

THE "NEW TIMES"  
IS OBTAINABLE  
AT  
ALL AUTHORISED  
NEWSAGENTS

# THE NEW TIMES

CASEY SMELLS  
OUT A GUN-  
POWDER PLOT!

See Page Two

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. 47.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1938.

Every Friday, 3d.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE

Leading The Horse To Water

Who Rules Britannia?

MR. MENZIES AND MR. STEVENS

"Pawns In The Game Of Finance"

British Farmers Wake Up

A WORD TO WOMEN

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(Continued on page 3.)

# Casey Smells Out A Gunpowder Plot

It has come as a great shock to Casey to learn that there is a subversive move afoot, directed, against his National Insurance Bill. Apparently he was quite unaware of the fact that it was meeting with any opposition at all until quite recently when, according to Wednesday's Melbourne *Sun*, "An organised attempt to force the Federal members of Parliament to take action for the repeal of the National Insurance Bill has been reported to the Federal Treasurer (Mr. Casey)."

The wording is suggestive of the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, in which Mr. Fawkes figured so conspicuously as the only man who, it has been said, ever entered Parliament with the right idea. Later on in the report we read that "Efforts are being made to determine whether the move is being subsidised by interested parties."

The implication is obvious. In the days of the Gunpowder Plot each of the great statesmen kept a small secret service staff, some of them were paid, while others worked voluntarily as "Yes men," their payment being a hope of future favours. Judging by the *Sun* report, one imagines that some person or persons acting in a similar capacity for our Mr. Casey have discovered and brought to light the fact that some deep laid plot to blow up the Cabinet has been discovered.

### Mighty Brains at Work

It being the duty of all good citizens to assist the Government in such cases as this, the *New Times* has put the greatest brains at its disposal on to the job of following up the clues that have so far come to light.

To begin at the beginning, it would appear that our Federal Treasurer, well groomed, debonair, etc., humming a little tune and so forth, sauntered blithely into his office on the fine morning that Melbourne enjoyed one day this year, and said:

"What's in the mail, Smithers (or Jones or Smith)?"

Smithers (or Jones or Smith) emerged from the centre of a large stack of paper and announced that he was.

Extending a shapely hand, the statesman removed a slip of paper from his secretary's hair and proceeded to read.

The slip consisted of a printed letter to the effect that someone with whom our Treasurer was not personally acquainted, had informed himself of the details of the National Health Insurance Act, and that he did not approve of its provisions. The letter concluded on a warning note, and was signed by one who, in Mr. Casey's own words, "Purported to be one of his constituents."

The Treasurer laughed. No constituent of his would write in that strain.

"Does all that stuff," indicating the pile of paper, "consist of rubbish like this?"

"Most of it does," replied Smithers (or Jones or Smith) gloomily.

The Treasurer frowned thoughtfully. "I suppose you'd better reply to them," he announced at last. "Tell them that they don't know anything about National Insurance, and that I intend to put the Bill through for their own good."

Having disposed of the matter to his complete satisfaction, the Treasurer became blithe and debonair again, the responsibility of replying to the letters and the

frown, of course, having been transferred back to the secretary.

"Er, that will be all for this morning," he remarked, as he sauntered out of the office.

### The Plot Thickens

During the following weeks the inward flow of mail to Canberra greatly increased, with the result that staffs were overworked to an unprecedented extent. The social barriers of the Federal capital were ruthlessly broken down under this pressure of work, so that four-hundred-a-year men were to be seen conversing on terms of equality with three-hundred-and-fifty-a-year underlings, and even titled people like Sir Henry Gullet were seen to mix with the common herd on more or less equal terms.

Cabinet, however, having instructed its various secretaries as to the formula to be adopted in replying to such letters, was completely oblivious to all this activity, its attention being fully occupied with matters of reconstruction. An occasional ripple from outside could hardly be noticed in the turmoil that was taking place inside. Then the medical profession took a hand in the game.

On July 3, the practitioners of Charters Towers, Queensland, passed a series of resolutions, one of which read as follows:—

"That any body constituted to protect the interests of the general practitioners should consider the wisdom of engaging actively, in so far as the N.H.I. Act is concerned, in political propaganda, as it must be recognised that the ballot box is the best argument to use with politicians."

From that date on, many of the rank and file of this eminently respectable profession have joined in the campaign for the repeal of the Bill. That was nearly four months ago.

### Clues Overlooked

Evidently the Treasurer's information bureau was relying for information on the daily press and the wireless, otherwise it is difficult to understand how they could have failed to unearth the ghastly plot long ago. Had the *New Times* been informed as to the Treasurer's complete ignorance on the matter, it would certainly have conceived it to have been its duty to have acquainted him with all the facts available.

### Revelation

Following on the revelation of Mr. Casey's lack of knowledge we have sought to bring further evidence to light with, we are pleased to report, a certain amount of success.

As we have before hinted, a number of highly respected members of our community have joined the throng of opponents of the Bill and in the "General Practitioner" for October, an article headed "THE PEOPLE DEMAND THE REPEAL OF THE N.H.I. ACT," deals very fully with the subject.

"The extraordinary part of this movement" says the writer "is that no one can tell at any one time how many or who are taking part in it, and which members of Parliament are receiving these instructions and threats, and how many of these form letters have been issued. We have seen forms printed in many styles and on different classes of paper, showing how widespread this individual movement has become... Bus drivers on a certain route in

Melbourne clubbed together, printed some 10,000, and secured signatures in the 'buses. Some got them mimeographed. We have heard of one man who spends his week-ends laboriously typing copies out for himself. Some hand-write out their own copy and post it direct."

With regard to a statement in the press that "Supporters of Social Credit theories, especially in Victoria, are known to be interested in organised protests"—it has been reported that one organisation alone has bought 20,000 copies for distribution—we are able to add the information that at the end of September something like a quarter of a million of these letters had been posted, and the figure has now reached the half million mark.

### Interested Parties

It appears, from the evidence that we have so far collected that Mr. Casey is right in as-

suming that the plot was instigated by interested parties, and we trust that Cabinet will spare no effort to ensure that they are brought to book and made to suffer for their daring defiance of Messrs. Lyons and Casey. Canberra should have no difficulty in discovering the whereabouts of the majority of them, and now that the plot has been exposed, the early apprehension of the whole five hundred thousand implicated may be expected at an early date.

For the sake of the Government's security of tenure we trust that that date will be prior to that on which the Act comes into force, otherwise there is the possibility that the charge will go off. In which case we will, no doubt read:

"It has been reported to the Federal Treasurer (Mr. Casey) that the Cabinet of which he was once a member has ceased to be a Cabinet."

## A WORD TO WOMEN

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE

Just a word to ask you what part you are playing in the great fight? Are you joining in the preparations for war, Heaven help you, or are you remembering what Ruskin said of you. "We (men) are able to endure the thought of war, but you should not be?" Ruskin thought that women, if united in common purpose, could actually prevent war. *And he was right.* Are you willing to do this, or are you going to fall into the pit that has been so cunningly dug for you? You know very well that there is a movement on foot to bring women into the war-game, under the old pretence, "defence of your country." Are you going to join it, or are you going to justify John Ruskin's faith in you, and set your face firmly against this wholesale murder? Are you going to realise that all the women of the world are just your suffering sisters, or are you going to be tricked into thinking of them as the "enemy"? Which is most worthy of your womanhood, of your maternal instincts, of the great women of the past—to help in the murder game or to oppose it with all your might and main?

### When They Talk of War

When they talk of war, insist on asking the name of the enemy, and prove to them that he is a myth, that all men in these days have but *one* enemy, and *that* is the enemy who denies them the plentiful fruits of the earth. Show them that the enemy is *within* our country and not without. Show them the facts and figures of abundance, and ask them if we should prepare to kill people of other nations because they also are prevented from enjoying them just as we are. There are many ways in which you can help to stop war, but none so effective as this—to awake everyone you know to the truth about war and the causes of war. Tell it every day wherever you go, and, above all, tell it to your Parliamentary representative. Write and let him know that you are not being bluffed by this talk of "defence." Tell him that you object to being taxed to build a ridiculous battleship (costing £15,000,000), which will take four years to make and will not employ Australian workmen. Assure him that *your* sons are

not going to be paid murderers, nor will you consent to their being trained for such a purpose.

### Smoke-Screen

Tell him that you are quite aware that all this war-talk is just a smoke-screen to keep the people from seeing the facts of poverty in the midst of plenty and the reluctance of politicians to face that glaring truth. Beyond all this, you can keep strictly aloof from all preparations for war, even such activities as bandage-tying and sock-knitting.

Remember! That those who are trying to get you to play their game have most consistently refused you any part in the framing of political policies. Such men as Cameron and Casey would gladly take from you even your vote. They have spoken contemptuously and disparagingly of you in public places. Now they are asking you to help them to swell the dividends of the armament firms. They are asking you bring war nearer. Kurt Offenburg, on Saturday night, said over the air, "Armament race has but one end, now as ever—war." Every preparation for war brings war nearer. Do you want that? Is the wail of bereaved mothers so sweet in your ears? In the last war (and we know now how stupid and wicked it was) a woman in an Adelaide suburb lost six sons, and when they brought her news that the sixth was killed in action, she went mad. Is that the sort of thing we want to see again? If not, join in the only fight that is worth while, the fight *against High Finance*, against the cruel power that is causing it all by withholding from us our rightful heritage. Here you can help without any shedding of blood. Other good fighters will welcome you. *Fight for peace!*

### Now, Where Did THIS Come From?

The accounts of the Bank of France show that the amount borrowed by the French Government as a special advance in the third week of September was about £17,000,000.

## ERIC BUTLER CONCLUDES RIVERINA TOUR

### The Fight For Democracy Continues

In a campaign which consisted of intense activity for four weeks, record meetings at some centres, with wonderful enthusiasm everywhere, Eric Butler gained another trench in the fight for democracy. Dozens of "New Times" readers were obtained, while Eric's popularity as a champion of democratic government has resulted in many requests for his return to the Riverina as soon as possible. The last week of the tour was packed with activity, in which Norman Rolls showed his outstanding brilliance as publicity agent. His contribution in this sphere was no small part in making the tour such an outstanding success.

#### GOOD AUDIENCE AT LEETON.

The meeting at Leeton on Thursday, November 17, was not as well attended as expected. However, there were several other important meetings on at Leeton the same evening. The meeting took place at the Cabaret, which was donated free for the occasion by one of Leeton's leading businessmen, Mr. Oscar Washington. One of the largest audiences seen at this centre for some time attended, and, in spite of the heat, listened to a challenging address, which aroused great enthusiasm. National Insurance was, as usual, given some very drastic criticism, with the result that the campaign for its repeal has been firmly launched at this centre. Kept until late after the meeting, Eric was particularly busy with many inquiries and requests that he pay a return visit as soon as possible. Arrangements were made the following morning for increasing the sales of the *New Times* at this centre. Eric was very pleased with the results at this important centre and says that, in spite of the so-called prosperity, an increasing number of people are awakening to the true state of affairs.

#### YENDA MEETING.

Travelling by train to Griffith the next day, Eric and Mr. Rolls were met by that great stalwart, Mr. W. Ridley, and driven across to Yenda. Organised at short notice, this meeting was the smallest of the tour. However, approximately thirty people listened to what was described as the finest address heard in Yenda, and Eric says that Mr. Rolls considered it quite mild compared with some of his orations at other centres. Great interest was displayed, and many inquiries made.

#### GOOD MEETING AT GRIFFITH.

A very enthusiastic meeting took place at this big centre on the Saturday night, and, in view of the fact that it was also organised at short notice, the attendance was very good. Norman Rolls was mainly responsible for this result. With the aid of posters and an improvised megaphone made of cardboard, he certainly stirred things. With the valuable assistance of Mr. Ridley, the meeting was practically organised on Saturday afternoon, and the audience of approximately 100 was, therefore, excellent. Eric gave an excellent address, while his handling of several persons who were so misguided as to try and teach him something about economics, was something of a revelation. Many inquiries were made after the meeting, while Norman Rolls, as usual, sold copies of the *New Times*. His help in this direction was a feature of the tour, and Eric says that he thinks that people appreciate much more papers which they have to pay for. This policy was adopted with great success throughout the tour, and would indicate that the same procedure might be adopted with better results at other meetings.

#### PACKED WHEATGROWERS' MEETING ADDRESSED AT BARELLAN.

Although Eric expected the Griffith meeting to be the last of

the tour, word was received from Mr. P. Crane, of Barellan on the Saturday that a big meeting of the wheatgrowers was to take place the next afternoon, Sunday, November 20, and suggested that, if Eric could get over, arrangements might be made for him to speak. The suggestion was acted upon, and Mr. Ridley very kindly arranged to drive Eric and Norman Rolls over. It was a big gathering, and the discussions which took place indicate the appalling condition in which the majority of the wheatgrowers are situated at the present time. Many pertinent remarks were made in connection with the suggestion that the Government was short of funds, and several of the resolutions indicated that the farmers are getting tired of hearing that there is a shortage of money. When the suggestion was put to the meeting as to whether they would hear Eric, the roars of applause indicated that those who had heard him before wanted to hear him again, while the vast majority knew of him by repute. In spite of the tremendous strain of working practically night and day, Eric gave what Norman Rolls considered the best address of the tour, and was described as "carrying a punch in every sentence," while the scathing indictment of the present money swindle, in connection with the deplorable state of the wheatfarmers, held the audience throughout. The address concluded amidst great enthusiasm, and, as some people were present from places up to eighty miles away, it was not surprising that Eric was deluged with inquiries as to when he would be in the Riverina again. This address will produce cumulative results, and, with the widespread circulation of the copies of the *New Times* which were sold at the meeting, Eric can expect a great reception upon his return visit.

#### A SUMMING UP.

A survey of this tour indicates that the results can be achieved, although it is doubtful if there are many individuals in Australia who could get the results that Eric Butler has been getting. Both on the platform and in private interviews, his clear exposition of the case for democracy is convincing. Already a powerful speaker, he is always willing to learn, a faculty which is making him more and more a thorn in the side of the enemy. His exposition of the money question during the tour was considered particularly outstanding and convincing. He also showed that readers for the *New Times* can be got, although he says that he was being pushed for time, and could not do as much in this direction as he would have liked to.

#### A TRIBUTE TO NORMAN ROLLS.

Eric is very warm in his praise of the great assistance given him by Norman Rolls on this tour. "His energy and wonderful organising ability played the biggest part in getting some of the big meetings," Eric says. Mr. Rolls also rendered splendid co-operation at the meetings by selling literature and the *New Times*. We offer him our best wishes and thanks, and, judging from what Eric tell us, he will play a big part in the fight for democracy in the Riverina.

## THE BROKEN COLUMN

### Ensuring Insurance

By "WAFFLE."

I have just discovered a fool proof system that will ensure that my system of National Insurance will be safe for Democracy. At the outset, however, I must say that I do not want this system to become known to Democracy --they wouldn't understand how it works. So please keep it under your hats. Patents have been applied for, but not yet granted. So to ensure that my system will only be understood by the initiated, I have decided to adopt the parable method. That means I'll say what I mean by meaning something else instead. It also means that Democracy will not know how much it does not know.

#### The System

My system goes something like this: first, you build a large number of immense reservoirs, each one larger than the one before. These reservoirs would be more than sufficient to provide an abundance of water for everybody, with a little left over for the chosen race to water down Government stock. At the head of each main from each reservoir you place a gigantic stop-cock, permanently shut. Alongside each stop-cock you place a permanent turn-cock who, in a perfectly respectable manner, does permanently, and can never remember how to open the stop-cock. This ensures that no water will ever escape to be wasted by the public and/or Democracy.

Then you call Parliament together, form a whole series of Inner Cabinets, forget there are any reservoirs, set up a Royal Commission to enquire into the possibility or the advisability of insuring every unit of the population an adequate supply of water. The Commission knows nothing of the reservoirs with their abundance, and they should not want to know. Nevertheless undaunted, they explore every avenue, with no result, which was the result they set out to obtain. They then report their findings to the Innermost Cabinet via the whole series of Inner Cabinets. The Innermost Cabinet, from his sac-

#### WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

In spite of these successes, Eric is still far from satisfied, and wants to speed up the campaign, not only in this State but also throughout the whole Commonwealth. The people are getting in the right frame of mind to accept our message, if it can be got to them. The repeal of National Insurance, which appears to be quite likely, will give the campaign a great fillip, and it is to be hoped that we are in the position to fully capitalise this. Eric will be in Melbourne for a few weeks before leaving for the North-East, where he will launch the Tongala Heckle Hour. He has also received an invitation to go to Sydney, under the auspices of the Democratic Federation of Youth. It is expected that he will do this trip before Christmas. So many inquiries have been made from the Riverina that Eric and Norman Rolls have made tentative arrangements for another big tour early in the New Year, when they hope to open up some more new territory. Other big plans have been laid down by Eric, and it is to be sincerely hoped that he can get the co-operation of all supporters. If he is to continue satisfactorily with the big job ahead of him it is essential that he have no financial worries, and we would urge all those who were approached re the Security Fund, to do what they can. Information in connection with this matter can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, U.E.A. McEwan House 343 Little Collins Street.

red shrine, then declares that he is unanimously agreed to decree as follows:—

#### Insurance

(1) To ensure an abundant supply of water consonant with economy, each citizen should, when Providence provides the gentle rain from heaven, rush out into the back yard (if any) with up-turned tubs, mixing-bowls, saucers, and sponges where procurable.

(2) To ensure each cit. has plenty of drinking water, each cit. must hand over to the Government a percentage (to be decided upon, but not less than 100%). This ensures abundance for the Government, too.

(3) The amount of water so contributed will be returned (after Inner Cabinets have washed hands in it) at the expense of cit.

(4) For the sake of economy, each cit. should only drink in the wonders of night (with thoughts of modern civilisation in mind).

(5) To conserve water used for washing purposes (wearing apparel), each cit. must connect drain-pipes from wash-troughs to wash-troughs of next door cit. Thus, Mrs. A. washes Mondays, Mrs. B. (with water from Mrs. A.) washes Tuesdays, Mrs. C. washes Wednesdays, and so on ad infinitum nil desperandum.

(6) To further conserve water for washing purposes, each cit. must have all wearing apparel dry-cleaned.

(7) To ensure abundance of water for washing purposes (anthropo - physico - ablutions) each cit. should wash in the water used for the baby's bath. When the family is cleaned, clad, and in its right mind, the water should be offered to the next-door cit., who will, there upon, reverently conduct the family wash-up.

(8) To ensure a saving of water for washing purposes (vide 7) each cit. should study the habits of the common barnyard or indoor fowl, hen or chook (vide "Old Hens Manual"—sometimes referred to as "Hansard"). In this way the art of cleansing the person in a dry sand bath will be observed. Go thou and do likewise.

#### Bad Break

In submitting the foregoing fool-proof plan to a rather critical friend, I was immediately knocked back. He said to me: "Supposing the people get to know of all those full reservoirs?"

I was a bit staggered, but not for long, and I didn't let it show. My Machiavellian cunning came to my rescue as usual. I rated him severely, saying: "You're not to suppose any such thing. And, get this. Democracy will never know what's in store for Democracy."

"No," he said, "not if you know it."

And this is where the column is broken. I'm still optimistic about it. But I'll go and have another think, and then . . .

#### COMPETITION

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### MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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### National Insurance Autocracy— Leading the Horse to Water

Representative democracy, at this present stage of evolution, while not necessarily the ideal form of government, is, presumably, the best so far practised. There are those, of course, who believe that a form of Fascism under a strong, "benevolent" dictatorship would be of greater benefit to the people as a whole than our present democracy. Professor Haldane says:

"The danger to democracy lies in a lack of will (on the part of the electors) which may arise from mere laziness or, more frequently, from disillusion at the results of representative democracy. Unless the mass of the people are willing in the last resort to fight for their convictions, democracy should be replaced by the government of a minority, whether Fascists, Communists, or what not, who possess that will."

Those who would advocate the substitution of a dictatorship for representative democracy, however, overlook one very important fact. The people as a whole, however much divided in opinion on the best method by which to obtain their objective, are often united on the matter of those things that they do *not* want, National Insurance being a case in point.

The protagonists of Dictatorial Government for the Australian people are many, and representative of widely differing schools of thought, each of which would, no doubt, produce its own crop of martyrs under a dictatorship which did not see eye to eye with its principles. It is highly probable, therefore, that an outright dictatorship in this country, however idealistic and unselfish, would result in considerable suffering and, probably, bloodshed.

Until recently the Government of Australia has been sufficiently camouflaged to hoodwink its electors into a belief in its essential democracy. The filching in 1924 of the powers of the

Commonwealth Bank by the nominees of the trading banks went almost unnoticed. It was not until the last depression, when the non-elective Commonwealth Bank Board refused to obey the command of a so-called sovereign government, that the people of Australia began to realise that theirs was a democracy in name only, its government being subservient to a small, but powerful, minority, which ruled at the expense, not merely of a section of the nation, but of the whole of the nation; an under-cover dictatorship which taxed and crushed all classes.

In the years that have passed since the present Government was put into office, the dictatorial nature of the rule superimposed on us has grown more and more apparent, until the majority of the people of all sections of the community have been brought to a realisation of the necessity for taking steps as individuals to offset this backward trend. Thus, the universal demand for the repeal of the iniquitous National Insurance Bill has a much deeper significance than is at first apparent. In effect, it is the assertion by the whole nation of their function in a real democracy, and an insistence on the substance in place of the shadow.

The Government's reply to this universal demand for democratic control has been to form itself into a still closer corporation, of which Lyons, Menzies and Casey have absolute political control, a control which is to be exercised in the interests of a fractional section of the community to the detriment of the people as a whole.

Despite the fact that something like half a million letters protesting against National Insurance have been received by members of the Federal House, the inner, or Dictator Cabinet, refuses to rescind the Bill. The daily press, controlled by the same influence that controls the policy of our governments, has been dumb on the subject of the people's protest. Letters pointing out the defects of the Bill are censored from its open columns, and meetings of protest held throughout the land are not reported, despite the fact that individual members of newspaper executives are antagonistic to it. In the light of these facts it grows more difficult to hide the intention that a dictatorship, undisguised, is proposed for us; a dictatorship headed by men whose policy has not the justification of the totalitarian-State leaders who, Menzies tells us, are seeking to increase the wealth of their States for the benefit of their peoples. Under our present Cabinet an open dictatorship would function even more to the detriment of the people in that it would be used to further curtail the distribution of real wealth among them.

National Insurance is the thin end of the wedge, then, not merely to dictatorship, but to the supreme ignominy of dictatorship under such men as Lyons, Menzies and Casey.

On the day that the National Insurance Act is supposed to come into force the climax of the battle for the retention of our democracy will have been reached; on the day on which we submit to its arbitrary rul-

## "An Agricultural Policy for This New Age of Power Production and Scientific Knowledge"

A booklet published in England by an unofficial group of National Farmers' Union members.

### Preface

The primary function of agriculture and of all farmers should be to provide food for the nation. This elementary axiom seems to have been completely forgotten by our legislators. Yet it is a truth so vital that any policy for agriculture, or food policy for the nation, must be based upon it if it is to have any meaning. We were brought sharply up against this reality during the Great War, but ever since we have been merely drifting, carried this way and that at the whims of the political parties. The repeal of the Agriculture Act of 1920, sometimes known as the Farmers' Magna Carta, before it had even become operative, on the assumption that we no longer needed to produce our own food, knocked away at a blow the whole basis of agricultural policy. It has taken the imminent threat of another war to remind us of the real object of agriculture. Farmers, being realists, have for the past year or more been urging the Government to give practical recognition to the vital importance of agriculture in home defence. Underlying this demand is, per se, the recognition that the primary factor in all productive enterprise in CONSUMPTION. The fertiliser subsidies are a grudging concession to this pressure. All the same, we have not secured an admission on the part of the Government that the function of agriculture is to produce food, and as much of it as possible. The politicians still regard agriculture as a potential market for industrial products, or as something which could "absorb a million unemployed." They think of the land as suitable or unsuitable for aerodromes or playgrounds, or as "residential" or "industrial" areas under the Town Planning Act.

Under these circumstances surely we farmers, who have the soundest conception of the purpose for which agriculture is carried on, could and should frame a policy suitable not only to our own industry, but which is also based upon national welfare and national requirements. Such a policy would be one of increas-

ings we will have lost even its semblance.

That that should happen now that our eyes are opened is inconceivable. For the Little Cabinet to have the impudence to try to force its obnoxious measures on an unwilling people is an outrage.

If, however, the Cabinet is sufficiently obtuse to overlook the strength of public opinion, they will find that the people of Australia will *not* accept their ruling. Paraphrasing the quotation from Professor Haldane, "Unless the mass, of the people are willing, in the last resort to fight for their convictions, democracy *will* be replaced by a minority, whether Fascist or Communist."

Judging by the tone of recent meetings, Australia is likely to gain a democracy rather than lose one as a result of the National Insurance Campaign.

The people will not accept the National Insurance Act, and that is all about it. When Cabinet clashes with the people it will be "Just a pity" for Cabinet.

ing production for the purpose of making possible increasing consumption by our people of the best food—fresh, home produced food. It would naturally stipulate that if producers are to serve the nation in this way all who play their part must be adequately rewarded. That is to say, they must have the means of claiming their fair share of the national production in all other spheres, industrial, intellectual and recreational.

Having agreed on a policy which will endure because it has a sound basis, we must then decide how to have this policy made effective with a minimum expenditure of time and money. The sands are running down. Neither we farmers nor the nation can wait any longer.

Instead of locking themselves up in a water-tight compartment, so to speak, it is of the most supreme importance that farmers and their Union should consider a policy *first and foremost from the point of view of consumers*. It is a fact amounting to an axiom that satisfied consumers mean a healthy and thrifty agricultural industry. In the past to attempt to satisfy farmers without satisfying the needs of consumers *first* has been to attempt the impossible. Farmers are *first* consumers, *second* producers.

### THE POLICY

Part I.

#### The Purpose and Policy of the National Farmers' Union

The National Farmers' Union exists by reason of the necessity for an organisation to collect the will of farmers for the results they want, and to transform that collective will into pressure for its fulfilment. There can be no other valid *raison d'être* for such an organisation.

If this be admitted, it is clear that the first essential for a strong organisation, depending as it must upon voluntary participation, is for the central executive to do all in its power

to ascertain, not to direct the main trend of such opinion. In most trade organisations this purpose is well served by the association journal, an essential aspect of which is that it shall not be run for financial profit. The mere fact that the official N.F.U. Journal, *The Record* consists *entirely* of reports of headquarters' activities and other matter selected by headquarters staff and committees, while its columns are not open to free expression of opinion from individual farmers, is evidence of a bias which is not in the best interests of the agricultural industry. At the same time, headquarters are constantly stressing the need for more farmers to join the N.F.U. in order that the industry may "speak with a united voice." But whose *policy* is to be voiced?

#### THE OBJECTIVE OF INDIVIDUAL FARMERS.

Before it is possible to agree upon a policy that will embody the greatest common measure of desire of farmers, their individual objectives must be known. Surely our common objective can be summed up in the word "security." We want security in our business, which means *assured markets and remunerative prices* for our products. We want the least possible interference with our personal freedom. Consumers other than producers, who form the bulk of the electorate, reiterate the cry of "cheap food." If a formula can be found that will reconcile these apparently opposite aims we shall have within reach an effective policy which is capable of common acceptance. But since a vast increase in the consumption of milk, meat, fruit and vegetables, for instance is needed to bring the diet of our people up to even a minimum standard for health, and we are only too anxious to produce more *if we can sell it*, our aims cannot in truth be so irreconcilable as they appear.

The paradox is that increasing production does *not* in fact make greater consumption possible except by ruining producers which sooner or later means lower production than ever. In order to escape from this paradox the cause must be examined. The ruination of producers is *financial* and is brought about by falling prices or rising costs. We must, therefore, obviously look for a *financial* solution, and in doing so we must realise that

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### KEW PUBLIC MEETING

**To Demand Repeal of the National  
Insurance Act**

Speaker: Mr. F. C. Paice  
Chairman: Cr. J. T. Gazzard

**KEW RECREATION HALL**  
(near Kew Railway Station),

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, at 8 p.m.**



our financial system should be merely a convenience. It is man-made and can be altered at pleasure if it is not serving its special purpose. Can it reasonably be claimed that the existing financial system is serving its purpose when vast areas of distress are accompanied by restriction of production, and "malnutrition" stalks the land?

**SIR JOHN ORR'S PROPOSAL.**

Sir John Orr gave us a key to the situation in his article in the Agricultural Supplement to *The Times* of February 1, 1938. He put forward a proposal which should be acclaimed by farmers and consumers alike, and of which he says "It would be the first instalment of the new policy of the 'marriage of health and agriculture' a policy which would reconcile the interests of producers and consumers - - a policy of good-will and prosperity to all sections of the community."

Sir John lays down the requirements of consumers, which includes all of us, thus: —

"The basis of the national policy must be to ensure that a sufficient amount of the right kind of food to maintain health and physical fitness is *within the purchasing power of every member of the community.* . . . The temporary period of artificial restriction is passed. We must now move forward to a permanent policy of INCREASED CONSUMPTION of agricultural products."

Sir John suggests meeting the requirements of producers thus: —

"The prices offered to farmers will need to be *high enough to call forth the additional foodstuffs.*"

Sir John has suggested that the State (i.e., the national credit) should provide funds to "bridge the gulf between the price which must be paid to the producer and the retail price which the working class can pay."

**THE COMPENSATED PRICE POLICY.**

Sir John Orr's proposal can be summed up as a policy of COMPENSATED PRICES FOR BRITISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE. Here surely is a real objective for us, a genuine focus for N.F.U. action.

The Compensated Price Policy must be considered from two quite distinct aspects.

(i) Will lower prices to consumers result in increasing consumption, thus providing an additional market for our produce?

An answer to this question was given by *The Times* of September 26, 1935, in an account of a very successful experiment carried out by the Potato Marketing Board. This experiment was designed to ascertain whether a reduction in price of potatoes, a staple and already cheap food, would lead to increased consumption. This proved very definitely to be the case. Commenting on the Report on the Experiment, *The Times* said: "It shows one way in which this can be done at a cost of a small subsidy in aid of lower prices. . . . It shows that the whole trend of national agricultural policy in the future can fruitfully be directed towards EXPANDING CONSUMPTION."

(ii.) Granted larger markets for our produce, will moderately remunerative prices call forth increased production?

Few will dispute that the answer is an emphatic affirmative. Profitable markets are so scarce that farmers are constantly looking for them, only to find that the profit vanishes or becomes a loss directly supplies are adequate to meet effective demand. This accounts for the one factor common to almost all marketing schemes—namely, the controlling of supplies to keep them below the level of effective demand,

for directly they reach that level under the present system prices fall to an un-remunerative figure. If a moderate but steady financial profit for producers be maintained, a balanced and sound expansion of production must follow.

**THE COMPENSATED PRICE IN OPERATION.**

The principle of the compensated price is in operation in the present Government's own agricultural policy -- in the Basic Slag Subsidy scheme. That subsidy is a *discount to consumers*, on slag. The farmer gets no benefits of which he can make personal use—financial benefits—for some time, and is not guaranteed any such benefits at all. The producers of slag benefit first, financially. The land itself benefits physically. The farmer has to *spend* money on the slag and hope to recoup himself with a margin when he has more produce to dispose of in a year or so's time. The subsidy, however, has definitely increased the consumption of slag and assured a market to the producers, the steel manufacturers. But, as usual, the farmer is the scapegoat for the subsidy. Nevertheless, we can welcome the scheme as an example of a simple way of expanding consumption by compensating prices. Let us demand the extension of the principle to foodstuffs—i.e., a consumer-discount on home produced foods, which would benefit the farmer first, financially, and the consumer second, physically. Thus we should achieve more production and better nutrition, which *The Times* describes as "the twin pillars of agricultural policy."

**Part II.**

**Financing the Scheme**

In the article already referred to, Sir John Orr says: —

"It will need money to promote this new policy, though the amount of money needed is very much less than some people suppose. But we are no longer afraid of spending money. We realise that money in circulation must increase trade, and in this case all the money would be in circulation in our own country. None of it would be lost. The result of the increased circulation would be greatly improved health and physique, a prosperous agriculture and increased home trade; no national assets are of more value than these."

This is true enough, but there is one thing that Sir John seems to have overlooked. All subsidies under the present system are reflected by interest-bearing debt, created and held by the banks. Thus increasing real prosperity is accompanied by increasing financial indebtedness.

Sir John makes very clear, however, a point that we farmers do not make nearly enough of in putting our case to the public — that the *only* condition lacking for increased national well-being and hitherto undreamed of agricultural prosperity is the possession by consumers of enough money with which to buy what they need. The Compensated Price Policy, by lowering prices to consumers, would increase the ability of the public to buy our products—it would provide new and *ear-marked* purchasing power. At the same time it would provide for the maintenance of the prices receivable by producers. These are the ordinary attributes of a policy for financing consumers.

**CAN CONSUMERS BE FINANCED WITHOUT DEBT?**

It is interesting to find the city editor of the *Daily Herald*, writing on February 26, 1938: "How soon will consumers' credits as proposed by Mr. Meade become practical politics? How long must we go on working by the orthodox but absurd method of bank loans?"

Now a bank loan is not a loan in the accepted sense, as is an ordinary personal loan of money at interest. A bank lends money after it has created it—(i.e., new money). It does not lend its own money nor the money of its clients. If this is doubted, perhaps the following authoritative statements will be accepted: —

(1) "Banks lend by creating credit. They create the means of payment out of nothing." Encyclopaedia Britannica in an article on "Banking and Credit."

(2) "When a bank lends it creates money out of nothing." Mr. R. G. Hawtrey, Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, in his book, "Trade Depression and the Way Out."

The banks thus create money to enable us to produce, exchange and consume, which gives them the power to regulate all our activities, although the only thing which makes this creation of money possible is our ability to produce goods and services. But all money created by the banks is regarded as a debt to them, and we freely accept as right and proper the claim of the banks to the ownership of our money. All created money, being rightfully the property of citizens, and not of the banks, should be placed to the credit of citizens and not to their debit.

We possess the material assets of the land and the ability to increase its yield. The banks must create the money to enable these physical resources to be exploited for the benefit of all. The money required could be created for a single payment of ½ percent, which would allow a generous margin of profit to the banks as remuneration for their services. It is, therefore, unquestionable that CONSUMERS CAN BE FINANCED WITHOUT DEBT.

**DEMAND MORE PURCHASING POWER.**

Colonel Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, M.P., late president of the N.F.U., addressing the Hampshire branch at Winchester in January 1938, said: —

"There can be no question what is the best long term policy for us: it must be the increase of purchasing power of consumers, so that they will be able to buy not only everything we can produce, but everything the world can produce."

And again, in an article in "Home and Empire," Sir Reginald wrote: —

"Surely our task is not to try to force farmers back to bankrupt levels, but to ensure that the great mass of consumers have sufficient purchasing power in their pockets to enable them, without any hardship, to pay a fair price for all they buy."

Now the volume of purchasing power in existence at any time is governed by two things: the amount of money we have to spend and its relation to the prices of the goods we want to buy. An increase of purchasing power in the country will not be obtained by taxing one section of the community to subsidise another, but will only be provided by a deliberate increase in the amount of money in the pockets of consumers, or by a lowering of prices, or by a combination of these two conditions.

It can be seen that fixed in the thoughts of everyone who wishes the farmer well is the one ever-recurring proposition of financing Production through Consumers. The policy contained in this Manifesto releases these thoughts and materialises them. It only remains for the united political pressure of those engaged in the agricultural industry to be applied upon Parliament through sitting Members—quite irrespective of "party"—and the thing will be done.

If there is any other policy

which is acceptable to farmers and consumers alike, what is it? If there is any other policy which is more in the interests of national security in war, what is it?

**Part III.**

**Declaration of Policy**

The undersigned producers, being strongly of the opinion that, if the National Farmers' Union is to achieve results for its members consistent with its great potential power, it must adopt and vigorously pursue a definite policy of its own, WITH A LIMITED OBJECTIVE, recommend that the following resolution be adopted and followed up by all meetings of the Union and other gatherings of farmers:

**RESOLUTION.**

(1) That since the primary function of agriculture is to provide food for the nation in peace and war, national financial policy *must facilitate consumption* and not place artificial restriction upon producers and consumers alike, either through the procedure of Marketing Boards or in any other manner.

(2) That the members of the N.F.U. here present (and/or other producers here present) do hereby agree upon the following policy, which they know to be in the best interests of the nation and do further agree to take all necessary steps to ensure that this policy shall be made effective as rapidly as possible:

*That the community be provided with a flow of purchasing power adequate to ensure the distribution of as much as we can produce and for which potential demand exists; that in its use individuals shall be free to exercise their choice, and that farmers shall be free from restrictions and control in order to fulfil the demand; and that the measures taken to put this policy into effect shall not be such as to cause an increase in taxation or debt.*

quate to ensure the distribution of as much as we can produce and for which potential demand exists; that in its use individuals shall be free to exercise their choice, and that farmers shall be free from restrictions and control in order to fulfil the demand; and that the measures taken to put this policy into effect shall not be such as to cause an increase in taxation or debt.

(3) That to this end the Policy of the Compensated Price shall be applied to British Agricultural Products, thus maintaining prices to producers and reducing them to consumers, and creating new and effective purchasing power.

(4) That the operation of the Compensated Price shall be financed, not by any form of taxation, but by utilising the national credit, so that the provision of money for our use shall be properly related to our capacity to produce goods and services, and consequently any increase in our power to produce shall be reflected in a corresponding increase in our power to consume.

(5) That the National Farmers' Union shall organise united pressure upon Members of Parliament, supported by the united vote, with the object of this Policy being made effective forthwith.

[There follows a long list of Farmers' Union officials of branches and others who personally endorse the policy. — Ed., "N.T."]

**TOPICAL TITBITS FROM THE NEWS**

By "LEXICON."

According to the Director of Mental Hygiene (Dr. Catarinich), whose report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly this week, the ratio of certified insane in Victoria has now reached one in 255.

Dr. Catarinich added: —"Unless the proportion of young people in the community is increased by a rising birth-rate, it seems likely that this ratio will go on increasing, as insanity is mainly a disease of middle and advanced age. Birth prevention is a crime against the State, and one which has many unforeseen and disastrous consequences."

We would suggest that the State could take active steps to reduce middle-age insanity and prevent this "crime of birth prevention" by arranging for all the community to have access to the physical necessities of life for father, mother and children (as many as they can manage to produce), while relieving them of the mental worry due to their present difficulties in properly feeding, clothing and housing themselves and their families.

Unless Government action is taken to overcome the approaching depression, we can promise the Government further headaches on the subject, for there will certainly be a marked decrease in the birth-rate, an increase in the proportion of mentally and physically unfit, and quite possibly a recurrence of the infantile paralysis which, by some strange coincidence, followed on the heels of the last depression.

This brings us to the *Argus* report headed "Fitness in Schools." For the purpose of research, 6708 children from outer suburbs, industrial suburbs, and crowded inner industrial suburbs were medically examined. It was found that, while in the outer suburbs, there were five physically fit children to two who were not so fit, the proportion was three to two in the too closely settled industrial areas.

If "Man's inhumanity to man" is as conscious a process as some would have us believe, it may give the poor some satisfaction to realise that the ills of poverty which first attack their children must inevitably spread to their more fortunate fellows.

Any discussion on the ultimate effect of poverty on the race that nurses it would be lacking if it did not contain some reference from that satirical scientist, Haldane.

Remarking on the sublime faith of that fairly large section of the British community which seems to believe that any but a very small class of diseases can be cured by prayer, he says:

"In my opinion, the dictates of biology are, on the whole, in line with humanitarian ethics. If a difference in effective fertility exists" [a reference to a suggestion that the poor breed less useful citizens than the rich] "between the rich and poor, it seems to me profoundly illogical to attempt to remedy it by making the rich richer and the poor poorer. . . . That would lower their physique and also create foci of disease, which would attack the rich."

"It would be better to send, armoured cars through the slums from time to time, with special instructions to fire on women and children."

Scientists are shockingly logical at times, but we must forgive them, poor dears. They have probably missed the pleasures of singing, "Home, Sweet Home," with tears in their eyes, at community concerts. So that an attack of depression as a method for disposing of the surplus poor merely appeals to them as a less efficient method of disposing of them than an attack of armed force.

## MR. MENZIES AND MR. STEVENS

### "Pawns in the Game of Finance"

Sir,—Notwithstanding the frequent assertions of Mr. Menzies that he is an ardent supporter of Democracy, there is abundant evidence suggesting that his actions are designed to bring about conditions which are the very antithesis of Democracy. He knows that the practice of Democracy is a physical impossibility in any country whose finance is under private control, and yet he goes around prattling about Australian Democracy knowing all the while that the people of Australia exercise no control whatever over their financial system and therefore have no earthly chance of practising even the first principles of Democracy.

#### Facts and False Reputations

With the knowledge that Mr. Menzies talks one thing and practises another (which was further confirmed by his address at Wesley Church last Sunday week), the particulars published in *The Century* on October 28 were doubly interesting. As explained last week, *The Century* is published weekly in Sydney, and its article on October 28 was given the following headlines: "FINANCIAL CONTROL OF AUSTRALIA. HUGE STAKE IN AMAZING INTRIGUE." So far as the public could see, the main agents in the intrigue were Mr. Menzies and Mr. Stevens, but the details published in the article referred to gave good grounds for the statement that these two men were "only the pawns in the game." That, I know, is hardly flattering to men reputed to be strong, but facts do not usually accommodate themselves to the false reputations of men.

#### The All-Impelling Influence

It was stated that a new alliance had been formed between "Federal Attorney-General Menzies and Premier Stevens," and that Mr. Menzies had suddenly and unexpectedly come in on the "Stevens for Canberra" campaign, simultaneously making a thinly-veiled attack upon the leadership of Mr. Lyons. This development surprised the stage-strutters, but it was explained that the explanation was to be found in the financial background of the two principal actors. If this be so, then it is important that we should know more about this financial background, and it is in this direction that the article in *The Century* was so illuminating. Strange, is it not, how everything seems to be motivated by finance? All our economic difficulties have to do with the financial aspect, not with production or the capacity of the human stomach. Most of the crime in society arises from monetary considerations. And even in the realm of political intrigue we see evidence of the same impelling influence.

#### Mr. Menzies and Directorships

More than once it has been pointed out in these columns that Mr. Menzies was beneficially connected with certain financial institutions, and that consequently he had a personal interest in maintaining the existing monetary system under which those institutions flourished. In these circumstances, and in view of the statements he made BEFORE he became a member of the Federal Parliament (as quoted last week), as well as the fact that he has done nothing to rectify the position against which he then spoke, you, Mr. Editor, or perhaps some of your

readers, might care to ascertain the dates from which he became a member of the several directorates and the amount he has received from them in fees and dividends. The public ought to know this.

#### How Interests Mingle

About the middle of October Mr. Menzies announced his resignation from the directorates of seven companies in the J. B. Were group, and offered the explanation that he had not the time to attend board meetings. This may be a thoroughly genuine reason, but resignation at this stage does not remove his "interest" in the group which brought him into close contact with the Melbourne *Argus* and the Bank of New South Wales. Mr. Stevens is also interested in the same organisations.

#### How Co-operation Operates

It was explained last week that there is some conflict of opinion between the Bank of New South Wales and the Commonwealth Bank, and that the scheme appeared to be to get Mr. Stevens into the Federal Cabinet to strengthen the position of the private banks if it came to a fight with the Commonwealth Bank. To get an idea of the atmosphere it is necessary to know that J. B. Were and Son are the largest loan underwriters in the Commonwealth outside the Commonwealth Bank; that the head of this financial group is Staniforth Ricketson, chairman of directors of the Melbourne *Argus*; that while Mr. Menzies was supporting Mr. Stevens, the *Argus* was attacking the monetary ideas of Mr. Casey, and calling for his supplantation; that after Mr. Stevens had a conflict with Mr. Lang in 1925 and found himself relieved of the position of Director of Finance, he became the New South Wales representative of J. B. Were and Son; that J. B. Were and Son are one of the principal Australian agents for the Stock Exchange, which is an integral part of the existing swindle called the financial system; that the Bank of New South Wales has obtained a guarantee from the Stevens Government for loans amounting to nearly four million pounds under the housing scheme alone; that the Bank of New South Wales is banker for the *Argus*; and that Mr. Casey, as Commonwealth Treasurer, described the ideas of the Bank of New South Wales as "Boom, Borrow, or Bust," while Mr. Stevens described them as a "vigorous monetary policy." Such comment from Mr. Casey was a terrible affront, and he was there and then declared to be unsuitable for the position of Treasurer, and was informed that he should be replaced by Mr. Stevens.

#### Obedience or the Sack

Immediately this indiscretion on the part of Mr. Casey had taken place, the *Argus* came out with a scathing editorial against him, demanding that he should either obey the Bank of New South Wales or make way for someone who would. Mr. Casey, who also has been represented as a strong man, immediately surrendered, and by return post from Canberra assured the *Argus* that "money will be found for defence—just as much and just as fast as it is wanted." This did the trick, and Mr. Casey was promptly informed that, in view of his letter to the editor, "he is acceptable in his present post as Treasurer." So everything was

nicely fixed, and it didn't matter what you, I, or the rest of the Australian people might have thought about it. We agree with the *Argus* that Mr. Casey is entirely unsuitable for the office of Treasurer, but our conclusion is, of course, based on other and better grounds.

#### Demand for "Reconstruction"

With this delightful and reassuring (?) background, we can see the purpose of the *Argus*, as mouthpiece for the interested group, in publishing a strong editorial demanding an immediate reconstruction of the Federal Cabinet. In its usual helpful manner it left nothing to the imagination and actually indicated how it should be done. The following extracts speak for themselves: "Most people will agree that Mr. Menzies, with his varied Ministerial experience, his wide knowledge of Australian and extra-Australian affairs, and his mental alertness, should be announced publicly, as he is now regarded privately, as Mr. Lyons's right-hand man and chief executive Minister." This was a pretty good write-up, and such an arrangement would have been right into the hands of the Bank of New South Wales and the J. B. Were group of debt and speculation merchants.

#### "The Most Capable Man"

As to Mr. Stevens, the *Argus* was equally sure as to what should have been done. It said this: "The most capable man available, whether inside or outside the present Ministry, is needed for the important task of coordinating all national defence effort . . . and Mr. Stevens, now Premier of New South Wales, is an obvious choice. The Prime Minister should give Mr. Stevens a public invitation to serve in this capacity. If for a sufficiently important reason Mr. Stevens should be unavailable immediately, Mr. Menzies might combine the duties of Attorney-General and Treasurer, thus releasing Mr. Casey for the National Defence portfolio." That, too, would have been just the thing for the Bank of New South Wales and the J. B. Were "Investment" Group, as they would have had one of their men holding the general purse strings of the Commonwealth Government and another holding the important office of coordinator of defence and controller of the military forces.

#### An "Obvious Choice"

Have you ever paused to consider why Mr. Stevens should be described as "an obvious choice" for the most capable man available? In what way has he proved his capability? Is it as what is called "a local preacher" in the Methodist Church, or as an absolute champion at placing the people of his State further and further in debt to the bankers? As a preacher we would naturally expect him to stick religiously to the truth, regardless of consequences, but I fear the position and progress of B. S. B. Stevens is more important to B. S. B. Stevens than either the telling of the truth or the welfare of the rank and file of the people. I am fully conscious that that may be regarded as strong criticism, but when I see vested interests putting him forward in 1938 as the "Man of the Moment," I cannot help recalling the circumstances under which he was similarly put forward in 1934; and if he submits himself so openly and so readily to that sort of thing, then he must expect the claims made on his behalf to be submitted to the searchlight of public analysis. For that reason,

Mr. Editor, I hope you will permit me to review what took place in 1934, so that all of us may know the sort of man we are dealing with—the sort of man who has been put forward publicly as the most capable man available for a place in the Federal Cabinet.

#### Used Also by Sir Keith

In the Melbourne *Herald* of February 12, 1934, Mr. Stevens was given pride of place in photograph and story. At that time it suited the purposes of Sir Keith Murdoch to use him in that way. The story was entitled, *America Adopts the Premiers' Plan*. Striking similarity in Roosevelt's Policy. By B. S. B. Stevens, Premier of New South Wales." The whole of the article was undisguised praise for the fraudulent Premiers' Plan, under which the people of Australia had been so shamelessly robbed in the interests of the bankers. Much of what Mr. Stevens then said was inexcusably misleading, and some of it was actually untrue, and even to-day we still see similar features associated with what he says and writes. Then, as now, he was the adulator of the private banks, and wrote: "Our Australian Banking System is regarded the world over as one of the most efficient and best organised." No need for him to fear, after that, that he would be left short of funds at election time.

#### Banks the Same Everywhere

Allowing for newspaper embroidery, the assertion that America had adopted the Premiers' Plan seemed so extraordinary to me that I looked up the Congressional Record and the *New York Times* to get confirmation. What I did get was abundant evidence that the real similarity between the United States and Australia was the demand of the banks and employers' representatives for severe deflation. Not only did America NOT adopt the Premiers' Plan, but it deliberately dropped the policy of budget-balancing some twelve months before. In order to show how unreliable this "obvious choice" for a great man really is, it will be necessary to examine what he wrote for the Melbourne *Herald*, and I hope to do that next week. One thing can be said here and now, however, and it is this: Mr. Stevens has shown that he is not a democrat, and it is therefore ridiculous to suggest that personal advancement to the position of having a voice in National Policy for one who is not a democrat would be to the advantage of a democratic community. Logically, therefore, every democrat should join in resisting the transfer to the Federal Parliament of men of the Stevens type.—Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.

which have chained society in the

## YOUTH HITS BACK

"Like most of those people who criticise youth, I sincerely hope that I shall never become a mere creature of circumstance, with no initiative to face and grapple with those realities which darken and hinder the onward march of human progress. All the worthwhile reforms in the history of the world have been achieved by those who faced realities and grappled with them. But how many of my critics have the mental or moral courage to dare criticise a society which is leaving as its main contribution to posterity a state of affairs so terrible, in terms of human suffering and misery, that future historians will conclude that we were a race of lunatics, with the private banks as our headquarters? And when a youth of 22 dares to criticise this inhuman state of affairs, he is met with the stubborn, ignorant prejudices of people who are so conditioned by our dope-saturated society that they are content to drift along with the stream of human apathy and inertia until they are cast upon the cruel and jagged rocks of economic collapse and bloody war. And even then, like the silly penguins, who, when one of their number is shot, only give a mournful squawk and come a little closer to the danger, so the vast majority of people give a silly grin and pass these human tragedies off with a shrug.

"But, because some people prefer to drift and have death, that is no reason why those who prefer democracy and life should not strive for those things which will lift civilisation, as we know it, to a new and better level. And, make no mistake, a new mood is being born amongst an increasing number of my generation. New, daring thoughts and criticisms are being applied with ruthless disregard for those taboos

past. Young minds, full of zeal and the ideals of building a new and better nation, are tackling those problems which blight our social life.

"And do those who criticise youth think that this onward march of enlightenment and progress, which youth is destined to lead, is going to be thwarted by the mere opinions of those who have nothing but defeatism to offer—who merely pay lip service to a democracy which is a lie. But I say that that lie can become a truth, and I, therefore, make no apologies to any person in my claim for the right to teach and talk the truth. My generation has been challenged. To-night I have accepted that challenge. I have presented facts and truths which cannot be avoided or distorted. And, if any of those present think that youth is dogmatic and presumptuous, now is the time to speak—when youth can answer and defend itself."

—Eric Butler at Leeton.

#### A BUSINESS SECRET

The travelling salesman became more and more puzzled as to how the store kept alive. Finally, he asked:

"How in the world do you make a go of things at all?"

Indicating the clerk, who was at the far end of the counter, the storekeeper replied:

"You see that fellow there? Well, he works for me, and I can't pay him. In two years he gits the store. Then I work for him till I git it back."—*Montreal Gazette*.

By far the largest cotton crop in the history of the country was harvested by U.S.A. growers during the year ending **July 31 last**.

## MR. BUSINESS MAN .....

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## WHO RULES BRITANNIA?

### Is Montagu Norman's Policy Anti-Soviet, Pro-Nazi?

Ladislav Farago, writing in "Ken" (Chicago), of November 3, under the heading, "Inside the Four-Power Pact," submits the following evidence:

At Berchtesgaden, der Chamberlain tried to extend the Axis to take in Paris and London. But the British and French people couldn't be taken in. So they had to be chloroformed with fear. Thus London's Wall Street, dragging France by the franc, could at last join the Fascists openly, as it has planned secretly for four years. Here's the scenario of history's boldest farce.

In spite of Britain's frenzied war preparations, in spite of the trenches dug in the Royal Park, of the calling up of reserves, of the rationing of foodstuffs and of the Royal Declaration of a State of Emergency, Arthur Neville Chamberlain was determined to keep out of war at any price rather than to fight Germany as a partner of Russia. In this the British Prime Minister was following not only his own policy, but was acting under direct, unmistakable instructions from Montagu Collet Norman, for 18 years Governor of the Bank of England. Shortly before the Czechoslovakian crisis became acute, Norman had warned Chamberlain that under no circumstances was he to commit Britain to join the Soviet Union against Germany. On the contrary, Chamberlain was to do everything in his power to get Germany into a united front against Russia.

While there can be no doubt of the sincerity of Mr. Chamberlain's love of peace, this ultimate aim was the guiding motive which induced him to fly to Berchtesgaden and to Godesberg. The Four-power Conference in Munich, a long-desired dream of Herr Hitler, was the climax of a scheme prepared four years ago by the directors of the Bank of England, in co-operation with an influential Carlton Club clique, and with the head of Britain's armament factories.

Whatever Chamberlain told the People of England about his frantic endeavours and self-sacrificing efforts, he did not tell the complete story. He failed to mention the warning of Montagu Norman, the pressure of certain City circles, and his own preference for even the most humiliating peace to avoid alliance with the Soviet.

#### Financiers Plot

In the spring of 1934 a select group of city financiers gathered around Montagu Norman in the windowless building of the Bank of England in Threadneedle Street. Among those present were Sir Alan Anderson, partner in Anderson, Green & Co.; Lord (then Sir Josiah) Stamp, chairman of the L.M.S. Railway system; Edward Shaw, chairman of the P. & O. steamship Lines; Sir Robert Kindersley, a partner in Lazard Bros.; Charles Hambro, partner in Hamros Bros., and C. F. Tiarks, head of J. Schroeder Co.

Mr. Norman spoke of the political constellation of Europe, and of the future outlook. In his opinion the issue which has dominated British politics during the past 15 years was still the burning one: the destruction of the Soviet regime in Russia. For the past 15 years, he argued, Britain had been conducting a campaign to this end, alone. He counted out France, a declining power, and Italy, burdened with too many domestic difficulties, as possible partners, in the successful completion of the programme. But now a new power was established on Europe's political horizon,

namely: Nazi Germany. Hitler had disappointed his critics. His regime was no temporary nightmare but a system with a good future, and Mr. Norman advised his directors to include Hitler in their plans.

There was no opposition, and it was decided that Hitler should get covert help from London's financial section until Norman will have succeeded in putting sufficient pressure on the Government to make it abandon its pro-French policy for a more promising pro-German orientation.

#### Financiers Act

Immediately the directors went into action. Their first move was to sponsor Hitler's secret rearmament, just about to begin. Using their controlling interests in both Vickers and Imperial Chemical Industries, they instructed these two huge armament concerns to help the German programme by all means at their disposal. Both Vickers and I.C.I. were quite willing to co-operate, especially since this now official policy of London's City was in line with their own anti-Russian plans. Long before Montagu Norman decided to use Hitler, Vickers had created a ring of armament factories in all countries which seemed Russia's potential enemies. They controlled the Societe Polonaise de Materielle de Guerre in Poland, the Mitsui Japanese Steel Works in Japan, the Vickers Terni and the Armstrong Pozzoli in Italy, and were working in close contact with Krupps and a number of other armament factories in Germany.



DR. SCHACHT AND MONTAGU NORMAN TALK IT OVER.

In fact, they were represented everywhere along the future front against Russia. This anti-Soviet ring was well established already before Japan, Germany and Italy agreed upon their own political anti-Comintern pact.

Soon, the British Navy was won over to the Bank's pro-German policy.

The first success in this positive German orientation was the Anglo-German naval agreement, which was the actual start of Hitler's realisation of his crusade against the provisions of the Versailles Treaty. There was much more in that agreement than the mutual limitation of England's and Germany's naval strength. It was agreed that the admiralty and the German naval command would work in the closest possible co-operation; secret clauses provided for an exchange of naval intelligence; diverse information and details of inventions concerning naval construction. Shortly after the agreement was signed an English commission, consisting of six high admiralty officials, journeyed to Berlin, set up headquarters in a boarding house in Berlin's In den Zelten, and surveyed German's naval strength. It was suggested to Germany that it abandon the metric system on its naval units and to adopt the English linear system in order to enable English armament manufacturers to supply ammunition promptly should the German navy be

engaged against Russia in the Baltic Sea. Simultaneously, Germany placed at the disposal of the British admiralty an invention by the staff of the Berlin Technical College, for use in submarine construction.

The London War Office followed suit. They agreed to a Berlin suggestion to exchange officers of the fighting forces, and in 1934 three German officers came to London, while three English officers were sent to the German War Ministry. In the same year English armament firms placed huge advertisements in the *Militarisches Wochenblatt*, offering for sale tanks and guns, prohibited by the Versailles Treaty. A statement made by General Sir Herbert Lawrence, chairman of Vickers, furnished the necessary evidence that the British Government knew about and approved these advertisements. When, at his company's annual meeting, he was asked to give the assurance that Vickers arms and munitions were not being used for secret rearming in Germany, he replied: "I cannot give you an assurance in definite terms, but I can tell you that nothing is done without the complete sanction and approval of our own Government."

#### "Fixing" Cabinet

Between 1934 and 1937 Montagu Norman made several attempts to win Baldwin over to his anti-Russian front. But this "elder statesman" stubbornly resisted the governor's persistent attacks; for even though he was no friend of Russian orientation, when faced with a choice he considered Hitler worse than Stalin. Nevertheless, Norman succeeded in planting the idea in the minds of several members of Baldwin's Cabinet. The first minister to join Norman's anti-Russian, pro-German front was Sir Thomas Inskip, Minister of Co-ordination of Defence, whose anti-Russian attitude was a family affair. Sir Thomas, oft described as the most

Germany had an able and popular spokesman in London: Field Marshal Werner von Blomberg. The then German War Minister had come to London to represent Hitler at the Coronation, and stayed for several weeks after the ceremonies were ended. He utilised his stay to good advantage for momentous conferences with City circles as well as with the new masters in Downing Street. In his meetings with Chamberlain he is known to have proposed closer Anglo-German co-operation along the following lines:

Hitler was to annex Austria and dismember Czechoslovakia; in addition England would, in due course, return to Germany some of her lost colonies. Moreover, the British would use their influence in Paris to break up the Franco-Russian alliance and to force Czechoslovakia to sever her connection with the Soviet. In return, Hitler would join the *British* anti-Soviet front, agree to a certain limitation of armaments, and enter into a four-power pact including France and Italy.

Chamberlain agreed to the proposals, and the complete re-orientation of Britain's foreign policy began.

Early in June 1937, he summoned Anthony Eden to his office, and instructed him to abandon the traditional Foreign Office policy based on Anglo-French-Russian co-operation. He cautioned him to avoid anything which might be construed as an affront against Germany. Finally, he told Eden to suggest to the French Government, that they make a gesture indicating a departure from Franco-Russian co-operation. The Foreign Secretary attempted a tepid resistance, but Chamberlain confronted him with the alternative: yield or resign. Eden yielded. The first overt act in this new British policy came a few days later, when the Foreign Office convoked a miniature four-power conference to discuss the patrolling of Spanish coastal areas. Present in Mr. Eden's office were Conte Grandi, the Italian; the French M. Corbin, and Herr von Ribbentrop, the German Ambassador; the Russian Ambassador, Ivan Maisky, was ignored.

#### New Diplomatic Precedent

Then and there a new diplomatic precedent was created. Previous to June 1937, M. Maisky was *persona grata* with Mr. Eden, and among the first to be informed of every British move in Europe. Now information was refused to him. On the occasion of Daladier's first visit to London, when the Franco-British agreement was signed, this practice nearly brought an open break in Anglo-Russian diplomatic relations. Both the German and Italian Embassies were constantly kept informed by the Foreign Office, yet the Russians were left completely in the dark. M. Maisky himself dashed to Downing Street; at first he asked, then demanded, the same information that was handed to his Fascist colleagues, but he was unable to obtain anything other than the official communique. He turned to the French delegation, referred to the then still existing Franco-Russian pact; but M. Daladier, too, refused to disclose to him what the Germans and Italians were permitted to learn. At last the desperate Ambassador contacted French newspaper correspondents camping in the Savoy Hotel, and got from them the inside story of the agreement, which he wired to Moscow. At the same time, he informed Stalin of the circumstances. His report drove Stalin into a fury. Stalin summoned his own inner Cabinet, and told them he would accept Chamberlain's challenge and recall Maisky from London. Litvinov, however, pointed out that such a withdrawal in these extremely tense times would be a serious mistake, and that it was vital to

*It is easy to understand Chamberlain's decision to adapt this policy when one considers how closely he is connected with the financial clique and the armament industry. Among his extensive financial holdings is a considerable block of Imperial Chemical Industries shares, 833 preferential and 5414 ordinary ones. His son Francis Chamberlain is on the staff of Imperial Chemical Industries' sales organisation at the main office in Birmingham.*

#### Co-operation and Re-orientation

At the time Chamberlain replaced Baldwin at Number 10,

(Continued on page 8.)

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(Continued from page 3.)  
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E. WHITE. 109 High St. Confectionery and Smokes.  
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LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 6605.  
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M. J. MARTIN, 167 High St. Haw. 3794. Shoe Store, Shoe Repairs.  
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BOOT REPAIRS. J. T. Nolan, Holmes St., 4 drs. Moreland Rd.

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

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## WHO RULES BRITANNIA?

(Continued from page 7.)

have a first-rate diplomat in London Maisky remained as an observer rather than an Ambassador.

### Bank of England Stepped In

Eden's other assignment—the breaking up of the Franco-Russian pact—turned out to be a more difficult task. Leon Blum flatly refused to act upon Eden's "friendly advice," and—for a while—the situation remained unchanged. Then the Bank of England stepped in. She decided to buy France out of her Russian commitment on the instalment plan. A bear raid was made on the franc, and soon the Blum Government was compelled to ask financial aid from England. Vincent Auriol, the Finance Minister, contacted Montagu Norman and asked for a loan of 600 million dollars, but was told point-blank that the Bank of England did not consider a France under Blum sufficient guaranty. With the loan refused, Blum was unable to maintain his position, and was succeeded by Camille Chautemps, whose Finance Minister, Bonnet, was Norman's man. Then a loan of 200 million dollars was advanced, and more promised, subject to the following conditions: A gradual departure from the Popular Front; a new Government, with Daladier as Premier; the abandonment of the Franco-Russian pact. Even though Daladier advanced to the Premiership, the Bank still refused to pay over the second instalment, chiefly because Paul-Boncour, who had been made Foreign Minister, was suspected by the Bank of pro-Russian sympathies. Norman then advised Daladier that he would be given another 200 million dollars only if Bonnet were to replace Paul-Boncour at the Quai d'Orsay. The French yielded again, and now Montagu Norman could direct France's foreign policy in the anti-Soviet manner, decided at the fateful meeting in Threadneedle Street four years before.

Not until the late spring of 1938 did France receive the third instalment this time for agreeing to disregard the Russian commitment. After Hitler annexed Austria, Daladier and Bonnet flew to London. Desperately in need of money and scared by Hitler's steady expansion, they submitted to everything Norman dictated through Chamberlain.

### Soviet Policy

Under normal circumstances this painless dissolution of the Franco-Soviet pact—would never have bothered Stalin, who was disgusted with France's attitude in the Spanish Civil War. During my stay in Moscow in the summer of 1937, I was told by a high official of M. Litvinov's Commissariat that the Kremlin was considering Russia's withdrawal from the pact, and a complete redirection of the Soviet's foreign policy. However, in the decision to sacrifice Czechoslovakia to the interests of the Fascist and semi-Fascist Powers, Stalin saw an opportunity to raise the stature of the Soviet Union before the public opinion of the world. While the democracies, with London as their headquarters, were sketching the mutilation of Czechoslovakia Stalin instructed Litvinov to assure President Benes that Russia would honour her obligations and stand by whatever happens.

Two alternative Russian plans were submitted to Benes. If Russia were able to reach an agreement with Roumania for the passage of her troops and material, help would be sent immediately. Should Roumania, under pressure from London, fail to agree, then Benes was to move the Czechoslovak Army into Russia, whence operations against the invaders would be started. This unexpected assurance stiffened the Czechs' attitude and upset the plans of London.

### According to Plan

A new plan toward the construction of the Western Pact—as London camouflages this anti-Russian alliance—was evolved in Kiel (Germany), where Sir Alan Anderson, director of the Bank of England; Sir Malcolm Campbell, a member of Lloyds; Ronald Olaf Hambro of Hambros Brothers; Sir Alexander MacCormick and Charles A. Proctor, of the city, met with their German counterparts at the Deutscher Anslands Club in June of this year. It was hoped that the Czechs would supply the incident which would take the onus of aggression off Hitler. Runciman was sent to Prague, where his staff purposely clouded the issues and, by contradictory advice to leaders of opposing factions, managed to produce increased discord instead of bringing about a settlement. It is noteworthy that Runciman was the man who, in 1934, authorised the first export of aero engines to Germany, in open violation of the provisions of the Versailles Treaty.

On September 12 Hitler made his speech at the Nuremberg Party Congress before 300,000 Germans and 44 English Lords, who journeyed to Germany to be present when Der Fuehrer made his declaration to annex the Sudetenland.

Czech resistance was brutally broken by Chamberlain and Daladier.

But Stalin interfered once more and insisted upon fulfilment of the treaty obligations calling for the defence of Czechoslovakia. This latest and boldest Russian move forced Chamberlain out into the open.

*An artificial war scare was created, dramatic pleas for peace were made to deceive public opinion which had been aroused after Berchtsgaden and by Litvinov's Geneva speech. At the psychological moment, when the world believed war inevitable, the Four-Power Conference was called to Munich—a conference which appeared to be spontaneous, but which, in fact, had been decided upon four years ago in Montagu Collet Norman's private office.*

## CAMPAIGN FOR REPEAL OF NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT

**BALLARAT.**—Mr. F. Paice addressed a public meeting, held in the Britannia Theatre, Ballarat on Sunday, November 20. After exposing the iniquities of the Act, Mr. Paice said: "No power could overcome the united will of the people. Therefore, everyone should join in the national demand for the repeal of the Act. Suggestions for amendments led to confusion and disunity, thus permitting the old political trick of divide-and-rule to defeat the will of the people." A resolution demanding the repeal of the Act was passed unanimously, with instructions that the Prime Minister, and the representative for the electorate, be informed of the resolution and its context by telegram.

**COBURG.**—Members of the Coburg Citizens' Committee accomplished good work on Friday evening last. A table was set up in the main street, with pens, ink and Repeal letter-forms arrayed on the table. Announcers called out: "Against National Insurance, sign here." Persons of both sexes swarmed round the table, clamouring to sign. Each person who signed was given a letter-form to obtain the signature of a friend, with instructions to return the signed form to the committee next Friday evening. Twenty thousand letter-forms are being printed. The letters are now being addressed to the Senate, as Mr. Blackburn, the representative for the electorate, has publicly stated that he will work for the repeal of the Act.

**ORMOND.**—The Henty Anti-National Insurance League will hold the second meeting of a series to be held throughout the electorate, in Christ Church Parish Hall, corner of North Road and Booran Road, on Tuesday evening, November 29. Mr. J. I. Sullivan, LL.B., will be in the chair.

**HEIDELBERG** Meeting, to be addressed by Mr. Paice, in Barkley Hall, Cope Street, on Tuesday evening, December 6.

A very successful street meeting was held in Heidelberg main street on Friday night last, and addressed by Mr. Whitton and Mr. F. C. Paice. The meeting was well attended, and many signatures were obtained. A feature was that the people who arranged the meeting believed that this district had not been contacted or made aware of the campaign for Repeal, but during the meeting an elderly gentleman advised the speaker that he had approached 1000 persons in a house-to-house canvass and had only received 13 refusals to sign.

**WANGARATTA.**—One of the largest meetings in Wangaratta for some considerable time was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Thursday night, the 17th inst. Over 200 people were present. The meeting was addressed by the Mayor (Cr. T. J. Nolan), Crs. W. J. Smith, A. H. Smith and T. W. Campbell, and also Mr. W. T. Higgins and Mr. J. W. Chadwick. All the speakers trenchantly criticised the National Insurance Act. The Mayor said that the Act would decrease the purchasing power of the vast majority of the Australian people and increase their cost of living. The only thing that National Insurance would insure was the perpetuation of poverty. Ninety per cent, of the people were against this Act, but the lying daily press, by a campaign of silence in refusing to publish reports of meetings of protest, were trying to ram it down their throats. However, they had the politicians on the run, and this time the will of the people was going to prevail. He advised the people to keep the pressure up.

Mr. Higgins said that the Government, with the votes of discredited members, had forced this measure on the people in the

interests of a very small section, who were the real rulers of this country.

The following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this meeting of residents of Wangaratta and district, representing all shades of political opinion, believing that the National Insurance Act is not in the best interests of the vast majority of the Australian people, call upon the Commonwealth Government to repeal this Act. Further, we request our member for Indi to support any move made for its repeal."

The following resolution was also carried unanimously: "That the Melbourne daily press be requested to publish a full report of this meeting of protest."

A petition of protest, calling upon the Government to repeal the Act, was drawn up, and within twenty-four hours had been signed by over 400 residents. The

petition is still being signed by large numbers, and scores of requests are being received from country people to be allowed to sign the protest. There are now over 800 signatures.

**BENALLA.**—A letter, signed by thirty-one citizens and rate-payers of Benalla, received by the Shire Council at its meeting, stated that, as there was such a large section of the public opposed to the National Health and Pensions Act, it had been decided to organise a public meeting to protest against it.

The letter asked for the use of the Shire Hall for a meeting on Friday, November 18.

Cr. Harrison said that the Bill was a preposterous thing. He could not see why a man on £1 a week should be compelled to pay 1/6 a week and his employer 1/6. It would hit the casual employee hard.

Cr. Stolz said the Act would hit both employers and employees.

A discussion took place as to whether the use of the hall should be free or not; and, on division, it was decided to make no charge, as the meeting was a public one.

## ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

### VICTORIA

We are faced with a fait accompli—that disturbing condition of affairs that happens and becomes a fact to the astonishment of whoever it may concern. It is the concern, the very intimate concern, of every Australian to learn of the establishment of an Inner Cabinet, the personnel of which intends to clothe itself with dictatorial power. For many years the election by the people of representatives to Parliament has been a farce. Pretence is now dispensed with. We may find consolation in knowing that we are no longer being fooled. Subterfuge is gone. We know we are being governed; and by a Government that is not democratic. The machinery of democratic government still exists. Shall we, the people, use it and gain freedom, or shall we meekly permit the chains to be securely riveted?

The object of the Electoral Campaign is to assist the people to gain, and retain, control of Parliament, and thus govern themselves.

The Electoral Campaign is based on two fundamental principles of democracy—viz., Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail; and the politician is paid for the service of representing to Parliament that which the people want Parliament to enact. The Electoral Campaign has for its instrument of expression the Elector's Demand and Undertaking form, which, when signed, conveys to the politicians what the electors want represented to Parliament.

For full information, get in touch with: U.E.A., 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne. Tel., MU 2834.

**BENDIGO** reports that the pressure idea is being introduced in the agitation regarding the water situation in the Bendigo district. Members of the Group are keeping the "Bendigo Advertiser" well supplied with letters, embodying the Electoral Campaign idea. Provincial papers are a splendid medium of propaganda and every effort should be made by country supporters to use their local press.

**AN OPEN FORUM.**—The Australian Church contemplates opening a Public Forum. This will provide another medium for expression of public affairs; but the usefulness of the discussions would be increased manifold if they were broadcasted. Therefore, radio stations should be written to, requesting that they cooperate to assure that the Australian Church Forum is "on the air."

**YOUTH SECTION.**—From the success of the hike on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> inst. The call will come for

more relaxation of a similar nature. It was an enjoyable trip from Mooroolbark to Mt. Evelyn and Lilydale.

The next social function of the Youth Section will be on December 8, a picture night at the Regent Theatre. Tickets are available from Miss Jean Barnard, c/o U.E.A., 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, C.I. Dress circle and stalls, 2/2. Attend this picture night, and help the U.E.A. funds.

**THE YOUTH TEAM** will speak at Frankston to-night (Friday). This splendid team is a challenge to young and old in the fight for economic security.

**ADVERTISE THE Y.S.**—Last week a call went out for donation for advertising—an excellent way to attract new people. Did you send in your donation? Miss J. Robinson, Propaganda Organiser, c/o U.E.A. (address above), will be pleased to receive donations to this end.

### WEST AUSTRALIA

**REPEAL OF NATIONAL INSURANCE.**—This campaign is now well under way, and workers everywhere are meeting with every success. A petition is being circulated for the free use of the Perth Town Hall for the purpose of a meeting, and all ratepayers who are sympathetic towards the Repeal Movement are asked to sign this petition or forward their names direct to Headquarters.

**GARDEN FETE.**—A further reminder of the Garden Fete, to be held in the grounds of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, 150 Suburban Road, South Perth. Every effort is being made to make this occasion an outstanding success. The Rev. Canon Bell, of Christ Church, Claremont, and of radio fame, has been invited to officially open the fete.

**GERALDTON GROUP.**—A report from Mr. J. S. Rooke, secretary of this Group, indicates that these stalwarts are still pushing ahead with the fight.

### NOTICE

In future the telephone number of the "New Times" will be MU 2834.

From the end of this month the "New Times" Office will be located at McEwan House 343 Little Collins Street (Fifth Floor.)

The postal address will remain unaltered—Box 1226, G.P.O. Melbourne.

## THE CANADIAN MAPLE LEAF

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