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THE

NEW TIMES

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Europe — What's Behind The Scenes?

Some Vital Admissions About
The International Crisis

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

At the time of writing the international position still holds the world in suspense. Events are moving so dramatically that war may have already started before this article reaches the printer. I sincerely hope not.

Some time ago I mentioned how, with every war crisis, more and more of our liberties were being filched away from us. Events are more than confirming this viewpoint.

A careful perusal of material appearing in our daily press during this latest crisis reveals certain admissions, which should be brought prominently before every Australian citizen. We must realise that International Finance, with all its machinations, is playing a desperate game in Europe today, while, at the same time, utilising the situation to still further paralyse democratic government.

**FINANCE MAINTAINS
BALANCE OF POWER**

Time and time again evidence has been brought forward to show that International Finance is concerned with maintaining a balance of power in Europe. The position was recently summed up as follows by one of Britain's greatest thinkers: "Nothing could produce the present state of affairs, in which a group of so-called democracies is pitted against a group of so-called authoritarian States, egged on to catastrophe by misrepresentation of each other's motives, other than a desire, *external to both groups*, to involve the whole world, except some chosen group, in a conflict which not one single individual who will fight individually desires . . . One of the wisest sayings applicable to these times is that you can do everything with bayonets, except sit on them. That is where the diabolical ingenuity, involved in splitting the world into so-called democracies and dictatorships, arises. The dictatorships (labels like Socialism and Fascism mean nothing), once established, can be safely left to create a situation, which will throw the so-called democracies into all the steps leading to war. Appeals to dictators are useless—they can be stopped only by their populations."

As yet, no appeal is being made to the *populations* of the authoritarian group by allowing them access to the essential raw materials for a higher standard of living. Finance does not permit that. *But it does permit raw materials for war.* Read the following extracts from our daily press of two weeks ago: "The London *Times* understands that the bulk of the turnover of 3250 tons of copper was on German account, sales being the largest since October."

"The *News-Chronicle* says that German orders for copper and rubber were executed, regardless of cost; the rubber exchange enjoying an almost record turnover, owing to the German orders of 4000 tons at 8¾d. a pound."

"Germany's feverish orders for rubber and copper from London specify delivery must be made before the end of the month.

Orders will be satisfied from British stocks, which are already dangerously low." Needless to say, this report was not featured in the sensational headlines.

**RUSSIA STANDS
REVEALED**

I must confess that I found Russia's open pact of neutrality with Germany no surprise. The following remarkable report, which appeared in the daily press on August 25, makes very interesting reading: "A document circulated by the (Continued on page 8.)

AN INEVITABLE WAR?

Comment Before the Event

Why, then, all this talk about inevitable war in 1939? The answer is that Money Power remains to Wall Street, and that hostility to England in the United States has been deliberately and consistently fomented ever since Munich. I have before me as I write recent cartoons from American newspapers; they show, amongst other pictures, a dachshund with a lion's face. Wall Street is supporting Moscow; Wall Street is supporting Barcelona; Wall Street is supporting the Red elements in France, which remain formidable in spite of their loss of executive power. If Red Spain can be saved there is still hope of preventing Anglo-Italian Friendship, and so of restoring the conditions in Paris which obtained earlier in the present year. The economic strangulation of Germany depends for its success upon the attitude of France, which attitude again depends on the success or failure of English policy in the Mediterranean. This is the explanation of the efforts now being made in Paris to stir up trouble between the capital and London on the one side and between Rome and London on the other. This is the explanation, also, of Mr. Chamberlain's forthcoming visit to Rome. Nor can America be left out of the picture. Wall Street is busy with schemes to strangle both German and Eng-

lish trade with the Argentine and with Brazil, and so to embroil German and English traders in quarrels with one another. The defeat of the Reds in Spain would secure at once England's safety in the Mediterranean. This would be followed by firm friendship with Italy, to which, of necessity, France would be joined. French activity against Germany in the Balkans would then determine, and the policy of strangulation would fail. An Anglo-German trade agreement would follow, and the danger in America thereby be obviated. This, in general terms, is Mr. Chamberlain's policy. That policy of peace is opposed by all the friends and all the dupes of International Finance. The opposition is, therefore, largely monetary. It is the more formidable on that account. The land of the Almighty Dollar is capable, certainly, of action in every part of the world. It may be that the last stages of this war will take place on the other side of the Atlantic. But the defeat and fall of Mr. Chamberlain, meanwhile, is the dearest hope and wish of the enemies of England. For that would be immediate and overwhelming victory for all these enemies.

—R. McNair Wilson (author of *Monarchy or Money Power, The Defeat of Debt*, etc.), in *Plain English*.

WHEAT, WAR AND WHITE
FEATHERS

A Letter to the Editor from JOHN HOGAN

"International developments, of course, may invalidate and render unnecessary the whole of these discussions," pointed out Sir Earle Page in opening the Country Party Conference to deal with the serious position of the wheat industry last Friday; and when the announcement that the peace of Europe was already shattered caused the premature adjournment of that Conference, and, for all practical purposes, it became apparent that there was no longer a wheat problem, no longer any obstacle to the use of the Nation's Credit, the president of the Victorian wheat-growers remarked bitterly to me that twelve years of constant effort had failed to achieve what was being done in twenty-four hours, without hesitation, in face of war.

Perhaps indiscreetly, but nonetheless accurately, Mr. Casey, as Federal Treasurer, in a letter to the "Argus" last November, declared that money would be found for defence, just as much and just as fast as wanted; that the Commonwealth Bank Board does not stand in the way, and would be swept aside if it attempted to do so; and that the proper approach to the question is not how much money is available for defence, but what is necessary for the security of Australia, for which purpose whatever money is necessary will be found promptly and without question.

So with the dreadful advent of war the wheatgrowers demand for new credit to pay his costs and his living is automatically superseded by the provision of technically unlimited funds to meet a recognised national emergency, and by the fact that all he can supply will be required and paid for adequately.

NO SOLUTION

Not that this solves his problem, or anyone else's. War never does that. Afterwards—if there is any afterwards—the cause of his normal insolvency and insecurity remains, possibly intensified, and the old fight must be continued by him or his successors.

That is unless the prophecy is fulfilled that whatever survives from another world war it will not be the old financial system which made it inevitable, just as it makes inevitable the constant poverty of our successful primary industries.

I could weep tears of bitter blood—much more will drive me to unbalanced behaviour—to hear and read all around me the same petty, puerile, ignorant, selfish, suicidal comments on Europe's explosion that have accompanied such tragic events all through history and prevented humanity from learning any lessons or applying what has been.

They have said rightly for years that no people desires war—but how easy it is to arouse the stupid, wholly destructive anger of the mob against that side which to us is the "aggressor," provoke the same old threats and the same cold-blooded assurance that Germany must and will be wiped out, all that Hitler represents completely obliterated.

**CAUSES MUST BE
REMOVED**

How hopeless to appeal to reason—that what Hitler really represents will never be destroyed, will ever be a menace to humanity, until the conditions that produce such forms of Government and distorted national ambitions are isolated and crushed. That those conditions are not to be found in the make-up of modern Germany any more than Australia or England, and (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.)

Japan has for many months had a National Mobilisation Bill legally enacted. The Government is now bringing into effect plans for the concentration of the "Spiritual, Moral, and Vocational Energy" on straight-out totalitarian lines. The new mobilisation regulations aim to establish unity of these human energies under Government orders. The new ordinances provide for registration of the vocational capacities of the population in general, with special registrations of the capacities of seamen and navigators; and with certain restrictions on the private employment of other workers. All male subjects living in Japan proper, between the ages of 16 and 50 years, have to register with the Welfare Ministry; all personal details, military service, scholastic careers, nature of present occupation and place of present occupation, experience in the work required if actually mobilised.

Control and restriction of private employment provides that employers must obtain permission from the National Welfare Ministry before employing persons between the ages of years who have been engaged in work designated by the N.W.M. as of a national character, or who have been under special training by order of the Ministry. Premier Prince Konoye has decided that this new unification movement shall be organised on "purely spiritual lines," and that the organisation shall be pledged to mobilise and concentrate the intelligence of the people in accordance with the real spirit of the National Mobilisation Law—to reject materialistic and utilitarian ideas, to work for the perfection of a Japanese culture, and to create a new order in East Asia, based on co-operation amongst Japan, Manchukuo, and China, with a view to contributing to world peace.

In comment, it would seem to me that slogans and catchwords are spiritually taking the place of Pure Reasoning. The Government has not yet seriously taken an important step towards this rejection of materialistic and utilitarian ideas in regard to a most powerful materialistic and utilitarian idea—viz., money. It is not the intelligence of the people that is being concentrated and mobilised. It is their Allegiance. Intelligence is concentrated in the central military group for power, and in the commercial monopoly finance group for money, which, while it gives these groups immediate claim to any materialistic desire for themselves, does not hinder the propaganda of purely spiritual ideas for the masses, as if, in the very nature of things, there can be any distinct cleavage between material (bodily) benefits and spiritual (or brain) benefits, as if such a policy can lead to perfection of culture.

If one regards culture as the right of the individual and of the nation or group to mental content and bodily security, then certainly the present policy falls far short of culture. If one regards arts, crafts, and beauty as culture, then it seems to me quite obvious that Japan is losing, not perfecting, the beauty of arts and crafts that was the spirit of old Japan, the "Yamato damashi."

CULTURE SACRIFICED

The beauty that was Japan—the temples, the shrines, their architecture and their carvings; the ivory work, the masterpieces of hand-craft cloisonné, the real lacquer, the porcelain, the hand-loom perfection brocades—all seem to be passing away, the products of passing and passed generations. The heirs of these generations will soon be unable to build things similarly beautiful and vitally spiritual, and Japan of tomorrow will, I fear, have no inner relationship to the old cultural masterpieces. These beautiful places and buildings, the craftsman's art, now being increasingly collected in the auction shops, remind me already of shadows and dead flowers. I am afraid the new policy is a lip service to culture and spiritual things, and a material sphere of shoddy and substitute goods. My "Sensei" friends in Japan regretfully agree. Intelligence and culture are, in effect, being sacrificed to the god of commercial expediency and the mesmerism of money.

REVERSION

More and more the Central Power that is Japan is binding up its people in antithesis to its "Ways of the Gods," or Shintoistic principle of the beauty of the individual self-expression, or to that wonderful idea in America's Char-

ter of Independence, of "Man's Creator-endowed, inalienable rights to life, liberty, and happiness." With the bringing into actual practice of these new compulsory totalitarian ordinances, it is my opinion that a psychic change, resulting from the obvious coercion, will probably be initiated into the people, leading to a change in the "pre-China-incident" type of Japanese culture.

This culture consisted of a peculiarly strong society where social democracy and feudal obedience formed the fabric of social relations and cohesion.

Even now, according to Dr. Nobuo Aoki, physician in charge of Aozama Mental Hospital, "there are many cases of neuroticism in the asylums, because neither men nor women have a chance to express their personality." With obvious legal coercion this will probably be accentuated.

SLENDER CLASS BARRIERS

Democracy is, or was, the last thing that the average outsider would associate with Japan. It has been looked upon as a nation bound in feudal obedience to the Emperor; where governmental power was super-controlled by a despotic military regime. Such is, or was, true, and, ideologically, the word "Democracy" does not seem to fit in. But, if we use the word democracy in the same way as we would regard it in an ordinary large family, then we would find that Japanese democracy applied to a society where all strata and classes of the people enjoy a life that, broadly, is the same; where class distinctions are not insuperable barriers to social intercourse, once the preliminary bowing has acknowledged differences in social class, and where the same educational facilities are open to rich

O, THIS "TIME-HONOURED" BUSINESS!

By "THE WALRUS."

The Rockhampton "Morning Bulletin" of August 29 informs me that "The C.Q.M.E. Co. Ltd. extended the time-honoured privilege to members of the Central Queensland Native Birds' Protection Association for the annual big shoot on the company's properties at Fitzroy Vale, Balnagowan, and the Goose Swamp at the weekend."

I am not informed whether the C.Q.M.E. records its bird shoots in gilt letters on a panel in the boardroom for the enlightenment and example of posterity. I should imagine not. To see the name of a prominent bird benefactor appearing on the scroll of the bird butchers might seem odd to a person unacquainted with Time's unusual sense of honour.

It may be, of course, that the ducks, which the Protection Association were invited to shoot, were foreigners. I can't say, and, in any case, it's hard to tell a thing like that unless you are an expert. But, if they were, that would alter the case altogether, for the association was only out to protect native birds; and everybody knows that, with very few exceptions, the mildest and most benevolent of men will on certain occasions eliminate a foreigner not only without compunction, but with enthusiasm; and it doesn't matter much which foreigner.

Only a few weeks ago, for instance, John Bull offered his topper for Comrade Stalin to try on. The Comrade seemed to toy with the idea, but explained that he wouldn't look his best until his coat came back from the cleaners. Behold! when his coat did come back someone had sewn a swastika on the sleeve. Of course, the topper wasn't any good. So Stalin is again a foreigner, according to the traditional honour of Time, which means that everybody, including the pacifist, is liable to receive an invitation to a shoot, and have a pot at him. According to the same time-honoured custom, it is quite likely that Japan, who up till now has been the imperialist aggressor, will be invited to join the democratic peace shoot.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE

Time has also honoured the custom of severely handling the man who seeks some private retaliation by doing grievous bodily harm to an enemy. At the same time, but in other circumstances, it absolves the same man from any responsibility for dealing death to a man he has never seen or heard of. Time is so keen on honouring this latter custom that a shooting party is provided, in which the victim is the man who will not lightly part with his responsibility in the matter.

It seems to me that Time is much better harnessed to another dimension, and not allowed to spend its existence flirting with tradition, and honouring all sorts of illogical things. Some of its accolades appear harmless, but to me most of them seem queer. It seems queer, for instance, that the Mother of Parliaments cannot be properly opened without first slamming the door in the face of the King; that a man, called a judge, may not pass sentence unless he wears peculiar hair; or that it is sensible to smash a bottle of wine over the prow of a new ship, and silly to pour a drink into the face of a new dolly. There are countless other examples. Life seems to get into a mess when Time is given a loose leg.

SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE

One feels that something ought to be done about it, but it is dif-

and poor alike without distinction; where clothes don't matter so much as in our country. There is a peculiar binding psychological communal interest to be discerned in the Japanese structure. It is like a huge family or secret society, where, if you're a Japanese, you're a member.

(To be concluded.)

icult to know where to start. A Precedent hunt might be a good thing. The close season for Precedent has been altogether too long. No doubt the lawyers, who are the keepers of Precedent, would be opposed to any such hunt, and would probably put themselves up as a Precedent Protection Society. If they did, we might pay them back in their own subtle coin and keep on inviting them to the hunt until Time had honoured the invitation. It would then become impossible for them to refuse. The idea would be to use the Time-honouring process to prevent a Precedent from becoming a tradition.

There may, of course, be other ways of achieving the desired result. If Time could be induced, for instance, to give up its peculiar sense of honour in favour of a sense of humour, I feel that a great change would come over the world. If the figureheads of nations were, for example, convulsed with laughter every time they mentioned the sanctity of covenants, or of sovereignty, or of moral conquests, the world would laugh, too, even as the proverb says. So that the covenants, or the sovereignty, or the morality would be discovered to be something else, or possibly even nothing at all; and that seems to be what is wanted. As things are, we make our discoveries about these Time-honoured attributes only after they have served the diplomatic turn.

THOSE ECONOMISTS

Assuming that such a change could be wrought, only think how exhilarating an economic conference could be. Why! The gold standard, instead of being Time-honoured to the point of veneration, would become the greatest joke in cosmic history. If only its Time-honoured keepers could see it for what it is, they would be stricken so helpless with immoderate laughter that the weaker vessels among them would have to stick to the lighter fiction of currency velocity, or the ratio of savings to investments, or some such harmless theme.

I must confess that at the moment I see little probability of that happening. Whenever I laugh at an economist nearly everyone turns round and looks at me. They blame me and not the economist. They give me the feeling that Time will never honour me, and that, therefore, I shall never get an invitation to join the deliberations of a conference of orthodox Stone Age economists.

And that is a pity, for I am only human, and I do love to be amused.

POLAND: KEY TO EUROPE

Condensed, without comment, from the book of the same title by Raymond Leslie Buell, President, Foreign Policy Association, U.S.A.

Poland undoubtedly has the capacity of becoming a great power. It is the fastest-growing country in Europe; in 15 years it will have as large a population as France. Its position astride the crossroads of Europe gives it immense military and diplomatic importance. Furthermore, the Poles have high intellectual ability; as one writer has said: "In all Europe there is no other people, with the possible exception of the French, which is naturally so gifted."

Through some of its leading personalities Poland has well served the cause of world culture. Copernicus was a Pole. Two of the three most distinguished foreigners in the American Revolution were Polish—Count Pulaski, who met his death on our behalf, and General Kosciuszko. During the following century the novels of Sienkiewicz and the music of Chopin were known to an international audience. Today the names of Paderewski, Rubinstein, Conrad, Reymont and Madame Curie are world-famous. Poland was the first country in Europe to establish a department of education, and one of the first to have a parliament and a bill of rights.

The Poles, however, face a serious economic problem, arising out of population pressure against an agricultural economy. They number 34,500,000. The population density is less than a third that of Belgium; but Belgium is heavily industrialised, while Poland is predominantly a country of peasants.

These peasants live grouped together in hundreds of tiny, primitive villages, going out to their fields daily during the planting and harvesting seasons. The low level of their existence is indicated by their diet, which consists chiefly of rye and potatoes. They are virtually self-sufficient in food, but have extremely low purchasing power.

The poverty of these people is proverbial. It is said that during the depression the peasant would split a match four or five times. The same water would be used over and over again to boil potatoes, in order to save the salt. A peasant village at night is often without any form of light. A writer describes conditions in the north-east, the poorest part of the country, as follows: "At the end of each winter the horses, having exhausted their supply of fodder are propped up in their stalls in the hope that spring may arrive in time for them to be carried to the pastures before death releases them from their sufferings. The peasants themselves are men skeletons, racked with fever and malaria, their clothes skins and rags, and their foot-coverings of bark cut from trees." Even if, as some Poles insist, this is an exaggeration, the depressed level of the peasants in many parts of Poland is difficult for Westerners to imagine.

In 1933, during the depression the richest seven per cent, of the population had an average monthly income of only 27 dollars, while the rest somehow got along on an average of 4.50 dollars. The national income had increased 20 per cent, by 1937, but the individual's share is still very little by American standards.

Yet the country as a whole gives

an impression of stability. Urban workers are somewhat better off than the peasants, and the cities have a flourishing appearance. Bright, well-dressed people throng the streets and cafes day and night.

One of the motivating forces in Polish life today is the memory of a glorious past. In the 16th century, the Polish domain stretched across Europe from the Baltic Sea to the Crimea—the foothold on the Baltic being won after years of hard fighting against the Germans. Poland was then the cultural centre of Northern Europe, as well as an asylum for people fleeing from religious and political persecution in other lands. But the grandeur of mediaeval Poland rapidly decayed. A custom developed whereby any deputy to the national parliament could "explode" it—that is, adjourn it—by imposing his veto, and this veto nullified all decisions previously made. Four-fifths of the legislative meetings between 1652 and 1772 were thus "exploded." Parliament was hamstrung, and the king deprived of military and financial support.

In the absence of an effective central government, some 16 or 17 great families maintained luxurious courts, and regarded themselves as sovereign princes; the rivalry between them led to anarchy and disintegration. Russia, Prussia and Austria took advantage of the situation to lop off chunks of Polish territory. By 1793 these three countries had divided among themselves two-thirds of Poland, and the remains were converted into a Russian protectorate. The Period of Captivity commenced, and it lasted, despite numerous Polish rebellions, until after the World War. Then, as the result of the peace treaties and a two-year war with Russia, Poland recovered its independence and about three-fifths of the territory it held at the height of its power. It is now the sixth largest State in Europe. In territory, it is exceeded only by Russia, Germany, France, Spain and Sweden; in population, only by Russia, Germany, France, Britain and Italy.

During the Great War, Poland suffered greater devastation than any other nation except Belgium. Almost 2,000,000 buildings were burned; 11,000,000 acres of land were put out of use; 6,000,000 acres of forests were destroyed. Before leaving at the end of the war, the Austro-German armies blew up 7500 bridges and destroyed 940 railway stations. The human loss beggars description in terms of homeless refugees, starving children, families ravaged by disease. Except for the remarkable staying power of the Polish People, and for relief extended by the United States. Communism might easily have triumphed during this period.

The task of reconstruction was tremendous. Three different systems of law social insurance, and public administration, which had developed during the Captivity, had to be unified. Yet since the war Poland has created a centralised administration manned by a civil service of high quality; set up a single system of roads, railways, posts and telegraphs; established a stable currency, and built an imposing port at Gdvnia. The Poles have lived down their reputation for inefficiency -- Lloyd

George could no longer say, as he did once, that one might as well give a clock to a monkey as Upper Silesia to the Poles. The divisive psychologies, which arose among the three parts of Poland during the Captivity, are being eliminated by the school and university system and military conscription, and a new national unity is being forged.

Only one thing now stands in the way of national solidarity: the presence of a large minority of non-Polish peoples, totalling one-third of the population. The most important minorities are the 750,000 Germans, the 3,300,000 Jews, and the 5,000,000 Ukrainians. Most of the Germans are in full sympathy with National Socialism, but they are scattered all over the country, and are unorganised. The Jews are even more widely distributed. The Ukrainians, on the other hand, are a compact majority in south-eastern Poland, and are politically well organised. The Ukrainians in Russia, Poland and Roumania have long tried in vain to gain their independence, and the presence of so many Ukrainians in Poland may weaken that country in time of war.

Poland is not a democracy in the American sense, but neither is it a totalitarian State. Parliament is dominated by one party, a middle-of-the-road group, which enjoys the support of the army. The Government has sometimes resorted to "protective custody"—a feature of totalitarian regimes—and placed in concentration camps, without a court order, persons accused of "menacing peace and public security." The Government radio can be used only by supporters of the party in power. Thus civil liberties are severely curtailed.

However, opposition parties, both of the Left and Right, carry on propaganda and hold meetings, and opposition newspapers continue to be published. And, although Poland has the largest Jewish population of any country in Europe, it has not adopted the anti-Semitic measures used by Germany.

Poland is making a determined effort to keep from being drawn into either the Communist or the Fascist camp. Wedged between the two great totalitarian imperialisms, its position is extremely difficult. But the Polish spirit is highly individualistic, and hence anti-totalitarian. Furthermore, there is no country in Europe today, except possibly Ireland, where the Catholic Church has such influence; and the Church in Poland does not wish to suffer the fate of the Church in Germany and Russia. Poland may be able to prevent either Fascism or Communism from dominating the continent. It will resist the ideology of the anti-Western powers, provided the democracies give it proper support. In more ways than one, Poland holds the key to Europe.

The fate of Poland is bound up in the future relations of Germany and Russia. Should they fight, they would inevitably do so on Polish soil. Whoever the victor might be Polish independence would be imperilled. The Poles lived under German and Russian rule too long to relish the prospect of playing host to a victorious army belonging to either power.

On the other hand, the whole of Central Europe today fears that sooner or later Germany and Russia will reach an understanding between 1802 and 1879 Prussia and Russia were in alliance, with profit to both parties. The internal regimes of Russia and Germany are becoming more and more similar, and a strong

element in each of the armies favours an agreement whereby Germany would have access to Russia's raw materials and provide Russia's industries with badly-needed technicians. Poland would be as vitally involved in any such alliance as in a Russian-German war, since an alliance might well be followed by a new partition of Poland.

Poland's foreign policy, therefore, has had two objectives: to keep Russia and Germany apart, and to obtain outside assistance in case of attack by either. Whether Poland succeeds any better than Czechoslovakia in maintaining its integrity depends upon its determination to fight at the first sign of German aggression. If the Poles sacrifice Danzig, the Corridor and Upper Silesia without a struggle, they will be doomed. If they can resist the Nazi forces for a month or so, it is probable they will receive help in time. Although political considerations may have justified France and Britain in throwing away the Czech forts and 20 divisions of troops at Munich, they cannot equally afford to throw away Poland's 35 divisions. Up to the present time, Poland hasn't wanted Russian aid in case of a German attack. Although both the Poles and the Russians are Slavs, and hence hereditary enemies of the Germans, the existence of Communism in Russia has been a barrier to Slavic unity. The Poles have feared that if Russian troops once entered the country, they would not leave, and would propagate Communist sentiment. And even before the Bolshevik Revolution, lasting differences separated the two peoples. Poland has always thought of itself as a bulwark, protecting Europe from the semi-Asiatic influence of Russia. However, Poland's national interests undoubtedly will now force it to think in terms of Slavic unity to a far greater extent than it has done in the past. Russia is in a far better position than France or Britain to send troops quickly to Poland's aid.

Less courageous peoples than the Poles might shrink from contemplating a future bound up with such difficult internal and external problems. But Poland's confidence in itself, its attachment to its past, and its intense sense of mission may carry it through. An ardent patriotism will enable this country, if need be, to suffer adversity and carry on when other States having higher material standards might falter and even collapse.

SPAIN'S NEUTRALITY

The French Government has transported great numbers of *native* Colonial troops over from Africa for use in the event of a European disturbance. It is felt that these movements of troops have placed France into a position where she can threaten Spain with invasion if that country shows any signs of departing from the policy of absolute neutrality.

—Reality, July 28.



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WAR—SO WHAT?

And so it has happened!

But a system unsocial in principle could end in no other way; and now the Frankenstein monster is about to destroy itself, possibly pulling the pillars of the world down in its death throes.

Reformers will be of heavy heart, and, no doubt, chiding themselves that greater effort was not put into their work. With the goal so near, it is probable that in a few more months more than one Parliament would have been under the control of the people—and there would have been no war.

Tragedy . . . yes, tragedy, which might have been averted by a little more sincerity of purpose. We are not exempt from blame. Only enlightenment, especially in administrative quarters, as to the causes of war could have saved Europe from embarking on this mad venture.

There may be knowledgeable men in high places, infested with fiendish callousness, who have consciously assisted to bring about disaster, but the great fault lies in the system itself. It is true that some men are so enmeshed in the system, so enslaved to custom and tradition, that they have unwittingly led their countries step by step to the brink, and, finally, in all sincerity, in their conception of right, plunged them into the abyss. War could have been averted had there been a more widely spread knowledge of the real causes of war.

Reformers have lost this particular race against time, but can look for ultimate victory: war will help to destroy the present crazy system—the tragedy is that it should be at the cost of such unnecessary carnage.

Stunned? Yes, who is not stunned by the blow; but the daze must be brushed aside and the big, worth-while job of spreading knowledge of the causes of war carried on. The incentive is greater than ever. Every day lost means so much. A little of the right knowledge in the right quarters may call an armistice—is there grander work to be done?

The task is not easy. The, miasma of war is dangerous; tact and circumspection must be exercised to avoid misinterpretation. The peoples of the world do not naturally hate each other; surely their opinions can be made to influence responsible leaders.

WHAT PROFITS IT.....?

"Even the best of modern civilisations appears to me to exhibit a condition of mankind which neither embodies any worthy ideal nor even possesses the merit of stability. I do not hesitate to express my opinion that, if there is no hope of a large improvement of the condition of the greater part of the human family; if it is true that the increase of knowledge, the winning of a greater dominion over Nature, which is its consequence, and the wealth which follows upon that dominion, are to make no difference in the extent and intensity of Want, with its concomitant physical and moral degradation, among the masses of the people, I should hail the advent of some kindly comet, which would sweep the whole affair away, as a desirable consummation. What profits it to

DEMOCRATS AND WAR FINANCE

The South Australian Executive of the United Democrats has passed the following recommendation to all States:

"That, during the continuance of hostilities, it shall be the first duty of the movement to do its utmost to see that the war is not financed by means of interest-bearing debt, but by the issue of costless credits created by the Commonwealth Bank for that purpose, in order that, whatever may survive the war, the present financial system shall not."

the human Prometheus that he has stolen the fire of heaven to be his servant, and that the spirits of the earth and of the air obey him, if the vulture of pauperism is eternally to tear his very vitals and keep him on the brink of destruction?"
-T. H. Huxley, 1825-1895.

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A Little More Still Required

Donations Still URGENTLY Needed
Have YOU "Done Your Bit" Yet?

QUEENSLAND ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

£500 Permanent Organisers Appeal Fund

As announced previously, the fund for maintaining a permanent organiser in Queensland has now been launched. We are now able to report the first subscription has come to hand at Headquarters, apart from what the organiser, Mr. M. S. Burns, has received.

The fund has been vested in five trustees, who will hold the donations until the objective has been reached. The names of the trustees are: Mr. A. G. Horsfall (Chairman, D.S.C.S., Queensland), Mr. A. W. Noakes (State Hon. Sec.), Mr. R. F. Gillespie (Director, E.C., Queensland), Mrs. I. Bonner Smith (Hon. Treasurer, D.S.C.S., Queensland), and Mr. M. S. Burns (Organiser of the Fund).

News Item.

An important change has taken place in the administration personnel of the Queensland Secretariat, occasioned by the resignation of Mrs. Bonner Smith from the position of State Hon. Secretary, which position she has held since the formation of the Secretariat.

Mr. A. W. Noakes, who has been actively engaged in organising the Electoral Campaign for some time, has been appointed Acting State Hon. Secretary, pending ratification by the subscribing members of the organisation.

Mrs. Bonner Smith is retaining the position of Hon. Treasurer of the Secretariat, and will act as a Trustee of the Permanent Organisers Appeal Fund.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

Commonwealth Bank Campaign

A detachment of the "Tenth Legion," consisting of Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Schneider, Miss Radcliffe, and Miss Grey, under the leadership of Mr. Hergstrom, paid a flying visit to Gawler on Friday last.

The Movement has numerous friends in Gawler, and the detachment received a warm welcome. Although many demands had already been forwarded, locally, a sufficient quantity was obtained to make the visit a very successful one.

Bridge Evening.

Bridge players, please note that the sixth series of bridge evenings will be held at the club-rooms, Waymouth Street, this, Saturday, night, September 9, at 8 o'clock sharp.

Keen interest is being maintained in these contests, but the organisers would be happy to welcome more new faces.

Good company and a cheery fire await you.

Benes Back

Dr. Edouard Benes, the former Czech President, has settled down in a modest Putney villa to await the day when Czechoslovakia will "call him home" again.

According to the *Sunday Chronicle* recently, he "slipped quietly back to England last week."

He is so convinced that his country will free itself from the "foreign" yolk that he is not taking one of the permanent professorial posts which universities in various countries have offered him. But he expects to lecture at the University of London on "general democratic and sociological principles."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ACTION IN GIPPSLAND PROPOSED

Sir, —I beg your assistance in a matter of some urgency, Robert Gordon Menzies, Prime Minister and Treasurer of the Commonwealth, has said that taxation must go up. Mr. Dunstan, Premier of the State of Victoria, also says taxation must go up.

All of which means that my income, so far as its purchasing power is concerned, goes down. This gets my back up—seeing that the Commonwealth Government has, both the power and the mechanism: in the Commonwealth Bank to finance its programme without, these incessant sacrifices—and I want to do something about it.

There are, I know, quite a number of subscribers to the *New Times* in the Trafalgar and Moe districts. What do they think about it? Are they going to take these unwarranted attacks on their freedom and economic security lying down?

Or are they going to do something about it? Action is the only thing that gets things done.

Sir, I have in mind the formation of a Trafalgar and District Anti-Taxation Association. Will subscribers in that district please write me *at once*—as speed is the essence of the contract in contemplation!—notifying their willingness to co-operate?

Gentlemen, do it now! Having your names and addresses, we can then arrange a meeting, draft a demand upon our political servant, elect those responsible for getting things done—and then get on with the job.

One more word: Menzies has offered us as a blood sacrifice on the altar of financial orthodoxy, Australia, he says, will be there to the last man, and the last shilling.

Now what about one more kick at their ungodly old system—tomorrow may be too late. —Yours, etc.,

H. A. HOTCHKIN.
Thorpdale. Vic.

WOMEN'S MEETING

The Women's Section of the U.E.A. will meet, prior to the Rally, at the U.E.A. Rooms, McEwan House, on Wednesday, September 13 at 7.45 p.m. sharp.

It is intended to discuss arrangements for the dance and social to be held on the following Wednesday night.

IMPORTANT RALLY

Eric Butler Returns from Queensland

Supporters are earnestly requested to attend an urgent rally to hear Eric Butler on "The Urgent Issue Now Confronting Us," to be held at the U.E.A. Rooms, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, at 8 p.m., next Wednesday, September 13. DO NOT FAIL TO ATTEND.

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.

TAKE A LOOK AT THE FUTURE

The Real Revolution in the Affairs of Mankind is being born in the Laboratories—not at the Dictators' Council Tables

By G. EDWARD PENDRAY, writer, editor and lecturer on scientific subjects; author of "Men, Mirrors and Stars," etc Condensed from "The North American Review."

In the laboratories of today the distant future is being born. Recently I asked 50 outstanding scientists and engineers what developments in their workshops were most likely to affect the life of the average man within the next 25 years. Their answers foreshadow new products and changes in ways of living, which, by 1964 or sooner will bring vast realignments of trade, industry, and even international affairs.

These forecasts are based on the assumption, proved by past experience, that we are 25 years or so behind the times. It takes about a quarter of a century for most inventions and discoveries to pass from the laboratory into common acceptance. Television, for example, was patented in 1884; vitamins were discovered 27 years ago; the electric range, just now beginning to reach a mass market, has been under development nearly three decades.

As a result of all this invention progress, the home itself may be completely revolutionised. Research has already indicated that there are better ways to warm a house than by burning oil or coal to heat water, which heats the air in a room, which in turn heats the people surrounded by the air. One answer may be infrared rays, next in the spectrum to radio short waves. These rays transmit radiant energy, much as the sun's rays heat us after passing through the freezing cold of celestial space. Infrared ray lamps may be so accurately focussed—some experimenters say—that they can boil an egg inside a flask of water perched on a cake of ice. Already patents have been issued to cover cooking with these lamps.

By means of such lamps, or by the high frequency waves now used in fever therapy, warmth may be directly generated in the human body without wasting heat on the air. I have seen research workers, experimenting with these devices, sitting warm and comfortable in their shirtsleeves, though the temperature of the air was about that inside a good refrigerator.

Picture the housewife of 1964—on a winter's day. Wearing stockings made from coal and a dress of spun glass, she stands in her kitchen. The windows are open, the temperature is only 50 degrees, but she is warm as she cooks her mango-tomatoes (fourth crop since April raised on her water-farm) with infrared rays. And she has plenty of time to enjoy her television set, because dusting the house (whose walls are of plastic, whose bathroom was moulded in one piece) is no longer a major chore.

In the house of the future electricity may eliminate both spring-cleaning and the allergic sneezes of its occupants. The air in a room will be passed through an electrically charged area, then through a series of metal plates oppositely charged. The plates capture about 99 per cent, of all solid matter in the air—dust, soot, pollen—even bacteria. A few of these "electro-static precipitators," as they are called, are already in use in department stores and office buildings. Several engineers have already built precipitators for their homes in smoky Pittsburgh.

The wife of one of them reports that her curtains need washing only three times a year, while her neighbours must wash theirs once a fortnight.

Inexpensive ultra-violet lamps are already used in meat markets to preserve food against bacterial decay; in restaurants and soda fountains to sterilise glasses. Hospitals are using them experimentally to reduce the danger of infection during operations. Much research remains to be done, but it is not inconceivable that during epidemics, health commissioners, instead of warning against crowds, may urge attendance at public gatherings, where the crowds will get baths of invisible germ-killing radiation.

In the next quarter-century, man may learn to harness the miraculous downpour of free energy from the sun—the greatest of all sources of power. Last autumn a patent was granted to Dr. C. G. Abbot, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, for a simple and inexpensive solar power machine, which is capable of competing with coal in the generation of steam. This device captures the sun's rays on a trough-like aluminum mirror, driven by clockwork to follow the sun's movement. The mirror brings the rays to a hot focus upon a glass tube containing a thin stream of water. On a bright day, the water soon becomes hot enough to flash into steam.

Dr. Abbot's solar machine can do all kinds of cooking satisfactorily. Insulation so preserves the temperature of the water overnight that in the morning there is heat enough left to bake biscuits. Ranchers and farmers in dry, sunny regions have shown keen interest in it; several hundred solar water heaters are said to be in operation, mostly in California.

In a month the sun lavishes on the earth as much energy as man will ever get from all the coal that lies beneath it. With the development of means to transmit electricity over long distances—now in prospect—one can imagine a big international company building a worldwide ring of solar power stations on which the sun never sets.

There is also promise in the use of thermo-couples and photoelectric cells, which translate radiant energy such as we get from the sun, directly into electric current. If the present rate of progress continues, we may some day live in houses covered with "photo-electric shingles," which provide all the household light and power—since the sun pours down upon a good-sized roof in a single cloudless midsummer day as much electrical energy as the average family now uses in a year.

For the present, this is a pipe dream—as once were aeroplanes, radio and television. The attack upon the sun as a source of power is organised and financed not only in private and industrial laboratories, but also at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, recently endowed with 600,000 dollars for research on the problem.

These researches suggest strange possibilities. Cheap, abundant solar power might change the Sahara, Arabia, Palestine, into thickly

populated gardens; our own arid West might be irrigated and fertilised by the sun that now curses it. And nations may scramble, not for coal and oil, but for control of the great sunlit desert spaces.

Radical changes are already under way in methods of lighting our homes. Instead of producing light by the incandescence of a hot wire, the new fluorescent lamps work on a new principle. The tube of the lamp is filled with thin mercury vapour. Current discharged through the vapour produces ultra-violet radiation, invisible to the eye. The inside of the tube is coated with certain chemical compounds. Ultra-violet radiation causes these chemicals to emit light. Fluorescent lamps, now on the market in two shades of white and five colours (gold, red, pink, blue and green) produce from 30 to 50 times as much light per watt as the common incandescent bulb.

As another possibility, the walls of a room might be coated with fluorescent materials, which would emit light when stimulated by hidden sources of ultra-violet. There would be no shadows or dark corners; light would come from every direction.

Since the dawn of history our clothing has been derived from plants and animals. But last year a patent was issued for a new artificial fibre, Nylon that can be made from coal air and water. Its strands are claimed to be as strong as steel and as fine as those of a spider's web. And there is the new Vinyon, made from petroleum products, which is virtually unshrinkable, fireproof, water resistant, and more elastic than silk. Such synthetic fibres may not only drive silk from the market, dealing a body blow to Japan's economy, but may rival cotton and wool in the manufacture of textiles and clothing.

Threads of glass, too, are now being spun; one-eighth the thickness of a human hair, they are twisted into yarn, and woven on standard weaving machines to produce a fabric which is lustrous, silky and warm, but as yet heavy and expensive. Now used only in industry (as insulating material, or for filtering corrosive chemicals), glass cloth may soon be seen as trimming for hats, in ornaments and handbags. By 1964 it might form a large part of our wardrobes.

If glass is competing with textiles, resins from coal are competing with glass. Resin glass will transmit ultra-violet rays—which ordinary glass does not. Imperial Chemical Industries, of England, is making lenses and eyeglasses of these resins. In a recent demonstration, they were pounded with a hammer without being harmed. Plastics eyeglasses may soon be on sale for a dollar a pair, high-grade binoculars for three dollars, cameras for five dollars.

Dr. Colin Fink, head of Columbia's Division of Electro-chemistry, expects that chemistry, besides replacing ordinary window glass, will replace the wood used by the cabinet-making trade with new plastics. And already Micarta and other plastics are being substituted for metal, particularly as bearings. These non-metallic bearings wear longer, and they need no oil: they are lubricated with water.

For agriculture's next 25 years, experts predict changes as vital as any in the last 2000. Hydroponics, or "soil less farming," is already well launched. And at Cold Spring Harbour, N.Y., Dr. A. F. Blakeslee, of the Carnegie Institution, has achieved amazing results by treating seeds with a

chemical, colchicine, which appears to produce a doubling of the chromosomes—the part of the seed which transmits hereditary characteristics. As a result, the plant seems to skip at one jump many centuries of the process of evolution. The possibility of thus creating new species of plants at will is momentous, and geneticists have called this discovery as important to the plant world as the invention of the steam engine was to transportation and power.

The headlines these days are all of dictators and the threat of war. Probably we do wrong to try to guess the future from the front page. We must read the finer print to find those events, presided over by cautious, quiet men bending over test tubes, which will really change the world. The features of 1964 are being moulded, not by statesmen or dictators, but by the scientists. It is here that the real revolution is taking place.

TRAPPED SUNLIGHT FOR EVERY ROOM

OSCAR E. MILLARD,
in "The Passing Show."

A number of years ago, Pierre Arthuys, French engineer, was living in a gloomy Paris flat. One day, flying over the city, he looked at the expanse of roofs bathed in sunlight, and wondered if the rays might be trapped and reflected by mirrors into the dark buildings. The result of much experimentation was a device which has literally put sunlight on tap, and has made it possible to flood with natural light basements, subway stations and even mine galleries far below the earth's surface.

The Arthel Heliostat consists of a large motor-driven mirror, which, mounted on the roof, follows the sun and reflects its rays to a fixed mirror placed above it, and facing downward over a shaft or courtyard. The resulting powerful beam is the "main" from which narrow shafts of light are collected and reflected by smaller mirrors from room to room through small apertures near the ceiling. The main beam has strength of 32,000-candle power, sufficient to light a whole block of flats or offices. The motors are self-starting and thermostatically controlled.

For a number of years such heliostats have been in use in France, Belgium, Holland and North Africa. Every floor of a big department store in The Hague is lit by an Arthel, and at the Central Post Office in Amsterdam the sorters of mail have their own special sunbeams, which they can regulate to their requirements. In use also are small Arthels, weighing only a few pounds, for private homes. The saving on electric lights runs as high as 80 per cent, in southern latitudes. Since there is no heat in the sunbeams gathered by the heliostat, the people of hot countries find the system especially useful. They can keep their blinds drawn against the day's heat and yet have daylight in all rooms.

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(Continued on page 7.)

ROOSEVELT'S DILEMMA

An Alternative Overlooked From a Speech by Franklin D Roosevelt, Delivered Before the American Retail Federation

"In the last analysis, consumer buying power is the milk in the coconut of all business.

"Whether you are a big department store or do business in a small way on the main street of a small town, your sales are dependent on how much money the average family in the community earns. That is a homely way of putting it, but it is an eternal truth.

"About one-third of our population is ill-clad, ill-housed, ill-fed. That third—forty million people—can buy very little at the shops. Therefore, their local shops can order very little at the factories.

"Some of my friends laugh at me when I stress this; laugh at efforts to establish minimum wages. But the little and the big shop-keeper understand and know they will sell more goods if their customers have more money. I want to build up the purchasing power of customers.

"How shall we produce more customers with more money?

"One school of thought is what I call the school of the gamblers. You find some of them in every community, as well as in Wall Street; and some of them, the political variety, even in the halls of Congress and State Legislatures.

"That school is eager to gamble the safety of the nation and of our system of private enterprise on nothing more than their personal hunch that, if Government will just keep its hands off the economic system, customers will just happen. I use the word 'gamble' because there is no modern experience to support their theory.

"In fact, modern experience denies their theory. Between 1925 and 1933 Government abandoned practically all concern for business. Customer and the buying power of customers were left just to happen. You know how many and how much happened.

"These people who are playing the 'it may happen' hunch today are actually the wildest-eyed radicals in our midst, because, despite proved failures, they want to gamble on their own hunch once more.

"In the other school of thought we are conservative New Dealers. We are the conservatives because we simply cannot bring ourselves to take radical chances with other people's property and other people's lives.

"Now, the owner of a private business may have the legal right to take a long chance that may make or break his personal fortune. If he alone goes out of business the economic system is not endangered.

"But the people who run the three branches of our Government do not have the moral right to gamble with the well-being of 120,000,000 Americans. If millions of citizens starve, it is no answer to the starving to say that in the sweet by and by business, left to itself will give them a job.

"Partisans are going round the country scaring parents who are not starving by telling them of increased national debt which their grandchildren will have to pay. Certainly that is not as alarming as telling parents who are already starving that an untrammelled business set-up will provide their grandchildren with food in 1989. Yet that is what the radical gamblers of business and politics might have to say if they put their theories into practice next year.

"Our school of thought—the conservative school—holds the view

that an intelligent nation should rest its faith in arithmetic rather than in a hunch.

"Today, in order to provide customers for business. Government uses Government capital to provide jobs, to prevent farm prices from collapsing, and to build up purchasing power when private capital fails to do it. For example, out of every dollar spent by the Federal Government to provide jobs, more than 50 cents passes over the counters of the retail merchants of America.

"We also use what we call social legislation—such as legislation to encourage better pay for low-paid labour and thereby provide more and better customers; such as legislation to protect investors, so that they may continue to be customers without losing their savings in worthless stocks and bonds.

"I wonder if you have any conception of the number of business men and bankers and economists whom I talk with, briefly or at length, in any given month of the year? I wonder if you have any conception of the variety of suggestions "and panaceas they offer me? I wonder if you know the very large percentage of them who honestly and very naturally think of national problems solely in terms of their own business? I wonder if you will be surprised if I tell you that most of them leave my office, saying to me: 'Why, Mr. President, I did not know about that. You have given me a new perspective. I never thought of the problem in that way before?'

"I sit in my office with a business man who thinks the surest way to produce customers is to balance the Federal budget at once. I say to him. 'How?'

"Sometimes he says: 'how should I know? That is your job. Cut the budget straight through 10 per cent or 20 per cent.'

"Then I take from my desk drawer a fat book and it is apparent at once that he has never seen or read the budget of the Government of the United States.

"He tries to change the subject, but I hold him to it. I say:

"This budget is not all of one piece; it is an aggregate of hundreds of items. Either we will have to cut every item 10 per cent, or 20 per cent, or, if we do not do this, cut some items very much more than 10 per cent, or 20 per cent.'

"I point out the one thousand five hundred million dollars for the Army and Navy. He pounds the desk and says: 'Don't cut that item—not in these days.'

"I show him the item of a thousand million dollars for interest on the public debt. He owns some Government bonds, and rejects any cut in his interest.

"I show him the thousand-million-dollar item for war and civil service pensions. He says: 'No—no cut there.'

"I mention the thousand million dollars for running the permanent functions of the regular Government departments—they cost less today than under my predecessor. He readily agrees that the postman and the G-man and the forest service cannot be curtailed. The only people he would sever from the pay roll are the tax collectors.

"That gets us down to a few other big items—totalling over four thousand million dollars to take care of four things—payments to agriculture, public works, work relief for the unemployed, and assistance for our old people.

"My visitor agrees with me that we are going through a transitional period, seeking the best way to maintain decent prices for the farm population of America, trying to make them better customers of business men.

"I come to the public works item. He suggests that that can be cut 50 per cent. I happen to know that his community is working tooth and nail to get a grant for a much-needed new high school, or that his county suffered severe property losses from recent floods. I suggest that we will start economy right there, and not give the grants, defer building the levee or the flood control dam for twenty or thirty years.

"I say to him: 'Consistency, thy name is geography. You believe that spending on public works should cease—except in your own home town.'

"The items of funds for work relief; there my visitor-customer makes a last stand. He wants that cut and cut hard.

"We agree that there are between three and four million American workers who, with their families, need work or money to keep alive. I drive him to the inevitable admission that the only alternative is to put them on a dole.

"That is where I make a stand.

"I tell my visitor that never so long as I am President of the United States will I condemn millions of men and women to the dry rot of idleness on a dole; never condemn the business enterprises of the United States to the loss of millions of dollars' worth of customer purchasing power: never take the terrific risk of what would happen to the social system of American democracy if we foisted on it an occasional basket of groceries, instead of the chance to work.

"I well know the difficulties and the cost of a work policy.

"I do not need to be told that 5 per cent, of the projects are of questionable value—I know it; or that 5 per cent, of the people on relief projects ought not to be on the rolls—I know that too. But when you think of nearly three million men and women, scattered over all the forty-eight States and all of the 3100 counties in America. I am proud of the fact that 95 per cent of the projects are good, and that 95 per cent, of the people are properly on the rolls; and I know that the American people cannot be fooled into believing that the few exceptions actually constitute the general practice.

"My friend across the desk murmurs something about old-age pensions. He is a bit half-hearted about this, and he finally admits not only the need for dignified support of old age, given and accepted as a new American right, but he realises that, over a period of years, this support will have to be extended, rather than reduced. All Americans agree that we must work out this problem for our old people.

"And so my visitor leaves convinced, in nine cases out of ten that balancing the budget today or even next year, is a pretty difficult, if not an impossible, job."

MACHINES AND MEN

A recent agricultural report stated "there are 250,000 fewer horses working on British farms today than in 1919."

This is one result of the mechanisation of agriculture. Machines, all using solar energy in one form or another, are rapidly replacing the sweat and muscle-power of men and horses.

This should be a good thing, for men possessed of common sense and natural instinct have, throughout history, always tried to put themselves "out of work."

By which we mean, out of "forced" work.

The necessity for long hours of arduous toil to get a bare subsistence has always been not only a continuous threat to a man's livelihood, but it prohibits also the leisure, confidence, and security necessary for that higher development for which his innermost soul aspires.

Forced toil is not only a limitation upon a man's physical freedom: it denies him opportunity to cultivate himself.

The struggle for freedom is, at bottom, a struggle to become "better," and the greatest stumbling-block in his path to culture and self-development today is not really the necessity for toil: it is an out-of-date financial system that denies complete distribution of the benefits of invention.

There is also the hypnotic effect produced by "medicine men" who preach slavery for others under false labels.

One of the earmarks of this superstitious cult is the confusion they display between "work" and "employment"—that is, between "free work" done with joy, because the worker likes it, and "forced" labour, under other people's orders

and conditions, under penalty of starvation.

These medicine men speak as if the necessity to labour by the "sweat of one's brow" should be retained in spite of the machine.

Whether they realise it or no, they are the champions of tyranny, the protagonists of fear, and they dress up their creeds with moralities that have no foundation either in heaven or earth.

All they can do, and are doing, is to delay for a time a popular and clear understanding of the meaning of the machine.

But the delay can only be temporary; the machine has arrived, plenty and leisure are possible to each with freedom and security, and our feet are already on the threshold of a new era that cannot be much longer delayed by superstitions either about "money" or work.

—Reality,

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"Doctor, we want you to select from a foundling asylum a boy and a girl whom we can adopt. We do not want attractive children, who get opportunities for adoption. We insist on having the most hopeless cases! We will give these children the benefit of living in the country, with healthful surroundings."

This seemed the strangest commission ever given a medical man, yet I recognised the integrity of my visitors. They were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Erskine Beall, who, having married late in life, realised it would be impossible for them to have children, yet believed that they owed childhood a debt.

I selected a boy and a girl: each was cross-eyed, bow-legged, rickety, and had other congenital deformities. I feared that when Lord and Lady Bountiful saw them they would abandon their plan, but I was mistaken. They legally adopted both children. Specialists were called in; eyes were straightened, adenoids and tonsils removed, and a harelip on one of them made almost normal. So pleased were the parents with the results, that after two years I was again invited to select two children; and, later, still two more. I have watched the growth of the six children year by year, and the changes wrought in them are beyond belief. The last time I met the Bealls, I asked if they would soon be ready for two more babies.

"Very soon now," was Mrs. Beall's prompt reply, "but this time we want two black babies."

—Dr. William E. Aughinbaugh, / Swear by Apollo. (Farrar & Rinehart.)

OLD SCHOOL TIE

Sir Horace Wilson, as head of the British Civil Service, proposes to appoint twenty-five University dons to the higher administrative positions in the Colonial Office.

This is creating a strong dissatisfaction among the officials of this branch of the Civil Service. Unrest is also evident in other grades, and Mr. W. J. Brown, on behalf of the members of his Clerical Association, is complaining that high appointments are going to men because they have been to public schools.

—Reality, July 28.

PROCRASTINATION IS THE THIEF OF TIME

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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WHEAT, WAR AND WHITE FEATHERS

(Continued from page 1.)

that Hitler is, in point of fact, far less responsible for the present situation than the blindly resentful signatories to the Versailles Treaty, and the equally blind and culpable Governments who have since endeavoured to justify that great mistake and ignore the shouting danger signals.

As God is my witness, I declare that if Germany is soon defeated by either force of arms or force of economics, and again the world tries to crush and humiliate and punish a proud people for reacting violently to circumstances beyond their control or understanding, then even if our civilisation survives this first blast its doom will be absolutely sealed.

We treated Germany in 1918 as we treat an unemployed youth who has been driven to some small misdemeanor, is judged and condemned, thrown into gaol, and turned out a real criminal and dangerous enemy of the society that could have recognised his problem and saved both him and itself.

Our action produced in Germany a reaction of hatred and frustrated racial pride, which was suppressed long enough to burst out in the most violent manner. I believe that Hitler had and has constructive ideals for the German people, ideals which in their abnormal conditions necessitated an intensive organisation and discipline only possible in a military atmosphere and with military purpose.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

Even at that stage it was not too late for the Allies—for Britain in particular—to recognise that this re-awakened nation would face economic and financial problems and would inevitably retain and increase ambitions—more especially in the direction of the recovery of expropriated population and territory—which must produce a serious crisis sooner or later. Either a far-sighted statesmanship had to abandon selfish national pride for reasonable and humanitarian objectives, be prepared to make concessions and anticipate demands by discussion which would have undermined Hitler's iron control of the German mind—or those demands would be presented in such a way that they would either be met under pressure or produce immediate conflict. In the former case the meeting of separate demands logically creates a condition, both politically and economically, in which it requires far more to satisfy Germany than would have been possible for all time by courageous and determined discussion. So easily could the world have been saved from the mad and tragic armaments race of recent years.

But there was no vision in statesmanship stronger than nationalism, until Munich. You say it would have been impossibly humiliating for Britain to have approached Germany years ago with proposals and offers to solve her prospective problems, even if it involved the abandonment of British territory? I say that that magnificent gesture, accepting responsibility for the future of humanity, would have won for Britain a permanent place in history's esteem, worth a thousand times as much as any concessions involved, and would have avoided much of the loss of caste she has recently suffered.

Chamberlain's Munich policy will

Europe—What's Behind the Scenes?

Comintern to the various Communist groups, including Roumania, states that, although the desire of Britain and France to draw the Soviet into a peace front would have resulted in the destruction of the Axis, it could not be allowed to result, as it would result, in the support of capitalist countries. The Soviet, therefore, decided to remain aloof in the event of a European conflict, and watch an opportunity for intervening, when Powers were weakened by war, to bring about a general social revolution."

So this is the sort of rotten intrigue, in which some folk want us all to be pawns

LIBERTIES STILL FURTHER REDUCED

Should Finance be losing its hold to the extent that it cannot whip up the feelings of the various peoples to fighting pitch, no effort is being spared to use these crises for the purpose of still further regimenting the people. The removal of all individual liberties appears to be Finance's ultimate objective. I dealt with the powers of the National Registration Act a few weeks ago. This is still law, and may be used any day now.

In the press of August 26 there appeared a report under the heading, "Emergency Regulations." At the end of this report appeared the following alarming statement: "The widest possible control of newspapers is provided. Prejudicial propaganda, calculated to influence any section of the public, is prohibited, and people convicted of contravening the legislation may be prevented from publishing any newspaper."

Such papers as the *New Times* would thus have to restrict comment—or be closed, whereby another nail would be driven into the coffin of democracy. While the daily press directs our minds to the dictators overseas, the financial dictators within Australia are ruthlessly attacking us; and, remember this: Should we maintain a semblance of peace out of the present situation these liberties now being taken will not be given back. That is the gravest issue confronting this country—and, for that matter, all other democratic countries today.

DID YOU READ THIS?

In a number of papers on August 26 there appeared a syndicated

go down as one of the finest, most courageous, and most praiseworthy pieces of statesmanship for centuries. Even then it was not too late, if, instead of leaving it at Munich, accepting Hitler's assurances and leaving it at that, the nations had considered prospective problems then and there. But no. Once again they waited for the next demand, yielded, and then girded themselves for the hopeless and fruitless shambles of war.

"CARRY ON!"

If this war is no more than the birth pangs of the New Era of reasonable, practical, human relationships, untrammelled by an outworn dictatorship of financial policy, then let it be swift. The last war achieved nothing—intensified and delayed the final crisis. Can we really hope for more from this? Or is it for those of us who see the underlying truth to fight on, defy the white feathers, the criticism, the contempt that may be hurled at us, and expose the real issue before humanity?

The latter is my choice. —Yours, etc.,

JOHN HOGAN.

Sydney.

article, under the heading of "Federal Finance." The article deals with credit expansion by the Commonwealth Bank, and was written by "A Special Correspondent." The same old shibboleths are paraded, and the same old nonsense written. But, the writer finished with this admission: "At the moment of writing the European situation is viewed with very grave concern by the Government. *If war comes, the traditional views of the Commonwealth Bank, like a good many other things, will not matter very much.*" (My emphasis.)

The question to be asked is: "But why wait for war to start?" Australia's fight against international finance can only be fought in Australia. We must resist any further attacks upon our liberties, and demand that if money can be found for war it can also be found for peace. Unfortunately, some people are more concerned with a few acres of soil in Europe than the whole of Australia; and these same people are loudest in their cry for "patriotism." If they only knew it, they are Australia's worst patriots and International Finance's greatest allies.

GET TOGETHER

A grand dance-social will be held by all sections of the United Electors of Australia on Wednesday, September 20, at McEwan House Cafe.

On this occasion old friends will meet again, many new members will be introduced, and young and old will combine to make the evening, in spite of troubled times, a memorable one.

Orchestral music is to be provided by professionals, who have generously offered their services. The hall is well appointed, with a good dance floor. There will be games, novelties, and a welter of fun for the young, whilst those "not so young" may play cards.

The Ladies' Auxiliary will provide supper. Doors will open at 8 p.m. sharp, and a non-stop programme carried through until 11.20 p.m.

Tickets, price 1/6 each, are obtainable from U.E.A. Headquarters. Call or write for a number to sell to friends.

There is a special purpose for holding this function, and it is desired that supporters bring along as many friends as possible. Remember—Wednesday, September 20, McEwan House Cafe, 2nd Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street.

Country Campaign Suspended

Due to the international situation, the country campaign, which was to have commenced last weekend, has been postponed, at least, temporarily. The funds contributed for expenses have been placed in trust until such time as future policy and activities have been defined.

ACTIONISTS! THAT BANK BILL!

Save Time and Talk. Sell Them a Penny Broadsheet. Obtainable at 8d per doz. (posted) from "Save the People's Bank" Campaign, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Eric Butler's Queensland Tour

Owing to the international situation, which has kept many people near the radio, Eric Butler has found that attendances at meetings have fallen off. However, those attending have showed their keen appreciation.

Approximately 100 people attended the Mackay meeting on Thursday, August 24. The local supporters will now have the nucleus of a strong group in this centre.

The following day Eric travelled another 200 miles south. His references to the Queensland trains are not very complimentary. He was met at Rockhampton by the local supporters, and found them a very fine group. The meeting in Rockhampton on Friday, August 25, was very successful from most angles. Eric dealt mainly with the increasing taxation and its effect upon every section of the community.

On Sunday afternoon he enjoyed a day in the country, and had an informal talk with a small country group. This group intends to follow up Eric's suggestions, and will soon start to show the electors that they can get what they want if they demand it.

Eric left Rockhampton on Monday, August 28, for Bundaberg. He opened his campaign there with a 15-minute address over 4BU, Bundaberg, on Tuesday, August 29. Eric is finding the radio the most effective way of reaching the public.

The public meeting at Bundaberg the following night was, unfortunately, marred by Eric's inability to carry on after half an hour's speaking. He became ill during the afternoon with a severe attack of stomach trouble. However, after a rest and some treatment he managed to finish his address.

Arrangements had been made for him to give a special radio talk right after this meeting, and, although many thought it inadvisable, he gave a splendid address. As many thousands of people were listening to the international news, there is no doubt that many heard his message.

On Friday, September 1, Eric was to open his campaign in the Kingaroy district. Tonight (Friday) he arrives in Melbourne.

"A CONSIDERED STATEMENT ON THE PRESENT SITUATION"

The above is the title of an address to be delivered by the Rev. Wm. Bottomley, at the Unitarian Church (opp. St. Patrick's Cathedral), Grey Street West, East Melbourne, on Sunday, September 10, at 7 p.m.

Readers of the *New Times*, who need no introduction to Rev. Bottomley's great work in humanity's cause, should make a special effort to attend, with their friends, and hear the opinions of this courageous speaker on Sunday next.

C. FORD

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