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THE NEW TIMES

WHO'S TO BE
QUEEN OF THE
BRAY?

By W. Blackstone

(See page 7)

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

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Every Friday, 3d

Who Is Labor's Bogey- Lang or Scullin?

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Dr. Hornabrook Demands Inquiry Into Members' Election Expenses

*

Professor Copland Again

*

"Fair Play" And The Duke

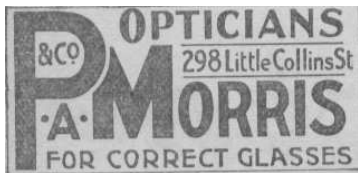
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(Continued on page 3.)

HAS LABOR TO LIVE DOWN LANG-OR SCULLIN?

How The Independent Vote Is To Be Wooed

Nothing pleases the U.A.P. press better than to raise the spectre of Langism, and today the Lang bogey is being worked nearly as effectively as ever. But this time there is a difference, for those against whom the bogey is now being worked are not the persons who vote sometimes for and sometimes against Labor. They are the members of the Labor movement itself. Labor, it is being said, failed to do better in the elections because of the public's dread of Mr. Lang; and so political Labor is urged to free itself once and for all of the incubus, on the ground that J. T. Lang is too heavy a burden for any movement to carry.

What the Senate Vote Showed

But is this suggestion true? The facts hardly seem to support it. The only real test of the Commonwealth vote is the Senate. The vote for the Representatives was unsatisfactory from many points of view. The number of seats won by the different parties in the Lower House bore no true relation to the votes cast for or against them—partly through the tinkering with electorate boundaries, partly through the scandalous abuse of the principle of one vote, one value, by the designing of constituencies unequal in numerical strength. And again, in seats that were considered safe for one party or another, there were many cases where the party representing quite a large minority of electors put up no candidate.

In the Senate, however, every elector of every State was given the opportunity of directly expressing his or her view towards the major political parties. And here, while it appeared that Labor votes far outnumbered those cast for any other party, it also became evident that New South Wales was voting Labor to an extent that compared more than favourably with any other part of the Commonwealth.

With New South Wales itself, in spite of the nearness of the spectre, returning four Labor Senators for four Senate vacancies, and returning them more easily than other States returned theirs, it seems rather lame to ascribe the comparative failure in the Representatives to Mr. Lang.

Why Labor Failed in the Representatives

The principal and general reason why Labor failed to win the Lower House was the gerrymandering of electorates. The next subsidiary reasons were probably as follows:

In urban electorates the fear of Labor was not dread of Lang. Nearly every elector with any intelligence now knows that the shutting of the N.S.W. State Savings Bank was a wicked ramp worked by the U.A.P., through its tools, the late Sir Robert Gibson, the renegade Laborite Lyons, and others. Nearly everyone with any intelligence now agrees that Lang's proposal to reduce overseas interest compulsorily was an equitable one, and even more equitable than the compulsory reduction of local interest. And the persons who do not know these and similar things, or who, knowing them, oppose them, would be U.A.P. voters no matter what happened.

What Labor had to live down in the urban areas was not Langism, but Scullinism. For most people are well aware that the shadow of another depression hangs over us. And those people remember that in the last depression it was Mr. Scullin who put into operation the infamous Premiers' Plan; it was Mr. Scullin who allowed real wages to be cut 10 per cent, and higher salaries more; it was Mr. Scullin who reduced the pensions; and it was Mr. Scullin who,

having thus treacherously betrayed the workers who put him into office, took the usual politician's trip to London. Langism, whether you agree with it or disagree with it, represents strength; Scullinism represents pitiful weakness.

If we are to have another depression, many people argued, Labor under Curtin would hardly be more likely to stand up against the banks than Labor under Scullin. If Labor is returned to office, the banks are more likely to put on the screws than if we return Lyons; at least, under Lyons the storm is likely to be made less severe, since the whole theme of his and the U.A.P.'s existence is that "sound" finance alone can save us from depressions. And so these people, often sympathetic to Labor but remembering the disastrous Scullin regime, voted for the U.A.P.

The Boycott Boomerang

In the country it was probably those men in the Labor ranks who are now loudest in their antagonism to Mr. Lang who did Labor the most damage. The opposition to Mr. Lang in Labor circles comes chiefly from what are called the industrialists—meaning mostly the Communists who have for some time been penetrating the unions, and in alliance with them the disgruntled politicians and ex-politicians (mostly suspected of Communist leanings also) who have tried conclusions with Mr. Lang and come off second best. These are the men who, in the way in which Reds within the Labor party generally manage to raise just before elections some issue, which will badly damage Labor's prestige, raised this time the cry to boycott Japanese goods.

Nothing could have suited the U.A.P. better than such a cry—as we pointed out at the time. The farmers, and particularly the wool men, had been waiting for more than twelve months to show the Government what they thought of the anti-Japanese tariff of last year. And when the Reds came along with their boycott cry, the U.A.P. men said to the farmers: "We are prepared to admit we made a mistake with our tariff. But we acted in good faith, and when we saw our mistake we did our best to correct it. We entered into new relations with the Japanese, which will give you back most of what you lost. But if you vote for Labor, if you put into power these industrial workers, who don't give two hoots for you, your position will be worse than ever. A boycott against Japan means a boycott by Japan. And what will happen to your wool then?" The U.A.P. press played up the boycott story for all it was worth, and the farmer chose the devil he knew rather than the devil he didn't know.

Defence Argument

If the diagnosis we have just made is anywhere near the mark, Labor was not defeated either by Langism or by its so-called isolationist policy in defence. We don't think the defence issue played such a very important part in securing votes one way or the other. Precious few of those who were offended by Labor's announcement that it would not implicate Australia in an overseas war without consulting the people of the Commonwealth, would ever have voted Labor in any case; Imperialism and "sound" finance go hand in hand. On the other hand, Labor may have gained a percentage of votes by the conscription issue, which it raised in answer to Mr. Lyons's defence proposals. Mr. Curtin and his party certainly had all the honours of the argument; but it was rather a futile argument, since most anti-conscriptionists were probably already anti-Lyonsites. In any case, Labor was foolish in allowing the election to

be fought so largely around the issue of defence, which was the ground a bankrupt Ministry had clearly chosen months before. It was the only fresh ground left for a Government whose rearward trail was strewn with nothing but failures and broken promises, and which, as a result of Labor's swallowing the defence bait, was fairly successful in diverting attention from its inglorious record. Immediately after Mr. Lyons delivered his policy speech, we noted how he had completely side-stepped saying a single word about the ruinous trade diversion policy entered on last year—and Labor speakers generally allowed him to get away with it, and with other cardinal sins of commission and of omission.

Something That Has to be Lived Up To

Whether or not it be true, as we believe, that it is Scullin rather than Lang that Labor has to live down, it becomes increasingly clear that there is something to which either Labor or any other party which may seek to hold the Treasury benches will have to live up. That something is the challenge to the monopoly of finance, the monopoly of industry and the monopoly of party pre-selection—all of which, to the student, can be summed up under the first heading of the monopoly of finance. In one way or another, this challenge was the theme, which accounted for the sensational vote recorded by Independents in four U.A.P. strongholds in Melbourne. It was the theme, which threw Archdale Parkhill out of Parliament altogether. And last week saw it given a new and most emphatic expression.

A Shock from Queensland

We refer to the allocation of the Social Credit party's votes in Queensland, where the majority of those who believe in the particular proposals for monetary and social reform advocated by Major Douglas, despairing of any measure of co-operation from either Labor or the U.A.P. in that State, formed themselves some time ago into a separate political entity. In Wide Bay their candidate provided one of the sensations of the elections by easily topping the poll, and only the action of Labor electors in casting their second preferences for the Lyons Government rather than for monetary reform preserved the seat for the Ministry. But it was where Social Credit candidates had to be eliminated to arrive at a final result that they gave the two major parties something to scratch their heads about. In the Griffith seat in Brisbane, out of about 6000 first votes for a Social Credit candidate nearly five-sixths of the second preferences were cast against the sitting Labor man and in favour of the U.A.P. On the strength of this, the U.A.P. candidates for the Senate were jubilant. The first count had put them slightly ahead of the sitting Labor Senators, and they were confident that in the allocation of almost 50,000 Social Credit Senate votes they would certainly get enough to keep their noses in front. Yet, when the tally went up, it appeared that about four out of five of these votes had gone to Labor.

These two sets of seemingly contradictory figures bear every appearance of the sort of vote which party politicians hate, a well organised bloc vote which is liable to be cast for one party's man in one place and for another party's man in another. It is the sort of thing, which simply isn't done, which is not to be found within the covers of any manual of party politics. It keeps parties guessing, and is liable to have the dangerous result of making party candidates look

to the individual electors within their constituencies rather than to party headquarters. In other words, though the Social Crediters in Queensland are themselves nominally a party, they have in this election dealt a terrific swipe at orthodox party politics. If they preserve their strength—and it is far more likely to increase than to diminish—they can definitely promise themselves at the next election that they will be able to control the Queensland Senate, and in all probability several of the Representative seats also.

Unless we are the world's worst judges, we don't think Queensland Labor will in the future adopt the same cavalier attitude to monetary reform that it has done in the past; and we shall be surprised if some of the U.A.P. aspirants for political honours don't do some serious thinking also.

Labor Has Been Too Cocksure

But it is the Labor party, which is due for the deepest thinking. As a party the U.A.P., being the creature and the chosen mouthpiece of the private banks, will never advocate anything, which might interfere with the banking monopoly. But Labor is supposed to be all out for monetary reform, and on that account it has been very cocksure that monetary reformers would give it their second preferences. Moreover, since (in Labor's opinion) no monetary reformer had a chance of ever polling a considerable vote, this second preference was in practice as good as a first vote.

But now the scene is changing. Tired with Labor's dilly-dallying, tired with its schemes of reform which appear to begin and end with nationalisation—which does not necessarily mean reform and which may even be a worse and more absolute tyranny—reformers are up and doing. There is every prospect that in the next elections they will be far more formidable a force to be reckoned with than they were in those just past.

What is Labor going to do about it? With the disposition of the population in the electorates so cunningly loaded against it, it has little hope of winning command of the Lower House unless it can attract the support of this growing independent vote. That vote will not be attracted except by a strong policy, because it believes that the U.A.P. programme carries within itself the seeds of its own destruction, and it would sooner leave those seeds the little while longer that they need to sprout than change from one unsatisfactory set of politicians to another who are nearly as unsatisfactory. The type of strength, which lies in Socialism, does not appeal to the independent voter, who is mostly middle class, and as definitely opposed to State bureaucracy as he is to private monopoly. If he is to give any sort of support to Labor, it will not be to a Labor party with the Communistic element in the offing; it will not be to a Labor party which appears to have little more idea of what to do in an emergency than Mr. Scullin had; it will not be to a Labor party which believes it can rectify all our ills by raising taxation still higher.

The Policy the Independent Wants

The independent voter neither expects nor desires that Labor will set out down to the last detail how

(Continued on page 3, column 4.)

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

NEW MINDS FOR OLD

By YAFFLE, in *Reynolds' News*

I am happy to present to you the latest revolutionary theory. It was introduced, aptly enough, by the Chief Constable of Salford—in short, by a policeman. In a lecture entitled, "Some aspects of road safety from the official point of view," he said:

"The failure of the human mind to react quickly and correctly at the critical moment is mainly responsible for the ill-success of Parliament, police, and highway authorities in their efforts to bring about a greater degree of safety among road-users."

The idea is that the Mind of Man is out of date, and he needs a new one. The old one is no use for modern progress.

As a revolutionary theory it shows considerable advance on the others. Most revolutions have been satisfied with a new political and economic system. But our system having been tried and found perfect, we will leave it as it is, and alter the human mind to fit it.

There will be some opposition to this drastic Change of Mind. For centuries Englishmen have been accustomed to the idea that systems should be adapted to man, not man to systems.

This was all very well for the old systems. But the marvels of modern progress have changed the old estimates of the relative value of man. It would be a pity if, having invented such a beautiful thing as a fast car, we had to scrap it because man refused to adapt his mind to it. We cannot afford such a loss to civilisation.

The human mind is very imperfect. As our policeman points out, it cannot be relied upon to react correctly at critical moments. In other words, presence of mind is less common than absence of mind.

This is doubtless because people think that presence of mind is needed only in exceptional circumstances, such as danger. And as men do not like the idea of living in a perpetual state of danger, they have a prejudice in favour of absentmindedness.

Further, the general belief is that most noteworthy creations of the human mind—literature, art, philosophy, religion, and whatnot—have been produced when the mind was in a state of partial absence; that is to say, when it was wandering, or engaged in the old-fashioned practice of Contemplation.

It is possible, indeed, to argue that culture depends mainly on absentmindedness.

I confess very little literature

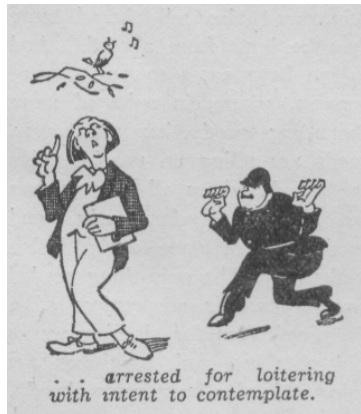
of lasting value has been produced by people displaying presence of mind. A state of crisis is not conducive to great thoughts.

I know of no poet, for instance, who has produced even a short sonnet while engaged in dodging a bullet, avoiding an irritable bull or motorist, or sidestepping a punch on the nose.

Doubtless, for such reasons, humanity has so far been inclined to encourage Contemplation rather than Quick and Correct Reaction.

Nevertheless, if we are to have any scientific progress at all, Absence of Mind must go, and be replaced by a state of perpetual Presence of Mind. "It should be possible," says our policeman, "to take action against those who . . . wander about public roads with complete disregard of the risks . . ."

In other words, contemplation out of doors will be prohibited. The New Mind must be one that



is impervious to distractions, except in places statutorily specified as Places For Thinking Within The Meaning of The Act.

The flowers in Spring, the gold of Autumn, the memory of last night's kiss, or the thought of the pint that is to come—such things must be rigidly excluded from the mind when its owner is out of doors. They distract him from his first social duty of getting out of the way of missiles.

The police will be empowered to take all necessary steps to discourage contemplation. Any person wearing a thoughtful expression on the public highway will be liable to arrest for loitering with intent to contemplate.

"The nation should be made traffic-conscious through education," said the reformist.

This should be simple. A regu-

lar submission to sudden and unexpected noises should speedily cure children of their natural tendency to freedom of bodily movement, joie de vivre, and other impediments to traffic control, and teach them to regard their earthly existence as one prolonged Critical Moment.

By a daily dose of nervous shocks, we should quickly develop in the race that habit of creeping nervously through life, which is essential for correct reaction to scientific progress.

Finally, this new theory about the human mind will be known in future as The Statesman's Charter or The Politicians' Alibi.

It will free our rulers from all responsibility for their own blunders. In future the failure of any legislation to deal adequately with any situation will be attributed to the failure of the human mind to react correctly to

METHODISTS DEMAND RESULTS

"We deplore the present un-Christian social system which encourages immorality by frequent enforcement of late marriage, and makes necessary the limitation of families, for financial reasons, by many parents who actually desire more children. We urge the State and Federal Governments to take steps to end the existing social order and by the abolition of poverty to make it possible for people to live the normal, happy lives to which we are entitled."

—Resolution carried by the North West Synod of the Methodist Church at Mildura, November 1-4.

it. We shall be able to say, for example:

"The failure of the human mind to react correctly at such critical moments as dinner-time, and convince the human body that it has enough to eat, is mainly responsible for the ill-success of Parliament in adapting purchasing power to the cost of living."

If this can be realised, things will go more smoothly. And England will enjoy a degree of national discipline and political unity, which no ruler, from the Grand Inquisitor to Hitler, has imagined even in his most optimistic moments.

In the past, many unkind things have been said about the Pharisees, who thought that man was made for the Sabbath, not the Sabbath for man.

Now we have reverted to the Pharisees' theory. Man was made

for systems, not systems for man. Industry was not made to provide man with things; man was made to provide industry with markets. Even industry does not exist for its own sake, but only to enable Finance to lend money to it. As the *Morning Post* said recently:

"Such a system (Socialism) may still leave the workers unsatisfied with their wages, except at the cost of unsound finance"—

which means that sound finance is more important than the standard of living, and that man was made for money, not money for man.

After this, surely man will readily sacrifice such a small thing as his mind to traffic control.

HAS LABOR TO LIVE DOWN LANG—OR SCULLIN?

(Continued from page 2.)

it proposes to deal with every emergency that may arise. But he does want from Labor an explicit assurance that it will give effect to these things:

1. That it will enable foreign nations which are ready to buy our surplus produce, and particularly our wool, to do so by selling us their produce.

2. That it will release enough money to enable Australians to buy either the whole of their own industrial output or exports in return for imports—thus preventing imports from ruining local manufactures.

3. That in the development of this country it will allow no obstacles to hold it up other than physical ones; that where social works or services are required or desired it will take stock of the resources in materials, men and skill, and if all these are present that it will put the works in hand straight away.

4. That the money required to do these things, in so far as it is new money, will not be obtained from the private banks as fresh doses of interest-bearing national debt (no matter at how low a rate of interest) but that it will be national money, issued through the nation's own bank, and as free of interest as is the national note issue.

Many Labor men agree that these things should be done. Many will contend that Labor is ready to do them. But is it? Recall for yourself all the speeches delivered on behalf of Labor in the weeks that have passed, and what will you find? A medley of promises, counter-promises and contradictions; some speaking Socialism, some higher taxation, some the forty-hour week, some a non-contributory national insurance scheme financed out of taxation (a contradiction in terms); nowhere a clear, definite, unequivocal statement of policy. Until that statement does come, Labor will never get the support it requires. And neither its head-hunting expedition after J. T. Lang nor its sudden solicitude for the Chinese will set it on the right path.

"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.

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(Continued from page 2.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

Mr. A. W. Relph, Chairman, Melbourne Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir, —

In a statement to the press on Monday you are reported to have said that the reduction of taxes is being impeded because Australia is paying for public works out of revenue instead of out of loan moneys, and you instanced an estimated expenditure under that head of nearly £7¼ millions by the Commonwealth this year.

The conclusion you drew was this: "Either private industrial enterprise must be checked as a result of the continuance of extreme taxation, or the public works expenditure will have to be seriously curtailed. If private enterprise is checked in this manner the total collections of taxes will fall off accordingly. If public works expenditure is curtailed in a young country like Australia, where so much requires to be done, general stagnation will follow. There is only one way open to steady progress, and that lies in the direction of efficient expenditure of loan moneys on productive works," etc.

We think, Sir, you stated the case fairly and logically except, if you will pardon us, in one important respect. That is in the suggestion that the ONLY way open is expenditure of loan moneys.

In the first place, this is not an open way at all. Annual taxation to pay interest on loan moneys is today one quarter of what our total

national debt was in 1901, and interest accounts for almost exactly half our total Federal and State taxes, and considerably more than half of most of our local government taxes. Therefore, if we agree with you, as we do, that taxation is already an intolerable burden, we must also submit to you that we are nearing the end of our tether with regard to interest-bearing loans.

What we suggest to you, as a practical alternative is that, instead of the loan moneys you speak of, the finance required should be ISSUED; that the bookkeeping entries for public works should be as free of interest as our national note issue.

We submit that this is only logical. You will admit with us that there is no shortage of the physical things needed for public works, nor of the physical things needed to pay those engaged in them. Now, if there is enough money in existence in Australia to enable those physical things to be bought and paid for, it is clearly the right of sovereign Governments to secure it by taxation, and such taxation need not be unduly burdensome.

But taxation sufficient to cope with our physical capacity for public works would be absolutely overwhelming. Therefore, it seems to be evident that there is not enough money in existence (this can also be proved technically, and quite easily). In which case the alternative to a sovereign Government is not to borrow, at interest, from within itself, but to issue the deficiency of its own right.

THE NEW TIMES

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Professor Copland Breaks His Silence

For months past the *New Times* has been warning businessmen to beware of making commitments far ahead, because all the signs pointed to a further dose of depression. That our forecast was right has now been proved by the facts. Prices are tumbling in all directions, and particularly in the commodities in widest use, such as base metals, rubber, cotton and wool.

While we were writing in this fashion, those who have in the past been regarded as the community's authorities on finance and economics were saying the direct opposite. They were, in fact, expressing fear that recovery was proceeding at so fast a rate as to be positively dangerous, and they actually expressed the opinion that our advance towards boundless prosperity should be deliberately slowed down.

One of these self-constituted authorities was D. B. Copland, principal author of the Premiers' Plan, Sidney Myer Professor of Commerce and Dean of the Faculty at the University of Melbourne. In our issue of August 27 last we went so far as to suggest that it might be in the public interest to place the Professor under the charge of a couple of mental specialists. The Professor took heated exception to our remarks at the time, and publicly threatened one of our staff that the *New Times* would hear further from him. We presume he meant in the way of legal proceedings, but threatened men live long, and so far no writ has been served upon us.

On that occasion we criticised Professor Copland for two speeches he had just delivered, in which he was reported as saying, (i.) that taxes should be kept up to prevent the community from going too far in the direction of prosperity, and (ii.) that investment should be slowed down, whether in housing, factory construction, public works, or capital goods in general, for the purpose of "extending the present level of prosperity for a longer period than would be possible if private investments became excessive and internal costs rose rapidly."

Whether or not as a result of our ridiculing him, or whether perhaps because he saw that his pro-

perity talk was fading into thin air, the Professor has been remarkably silent since then. But once more he bobbed up in last week's press. In the meantime Mr. Copland has turned a few economic Catherine wheels, and the tenor of his latest discourses is (according to his favourite organ, the Melbourne *Herald*) that "nothing short of a pronounced move in the United States will stop the descent to depression." That was in Wednesday's *Herald*, and again on Saturday he said: "Any attempt to revive industry in the United States is of great moment to the whole world. It is more important than the Spanish civil war, or the Sino-Japanese dispute . . . Without a revival of capital construction in housing, factory extension and public utilities, economic reconstruction could not be accomplished . . . Unless industry revives in the United States it will be very difficult to avoid a major depression. The revival of American industry will ensure the continuance of prosperity in the other democratic countries, provided they show economic statesmanship."

The first comment we should make on these remarks is that they are just as undiluted humbug as most of the other statements, which have come from D. B. Copland of recent years. Why, for instance, does Mr. Copland speak of "the continuance of prosperity in the other democratic countries"? To us the qualification seems either senseless or a deliberate playing to the gallery.

But, turning to the substance of his remarks, it will be seen that the Professor makes two major claims. One is that Australian prosperity depends on American prosperity; the other that economic reconstruction depends on "capital construction in housing, factory extension and public utilities."

Always assuming that the Professor is correctly reported in the *Herald*, we would characterise the first of these claims, that Australia's prosperity depends on America's, as a barefaced lie—and we don't care whether the Professor threatens us with a writ for it or not. The basis of Australia's prosperity is, or should be, what Australia produces for herself; and, in the case of a considerable proportion of her people being engaged in producing something which Australia does not use herself, the success with which this portion of our production can be exchanged for things from abroad which Australia needs or desires. Given these conditions, there is no reason why Australia should not be prosperous if every other country in the world went broke. Any suggestion to the contrary is simply an admission that the financial system, which Professor Copland has spent so many years in defending, is a lying system, which fails to reflect the physical facts. Which comes to this: that Professor Copland is either a liar now or he has been a liar for years. And he can take that compliment whichever way he likes.

Mr. Copland's second claim, that economic reconstruction depends on capital construction in housing, factory extension and public utilities, shows, first, the folly, falsity and inhumanity of the system to which he subscribes. To him, it seems houses, factories and public utilities are not things to be undertaken according to the community's needs, but devices for shoring up the financial arrangements of a banker-ridden world. Secondly, the very fact

that he makes such a claim is an admission that the normal flow of money into the community's pocket through the production of consumable goods is not sufficient to enable those goods to be purchased for consumption. Money issued through the construction of houses, factories and public utilities is money which is not straight away taken back from the public through the sale of those articles, but which is mainly charged into goods or services over a long period. Houses are mostly either sold on long terms or else their capital cost is charged into years of rent; the price of factories is similarly charged into the goods produced from them over a period of years; and the cost of public utilities is likewise charged over a long period into the services provided by those utilities. So that all these devices of the Professor are nothing more or less than a temporary subsidising of the incomes which are available to consumers for the purchase of ordinary household commodities.

Sir George Paish Admits It

Professor Copland is thus forced to admit in a roundabout way that community income is never equal to the prices that must be charged for the community's goods. For it must be remembered that if a first injection of added income through capital construction of public works makes up a first shortage for the time being, the subsequent injections will have to grow progressively bigger, since in the second cycle there will be a repetition of the first shortage plus the extra amount required to enable the costs of previous capital construction to be recovered. And so the process will go on ad infinitum—or, as soon as it is slowed up, we shall have another major depression, and the wholesale writing off of capital as lost.

From another source during the week we noted a similar admission—and again from an "orthodox" economist. In its issue last Saturday the Melbourne *Herald* reviewed a book newly published by the "eminent British economist," Sir George Paish, entitled "The Way Out." We quote the review: "There are no half measures in Sir George Paish's plan of campaign. The British Empire must abandon its policy of self-sufficiency because *it cannot, as a whole, buy all its peoples need to sell to maintain their solvency*" (our italics).

There you have both a first class admission and a first class piece of humbug. If the people of the British Commonwealth cannot as a whole buy all they need to sell to escape insolvency, it is perfectly clear that all the British people are short of *is money*; that, as we have just said, the incomes distributed through productive industry (and subsequently redistributed through payments for services and through the taxes imposed by governments) are never sufficient of themselves to pay the prices which must be charged for goods if producers are to remain solvent.

The obvious way out is for governments to ascertain this deficiency and to make it up by the issue of more money, as and when required. But does Sir George Paish admit this logical conclusion? No more than D.B. Copland does.

Whereas Copland wants us to borrow our way out of debt to the banks by going more deeply into debt to the banks, Paish suggests that we pass the buck on to the foreigner. If we can't buy all we have to sell in order to maintain our solvency, his suggestion amounts to this: that we sell abroad more than we buy from abroad. In the physical sense this means that we must send away more of our production than that for which we receive a tangible return—in other words, that we must deliberately set about impoverishing ourselves. And even in the lopsided financial sense the scheme is unworkable, because in the first place every other country, which works under bank domination, is in the same boat as ourselves, and its people are unable to buy as much as they must sell if they are to remain financially solvent. In the past, this has been tided over for the time by giving the foreigner credit—that is, by letting him run into debt. But it then follows that the debtor, in order to pay interest on the debt, must also sell abroad more than he buys from abroad. And so we have come to our present impasse, where, in spite of more abounding production than ever, goods are piling up unsold, debts are repudiated on all sides, prices are dropping calamitously, and producers are once again facing bankruptcy. The only thing needed now is another masterpiece of a Premiers' Plan for slashing wages and pensions—and, as things are going, this also must come shortly.

London Under the Yarra

The absurdities to which we have just referred were well illustrated by still another announcement in the press a few days ago. There is a scheme afoot, and a very sensible one, to build a tunnel under the Yarra to replace the slow and obsolete Williamstown ferry. One of the promoters of the scheme, a Melbourne builder, now announces that the proposal is likely to be carried out in the immediate future. And why?

The tunnel will be about a thousand yards in length, and will consist of two iron tubes, each lined with concrete, beneath the riverbed. Each tube will be 18 feet across, giving room for an 8-foot roadway and a footway of almost 4 feet.

Is it announced that the constructional difficulties of the tunnel have been worked out, that drainage has been provided for, that the B.H.P. or some other firm has announced that it can make the pipes of the required size? No such thing. There was probably never any difficulty on any of these or similar scores. The difficulty that has been overcome is the difficulty of *financing* the scheme. The financial cost has been estimated at £390,000, and London capital has been provided, bearing interest at £3/13/8 percent, for 20 years.

Would you just think that out? Australian materials are available, Australian labour, Australian engineers and builders. The job will be done in Australia and will be used by Australians. But it could not be proceeded with until London capital was available!

Actually, this London capital will never be visible, because all payments will be made with Australian cheques, Australian

bank notes and Australian silver and bronze coins. Then where does London come in? Simply by a series of entries in bank ledgers, first debiting certain London accounts and crediting certain Australian accounts, and later reversing the process as the loan (plus interest) is repaid. Is there any reason in the wide world why the necessary entries could not be made without any reference to London at all? Absolutely none—except the same reason why Copland and Paish talk such unutterable nonsense, and why, just when we are told we are into an era of prosperity, we find ourselves suddenly plunged again into depression. That reason is that the private banking companies have seized the community's books, and that money, meant to be a system of accounting for work done and energy expended, has become instead the weapon by which a few favoured gangsters dominate the community and its energies, while their political and economic servants and hangers-on perpetuate a lying and wicked swindle.

No Need for Woolgrowers' Losses

The wool selling position continues to deteriorate so rapidly as to cause something akin to panic in business circles, which realise the important part played by this commodity in the present financial income of the community. During the past week the following admissions have been made in the Australian metropolitan press:—

Prices have dropped from 15 to 20 per cent, in the last three weeks, and from 25 to 40 per cent, since the beginning of the season. This week's sales mark the lowest point yet, and it is not even suggested that low water mark has been reached. Moreover, these figures are not a true guide, since for the past two or three weeks specially selected catalogues have been offered, containing more than their proportion of superior and most saleable wools. The worst drop, up to 40 per cent, has been in crossbreds, which comprise more than half of the offerings in Melbourne. At Monday's Melbourne sales 35 per cent, of the wool submitted was withdrawn. At the London sales, which began on Tuesday, there was a drop since last sales of 15 to 20 per cent, in merinos and 20 to 25 per cent, in better crossbreds.

Even in the face of all this, and in face of the great difficulty of selling any but the best wool at any price at all, the daily press is running a campaign urging woolgrowers to face the market and to let their wool go at any price it will fetch. The reasons given do not credit the grazier with any more sense than that of the sheep he shears. One suggestion, for instance, is: "Let the producer offer his wool as usual and help the Australian Wool Board in its scientific research and publicity, and aid to place the industry on a sound footing whether the price be medium, high or low." Behind that suggestion runs the idea that one of the difficulties in selling wool is that people haven't heard of it. Another suggestion is that withholding of wool now will be "a factor in preventing revival of the market at the end of this season and at the beginning of the next." This is a call for a suicide battalion, a suggestion that growers go insolvent this

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season in order to preserve their solvency next season.

The one suggestion we have not seen put forward in any responsible or influential quarter—except by Sir David Rivett, to whom we referred on this page last week—is that the situation should be faced realistically and dealt with on practical lines.

Our difficulties in selling wool do not arise from any unwillingness of buyers to take it, but only from our making it impossible for them to adopt normal means of paying for it. Those means are the sale in Australia of sufficient of their own produce to establish credits for purchasing. The genesis of this immediate crisis dates from the tariff aimed at Japan in May last year, when an embargo was placed on the purchase of Japanese goods by the people of this country. Although that embargo has virtually been lifted, the action taken has only drawn more pointed attention to our never being buyers of Japanese goods to anything like the extent to which Japan purchased ours. So that, although perhaps 40 per cent, of Japan's difficulties have been overcome, the other 60 per cent, have not; and similar tariff action against Japan elsewhere has not made it any easier for her to establish foreign credits anywhere, and particularly surplus credits to be used in buying Australian wool. With Japanese competition virtually absent, and with Continental European buyers in much of the same fix, English buyers (who have the necessary credits through sales to us) cannot be blamed if they are now sitting back, watching the market stagnate for want of competition, and trying to gauge bedrock before they enter the market seriously. For, in spite of the balderdash given out to us by U.A.P. politicians last year about Bradford not letting us down, we have not yet heard of any large-scale business house, which makes patriotism rather than price the keynote of its instructions to its buyers.

We assert without fear of contradiction that the wool position could be corrected within a few weeks by our Federal Government if it chose to take the action which is well within its constitutional powers. The home consumption price of wool, or of any other needed commodity, is naturally affected by the amount of money, which consumers have at their disposal. Control over our money supplies is constitutionally vested in the Federal Parliament. In dealing overseas it is not nominal price, but exchange value of exports against imports, which is the vital factor. And every one of our late big customers for wool is today prepared to offer us as much real wealth in return for our wool as they ever were. And the Federal Parliament has all the necessary powers to make whatever trade treaties are desirable.

In connection with overseas trade, this technical difficulty may arise, that although the exchange value of wool may be fair its monetary price may not cover internal costs of production. For instance, Japan may offer us three yards of rayon in return for one pound of wool; but if the rayon is priced at 4½d this will give the woolgrower only 13½d for his wool whereas he may require 15d or 16d. In effect, although the national result would be highly satisfactory, this would mean that the Australian consumer of rayon

would be getting an unduly cheap article at the expense of the Australian wool producer. Obviously this matter of equities could be dealt with in several ways. There might be Government control at the point of exporting and importing; there might be a straight-out levy of ½d a yard on rayon to provide a subsidy for the woolgrower; there are dozens of ways in which the problem could be solved in a just and satisfactory manner.

The whole point is that wool is not really in a desperate position at all; that woolgrowers are suffering absolutely without any real necessity; that the remedy is in the hands of the Federal Parliament—and that Parliament is not likely to apply the remedy unless woolgrowers (and, indeed, the whole community, who will shortly be affected) bring pressure to bear on the Federal politicians.

More Overseas Joyriding?

Hardly has the Federal Ministry been returned—in fact, the reconstituted Ministry has not even been announced—before we have a repetition of the unseemly scramble for further jaunting overseas. According to this week's press, Earle Page is a certainty to go to London next year to discuss the revision of the Ottawa agreement; T. W. White is an even money bet, and the Prime Minister and R. G. Menzies are running neck and neck for third place—and third trip each within about three years.

We understood that Ottawa revision was one of the subjects to be discussed by several of our political tourists this year and last, and we are convinced that the bulk of the citizens of this country will not easily be persuaded of the necessity to close Parliament up again for months while further lengthy discussions (and dinners) take place in London for the alleged purpose of making arrangements which in all probability are already cut and dried.

As regards Ottawa itself, its result has been to increase English sales to Australians out of all proportion to the increase in Australia's sales to England; with this has, of course, gone an increase in the unsatisfactory conditions of our trade with other overseas countries, as well as a good deal of dissatisfaction on the part of local manufacturers. But neither a fresh Ottawa agreement nor any revision of its terms will ever give us satisfactory trading conditions. All such arrangements merely cut strips off one end of the blanket and stitch them on to the other end, quite overlooking that the blanket is too short, no matter how it is patched. The solution, as we have just indicated in the case of wool, is to be found, not in London nor in Ottawa, but in Canberra. And it is the only solution which will establish friendly relations and nourishing trade with *all* our customers, British or foreign.

Roosevelt's "Ultimatum"

We would have never believed that Mr. Roosevelt was genuine in his bold show of fighting the battle of his people against the real, though irresponsible, government of finance. Conditions and pros-

pects in the United States are admittedly no better today than they were when he instituted his much-advertised New Deal. Business is stagnating; destitution is rife; on Roosevelt's own admission, something like one-third of the entire population is practically starving; and the major "solutions" tried by the President have been the doubling of the national debt and the destruction and restriction of a great deal of the nation's production.

Roosevelt, in our opinion, is nothing better than a snide showman, and his so-called "ultimatum" to the financiers on Monday has showmanship written all over it. Padded out with a good deal of platitudes about "higher standards of living and a more just distribution of the gains of civilisation," with the truism that "a contented society rests on the solid foundation that all have enough," and that "we should provide flexible machinery which will enable industries throughout the country to adjust themselves progressively to better labour conditions"—strongly reminiscent of Mr. Lyons, that one—what was the substance of Mr. Roosevelt's effort to stop the new depression? Simply this: that if private capital did not take up the burden of recovery from the business recession (a new word for depression), the Government would.

Thus, you see, President Roosevelt prefers to leave recovery to private capital. Private capital means principally the private banks, and the procedure involved is for the private banks to issue to industry more private bankers' interest-bearing credits (that is, debts). Never at any time has President Roosevelt made the least attempt to remedy the American consumer's lack of income by increasing the national supply of non-interest-bearing money. His most recent stroke of genius was to release several hundred millions of "frozen" gold in order to provide the private banks with the opportunity of issuing, with safety to themselves, probably ten times that amount of interest-bearing private money through their overdraft or loan system.

A further scheme now in prospect is that costs must be cut (not that incomes must be raised to meet costs), and to this end it is proposed to sugar the pill of wage reductions by guaranteeing workers twelve months of continuous employment. Slavery is to be tempered, you see, by the promise that it will be perpetual.

President Roosevelt may have been surprised, but no sensible on-looker was, that the first reaction to his brave words of recovery was a further spectacular drop in the price of all American industrial securities.

A New Freeze Out?

At the beginning of this year, it will be remembered, a large portion of the Victorian Government's Cool Stores at Victoria Dock was mysteriously burnt out. The subject is recalled by a prospectus just issued by the Metropolitan Ice and Fresh Food Company Ltd., recently formed from a proprietary company. The part of the prospectus of particular interest is the statement that, subsequent to the Cool Stores fire, a committee appointed by the Government investigated the position, and as a result of its recommendations the Government undertook not to rebuild the stores, provided

that additional cool storage facilities were made available by private enterprise.

The directors of the "private enterprise" which thus appears to be getting a gift of a further freeze-out of public ownership or control includes H. E. Thonemann, director of Sydney Cold Stores and of other companies connected with the inner financial ring; H. D. Giddy, a director of the *Herald*, and otherwise connected with the inner financial and newspaper ring; and S. H. Wilson, a director of Swan Brewery (of which Harold Cohen is chairman), and also connected with the inner financial ring.

We are not suggesting that anything improper has occurred in connection with the Dunstan Government's decision not to rebuild the Government Cool Stores, but instead to hand over the supplying of cool storage to gentlemen of the type just enumerated. But we incline to think the public will be interested to hear of it.

The All-British Finkelsteins

In the pleasant game of mud-slinging which is now going on between the *Argus* and the *Herald* over the sources of their respective news, probably the most amusing touch was this statement in Monday's *Herald*: "Foreign news from tainted anti-British sources is dangerous. A news service cannot rise above its source." To which it added on Tuesday: "The principal sources of the Australian Associated Press are authoritative and British."

We take it from this that the *Herald* wishes to stress how British is the source of most of its own foreign news, the idea seeming to be that only British sources can be relied on for a true presentation of what happens in, say, Germany or Italy.

Looking a little further into one or two of these great British sources, we find that the *Herald* boasts of the London *Daily Herald* and the *Manchester Guardian*. The *Daily Herald* is the great Labor paper of England; it is controlled, we believe, by a Jew who, subsequent to the *Daily Herald's* hostility to King Edward at the time of the abdication (a course which received the warm editorial approval of the *Times*) figured among the first peerages of Edward's successor. The *Manchester Guardian*, we also understand, has passed out of the hands of the Scott family whose great journalistic tradition

the *Herald* rightly praises, and, if our information is correct, is also Jewish-controlled (as is, of course, the *Herald* itself).

For a thoroughly tainted and glaringly biased account of what goes on in Fascist countries, and particularly in anti-Jewish Germany, we could imagine no better sources than the (Jewish) *Daily Herald* and the (Jewish) *Manchester Guardian*. And can you see such papers—or Reuters, which we are given to understand is also under Jewish control—giving fair play to the Arab struggle against the Jews in Palestine? Or giving a detached account of events in Russia, Spain, China, or other places where Communistic influences have been so hard at work—Communism being founded by the Jew Marx (Mordecai) and carried on principally by Jews of the type of Bela Kun (Cohen), Trotsky (Braunstein) and Litvinoff (Finkelstein)? In passing, the name Finkelstein carries a remarkable association of ideas with Fink, the elderly Jew who controls the all-British *Herald*.

While we are on the subject of what is tainted and what is anti-British, we should like to suggest to the *Herald* that it might indulge in a little domestic cleaning-up. For some time past it has been featuring advertisements for a show in one of Melbourne's theatres, which has specialised in suggestive wording and illustrations. Some days ago, entry into the Commonwealth was forbidden of certain cheap reprints of a Continental painting on the ground of indecency. Immediately thereafter the *Herald* carried for some days the following: "Banned! The Modigliani Nude—But not at the Marcus Show. 30 Great Scenas. 50 Adorable Allures." We suggest to the *Herald* that advertising of this type is very badly tainted, and that it is also quite foreign to all that is decent in the British character. But perhaps the all-British trademark does not extend to the advertising columns.

BOOKS BY EIMAR O'DUFFY

The following Works by Eimar O'Duffy, mentioned by "YTEB" in his article in the "New Times" of November 5, are available from SOCIAL CREDIT PRESS, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne:—

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WHY REMAIN MESMERISED SLAVES? A Vital Question for Every Worker

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,—It has always been a mystery to me why the members of the Trades Unions have gone on year after year accepting conditions which are a negation of all they are supposed to be striving for. Why is it that, although the output per worker has increased substantially since the Harvester Judgment in 1907, neither the employee nor the community has obtained any benefit from it? Instead of getting benefits, the employee finds himself with greater insecurity than ever and the community with a greater millstone of debt. Why have the workers been so docile in the face of these developments?

Mr. John Cain's Views

In the Magazine Section of the *Argus* of November 13, in pride of place, there is a laudatory article on John Cain, Leader of the Victorian Labor Party, and if the contents are typical of the outlook of the men the workers select as their "leaders," then the reason for their lack of progress is obvious. These "leaders" of the workers are leading them into the hands of the bankers.

There were five outstanding features in this report of an interview with Mr. Cain, as follows:—

1. Before him on his table were two great piles of letters labelled "Congratulations," and he admitted that as "a plain man" he likes to know that he has the goodwill expressed in those two piles of letters.

2. He obtains inspiration today from J. M. Keynes as the head and front of the financial group; and Major Attlee, Leader of the Labor Opposition in the House of Commons, as the biggest man in the political group. He regards these men as "leaders in the world's thought."

3. He must always know what is going on at Geneva, in London, and in the United States.

4. Work, and still more work, is preferable to higher incomes.

5. Slums should be abolished, but only if finance permits.

It is difficult to believe that these are the best ideas we can hope to get from this "leader of a powerful political party," but the reference he has made to Mr. Keynes and Major Attlee as his "heroes" and "leaders in the world's thought" indicate that it would be futile to hope for anything better from him.

The first feature reminds me of another Labor "leader," who, though also a "plain man," posed specially in London recently for Press photographers and had pictures of himself in several of the leading newspapers, publicity and applause for the "leader" of the workers being considered more important than a denunciation of the factors which keep them in a condition of economic slavery. It is the same old game of feeding the vanity of the spokesmen so that they will go on talking the orthodox economic rubbish we have been hearing for years, quite regardless of the fact that the position of those for whom they *should* be speaking is continually going from bad to worse.

The Economists

The second feature calls attention directly to Mr. Keynes and Major Attlee, but it also brings to mind several other significant persons associated with them. Mr. Keynes is an orthodox economist, somewhat more liberal views than most of his conferees, but he still submits to the finance of the nation being under private control, thus showing himself opposed to democracy, as it is impossible to have government by the people for the people while the

people can do only what a private monopoly will allow them to do. Whatever they do is governed by the finance available, and at present the amount available is determined by non-government interests.

From Mr. Keynes it is only a step to Colin Clark, another orthodox economist and a member of the British Labor Party. He, too, submits to the usurpation by private bankers of the prerogative of the Crown to issue and control the nation's money, and is at present in Australia advocating that we should go further and further in debt to the private banking system. Presumably he has personal contact with Major Attlee, and may be regarded as one of his "advisors," for Britain is debt-ridden also.

From Colin Clark we think of Mr. W. B. Reddaway, still another orthodox economist specially brought to Australia from the Bank of England. This man recently persuaded the Arbitration Court to increase wages by 6/- a week, well knowing that the benefit of any such increase would immediately be taken away from the worker through a rise in prices. This, as every family man knows, has actually happened. He gets 6/-, and is charged 6/6 for his food, which means that, although he handles more money, he gets less for it. That is always his experience.

From Mr. Reddaway we think of W. K. McConnell, of the Sydney University, another orthodox economist and ex-member of the Labor Party, who now writes for the Sound Finance League (the bankers) against the community controlling its own credit.

From Mr. McConnell our mind goes to Professor L. F. Giblin, another orthodox economist and ex-Labor Member of Parliament, but now a director of the Commonwealth Bank. This man not only advocated severe cuts in wages when production was greater than ever, but has taken part in enforcing them, and yet is still welcomed in Labor circles.

With Professor Giblin on the Commonwealth Bank Board is Mr. M. B. Duffy, a person who takes a prominent part in shaping the policy of the Industrial Movement at the Trades Hall. This man, too, has helped, and is still helping, to prevent workers from getting their just share of production. Mr. Duffy, I understand, is taking a leading part in the "Lang Must Go" campaign, thus helping to split the Labor Movement in the interests of the Money Monopoly. Apparently, Mr. Lang must go, because he is for the workers against the bankers.

All these economists are associated with a Chair at the University endowed by the banks, while Mr. Duffy is associated with the bankers through his appointment to the Board of the Commonwealth Bank. Every one of these men is endeavouring to keep the bulk of the people in a state of mesmerism about the origin and control of Australian money. Consider the activities of each one of them separately, and see whether you can find any occasion when he has explained to the workingmen why it is that they keep going round in circles and get no better off.

With men of the type of Keynes and Clark around him, it is not a matter for wonder that Major Attlee and the British Labor Party have accomplished so little for the British workers, of whom some 20 millions have less than 6/- a week to spend on food. Food is, of course, plentiful, but the poor beggars can't get sufficient

money to buy it. Yet Major Attlee is just as silent about the *cause* of this disgraceful state of affairs as Mr. Keynes, Mr. Cain, and all the others mentioned of like mind.

Eyes on the Ends of the Earth

The third feature reveals that Mr. Cain, like so many other Labor "leaders," is more concerned about what is going on elsewhere than in his own country. What goes on at Geneva, in London, or in the United States should have nothing to do with the quantity of Australian money that shall be made available to the Australian people. That is a matter, which should be governed by the goods produced in Australia, and, until we have the sense to apply this principle, then the workingman must inevitably remain a slave.

Work Before Freedom

The fourth feature is appalling. We are told that ignorant slaves are happier and preferable to intelligent free men. It is better, in Mr. Cain's opinion, to keep the workers in a state of poverty with plenty of work to sing and laugh over than to increase their incomes and encourage them to purchase the products of science and machinery.

May I quote from the *Argus* as follows:—

"Are the workers happier today?" Mr. Cain's eyes flashed. "Make no mistake. It takes more than affluence to make happiness. I often tell this story. There was once a poor boot maker who was so happy that he laughed and sang at his work. A millionaire brought him his boots to mend because he wanted to help such a splendid fellow. "Take them back," said the boot maker; "they don't need mending." The millionaire still wanted to help, so he sent the boot maker a £100 note. The boot mender had never seen one before. He accepted it with thanks and guarded it; but he was always having to think of a safe place for it, and at last, unhappy and exasperated, he sent it back to the millionaire. "Here, keep your note," he said; "I haven't had a moment's peace since I got it." Mr. Cain thinks that there is a lot of political philosophy in that story."

It never occurred to the poor fool boot maker that the £100 note was given to be spent; that otherwise it would be useless, and that it was never meant to be "guarded" or put in a safe place. He did not understand that it was only a ticket of claim, and the millionaire did not tell him! He was allowed to believe that it was some holy and precious thing to be handled gently and to be carefully preserved, just as thousands of workers are also being encouraged to believe in this twentieth century. Mr. Cain suggests that it is better to keep the worker and his family financially poor than to remove their ignorance about the nature, purpose, origin, and control of Australian money. And he is heralded as the "leader" of the Victorian Labor Party!

Slums and Finance

The fifth feature confirms the reasonableness of the foregoing criticism. Mr. Cain says he is opposed to slums, but thinks finance is more important than

good housing. "We may have to provide a fund," he says, "to make up the difference between the economic rent and the amount some people will be able to pay." If Mr. Cain were actually paid by the bankers, he could hardly do their work better. What is a "fund"? What does it consist of? What would it look like if we could see it? It is obvious that what we actually need for the abolition of slums are land, building materials and labour, of which there is abundance. If it is only a "fund" that prevents our making use of these things, why are we doing nothing to produce the fund? Are we short of it because it is made of something we have to import and cannot make ourselves? The truth is that a fund is nothing more real than entries in a book, but Mr. Cain still clings to the pagan idea that these entries are more important than human beings and their living conditions. So long as we submit to this insanity, we submit inescapably to the continuance of the existing unchristian conditions and to rule by the private banker.

Standardisation

If the foregoing were not sufficient to condemn Mr. Cain, then another part of feature 5 supplies the deficiency. He said, "Standardisation will help by reducing the cost of building." This means that the buildings are to be brought down to a financial basis imposed by the money monopoly, whereas the buildings should be of a nature that would provide homes for the people and the finances should be made equal to these requirements. According to Mr. Cain, however, our workers must not have homes of their own choice, but must be regimented into barracks, for that is what standardisation would mean.

What the Worker Must Decide

The question every worker must decide is whether he is content to go on having every increase in his income taken from him through higher prices, or whether he is going to demand an increasing share of the expanding quantity of goods. If the former, then he should continue as he has been going; but if the latter, then he must either get rid of leaders of the Cain type or bring about a radical change in their ideas and actions.

It stands to reason that if the worker is granted an increase in his wages his employer must charge more for his goods in order to pay the increase; but if the worker received a payment direct from the Treasury or the Com-

monwealth Bank, which did not have to go through the books of the employer, then there would be no excuse for increasing prices, and the worker would have the wherewithal to demand a greater share of goods. There is no other way, but it is impossible to arrange this while the private money monopoly is permitted to dictate how much Australian money shall be brought into existence and to reduce the quantity at will. The Commonwealth Government must issue its own money on the basis of the community's production with regular equation with prices. When this is done, payments can be made as indicated, and everyone will benefit.

Workers, what about it? If you want it you must *demand* it from your Federal Parliament, which alone has the power to rectify matters. If you want conditions rectified, then you should get in touch immediately with the U.E.A., and lend a hand in the splendid work being done by that organisation.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

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WHO'S TO BE QUEEN OF THE BRAY?

By W. BLACKSTONE.

[Note to Editor. —I notice with deep regret the dirty jabs that are being exchanged (with journalistic gentility) between the *Argus* and the *Herald* over the question of the independent cable service. Before I went to bed last night I read the *Argus* on its service—"very too much laudatory," as my friend, Mr. Soitchi Iturts, would say. From the *Herald* I got the following:—"... the world is combed for news which is intelligently presented without bias or colouring" (sic, or, in the circumstances, should the proper word be "sick"?). For some relief I turned to my old friend Tennyson, and this line met my eye:

"There's many a black, black eye, they say..."

Whether it was this combination, or whether it was the crayfish and bottle of beer, I am unable to state, but the following doggerel came to me in my sleep. If I remember rightly, a similar phenomenon marked the writing of the late (very late) Mr. Coleridge's "Kubla Khan," but, whereas Mr. Coleridge was unrepentant, I must apologise to the shade, memory, and executors (if any) of the late Lord Tennyson, and also express my regret to your readers (if any); but the thing has been done now, so it is too late to try and undo it.]

You must wake and call me early;
call me early, mother dear;
Tomorrow 'll be the happiest day of
all this rotten year,
For the *Argus* will have some
news, mother—the first time
that it's had;
And won't the *Herald* be angry,
mother, and won't Sir Keith go
mad?

There'll be many a black, black
eye, they say, but none so black
as Keith's,

For the *Argus* seems to have the
idea that it's only a matter of
wreaths;
But the feeling is in my heart,
mother (though the time is
overripe
For a decent cable service) that
we'll still get the same old tripe.

We'll still get the same old tripe,
mother, that we've had for many
years,

And we'll hear what the gangsters
overseas will allow to reach our
ears;
If the Reds who made a hell of
Spain must be canonised by the
Press,

The crowd that controls the
cables, mother, will tell us what
names to bless.

If Stalin starts another purge and
bumps his colleagues off,
We'll only learn if we have to
cheer or whether we have to
scoff;

And if we must go to war, mother,
we'll learn that we have to go;
But why, or for whom, or in what

cause, I doubt if we'll ever
know.

Do you think we shall ever read,
mother, why British troops sup-
press

The poor unfortunate Waziris, and
shall we learn from the Press
Why Franco's lads who were
"Rebels" when it seemed that
their cause was lost

Should now be described as "Natio-
nalists" when it's certain the
Reds are tossed? *

I'm certain we'll hear again,
mother, how England won the
war,

And finished some thousand mil-
lions of pounds worse off than
she was before;

But to whom that money is owing,
mother, and who does well in a
war,

Are matters that will be left alone,
as they've always been before.

But it's nice to see them argue,
mother, no matter what people
say,

For both the *Argus* and *Herald*
are keen to be Queen of the
Bray.

I haven't yet heard from the *Age*,
mother, but I think they are
three of a type,

And we'll still get the same old
tripe, mother, we'll still get the
same old tripe.

* I must apologise for this, but
I can't think of any other rhyme
and I haven't time to rewrite the
verse. Besides, this was how I
dreamt it. —W.B.

ENGLISHMEN AND FAIR PLAY

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE

For centuries we have been led to believe that England had a practical monopoly of the spirit of fair play. It was something apparently that grew out of the soil, for those of English birth and blood failed to retain it if long enough removed from the country of their origin. For instance, we do not ascribe it to Americans, but of course that may be due to the pernicious mixture of the blood of foreigners.

In view of many recent happenings, however, it may be questioned whether the timeworn claim has any longer any validity. The manner in which a lawful and popular king was hustled off his throne, and the extremely unsportsmanlike, not to say shabby and disreputable way in which this dignified and unoffending gentleman has been persecuted ever since is a scathing commentary on the spirit of British fair play. There was something very slimy in the way in which the whole thing was done, followed by the attempt to prevent him from broadcasting his farewell to his people, and the subsequent ban on that broadcast in Great Britain; then the mud-slinging from pulpit and press, even after he had quietly and unostentatiously removed himself from home, family and many dear associations and passed into his lonely exile.

One would have thought that malice and vindictiveness would

Now, your Honour, the learned Judge has conceded the existence of the devil, for a Judge would not use such terms lightly; it is obvious that the devil must have some place of residence, and, although the critics of the legal profession contend that he spends all his time among the lawyers, I think it safe for your Honour to assume that he must have a place to sleep in at night. Therefore, your Honour, the concession of the existence of the devil connotes the existence of hell as being the home residence or domicile of the devil; and I contend that Judge Foster must be taken to have restored hell to that honoured and respected position which it formerly occupied in every Christian community.

His Honour: "That argument seems convincing to me. What have you to say, Mr. Dimwit?"

Mr. Dimwit: "I was unaware of the learned Judge's subsequent decision and I am not at all certain that it is conclusive. In the first place, Judge Foster's statement would appear to be, not a judicial decision, but by way of *obiter dicta* only. Your Honour is, of course, aware of the definition of *obiter dicta** by the late Lord Justice Bowen—

His Honour: "Yes; I know it, Mr. Dimwit. Proceed."

Mr. Dimwit: "Thank you, your Honour. In the second place, the alleged offence was committed in the interval between the abolition of hell by Judge Foster and its restoration (if any), so that it would appear that at all relevant times hell had no existence whatsoever. I would like an adjournment of seven days in order to consider the legal aspect of this matter."

His Honour: "That application is granted, Mr. Dimwit."

The Court then adjourned for seven days.

*This phrase, *obiter dicta*, is somewhat incomprehensible to those of us who are not lawyers. We have therefore sought the assistance of our legal correspondent, Mr. William Blackstone. He informs us that among lawyers the relevant part of any decision of a competent court that is binding upon an inferior court is referred to as the *ratio decidendi*. The bunk is referred to as *obiter dicta*—meaning remarks passed on the side. The reference to Bowen L.J. was apparently obvious to Mr. Justice Doggebiskit, but may not be known to our readers. Bowen's famous definition of *obiter dicta* was: "A gratuitous impertinence which binds nobody least of all him who utters it."

—Ed., N.T.

have ended here; but no. If his marriage by an officer of the church to which he belonged could have been prevented, it certainly would have been done. The only sportsman in the mean crowd of vilifiers who came to his rescue on that occasion found it wiser to leave his native country also, and live overseas.

* * *

It did not end here. A high official of the English Court takes the occasion of a public dinner to sling some more mud. He informs the guests that the funeral of King George was robbed of its dignity and ceremonial significance by the action of the Duke of Windsor who insisted on rushing it through. We are not told that any voice was raised on that occasion or subsequently to kill this slander. It was left for the tormented ex-King to publicly refute it himself, and to explain that the ceremonial time had been shortened by the express desire of the widowed Queen, who felt herself unable to bear so long a strain on her emotions.

Did the Queen Mother refute the lie told at the banquet? Did the King's successor do so, or others present on the occasion of the funeral preparations, who must have known the truth, offer a rebuke or protest? English standards must have changed.

The rule now appears to be "When a man is down, kick him," even if no fault can justly be attributed to him. He is down, that is enough, and therefore fair game. Yet how these cowardly traducers must have bowed and fawned and scraped to him in the hour of his glory! One wonders whether he has any faith left in mankind. It is rather satisfactory to note that the high official in question excused himself from attending another dinner soon after his lie was thrown back at him, because the Duke of Kent (who appears to be the best of the crowd) was to be present. It certainly would have been awkward.

Then we have the man who has never failed to show his sincere sympathy with the working classes prevented from going to the United States—though his purpose is to study those matters that make for the improved conditions of workers—by that very class that he has set out to help, even though he has lost a throne in order to wed their countrywoman!

But a worse slap in the face than that awaits him. Another mean Caiaphas, anxious to follow the noble example of the head of his church, denies him, a war veteran, the right to attend an Armistice Day service. Apparently his presence would pollute the sacred precincts. Was the same ban placed on other divorced persons, or those who had married divorced persons, on that or any other occasion? Does the marrying of a divorced person mean excommunication? If so, why is it not generally enforced? But this alleged follower of the Prince of Peace, who appears at the service with six medals on his surplice, concentrates his ban on one person only, his late King, for whom he had offered prayers on hundreds of occasions, and of whom he had adjured the Almighty countless times to allow him "long to reign over us."

* * *

A woman said to me recently, "No, I do not sing the National Anthem any more, because although millions of people bawled it for years, none of them made the least attempt to save him when he was thrown to the wolves. So why should we be hypocrites and go on singing, God Save the King, for clearly we don't mean it?"

The crowning touch, however, has yet to be added.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, a Labor M.P., is author of this choice utterance: "The choice before former kings is either to fade out of the public

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE

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

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eye or be a nuisance. It is a hard choice for one of the Duke's temperament, but it is a pity that he has chosen to continue his public activities. He cannot complain, therefore, if his movements are subject to critical comment. Either the Duke's advisers are very bad, or he will not accept sound counsel."

Is not this a gem? Is it not a shining example of British fair play? First, we are told that the once-adored and flattered monarch is a public nuisance, and can only cease to be one when he becomes a frivolous nonentity. Then, because he was too much of a man to be a King of England, he must cease all attempts to do service to his fellow human beings. He should, we assume, confine his activities to the racetrack at Auteuil or the Casino at Monte Carlo.

Then, although a mature man of 40-odd, he needs "advisers" to tell him how he should shape his life, and it is clear that (since he is bent on the foolish idea of raising the standard of human life) they are "bad" advisers, or worse—that is, they are not bad, he is too pig-headed to pay attention of their wise counsels. And last, "he cannot complain." Has he complained, though no man on earth has a better right to? How nobly are they served who desire to serve others! For the rest, had we not better, for very shame's sake, cease talking about British "fair play"?

A CASE FROM THE DING BAT COURTS

'IS THERE A HELL?'—LEGAL DIFFICULTIES ("New Times" Independent Cable Service.)

The outstanding appeal in Mr. Justice Doggebiskit's list today was that of Joseph Ignatius Swogwhistle, who appealed against a sentence of fifteen years' imprisonment and a flogging, imposed on him by Mr. Hogwash, P.M., on his conviction for using insulting words in a public place.

Constable Heliogabalus had deposed that the appellant, in the public street, had told him, the constable, to "go to hell." No evidence had been offered for the defence. Thereupon the magistrate had convicted Swogwhistle, and inflicted the penalty above set out. From this conviction and sentence the defendant (appellant) now appealed.

Mr. Dimwit, K.C., on behalf of the appellant, argued that the words used constituted no offence, as the mere statement that a man could "go to hell" meant nothing, and therefore the words must be treated as a nullity. He quoted many legal decisions in support of his argument, and referred to the well-known maxim, *Nudum Pactum ex quo non oritur actio*. He contended that the principle there-in stated was one that applied to the present case and, as there was no such place as hell, no action could arise, and no offence could be created

by the appellant's insistence that the informant should go to a place which did not exist.

His Honour: "Do you say there is no such place as hell, Mr. Dimwit?"

Mr. Dimwit: "I say, your Honour, that whatever the position may have been in the past, there is no such place now. Hell was judicially abolished by Judge Foster in the County Court at Melbourne in the year 1935, when the learned Judge informed a small boy that there was no such place."

His Honour: "That would seem to be conclusive, but I would like to hear what Mr. Hoggleswart, who appears for the Crown, has to say."

Mr. Hoggleswart, K.C.: "I can only say, your Honour, that Mr. Dimwit has not given you all the facts. It is true that Judge Foster abolished hell, but he restored it. I tender to your Honour a copy of the Melbourne *Sun*, in which the learned Judge is reported as having stated that he and others had been accused of acting with Communists in their efforts to promote peace. The Judge had then, according to the report, gone on to say that he would accept the aid of the devil himself if the devil were working for peace.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

Electors of Australia, do you ever review the vast development we have wrought in Australia, and the wealth we are producing, and which we can progressively increase? A little more than a lifetime ago, Melbourne did not exist. When we gaze at this city, with its noble buildings and beautiful garden suburbs, the pride of accomplishment stirs one—the thought of the ingenuity and constructiveness of man is balm to our self-esteem. But how appalling and disconcerting to our intelligence is the other aspect, when we gaze at the poverty and insecurity of 90 per cent, of the people who helped bring this city to what it is, and produced the visible and invisible wealth of the nation! Has it ever occurred to you that we are permitting precious moments of happiness to flit by for no other reason than that we are not exercising our right to utilise the phenomenal wealth which we, in association, have brought into being?

Such silliness is beyond understanding. What is the matter with us?

Now, never mind about what is the matter with the other fellow. Let us find out what is the matter with one's self, and when we do that we will be close to understanding what is the matter with all of us. We all know there is something wrong. One of our main troubles is that we are waiting for the other fellow to do something about it. We deride and rebuke him for being apathetic; we call him a fool for putting up with existing conditions; we even go so far as to say that he deserves what he is getting—and we are oblivious to the fact that we are looking into a mirror. Admittedly we, the people, are foolish in accepting conditions as they are, but there are degrees of foolishness reaching to culpability and criminality.

When one is unaware of the cause, effect and cure of the existing unsatisfactory state of our social order, one can be classed as an ignorant fool, requiring help and enlightenment; but those who have an inkling of what is wrong, and those who definitely know, and who are waiting on the other fellow to do something, are willful fools, and are eligible for a less enviable classification. If self-respect is to be retained, there is no shirking of responsibility in this matter. On enlightenment one's duty is clear: to enlighten the lesser fools and to see that they do not lapse into the greater ones by remaining inactive.

Readers of this column are mostly more or less enlightened, and may consider this week's contribution rather scathing; but decidedly it is not, except where the cap fits.

Each week, for the benefit of new readers, a condensed explanation of the U.E.A., and of the Electoral Campaign is incorporated in the introduction to the Campaign Notes. This week we will simply state them as follows:

We know that plenty exists; therefore, there is no need for poverty or economic insecurity. Parliament was brought into being for the sole purpose of bringing into effect the will of the people. Politicians are elected to represent in Parliament that which the people require it to bring into effect. The United Electors of Australia (Non-Party) is a coordinating factor in the self-effort of electors to convey to their Members what it is they wish them to represent in Parliament for Parliament to enact. The U.E.A., has made available Demand and Undertaking forms which, when signed by sufficient numbers of electors, convey in a clear, decisive form instructions to Parliamentarians. It is the duty of every elector to acquaint his or her friends and acquaintances with the simple ideas set out above, and to obtain their signatures to forms, and also to receive a promise from them

that they, in turn, will pass the idea along.

Eric Butler reports himself as being sun-browned, swarthy and fit for the fray. He has been busy visiting various towns, making personal contact and paving the way for meetings. A big meeting was held at Benalla on Tuesday, November 16. We have not received a report of it, but can confidently assert that it was a success. The Rev. Wilkinson occupied the chair and he had arranged previously that the churches announce the meeting from the pulpit. Eric reports that he had arranged with a few enthusiasts that an official Group be formed at this important centre, and work be systematically taken in hand from now on. Eric will be in Melbourne on Friday to attend a special meeting of the Youth Movement. He will go up to Whittlesea on Tuesday, November 23, to address an organised meeting. Then he is going to Gippsland for a few days before leaving for the North, through Donald, Ouyen and Mildura. From Mildura over to Swan Hill, Kerang, Mitiamo, Lockington. Thence to Wangaratta. The country press will be reporting these meetings, with special articles prepared by Eric. He has faith that the ravens will appear—he has not the wherewithal, otherwise, to help him on the way. Supporters don't fail to take this into consideration. Miss Josie Robinson is another Youth Crusader taking the field. She has been twice to Werribee this week, making arrangements for a meeting. Leaflets are in the hands of business people, with whom she has arranged distribution to their customers. This move cannot be commended too highly. Miss Robinson is giving her weekends and evenings to solid work in the cause of youth; daylight hours during the week are not her own, and it is only youth's energy, coupled with sincerity, that enables her to meet the strain. May her example stir youth to action in their own interests.

Dr. John Dale, City Health Officer, will give an opening address at Werribee, and introduce Miss Robinson at this, her first meeting, in her crusade through the electorate of Corio. The meeting will be held in the Presbyterian Hall, Werribee, on Monday evening, November 22.

Organising in certain electorates is being quietly undertaken, and U.E.A.-ites can rest assured that we are shaping into a solid position.

Last week you wrote to your State Member (did you?); this week don't let one Federal Member escape. The effrontery of flaunting undisguised dictatorship for everyone to see cannot be permitted to pass unchallenged in a democracy. Is the consideration of the nation's financial requirements—its very lifeblood—of such little importance that the State Premiers can be so more urgently engaged as to cancel the meeting of the Loan Council? Telegraphic messages will be sent to the Premiers acquainting them with the amount allotted to their respective States. From whence do the messages originate? And there is the little matter about the allotting. Is it possible that certain Premiers are making the farce and swindle of Governments borrowing their own money too public by their attacks when in Council, and that autocratic action is taken to prevent them by not holding the meeting? Write to your Member and ask for an explanation.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Division. —As a result of the elections, the Adelaide Division is able to report progress. Mr. F. H. Stacey signed an undertaking to bring forward and announce in the House — i.e., to "re-present" — any demand which a majority of his electors might from time to time make, and to keep this demand constantly before Parliament, provided only that such demand or demands shall be reasonable,

physically possible, and constitutional. By his action Mr. Stacey has shown himself to be what is known in E.C. circles as "a proper democrat." Though electoral campaigners at this election played a relatively small part in the election, all Adelaide Division democrats can rejoice at the victory. We are not concerned about Mr. Stacey's party affiliations, religion, private business, or personal opinions. He must be left as free as we desire to be ourselves. By his expressed attitude and his victory, he has fulfilled his part so far as we are concerned. As our elected representative or servant, he now awaits our orders. It is for us to give him those orders—i.e., to declare our policy, say what we want or state what is required in terms of our agreement with him. We must place him in the enviable position of one having authority and power—the power of a democratic majority of his electors, than which power there is none greater in this world. From now on the responsibility is ours.

One other point! Mr. Stacey will never be asked to take orders from the Electoral Campaigners. All demands to him must go from a majority of his electors.

The function of the Electoral Campaigners is threefold:

1. To clarify and unify a demand for results (e.g., the abolition of poverty);
2. To protect the member from any interference by groups other than a majority of his electors; and
3. To advise him so soon as a majority of his people have declared a policy for him to bring and keep before the Federal House.

The responsibility, therefore, rests with the awakened electors of the Adelaide Division.

Beetle Party. —A Beetle Party arranged by Mrs. Charles Baker and Mrs. Reg. Crick, will be held in the clubrooms on November 25, at 8 p.m., in aid of the Women's Auxiliary funds.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Federal elections are over and campaigners all over Australia will now be expected to carry on with the vital programme of getting the demand-results propaganda over to the masses, who have now shown conclusively that they are waiting for the lead which only the Electoral Campaign can give them.

The impact of the Campaign on the people is shown in the election results, which mean that the people are realising at last the stupidity of changing from one party government to another in the attempt to obtain economic security. Economic security can be obtained as soon as a majority says definitely they want it irrespective of the party in power. The only reforms worthwhile have come from outside Parliament; pressure politics will give Australians what they require.

The Electoral Campaign groups throughout West Australia will do an immense service by holding small house meetings in every street where it is possible to do so. Two hours spent talking personally to, say, a dozen persons is of more value than public meetings, which are mostly unsatisfactory, although public meetings as such must be taken advantage of and exploited as far as possible.

Important to All Groups, Etc. —All groups and branches are requested to notify headquarters as soon as possible of the names of all group officers, the place, day and hour of meeting, for headquarters records.

Liberty Fair. —Liberty Fair was opened by the president of the Wheatgrowers' Union, Mr. T. H. Powell, supported in the chair by Mr. R. Rushton, chairman of the State Secretariat, and the director of the Electoral Campaign, Mr. V. J. Dury. The fair was a very delightful function and socially quite a success. The financial returns are not yet to hand, but a satisfactory balance can be looked for.

The thanks of the State Secre-

DR. HORNABROOK DEMANDS INQUIRY INTO ELECTION EXPENSES

Members Challenged to Uphold Declarations on Oath

Dr. R. W. Hornabrook, whose last-minute independent candidature for Henty was responsible for a vote that gave Sir H. Gullett the shock of his political life, is living up to his name of "the fighting Doctor." He is well into the fight to clean up politics—whether in the matter of pre-selection of candidates by coteries, in the loyalty of members to party machines rather than to their own electors, in the holding of public company directorships by Cabinet Ministers, or in any other abuse that should not be tolerated.

One of the shocks which his recent candidature gave him was the shameless way in which candidates for the Representatives sign the declaration required by the Electoral Act and affirm that their election expenses have not exceeded £100—a declaration which he asserts very few have any right to make. We have received the following correspondence from the Doctor on this subject:—

The Editor,

The New Times.

Sir, —I am enclosing a copy of some correspondence dealing with the question of electoral expenses. In doing so it is not with any intention of making myself a nuisance, but it is with the intention of making some effort to clean up the rotten position into which we have drifted in recent years. Under present conditions I am supposed to have put up for the recent Federal elections with an expenditure of not more than £100, or I am supposed to know that not more than the above sum has been spent on my behalf. Now, to any man knowing the facts, it is impossible for me without committing perjury to sign that declaration in its present wording, and what applies to myself also applies to at least the majority of members, from the Prime Minister down—it cannot be done.

What happens is this—these men sign the declaration and some of them even declare that their expenses have been "nil"; at the same time they are fully aware that amounts up to several hundreds have been spent in their interests. If they are not aware of

tariat are extended to all those wonderful women workers who worked so hard, and also to the male members who gave so freely of their services in erecting and pulling down the various stalls and in the hundred-and-one jobs attached to organising the fair.

President's Fund - - Will all who are prepared to support the above fund or who know of any person who would be willing to subscribe let headquarters know as soon as possible? It is important that headquarters be relieved of as much financial strain as possible so as to increase the efficiency of the Secretariat. Men and women of goodwill are needed—men and women of vision who are wanting Christianity to become a force in the life of the community. This is the way you can help. *Do it now.*

New Groups. - - By the last mail advice has been received from Mr. J. S. Rooke, Geraldton, that a group has been formed there. Mr. Walker, chairman, and Mr. J. S. Rooke as secretary, will make an efficient executive. Congratulations, Mr. Rooke, on your successful organising effort; may your group make solid progress.

It is hoped to be able to report the formation of new groups at Bilbarin and Babakin shortly, and so the Campaign spreads and grows in strength from day to day. To those who are feeling weary, to those who are despairing let this news of fresh groups being formed come as a reviving draught. Campaigners, just as Galileo said the world moved, so does this Campaign grow.

these facts then they reveal a mentality that absolutely unfits them for being our representatives in the Federal House. I cannot put it in plainer English than that.

It is about time that the people were roused to the absolute necessity for a full inquiry being made into the expenses incurred during an electoral campaign. I would like to see that inquiry start with the present Prime Minister as head of the Government, and a declaration made on oath.

At the present time the big moneyed interests of the country are practically able to buy the votes of the people through the hundreds, and, in some cases thousands, of pounds paid into the party funds. This certainly does not tend to clean politics, nor does it lead to clean Government—though it may lead to a few knighthoods. As at present carried through, the whole question of electoral expenses is mere camouflage. —Yours faithfully, RUPERT W. HORNABROOK, 38 Hopetoun Road, Toorak,

November 12, 1937.

COPY OF LETTER FORWARDED TO THE COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL OFFICER FOR VICTORIA.

Dear Sir, —In answer to your letter of 9th November, 1937, I am returning my papers, giving my electoral expenses, but *I have drawn my pen through the words* to which I honestly cannot conscientiously subscribe as I am fully aware that other expenses must have been entailed—such as the running of motor cars on polling day by my friends or supporters. I know that these cars cannot be run without petrol or drivers and that petrol and drivers necessarily mean expense. Thanking you. —Yours faithfully, RUPERT W. HORNABROOK. Australian Club, November 11, 1937, 2.30 p.m.

COPY OF DECLARATION AS SIGNED.

And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that this return is true in every particular and that except as appears by this return I have not and no person has with my knowledge or authority paid any electoral expense incurred by me or on my behalf or in my interest at or in connection with the said election (the words here printed in italics are those through which I drew my pen. —R.W.H.) or incurred any such expense or any liability for any such expense or given or promised any reward or office employment or valuable consideration on account or in respect of any such expense.

R. W. HORNABROOK. Nov. 11, 1937.

Witness, F. Hagelthorn, J.P.

The declaration as at present worded is so complicated and involved that it must have been compiled by a legal luminary notorious for visualising from the point of rectitude but seldom common sense. The declaration is a farce and leads to prevarication. —R.W.H.

Dr. Hornabrook informs us that he wrote personally to the Prime Minister on the 16th inst., enclosing a copy of the declaration form. It will be interesting to see just what is Mr. Lyons's reaction.

For ourselves we agree with Dr. Hornabrook that the majority of electors who sign the present form must do so in bad faith, and that either the limitation of expenses should at once be abolished or members who have broken the law should be unseated. The subject is certainly one for an immediate and searching inquiry.