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

Vol. 4. NO. 42.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1938.

Every Friday, 3d.

NEW ZEALAND ELECTIONS

And The Melbourne "Herald's"
Ridiculous Comment Thereon

The Farmers, The Drought
And Mr. Dunstan

SPOTLIGHT ON R. G. CASEY

Whose Interests Does He Represent?

More National Insurance Revelations

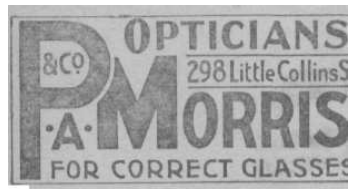
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(Continued on page 3.)

The Spotlight On R. G. Casey

Canberra, that pleasant refuge for boneheads and racketeers, with an occasional honest man, has produced yet another masterly piece of nonsense. This time it comes from the mouth of R. G. Casey, the financially independent idealist, who is sacrificing himself for the welfare of his country, and being paid for doing it.

In reply to a question by Mr. Nairn, asking if the Government has considered asking the Commonwealth Bank to provide interest free money for Australia's defence, Mr. Casey, who for reasons unknown, has been appointed Federal Treasurer, answered that "financing of Government expenditure by unlimited issue of bank credit was contrary to the principles of sound finance and would inevitably lead to inflation."

A Misleading Reply

While allowing for the fact that a newspaper report of proceedings in the House of Representatives is, in all probability, considerably condensed (as well as correcting the grammar of the Honorable Members) and that more was in fact said than appears in the report, it must be admitted that Casey's reply is a classic example of the Non Sequitur as well as being, in itself, grossly misleading.

It does not appear that Mr. Nairn asked for unlimited issues of bank credit, but that the credit for providing the means of defending this country should be issued "free of interest." This is obviously very different from asking for a blank cheque to finance all Government expenditure.

An Old Trick

It is a hoary old trick, well-known to experienced platform speakers, to dispose of a difficult question in this manner. All you have to do, in order to preserve the semblance of intelligence, is to distort the question, either by suppression or embellishment, into such a form that you can apply to it one of your stock answers. This is apparently what Casey did, and it is a sorry state of affairs when a Minister of the Crown must stoop to such practices in a matter of national importance.

The Question Must Be Answered

Mr. Nairn is entitled to receive a straight answer to his question, and should be encouraged to press for one. National defence, if defence there is to be, is a problem of vital concern to all of us, and especially that aspect of the problem which deals with the financing of such expenditure as may be held necessary. It makes a difference to us whether the whole or part of the additional expense is to be met out of increased taxation, or out of new loan monies upon which we shall have the privilege of paying interest in perpetuity. If it is feasible to provide defence expenditure from a loan which will not be loaded with interest payments, we are surely entitled to insist that this shall be done.

Why Casey Side-stepped

Meagre though the report may be, it is plain that Mr. Nairn's question was side-stepped by the Federal Treasurer, and the reason is an interesting one. The whole fact of the matter is that, according to the canons of "sound finance" of the breed favoured by Mr. Casey, it is perfectly legitimate to create money to lend to the Government only if interest is charged. Credit issued on any other conditions is "unsound" from the bankers' point of view. It does not much matter what the rate of interest is, so long as the basic principle is observed. There must be an interest charge!

It is simple enough to see why. If the banks once start issuing credit and lending it to Governments without charging interest for it, they will not be allowed to stop. The people will realise, at once, that what is possible in one case is possible in every case. You can imagine them saying, "Interest-free money for Defence? Good! And now, what about some free money to help the farmers over the drought? And what about some more for rehabilitation of the unemployed, for rebuilding the slums, and for all the other things which are urgently needed as well as being physically possible?"

No Valid Objection

Casey knows, or should know, that there is no valid objection to Mr. Nairn's proposal. The only people who object to it are the bankers and their apologists, and to wipe the question aside is, in effect, to fight for the bankers against the people. If a private war-material manufacturer, having assets and ability, applied to a trading bank for a loan to build aeroplanes, tanks, guns and battleships, it would be "sound finance" for the bank to grant him a loan of 5%. If the Commonwealth Government, having assets and ability, applies to the Commonwealth Bank for a loan to build aeroplanes, tanks, guns and battleships, it follows that it must also be "sound finance" to grant a loan to the Commonwealth Government at 5%. If it is "sound" at 5%, will it be "sound" at 4%, or 3%, or even 1%? And how will it be "unsound" at 0%? At what stage does it start to be "unsound"?

Modern Banking a Swindle

If Mr. Casey will answer these questions without equivocation, we will be vastly surprised. And yet, in his position as Federal Treasurer, he should be under an obligation to answer them if we put them to him. He will not want to answer, because the answer is clearly that the loan would be "sound" at any rate of interest, and that it never becomes "unsound" even if the loan is granted of interest!

If the Treasurer were to admit this publicly, it would amount to a recognition of the fact that modern banking is a dirty swindle, and that he, as Treasurer, has allowed the Government to be fleeced by the banks, thus betraying the trust which devolves upon him by virtue of his office. This is plain speaking, but no plainer than the circumstances warrant.

The Cases are Indistinguishable

Equivocators to the contrary notwithstanding, the two cases given above cannot be distinguished in principle, unless some mysterious and inexplicable difference is sought to be drawn between goods produced by a private individual for profit, and similar goods produced by a Government consisting of private individuals working for salaries.

In the same way, there is no honest reason why the Governments, State or Commonwealth, should not borrow money, created interest free for the purpose, and expend it on rebuilding the slum areas. The new houses would be assets equal to the new money issued. If they were let to tenants at a rental equal to the estimated rate of depreciation—say 5% per annum, and the rents, as received, were used in reduction of the loan, at the end of twenty years the loan would have been repaid in full, and the houses could be scrapped and rebuilt, if required, by means of a new loan on similar terms.

A Challenge to Mr. Casey

We challenge the Federal Treasurer to say why this method of slum regeneration would be "unsound." We anticipate that he will so stigmatise it, otherwise he may be asked to explain why it has not already been adopted. If the only reason which he can advance is that the non-payment of interest for the use of the nation's credit makes the proposal "unsound," we submit that that will demonstrate that whoever Casey represents in our Federal Parliament, it is not the people of Australia.

To allege that this method of financing defence and housing (or any other necessary social works such as roads, railways or hospitals) is "unsound" is false, and demonstrably false. To say that it is inflation is arrant nonsense, unless we are prepared to admit that all financing by bank credit is inflation. If the one is, the other must be, since they are two aspects of the same process. And if ordinary banking practice comes within the definition of "inflation," then "inflation" as a bogey must henceforth be an entirely ineffectual weapon in the hands of bank apologists.

Time for a Showdown

The time is over-ripe for a showdown on this matter of paying interest in perpetuity to the trading banks for the loan of bank credit which costs them nothing, and of which the people of Australia and the natural resources of the country are the backing. The Federal Treasurer is supposed to be our servant.

He takes our money in return for the services he is reputed to render, and it is his duty to see that we are not swindled. In his hands, for the time being, lie our prospects for the future . . . Whether we are to be allowed, by a proper use of the nation's credit, to expand to the utmost limits of our natural resources and man power; or whether all our potential prosperity is to be stultified by a blind adherence to a money system made by and for a small group of bankers whose personal prosperity can be assured only by our continued poverty and subservience to the monetary restrictions they have inflicted upon us.

Casey Must Choose

The matter should be put to Mr. Casey without hesitation and in the plainest of plain terms. Is he for us or against us? If he claims to be on our side, then he must be ordered to bring himself into line with modern monetary theory, and to instruct the Commonwealth Bank to finance Government undertakings, free of interest, and to any required amount, provided that there are already in existence, or will be produced, assets to equate with the new money issued.

A refusal to do this will show that Mr. Casey is not for us, and although that need not mean that he is actively against us, it will certainly mean that he is due, and overdue, for the discard. The ship of State has been retarded long enough by the barnacles that infest its keel. If Casey proves to be yet another barnacle, he must be scraped off and the sooner the quicker!

NATIONAL INSURANCE

W.A. Wheatgrowers' Protest

Will Refuse to Contribute

Claiming that the National Insurance scheme was simply a means for taxing people, members of the Wheat and Wool-growers' Union decided at a recent session of their ninth annual conference not to contribute towards the scheme. They also agreed that the union should endeavour to induce other organisations to get their members to do likewise.

The following motion was moved by Mr. J. C. Fewster (Baandee):

Conference should protest against the National Insurance scheme by refusing "to pay contributions, and should strive to induce other public bodies to do likewise.

Mr. J. J. O'Dea (Quairading) opposed the motion. The National Insurance Act was already law, and if members took direct action they would be placing themselves outside the law, he said. The union would be ridiculed if it carried the motion.

Mr. B. Green (Trayning-Yelbeni): I advocate that we organise a strike or other scheme to give a lead against the proposal.

Mr. A. J. Hudd (Pantapin): The motion is acceptable to all primary producers, and should be carried.

Mr. Fewster urged conference to request farmers to refuse to contribute. He said the only good point about the scheme was that it was another nail hammered into the coffin of the present financial system. The Scheme was purely a measure to tax the people.

The motion was carried with one dissident.

Country Party Attacked

Mr. J. M. Steele (Mullewa) moved:

Conference protests to the Federal Country Party against its support of the Commonwealth Government in passing the National Insurance measure through Parliament, and urges the party to withdraw its support of the United Australia Party.

He said that the Federal Country Party was responsible partly for the adoption of the scheme. Although individual members protested against it, the measure was passed by means of the support of the party's votes.

Mr. J. Fieneler (Hines Hill): We should have this Hunnish Bill rescinded. The Federal Government has ignored farmers, and is doing its best to fleece them.

Mr. J. A. Dobson (Calingiri): The Bill is purely a taxing measure; we should protest emphatically at the treachery of some Federal Country Party members.

The motion was carried unanimously.

URGENT TO "NEW TIMES" SHAREHOLDERS.

Some shareholders whose share payments are overdue have responded to Mr. Maltby's appeal in our issue of September 16, but a majority have not as yet. Are YOU one of that majority? £1 million would not be of any practical benefit if received over a million years!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IRRIGATION AND POPULATION

Mr. McDonald, M.L.A.,
Meanders Mentally

Sir, —According to the daily press, Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A., made some remarks regarding irrigation and population which make sound sense, insofar as they go, but when he gets on to the economics he proves himself wilfully dense or woefully ignorant. Amongst other things, Mr. McDonald is reported to have said: "Annual losses shown by the State Government on its irrigation enterprises are a book-keeping illusion. Irrigation and more irrigation is Australia's only plan for successful development. The Goulburn Valley is one of the most fertile spots in the world. Only restricted irrigation facilities prevent its maximum development. He has no doubts, though, that ultimately it will be made to grow, in addition to its bountiful fruit harvest, huge crops of vegetables and tobacco. Floodwaters should not be allowed to run away to waste. State and Federal Governments should collaborate to conserve every available drop of water.

"The day is gone when a settler would go on to the land, work unceasingly, then watch and pray for sufficient rain to make his efforts a success. To get people to go on the land to-day they must be given an assurance that they will have unlimited water.

"Herein, I think, lies the solution of our population problem. If every part of Australia that could be irrigated was irrigated, I don't think many years would elapse before we had a population of 50,000,000. There should be 50,000,000 living here to-day. Only the shortsightedness of our predecessors in not pushing irrigation is responsible for their not being here.

"To-day we are spending millions in defence. I think the expenditure justified. But, if our population were what it should and could be, our fears of not being able to hold Australia and the big bill we have to pay for armaments could be better borne. Populate or we perish, I say. And to populate we must irrigate."

Mr. McDonald must know, as many people now know, that there is a reason why our predecessors did not push irrigation, and it was not one of shortsightedness. If Mr. McDonald will go back into the history of this State he will find that this matter was discussed and advocated for years, for all I know to the contrary, before he was born. A namesake of his advocated it years and years ago, and wrote reams and reams about it in a journal which was called *Advance Australia*. It was advo-

cated by predecessors of Mr. McDonald in the very Parliament House in which he sits to-day, and the same things were said then as he is saying to-day. But there was a very good reason, other than shortsightedness, and that reason was *short money*—not short sight. That reason is as compelling to-day as it was then. As a matter of fact, it is the only reason. There never has been, nor is there to-day, any shortage of the water, the materials, or the labour to conserve our supplies and distribute them. The one and only bar has been the question of, "Where is the money to come from?" That is the question to-day, and it will be the question until Mr. McDonald and all his legislator friends wake up to the fact that, so long as money for public works and all other purposes comes into existence as a debt by the people to the manufacturers of money—the banks—instead of being based on the credit of the country and issued by the Government for the benefit of the people and the country, so long will we be without the required irrigation and the necessary population. Mr. McDonald is an ambitious young man. He is in the place where he is demanded to speak the truth; therefore, let him speak the truth, impugn it whoso list.—Yours, etc.,

"ICONOCLAST."

Caulfield, Vic.

AN APPRECIATION

Sir, —May I beg a little space in your valuable columns to convey to Mr. F. Paice a very hearty vote of thanks and appreciation for the very able, concise, and illuminating address on the National Health and Pensions Insurance Swindle, delivered in the lunch-hour at West Melbourne Gas Works? The men are all keen and anxious for more truth about a matter in which they have been kept ignorant too long. We strongly urge all workers to avail themselves of any opportunity that may present itself to go and hear the truth from Mr. Paice, or any other speaker on the subject who has the interest of the community at heart.

We ask the Government for bread, but they give us a stone, therefore let us throw it back in their teeth. —Yours, etc.,

W. REID.

West Melbourne.

Italian Best Seller

The *Daily Telegraph* reports that *The Defence of the Race*, the new magazine, which specialises in anti-Semitic propaganda, has proved to be one of the best-sellers in Italy for many years. More than 150,000 copies have been sold this week of the second issue.

THE MONOPOLY OF MONOPOLIES

By ALFRED T. FLEMING.

It is a common error to divide the community into the two classes, the "haves" and the "have-nots." It is due to this fundamental error that so many people place a totally wrong construction on the term, the "Money Power." They regard the two terms, the "haves" and the "Money Power" as synonymous.

However, there is this vital difference—that the "haves" are merely people who are reputed to "have" money, whereas the Money Power has the monopolistic legal privilege to create it *as and when* it chooses.

That is to say, the "haves" can only have got their money by acquiring it from other people (honestly or otherwise does not affect the argument). But the Money Power, as stated, can create it—and the word "create" means to make out of nothing.

A more truthful picture is, therefore, obtained by dividing the community not into those two classes, but into three, as follow:

- 1 The Money Power.
- 2 The "haves."
- 3 The "have-nots."

It is quite true that the first category consists of a mere handful of men, quite unknown to the general public. They are not entitled to a separate category on account of their numerical strength—for that is negligible. But they must be accorded one on account of their key position, for they hold that Monopoly of Monopolies, the legal power to create—and to refuse to create—money, and, more disastrous still, the legal power to destroy, not in accordance with the community's needs, but at their own whims and fancies.

By control of the creation, restriction, and destruction of money, the Money Power can release—or withhold—as it wishes, the potentialities of industry from the "haves" and the "have-nots."

As the Money Power invariably permits only a scarcity of these products to be released, the "haves" and the "have-nots" are kept busy squabbling about how this Money-Power-created scarcity shall be divided.

Further, by its control of the press, political parties, and other means of influencing public feeling, it can embitter the "haves" and the "have-nots" towards each other, each section blaming the actions or inactions of the other section for its troubles.

In fact, it is due to this very control of the sources of information and of all the means of propaganda that the initial error (on the part of the victims) mentioned at the opening of this article has arisen. This division of the community into these two classes is deliberately fostered by the Money Power, and put across for public consumption chiefly through the medium of rival political parties and their associated press.

So long as the "haves" and the "have-nots" argue merely about how the released scarcity shall be

divided, the Money Power does not interfere. But if the fight threatens to interfere with its power to maintain the scarcity in any way, then the Money Power can easily drop some new bone of contention between the parties and divert the squabble into, for them, less dangerous channels.

Consequently, political fights are always about dividing the scarcity, never on the division of the plenty—for the fight is always about something to which the Money Power does not object.

In fact, while the Money Power allows the electorate to choose the opposing teams, the former not only chooses *the game* to be played, but it draws up the rules and appoints the umpires as well.

Hence, by control of all means of propaganda, the Money Power keeps the rest of the community very busy indeed. "Haves" versus "Have-nots," Capital versus Labour, Jews versus Anti-Jews, one industry against another industry (e.g., Eat More Fruit versus Eat More Bread); everyone so busy fighting someone else that hardly anyone realises the existence of an enemy common to them all.

A great cry goes up for a United Front. But what is it for? As usual, simply to fight some other section of the community; any section but the Money Power.

Our quarrel, the community's quarrel—with the Money Power—is not on personal grounds. It is just a demand, exerted through the medium of your servant, your member of Parliament, to get the results we want from the facts of plenty, in order that the goods which manufacturers would like to make, but dare not do so at present, can be made and distributed to the community.

It is a battle between two wills with opposite objectives. We want the potentialities of plenty distributed to consumers with the least amount of trouble, in order that all can each enjoy economic security under conditions of maximum personal freedom; the Money Power wants to restrict and centralise the potentialities of plenty, so as to consolidate its own power "to withhold," and by this means dominate the lives of all consumers under conditions absolutely devoid of personal choice or real freedom.

Which of these two wills is to be obeyed by public representatives, backed by the sanctions under their authority, is the fundamental issue of our time.

TOO MUCH COCOA

Because there is too much of everything most people have too little of everything. The obvious way out of this difficulty would be to enable those who have too little to obtain more.

Instead of thus equating buying power to production, however, Marketing Boards, Commissions, Tariff Boards, International Councils, and other similarly impressively-titled organisations are set up to restrict supplies to existing financial demand. Apparently cocoa is the natural product next due for restriction, for at the Conference of the West Indian Chambers of Commerce, held at Trinidad from August 25 to 29, the following resolution was passed:

"That this Congress urges his Majesty's Government to take immediate steps to convene a conference of all cocoa producing countries, with a view to securing more equitable distribution of the profits of the industry as a whole, including, if necessary, the limitation of planting." (Our italics.)

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(Continued from page 2.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

OPEN LETTER TO MR. JOHN CURTIN.

Mr. John Curtin, M.H.R.,
Federal Labor Party Leader.
Camberra.

Dear Mr. Curtin, —

Mr. Lyons, backed by the most powerful
monopoly Australia has ever known, has drawn
you into this Defence ramp, using methods iden-
tical to those which captured Hughes, Pearce, and
other Labourites during the last war. The subtle
flattery of the daily press in featuring your thir-
teen points should be enough to put you on your
guard, and the gist of your thirteen points will
gladden the hearts of the metal, oil, rubber, and
other monopolies, which can see gigantic business
emerging from your programme.

At election times you have had a lot to say
about Labor's policy of nationalising banking.
Now, your thirteen points do not include a
word on finance, from which it must be concluded that
you are prepared to continue your support of the
existing arrangements, whereby the Loan Council
imposes the restrictions and the National Debt goes
mounting up and up. You know very well that this is
robbery, and that with every addition to the National

Debt the private financiers gain a tighter hold
upon the people of Australia, and you know that
the loans are simply issues of publicly owned
credit—the right of issue having been filched
from the nation.

If you are sincere in your advocacy of monetary
reform, now is the time to act. Your job is to
refuse to discuss this Defence question with Lyons
and Co. until they agree to finance the
defence of Australia by issues of credit straight out
of the Treasury or the Commonwealth Bank. That
should be Number 1 of your thirteen points, and
Number 2 should deal with the controlling of
profits which the big trusts and profiteers will
make from their sales to the struggling masses that
you are supposed to represent.

Your thirteen points amount to nothing more
valuable than a meddlesome set of opinions, given
by a man who is not an authority on Defence, and
it is staggering that a Labor leader could have
overlooked the vital necessity of the two points to
which we draw your attention.

It will also pay you to bear in mind that
thirteen is said to be unlucky. —Yours faithfully
THE NEW TIMES

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The New Zealand Elections

The astonishing success of Mr. Savage and his followers in the New Zealand elections has had an even more astonishing result. The Melbourne *Herald* has come over all panicky, even to the point of comparative incoherence. Devoting the whole of its leader space to the matter on Monday, it gave a review of the chief measures already passed and those contemplated by the New Zealand Government, leading up, via dark hints as to increased expenditure in implementing the "Utopian" policy of Mr. Savage, to the hardy old favourite, "Where is the money to come from?"

Fortunately, Mr. Savage knows the answer to that one, and we do not expect the firmness of his resolution to be shaken by it. The money will come from the same place as the banks get it. It will be obtained with the same ease and at precisely the same cost as the banks in England obtained £1,100,000,000 during the war of 1914-1918. In other words, it will be created out of nothing, as it was then. There will, however, be this difference, that, with the new credits, Mr. Savage will produce assets, and enable distribution and consumption of goods and services to proceed freely, thus bringing potential prosperity to the stage of actual prosperity in New Zealand. Having posed, as it believed, the great shibboleth, the *Herald* proceeded to fall all over itself with excitement and anguish, eventually producing a statement which should be preserved for the delight of the generations to come. It pointed out that the Labor Government has obtained control of banking and credit, and will raise money "by what is commonly called inflation." This is bogey number two, and is followed by a note of warning reminiscent of the witches' scene in "Macbeth." Listen to it:—

"The effect upon the exchanges, the danger of a debased currency, the possibility of a collapse when times are lean and export prices are low . . . these perils have probably been assessed, but the strain on confidence might bring them dangerously near."

These dangerous phenomena to which the *Herald* points are the common weapons of the bankers

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LAISSEZ-FAIRE-OR-?

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

The New Zealand elections, watched with much interest by many of us, open up once more the old question—Should we leave things as they are, or—Should we attempt to build another and a better world?

Alternatives

The Nationalist Opposition holds with the former, and Mr. Savage with the latter. I do not know what sort of a world Mr. Savage means to build in New Zealand—nor, since the air is full of prophecies, will I add to them—but I do know that he has an unexampled opportunity of fashioning this one to his own pattern—assuming that he has a pattern in mind. If he succeeds, the effect on the rest of the world will be great; if he fails, the world will shrug its shoulders, and say, "Just one more Utopia gone west"; while the *laissez-faire* disciples will chant, triumphantly, "I told you so!" It seems pretty clear, at any rate, that Mr. Savage, and, indeed, the people of New Zealand as a whole, are well awake to the money swindle, and it would seem that the time is now ripe to do something about it.

"Rugged Individualism"

For the moment, however, let us consider the attitude of the Opposition. They would not, if they had been returned, have left things quite as they were, since they would probably have rescinded some of the legislation of the previous Government; nor would they have found it possible to return to their earlier policies, since the rise of Labour in any country has made it expedient for Conservative Governments to make some show of social reform—such as housing schemes. They had some such scheme to put before the electors in New Zealand, but they made it clear that the workers (for whom it was designed) would have to pay for it. This is to encourage "rugged individualism." It is interesting to notice that most backers of the

when their stronghold is assailed. It is they who rig the exchanges and the export prices, and who wantonly precipitate a collapse if it suits them, and as a warning to innovators. All these things are known to Mr. Savage, and he should know how to come in out of the rain when the bankers unleash their storm. The third arrow in the bankers' quiver, the warning that the fragile flower "Confidence" might wither and die, is as blunt and as ineffectual as the others, to those who understand the swindle.

All that has gone before is old stuff, and lacks the creative brilliance of what follows. With due reverence, we present it, duly invested with the dignity which black type alone can bestow:

Paper money has a way of driving out money of the first class and the valuables from which real money is made.

This is surely the "Ultima Thule," the "ne plus ultra," the high-water mark, and all other superlatives. We feel that it is a matter not for comment, but for prayer. So may the shade of Lord Gresham have mercy upon the *Herald* leader-writer for this piece of sublime drivel, masquerading as economics. And may Professor Stephen Leacock be generous enough to congratulate him for having attained heights to which even he, the Prince of Economic Humorists, never dared to aspire!

"rugged individualism" theory are those who have never experienced economic insecurity, and, moreover, when put to the test, show that there is nothing they abhor more than both ruggedness and individualism. The striker is a rugged individualist, and we know how popular he is with that class. They like uniformity of thought, smooth manners, respectful obedience from subordinates and wage-earners, and conformity.

"Equality of Opportunity"

Imagine such a one, with his white hands, in his expensively-tailored suit, saying to a council labourer at work on the roads:

"My good man, you see what a fortunate fellow you are. Though born in a slum, and obliged to leave school at 14 to earn for your family, you may rise to the top of the tree. Our Public Library is free to you, where you may profit by the wisdom of the ages. In the Art Gallery you may learn about Art; and in the Botanical Gardens you may study horticulture; so you see, that if you remain a day labourer, it will be no one's fault but your own." The workman might reply like this: "When shall I go to these places? You have resisted with all your might the suggestion of a 40-hour week. You say that people of my class are not fit for leisure, and can only be kept from depravity by having it kept from us. You do not believe that I should have an annual holiday. If I took it, you decree that I do so at the risk of starving. You do not regard me as one who, with yourself, is 'an heir of all the ages.' On the contrary, I am one of the disinherited family, for you deem it better to destroy the fruits of the earth than that I should enjoy them. Without leisure and economic security, I am forever condemned to be just what you see me; and that is what, in your heart, you desire and approve."

In "God's Own Country"

In the United States the principle of *laissez-faire* is firmly established, and in no country on earth is there so cruel a domination of wealth and power. The banker and the big industrialist do just what they like with the great mass of the people, who yet cling fondly to that clause in the American Constitution that declares that "all men are born free and equal." In spite of the stranglehold of financial interests over the destinies of Americans, each one seems to comfort himself with the thought, "Their turn to-day, mine to-morrow." No idea of the co-operation of all for the good of all can enter such a conception as this; only a savage competition for material advantages that breeds ruthlessness, greed, dishonesty and fraud. Mrs. Upton Sinclair once asked the boy she employed to scrub her floors whether he thought it right that some Americans should control so much wealth while people like him had to struggle for a crust, and he replied instantly. "Of course. It might happen to me to do the same some day." So little idea have the sufferers of the enormity of their handicap! The result we see in illiteracy, childishness, gross materialism, unscrupulousness, corrupt politics, corrupt police, and

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CENSORSHIP IN NEW ZEALAND

Instructions that the Secretary, Mr. A. E. Robinson, is not to deliver any further talks from Station 1ZM without the specific approval of the National Broadcasting Service has been received by the Auckland provincial branch of the New Zealand Farmers' Union. It was stated by Mr. Robinson that he had given weekly talks from the station in his private capacity for eighteen months, and that never before had either he or his subject matter been questioned by the Broadcasting Service.

"I am directed to communicate with you regarding the talks given by Mr. A. E. Robinson from Station 1ZM weekly," states Professor Shelley, Director of Broadcasting, in his letter (presumably addressed to the Secretary himself). "I am to say that we are prepared to permit talks in connection with farming generally being broadcast from this station once a week, *we, of course, to be responsible for selecting the speakers.* We suggest, therefore, that you place this matter before your union and inform it that any suggestions it may care to make as to speakers will receive careful consideration. It will be necessary for the speakers, of course, to furnish the scripts of their proposed talks. In the meantime, the station concerned, 1ZM, has been informed that *no further talks by Mr. Robinson are to be delivered without specific approval from this office.*"

Mr. Robinson said he had been giving talks from Station 1ZM for the last eighteen months. It had always been a direction to the station that the talks were given in his private capacity, and not as Secretary of the Farmers' Union, so there could be no cause for

gangsterdom. So the "survival of the fittest," as preached by the *laissez-faire* school, always means the survival of the most ruthless, scrupulous, and most cunning. The law of the jungle, in fact.

Do the Fittest Survive?

That the fittest have often gone down in the unequal struggle is a historical fact—inventors robbed of their patent rights, writers robbed by publishers; artists, poets and philosophers, whose possibilities

"The world's coarse thumb
And finger failed to plumb,"

all gone into the discard, while the "keen business man," the profiteer, the political or financial opportunist triumphed over their failures.

* * *

It is heartening to notice that the people of New Zealand have declared in no uncertain manner against such doctrines as these, and are giving power to their Prime Minister to build better and saner. That he may do so by drawing on the vast resources of his Dominion and overthrowing the Money Monopoly there must be the ardent wish of all those who know where the key to a better world lies.

the Director's action in this respect. Only once had a deletion been made by the *local* censor, when a possibly ambiguous reference was cut out. At no time, however, had he had any argument with the Director of Broadcasting, and the intimation that he was virtually prevented from talking any more from the station had come as "a bolt from the blue."

"So far as I can find out," Mr. Robinson said, "this intimation marks a new departure in radio censorship. Hitherto, we have had a censorship of the *subject matter*, but here there is censorship of the *person giving the talks*. I wonder what the position would be if the same talk were given as the official opinion of the Farmers' Union or if it were given anonymously."

Another interesting point to us is—*who directs the Director?* If Professor Shelley is Director of Broadcasting, how does it come about that he is "directed to communicate," and is "to say that we are prepared . . ." etc.?

Apparently the Professor is ashamed (and well he might be!) to accept responsibility for the outrageous proposal that *he* should select the Farmers' Union's speakers rather than leave this to the farmers themselves.

"OUR RACKETEERING GOVERNMENTS"

Bishop Dwyer of Wagga Speaks Out Against National Insurance

"The poor workers are still being denied decent wages for their hard work, needed to increase dividends for the fatted pigs of high finance, and the latest legislative abortion, indecently rushed through the Federal Parliament, only makes their plight worse. This National Insurance stunt is compulsory, and we have to take it, or be penalised.

"Stalin and Hitler are not much worse in their depriving people of liberty. Instead of conscripting the wealth of all big financial, insurance, and mercantile monopolies to provide for the war atmosphere, purposely created by the bullet and arms factories, this Insurance Act is conscripting the pittances of the poor workers. Whether they are earning one pound a week or five, they are on the same rate, and what do they get for paying £7/16/- a year? Nothing for half a year, and then only medical attention and medicine, with some promised nebulous payments, and the old-age pension at 65. Now, a man must pay 3/- a week. It's all bluff to say his employer will pay half. He won't, except by reducing the wage-earner's existing starvation rate of pay. There are no funeral benefits, which are such a boon to a poor widow with children. But they have no escape. If defrauding the labourer of his wages is one of the sins crying to heaven for vengeance, then God will not spare our racketeering Governments."

—Catholic Press, Sept. 22.

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"IT IS GOING TO BE FAIR HELL"

The Farmers, the Drought and Mr. Dunstan

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

"It is going to be fair hell." This terse remark summed up the opinion of an average farmer in replying to a question asked by the writer over the week-end. The question was, "What is going to be the position of the Victorian farmer during the next twelve months?" Taking into consideration all the circumstances which will govern the farmers in the immediate future, the above reply fits the prospects very appropriately, and it was with little surprise that we read some few weeks ago that one of our M.L.A.'s from the Wimmera was in favour of drastic action by the wheat farmers to get some protection by the Government. Apart from the drought conditions prevailing over a large area of the Commonwealth at the present time, the action of the banks in refusing further credits to farmers, even when those seeking accommodation have good security to offer, has the majority of the farmers in an appalling state of fear and suspense. It is no wonder that we have read of several farmers committing suicide recently as a preferable alternative to facing a living hell. Apart from the writer's personal knowledge of the action of the banks in refusing advances to farmers, the following report of a resolution passed at a meeting in Ultima last week serves to further emphasize this point. The resolution read: "That this meeting protest against the undue restriction of credit to primary producers, and urges the Federal Government to bring down a mortgage bank bill as recommended by the Royal Commission on Banking." This protest is a very healthy sign, and, as the farmers start to feel the effects of the drought, of low prices and of increased taxation via the National Insurance Act, it will not be surprising if the mutterings of protest which are prevalent at the present time grow to a very determined roar of revolt. Even if it is possible for the Government to give some assistance to the farmers along the lines suggested by Mr. Dunstan, this will only aggravate the problem in the future. The present financial system has been responsible for getting the farmers into the present mess, and the utilisation of the same system to now try and alleviate the position is going to mean the further enslavement of the Australian people to the banks. Let us briefly look at the position and the suggestions.

The Present Position

At the time of writing, the position can only be termed practically hopeless. Even given rain in wheat belts at the present time, most of the crops are too far-gone to respond to any great extent. And in Gippsland, where things look a little greener than further north, a discussion with local farmers elicited the information that even if rain fell now, it is very doubtful if very much grass hay would be cut for storage purposes. And in view of the fact that, owing to the dry season last year, most of the farmers' supplies of feed were exhausted, it is quite conceivable that large numbers of stock may die. That this will be in the nature of a national catastrophe will be admitted by all, but it is a remarkable fact that the premature death of human beings on a much larger scale and, ironically, due to the plenty which is normally produced, is apparently worthy of little comment. A brief survey of the water storages at the moment also indicates the seriousness of the position. A comparative statement shows a somewhat alarming deficiency in the principal reservoirs, compared with the volume impounded at this time last year. In the Hume, although an im-

mense quantity is stored, it is less than two-thirds of that of October of last year, and both Eildon and Waranga storages are substantially below normal; the Upper Coliban, with a capacity of 25,700 acre-feet, is down to 650 acre-feet. Supply for irrigation and other agricultural and industrial purposes, during the impending summer, seems to be out of the question, unless there is a greatly increased flow available during the next few weeks.

With very few exceptions most parts of Victoria at the present time are suffering from a shortage of rain, and a resultant decrease in primary production must necessarily adversely affect the rest of the community. Those people who still think in terms of an unscientific scarcity, which may have been excusable some 50 or more years ago, seem to think that the present conditions must be accepted as a position that we have no control over. But, is it?

Can We Minimise the Effects of a Drought?

As yet man does not control the weather, but, as all well-informed people know, it is possible, by water and fodder conservation, to minimise the effects of dry periods to such an extent that they should offer no problem whatever to the farmers of the future. As to whether that future will ever become a reality depends upon whether the people who comprise democracy in Australia are going to continue to tolerate the present set of politicians, whose only contribution to Australia's history has been to popularise the cry, "We have no funds." Future historians will rack their brains to try and understand the mentality of a nation that allowed hundreds, of thousands of men to be unemployed, pleading to be allowed to work, while on the other hand millions of gallons of precious water ran to waste because these men were not allowed to work in building adequate storage systems. And if these same historians try to discover why this apparent absurdity existed, and find that it took place owing to a lack of "funds," they will na-

turally conclude that these "funds" must have been a very important ingredient in the construction of weirs and channels for irrigation purposes. But what will be their amazement when they discover that these funds consisted mainly of figures in books, written there by private individuals as a debt against the rest of the community. And because there were insufficient figures written, the very necessary national undertakings were not carried out, with the result that the whole nation suffered severely. And what a laugh these same historians will have when they discover that he people who allowed themselves to be mesmerised in this way were actually sending missionaries out to convert the heathens from their superstitions. The reader may think this sounds very funny, but can we seriously suggest there is any fundamental difference between a heathen who will lie down and die when a bone is pointed at him by a witch doctor, and the people of Australia who do the same thing because certain individuals known as bankers tell them that there is a shortage of figures in books? Just think it over. Civil engineers and agricultural and industrial experts of repute tell us that the Murray Valley alone could carry a population of over 10 million people if the water of the Murray was properly stored, and used in such periods as we are at present experiencing. The fact of the matter is that if the surplus manpower of Australia had, in the past, been utilised in constructing huge water storages instead of idly eking out a mere existence on the dole, it would now be possible to irrigate the greater part of the fertile areas of the Commonwealth. Even with the present systems it estimated that up to 50 per cent. of the water is wasted through seepage in the channels. The obvious remedy, as suggested by engineers, is to concrete the channels. This applies principally to the Mallee. But in spite of the fact that there is no shortage of concrete or men with the essential skill to do the job, the problem of funds, as yet, has the Government in a mental stupor. The ghastly fact has got to be that, owing to a lack of "funds," the Australian nation has failed to carry out essential works on fodder and water conservation, with the result that a dry period such as the present one must take its toll. It would have been avoided if we had had real Governments, instead of official mouthpieces of the modern

witch doctors. Even Mr. Dunstan, in speaking on the situation at Bendigo last week, said it was almost criminal that vast quantities of water desperately required in periods of drought flowed into the sea. It might also be asked what Mr. Dunstan thinks of a society which allows thousands of tomato-growers, stock-raisers, and fruitgrowers to be brought to the verge of ruin owing to a shortage of water, while at the same time the precious fluid that could alleviate their plight is being used a few miles away in extracting a practically useless yellow metal from the ground. I refer, of course, to the position in Bendigo. No words of mine can adequately express what I think of this madness. However, this is by the way, and we now come to the main point of the discussion on the present drought. It is in connection with the proposals of Mr. Dunstan to deal with the plight of the farmers.

Will He Ever Learn?

As to whether Mr. Dunstan will ever learn anything about money in relationship to society is a very moot point. It has become monotonous dealing with all his nonsensical statements. Speaking at Warracknabeal on the present drought position and several other matters pertaining to the farmers, he saw fit to suggest that the remarks of Mr. Menzies, on the matter of foreign markets, were throwing dust in the eyes of the people. The fact that foreign markets are becoming a thing of the past under the present financial system does not appear to have yet struck Mr. Dunstan. The most recent figures available on world export trade show that it has decreased by 75% since 1929. Because countries are striving to become self-sufficient under the present money system, the market that we have got to pay attention to from now on is that great Australian market, including the 62% of the breadwinners who are striving to live on the magnificent sum of £3 a week or less.

Mr. Dunstan then went on to deal with the proposals of the Government in keeping the farmers on the land during the present period. He said that the Government would do everything possible, "although its finances were limited." As to why finance was, or should be, limited no explanation took place. The plan which Mr. Dunstan has put for-

ward has everything to commend it as far as it goes. It should have been done years ago. Forest conservation, road construction and maintenance works, to combat sand drift and wind erosion, and a more vigorous policy of water conservation. But infinitesimal as these schemes are in connection with what they should be, what result are they going to have? £500,000 is to be spent. Men, by dint of hard work, will create assets to the value of this sum, or more, but the present machinations of the financial system are such that these assets will be written up as a debt against the community—upon which we will pay interest for ever. What irony! Increasing the irrigation facilities of the country by going further into debt, we will find, in the years to come, that we can produce a still greater abundance. However, the interest bills on these schemes will continue to paralyse the nation, and we will, no doubt, under the leadership of Mr. Dunstan, seek to export this abundance to the far ends of the earth, while large numbers of our own people still starve.

What We Must Do

By all means let us start water conservation schemes. And let us not only employ the farmers, but also the thousands of men who could easily help. They would welcome the opportunity. But let us see that the scheme is financed by a sound and scientific money system that will reflect physical facts. Let the money come into existence as a credit to the community and not as a debt. The Federal Government has this power. If we do this we can rapidly and easily build up an adequate system of water conservation throughout the Commonwealth, in order that future droughts may present no difficulties. But to force the Government to get these results we have got to become an aroused and united democracy. Electoral Campaigners are going to have a very busy time in the immediate future. There is very little doubt that the community is being kicked into action by the march of events. We must take the message to them. But unless we do, the farmers and every other section of the community are going to get it where the turkey got the axe. Yes, "it is going to be fair hell." But we have the power to make this country a heaven. Am I too optimistic? Your actions in the future will indicate your answer.

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NATIONAL INSURANCE IS A MENACE

(3)

The Act Should Be Repealed

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H. BROWN.

Sir,—We were considering the antecedent circumstances of the National Insurance business, and last week had just been introduced to Mr. R. G. Casey, the Commonwealth Treasurer, when space limitation called a halt. This is the man who "piloted" the National Health and Pensions Insurance Act through the House of Representatives and who was duly lauded by the servile press for the marvellous job he had performed. Before he did that particular job, however, he had taken a prominent part in conditioning the public mind as a necessary preliminary. For example, on April 26, 1935, he spoke to the ladies of the Australian Women's National League in Melbourne and expressed his great concern about pensioners. It was not the pensioners as human beings that worried him, but the terrific burden they were imposing on the "taxpayer." He said this: "The way the pensions bill is increasing is giving me a great deal of anxiety. If it goes on as it is now, it will mean extra taxation."

Why Mr. Casey is in Parliament

What he said about extra taxation was perfectly true, but it was true only because of the fraudulent system of finance under which the Commonwealth is operated, and for the maintenance of which the self-same Mr. Casey was apparently given a place in Parliament and appointed to the position of Treasurer. By his public actions he has shown that he regards it as his first business to maintain the system which enables him to buy private aeroplanes, while the aged and the infirm are forced to live on a standard which is a disgrace to civilisation, and while hundreds of thousands of splendid men and women suffer poverty and distress because they have no means of obtaining money. He appears to have been placed in Parliament to prevent any modification of the financial system which beggars the whole community so that unconscionable payments can be made to the banking system as interest on credit money which costs nothing to produce. He seems to be there for the express purpose of maintaining the murderous arrangements under which money can only come into existence as a debt to the private banking monopoly. And there can be little doubt that his anxiety about the pensions "bill" arises only from the fact that unless he transfers the liability from the Federal Budget it will increasingly become a serious competitor with the *interest* "bill." That, of course, would be just too bad. At present we are paying the pensioners only £1 for every £3 we pay to the owners of the national debt (financial institutions), and while attention can be focussed on the pensioners and their "bill" nothing much is likely to be said about the bankers and their bill. Only the cranks look into that!

Embarrassment Increasing

Mr. Casey may not think that it is a bad thing for the aged and the infirm to have some money, but the inevitable and increasing difficulty of meeting the needs of modern society, under the out-of-date money system, mistakenly called "sound finance," is beginning to cause embarrassment even to its devotees and dupes. If the pensions bill keeps on increasing it certainly would mean more taxation, unless the people changed their attitude and insisted that their elected Governments must GOVERN in

the true sense of the term. What the Government has done will not result in reducing the taxation by as much as a penny, but, under the dishonest cloak of calling it a "health" and a "pensions" scheme, the increased taxation will be shifted largely from the wealthy to the poor. It is a change in incidence only.

How Governments Get Finance

Governments get their finance in three ways. The first is through the ordinary revenue of the Government departments. Most of this is absorbed in maintaining those departments, but if there is a surplus it passes to the Treasury for other purposes. The revenue of the departments is governed by the general conditions in the commercial world; these conditions depend upon the bank rate; and the bank rate is manipulated by the banking institutions. Therefore, even ordinary revenue is subject to the policy of the bankers.

Surest Sign of Slavery

The second way by which Governments obtain their finances is through taxation. That is a levy on every individual and is the surest sign that we are slaves. This levy can only be paid in money, and our ability to pay money depends on the amount of our incomes. Our incomes depend upon the degree of "prosperity" obtained through the community as a whole, and the degree of prosperity depends entirely upon the bank rate. Any person who doubts the truth of this statement is referred to paragraph 93 of the Report of the Monetary and Banking Commission, in which it is acknowledged that prices rise and fall according to the manipulation of the bank rate. Prices determine the national income; the national income determines our taxable capacity; and our taxable capacity is determined by the bank rate. We are always at the mercy of the banker, and it is he who appropriates the whole of the direct taxation as well in payment for interest and exchange.

Imports and Revenue

Just as the direct taxes are governed by the bankers, through the bank rate, so also is the indirect taxation governed by the policy of the bankers. For example, ever since 1932, when Mr. Lyons betrayed the Labour Party and became not only a member of what was regarded as Labour's enemy, but actually its nominal "leader," the Australian banks have permitted imports to enter Australia in increasing volumes. This meant buoyant revenue from Customs duties. Now, because of the fall in prices overseas and its effect on our London "funds," steps have been taken by the banks to reduce the quantity of imports, and this will mean a falling off in Customs revenue. It naturally follows that with falling revenues our Governments would find it difficult to meet increasing liabilities for pensions on top of the increasing liabilities for interest to the bankers for the "loan" of bank credit money which cost nothing to manufacture. In these circumstances it was not surprising that Mr. Casey, himself a beneficiary of the Credit Monopoly, should look for a way of imposing on the poor in preference to improving the financial system.

Borrowing and the "Money Market"

The third way by which Governments obtain their finance is through borrowing. Borrowing is controlled by the private banking system, through the Commonwealth

Bank and the Loan Council. The amount the Government is "permitted" to borrow is fixed by the Commonwealth Bank Board according to the condition of the "money market," and the money market is controlled by the bank rate. This money market is a fictitious market in which bank credit money is the only kind of money offered, and the quantity to be offered at any time is strictly controlled by those who produce it - - the bankers. They, therefore, control both the supply and the demand, and take good care to see that they are always on a winner. They are operating a system which is a swindle, and this National Insurance Act has been brought in with the object of helping them to continue to impose their system on all Governments, so long as the people in general refuse to Wake up. If the Commonwealth Bank were the only producer of Australian money, and such money were produced as the property of the people, then taxation for pensions would be a thing of the past, the pensioners being paid with Government money produced by Government authority.

The Motive

With this general background in our minds, combined with the knowledge that taxation is already dangerously high, and that the general community would not stand for any further increase, except in case of emergency, we begin to understand the motive behind this iniquitous piece of legislation which will force the workers to suffer needless sacrifices of food and clothes when working so that they may have a very small fraction of what they will need when out of work through sickness or old age. The sacrifices they are to make now are to be in the form of money, which means that they must do with less than the prescribed minimum of life-giving food (which is actually plentiful) because they will not have sufficient money to buy as much food as they can buy now. The money taken from them will be placed in a "fund," and this fund may be used only in accordance with the dictation of the controllers of the banking system. The express purpose of the NIP Act is, therefore, to transfer a huge portion of the financial liability for old-age and invalid pensions from the Federal Budget to the already overburdened backs of the workers on the lower wage levels. The real reason for this is to cover the increasing demands on the Budget for interest and exchange. Do what you like to the sheep-like workers, pensioners, and narrow-visioned religionists, but HANDS OFF THE BANKERS! God may choose to be bountiful, but unless it suits the bankers, not even God can get His bounty distributed. In this business HE must take second place, and the foolish people who prayed to Him for Peace and then thanked Him for the victory of Herr Hitler cannot see it. They crucify Jesus while believing they serve Him!

Mr. Casey Writes for the "Argus"

In the light of these things it is interesting to look back upon the methods adopted with the purpose of preparing the ground for this further betrayal. A few days after speaking to the ladies of the A.W.N.L., Mr. Casey wrote a special article for the Melbourne *Argus*. In this article he sought to show the wonderful achievements of the generation "since the beginning of the war." He cited the increases in insurance policies, savings bank deposits, holdings in Government loans, homeowners, motorcars, telephones, friendly society funds, educational and charitable grants, and pensions. These were cited to prove that there has been such a redistribution of wealth that "the wage and salary earners of Australia, apart from their salaries and wages, have a financial stake in the capital wealth of the country to the order of £1,000,000,000."

A Wonderful Achievement

Note particularly that this man, reared in the lap of luxury, and never at any time subject to worry about the smallness of his own income, had the impertinence to point with glee to the fact that about 90 per cent, of the whole population between them had "a financial stake" in wealth to the value of a thousand million pounds. It is quite true that there HAVE been increases, to which the "working" members of the community are properly entitled. In the last 100 years the value of the output per man has increased from 1 to 210; and when it is remembered that our total wealth is somewhere about SIX THOUSAND MILLIONS we can easily see that, on Mr. Casey's own showing, the wage and salary earners own only one-sixth of it, and that the few people (including himself), who are not classed as wage and salary earners, possess no less than five-sixths of our capital wealth i.e., £5,000,000,000! That IS a wonderful achievement—for him and the bankers.

Crisis Surmounted!

He went on in this strain: "From these great gains in the direction of wider spread of the national wealth . . . we can as a community take a good deal of satisfaction. They mean that the old class differences are being broken down, and that our national cohesion is greater, and I think it would be true to say that the readjustments necessitated by the economic crisis we have lately surmounted were more easily achieved because of this growing solidarity." Isn't that just too utterly utter? Here was a man solemnly declaring that we had surmounted a crisis which we had never had. In the first place, our only difficulties have been financial, not economic; and, in the second place, both Mr. Bruce and the London *Times* have warned us that we have not "surmounted" anything.

Sting in the Tail

But the sting was in the tail. He proceeded to quote Sir Robert Kindersley, a director of the Bank of England, and a man also subsequently quoted with approval by Mr. R. G. Menzies. This was the real purpose of the special article—i.e., to tell us what Sir Robert had said, as follows: "What I want to impress on you is that there has been, since

the war, a vast re-distribution of wealth, and you are entrusted with the task of teaching the recipients of this wealth to handle it wisely." Do you get the point? The ninety per cent of the people who received 16 per cent, of the wealth might run amok if they were allowed to decide for themselves what they should do with their abounding prosperity, and so this NIP Act was devised as one of the means of teaching us how to handle our wealth wisely. Mr. Casey was merely the mouthpiece of the Bank of England.

Just Shows Us How

This calls to mind the action of Mr. Bruce, at one of those frequent gatherings of "distinguished people" in London, when he told those august persons that "We (meaning Australians in Australia) are ready to do what you wish if you will show us how. Perhaps Sir Robert Kindersley was present, and realised that just as National Insurance had been a help to the banking system in England, but an imposition on the people, so a similar measure in Australia would be helpful to the banking system here, the continuance of which, in its present form is so much desired by the Bank of England. It is interesting to know that, besides being a director of that bank (the "Mother" bank of the Empire!), this Sir Robert is also associated with the international banking firm of Lazardes, the firm which took a prominent part in securing the fraudulent return to the Gold Standard in 1925, by which a thousand million pounds was placed in the pocket of his class, and added no less than £750,000,000 to their country's debt. Why is it that that type of person is so often quoted to us?"

The Root

And when we get right down to the root of things we find that the Bank of England was behind the sending of Sir Walter Kinnear here as an expert to "advise" us on the question of insurance. Sir Walter's second name is Samuel. Arrangements for his visit would be made through the British Treasury, and the Governor of the Bank of England has admitted that the difference between the Bank of England and the British Treasury is the same as the difference between tweedledum and tweedledee. —Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.
(To be continued.)

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SCIENCE MARCHES ON!

To-morrow's Aeroplane

Condensed from "Fortune."

One day last December a request went out to eight U.S. aircraft factories for bids on three, six or twelve 'planes large enough to carry 100 passengers and a crew of 16. They were to have a payload capacity of 25,000 pounds and be capable of flying 5000 miles at a speed of 200 to 300 miles per hour. The request ended: "Each proposal should be addressed to C. A. Lindbergh, Chairman of the Technical Committee, Pan American Airways System."

Thus, with no fanfare, Pan American effectively stated that the day of the big aeroplane had arrived; the Big Ship that will put Europe within overnight reach of New York. It will be twice as big as the DO-X, the largest 'plane ever built; heavier than a Pullman sleeper, and considerably more commodious. Perhaps even smoother, since it will be designed to fly above the weather, because of the greater speed attainable in high altitudes.

Aeronautical engineers can now build such a ship. In fact, they must build it if commercial aviation is to operate at a profit. For, since 1934, when their Federal mail contracts were abruptly suspended and they learned not to count too heavily on continuing subsidies, the financial record of the airlines has been gloomy indeed.

Potentially, engineers state, the aeroplane is the most efficient means of transport and hence potentially the cheapest. After a century of evolution, the railroad train is about three per cent, efficient in passenger-carrying ability—that is, a full train pulls 97 pounds of deadweight for every three pounds of passenger. By the same reckoning, an ocean liner is only about two per cent, efficient. But the aeroplane of to-day is about 12 per cent, efficient. And, in the drafting-room, designs for ships up to 250,000 pounds show a rising curve of efficiency. So do performance charts on big 'planes

already built. Furthermore, with an ability to fly miles above mountain peaks, the Big Ship offers a degree of safety that smaller 'planes cannot claim. And safety means more customers.

Crossing Atlantic Overnight

Suppose, then, that you really will be able to fly the Atlantic overnight in 1941. What will it be like?

The Big Ship will probably fly at 300 miles per hour, at 30,000 feet, with the cabin sealed. Hence, the trip to England should not take more than twelve hours. Suppose you leave the new seaplane base at North Beach Airport at 5 p.m. New York time. After settling things in your stateroom, you will descend the "grand staircase" from the upper deck into the main lounge, or, perhaps, wander back into the tail of the 'plane, which (since it cannot be heavily loaded) contains a game room. Then cocktails at the bar in the observation lounge. The view will soon bore you, because it consists of nothing but clouds or haze. So you will be ready for an early dinner. Furthermore, it will be dinner-time, for you will have been instructed to move your watch forward 25 minutes each hour, in order to keep step with the time belts you are travelling through. By 7.50, after you have been on the 'plane two hours, it's bedtime—if you want eight hours of sleep. Leave a call for 7.10 as you turn in and you will have two hours for breakfast and sight-seeing in the morning before you land at Southampton at 10 o'clock.

Since you are paying around 450 dollars for the trip, you will not be surprised by the roominess and swank of your cabin. In the fairly bumpless upper air you won't have much trouble getting to sleep; and thanks to the sound engineers, you can scarcely hear the noise of the propellers and engines. When you wake there will be a shower for you in the

dressing-room, with hot and cold running water.

Ten Thousand Horsepower

The engineers who are on the point of building this ship have a host of problems ahead of them. The Big Ship will require some 10,000 horsepower, which is considerably more power than has ever been loaded on one 'plane before. Engines will have to be more efficient. Then, too, no propeller has yet been made able to absorb more power than a 2000 horsepower engine can produce. For some reason propellers begin to lose their pull when their tips reach a whirling velocity of 750 miles per hour, a speed roughly that of sound. Apparently compressed air piles around the propeller with the same effect as wet snow piled on the blade of a snowplow. The solution here may lie in an extra propeller blade or in longer blades.

Problems

There are plenty of other problems. Even to-day a few 'planes have reached such size that power for electric lighting, radio and 'plane telephone systems must be manufactured independently of the engines. Small gasoline-driven generators are being included, but the inclination is to use steam turbines in the future, the steam to be furnished by boilers attached to engine exhausts.

The controls will make trouble, too. The pilot of a really Big Ship will no more be able to manoeuvre it by straight manual control than a quartermaster can move the rudder of a 50,000-ton ocean liner. That means special motors for rudder and other controls.

High flying likewise presents difficulties. At 25,000 feet, outside air pressure is 785 pounds per square foot. To keep passengers comfortable, pressure inside the sealed cabin must be maintained at 1572 pounds per square foot—approximately the air pressure at 8000 feet. The difference between these two figures—787 pounds—represents the load that each square foot of cabin will have to carry to keep from bursting. There will be pressure of over 1000 pounds, on a small window, and a door will have to carry six tons.

Such are the problems that confront the four aircraft manufacturers - Boeing, Consolidated, Douglas and Sikorsky—who submitted designs. All have had experience in building large airliners, from which the Big Ship will evolve. By last March 15 these four had among them piled up more than a ton of rough engineering sketches.

None of the entries has particularly freakish lines, since there have been no recent revolutions in the science of streamlining. Apart from the stipulations, the four designs have one feature in common: the engines are all easily accessible through the wings, that they can be repaired in flight. And all four 'planes can sustain flight on half their engines, of which the Consolidated has four and the others six. The Consolidated has three decks, as against two for the others. The Douglas differs in being unable to take off from the water. With a sealed, seaworthy cabin, however, it can alight in mid-ocean and theoretically stay afloat for days.

The first model of the Big Ship may well cost 5,000,000 dollars, with repeat orders at about 1,500,000 dollars. That sounds high for a 'plane whose very origin was a demand that it pay its own way.

But it appears from careful calculations that the 'plane of tomorrow, if booked solid on every crossing, can carry passengers for a smaller cost per passenger mile than any present large air liner: less than one and a quarter cents. If railroads could carry enough passengers to bring their passenger mile cost down to such a figure, they would not be losing money.

COAL

Some Facts About The Industry

Condensed from the "New World."

The coal strike has brought this very important aspect of our national economic structure right to the forefront, and public interest in it has been very greatly increased. It would be good for us to be well informed on this question from all angles before passing judgment upon either side. It is fairly safe to assume that if the average citizen, that is not personally connected with the coal industry, were asked where the highest labour costs were involved per ton to mine coal, Australia or, say, Germany, he would quote the former without question. Well, not only would he be wrong, but he would be out by nearly 90 per cent. Study the following production figures, taken from statistics supplied by the League of Nations:

Country.	Cost per metric ton.
	English Currency.
Saar.....	15/7
Belgium.....	14/11
Holland.....	11/5
France.....	11/1
Canada.....	10/1
Great Britain ..	9/11
Germany	9/9
Czechoslovakia ..	9/6
Japan.....	6/8
Poland	5/11
AUSTRALIA	5/10

Surprising, isn't it? When you have got over that, remember the tons quoted for the other countries are metric tons of 2204 lbs., while the Australian figure is in ordinary tons of 2240 lbs., which makes quite a lot more difference. One of the reasons for this is the fact that the Australian workman appears to do quite a lot more for his day's work than his counterpart in foreign coal mines, as the following will show; this time Australia is at the top of the list:

Country.	Production per head per annum, in tons.
AUSTRALIA	847
Canada.....	561
Poland	512
Upper Silesia ..	507
Holland.....	480
Germany.....	451
Great Britain ..	331
Czechoslovakia ..	308
Saar.....	278
France.....	261
Japan.....	250
Saxony.....	246
India	186

Again, the figures are from the League of Nations, and the ton in Australia has 36 lbs. more than the others.

Vanishing Race

Here is another aspect of the situation that must be very important to the miners. These particulars are from the N.S.W. Year Book, and refer to the industry in that State:

Year.	No. of men Employed.	Salaries and Wages. £
1929 ..	22,470	4,053,746
1931 ..	15,522	3,222,379
1933 ..	12,910	2,972,712
1935 ..	12,788	3,379,312

Apparently the miner is a vanishing race, being exterminated by that modern Frankenstein, the machine, for which our economic system makes no provision whatever. In case any of our readers may be inclined to think that the lower wage total in 1935 was due to less work being done; let us hasten to point out that the official figures say that production in 1929 was 7,617,736 tons, while in 1935 it was 8,698,579 tons. So we had over one million MORE tons produced by ten thousand LESS miners, for £674,454 LESS in wages.

The position in England may be gathered from the following figures:

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3.)

C. KENNEDY, Grocer. Haw. 229. Opp. Cemetery Clock, Parkhill Rd. DRY CLEANING, Depot & Library A. I. Fraser, 182 High St. H. 3783. E. WHITE. 109 High St. Confectionery and Smokes. FLORIST, "Mayfair," Haw. 1462 Cotham Rd., near Glenferrie Rd GIBSON'S, High St., opp. Rialto. Hosiery, Underwear and Aprons. GIFTS, & All Jewellery Repairs. Old Gold Bought. Greaves, opp. Rialto

KEW.

IMPERIAL DAIRY. R. H. Kent. 9 Brougham Street. Haw. 3243. LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 5605. "Burnie Salon," 81 Cotham Rd. M. J. MARTIN, 157 High St. Haw. 3794. Shoe Store, Shoe Repairs. MOTOR GARAGE. Kew Junction Service Station, Cr. High & Denmark Streets. Haw. 6457. RADIO EXPERT. J. G. Littlewood, 267 High St. Also Elec. Appliances.

KEW EAST.

WATCH, CLOCK & JEWELLERY REPAIRS. I. Pink, 16 Oswin St. WICKER & Pram Repairs. L. Pavitt, 2 Hale St. Pick up and deliver.

MORELAND.

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

NORTH FITZROY.

KEITH PARLON, The Fitzroy Tailor, 45 Best Street, JW 1555.

NORTHCOTE.

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

PARKDALE.

RADIO REPAIRS AND SALES. C. Barnett, 19 Herbert St. XW2031.

SANDRINGHAM.

A. RYAN, opp. Stn., Shoe Repairs. Tennis Racquets Restrung from 7/6. BIGGS & LOMAS, Tailors. First-class Workmanship. Suit Club. CONFECTIONERY and SMOKES. Gibson's, Bay Rd., opp. Theatre. GROCERS. MCKAY & WHITE. Bay Rd., opp. Theatre. XW 1924. HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. A. E. Giddings, 18 Station St. HOME MADE CAKES. F. TAYLOR, 11 Bay Rd. XW2048. LIBRARY, 5000 BOOKS. COUTIE'S NEWSAGENCY.

ST. KILDA.

HARVEY'S COFFEE GARDEN. Sweets. Smokes. 227 Barkly Street

SPRING VALE.

DAIRY, M. Bowler. Buckingham Ave. R. MACKAY & SONS. General Storekeepers. UM 9269.

WILLIAMSTOWN.

DON B. FISKEN, Baker. 122 Douglas Parade. DUNSTAN, DAIRYMAN. 28 Station Rd. 'Phone, W'town 124. HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. C. Tomkins, 165 Nelson PL, 76 Ferguson. St.

WINDSOR.

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

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In 1920 the average income for a coal miner was £4/2/3 per week, and he produced 14.40 cwt. per shift. In 1934 his income was DOWN to £2/0/4, and his production was UP to 22.12 cwt. per shift. It looks as though there might be industrial trouble brewing in England.

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A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION FOR EVERY READER

With the advent of the recent financial appeal, the "New Times" was given a further lease of life. However, it is essential that immediate steps be taken to increase our REVENUE sufficiently to fully liquidate our costs. We have already taken steps in this direction by starting to build up our advertising revenue and sales. The possibility of getting increased advertising partly depends upon enlarged circulation. This is where EVERY reader can help without cost to him- or herself.

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We are frequently asked: "What can I do?" Well, you can introduce the "New Times" to your friends, to people interested in reform and, whenever the opportunity presents itself, to strangers.

Ask them to try it for a few weeks. Don't rely on them having the initiative to order it from a newsagent. Get them to sign the "Order on Newsagent" form printed below. They do not commit themselves to take it for a fixed period—and they do not have to pay you any money. Pass on the form to their nearest newsagent, who will supply at 3d. per week. Further copies of the form may be had, free and post free, from the "New Times." Parcels of specimen copies of the "New Times" are also available (free and post free).

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PLEASE SUPPLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ONE COPY OF "THE NEW TIMES."

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ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

ERIC BUTLER.—Reports to hand from Gippsland indicate that Eric is, as usual, making his presence felt. In conjunction with Mr. Paice, Eric was to have addressed the Warragul meeting on Monday, 10th, but as he, unfortunately, had not received the invitation of the Warragul organisers, other arrangements had been made. It was also very unfortunate that Mr. Paice did not reach Warragul until after the meeting, owing to an accident on the way up. However, in spite of his late arrival, he was able to convince the local supporters of the desirability of conducting the campaign along the lines being utilised in Melbourne. Eric followed up the meeting the next morning by personal work on the local businessmen, and was instrumental in having the letter for repeal introduced in various centres. Using a borrowed pushbike, he then left for Garfield, where he has been centred. The local supporters are to be congratulated on the fine manner in which the Garfield meeting of the 12th was organised. Using the radio, and extensive publicity through the press, they were instrumental in obtaining a big audience, which listened with great enthusiasm to a scathing address by the young orator, who urged them all to show their member that the spirit of democracy was still alive in Australia. Answers to all the questions thoroughly convinced the audience that the Act was a further imposition upon the Australian people, and a resolution to this effect, to be sent to the member, Mr. Fairbairn, was passed unanimously. The repeal letter was in great demand, and the idea of the campaign has been thoroughly grasped by the people in this locality. At the time we go to press we have a report that Eric had made arrangements to speak at the following places: Longwarry, Tuesday, 18th; Tynong, Wednesday, 19th; Bunyip, Thursday, 20th. He expected to be able to arrange an address at the sale in Drouin on Tuesday afternoon, and also one at another sale in Yan-nathan on Thursday afternoon. As these meetings have been arranged at short notice, it has meant some hard work in getting them going. However, Eric says that he is enjoying it. Reports of the meetings and further activities will be published as they come to hand.

MELBOURNE FORUM.—As reported previously in these notes, the address at the Melbourne Forum (Unitarian Church, Grey Street, East Melbourne) on Sunday, October 23, will be given by Eric Butler. His subject will be "Peace and the Social Order." All supporters and friends are urged to be present, as this is a special address.

RIVERINA ELECTORS.—Immediately after the Melbourne Forum address Eric will be leaving for Barellan, N.S.W. He will address a big public meeting at this centre on Wednesday afternoon next, at 3 o'clock. Other meetings will also be arranged by the Riverina electors. It will be thus seen that Eric has his time well engaged for the immediate future. Those who are desirous of obtaining his services are asked to write in immediately. He is prepared to do anything within physical possibilities.

3UL, WARRAGUL.—All supporters throughout Gippsland are asked to note that if they listen to 3UL Warragul, at 9 o'clock every Sunday evening, and also on Monday evenings at 6.45, they will hear some very interesting discussions on

national affairs from the reform point of view. Get friends to listen to both these sessions, as they will thus hear matters discussed from a somewhat different angle.

FRANKSTON.—The organiser of the Frankston meeting has reported that the meeting surpassed his expectations. Practically the whole audience was new to the Electoral Campaign idea, and acceptance of the idea was shown by the almost 100 percent, signed Demands collected at the meeting. Interest in the Campaign is now assured, and it is expected that it will spread rapidly through the district. Debates are being arranged with local lodges and other organisations. Mr. Maltby has been invited to address the Group, the public being invited, in about two week's time.

YOUTH RALLY.—A good measure of constructive planning was carried out at the meeting of the Youth Section of the U.E.A., held in the Rooms on Thursday evening, October 13. A Youth Rally is called for Thursday evening, November 3, and supporters are asked to give wide publicity to this announcement and use every effort to influence young people to attend. As a poster, placed on the walls of Head Office, states: "The Youth Section takes its second big stride forward—ATTEND!" Keep abreast of action."

YARRA BANK.—Now that the weather is favourable, addresses could be given to the large assembly of people which gathers on the Yarra Bank on Sunday afternoons. During the summer months there will be opportunities at seaside resorts also. Will speakers please send in their names, so that they can be brought together to discuss plans for the summer campaign?

HAWTHORN GROUP.—In future, the fortnightly meeting of the Hawthorn Group, which is held in Mrs. Allsop's home, 26 Grove Road, Hawthorn, will be held on Thursday evenings. It was found that Tuesday evening was unsuitable to the greater number of supporters. Next meeting: Thursday, October 27 at 8 p.m.

LETTER TO BUSINESS MEN AND ADVERTISERS.—A reader has sent in a copy of a letter he has written in answer to advertisers, and asks that it be given space in these columns, so that others may follow his example. In compliance with the request, the wording of the letter is as follows:

Gentlemen,—I have your invitation to buy what you have to sell. I get many such invitations, by mail, over the radio, and through magazine and newspaper advertising. Did it ever occur to you that we, seven millions of us, potential, but impotent customers, need what you have for sale? You are trying to get us to do what we want to do—want to do much more than you want us to; but we have NOT the purchasing power to consume what we need. Remember! You need sales—we need your goods and services.

Instead of spending so much of your time, money, and energy trying to coax us to do the impossible, I suggest you write to members of Parliament concerning this vital matter of national economy and tell them what you want. They are at Canberra to do your bidding, and you pay them handsomely in money and privileges for their services. Don't try to tell them how to bring about what you want or what we, seven millions of us want. It is their business to employ the men who can do the job, and to see that they do do the job or be

dismissed, just as we will dismiss them if they don't obey our instructions. Just tell the politicians that we DEMAND the power to consume all we want, up to the capacity of our country to produce—seven millions of us want that (which includes you).

(Signature)..... (Address)..... STOP PRESS.—Telephone message from Eric Butler requests announcement be made that Barellan (N.S.W.) folk can expect him on Tuesday next (the 25th). All parts around Barellan will be visited, and as many personal contacts made as possible. He also said that the meeting at Longwarry was a great success.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL INSURANCE.—We are pleased to announce the birth of Nira, out of Unity by Democrat. This topical expression serves to report the fact that at the conference of representatives from interested bodies, called by the United Democrats, it was unanimously decided to work for the repeal of this anti-social Act. The representatives will report back to their several bodies; but the National Insurance Repeal Association (N.I.R.A.) has come into being. A provisional committee has been formed and steps will be taken to formulate action to bring about a repeal of this Act, subject, of course, to the approval of the constituent bodies and of the public generally.

Everyone present reported that almost every person approached on this subject favoured the repeal of the Act. At the preliminary meeting of the Committee afterwards, a meeting in the Adelaide Town Hall and pushing ahead with the letter campaign to Federal M.P.s. were decided upon. The Committee met on Thursday, October 20, to work out details, and to arrange for a later conference of a more representative nature. Meantime, steps will be taken to personally canvass doctors and businessmen for support, which should be readily forthcoming.

DEFENCE FINANCE.—Members are advised that letters to Federal M.P.s., the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition have been prepared. These request the M.P. to take action on the floor of the House to ensure that the Commonwealth Bank will be required to provide whatever financial credit is necessary for Defence purposes, and to make such financial credit available to the Government free of charge, in accordance with section 504, page 196, of Report of Royal Commission on Banking, which states: "... and it (the Commonwealth Bank) can even make money available to Governments or to others free of any charge." They also inform the Prime Minister and Mr. Curtin of the action taken. These letters are available at 1d. per set of three, or 8d. per dozen sets, to cover typing expenses. We appeal to you to make it your urgent business to secure copies of these letters for yourself and others and see that they are despatched as soon as possible. We already have evidence that receipt of these letters by Federal M.P.s. and Cabinet Ministers is having a decided effect upon them. Pressure politics is certainly potent stuff.

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ORDER.—The immediate objectives of this body are: (1) The abolition of the Dole. (2) The provision by the Government of work for all at award rates; or (3) The payment of an amount equal to all, pending useful employment. The director of Public Speaking (Rev. C.D. Brock) will

welcome any opportunity to provide speakers for any group of Church workers or others who are interested—to the point of ACTION—in the common good.

A Sunday afternoon service will be held in the Adelaide Town Hall at three o'clock on November 27. All those who profess to call themselves Christians, and MEAN it, should be present. The nature of this meeting will be very original. It is expected that music will be provided from the city organ, with the help of the choir.

RATES CAMPAIGN.—This campaign is in abeyance for the time being, pending activities of the National Campaign for the repeal of the National Insurance Act reaching a conclusive point.

FUNDS.—A small body of individuals is endeavouring to promote, support, and actively take part in activities such as indicated above. It will be realised that money is a desperately urgent need. Individual members will be glad to know that the time for action for them has again arrived.

The attainment of the objectives of the above groups and Abolition of Poverty—depends more upon your financial support and/or work in your own district than upon anything else; so please join the revival of keen interest that is accelerating at Headquarters as the depression deepens.

WOMEN'S DIVISION.—On Wednesday, November 2, at 3 p.m., the Women's Study Group will meet. Rev. Brock will speak on "The Accelerating Approach to Reality."

WORK

The natural, healthy human being wants work, but that work is of his own choosing, if possible, and, if not, it is the achievement of some conquest over a natural limitation, in overcoming which he feels a certain pride, if not pleasure. In other words, as A. R. Orage pointed out, there is (1) work of one's choice, which is leisure; (2) work imposed on one by Nature, sometimes disagreeable, but not necessarily so; and (3) work imposed on him by other men—work for wages—employment, to which a man can scarcely ever adjust himself without the loss of some valuable part of his personality. For only one square peg in a million drops into a perfectly square hole.

HAVE YOU SENT THIS LETTER TO YOUR FEDERAL MEMBER?

Dear Sir,— Having at long last learned the details of the National Health and Pensions Insurance Act, I have arrived at the definite conclusion that this Act will mean a drastic lowering of the already low standard of living of the majority of the people of Australia by the very fact of reducing their weekly income.

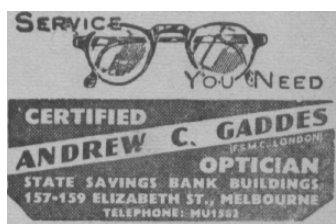
I am therefore taking this opportunity of telling you, as my representative in Parliament, that I resent having this imposed upon me without the electors first being consulted by referendum; and I am determined that if you, as my representative, fail to do your utmost to have this undemocratic measure repealed, I will do all in my power to cause you to be replaced at the next elections by a representative who will truly represent the wishes of his electors. Yours faithfully,

(Name)..... (Address).....

....., 1938.

Below is a list of Federal electorates in Victoria and the corresponding M.H.Rs.

- Parliament House, Canberra, is sufficient address. BALACLAVA . . . White, T. W. BALLARAT . . . Pollard, R. T. BATMAN . . . Brennan, F. BENDIGO . . . Rankin, G. J. BOURKE . . . Blackburn, M. M. CORANGAMITE . . . Street, G. CORIO . . . Casey, R. G. DEAKIN . . . Hutchinson, W. J. FAWKNER . . . Holt, H. E. FLINDERS . . . Fairbairn, J. V. GIPPSLAND . . . Paterson, T. HENTY . . . Gullett, Sir H. INDI . . . McEwen, J. S. KOOYONG . . . Menzies, R. G. MARIBYRNONG . . . Drakeford, A. S. MELBOURNE . . . Maloney, Dr. W. R. MELB. PORTS HOLLOWAY, E. J. WANNON . . . Scholfield, T. H. WIMMERA . . . Wilson, A. T. YARRA . . . Scullin, J. H.



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DO YOU WANT . . . CONSCRIPTION?

"The Government is watching the developments of the public demand for Universal Military Training, and would be guided by the force of that demand."

—Mr. Lyons, Prime Minister of Australia, March 16, 1938.

THE AUSTRALIAN PEACE PLEDGE UNION believes the majority of Australians are opposed to compulsory military training. It maintains:—

- 1. COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE is, and always has been, a danger to political rights and religious liberties. 2. It means that youth, under penalty of fine and imprisonment, must learn to kill, (There were 33,942 prosecutions of boys under the Commonwealth Defence Act from July 1, 1911, to March 30, 1915; 7093 boys were sentenced to imprisonment in fortresses, military camps, and civil prisons. Boys were sentenced to solitary confinement and fed on bread and water.) 3. COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE is the first step to Conscription.

If you are opposed to Universal Military Training, let the Prime Minister know by placing X in the square opposite "NO."

NO [] (Signature)..... YES [] (Address).....

Post to THE AUSTRALIAN PEACE PLEDGE UNION, Box 3835T, G.P.O. Sydney.