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Vol. 5. No. 25.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1939,

Every Friday, 3d

Who Rules New Zealand?

BANKS, GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLE?

MONTAGU COLLET NORMAN

Dictator of the British Empire

"City" of London Demands Bank Rule

LONDON, Sunday. —"Reynolds News" (Labor), in a front-page article, headed, "City Versus New Zealand," "Blackmail of a Dominion," declares that behind the threat of the British industrialists lie the boycott of New Zealand and a discreditable story of financial and political intrigue which originated in the City, supported by the Government.

"The City's reply to the N.Z. Treasurer (Mr. Nash) has been a definite refusal to enter into negotiations until New Zealand abandons or modifies her social reform legislation, reduces her security programme by cutting pensions, unemployment allowances and work schemes, and accepts the control of the banks in financial dealings," the paper adds.

"The banks have been asked to withdraw their support until the New Zealand Government sees reason. Thus New Zealand must continue to over-import, further reducing her favourable trade balance.

"The City is blackmailing a Government whose only fault is that it is Socialist, in spite of the fact that New Zealand is already Britain's best customer.

"Conversion of the loan at present has not the slightest chance of success. Bankers intend to demand their full pound of flesh. Not a penny will be lent. The British Government is refusing to sanction long-term credits while Labor rules.

"The nation is being held to ransom in the interests of the British moneyed and trading classes.

"It is necessary to reveal the full facts in order to defeat the sordid intrigue.

"Parliament can force the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir John Simon) and the Governor of the Bank of England (Mr. Montagu Norman) to give New Zealand a square deal.

"The Dominion has shown it is wholeheartedly behind its Government, for which reason it is wrong for a British Cabinet to step in between a self-governing Dominion and its leaders."

—Melbourne Sun, June 19.

[Our headings.]

* * *

If, up to the last few days, there was anyone in Australia who harboured the delusion that the policies of Governments are not dictated by banking institutions, these happenings in the City of London in connection with the New Zealand loan conversion should have completely removed it.

As is well known here, at the last elections the present New Zealand Government submitted a certain policy to the electors for acceptance or rejection. It is not intended here to discuss the merits or demerits of that programme, but to point out the material fact that their policy was endorsed by an overwhelming majority of the voters, and should, by every rule

of the democratic system, be given effect to.

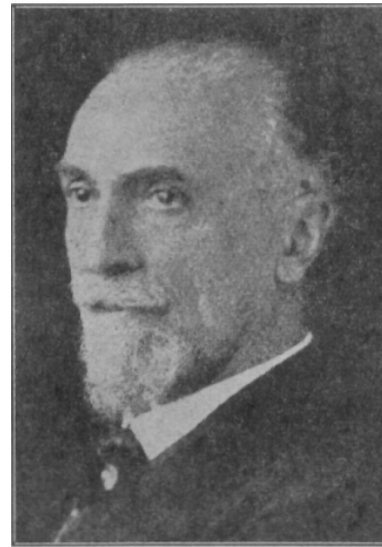
Yet, when in the usual and accepted course of events it was decided to approach the London market in regard to the matter of a Conversion Loan, the banking interests had the effrontery to demand that the mandate the electors of New Zealand had given, should be disregarded and a policy dictated by London bankers be substituted.

COMING INTO THE OPEN

As a general rule the financial oligarchy prefers to exercise its

(Continued on page 6.)

In the May issue of the "Strand Magazine," London, there appears a naive article by Kathleen Woodward, which has Mr. Norman as its subject. Miss Woodward seems to have some idea of the enormous power wielded, under present arrangements, by the Governor of the Bank of England; but seems to be blissfully unaware of the murderous effects of his policy—so unaware that she presents him in the light of fairy godmother and guardian angel combined. Much space is taken up by telling of Mr. Norman's alleged virtues, personal tastes and leisure pursuits, but the following extracts are informative and to the point:



MONTAGU NORMAN

"Money today is summed up in greater figures than were ever before dreamed of, and those who control the movements of money wield a formidable power. Chief among these is Mr. Montagu Collet Norman, Governor of the Bank of England . . .

"Mr. Montagu Norman has been Governor of the Bank of England since 1920, when he was elected by the Court of Governors to succeed Lord Cunliffe. It used to be the routine of the Bank to change Governors every two years. That is no longer the practice. Chancellors of the Exchequer come and go, but Mr. Norman remains, weathering even the storm of 1931, when England went off the Gold Standard and people who should have known better waited for the pound sterling to go the way of the old German mark and other inflated currencies.

POWER WITHOUT RESPONSIBILITY

"He is the head of what is perhaps the most powerful oligarchy in the world. The Bank of England, like all other Central Banks, is banker to the Government and to the trading banks; but it differs from nearly all other Central Banks in that it is not responsible to the Government. It has been banker to the Government since it was started in 1694 with a loan to the Government of one million two hundred thousand pounds. Mr. Norman does not speak in public. He does not write for publication. All the more for that reason are his actions the close study of friends and foes, for whom he is a superman or the opposite."

"Mr. Norman would resent you looking at him too long or too curiously. He strives to preserve for his inmost self, one feels, a sanctuary as inviolate as Thorpe Lodge, where he lives on Campden Hill."

"His wife is a daughter of Lady Alice Josephine, daughter of the Seventh Earl of Abingdon. Mrs. Montagu Norman is second in command of the Women's Voluntary Services section of the A.R.P., of which Lady Reading is Chairman.

"This . . . [his interest in art] . . . does not explain why he is

(Continued on page 2.)

IN 1939! IN AUSTRALIA!

Can Afford to Buy Only Two-Penn'orth of Fuel

Some people in Fitzroy were so poor that they could afford to buy only two-pennyworth of fuel at a time, J. Andrews, fuel merchant, of Brunswick-street, Fitzroy, told Fitzroy Court recently.

He was protesting against being charged with having sold fuel except by weight. Legislation provides that fuel could be sold only by the ton, cwt., or quarter, he said. Apparently the legislature had not contemplated that people would be so poor that they could not buy more than a few pounds' weight at a time.

Andrews was fined 5/-, with £1/3/6 costs, on a charge of having sold firewood otherwise than by weight, and 5/- with £1/3/6 cost for having failed to give a purchaser a weight ticket.

Robert Henry Jones, Weights and Measures Union inspector, said it was not suggested that Andrews was dealing unfairly with clients.

Andrews said that since the visit of the inspector he had told people he could not sell them fuel except by weight.

"They have stared at me in amazement," he said, "and accused me of becoming independent because the winter is here. Five of them left me, knowing they could go to other yards, where they would be obliged."

"Every fuel yard in Fitzroy is selling on the same basis as myself—giving the correct proportion of a hundred-weight of fuel.

It is the only way to do business in such a poor area."

Mr. Hammond, P.M.: "I have a lot of sympathy for you and have no doubt you were honest in your transactions. At the same time the law must be administered, but you will be fined very small amounts."

—Melbourne Herald, 19/6/'39.

* * *

So our "Statesmen," with smug complacency, sit in their well-heated and comfortable offices, and talk rubbish about money shortage—there is no FUEL shortage—and allow their unfortunate fellow-citizens to freeze, because, perforce, a fuel merchant is debarred by law from selling them even the two-pennyworth of fuel their pitiful incomes allow. Shades of Charles Dickens! God give us another such. —"Iconoclast."

PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE FOR MANY, FINANCIALLY POSSIBLE FOR FEW

New York to Europe by Airliner

Condensed from "Popular Mechanics."

Passenger-carrying airplane service between New York and Europe—long the dream of aviation industry—is in the process of inauguration by Pan American Airways. The company plans to offer service to Europe several times a week.

While the clippers will be serviced at Baltimore, the take-off terminal will be at North Beach on Long Island, or at Pan American's temporary base at Port Washington, N.Y. From there a northern route, which will be used during the summer, is by Shediac, New Brunswick, to Botwood, Newfoundland, thence across a 1995-mile, over water jump to Foynes, Ireland, and finally to Southampton, England. Passengers may reach London by air taxi or train. Flying time will be approximately twenty-four hours, necessitating an overnight flight for the trip across the Atlantic; hence the capacity of the clipper will be limited to that of night service, forty passengers.

Another route, known as the southern, is by way of the Azores and Lisbon, Portugal, to Marseilles, France. Requiring about thirty-six hours, this route is the one most favoured for winter service, with Baltimore as terminal.

"PARK AVENUE ON WINGS."

Even persons accustomed to the best in air travel will find clipper accommodations a surprise. With its two decks and eighteen separate rooms, its soft carpeted floors, its davenport-type lounging chairs and its modern styling throughout, the Atlantic air queen is virtually a "Park Avenue suite on wings." The ten and one-half by twelve-foot dining room has a gay colour scheme, and there are five tables of polished black walnut and deeply upholstered chairs for fifteen persons to be served at a time.

Arched doorways at either end of the central lounge lead to passenger quarters fore and aft. Going aft you pass through three standard compartments, each with floor dimensions of seven and one-half by twelve feet and a height of seven and one-half feet. The cabins are exceptionally quiet, the result of double insulation and sound-proofing in the walls and soft carpeting on the floors.

"ALL MOD. CONS."

Triple seats in each compartment will be converted into upper and lower berths all more than six feet long. Each berth has an outside window, individual ventilator, reading light, steward's call button, clothes rack and hangers.

Farther towards the stern you find a four-passenger portside compartment, opposite, which is the women's dressing room. Finally, in the aft-most section, you enter a deluxe compartment, or "bridal suite."

Ahead of the lounge you find another standard compartment, then a section containing a galley and a men's dressing room, and beyond is another standard compartment. The galley contains compact equipment designed by Pan American for serving full-course meals en route and an arrangement for

setting up a cocktail bar between meals.

For the comfort of the passengers, the clipper has a thermostatically controlled heating system, with "furnaces" using exhaust heat from two of the four engines.

Up on the flying bridge, which is entirely lined with black to eliminate glare, will be two pilots to handle the controls. Back of the bridge is the navigation and radio room, directive brain of the mighty ship. Here will be the radio officer, pilot-navigator, all of whom have telephone communication with the bridge. Just behind this room is the master's office.

SIX THOUSAND HORSEPOWER

Actual operation of the power plant, consisting of four 1500-horse-power Wright engines, will be supervised by the flight engineer. One panel contains 26 instruments, which serve the functions of 62 different indicators. The radio officer has charge of three transmitters and three receivers, with which he will maintain contact with land stations and ships throughout the flight. Over his equipment will flash weather reports and instructions to the clipper's master from both sides of the Atlantic.

Behind the spacious control room, within the wings, are the main cargo compartments for mail and express, and directly behind them are complete sleeping and living quarters for the crew. At the bow of the ship is the anchor and gear room, which also holds a mooring post, which slides out when the hatch is opened. Beneath the main or passenger deck, are watertight compartments running the length of the ship, an additional safety feature.

The Yankee clippers will follow a carefully chartered route that has been surveyed by Pan American's weather and flight experts. Many survey flights have been made by company 'planes, in conjunction with similar journeys made by Imperial Airways of England.

On July 6, 1938, Captain Harold Gray and his crew aboard the Pan American Clipper III crossed from Botwood to Foynes in twelve hours and twenty-nine minutes. At the same time, Imperial Airways' flying boat, the Caledonia, flew the route from east to west in fifteen hours and twenty-eight minutes, averaging 132 miles per hour. This crossing is the more difficult because of prevailing headwinds.

Upon completion of that survey flight, Captain Gray said: "I do not think there would be any difficulty in operating a regular service across the Atlantic."

Trans-Atlantic air service is soon to become a reality, and Captain Gray's opinion a certainty.

MONTAGU COLLET NORMAN

(Continued from page 1.)

the most powerful and respected man in the City, whose suggestions men fall over themselves to carry out—even the biggest and most important of private financiers and capitalists. It does not explain how he has transformed the titular place of Governor of the Bank of England into the office of a statesman.

"Money being the life-blood of the material world and the Governor being at the centre of the circulatory flow in association with the Treasury, his character is not unimportant to us who are nourished or starved by the quality of the blood-stream he transmits. His genius would not preserve us from pernicious anaemia, or apoplexy, should he be self-seeking, corruptible.

BACKGROUND

"Mr. Montagu Norman was born in 1871 at Moor Place, Much Hadham, Herts, and his education was begun orthodoxly at Eton.

"His father was a partner in the house of Martin & Co., now Martin's Bank. His grandfather, George Warde Norman, was a partner in Brown, Shipley & Co., and one of a distinguished group of bankers, such as Grote and Bagehot. . . . He was also a director of the Bank of England, and married a Miss Stone, daughter of a partner in the banking firm of Stone & Martin, whose City connections are traced to the sixteenth century, before banking as a profession or business was known in this country, but when their precursors as Goldsmiths in Lombard Street performed the functions of a bank. Thus on both sides Mr. Norman is descended from banking families.

"After going down from Cambridge, he joined his grandfather's firm, Brown, Shipley & Co., in Founder's Court, Lothbury, a respected firm whose business was all foreign, the financing of international trade. His apprenticeship was also served in the United States, with Brown Brothers, a firm associated with Brown, Shipley & Co. in Philadelphia and in New York. He was made a partner in Brown, Shipley & Co. in 1900 . . .

"At the age of thirty-five he was elected a director of the Bank of England; Brown, Shipley & Co. being one of the firms enjoying the prerogative—unofficial and unwritten, but hardly the less secure for that—that one of their partners should become a director. He remained with his firm until 1915, when Lord Cunliffe was made Governor of the Bank and Mr. Norman became Deputy Governor. He was Deputy Governor until the death of Lord Cunliffe, in 1920. He was then elected

Governor, at the age of forty-nine.

Mr. Norman is like a super-Permanent Official to Chancellors of the Exchequer, who are said to "slip into his pocket." Lord Snowden automatically wrote, "The Chancellor of the Exchequer sees much of the Governor," and then made the smiling correction, "It would perhaps be more correct to say that the Governor sees much of the Chancellor of the Exchequer." Lord Snowden was Chancellor of the Exchequer when England went off the Gold Standard in 1931. Mr. Winston Churchill was Chancellor of the Exchequer when we went on the Gold Standard in 1925. Lord Baldwin was Chancellor of the Exchequer when in 1922 Mr. Norman accompanied him to America to arrange for the funding of the British War Debt.

"Inevitably Mr. Norman is criticised for his part in the restoration of the Gold Standard in 1925, from which we departed in 1931, when the Labour Government fell and a National Government was formed. . . . He inherits conservative traditions. His grandfather deplored the thought of a note issue in excess of the gold reserve of a country.

"He has never had an unsympathetic attitude towards Germany, where he went recently for the christening of the grandchild of his friend, Dr. Schacht.

BOMB OR STATUE?

"The doorkeeper in Threadneedle Street is a study in himself as he courteously scrutinises people for possible visitors with some novel monetary theory, and for lunatics with a bomb or a revolver intended for the Governor or the Chief Cashier; "but we take it all very quietly." There is no foretelling by which door the Governor may choose to enter the Bank—in Lothbury, Princes Street, Bartholomew Lane, or Threadneedle Street.

His room overlooks the new gardens made since the rebuilding of the Bank. Two niches are carved in its walls; in one is a statue of Montague, Earl of Halifax, Chancellor of the Exchequer when the Bank was started; the other niche is empty, and will, it has been said, hold a statue of Mr. Montagu Norman."

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"SAVE THE PEOPLE'S BANK" CAMPAIGN

The following is the latest report from the Melbourne Citizens' Committee conducting the Victorian Section of this Vital Campaign:

"Communications received recently, especially from country centres, indicate that a determined reply is being made by electors to the dogmatic attitude displayed by certain Members of Parliament in regard to the Commonwealth Bank Bill awaiting debate. The refusal of these Members to admit the anti-social and dangerous nature of the proposals, suggests either their ignorance of, or non-acceptance of, certain findings of the Royal Commission on Banking, which was recently conducted at some expense to the people of Australia.

"As pointed out by *The Countryman* (official organ of the United Country Party in Victoria) the Royal Commission's report, on page 196, paragraph 503, states: "The Central Bank in the Australian system is the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. This Bank is a public institution engaged in the discharge of a public trust. As the Central Bank, its function is to regulate the volume of credit in the National interest, and its distinctive attribute is its control of the note issue. Within the limits prescribed by law, it has the power to issue notes as legal tender money, and every obligation undertaken by the Commonwealth Bank is backed by this power of creating the money with which to discharge it."

"This explanation provides further proof, if such were necessary, that the Commonwealth Bank has no need whatsoever to seek outside support to establish a Mortgage Department.

"Members arguing to the contrary, therefore, either display woeful ignorance on the matter, or confess their adherence (undoubtedly at the behest of those who also provide much of their party's funds) to a debt-policy which has brought an appalling percentage of our primary producers to a state of bankruptcy already.

"The Mortgage Bank proposition is another bait that is being dangled before the eyes of hungry fish (in this case rural electors), whose plight is such that if they are not fore-warned, they may clutch at the proverbial straw and realise their mistake only when it is too late. THE TIME FOR COUNTRY ELECTORS TO ACT IS NOW. Whether they be supporters of the Country Party, the Labor Party, or any other Party, makes no difference. Their elected representative in Parliament is there to carry out the expressed will of the electors; the function of a politician is to yield to pressure, generated by a sufficient number of intelligent people. Whether the attack upon the people's rights and privileges by private financial interests (indirectly, through the passage of the Bank Bill), is to be as successful as have been other attacks in recent years, RESTS WITH THE ELECTORS THEMSELVES. Judging from what has already been done, there is enough time available before Parliament meets again, to bring sufficient pressure to bear upon any Member who is not yet pledged to oppose the measure.

"Due to the acceptance of personal responsibility by electors individually, and to the collective action taken by them as a demo-

cratic community DEMANDING recognition as such, thousands (possibly hundreds of thousands by now) of protests have already been sent to Members of Parliament; and the stream of letters continues. As a result there is ample evidence to prove that certain Members who formerly treated the proposed amendments lightly, together with the small dictatorial group who once regarded protests with contempt, now realise that enlightened electors are THE force to be reckoned with. We may confidently state that, whether we witness the deletion of the dangerous clauses in the Bank Bill, or its entire burial in the near future, the fight for the people's ownership of the Commonwealth Bank will continue with increasing determination of an ever-growing body of *Public Opinion*, until the People have finally triumphed over the deprecation of a money mechanism which is as antiquated as it is unjust. In the meantime, it is with equal confidence that we may predict what will happen to Parliamentarians who ignore the expressed will of electors who, for the first time in Australia's political history, are standing together upon common principles, irrespective of party or creed. It is in *this* spirit of co-operation, *this* unity of purpose, and *this* acceptance of personal responsibility, that the hope of establishing true democratic government lies.

"At the official opening of our Commonwealth Bank, in 1912, Mr. W. M. Hughes said: 'It stands here today as the outward and visible sign of the wealth and substance of the whole people. It is indeed Australia commercially translated in the term of money. It is the symbol of our wealth; it will stand as LONG AS WE STAND. OF ITS SOLVENCY THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT WHILE THAT RACE WHO MADE AUSTRALIA STILL STANDS.'

"There should be no need to point out the tremendous significance of such a statement, nor the undeniable truths implied by a politician who appears to have since climbed over the fence, to suit a coterie of financiers who pull the strings and call the tune. Should Mr. Hughes fail to oppose the Bill, surely his own words will condemn him. And surely "that race who made Australia" will have fallen (to say the least, metaphorically), if it fails to save Australia from the approaching financial crisis by DEMANDING that the Commonwealth Bank be allowed to function as was originally intended, and that NO DEBENTURES and NO INSCRIBED STOCK be issued to place Australians further in pawn to financial interests.

"That is the issue at stake, and it is the *most vital issue* before the people at the present time. Whether this campaign is to be lost or won depends upon those who appreciate its full significance, and who are prepared to do their utmost to see that other electors are provided with the facts.

"This Committee appeals to country people especially, to follow the lead given by those country centres which have set up a local committee to handle the campaign in their district. Full

MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FOR HYPOCRISY

Compton Mackenzie's "Windsor Tapestry"

BOOK REVIEW by "LEXICON."

On December 11, 1936, Edward VIII made his last speech as King of England and his first broadcast as Edward Windsor. A few hours later England's ex-King, accompanied by his Cairn terrier (thank God for dogs), motored down to Portsmouth, where he was forced to enquire the way out of his own country, or, in other words, be directed to the ominously named Unicorn Gate of the Portsmouth Docks.

From then until the present day the Duke and his Duchess or, to give her the title to which a sanctimonious Commons implies a denial by refusing her the full right to her husband's titles—the Duke and his wife—have been the defenceless butts of not only the petty-gossip column-writers, but also of those more influential servants of power who so skilfully damn with faint praise.

Despite all their efforts, however, the very people who, stunned by the sudden revelation of suppressed news, permitted a Nationalist Government to practically force the abdication of a universally beloved King, are gradually recovering their balance. Ten-thousand-a-year Archbishops may shriek their denunciations from the sacred decks of Pierpont Morgan's yacht, the mighty Sup-Press may seek, by subtle innuendo, to reduce a people's Prince to the status of an exiled puppet, but they will never succeed for the reason that, Edward the Eighth, or Duke of Windsor, the Man, is still enthroned in the hearts of the great mass of the people of the British Empire.

AN INDICTMENT.

Compton Mackenzie's "The Windsor Tapestry," is not only a damning indictment of the methods by which the people of Great Britain and the Empire were forced to submit to the abdication of a King whom they were convinced had their interests and welfare at heart, it is also a valuable contribution to the historical literature of the day. The lives and records of the politicians and prelates who played a leading part in the King's abdication are briefly but clearly reviewed.

There are those who might feel that the author is too severe in his criticism of the smug urbanity of Mr. Baldwin at the time of the "crisis," yet one can't but feel in the light of other events that there was something incongruous in the Prime Minister's solemn talk of "duty to the people," when we recall the fact that it was a most prominent shareholder in Baldwin's Ltd., who have multiplied their share capital more than four times as a result of the re-armament racket, talking to a Prince who was once moved to lay his cheek against that of a victim of the "great" war who had been so mutilated that the hospital authorities had tried to keep him out of sight.

RESTORING THE BALANCE.

Severe though his criticism is of the methods adopted by the British House of Commons as a result of the King's attitude at the time to the present Duchess of Windsor, Mr. Mackenzie, as he points out in his foreword, was chiefly inspired to write his

book by the British Government's implied acquiescence in the publication of matter derogatory to the ex-King, who, in relinquishing the throne in the manner in which he had done, was motivated purely by consideration for the well-being of his country.

For those who are interested in contemporary history and politics, "The Windsor Tapestry," by Compton MacKensie (our copy by courtesy of Messrs. Robertson & Mullens Ltd., Melbourne), should be of absorbing interest. Those who are not already of the opinion that, as the author words it, the British Commons in 1936 proved that it was their honest desire to "Make the world safe for hypocrisy," will at least be given much food for thought.

Victorian C.P. Decides to Leave Australian Woolgrowers' Council

The Central Council of the Victorian Country Party has decided to withdraw its affiliation with the Australian Woolgrowers' Council, as recommended by the wool executive of the Primary Producers' Association of Western Australia.

When the question was discussed at the last meeting of the Victorian body, support was expressed for the proposal, made at the recent Canberra conference, for the creation of an organisation to provide smaller woolgrowers with a vehicle for effective expression of their viewpoint on wool stabilisation.

Referring to the Australian Woolgrowers' Council's attitude to the trade diversion policy of the Federal Government, Mr. A. E. Hocking said he had gained the impression when attending a meeting that the council was not controlled by growers, but that delegates were immediately whipped into line when the life of the Government was threatened or when there was any suggestion of wool market stabilisation.

He described the organisation as a sham and a delusion, and said that officials did not seem interested in the welfare of the small producer, but rather the welfare of the wool and pastoral companies. —*The Land.*

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Vol. 5. FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1939. No. 25.

WHO GOVERNS?

The fact has been clearly demonstrated in Australia that our "democratic" Governments are such mainly in name. The manner in which the recent National Insurance Act and other similar taxation measures have been forced through Parliament provides glaring examples of the trend of events.

In these times of growing discontent among the people we need to be watchful because of the schemes, planned by those who control the money system, to counteract any move to relieve distress by means of monetary reform.

The amendments proposed in regard to the Commonwealth (People's) Bank are such as to call for the most critical examination. We have good reason to fear such a measure, in view of the experience of the past and what is happening throughout the world today.

As William Jennings Bryan once said: "The money power preys upon the nation in times of peace and conspires against it in times of adversity. It can," he said, "be overthrown only by the awakened conscience of the people."

The warning given by Sir Isaac Isaacs in his book, "Australian Democracy," is timely where, he writes: "We must not carelessly overlook the possibility of subtle, but corroding, influences gaining ascendancy within our very gates. Influences which, if not watched and counteracted, could in more than one direction seriously impair our democratic institutions and substitute an autocracy."

Today the Hidden Government (Finance) secretly dictates or restricts the effective, policy of elected Governments and holds the welfare of the people in the hollow of its hand. But occasionally it unintentionally comes out into the open and reveals its action. Such has been the case in regard to the transfer of the Czech gold to Germany.

Mr. Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister, was seemingly kept in ignorance, because he stated "that the £5,000,000 of Czech gold that had been handed over to Germany, with the consent of the British Treasury, was a 'mare's nest.'"

The City Editor of the "News Chronicle" says: "Mr. Chamberlain was formally correct, but a more misleading and more disingenuous reply can rarely have been made from the Treasury Benches. It now turns out that more than £5,000,000 was, in fact, released, though not by agreement with the Treasury, because this was not required. It appears that the Bank of International Settlements authorised the transfer, but the two British directors of that Bank did not inform Cabinet Ministers. The two directors are the Governor of the Bank of England (Mr. Montagu Norman) and Sir Otto Niemeyer."

All this goes to prove that High Finance knows no fatherland, recognises no government other than its own, and has no respect for humanity as a whole. "Democracies" have much more to fear from this HIDDEN dictatorship than from those in certain other lands who are trying to do something for their people in their own peculiar, and often crude, way.

It was Sir Otto Niemeyer who, in answering Mr. J. M. Keynes at the Macmillan Commission, said, in respect to foreign money for combines: "I would not feel the least compunction about taking every sort of money from whatever source I could get it." He added that he thought "the shareholders controlling the combines should be British Bankers—the foreign money coming in by way of debentures—in other words, a first charge ahead of the Bank shareholders."

The late Prime Minister of England, Ramsay MacDonald, said: "I must confess to being thoroughly disillusioned in regard to the working out of Labor-Socialism—it simply doesn't work out. Finance can command the sluices of every stream that runs to turn the wheels of industry, and can put fetters upon the feet of every Government that is in existence. You think that the Bank of England is a National Institution. The French think the Bank of France is a National Institution. The Germans think that the Reichbank is a National Institution. And the truth? The truth is, they are all controlled to some extent by a group of International Financiers, whose one interest in life is Power, Power to rule the world—I tell you that they DO rule the world."

Australians must realise the dangers threatening their future economic and civil rights. It is vital that our own Commonwealth Bank be protected against any chance of its coming further under the influence and domination of oversea Financiers acting within the Commonwealth, per medium of the Private Banking System.

In that Bank we have an asset possessing tremendous possibilities, which, if rightly used, could free the people of this country from the economic servitude that they are enduring today because of the present policy of Social Debt and Taxation.

PURITANS IN RETREAT

By DANIEL ORME.

Condensed from "Le Mois," Paris.

The Old Testament gave them ready-made the conception of a chosen people, which they applied to themselves. Cromwell's soldiers were "the children of Israel fighting infidels." The Pilgrim Fathers were none other than "Israel in the wilderness" or "the people of God in New England."

Puritan asceticism does not, like the monastic, withdraw its disciples from everyday life. On the contrary, it urged that they give all their strength to their work. Puritanism has become, par excellence, a middle class religion.

The puritan mentality is favourable to all practical enterprise: (holy) war, colonisation, and conquest of an empire in the name of true faith. But what it encourages most immediately is work, which it considers the strictest duty towards God, society, one's self and one's family. Work is looked upon by the puritan exclusively from the double point of view—of duty and gain. Great accumulation of wealth does not seem in any manner suspect or dangerous; on the contrary, the poor man who becomes rich proves his virtue by that fact and demonstrates that the grace of God reposes upon him and his family.

Incitation of work, favouring the spirit of enterprise, encouragement of acquisitions, discouragement of spending—what does that signify if not the progress of capitalism?

Usury itself, condemned by all the thinkers of the Middle Ages

and the Reformation, begins now to be tolerated, indeed authorised. The extraordinary cruelty with which the worker is treated during the first half-century following the industrial revolution is explained by a characteristically puritan idea. Work is good in itself and can only favour the moral health of man even at the expense of his physical condition.

The ignominious labour of women and children for sixteen hours a day under horrible, unhygienic conditions, was justified by moral reasons: children benefit from discipline, occupation of women leaves them no time for unfaithfulness to their husbands!

Puritanism wove thick veils of respectability over the social catastrophes caused by the industrial revolution. Respectability is the Victorian form of secularised Puritanism.

The history of England, of the United States and of the Empire is incomprehensible if one does not take account of the puritan ferment, but England is older than Puritanism, and will survive it.

As far as the puritan tradition is concerned, there can be no doubt that since the last century, it has entered upon a period of decay. Victorian hypocrisy and cant are far indeed removed from the true fervour of a Bunyan or a Cromwell, and it has nothing that recalls the severe grandeur of Milton.

One can foresee a time when it will be possible to exclaim: "Puritan England is dead, long live England."

Mr. Nock, M.H.R., and the Bank Bill

Mr. H. K. Nock, M.H.R., in writing to Mr. Jas. Gerrand, of Barham, in connection with the Bank Act Bill, says: "It is unfortunate that these misleading statements, which unsettle credulous people, should be scattered throughout Australia." We reprint hereunder portion of Mr. Gerrand's reply, as it appeared in the local paper:

"With regard to the proposed Commonwealth Bank Amendment Bill, I note your assurance that there is no risk in selling the debentures and inscribed stock. There is certainly no risk in buying them, as the interest is to be free of Federal and State income tax and stamp duty. Will you tell us why the Commonwealth Bank, backed by the nation, and having control of the note issue, should borrow from private sources at all? This bank, which began operations in 1912 with a capital of £10,000, financed Australia during the war to the extent of £350,000,000, and now has a surplus of assets over liabilities of £19,000,000. I'm afraid the credulous people who need unsettling are those who can see nothing sinister in this move, and can be hoodwinked into believing that by exchanging one piece of

paper for another—a Commonwealth Bank debenture for a bank cheque—some mysterious thing, called funds, is obtained, and the 'hold-up' of men and materials and necessary work can then be waved on again, as with a magician's wand or policeman's hand. King O'Malley, the founder of the Commonwealth Bank, addressing a conference of wheat growers at Horsham recently, said this to them: 'You are the owners of the Commonwealth Bank, and yet you allow these political nincompoops to make arrangements to hand it over to Pierpont Morgan and Old Man Montagu. Get out the Winchester rifle and shoot every member who votes against the interests of Australia.' I think you will find that this Bill is even more unpopular than the late unlamented Insurance Bill, and the Country Party members will be well advised to drop it, too."

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THE PLIGHT OF THE WHEATGROWERS

How Long Will They Stand It?

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, —Five years ago the wheatgrowers of Australia were in the limelight because of their POVERTY. They are in the limelight again today, and it is still because of their poverty. Their poverty is the result of poor prices for their exports, and poor prices for their exports is the result of Bank of England policy. They are poor because they cannot get MONEY, and they cannot get money because the supply of money has been restricted by the producers of money. People still want wheat, but the purchase of wheat is controlled by the money available, and the money available is controlled by the banking system. It is, therefore, beyond question that the wheatgrowers are in financial straits because of what the banks have done, and not because of any diminution in the capacity of human stomachs or of any failure on the part of the wheat producers. To anyone who honestly examines the position this is obvious, but the newspapers never mention it. They feature all sorts of things, such as Labour Disputes, the Unemployment Problem, the Overcrowded Hospitals, the Clearance of Slum Areas, Excessive Taxation, and so on, but there is always one notable, exception—viz., Finance. They either know nothing about it, are beneficially interested in it, or are abjectly scared to mention it. My personal experience with them suggests that their directors are beneficially interested in it, hence, the conspiracy of silence about the important subject of MONEY.

SCHEME FOR WHOM?

As to the wheatgrowers, all sorts of schemes have been put forward to tide them over their "temporary" difficulties, but none of the schemes has been even partly successful, so far as the primary producers are concerned. Everything done for them increases the load of the community's DEBT to the Credit Monopoly. The inability of the primary producers to see this is one of the surprising features of the whole sorry business, and up to now they have not fully realised that the only people who benefit from the schemes are the bankers. No less an authority than the *Financial Times*, published in London, has informed us "the banking system has shown that it alone has been able to survive the crisis without a single scar." *Precisely*. It can, and does, effectively defy the onslaughts of every economic crisis made by itself. Government "loans" for wheatgrowers (?) is one of the methods it employs, and in connection with these loans we should consider the passage of the money from the point of its creation to the point of its destruction.

BAD DEBTS TURNED INTO GOOD ONES

Farmers are hopelessly in debt to the Banks, and buyers are so few and so poor that the men on the land cannot even pay interest, let alone repay the loan. The Banks have made such a financial mess of things that even the farmers' security has become doubtful. If they forced him through the Bankruptcy Court they would simply have land on their hands which they could not utilise, and the result would be a liability, instead of an asset. What could be easier than to have the farmers' BAD debt created into a GOOD one? To accomplish that, the Banks (which are the real government of the country) instruct the nominal Government to arrange the flotation of a special Rural Relief Loan. This, of course, may be given some other fancy sort of name to make it sound philanthropic, but the result is always the same. Save for the camouflage of a few small "public" subscriptions, these loans are always met by the banks simply writing their own cheque in favour of the Government. The Commonwealth Bank, of course, could do it quite as simply, but if it were to do that why HAVE a board composed of men recruited almost wholly from private financial interests? Such a course would not increase the community's debt to the financial institutions, and that would not be such

a benefit to the knighted counterfeiters and pretenders who, under the present fraud, pretend to lend what they do not possess. When the banks draw a cheque in favour of the Government the Commonwealth is charged with debt to that amount and immediately becomes liable to pay interest on it forever. Under this procedure we pay interest on figures, which have been written in a book! The witch doctors and medicine men are not in it with the controllers of finance, for the former deal with poor devils reared in ignorance and superstition, whereas the great men who control finance put their swindling confidence trick over the people, who are supposed to have reached the highest degree of education, culture, and intelligence!

A LEAD FOR BUSINESS MEN

After receiving the cheque from the Bank, the Government then issues cheques to the wheatgrowers and charges THEM with debt to a corresponding amount. The farmer then passes the cheque to the BANK as repayment of the outstanding loan, which had previously been a bad debt. The bank then clears the farmer's account in its books, and, by cancelling the cheque DESTROYS THE MONEY. By a little writing in books, you see, all risk is shifted from the Bank to the Government—i.e., to the backs of the PEOPLE. The farmers will still owe the debt, but they will now owe it to the Government, in place of the Bank. The community will have been saddled not only with the responsibility for the debt, BUT FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST AS WELL. Everybody will, therefore, be a loser, except the Banks, which will continue to come through "without a scar." And yet the Federal Government, with Country Party connivance and support, has already committed us to this unutterable folly. What do you business men think of it? It has provided you with an unanswerable precedent to have the security for the payment of all your bad debts transferred to the Government. As one of the announcers for a certain wireless advertisement used to say: "Oh, boys, what a story!"

WHAT FARMERS NEED

Like everything else, the question of assistance for primary producers is surrounded with all sorts of weird utterances to make it appear a difficult problem. The fact is that it is quite a simple issue. Wheat-growers and others are in need of money, nothing else, and money costs nothing to produce. The report of the Monetary and Banking

Commission states in the clearest possible language that the Commonwealth Bank can make money available to the Governments FREE OF CHARGE, and, consequently, there is not the slightest justification for keeping the men on the land in a state of financial anxiety because of an alleged shortage of money. It is a crime to do so, and, in the light of the published facts, those responsible, for it must be regarded as unconvicted criminals. That is strong talk, I know, but the situation calls for it.

FOREIGNERS MORE INTELLIGENT

Even if we stick to the present murderous system, is it to be assumed that Australians are less intelligent than the Japanese? How is it that Japan can compete in the markets of India for raw materials, have them transported to Japan, converted into consumable goods, transported back to India, and then sold in India at a price at which the locals can hardly look? Why is that? It cannot be because of the low standard of living in Japan, for the simple reason that the standard in India is even lower, the great bulk of the people there living on rice and wearing only a loincloth for clothes. The explanation is to be found in the fact that exporters receive bounties from the Government. In other words, the costs incurred in Japan are paid in Japan with Japanese money before the goods are sent away for sale in other countries. This means that the costs have been liquidated before the goods are shipped, and that, consequently, whatever is obtained for them abroad is a definite gain to Japan as a nation. Evidently the "experts" we are employing are not experts at all, and a simple adjustment in the money books is too much for their befogged brains. I have noticed, Mr. Editor, that some of these "experts," such as Professor Copland, are beginning to show a little more sense in their public utterances, and I can only hope that this apparent improvement will be maintained and extended.

PRINTING PRESS BOGEY

Some people can only see money as notes and coin, and when they hear cranks—i.e., us—speaking of the need for monetary reform they immediately jump to the conclusion that we propose the printing of great heaps of additional notes for free distribution. This is just the attitude of mind that those who talk of default and inflation have been trying to foster. Nothing is further from the truth. In 1928, when our money, in the form of notes and coin, totalled 42 millions, we had a national income of £650,000,000. Today, when our money, in the form of notes and coin, totals about 65 millions, we have a national income of approximately £550,000,000. If 42 millions of currency would carry 650 millions of purchasing power, then 65 millions of currency should carry more than a thousand millions of purchasing power. Why, then, have we only about half that amount in circulation? Is it not obvious that we could double the quantity of purchasing power in the hands of the people without printing another note? All we need is a direction from the Federal Parliament that greater use be made of the currency already provided. Instead of that, however, we see a majority of the members of that institution supinely watching thousands of their constituents starve while the supposedly "sovereign" Government meekly murmurs, "Finance is the difficulty."

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT RESPONSIBLE

It is a lot of nonsense. We have the means of producing whatever money is required. Our members

of Parliament should be told that we hold them individually responsible for getting on with the job of government quick and lively. We do not want them sending "explanations" from members of the Cabinet, as was sent to me last week by Mr. J. L. Price, M.H.R., in response to my personal representations regarding the proposal to deprive the people of Australia of the ownership of their bank. No member of the Cabinet can relieve Mr. Price of his responsibility to me, and he is the man I am holding responsible. If his conduct in Parliament, as my representative, is not satisfactory to me then I will exercise my right to vote against his re-election at the first opportunity. If his actions are in accord with my wishes, then, conversely, I will exercise my right to help in securing his re-election. But it must be made clear to him that he cannot shift his responsibility on to someone else, and, Cabinet or no Cabinet, he is sent in to the House to represent his constituents and to see that THEIR interests are advanced, not the interests of the producers and destroyers of money.

YOU MUST ACT

As money is the most indispensable thing in the maintenance of society, its creation and issue must be controlled by the Nation, not by private individuals. In the past, unfortunately, and mostly through ignorance of the facts, many of us have voted, in response to the cry "Hands Off the Banks," not realising that by so doing we voted for the continuance of the financial strangulation of the Nation. Now we have come to the stage when we must protest publicly and emphatically against the absurdity that, because the Bank of England has shortened the supply of English money in England, Australian people shall not be allowed to have sufficient Australian money in Australia. And the man who has been placed in the position to see that this absurdity is not perpetuated is your representative in the Federal Parliament. It is for you to make sure that he does so, and YOU cannot transfer YOUR responsibility to anyone else. This is the surest way for the wheat-growers to get their burdens lifted, and they will have to go on suffering only so long as they defer taking this simple but effective course.—Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN



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(Continued on page 7.)

ENGLISHMAN STARTED NAZISM

"The man who paved the way for Hitler! The founder and educator of Germany's future! This is how Alfred Rosenberg, one of the Fuehrer's henchmen, describes—an Englishman!

Even this astounding tribute has been excelled by the praise of Hitler himself. With justice, for the real inspirer of the Nazi movement was not an Austrian corporal, but a man of Hampshire. His influence throughout Nazi Germany has always been tremendous and increases with every passing year. No fewer than three biographies, and countless newspaper articles by leading Nazis, have appeared about him since his death in 1927.

Who was this mysterious Englishman? His name was Houston Stewart Chamberlain. As the name suggests, he belonged to one of the oldest and most distinguished families in our country.

"My father was English, my mother Scotch, and one of my grandmothers Welsh, so I can call myself a true son of Great Britain," he used to say when he first went to Germany. He studied botany and medicine at Gent University, heard Wagner's operas in Bayreuth, read Goethe and Kant at Dresden. A mania for everything German—literature, music, science, philosophy, the amazing military machine—began to grip him.

He mastered the German language, and decided he preferred it to his own mother tongue. Henceforth every word he wrote was in German! His researches led him to write a mammoth history of mankind. It was entitled "The Foundations of the Nineteenth Century," and tried

to prove that race counted more than anything else in the development of civilisation.

Houston Chamberlain argued that all progress in Western Europe was due to an "Aryan" race, which originally came from northern India and whose modern descendants are the Teutonic peoples. Western civilisation, he concluded, could only be saved by the domination of a "pure and ruthless" Germanic stock.

The book was a best seller throughout Germany. Kaiser Wilhelm II bought two thousand copies for gifts, and became a close personal friend of Houston Chamberlain.

Sometime between 1908 and 1912 this book fell into the hands of an unemployed and embittered youth in Vienna. Here was just the gospel for which the young Adolf Hitler had been seeking. To his mind Houston Chamberlain's theory seemed to explain all the wickedness and shame he saw around him.

—F. A. Beaumont, in "Tit Bits."

WHO RULES NEW ZEALAND?

(Continued from page 1.)

control of a Government by secret methods, but on this occasion they have thrown all pretence to the winds and boldly shown their hand.

Help is not to be given the New Zealand Government unless it agrees to abandon the policy the electors there returned it to carry out.

In connection with this matter it will be an even greater shock to the people of the outlying Dominions to find that the British Government is endorsing and supporting this discreditable blackmailing scheme.

Evidently it has forgotten that New Zealand is no longer a Crown Colony, and that the days of Colonial Office dictation have long since ended.

WE TOLD YOU SO.

This incident, following closely on the Australian Loan failure in London recently, confirms the conclusions expressed in our leading article last week. As the Australian people have of late been showing signs of resistance against domination by the financial oligarchy, and the lowering of living standards these tyrants desire to impose, they must therefore be disciplined! Undoubtedly Australia's greatest sin, in the opinion of the financial bandits, was its rejection of their infamous "National Insurance and Pensions Act," designed to keep the workers in perpetual poverty and dependence.

It is, of course, well known that if the people at any time have the temerity to place a Labour Government in office the financial powers immediately do their utmost by placing difficulties in their way to make the electors

regret it. This was admitted by Mr. Menzies in the House of Representatives on 8/6/39, when making a statement with reference to the Australian Loan failure. In reply to Labour interjections he said:—"If the Labor Party had been in office it would not have been underwritten."

These revelations of the discreditable lengths to which the money gangsters of London City will descend in endeavouring to subvert our liberties, should strengthen the determination of the Australian people to prevent the control of the Commonwealth Bank from passing into the hands of overseas financial interests. If we desire to preserve our freedom our slogan must be: "Hands off the Commonwealth Bank."

Thought

Men fear thought as they fear nothing else on earth—more than ruin, more even than death. Thought is subversive and revolutionary, destructive and terrible; thought is merciless to privilege, established institutions, and comfortable habits; thought is anarchic and lawless, indifferent to authority, careless of the well-tryed wisdom of the ages. Thought looks into the pit of hell and is not afraid. It sees man, a feeble speck, surrounded by unfathomable depths of silence; yet it bears itself proudly, as unmoved as if it were lord of the universe. Thought is great and swift and free, the light of the world, and the chief glory of man.

—Bertrand Russell in *Principles of Social Reconstruction*, quoted in *John O London's Weekly*, London.

What is a Democrat?

He is one who believes in the infinite value of the human soul in the sight of God.

From this truth springs the dignity of man, the claim of the man with a hoe to be treated not as a clod but as an immortal end in himself—not a mere means to the ends of other persons or powers, neither slave nor chattel, but free and erect.

That is my faith, religious and political bound together in one. It is the antithesis of Fascism, Nazism and Communism, which deny God, freedom and immortality. They worship the Omnipotent State whose altars of sacrifice are pogroms and concentration camps. I refuse to be mesmerised by dictators. "Naked," as Shakespeare said, "they are for all the world like forked radishes with heads fantastically carved upon them with a knife." And they too will die and rot, and they will not smell sweet in the dust.

But the fact that at this moment there are nations which are governed by the will of one man does not make me despair of these nations nor drive me to treat them all as lepers. It does not blind me to what is good in those countries nor what is bad in my own. Some day the decent people of the totalitarian States will recover their souls and take their reason out of pawn.

We must not, says Thomas Mann, take democracy for granted. Its present state is not necessarily final and absolute.

Because I say this, less well than the great German author, because I seek to repair the defects of democracy, why should I be dubbed its enemy?

Our danger here in England is that we may not overcome in time these defects in the swiftly changing world, which now beset us. Can we save democracy, without, in the process, becoming enslaved to the tyranny, which is its opposite?

That "is the question, crucial and urgent, which confronts England and France — yes, and America.

—Nancy Astor, Member of Parliament.

WISDOM IN 1823

In 1823, when it was proposed that Britain should embark on a war in defence of Spain, Sydney Smith said in the House of Commons:

"For God's sake do not drag me into another war. I am worn out and run down by crusading; and defending Europe, and protecting mankind. I *must* think a little of myself, I am sorry for the Spaniards—I am sorry for the Greeks; I deplore the fate of the Jews; the people of the Sandwich Islands are groaning under the most detestable tyranny. Baghdad is oppressed; I do not like the present state of the Delta, and Tibet is not comfortable. Am I to fight for all these people? The world is bursting with sin and sorrow. Am I to be the champion of Decalogue, and to be eternally raising armies and fleets to make all men good and happy? We have just done saving Europe, and I am afraid the consequence will be that we shall cut each other's throats."

**DON'T SPEND A
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"New Times" Shopping
Guide.**

AUTHOR HITLER'S NEXT BOOK

Hitler's "Mein Kampf" is the twentieth century's best seller. He is now writing a sequel

By LOUIS ELPE

Condensed from "Paris Midi," Paris.

When a highly placed diplomat representing a Danubian country recently called at Hitler's residence at Berchtesgaden and suggested an interview with the Fuehrer for four in the afternoon, he was told by his secretary, "That will be impossible. The Fuehrer spends the time between three and five every afternoon working on his new book."

Another hint in connection with the Nazi dictator's literary activity was contained in a recent report that appeared in the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt*, which stated, "Besides his political work, the Fuehrer is greatly interested in art, not to mention his literary activity, which takes up a great deal of his time."

One of Hitler's most trusted collaborators has remarked to a British diplomat: "The Fuehrer is very nervous just now, not only because of the strain of his political work, but also because of his feverish literary labours in connection with a new book."

A further indication that Hitler had embarked upon a new literary project was given by the German Ministry of Propaganda in its communication to an American publisher. This publisher has a biography of Hitler in preparation, and asked the Ministry for information as to what might be said about his literary work. The Ministry replied that Hitler was thinking of a sequel to *Mein Kampf* (*My Struggle*), probably under the title *Deutschlands Kampf* (*Germany's Struggle*), to be followed by a third volume, *Europas Kampf* (*Europe's Struggle*).

Well-informed quarters also know of a fourth book, which Hitler plans to write, *Erloesung Durch Wille und Gehorhsamkeit* (*Redemption Through Will and Obedience*). This would be a non-political work embodying Author Hitler's philosophical and religious ideas.

Without any doubt, Hitler is the author of the twentieth century's biggest best seller. It is estimated that his *Mein Kampf* has sold 20,000,000 copies in Germany alone. How does he work? *Mein Kampf* was written while he was in prison. It is,

however, well known that before committing his ideas to paper, he discussed them first with Professor Karl Hanshofer, Rudolf Hess and Alfred Rosenberg. But he seeks nobody's advice for his new book. He hadn't even mentioned it to anyone until he was well ahead with it, when Hess, Rosenberg, Goebbels and his wife were initiated into the secret.

Hitler dictates his ideas to a very fast typist. He always works between three and four in the afternoon. He does this because his numerous other occupations leave him no other choice. If for some reason he is unable to work during the allotted period, he resumes dictation on the following afternoon, but never on

any day before 3 p.m. or after 5 p.m. He prefers this method also because he likes to maintain a strict daily rhythm in his literary activities.

Sixteen years ago it took young Hitler two years to complete *Mein Kampf*. And in the Landsberg prison he had very little else to do. Now the older Hitler has to contend with the amount of work inherent in his position as head of the German State, so the two hours he devotes daily to literary composition may not carry him far in the next year.

Rumour has it that the basic idea of the book on which he is at present engaged relates to a new conception of solving all international disputes by peaceful means. To write that, it is necessary that there shall be no war to disprove the Fuehrer's theory. Recent events have come very near to compelling him to discard the idea underlying his new work. Will the events of the near future be favourable to this idea? Hitler is in a position to know the answer better than anyone else.

ERIC BUTLER GIVEN ROUSING RECEPTION IN BRISBANE

School of Arts Hall Packed

If the reception, which Eric Butler received upon arrival in Brisbane, is any indication of the possibilities of his Statewide tour, big things are going to happen in Queensland. On Thursday, June 15, the School of Arts Hall was packed to hear the young speaker upon his first public appearance in Queensland. In a typical address Eric made a survey of the progress of Pressure Politics in Australia, and said that the spirit of true democratic government was growing all over the Commonwealth. His large audience responded with great enthusiasm to his message, while his devastating remarks at the expense of the party-system of government were greeted with loud and delighted applause.

It was easily one of the most enthusiastic meetings seen in Brisbane for some time, and showed its appreciation in a practical manner by promises of financial support for Eric's tour. When he returns to Brisbane from the North it is expected that the fire he has kindled will fairly set Brisbane alight. "The eulogistic references in the South to his ability as a speaker have by no means been exaggerated," was an expression of opinion at the Queensland Electoral Campaign headquarters.

In a letter received during the week Eric writes most enthusiastically of the welcome given him. He pays a great tribute to the

Good work being done in Brisbane, and says that they have been very modest with their reports.

Greeted by the reporters of the two dailies when he got off the train, Eric was given the usual minimum amount of publicity, which can be expected from the orthodox press. And even the great enthusiasm of the *Courier Mail* reporter at the meeting could only obtain two inches of space in the following morning's edition.

On Saturday last, June 17, Eric left Brisbane on the Orungal for Cairns, where he will open his tour in the Kennedy electorate. He will then work southwards to Brisbane, where he will remain for a few weeks before leaving for the country again. Supporters throughout Queensland should notify their Electoral Campaign headquarters at once if they desire to make use of Eric's services while he is in the State. It is an opportunity, which should not be missed. Financial support is also wanted to enable Eric to "open up" every worthwhile centre in the State. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to Mrs. Bonner-Smith (the Hon. Secretary), and should be addressed to 142 Adelaide St., Brisbane.

GET THE FACTS!

Read "MONEY," by S. F. Allen, F.C.A. (Aust.), 1/1 posted, and "Story of the Commonwealth Bank," by D. J. Amos, F.A.I.S.; 5d. posted. Obtainable from "Save the People's Bank" Campaign, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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THE FOLLY OF VIOLENCE

Use the World's Greatest Power— Public Opinion

BUT USE IT WHILE WE STILL HAVE TIME

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

Force, force, and still more force! The whole of our thoughts, in these days of chaos and rapid change, are being conditioned by all the modern mediums of propaganda into accepting the folly that force must be met with force. In fact, we are blatantly told that it is now the all-important thing in maintaining society.

No student of social developments, after surveying various trends all over the "civilised" world during the last 20 years can view with complacency the tendency to violence and the suppression of free thought and expression, which has become a principal feature of twentieth-century "civilisation." Some of the latest trends in Australia should be understood by every thinking elector.

There are, undoubtedly, many reasons for these trends, but the people have tried faction after faction, party after party, in an endeavour to improve their economic well-being, but the results have been always negative, with the result that the people have despaired of getting any worthwhile results; and, when force is suggested as the only way, they are prepared to give up some of their cherished liberties in an attempt to get a little of this world's goods. The same position is rapidly developing here in Australia. One often hears suggestions of force being made by people who are thoroughly conversant with the power and nature of society's real enemy—i.e., finance—but who, through a lack of appreciation of the power and nature of true democracy, have also adopted what must be considered a very defeatist attitude towards the economic problem by suggesting that perhaps force may be necessary in order to release the people from bondage. The folly of this force theory cannot be too strongly emphasised. It is doubtful whether force has made any contribution to the progress of the human race—in fact, all the evidence of history is very much to the contrary. Even Napoleon, in a memorable statement, said that he had reached the conclusion that force solved nothing.

PLAUSIBLE ARGUMENT

Possibly the most plausible argument for force is that utilised by the Communists. Let us look at their case. For the sake of argument, let us presume that an attempt to introduce a Socialist or Communist society by means of revolutionary *coup d'etat* were successful. If history is any guide, the ensuing Government would be naturally opposed to liberty. History shows that liberty is always decreased during periods of violence. Revolution can only be carried through by force, and the employment of force produces a dominating type of individual, who has been found in the past to use the powers with which successful force has endowed him for ends very different from those which originally led his followers to embark upon a policy of force. Of course, Left-wing apologists endeavour to point out that the suppression of liberty is necessary only as a temporary measure, and that, when the danger of counter-revolution is over, and the building of a classless community complete, the State will, to use Lenin's phrase, "wither away," and the restriction on the individual will then disappear. Possibly, the best summary against this line of reasoning has been made by a Communist himself. Bertrand Russell, in his well-known book, "The Practice and Theory of Bolshevism," published in 1920, made the following observations

: "But power is sweet, and few men surrender it voluntarily. It is especially sweet to those who have tasted of it, and the habit becomes most engrained in those who have governed by bayonets without popular support. Is it not almost inevitable that the Communists must thus maintain themselves wherever the social revolution succeeds, will be loath to relinquish their monopoly of power, and will find reasons for remaining until some new revolution ousts them?"

MINORITY OR MAJORITY?

And exactly the same danger would arise under any circumstances where violence had to be utilised by a *minority* to attack any form of vested interests. If a *majority* were opposed to the rule of vested interests there would be no need for violence—in fact, the very use of violence would diminish the chances of success. It may be appropriate to once again quote Russell, and, although his argument is applied to the Communists in this extract, it is just as applicable to any group:

"... That in a democratic and politically-educated country, armed revolution in favour of Communism would have no chance of succeeding, unless it were supported by a larger majority than would be required for the election of a Communist Government by constitutional methods. It is possible that, if such a Government [elected] came into existence and proceeded to carry out its programme, it would be met by armed resistance on the part of capital, including a large proportion of the officers of the army and the navy. But in subduing this resistance it would have the support of that great body of opinion, which believes in legality and upholds the Constitution. Moreover, having, by hypothesis, converted a majority of the nation, a Communist Government could be sure of loyal help from immense numbers of workers..."

The only sure line of success is through education of a majority of the people to the true nature of their problems, and how, by democratic and constitutional methods, they can get the economic security, which a majority of them want. If reform cannot be obtained in this manner we must confess that democracy is a failure. History, however, speaks to the contrary.

Victor Hugo once said, "Tolerance is the only religion." Of that truth we must thoroughly be convinced. If we cannot, by educational and democratic methods, get a change it is quite certain that the position is hopeless. But, if the advocates of liberty and truth will only remain loyal to the principle of dispassionately appealing to the reasoning powers of the people, we can be quite sure that justice will pre-

vail. Perhaps no better or more appropriate appeal along these lines has been made than that by Dr. C. E. M. Joad in his book, "Liberty Today." I quote fully from his last chapter, "The Temper of Advocacy."

THE MISTAKE

"Only let them not make the mistake of meeting their opponents with their opponents' weapons. Passion begets passion, anger, anger; panic, panic; and, in the sphere of passion, anger and panic, the enemies of enlightenment will always triumph. But, just as anger and passion beget their like, so does reason. If I am right in my supposition that liberty can be preserved in the political sphere only if changes are made in the economic, the degree of men's reasonableness, of their responsiveness, to reasoned argument, is likely to become crucial in the future.

"We are today witnessing the fury of the struggle these changes (economic) have provoked on the Continent. It may well be that the question whether any civilisation is to survive at the end of that struggle depends on our ability in England to effect the same transition without the cruelty and bloodshed that it has involved in Russia, in Italy, in Germany, and in Austria.

"One thing, I think, is certain: If the advocates of liberal ideas meet violence with violence, denunciation with denunciation, bitterness with bitterness, they will find that they have assisted in generating an atmosphere in which power is unconstitutionally seized by a forceful minority and liberty is consigned to the limbo of the outmoded shibboleths of an obsolete democracy. To meet the new forces of violence and hysteria with violence and hysteria is for the friends of liberty to betray their cause from the outset."

GET CONTROL OF PARLIAMENT

Let us all remember these facts. Let us remember that we have a great responsibility. The job of all electoral campaigners in Australia is to urgently press on with the job of restoring complete sovereignty to the people. That is where the real power of government lies—as yet, not fully aroused. The initiative to propose their own policy must rest with the people. The administration of that policy then becomes the responsibility of Parliament and its technical advisors. And always remember that, once we get control of Parliament, we thus have indirect control of the army, air force and navy, because Parliament controls them directly.

With the public mind being constantly numbed with a series of war crises, the chance of getting control of Parliament is likely to become more remote as more and more of our liberties are filched from us. Whether we like it or not, this is taking place at the present time. The National Register is the first step. There won't be many more steps after that before the position will be hopeless. And, if the reader thinks this assertion a little exaggerated let him study the implications of this latest Act—when he will surely agree that Australia faces her greatest peril. Get control of your member by writing to him, and get everyone else you come in contact with to do likewise. Arouse public opinion—while we still possess a little political democracy. After that is done the end will be in sight. With our industry and manpower directly regimented and conscripted, we would be *completely* enslaved to the dictates of

Youth Section Notes

PICTURE NIGHT, Regent Theatre, Thursday, July 6. Errol Flynn in "The Dawn Patrol." Stage presentation, Donald Duck. March of Time. Daniel Mas and his orchestra. Tickets from any member of the Y.S., or from U.E.A. Rooms.

HIGHETT SUPPORTERS. — Don't forget the meeting at Highett Hall (you know the rest —Highett, near Highett Station!), next Sunday, 25th inst, at 3 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING, JUNE 29. ALL YOUTH SECTION MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND. IMPORTANT BUSINESS.

South Australian Notes

The electors of South Australia are still busy signing "Hands Off the Commonwealth Bank" forms to send to their Federal members. In Adelaide there have been tables for this purpose at the Central Arcade, Gay's Arcade, East End Market, Unley Road, Unley Town Hall, and twice at the Botanic Park on Sunday afternoons. Great praise is accorded the attendants at the tables, particularly the ladies, for their enterprising efforts.

The "Society Working For a Christian Social Order" announces that its Leaflet No. 1 is now available, and should be read by everyone. They regard it as outstanding in the concise manner in which it explains the cause of our troubles, and make a strong appeal for volunteers to join the army of distributors. The executive is delighted to note that the cry for the basic wage for all unemployed people has been taken up, and trust that the whole of Australia will soon be ringing with this demand for Social Justice.

All financial members of the "United Democrats" are being called to a meeting at 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide on Saturday, July 1 at 8 p.m. Important matters are to be discussed.

LETTER TO EDITOR NATIONAL INSURANCE

Sir, —Although the National Insurance measure has been laid aside and it is very doubtful whether it will ever be proclaimed, I would like to call attention to the fact that countless thousands of electors throughout Australia signed and forwarded letters to their respective M.H.R.'s, demanding the *repeal* of this Act. Mr. Curtin's amendment, "that the Act be repealed," was defeated by 34 votes to 30, thus showing that 34 members of Parliament *defied* the expressed will of the people. I suggest that we keep the people alive to this fact in every way possible, right up to the next Federal election. One effective way of doing this would be for your valuable paper to publish from time to time a list of the names and electorates of those 34 members who are not prepared to implement the will of the electors. I feel sure that this would ensure that those members are relegated to where they belong—the limbo of bad dreams. —Yours, etc., Coburg, Vic. F. C. PAICE.

finance. The urgency of action by all democrats cannot be too strongly emphasised. If it is not taken within a reasonable period of time we will certainly see violence followed by a worse form of despotism than ever. And we will then have plenty of time to ruminate on what we *might* have done.