

THE NEW TIMES

Vol. 5. No. 9.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1939.

Every Friday, 3d

CASEY'S CURFEW SHALL NOT RING!

Sir Denison Miller, first governor of Australia's Commonwealth Bank probably turned in his grave in 1924, when the Bank's wings were first clipped, ostensibly to prevent "flight of capital" from Australia, but actually for the purpose of giving a final say in the nation's finances to those who would be most certain to use their powers for the benefit of private interests. Today one would be safe in assuming that Andrew Fisher and Sir Denison Miller are rotating rapidly in their vaults while Casey seeks to deal the deathblow to Australia's great national institution.

The method adopted by Casey in his attempt to rob us of our bank is very similar to that of the man in the old days of gold currency who gave a small boy a nice big shining half-crown in exchange for a sovereign, the only difference is that we won't get the half-crown. Apart from that, neither the small boy nor most of the people of Australia are aware that there's anything wrong about the deal.

The Commonwealth Bank was instituted in 1912 for the specific purpose of providing the finance necessary to save Australia from a recurrence of the depressions and slumps that had held back its progress and inflicted suffering on its people at frequent intervals from 1842 onwards. In 1843 attempts were made to start a Commonwealth Bank because it was realised that the slump of the previous year was largely due to the power-at-any-cost (to others) policy of the private banks. Other abortive attempts were made during the crises of the fifties, seventies and the nineties, but it was not until 1912 that the ideal of a central bank, intended for the benefit of the people, was achieved.

Space is too limited to give the details of the functions that the bank was to perform, but speaking generally, its main objective was to maintain the flow of money necessary for the proper development of Australia and the continuous prosperity of her population. The private banks had made

Prolonged study of the soil and climatic variations in the Rize area has now brought Turkey on the threshold of large-scale tea production, more than sufficient for the whole country's domestic requirements.

The application of new refining methods by the Italian plants at Bart and Leghorn is causing a sharp rise in the production of crude oil in Albania, from 32,760 tons in 1936 to 88,310 tons in 1937, and to over 100,00 tons during 1938.

Rice production in Greece has risen to over seven million kilogrammes (7000 tons) during the past year, compared with three million kilogrammes (3000

Commonwealth Bank Amendment Must Be Blocked



**"I'VE JOINED! WHAT ABOUT YOU?"
Enlist in the Army of Democrats—they are on
the march!**

such a welter of alternate booms and slumps that Australia's advance had been in a series of bone-shaking jerks, like that of a car with water in the carburetor—the Commonwealth Bank was to ensure the provision of a steady flow of pure "fuel."

War saved Australia from the threat of depression in 1914, the Commonwealth Bank saved Australia from depression immediately after the war, when it issued twenty-three millions of money to

offset the deflation policy of the private banks. In 1924, the control of the Commonwealth Bank was taken out of the hands of a Governor, and placed in the hands of a Board of Control, comprised of a varied selection of "captains of industry," who have since worked for the benefit of financial interests. As a consequence, the Commonwealth Bank did nothing to offset the depression of 1929.

At the time Labour had the

power to force the Commonwealth Bank to function in the manner in which it was intended to do, or have a "show-down," but Sir Robert Gibson, well knowing how the Bank had previously saved the country, and fully aware of its ability to repeat that performance, refused to do as he was told by the Government, and "got away with it."

Now, with another depression looming in the offing, and a disintegration of the party in power close at hand, the powers-that-be fear that Labour, on being returned to office, will this time insist on the Commonwealth Bank functioning in something like its proper manner, thus defeating the depression that the private banks consider necessary to their power and "liquidity" and our moral well-being. Also, and this is a very big also, the private banks are looking forward to a huge rake-off in the way of interest in return for financing much of our huge armament expenditure. If the Commonwealth Bank were used to finance that expenditure the private banks would not get their rake-off.

In 1924 control of the Commonwealth Bank was put in the hands of a board of "business men" appointed by the Government, and therefore *nominally*, at least, under Government control. If Mr. Casey's Amendment is allowed to go through, the Bank's control will be no more subject to Government domination than is the control of the Bank of New South Wales, or any other of our private banking institutions. It will definitely be run for the benefit of private interests, even though those interests are to the detriment of the people of Australia. If, in future, the bank should lend money to the Government that money will be returnable at interest, which will not revert to the nation as at present. Further, the institution for which the van of Australian reformers fought for nearly seventy years before it was finally brought into being, will have been lost to the nation, perhaps for ever.

WEALTH INCREASING IN THE BALKANS

tons) in 1937.

Bulgarian grape exports have risen from 155 tons in 1926 to 6500 tons in 1932 to 36,000 tons in 1937. Germany took 28,000 tons of last year's supply, and Great Britain 3000 tons.

Cotton growing is making big strides in Roumania, under the aegis of the official Textile Department. The area under production has been increased by twelve times between 1937 and 1939.

Turkish coal is getting a bigger and bigger sale in the Mediterranean bunkering ports. The production of about 2,000,000 tons last year is being increased to 2,250,000 tons in 1939 and to 2,850,000 tons in 1940. Thereafter it is estimated that the annual increase will be from 300,000 to 500,000 tons. Some of the coal mined along the shores of the Black Sea is among the best in the world.

The tobacco output of Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria last year reached over 170,000 tons, and

the tobacco exported from Greece was nearly 10 per cent higher than in the previous year.

The first gold mine in Bulgaria is about to begin operation, and copper belts in the south of the country are being prospected.

There are promising indications of the existence of fairly large quantities of oil in Crete.

Electricity production in Greece has risen from 891,000 units in 1927 to 72,525,545 units in 1937.

Rocksalt deposits, stated to be sufficient to cover the requirements of the country for 1000 years, have been discovered in Bulgaria.

SHOULD WE ABOLISH THE DEATH SENTENCE?

By FENNER BROCKWAY.

(Author of "The Bloody Traffic," "Hungry England," etc.)

Condensed from *The Aryan Path*, Bombay.

Until the 1930's or thereabouts the case against capital punishment was making great progress. In many European countries the death penalty had been abolished; the Soviet Union had followed its revolution in 1917 by ending executions not only in civil life, but in the army; and in Britain a commission had recommended a limitation of the death penalty which was generally recognised as a first step towards abolition.

But today we must recognise that the cause for the abolition of capital punishment has suffered a setback. In the Soviet Union the death penalty has been re-introduced; in many other countries it is being imposed on an extended scale. Why is this?

I think the answer is to be found in the increased use of the death penalty in political cases. Twenty years ago it was rare for a political offender to be executed. Far more were condemned for civil crimes than for political crimes. But now the proportions have been reversed. During the last five years a hundred prisoners have been executed for "treason" for every prisoner executed for murder.

The new tendency was begun in Germany, where, after the Fascist victory, a large number of Socialists and Communists were done to death; but now capital punishment for political offences is probably employed in the Soviet Union more extensively than in any other country.

During recent months the wide use of the death penalty for political offences has extended to Palestine. Technically the offences have been crimes of violence or the possession of firearms; but the motive and cause were political. During the civil war in Spain the death penalty has been employed, not only for military purposes, but for political purposes, in the sectional struggles behind the lines. These are only a few instances of many which could be given.

With the political use of the death penalty growing so extensively in this manner, it was inevitable that the campaign for the abolition of capital punishment for offences such as murder should lose considerable force. Many of those executed for political offences were undeniably men of principle and good character. If they must die, why get excited about criminals who have committed vile deeds of violence for greed or passion?

Yet, despite these circumstances, the case for the abolition of the death penalty remains, and mankind will again turn to it as civilisation progresses.

Capital punishment can only be justified on two grounds. The first is the principle of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. This principle, applied to cases of murder, is nakedly the principle of revenge, above which all that is best in humanity has long ago risen. The second is the ground of war—the destruction of an enemy who is dangerous. This is the principle on which political executions are justified; but everyone who is seeking a solution of our political problems, on the basis of freedom and true democracy (that is, the political expression of social and economic equality), must regard the recent extension of capital punishment in the political field with abhorrence.

Let us look at these two cases — hanging for murder and execution for political offences — separately. Within the space of this article we must do so briefly, so I put the points concisely.

1. The death penalty is defended as a matter of justice. The offender has taken a life; he must forfeit his life. But before the justice of any punishment can be determined, all the considerations which made for the committal of the crime must be weighed, and when we begin that examination we shall find that the causes of homicide are as much social as individual. The majority of murderers, to quote the editor of the official *Judicial Statistics for Britain*,

"belong to the poorer classes." Overcrowding, the squalor of poverty and the bitterness, which it causes, the lack of education, the denial of a healthy, worthwhile life—these are the factors, which go to the making of crimes of violence. *When crime increases, a community should not turn revengefully against the criminals, but should ask itself what is wrong with its own social basis.*

2. The death penalty is defended as a deterrent. There is no evidence to justify this argument. I have examined carefully the statistics of States, which have abolished the death penalty, and compared the figures of murder in the years immediately preceding and succeeding. In actual fact the number of murders has, on the whole, *decreased* after the abolition of the death penalty; but this may be due to other considerations. One can say emphatically, however, that a survey of all the evidence available provides no support for the argument that the death penalty is a deterrent.

3. The advocates of the death penalty never pay any regard to its effect upon those who have to carry it out. If the supporters of capital punishment had themselves to manipulate the gallows or turn on the switch of the electric chair or fire the shot—or look after the victims prior to the sentence being carried out—

there would be few executions! I shall never forget a personal experience in Liverpool Prison, where a chief warder who was in charge of a murderer came to me the day before the execution and unburdened his agony of mind. The prisoner had treated the warder as a confidant and friend, baring his soul naked. Yet it was the duty of the warder to officiate at his hanging! None of us has the right to impose these inhuman duties upon others.

When we turn to the case of political executions we shall find that they are always the reflection of war or dictatorships. Spies who are giving away military information to an enemy country are shot. Opponents of the Hitler or Stalin regimes are shot. The British authorities in Palestine execute Arabs and Jews, whose enmity is due to conditions imposed by Imperialist dictatorship.

It is doubtful whether these methods will succeed, even taking a temporary view. By his methods Hitler has lost the sympathy of all that is best in all peoples in the world. Stalin has destroyed the early enthusiasm among the workers of all countries for the Russian Revolution, and is creating an opposition in his own country, which threatens to overwhelm him. Every execution carried out by the British authorities in Palestine only serves to intensify the antagonism between the Arabs and Jews, and, at the same time, creates a hatred of British Imperialism which will await its opportunity of expression.

We may have to pass through wars and dictatorships before the existing order of society is destroyed. But the ideal must be kept alive of a New World, in which domination of nation over nation, class over class, and individual over individual, is ended. In that world there will be no place for capital punishment.

THE CAMERA CANNOT LIE!



The above photograph appeared in the "Age" on Tuesday, February 7. Underneath it was written: "Escorted by French soldiers, Spanish refugees in flight from the war in their own country, arriving at a French border town." (Emphasis ours.) Note the merriment of the group, especially the girls at the rear.



The same photograph appeared in the "Sun" on Thursday, February 9. Underneath it was written: "Haggard refugees leaving Barcelona, in the face of the relentless Nationalist advance, which spared no man, woman or child in aerial and artillery bombardments. This picture reached Sydney by air mail yesterday." (Emphasis ours.) Note "Haggard refugees." The laughing girls to the rear have been cut out. The soldiers are now, evidently, Spanish, the scene being changed to Barcelona. The picture arrived in Sydney the day after it appeared in the "Age"!

—Blocks and comment from, and by courtesy of, "The Advocate," Melbourne.

CAN ONE INHERIT T.B.?

The pessimistic outlook on tuberculosis has been greatly fostered by the belief that the disease is hereditary. Strictly speaking, there is no such thing as inherited tuberculosis: the disease is always acquired. Although infection may enter the body before birth, such an occurrence is so rare as to be negligible, and for practical purposes we may regard the newborn babe as entering the world with a clean bill of health, even when both parents are suffering from tuberculosis. The only part played by heredity is that some people inherit a constitution, which offers a low degree of resistance to infection, but all the evidence goes to show that nobody need be doomed to tuberculosis if the nutritional condition of the body is maintained and heavy doses of infection are avoided. For concrete evidence that tuberculosis is easily controllable we can look at what has been happening in England. In the past twenty years the death rate from the disease has fallen by nearly 50 per cent. During the same period the expenditure from public funds on anti-tuberculosis measures has risen enormously.

The chief cause of the rapid decline of tuberculosis is improvement in the conditions of life of the people. By better housing and better hygienic conditions in general the spread of infection has been greatly diminished; by better food the body has been rendered less suitable for the development of the disease. —Sir John Megan.

RUSSIA'S LITTLE GERMANY

By S. ALTMAN.

Condensed from *Moscow News*.

There is a compact mass of four hundred thousand Germans in Russia, along the lower reaches of the Volga, north of the Caspian Sea. So far Hitler has not proclaimed himself as their protector. Perhaps because they are a thousand miles from Germany

One hundred and seventy years ago many Germans migrated from South Germany and Switzerland to Russia to settle on the lower reaches of the Volga. They came to the old and sparsely populated Russia in response to the call of the Russian Empress, Catherine II, who was anxious to colonise this region, then a frontier area.

By virtue of a special manifesto issued by Catherine II, the settlers were freed for centuries from military service. This, as well as the promise of all manner of privileges, attracted many thousands of peasants, artisans, and even bourgeois people from Western Europe.

The unfertile land, the frequent droughts, and bad harvests, and the unforeseen extortions of the authorities and landowners impoverished the colonists. Some of the settlers took up weaving and other trades, but their position was little better than that of the tillers of the soil. The artisans fell under the yoke of the merchants and middlemen, and worked long hours for a bare livelihood.

Like the other national minorities inhabiting Russia, the German colonists suffered constant persecution at the hands of the Czarist satraps. An illustration of the "national policy" of the Czarist Government was the decision issued at the beginning of 1917 to deport all the Volga Germans from Russia.

The Bolshevik Revolution in 1917 stopped this measure from being carried into effect.

By decree of the Soviet Government, issued in October 1918, the German colonies on the Lower Volga were united together in an autonomous province, known as the "Toiling Commune of Volga-Germans," the first national autonomous province in Russia. The autonomous province became the Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic of Volga Germans in December 1923.

The Volga-German Republic is situated on both sides of the Volga, and occupies more than 18,000 square miles. The total population of the Republic numbers 600,000, of whom 66.4 percent are Germans, 20.3 per cent Russians, and 12 per cent Ukrainians. The rest of the population is composed of Kazakh and other nationalities.

All the peoples in this small Republic . . . live amicably together.

There are more than twenty large-scale plants and factories in this Republic, which, prior to the Revolution, was practically without any industry whatsoever.

The food industry is advancing with particularly rapid strides. The capacity of the flourmills is such that they can grind as much grain from neighbouring provinces

as they do for the Republic itself. The giant meatpacking plant at Engels, the capital of the Republic, is being extended to include a bone works, leather plant, and large refrigerating department.

Engels, formerly Pokrovskaya Sloboda, stands on the left bank of the Volga, opposite the town of Saratov.

Close to 6000 tractors work on the fields of the 4000 collective farms and the many State farms of the Republic.

During the autumn of 1936 and the following spring, 800 acres of orchards, with one million fruit trees were planted.

In the not-too-distant pre-revolutionary past, nine-tenths of the population of this small Republic was totally illiterate. Today, more than 100,000 children are studying in its many schools. There are also several higher and secondary technical schools.

There are music studios everywhere, for the Volga Germans are a very musical people.

Engels has two dramatic theatres, one German and one Russian.

Twenty daily newspapers are published.

TOPICAL TIT BITS FROM THE NEWS

By "LEXICON."

Apparently Sir Frederick Stewart doubts the strength of the parliamentary support for the faction, which has decided to repeal the National Health Insurance Act.

At the next election all doubts regarding the weakness of the faction, which still seeks to force the Act on our unwilling selves, will be dispelled.

* * *

Napoleon said that he would rather have a hundred thousand men fighting against him than three newspapers.

Civilisation and the decencies of human relationships have a hundred thousand newspapers fighting against them.

* * *

Referring today to the result of the Commonwealth loan and Australia's trade balance position, the Federal Opposition Leader (Mr. Curtin) said he hoped the Commonwealth Government would realise now that defence of the Commonwealth and essential development of services, which were an integral part of defence, could not be tackled effectively on the basis of orthodox finance.

Monetary policy would have to be revised. Advances, which the Commonwealth Bank had made to recent loans, indicated a trend in this direction vastly different from that, which marked treatment of the depression by the same authority.

"It would be ridiculous if we were unable to carry out essential physical activities to ensure Australia's safety merely because we

lacked money," he said. "Raw materials and labour are here in abundance."

The sooner action was taken, at least to give effect to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Banking, the sooner would the Federal and State Governments be able to proceed with their joint programmes for defence and development, Mr. Curtin added.

—Press Report.

If the Commonwealth Government doesn't take action soon, the rotten plank of finance will break of its own weight.

* * *

From the columns of the *Ade-laide News*:

PENSIONERS HOLD A PARADE.

He stood on the wind-lashed steps of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, threadbare overcoat whipping round his thin frame.

On his chest a row of medals gave him more protection from the gale than his cheap cotton shirt.

It was dusk, William Macdonnel was one of 30 old men who had gathered there because to them 10/- a week means that life at 65 and over is hardly worth living.

They were the delegates of 500 pensioners who held a meeting in Stratford and decided to tell the world that at least £\ a week is needed for food, clothes, and shelter.

"Sorry, Boys—

The 30 old men gathered at St. Paul's and tied down their slogan-embazoned sandwich boards with bits of string, so that the wind would not blow them over their heads. They rubbed blueed fingers together, stamped their feet.

Then two tall sergeants of the City Police walked ominously up the steps of St. Paul's.

"Sorry, boys, but not in the city . . ." they said as kindly as possible.

You can't parade the city with notices unless you have special permission from the Commissioner. And they hadn't got it.

So they decided to walk to Trafalgar Square and start again.

Off along Fleet Street and the Strand the 30 straggled, hands buried deep in pockets and boards under their arms.

I walked besides Charles Wood, writes a *Daily Herald* correspondent. He was sucking clay. I offered him a fill, and he looked at me gratefully. He pulled out his own old pouch, stuffed with an odd mixture.

"Herb baccy, that is. Tuppence an ounce. Plug these days is eight pence. Same with beer. Can't push the boat out much now."

Then there was William Simson, another Stratford man.

He worked as a docker once—"And I'm still able to do a good day's work at 72"—earning 13 bob a day.

But he told me they won't give anybody a job at 65.

We got to Trafalgar Square.

Like magic, two police sergeants—Metropolitan this time—appeared.

"You can walk—in the gutter—at intervals of 30 ft.," the old men were told, "so long as you remain outside the mile limit of the Houses of Parliament."

Thirty old men moved off, their boards and their slogans bobbing in the stiff wind, their boots shuffling along amid the filth of the gutter.

* * *

Those Cathedral steps lead to warmth and sanctuary—if you can afford it.

FROM TRIBAL LIFE TO NAZISM

By SIR ARTHUR KEITH.

Condensed from "The Rationalist Annual" for 1939.

One of Britain's Leading Scientists Traces the Development of Nationalism and Racialism

It is when we look into the method adopted by nature to keep her local evolutionary groups apart that we become appalled by her almost devilish ingenuity. The barriers she has set up between the groups are not geographical, but mental.

Darwin was surprised to find that Tierra del Fuego had no *apparent* form of government, no chief, no elders, no formulated laws.

In this they resemble local groups of gorillas or chimpanzees; their government or behaviour, both among themselves and towards neighbouring communities, is regulated by reactions, which may be regarded as instinctive and inborn.

The reactions of the members of each group are conditional; among fellow-members of the group they manifest all the virtues of the human breast—loving, helping, and succoring each other, rising in defence of their community and territory; but towards neighbouring tribes their virtues turn to vices—contempt, enmity, and hate.

It was thus by the development of a tribal spirit that Nature maintained her cradles of evolving humanity intact and separate; and race spirit, or national spirit, is but tribal spirit writ large.

We are, every one of us, the children of tribesmen; we have inherited the tribal spirit, and all the reactions of that spirit, in full measure. It comes out in us in various forms, of which I merely

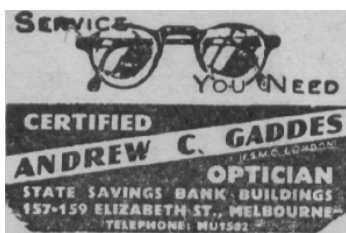
mention two—Nationalism and Patriotism.

After what I have said, can it be maintained that "nationalism," "racialism," and "patriotism" has no place in rational politics? The strongest instincts, which Nature has implanted in an individual, are preservation of life and its renewal by reproduction. The strongest instinct, which Nature has implanted in us collectively, as members of a tribe, nation, or race, is the perpetuation and spread of the tribe or nation to which we belong. That for which mankind is willing to sacrifice life is that which is most deeply buried in its mental constitution.

The existence and significance of these prejudices are not open to debate, but the extent to which they should be subdued or modified by education in the present state of society is a matter, which needs constant consideration.

What, then, have I to say of the cruelty, injustice, and oppression, which Germany now practises to attain her racial ideal? As a moral human being I condemn and deplore them, but as an anthropologist I understand them. The business of science is to understand the cause of such calamitous outbursts of feeling and passion, and so be able to formulate measures for their prevention.

But we shall reach such a desirable and pacific end only when statesmen in their offices and men in the street come to realise that the problems of race are very live and real issues.



THE NEW TIMES

Published every Friday by New Times Ltd., McEwan House, Elizabeth and Little Collins Streets, Melbourne, C.I. Postal Address: Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Telephone: MU 2834.

Vol. 5. No. 9.
FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1939.

"New Times" Defeats National Insurance, Says Sydney's "Sunday Sun"

At the moment of writing, a meeting of the most far-reaching importance is being held — the three-party conference to discuss the fate of National Insurance. Whether the decision finally arrived at is to the effect that National Insurance be repealed outright or whether it is merely decided that the application of the Act is to be postponed indefinitely, a precedent of the most far reaching importance will have been established; the people of Australia will have learned that *they* can be the rulers of *their* country; they will have proved that, Prime Minister, Cabinet, party leaders notwithstanding, the People can have the final say in the Government of their country and themselves whenever they so desire. For the first time in the history of Federal politics the People will have shown their power (without a referendum) to veto a measure approved and made law by a majority of their representatives in the House.

The natural reaction to the success of the anti-national-insurance campaign is one of extreme jubilation—the fight is won, the enemy laid low! The fact of the matter is that while our victory must give us a certain pleasure, it should be pleasure born of the realisation that we have advanced another step along the road to true democracy, rather than an unthinking and delirious delight at having defeated an enemy. By taking into our own hands the power to actually govern ourselves, we have accepted a responsibility that we can only carry worthily if we realise that victory and defeat are good or bad only in so far as the object for which we are striving is good or bad.

The Sydney *Sun* and *Guardian* of Sunday, February 26, speaks of the *New Times* as "the Douglas Credit newspaper" in referring to the part it played in defeating National Insurance, and

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then goes on to suggest that those members of Parliament whose determination to stand by National Insurance had been weakened by the "insidious application of what has been termed an 'imported form of political blackmail,' now realise that they have handed over to their enemies a very strong weapon."

In referring to the *New Times* as "the Douglas Credit newspaper," the *Sun* is obviously misinformed, of course, but the most striking objection that we, as a truly democratic publication, have to the wording of the report is that in which a denial of the right of electors to write to their representative in Parliament telling him what they want him to represent, is implied.

The *New Times* has always been of the opinion that a country, in which a Government can, during a three-year term of office, impose any legislation it desires on an unwilling people, is not truly democratic. A way out of the difficulty has now been found, and the Sydney *Sun* refers to that way as "an insidious application of what has been termed 'an imported form of political blackmail.'" Following on that denial of the right of democracy to rule itself, the *Sun* then goes on to refer to the electors as the *enemies* of the men whom they put into parliament to represent them.

The *New Times* has, since its inception, argued that the Member of Parliament is the servant of the people not only at election time, but all the time. In the main, democracy has accepted that fact, but has argued that very little can be done to make him serve. Now that a way has been found by which the member can be *forced* to do the job for which he is paid, we are accused of instituting a form of political blackmail.

Apart from that peculiar form of reasoning the *Sun* refers to the discomfort that Federal Members will suffer under a "pressure-politics" regime.

"Federal Members face a future bereft of all comfort if the Ministry yields to the pressure which demands the abandonment of National Insurance."

Why? Does a well paid bank official (for example) face a future bereft of all comfort because he does as he's told by his employers? Hardly. But his future would probably be very uncomfortable if he didn't. The same applies to the politician. As long as he does as he's told by his electors he need suffer no discomfort at all, in fact, his position may be considerably bettered by reason of the fact that under the present regime a man who is capable of representing his electors efficiently may be so cramped by party considerations that he may never be sure of his seat for longer than one term, while, under a pressure politics regime he would probably have a job for life, and a very comfortable one, too.

If the Lyons Government goes

WHAT IS THE PLACE OF GOLD IN A MONETARY SYSTEM?

By GIBBONS POTEET, in "Money," New York

I would answer that gold has NO place, and should have no place, in a monetary system of the modern world.

Most of the human race is engaged in producing, exchanging, and consuming the essentials of life. Early in the game a FEW men discovered that they could "make more money"—and get more goods—by handling and manipulating money than they could by working and producing goods. That was when the Shylocks and the Three Ball Johnnies began to rob the producers.

Gold lent itself admirably to that class of drones who have never done a thing that would keep a woman or a baby alive, but who put in their whole lives taking a little speck of gold and high jacking the producers and workers out of the proceeds of their labour. Gold did not come out of the earth in such volume as to keep pace with the increase in population and the increase in volume of goods, so money was constantly "appreciating" in goods value, and by its "unit of measure" function "depreciating" all others forms of property. Gold has been the most gigantic robber of the whole earth and of all time. The old-time sea pirates were pikers compared to the modern Dryland Pirates. The "honest pirate" gave warning, ran up the black flag, and showed death's head. The modern Dryland Pirate "coos like a dove," sings psalms, and with a deft twist of the wrist in his shiny office, brings on a "deflation," runs the "value" of all property that has value to monetary zero, quadruples all debts, robs the world and "inflates" their own property—the paper and "marks on a book calling for dollars."

Gold has been the tool by which most of this highjacking has been done for many years. At the end of the Napoleonic wars, in 1816, the British bondholders persuaded Parliament to go on the "gold standard," quadrupled all debts, almost threw England into civil

war for 35 years—till the gold came tearing in from California and "devalued" the pound temporarily and give a little money value to the PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLE.

We were told all our lives that if money is not gold, or based on gold, it was not "good money." But since the war, when money had to get out and "do its stuff," all the nations had to go OFF the gold standard to keep from going ON the poor farm. Gold has been the greatest deaf and dumb thief that ever stalked the earth—and, oh, so respectable.

But it appears that gold is now only used to settle trade balances between nations—and (pardon me) to be used as a basis of value, so I read, in making prices in the "World Markets." But men are THINKING. Soon nations will find that trade balances can be balanced with goods—the only "money" that has real value—and then gold will go into the junk-pile.

No, gold has NO place in a monetary system. And it seems that gold knows that its "name is Dennis," for it has begun to sneak off and hide itself in the earth from which it came—hibernating in the eternal hills. Good-bye gold, you are not "worth a hoot"—can neither be eaten, worn nor lived in, and not even fit to make tools out of. Good-bye, old Ghoul!

SWEDISH SYSTEM

An article in an American paper, written by W. L. Lindgren, a factory superintendent and member of the Waukegan (U.S.A.) City School Board, relates a trip made by the writer to Sweden in 1932 and what he learned of the money system of that prosperous little country. Mr. Lindgren says that Sweden uses fiat money, not backed by gold or silver, issued exclusively by the Government of Sweden, and not private banks, as it is done in the United States by National Banks and so-called Federal Reserve Banks which are private banks.

Mr. Lindgren also states that the Single Tax system is in operation in Sweden—that is, taxes are the same on unimproved lots as they are on improved ones—except where the buildings are used for rental, and then the rental value determines the amount of tax. He says there is practically no unemployment in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, except that young folks just out of school and college have a hard time obtaining jobs.

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BEWARE OF MR. S. M. BRUCE

Australia's Greatest Betrayer

(vii.)

More About the "People's" Bank

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H. BROWN.

Sir,—In dealing with the part Mr. Bruce took in emasculating the Commonwealth Bank and making it "an appendage and convenience of the private banks, to be run for their special benefit," we saw last week that in 1924 his first lieutenant, Dr. Earle Page, introduced a Bill to amend the Bank Act by placing control of the bank and its policy in the hands of a board of six directors. Dr. Page openly admitted that this had been done after members of the Cabinet had had conferences with representatives of the private banks! This, combined with the business interests of the men originally appointed to the board, told its own significant tale. According to the Bill, the directors were to be persons "actively engaged in agriculture, commerce, finance, and industry," but four of the six came directly from the realm of finance! In addition to this, all vacancies since that time have been filled by men regarded as AI to the private controllers of the nation's money supplies. All men appointed to Commissions, etc., are tested in the same way—i.e., they must be sticklers for the present money arrangements.

The Original Board

The men originally appointed by the Bruce-Page Government to have complete control of the "people's" bank and its POLICY were these:

JOHN J. GARVAN: Pastoralist and managing director of the Mutual Life and Citizens' Assurance Co. Ltd. (the company which has paid its privileged shareholders a dividend of 80 per cent, and whose chairman is a director of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, one of the Gas-Sugar-Tobacco Monopoly!)

SIR ROBERT GIBSON: Vice-President of the Associated Chambers of Manufactures; Victorian representative on the Central Coal Board; director of the National Mutual Life Association; director of the Union Trustee Company, of the Metal Monopoly, and director of Robert Harper and Co. Ltd. (Alex. F. Bell, of the same company, and a former director of the National Bank, is now on the Board in Sir Robert's place!)

SIR SAMUEL HORDERN: Director of Anthony Hordern and Sons; director of the A.M.P. Society, the Royal Insurance Company, and several other companies of the Gas-Sugar-Tobacco Monopoly. (Family also connected by marriage with the Baillieus of the Metal Monopoly. In passing, it is interesting to know that during his recent visit from London Sir Clive Baillieu had important conferences with Mr. R. G. Casey, Treasurer of the Commonwealth and a leading beneficiary of the same Metal Monopoly. It is more interesting still to recall that Mr. Casey was sent to London, direct from the Metal Monopoly, to act as the liaison officer between the Commonwealth and the British Governments. AND THAT HE WAS SENT UNDER THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP OF STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE!)

ROBERT B. W. McCOMAS: President of various wool buyers' associations, and proprietor of the

wool broking firm of Wm. Haughton and Co., Melbourne. (Recently died and left an estate exceeding half a million pounds.)

JOHN MCKENZIE LEES: General manager of the Bank of North Queensland, 1898-1917; general manager of the Bank of Queensland, 1917-1922; ex-chairman of the associated banks in Queensland, and Fellow of the Institute of Bankers in London!

The other member was RICHARD S. DRUMMOND.

Creators and Lenders of Money

As the insurance companies are part of the banking system, it will be seen that FOUR at least of the directors of the "people's" bank were recruited directly from the private banks. In view of this, it cannot be emphasised too strongly that the Commonwealth Bank, which was established for the benefit of the people as a whole, was thus improperly surrendered to the control of men representing institutions which were themselves creators and lenders of money at interest on a large scale and whose very existence depended upon the continuance of the fraudulent system of finance under which money is regarded as a commodity, instead of a mere medium for the EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTION of commodities.

A Specially Selected Go-Between

You will have observed from the foregoing that at the very time that Mr. Bruce was installing these representatives of the private banks to control the POLICY of the "people's" bank, he quietly arranged for still one more of them, in the person of RICHARD GARDINER CASEY, to go to London as a "liaison" officer—i.e., as the man through whom the Commonwealth dealt with the British Government and the Bank of England. In this respect it should be noted that Mr. Montagu Norman himself has publicly admitted that the only difference between the British Treasury and the Bank of England is the same as the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee! Now we see the same RICHARD GARDINER CASEY taking a leading part in the attempt to transfer the OWNERSHIP of the Commonwealth Bank from the people to international financiers. This surely is a fine example of what we so often hear described as a "long range" policy!

How the Farmers Were Fleeced

Some idea of how the Commonwealth Bank immediately became "an appendage and convenience of the private banks, to be run for their special benefit," may be gathered from what took place. The rates charged for financing primary produce began at once to rise, and were soon more than doubled, and the producers of the 1924-25 season had to pay £7 millions in bank charges, compared with only £3 millions the previous year. When the farmers of Western Australia formed a voluntary pool they applied confidently to the Commonwealth Bank to finance it as the bank had done

for similar pools in previous years, but it was no longer the same bank, and both it and the private banks alike imposed conditions which were intolerable. Finally, when the farmers, unable to secure the necessary money in Australia, obtained it from the Co-operative Wholesale Society in England, the concerted action of the private banks and their new "ally," the "PEOPLE'S" bank, frustrated the scheme. And to know that the measure handing over control to the interests, which had actually attempted to ruin the farmers and the rest of the community in 1920 was introduced by the man who was supposed to be the leader of the farmers in Parliament! Is it not strange that this very man (now "Sir" Earle Page) and the then Prime Minister (Stanley Melbourne Bruce) are at this moment again occupying the stage as public "leaders," just when another co-worker for the banks (Richard Gardiner Casey) has a Bill before the House designed to hand over the OWNERSHIP of the bank to foreigners? The other prominent party to the 1924 betrayal was Sir John Greig Latham, G.C.M.G., C.M.G., K.C., M.A., LL.B., since appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court!

Mr. Bruce at the Bankers' Banquet

Soon after handing over the Bank, Mr. Bruce himself paid a visit to London and at a bankers' banquet explained how the Commonwealth Bank had been transferred by his Government to the control of a "board of directors charged with the duties of Central Banking." According to the London Times, he also said this: "The intention is that the board SHALL CONTROL CREDIT IN AUSTRALIA as the Bank of England regulates it in this country, and advice is now being sought from officials of the Bank of England as to THE EXACT STEPS NECESSARY to bring about a fully effective central banking system."

At that time, you will recall, the Bank of England had recently come under the control of Wall Street's Deflation Agent (Montagu Norman), and the Central Banking System our "noblest son" was trying to put in was the product of Paul Warburg, of the Federal Reserve Board (Wall Street). Mr. Bruce deliberately sought to have us tied irrevocably to the international financial gang, consisting of the Warburgs, the Schachts, the Normans, the Schusters, the Guggenheims, the Niemeyers, the Schiffs, the Goschens, the Kahns, the Pierpont Morgans, the Rothschilds, and so on.

Sir Robert Gibson, Too

While Mr. Bruce was thus addressing the bankers in London, Sir Robert Gibson (of the Metal Monopoly, and just recently appointed Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board) was expressing himself IN AUSTRALIA as follows:

"The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Bank has given consideration to the advisability of conferring with THE MOTHER BANK OF THE EMPIRE, the Bank of England, on matters connected with central banking. In this connection, the late chairman had important discussions with Mr. Norman, the Governor of the Bank of England, by whose courtesy it has been arranged that Sir Ernest Harvey shall pay a visit to Australia, with a view to investigating . . . and making recommendations that . . . the central banking system of Australia may be co-ordinated

with that of the Bank of England and other Central Banks of the Empire."

Note particularly how Sir Robert had referred to the Bank of England as "the Mother Bank of the Empire," whereas, in actuality, it is only a private company operating for profit. Not only so, but it operates in close collaboration with the Wall Street bankers, with whom Mr. Bruce had conversations recently on his way to Australia. This so-called Mother Bank does control credit in England, and, in so doing, also controls the policy and general activities of the British Government—the difference between the bank and the Treasury being the same as the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee!

Without Regard to Public Advantage

In the Bank Charter Act of 1844, under which it operates, it is laid down that in all its dealing with the public the Bank of England is to carry out its transactions with regard to its own interests alone, AND NOT WITH ANY VIEW TO THE PUBLIC ADVANTAGE! Just fancy a "mother bank" under no obligation to care for any of its dependants! And the agent of this private concern, Sir Ernest Harvey, actually travelled to Australia with Mr. Bruce, and subsequent events, which are now history, prove how completely the Australian people have become the abject slave of that private concern. This same Sir Ernest Harvey is one of the great men who warned us, through Sir Thomas Bavin, against Mr. Lang!

Deprived of its Savings Bank

In 1927 Sir Ernest Harvey gave the final directions for making the Commonwealth Bank, which was supposed to be a national bank operating for the good of the Australian people, a central bank operating for the benefit of the private bankers, and the Bruce-Page Government obediently brought in a Bill to deprive the bank of its Savings Bank business. This Act "took away the bank's cash reserves, which had enabled it to compete with private banks; terminated its trading operations; and reduced it to a bankers' bank—not a 'reserve' bank, because no bank was compelled to keep its reserves there—so that it became neither a trading bank nor a savings bank, nor yet a reserve bank, but a thing of shreds and patches, at the mercy of private institutions." — (Hansard.)

Everything Now Ready for the Depression

The Bill became law in December 1927, and made the bank the final arbiter of the issue of debt money. It was now one of the twenty-eight "central" banks established in the world since the war, at the instigation of Paul Warburg, "to secure banking hegemony of the world," and conditions had, at last, been fixed in Australia for the application of the policy of deflation which the bank-

(Continued on page 6.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

ARGUING AS A FINE ART

By WILLIS SLOANE.

Condensed from *Your Life*, New York.

Have You Ever Lost Your Temper While Arguing With the Other Fellow About Politics, Economics, or Any Other Subject? If so, You'd Better Read This Article

You can't win an argument with *me*. Your intelligence is inferior to mine; your background is narrow and bigoted; the piffling points you advance to prove your case are so flimsy they wouldn't deceive a baby. The truth is, you don't know what you are talking about, and you haven't the ghost of a chance of persuading me that you do.

Getting pretty hot under the collar, aren't you? I hope so, for that paragraph was written with tongue in cheek, deliberately designed to anger you.

But it is a true paragraph, nevertheless, in that it illustrates how argument tramples on your soul and becomes a matter of temper, rather than of temperate discourse. And it is perilously near the truth, too, that you *don't* know what you are talking about when you argue. Very few of us do. That is why argument is so confoundingly futile.

You can easily demonstrate this, the next time you hear an argument brewing, by insisting that the arguers state specifically what they are talking about. Nine times out of ten an argument can be asphyxiated by insisting upon definitions, for most disputants wage verbal battle with slogans and shibboleths.

The rule is: *Make your opponent be specific about some point you know backwards and forwards.*

Whenever someone starts arguing about capitalists, socialists, Communists, vested interests, the workers, he is using shibboleths which have a high emotional content, but which are extremely vague in meaning. Make your opponent define his words and you deflate them, bringing an ill-natured argument to a constructive basis of discussion.

Argument would not be worth arguing over if it were not one of the best ways of not getting along with people. Arguers are feather rufflers, specialists in rubbing fur the wrong way; contentious souls who can never be content. The fundamental fallacy of argument lies in the fact that it is a contest, which no one ever really wins; no man is ever sincerely convinced by argument, although he may be by discussion, which is a very different thing.

Men who achieve greatly are usually adept at getting their own way without argument.

Woodrow Wilson, the famous American President, was the last man in the world, to be swayed by argument, but Col. E. M. House was usually able to bring Wilson round to his way of thinking. House once explained: "I learned the best way to convert him to an idea was to plant it in his mind casually, but so as to interest him in it—so as to get him thinking about it on his own account." Later, Col. House observed, he was likely to hear Wilson trot out House's suggestion as his own.

Let the other fellow do the talking and you make his ego purr—listening is the direct antithesis of argument. You don't have to agree with everything the other fellow says, but willingness to listen makes him know that you understand his point of view.

Admit that the other fellow is right in insignificant points, and you'll find yourself getting your own way on the big points. Arguments always tend to wander from the main issue, getting cluttered up with trifling little contentions, which you can yield gracefully without the slightest sacrifice of your main convictions.

By conceding points that don't matter, you get credit for broad-mindedness, and this keeps the other fellow more reasonable. Have you ever noticed how voices rise higher and higher during argument? Have you ever been trapped into making rash statements, displaying bad manners and indulging in personalities? No wonder—your system is full of adrenalin, a hormone released by anger, which primes your body for physical action, but wrecks your capacity for straight thinking.

That is why we always think of our most withering and witty

FALLACY.

Historians and psychologists unite to explode the popular idea that in man there is a combative instinct that seeks its outlet in war. They say, "War is caused by racial differences, selfish patriotism, nationalism, competitive armament building, unskilled diplomacy, problems of food supply, population pressure, attempts to control world markets, tariff barriers, foreign investments, etc. The causes of war are chiefly economic." Man is, by nature, a social creature, loving peace and friendship. War is a perversion of his instincts, and not a necessity to human nature. —"Parade," London.

remarks several hours after the argument is over.

Does the boss reject your ideas? Do visitors at your house go away slightly hurt; does your wife or husband go sour when you point out why something he or she has been doing is all wrong? Maybe your arguing technique needs an overhauling.

To test this in my own case I ran a little experiment. For one whole week I made it a point to indulge in nothing that could be conceivably called an argument. My teen-age sons and daughter sensed that some mysterious, but beneficent, change had come over me. And at the end of the week my wife said, beamingly: "I have never known you to be so charming. Why, you didn't insult a single guest!"

My ego came out of the experiment in pretty good shape, too. You can always bolster yourself with Schopenhauer's observation: "Scarcely one man in a hundred is worth your disputing with him. You may let the remainder say what they please, for everyone is at liberty to be a fool."

It is well enough to say "keep calm" in the face of argument, but a few practical means to that end will be helpful. When argument gets acrimonious, let the tense abdominal muscles relax and the limbs hang loosely. Never let your

fists clench. A bit of pacing around the room will help you relax, and a walk is helpful—it isn't cowardice, but good sense, to walk away from too intense an argument. The best wonder-worker of all for bringing an argument back to earth is to spring a rollicking story, which is bound to bring hearty laughter. It is good policy to keep a particularly uproarious joke on tap for such a moment.

And then it is always effective to pour verbal oil on troubled fighters. Here are a few disarming approaches which soothe the other fellow when you are about to score a point:

"I am sure you already know . . ."

"Most of you are aware that . . ."

"There's a lot of truth in what you say, but I think . . ."

"Your plan is splendid, but there are a few minor points . . ."

"Personally, I think you're right, but it's hard to convince the public . . ."

"Your idea is so important I think you should take more time to consider details . . ."

"That sounds great, but let's see how it would work out . . ."

"I thought just as you do until . . ."

"You're always so fair-minded I know you'll listen . . ."

All of these approaches have one point in common: they permit an opponent to retreat gracefully without losing face. Never let the other fellow make a positive statement that you have to knock down. If he burns his bridges behind him, set up some pontoons on which he can skip back to safety when you turn your persuasiveness on full force.

He'll call you brilliant and soon be asking your advice.

BEWARE OF MR. BRUCE.

(Continued from page 5.)

ing system had already inaugurated abroad. Immediately afterwards, as admitted to the Monetary and Banking Commission, the banks in Australia began their credit-restriction policy and deprived the people of their money supplies. Knowing what he has done in the past, I was, therefore, not at all surprised to read in the *Adelaide Mail* of February 25 that Mr. Bruce regards Australian politics as "worse than murky." He told the gathering at the Commonwealth Club luncheon that he "was not a benevolent friend of Australia living overseas, but an Australian-born representative of the people of Australia. But," he added, "I am out of the murky atmosphere of politics. You can refer to my war record and everything will be perfectly cordial; you can refer to me as High Commissioner and it is all right. But to refer to me as an ex-Prime Minister is worse than murky; it is low and nearly indecent." He should know!

With your permission, Mr. Editor, we will continue our inquiries about him next week. — Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.

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CHINESE WON'T SHAKE HANDS

By LIN YUTANG.

Condensed from "The Importance of Living."

This Famous Chinese Philosopher pokes fun at the European habit of shaking hands. The Chinaman's habit of shaking his own hands is more hygienic.

One great difference between Oriental and Occidental civilisation is that the Westerners shake each other's hands, while we shake our own. Of all the ridiculous Western customs, I think that of shaking hands is one of the worst. I may be very progressive and able to appreciate Western art, literature, silk stockings, Parisian perfumes and even British battleships, but I cannot see how the progressive Europeans could allow this barbarous custom of shaking hands to persist to the present day. I know there are private groups of individuals in the West who protest against this custom, as there are people who protest against the equally ridiculous custom of wearing hats or collars. But these people don't seem to be making any headway, being, apparently, taken for men who make mountains of molehills and waste their energy on trivialities, I am one of those men who are always interested in trivialities. As a Chinese, I am bound to feel more strongly against this Western custom than the Europeans, and prefer always to shake my own hands when meeting or parting from people, according to the time-honoured etiquette of the Celestial Empire.

Of course, everyone knows this custom is a survival of the barbaric days of Europe, like the other custom of taking off one's hat. These customs originated with the medieval robber barons and chevaliers, who had to lift their visors or take off their steel gauntlets to show that they were friendly or peacefully disposed towards the other fellow. Of course, it is ridiculous in modern days to repeat the same gestures when we are no longer wearing helmets or gauntlets.

I object to this custom for hygienic and many other reasons. Shaking hands is a form of human contact subject to the finest variations and distinctions. An original university student could very well write a doctorate dissertation on a "Time-and-Motion Study of the Varieties of Hand-Shaking," reviewing it, in the approved fashion, as regards pressure, duration of time, humidity, emotional response, and so forth, and further studying it under all its possible variations as regards sex, the height of the persons con-

cerned, the condition of the skin as affected by professional work, and social classes, etc. With a few charts and tables of percentages, I am sure a candidate would have no difficulty in getting a Ph.D., provided he made the whole thing sufficiently abstruse and tiresome.

Now consider the hygienic objections. The foreigners in Shanghai, who describe our copper coins as regular reservoirs of bacteria and will not touch them, apparently think nothing of shaking hands with any Tom, Dick or Harry in the street. This is really highly illogical, for how are you to know that Tom, Dick or Harry has not touched those coppers, which you shun like poison? What is worse is, sometimes you may see a consumptive-looking man who hygienically covers his mouth with his hands while coughing, and in the next moment stretches his hand to give you a friendly shake. In this respect, our celestial customs are really more scientific, for in China, each of us shakes his own hand. I don't know what was the origin of this Chinese custom, but its advantage from a medical or hygienic point of view cannot be denied.

Then there are aesthetic and romantic objections to hand shaking. When you put out your hand, you are at the mercy of the other person, who is at liberty to shake it as hard as he likes and hold it as long as he likes. As the hand is one of the finest and most responsive organs in our body, every variety of pressure is possible. First, you have the hearty type of handshaking; the man pats you on the shoulder with one hand and gives you a violent shake with the other, until all your joints are ready to burst within you.

Coming down the scale, we find the indifferent handshake which has utterly lost all meaning, to that kind of furtive, tremulous, retiring handshake which indicates that the owner is afraid of you, and, finally, to the elegant society lady who condescends to offer you the very tip of her fingers, in a manner that almost suggests that you look at her red-painted fingernails. All kinds of human relationships, therefore, are reflected in this form of physical contact between two persons.

CALENDAR OF MANKIND

Professor Arthur H. Compton, Noble prize winner in physics, noted cosmic ray investigator, compresses the time scale a million fold and presents the following Calendar to Mankind:

One to Two Years Ago: The first men learned to use sticks and stones as tools and weapons.

Last Week: Someone developed the art of shaping stones to meet his needs.

Day Before Yesterday: Man used simplified pictures as symbolic writing.

Yesterday: The alphabet was introduced.

Yesterday Afternoon: The Greeks developed their art and science.

Last Midnight: Rome fell.

8.15 *This Morning:* Galileo observed his falling bodies.

10 *a.m.:* The first steam engine was being built.

11 *a.m.:* The laws of electro-magnetism were developed.

11.30 *a.m.:* The telegraph, electric power, etc., followed out of these.

11.40 *a.m.:* X-rays were discovered.

Fifteen Minutes Ago: The motorcar came into general use.

Five Minutes Ago: Airmail service began.

The Past Minute: Radio became popular.

Now, at Noon: We find mankind in a wholly new sense unified by science.

—Your Life.

THE GERMAN INFLATION

The second number of the *National Taxpayer*, published in Waukegan, Ill., U.S.A., has an interesting comment on the good use the bankers have made of the German inflation. Citing the fact that the 1920-21 deflation provided ammunition to such money reformers as Edison and Henry Ford, and that in their competent hands the money-manipulating racket was almost revealed to the public, the author, Mr. D. L. Cobb, says that the banking system was obliged to find a bogeyman to frighten the public away from Government issue of non-interest bearing money, and make the public grateful again for bankers' "sound" debt-money.

Something had to be done to fool the people, a bogeyman was needed to scare the timid; the German inflation served that purpose, and the bankers have been using it ever since.

To make the inflation-scare more complete, German marks were shipped to U.S. and sold on the streets of large cities at less than cost. Even during the past six months, the *Wall Street Journal* has sent German paper money to thousands of small bankers of America to remind them of the bogeyman.

WORRY AS A DISEASE

Personal worry is one of the principal causes of physical ailments, which send people to hospitals. It is literally possible to worry yourself sick; in fact, the chances are better than even that if you are ill, worry is causing the symptoms. Dr. G. Canby Robinson, of Baltimore, found that out of 174 hospital patients

140 were worrying about something;

115 had worries directly related to their physical illness.

In 97, worry was the cause of the symptoms.

In 65 cases worry was the major cause of the illness.

—Your Life.

AUSTRALIA'S NUMBER ONE TAILOR

Frank Devlin, of Elizabeth House, Melbourne, announces a special purchase of the newest and best quality Suiting for Easter wear. The range includes the smart fancy grey and blues in all pure wool worsteds, also the popular Indigo Dye, fine Blue twills, and Herringbone weaves. These Suiting are offered readers of the "New Times" at the low prices of £4/10/-, £5/5/-, and £6/6/- for a master hand-tailored suit to measure. **This, of course, is only made possible by the elimination of ground-floor rents.** The unique opportunity comes at a most appropriate time, in view of the approach of Easter, and samples will be gladly sent on request. A cordial invitation is extended to clients to visit the workroom, where all work is made under personal supervision and tailored only by skilled craftsmen. Good tailors are few and far between; the next one is a long way from Frank Devlin.

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

ERIC BUTLER. - Last week was a particularly busy one for Eric, during which he attended four meetings, apart from usual routine work.

A small meeting at Albury N.S.W., on Monday 20th inst. resolved into a personal chat with those present. It was agreed that it would necessitate intense propaganda to get a really big meeting. Eric hopes to attend to this in the near future.

Wednesday, the 22nd, was the Beechworth meeting, which was a result of the local Traders' Association desiring to hear about National Insurance. One of the largest and most representative meetings seen at this centre for some time was hugely impressed. Question time found Eric at his best, and the results of the meeting speak for themselves. Many stayed behind and formed a committee for canvassing the town immediately. Nearly 100 *New Times* were given out, while many people wanted to know more about the movement.

A resolution against National Insurance was carried at the meeting, and a wire was to be sent to Mr. McEwen just prior to the Cabinet meeting.

Thursday, the 23rd, was the Yackandandah meeting. In spite of this being a conservative centre, seating capacity in the Shire Hall was fully taxed, while many stood outside. A warm night did not deter the speaker from giving what supporters termed "a really hot address." A scathing attack on the present financial system failed to draw the local bankers, who attended. Perhaps silence was deemed the best policy, in view of the reactions of the audience. Signatures against National Insurance were obtained at the meeting, and the local paper gave the meeting an excellent write-up. A good report of the meeting also appeared in the *Albury Border Mail*.

Subsequent to this meeting, the Osborne's Flat Repeal Committee also decided to send a wire to Mr. McEwen prior to the Cabinet meeting. Mr. McEwen will get a warm reception the next time he visits this part of his electorate.

On Friday night, February 24, Eric was taken over to Kiewa by members of the Osborne's Flat Group. Owing to insufficient advertising, there were not enough present to hold a meeting. However, copies of the *New Times* were handed round the township and a few "seeds" sown.

The Osborne's Flat Group intends to push on with its good work, and is going to arrange a dance for raising funds for the movement. Many are keen for Eric to return as soon as possible to this part of the State, in order to open up more country centres.

**YOUTH SECTION.
PICTURE NIGHT
at the
REGENT THEATRE,
on
TUESDAY, MARCH 7.**

Stall and Dress Circle tickets 2/2
Order your ticket from Y.S. Hon.
Sec., U.E.A., 5th Floor, McEwan
House, Little Collins St., C.I.

WANTED

By the U.E.A. Youth Section,
a Bookcase or Cupboard, with
shelves, for books of the Tom
Moore Memorial Library. Com-
municate with the Librarian, Tom
Moore Memorial Library, c/o
U.E.A., 5th Floor, McEwan House,
Little Collins Street, C.I.

He is certainly getting results.

He left Albury on Sunday night for Sydney. Reports of the reception given both Eric and Mr. Paice by Sydney audiences will be published in next week's *New Times*.

NATIONAL INSURANCE. —The Repeal of the Act seems virtually assured. The effectiveness of the Electoral Campaign mechanism has been proven. It is not an occasion for final exultation, but for thankfulness that a way has been found whereby the people can guide their affairs in such a way as to eliminate the causes of war and poverty. The success of the Repeal Campaign is welcome encouragement to Reformers. How are they to capitalise the good work?

GET TOGETHER and talk it over. Come into the Rooms, McEwan House, Little Collins-street, on Wednesday evening, March 8. Remember, the U.E.A. is purely and simply YOU (i.e., The People), and YOU must continue to express what you "instinctively and by intuition know to be right." Bring your friends with you. What do you think of the Bank Bill?

HARNESS UP ORGANISATIONS. —There are hundreds of Societies and Organisations, each a potential power of expression. There is much to be done in introducing the idea of Pressure Politics to these existing bodies of electors. An individual member of a society can do it. The usefulness of such work can be gathered from the agenda paper of the A.N.A. Conference, to be held at Warnambool on March 20 of this year. Resolutions from six branches are against National Insurance. And there are resolutions dealing with the Commonwealth Bank Amending Bill and on Monetary Policy.

CONTRIBUTIONS. Mr. Norman Rolls is steadily building up a fund of weekly contributions, which will enable the work of the U.E.A. to go ahead at greater momentum. Small amounts added together soon amount to useful dimensions. If you are able to help, please write to Mr. Rolls.

"NEW TIMES" is the only paper, which sends U.E.A. propaganda far and near. Every effort should be made to increase its circulation. A good way to help is to contact your local newsagent and convince him of the soundness of the U.E.A. objective. The agent, having grasped the U.E.A. idea, is in a position to expand the circulation of the *New Times* by display and by conversation with his customers.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

WOMEN'S DIVISION.

Preliminary Notice: It has been urged by a number of enthusiastic bridge players in the movement that a bridge club should be formed for the winter months for the purpose of raising funds, and, incidentally, promoting a wider sphere of social activities.

It will also provide an opportunity for members and friends to improve their hand of bridge. In this connection it is proposed to invite the support of members, readers and friends.

These gatherings are to be held monthly, on Saturday evenings, and the committee would be pleased to receive names of those intending to join.

The usual aggregate prize for the season and other prizes will help to create keen competition.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMMUNISM AND THE "NEW TIMES"

Sir, —Mrs. Gadd has had the opinion of two readers on Communism, so here is another, which, I feel sure, would be representative of very many others.

Only those who feel the present social injustice keenly would be bothered to interest themselves in Communism, or any other reform, and in that we will all agree, but the method of bringing about the desired improvement is where most people reject Communism, with its class hatreds, and policy of force.

I for one cannot admit that capitalists as a class are the terrible people they are made out to be, and number many, who are in business in a big way, as my friends, and feel very proud to know them.

They are just as much slaves as the worker; in fact, many have a life full of worry and hard work. What for? Simply because, under our present system of cut-throat competition, they are in duty bound to provide for their families to the best of their ability, and, seeing that they did not make the rules of the game, it is hardly fair to blame them for doing the best they can. Self-preservation is the first law of nature.

They have the same hearts as others, and, naturally, feel sorry for those in poverty and want, and would willingly give their help to secure a fair monetary system, for these men have no desire to keep anybody down; on the contrary, would like everybody to have security, including themselves.

Communists would have the lot shot for daring to have enough to eat, and instruct the worker just how hard to hate them. On the contrary, we want their help. You remember what G.B.S. said when the mob wanted to burn down the Park Lane mansions. "You fools," he said in effect, "we want to build more for yourselves, not destroy them."

That is our position today. We have no objection how much wealth a man accumulates. What we want is the abolition of want, and we can secure it without recourse to violence and civil war with the remnants of our rights which we still enjoy under what is pleased to be called Democracy. If Communism suits Russia, it is their business, and I do not think we have a hope of finding out just how it works, for I have read accounts of responsible observers for years past and no two seem to agree. —Yours, etc.,

"R.R."

Hawthorn, Vic.

IT'S A CASE FOR CASEY

The Federal Treasurer's piloting of his sound financial 'plane has not been too satisfactory to date.

He struck air pockets over National Insurance, and is likely to experience cyclonic storms over the Commonwealth Bank (Bill).

Which will be smashed, the 'plane, or the People's Bank? — Yours, etc.,

"S.F.A."

Sydney.

FACTS FIRST

By C. H. ALLEN.

Aldous Huxley, in his book, "Ends and Means," quotes the Buddha, and agrees that unawareness and stupidity should be classed amongst the deadly sins.

It would seem, then, that, as money is the most ubiquitous factor of life's activities, any person who remains unaware of the basic usages of money management is committing a sin against himself and society.

First, let us look at what some reliable books and people say. In the *Encyclopedia Britannica* (14th edition) we find: "Banks lend by creating credit; they create the means of payment out of nothing." In "Principles of Economic Planning," G. D. H. Cole says: "It is generally admitted that banks can and do create purchasing power out of nothing...."

In the report prepared with the aid of eight bankers, presided over by Lord Cunliffe, the then Governor of the Bank of England, there is an actual description of how the money loaned by banks is created.

The better known Macmillan Report states (page 34): "It is not unnatural to think of the deposits of a bank as being created by the public through the deposit of cash, representing either saving or amounts which are not for the time being required to meet expenditure. But the bulk of the deposits arise out of the action of the banks themselves; for by granting loans . . . a bank creates a credit in its books which is the equivalent to a deposit...."

If any doubting Thomas prefers personal investigation, let him ask the question: "Where does the extra money come from in boom times and disappear to in times of depression?" By simple elimination any other source than the banking institutions can be put out of the likely field.

Nothing new, nothing mysterious, and nothing wrong is disclosed by these authorities; but there is one question which every rate or tax-payer should ask: When new money is released by the banks for use in providing public amenities, locally or nationally, to whom does the money belong? It would seem that any team of debaters who attempted to show that such money actually belongs to the proprietors of the bank would have a very thin time.

A new regime of social activities will begin when people learn to demand that an experiment be tried of calling the new money the people's money, and seeing what happens.

What about it? Let's give it go.

The
U.E.A. YOUTH SECTION
wants
YOU

on MARCH 7, at the
U.E.A. Rooms.
Vigorous Action Wanted
Do Your Bit on
TUESDAY, at 8 p.m.

THE HARVEST THAT MEN REAP!

Attend the
UNITARIAN CHURCH,
Grey Street West, East
Melb., Sunday Evening
Next, March 5, and hear
REV. W. BOTTOMLEY on
the above subject, 7 p.m., 7
p.m., 7 p.m.