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A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER EXPOSING THE CAUSES, THE INSTITUTIONS, AND THE INDIVIDUALS THAT
KEEP US POOR IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY

Vol.3. NO. 37

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1937

Every Friday, 3d

"Herald" Ads. & Myer Profits —or Your Babies' Lives?



Commissioner Duncan and Political Influence



The War Ramp Exposed In Figures

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

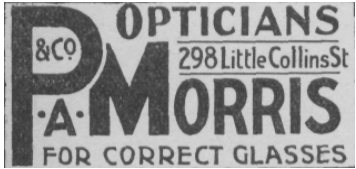
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(Continued on page 3.)

Herald" Ads. and Myer Profits—or Your Babies' Lives?

Some Sidelights on the Open-the-Schools Racket

When young Semco Baeveski, the Continental Jew, first saw the light of this world he was, figuratively speaking, in the gutter. When, some fifty-odd years later, that light was quenched, he was, literally speaking, in the gutter. But that was merely the grim humour of fate and a sudden heart seizure. For the Semco Baeveski who had carried his worldly possessions on his limbs and his stock-in-trade in a knapsack over his shoulder had blossomed into the millionaire Sidney Myer. In the meantime he had shed all he could of the Jew, including his Jewish name, his Jewish faith and his Jewish wife, and, in due course, when he became wealthy enough, had been allowed to contract a matrimonial alliance with the patrician family (ex-lighthouse keepers) of the Baillieus. He had built the largest emporium in the Southern Hemisphere. His advertising patronage had put the great newspaper monopoly, the Melbourne Herald, in the position where, in reporting the day-to-day convictions of those charged with shoplifting from the Myer Emporium, it gave the fullest possible publicity to the criminal but preserved the anonymity of the prosecutor (and followed a similar course even where the prosecution failed). Even the mighty Professor Copland had been compelled to tag "Sidney Myer professor" on to his chair of commerce.

The Successful Monopolist

Looking back on Sidney Baeveski Myer's life, one sees him as the brilliant, remorseless founder of the monopolistic retail business in Australia, and likewise as the founder of shoplifting on the grand scale. The medium in both cases was his Oriental capacity for showiness. Get into any part of Myer's thirty acres of floorage, and except in such sections as the barber's department and the cafeteria—where you buy the right to a chair before you can sit in it—you will find nowhere the "old-fashioned" tradition that the customer is entitled to sit down and be served at his leisure. There is no leisure and no dignity in the Myer tradition. Rather would you imagine yourself in a gesticulating Baghdad bazaar. The goods are almost literally hurled at you. Ostentation shrieks at you. Do you want a Masonic apron or a statue of Dr. Mannix, a bottle of preserved peaches or a bicycle, the most intimate article of the toilet or apparel? It is on show; it is in the bazaar. Nothing is too big; nothing too small; nothing too sacred; hardly anything too worldly. No one in any branch of the retail trade is safe from the incursions of the Baeveski-Myer Emporium. Their advertisement the other day said: "Today an Institution of this vast Metropolis! Because tens of thousands of people are directly and indirectly dependent upon the winning and the holding of the public's patronage of the Myer Emporium throughout the years." True, but how many thousands of people have been ruined by the Myer Emporium? How many suburban shopkeepers have been bankrupted or reduced to penury? How many city stores have been driven out, been reduced to losses, or been forced to descend to the same bazaar level? Look at the huge untenanted store of the once flourishing Craig's. Look at the type of stuff now displayed on the ground floor of Buckley's. Look at Snow's retreat into chain-store men's wear.

A Tinsel Jubilee

Sidney Myer is dead, but the spirit of his business lives on, and others of the Baeveski-Myer family are now celebrating, with a tremen-

dous show of tinsel and what-not, the silver anniversary of the foundation of the Melbourne business. For the occasion the Melbourne Herald sold the last vestige of its soul (if it ever had one) and on Thursday of last week decorated its first and second news pages with an obsequious write-up of the Myer jubilee. Needless to say, a later section of the paper contained the quid pro quo—in the shape of thirteen pages adorned with Myer advertisements.

The occasion has been made one for rejoicing of a sort. There was a showy dinner in Melbourne, attended by most of the available bigwigs. The two bright spots were some remarks by Mr. Norman Myer on democracy and what the press described as a witty speech by Attorney-General R. G. Menzies. The Argus report of this witty speech at the Baeveski turnout was almost entirely taken up with R.G.'s eulogies of "British" shopkeepers, the "British" race and "British" people in general—from which it would appear that the Argus should have substituted "satirical" for "witty."

While the process of decorating the store (for which, of course, the shoppers will pay) was in train, a lady customer stopped an attendant to ask what it was all about. With that decorum which is ingrained in every loyal Myer employee, the attendant gravely and courteously explained how the Myers were in course of celebrating their silver wedding to the pockets of the Melbourne people—only he chose much nicer language than that. The lady went on to ask what would be the nature of the celebrations, and was duly informed about the dinner and all the rest. She was about to move off when a last thought struck her. "And the staff," she said; "what about them?" The attendant took a quick look around to make sure he wouldn't be overheard, then, dropping his voice, he said in quite a different tone: "The staff, Madam? The staff is working like hell!"

We don't want to be unfair. The Myers have seen to it that the Herald should announce "the decision of the management to give a substantial cheque to every employee who has been with the firm for 25 years." The Herald did not, however, give any indication of what "substantial" meant, or of how many employees have had 25 years' continuous service.

The Spectre at the Feast

And now all the energies of the firm and the thousands of employees who have not been with it for 25 years are directed to making the greatest possible success of the jubilee sale. For over twelve months, according to the advertisements, this sale has been in preparation—"twelve months' preliminary planning, twelve months of close co-operation, not only with Australian manufacturers and distributors, but with almost all the leading manufacturers of the world, have culminated in this." Besides, the Myers have endeavoured to steal a march upon those who are left of their Melbourne rivals. In the words of the Herald: "Tradition has been defied by holding the sale at the beginning of the Spring season, instead of at the end, which is another innovation at Melbourne. The management points out that this will enable spring shoppers to fill their needs at the special sale prices."

But, with all their careful planning, there was one thing, which the Myers did not foresee twelve months ago, and that was the dreadful scourge of infantile paralysis, which now has descended upon Melbourne. As a result of the closing of so many

metropolitan schools, and of the precautions being taken by parents of young children from all over Victoria, it is no secret that the turnover of retail businesses in the city of Melbourne has for the moment been considerably affected. Keep on with the precautions for a little longer, and Myers look like losing the benefit of "holding the sale at the beginning of the Spring season, instead of at the end." So what do we find to be the attitude of the press mouthpieces of the Myer Emporium?

Another "Restoration of Confidence"

We find that the Herald and its morning paper, the Sun, are flat out in a campaign to have restrictions lifted, to have children sent back to school. Anonymous educational authorities are quoted as threatening that the majesty of the law will descend upon parents who keep healthy children absent.

DISCIPLINING GERMS

Answering on Tuesday the question why, if it were considered unwise to allow children to attend theatres or the Royal Show, it was yet thought wise to send them to school, the Chairman of the Health Commission (Dr. Featonby) "explained" that schools were places where children gathered under strict discipline, and where regulations existed, fixing such health factors as floor space and window space.

We don't know what schools Dr. Featonby has in mind, but we should like him to lead us to one in Melbourne where the spacing apart of children in classes and playgrounds is such that even the best disciplined germs won't be tempted to fly from one child to another.

In a further attempt to justify the reopening of schools, Dr. Featonby added that in England, where 726 cases had occurred in a recent year, schools were not closed.

We don't know why even Australian health standards must follow Britain (where, incidentally, the standard of health of the general population is amongst the lowest in the white world), but Dr. Featonby might remember that the present incidence of infantile paralysis in Melbourne, allowing for population and time, would be equal to something like 50,000 cases a year in England. Would the English close their schools then?

Other anonymous people are put forward as suggesting that school is as safe as, if not safer than anywhere else. Here is a sample from the same issue of the Herald as contained the Myer thirteen-page advertisement: "Several headmasters of State schools said today that the publication of attendance figures had probably helped to increase the numbers today. Parents who had not known what to do because of the infantile paralysis position, were informed of the exact position, and could see that many others were sending their children back to school. This had restored confidence." What a blessed phrase that "restored confidence" has been to the Herald! The paper continued: "Head-masters agreed that school was as safe a place as any for children in crowded areas. Most of those who were not in school were playing on the streets, where their contacts were less supervi-

ed, and probably more varied, than at the local school. Headmasters of closed schools are besieged with inquiries of parents of children who want to return."

The Herald then followed with a list of 32 State schools (including technical and domestic arts), with their normal attendances and their attendances for that day, as well as the increase or decrease as compared with the previous day. Remember that the three-column heading of its article was, "More Children at School," and the sub-heading, "Parents Regain Confidence," and then look at these figures, which we have totalled (the Herald did not) from the list published:—Schools, 32; normal attendance, 18,190; attendance that day, 6,813; increase over previous day, 260. What a remarkable return of confidence—just about as big as the return of financial confidence, which we have been hearing about from the same source!

The "Sun" and "Trade Losses"

The following morning the Sun headed its first editorial, "Best Paralysis Antidote," and what it said is worth putting on record. Here it is:—

"A trend of public opinion in a sensible direction is shown by the increased attendances of children at State schools. Before the schools reopened two days ago, it seemed that the infantile paralysis epidemic might have a very widespread influence on parents who were naturally averse to subjecting their children to any risk. Attendance figures for the first day of the new term gave some reflection of this fear, but also showed that fair proportions of children in all districts were being sent to school. Yesterday the musters improved, showing a healthy move towards confidence and a recognition of the fact that school may be as safe a place as any.

"It is to be hoped that there will be a further and general reaction from the influence of fear. As the Chairman of the Health Commission (Dr. Featonby) has pointed out, all children have to face the ever-present virus of infantile paralysis at some time. In their normal school life they are under constant surveillance. No one would wish to minimise the real difficulties of the situation, but it is surely time that some municipal and other bodies reflected that their talk of quarantine and similar local restrictions was preparing the atmosphere for panic without adding anything to safety. Anxiety, inconvenience and trade losses are spread in such a way. Calm confidence in the medical authorities is the best antidote which laymen can apply."

We shall not say what we would like to say about the writer of that article or the paper, which printed it (and which has followed up with similar matter), for the simple reason that our opinion is unprintable. Fancy saying, "Your children will have to take a chance sometime, so you might as well let them take it now; your precautions are bad for business!"

What the Epidemic Has Shown

If anything emerges from the present infantile paralysis epidemic, these conclusions do:—

1. On this subject the confidence of the public in the medical profession is almost nil. No one blames the doctors for this, nor are they individually blameworthy; but it is a fact that in the present state of medical science (or lack of science) a patient badly stricken with the disease generally either dies or is incurably maimed. Moreover, both

official announcements and actual experience in this epidemic seem to indicate that medical men are having a good deal of difficulty in even diagnosing the disease in its earlier stages.

2. Where schools have been closed in middle-class suburbs—that is, in areas where a genuine isolation of children at home without injury to their general health has been possible—the epidemic appears to have been stamped right out after the period of incubation resulting from contact with sufferers has elapsed.

From these things the public appears to have come to a pretty general conclusion—and is not the public right?—that the only wise course would be to isolate its children as far as possible from contact until the epidemic abates. So, if the Government will not close the schools, most of the parents will close them for themselves, as far as their own children are concerned. If it is true that this ever-present disease appears in its epidemic form only once in every few years, and if children upwards of twelve are less likely to contract it than those of tenderer years, then the public is prepared to keep its children away from school now—and will probably be prepared to do the same when the next outbreak occurs some years hence. And it is not likely that all the advertisement-inspired editorial opinions of the *Herald* proprietary—even if backed up by the weight of the helpless medical profession and the admonitions of the public servants in the Education Department—will alter that view or that course of action.

As for the contention of the *Sun* on Monday that "today's re-opening of 65 schools, closed for a month or more, is a heartening sign that the trouble is under orderly control," and the suggestion put forward in the *Herald* a few days earlier that those children had now got immunity, was ever greater nonsense penned? If these schools were closed on the diagnosis of the first case or suspected case, and if the children since then have been rigorously quarantined in their own homes, how have they got any immunity?

The Crowded Areas

Admittedly a difficulty arises in the case of the unfortunate children living in the crowded tenements of South Melbourne, Collingwood, Fitzroy and similar places. How can you have effective isolation where families are packed like sardines in dingy, poky rooms with practically no yard back or front? Is it to be wondered at that such children, even if schools are closed, play in the streets?

However, even if such children do play in the streets and parks—where there are parks—are they so likely to contract a disease that we are told enters through the nostrils from personal contact as they would be in the classrooms of schools that are also hopelessly

overcrowded? To us it doesn't seem to make sense. But then, we can make no pretence to medical knowledge; we are merely those "laymen" to whom the *Sun* offers advice.

Let us grant everything that is put forward in the case, say, of South Melbourne. Does this justify the re-opening of such a school as Elwood Central with its thousand pupils and, we understand, no cases yet? (We believe the case first reported from here turned out to be a false alarm.) South Melbourne and Elwood are, comparatively speaking only a stone's throw apart. St. Kilda beach, with its manifold land and water attractions, is only a few minutes from either, and draws the children of both suburbs.

Is the policy of the Education Department and its medical advisers to be framed on the lines of shutting the stable door only after the horse is gone? It seems uncommonly like it.

Turning back to South Melbourne, why has the toll of the disease been so severe there as against the middle-class areas where it began? Why does it seem almost inevitable that the same thing must happen in Collingwood, Fitzroy, and the other so-called industrial

"A STATE MATTER"

Humanitarian J. A. Lyons has refused to make any Federal grant to the State of Victoria for the after-care of children stricken with infantile paralysis, on the ground that this is purely a State matter.

One may be forgiven for wondering if the Prime Minister's decision had anything to do with "the State matter" of the embarrassing date of the Victorian elections.

suburbs? Solely for one reason—that the poor people in those places are forced to live under conditions unfit for human beings. But what has the *Herald* management to say about that? And, with few—with very few—honourable exceptions, what have our doctors, whose job it is to see that people are healthy? Not a blessed word worth remembering.

No. In their smug hypocrisy they give us all sorts of suave advice about not being panicky. But they do nothing to remove conditions, which must breed both disease and panic. That also, perhaps, might be bad for business. Or else they just don't care.

Meanwhile, as far as the *Herald* and its advertisements for the Myer Emporium's sale are concerned, the show must go on. There must be no anxiety, no inconvenience, no trade losses—for them. What if a few score more children die, a few hundred more are crippled in the process? Bithneth ith bithneth.

WE CANNOT PUT THE CLOCK BACK

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

A certain confusion prevails regarding this question of industrial progress and its effect upon health.

You cannot have it both ways. You cannot at one moment welcome modern inventions as benefactions, and at the same time complain that they give you nervous breakdowns. You cannot regard each new speed record as a sign of human progress and at the same time complain of the "speed mania." Unless, of course, you think it is the true destiny of civilised man to become a maniac.

Last week this paper quoted the Inspector of Factories as saying, "Increased death and injury must still be regarded as a penalty to be paid for increased prosperity."

The question before us, therefore, is—Can we get prosperity without having to die for it first? In other words, can we adapt the industrial machine to man, or must we adapt man to the demands of the machine?

Now, all of the articles I have read about the industrial speed-up, hardly any of them question the necessity for it. Almost alone among prominent men, Lord Horder suggests, "We reduce the tempo."

This belief in the necessity of noise and hurry is well expressed in an article before me, which says, "It is impossible to put back the clock of scientific development."

Here we have, clearly stated, the general conviction that, man having started the industrial machine, he is unable to stop it.

The statement may be regarded as the first article of the modern religion, which regards the machine as the master of man's fate.

This is not the first time in the history of religions that men have regarded their own handiwork as an omnipotent deity. Nor is it the first time they have worshipped things originally intended as their servants. They have, for example, frequently worshipped dogs and cows. But modern man is the first to make gods of his gadgets.

Applied to social life, this pious faith clearly indicates the path of social improvement. Having made the industrial machine to suit himself, man must now remake himself to suit the machine.

As a social philosophy it is an advance on the old materialistic determinism, which said that man is moulded to the environment in which he is born. Modern materialism says that man must be moulded to the environment he made himself. In other

words—having made the mould, he must then become the blanc-mange.

Some of you, still under the influence of the old radical traditions, will object to this idea of democracy being replaced by the Dictatorship of the Clock.

I am afraid, however, that there is no alternative. Some people suggest reducing hours of work in proportion to the speed-up of the machine. But that would be awkward. At the present rate of progress the worker will soon be able to produce in half an hour as much as he now does in a day. This will mean a wages bill about sixteen times bigger than it is now.

And where is the money to come from? If democracy cannot put a clock back, it certainly cannot control its own financial credit.

Our only choice is to adapt our nervous systems to the



speed-up. We must be prepared to travel at whatever speed the speed-up demands. We cannot determine the speed ourselves.

For since the Clock assumed control of human affairs, modern society finds itself in the position of a sprinter who is forced to do the hundred yards in whatever the stop-watch tells him.

We must gradually reform ourselves until our nerves are made of wire, our stomachs of tin and our intestines of India-rubber. Then we shall have no feelings and no opinions, and we shall all be in tune with the mechanised infinite.

So let us go faster and faster. But do not let us ask where we are going, for that would imply a lack of faith in our god, the Omnipotent Clock.

To those who find that this latest philosophy of life does not make them any happier, but who find, nevertheless, that they are unable to rid themselves of it even with the aid of calomel, I would point out that a number of fine, fat worms await them in the garden. Gentlemen, dinner is served.

A CHALLENGE TO PATERSON?

There is an impression in Great Britain that Australia wants to exclude British immigrants. Even Sir Philip Gibbs has written about our refusal to admit young Englishmen—obviously a gross misstatement, for we could not keep them out even if we would. —Melbourne *Herald*, Aug. 31.

Has the "Herald" ever heard of Mrs. Freer?

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

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.)

BLINDS of every sort. Car curtains repaired. T. Pettit, 235a Queen St. **CAKES, PASTRY, etc.** Home Made "Clovally," The Block, Elizabeth St. Celt. 255.

COLONIAL BUILDING CO, 466 Collins St., MU 1980. Call for free booklet on home building. **DAVIS, 668 Bourke St.** Royal Medal Milkers, Separators, Engines **DOUGLAS SOCIAL CREDIT BOOKSHOP, 166 Lit. Collins St.**

CITY.

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

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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 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.

WATCHMAKER and Jeweller. A. Chapman, CAPITOL HSE, 6 yrs. Hardy Bros., in charge Repair Dept.

DARLING.

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

ELSTERNWICK.

BRIDGE & SON, Men's & Boys' Wear. Opp. Station. Phone L 6383 **CARMICHAEL'S, Men's Wear 233 G'huntly Rd., next Baptist Ch. RADIO & ELECT'L SERVICES Mackintosh's, 72 Glenh'tly Rd. L 4588.**

ELWOOD.

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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. 6845. SUITS to order from 70/-. H. 6813. 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.

P. A. MORRIS & CO.

PTY. LTD. EYESIGHT SPECIALISTS, PRACTICAL OPTICIANS. "YORK HOUSE" BASEMENT, 298 LITTLE COLLINS STREET

UPHOLSTERER. Blinds & Bedding. Duke's, 111 H'berg Rd. Ivan. 626.

(Continued on page 7.)

The Directors, Commonwealth Bank Board

Dear Sirs,

If only you would put into clear language the facts, which you are forced somewhat obscurely to acknowledge in your half-yearly report on Wednesday, you would be doing a great service to the Australian public.

The substance of your admissions is this: Australia is more prosperous than in recent years because of particularly active construction at home and of good prices received for our wares in Britain. Britain's capacity to pay good prices is the result, first, of great housing activity and, second, of government expenditure on armaments.

Now, each of these items—home construction, British building and British armaments—has only one financial feature, which matters. That feature is that money is paid out to working people without being at once taken back from them through the avenues by which it came to them. The number of houses, factories, etc., sold for cash is negligible, and armaments are not disposed of in the home market at all. So the people who receive money through the production of these things are able to buy more and better food and clothes, and generally have a more decent and pleasant life.

Both consumers and producers of ordinary commodities are better off.

You make a similar admission when you suggest that governments should have plans prepared for the expansion of loan expenditure against the time when there is a decrease in the items enumerated above. Government loan expenditure is, of course, the same in its effect on the community—since neither boulevards nor bridges nor any other forms of public works are put up for sale.

So what you are telling us is that, if we are to have prosperity, huge sums of money must be continuously given to the people in addition to the sums they receive through the ordinary processes of industry; and the payment of these sums must be quite independent of the placing of extra goods on the market. In other words, the wage earner must be subsidised.

That, gentlemen, has been our contention for years, and we are pleased to find that you are now in agreement.

But why BORROW the money? Why have LOAN expenditure, with its future heavy reckoning, instead of a government ISSUE of money? You know as well as we do where money comes from and what it costs to produce.

THE NEW TIMES

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1937.

Commissioner Duncan and "Political Influence"

Chief Commissioner Duncan, of the Victorian Police, will rise very considerably in the esteem of most of Victoria's citizens on account of the attitude he took up with regard to Metropolitan Gas and its employees last week. Requested by the company to send police to eject strikers from the works, he gave a point blank refusal, and emphasised this by making a statement for publication as to his reasons. Use of the police as strike breakers, he said, would not be permitted, and he would have to be satisfied that there were fears of a breach of the peace involving danger to life or property before any police action was initiated. It was not the obligation of the police to interfere in industrial disputes between employers and employees.

Mr. Duncan's attitude was, needless to say, greeted with a howl of indignation from that section of the Melbourne press, which is most closely identified or allied with those gentlemen who direct the affairs of the gas monopoly. "Is there any police excuse," asked the *Herald*, "for refusing, when requested, to stop men from taking possession of other people's property and countermanding its use? Actions like these are pure lawlessness, which the Police Force is maintained to repress . . . The people may reasonably ask whether political influence were used, also, to prevent the police from restraining lawlessness. This matter is serious. It demands a searching public inquiry to fix responsibility." So Mr. Duncan had better look out lest the *Herald* start a head-hunting expedition after his scalp to put outside its Flinders-street wigwam alongside that of Sir Thomas Blarney. Police Commissioners must never be so lawless as to offend the interests of the *Herald*.

The suggestion of political influence—meaning some sort of direction from the Government—was supported by not a vestige of evidence, and is typical of the methods used by the *Herald* and similar papers in their attempts to discredit a Government which is more popular than any Ministry known in Victoria for many years. Much as we dislike party politics, we are not blind to the fact that the unofficial alliance

between the Victorian U.C.P. and Labor more nearly represents the true interests of the vast majority of the people of Victoria than any previous combination in the Legislative Assembly, and, considering that a State Parliament has no power whatsoever over the source of finance, the Dunstan Ministry is entitled to full recognition for its efforts to do the best it could for the people. In this respect we regard its greatest service as being its successful disintegration of the bankers' yes-men, the U.A.P., in the Lower House; and if it carries out its apparent determination to rout these forces similarly in the Upper House, it will have earned the gratitude of all those who want a truly representative Parliament. It is the fear that it will do this, and do it in the most conservative State in the Commonwealth, that is causing so much concern to the *Herald*, the *Argus*, and similar mouthpieces of our financial overlords.

But, reverting to Mr. Duncan, and supposing it to be true that his attitude were influenced by the Ministry, where would be the crime? Is the Police Department, or any other department of State, to be a law unto itself, or is it supposed to carry out the policy, which is desired by the people? And, under representative government, who has more authority to indicate the people's policy than the Ministry? Whether it be in matters of police administration, of banking administration, or of any other branch of administration where their particular ends are not being served, such voices as direct the *Herald* are always ready to raise the cry of "political interference." What a travesty on the democratic institutions which (when it suits them) these people are so eager to laud! The essence of democracy is political interference—or, in other words, that the people shall have a voice in the direction of their own affairs. The discrediting of political interference is neither more nor less than a demand for a bureaucratic dictatorship.

"Equality of Voting Power"

In a desperate effort to drag some sort of a red herring across the track, the U.A.P. politicians and press in Victoria are now raising the issue of "equality of voting power."

They are quite prepared, they say, to have a deadlock between the Upper and the Lower Houses in the State settled by a referendum, where every vote cast would have equal power; but they strenuously object to a parliamentary election for a Lower House where the electorates are so designed as to give the rural voter a higher value in returning a member than is enjoyed by the elector in the metropolis.

This belated sense of justice would be far more convincing if only the electors would forget for how long a period the U.A.P. held the reins in the Victorian Government, during which time they did not appear to be at all disturbed over inequalities of voting power. But that was in the days when the rural vote was mostly either U.A.P. or else prepared, under the name

of the U.C.P., to tag along at the heels of the U.A.P. It is only since the shoe has begun to pinch that the long dormant sense of justice has been awakened.

Moreover, this sense of justice is even yet no more than sectional. There is another sphere in which a still more grave inequality of voting power exists, not merely in Victoria, but all over Australia. That sphere is the Senate, where something like forty per cent, of voters in Australia have about eight per cent of the representation. But as the other ninety-odd per cent, is at present enjoyed by the U.A.P. and its Earle Page henchmen, there is no indignation evidenced at this grave scandal.

When the devil was sick—

A Question of Milk

Speaking in the Federal House on September 2, Mr. Holt (U.A.P., Vic.) is thus reported in the Melbourne press: "Pleading for an expanded health programme, Mr. Holt said that the cost of supplying milk to school children and children of pre-school age might be large, but the ultimate saving in invalid pensions alone would show it to be an economy. The Minister for Health had estimated the cost at £600,000 a year, but if it were spread all over Australia, States and local governing bodies co-operating, it would be easily borne. It was remarkable that the possibility, not only of improving the health of children, but of helping the milk industry, had not been exploited."

Following Mr. Holt, Mr. Thompson (C.P., N.S.W.) said, "it was necessary to nurse the Australian market, and he did not agree that it was dangerous to resume the practice of London borrowing. If money could be got fairly cheap on the British market, it would be foolish to refrain. Governments should consider whether urgent works which could not be financed from revenue should not be paid out of money borrowed overseas."

It would be difficult to imagine that two grown men should utter greater drivel. Mr. Holt's speech, if he is correctly reported, was based, not on the need of Australia's children for milk, but on the relative financial economies of milk taxation and invalid pension taxation, and on the necessity to "help the milk industry." Mr. Thompson's speech fittingly rounded off Mr. Holt's effort in his advocacy of borrowing London money—"if it could be got fairly cheap"—to enable Australian workmen to perform urgent work with Australian material.

We don't propose to comment further. But we invite readers to think out for themselves whether a House of Representatives in which men of this sort have a place should not be dubbed Australia's Mental Hospital Number One.

The War Ramp in Figures

At a most inopportune time for the Federal Government the Deputy Leader of the Opposition extracted from Mr. Casey on Tuesday the financial figures relating to the last war. To date it appears that the Australian public's bill has been no less than £843,914,000, and the cost is still mounting.

Of this vast sum £470 millions has been expended from revenue (taxation) and £373

BALACLAVA PUTS THE QUESTION TO ITS CANDIDATES

What Was Their Reply?

It is understood that the Federal electorate of Balaclava will be contested by three candidates: Its present member, Minister for Customs T. W. White; Mr. P. L. Nash, the endorsed Labor nominee; and Mr. J. M. Atkinson, an independent candidate.

As these three gentlemen are already busy in canvassing the electorate, the secretary of the United Electors of Australia sent to each on August 21 the following letter:

"Dear Sir, —
"The purpose of the U.E.A. is to provide electors with the opportunity of conveying to Parliament, through their parliamentary representatives, that which they want Parliament to bring into effect—in this first instance, the Abolition of Poverty. Attached to this letter is an Elector's Demand and Undertaking form, which sets out a specific Demand that the electors will be given the opportunity of expressing. The electors' wishes will be made manifest by signatures to the form and by resolutions from meetings held in various portions of the electorates.

"My Executive wishes to know if you are prepared to represent the will of the majority of your constituents, if their will should be, in substance, as conveyed by the Demand and Undertaking Form.

"My Executive would be glad to receive the accompanying drafted letter, bearing your signature of acquiescence. If not received within seven days, it will be understood that you will not subscribe to the wishes of the people, as set out in the Demand and Undertaking Form."

The draft letter referred to in the last paragraph above was as follows:—

"The Secretary,
United Electors of Australia

millions from loans. Of the revenue expenditure a few thousands short of £290 millions has already gone in paying interest on the loans; and to date only £43 millions has gone into sinking funds to reduce the loan indebtedness.

So, if you are mathematically minded, you can work out for yourself this interesting problem: If in 20 years we have paid £290 millions in interest on a debt of £373 millions, and if during that time we have reduced the principal by only £43 millions, how much interest shall we have paid by the time the debt is extinguished? Don't say the problem does not concern you, because you are paying the interest, even if you don't pay a penny a year in direct taxation.

The above figures should furnish a sufficient explanation of the war fever—alias defence vote—which Mr. Lyons apparently proposes to try and make the principal issue at the coming Federal elections. The figures also explain why such men as Lane, U.A.P., are so anxious to vilify as un-British, anti-British, Red and Communistic all those who disagree with his dictum in the House of Representatives on Tuesday that "Australia will stand by Britain in all vicissitudes."

Stand by Britain? Stand by the usurers who are still bleeding us white from our last frenzy of insanity! And who are those usurers? The U.A.P. Government's friends and mentors, the banking gentlemen whose "loans" consisted of a few entries written up in their ledgers—guilt-edged securities!

(Non Party), (Victorian Division),
5th Floor, McEwan House,
343 Little Collins Street,
Melbourne, C.I.

"Dear Sir,—
"I have received your letter of the 21st August, and wish to inform you that I quite agree with the contention that members of Parliament are sent there for the express purpose of giving effect to the will of the people.

"This being so, I have no hesitation in undertaking to give effect to the wishes of the majority of electors for the Federal Division of Balaclava, as manifested by them and conveyed to me as a member of Parliament; provided only that the carrying out of such wishes is physically and constitutionally possible.

"Yours faithfully,
....."

THE REPLIES

MR. WHITE:
To the above letter Mr. White vouchsafed no reply. He may therefore be taken as dissenting from the proposition that it is the M.P.'s duty to give effect to the will of the people. Mr. White has, moreover, utilised the time since the receipts of the letters above to attack the U.E.A. and to make insinuations and suggestions about it that are not only hostile but false.

MR. NASH:
Mr. Nash, the Labor candidate, replied that "I am as anxious as is the body you represent to abolish poverty," but on the main issue he said this:—

"As you know, I am submitting myself to the electors of Balaclava as a Labor candidate, and, if elected, it will be on that platform. I am prepared to represent the views of any body of electors in so far as those views can be reconciled with the Labor platform. Further, if the electors of Balaclava care to set up an Electors' Association I am prepared to report to them at 3 monthly intervals of my stewardship, and to accept direction and advice in so far as such direction and advice is consistent with the Labor platform."

Mr. Nash was at least candid. His first allegiance, if elected, will not be to the wishes of his constituents, but to the instructions given him by the party machine. If the wishes of his constituents fall in with these, well and good; if not, that will be his constituents' bad luck.

MR. ATKINSON:
Mr. Atkinson's reply was to return the draft letter with his signature attached.

THEREFORE, ELECTORS OF BALACLAVA—OR SUCH OF YOU AS MAY BELIEVE THAT THE M.P. SHOULD BE YOUR SERVANT AND NOT YOUR MASTER, AND THAT IT IS HIS JOB TO REPRESENT YOUR VIEWS—IT IS YOUR DUTY TO VOTE FOR J. M. ATKINSON AND TO SECURE FOR HIM THE VOTE OF EVERY TRUE DEMOCRAT.

FIGHTING FUNDS

There is a clear-cut issue in Balaclava between party domination and domination by the electors, and as this seat has in the past been one of the safest U.A.P. strongholds in Australia, it is going to require intense activity if there is to be any hope of unseating T. W. White within a few weeks. Large numbers of workers will be required; an immense amount of literature will have to be distributed; meetings will need to be held throughout the electorate.

All this requires FUNDS. An urgent appeal is therefore made to all readers to contribute as generously as possible and as quickly as possible. Send your contributions to the Secretary, United Electors of Australia (Non-Party), McEwan House, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

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STIRRING TIMES

By SNAFFLE

What with Apple Week and Father's Day, and the gas strike and the Parliamentary excitement, we've been having a hectic time lately. Really, the pace is getting too hot and I'm seriously thinking I shall have to get away from it all and rest my jangled nerves. In the quiet of the bush, the good brown earth under my feet, I shall wander along at my ease, ever and anon resting by the way to fill my lungs with the clean, rain-washed air; to ponder on the miracle of spring, while far above me the fleecy clouds drift like snow-white ships across the blue of heaven. "The kiss of the sun for pardon, the song of the birds for mirth" ---- (But steady, Snaffle, my lad! You've got a job to do first, so get to it.)

Oh, all right. Well, as I was saying, there was Apple Week. It was rather a flop, but it had its

BRAZIL HAS NOTHING ON BRITAIN

Brazil's coffee exporters announce that they intend to raise the daily total of coffee destruction to 100,000 bags.

What about Britain? Here the law compels you to throw away potatoes under a certain size. You are fined if you grow more potatoes than before.

Hop-growing? The same thing. Production of pigs and of milk is restricted. Forced rhubarb will not receive the National Mark unless it is a particular shade of pink.

Brazil can teach Britain nothing in the art of cutting down food production at a time when people go hungry.

—London "Sunday Express." July 4.

moments. Daintily decorated baskets of apples—and such apples, big, rosy, luscious—were on view in the most unexpected places. I saw some in the window of a very swagger jeweler's shop. I haven't seen the inside of a jeweler's shop since Otto came out to balance our budget; so I thought, here's my chance, and I walked in.

A polite, grave-looking gentleman in black rubbed his hands together and asked what he could do for me, and I replied airily that I was just having a look round.

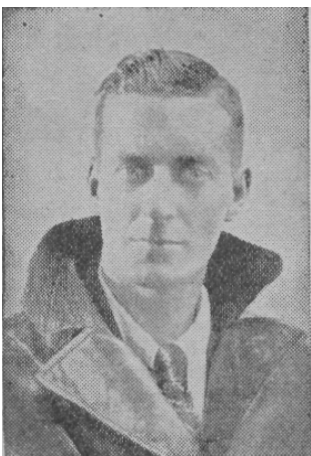
After I had fastened my eyes on

FREE YOURSELF FROM The Shackles of Debt Finance in 1937

WORK and VOTE FOR:

A. 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.
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.)

all the shining, glittering wealth about me, with many a sigh and a heigh-ho, I informed the gentleman that I would call again; and meantime could I have threepennorth of apples?

Lord, you should have heard his language. I couldn't believe it was the same man. I was going to rush for the door, but I thought he might cry out, "Stop, thief!" or something, so, like Mrs. 'Arris, I "kept me dignity and swep' out."

I haven't heard any reports about the results of the "Week," but anyway it gave the public a glimpse at the kind of fruit we send to our customers overseas.

* * *

I hear that the next "drive" is to take the form of a Honey Week. A friend of mine told me about it on the telephone: "Look out," he said, "for the free samples." I thought he said, "Money Week," and shouted, "Whoopee! Me for a couple of tenners." "Silly ass!" he roared back. "I didn't say 'money,' I said 'honey.' You must have bees in your bonnet."

Ah, well, I suppose these things are sent to try us. I wonder if we'll ever have a Turkey Week or a Fish Week. My word, it would be interesting to see what my jeweller friend would do about it. A nice plump bird on a silver salver or a couple of fried whiting on a lordly dish—can't you see the crowd gaping at the window? As Mr. Menzies said the other night at the Big Turkey Dinner, "We certainly are a nation of shopkeepers." And he ought to know because he was speaking in a shop that sells apples, silver, honey, poultry and fish all under one roof.

* * *

Father's Day went off very quietly, but there was plenty of noise about the preparations for it. It's wonderful the way our shopkeepers enter into the spirit of these "days"; they're most helpful, really. For about a fortnight they reminded people to Buy Dad a Tie or a pair of slippers or an armchair or a radio set. My family gave me a couple of studs; they really wanted to give me a book that I have been hankering after for some time, but, as they explained, they thought I'd like the studs better.

We haven't had a Grandmother's and Grandfather's Day yet. That would be sure to bring out some good ideas: for instance, "Buy Grannie a Tram Ride" or "Buy Grandpa a Wallet for His Pension."

Oh, there's no end to what we could do—Uncle's Day, Auntie's Day, etc. Yes; yes. Of course there's Rent Day and Washing Day and a few more like that, but the shopkeepers somehow don't seem to take any notice of them. No, no.

Well, the Gas Strike is over for the present. It took a long time to get properly going after the men had removed their shaving mugs and things from the works, but, as the Company explained, this was due to the cold retorts. Which reminds me that full pressure of gas will be the order of the day and night for some time to come and there will be nothing cold about the retorts concerned therewith. In other words, the Election Campaign is on, or rather Campaigns are on—two dog fights rolled into one. The double event will be quite exciting, of course; but, bless you, the tactics and the tick-tacks and all that will be the same as before. Codlin and Short all over again. Sound Finance—well, you've all heard that one before. Stable Government—when I hear that mouthful I always think of that nasty job poor old Hercules had to do; but the mess he was set to clean up had nothing on the Government stables you and I know today. Then, of course, there'll be Socking the Wealthy with more taxes, and Work for Everybody;

ON MAKING WORK

By PROFESSOR PSHAW, in "Social Credit."

Although I believe that the Work Machine invented by my friend, Professor Pish, provides the ideal solution of the Unemployment Problem, owing to the financial difficulties involved I have been unable, so far, to persuade the Government to take it up. Meanwhile, however, I am glad to see that quite a number of other methods of making work have been put into operation.

Work for Work's Sake—the Ideal

A new king every year is, for instance, an excellent thing from this point of view. An armaments boom is even better. The great virtue of armaments is that they are entirely useless, or at least everybody sincerely hopes that they will never be used.

The making of them therefore approaches closely the ideal of work for work's sake, i.e., purely to provide some moral justification for paying money to the worker, which is embodied almost to perfection in Prof. Pish's machine.

Much more, however, might be done along these lines. The Great Problem of providing Work for the Whole Human Race must be tackled piecemeal, and with determination.

The "Back to the Land" and "Back to Nature" movements would seem to provide a facile solution of our difficulties; but what then of Progress? What then of all the wonderful victories of Science? Are we to fling them aside as of no account? No! my friends, a thousand times, No!

Let Us Make Machines Our Servants

What we need to realise is that, although of course machines make more work in the long run, they can be made to do so in the short run also. Almost any machine can be used to make work if used rightly, and men of genius such as Mr. Heath Robinson have devised machines by the hundred, which are almost incredibly efficient in this respect.

That marvellous organism, the human brain, indeed, is not at a loss when confronted by this problem, as I hope some of the following suggestion will show:—

One of the simplest ideas for making work is that the barriers at Underground Stations should be rearranged so that the public has to travel up the down escalators and vice versa.

This would result in great moral and physical benefit to the public, and would make full use of the workmanship capacity of the esca-

and all the ancient slogans and parrot cries and invective and abuse will be brought into play as it was in the beginning and ever shall be.

But, cheer, boys, cheer—a Banner with a Strange Device, you know the one I mean, will make its first appearance at any election. And it's your job and mine to forget party politics and faction fights and all the useless lumber that clutters up the deck of the Ship of State. We must be conscious of one thing, and one thing only—the banner with the legend, which he who runs may read—the Electoral Campaign. Instead of being merely disgusted with the useless arguments and cross talk and all the other rubbishing futilities that characterise the election atmosphere, we must let these same things serve as a further stimulus to our own cause. The device emblazoned on our banners is the only hope humanity has today in its struggle to free itself from the chains, which prevent its access to a full life in a world teeming with the bounties of God and the inventions of man. Rally round the banner, put your recruiting ribbons in your hat; the cry is "Forward" and the time is NOW.

lators, which at present is scandalously wasted.

The "Roosevelt" or "New Deal" vacuum cleaner is also well worthy of attention. This device beats as it sweeps as it cleans as it blows all the dirt out behind, thus giving further employment to the user.

The "Electromux" goes one better, mixing train oil with the dust so as to provide the maximum work. This, I am happy to say, is a British invention, having been patented by my friend, Dr. Tush.

Must We Lag So Far?

From the States, I hear of that magnificent triumph of engineering skill, the Combine Harvester-Destructor. This reaps the corn, binds it, threshes the grain, sorts it into 17 different grades according to baking quality, and finally prevents its consumption (which would of course ruin the market) by burning it completely—the whole operation being performed by one continuous chain of synchronised machinery.

The neat thing about the whole affair is that the motive power, which drives the Combine, is provided by the incineration of the wheat, thus making for the greatest efficiency.

Compared with this, our feeble efforts over here at fining farmers for growing potatoes, throwing fish back into the sea, and making milk into umbrella handles, pale into insignificance. Our Government might well take a few lessons from the Brazilians, who at least have the courage to tackle the Work Problem in a big way.

A Shining Example to all the World

In Brazil at least one-fifth of the coffee crop is carefully mixed with tar to prevent human consumption (which would of course ruin the market) and then dumped into the sea.

This has the effect of poisoning the fish, thus making fishing a less indolent occupation and setting the industry on a sound basis.

No true Briton can be content that we should lag behind Latin America! Something must be done to restore our prestige. For instance, fish should not be wastefully thrown back into the sea in this wholesale way.

They should be thrown one by one, prizes being given for distance. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries should present special trophies for casting the cod, heaving the herring, hurling the halibut, putting the plaice, etc. In this way unemployment could be banished from the fishing industry and the morale of our splendid fishermen restored.

Milk Can be Spoiled This Way

Much more, also, might be done with the Milk Industry. My brilliant friend, Professor Pish, has invented a machine, which would solve all its problems at one blow. It is an up-to-date type of milking machine, which milks upwards of 150 cows simultaneously, pasteurises the milk, tests its specific gravity, fat, protein, mineral and vitamin content, mixes it thoroughly with paraffin to prevent human consumption (which would of course ruin the market) and carries it direct into a large drain.

The great advantage of this arrangement is that the drain soon becomes blocked with clotted milk, thus providing work for the unemployed—work, my friends, which will restore their self-respect and enable them to obtain for themselves and their children that adequate standard of nutrition, which is the birthright of every Briton.

These few suggestions merely serve to show what might be done in the way of making work once we set our minds to it.

Lyons on Debts Hilltops

Speaking at the official luncheon at the Brisbane Show recently the Prime Minister said: "We are no longer in the valleys; we are on the hilltops but there are higher hills to climb . . . Good times had dawned again . . . and public finances had perhaps never been sounder."

At the Brisbane cattle show All the honours went to Joe; When he enter'd, quite a string Of Angoras left the ring; Saying, as around they spun, "Joey's sure to take the bun; With the trick's he's learn'd abroad He'll be sure to sweep the board; See his stance, and air of pride, Calm, and sure, and dignified."

Then arose a mighty screech O'er the welkin: "Speech! Speech! Speech!"

Joey didn't even quail; Thus began his fairy tale: "Lend me your ears, and close attend!" (Begob! They'd little else to lend) "Friends! It's telling now I'd be Of your great prosperity; Though 'tis roamin' far I've been, Shure the like was never seen!"

"When we came in, by me sowl! Everything was up the pole; Cash box empty; credit stopp'd; Labor on finance had flopped. Soon we shifted out those cranks, On our knees went to the banks, Pleaded hard for their consent. And their plans for government. I was made the country's saviour On strict terms of 'good behaviour'!

"Then I waved my fairy wand— Factories rose on every hand, Faith! The progress made me dizzy.

Pawnshops never were so busy; Men and women by the score Peddled goods from door to door; Thousands couldn't get a chance, So were put on sustenance; And another mighty shoal Got their living from the dole.

"Sure! I had me troubles, too (Indiscretions by me cull); Such as when young Gullett snaps Silly fingers at the Japs; Or when Bob to London hied, Full of spunk and full of pride, And, instead of gatherin' fruit, Got the order of the boot; Never dreamed I that to mull it Was the role of Bob and Gullett

"Now the world's amazed to see Our record recovery; If we didn't bluff to show it Sure our crowd'd never know it; With elections looming up, We must haste to sell a pup; Or, like Menzies with his fruit, Get the order of the boot. O! I mustn't be like Bob, And fall down upon me job.

"While my head with pride is swelling, Sure my secret I'll be telling— When you fear the credit's gone Put your country into pawn; Don't you worry, don't you fret, Just go deeper into debt; And, to recompense your zest, All the Banks take interest; That's the ticket, when you dance To the tune of sound finance.

"Now my special pride I'm showing; 'Tis the mighty debt we're owing Got by doing as I'm bid— Fourteen hundred million quid! Where on earth is e'er its equal? Never think about the sequel; Just go onward without troubling And the total I'll be doubling; It's for records now I'm axin, Bye and bye will come the taxin'.

"Raise your debts to heights sublime! There are higher hills to climb. Don't you in the valleys sit, Others lead us by a bit; So up to the hilltops fly, Let your limit be the sky; Don't leave anything to chance, Ever follow Sound Finance; When you debts reach hilltops far, Hitch your wagon to a star!"

- W.E.P.

THE REPORT OF THE MONETARY AND BANKING COMMISSION

A Monument of Incapacity

VII.

A letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,—

What we have already seen of the Report of the Monetary and Banking Commission is typical of the remainder of it; and although we have traversed less than one-third of its contents we have seen sufficient to prove beyond doubt that the Commissioners themselves have not been straightforward, and that for all practical purposes their report is hardly worth the paper it is printed on. In these circumstances I do not intend to devote any more of my time to a detailed examination of parts 2 and 3, which, with only one exception, are as unreliable and misleading as the part we have covered.

The one exception is to be found on page 206 in these words: "The Federal Parliament is ultimately responsible for monetary policy, and the Government of the day is the executive of the Parliament." Of course it is, and the Federal Parliament alone is responsible for permitting the control of monetary policy to be usurped by private interests. The *New Times* has been stressing that fact consistently from its very first issue, and the added fact that not even this hand-picked Commission could get away from it confirms the soundness of the Electoral Campaign to insist that the Federal Parliament shall exercise its undoubted authority in this respect and establish a monetary mechanism that will give the people the results they desire.

While I do not consider the report worthy of further detailed comment, there are two aspects to which I think brief references is necessary, and they are, firstly, the cavalier and dishonourable manner in which the Commission sought to dispose of Social Credit; and, secondly, the comments of the several Commissioners by way of dissent and reservation.

Is There a Shortage of Purchasing Power?

Regarding Social Credit, the Commission reported in paragraphs 431 and 460 as follows:

"431. Having set out the proposals, we can now proceed to Examine the arguments in support of the theory that there is a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power. No statistics exist, which, in our opinion, serve to establish the truth of this theory. We invited the advocates, who appeared before us, to provide us with such statistics, but they were unable to do so."

"460. The Social Credit theory is based on the assumption that there is a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power. But as we have shown that this tendency does not exist, we cannot accept the proposed remedies as a solution of the problems which the Social Credit theory purports to solve."

To assert a thing is not to "show" it, and to assert that there is not a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power does not alter the fact that there *is* such a tendency. When they say they have "shown" that the Social Credit theory is unsound all they mean is that they have adopted interpretations to suit their own purposes, and then proceeded to argue that these interpretations are fallacious.

A Statement of Accounts

To prove that there is no shortage of purchasing power, the report actually quotes a statement based on the accounts of a baker, a flour miller, and a farmer for the year ended June 30, 1936. This statement shows that the "value" of the production of these three

was £15,387, made up as follows:

| | |
|--------|---------|
| Baker | £9,010 |
| Miller | £3,630 |
| Farmer | £2,747 |
| | £15,387 |

As alleged proof that each of these businessmen paid out as much as they collected the following particulars were quoted:—

| Baker. | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| For flour, etc. . . . | £5,127 |
| For wages. . . . | £2,966 |
| Profits | £917 |
| | £9,010 |
| Miller. | |
| For wheat, etc. . . . | £3,094 |
| For wages. . . . | £310 |
| Profits | £226 |
| | £3,630 |
| Farmer. | |
| For seed, etc. . . . | £2,133 |
| For wages | £345 |
| Profits | £269 |
| | £2,747 |

Is it not as clear as the nose on our faces that the "profits" were not distributed to the individuals entitled to get them until *after* the year had closed, and that these three businesses did in fact collect £1412 more from the public in the year ended June 30, 1936, than they had distributed to the public in that period? And is it not a fact that every other solvent business did the same? The Commission has again proved the very contrary to its own conclusion, showing by the example it quoted that industry does distribute to the public less than it seeks to get from the public as the "value" of production as a whole.

Where Did the Money Come From?

Where did the customers of the baker, the miller and the farmer get the money from with which to meet the demands for profit during that particular year? Did any of it come from businesses which spent more than they collected and so went bankrupt, or from Government expenditure on items which were not for sale and in consequence were not included in the "value" of production as a whole? Why, I wonder, did the Commission say nothing at all about the thousands of bankruptcies, which occurred in the year under notice? And why, I also wonder, did the Commission neglect to call as witnesses those two brilliant University professors (D. B. Copland and G. L. Wood) who said that the progress of a country depended upon the amount of bankruptcy it could stand?

The dishonesty of the Commission in its approach to the subject is further shown on pages 179 and 180. It states that the payments made by the baker for his flour are income to the miller, and that payments by the miller for his wheat are income to the farmer; also that these amounts create purchasing power when received by the miller and farmer. It then goes on: "Some part of them will be paid to other individuals or organisations for goods or services, and is purchasing power in their hands. The balance will represent the profit of the miller or farmer which he is free to use as he chooses." Not a word is said about the fact that part of the payments made to another organisation are used to repay its banker or to replace its capital, or both, and that consequently this part is not available for the purchase of consumable production. All this has been fully dealt with by C.H. Douglas in his reply to Professor Copland, but for reasons best

known to itself has been entirely ignored by the Commission.

In the course of production purchasing power is distributed by industry in the form of (a) wages and (b) payments for materials, etc., but prices are made up of (a) wages, (b) payments for materials, etc., (c) interest, and (d) profit. At the time the goods are placed on sale with the expectation that they will be purchased, only (a) and (b) have been distributed. But as the prices include (c) and (d) it is obvious that not enough money has been distributed to enable all the consumable goods to be purchased at that time. One who would require statistics to prove this would ask for statistics in proof of an assertion that black is not white.

Proof in Practice

Apart from these obvious facts, if there is not a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power in Australia, why in the name of commonsense and sanity is there such a frantic struggle to dispose of our production in other countries? Why do our own people have to do with less milk, butter, eggs, fruit, etc., than they need for the proper nutrition of their bodies? Would they do without these necessary things if they had the purchasing power to secure them? Would you? And again, if there is not a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power, why are we all so overburdened with debt? Would any of us go into debt if we had sufficient purchasing power to obtain requirements without it?

When the Governments were not allowed to borrow between 1929 and 1932 their rate of spending fell away from £40 millions a year to practically nil, and the immediate effect on industry was increased bankruptcies and record unemployment. Immediately the Governments resumed borrowing "new" money and spending it, industry began to revive and became more solvent. Yet in the opinion of the Commission "no statistics exist" which serve to establish the truth of that experience. Upon my word, King Canute was sensible in comparison.

The Effect of Savings

Again, on page 179, the Commission goes through the farce of solemnly asking itself, "Does the practice of saving necessarily produce any such shortage as is alleged?" It leaves the question unanswered, but on page 184 repeats the meaningless cackle from Professor Mills, which was featured in the *Melbourne Herald* on the very day on which the Commission commenced its public sittings. On that occasion the great professor told us "while savings outstrip investments there must be unemployment and dullness of trade." Now, as a member of the Commission, he says: "If the rate at which purchasing power is being withheld from the market by saving is not equalled by the rate at which it is being put back into the market by the production of capital goods, there will be a decrease of purchasing power If, on the other hand, the production of capital goods exceeds the rate of saving, there will be an increase of purchasing power. But both these conditions are temporary and afford no justification for the conclusion that the practice of saving, in itself, creates a permanent tendency towards a shortage of purchasing power."

What is your opinion of this ponderous stuff? Savings consist of money, which has been distributed to individuals as wages, interest, or profit, and as such has been included in the price of the goods for sale. Obviously, if the money is being saved it is not being used as purchasing power and goods to that extent must remain unsold.

This investment business is one of the greatest of all fallacies, and places the dead before the living. It has been completely exposed by the Select Committee which re-

cently conducted a monetary inquiry on behalf of the Tasmanian Parliament. The following is quoted from the Committee's Report:—

"Economists say that the money would be re-invested. If so, you produce more goods—two lots of goods from one lot of money. Consider the diagram below:

A-----E-----B
C-----F-----D
-----G-----H

A-B represents the total money distributed during a cycle of production. C-D equals the total prices of goods for sale—assuming that prices are equal to purchasing power distributed. If E-B is saved, the goods F-D must be left unsold. But we are told that E-B would be re-invested in industry. If so, it will produce G-H goods. In other words, there will be two lots of goods, F-D and G-H, for one lot of money, E-B."

It is therefore fitting to ask how the public can possibly purchase production, which results from the re-investment of savings unless money is made available from some other source than industry. It is no use presenting confidence to the producer: He requires money.

Why Professor Mills Was Selected

You can see from the foregoing that the Commission was more concerned to dispose of Social Credit than impartially to examine its actual merits. Indeed, had it been the intention to examine the question on its merits Professor Mills would not have been selected as a member of the Commission, for he had already seriously compromised himself on the subject and had publicly attempted to pour ridicule upon the idea and those who advocated it. This lends colour to the suggestion that his attitude towards Social Credit was the main reason for his selection, for Mr. Menzies had openly admitted that unless this could be disposed of it would probably be the occasion of difficulty in the future. Somehow it is not possible to dispose of truth by ignoring it, ridiculing it, misrepresenting it, or even by getting supposedly learned tools to endeavour to divert attention from it. All

these have been tried without success, and the principles enunciated by the advocates of Social Credit remain unshakably sound, as follows:—

1. That money should come into existence and go out of existence only by government authority, and when brought into existence should be the property of the people (at present it is created by the private banks as *their* property, and is called in and cancelled as *they* see fit).

2. That a statutory authority should be established to equate purchasing power with prices.

3. That the difference between the amount distributed by industry and the total prices of the goods for sale should be made available in the form of a national dividend, which for convenience may be regarded as the distribution of the wages of the machines.

4. That the statutory authority referred to should apply a "just price" mechanism to prevent the community from being deprived through unwarranted increases of price (inflation) of the benefits of the freer circulation of money.

It would have been too much of course, to expect a Commission which had collected more than £20,000 from the pockets of the taxpayers to reduce the proposals to simple terms like that, but every right-thinking person with consciousness of responsibility would say they are merely commonsense. As a matter of cold fact proposal number 3 is the only means through which the worker can be given an increasing share of production, because under any other method the payments would have to be included in prices and the worker could not then get a greater share of goods. He must be given a payment that does not go through the books of his employer.

The attitude of the Commission on this important question affords still further proof, Mr. Editor, of the unwisdom of discussing methods. Unity is impossible that way. We all know that it is physically possible to abolish poverty and to give the worker a greater share of physical production. Then let us all join together and demand that Parliament immediately take the necessary steps to have it done.—Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ARCHBISHOP HEAD AND ACTION

Speaking at the Wesley Church P.S.A. on Sunday afternoon, Archbishop Head is reported in Monday's press to have said:

"If Christianity was to be a social gospel, everyone must be more generous toward their fellow-man. John Wesley in the eighteenth century had done what God wanted us to do today. He had altered the face of England by going out and helping his fellowmen because of his love for God."

I should appreciate space in your paper to point out to Archbishop Head that he can do all this by putting his influence behind the movement to abolish poverty, pioneered by the United Electors of Australia. By so doing he will accomplish in a few months far more than John Wesley did in a lifetime, and, to quote his own words, "be doing what God wants us to do today."

"ACTIONS, NOT WORDS."

TAXING BONUSES

A few days ago the Victorian Full Court decided that bonus shares distributed by a company as accumulated profits are not taxable for unemployment relief and special tax under the Income Tax Acts.

A certain George R. Nicholas will thus evade paying £1491 in

special income tax, and £12,020 in unemployment relief tax.

As no doubt you are aware, thousands of firms in Victoria distribute to their employees, either at Christmas or at the end of their financial year, small bonuses from £1 upwards out of their accumulated profits.

On all of these amounts, however small, the Income Tax Department collects from wage earners income tax and unemployment relief tax, as is evidenced from its printed Income Tax Return, Form B. Part A, Clause 1, which must include salary, wages, stipends, and bonuses and overtime earned.

Might I ask if this concession of evasion of unemployment relief tax is to apply only to large shareholders in wealthy companies, or will small wage earners also get rebates on the amount of tax (unemployment and special tax), which they have paid, on the bonuses they have included in their income tax returns?

In justice to one of the judges concerned, I should mention that the decision was a majority one—Mr. Justice Gavan Duffy dissenting from the decision.

"SOAK THE POOR."

"Argentina Wants to Buy British," I read.

So do the British. They have been wanting to do this for quite a long time.

—"Reynolds News."

QUO VADIS?

By JULIUS S. LAZARUS, C.E., H.E., L.S., M.S.,
M.V.I.S., F.I.I.A.

The genesis of the Graph of Disillusion may be traced back to the year 1929.

It had its first impulses when the banks began one of their periodic phases of what in the jargon of the banking world is known as "deflation."

Being at that time the Secretary of a Shire whose overdrafts had been for years at times considerably beyond the legal limit, I found myself placed in a serious predicament through the Bank's uncompromising demand to reduce the overdraft to the dimensions allowed by the strict letter of the law.

Having mapped out a programme for the expenditure of the usual sum of money, which hypothecated the usual overdraft, this demand threw the domestic arrangements for the new works and maintenance of existing works completely out of focus, and I made the expected expostulations to the Bank with, of course, the usual fruitless result.

As I thought at that time I knew all that was to be known about money, I called on the manager of the shire's bank and asked the reason for what I considered a most unreasonable attitude for the bank to take up.

All I could learn from him was that there was no money.

This struck me as being rather a curious reply to my anxious questions, and I naturally asked, "What has become of it?"

There seemed to be no answer to this question. In fact, it seemed to be a conundrum, and in my ignorance I went on to say what a silly answer it seemed to me to be, because if there were four thousand pounds last month there must be four thousands pounds this month

answer that question?" And his only reply was, "I can't!"

"Then," I said, "who in the name of high heaven can?" To which he replied simply, "I don't know."

"Well," I said, "I am determined to get to the bottom of this; is there any possibility of your finding out for me?"

He promised to see what he could do, and asked me to go down and see him again in a fortnight's time.

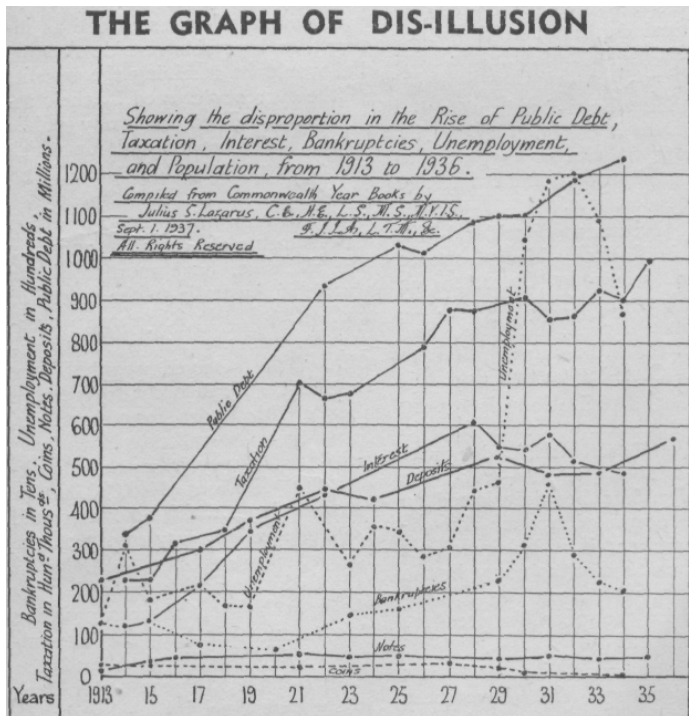
I did. I marched into his office in the stipulated time and said, "Well, what do you know?"

For reply he handed me a paper, which he was holding in his hand, saying, "Take this home and read it and let me know what you think of it."

I did. I took it home and read it through to discover that it was possible for a man to advertise himself as loan expert, to spend the whole of a long life immersed in figures and accounts and yet remain as ignorant of money, the theory of money, its genesis and destruction, finance and its relation to economics, as the very stones he walked on.

More amazing still, I found the ignorance to be universal, even among the men whose complete lives were spent in banking technique and administration, but as far as I was concerned I determined to cure myself of this defect without the loss of a single possible minute.

That paper completely opened my eyes to a new field of enquiry, and from then on to the moment I am writing this, I have utilised every spare leisure moment in the study of this, to me, new theory, and I have exhausted every source of knowledge I could obtain on the subject.



and that people did not destroy money (which showed my complete ignorance of the truth). Further, I pointed out that people did not use the money for food, nor fire, nor did they throw it down the mines nor into the ocean. What, then, had become of it if it were there no longer? Because to put money away in a cell and lock it up seemed the most senseless thing in the world to do.

But no bank manager could answer this puzzling problem, so I determined to get at the bottom of it, and went to Melbourne. At that time there was in the city a man with whom I had retained a lifelong friendship, and who had begun life in an insurance company and remained there until he became, first the actuary, and finally the general manager.

To him I made a pilgrimage and put the same question. "What has become of the money?"

To my complete amazement he made the same reply; he meekly said, "I don't know?"

When I recovered my breath, I said to him, "Do you mean to say that whilst you have been sitting there in that chair, handling millions every day of your life, you cannot

Without going into details as regards the various stages of increasing knowledge on the subject that I went through, I conceived the idea of converting the knowledge gained into visual exposition in the form of graphs of all kinds until finally it occurred to me to reduce to graphic or graph form, the gradual development of Australia's financial progress from 1913, the year previous to the war, to the present day.

To this end I consulted the Commonwealth Year Books, and the graph accompanying this text is the result to date.

A glance at the graph shows the trend of Australia's public debt, taxation, interest, deposits, bankruptcy, unemployment, legal tender in the shape of note issue and metallic currency.

The line of population is not shown, as it is practically a gradual rise, which is almost a straight line.

The main object of this article is to show the great disproportion between the increase in the population and the position of legal currency with the other lines of increase set out in the graph.

As the object of the graph is to show how the public debt, taxation

and interest have grown out of all proportion to the growth of population, I first draw attention to the population in 1913 and its gradual increase to the last figures given in the Year Books.

The figures given for 1913 are 4,931,088, and according to the last census 6,629,839, an increase of approximately 34.4 per cent only.

I wish to draw special notice to this statement, because the whole intention of the article is to draw a comparison to this fact.

Australia's Public Debt

Let us now look first at the line of Australia's public debt.

In the year 1913, the Year Book gives the public debt of Australia as £336,781,121, which rose fairly steadily and evenly, with a short break between 1925 and 1926 and another at 1929-1930, until the last statement in 1934 gives it as £1,259,000,000, and a still more recent issue of statistics gives the amount as over £1,400,000,000 in Australian currency.

This huge amount of debt includes both Commonwealth and State public debt, but excludes municipal and other similar semi-Government bodies.

A short calculation will show that notwithstanding the slight increase of 34.4 per cent, of population, the Australian public debt has been increased approximately 316.6 per cent, and the debt per head from about £68.3 per head to about £211.6 per head.

That should be quite sufficient to give you all food for thought, but let us turn our attention to the line of taxation.

Taxation

In 1914 we are told that the annual total public taxation bill for the Commonwealth and the States amounted to £22,892,242.

This rose steadily with four short breaks in 1921, 1927, 1930 and 1933 to the staggering dimensions of £100,077,000.

This rise is again out of all proportion to the rise in population, for it will be found that this is an increase of about 337 per cent, and the taxation per head from about £4.64 per head to about £15.8 per head.

Interest

Now let us see how we have fared in the way of our annual interest bill.

In 1914 the amount was £12,202,203. This also gradually rose until it reached the peak in 1928, when it is given as £61,366,866; it then subsided slightly till 1930 when it rose again until 1931 and subsided again until, in 1935, it rested temporarily at £49,299,637.

This works out at about 304 per cent, increase from 1914 to 1935 and from an amount of about £2.5 per head in 1914 to £7.43 in 1935.

The next object of this graph is to contrast the result of banking practice during war and peace.

This might explain perhaps why the period included in the graph is that between 1913, the year prior to the war, and the last issue of the Commonwealth Year Book.

Unemployment

Take first the line of unemployment.

It will be seen that in 1913 the number given is 13,430, that it suddenly rose to over 30,000 in 1914 and dropped again during the war years with one break in 1917 until it reached in 1919 the lowest figure of the graph period of 16,637.

The conclusion of the war raised the numbers again until they reached the figure 45,622 in 1921, when they again dropped to 26,672 in 1923, after which they fluctuated from year to year until the 1929 debacle, when the banking policy became one of deflation and depression.

The effect was instantaneous and tragic, if not appalling, as will be seen on the graph.

The figures rose in one year to 104,951, and in two years to 118,732, until in 1932 they reached the disgraceful total of 120,454.

Expressed in percentages this meant an increase of close on 800

per cent, from 1913 to 1932.

Bankruptcies

Take another feature in the contrast between war and peace and glance at the bankruptcy line, and you will notice that during the war years the numbers fell from 1392 in 1913 to 733 in 1920, after which the line make a gradual rise again, as in unemployment, until 1929, when the same disastrous effect of the banking policy took place and the number of bankruptcies suddenly rose from 2145 to 3168 in 1930 and thence to 4645 in 1931, when, on reaching this peak, the deflation had done its worst and the number gradually subsided.

Expressed in percentages again we find that between 1920 and 1931 the increase amounted to the cruel figure of about 734 per cent.

If you can look upon these figures with any degree of complacency, you are cast in a far different mould from mine.

And now I come to the third and last reason for producing the graph, and that is the paradox of our monetary system.

And first I would draw your attention to the lines of coins and note issue.

Coins and Notes

A reference to the amount of coin as recorded in 1913, which included gold, silver and bronze, reveals the fact that there existed in Australia in all the banks and the tills of the various business institutions the amount of £30,133,187, which rose slightly to the year 1915, then disappeared in some mysterious manner during the years 1916 and 1917, after which it maintained a fairly even keel until the year 1927, when it reached its peak period and is recorded as £26,387,013, from which time it began to drop, slowly at first to £25,455,684 in 1929, then suddenly when gold was withdrawn from circulation until it reached in 1931 its present level, which today is in the vicinity of £8,131,648.

Next, glance at the line of the note issue.

In 1913 the note issue is shown as being £9,464,593. This amount suddenly rose at the outbreak of the war and reached a total of £43,849,442 in 1916, reaching its highest peak in 1920-21, when it stood at £58,094,987. From that year to the present day it has remained fairly constant, the latest bulletin showing it to be £46,301,000.

Adding then the cash, £8,131,648, and the notes, £46,301,000, together we find the amount of legal tender in Australia to be recorded as £54,432,648.

This amount is the keynote of the mystery I am now about to look into, and I would draw special attention to it, hoping that it will remain long enough in your memory to compare it with the amount the banks tell us they had in their keeping on June 10, 1937.

Bank Deposits

On that date I find in their monthly reports that the deposits in the private cheque-paying banks amounted to £348,872,275, whilst the deposits in the Savings Banks totalled £224,194,000.

A simple addition sum then tells us that the people of Australia had on deposit in all the banks the sum of £573,066,275, although the Statistician tells us there was only £54,432,648 in Australia, and this is what puzzles not only the milkmaid, but everybody who learns the fact for the first time.

The plain fact is that the amount representing the difference between the amount shown as legal tender, and the amount shown as deposits, has really no existence except as entries in the bank ledgers or as promises to pay as represented by the cheques drawn on these deposits while they remain in circulation.

Very, very few people are aware of this phase of the monetary system of the day, and fewer and fewer still are capable of mentally assimilating this truth, for it is an absolutely unassailable truth and is vouched for by every reliable authority on present-day banking practice.

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3.)

KEW.

ANDERSON'S, 141 High St. Authorised Newsagent. Haw. 1145.
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. 1462 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. 6605.
"Burnie Salon," 81 Cotham Rd. M. J. MARTIN, 167 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).



For consider this: Of the Commonwealth Public Debt, which in 1934 amounted to £1,255,782,106, £547,325,462 was raised in London, £45,948,320 in New York, and the remainder in Australia.

The interest bill in the same year was £49,299,637, of which about one half was payable to creditors on the other side of the world.

Now it should not require a gigantic intellect to realize that if the Governments of Australia had created the amount of the loans they borrowed, both internally and externally, (Continued on page 8, column 5)

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

Since its inception the present Federal Government has sat in Parliament 160 days (up to Sept. 1) out of a total of 1075 available. For the present year Parliament has met only on 21 days. Is this Democracy? Where is the Parliament that is supposed to be the people's institution, where they send their representatives to deliberate and to formulate acts to give effect to their WILL? Is it not adding insult to injury that we should be paying our representatives £1000 a year for such palpable disservice?

Dictatorship is operating in this so-called democratic country, and is surely and insidiously consolidating its position. Are YOU going tranquilly to accept regimentation and restriction of your liberties of thought and actions?

The time is NOW, at the forthcoming election, before it is too late, to assert your citizen rights to instruct Parliament, through your representative, to put into effect what YOU want instead of obeying the dictate of party machines, which are the mechanisms of hidden dictatorship. The Electors' Campaign to Abolish Poverty is your Campaign—it is your fight for freedom and security. Join in and do your bit.

Northern Electorates. —Mr. E. D. Butler left Melbourne on Thursday for an extended tour of the Northern Electorates. The U.E.A. has had this tour included in the Campaign plan and reserved to take place immediately before the elections. During the past four or five months quiet, studied work has been going on in spreading the idea of the Campaign and in encouraging personal initiative. Particular attention has been given to this in the *New Times*, and personal communications, in lengthy detail, have been sent out, with the result that almost everywhere there are individuals and small groups ready to receive Mr. Butler, and give him the assistance that he may require. Mr. Butler is an inspiration for the youth of Australia. He is in his 21st year, is an able speaker, and is indefatigable. The country electorates have felt that they wanted a representative of the Movement to authoritatively place the idea of the Campaign before the electors. Our good country friends will be hard put to keep pace with the energy and propulsion of this youth, and there will be widespread astonishment at his clarity and power. Time is short, but sufficient to capture the awakened and receptive mind of the electors and to assist it to being a powerful influence at the elections. There is none more able than Mr. Butler to carry this whirlwind Campaign to fruition.

Mr. R. Morton will leave for Gippsland with the same good wishes from the U.E.A., as we extend to Mr. Butler. Mr. Morton will help the electors to an expression of their wishes in the State electorate of Walhalla. He will continue his work after the State elections in mobilising the electoral vote of the Federal Electorates of Gippsland and Flinders. A big job, but Mr. Morton is well known in the Gippsland Divisions and will receive able assistance from various centres. Also the Air will prove a useful medium.

Balaclava Federal Electorate is one of the strongest party seats, and on that account has been chosen as a particular electorate on which to prove the force of the Electors' Campaign to Abolish Poverty. Work has commenced and arrangements are

being made for a series of meetings to be held throughout the electorate, culminating in a big central meeting. The first of this series will be held in Croft's Hall, 298 Glenhantly-road, Elsternwick, near Kooyong-road, on Thursday evening, September 16.

A special leaflet will be placed in every home. Workers are asked to hold themselves in readiness. An announcement will be made in next week's *New Times* asking workers to meet in the U.E.A. Rooms, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins-street, C.1, to consider the allocation of duties.

Brighter Times Club. —Dance, St. Patrick's Hall, 470 Bourke-street, Tuesday, September 28. Novelty, Monte Carlo, supper. Subscription 2/2 (includes tax).

Oakleigh has fixed the date of its meeting for Thursday, September 23. Note this is an alteration from Wednesday. Dr. John Dale will address the meeting.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Annual Meeting. —The annual meeting of the association will be held at Headquarters, 17 Waymouth-street, on Saturday, September 18, at 7.30 p.m. The meeting will consist of delegates elected from each affiliated branch. Further details concerning the election of delegates have been forwarded to branch secretaries. These are reminded that the names of delegates and also any nominations for councillor should be in the hands of the secretary by September 11. The agenda for this meeting is as follows:—

1. —Minutes of previous convention.
2. —Notices of motion.
3. —President's opening address.
4. —Treasurer's report.
5. —Election of thirty councillors.
6. —Council meeting (to elect a chairman, secretary and selection committee).
7. —Campaign Director's report.
8. —Other reports. (1) The broadcast reports and women's auxiliary.
9. —General. (1) Major objectives; (2) Australian objective; (3) Local objective.
10. —Other business.

Barker District. —On August 30 Mr. Brock addressed the Glenelg branch of Toc H. Ten young men listened with interest to a statement concerning the objectives and activities of the Electoral Campaign. Members of the group were reminded that, whilst "doing jobs of work" is proof of the spirit that animates members of any organisation; there is no grander job of work at the present time than that of abolishing poverty by the united action of those who want it removed.

Hindmarsh Division. —On Sunday, August 29, Rev. C. D. Brock addressed 22 members of the Hindmarsh Church of Christ Young Men's Class. The subject of the Electoral Campaign was fully dealt with, the speaker basing his remarks upon the parable of the labourers in the vineyard. (Matthew, chapter 20.)

Whilst the group were unable to agree with some of what Mr. Brock said and had no time to appreciate all the implications and applications suggested, the response was, nevertheless, most encouraging. The pastor (Rev. W. W. Saunders) announced that Thursday evening was the only free night of the week; but he was quite prepared to lead a study group of young people if they were willing to take up the question and study it seriously with a view to taking all requisite action in order that Christian principles might find

a ready expression in an economic order which would be satisfactory to Jesus Christ in this new age of plenty.

Real Campaigners. —Mr. and Mrs. Brady, of Ovingham, are an example to all workers in the Electoral Campaign. Both are exceptionally keen. Mr. Brady is so keen that even blindness will not deter him from doing his little bit. Mrs. Brady has recently taken him two bundles of 50 Pledge forms. Some of these he has used at the Blind Institution, North Adelaide, and others he intends to use in his house-to-house canvass. For

HOW YOUR M.P.'S SERVE YOU

Three times during the afternoon the bells had to be rung for a quorum when members had drifted out of the Chamber, leaving the speakers to a profitless monologue.

A survey of the House on such occasion revealed four members writing letters, two reading books, one lying down, another writing in a diary, and half a dozen gazing solemnly into vacancy. These, one feels, are not the occasions on which one would care to exhibit the Chamber to a representative of one of the Totalitarian States as an example of democracy in full flower.

—"From the Federal Gallery," "Herald," Sept. 2.

this he will possibly have the assistance of a small boy to guide him about. It may look almost like a case of the blind leading the blind, but so often even blind people can see through the things that so many people do not even bother to inquire into. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Brady on their splendid effort, and we can only hope that such a fine example will set going a number of others who at least should be better equipped for the task.

(The above was written about two weeks ago. Since then Mrs. Brady has brought in 74 signatures, the result of her husband's work. In addition to this, as a further result from his work, Mr. J. Foulds, also of the Blind Institution, has called at the office offering to do his little bit also at house-to-house canvassing. We wonder how many more blind people are going to take the lead.)

Women's Canvassing Team —The Women's Auxiliary have formed a team to undertake house-to-house canvassing. Having shown the men what they can do in the matter of raising funds through the kitchen, they are now setting out to show what they can do in obtaining signatures. We certainly wish them luck, and trust they certainly will break all records.

Gathering of the Clans—This will be held at the Hanson-street Hall on September 25. This will be a happy social gathering, at the conclusion of which supper will be served at the charge of 1/-. Admission free.

We have been asked to announce that a course of instruction in Credit, Social Credit, Money and Exchange, will commence on Monday, September 20, at 8 p.m., in the United Democrats' rooms, 17 Waymouth-street. Fee 5/-. At the close of the course an examination will be held, and certificates granted to the successful candidates. Instructor, Mr. D. J. Amos, F.A.I.S.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Campaign continues to expand and consolidate. The initial meeting for the formation of a Divisional Secretariat for the Perth Electorate has been held; and a further meeting was

held again on September 3, at headquarters.

The Federal Treasurer recently made the amazing statement that Australia is enjoying unprecedented prosperity. Just recently Selfridges (Australia) Ltd. advertised for one hundred and fifty girls for their new emporium; they received over three thousand applications for employment, and over a thousand girls rushed the Town Hall, which had been engaged for the purpose of interviewing all the applicants. If this is what Treasurer Casey calls unprecedented prosperity, then he should be examined by mental experts to consider whether he is responsible for making such statements, which the facts quoted above disprove.

A meeting has been held at Wooroloo under the auspices of the Primary Producers' Association. The speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, Miss G. Wynne, and Mr. H. A. Lightfoot, travelled up from Perth per Mr. Greenwood's car; the result of the meeting was a unit formed to work the E.G., which again proves that no organisation is proof against the straight line logic of the Campaign technique. Its simplicity is its driving force; it cuts through all sectional arguments and portrays the truth unvarnished.

GROUP NEWS.

The new Mundijong group has started work in earnest; it has taken delivery of another batch of leaflets and has promised help for the Liberty Fair.

Subiaco still leads the way with signed demands and solid campaign methods. Subiaco believes in personal contact, and its electors are receiving a liberal education on democracy and its true function. The sitting members must either do or die a political death when they face the electors of Subiaco the next time.

Mt. Hawthorn-Leederville. —This group is now delivering No. 2 leaflet; no elector is going to escape the propaganda barrage in these districts.

The Mosman Buckland-Hill Group is lively. They hope to form a group in Cottesloe on September 6. The Rev. J. E. Shepherd, Mr. E. Griffiths, and Mr. R. Rushton are billed to speak at Cottesloe on that date.

Leaflet distribution is going steadily ahead. It is known that the local M.L.A. is quite nervous about it all—well, the Campaign has been designed to achieve domination over the sitting member; if it brings about a nervous tension so early in the campaign, what is going to happen when the people's pressure is developed?

Kondukt keeps its end up; those signatures that have been obtained by Mr. Cadwallader are the power that constitutes the pressure of the campaign.

Victoria Park Group. —This Group is still collar proud, although some leaflet distribution is going on. This Group is numerically strong enough to carry all before it.

The Beaconsfield Branch is active. It held a jumble sale recently, the proceeds from which were devoted to the broadcasting fund. They are starting to deliver No. 3 leaflet, and are to hold a public meeting round about September 23 in the Fremantle Town Hall.

Palmyra Group is now actively working the 'Campaign, leaflet distribution being the order of the day.

The South Perth Group is organising for a public meeting to gain more workers for the Campaign.

Manjimup and Pemberton are working the Campaign. The Pantapin Yoting Group is holding a big dance to raise funds for the broadcasts; they also forwarded a donation.

The Beacon and Tarin Rock Branches of the W.G.U. have

also sent in donations, which are greatly appreciated.

Geraldton is evincing interest in the campaign.

From Isseka, Norhampton line, Mr. Teake, jun., is collecting signatures. Youth can lead in Campaign.

LIBERTY FAIR.

Readers don't forget the Liberty Fair. Spread the news and help to make it a success. A number of encouraging letters are coming to hand. The ladies attached to Headquarters are to have busy bees each week until the Fair. The enthusiasm of these ladies is a tonic, and the success of this venture is assured because they are behind it.

More old clothes are required for the Jumble Sale, the proceeds of which are to go to the expenses of the Fair.

BROADCASTING.

His Grace Archbishop Le Fanu, Primate of Australia, is to broadcast over our session on Sunday, September 12, at 9 p.m. All are requested to advertise this as widely as possible. These broadcasts are reaching a wide public, and are our most valuable means of propaganda.

The M. V. Koolinda Branch listens in hundreds of miles out at sea, and reports excellent reception. Some very fine work is being done by this branch; their financial help is deeply appreciated.

QUO VADIS?

(Continued from page 7.)

Between 1913 and 1934, in the same manner I have described, our public debt would be nothing more and nothing less than the community's credit, for which the community, instead of parting every year with the large sum due as interest, and payable outside Australia, would be receiving the benefits of the currency created by their assets, and utilised for many public works badly needed and for which we are repeatedly told there is no money.

In other words, the successive Governments of Australia, and they are all alike, have mortgaged the wealth of Australia to the extent of £1,066,218,879 in 23 years to overseas financiers, equal to about one-fifth of the assessed wealth of the continent, and, in order to preserve that wealth intact for themselves, they, the Australians, have been privileged to pay away the iniquitous sum of about £440,000,000 in interest alone, which amount would have gone a long way to pay off the country's huge debt.

Put into, straightforward language, in the shortest terms possible, this means that had the Governments of Australia developed the powers of the Commonwealth Bank to the extent originally intended by the Fisher Government in 1911, and as Sir Denison Miller was doing, our Public Debt at this moment would be a Public Credit.

It is to the Bruce-Page Government that the people of Australia are indebted for the complete strangulation of the functions of that bank.

VICTORIA'S DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION

Were the Government to be returned by a larger majority at the election to follow this dissolution, it would have no more power to bend the Council to its will than it has now.

—"Herald" Leader, Sept. 2.

LAUNCESTON,
TASMANIA.
Listen in to
7LA EVERY SUNDAY
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