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Every Friday, 3d

Is Danzig Worth The Life Of One Australian?

EUROPE AGAIN ROLLS THE LOADED DICE OF DESTINY

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

A few weeks ago we had the first of the European summer war scares. From now on until the end of September we can expect these scares to continue, with the possibility that before long one of them may become more than a mere threat or propaganda. When that happens the curtain will go up for the last act in the great drama called civilisation.

During the European summer of last year, we all remember the suspense we were subjected to and the sigh of relief we gave when, in spite of those who were so fond of "peace" that they were prepared to fight for it, we achieved a breathing space. But nothing has been learnt since. The causes of war still remain. International finance, although itself collapsing because of the very system that it has perpetuated, threatens to also drag civilisation to ruin.

In view of certain commitments made by Mr. Menzies lately, and carefully fostered in other quarters, Australians should calmly and impartially examine the situation and ask what Australian interests are involved—if any.

DANZIG—THE WAR CENTRE?

When we read the cabled news a few weeks back, we learnt that war was likely to break out because the German population of Danzig was about to state that the City had joined the German Empire and was no longer a Free City. How this could affect Australians living thousands of miles away we have not been told.

Although Stanley Baldwin shocked Britain when he said that her new frontier was on the Rhine, Neville Chamberlain has gone even further and placed it on the Vistula. This means that Mr. Chamberlain is prepared to throw Britain into war in order to maintain Danzig as a Polish seaport. In 1914 it was "poor little Belgium." In 1939 it is "poor little Danzig."

And yet Danzig is undeniably a German city, with a German population.

Of course, the issue at stake at the moment is only an effect of the underlying cause mentioned in these columns time and time again. However, it may well prove the friction, which will ignite the powder magazine of Europe.

MISTAKE AFTER LAST WAR

Along with the other criminal mistakes made by the Allies after the last war, the artificial creation of Danzig and the Polish Corridor by the map-makers at Versailles, has proved a source of trouble ever since. The creation of the Polish Corridor meant that East Prussia was cut off from the rest of Germany. This province had belonged to Prussia from 1772 to 1793. In 1807, with the advent of Napoleon, it was absorbed into the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, but after Napoleon's defeat in 1815 again became part of the German Empire, and remained so until the Peace Conference after the last war, when the Germans were moved out and became a

minority of 1,200,000 out of a total population of 23,000,000. But, in spite of this, as mentioned, Danzig is predominantly German. Surely it is asking too much to ask us to agree with our Prime Minister, who has announced that Australia is committed to support anything that the Anti-Aggression Bloc may decide upon. Mr. Hefron, with his Labor-cum-Communist Party, has also spoken in similar terms. But, as yet, no one has thought to ask those who may be expected to do the dying just what *they* think about it.

THE HYPOCRISY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LINE-UP

After the last great international blood bath Europe was supposed to be divided into two camps. On one side the Allies and on the other the late Enemy Countries. However, when Fascism first (Continued on page 6.)

"WHEATGROWERS, STAND FIRM!"

A Sample of What is Taking Place in the Wheat Areas

On Thursday, August 17, representatives of the "New Times" paid a flying visit to Finley, across the N.S.W. border, to be present at the greatest meeting held at that centre, when approximately 500 farmers and businessmen united in an emphatic refusal of the Federal Government's "rob Peter to pay Paul" proposals.

Mr. H. K. Nock (M.H.R., Riverina) was the first speaker, but, as will be gathered from the following report, he left quite a lot to be said by following speakers, who made no bones about what must be done to overcome the critical position of not only the country people, but of the entire population of the Commonwealth.

In criticising the Menzies proposals, it was obvious that Mr. Nock had the approval of the entire meeting, but his subsequent assertion that the only source of finance was taxation met with a lack of enthusiasm which, to say the least, was only too apparent. His assumption that local farmers were with him in what he had said must be recognised as a poor

guess when intelligent reasoning is applied to such a far-reaching and national problem. To increase the burden of taxation, already unbearable, would cause a further shrinkage of the farmers' local (and, ultimately, overseas) markets, and if Mr. Nock fails to recognise this vital factor, then he fails in his duty to the farmers of the Riverina (Continued on page 8.)

BARKER BARKS BACK

Whispering Campaign Faced Squarely

On July 7 we reported that Mr. C. O. Barker, Perth business man and M.L.A. for the State electorate of Irwin-Moore, who had vigorously taken up the cudgels for The People against The Banks, had had a proposed broadcast (which we published) banned by 6AM, and had met with a refusal to accept any further talks. We predicted further developments. These have eventuated. A tide of public hostility is rising against 6AM as the facts of the matter become more widely known. Realising the impotence of State politics, Mr. Barker has resigned his seat and intends to contest a Federal electorate at the first opportunity. But the most striking (although not surprising) development is the vile whispering campaign, which the forces of reaction have instituted against Mr. Barker. Considerations of space preclude a complete report of all Mr. Barker's public rebuttals of the whispers and his challenges to the originators to come into the open, but we reproduce hereunder a talk broadcast through another station, and on another page we reprint the comment of the "West Australian Wheatgrower," under the heading, "I Am Not That Man."

During the week I addressed quite a considerable number of people in Anzac House, and ever since then I have been bombarded with callers and news hounds—y'know, chappies wanting a scoop.

Is it so unusual to have views differing from the ordinary that the expressing of them publicly causes a sensation?

Evidently it is.

On top of the meeting came my resignation, and then, of course, the sensation-mongers got to work properly.

Anthony Eden can resign; Duff Cooper can resign; Lord Cranbourne can resign, but not Barker—no! no! there must be something sinister there.

Yes, sir! Sinister with a capital S.

How many of you have seen the screen version of Victor Hugo's classical novel, "Les Miserables"?

Well, there's no need to either see the picture or read the book

now. All you need to do is listen to the stories of the underground syndicate, and you will get all the thrills and romance of Victor Hugo's masterpiece, served up in modern setting.

As near as I can remember, the principal character in "Les Miserables" was Jean Valjean, a worthy son of France. In destitute circumstances, he stole a loaf of bread for his little sister. He was caught and transported for life. He managed to escape, made his way back to France, and over a period of years became very successful and attained power and position.

A relentless pursuer of his was a certain Javert, the villain of the piece.

After over twenty years of diligent piecing together of information, Javert has his case complete and the last scrap of evidence shows that the highest dignitary in the town, the champion of his people, the one man most respected and loved by all around him, is none other than Jean Valjean—the man transported over twenty years previously.

Javert is dumbfounded, dismayed. To arrest him now means transportation again for Jean Valjean. What is he to do?

Duty demands that he make the arrest. Every decent principle in him urges the opposite course. To his credit he walked away—away to the canal and jumped in—his code was such that failure in his duty meant death to him. He carried it out himself—suicide.

After all, I think you'd better get the book. It's a very intriguing story.

And now, after centuries we are to have a modern version of "Les Miserables," only this time for sheer fantasy, the fiction of Victor Hugo is completely out-Hugoed.

According to my dear, dear friends of the underground syndicate, I am unmasked as anything from a parson to a taxi (Continued on page 8.)

JAPAN FROM MANY ANGLES

An Address Delivered by Dr. T. A. Wright, on July 14, to a meeting of the Kernot Engineering Society held in the Radio Theatre, Melbourne Technical College

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.)

A few remarks on the Philippines may not be out of place here. Within 600 miles of Canton, and less than 2000 from Tokyo, lie these fertile and productive islands. The metal, gold, rami, kapok, and manila-hemp resources of these islands are already being exploited by, and partially diverted to, Japan, who enjoys about one-third of all Philippine trade, other than that enjoyed by U.S.A. In view of the published announcement that America intends to hand back these islands in 1946 to the Filipinos, whom the American sailors reckon have the average mental ability of rock apes, it is of interest to speculate on the probability of the accretion of vast material benefits to Japan as a result of this action, as geographically, mentally, and economically, she is by far the best equipped to develop and reap a rich harvest of trade in products essential to her national well-being. Japan has already extensively colonised here, and it is due to the efforts of these colonists that places like Davao are progressing, with new roads and orderly cultivation.

It seems evident to me that Japan has the manpower—the country is literally littered with children. It has everlasting food power—rice and fish. It has the intellectual power. It only needs its own coal, China's iron, Philippine hemp, and Borneo's oil.

PSYCHIC EFFECTS

Under any dictatorship the only salvation for the individual citizen is to subdue his own self and join in the aims of the dominant party. The Japanese are so bred to this condition that to them it is natural, and not imposed, as it is in the newer Fascistic regimes.

In this nation there are provided diversions, amusements, and activities of all sorts. The masses are given the illusion by frequent meetings, speeches, parades, shrine and temple festivals that they really, in a way, control the operation of their national country, and there is a strong psychological current ever flowing which tends to make every Japanese feel he has a superior mission in this world. This psychic attitude has a partly ancestral basis and a partly modern basis in the centralised control over press, political, and social activities, and in the fact that all organisations for entertainment and improvement of the people are national organisations, which direct and control the emotional loyalty of the people.

WOMEN "ROPED-IN"

For example, the "powers that be" have roped in the women, especially the middle, lower middle, and lower classes, under the emotionally patriotic title of "Koku bo fu-jin Kai"—i.e., National Defence Association of Women. These women wear a white shoulder sash with the Japanese characters of the organisation printed on it. The lower class of these women is also provided with khaki-coloured, "oshkosh" type of trouser-overalls for use in the air-raid precautions. These women are proud to be doing something for Japan. The emotional uplift of women in uniform makes the giving and losing of their menfolk in the fight against the Chinese a privilege.

In the air-raid precautions against incendiary bomb fires these women have the special job of practising extinction of the fires with buckets of water passed along from hand to hand from the water hydrants and the rivers, and counteracting gas with certain chemicals that are provided. The fervid, emotional support of this group of women is a powerful bulwark against any unspiritual reaction or thought in any other section of the people. This organisation is on a par with the, Australian Women's National Association, which is also a buttress against new thought on old problems. It has a Grand Central Committee. Each district has a committee, with

sub-committees in each town and village; with presidents, vice-presidents, etc. Military reverses are not advertised or talked about, but every military success is broadcast over and over again, and these women especially, together with the people in general, enjoy the feeling of participation in the work, trials, and triumphs of the militant arm of the nation. The putting up with dearer prices, poorer quality goods, less money, etc., becomes to the people an honoured sacrifice for the good of Japan.

NATIONAL PRIDE

The Japanese are a proud nationalist and patriotic race, and it is not at all a difficult job to persuade the masses that this or that foreign country is a wicked people with a special bias against their dear Japan. This makes the holiness of war an idea easy to instill, and so the masses become very easy to manage when war suits the central regime's policy.

The masses have no means of knowing or hearing other sides of an international problem. All they know is that they are told that their country is attacked by a wicked enemy, who does not, and will not understand the Japanese viewpoint. Thus, they readily follow the "superior wisdom" of the central Fascistic regime, emblematically embodied in the halo and person of H.I.M. the Emperor.

In "democratic" countries every important decision is (on the surface) argued with vehemence in public and in the press. Even here, though, the main vital or financial points are kept out of the publicly allowed discussion. Nevertheless, the degree to which this democratic discussion is allowed is never reached in Japan. Indeed, unless you speak some Japanese and are trusted by your Japanese friends, the Japanese have a maximum constraint in speaking of anything political or nationally controversial. It is difficult to get any personal expression of opinion.

MENTAL CONDITIONING OF CHILDREN

Of course, the Japanese themselves do not see or feel this central regime control of their lives or actions as much as we of a more democratic type of country view it. They are used to it from childhood. Children respond to Fascistic doctrines (especially children and youth of the poor), which have many things to offer the young. School itself becomes livelier, with games, songs, and showy patriotic demonstrations, even in

the classroom, with science, history, and selected literature all garished with the vivid trappings of sun-goddess ordained glory. Even the latest textbooks for children deal with the wonderful Japanese version of the present "China incident." The children absorb both myths and selected truths, and, on leaving school, there are many rewards for patriotic fervour: the delights of dressing up in a sort of uniform in the newly-formed "Shonen" association of boys to help in various ways the national welfare, and in the "Sei-nen," or young men's grouping; increased opportunity for work in the expansion of the personnel of the police and other public departments.

NO FEAR OF WAR

The children have the delights of marching and singing patriotic songs in chorus, excursions to parks, shrines, and rivers; physical exercises, games, cheering, and parading, all under the "Hi no maru no hata," or flag of "Dai Nippon." Later, they will be made to try their strength in the army, through their emotional joy. Children do not seem to be touched by the fear, which afflicts many adults under a Fascistic type of dictatorship—the fear of war. Indeed, in Japan the adults themselves have been so brought up and mentally conditioned for ages that they also seem to have no fear of war—just a fanatical fatalism to fight for Japan. I had dinner at the home of a young Japanese friend—just he, aged about 30; his wife, aged 22; and their one-month-old, first-born baby girl. Quite calmly he told me that he had quite recently done his special course of military training; showed me his "sen-nin-bari," without which no Japanese soldier goes to war. It is a cloth belt with small knots sewn into it by 1000 women, and the thread must not be cut by scissors or anything metal. The spiritual power thus put into the belt by these women's fingers is believed to be a protection against death by enemy bullets. Old women sit in the streets holding this cloth belt, and passing-by women stop a

moment and sew a knot. The belt has little pouches, in which are placed "mamori," or charms, lent by relatives; charms first blessed at the shrines, and also an ancestral tablet. At the centre of the belt is a red "rising sun," so that, in emergency, the belt may be used as a military flag.

All the discussion was quite calm, and, although they are very happy, and he has a very good job, both he and his young wife were quite set and prepared should his turn be called.

"WICKED FOREIGNER"

One big power in effecting this mental and spiritual preparedness is the fact that they are all instilled with the idea or fear that some wicked foreign nation is threatening Japan or her interests. Very few ordinary Japanese, or even educated Japanese, seem to regard their own nation as aggressive. The present incident is a holy war of defence against "Bolshevism," and years of attacks and torture of Japanese residents by the Chinese bandit armies. This view is so widely accepted that it transcends all party lines or groups. It will be easy for the central regime to convince the people that any war is a war of defence.

No fear or war seems to enter the minds of children or young people. They seem to be frankly told about the possibility and probability of war. They prepare for it every day in drills, sports, and exercises. They even seem to welcome it as an affair of thrills and glory, with what every Japanese dreams and yearns after: an opportunity to visit and see the "world outside Japan." They never tire of asking about other countries, and stories of Australia and other countries have helped me to pass several pleasant evenings with everybody — aged, adults, and youths — all wholeheartedly interested.

There is no doubt about the success the astute dictator group has acquired in this systematic exploitation of the emotional, patriotic, and fatalistic inclination of the youth and people of Japan.

(To be continued.)

THE TRUTH THAT IS NOT TOLD

By monopolising the issue and withdrawal of money, a handful of unknown individuals have forced the entire world into slavery.

For their success they have relied upon the ignorance of people. They have imposed their will so subtly, so silently, that it is only now that we are beginning to wake up to our danger.

The press, the radio, the cinema—all have been pressed into the service of the money power.

Millions of pounds are spent every week on the provision of news. Thousands of highly proficient men and women spend their lives digging out facts and reporting events of every conceivable kind.

For a few pence you can read about, listen to, or look at almost anything under the sun.

But the vital truth—the truth without which we cannot be free—this is never whispered.

Poverty need not be.

War need not be.

Taxation need not be.

Universal toil need not be.

These dreadful, unnecessary things we are made to suffer so that a handful of bankers, working behind the scenes, may maintain their power over our lives.

Without the acceptance of fundamental truths, all other information becomes tainted. The very

backbone of reality has been extracted.

Open up any newspaper and check this up for yourself. Notice how the most innocent reports assume that poverty, war, taxation and work are as much a part of the natural scheme of things, as, say, fresh air and sunshine.

That is the great lie you have to challenge before you can hope to be free. It is the devil that every one of us must face.

Christ said, "The truth will make you free." Also, "Ask and it will be given unto you."

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ITALIAN FINANCE AND ITS OBJECTIVE

We reprint here the greater part of an article by Alberto de' Stefani, a former Finance Minister of Italy and a member of the Fascist Grand Council, which was published in "La Stampa" on June 27. It shows, on the one hand, the realistic trend of Italian policy in aiming to make finance subservient to the objective in view and, on the other hand, the curiously unrealistic and abstract nature of the objective selected as paramount.

"The supposed deficiency of capital is no obstacle: enough that the productive machine should be put in motion, which, if well operated, will continually supply itself. The financing of autarchic plans which at present is effected by the State through higher taxes and by private concerns through higher prices is a fortuitous method which will be superseded.

"The demographic policy which was made part of Fascist policy through the realistic and far-seeing anticipation of the Duce, is based on the principle: *work equals strength*. Thus the success of the demographic policy also, and above all, depends on the employment of the population. The respective populations of the nations are not in themselves indications of their respective strengths. *The increase of a people has a positive value provided that it results in a high and "widely distributed provision of work*. Labour-potential neither qualitatively nor quantitatively utilised is lost, and ends up in a vortex of dissipations.

COMPARATIVE SIZES OF POPULATION

"Official statistics give exact information on the relative populations of the nations. The population of Italy exceeds France's and approaches that of the United Kingdom. Germany, with her recent acquisitions, has a population about twice that of Italy. Japan's population is more than twice . . . our own.

"But the relative sizes of the populations may not correspond to their relative degrees of productivity, which are not at all easy to determine; conditions and natural resources, types of agriculture, traditional occupations, and the quality and quantity of their needs differ from country to country, and these differences render a graduation of different peoples' productivity very difficult. The number of the population is strength; not, however, as a number, but as a vital efficiency.

"The policy of high production and autarchy has favoured the employment of the national labour-potential and the achievement of a higher place in the international order of productivity, correspondingly to the magnificent skill of the Italian people.

"During corporative experience definite and widening possibilities of being able to transform the system have become evident. Since the publication of the 'Charter of Labour' in 1927, Year V. or the Fascist Era, the problem of the full employment of the Italian labour-potential has gradually become recognised and established as a political matter, particularly because of the necessity, due to international circumstances, of increasing our strength compared with that of other nations. The 'Charter of Labour' remains a fundamental statute; it gives directions without imposing limits. We have built upon it, developing bold designs unforeseen at the time

PROCRASTINATION IS THE THIEF OF TIME

Have you ordered that EXTRA copy of the "New Times" yet?

of its formulation, while further designs already present themselves as practicable, such as that of an improved system of absorbing the labour-potential.

AN IMPROVED ADMINISTRATION

"The law which disciplines the employment of savings, and the policy of autarchy assumed as the guiding principle in the development of the national economy, are of few years standing, but have already produced notable results. However, in spite of these principles, which have led to great achievements, there exists, especially in southern Italy and the islands, a high labour-potential still unemployed, or rather employed, but to a degree and in a manner which does not fulfill its possibilities because the employment of the labour finds a substantial obstacle in the very financial methods which have been devised for the purpose. And this reacts on the conditions of life . . .

"The old formulas of a doctrine which facts and the human will, attaining wisdom, have definitely overthrown, must not hinder the audacious march of our spirit towards ends which show themselves with mature clarity. The 'wage-fund,' the 'limitation of the demand for labour dependent on savings', etc., are all static formulas which imply a state of affairs in clear, strident contrast with the dynamic will of the Regime and with its possibilities of adaptation.

"What, counts in the life of a people is the best possible administration of its labour-potential not so much in relation to what savings may be available as in relation to pre-arranged plans for the employment of the existing productive forces which, with the rapid yet controlled increase of the assets which will be produced, should result in the creation of the wealth necessary for the employment of that potential.

AN OBSTACLE TO BE EVADED

"The employment of the national labour cannot, then, be restricted by a supposed deficiency of capital; it is enough that the productive machine should be put in motion, and if it is well operated—and there is no reason why it should not be—it will produce automatically in ever-expanding spirals. Looked at from this angle the problem is easily capable of solution, as it involves only a free choice of the work to be done and the existence of outlets for the products obtained.

"Thus, if money seems to be the only hindrance to the full employment of Italian labour, whatever the quality or quantity, the obstacle can certainly be evaded. But unless it is evaded through other than the traditional methods of employment, we shall still have the liberalistic contradiction between a sufficiency of labour for the production of whatever may be desired, and an insufficient production owing to the failure to

utilise this labour. The lack of certain raw materials, still partially or wholly unable to be substituted, is no impediment to the available Italian labour being usefully employed in the infinite fields of application, which the Regime has and continues to open up. The overcoming of the financial obstacle is a question of method, and is conditioned by the logic of the system itself; the realistic and constructive logic of the work waiting to be done. The feared inflation flourishes only in the climate of liberal capitalistic economies, and should be extraneous to the disciplined economy of a corporative regime.

"The financing of autarchic plans and production in general, for which the State now provides by forcing up taxes and the private companies by excessive prices and undistributive profits, is the inevitable method of the present system. But it is a disconnected and haphazard method, not adjusted to the purpose and full of inconveniences, which must sooner or later be superseded by another, typically corporative with regard to supply and regulation, and based on the labour-potential, with its increased supply.

"The employment exchanges inform us of the extent of unemployment and admirably carry out the tasks indicated by the 'Charter of Labour.' But their efficiency is limited by the absorptive capacity of the labour market, which in turn is constrained within the capitalistic financial limitations, which should be categorically alien to the corporative order.

CONTROLLED ECONOMY

"These facts suggest that it is labour-potential which should determine the financial arrangements for its absorption. Every system has its own institutions. It would not seem impossible, then, that the financial institutions should function according to the labour potential to be employed, systematically established. This is compatible with all legitimate safeguards for the stability of prices, of private property, of saving and of free initiative in co-ordination with the pre-established plans of employment . . .

"It is possible that, consequent upon the new technique for the utilisation of labour-potential, certain hybrid forms extraneous to the corporative organism, the result of certain situations which have arisen, and bound by a common temporary necessity, must also be transformed with advantage into others more in keeping with the new system, and reacquire both the liberty and the responsibility proper to private initiative. It is a matter to which attention has been called, with an acute and precise examination, by the *Critica Fascista* in a leading article entitled 'IRI, Intervention and Corporations.'

"But, apart from any systematic consideration of making corporative these hybrid forms, which are destined to develop in one way or another, it is worth considering what must be the main task of a corporative organism. Essentially our Bank of Issue, of which the controlling and animating power has diminished—in spite of the great capability and wisdom of its governors—owing to the institutional subdivision of functions, still formally lives by the statutory and functional criteria of its now ancient origins, which belong to a liberal capitalistic system, and its relation to the work of the nation is across the restricting diaphragm of other institutes.

A DOUBLE CURRENCY

"The lending houses, even in the capitalist regimes, surpass the Banks of Issue in importance. They were the real organs for the employment of savings and capital, and they remain so where these things have not changed. The Banks of Issue carried out the same functions as before: more static than dynamic, more hinderers than deciders of economic affairs,

"But with the present use of a double currency, internal and external, and with the unhooking of the one from the other, the Bank of Issue may be confronted with new possibilities of transformation, vaster, perhaps, than any their venerable traditions will allow them to imagine.

"In 1936 we established the 'Inspectorate for the Defence of Savings and the Employment of Credit,' a tendency to innovation compatible with a banking system subjected to its discipline and brought back again to the observance of the classic principles of the employment of credit. But the change in the legal position of banking institutions and their recovered fidelity to those principles has made no difference in connection with the employment of labour. The investment of savings is controlled in the public interest, but no provision is made for a direct and functional linking-up with the labour-potential consciously and methodically considered in its real and growing possibilities.

"The transformation of the Reichsbank, which has recently taken place, strengthens a point of view which derives from the logic of the system. It may also be legitimately held that the transformation of the traditional and classic methods, incapable of ensuring a full employment of the labour-potential, must produce beneficial results, particularly in the countries where the labour-potential, as it is and as it may become, may not be employed with the efficiency of which it is capable. And the high efficiency of Italian labour has been proved in contest with the labour of the world."

Frank Devlin

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RUSSO-GERMAN PACT

What Does It Mean?

Another major event has taken place in the international field. As we go to press a non-aggression pact is to be signed by Germany and Russia, and a trade agreement between these countries has already been announced. It will be interesting to observe the attempts by some of our "Parlour Pinks" to explain this event, as they have been painting a picture of Fascism and Communism engaged in a blood feud; one loath to "touch the other with a forty-foot pole"—unless it were to belabour it. To give a detailed interpretation of the European fracas, which could be accepted as wholly correct, is not possible from the sources of information available. The lesson learnt during the passage of numerous crises is that no reliance can be placed on press statements. They have been consistently contradictory and confusing. Again, supposedly authoritative authors give little assistance, as the version of the situation given by one is offset by that of another. Unbiased observation and deduction, and an independent mind are necessary to handle the subject at all, and even then the conclusions arrived at are fallible and constitute nothing more substantial than a theory. A basic supposition, which seems to tally with a careful survey of events, is that the critical state in the world has been brought about by the obsolete money system and the efforts of Finance to retain world control. If this is correct a more hopeful outlook is presented than by that which postulates that lust of power and imperialism on the part of Dictators is the only issue.

Taking the more hopeful outlook, it would appear from the latest developments that the international power of Finance is partly broken—it cannot enforce its will by military means. Every endeavour made to rouse the wrath of the "democracies" to fighting point has failed. Without Russia, Finance controls insufficient armed force in Europe. Events over the past two or three years indicate that diplomacy and intrigue in Russia has been intense. It is said that for the past six months a desperate game has been going on in Russia, and, judging by latest developments, Finance has lost.

It seems as if the power of International Finance may soon be altogether crushed. The "democracies" are fast awakening to the true situation, and there are signs of them wresting their Governments from the control of Finance and foreign influence.

Whether there is danger in the powers now held by the Axis countries remains to be seen, but it is reasonable to believe that peace and order will be the outcome of paralysing the power, which has so ruthlessly dominated the world for so long. A change to free exchange among nations may soon follow, which, basically, is what the Axis countries are demanding.

Should the situation be such as the propaganda organs of Finance say then the outlook is indeed black. We prefer to place some faith in the protestations of our so-called enemies. We have no faith whatsoever in the protestations of our warmongers.

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SOLD AGAIN!

From the "West Australian Wheatgrower."

Those of us who had the opportunity of meeting the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, and discussing with him the deplorable conditions facing the wheatgrower today when that gentleman was in Perth recently, must view with utmost concern the failure of the Commonwealth Prime Minister in his so-called efforts to help the wheat industry last week. The impression Mr. Menzies made on us was one of hope and expectation. His contention that justice for all would be his guiding principle was accepted. But we find that the conception of justice is regulated by its incidence on others, that is, there will be justice for the farmer so long as such justice does not affect the pockets of those financial powers, who appear to pull every string, even that binding our governments, into one unreal whole.

The story of the Premiers' Conference in Canberra recently is a sorry tale of procrastination and lack of desire to be helpful. It is, unfortunately, a story now monotonous in its telling.

Mr. Menzies has discarded the proverbial red herring. Being a big man, he is consequently only satisfied to draw big fish across the trail. His silly contention that the farmer has had millions, and at the cost of secondary industries, makes reasonable men doubt his sanity. It is a whale with a very bad smell and won't delude us any longer.

For years now the Wheat and Woolgrowers' Union of Western Australia has affirmed its belief that direct action, and direct action only, will make those supposed to govern us with impartial justice realise that we are weary of the control of finance over our lives. The slavery into which we have been dragged will no longer be tolerated, and the answer to the Menzies mismanagement will be an outcry from the whole of the wheat growing interests of Australia, indignant beyond measure at the insults the Commonwealth Government continue to heap upon us.

No small blame for this is due to those backboneless followers of the Federal Country Party who are distinguished more for their apathetic silence than for anything concrete. It seems that the old adage that silence gives consent is well exemplified in this instance. The stand of Mr. Dunstan, Premier of Victoria, is to be admired. His contention that the welfare of the wheat industry is a national affair cannot be contested. It is; and when Menzies and his followers maintain that impoverished States shall bear half the cost, they are only further displaying that lack of perception which made them insinuate that the wheat-grower had bled secondary industries and that the tariff had nothing whatever to do with Australian costs of wheat production.

As far as the abortive Commonwealth stabilisation plan is concerned, the best that can be said for it is that it was a plan for stabilisation, and showed that the powers that be were alive to the necessity for such stabilisation in an industry upon which so much of Australia's prosperity actually depends. The offer of 2/8 per bushel at sidings on a 4d freight basis is, however, an insult to our intelligence. At that figure the best that could happen, and it was probably intended to happen, was that the people would be bled to pay the farmers sufficient to satisfy the exorbitant demands of the secured creditor. In

this manner the buying powers of the masses would be dangerously impaired, the farmer would be "as you were," but the banker would go his sinister way unruffled.

This question of the secured creditor must be tackled, and it must be tackled by the people, through the ballot box. It is crazy for the issue of credit to remain any longer a private monopoly and prerogative. In fine, it is economic, and perhaps personal, suicide to allow finance to control our lives any longer.

Whatever rival organisations may say about the exploitation of the farmer for political and financial reform, the true fact is that the farmer must wake up. At the moment he is like a man sleeping in the snow. The time has come. He must either rise or sleep forever.

From our Victorian relatives, the Wheat and Woolgrowers' Association, comes an appeal to support them in any action deemed necessary to compel the Federal Government to accept its full responsibility. We have given it. Let every farmer in the West stand by that guarantee.

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Mass meetings are being held in country centres. A great opportunity to get the *New Times* and its message to thousands, and to book up subscribers! A fast car has been provided and is waiting. Two men are willing and ready. They will start within a day or so if YOU make it possible. Traveling expenses only required;

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Henry George Centenary

The 100th anniversary of the birthday of Henry George will be celebrated throughout the world on Saturday, September 2, 1939. The Henry George League of Victoria proposes that this centenary be made a memorable event. Arrangements include a banquet at the new Hotel Australia, Collins Street, Melbourne, on the evening of Saturday, September 2 next. (Tickets, 7/6—dress optional.) It is the intention of the league to aim at a banquet attendance of 400 persons. Plans for newspaper articles and radio broadcasting are in hand, prominent speakers being selected, and an influential gathering promised.

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"NOT ONLY WILL NOT, BUT CANNOT"

The Voice of Jacob, But the Hand of Esau!

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,—On Saturday last the following report was published from Canberra: "Next week the Federal Cabinet will face the depressing task of deciding finally which taxes are to be increased and by how much." Here was further confirmation of the statement that the members of our Governments are puppets. They are to face **A DEPRESSING TASK!** What is a task? A "task" is a piece of work **IMPOSED**, and where there is a task there is also a **taskmaster!** Who has imposed this depressing task on the Federal Government? Did you, Mr. Editor, or your friends? I certainly did not, and, with equal certainty, I can declare that none of my friends did.

Sensible citizens do not want their representatives to be depressed in a world capable of giving health, comfort, and happiness to everyone in it. Surely there would be nothing depressing in working for the establishment of an order of society in which God's wonderful bounty is made available to all the people. Unfortunately, our Governments are NOT working for God and the benefit of His people, and, consequently, they are actually **PREVENTING** the people from benefiting from the world's wonderful productivity. The question naturally arises: Then, if they are not working for God and mankind, for whom **ARE** they working?

CALLOUS BETRAYAL

Every day furnishes us with further evidence that the Prime Minister of Australia takes his orders from the controllers of Finance, and that he is determined to serve them, irrespective of the dire effects on the living conditions of the men, women, and children of the Commonwealth. Not only is he determined to make conditions worse for us and our children, but he callously lends himself and the machinery of government to impose even more shocking conditions on posterity—i.e., on the people not yet born! He openly supports fraudulent schemes, which will bring about such a state of affairs that it will be the height of criminal folly for the birth of children to be permitted. As pointed out last week, he admits that he is actuated by the demands of what is called "Sound Finance," an abstraction entirely separate from the world of reality and imposed on us by foreigners. He demonstrates more and more that he possesses an oblique mind—that his speech in the open does not line up with his actions in secret. He talks about freedom, happiness, and general well being, but his public actions are designed to limit freedom, to prevent happiness by intensifying worry, and to render general well being impossible. He ignores the unsatisfied needs of the people, but talks of over-production! He discards intelligence and common sense for financial hocus pocus, and betrays the people in this way at the dictation of private financiers.

WHERE THE INSTRUCTION CAME FROM

On Thursday of last week the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd. had its annual meeting of shareholders in Melbourne, and the remarks of its Chairman (Mr. J. L. Webb) were given wide publicity the following day. The report in the *Adelaide Advertiser* was headed, "WARNING NOTE FROM BANK CHAIRMAN," "CREDIT STRETCHING HAS ITS LIMITS," and showed clearly just where our National Government gets its instructions. Keeping in mind what the Government is **DOING**, and what the several members of Cabinet are **SAYING**, now consider the actual declarations of this financiers' spokesman, as follows:

1. "Every member of the Australian community must be prepared to play his part by working harder if existing standards are to remain unimpaired."

2. "Increased taxation appears inevitable, and will call for sacrifices from all classes of the community."
3. "Faced with huge outlays on unproductive armaments, there is the greatest possible need for the avoidance of all unnecessary expenditure in other directions in both Commonwealth and State spheres."
4. "I am not suggesting that social services of an essential character be unduly curtailed, but I do suggest that wasteful expenditure—and, undoubtedly, there is a great deal—must be ruthlessly abolished."
5. "Credit cannot be stretched almost indefinitely without endangering financial stability."
6. "Easy money within proper limits and an enlargement of the basis of credit can assist in bridging over a period of emergency, but credit stretching cannot, in the long run, cover increased financial commitments which are not of a character adding to economic strength."
7. "Sooner or later, the requirements of sound finance are inexorable."

In the face of this, can there be the slightest possible doubt as to the source from which the Governments get their orders? No self-respecting citizen in his right mind could fail to see that Mr. Webb's remarks were nothing more than a statement of what financiers expect from the Government, and that the "depressing task" previously referred to is nothing but the carrying out of these unconscionable orders. They are absurd and criminal, and all concern the supply of **MONEY**.

A SERVILE MOUTHPIECE

As if by special arrangement, the Prime Minister has also been uttering similar nonsense. According to the *Melbourne Argus* of August 15, he said that "the Commonwealth Government not only will not, but cannot, go beyond its wheat aid proposal"; that "in the wheat proposal the Commonwealth was going to the very limit of its resources"; that "wheatgrowers would begin to ask themselves who their true friends were—those who were willing to back their fair words with real money, or those whose vociferous sympathy stopped short of financial help"; that "it is beside the point for a State Premier to say, 'Wheat is a national problem'—it can equally truly be said that trade is a national

problem; that transport, unemployment, and education are great national problems; but the fact is that the Constitution has given certain problems to the National Parliament and kept others for the States"; that "to stabilise wheat prices without stabilising production when over-production has produced the present disastrous price level would be folly, and my Government does not propose to attempt it." Then in Sydney on August 18 he said: "Australia's defence expenditure would have to be met partly from loan moneys and partly from revenue. It should not all be passed on to posterity." Strange, is it not, how the utterances and actions of Australia's temporary Prime Minister coincide so completely with the published desires of those who privately control our supply of money?

ALARMING IMPLICATIONS

The implication of these synchronised statements of our Prime Minister and the Credit Monopolists are alarming. Just as was done in 1929 and 1930, they are again telling us that we must work harder! That is to say, they imply that there is not sufficient wheat, or wool, or butter, or clothes, or building materials, or labour, and, therefore, we must produce more of them, even though we cannot dispose of what we now have, and are not permitted to use them ourselves. We must work **HARDER**, although hundreds of thousands have not been allowed to work at all. They are again telling us that increased taxation is inevitable, and will call for sacrifices from all classes. That is to say, the people must do with less **MONEY**, even though they are not getting sufficient now. The sacrifices will be made **BY** the people, but not **FOR** the people, which is the clearest proof that we are not governing ourselves for ourselves. Government is being conducted for someone else! Everything they say is calculated to put another confidence trick over. Men are in gaol for far less.

ECONOMY MANIACS

Just as was done in 1929 and 1930, they are again telling us that there must be a curtailment of Government expenditure in all directions, except those, which suit the bankers, this time the exceptions being armaments and **INTEREST**. That is to say, Governments should close down on normal expenditures, which help to keep the ordinary businessman solvent, even though the diminishing quantity of money distributed as wages has already made his outlook exceedingly difficult. Just as was done in 1929 and 1930, they are again telling us that social services should be curtailed. That is to say, we should give the pensioners less, cut out hospital services, make the dole dole, restrict educational facilities, herd the inmates of institutions as we would herd cattle, leave the tubercular patients to die, neglect slum areas so that disease may spread, lessen maintenance provision on public buildings required for the public services, let the kiddies' teeth rot in their mouths, and so on; and this, mind you, when the world about us is full of the very things required to meet all these needs. Note particularly the words "unduly curtailed" and "ruthlessly abolished." What is meant by unduly, and who is to decide? The services for the needy will be curtailed to the extent ordered by people not in need. The whole idea is Satanic and blasphemous, and every professing Christian should busy himself or herself to see that the churches are not again made the tools of the false god

Mammon, as they were in 1930 and 1931. Some Ministers of religion got their names on the "Honours List" for it, but God is not mocked with impunity. If any ruthlessness is required let it be in the interests of God and mankind against the gang of international financiers who are thwarting the Creator at every point.

AN AUDACIOUS FALSEHOOD

Just as was done in 1929 and 1930, they are again telling us that anything may be safely "endangered," provided it is not our financial stability. People may starve and die from exposure, young men and women may commit suicide because of their hopeless outlook on the future, middle-aged and older citizens may be sent insane through mental anxiety, and an increasing army may drift into crime because of economic stress, but, in the words of a prominent banker, these are all of only secondary importance. Stability of the bookkeeping system is far more vital! That is to say, we must have more regard to the manipulation of symbols than to the needs of humanity. Although the expansion of credit is absolutely essential in an expanding community the international finance controllers would even plunge us into war rather than have finance used as God intends it to be used. No one has suggested that credit **SHOULD** be expanded "almost indefinitely," as Mr. Webb well knows, but what is lying misrepresentation to men of that type! We do suggest, however, that credit should be expanded to such an extent that the community will have the wherewithal to pay its debts. As it is, the total money in Australia is less than half the total of the national debt, ignoring altogether municipal debts and private debts. Despite this Mr. Menzies has the audacity to say that the Commonwealth has gone to the limit of its resources.

REPLACE BANK BOARD IF NECESSARY

Just as was done in 1929 and 1930, they are again telling us that credit expansion is no antidote for credit contraction, notwithstanding the historical fact that Sir Denison Miller proved that it was! In the year 1920 when the banks were contracting credit he, as Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, issued an additional £23,000,000, **AND SAVED US FROM A DEPRESSION**. Something of the same kind must be done again if we are to escape this time, for the banks are already contracting credit and setting the stage for an even greater calamity than in 1930-1931. Those who want their pay cut again should do nothing, but those who do not want their pay cut have an important job to do immediately. Even under the existing fraudulent financial methods an increase of five millions in the note issue enables the creation of an additional **FIFTY MILLIONS** of credit money—i.e., the very sort of money that was borrowed by Governments! It is undeniably possible for the Commonwealth Bank to provide the whole of the money required for Australian purposes within Australia, and every one of us must let our Federal Member of Parliament know that we require the Commonwealth Bank to provide this service. We should go further and insist that, if the present members of the Board say it cannot be done, they must be replaced by more capable men who not only know that it **CAN** be done, but also know **HOW** to do it. — Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN
(To be continued.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

"I AM NOT THAT MAN"

(From the "West Australian Wheatgrower.")

For the past two weeks or so, the Terrace has been racked with stories and rumours, calculated to bring the maximum discredit upon Mr. C. O. Barker. As usual with the dirty intrigue associated, unfortunately, with our political life, these insinuations were sent on their nefarious way through that most despicable and destructive medium, "the whispering gallery."

Mr. Barker, known to practically every man in the country districts as C.O.B., has been vilified and defamed for the sin of having thrown a spanner into the worn and ill-meshing cogs of Party Politics. It is too well-known to need stressing, that Mr. C. O. Barker, in the general election last March, and as an Independent, wrested the Irwin-Moore seat from the Country Party candidate, who had not only been the sitting member for many years, but who had, in addition, actually held Cabinet rank.

Unquestionably, the heinousness of Mr. Barker's achievement stirred political jealousies, which have been without parallel in the history of State and Federal politics. But even jealousy is no excuse for the despicable attempt made to undermine a man whose bravery is unquestionable.

Mr. Barker stood up to stories of calumny unflinchingly and with a contempt, which must have distressed his ill wishers. His spirit is indomitable and his determination untameable. With the clear personal conviction that his duty is pre-ordained, this man of dynamite has thrown his newly-won honour in the local Parliament to the winds, and will contest the Federal seat held by Mr. Gregory, so that the full value of a virile personality may be used nationally for the better advantage of his fellow men.

On Wednesday, August 2, at a meeting convened in Anzac House, a meeting to which he invited all his enemies, as well as his friends, Mr. Barker disclosed the whole of the filthy plot to discredit him. In no measured terms, he informed his audience that it was better to die fighting than to succumb in bed to an acute attack of gout. The audience agreed. Turn by turn, he took the accusations made against him, and turn-by-turn he confounded those enemies, whom he hoped were present. He said his "spot" was Canberra, and every reasoning listener was with him. The stories going up and down the Terrace made no difference to him. They could accuse him of having been a gunman, a charge that he maintained, had it been true, might have helped him no end in a modern Parliament, or of being a convict in New Zealand, but they could not shake his purpose. He was convinced that his place was Canberra, and to Canberra he would go. There is no doubt of this, if reason is to prevail. The only pity is that there are not fifty more men of his calibre to go with him.

The whole business has been dirty, dirty in the extreme, for had there been a vestige of truth

in the fabrication levelled against him, how easy it would have been to have sheeted that guilt home. It is unreasonable to suggest that a man guilty of what has been brought against Mr. Barker, through the whispering gallery, would have stood up to it. Unreasonable even to imagine that a man, guilty of the foul accusations, would have made a political start at all, particularly when everyone knows full well that an aspirant for political honours against party is subjected to the closest domestic, social, and moral scrutiny. This same scrutiny he knows full well he must still face in his coming campaign.

His disclosures at Anzac House were a revelation, a revelation of bravery and of the corruption, which is today making slaves of the people, and a hell of the universe.

IS DANZIG WORTH THE LIFE OF ONE AUSTRALIAN?

(Continued from page 1.)

made its appearance in Europe new names had to be invented. The Allies then became the Democratic Front, while the enemy, now joined by Italy, who was given a rather raw deal when the spoils were given out at Versailles, became the Dictator Front. When the next shuffle of the cards took place it was necessary to find other names, because Britain and France now found themselves arrayed with Poland, and possibly Russia—both dictatorships. The Democratic Front then had to be changed by the propagandists, with the result that we now have the Anti-Aggression Bloc. But, above the roar of the lying propaganda, which drowns the plea for sanity, can be heard the subtle voice of international finance. Although an enigma to some, the attitude of Russia shows that, like America, dominated by Wall Street she will endeavour to keep out. It is rather significant that neither Hitler nor Stalin has yet renounced the Treaty of Rapallo between the two countries.

FINANCE ARMS BOTH SIDES

More and more information is being brought to light to show beyond all reasonable doubt that International Finance is concerned with building up the armaments of both sides. Although Hitler appears to be showing some indication of attacking the financial system, and the Jews, it came as a shock to many people in England recently to discover that practically the world's nickel supply is in the hands of a Jewish controlled monopoly, tied up with the financial system. That monopoly has taken care to see that Hitler gets all the nickel required. Without it rearmament would stop.

It has been pointed out in these columns before how the bankers who control the Briey Basin have kept Germany supplied with iron ore. I quote from the latest IAMB Press Service (Holland): "In 1938 France supplied 5,107,525 tons of bauxite to Germany, besides large quantities of nickel, iron, manganese ore and chemical raw materials. . . . France alone supplied 5,854,000 tons of iron ore to Germany in 1938."

The last war showed quite clearly that finance, being international, does not stand to lose

Without flinching, he substantiated his case with concrete evidence, particularly in the form of telegrams from responsible governmental sources, and demonstrated clearly that free speech had been endangered. He maintained that a particular Parliamentary Party, and that Party was not the Labour Party, had sent to the Eastern States to find out, if possible, anything and everything derogatory to him. As nothing substantially criminal was to hand from this miserable and underhand source, New Zealand had been raked over for opportunity. From this source emanated the story that a man called Barker had once been incarcerated for a period of five years. Around this insidious fact a lurid picture of trickery was painted, and Barker, in his fight against those vested interests strangling humanity today, was asked, always per medium of the whispering gallery, to show proof that he was not that convict. His answer was simple: "I am not that man."

which ever side wins—or is nominally supposed to win—the war. The same may happen again on a scale too colossal in terms of destruction for us to conceive. Finance will then be in complete control.

WHERE STANDS AUSTRALIA?

That is the all-important question. When war threatened at this time last year the *New Times* said that Australia must keep out. That attitude should be more strongly endorsed than ever. While we have some semblance of peace and sanity in this country we should use all our efforts in removing the cause of war. After all, it is the German or Italian people we will be expected to kill, and they are like ourselves. A gesture in the way of allowing them access to raw materials, such as our wheat, which is rotting on the stations because we cannot sell it, would be a real step in the right direction.

Apart from that action, Australia can have no influence on European affairs. Communism versus Fascism is only another division of the people along party lines in the international sphere, and will not solve the underlying problem. Our entrance into an alliance with either group would play right into the hands of the financiers. In conclusion, I can do no better than to paraphrase the American writer, Walter Winchell, who recently contributed a remarkable article to the newspaper debate in America on what attitude America should take in the event of war: "The time has come for us to pause and consider. If we must have another Unknown Soldier—let us not ask him to die for an unknown reason. And just what will be accomplished by dying in the mud? He will not increase Australia's resources. Australia must learn that her sons abroad will bring her monuments of glory—but her sons at home are a monument to her common sense. *The future of Australian youth is on top of Australian soil—not underneath European dirt.*"

When the question of Danzig—or, for that matter, any other question concerning Europe, is raised, let us remember this. We don't want to be "mugs" for International Finance all our lives.

GET THE FACTS!

From Senator to private citizen, thousands are reading "MONEY," by S. F. Allen, F.C.A. (Aust.). Price, 1/1, posted, from "Save the People's Bank" Campaign, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

WEST AUSTRALIA

In his latest report, the Campaign Director, Mr. V. J. Dury, writes as follows:

The Commonwealth Bank campaign has now reached the vital stage, and it is essential that every possible elector do his utmost to intensify the pressure and drive home the fundamental point, that the elector in association is all-powerful. Democracy is at stake in this campaign to a far greater extent than the average elector realises. The sup-press is now casting cold water on the "Hands Off the Bank" Campaign. The latest politician to enter the lists on behalf of the enemy is the Member for Perth, Mr. W. Nairn, M.H.R., who, in a long article in the *West Australian*, proclaims to the world that there is no danger in the issue of inscribed stock and debentures. In a recent letter to this campaign he stated that he was inclined to the view that the mortgage bank should be able to finance rural industry without borrowing finance, but he has not made it clear what he means by this statement. He has been challenged on this, but so far no answer has come to hand. We still want to know what Mr. Nairn is going to do. Is he going to vote against any amendment, which will force the Commonwealth Bank to borrow money to set up a mortgage department? That is the vital question. Until Mr. Nairn answers this we shall not be satisfied that he is not trying to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds at the same time.

The formation of a group at Northam in the very near future is practically assured, with a probable nucleus of 15 members. This will mean that more and more individuals in that district will learn to know what they want, and act in line with the new technique of social dynamics, which gives results.

The Campaign Director chaired Mr. C. O. Barker's meeting at Anzac House on August 2. Over 900 people attended to hear the truth about Radio Station 6AM preventing Mr. Barker from speaking over their network. That he vindicated himself to the detriment of the station was clear, and it now remains for the electors to tell the management of this radio station what they think about it, and what they are going to do about it. The meeting lasted from 8 p.m. till midnight, and intense

enthusiasm marked the close of the meeting. There was no doubt as to the objective of all present . . . Economic Security is the result they are after.

Once again we must ask our campaigners to "rally to the flag" in regard to finance. We make no apologies for this request. Some time ago we asked through these notes if any reader would run a social or a bridge evening, and donate the proceeds to the campaign. To date, one lady, Mrs. J., of Subiaco (West), has done this, and met with great success. The Subiaco and West Subiaco branches run regular bridge evenings, with the result that they have funds which, if not ample for all their needs, have made a great deal possible. We appeal to all campaigners to make an effort for the campaign.

One last word on the Bank Campaign. We would remind electors that political democracy precedes economic democracy, and until each electorate controls its own representative economic democracy is out of the question. A negative demand will mobilise pressure on the M.P. much more quickly than any positive demand for economic security, but as soon as a negative demand succeeds, the electors will perceive the sort of action that is necessary to give them what they want. The National Insurance Campaign made many more people aware of their strength in association, and more people still will become aware of it after the Bank Bill Campaign has been finalised. It is essential that every elector be approached to sign the demand form. Even if they do not comprehend the true nature of the demand they are signing, it will at least be a practice in true democracy, which they will readily appreciate as soon as the result is obtained. Have you ascertained if anyone in your vicinity has not yet signed? If you have not, do so now. Supplies of the demand form are on hand at 6d per hundred; postage 2d extra.

The electors of Swan are requested to write to their member, and also to the Senators immediately, asking them to state clearly what action they are going to take in regard to the Bank Bill. Are they going to vote against any clause which will make the Commonwealth Bank borrow per medium of debentures and inscribed stock, or are they going to vote for the Bill as the minority

Government requires? Their answers should be a guide as to how to vote immediately there is an election. Forrest and Perth electors are also requested to do the same thing.

FRANKSTON GROUP

This group is nothing daunted at the recent developments regarding the Commonwealth Bank, the National Register, and National Insurance. It is actually engaged in contacting other groups and organisations as to a strong constitutional move to circumvent the machinations of the existing Government. The response to the appeal in a previous issue of the *New Times*, though not voluminous, is stimulating, and they would welcome further contacts either within the Peninsula or as far afield as anyone cares to accept the invitation. They would like to see in the columns of the *New Times* reports of activities of all other groups. In the meantime, they are awaiting the developments arising out of the present wheat position.

Democracy and Boards

Under the above heading, the "Age" of last Tuesday published the following pertinent comment from a correspondent on the Milk Board and milk prices:

"The latest moves of the Milk Board for further drastic powers make the average man realise that the voice of the people, as expressed in the last Federal referendum, is being absolutely ignored.

"Farmers' whole milk prices were fixed by the Milk Board at a minimum of over 100 per cent, more than butter fat prices, the farmer getting a guaranteed account by means of a retailers' bond. On the other hand, over £750,000 had to be spent by retailers on improved plant and machinery; shorter hours and improved pay were secured by dairy employees, and generally the cost of delivery increased. On the plea of assisting the consumer, the board, while fixing a minimum price to the farmer, now wants to fix a maximum price for the retailer, and to even prevent him selling his business unless the board consents.

"The plain truth is that the retailer is to be made the chopping block for the past actions of the board in first creating a privileged and satisfied class of farmer receiving high prices for milk; secondly, generally adding to and piling up the cost of milk distribution. If a vote were taken of the consumers of Melbourne, there would be no expensive and bureaucratic Milk Board."

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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BARKER BARKS BACK

(Continued from page 1.)

driver and gunman. The crimes run through the whole calendar: cheque passer, rotter, embezzler, forger, stick-up gunman—I wonder how they came to miss out murder. Well, there's the crime sheet. A rather interesting study to a criminologist, I should imagine, because if I remember rightly, according to students of crime psychology, it has been demonstrated that over and over again, criminals stick to one particular line of crime. Thus, a burglar is always a burglar, and never attempts to pass cheques or counterfeit notes; a forger sticks to that particular line of crime and never turns burglar, and so on. You follow what I mean? Sort of one-track mind set in one direction.

So the first extraordinary thing to explain to a criminologist is the wide diversity of the crime sheet. The next thing is the aggregate number of years served for all those various offences. The length of time I am credited with having passed as a guest of his Majesty—as circulated up and down the Terrace—is anything from one to ten years, and the offences go back anything from twenty to thirty years. Think of it: a crime sheet as long as your arm, sentences aggregating ten years, committed twenty to thirty years ago. What sort of infant prodigy in crime was this man? How on earth did he acquire an education: how on earth did he ever get civilised: how on earth—yes, how on earth you might well ask. All right, we will now call again on the crime psychologist and ask him what proportion of criminals who have repeatedly been in gaol, suddenly become distinguished citizens. Well, never mind the "distinguished", just ordinary citizens will do. Ring up the Superintendent of any large prison and ask him how many third and fourth offenders ever make good. You'll get a surprise. Read some of Judge Lindsay's books.

Then piece this fantastic character assassin's story together, and see if it makes sense, see if it adds up right: see if Victor Hugo was just a novice.

I think from all the information supplied by Dame Rumour, you'll find that the first major offence was committed at the age of four, and continued through ten desperate years, till the crime-steeped youth was fourteen. That is the ten years. Suddenly and quite inexplicably to all the people who should know that these things do not happen, the very bad boy turns very good boy. By magic he acquires business training, a well-informed mind, a flair for finance—really: yes! yes! I know that the last recorded miracle was the Resurrection, but don't let historical fact sway you in this matter. You go right ahead and believe the inspired work of the underground syndicate.

All right, having given you a mental cold douche, let's return to sanity and a review of the facts.

The slander campaign started shortly after I commenced campaigning in the electorate. It was mild at first. I was just a blow-in. That was too silly, and was blown out by the fact of my broadcasts dating back over three years. Next I was an adventurer looking for a job. I hadn't any stick or stake in the country. Then it was shown that I had a house in Nedlands and one in Adelaide. Four motorcars un-

encumbered, securities at the bank, and a reasonable bank balance on the right side of the ledger. That knocked that out.

Then the "dingoes" shifted their ground. They attacked Litchfields and myself together, featuring me as the storm centre of a libel action.

Both of these stories were effectively scotched at the Battle of Wongan Hills. It was getting near polling day by this time, so within the few days left at their disposal, I was a crook—crime unspecified—and had been in Fremantle. We didn't worry about this one, but we won the election just the same. That brought us up to March 18—polling day.

The "dingoes" were too stunned at the results to say anything more, so silence reigned till about the middle of April. Then the pack started again. This time I was a crook in the Eastern States, in business under the name of Osmond. I let it go as not worth further consideration, but I did find in an old trunk of mine some receipts from the Mildura Hospital, where I had an enforced stay in 1926, and further back a certificate of registration from the Records Office in Melbourne registering the name of Anglo-American Distributors, sole proprietor C. O. Barker, dated 1925, so that blew out the Eastern States yarn, and incidentally, took us up to the beginning of May.

About the middle of May this unscrupulous desperado remembered he had promised to try hard for two things for his electors. Fancy the villain remembering a promise—the cheek of him. However, the villain departed for Canberra and immediately the "dingoes" said, "Aha! he's cleared out. You'll never see him again," but although you didn't see him for a month, you heard of him, especially in a broadcast given on June 4, called "Is it All Worth While?" and another called "Canberra Comments." made on June 14 and delivered on June 18.

In that talk I referred at length to how you were sold out at Canberra: What far-reaching legislation was passed there in my presence; my disgust at the proceedings and my intention to resign. All this publicly on June 18.

I wired to a substitute to fill my place, and received his reply. I came around the electorate and made my intention known; only I didn't know the exact nature of the blow that was to be delivered by the enemy. I didn't know that two blows were to go in: I was preparing for one only—the attack on Litchfields, and incidentally now that I have partially plugged the gap, I can release some information.

On Friday, July 28, six days before the opening of Parliament, was the annual general meeting of Litchfields. It was made unpleasant by one particular shareholder—the one and only troublemaker we have—and finished up with threats on his side—what he would do if I didn't agree to his proposals. I didn't agree. I gave my ruling and closed the meeting. Then the shot went in. Next day I received a resignation of one director from the board, and it was not till yesterday that the vacancy was filled. During those seven days I was open to be shot at so you can well

imagine what kind of load I have had during the last few days. The yapping of the "dingoes" did not improve matters, either. I never dreamed that they would be so dastardly as to attempt the sacrifice of all my shareholders in order to shoot me, and that was what I hinted at during my recent meetings. This recent thing wasn't even contemplated then, and has only been worked up over the last fortnight.

Very well, getting back to parliamentary business, I see now where I made the mistake. I should have resigned right after that Canberra trip. The only reason I didn't do so was on account of the unfinished jobs for my electors—the Moora transport argument, the Calingiri consolidated school, etc., all of which I shall pass on to my understudy. However, there it was, and my intention was to resign before Parliament opened in order not to make the same mistake as Mr. Butler in South Australia. Sir Richard Butler resigned an Assembly seat to contest a Federal seat, and lost both. The public resent being made a convenience of, so they put the other man in to the Wakefield seat—Mr. McHugh. I was prevailed upon at the last minute to reconsider this decision, because the underground syndicate had now got to work and were trying to make as much capital out of my resignation as possible. If I would only take the seat; if I would only sit for an hour; if only... All right, all right, I'll do it, but I don't like changing my plans once they are made. Then came the interview with the Premier. I told him of my original intention, of the yelping pack and the wild stories. How I would like to get them out into the open—revealed—and deal with them.

Mr. Willcock was very sympathetic and very helpful, but he was very certain on one point, and that was that my original plan of resigning before the opening was the better one, and the only one that would make the "dingoes" reveal themselves, because, by the other method—the second plan—these yellow curs would make him—as head of the Government—the stalking horse, and their identity would not be revealed. The Government would do all the shooting and bear all the expense, and the upshot would be a very annoyed and resentful public opinion, both towards myself and the Government, and all for the benefit of a few mongrels too yellow to come out into the open. The annoying part is that had I been this ineligible person I could have most beautifully spoofed the public in this matter. The Act says that any ineligible person who "presumes to sit or vote AS A MEMBER" will be under a penalty. So that a person taking a seat in the Chamber would not be A MEMBER! He would not, in point of fact, be A MEMBER till he was sworn in and had taken the oath, so that a resignation to take effect immediately AFTER the swearing-in ceremony would allow any ineligible person to circumvent the Act and spoof any of the public who might have been present at the swearing-in ceremony. I wonder if that occurred to any of the smart gentlemen of the "press" who so thoughtfully were able to discern the difference between the State and the Federal Constitution.

I've got a few more things I would like to ask, but they'll have to wait till next session.

"WHEATGROWERS, STAND FIRM!"

(Continued from page 1.)

whom he is supposed to represent. (Our reporter's impression of Mr. Nock's contribution to the meeting amounted to the setting-up and knocking-down of another Aunt Sally.)

A decidedly different spirit prevailed, however, when Mr. Alex. Wilson (member for Wimmera) was introduced, and greeted by, "He's a good 'un," and loud clapping from the audience.

In condemning the amount of funds proposed by the Prime Minister as hopelessly inadequate, Mr. Wilson said that all sections and all States must stand firm and win the fight or give up altogether. "We have got to attack the problem in a MODERN way and break the stranglehold that international finance has on this country," he declared. In his opinion, the present proposals were "no more good than the pumping of a little oxygen into a corpse." (Applause.)

He referred to the tariff's death-blow to our Eastern markets for wheat and wool of a few years ago, and reminded the audience of the resultant drop from £14,000,000 "to the good" to £5,000,000 "to the bad" in our national income. He claimed that we should be enabled to make credits available to other countries, and so allow them to gain access to whatever produce Australians did not require for their own consumption.

In his customary courteous, yet forthright manner, Mr. Wilson heartily disagreed with Mr. Nock in respect to the proposed method of financing a stabilisation scheme and emphasised the necessity for utilising the Commonwealth Bank's power to issue credit, which would be backed by the wealth of the nation. His actual words, which follow, should be, firmly impressed upon the mind of every citizen of Australia (including Mr. Nock): "So soon as YOU and ALL OTHER electors throughout Australia DEMAND that the Bank be made to function properly and finance the country's requirements, so soon will you enjoy real prosperity. Tell your member of Parliament—write to him! If you do not win this fight now, you will have to face the future with despair." (Loud applause, and cries of, "We ARE going to win it.")

That the Commonwealth Bank can, and must, be used to save the situation was strongly urged by Mr. F. Cullen, organiser for the Wheatgrowers' Association, when, dispensing with the use of the microphone, he made a fighting speech, calling for inter-State unity and determination to win.

Referring to the "bogy of inflation," and declaring that the whole of primary industry in Australia was at stake, Mr. Cullen appealed to all sections to appreciate that the issue was a national one, and that it had been made a political party issue for far too long. Whatever Government was in office, it must be forced to see that the Commonwealth Bank adequately financed the stabilisation of the wheat industry.

The loud applause and orderly, but determined, threats to "sweep Menzies and Co. out" can be taken as the serious intentions of serious men.

Resolutions with respect to the Federal Government's responsibility to rehabilitate the wheat industry, and to find the finance to do so without jeopardising any other section of the community were carried unanimously.