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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. 42.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d

The Prime Minister As A Suicide Urger



U.A.P. AND "POLITICAL CONTROL"



Some Questions For Your Federal Candidates

THE NEW TIMES

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1957.

Boycotts and "Trade Diversion"

In our last issue we dealt at considerable length with the movement to boycott Japanese goods. This movement was begun by the London-domiciled international financiers who now dominate British and U.A.P. policy, and whose inspired moves in various parts of the world, followed up by their recent actions in China, are the direct cause of the present war between China and Japan.

By a coincidence that has happened more than once before, the policy initiated by international finance is now being supported by the Communists, who are in the forefront of the demand that people should refuse to buy such Japanese goods as have succeeded in getting through the financiers' trade barriers.

In Australia, as we indicated last week, the position is that some of the unions—and particularly those in which Left Wing or Communist influence is strongest—are in favour of the boycott; Labor has officially denounced such a move; and the U.A.P., in the person of Mr. Lyons, is trying at the same time to sit on the fence and to make political capital out of Labor's alleged two voices.

If our information is correct, one result of this position is that many Australian farmers who had determined to throw out the Lyons Government have begun to waver, fearing lest the return of a Labor Ministry may bring about the loss of what is left of our export trade with Japan. This, of course, is precisely what the U.A.P. is angling for, and it furnishes a complete explanation of Mr. Lyons's apparent moderation just at the moment.

But the U.A.P. cannot have it both ways. Mr. Lyons cannot logically snipe at Labor because a small section of its most extreme (and unduly publicised) adherents seeks to interfere in an outside quarrel, and at the same time train his heaviest batteries on Labor because its official policy is one of non-intervention or isolation.

Where voters are faced with the alternative of making their choice between a Government and a Labor candidate, these are the points (on this issue, at least) on which they should be clear:—

Labor is definitely opposed to being implicated in quarrels outside Australia. Labor recognises that a boycott is a direct incitement to war, if not itself equivalent to an act of war. And Labor, though it took it many months to do so, at last re-

cognises that we cannot sell goods to Japan unless we buy goods from Japan.

On the other hand, the U.A.P. can be known only by its works. In spite of Mr. Lyons's renewed calls for calmness in a delicate situation, the U.A.P. is definitely committed to the policy of so-called collective security and joint Empire action. This was displayed up to the extreme point of armed intervention in the Abyssinian affair, when two of our warships were sent to the Mediterranean (though the Prime Minister explained this away by telling one of his audiences that they just happened to be there). Should "joint Empire action" be decided upon in Whitehall, or rather in Threadneedle Street, there is no doubt that the Lyons Ministry, if returned to office, would be prepared at once to send forces to participate in a war against Japan. The blundering Parkhill has blown the gaff on this by his stressing that Australia might be called upon to defend the Singapore base.

And finally, the present Ministry during its last term of office took definite and deliberate moves to wreck our trade with Japan. Here are figures that you should remember. In the 1900-01 season Japan bought from Australia only 8,000 bales of wool. In the 1935-36 season, just previous to the tariff of May 1936, Japan bought 785,000 bales of Australian wool. The relative purchases of Japan and Britain in that year were: Japan, 28.7 per cent, of our wool in quantity, and 28.1 per cent, in value; Britain, 33.7 per cent, in quantity and 35.2 per cent, in value. But of the wool nominally purchased by Britain it is estimated that somewhere about 40 per cent, is for re-export, whereas Japan consumes internally almost the whole of what she buys; therefore Japan, previous to the Lyons tariff, was the biggest individual buyer in our greatest export industry, and also a buyer whose purchases showed every sign of continuing to expand.

This is the market, which the Ministry deliberately set out to wreck. This is a matter about which the Prime Minister in his policy speech had not one word to say. And this is the issue, which he is desperately trying to evade—until after the elections.

Mr. White's "Extraordinary Development"

Mr. Minister for Customs White, according to the daily press, issued last Friday a "summary dealing with the extraordinary development in Australian secondary industries within the past three years." In proof of this, the Minister advanced a list of increases of capital in a number of companies, amounting in all to over £14 millions.

Now, the first thing to study about figures is their relative importance. An addition of a million pounds to the capital development of Cooktown is one thing, but applied to Sydney or Melbourne it is quite another. And if the most imposing list that the Minister for Customs, in defending the policy of his Government, can bring forward amounts only to £14 millions of development spread over three years and divided among nearly seven million people, it hardly sounds so imposing when it is revealed to amount to a mere 13/- or 14/- per head per annum.

But more significant than the actual figures are the direction and

tendencies of the development shown in the Ministerial list. Of 13 corporations listed, the majority, both in numbers and in capital extensions, deal with base metals. Broken Hill Proprietary, its subsidiaries and its affiliates account for over £8 millions. To these must be added Armco, the new overseas monopoly now about to extend its ramifications to Australia; and the Collins House pups, Austral Bronze, which is developing to the extent of a few hundred thousands, and Nobel's, which is extending similarly its capacity for explosives.

To what degree these metal expansions are for purposes of peace and to what for direct or indirect preparation for war, we cannot say. But it is noticeable that outside these and the paper manufacturing monopoly (which accounts for a further £3½ millions) Mr. White's "extraordinary development" embraces only about one million pounds' worth of what could fairly be called general secondary industry.

So, on the Minister's own specially prepared case, it appears that the base metal monopoly and the paper monopoly are making considerable strides; that the first is consolidating its grip over supplies and prices, and that the second is preparing to entrench itself similarly. The Melbourne *Herald's* account of Mr. White's statement was headed, "Big Industry Soars." The caption was singularly apt. For under the administration of Messrs. Lyons, White & Co. big industry has had a remarkably good time. Through its affiliation with the banks it has been able to get all the book entry "capital" it has required, and through its political influence it has been singularly fortunate in such matters as tariffs, wages and hours. But, while big industry is soaring, what of small industry? And what of the industries which are concerned, not with supplying capital goods or goods for destructive purposes, but with turning out consumption goods or goods to be enjoyed? We await a Ministerial list of all the new factories for producing foodstuffs, clothing, footwear, domestic appliances, furniture, and the like. These are the extraordinary developments that the people of Australia really want to see.

There is one industry concerned with consumption goods it is true, which has added millions to its capital during the past three years. It has, in fact, added more than any of those listed, which makes it all the more remarkable that the Minister apparently overlooked it. That industry is the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, which added £5,850,000 to its capital just after the last elections. Why did Mr. White not include this in his recital? Was it because the new "capital" was merely a bonus issue to shareholders of part of the secret profit, drawn from unfortunate Australian consumers, which this biggest of all our industrial monopolies regularly keeps up its sleeve?

Questions for Candidates

The distorting power of the press and the essential dishonesty of U.A.P.-ism were never better illustrated than by the manner in which the Federal election issues have been swung around to focus on the issue of defence. Yet defence has been dragged in merely to distract the people from the failure of the Lyons Ministry, and

to stir up their fears and their sentimentality in order thereby to lull their common sense to sleep.

As we see them, the major issues of this election might be put in the form of the following sets of questions, which we suggest could be put to candidates after they have finished their carefully rehearsed speeches:—

Do you believe in democratic government?

If so, do you admit the right of electors to give instructions to their parliamentary representatives?

If so, will you undertake at all times to take your parliamentary instructions only from the electors within your own electorate, and not from outside bodies or organisations?

* * *

Do you believe that a sovereign Parliament should be really sovereign?

If so, do you believe that a sovereign Parliament should borrow for government purposes the money, which it has the right either to tax or to issue?

If you believe in borrowing, what do you propose to do when the national debt (which has increased from £200 millions to £1400 millions Australian since 1901) takes for interest the whole of Federal and State taxation—as it already accounts for half?

* * *

Do you believe it is the first duty of an Australian Parliament to provide decent conditions for its own people?

If you do, will you undertake to keep us out of all entanglements on behalf of Chinese, Spaniards, or others, until every Australian has a reasonable sufficiency of all the things, which Australia can and does produce?

Will you undertake to keep within Australia those essential commodities we now export until the needs of every Australian are satisfied, thus reversing the policy of an embargo on imports in favour of an embargo on exports?

* * *

Do you believe that trade means barter?

If so, will you undertake to press for trade treaties with those countries which desire Australia's genuine surpluses (such as wool) and will you take steps to see that these countries are able to pay us for them with their own goods?

Failing this, do you propose to have the yen, mark, franc, etc., declared legal tender within Australia? How, otherwise, can foreigners pay us for our goods?

* * *

Will you undertake to impose no conscription on Australians, or, in the event of any form of conscription being imposed, to make this universal—including all citizens, irrespective of age, sex, clerical or lay profession, and embracing all industry and every form of property?

Will you also undertake, in the event of conscription being imposed, that the first to be called up for active service shall be those who have advocated it or voted for it? Will you pay special attention in this to those who have the most property to be defended and to such clerics as proclaim the war a righteous one?

Upon the conclusion of a defensive war, will you undertake to have a redistribution of the property thus defended in accordance with the services of those who have preserved it from the enemy?

Another Break from Archie

Reverting to the defence herring, the redoubtable Archie Parkhill whom W. M. Hughes in 1929 dubbed "the paid servant of the Moneybags of the State"—has made another slip as bad as the one about Singapore that we referred to last week. The policy to which the Lyons Government was now giving effect, he is reported to have said in Sydney on Tuesday, was not aggressive or provocative, but merely for the defence of Australia *and of the Empire*.

So Australia's duty, according to the Lyons-Parkhill version, is not only to defend her own shores and to take in Singapore in passing, but to safeguard the Empire as well! Verily our Sir Archdale should have been knighted as Sir Lancelot or Sir Galahad.

As a statement of cold fact, Sir Archie admitted no more than the truth of the policy, which is planned for Australia. It was to defend what is called the Empire (meaning, not the lives or welfare of the peoples of the Empire, but the financial interests of the Imperialist clique) that Australia spent 60,000 lives and £800 millions in the last war. No one any longer believes the story then circulated by the Labor renegades who in those days acted as precursors for J. A. Lyons, that Australia, had she not entered the war, would have been swallowed alive by the Kaiser. Nor does anyone who stops to think believe that the might of the British navy either did, or could have protected us. The British navy was too busy trying to blockade Germany and to prevent the blockade of Britain's own shores for it to have any time to think of so distant a spot on the map as Australia. Even for the urgent purpose of bringing Australia's troops to fight and die in Europe, was it Britain's navy or Japan's navy, which had to be relied on for convoy purposes?

What was true in 1914-18 is even more true today. The navy had a rather nasty experience in the Mediterranean last year, as naval experts in Britain will readily admit. And in the present state of European affairs it is safe to say that the might of the British navy will not be allowed to venture too far from Britain's own shores. For Britain, being nowadays more dependent on sea borne trade than most nations for the very essentials of its people's existence (again owing to the policy of the financial Imperialists) cannot in any crisis afford to dissipate her naval strength.

So far, then, from Australia being able to look to Britain for defence, the boot is as much on the other foot today as it was in 1914. And Archie Parkhill slipped into the truth when he said that the Lyons Government was giving effect to a policy for the defence of the Empire.

For our own part, we see no reason at all why Australians should feel called upon to fight in defence of the Empire. There is certainly no reason why we should fight for the defence of the Empire's financiers, who are the bitterest enemies of the Empire's peoples. Nor can we see any reason at all why, however friendly we may feel towards our cousins, twice or thrice removed, in England, Ireland or Scotland we should feel impelled

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U.A.P. AND "POLITICAL CONTROL"

Gross Misrepresentation

A letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

Recognised liars are dangerous enough, but there is especially need to be on our guard when we are dealing with unscrupulous persons who tell only half the truth in order to mislead. Mr. Lyons and every member of the U.A.P. have placed themselves in this latter category, and it is difficult not to feel that there was a deceitful intention behind it.

Dealing with Labor's proposals for the reform of our money arrangements, the policy speech delivered by Mr. Lyons, in which he spoke for every U.A.P. candidate, included the following:—

"Labor proposes to abolish the independent and non-political Commonwealth Bank Board, and place the management of the Bank in the hands of one man appointed by

democratic institutions is so much cant and humbug. Parliamentary government is government by elected representatives who may be dismissed by the people if their services are considered unsatisfactory. Parliament gets its authority and power from the people and exists to give effect to the will of the people. It therefore stands for the people and everything it does is supposed to be for the people. Logically, control by Parliament means control by the people, and on the authority of no less a person than Mr. R. G. Menzies, K.C. (speaking at Malvern in favour of the marketing referendum) the Commonwealth and State Parliaments, working in co-operation, have unlimited power within the borders of Australia. The people, then, are all powerful, and the members of these Parliaments, being appointed as they are to represent and implement the voice of the people, are analogous to a board of directors whose job is to see that the resources of Australia are used for the comfort and progress of the Australian people. This is political control, and those who are against political control are against the people and democracy.

Bank Board is Politically Appointed

If the present Commonwealth Bank Board is independent and non-political, how would it come about that a Governor would be political and without independence? The present Board was appointed by a political party, and all the power it exercises was delegated to it by an act of the Federal Parliament. Without this power it could not function, and obviously the authority, which gave the power is quite competent to withdraw it. In these circumstances it is ridiculous to say that the Board is non-political, and even the hand-picked Banking Commission has admitted that it is within the province of the national Parliament to give whatever instructions it may think fit relating to banking, in which case the Board would be obliged to carry out such instructions or retire. And rightly so.

If it were decided to dispense with the Board and appoint a real Governor in its stead, then the change would be brought about by precisely the same process. Parliament, speaking for the people, would give instructions in the form of an Act, and this would authorise the Government to select and appoint the Governor, and the Governor would have complete authority within the limits delegated to him by Parliament. Within those limits he would be independent to the same extent as the present Board is independent, and every member of the U.A.P. knows it. To suggest that a few politicians could impose

their desires upon the Governor is too absurd for notice, but under the present management we have had the spectacle of the Board acting in the interests of a private monopoly regardless of the effect on public welfare. Here again, even the hand-picked Banking Commission admits it.

"High Financial Authority"

After suggesting that the appointment of a Governor by a Labor Government would be suspect and improper, and inferring that appointments by other Governments are always above suspicion, the policy speech went on thus:

"This man would act on the instructions of the Government in matters of high financial policy. He

MR. WHITE'S "QUALIFICATIONS"

Extracts from Minister for Customs White's election manifesto:—

"His personal qualifications are well known to most electors of Balaclava. His business experience and energy have qualified him for his duties as a member of Parliament and as a Minister. He is the author of 'Guests of the Unspeakable.'"

That last qualification apparently justifies Mr. White, as a literary man, in setting himself up as Censor of the Unreadable.

Included in Mr. White's Statement of Policy is this:—

"In particular I stand for:

'. . . Trade treaties for the general appeasement of international difficulties and the expansion of world trade."

This is the same gentleman who on August 3, 1936, told his favourite audience, the Australian Women's National League at St. Kilda, "the Federal Government will stand behind the primary industries to see that they do not suffer." A few minutes later he admitted to the same dear ladies that, "while the wool people know they might suffer in some measure at the outset, they are taking it very well."

Mr. White says of himself (again in his manifesto): "Appointed Minister for Trade and Customs in January, 1933, he has occupied that responsible and exacting office ever since with conspicuous success." But Mr. White forgot to include in his manifesto the list of "treaties for the general appeasement . . ." etc., which have been concluded by the Ministry since his conspicuously successful appointment. Why? They would not have taken up much space.

would have direct political control of banking. . . ."

The first of these two sentences is put forward in such a way as to suggest something sinister and to give the idea that it is no part of the Government's function to give directions in "high financial policy." Sir Denison Miller was Governor of the Commonwealth Bank from 1911 until his death in 1923. He was appointed by a Labor Government and served Australia with conspicuous success, not only throughout the war period, but particularly in the year 1920, when he saved Australia from a bankers' conspiracy to curtail the people's purchasing power. Throughout the whole of those 12 years he acted strictly within the provisions of the powers granted him by Parliament (not by individual politicians) and was in no way subject to dictation by the Government. He was so successful for the people that the private bankers made no secret of their desire to be rid of him, and regarded his death as freeing them from their greatest adversary.

Apart from this, however, the Banking Commission has itself declared that it is quite proper for

the Commonwealth Parliament to have control of financial policy, and to transmit its instructions through the Government to the men who are employed for the purpose of giving effect to national policy. Consequently, when the man in charge of the Commonwealth Bank is acting on the instructions of the Government he is acting on the instructions of the people expressed through Parliament, which is true democracy.

A Ludicrous Suggestion

To say, as the U.A.P. has done, that the Governor "would have direct political control of banking" is to attempt to create the impression that the man holding that office would take instructions from individual members of a political party and would so manage the affairs of the Bank that certain politicians would benefit at the expense of the general community. The very suggestion that the Australian community would stand for such a thing is ludicrous, to say nothing of the fact that no self-respecting expert in banking would accept the office of Governor under such conditions. The fact is that if banking would be under the direct political control of a Governor it is now under the direct political control of the Board, and if the Government is afraid that the Governor would take directions from politicians as such, then it must be because the members of the Government are aware that the present Board has taken instructions from persons not authorised by Parliament to give them.

The Governor would have political control of banking just as the Director-General has political control of the Post Office, or the Secretary of the Defence Department has political control of Defence, or the Savings Bank Commissioners in Melbourne have political control of the State Savings Bank, or the Commissioner of Railways has political control of the railways, or the Secretary of the Marine Branch has political control of the lighthouses, or the Director-General of Health has political control of our health services, or the Commissioner of Police has political control of the police force, or the Solicitor-General has political control of the Law Department, or the Water Commissioners have political control of our water supplies. These men do not take instructions from politicians. They take instructions only from Parliament speaking for the people through the Government.

What a strange thing it is that Mr. Lyons and members of the U.A.P. have nothing to say against all these national undertakings being under political control, but are nervously anxious lest the people shall demand that the most important undertaking of all, i.e., the manufacture, issue and withdrawal of our money supplies, shall be brought under political control in the same way. When this has been done, and we have the nation's money being brought into existence as a credit instead of as interest-bearing debt, we shall see such a remarkable change for the better that the fellows who have been opposing it will have every cause to hang their heads in shame. Imagine the gladness with which we shall see the national debt falling instead of rising, and opportunities opening up for our children of a nature undreamed of a few years ago. All these will become actually available when money has been made our servant instead of our master, but, so long as we continue the existing methods of finance and go on pinning our faith to party government, so long must we continue to suffer increasing taxation, debt, poverty, ill-health and general misery. We must see that the members of Parliament give heed to the demands of the people.

The references in the policy speech to "political control" are entirely unworthy, and we should register our resentment of such tactics at the ballot box on October 23.

Yours Faithfully,
BRUCE H. BROWN.
10 Parkside St.,
Malvern, S.E.4.

"VERY PROPERLY FORBIDDEN"

The following letter was received by Mr. A. J. Amess, Independent candidate for Flinders from the Captain Superintendent of Training at Flinders Naval Depot in answer to his request for permission to address the men of the command with reference to his candidature:—

"With reference to your letter of 2nd October, 1937, in which you request to address the men in H.M.A. Naval Establishment under my command, I have to inform you that political meetings or speeches or any form of political activity on board H.M.A. ships, or in any naval establishment, are very properly forbidden by the regulations, and I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request."

It may be a part of Commonwealth regulations that men in the navy are supposed to know by intuition for whom they, as electors, should vote, but what does this officer mean by having the impudence to use the phrase "very properly" forbidden?

THIS WEEK'S GEM

The Prime Minister at Portland (Vic.) on Tuesday:

"After my experience in Tasmania, where a system of proportional representation has been in operation for many years, the weakness of the present system" (of electing the Senate) "which, through the operation of a block system of voting, returns all the candidates of one party, irrespective of the relative strength of the minority party, is obvious. I expressed my opinion on the system after the last election, when every Senator returned was a Government supporter.

"BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBJECT, HOWEVER, WE HESITATED TO ACT UPON A MATTER WHICH HAD NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BEFORE THE ELECTION. HOWEVER, NOW THAT OUR VIEWS HAVE BEEN MADE CLEAR, WE WILL TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ELECTION IF WE ARE RETURNED."

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EVEN THE "ARGUS" -----

Nothing is to be gained by Mr. Lyons from a declaration that "the policy of the Labor party is so barren that Mr. Curtin has been obliged to fall back on personalities," or from a retort to a heckler that "an interjection like that is so stupid that it sounds like a plank in the Labor platform." There are many hundreds of thousands of serious-minded electors throughout the Commonwealth who are neither edified nor amused by this kind of controversy.

—"Argus" editorial,
October 11.

the Labor Government. This man would act on the instructions of the Government in matters of high financial policy. He would have direct political control of banking. . . . Before we can appreciate the rank dishonesty of this part of the policy speech we must first be quite clear regarding the meaning of the word "political." According to the Oxford dictionary it means "of the State or its Government." "The State" means the land of a country, its resources, and the people living within its borders, and "its government" means the measures adopted for securing our everyday necessities from the land and the orderly management of the people's community affairs.

Parliamentary Government is Political Control

Now, if the Prime Minister and members of the U.A.P. are opposed to political control, as they now make out, they are opposed to parliamentary government, and all their talk about the preservation of our

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ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

Mr. R. G. Menzies has said that if politics are carried into the Church, the Church will become empty. This assertion would place the Church on a parallel with the press, which is forbidden criticism of High Finance and Big Business on pain of having its life blood, in the shape of advertisements, stopped. An institution that is forbidden to touch on the robberies of Big Business, but is encouraged to extol the awfulness of petty theft, is not an institution of religion, but one of the devil.

Mr. T. W. White has swung Mr. Atkinson's attack on monopolies, and their abuse of tariff privileges, into a clever finesse of Free Trade. He has set prowling through Balaclava a big bad wolf in sheep's clothing; but the clothing is such an ill fit that the exposures only emphasise Mr. Atkinson's contentions. Dr. Hornabrook is also out after Big Business and Boards, which in many cases place Dictatorship and absolute power in the hands of interested monopolies. "The fighting Doctor" is quite terse, and has a stone in his sling.

In the next issue of this paper will be given a list of the names of candidates who have signed the draft letter which accompanied the U.E.A.'s letter sent to each candidate. This will be a guide as to how to vote. It will also be a direction for the future activities of the U.E.A. The real Campaign will commence after the elections, when the conditions of the electorate will be known, and the attitude of the Member will be revealed. Work for all Independents, is the slogan for this Election.

Balaclava. — Heckle Hour in Elsternwick shows every indication of going phut. Mr. Atkinson is the only candidate, so far, who has accepted the U.E.A.'s invitation for the Balaclava candidates to meet on the same platform. Mr. Nash considers that the discussion would serve no purpose. Mr. White has an alibi, in that he is in Queensland. The holding of the discussion depends on the answer Mr. White sends on his return. It is very strange that candidates offering themselves to represent the wishes of the people will not come together and allow their electors the opportunity of forming an unbiased opinion of their views on such a subject as that suggested. Have they so little faith in their convictions that they must not be subjected to examination?

A meeting of workers was held in the home of Mr. Taylor last Saturday evening. The electorate was divided into 82 sections, and these sections allotted to group teams. The arrangements for the distribution of the special four-page brochure are satisfactory. The major portion of the electorate will be covered in about three days, but

certain sections will require the assistance of the good folk who will have already completed their sections, unless helpers from outside come to their assistance. This does not mean that the work is too great a tax on those who have undertaken it, but that the response from "enthusiasts" in other electorates is not what was anticipated. The areas were allotted so as to afford outsiders the satisfaction of doing something—the opportunity is still there.

Gippsland reports that not only is the canvassing of signatures yielding almost 100 per cent, success, but that voluntary contributions in some cases accompany the signing of the Demand form.

Dr. John Dale is out of hospital after his motor accident, is the good news of the week.

Eric Butler returned to Melbourne this week, and after a very successful tour of the northern half of Victoria reports that the country is ripe for action.

Eric travelled as far north as Swan Hill, and from there right across to Albury. Although this crusade was more in the nature of a preliminary survey of the possibilities in Victoria, excellent meetings were held in many towns, and many good contacts established in others. The centres at which Eric spoke were as follows: —Kerang, Swan Hill, Stanhope, Kyabram, Tongala, Shepparton, Colbinabbin and Rochester. Most of the meetings were well attended, and enthusiasm ran at a high pitch. In spite of all the prevailing talk about prosperity the farmers are under no delusion about it, and most of the politicians would do well to heed the rising tide of protest from this section of the community.

Reports to hand from the country press indicate that Eric was given very good publicity—his ability as a speaker being specially commented on, while the non-party idea of the campaign appealed tremendously to the country people. Eric is back in Melbourne for a week before the election, but to use his own words, "after the elections we shall really start to sweep Victoria."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Response of Candidates —Each of the 30 candidates in S.A. for the Federal elections has received, under registered cover, a candidate's manifesto and a covering letter. These were posted a week ago and we requested a reply within 10 days. So far 12 have replied; four signing the manifesto (and two of these signing the Elector's Demand and Undertaking). The majority of the replies were worded so as to be almost a pledge in themselves. The four candidates who have signed represent four out of the six Federal electorates in

S.A. In addition to this, two represent the Labor party and two the Liberal Country League—a demonstration of the non-party nature of our manifesto.

Division of Grey -- Members of the Port Lincoln group, who have accepted responsibility for promoting the E.C. in this Division, are as independent as any group in Australia. But when they need a speaker from Adelaide they say so; their request is accepted as a democratic demand; and, because of our free association and our appreciation of their yeoman efforts, the Secretariat will never let them down. They wanted a speaker from October 4 to 8. Rev. C. D. Brock was the only one available, and he had several engagements, including an Adelaide Town Hall meeting to demand results for the unemployed. However, the Port Lincoln demand prevailed. The West Coast engagements necessitated air travel to and from Port Lincoln. Leaving Adelaide at 8 a.m., Mr. Brock arrived at Port Lincoln via Cowell at 10.15 a.m., contacted local workers, and was then driven to the Government Meat Works. During lunch hour about 60 workers were addressed, many of whom have already signed the demand form. Several keen democrats are there, led by Mr. E. Gronn, whose very active Campaign work is divided between the divisions of Grey (S.A.) and Henty (Vic.). The Port Lincoln public meeting was held in the Civic Hall, the Mayor presiding. Circumstances made a small meeting almost inevitable. The supporting speaker was Mr. R. Loveday, past president of the S.A. Wheatgrowers' Association.

Spade work had been done by the pioneers at Cummins, 42 miles north. The inaugural meeting was arranged for Tuesday, 5th inst. The leader at Port Lincoln motored a party of five from that town. Twenty-four citizens were addressed by the Lincoln leader and Mr. Brock. In order to preserve their freedom and ensure the assumption of individual responsibility, it was decided to make no immediate effort to form a group. Consequently, all were urged to think out and discuss all that had been placed before them and then to decide whether any or all of them were prepared to unite and conduct the Campaign throughout Cummins and district. A report of Mount Hope and Port Lincoln open-air meetings will not be received in time for this issue.

Study and Speakers' Class —Members are specially asked to note that a class of study, at which speakers will also be trained, will be held at H.Q. on Tuesday, October 19, at 8 p.m. Speakers are urgently required, and you are specially invited to attend this class and develop your latent abilities. Thus you will be able to do your little bit for the Campaign.

Drawing - Room Meetings—Group leaders and members everywhere are asked to arrange, if possible, small group meetings in their own homes. Speakers for these meetings will be supplied by H.Q. This will be your opportunity of gathering together the interested persons that you know, and giving them their opportunity of learning of this campaign. Endeavour, if possible, to arrange these meetings on broadcast nights.

"Smith's Weekly" Supports Campaign—During luncheon address period at H.Q. on October 8, it was stated that for two consecutive weeks *Smith's Weekly* had published splendid articles supporting the E.C. as a perfect instrument of democracy. It was resolved that a letter of appreciation should be sent to *Smith's* in recognition of the fact that they had shown themselves on the side of democracy.

Luncheon Addresses—On Friday, 15th inst., Sister Mary Lawson will give us "A Nurse's Experiences in Spain." On the 22nd Miss Kate Cox, ex-Chief of Women Police will pay us a visit.

Women's Afternoon — On Wednesday, October 20 at 3 p.m., Miss Drummond, of

I ACCUSE!

By G. S. CARRUTHERS, Candidate for the Federal Seat of Martin (N.S.W.)

Coins and notes are called cash or currency.

When you have one you can exchange it for some of the goods on sale in the country in which the coin or note was made.

Money is generally defined as anything, which is freely accepted in exchange for goods.

Cheques act just as freely as cash as long as the drawer is known to be sound.

At least ninety per cent, of business is done by cheque.

There is about £55,000,000 cash—coin and notes—in Australia.

The bank deposits are about £550,000,000, or about ten times as great as the cash.

Whence Comes the Extra Money?

Where does this extra money come from and what is it?

In April, 1937, Professor Copland wrote:

"In making advances banks create credit, and they also create deposits unless advances are made to one set of customers and paid to another set of customers who use

clusion that this issue of credit is counterfeiting just as much as making a spurious coin, for the advantages gained by the issuer of credit are the same as those gained by the issuer of spurious coin.

Defenders of banks say that this money is needed by the community.

A counterfeiter might say the same, as long as his money passes for the real thing.

The World's Greatest Confidence Trick

The plain fact is that the private issue of credit money is a gigantic crime. It is the greatest swindle the world has ever known. "The world's greatest confidence trick," the Marquis of Tavistock calls it.

It may be asked why this matter has been allowed to continue for so many years?

The answer is that "Finance" has been regarded as something the ordinary person could not understand, and all inquiry has been discouraged.

Also bankers, and many economists, have told people that banks lend their "deposits", and it is only recently that any considerable number of people have learnt that advances create deposits, and that deposits do not create advances, as they formerly believed. H. D. MacLeod, an English barrister, explained it all very clearly about eighty years ago, and the MacMillan Commission admitted it. But even now many economists and bankers deny it.

There is no reasonable doubt that the politicians who drew up the Constitution of the Commonwealth had no knowledge of this creation of credit money and believed that the control of the issue of coin and notes assured to the Crown the complete control of issuing money. Therefore politicians, financiers and economists up to the present, who have been supporting the private banks, may be freed from any criminal charge.

But from now onwards, anyone supporting this tremendous swindle, whether it be the Prime Minister, or any politician or banker, should be arrested and charged with being a party to counterfeiting or forging or otherwise issuing illegal money with intent to rob the people of their rightful property.

"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 re-printed by the "New Times" as an eight-page brochure. Copies may be ordered from

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