr. Radford going, and a canvass of the district followed. Almost the whole district signed up. The rough count showed 87 per cent, of all ejectors.

The Coultla Group, not being content with good results in their own district, are now pushing the business at Mount Hope, 60 miles up the West Coast from Lincoln, and 20 miles from Coultla. The meeting there was most successful for, in such a scattered area, 40 people representing the farming community over a wide field is certainly excellent. To show how they conduct meetings on the West Coast, we must mention that literature was handed out at 12.30 a.m., which was the time the meeting closed. The idea of the E.C., our correspondent says, "took on" in a surprising way. It seems evident to these keen workers over there that the people are ready and waiting for

a Movement such as this. Great praise is due to Mr. Radford, for it depends entirely on the work of somebody who is willing to take the lead and to hold the lead before any real advancement can be made. This Mr. Radford has done.

Without wishing to make any invidious distinctions, it is only fair to mention the work in Port Lincoln of Mr. Wally Nicholls. We know very well that this particular group has many outstanding men, but to Mr. Nicholls goes the credit for being the champion signature getter in Port Lincoln.

Yorke Peninsula—Mr. W. J. Steele, of Minlaton, has been hard at work in organising Yorke Peninsula into a subdivisinal council for some considerable time. This large and important area on Yorke's Peninsula, while being isolated from the West Coast, is nevertheless a part of the great Grey Division. Mr. Steele realised that it was necessary to be in a sense a division to themselves. A meeting was called in Minlaton for Wednesday, July 28, so that this Council might be formed. A report from Mr. Steele is not yet to hand. As soon as it is received we will report further regarding this great move on Yorke Peninsula.

The Dance is to be held at the Hanson Street Hall on Saturday, August 7. Admission, 1/2.

Women's Afternoon—To be held on Wednesday, August 11, at 3 o'clock. Dr. B. S. Muecke will speak on "Poverty Through the Eyes of a Doctor." These meetings are a great success.

Surprise Party and Rally, to be held at H.Q., 17 Waymouth-street, on Saturday, August 21, at 8 p.m. Mrs. Brock has a surprise for you. Come and receive it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SMILE FOR PROSPERITY

Like many other people, I'm rather tired of hearing statements by bank-owned politicians concerning our alarming "prosperity," and also nauseated by the advice of B class "radio urgers," who, supported by gramophone records of imbecile songs, daily exhort everyone to "smile, for a smile means prosperity's on the way." I would like to ask them if the mother mentioned in the attached report, which appeared in a Sydney paper on July 25, could smile her way out of her present situation? Her case is only one of hundreds. I would also like to ask old "Bill, the Limelighter," which is preferable, a declining birthrate or this kind of thing?

The report reads:— Pathetic Case. -- A pathetic case brought under "Truth's" notice is that of Mrs. Henderson, of Newtown. Recently she was served with an eviction order, which has since been cancelled because of her state of health. She is badly in need of bed clothing and warm clothing for herself and children.

The ages of her six children range from 15 days to eight years. Mrs. Henderson will be glad to receive any gifts of clothing at her home, which is situated at 47 Egan Street, Newtown.

She is also anxious to hear of another house to which she can move.

"VANISHING AUSSIE."

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA.

Listen in to 7LA EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AT 7.45.

Printed by H. E. Kuntzen, 143-151 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, for New Times Limited, Elizabeth House, Melbourne.

"MAKING" MONEY

"When excess revenue is being received the best way is to cut down the charges, thus leaving the surplus money in the hands of those who make it in order that they may make more."

— "Herald" leader, July 23.

Yes, but who MAKES money?

sectional advantage, while oligarchy pulls the strings of this puppet show. True Democracy has no "Election Issue"—it is an Election Order, the time when the people instruct their parliamentary representatives to convey to Parliament that which they require to be brought into effect. There is no question of "issue." It is an order—a nation's Demand.

Undoubtedly it is the nation's desire that the enormous wealth that is lying stagnant shall be distributed, both from the altruistic wish to feed and clothe the destitute, and from the commercial or materialistic wish to revive dying industry. Then let the nation proclaim at the coming elections: "Poverty Must be Abolished"; and instruct its parliamentary representatives to convey that command to Parliament. To allow the people—who are the nation—the opportunity to do so, is the purpose of the Campaign to Abolish Poverty.

Malvern Town Hall—Take a careful note of the date: Monday,

CANBERRA DICTATORS

Archdeacon Robertson, of Canberra, on the new Federal ukase forbidding assemblies of citizens in the august precincts of that area:—

"The attitude of mind of the controllers of certain of the European States appears to be finding an alarming reflection in certain of the Australian Ministers. Evidently the operation of European dictatorships has been studied, and there is evidence of a definite attempt to apply the vile conditions of that system of government in this country.

"I was astonished to learn yesterday that the ordinance was prepared some years ago, when, in the height of the depression, a march of 1000 men on Parliament House was threatened. Very wisely the Government on that occasion withheld action. More recently, in his comfortable room, the Minister for the Interior (Mr. Paterson) was troubled by the noise of a very orderly meeting outside his window. Without ado, Mr. Paterson recovered the forgotten ordinance and had it passed. It was a blunder surpassed only by the blunder of the Freer episode."

next social and dance will be held in Fink's Buildings, cr. Elizabeth and Flinders streets, on Wednesday evening, August 11. The committee wishes it announced that they want this to be a "bumper" evening as a start off to an extended series of varied gaieties.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Division—Last week the East Adelaide Unemployed and Distressed Association was formed, with Councillor F. C. Lloyd and Rev. C. D. Brock as patrons, Mr. G. Hancock as President and Campaign Director, Mesdames Brown and Burke as Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Brown as Director of Social Activities, and Mr. H. Kerr as Honorary Secretary. Headquarters are at the New Church Hall, 11 Hanson-street, City. The area covers half the city, and constitutes the East Adelaide Federal Subdivision. The objectives are:—

1: Ultimate - Abolition of Poverty, involving canvass of the area for the Electoral Campaign.

2. Proximate - Cash payment of £1 per week to every unem-

TO OUR READERS—

You may obtain your copy of "THE NEW TIMES" from any authorised newsagent. Should your agent not have supplies, please ask him to communicate direct with New Times Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I. (Phone M 5384).

If you wish to have your copy posted direct from this office, please complete the form below and mail it, accompanied by remittance payable to New Times Ltd.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

To New Times Ltd.,
Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I.
Please forward me "The New Times" for
months, beginning with issue dated....., 193.....
cheque
I enclose postal note for the sum of
money order

Name

Full Postal Address.....

Date

Please fill in name and address in block capitals.
The subscription rate to "THE NEW TIMES" is 15/- for 12 months; 7/6 for 6 months; 3/9 for 3 months, post-free