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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. 41.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d

Shall We Boycott Japan?

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THE U.A.P. REPUDIATES CHRISTIANITY

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BANKERS AND BUSHRANGING

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ONE UP ON ARCHIE

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

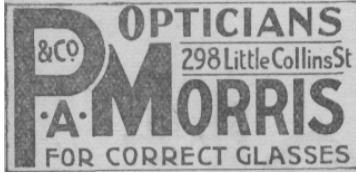
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(Continued on page 3).

SHALL WE BOYCOTT JAPAN?

We must deplore and abhor the unspeakable horrors now being perpetrated upon the people of China by the bombing planes of Japan. But, having said that, it does not follow that we must jump in and boycott Japanese goods in Australia or do any of those other impetuous acts that are now being so eagerly canvassed in many quarters.

To get at the FACTS of the present position in Japan and China, and to come to reasoned conclusions as to what we should do, read the case set out below. It is very different from what your daily newspapers tell you.

The brunt of the charge against Japan is that, without military necessity, she has bombed Chinese cities, thereby inflicting needless loss of life and terrible sufferings on Chinese civilians, and particularly on women and children. The answer of Japan is, in effect, that these bombings of civilians were either accidental or incidental to the bombing of military objectives.

In support of the "accidental" defence the Japanese Consul-General in Sydney has sardonically pointed out the terrific loss of life to Chinese caused by their own bombs dropped in the International Settlement in Shanghai on August 14, when one bomb alone (as confirmed by the Shanghai Municipal Council) killed

"THE FAT WILL BE IN THE FIRE"

The Japanese will try to seize the Customs revenues of Tientsin, Shanghai, etc.; and then the fat will be in the fire with all the foreign Powers whose trading and investors' interests are linked with these revenues. — The London "Economist," August 28, 1937.

There was nothing wrong, of course, when the other Powers seized China's Customs revenues on behalf of their investors' interests.

And now they tell us to boycott Japan out of sympathy for China!

over 1000 Chinese. And, as for the military objectives, the Consul-General has published the full list of these, together with the dates of the bombings.

Allowing, however, for propaganda and counter propaganda, it is an inescapable fact that aerial bombing is taking place on both sides, and that, since the Japanese forces are definitely superior in the air, the Chinese are the worst sufferers—suffering alike from the inaccuracy of their own airmen and from the aim of the Japanese which may be inaccurate or fiendishly accurate, according to the viewpoint of the observer.

War Propaganda

For it must be emphasised that all the forces of war propaganda are at work. To say, as the Australian press cables from London did last week, that "the spontaneous movement for a boycott of Japanese trade is strengthening and hardening", is pure nonsense. Did you notice any spontaneous movement for a boycott of British goods in Australia when, some months ago, R.A.F. bombers were treating open villages in Waziristan, on the Indian North-West frontier, to the same rain of bombs with which Japan is now greeting much better armed Chinese cities? You did not, and the reason was because the daily newspapers either presented the matter in a different light or suppressed all mention of it. "Spontaneous" popular movements about foreign affairs—and indeed about most local ones—simply don't happen. They are the result mainly of newspaper propa-

All matter in this issue dealing with Federal political affairs, and not bearing the name and address of the writer is written to express the editorial view of the "New Times", and legal responsibility for its publication is accepted by T. J. Moore, Elizabeth House, Melbourne.

ganda, which is usually conveyed in the form either of undue prominence, of suppression, or of distortion, or, as frequently happens, of all three.

If you want a typical instance of newspaper propaganda, and one that applies to the present case, turn up the files of the Melbourne Herald for September 11 last. There, on the pictorial page (No. 44) you will find a three-column photograph headed, "Ships at Shanghai." Underneath is this nice little bit of propaganda: "BRITAIN'S WATCHDOGS at Shanghai. — Two warships in the river flank a boat carrying refugees from the scenes of destruction in the city to comparative safety at Ningpo. The British squadron has been reinforced since the outbreak of hostilities." Britain's watchdogs, ready to help the innocent and unprotected Chinese—only if you look a little closer at the picture you will see that the two watchdogs are not escorting the refugee ship, but are tied at anchor; that both have coloured bands around the tops of their funnels; and that both are flying a tricolour flag with perpendicular stripes!

However, let us see what is behind the move, which has resulted in many Australian Labor organisations again being led by the nose by a press, which they know to be the organ of their enemies.

Japan Copies Western Methods

Japan, granting the worst that has been said about her methods, is doing precisely what everyone who knows anything about war and armaments has said would be done in the next great war. Was it not Britain's last Prime Minister, Baldwin of Bewdley, who warned the public that the next war would be decided by the rapidity with which either opponent could bomb out of existence the women and children of the other? Is not every nation preparing to do this? Is not Britain using these methods in India today? Was it not Britain which wrecked whatever chance the Disarmament Conference had by specifically refusing to agree to the abolition of air bombing on the ground that such methods might be required for police or punitive purposes—with special reference to Indian villages?

Again, is Japan doing anything worse than was done by both sides in the Great War? Did not the Germans bomb women and children in the city of London? Did anything but German aerial superiority keep the Allies from demolishing Berlin from the air, with all its women and children? What hypocrisy, then, to protest now against the barbarism of the Japanese! What tragic nonsense to talk about the "rules" of war! War knows no rules. It is the abolition of all rules. Are not all the "great" nations today preparing even more horrible poison gases than were used in the last war? Are they not ready to broadcast every imaginable kind of terror from the air, including deadly germs?

Modern warfare is an all-in horror, where women and children are looked upon as workers in munition factories, as providers of all sorts of material for the frontline; where children are looked upon as the soldiers of the future, and women as the breeders of soldiers. Not only does modern war know no rules; it has abolished all conventions.

Another Alliance Between Communism and High Finance

Those who are most strongly urging hostile action against Japan are the Communists and the finance-imperialists (both of whom share the same objective of centralised power and rule by force). To these, of course, must be added great numbers of humane people whose natural reactions of horror have led them to follow, but not to lead the course proposed.

The strength of the Chinese resistance, even according to our daily newspapers, is expected to be the Communist army, which recently and mysteriously threw in its lot with Chiang Kai Shek. In India, where the boycott is alleged to be unofficially in operation already, those most prominent in it are the Communists. In Britain, of whose motives more directly, the lead against Japan is now coming openly from those who have for years been plotting secretly against Japan and waging an economic and financial war against her. In their wake come the usual camp followers, including that close friend and disciple of high finance, Cosmo Lang, Archbishop of Canterbury. In Australia those clamouring for hostile action against Japan are, first, the monopolistic press, and, second, those whose pet anathema is Fascism, but who never seem to have a word of condemnation for Communism. This of itself should give levelheaded people food for thought. But let us look a little further into possible motives.

The Attitude of Britain

Here are a few excerpts from the news cabled from Britain during the last week or so:—

The British Government gave permission to the Gloster Aircraft Company to supply Chinese orders for 250 of the latest fighting planes, similar to the R.A.F. planes. (This is the same Government,

you will remember, which has held up the execution of Australia's orders.)

The Federation of British Industries and the China Association passed a resolution urging the Government, in the interests of British trade with China, to take all possible steps to prevent further damage to and further encroachments on British interests in Shanghai and elsewhere in China, and to put an end at the earliest possible moment to the encroachments which have already taken place.

The Melbourne Herald on Thursday of last week editorially admitted that "international efforts would be made, in almost any circumstances, to sustain China's credit."

The Manchester Guardian (which we understand is now under Jewish control and which cannot recognise any good in Germany or Japan) advocated the cutting off of supplies to Japan, and that all nations which might thereby risk war with Japan should enter into an alliance for mutual protection. (Australian woolgrowers, remembering how the Manchester Chamber of Commerce delegation last year wanted to sacrifice them on the altar of the Lancashire rayon industry, will duly appreciate the Guardian's attitude.)

The Nineteenth Century Review published an article demanding that the Empire's naval strength be "relentlessly increased" to secure Britain in "the retention of her various rights in China."

Lord Strabolgi, the Labor peer, announced to the Melbourne Herald that sympathy for Japan was almost non-existent in Britain, and that those who might normally have sympathised with Japan were "alienated by threats to British material interests in the East."

And there was a great deal more to the same effect. So, on the one hand, we have this alleged desire to take action against Japan on purely humane grounds, and on the other we have the admission that the principal motive in influential quarters in Britain is the protection of what are called "British interests" in China. Of what nature are those interests?

The Plot to Smash Japan

Ever since the New Times began publication we have been pointing out that it is to the interest of the big financiers who control British industry to wreck Japan, just as it (Continued on page 7.)

THE ECONOMIST ON "JAPAN'S CHALLENGE"

In its first leading article of August 28 last, the London "Economist," financial Bible of the British Commonwealth, has this to say of what it terms "Japan's Challenge" (the emphasis on the last sentence quoted is ours):—

"The evacuation of British nationals from Shanghai, the destruction of British trade and property there, the dwindling prospect of future trade, and the blunt Japanese warning to this country to keep its nose out of Japan's business—even these grave events are of relatively minor importance compared with the contingency which looms larger and larger on the Eastern horizon. That contingency is the retreat of the British from the outposts of Empire.

"Now, some may say, an ordered retreat to gather force for a more sustained defence is strategic. Other Empires have successfully done it. We ourselves repeated it over and over again in the darkest days of our history, yet came through firmer at the close. Others may say: Shanghai is not British; it is not Hong Kong; we can stand a lot of retreating until British territory is touched; and no one will lightly touch British territory as long as we press on with rearmament as we retreat.

"OTHERS AGAIN MAY HOLD THAT £200 OR £250 MILLIONS OF BRITISH INVESTMENTS—OR AN ANNUAL TOTAL OF SOME £25 MILLIONS OF TRADE—SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO WEIGH AGAINST THE PRESERVATION OF THE PEACE THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE WORLD."

And others again may hold that if it is a question of "British" investments as against the sale of £15 millions' worth of Australian wool a year, Australia should think of herself first.

HOW THE LYONS POLICY APPEALS TO THE MAN IN THE STREET

As a plain, unvarnished man in the street, with no political ideologies or biases, I listened to the speech of the Prime Minister in opening the Federal Election Campaign on September 28. As a result, I have formed the impression that Mr. Lyons's conception of the road to prosperity for Australia is the expenditure of vast sums in preparation for the next war; expenditure of further sums on the more obvious victims of the last war, and a firm belief that "sound" monetary policy is that dictated by small private groups of individuals who have everything to gain by adherence to established banking canons which postulate that depressions with consequent disaster for the majority are inevitable.

If this conclusion appears startling, an examination of Mr. Lyons's address may be illuminative and, perhaps, result in some explanation of points, which puzzle myself, as well as one or two others in the community.

The Hurdles

The first hurdle is the fact that four years' intensive economic study has failed to reveal a shortage of wool, wheat, iron, coal, oil or any other primary product or of manpower to convert these things into the shape in which men and women require them. Further, the situation indubitably is that these things in finished shape are available in such vast quantities that there is consistently declining need of manpower to shape them. Despite this, very few people actually have the purchasing power to buy the goods they need. In turn, this has led the nations of the world to resort to armed force to endeavour to open up new markets for these industries, not because their own people do not require the products, but since the people have not the money to acquire all they need.

The fact that the people of the invaded countries are in the same boat is in keeping with the amazing stupidity of the system, which results in such invasions.

Out of this bewildering pattern of economic insanity in which people have goods they cannot sell to people out of work, emerges the one beacon for clear thought—that the only commodity of which there is a real shortage in the world is money itself, which, in theory, is the mere token to facilitate exchange of real wealth, and is really the tail of the dog. Because the tail wags the dog, however, we hear extraordinary theories from supposedly expert men on the subject of over-production and under-consumption. How many men in the street can support the first theory, and how many will support the second and plead guilty because their finances leave them no alternative?

Even up to this stage, the situa-

tion is such as to cause any thinking man to smile ruefully at the phrase, "Twentieth Century Civilization," but let us now examine Mr. Lyons's proposals in detail.

Pride in Armament's

In his early remarks, he almost climbed into the microphone with eagerness to display his pride in the fact that he had increased expenditure on armaments to £11 millions during the current year, and went into raptures over the fact that 700 men would be employed as a result of expenditure to make Australia self-contained in secondary industries producing munitions.

I could not help my mind flitting back to the recent Loan Council meeting, in which the States were told that they could not get £10 millions between them for the unemployment relief of thousands and the savings of hundreds of farmers under the Farm Mortgage Adjustment Plan. Of course, it may be that the people of Australia will receive more benefit from the manufacture of iron plate for our nursery navy, bombs for our infant air force and natty uniforms for our Saturday afternoon soldiers; but, as I recall the last war, Germany was defeated by the blockade which left her short of food, fuel and other matter-of-fact commodities, so I still don't know the answer from a military viewpoint.

Getting out of chronological order, Mr. Lyons also referred to the grave effect, from a military viewpoint, of our declining birth rate, and suggested that an increased maternity bonus was the answer—to what? Does he suggest that a bigger, better air force, navy and army and a few more pounds a year to the parents is incentive to bring more children into the world for the doubtful privilege of dying for "The Empire"? The average man would be more impressed if the Lyons Ministry did something to help reduce infant and adult mortality by making funds available to combat infantile paralysis, cancer, tuberculosis and like diseases, which annually take greater toll of the community than even the "Great Massacre." Mr. Lyons's present idea seems to be to grab all the really fit man-power for war purposes at any expenditure and leave it to the people to finance the job of keeping the potentially fit up to the mark, as per the cancer and infantile paralysis appeals. Maybe I'm crazy if this is real economics, even from a military viewpoint.

Empire Benefits

Mr. Lyons also referred to the "benefits of traditional association with the British Empire." On this point I have no more to say than,

read Australia's interest bill, which has repaid twice over the capital investments in this country, and consider 1914-1918.

It was fitting that under the same heading of "Empire benefits" he should refer to civil aviation progress. Does Mr. Lyons remember the reason for the strict prohibition of American aircraft from this country for so many years, and does he know what type of machine is being flown here today, making possible the vast increase in mileage in Australia's airlines? Were the past two years in civil aviation one of the benefits (?) of "traditional association with Britain"?

Where is the Money to Come From?

When he at last got off defence, naturally he got on to banking. I say, "naturally," because it is still amazing to me that almost unlimited finance is available for armament (still the same under the name of defence), and at the same time a reply is given to requests for money for public works, in the shape of a question: "Where is the money to come from?" Well, where does the money come from, anyway? Today it isn't here for useful productive and reproductive works, but tomorrow it mysteriously comes forward in millions from somewhere for shells which, in their most useful form, merely explode in the air, even if they don't take some of those decreasing numbers of lives about which Mr. Lyons is so concerned.

I am no Labor man, but when Mr. Lyons suggests that "it is dangerous in the extreme . . . to expect to get loan money for nothing," I invite him to tell me from what mysterious source money does come, especially when it can't be found for constructive work, but, like the three-card-trick, turns up whenever it is required for armament.

The Prime Minister says further, "there is only one way of getting something for nothing—inflation." As he was addressing the people, the inference is obvious; but by the laws of logic, its opposite, deflation, means that somebody else gets money for nothing. Certainly not the people! Then, who?

"Real Australians" and "Something for Nothing"

On the same subject of finance, Mr. Lyons suggests, with withering scorn that any non-contributing scheme of National Insurance savours of public benevolence and would not be countenanced by real Australians. I wonder how many "real Australians," apart from those concerned with "the traditional benefits of association with the British Empire," take this view when they put out their hands for interest and dividends on Australian investments—in many cases

the recipients not even having contributed one penny to the long-standing capital sums which they inherited. If there is any distinction between an able-bodied man or woman accepting such interest or dividends (frequently when the capital sum has been repaid in interest and dividends in the previous generation) and the Australian worker who has spent his life in real productive work in the country, then that difference is in favour of the latter—or, once more, I'm crazy and really not entitled to vote.

Seeing how much so many of us know of the ramifications of the directorates of the trading banks, insurance companies, etc., Mr. Lyons had best not pursue his further argument regarding the disabilities which Friendly Societies, insurance companies, etc., would suffer by any non-contributory scheme of National Insurance.

A Conglomeration of Contradictions

The balance of Mr. Lyons's speech embraced an admission that real wealth is that of the people of Australia; an admission that 20,000 British-born had left Australia in excess of migrants, and that the Nutrition Committee's recommendations would be followed up by the Government.

To me, this was a curious conglomeration of contradictory matters related to his claim that his Government had increased the prosperity of this country. If the prosperity was so great, why did 20,000 people prefer to leave its shores (this being the number which had the means to get away, and far from all who wanted to do so), and why should the Nutrition Committee admit that hundreds of thousands of people were underfed or starved?

On top of this, and after promising to deal with the question of unemployment in conjunction with the States, Mr. Lyons openly advocated increased immigration.

What Lyons Stands For

The facts inevitably lead to the belief that the fundamental of the Lyons Government is adherence to, and protection of "sound finance," in the shape of the private banks, and a determination that the Commonwealth Bank shall not interfere with this. Despite his reference to the Mortgage Bank, I can see no other inference from an analytical review of his address, since he admits that in open competition the Commonwealth Bank would wipe out the trading banks. So what must we expect but a continuation of a policy of credit restrictions resulting in a cycle of depressions to be accepted as inevitable acts of God (manifested through men's greed and idiocy) and a flood of money to be loosed only for the purpose of man creating the instruments of his own destruction? If this is not what Mr. Lyons's policy means, will he please tell us what it does mean?

I know little of Labor's policy as such, but I do know this: If its extension of the Commonwealth Bank's powers means placing in the hands of the people the wherewithal to purchase the goods in the factories of men who are at their wits end to know how to get people to buy them, then I am all in favour of it.

At least, the present financial system has proved itself inadequate, and while Mr. Lyons declares that the Royal Commission on Banking "has exploded the theories of National Credit advocates," can anyone deny that the Commission's views, after all, are only theories themselves, since no alternative scheme has ever been given trial?

Mr. Lyons declares that his Government will "strengthen the existing banking structure." At least, on this point, he is straightforward; so we know what to expect, because, as that prince of philosophers (Confucius) once told us, "If you would know the future, search the past." And I greatly regret that the prospect is not an entrancing one.

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(Continued from page 2.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

The Lord Mayor and Councillors, Melbourne City Council.

Sirs,—

Things have come to a pretty pass when even the Argus has to write a sub-leader, as it did on Tuesday, berating you for your refusal to make the Melbourne Town Hall available for Labor leader Curtin's meeting on October 18. "The reason given by the Town Hall authorities," said the Argus, "is that preparations will be in progress for the Lord Mayor's ball. It is an inadequate explanation. If some disturbance of arrangements were necessary, it would be justified in the circumstances."

For once we find ourselves in hearty agreement with the Argus, only we would put the position far more forcibly. At a time when the Government of this country for the next three years is about to be decided, involving heaven knows what grave issues—but probably including our participation or otherwise in another holocaust worse than 1914-18—we are told by our municipal servants that the several days' decoration of the Town Hall for a Lord Mayor's ball is of more moment than that the people should hear one of the two men from whom, as things are, it seems that the nation's leader will be selected! To add to the offence, the gentleman thus excluded happens to be the leader of the party from which the city of Melbourne has long chosen its representative in

the Federal House. Your attitude, therefore, is not only an insult to democracy; it is a specific insult to the electors of Melbourne.

But this is nothing new on your part. The Melbourne City Council in its administration regards itself as a little autocracy, a law unto itself above all other laws. Last December, when Edward VIII was still King of Australia, your "loyal" Council refused to hire the hall to citizens who wished to express, in a peaceful and constitutional manner, their right to be consulted before the Lyons Ministry attempted by misrepresentation to force the abdication of the King. At that time your Council said it was of the opinion that the time is inopportune for public discussion of this matter. Having thus successfully swallowed the camel by notifying the citizens that they must not dare to discuss who should be their Sovereign, you can hardly be expected to strain at such a mere gnat as interfering in the matter of electing a national Parliament.

Is it any wonder that the name of official Melbourne stinks throughout Australia as synonymous with the rule of snobocracy? But make no mistake. Sirs. The time is rapidly approaching when the people will cease to rank any Lord Mayor's balls as being more sacred than the citizens' rights and privileges. Even the attitude of the "new" Argus should convince you of that.

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One Up on Archie

The prize for the best election hit thus far scored must go to Mr. Curtin. Our Gilbertian Minister for Defence, Sir Archie Parkhill, who upon his translation from the post of P.M.G. immediately assumed all the airs of a military, naval and aerial expert, told the people of Bendigo on Monday night, with a magnificent display of verbiage, how rotten is the Labor idea of defence. "Deprived," he orated, "of the sinews of war to be obtained from the maintenance of our economic and financial strength through the continuance of our trade, cut off from reinforcements from the heart of the Empire and the other Dominions, the Labor party would await the descent of an enemy upon our shores, though his approach might be as certain as the rising of the sun."

Apparently carried away by the magnificence of his own eloquence, and intoxicated by the neatness of his veiled reference to Japan as an enemy ("the rising of the sun") Sir Archie then went on to make a terrible break. "The Singapore base," he proceeded, "which is the keystone of the defence of Empire, might be attacked. It is a powerful fortress, but air reinforcements from Australia, in a prolonged offensive, might ultimately mean the difference between the invasion or non-invasion of the Commonwealth."

Of course Mr. Curtin jumped in on this keystone comedy, and proceeded to deflate our Archie by pointing out that if a naval base is to be our first line of defence, but if this naval base cannot defend itself and must rely upon Australian aeroplanes for its own protection, the Labor case against relying upon naval rather than air defence is strengthened.

This is not the first time that prominent U.A.P. spokesmen, once they leave the lines of the book and essay flights on their own, have missed badly; nor is it likely to be the last. Everyone with a grain of sense knows that Singapore was not built for, nor is it likely to be used for the defence of Australia. When Sir Archdale said that the Singapore base "is the keystone of the defence of Empire," he would have spoken the truth had he added one word after "Empire." That word is "investments." For that is what Singapore is—the keystone of the defence of Empire investments in the Far East. Singapore is in a nicely central position to the Chinese investments, the Indian investments, and the Royal

Dutch-Shell, rubber, and similar investments in the East Indies. Refresh your memory with a glance at a map of the world, and you will at once see that it has no practical relationship to Australia at all. Its relationship is to the investments above named and to Japan. Only, as it happens, it is not of much use in the present case of the Chinese investments, because the imperial watchdogs are too busy just now in waters nearer home; the Near East comes before the Far East.

We do not wish to be misunderstood. We find no satisfaction in the thought of Britain's difficulties—understanding always that by Britain we mean the people of Britain, the forty-odd millions of them, and not the handful of financiers domiciled in Britain who own the "Empire." For that sort of ownership we have no sympathy at all. And it would not cause us the loss of a wink of sleep if, for instance the Royal Dutch-Shell (i.e., Jew Samuel plus Dutchman Deterding) monopoly were to be pruned of some of its tentacles. Such monopolies give no added strength, comfort or prosperity to the people of Britain, or of Australia, either. Neither do the Chinese investments, the interest on which is secured by liens over the Chinese Customs, nor the Indian investments, secured by bombers and the terrorism of an oppressed people.

From the point of view of the people of Britain and the people of Australia, this sort of Empire is a direct and ever present provocation to war. And—what you should remember on October 23—this is the sort of war into which Sir Archdale Parkhill and his U.A.P. confreres would, on the pretence of self defence, plunge Australia whenever their polyglot masters in London gave the word.

Mr. Lyons on Banking

Asked in Brisbane on Monday to "give us your banking policy," the Prime Minister is reported to have done so in these words: "In the last election campaign I gave an undertaking to have a full inquiry into banking. That inquiry found in favour of the present structure of banking through the Commonwealth and private banks. That is the policy to which this Ministry stands. It is the banking system which kept us going through the depression so that we could alternately restore confidence in this country and deal with unemployment."

There is no need to deal with the obvious lie in the last sentence quoted. But regarding Mr. Lyons's statement that the "inquiry found in favour of the present structure of banking through the Commonwealth and private banks," has the Prime Minister ever read the Banking Commission's recommendations? If so, did he happen to notice that the Commission (unsatisfactory as it was from the moment of its appointment) nevertheless recommended the present banking structure only subject to certain reservations or alterations? Did he notice the recommendation that trading banks should be licensed (as are hotels, dogs, and all sorts of far less vital things in the community)? Or that banks might be required to lodge security protecting depositors' funds (just as the banks themselves require security for their

own advances)? Or, still more important, the recommendation that, in the event of a conflict between banking policy and Government (i.e., the people's) policy, the latter should prevail, and not the former as nowadays happens?

When Mr. Lyons says that he supports the policy outlined by the Commission, will he please tell us whether he includes the above recommendations? And, if so, will he have them implemented in the event of his return to office?

Freedom Within the U.A.P.

Addressing members of the Junior United Australia party at Brisbane on Tuesday, the Prime Minister, contrasting the "complete freedom of thought and action" within the U.A.P. with the "outside domination" of the Labor party, is reported as saying:—

"In the six years in which I have led the Government of Australia there has not been one occasion upon which any outside supporters of the Government have sought to dominate me or to dictate to our Government on any matter of policy, however slight. We know that on many occasions outside friends have not agreed with us on important matters, but whatever decisions we have reached have been our own. That is where our party differs so materially from the Labor party."

Another very prominent member of the U.A.P., and one who surely knows its secrets and its internal organisation quite as well as the Prime Minister, is the Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, an ex-Prime Minister and a member of the present Ministry. Before the 1929 elections, when Mr. Hughes was temporarily outside the fold, he rashly exposed some of the secrets of the party, which he now again so brilliantly adorns. This is what Mr. Hughes said:—

"They have called me an Independent. That epithet can never be applied to them. I am the representative of the people, owning no master but the people. What I believe in I stand for boldly. But they! What are they? For the most part poor, weak, spineless ones, who dare not speak as their consciences and their solemn pledges to the people bid them."

"And along with these unhappy, timid souls, terrorised into submission by threats of excommunication, are others who are the mere creatures of vested interests and reaction."

"What is Mr. Parkhill, the campaign director, but the paid servant of the Moneybags of the State? No man can serve God and Mammon. No man can be the faithful servant of the people who is in the pay of the plutocracy."

Perhaps we should not go so far back as 1929; it is unfair to the U.A.P. So let us see what that great U.A.P. organ, the Melbourne *Argus*, is saying this very week. In its Wednesday's issue, in which it reported Mr. Lyons's "freedom of thought and action" address at Brisbane, the *Argus* wrote a sub-leader about Mr. Ian Macfarlan, the U.A.P. member for Brighton in the Victorian House, and a prominent member of the last Victorian U.A.P. Ministry. Mr. Macfarlan, with an honesty and candour which is as refreshing as it is singular in his party, has been publicly admitting the obvious—that the

ANOTHER DISCOVERY FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Joseph Xenophon Hodge Finds Some Ancient Documents

(Editor's Note.—The following letter, reproduced as we received it, speaks for itself.)

Dere Editer, —
I see be *Smith's Weekly* as how Mr. Bob Menzies once writ a pome which according to *Smith's* bloke goes this way: (I fergot to tell yer that *Smith's* bloke says that Bob writ it when some of the members of the University Rifles

Victorian elections on Saturday were another setback, for U.A.P.-ism. In making such an admission Mr. Macfarlan was surely exercising only to a microscopic degree the freedom of thought and action, which his party claims. Yet the *Argus* was so incensed as to say of Mr. Macfarlan, among other hysterical abuse: "He displays no gratitude for being allowed to retain, somewhat surprisingly, a safe U.A.P. seat."

Complete freedom of thought and action!

Alf. Foster's Vow

Speaking in the Melbourne Town Hall on Tuesday, Judge Foster, after making it plain that he was there in his capacity as "plain Alfred William Foster," is reported to have said: "I have taken a vow that never again will I buy Japanese goods until Japan submits her cause to the League. That should be the reaction of all decent men and women throughout the civilised world. If there is one country in the world that can be made to feel economic pressure it is Japan."

We have long admired plain Alfred William's sympathy with all the oppressed and downtrodden in every hole and corner of the world outside his own country, and we have long wished that he could be persuaded to concentrate on the home paddock, where he might do something, instead of the distant pasture's, where he can do nothing but pass resolutions.

Supposing Alfred William were to succeed in persuading all the "decent men and women" of Australia to follow the boycott, does he realise what its effect would be on Australia—on the city housewife whose straitened purse has long welcomed the low-priced rayon, china, and other goods of Japan; or on the primary producer who, in many cases, has been saved from bankruptcy by the extent and price of Japan's purchases of wool? Surely Alfred William Foster might remember that these are the people who, as taxpayers, have placed Judge Foster in a position where he is above "economic pressure."

Again, one is surprised to hear that Alfred William Foster has actually taken anything so "superstitious" as a vow. As far as we understand, the sanction of a vow is spiritual. And we were under the impression that, whatever might be the views of plain Alfred William on material sanctions, the learned Judge Foster disdained such out-of-date ideas as spiritual sanctions. Was it not Judge Foster who told a boy in his court some three years ago: "Don't you believe it, sonny. There's no such place as hell"?

was going off to fight to increase their share of the National Debt):

*"Farewell, brave hearts! The simple words proclaim
The passage of swift years, and the swift leap
Of worlds to arms, and, with no laggard's creep,
You answer to the call. Oh, deathless name
Of glory shall be yours; your glowing fame
Be one with those who saw the mighty sweep
Of Trafalgar, and heard upon the deep
The guns boom the sceptred Island's claim;
Heroes they were, and heroes, too, shall be
Ye who now leave an Alma Mater's home
To fight 'neath skies of strange emblazonry,
Far, far beyond the rolling ocean's foam.
Poor are we left! Yet go, ye honoured brave,
To right the wronged, to triumph and to save!"*

About this time, Mister Editer I was the dustman at that there University and I salvaged a few scraps of pomes from the dustbins I think as how they might have been the first starts by Mr. Bob Menzies before he finally writ that pome. Would you reckon, Mister Editer, that they might have some value as what you calls first editions or could that there Aunt Bertha of yours use 'em as little plots for tiny tots or somethink like that? 'Ere goes the first one:—

*"You'll sail across the seas, dear lads,
You'll travel o'er the sea;
You'll fight for freedom and the Yids,
You'll also fight for me."*

That there one has been, as I notice, Mister Editer, all scored out. I ain't surprised, because there's too many "you'lls" in it and it sort of gives the game away, don't it? But the next scrap is hot stuff. She goes these ways:—

*"Farewell, brave hearts, you leave us now
To sail across the sea;
Go o'er the foam while I stay home
And grab the L.S.D."*

I notice that there one has been scored out, too, Mister Editer. I suppose it wasn't up to what I heard a professor telling the lads was mounting on the wings of Pigs' Asses, or something like that. I dunno what he meant, but if it's what I think he meant, I reckon Bob ought to qualify. Anyhow, I reckon the next scrap was a snorter. She goes this way:

*"Heroes you are! You're welcome to the fight;
I'll stick at home in Alma Mater's halls;
God give you strength to battle for the right;
Thank God you've heard the Empire's frantic calls."*

Mister Editer, I dunno if these is what you are by way of calling original documents, but if they is I hopes as how you'll pay me for them. I see as how you're always putting the boot into them banks, but a cheque of yours drawn on a bank won't be knocked back by me. I ain't got no quarrel with the banks—yet.

With love and affection, and hoping you and all the staff are physically fit and morally stable,

JOSEPH XENOPHON HODGE,
Dustman.

P.S.— Don't leave that there cheque open because there's a U.A.P. member of Parliament boarding 'ere and he might get it.

-J.X.H.

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BANKING AND BUSHRANGING

Bucknell v. The Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd.

By SELBORNE

Respectability, rectitude, incorruptibility, fairness and honesty—these are the attributes, which our bankers claim to possess to quite a pre-eminent degree. It must be confessed that the path of the monetary reformer would have been much easier if the bankers had in the past been less circumspect in this connection, or had indulged in less skilful publicity on the matter of their virtues. They have proceeded quietly with their devilry, behind the scenes, and have generally avoided any show of blatancy and ruthlessness sufficient to portray them to the public as a grasping lot of buccaneers, contemptuous of the citizen and his rights, and wholly unactuated by the ordinary canons of decency and morality.

They have not needed to appear publicly as the villain of the piece, as the subjugation and ills of the world have flowed automatically from the mere arithmetic of their system of money issue and recall. This system is such that its results would, in essence, be the same whether it was operated by angels or by devils. It has long been recognised, however, that people will more readily put up with a faulty system run by apparently righteous, high-minded and considerate men, than they will with a system run by patent rogues and shysters.

Evidence is accumulating, fortunately, that less heed is being paid to this elementary point of strategy than heretofore by some of our most esteemed and respectable bankers. This conduct is explicable only on the basis of a contempt for the general public arising from overweening self-confidence. Whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make mad. It is some three years since Sir James Elder, of the National Bank, committed the egregious blunder of reminding Australian citizens that they owned a negligible portion only of Australia's real wealth. It was not long before this that our Empire's financial dictator, Montagu Collett Norman, broke his silence with the pronouncement: "Let the dogs bark." The "dogs," of course, are the citizens of a once-free Britain.

The latest instance of Olympian contempt is supplied by the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Limited. It is possible that many instances similar to this latest have escaped publicity altogether, and we have certainly noticed no publicity in the commercial press of even this instance. A novel and interesting point of law was, however, involved, and the matter duly found its way into the law reports.

We refer to the case of Bucknell v. Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd., decided recently by the Full High Court consisting of Justices Dixon, Evatt and McTiernan. The case is reported in 1937 Argus Law Reports at pages 425-432.

Facts of the Case

The facts of the case appear from the report and from the judgments.

It appears that in 1926 a company was in a position of difficulty. The bank had lent it £22,000 on overdraft, and had issued a demand that the overdraft be reduced substantially. Bucknell and his father-in-law became interested in buying shares in the company. They attended on the manager of the branch of the bank concerned for further information and were assured by him that the company's shares would be a sound investment.

Bucknell and his father-in-law put £5000 into the company, and

the company's overdraft was substantially reduced. The advantage to the bank in the way of improved security is obvious. The buck had been passed.

Bucknell did not invest wholly in cash, but was granted a private overdraft by the bank for £1334, which, with interest, eventually became the subject of the action.

The bank almost immediately allowed the company's overdraft to be increased again to over £22,000, but it must be remembered that the company's assets probably increased by way of purchases, a point which even Mr. Justice Dixon appears not to have considered in his judgment.

Bucknell and his father-in-law quickly found that the company was in a terrible state, and six months after they had parted with their hard-earned cash, to reduce an overdraft created by the bank, by no more arduous a process than the writing of a few figures in a book, the bank stepped in under its debenture and sold the company's assets. In the laconic phrase of Mr. Justice Dixon, "apparently when the debt to the bank was paid little remained for ordinary creditors and nothing for shareholders."

The Debt Remains

Mr. Bucknell and his father-in-law thus saw £3666 go down the sink of bank-cancellation by book-entry within the short space of six months, and Mr. Bucknell still owed the bank £1334, plus interest on his private overdraft. Mr. Bucknell had it out with the bank manager concerned, and in 1927 wrote the bank daring it to proceed. "I want," were his words, "the bank to take action to force me to pay this amount so that the matter can be ventilated."

The bank did nothing until the end of 1932, and it is significant that it took no action until the appointment of a new manager. We do not know, and can only speculate on the reasons underlying the bank's refusal or neglect to take up Mr. Bucknell's challenge while the manager originally concerned was on the scene, but perhaps that worthy officer had some plain words with Head Office over the matter. It is probable that even bank officers will one day turn King's evidence.

Limitations of Actions

Even before the establishment of the National Debt, in the reign of William of Orange, it had become an established part of our law that a debtor might refuse to pay a private liability incurred more than six years before action and not subsequently acknowledged.

At the time the bank re-opened its claim on Mr. Bucknell, the overdraft debt was already statute-barred. The bank, however, wrote a very skilful letter to Bucknell on November 8, 1933, as follows:

"You will remember at your interview with our late General Manager a few months ago, it was arranged that you would pay us £500 in reduction of your liability when your wool proceeds were received, and at the same time give us a promissory note for a further £500 to cover the balance.

"We shall be pleased if you will kindly advise us whether your wool has yet been sold."

In answer to this letter Mr. Bucknell, who apparently did not see his solicitor, and must, in spite of past experience, still have had some idea that he was dealing with gentlemen, wrote the letter, dated December 20, 1933, upon which reliance was placed as an acknowledgment. We reprint this

letter in full (italics where appearing are ours):—

The Letter

"Dear Sir, —I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th November last, and regret that I have been unable to reply to it before.

"I remember my interview with your late General Manager a few months ago, when it was put before me by him that I should pay £500 in cash in reduction of my liability to your bank re the firm of A. Gilbert Tomlinson Ltd., and at the same time give you a promissory note for a further £500 in full satisfaction of the debt; to this proposition I neither dissented nor agreed, as under the peculiar circumstances of the matter having been in abeyance for nearly seven years I considered that your bank would make no further claim beyond the £2000 that I had already paid. As it is probable that this letter may go before your Board, I desire to put before you my association with this firm from the beginning.

"My father-in-law, Mr. S. L. Cohen, showed me a prospectus issued by A. Gilbert Tomlinson, which he informed me had been given to him by a Mr. Sindel, of Cathcart House, Castlereagh Street; they were asking for more

1934 POLICY ON WOOL AND WHEAT

"The Government's policy is to foster the maintenance and extension of the demand for Australia's export products, while placing in the forefront at all times the importance of Empire trade. Sound advocates of Empire trade, however, acknowledge that such a policy could not solve marketing difficulties regarding wool and wheat. Australia exported 90 per cent, of her wool, and 70 per cent, of her export was bought by foreign countries. Half of Australia's exported crops of the last few years had gone to foreign countries. —From J. A. Lyons's policy speech of 1934.

shares to be taken up in this company. After reading the prospectus, I thought that the venture was a good one, and asked Mr. Cohen to get an interview with the directors; this he did, and I met Messrs. Tomlinson, Rettie and Willis. It was proposed that I should take 5000 shares, and after a lengthy conversation I asked them could they give me a reference to any bank with whom the firm was doing business; they referred me to your late manager, Mr. Dunlop, and informed me that your bank was their banker. I, in company with Mr. Cohen, had an interview with Mr. Dunlop, and asked him what sort of proposition he thought it was. He said it was a good one, to which I replied, 'If it is so good why don't you take shares in it yourself?' and his reply was, 'How can I, when I am their banker?'

"Up to this stage Mr. Cohen did not contemplate taking any shares. I then put it to him, that I should take two-thirds of the £5000 and he one-third, to which he demurred. I argued with him, and said, according to the prospectus, we would get our money back in three years. Mr. Dunlop replied, 'Oh, I don't think it's as good as that, but it's a real good little business.' Although, after Mr. Dunlop's opinion, I thought I would like to join the company, Mr. Cohen still refused to take his one-third share, for the reason that he could not afford it, not having any money available. Mr. Dunlop replied, 'You need not find any money, deposit your scrip and you can draw on us for the full amount of your shares' — and it was arranged that I should pay £2000 in cash and deposit my scrip for the balance of the money.

I gave them a cheque on my bank, the Bank of Australasia, head office.

"I made a condition that Mr. Cohen should be a member of the Board of Directors, which was agreed to, and it was not long before, he discovered that the business was in a hopeless condition—in fact, it transpired that your Board of Directors had insisted upon the overdraft of A. Gilbert Tomlinson Ltd. being considerably reduced, and it was with this end in view that money must be obtained somehow. A Mr. Needham was also interviewed re taking 5000 shares, and having heard that myself and Mr. Cohen had taken 5000 he got into touch with Mr. Cohen and asked his opinion as to the prospects of the concern. Mr. Cohen said he knew nothing, but he and myself had taken shares in view of what Mr. Dunlop had said as to the company being a good investment. Mr. Needham took 5000 shares.

"Within seven months the business failed, and your bank put in a receiver. In stock, among other things, were 1300 tons of tapioca, which cost £25 per ton; this was sold to, I understand, a client of your bank for £15 per ton, and he was given 12 months to pay, although some of the directors asked to be given the same terms so as they could recoup themselves in a measure for their losses, this was refused. Some thousands of pounds' worth of screws (Nettle-folds) were sacrificed for a few hundreds, and the whole of the proceeds went to your bank. I am of the opinion that at the time I took these shares the firm was not in a position to meet its liabilities. "I can only reiterate that had it not been for the glowing terms spoken of the company by your late manager I would have had nothing to do with it, and for this reason I should be absolved from any further payment. — Yours faithfully, N. C. Bucknell."

It is significant to note that whatever civil claims Mr. Bucknell might have had against the bank for the patent wrongness of the advice given him by the bank manager would, by 1933, have been statute-barred, and perhaps this fact also helps to explain the bank's tardiness between the years 1926 and 1933 in pursuing its claim.

The Law

In his judgment Mr. Justice Dixon gave a short exposition of the rules of law and construction, which govern the revival by written acknowledgment of statute-barred debts.

An express promise to pay revives liability.

A conditional promise to pay revives liability, subject to the conditions set out in the promise.

A distinct admission of the debt is sufficient to revive the debt even without an express promise to pay. Such a promise is implied from the admission, but must also be read subject to any conditions set out in the document containing the admission.

Mr. Justice Dixon found no express promise to pay in the letter, but did find an admission of liability in the words of the letter printed in italics.

He found no conditions or limitations set out sufficiently clearly to detract from the implied promise thus arising, but merely evidence of a desire to make an appeal to the Board on grounds of morality and decency.

Mr. Justice Evatt, with equal cogency, found that the letter in question contained no admission of debt, or promise to pay, and in fact that every word of the letter contradicted such an interpretation.

Mr. Justice McTiernan agreed with Mr. Justice Dixon, and Mr. Bucknell will have the privilege of paying the bank well over £2000 and costs, in addition to what he has already lost.

We do not cavil at the court's application of the law to the facts, a matter that is always difficult in borderline cases. If some of our courts' decisions, both in the sphere of mercantile and in that of constitutional law, seem to favour banking interests, it is only be-

cause the control of credit through the centuries has allowed banking interests to warp and mould both of these phases of our law to suit their own ends. The function of Judges is generally to apply the law, not to alter it to follow the line of their sympathies, though in Bucknell's case it is difficult for even a lawyer to see any less judicial merit in the minority judgment of Mr. Justice Evatt than in the majority judgment of the Court.

The vital point, however, is that the claw sheathed in the bank's velvet paw has been exposed. All the ballyhoo about custodians and trustees of the people's savings, Mr. Bucknell's in particular, has been cast overboard, sacrificed on the altar of keeping the bank's liquid assets liquid and making every post a winning post.

It may or may not have been relevant for the bank to deny the charges contained in Mr. Bucknell's letter. The fact is that they have not been denied. And any student of banking policy relative to retiring money out of people's pockets into investments, and of unloading unwanted and unhealthy investments on to an unsuspecting public, will at least realise that there is an inherent probability that the charges in the letter are true.

It is noteworthy also that the bank, before it had the letter subsequently found to amount to an acknowledgment, was apparently prepared to accept a smaller amount than its full claim. This indicates, to some extent at least, recognition of the merits of Mr. Bucknell's argument. Once it had the acknowledgment, however, the bank went after its full pound of flesh.

The case of Bucknell v. Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd. is deserving of the widest publicity possible.

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90 Abbott St., Sandringham, S.8. (Campaign Sec.)

PUBLIC MEETINGS.—FLINDERS.

Thurs., Oct. 7. —Garfield, Public Hall.

Fri., Oct. 8. —Mordialloc, Main St.

Sat., Oct. 9. —Chelsea, Main Street.

Monday, Oct. 11. —Berwick, Soldiers' Hall.

Tues., Oct. 12. —Warragul, Masonic Hall.

Wed., Oct. 13. —Pakenham, Upper, Mechanics' Hall.

Thurs., Oct. 14. —Toomuk Valley, Church Hall.

Fri., Oct. 15. —Mentone, Main Street.

Sat., Oct. 16. —Carrum, Main Street, 7.30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 16. —Frankston, Main Street, 8.30 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 18. —Belgrave, Bell Bird Café.

Tues., Oct. 19. —Loch, Public Hall.

—HELPERS WANTED—

DOES U.A.P. REPUDIATE CHRISTIANITY?

Prime Minister Bids Us Beware of The Creator

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, -When Mr. Lyons spoke at Deloraine on September 28 he spoke for every member of the United Australia party, and what he said on that occasion must be accepted as the considered opinion of the party as a whole. Therefore, when Mr. Lyons said that restoration to the Crown of the control of the nation's monetary policy would mean that the people would get community benefits for nothing, he practically admitted that a vote for himself or for any members of his party would be a vote against ourselves, because he and they are opposed to the community enjoying the benefits of science, which are the common inheritance of all mankind.

With the obvious intention of discrediting the financial proposals which have been put forward to release the nation from economic bondage, and of ridiculing those who say that we *can* be freed from financial oppression, the Prime Minister made use in his policy speech of these words: —

"Beware of schemes which promise something for nothing—no matter how ingeniously they are described . . . Do not be led away by those who are not above promising something for nothing." Instead of discrediting the proposals, however, he has merely placed himself and the members of his party in the company of the fools of other days who refused to believe the important discoveries and actually persecuted the world's greatest benefactors.

It is clear from the Prime Minister's speech that the members of the U.A.P., *every one of them*, publicly subscribed to the idea that the acceptance of something for nothing is wrong, and that anyone openly suggesting that something *can* be got for nothing is immediately suspect. It is the thought that the common people might get benefits "for nothing" that worries these great puritans and causes them to go so far as to condemn their Creator. God is the outstanding offender of all time in this respect, for He gives *everything* for nothing, and consequently it would appear that up to now we have not been suspicious enough in our dealings with Him.

Examples from Scripture

Apropos of this, if you will refer to your Bible you will find the record of some interesting experiences. For example, in the 20th Chapter of Numbers we have the case of the children of Israel in the desert of Zin. Moses said to them: "Hear me, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?" and so saying he smote the rock twice with his rod and water came out abundantly. The congregation, and their beasts also, drank the water. According to Mr. Lyons and the members of the U.A.P., the children of Israel should have dumped Moses as a charlatan or refused to drink the water because they got it for nothing.

Then in the 16th Chapter of Exodus there is the story of the populace being fed by manna and quails from out of the sky. The

people were hungry and murmured against their leaders, and God told Moses to tell the people this: "I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel. Speak unto them saying—At even ye shall eat flesh and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread." Sure enough, in the evening "the quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay round about the host." The dew was manna. According to Mr. Lyons and the members of the U.A.P., the people should not have listened to such a promise and should have refused to eat the quails and the manna because they got them for nothing.

These two examples were typical of God prior to the advent of Jesus, and what a plethora of illustrations He gave in proof that God would continue the same. In Matthew 14 we may read of the miraculous manner in which the multitude was fed. Jesus had five loaves and two fishes, but was able from nowhere to provide as much as everyone of the many thousands could eat and twelve basketsful to spare. This food was given to the people, and given unconditionally, but according to Mr. Lyons and member of the U.A.P., the men, women and children should have refused to take it because they got it for nothing.

St. John, Chapter 2, tells of the way in which Jesus provided the wedding party with wine. He did it without any fuss and without conditions. His only concern being that there was a need for it. But according to Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., the wine should have been refused because it was obtained for nothing. (It may be significant that the same Chapter also tells of Jesus whipping the moneychangers!)

The Labourers in the Vineyard

Perhaps one of the most remarkable examples of the hypocrisy of this "something for nothing" talk is given in the 20th Chapter of St. Matthew in the case of the labourers in the vineyard. Jesus made it abundantly clear that the giving of something for nothing is actually a part of the Kingdom of Heaven. Please read the passage and see for yourself.

There was an agreed wage for a day's work, but the master of the household paid the full wage to men who had worked less than a day. Some were taken on at the third hour, some at the sixth hour, some at the ninth hour, and some even at the eleventh hour. Those who had worked only one hour received as much as those who had worked for twelve hours, showing that "work" was not the only consideration. How terrible that was, and what a pity these chaps did not know that in the year A.D. 1937 Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., would be so strongly against such a thing.

According to these latter, the workmen in the vineyard should have refused to accept the pay for the eleven hours because they had not *worked* for it. They got it for nothing. *The real point about the parable, of course, is that the*

workers taken on at the eleventh hour had just as much need materially as those who had been fortunate enough to be called earlier, and that a man should not suffer because no one will hire him. Jesus knew that their material requirements needed satisfying just the same, irrespective of the number of hours they may work, but the great Christians of today who have been placed in positions of authority have ignored the teaching of Jesus in this respect, and have treated the unemployed with unexampled harshness. If their work is not wanted they should still receive an adequate income, and if their work *is* wanted then we should be making use of it.

And what do you think Jesus meant when He told the rich young man to sell what he had and *give* to the poor? Just think of it—Jesus actually telling a man that *money* should be given to the poor! You will note in the 10th Chapter of St. Mark that the man was not told to give his secondhand clothes to the poor, but to sell what he had and give the proceeds. As I have pointed out previously, Jesus knew quite well that if the poor were given money they could get the things they needed most, and that no matter how charitably disposed we may be it is not sufficient to

WILL PROSPERITY LAST?

Under the above heading, the "Economist" of August 28 last, said, *inter alia*: —

"The Stock Exchange reached its peak in January, and industrial shares have since fallen by fully 10 per cent. What is more, the symptoms of a "bear" market have appeared: bad news has invariably put prices down, while good news has been unable to rally them to an equivalent extent. It is easy, too easy, to dismiss this as merely 'nerves in the City.' The fact is that the Stock Exchange has an excellent record as a barometer of coming changes. It is almost impossible for a person having inside information of a company's affairs to deal in that company's shares without some member of the Stock Exchange noticing both the transaction and its significance. As a result, a change in the tone of the Stock Exchange may be one of the very earliest indications available to the public of a change in the trade cycle. That there has been such a change in the tone since the New Year must be listed as one of our most significant danger signals."

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And prices on the Australian Stock Exchanges are tumbling. And prices on the New York Stock Exchange have tumbled.

But Mr. Lyons says we are in for an era of prosperity.

hand over a few things for which we may have no further use. According to Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., Jesus was all wrong in giving such advice to the rich young man, because in such a case the poor would have been given money for nothing.

One Rule for Rich, Another for Poor

When we come to think of it, the attitude of Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., would be the height of absurdity if carried to its logical conclusion. Profit is something for nothing, and if they really believe what they have put forward in the policy speech what explanation have they to offer for allowing the Broken Hill group and other Collins House interest to take such excessive profit from the community in recent years without giving an equivalent return? And why do they allow the Toorak and Bellevue Hill families

to go on drawing something for nothing in the form of large dividends from industry and the community? You see, the principle is bad only when there is an intention to apply it in the interests of the great mass of the people who, hitherto, have been denied their God-given privileges.

What about legacies and gifts from parents? They are something for nothing, and yet even the members of the U.A.P., accept them without the slightest qualm. For instance, Mr. Fairbairn, the present Federal member for Flinders, is able to fly about the country in his own aeroplane, not because he has done anything special or is made of better stuff than other citizens, but simply because he is the son of his father. To be consistent he should refuse to accept such benefits because they are something for nothing and because Mr. Lyons, in the name of all members of the U.A.P., has publicly denounced the principle.

And there are the charitable organisations, all of which exist for the express purpose of giving something for nothing. Is it proposed that they should be disbanded? Should we "beware" of the great army of people who have dedicated their lives to the service of suffering humanity, all for nothing? Does the U.A.P., bid us beware of our mothers, of the Pasteurs, the Galileos, and hundreds of others who gave to the world the benefits of their life's work and sacrifice all for nothing? Would it not be better to leave the poor and the sick and the weary to their fate than allow them to benefit from such a vicious principle as getting something for nothing? When Jesus exhorted us to feed His lambs He must have been joking, and when He said that inasmuch as we did it to the least of the people we did it to Him, He must have known that in practice we would take it to mean the exact opposite.

Everything for Nothing

No, Mr. Editor! The truth is that Mr. Lyons and those for whom he speaks have gone a little too far this time. The very air we breathe, without which even Mr. Lyons would not have been able to speak at all, is a free gift from God. It is something for nothing, and every member of the U.A.P., accepts it as such. The sun's rays, without which this earth we so presumptuously call "ours" would go back to the nothingness whence it came, is a free gift from God. It is something for nothing, and every member of the U.A.P., accepts it as such. Exactly the same applies to coal, oil, gold, wheat, wool, and even life itself. Not one of us gave or did anything towards bringing these wonderful things into existence, and yet every one of us is entitled to participate in them and in the benefits they make possible. Not all the arts of the alchemist could produce any one of them, but they and hosts of other wonderful things are given us for nothing.

All of which affords the clearest proof that God will not fail in His promises, and that all He requires from us is the exhibition of commonsense in distributing His gifts so that all people shall have an adequate share. Instead of our all joining together to accomplish this, we have the spectacle that because the programme of the Labor party includes provision for the means of distribution to be placed under community control, Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., have put forward the infantile suggestion that we should beware of anything which savours of getting something for nothing. The rank dishonesty of their attitude becomes obvious when we read how they propose to continue pandering to the banking system, which has immorally obtained possession of our national assets at the rate of a million pounds a month for the past twenty-five years, and obtained them for nothing! Confirmation of this may be

found in the Report of the Tasmanian Select Committee which investigated the Monetary System, and there is also the recent admission of Colin Clark of the Melbourne University that banks do create credit, that credit functions as money, and that they secure assets for nothing, creating money and calling it their own money. Therefore, by creating money is the agent through which possession is obtained.

Sauce for the Banks is Sauce for the People

Something for nothing is quite acceptable while the banks are getting it, but to Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., it immediately becomes dangerous when it is suggested that the people should get it instead of the banks. We have already seen how Jesus referred to the Kingdom of Heaven being like the master of the household who treated every member of it with equal consideration, and it may now be profitable to remind ourselves of what He said regarding food and feasting. Here are His words as given in St. Luke, Chapter 14: "When you make a feast, call not your friends, nor your brethren, nor your kinsmen, nor your rich neighbours, lest they also bid you again and recompense you; but call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you shall be blessed, for they cannot recompense you." In the light of these things, how very strange seems this outburst of holy indignation on the part of Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., particularly when we remember the dramatic manner in which the policy speech was rounded off with a tirade against "atheistic" Communism! The Communists are said to be no good because they are atheistic, and in almost the same breath we are warned that God is no good either because He is permanently giving something for nothing. They cannot have it both ways. Note the words actually used by the Prime Minister: "Do not be led away by those who are not *above* promising something for nothing." They mean that to promise to *give* something for nothing is a low-down thing to do, but apparently the practice of *taking* the community's possessions for nothing is a high-up thing to do.

Labor promises to give us the benefit of our own credit, and is condemned for it; the U.A.P., promises to allow us to be robbed of our credit, and expects to be praised for it! The attitude of Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P., in this direction is definitely opposed to Christian principles, and it is therefore a Christian duty to vote against them.

—Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

10 Parkside Street, Malvern.

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for

HENTY

THE PENNY POSTAGE MAN

Authorised by G. L. Hosking, 6 Heath Street, Sandringham.

SHALL WE BOYCOTT JAPAN?

(Continued from page 2.)

was to their interest to wreck Germany twenty years earlier; we have also been pointing out that it is in the interest of the Australian people to foster trade and friendship with Japan.

Japanese export industry has been progressing at the expense of British export industry for two main reasons, neither of which has anything to do with the now exploded pretence that Japan has progressed at the expense of her industrial population's standard of living. The first of the real reasons is that Japan is equipped with the latest and best machinery. The second is that Japan is using its monetary arrangements in a way that the bankers will not permit Britain to do.

Here is an extract about Japan from the *London Chamber of Commerce Journal* for August last (it can be found on page 551, and is part of the *Journal's* overseas trade report section):—

"Export Indemnification System to be revised. The Osaka Municipality has decided to revise its export credit compensation system as from June 1, this revision coinciding with the wholesale revision of the Government's scheme for the indemnification of exporters' losses on shipments to certain specified markets. At present the system applies to Latin America, the Near East and a few other countries, but in future it will apply to all countries with the exception of Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France and Italy. The extent of indemnification will be 15 per cent, for 'A' class bills and 20 per cent, for 'B' class bills. As the system is to work in conjunction with the Government scheme, which provides for a compensation of 80 per cent, on 'A' class bills and 70 per cent, on 'B' class bills, the total compensation available will be 95 and 90 per cent, respectively."

A few years ago, Japan looked like dealing a greater blow at Britain's (and America's) export trade than Germany had threatened before 1914. But here "diplomacy" came in—we had an instance of it in our notorious "trade diversion" tariff of May last year—until today Japan is being driven more and more back on her Asiatic market. The *Chamber of Commerce Journal* from which we have just quoted states that "during the three years, 1933-35, 52 per cent, of Japan's total exports went to Asiatic countries (against 42.4 per cent, in 1927-29)", while "during the same three years, 22.4 per cent, of her total exports went to the North American Continent (against 43.7 per cent, in 1927-29)."

Economic War in China

But Japan was not to be let alone even in Asia. We noted last year the steps taken in such places as India and Iraq, where British influence could be exerted. The same process was applied to China. China has long been looked upon as a natural vassal State by the British-domiciled international financier. There are big "British" loans there, secured by such pleasant methods as control over Customs collections. These were used to keep out Japanese goods. Japan retaliated by unofficially organising one of the greatest schemes of large scale smuggling ever devised. There was panic in "British" financial circles, and Sir F. Leith Ross was sent out on an "economic" mission to China last year. He stayed there for nearly a year. His economic, financial and diplomatic arrangements with the Chinese received very little publicity, but they were such that shortly after the conclusion of his visit Japan, announcing that she had no territorial ambitions in China, but that she demanded a bigger share of the Chinese market, EMBARKED ON HER PERSENT UNDERTAKING.

There at the moment, the matter stand. And you are being told that you must, in the case of humanity, finish off Japan by refusing to accept in trade even that small amount of her goods, which you now do.

Well, supposing you do, what will happen?

Australia and Boycotts

We do not propose to take into consideration the political results on Australian-Japanese relations, but merely the material results on Australia itself.

For many years previous to the treasonable "trade diversion" tariff of last year (for it was treasonable to the Australian people) we had been selling to Japan millions of pounds' worth more of goods than we had bought from her. The proportion, roughly, was about five to two. And Japan, in addition to her big purchases from us, of which the principal was wool, had also assisted our sellers by the very fine prices she gave for our goods. In the case of wool, particularly, the Japanese buyers were accustomed to set the market price well above what would otherwise have been obtained. Last year, when the Lyons Ministry took its orders from the "British" financiers overseas and betrayed the Australian people by its attempt to lessen our purchases of Japanese goods, this is what happened—we give it, not in our own words, but in those of the Melbourne *Argus* of last Saturday (reporting the conference of the Federal Advisory Committee on Eastern trade and Australian trade commissioners in the East):—

"A serious decline in Australia's trade with Japan, resulting in the loss of almost £8,000,000 in exports, was shown in official figures which were presented to the conference. Compared with 1935-36, Australia's favourable trade balance with in Japan 1936-37 has fallen from £9,131,213 sterling to £3,754,489 sterling. An official statement explains that the trade dispute between the two countries was responsible for the large decline in exports."

The trade dispute between the two countries! That trade dispute is not yet settled because, although the Japanese Government is not refusing permits for wool importation from Australia, Japanese merchants are not buying any quantity of wool worth mentioning. And the principal reason why they are not doing so is because they are having difficulty in establishing credits in Australia. Japan, like every other country, can establish credits abroad (apart from international loans) only by the sale of its goods abroad.

And so those who are advocating that we boycott Japanese goods are advocating that we wreck Australia's sales of wool to Japan, already seriously threatened. Through the "British"-inspired tariff of last year, Australian woolgrowers made a direct loss of several million pounds and had the basis of their connection with their only rapidly expanding market threatened. It will be remembered that those who sponsored the trade diversion policy promised the woolgrowers that Bradford would not let them down; it will also be remembered that Bradford did in fact let them down.

The Question

So the question now before Australia is whether, to oblige the "British" international financiers whose Chinese interests are threatened, and the "British" bankers who control the Lancashire mills, and the Communists who see in war and turmoil their only hope of world revolution (apart from Gerry O'Day's spectacular poll in Brighton last Saturday)—the question is whether, to oblige these people, we shall undertake a course which is no more likely to be effective in its object than our adoption of a similar course was when we set out to save Abyssinia from Mussolini, but which will also beyond a doubt cause widespread loss and suffering to Australian women and children. Even if we accept holus bolus every word of the anti-Japanese propaganda, which has been pumped into us, to whom do we owe our first duty—to the Chinese civilians whom we cannot save, or to our own citizens whom we can?

And while you are thinking this

THE DIFFICULTY OF CHOOSING AN ENEMY

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

Much controversy is going on now as to whether we should "Make Friends with Germany."

Mr. Lansbury, I understand, has been given nasty looks, by faces hitherto bland, for paying a friendly call upon Hitler. It has been conveyed to him that there are occasions when it is not in the democratic interest that the saint should mingle socially with the sinner.

It is, he is told, all very well for a mediaeval Christian from Assisi to converse amicably with his little brother, the wolf, and to wander into the enemy's camp in the middle of a crusade and ask the Saracens to be good Christians.

But it is another thing for a



It is one thing for St. Francis to converse with the wolf—

modern Christian from Poplar to converse with his little brother the Nazi, and wander into the enemy's Kampf in the middle of a controversy and ask the Reich to be good pacifists. We must move with the times. And it is the official function of the Georges to kill the dragons, not to shake their paws.

The old methods of diplomacy have been brought up to date. Today the rule is: "Disagree with your adversary all the time, and if he take thy cloak, pinch his coat and trousers."

Nevertheless, I am afraid many of you will not find the question easy to settle. When faced with the question, "Should we be friends with Germany?" the impulse is to ask, "Which Germany?" The trouble is that there are so many different people in it.

It would be simpler if Hitler had realised his totalitarian dream and reduced the 70,000,000 minds

out for yourself, you might also be assisted by reflecting how *singularly fortunate* it is for the embarrassed Lyons Ministry that there should be this "spontaneous" outburst against Japan at the very moment when the Australian woolgrowers were threatening real trouble. For when the temporary arrangement with Japan was made at the end of last year, woolgrowers generally were deliberately left under the impression that the Japanese had undertaken to *buy* the amount of wool mentioned. It was only when Japan absented itself from the market a few weeks ago that most graziers realised there was no undertaking to buy at all, but merely a declaration that the Japanese Government would not officially prohibit imports, which is quite a different thing. On top of this came the unpleasant rumour that negotiations for a fresh treaty had practically broken down.

That woolgrowers are even more irate against the Government now than they were at this time last year is common knowledge, and is borne out by their wholesale refusal even to submit their wool to auction in the absence of Japan. After the wool sales had begun it looked as if the Government would suffer a crushing defeat at the polls in every wool-growing area of the country. That meant a swing to Labor. But if Labor could be blinkered into demanding a boycott *against* Japan, with its inevitable result, a boycott by Japan, while Mr. Lyons sat tight and said that Australia would take no official action without consultation with the British and Dominion Governments, etc., there might yet be hope. Do you see the implication?

of Germany to a single mind. But the process of coagulation has not been effected. The awkward fact is that if you decide not to be friends with Germany you automatically hand the frozen mitten to many thousands of democrats and anti-militarists whom you wish to encourage.

Germany consists not only of Nazis, but also those who do not at all like Nazis. And while there are some to whom Hitler is the alligator's Adam's apple, there are also those to whom he is a pain in the neck.

A further difficulty is that there are similarly opposing opinions in this country. It takes all sorts to make a nation as well as a pen-north of liquorice. I frequently read the opinions of Englishmen who regard Fascism as one of the bulwarks of Freedom against Communism. So in handing Germany the raspberry you hand a replica of the fruit to a large proportion of your fellow-countrymen.

This discovery, that the populations of the various countries are not all of one mind, will, indeed, be a great snag to anyone who wanted to start a war for the Right, as well as a war for the Left.

The difficulty is well expressed by Mr. Edwyn Bevan in a letter to the *Times*. He dislikes the idea that "England, at a great crisis of world history, should sit still and see the cause of freedom go down everywhere without striking a blow." And he is in favour of telling England that in order to preserve its freedom it must be prepared once more to engage in war.

But as a large part of the British people are convinced that Communism is "a greater horror" than Fascism, and as you couldn't go against one without siding with the other, he admits that "a clear-cut policy is hard to define."

I appreciate the gentleman's difficulty. It is a case of—

"We DO want to fight, but,

by
Jingo, if we do,

We shall fight on different sides,
and cut ourselves in two."

Wars will be impossible if the people on both sides insist on sorting out friends from enemies. You must hate the whole lot or not at



It is another thing for St. George to shake paws with the dragon.

all. It would look silly if the Poet Laureate was forced to observe—"Forward, the Light Brigade! Charge for the guns," he said. "Whose guns, you silly fool?" Asked the six hundred. Some went to Right of him, Others to Left of him, Two lots of three hundred each, Volleyed and thundered."

As my old Colonel used to say, "Too many friends spoil the war."

It is all very confusing. As a freedom-preserver, war seems to be a very uncertain method. In less efficient days, when killing was a slower process, largely effected by personal introduction, you could make sure, by a few leading questions, of hitting the right person.

But in these days, when missiles are slung about as indiscriminately as buns at a Sunday school treat, the effect of your victory cannot be predicted.

You went into the last war to crush German militarism and make the world safe for Democracy, but you found, when the smoke cleared away, that you had crushed German democracy and made the world safe for militarism. It was an awfully bad shot. I've seen you do better at the cokernuts.

Vast numbers of German domo-

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3.)

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crats fell before Democracy's guns, while the best efforts of the British artillery failed even to remove Hitler's moustache. In future, if you must be indiscriminate, you might try Mr. Lansbury's method of blowing kisses instead of dropping bombs. They will at least leave your potential allies intact.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

A MESSAGE TO MOTHERS

Why are most mothers always so short of MONEY?

There is no necessity for it. There is abundance of all the things they need to make their homes comfortable, to clothe themselves and their children as they would wish, and to fill their tables with good food.

And all these can be made available without depriving anyone of what they now have.

* * *

The servant of the people constituting the Federal Electorate of Henty, Sir Henry Gullett, who is offering himself for re-election at the forthcoming poll, says that the above message to mothers "reaches the high water mark of misrepresentation," which statement clearly shows that he is not representing in Parliament the substance of this message, and consequently is misrepresenting the wishes of his employers.

Is it not true that, not only mothers, but all of us want those things which the message sets out? And is it not also true that we could multiply the abundance, which we know exists, to such an extent that we could all be comfortable and secure without the need of depriving anyone of what they now have? These are two truths, and, as truths, they will persist—nothing can alter them.

Sir Henry, by saying that the message is a misrepresentation, is in effect saying that it is a lie, and that he represents the reverse. We don't want a man to represent what we don't want; and very definitely we don't want a continuance of a system that denies us access to plenty. We require the man we pay as our parliamentary representative to represent the two truths of the message in Parliament, with our instructions that it put all other law making aside until those two truths are established.

To be sure that no injustice is done, Sir Henry is being asked if he will subscribe to the meaning of the Elector's Demand and Undertaking. If he will not, then, clearly, we don't want him, and should vote him out on October 23.

Balaclava. - The distribution of a special four-page brochure starts next Saturday, October 9. There are 28,000 homes to be visited. A large sized order, no doubt; but tackling a "safe seat" is a big job. It means work. The Balaclava team is not shirking, but there is plenty of room for as many helpers as can give the time. Phone Head Office (MU 2834), or call in and

register your name as a helper, starting next Saturday, if possible. This is a test for your sincerity. A couple of afternoons during the next week or so will tell you whether you are justified in asking what is being done to bring pressure to bear on the politicians. Hundreds of workers will make a merry job of it.

Heckle Hour is to be staged at Elsternwick, in the Dorchester Hall (near railway station), on Wednesday, October 20, at 8 p.m. The three candidates have had invitations sent to them to meet on the same platform and debate the question, "Is Party Government Democratic?" Will they accept the invitations? You will be told in next week's issue of this paper.

Riverina is making a drive collecting signatures. There is no hesitation on the part of persons to sign, but the distances are great in this electorate, and headquarters are worried over the shortness of time but promise some encouraging news next week. Some scheme is being devised to link the miles. Something like the relay-race, pass-it-on idea.

Gippsland is too busy to send in a report. Only time for a telegram: "O.K. here. Best wishes for the battle of Balaclava."

Donald is interspersing work with social functions. Card parties have become the vogue.

Eric Butler evidently is doing good work in the North. Papers have come to hand with double column reports of meetings held in various centres. He has not sent in a report, so cannot supply details.

Candidates in every electorate have had a letter forwarded to them similar to the one, with drafted reply, sent to the candidates for Balaclava. Replies will be published in the New Times in time to be a guide for electors as to the candidates deserving support.

The following candidates we have no hesitation in advocating, on account of our knowledge of their understanding of the true function of democracy, and of the sincerity of their purpose to carry out the expressed wishes of the electors.

- Balaclava.... J. M. Atkinson
Fawkner Rev. William Bottomley
Flinders..... A. J. Amess
Henty . Dr. R. W. Hornabrook
Koooyong .. . L. H. Hollins
Maribyrnong . E. L. A. Turner
Meeting in St. Bede's Hall, Ormond-road, Elwood, on Tuesday evening, October 12.

Congratulations to the Box Hill District. The seeds of patient educational and canvassing work have borne fruit in

that you have had elected an Independent to what was considered a safe party seat. This is the encouragement that many of us have been wishing for: actual results from the work that has been done.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Council Meeting. —At a meeting of the Council held at H.Q. on Tuesday, September 28, the business, which was not completed at the Convention, was finalised. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mr. E. H. Hergstrom; Organising Secretary, Mr. R. H. Curnow.

Mr. Hergstrom, in his first speech as President, paid a compliment to Mr. Tucker, our retiring President. The few words, which Mr. Hergstrom said, were to the point and expressed the feelings of the members of the Council and also of the members of the entire movement. For a very long period Mr. Tucker had carried out his duties as leader of the movement and was always ready on the spot when required. It was with regret that the delegates of the conference learned that Mr. Tucker was not able to stand for president again. While we most certainly have not lost him from the movement, he will be missed from the position, which he has held so long and so well. (Mr. Lee would also like to add his appreciation of the co-operation and assistance, which the President offered him during the period for which he was Secretary.) The new President is now busy selecting his team of officers for the forthcoming year. We are sure, from knowledge of Mr. Hergstrom's work in the past, that he will spare no energy in trying everything to insure the success of the Campaign.

Mr. R. H. Curnow, the new Organising Secretary, will devote his time to outside organising work. In this connection he has already done valuable service in contacting individuals and organisations. In particular he has concentrated on the ministers of religion, with some success.

Grey Division. — An S.O.S. has come from the leader of the group at Port Lincoln for a speaker. A number of meetings have been arranged in an effort to start new groups. For this work Mr. Brock left Adelaide by plane on Monday, October 4, and will return on Saturday, the 9th. Although Mr. Brock is at the present time very busy and will have to cancel an engagement to go to Port Lincoln, he feels that the work, which is being done on the West Coast, deserves some little sacrifice. It is to be hoped that his tour will prove the success that is desired.

The secretary of the Coult group, Mr. Fred Radford, recently returned to Port Lincoln from a tour of the Far West Coast. He had travelled from 600 to 700 miles, covering dozens of small towns and settlements, and in the words of our reporter from Port Lincoln he "left a long trail of Campaign literature behind." In addition, he returned with a large bundle of signed pledges and a list of new contacts, who will be potential workers. Two others of the "travelling representatives" are Messrs. Beames and Packer, who are also doing valuable work in this way.

Luncheon Addresses. —On Friday, October 8, Mrs. Williamson will be the speaker. Her subject will be, "A Philosophy of Life." On Friday, the 15th, Sister Mary Lawson will give "A Nurse's Experiences in Spain."

Archbishop Head's latest means that he favours the declaration of war against Japan. This reminds us of his remarks when replying to the address of welcome on his arrival in Melbourne—viz: "I know no theology and little Latin." Experience since his arrival has convinced us that he also knows no Christianity and little commonsense.

THE "CANBERRA TIMES" ON THE FORCES LURKING BEHIND POLITICIANS

In a recent article the Canberra Times, which cannot possibly be called an "extremist" organ, had this to say about certain politicians and the interests they represent:

"There are many men in public life whose services have not been fully appreciated, but there are some whose services have been magnified out of all proportion. (No; there is no prize for selecting the members who fall under either heading.) The public finds difficulty in assessing true worth. Accordingly, it does not feel that it can accept Mr. Puff or Mr. Sneer.

"Publicity men are employed in putting the best side of public men forward, and they mislead the unwary probably more than criticism, for criticism is at once known as such and convinces only when it

election funds whose power in politics is rarely known to the electors. If politicians want to inspire public trust they can do so by making contributions to party funds or to election expenses a matter of public knowledge. . . .

"Until the politician is prepared to come out into the open and acknowledge who pays his election expenses, he has no right to complain if the public harbours doubts, or that criticism offends his vanity, impugns his sincerity or underestimates his worth."

Letters to Editor

DOES THE EDITOR OF THE "HERALD" READ THE "HERALD"?

In the Herald of October 4 page 8, there are two columns dealing with Japan's recent air bombardments of allegedly undefended Chinese cities.

Mr. Lyons is apparently in constant touch with London as to a new and important declaration of British policy on the Far Eastern question, which is necessitated by the worldwide horror throughout the British Empire at the callousness of the Japanese air forces.

Archbishop Head, in supporting a protest meeting to be held in the Town Hall on the 5th inst, said: "As Christians and citizens of the British Empire, we ought not only protest, but take measures to make our protest effective.... against acts deliberately intended to hasten a victory by terrifying and killing large numbers of non-combatants."

On page 15 of the same issue of the Herald Mollison tells his story. Dealing with his life as a bombing officer in the British Army in India he says: "My job was bombing villages, burning crops by incendiary bombs, and shooting down cattle with which I had no quarrel . . . The whole strategy of aircraft operations against the tribes of the North-West Frontier is to impress them with the power for destruction of flying warriors whom they cannot hit back."

Really the Herald editor is a little inconsistent in printing both articles in the same issue.

"FOLLOW THE FLAG."

"WHAT I THINK OF THE CHURCHES TODAY"

The above article by Mr. W. Macmahon Ball, which appeared in the "New Times" of September 17, has elicited so much comment and brought so many requests for a reprint, that it has been reprinted by the "New Times" as an eight-page brochure.

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