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THE

NEW TIMES

"CATARRH"

Clears Up Catarrh.

A. Nasal.
B. Pulmonary,
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Vol. 5. No. 40

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1939.

Every Friday, 3d

"Young People To Bear Arms; Elders Taxes"**R. G. CASEY POPS UP AGAIN**

The above quotation was the headline of a report appearing in the Melbourne "Herald" on September 26. The speaker being reported was no less a person than our old friend Mr. Casey, the Minister for Supply. It is some time since we had reason to deal with Mr. Casey and his utterances, as he has been remarkably reticent since the National Insurance campaign. However, judging from his latest effort, he has learnt very little in the meantime, and his remarks indicate quite clearly the treatment the Australian people can expect during the war if Mr. Casey is allowed to have his way.

His statement that "the young people must learn to bear arms and the elder people must learn to bear taxes" does contain a germ of truth. The present rotten financial system, of which, incidentally, Mr. Casey is a beneficiary, has reduced a majority of Australia's youth to the position where it is quite impossible for them to bear taxes. Kicked from pillar to post in times of peace by a system, which denies them the amenities of life, they are then called upon in times of war to defend that system.

SACRIFICES

Mr. Casey went on to say: "Up to the present the public of Australia has not been called upon to make any great sacrifices, but before this war is over we are all going to be very much poorer." Well, probably Mr. Casey and his banking friends have not been making any great sacrifices, but they are not the Australian people. We can assure Mr. Casey that the Australian people are reaching a breaking point, and if any more unnecessary hardships are imposed, war or no war, then there is likely to be an explosion.

ALL POORER?

Mr. Casey also says that we are all going to be much poorer. No, not "all" Mr. Casey. The private financiers came out of the last war stronger than ever. The same thing is going to happen again unless the public starts to tell Mr. Casey just what they think about him and his nonsensical remarks.

MR. CASEY'S GEM

The gem of Mr. Casey's address was as follows: "I feel that, so long as I come through with only the clothes I stand in and Australia is free, what does anything else matter?" We find words inadequate to deal with this, except to mention that tens of thousands of Australians do not, even now, possess a suit of clothes nearly as good as Mr. Casey wears. So, if Mr. Casey, starting from his present state of affluence, only finishes with his clothes, then what will the rest of the community finish with? The whole of Mr. Casey's address savored of rank hypocrisy, but, as he was

addressing the Australian Women's National League, perhaps this was only to be expected. We hope that we hear no more of his nonsense in the future. Otherwise we may have something much stronger to say.

Open Letter to Rev. F. A. Hagenauer

Dear Sir, —

It was with amazement and utter disgust that we read your reported remarks on conscientious objectors in the Melbourne "Sun" of Thursday, September 21. Unfortunately, we overlooked the matter last week, but we take this belated opportunity of addressing a few remarks to you in connection with this issue.

The report states that a motion to seek from the Government an assurance that the rights of conscientious objectors would be respected was rejected by the Presbyterian General Assembly. You were reported as saying: "Immediately there is effective protection for conscientious objectors, every coward, skulker and shirker in Australia will suddenly become religious. The only test of conscientious objection is that the objector should take what is coming to him. I oppose the Church's interference in this matter, uncompromisingly."

Statements like these, sir, are not calculated to arouse any great enthusiasm for the brand of religion, which far too many clergymen expound. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the above statement would be sanctioned by Christ if He were with us today. Unfortunately, the teachings of Christ, such as those embodied in the Sermon on the Mount, are conveniently forgotten by some of our religious "leaders" when it suits them.

If Christianity stands for anything at all, it certainly stands for

the rights of the individual, as opposed to the State or any other abstract tyranny. We are not a religious paper in the usually accepted sense of the term, but we do endorse the right of the individual to choose for himself what his attitude to the war shall be. And we strongly object to this talk about the conscientious objector taking "what is coming to him." This term has a very sinister sound, and recalls some of the outrages, which have been perpetrated by the authorities in the past. The individual has every right to be protected from being ill treated because of his views, whatever they may happen to be.

In times of "peace" the rights of the individual are trampled on by a rotten economic system—which system inevitably leads to war. In times of war the rights of the individual are further trampled on, with the result that the very thing upon which we are striving to build a Christian civilisation is well nigh destroyed.

You apparently resent the interference of the Church in these matters. Well, unless the Church is prepared to throw its influence with those who are desperately striving to maintain the rights of the individual, then civilisation and the Church are doomed. We urge you and other clergymen to think this over. The reputation of some Churches was not very much enhanced during the last war. Surely they will not betray us again.

*Yours faithfully,
THE NEW TIMES,*

SCHOOL COMMITTEES DEMAND RESULTS**Discard Politics of Polite Request****A REFRESHING EXAMPLE**

Last week the "Argus" reported that at the annual conference of the State School Committees' Association, a motion was submitted "That the Association should demand from the Government that something be done at once regarding malnutrition among school children," and further motions specified "free dental treatment for all children attending school" and "adequate heating in schools."

The chairman (Mr. L. M. Howship) said he was not prepared to accept a motion with the word "demand" in it, and that the Government was doing all in its power to prevent malnutrition. The majority of members disagreed with the chairman's ruling, and carried the motions referred to.

The outcome of this meeting is refreshing to all true democrats, and it shows what can be done when people act in the spirit of association or true democracy.

CLEAR DEMAND

The motion demanding "something" (an abstraction which, in the end, could mean "nothing") was rescued by further motions, which stated in clear, concrete

form what it was that these associated persons wanted, and mere formalities or rulings did not shake their determination to get the results they desired. The things clearly specified, when obtained, can be easily recognised by everyone.

POLITE REQUEST REFUSED

The first step taken by the group was the submission of the original motion to their chairman—a parallel to a polite request, which was refused by the chairman in the same "cocky" manner as shown by many of our misguided politicians (or election-time representatives). The members, however, made no mistake about what they were after, and determined that they should agree to disagree with the chairman's ruling—an equivalent to a demand—and they gained their point.

WHAT OF YOUR ASSOCIATION?

The example is a good one, which, if followed by all of us, will obtain what we all want, and that is something worth associating for. If we belong to an association we might with profit ask ourselves: "Is the association a 'real' one?" If the answer is "Yes," then stick to it. It is a fact that "systems were made for men, not men for systems."

War is Profitable for Some People

NEW YORK, Tuesday. — Charles M. Schwab, chairman of Bethlehem Steel Corporation, the big U.S. arms, steel and shipbuilding trust, has died, aged 77.

Mr. Schwab, who had a remarkable rise to wealth, controlled companies, which, during the last war, fulfilled arms orders for the Allies aggregating more than £100,000,000.

He began his career with the late Andrew Carnegie, at the age of 18, and his first big job was president of the Carnegie Steel Co.

—Melb. Sun, 20/9/'39

ORTHODOX WAR FINANCE

BORROW AND BUST

It Must Not Be Repeated

The huge sum of nearly £8000 millions borrowed by Great Britain during the First World War represented, as to its major portion, services, which had been rendered and paid for, and, in particular, the sums paid for munitions of all kinds, payment of troops, and sums distributed in pensions and other doles. The services were rendered and the munitions were expended during the war, and, in physical terms, the war was paid for as it was fought. The loan represented, after the war, a financial lien, with interest, on the future activities of the community, in favour of the holders of the loan. In other words, the community, whose physical effort went into the provision of munitions and whose blood was spilt in the trenches and upon the high seas, guaranteed to the holders of the loan to work for them, without payment, for an indefinite period. **WHAT REAL SERVICES DID THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE LOAN RENDER TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THIS RETURN?**

Disregarding smallholdings, the great bulk of the loan represented purchases by large industrial and financial undertakings, which obtained the money to buy by means of the **CREATION and APPROPRIATION of credits, at the expense of the community,** through the agency of industrial accounting and bank finance.

Eventually, to have any meaning, the loan must be paid off in purchasing power over goods not yet produced. The money, which came out to the community when the munitions were produced and war services rendered, has long since been cancelled out of existence. The debt has remained, and the community has been tricked into hypothecating a large portion of its estimated capacity to do work.

The owners of the loan, who obtained their title to it by credit creation and manipulation, have no lawful and moral right to it. The transaction simply represents communal credit, misappropriated to private account. The penalty for such conduct in the case of an ordinary citizen is imprisonment, with hard labour.

OUR LOSS, THE BANKERS' GAIN

For every shell made and afterwards fired and destroyed, for every aeroplane built and crashed, for all the stores used, lost, stolen or spoilt, the Banker has an entry in his books, *which he calls wealth*, and on which he has drawn, and proposes to continue drawing, interest.

In fact, that entry represents loss, not gain; debt, not credit, to the community.

It demonstrates clearly that the interest of the Banker is directly opposite to that of the community, and his system of numerals does not represent fact.

It must be perfectly obvious to anyone who seriously considers the matter that **THE STATE SHOULD ISSUE, NOT BORROW.**

The Banker has usurped the function of the State.

A PROPER SYSTEM

There are many possible financial plans, which might be devised adequately to cope with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services in a modern industrialised community. But all of those plans, to be successful, must be based on a proper objective, and must embody certain principles.

The proper objective of a productive system is, unquestionably, not the provision of work for people, but the provision of goods and services, with the expenditure of as little human energy as possible. A true appreciation of this objective would, once and for all, end the silly twaddle we hear about surplus men, and would finish also the awful struggle for "employment" which has, since the

War to end War, led to the rearmament campaign and the Second World War.

The principles upon which the monetary system must be based are as follow:

1. All production must be financed by *new credits* issued by the community-controlled Central Bank.
2. Those credits must be retired only as goods and services pass into consumption or destruction.
3. The wage system, as a device for the distribution of purchasing power, must be progressively displaced by the dividend system as increasing use is made of solar energy and machine production.

THE WAR WAS NOT INEVITABLE

If Britain had had such a system in operation she could have provided a market for her own producers and for those of Germany also. That market was all that was needed, even as late as June of this year, to avoid the present catastrophe.

It will, no doubt, be urged that it is profitless, at the present moment, to expound the virtues of a proper financial system as a means to have avoided the present war. Taking our opponents on their own ground, it is, nevertheless, of the most pressing importance that the people of Australia should consider the virtues of a proper financial system as a means of avoiding any hang-over of debt at the finish of this war upon which the Government has embarked.

Let us issue new credits to finance wartime production, and if we really want to fight, let that production be governed by physical limitations only, and not by lack of money.

Let us recall and cancel that money as our products pass into consumption and destruction. The rate of consumption and destruction will necessarily be high, and that will mean that the money paid out to us in production will be withdrawn from us at an equivalent rate. The waste of war will be accurately reflected, and will not give rise to huge fortunes and increases of financial wealth for the few and the enslavement of the many. The First World War made over 3000 millionaires in America alone, and the Banks' holdings of wealth-claims, rose to astronomical figures. The average citizen experienced only an increase in his share of National Debt.

And after the party is over we will be able to start all square. What war costs remain to be paid will be represented by money in the community pocket.

We will then really be able to carry out our politicians' promises to our soldiers and their dependents about a land fit for heroes, etc., and our system will offer no incentive to join in further international scrambles for markets and employment. Our soldiers will not come home with the feeling that they were stabbed in the back for lack of supplies while the fight was on, and that lack of income and misery will be their lot in the peace which they have so dearly won.

FERDINAND, THE BULL

The specification of a workable monetary system for the machine age was presented to the world's so-called "experts" in 1919. During the four years preceding that event, one Robert Gordon Menzies remained resident in Australia. He had a perfect right to. His two brothers were at the front. But, even in those days, Mr. Menzies appreciated the fact that his intellectual gifts were so far above those of the average man as to warrant their preservation for the service of Australia. A brace of machine-gun bullets in the abdomen has the same effect on a man of genius as on a semi-moron.

The decision reached by Mr. Menzies during the First World War certainly did preserve for him the opportunity of using his gifts for the benefit of Australia. The question arises as to whether that opportunity has been availed of.

Has Mr. Menzies learned the lesson of the last war, of the money and markets' scarcity that led up to it, of the creeping error in the financial cost-accountancy system which threw the victors and vanquished alike so horribly into debt?

There is said to be little doubt of the capacity of the intellect of Mr. Menzies to learn these lessons. His powers of perception, however, have, unfortunately, been employed for other purposes and to other ends. He perceived quite early in his public career that antagonists of high financial interests no matter what their gifts, were quickly made by organised publicity to appear as knaves and fools. In short, they did not get on. The press did not write them up as coming men. The A.W.N.L. did not ask them to afternoon teas or speak of their high moral purpose. Wesley Church never asked them to the pulpit to expound God's views on inflation.

The rest of the career of Robert Gordon Menzies has been characterised by a conscious or unconscious sycophancy, *and he has got on*. Fine words about democracy, liberty and so on, but when it comes to money? Ssh! Don't breathe on the works!

And, because of his continued genuflection to the interests of the private enemy within the gate, the cold-blooded debt-vampires seated upon the Boards of our Commonwealth and Trading Banks, the war efforts of Mr. Menzies are condemned in advance to futility, and Australia will go deeper into pawn.

In short, Mr. Menzies will be allowed to sniff the pretty flowers of sweet and noble oratory, to prate of democracy and freedom, and generally his warlike efforts will be no more efficacious than those of Ferdinand the Bull. The Bankers will allow us to use

a small portion only of our industrial and human potential in what, we are assured, is a life and death struggle, and for that *permission* they propose to charge interest in perpetuity.

What is more, their habit of pumping debt-money and savings through the production end of the economic cycle, while short-circuiting the use of money at the consumers' end of the cycle, will quite inevitably lead to a vicious spiral of rising prices, worse even than that of the last war. The Laughing Cavalier of Carlton, Professor Copland, will be powerless to stem the tide of rising cost, for his brand of economics must demonstrably lead to an orgy of inflation, and, finally, to repudiation. The howl about profiteers is a red herring, which will deceive fewer people than it did last time.

There is no escape from the mess, other than the immediate institution of a self-liquidating system of money issue and recall — out through production, back through consumption.

The Professor is being paid close on £2000 per year for his services to Australia. It would be cheaper to pay him ten times that amount to go into retirement and do nothing. His sort of mentality regards an increase of national debt as a measure of prosperity, and his brand of economics can work justice as between producer and consumer only while debt is mounting rapidly.

It is imperative for the preservation of this country that the Commonwealth Government should take effective charge of the Commonwealth Bank, and exercise the powers vested in it by virtue of Section 51 of the Constitution. The lawyer, Mr. Ferdinand Menzies, knows well what these powers are, but he will do nothing until a bumblebee, in the shape of an awakened democracy, stings him into action by an assault upon his seat.

**WAR LOANS BE DAMNED!
DEMAND PROPER ACTION
BY THE GOVERNMENT AND
BANK BOARD.**

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YARRA BANK MEETING

Last Sunday found the policy of the *New Times* again being forcefully put forward before a large audience on the Yarra Bank. Norman Rolls opened the meeting, in order that Eric Butler would not have a big strain placed upon him, as happened on the previous Sundays. Mr. Rolls gave a general survey of the position before Eric Butler spoke. Once again the big crowd gave him a splendid hearing, and, although he had only intended to speak for an hour, those present asked so many questions that he performed another endurance test by speaking for well over two hours—which is hard work in the open air.

Dozens of *New Times* were sold to many new people, and we would like to mention that most of them were sold by a youthful supporter of only 12 years of age. Owing to the fact that Eric Butler will be speaking at the Melbourne Forum next Sunday afternoon, as advertised elsewhere, he will not be speaking at the Yarra Bank. However, he will resume on the following Sunday, October 15.

LANG HITS OUT AGAIN

"The Position is Slipping from Beneath Us"

Although the policy of the "New Times" has been, and still is, strongly opposed to party politics, we congratulate Mr. J. T. Lang and the Lang Labour Group on their realistic and courageous attitude towards the present crisis. Two weeks ago we reprinted from the "Century" an article, which came from the pen of J. T. Lang.

In the "Century" of September 29 Lang hits out again in a striking article, which we publish in full below:

Any day now the recruiting campaign for the Australian Expeditionary Force will begin. Its opening was scheduled for today but, with one of those changes of Government policy that are becoming so disturbing, a last-minute postponement was announced. Why?

Only a fortnight ago the Menzies Government felt out the situation by calling for volunteers for a special force for service at home or abroad. Satisfied that sufficient volunteers are offering, the Government now throws aside the mask and calls on men to enlist for service overseas.

Less than a month ago almost everyone in authority was saying that never again will an Australian Expeditionary Force be sent to Europe. Today those same people are saying conscription will not be introduced for service abroad.

Unfortunately, it will not be many months before that statement is "repudiated in the same way as today they are repudiating their earlier statement that never again would Australia send an Expeditionary Force to Europe.

The recruiting sergeant appeals from a recruiting platform today. Before long he will no longer need the platform, and compulsion will be substituted for appeal.

At this stage we must try to estimate how long it will be before the despatch of these first few thousand men will be the cause of more than 100,000 following them.

The war has concluded its first phase and is about to commence its second. Germany has defeated Poland, and Russia has collected the booty.

Both sides are now massing their troops on the Western Front.

There is every indication that the next step will be a powerful diplomatic drive by Germany to divide France and Britain, and dictate a peace treaty. Supporting Germany will be every other important Power, with the exception of the United States.

Already Britain has stated and restated her determination not to entertain the proposals. But what of France—a country in the very hub of the war? All that we hear from her is an occasional laconic communiqué.

From all we hear about France she might be a country on one of the further planets. Nevertheless, it is on France that the pressure of this diplomatic drive will be directed. If, and when, Britain and France resist this approach, the Second World War will commence in earnest. Germany must strike on the Western Front to achieve positions, which will enable her to make the best of a spring offensive.

The Balkans will be an equally important theatre of operation. Ever since the Turk was driven back from Europe most wars have been to decide who shall control the Balkan States.

It would appear that the present situation has given Russia a flying start. All the combatants in the war are equally anxious to prevent a Russian hegemony. Russia knows that, and, although diplomatic manoeuvres in these Near Eastern countries may take months

or weeks, they must result in a Near Eastern battle-front, as well as a Western Front.

If we are to estimate when the Australian troops are to be sent overseas we won't be far wrong if we say that at any time onward from March of next year there will be two fronts in Europe requiring all the men that the combatant countries can, put into the field, and that is why we have had this process of gradually breaking it to the Australian people that our young manhood is again required for a European holocaust.

A world war commencing in the European autumn would not get into full swing until the following European spring. Therefore, unless some action is taken to prevent it, the Menzies Government, early next year, will be shipping away convoys of Australian soldiers.

It will all be done so gradually, so easily, that before we know where we are we will be in the same position as we were in 20 years ago.

Having no experience then, the war commenced in an atmosphere of patriotic fervour, and it did not shock the community to be pledged to the last man and the last shilling.

But, today, if the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to send 200,000 men to a European war, it would shock the community, and raise such a popular resistance that none would go. So it is to be done gradually.

We will commence with a small force of 20,000, and we will be told that the despatch of further contingents will depend upon events.

The tragedy of it is that our own Labor Movement is being affected by this policy of gradualness. The recruitment of this Expeditionary Force of 20,000 is being allowed to proceed without any protest from the Labor Party.

Stealthily, the demands on the young manhood of the continent will grow. The position will arise where the Labor Movement is called upon hurriedly to make a pronouncement upon this matter of overseas forces, and I am very much afraid that the indications are that, when that hurried pronouncement has to be made, it will find the Labor Movement, or some sections of it, no more ready to fight for Labor principles today than they were in the war of 20 years ago.

The people do not realise, as they should be forced to realise, that this is not a matter of 20,000 exuberant young men volunteering for an overseas adventure.

If that first force goes away it will lead to more Australians going to an overseas battlefield on this occasion than went 20 years ago. There will be more casualties, more deaths, more suffering, more burdens this time than there were then.

The Labor Party should be telling the people these truths today. Six months hence it will be too late.

Further, the Labor Party should see that, as a party, it is equipped for this task. The biggest recruiting sergeant this time will not necessarily be the imperial flag-

wager. He will appear in the ranks of the Labor Party and the Union organisation itself. He will be the direct result of the Communist infiltration into the movement in this State.

In Parliament the other day the Premier said he would not interfere with the Communist Party, because, on this occasion, it was supporting Great Britain.

His experience, however, is obviously different to that of the French Government, which, feeling that the Communist Party was not on the side of France, has dissolved the party by special decree of the War Government.

France has no illusions concerning the part that the Communist Party is playing in this world tragedy that affects the destinies of the whole of mankind; and France, for her own safety, has determined that the Communist organisation must be dissolved.

In the Communist Party Russia has an organisation of sabotage and espionage in every country. She will avoid large-scale conflict with either side, hanging on the sidelines and picking up the spoils, with the Communists in the democracies putting up her defence.

If the pending peace drive is resisted there will result a long and cruel war in which all combatant countries will be ruined, thereby leaving officially non-combatant Russia the winner of the second World War.

As Australians, our duty is to see that Australia is defended and held. It is our duty to develop our sources of supply and to make them available to Britain on a non-profitable basis. To do that we require all our men here in Australia and can spare none for a European battlefield.

This is a time when the Australian Labor Party must place emphasis on its Australianism. But its Australianism must be made positive. Its lead must be given now, because, if it wishes to resist conscription at a later stage, it must actively resist the sending abroad of troops today.

I am not impressed with the assurances that the Prime Minister is making in public speeches and radio talks. Unfortunately, each day proves that Mr. Menzies' assurances of the day before, however honestly they might be made, cannot be sustained.

The stubborn facts of war reveal that fighting means troops, and troops include Australians. *The position is slipping from beneath us, until we rapidly make ourselves heard.*

There is no halfway house. There is no hill of compromise. We believe in our policy. We are convinced that the security of Australia demands it. Therefore, let us fight for it, openly and courageously.

Beware of Leaders

By "DYNAMICS."

Although the words child-like and childish are similar in their make-up, it would be nearly always disastrous to interchange one for the other in a carefully prepared sentence.

It seems probable also that in many places where the word kingdom appears in our translation of the Gospels, the word Commonwealth would convey the meaning more clearly.

If, then, we take it that Jesus meant that a true Commonwealth would be established if people learned to become child-like, we must be careful to appreciate what are the characteristics of childlikeness as differentiated from childishness.

The clue is more easily found if we retain in the background, as a reference, the word maturity.

What gives us pleasure in following the ways of our children is that we delight to note their eagerness and "nous" in gradually extending their field of activities, and profiting generally by their experience, so that they are continually becoming more mature.

The culture man can achieve differs from the development of animals, because, to our young people, we are able to impart ready-made ideas which are conventionally accepted, and therein lies a danger.

Precocity is the order of the day instead of maturity; at a premature age men and women settle to, or are hardened into, a set mould, leaving them without the proper elasticity and power to continually be aware of, and review, the facts of life.

Such an awareness is, of course, the only true basis for proper action, and when it is missing disaster is to be expected.

Even the "truths" which seem to be so settled scientifically have been accepted, in many cases, without the significance of their import being fully assimilated or widely oriented.

In all the hustle to "make a living" we tend to lose the art of living; people who are of ripe judgment and unfaltering in civic action are seldom to be found.

One of the forms of immaturity, which is common, but deadly, nevertheless, is that of those who in any way think that they can be dictators or planners or leaders. In true SERVICE there is no taint of these vices. *No person has the right to say what is "good" for any other person, and those who tend to think along those lines are childish, and not child-like.*

DONT MISS IT!

Wed., Oct. 11

Wed, Oct. 11

Second Super Dance-Social

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A non-party, non-sectarian, non-sectional weekly newspaper, advocating political and economic democracy, and exposing the causes, the institutions and the individuals that keep us poor in the midst of plenty.

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LEFT WING TAXATION AND WAR FINANCE

Last week we dealt with the failure of our political leaders to face the real issue, in connection with war profiteering. The same criticism applies to those revolutionary groups, which are conveniently, if somewhat loosely and absurdly, described by the Continental term of "Left-Wing." Of course, a little close examination by an unprejudiced observer quickly reveals that the extreme "Left-Wing" revolutionary and the extreme "Right-Wing" reactionary are fundamentally similar. There is but a little difference in form and administration between the systems of Hitler and Mussolini on the one hand and that of Stalin on the other. They are identical in their contempt for individual liberty and their passion for the rule, of centralised force.

Similarly, they are agreed upon the question of taxation, an issue that has got to be faced if we are to see the application of a realistic financial policy in this country. Just so long as money comes into existence as a debt against the community and carries an interest bill, we will have an ever-increasing burden of taxation. Debt and taxation are the keystones in the bankers' structure, and any policy, which does not aim to tackle these issues, is impotent. Knowing nothing about social debt and how it comes into existence, most "Left-Wing" apologists resolutely refuse to discuss the matter, while their almost fanatical desire for taxation has made them unconscious tools for the policy of the money monopolists. Taxation is the lever the financiers use to regiment and oppress the individual. It is possibly the most potent weapon ever used to oppress the people because of its subtlety. There is nothing spectacular about the issue and collection of debt. But that is how we are governed.

This extreme passion for the imposition of taxes might be explained, firstly as an exhibition of the revenge complex, and, so far as intellectual processes enter into it, as being based on the worn-out shibboleth of the age of scarcity that the poor are poor because the rich are rich.

"Make the rich pay for the war" is a slogan which has already been very much to the fore since the start of hostilities. Several Labor papers have been stressing this point, while even Mr. Curtin has indicated at various times that he has some sympathy with this "soak the rich" philosophy.

In the Communist "Guardian" of Saturday, September 30, Mr. L. Roberts is reported as stating at a recent conference which was planning to launch a campaign for Mr. Ralph Gibson as the Communist candidate for the Federal electorate of Kooyong, that "We must be ready to explain why they (the people) are being hit economically. In this way we will win their support for a strong, progressive government, prepared to place the burden of the war on those best able to bear it—the rich."

A major reason why the people are being increasingly hit economically is because they are being robbed by increasing taxation. Taxation is being increased because the community—under the present financial system—has to borrow more money than usual in order to finance war requirements. Now the "Left-Wing" revolutionaries suggest still more taxation. They certainly specify that the rich should pay it. But a little thought will indicate that such a policy would be just as disastrous as the present "Right-Wing" policy. If the monopolistic industries are further taxed, they will simply pass these taxes on in the increased price of goods. This will mean more hardships for the rank and file of the people. As for people on large incomes, they usually live up to their incomes. If a man is earning £1000 per year, is already being taxed £100 on this sum and is then taxed another £100, he will immediately look around for ways and means of cutting down his living expenses to the extent of this sum. This will mean that the community will be deprived of the effect of this £100 of spending money. Such a policy as this would be somewhat deflationary; it would certainly **not** increase the total supply of money in the country by one penny.

If the "Left-Wing" supporters would only learn the simple facts about credit creation they would then know that there is no necessity for **any** further taxation. In fact, by the use of a commonsense money system based on real wealth we could progressively do away with the necessity of **any** taxation whatever. But that is one thing that the "Left-Wing" supporters cannot bring themselves to believe. They are like the "Right-Wing" reactionaries whom they are always attacking. They are mesmerised. It is a case of the blind attacking the blind.

THAT "LAST SHILLING"

Must It Be a Debt?

USE THE COMMONWEALTH BANK

By JOHN HOGAN

A great bluster about commercial profiteering is being used to smoke screen War Racket No. 1.

If it is immoral and unpatriotic for commerce and industry to take advantage of the war, how much more so is it for money racketeers to do so? How much more so is it for a responsible Government to knowingly allow the people to be ruthlessly fleeced by financial interests?

In blood and labour and tears this generation will pay the **real** cost of the war. Must our children and our children's children pay it **over and over again? We are paying a colossal interest** burden on a Great War debt totalling £800 millions—1000 per cent more than in 1914. Must there be another war debt? If there were no money racket, what would the people of Australia have to borrow to play their part in the war? Must posterity be enslaved to pay and pay again? And to whom? What will happen if the dangerously shaky column of interest and taxation is raised to incredible new heights?

Thousands of patriotic Australians are asking those questions. They have been asked in every House of Parliament in the Commonwealth recently. Early in September the South Australian Parliament carried a resolution praying the Governor to convey to the Governor-General, "That, in the opinion of this House, the national credit of Australia should be used in the interests of defence, the primary industries, and the general welfare of the people of Australia."

TREASON

Nothing can excuse the Federal Government if it refuses to make use of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to finance our present needs. Nothing can save it from indictment for treachery in face of the enemy. Abraham Lincoln, in the Civil War, declared that the enemy at his back—the money racketeer—was greater than the armies ahead. The Government has admitted, under constant pressure from the Opposition, that traditional financial policy cannot be allowed to impede war needs—despite its previous declarations that terrible consequences would follow any change of policy at any time.

The Royal Commission on Banking stated irrefutably that the Commonwealth Bank could make money available to the Government free of charge, that the Bank's policy was, in the final analysis, the responsibility of the Government. The attention of the Government was directed to this proven fact several times in the last session. It refused to indicate its intentions.

If our vast physical resources are not to be hampered at every turn by the restrictions imposed by finance, we must take this action immediately. Otherwise, we may get through the war, but will inevitably face financial collapse, unemployment and poverty as the price of peace.

It is unsound for the money necessary to carry on the affairs of the country, backed and authorised by the labour and assets and production of the country, to be issued only at the will of private firms as an interest-bearing debt to them in time of Peace, but it is criminal treachery in time of War.

THE PEOPLES' BANK AND THE PRIVATE BANKS

The Commonwealth Bank always stands behind the private banks and backs them up with its bottomless resources and Note Issue Department in any emergency, though every other kind of business and property owner goes to the wall. Instead of the

Nation's Bank providing the Nation's Finance under proper control and responsible regulation, it is made the placid bulwark behind which the private banks lend us their credit on their own terms and conditions. Like a huge elephant being put to work by rats while its keeper sleeps.

After its first birthday, the London branch of the Commonwealth Bank was the only bank in London to keep its doors open and pay in gold on the outbreak of the Great War. Under Sir Denison Miller, and in defiance of the private banks, it made millions available during the ten years that followed. That money came from no depositor and no capital. It was *new* money. It was Australia's credit. Some of it was never a debt, none of it needed to be. It had no bad after-effects whatever. It prevented a depression in 1922.

Since the Amendment Act of 1924 the private banks have regained complete control. Issuing our credit under their terms and conditions has made them virtual owners of three-quarters of the assets, industries and farm property of Australia in fifteen years, which included a successfully engineered depression.

REAL PATRIOTISM

The late Federal Treasurer, Mr. Casey, declared that nothing would stand in the way of providing all the money needed for national defence—"as much and as often as required." *John Citizen is wondering why anything stands in the way of finding all the money necessary to abolish needless poverty.* Casey's statement was proved when, after the failure of the last loan, the private banks grudgingly allowed Australia's Government to fall back on Australia's Bank and get the money it had to have—without any difficulty whatever.

The hour has struck for a great nation-wide challenge, and no effort should be spared to ensure that the people speak with a united voice on this most vital issue. We must not be manipulated into finding that last shilling over and over again for generations. Here is the essence of real patriotism.

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MONEY AND WAR

The Enemy Within Australia

By STANLEY F. ALLEN, F.C.A. (Aust.).

The past and present Presidents of the United States of America have left on record two important statements.

Thomas Jefferson, in the generation before Abraham Lincoln, said: "If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all their property, until their children will wake up homeless on the Continent their fathers conquered."

Today, President Roosevelt states that: "No American has any moral right to profiteer at the expense either of his fellow-citizens or of the men, women and children who are living and dying amid war in Europe."

Past wars have shown how the private monopolies that control money, arms and food have preyed upon the people during their times of adversity and particularly during war time.

Let us not repeat the tragedy of the last war, where the great super-structure of war debts was created by the private banks subscribing to war loans by simply writing deposits on their books to the credit of the Government and obtaining war bond certificates in exchange.

THE GREATEST PROFITEER

Money power is the greatest enemy to man's freedom and security, and its monopoly over the money-means to life renders it the overlord of every other monopoly.

It is arbiter of war and peace, the master of despotism, the unseen dictator of democracies.

It is reported that after the exhaustion of the proceeds of the Second War Loan in London in 1916, the war was financed by the Banking Houses to the extent of hundreds of millions of pounds, for which the Government paid six per cent.

Moreton Frewin, writing in an overseas magazine in February, 1917, described it as "The most wonderful tale of grand larceny in all the world's history."

The *Nation*, a noted journal, said: "A huge proportion of this money is mere inflation, representing no real savings on the part of the bankers and financiers who manufactured it."

As R. G. Flawtrey, Assistant Secretary to the British Treasury, once said: "The Banker creates the means of payment out of nothing."

WHAT OF AUSTRALIA?

Australia's load of debt and taxation is now colossal, the result is shown by the increasing burden placed on the people; we have almost reached the limit of our ability to carry the load, and we now possess the distinction of being one of the countries in the world that has the greatest debt per head of population.

WHO SHOULD CONTROL?

Money and armaments should be nationally controlled, and before one single Australian is permitted to make the supreme sacrifice, the Governments should first establish the principle that human welfare and human lives must come before financial interests.

So often we talk about equal sacrifice, but there is nothing equal to a young life. "Man is more precious than fine gold."

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE

If we are to put an end to war in the future and the struggle against economic insecurity we must first root out the fundamental causes.

The Australian Government must not repeat the error of the late war, and involve this and future generations in huge war debts by borrowing the private banks' costless-to-create money at interest.

The Federal Government has the power to put an end to this policy of financing by means of social debt.

Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution gives the Government authority over banking and currency, and it is urgently necessary that immediate action be taken under this Section in the interests of the people.

This should be the Government's first step in order to effectively control profiteering and protect and improve the standard of living of the people.

THE OBJECTIVE

The Royal Commission on Banking states that: "The general objective of an economic system for Australia should be to achieve the best use of our productive resources both present and future."

"This means the fullest possible employment of people and resources under conditions that will provide the highest standard of living."

The Government also has its lead clearly set out in the Banking Commission Report, in respect (1) to the ideal objective of a Monetary and Banking System; (2) to the position, ownership and power of the People's Commonwealth Bank; and (3) to the relationship of the Trading Banks and their responsibility "to conform to the policy and to assist in carrying it out."

DEBT-FREE AND INTEREST-FREE MONEY

The financing of Australia's adequate defence and all national works and services could be carried out by the use of the Commonwealth's own costless-to-create money—that is, by financial credit created and issued according to the statement in the report of the Royal Commission on the Monetary and Banking System in Australia, Section 504 of which states: "Because of this power, too, the Commonwealth Bank can lend to Governments and to others in a variety of ways, and it can even make money available to Governments or to others free of any charge."

Dr. E. R. Walker, Professor of Economics at the University of Sydney, in his paper entitled "Sound Finance," and read at Canberra in January last, said, in respect to this Section:

"The members" (of the Commission) "probably did not expect to be quoted supporting interest free loans."

"But what are the objections to such a practice?" he asked.

Abraham Lincoln once said: "The privilege of creating and issuing money is not only the supreme prerogative of the Government, but is the Government's greatest creative opportunity."

Mr. Menzies and his Govern-

THE RECORD OF ALBERTA

In spite of the worldwide campaign to misrepresent what is happening in Alberta, the achievements of the Aberhart Government there during the past few years are beginning to leak out.

And a very unique and inspiring story it is, too.

It is true that all the major legislation passed by the Government of Alberta, in consistent and genuine attempts to carry out the mandate of the electors of the Province, have been nullified by the Dominion's centralised authorities, either by the Supreme Court declaring such legislation "ultra vires," or by other less obvious methods practised by the Dominion Government.

But this formidable opposition from without has not prevented certain internal attempts to improve conditions for Albertans with such power as the Government has, and the results are now almost impossible to hide, in Canada, anyway.

The chorus, which for years has been printed in the general Canadian press to discredit the Alberta experiment by referring to "failure" and "crazy finance", is now either silent or trying to damn it with faint praise.

But here and there the truth is beginning to peep through, as the following extracts from an article, by D. Nolen Forbes, in a recent issue of Canada's national Labor magazine, the *Canadian Unionist* (published in Montreal), show:

"ALBERTA IS GOING PLACES"

"You hear that statement scores of times as you travel through the West these days—and it comes from those who by no stretch of imagination could ever be termed Social Crediters.

"Why?"

"The Aberhart Government, in four years, has reformed Alberta's system of land settlement; instituted State medicine for tubercular persons and victims of infantile paralysis; paved nearly 400 miles of highways; reformed education to take metropolitan facilities to every rural district; recognised the teaching profession on the same basis as those of law or medicine; reduced the male minimum wage age from 21 to 19 years; recovered in one year, for more than 1100 underpaid workers, more than 32,000 dollars in wages; reduced the public debt, in the face of increasing public debts elsewhere in the Dominion; saved from eviction thousands of farmers who, had it not been for the Aberhart Government, would have lost their farms, and has cancelled all drought-area tax arrears and relief advances incurred by farmers prior to 1936.

"Premier William Aberhart and his associates have done even more. They have set up a Marketing Board, not only to conduct the

ment have this wonderful opportunity now, not only of stamping out food profiteering, but of taking a firm stand in the interests of the whole community along the lines here suggested.

By so doing they would be blazing the trail for the establishment of a new and better social order, which the people of this and every other country are demanding.

WHAT OF WAR'S AFTERMATH?

After this war we cannot, and must not, go back to the old order of the economic jungle, where social debt, with its constant and ever-increasing evil effects of taxation and poverty dam back man's true progress.

We must now prepare our plans to use Australia's great wealth and vast resources for the people's welfare, and establish economic security for all.

The Money System must be properly controlled to serve man, and not permitted again to be his dictator.

orderly marketing of products within its sphere, but to buy in bulk for manufacturers. The Aberhart Government, without damaging trade outside the Province, has dealt a masterstroke for Alberta industry and its workers by paying to consumers a 3 per cent. bonus on Alberta-made goods purchased by voucher.

TREASURY BRANCHES

"And that brings up the unique institution of Treasury Branches. By harvest time there will be about 30 branches and 550 agencies operating throughout the Province. Already two branches and 292 agencies are in operation. More than two-thirds of the retail merchants—approximately 4400—are doing business through these institutions, and accept Treasury Vouchers as cash as eagerly as they accept bank cheques. Workers engaged in public works, members of the civil service, and others in the Government's employ, accept from 25 to 100 per cent. of their pay in vouchers, and all the banks clear cash orders on the Treasury Branches or agencies exactly as they clear cheques drawn on other banks. The Treasury Branches are actually branch offices of the Provincial Treasury. Agencies are sub-branches, and several of them operate under each branch. Through this organisation, in spite of the fiercest possible opposition from financial institutions, Premier Aberhart has actually established a medium of internal exchange without borrowing a penny and without going into the banking business. This is the first great successful step towards socialised credit, and it is really going over in a big way. Through it the Aberhart Government has been able to finance extensive road-building programmes and other public works; has put thousands of men to work, and now plans, through the Marketing Board, to give financial assistance to manufacturing industries.

HAIL INSURANCE

"Through previous administrations, hail insurance has been a State matter in Alberta, but not a successful one. Premier Aberhart reformed it, placed it on a new footing, and, at the end of the first year's operation—a disastrous one—came through with a slight margin of profit.

SCHOOL REFORM

"Aberhart has courage. Take his school reform, for instance. For fifteen years the U.F.A. Government had advocated the 'larger unit system, but, because of opposition from rural school trustees, had done nothing about it. In 1936 Aberhart entered a trustees' convention in Calgary to explain his plan of school reform. He was hissed and booed as he walked down the aisle, but he took the platform and said his piece. Then, casting aside political popularity, he went back to Edmonton and put

(Continued on page 7.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

THIS OVER-PRODUCTION

By "THE WALRUS," in "The New World."

When all this wheat overproduction trouble recently started to get into the news, I had a brainwave, a solution so obvious that the more I thought about it the more worried I became, lest someone else should get there first.

So I rang up Canberra.

"Put me through to the Ministry for Overproduction, please." I requested in my best official voice.

There were the usual noises at the other end: hooking up and fragments of intimate conversation, and so on, so I felt hopeful, especially when, after the usual blank, came the usual enquiry, "Did you get them?"

"Not yet," I replied patiently, when simultaneously a languid voice asked, "Who is that?"

"Walrus!" I answered eagerly. The voice became quite matey. "Oh, how are you, old man? And how is Mrs. Walters?"

"Walrus!"

"Always what?"

"Look here, never mind that now. Are you the Ministry for Overproduction?"

"No! Why?"

"Well, who are you?"

"This is the Department of Public Instruction."

"Number, please!" demanded the operator.

"I want the Ministry for Overproduction," I said, firmly.

"Number, please!"

These operators have got all the wood on a man. But I didn't give up right away. I decided to try Brisbane.

"I want the Ministry for Overproduction," I announced with waning confidence.

"Who?"

I repeated my demand.

"Just a moment."

Then a crisp voice asked, "What do you want?"

"I want the Ministry for..."

"Yes, yes. I understood that. But what for? What are you over-producing?"

"I'm not over-producing anything."

"Well, what d'you want me to do about it?"

I began to get a bit annoyed.

"Look here! Are you the Minister for Overproduction, or not?"

"No!"

"Well, who, then?"

"This is Goodna!"

It's a nice state of affairs when they allow the inmates of a mental institution to answer the telephone. I decided it would be cheaper and more efficient to go by train, and might very possibly save time.

I discovered to my amazement there was no Ministry for Overproduction. And nobody seemed to know what became of everything after it had been overproduced. This seemed strange, and, to anybody with a methodical mind, quite unthinkable. A thief has to be caught with the goods, and you can't nail anyone for murder without producing the corpse. But somehow or other, in this overproduction business, there is no exhibit "A." It was annoying to find a portfolio for a thing like Transport—which would probably be better left alone—and to find no ideas at all on the subject of the thing transported, which after all is the real centre of human interest.

I dug up the Hon. member for Woop-Woop and put the matter before him. He agreed with everything I said, and then proceeded to disagree.

"I don't see how we can do anything without interfering with private enterprise."

"You never do seem to be able to do anything without doing that," I pointed out. "Besides, all

I'm asking you to do is to find out where all this overproduction goes. What I'm getting at is this. Take last year's wheat and butter, for example. It was overproduced. But it disappeared. My belief is that it must have been eaten by unauthorised persons."

"Rubbish!" exclaimed Woop-Woop. "If food got eaten, how could you say it was overproduced? Especially truck like that."

"Ye-es," I had to agree. "I hadn't thought of it that way. Bit barmy, isn't it? Then you don't think anyone ate it?"

"I dunno."

"But its rather important. I've got to find out. Otherwise it's impossible to do anything about it."

"The best thing to do, obviously," he said, "is to stop overproduction. Then you won't have to bother your head about it."

"But you just said there wasn't any overproduction."

"No fear, I didn't. That's your imagination."

"Then where is it?" I demanded.

"Look here! You're being silly. Now I'll ask YOU one. D'you know where my son is?"

"No!"

"Well, believe it or not, I've got one. And now, if you'll excuse me . . ."

And he didn't give me time to retort that not only might his son be considered as overproduction, but also somebody at any rate, knew where he was.

Before giving up entirely I managed to get a sympathetic audience with a member of the Opposition.

"Just outline your scheme to me," he requested, "and I will see what can be done about it."

This was decidedly better, I thought, without stopping to consider that it is the usual gambit for the Opposition.

"Well, you see," I explained, "I thought if we could only get our hands on all the stuff that's overproduced we could tabulate it, and get science interested in it...."

"But why should science be interested in it? Science has done its job once in putting the stuff there."

"Wait a minute," I begged. "This is different, but first of all, would you say that a thing overproduced is a thing nobody wants?"

"Decidedly!"

"And that therefore it doesn't matter what we do with it?"

"Quite!"

"Very well, then. If science says the word, what's to stop us from making synthetic substitutes out of it."

He looked at me in stupefied admiration. At least I think it was.

"You mean make margarine out of butter, and so on?"

I nodded.

"Boy, oh boy!" he gasped. "This is genius. Just wait till we get the Government again!"

And it looks as though that is what I WILL have to wait for.

PROPAGANDA IN WAR TIME

It is quite apparent that the weapon of propaganda will play an important part in the present conflict. It will, therefore, prove of interest to note the following points made in connection with propaganda during the last war. They come from the pen of H. R. Cummins, League of Nations Secretariat, Geneva, formerly on the London and Parliamentary staff of the "Manchester Guardian," writing in the Encyclopedia Britannica, 13th edition, and 1926:

SUPPRESSION, EXAGGERATION AND FALSIFICATION

The exigencies of the struggle for existence involved all States in a not always excusable suppression of facts. This, accompanied by exaggeration of facts, was undoubtedly responsible to some extent for giving propaganda its bad name, but the main cause was falsification of facts, sometimes through incomplete information, but more frequently through deliberate intention.

BAMBOOZLING NEUTRALS

One of the hardest problems was to retain or gain the sympathy of neutral States, and to dishearten the enemy. The methods pursued were, roughly, the same in all countries. Governments built up special departments composed of people acquainted, or supposed to be acquainted, with publicity methods and with the political and psychological conditions of different countries of the world. There was a great difference, for instance, between the way in which a case should be made to appeal to the U.S.A., to Holland, and to the Far East.

BRIBERY AND FALSE PRETENCES

Every Government issued a regular wireless service; large sums of money were spent on cables, and on subsidising press agencies and neutral newspapers; new agencies were started under camouflaged form, and, in some cases, new journals and periodicals were published. Articles and letters were set abroad in thousands.

Articles and letters were set abroad in thousands.

SUBSIDY OF TRAITORS

This was all organised from home, with agents of every sort all over the world, including neutrals, and, in a limited number, of cases, enemy subjects as well.

ABSURDITIES

It remains a puzzle to understand why some enterprising neutral paper did not regularly publish in parallel columns the arguments and descriptions issued from the various wireless stations. They were sometimes ridiculous, and frequently amusing. The practice of the British Government was to release the more ridiculous features of enemy wireless, which could be done with great effect.

Exhaustive statistical information was issued to show that Germany was on the point of starvation, or that her man power and supplies were failing, and the same methods were applied to show the precarious state of Britain.

AFTER ARMISTICE

With the end of the war, the political side of propaganda was continued with reinforced energy. This intensity gradually slackened during the years after the peace treaties had been concluded, but there remained a widely applied system of official press bureaux as a part of the normal State equipment, with press attaches at embassies and legations to explain and defend national peace causes.

THE RECORD OF ALBERTA

(Continued from page 5.)

his plan into effect. Within one year school conditions were improved, better services were given, teachers' salary arrears, which totalled 250,000 dollars in 1935, were paid off; high school facilities were extended in rural areas, education costs were equalised throughout the Province, and a saving of more than 51,000 dollars was effected for the taxpayers.

THE TRUTH SEEPS THROUGH

"The truth of these accomplishments is beginning to seep through to the rest of Canada—a Dominion whose people have too long regarded Aberhart as a sort of ring-master in a political circus.

"Said the magazine, *Liberty*, recently in an editorial:

"No figure in Canadian history has aroused more bitter enmity on the one hand, and more faithful loyalty on the other, than Alberta's Premier Aberhart. Yet, long after the loyalties and the enmities, engendered by Social Credit, have been forgotten, Mr. Aberhart will be remembered as the great emancipator of Canadian education. He has blazed a new trail for all the Province to follow in eliminating costly, wasteful, inefficient school governments. The resultant pattern represents a maximum of centralised management, together with a minimum of political meddling."

"The Calgary *Herald* has been one of Premier Aberhart's worst enemies. It has never lost an opportunity to pillory the man; to print ridiculous cartoons of him, and to cause him embarrassment.

no matter how personal, no matter how distantly removed from public matters. Yet, on June 10 this year, the *Herald* published a full-page feature article on the service rendered by the Government's travelling health clinic, and described it as unique in all the Dominion. It is actually a motor caravan of mercy, carrying relief to suffering rural children, performing minor operations, inoculations, vaccinations and dental work for those far removed from medical care or unable, for financial reasons, to obtain it.

TOLERANCE

"Aberhart is tolerant of everything, except inefficiency and privileged orthodoxy. He surrounds himself with the best brains he can find, and asks no questions about a man's political leanings or religious convictions. This fundamental Baptist evangelist has in his Cabinet a French-Canadian Roman Catholic, two Mormons, and two United Churchmen. Two of his first Cabinet appointments went to an outstanding Liberal and a prominent Conservative.

"Premier Aberhart is criticised most severely because Alberta has defaulted payment of its maturing bond issues. The fact of the matter is that payment of savings certificates was suspended before he took office. When he went into power the Treasury was empty, banks were carrying an overdraft of several millions of dollars, the Provincial debt amounted to more than 155,000,000 dollars, the farm population, having experienced four crop failures, was taxed to the limit, un-

able to pay any more, and thousands were faced with eviction. Thousands of unemployed walked the streets, created disturbances in stores, ate in soup kitchens, and slept in 'flop' houses.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT

"Aberhart stepped in! Virtually, he told the wealthy and the financial corporations they would have to wait for their money until his own people had been taken care of. No needy holder of savings certificates or Provincial bonds has ever been refused payment. Aberhart has paid them more than a million dollars a year since he took office. By a process of steady farm placement, Aberhart did away with soup kitchens, and today more than 5000 farm homes are available for the settlement of transient families on relief. These families are being gradually re-established, supplied with poultry, some live stock, grain and garden seed; groceries, fuel, clothing, and even medical attention until they become self-supporting. Aberhart has moved hundreds of farm families from the drought areas to fertile lands. During the first quarter of this year Alberta was the only Province in the Dominion to show a decrease in unemployment. The provincial sinking fund has been revived from a sinkhole of frozen book-accounts to a paying reserve of liquid assets, and Alberta, her decks cleared for action, is in a better financial position today than any other Province in the Dominion.

NEW SECURITY

"Assuming power in a poverty-ridden Province, handicapped by tremendous burdens of public and private debt incurred during the war period of inflated production; assuming power in a Province handicapped by high tariffs and expensive freight hauls, and pinched by declining prices for agricultural produce, Aberhart had to change things. Inexperienced in politics and government, fought every inch of the way by financial institutions, and all but a few members of the press, hamstrung by vetoes and disallowances of legislation, or by defeats in the Courts, Aberhart, beset even with insurgency in his own ranks, has battled through to remarkable achievement in his fight for the underdog. High finance will continue to fight him; the press will continue to ridicule, misrepresent and malign him; but if the people, realising what he has already achieved, re-elect him at the next election, Aberhart will win through to establish a new standard of economic security; a new standard of security for workers in industry, for farmers, and, what is more, a greater security for the future of youth.

"When the rest of Canada learns the truth about what Aberhart has accomplished in Alberta, Canadians may clamour for him at Ottawa, as Albertans clamoured for him before they sent him to Edmonton. Be that as it may, Aberhart has brought new life and new hope to Alberta, and now—'Alberta is going places.'"

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(Continued from page 6.)

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTES

By D. J. AMOS, F.A.I.S.

The first serious over-riding of the people's representatives in the Commonwealth Parliament by the Menzies Government, under the National Security Act, has now taken place.

The Government brought in legislation providing for a gold tax of 75 per cent, on all amounts by which the price of gold exceeded £9 per fine ounce. This tax was expected to yield about £1,500,000 per year, as it was to apply to all gold produced or held in Australia and delivered to the Commonwealth Bank or its agents. The recent price of gold is well over £10 per ounce, and the Senate, acting mainly in the interest of the gold mining companies, rejected the legislation.

The Government at once imposed an excise duty of 50 per cent, on this value in excess of £9 per fine ounce, and thus secured £1,000,000 in taxes out of the increased price of gold, which followed the outbreak of the war. Time, said Mr. Spender, did not permit the submission of amended proposals to the Senate.

Public opinion will undoubtedly side with the Government, as the

price of gold has reached altogether absurd levels, but they are setting a very dangerous precedent all the same.

Anti-profiteering legislation is proceeding merrily, and the prices of eighteen additional articles were fixed on the 22nd instant. Great care will apparently be taken to see that the farmer, primary producer, and retailer, only get enough for their goods to barely keep them alive, but I have not noticed any drastic interference with the profits of the flour millers, the sugar and oil refineries, the shipping companies, the metal companies (other than gold), and big industrial concerns generally. Action against the landlord will probably end in talk, while as for the banker and the moneylender—the war is likely to prove as great a harvest to them as the last one was, unless speedy action is taken to prevent it.

UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA

The usual meeting of Campaigners will be held at U.E.A. Headquarters on next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock sharp.

SOCIAL NOTES.

The second dance-social, which is expected to be even more enjoyable and otherwise successful than the first, will be held next Wednesday night, October 11, at the same address—McEwan House Cafe, 2nd Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street.

Those wishing to help in making this function financially successful should enquire for a number of

tickets for sale immediately. Ring MU 2834 or call. Unsold tickets should be returned, if possible, by Tuesday, October 10. Ladies willing to assist in providing supper, by donating cakes and savouries, are asked to notify Headquarters as early as convenient, so that catering may be arranged. The first social of the season brought splendid results. It is hoped that all will join in making this occasion a still greater success.

DONT MISS THESE TWO EVENTS NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

HEAR ERIC BUTLER,

Melbourne Forum, Unitarian Church, Grey Street, East Melbourne, at 3.30 p.m.

Subject: "Youth Pleads For Life."

This will be a Special Address, which no supporter should miss. A personal impression of the present crisis, and a challenge to the present trends.

DEBATE AT NIGHT.

CENTENARY HALL, 110 EXHIBITION ST., CITY, 8 p.m.

Subject:

"That Soviet Russia Has Been a Menace to World Peace."

AFFIRMATIVE:

Herbert Kay
Ron Jones
Eric Butler

NEGATIVE (League of Young Democrats):

Audrey Blake
Malcolm Good
Ken. Miller

Great interest has been manifested in this debate already, and a big audience is expected. All supporters are urged to attend and hear one of the most vital subjects of the day debated by competent speakers.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A DIGGER'S DREAM

Sir,—As I sat at the fire on the night of September 3, 1939 I dozed off and dreamed a very vivid dream. It seemed as if I were back in Flanders, sleeping in a small dugout, when I was aroused by a terrific commotion. I looked over the parapet and saw thousands of men lying around, some in khaki uniforms and some in field grey, and a small group of men was still fighting fiercely. A well-dressed civilian, with a pointed beard and top hat, came walking down the trench, and I asked him the reason for all those dead men. He replied, very solemnly: "They have died to save civilisation." "But what are you doing here, and why is that small group still fighting?" I asked. Again came the solemn reply: "Oh, I am in sympathy with their ideals, and so I financed both sides to keep them supplied with arms. Those men are fighting for their FREEDOM; those slain are freed from the obligation of paying for the armaments." I thought this was meant for mild sarcasm, and was about to reply that they all seemed to be well on the way to "liberation," when the prosperous-looking stranger faded out.

Once again I was back in Australia, reasonably happy, with a vague feeling that civilisation had been saved and freedom established for all time. However, my dream soon became troubled again. I now seemed to be wandering somewhere in Europe, and I came across a man who was severely kicking a dog. I enquired why such drastic punishment. The man replied: "This is a very wicked dog. I am a poultry-keeper in this village, and "this dog has been catching wildfowl and bringing them into the village, and the people are making use of them, thus seriously interfering with my business. Don't you think he deserves all the kicks "I give him?" With this, he delivered another well-directed kick, the dog yelped and then licked the man's hand. I pointed out that the dog seemed contrite enough now, but he replied: "I want to cure him for all time. This sort of thing must not happen again." He gave the dog a few more kicks. I appealed to him, in the name of Christianity: "Love your enemies," I quoted. "Spare the rod and spoil the child," he flung back at me, with a few more kicks at the dog.

Suddenly a change came over the dog. His hair bristled, he let out a savage snarl and broke away from the man, taking half a trouser leg and a piece of flesh as he went. He rushed up and down the village street, snapping and snarling, attacking and ripping children, and no one seemed able or willing to stop him. As he rushed past me for the third time I noticed that his head had changed to the form of a man's; his face was adorned with a toothbrush moustache, and a fringe of dark hair hung over one eye.

An extra loud snarl woke me, and I found myself listening to the radio announcing the declaration of war in Europe. —Yours, etc., "RETURNED SOLDIER." Unley Park, S.A.

A BANKER'S VIEW

Sir,—Reading "Capitalism," by Mr. M. R. Hely-Hutchinson, M.P. for Hastings, England, I was struck by a couple of gems which I thought worthy of quoting. Concluding a chapter on the "Industrial Cycle," he perpetrates the follow-

ing: "Can it be that the industrial cycle, with its alternations of prosperity and depression, with its booms and slumps, with its now-too-little and now-too-much to employ our hands, is quite simply the beating of a transcendent pulse?"

In regard to culture, he states, "most men read too many books. For general reading the Bible, especially Ecclesiastes, and the Proverbs, and Shakespeare, especially "Julius Caesar" and "Henry V.," is all we need to ask.

Mr. Hely-Hutchinson is a banker and a member of a wealthy aristocratic family, his grandfather being the Earl of Donoughmore, and he frankly gives his beliefs as follows: "Finance is my trade. I have found it is the mother of all business, whose father is the desire for profit."

The author was a King's Scholar at Eton, thus having his education partly subsidised, nevertheless, in a chapter dealing with unemployment, he has the effrontery to suggest that "I would make every man contribute something towards the education of his own children," but does not say how this is going to help to reduce unemployment.

I have been a regular reader of your valuable paper practically since its inception, and have given many copies away to interested people. I am pleased to be now in a position to assist a little towards your fight for social justice and have pleasure in enclosing a cheque for £1/1/- towards your funds. Wishing you and your paper every success. —I am, yours faithfully,

V. REIS.

Melbourne.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

Electoral Campaign

The Campaign for Defence Without Debt or Taxation is going with "vim." Over 5000 Demand Forms were distributed among suburban centres as feelers of public opinion. Almost immediately the signed forms began to flow into the head office, and the proposed increase in the income tax by the State Government greatly accelerated the flow. It is now felt that public opinion in South Australia is solidly in favour of the Campaign. New supplies of Demand Forms have been ordered, and the first instalment of signed forms sent to electors' representatives in Parliament.

Bridge Party

Bridge players are asked to note that the seventh of the series of bridge evenings will be held at the Club-Rooms, Waymouth Street, on Saturday night next, October 7, at 8 o'clock sharp.

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

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