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## THE

## NEW TIMES

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Vol. 5. No. 42.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 1939.

Every Friday. 3d

**Big Banking Swindle Exposed****SHOCKING REVELATIONS IN S.A.  
PARLIAMENT****Interest Paid on Non-Existent Money,  
says M.L.A.****"TAXATION IS LEGALISED ROBBERY"****Citizens Sacrificed for Book-keeping System**

In a striking and courageous speech, delivered in the South Australian Legislative Assembly on October 3, Mr. W. Macgillivray (Member for Chaffey) vigorously opposed the passing of the Budget and, in explaining his reasons, ventilated some appalling facts, which are concealed from the ordinary citizen.

The report of this speech, slightly abridged, reads:

MR. MACGILLIVRAY (Chaffey): I associate myself with the remarks of previous speakers who have protested against the undue haste on the part of the Treasurer in forcing this debate. Undoubtedly, this is the most important matter to be discussed during the session. We have been told that Government is finance and finance is Government, yet the Treasurer delivers his Budget speech during one afternoon and expects members to discuss it during the following afternoon. That was impossible, because no ordinary member can understand whether the Budget is good or bad in such a short space of time. The Leader of the Opposition admitted that he went out of his way to help the Government, and delivered his speech in regard to the Budget early. He can do this because he has facilities, which enable him to concentrate on matters before the House. In addition, he is a man of outstanding ability, and has had long experience in Parliament. He is thus able to consider matters in a much better way than can ordinary members. I can only assume that the Treasurer desired the debate to be concluded quickly because he realised that he had presented a bad Budget. Apparently he wanted to complete the debate before members had time to properly consider it.

A perusal of the Commonwealth Grants Commission's report reveals much information. It clearly shows that the commission is the watchdog of the bankers, and one can see throughout the report the control that it exerts. As long as the Government is orthodox, as long as it will do what the commission thinks it ought to do, it is prepared to throw it a bone to keep it alive, but the moment the Government does something, which the commission regards as unorthodox, I am afraid it will be in a very unhappy position indeed. It is true that, as a State, we are grateful for any grant we get, but we should not lose sight of the fact that although it is a grant to us as South Australian taxpayers it is a debt to us as taxpayers of the Commonwealth so that eventually we have to pay for all the grants

we get in the form of taxation to the Commonwealth Government. I mention this because there is a tendency to believe that anything we get from the Commonwealth Government is a gift, which we do not have to repay in any way. Our Government is starving the people of South Australia in order to balance the Budget, and is now getting the repercussions and does not like it. The Treasurer brought out that very point in his Budget speech. He said: "If by doing this we are penalised by the reduction of the grant, what incentive is there under such a system for any Treasurer to ask the people of South Australia to make undue sacrifices?" The peculiar thing is that, after a statement like that, the Treasurer immediately asked (Continued on page 3.)

**Open Letter to the Prime Minister**

Dear Mr. Menzies, —

Are you really going to do something about war profiteering—or aren't you? And when we talk about war profiteers we mean the big banking racketeers, and not the small fry who only pick up the crumbs.

To date, your utterances as a whole have stamped you as a man who has refused to be panicked by Sir Keith Murdoch and his "newspapers," while some of your statements regarding the necessity of maintaining democratic government in time of war have our wholehearted support. Whatever we might think about you in connection with financial matters, we certainly prefer you as Prime Minister to Herr Cameron and several others of a domineering and dictatorial outlook.

However, we are more than concerned with your failure to face the real issue of financial reform in the present crisis. We finished the last war with an increase in our National Debt of some hundreds of millions of pounds. Although the bulk of this borrowing was done through the Commonwealth Bank at the low flotation charge of 5/7 per cent, it has been a constant strain ever

**WHAT'S THE TRUTH ABOUT THE  
WAR?****Contradictions in Daily Press**

If it were not so tragic, a close survey of press reports since the outbreak of the present conflict would make comic reading. Reports appearing in one issue are flatly denied or reported otherwise in subsequent issues. Screaming headlines say one thing, while the reports underneath say another thing. It has been said that truth is the first casualty in time of war.

The present war has proved no exception. It is obvious that certain vital facts are being kept from the public, while a steady stream of propaganda has proved most bewildering. The "New Times" stands for a presentation of facts, which can be reliably ascertained and proven. If we do not know certain things we do not present mere conjecture as anything more than that. We recommend this policy to the daily press. The public demands the truth.

**IS RUSSIA STRONG OR  
WEAK?**

During the last war both sides had their propaganda departments working day and night, in order to prove to their respective peoples just how weak the other side was. Detailed figures were brought forward to prove that it was only a matter of another few months before the economic structure (etc.) of the enemy collapsed.

Four months ago, when the suggestion of an alliance between Britain and Russia was deemed a desirable possibility in certain quarters, the Melbourne Herald brought out reams of material to prove how strong Russia was. "The might of the Red Army" was a familiar phrase. We were told about the tremendous resources of the Soviet. But, as the talkies say, "Time

Marches on." Now that Russia has revealed her real aims, and has decided to back up Germany with a trade agreement, the same Melbourne Herald is now telling us that Russia is not of much account, after all. Now, when were they right? Now, or four months ago?

The fact of the matter is that Russia practically dominates the situation in Europe today. The Communists have always been very keen advocates of economic sanctions. Well, now is a great opportunity for Russia to give a practical demonstration. But instead of doing this, they are going to make raw materials available to Germany, and, no matter how much the press may try to minimise the extent of this help, it will certainly prove considerable. If the war starts in earnest, as the International Money group desires, then it is becoming painfully obvious that Russia and America will supply the materials, while the populations of Britain, France, and Germany are blown to hell. That is why every piece of bankers' propaganda ridicules the suggestion of a Peace Conference. Finance does not want that.

**THIS GERMAN "OFFENSIVE"**

Every second day, for the past week, the headlines in the daily press have been telling us that an early German offensive is confidently expected on the Western Front. However, this tune is becoming a little monotonous. We were being told the very same thing three weeks ago, when we were informed that an offensive was expected within three days. The fact of the matter is that it is quite obvious that most of these reports are mere conjecture, containing propaganda. We read: "It is reported," "Unofficial circles believe," "Independent observers, say," etc. It is a pity that the daily press does not treat the public as intelligent grown-ups, instead of children.

**OF COURSE YOU KNOW—BUT  
ARE YOU SURE?**

Then there is the news about Saarbnicken. If you have care—  
(Continued on next page)

Yours faithfully,  
THE NEW TIMES

# HISTORY VINDICATES DEMOCRACY WHAT'S THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR?

## Two Great Reforms in British History

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

"An awakened public conscience, if it is not to spend itself in public emotions, must find a channel of expression. Shaftesbury taught it to speak with the voice of law; and the lesson which he gave to his own generation now resounds throughout the civilised world."

—"Biography of Shaftesbury," by Constance Smith.

Most people, when first hearing of the Electoral Campaign, regard it favourably, or otherwise, as some new revolutionary idea born of comparatively recent social and political developments. This is not altogether so. The fundamental principle underlying this campaign has been appreciated right throughout the ages where men have fought for liberty and security.

### ASSOCIATION

Two years ago, in an article by the English biologist, Dr. Tudor Jones, appeared a statement to the effect that there is no evidence whatever to suggest that the human being of the present day is, in any essential, cleverer or more able than the human being of six or seven hundred years ago. A study of history, particularly the history of Scotland from the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries, indicates that the realities of statesmanship were as much appreciated then as they are now. These realities also appear to have been understood and utilised during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The most vital reality to which I refer is the principle that in association individuals can get what they want. Nations are, primarily, merely associations for the good of those composing them. And, to quote one of Britain's greatest sociologists of the present time, "The general principles which govern association for the common good are as capable of exact statement as the principles of bridge building, and departure from them is just as disastrous."

The totalitarian theory, which proclaims that the State is everything and the individual nothing, is a departure from those principles. It is a re-statement of the theory of the later Roman Empire, which, together with the financial methods by which it was maintained, led to Rome's downfall, not by the conquest of stronger empires, but by its own internal weaknesses.

This position seems to be developing very strongly in practically every country at the present time, and only a correct understanding of the power of organised public opinion focused upon a commonly agreed upon objective can prevent the threatening destruction of twentieth-century civilisation. That we can prevent that breakdown should be more than appreciated if we make a survey of two of the most important reforms in British history, and understand the underlying reason for their ultimate success.

### HOW PUBLIC OPINION ABOLISHED SLAVERY

Undoubtedly, one of the greatest reforms in the history of the British Empire was the Abolition of Slavery, and the summing up of that reform is most graphically portrayed in the words of one of England's greatest living historians, G. M. Trevelyan, Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge. The following extracts are taken from his book, "British History in the Nineteenth Century." This summing up is particularly brilliant and illuminating, and emphasises the fact that Parliament cannot impede reform once the people are organised for it. It also shows that Parliament never starts a reform, but merely puts its name to

it. Professor Trevelyan writes: "In the year 1787 began the formation of the Anti-Slave Committees, with which the name of Wilberforce will always be remembered. The success of this agitation, then unique in the character of its aims and methods, is one of the turning points in the history of the world. It led to the abolition first of the slave trade and then of slavery itself under the British flag, and thereby secured abolition by all those European nations who, in the course of the nineteenth century, divided between them the helpless bulk of Africa. It was only just in time. If slavery had not been abolished before the great commercial exploitation of the tropics began, Africa would have been turned by the world's capitalists into a slave farm so enormous that it must have eventually corrupted and destroyed Europe herself, as surely as the world conquest under the conditions of slavery destroyed the Roman Empire. It is good to think that a movement of such beneficent import to the whole world should have been begun and mainly carried out by the humanity and enlightenment of the British people as a whole, under the guidance of an entirely unselfish agitation. These methods of voluntary organisation and open propaganda were directed first to persuade the public and then to bring pressure of public opinion to bear on the Government. The result proved that, in spite of the terrible corruption of our political institutions, the spirit of the British body politic was free and healthy."

Thus we see how the use of democracy achieved one of the greatest reforms in modern history, in spite of vested interests, which were just as strongly entrenched as the interests we are fighting today. The shipping interests, for example, said that the Abolition of Slavery would wreck their business, while others said that such a reform would mean that Britain could never colonise the Empire. Many other arguments were brought forward, but the fact remains that in the year 1807 one of the most corrupt Parliaments, which Britain has ever had, was forced to yield to organised public opinion. And if public opinion can be roused to the same extent again we will also see the abolition of the greatest slavery of all time—financial slavery.

### HOW THE BRITISH PEOPLE GOT THE VOTE

In sequence of importance, the greatest reform next brought about in the history of Britain was when the British people first obtained the power to vote for their own representatives in 1832. This achievement further demonstrated the power of public opinion, as the people at this time had no vote with which to enforce this reform. Even though the House of Commons and the House of

fully studied the "exclusive" cables supplied to all the Melbourne dailies by the British Minister for Information you will know that French troops occupied Saarbrücken on September 2, September 3, September 4, September 5, September 6 (there is no need to go any further); was not occupied at all; was nearly surrounded; is partially occupied; has had its outskirts penetrated; has fallen into the hands of the Royal Naval Horse Marines. However, the latest maps published by the dailies show that French troops are still some distance from this centre. But, it all goes to show

just how reliable the daily press really is.

### DISTORTION OF CHAMBERLAIN'S REPLY

After Hitler's speech and his suggestion of a Peace Conference, the whole world awaited Mr. Chamberlain's reply. On Friday morning, October 13; the dailies unanimously came out with, "Chamberlain Rejects Hitler's Proposals." Other headlines also appeared which gave the impression that the war was now "on" in earnest. However, a close reading of Mr. Chamberlain's address indicated that the door had been left ajar for further negotiation. The Italian papers quickly perceived this, and were the only ones to comment upon the address in rational terms; and we find, nearly a week later, the same dailies telling us about the diplomatic war behind the scenes, with the German offensive still expected "at an early date." It is quite apparent that there is a big body of opinion in favour of an immediate Peace Conference before the real carnage starts. That is what the dailies are trying to suppress.

### "PURELY SPECULATIVE"

After Mr. Chamberlain's speech we were treated to a mixture of nauseating nonsense, masquerading as news, together with what "authoritative circles thought" that Hitler would do. In the Melbourne Herald of Saturday, October 14, he was "reported" as striding up and down his room, saying: "He spurned my hand, he spurned my hand." This was after Chamberlain's reply. Then he flouted his advisers and ordered that his train raise steam to take him to the Western Front. However, on Monday, October 16, he was apparently still in Berlin. He was "calling conference after conference." This was according to another correspondent, of course, who was "reported" as stating: "He is pale and unshaven, and has had scarcely time to change his clothes." This is supposed to be news. We would call it "tripe."

In Saturday's Herald of October 14 we were treated to the gem of the week. After reading that "authoritative circles" thought that Hitler might stage a big offensive on the Western Front—although they had been certain earlier in the week—accompanied by a fierce air attack, we saw, just above this report, the following: "Consequently, authoritative circles are examining the immediate future, which, until Hitler acts, can only be purely speculative." (Our emphasis.)

And so, after all the efforts during the week to prove to us what was happening, and what would happen, we were then told that it is all speculation. This is obviously the truth about the position at the time of writing. Many more examples of contradictions, such as the reports about the liner, Bremen, could be quoted, but it is not necessary.

We suggest that the public read the press with a critical mind and refuse to be stampeded by the headlines and other sensational features, which are for the purposes of propaganda and circulation. We believe that when the public does, in time, get the real truth of what has been going on, it will get a shock. In the meantime, we will endeavour to give our readers facts, which we know we can vouch for. Whatever is "purely speculative" we will leave to the daily press to present as "news."

Lords knew that by putting their names to the Reform Bill it would put an end to many privileges they had enjoyed in the past, they were forced to yield to the determined demand of public opinion. Once again the story of this reform can be best told in the words of Professor Trevelyan: "The Reform Bill, by the fact and by the manner of its passing, had done a great deal more than enfranchise one-half of the middle class. It had asserted the power of the whole nation, enfranchised and unenfranchised, because it had been carried by the popular will against the strenuous resistance of the old order entrenched in the House of Lords. It had been a fair fight and a straight decision. Forty years before, the people had been told by Bishop Horsley that 'they had nothing to do with laws but to obey them,' and they had submitted to the decree. But now at length they HAD LEARNED HOW TO ORGANISE THEIR POWER AND TO EXACT OBEDIENCE FROM THE LAW-MAKERS." This reform allowed the people to take a big step forward in political emancipation. Unfortunately, as we now realise, the people have not yet learned the correct use of the vote. Instead of using their votes to demand results they have been cajoled into wasting them upon issues, which are technical, or of no fundamental importance, and keep the people divided. When the principles of real democracy are put into operation the people will use their votes to get whatever results they want; and will render those individuals responsible for the administration of their affairs liable to removal unless the desired results are forthcoming.

### AN INSPIRATION TO ALL

Looking back over history, those of us who pride ourselves upon our British heritage, won for us by the great efforts and sacrifices of those men and women who fought for democratic principles, must, at times, feel a little ashamed. We, who are today the privileged few who know the facts, have an even greater responsibility. Dare we refuse to accept it? No, the fight must go on with greater vigour than ever as time is getting short. Let the inspiration of those reforms we have reviewed provide a whip to flay our sometimes-drooping spirits. Remember, also, how the great Shaftesbury taught the British people their power on the question of abolishing child slavery. Constance Smith says that the lesson which Shaftesbury gave his own generation now resounds throughout the civilised world. Let us increase the power of that message by real dynamic action that will brook no opposition. Let us also make history.

## BIG BANKING SWINDLE EXPOSED

(Continued from page 1.)

the people not only to continue the undue sacrifices they have been making for years, but to carry further burdens which are excessive and bigger than those carried by taxpayers in any other State of the Commonwealth. The Treasurer went on to say: "I do not wish to unduly criticise the work of the Grants Commission, but I consider that the penalties imposed upon us are too severe, and that those penalties may result in inferior standards for South Australia, and such a position would never be acceptable to this State." He then takes the very steps that make the position worse. Of course, we all know why, like previous Treasurers, he is paying far more attention to the bookkeeping system than to the needs of the people. No balance sheet or system of bookkeeping ever invented includes a column in its ledger for human suffering. Just to show how illogical a person can be in one speech, the Treasurer went on to say: "In 1939-40 the reduction in the national income will seriously affect the collections of income tax, because taxation in 1939-40 will be levied upon the incomes actually received in 1938-39." That may be so, but the governing factor is the national income, and if the national income of the State—that is, the spending power of the individual—is lower, how is the taxpayer to meet increased taxation? What sort of position will those struggling to keep ahead of their commitments be in under that argument?

The Hon. R. S. Richards: What position will they be in the following year?

MR. MACGILLIVRAY: Obviously, in a progressively worse position. The argument that there will be a reduction of national income would seem to me logical grounds for reducing taxation, rather than increasing it. That is the common-sense view, but, of course, common sense and balanced Budgets never have gone together, and there is no reason to suppose that a start will be made now. As in the past, the people will be sacrificed for the sake of a bookkeeping system.

There is another interesting feature that is well emphasised in the Commonwealth Grants Commission's report—namely, the control the commission has on the standard of living of the people. The commission stated distinctly that as soon as a State becomes a claimant State, a greater effort than that made by the other States is expected through some deduction from the standard allowed for social services. As soon as a State reaches the position of having to ask for its rights it becomes a beggar. The commission practically stated that. The standard of social services in this State has to be reduced by 10 per cent, with a plus of 3 per cent.

The Hon. M. McIntosh: The commission also suggests that we should have a higher ratio of taxation.

MR. MACGILLIVRAY: Of course it does. That is the only thing the Government has taken notice of.

Mr. Thompson: What is the reason for the 10 per cent, reduction?

MR. MACGILLIVRAY: That is explained in the report. The commission decided that the expenditure of South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania had to be reduced 10 per cent, and then it allowed this State 3 per cent, because of the spread of our population. Two States received a

plus 3 per cent, and Tasmania 7 per cent. That shows the control the commission has over the standard of living. We talk of dictators and assume they are limited to countries overseas. We visualise other countries and sympathise with them in their sufferings, but the dictators in those countries can be seen. If the people are not satisfied with them they can shoot them, as they have done on many occasions. Those dictators accept personal responsibility. We have a dictatorship in Australia, which is not seen. It cannot be shot, because it is a system and not an individual. Our dictatorship in Australia is even worse in many instances than the dictatorships overseas. As Mr. McInnes stated, the Government he supported had to do things not because it wanted to do them, but because it was compelled to do them. We are suffering from financial dictators, which are controlling Governments. Social services are usually taken to mean public health, law, and education. In order to see how the 10 per cent, reduction would affect South Australia, I first went through the schedules setting out the State expenditure on education. Our expenditure on primary education probably is not as great as that of some of the other States, but it is satisfactory to know that, at least, in technical and agricultural education we lead the Commonwealth. That is something for which the Minister of Education deserves congratulations. Our expenditure on public health is the lowest in the Commonwealth, being only 6d a head. It is as high as 1/4 in New South Wales, and 1/8 in Western Australia. The schedule dealing with administration of justice is also interesting, because it shows we have the lowest expenditure on that line in Australia. Our rate is 7d a head, whereas the average of the other States is 11d.; most of them being between 1/2 and 2/2. It may be that we are a more law-abiding people than those of the other States. I would be glad to accept that as an explanation of our low expenditure on this line.

Appendix 13 of the Grants Commission's report deals with the real wages of males. Here again South Australia is not in such a happy position, because our rates are the lowest in the Commonwealth. Taking 1000 as the basis in 1927, our figure for 1930 was 984. Our nominal wage figure was 877, as against an average of 885 for the other States. In this State we are supposed to make a reduction of 7 per cent, in social services, but I could not find any great reduction under education, public health or justice. I immediately thought of expenditure on unemployment. That subject is not now in the forefront of public discussion. As other members pointed out, it was completely omitted from the Budget speech. I have been forced to the

conclusion that the reduction in the Commonwealth grant has to be borne by that most unfortunate section of the community—the unemployed. They are the ones who are paying the penalty of the reduction in our social services. I have looked up what I said on the Budget last year, and I have not felt ashamed of anything I have said in that respect. On that occasion I prophesied that the following year we would have bigger debts and would require higher taxation to meet them. I did not require to be a prophet to prophesy anything like that, but only had to have a glimmering of common sense and an understanding of the system under which we are operating. In his annual report, in that section dealing with the national income, the Auditor-General set out the value of production within the State, and he said:—

"It is impossible to estimate this with any degree of satisfaction because the value of professional, domestic and other services rendered by persons in the community should be added to the above figures after deducting depreciation to give the national income per head of the State."

With all due respects to that officer, I differ very strongly from that statement. I consider that the professional and domestic services rendered by a very important section of the community are simply a distribution of the production of the State. These people do not produce anything, which adds to the value of the State, industry produces the real wealth. When you pay the schoolmaster or the doctor or any other person, whether engaged in domestic services or not, who gives service to the community, you pass on some of the purchasing powers you have created as a producer. If that is so, the paragraph referred to is wrong. In the schedule on the same page of the Auditor-General's report it is stated that a decrease of approximately £4,250,000 has taken place in export values for 1938-39 compared with the previous year. While this decrease in monetary values has taken place, we find that production itself has not decreased. It is true that wheat production has considerably decreased in recent years, but in other directions the output has not only been up to standard, but has increased. I was particularly interested in the legislation dealing with dried fruits, because in 1931-32 the output of the State in dried fruits amounted to 27,000,000lb., whereas last year we produced 45,000,000lb. That was a tremendous increase. I am interested in this line of production, because the district I represent contributes in no small degree to it. When I was discussing a certain motion before the House on a previous occasion the Minister of Irrigation doubted whether the bankers overseas could control industry within Australia. Here is an obvious case in point that while the output of the State is still very high, the monetary values for it have

been decreased by £4,500,000, showing the powers of the bankers outside the Commonwealth of Australia, and how they can deflate Australia's income by controlling finances overseas.

I propose now to show that an increase in taxation is avoidable, that it is, in fact, unnecessary, and that in the very near future the sovereign right of Parliaments will have to be regained by them. I mean the control and issue of their own money requirements. This right has been usurped by a very clever and insidious money trick, much more cunning than any conjuror's slight of hand performance. The money trick is on such a gigantic scale, and carried on with such an impudent respectability that the poor plucked public is slow to realise the audacity of the thing. We are compelled today, thanks to this whole sorry swindle, to pay perennial tribute upon money which it cost the banks almost nothing to create. The banker is probably the only known instance of the possibility of lending something without parting with anything, and making a profit on the transaction, obtaining in the first instance his commodity free. This statement is substantiated by the "Encyclopedia Britannica," 14th edition, under the heading "Banking — banks lend money by creating the means of payment out of nothing." Evidently it is possible to get something for nothing, and it is the people of this State who are ground down by taxation, who provide that something. The whole of this State's income tax, motor tax, land tax, and all other taxes, amounting to £4,120,000 in 1938-39, was absorbed in the payment of interest totalling £4,580,000 last financial year. We have been taught to regard taxation as necessary, and so it was in the days of scarcity now passed. Today taxation is legalised robbery. We have been brought up to have a holy regard for a balanced Budget, and in this regard Mr. Stevens, when Premier of New South Wales, who is typical of orthodox politicians and economists the world over, said:—

"It is vitally necessary for Governments to balance their ledgers like businessmen. There is no difference between Government and private enterprise in the need for the balancing of ledgers."

Mr. Stevens' remarks are based on reasoning that is entirely fallacious. There is no analogy whatever between a Government balancing its Budget and a business firm balancing its ledgers. A business firm produces goods, we will say, to the value of £10,000 per annum. To this price it is obliged to add at least 5 per cent, for profit, and a similar percentage for bank interest. In other words, though this particular firm has borrowed £10,000 of overdraft money to finance £10,000 worth of production, it is obliged to recover from the public in the prices of its goods an additional £1000. It is scarcely necessary to point out that the firms, which succeed in doing this, can only do so at the expense of other firms, which fail to do it. The profits of one group of firms are equalled by the losses of another group of firms Rhys, in his "Real Wealth and Financial Poverty," states that for the year 1921, 171,239 corporations in the U.S.A. showed a total trading profit of four billion dollars, and for the same year 185,158 corporations showed a total loss of practically the same figure. It is definitely a physical impossibility for all firms to make profits. Every profit is offset somewhere by a corresponding loss but the difficulty of making; (Continued on page 5.)

### Important Peace Rally!

ASSEMBLY HALL, COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 8 p.m.

"The World Situation: What Are We to Do?"

SPEAKER: ERIC D. BUTLER.

All Supporters are asked to keep the above date in mind.  
Tell your friends and associates. Watch the "New Times"  
for further particulars.

## The New Times

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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### PEACE CAN YET BE RESTORED

In spite of what the daily press has been telling us during the past week, it is quite apparent, as we mentioned last week, that public opinion in Great Britain and Australia has been steadily gaining a stronger desire for a Peace Conference before the European holocaust starts in earnest. At the time of writing there is sufficient evidence upon which to base a belief **that peace can yet be restored.** Of course, being a weekly paper, it is difficult for us to provide up-to-the-minute comment on matters in such a state of flux, and events may even change for the worse before this issue appears on the bookstalls.

Since Lloyd George took the initiative for a Peace Conference two weeks ago, several more reports have appeared in the daily press which indicate that public opinion in Great Britain is not completely in accord with declared Government policy. On October 12 Lord Ponsonby was reported as urging, at a public meeting, that a Peace Conference be held. He claimed that there was a **growing** body of truly patriotic opinion behind him. George Bernard Shaw was also reported, in the same news-item, to be adopting a similar viewpoint.

Possibly the most remarkable evidence of anti-war public opinion appeared in a report in the Melbourne "Herald" of October 12 and in the morning papers of the following day. The report said that at the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal in Newcastle, England, Judge Richardson said: "I am as sure as I sit here that, if Christ appeared, He would approve this war." There was an immediate uproar, and the court had to be closed. When the court was opened again later further uproar took place, with the result that it had to be closed again.

Another item of great interest appeared in the Melbourne "Herald" of October 16. The London "Daily Mail" is reported as stating in an outspoken article "Britain's Enemy No. 2 is **apathy**, to ward off which the Government was doing nothing." This is a striking admission, in view of what we have been told by our local press. If the public is apathetic in Britain, there is little cause for surprise if there is not much enthusiasm in the Dominions.

Apart from these straws in the wind, there has been another very significant feature in connection with the present situation. Since the outbreak of the war practically all private mails from Britain to Australia seem to have been held up. Why? Perhaps the answer is to be found in a small item of the "In Town and Out" column of the Melbourne "Herald" of October 16. To quote: "A colleague tells me that a long-expected letter from his relatives in England arrived last week, but the original contents had been removed. One slip of paper, inserted by Authority, bore the words: 'your relatives are all well—but too talkative.'" So we are not to learn what people in Britain really think about things. Shades of the Gestapo!

Apparently, a section of public opinion in Canada is also very much opposed to the present situation. An astounding report appeared in the press last Tuesday. It stated that Mr. M. L. Duplessis is seeking re-election in the Quebec by-election on the war issue. The report states that Mr. Duplessis has been denouncing the Federal Government's war programme from one end of Canada to the other. Feeling is running very high, and the result of the election will prove of paramount importance. It certainly indicates that a Peace Conference would be welcomed by many Canadians.

Since our last issue there has been unmistakable evidence in Australia of a rising tide of public opinion in favour of a conference. After Mr. Holloway, M.H.R., stated his attitude, as reported last week, Mr. Alex. Wilson (Independent Member for Wimmera) made an equally courageous statement, which appeared in all the Melbourne papers. We can also report that thousands of letters along the lines we suggested last week have been sent to Members of Parliament, cables have been forwarded to both Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Chamberlain, and a quickening of the public pulse seems apparent.

We still believe that peace can be gained by a big effort. Readers can let their own consciences decide whether they are making a real, determined effort for peace—NOW. If public opinion in this country can be made articulate it will help to force a conference at which, as we said last week, the "democracies" could lay the foundation of a permanent world peace by removing the **causes** of "Hitlerism," War, and other ills from which mankind suffers.

Incidentally, at such a conference it would be essential to exclude all financiers and armament manufacturers. Otherwise, we would see the perpetuation of the very conditions, which have, in the last analysis, caused the present conflict.

## AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE REBUKED

The following is a copy of a letter sent by a member of the Victorian Christian Pacifist Movement in reply to a circular soliciting financial support for the Australian Air League:

"Mr. K. C. Cameron, State Secretary, The Australian Air League, 94 Queen Street, Melbourne, C.I."

Dear Sir, —

"I count it a pleasure to firmly decline to contribute to the funds of your organisation in the manner suggested in your circular. The badge, which was enclosed, is returned herewith.

"To me it would be no more abhorrent to encourage the young men of our land to destroy their own mothers and baby brothers and sisters with poison gas and incendiary bombs than to help in promoting a scheme for training them to deal similarly with the mothers and baby brothers and sisters of other people. After all, it is very much the same thing, is it not? As I understand the matter, we are now committed to an international contest in women and baby killing, and, according to the rules of the game, the nation, which endures this horror with the greater fortitude and callousness, wins the contest. Kindly count me right out of this atrocious beastliness.

"As we are all supposed to be out for national efficiency just now, may I venture to make the suggestion—if you consider it of sufficient value, you can pass it on to the proper authorities—that if the airmen of each side attended to the bombing of their own people, a great deal of unnecessary travelling could be obviated, and the cost of national 'defence' thus considerably reduced without in any way minimising that wholesale de-

struction of life and property, which (as far as I am able to comprehend the situation) appears to be the main desideratum.

"I must compliment your organisation on the use of a candour which is somewhat rare in the present period of cant and humbug, in that your circular invites me to forward 5/- or more to protect *my* interest, 'and the more important interest of the Empire as a whole.' That exactly coincides with my own view as to what the present conflict is all about. Rather strangely, however, some official apologists for the war have been trying to persuade us that, in some way or other, it was entered upon for the good of the world, or even in the cause of righteousness. As a Christian, my concern for my own interests and those 'of the Empire as a whole' is extremely tepid, but I *am* passionately concerned about the practice of international justice and an equal consideration for all God's children. My own definite conviction is that the merits of the present squabble cannot be judged by the events in the last five or six years alone, but must be assessed in the light of all that has happened in European politics during the past 21 years, and that, when the latter is taken into account, it becomes abundantly clear that obstinate refusal to face up to principles of international equity has made the present conflict inevitable. —I am, yours faithfully,

"(Rev.) W. O. WARNOCK."  
Moonee Ponds.

### "CHOOSE YE THIS DAY WHOM YE WILL SERVE—GOD OR MAMMON"

We recently reported a remarkable speech on National Credit, Currency, and Banking, by Mr. W. Macgillivray, M.L.A. (Member for Chaffey District, South Australia), delivered in the House of Assembly on August 9, 1939.

The motion was: "That the National Credit of the Commonwealth should be used in the interest of defence, the primary industries, and the general welfare of the people of Australia."

When the House divided on the motion, this was the result:

AYES (17)—Messrs. Duncan, Fisk, Fletcher, Illingworth, Lacey, Langdon, and Macgillivray (teller)  
Hon. J. McInnes. Messrs. McKenzie, McLeay, Nieass, and O'Halloran; Hon. R. S. Richards, Messrs. Riches, Stephens, Stott, and Thompson.

NOES (13)—Messrs. Connor, Dunks, and Dunn; Hon. G. F. Jenkins, Mr. McDonald, Hon. M. McIntosh, Messrs. Melrose and Michael, Hon. T. Playford (teller),

Mr. Robinson, Hon. R. T. Rudall, Messrs. Shannon and Whittle.

MAJORITY OF FOUR FOR THE AYES. MOTION THUS CARRIED.

NOTE. This outstanding speech should be in every home in Australia. Copies of the speech, reprinted from "Hansard," in brochure form on good paper, are obtainable from the "New Times," Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, for 3d each, or 2/6 per dozen, post-free. A limited number—send for yours NOW.

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## BIG BANKING SWINDLE EXPOSED

(Continued from page 3.)

profit is increased by Government taxation. The profit of £500 made by the business firm is subject to taxation to the extent of approximately 20 per cent, and the fact that most firms charge taxation into price in no way makes its payment easier. We come, therefore, to the crux of the matter, which is that the more concern a Government shows in balancing its own Budget the harder it makes the task of businesses and individuals to balance theirs. To summarise the truth of the matter: Governments only balance their Budgets by unbalancing the budgets of the rest of the community. Mr. ROBINSON - - Does not the honourable member think that taxation should be paid for services rendered by the State?

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY - We should pay for any services rendered by the State, but the taxation we raise in South Australia is used for the sole purpose of paying interest on the public debt, and not one penny goes towards payment for any service. The £118,730,000 of Federal and State taxation levied in Australia for the year ended June 1938, meant that thousands of firms failed to balance their ledgers at all, and hundreds of thousands of individuals were compelled, in order to pay tribute to the taxation Caesar, to lower their whole standard of life. Mr. Stevens' dictum, then, that "there is no difference between Government and private enterprise in the need for the balancing of ledgers" is flagrant and fallacious nonsense. Governments balance their ledgers much in the same way that hold-up gangsters balance theirs—by sheer robbery of the public. The fact that the former is legalised merely changes the name of robbery to taxation, but the effect so far as the public is concerned is precisely the same. Now, Governments representing the nation and pawning the nation's credit to the private money monopoly are gilt-edged risks as far as banks and financial institutions are concerned. To stave off revolution, Governments are obliged to borrow freely for doles, relief work, etc., and Government indebtedness to the banks has grown to gigantic proportions. Out of every pound received as income by the Governments of Australia more than 11s goes to satisfy the rapacious appetite of interest. And so finally we arrive at the conclusion that the taxation departments of the Commonwealth and the States are primarily agents for the private banking system, using the authority of Government and the full weight of the law to recover from the people in taxation and repay to the banks money which the banks have created by pen-and-ink entries in their ledgers, using the real wealth created by the community as the backing for the ledger credit. That these loans the banks make are merely figures in books is attested by many reputable authorities. In fact, it is now no longer denied by the bankers-themselves.

The late Sir Edward Holden an eminent British banker said: —

"Banking is little more than bookkeeping. It is a transfer of credit from one person to another. The transfer is by cheque. Cheques are currency. Currency is money."

The Hon. R. McKenna. Ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer in the British Coalition Government and Chairman of the Midland Bank, the largest trading bank in the world, states in his book, "Post War Banking," page 76: —

"The amount of money in exist-

ence varies only with the action of the banks in increasing or diminishing deposits. We know how this is effected. Every bank loan and every bank purchase of securities creates a deposit, and every payment of a bank loan and every bank sale destroys one."

The CHAIRMAN—I think the honourable member is getting away from the Estimates. He should link up his remarks with Government expenditure.

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY - The line on that should be fairly obvious. I am pointing out that taxation is largely unnecessary.

The CHAIRMAN—We are not discussing the taxation resolutions at present.

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY — If there were no taxation there would be no necessity for a Budget.

The CHAIRMAN — Does the honourable member intend to suggest any alteration to the present system?

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY—Quite possibly I will. Mr. McKenna also said, when addressing a meeting of shareholders of the Midland Bank of January 25, 1924: —

"I am afraid the ordinary citizen will not like to be told that the banks can, and do, create and destroy money."

The Treasurer is worried stiff about the public debt. I am showing now that, according to Mr. McKenna, what he is worrying about is merely a matter of book-keeping. Later in the same address Mr. McKenna said: —

"And they who control the credit of a nation direct the policy of Governments and hold in the hollow of their hands the destiny of the people."

A recognised authority on banking, H. D. McLeod, states, in his "Elements of Banking": —

"When it is said that a bank has perhaps £25,000,000 of deposits, it is almost universally believed that it has £25,000,000 of actual money to 'lend out' as it is erroneously called. . . . It is a complete and entire delusion. These deposits are not deposits in cash at all. They are nothing but an enormous superstructure of credit."

Mr. R. G. Hawtrey, Assistant Secretary to the British Treasury, wrote in his "Trade Depression and the Way Out": —

"When a bank lends it creates money out of nothing."

It must not be forgotten that public loans would fail badly if they depended entirely upon the investing public. In every "successful" loan the major portion is taken up by the trading banks. It is to them that we pay tribute for the use of our own credit. This nation is bound by the devilish bonds of an unholy system of usury, which holds the majority of our people in poverty and insecurity. Our Governments are nothing more than tools of this money system, and they are compelled to use our Parliamentary institutions to bind us in stronger bonds of enslavement. Very truly did Baron Rothschild say: —

"Let me control the finances of a country and I care not who makes its laws."

Free money makes free people, but debt makes men slaves. And here I remind members once again that the Royal Commission on Banking and Monetary Reform in Australia stated in paragraph 504 of its report that the Commonwealth Bank, owned by the people of Australia, can even make money available to Governments and others free of charge. This is our bank, and we should demand it be used in our interests.

Now it is used by the trading banks as a shelter during a financial storm. We should remember that the Commonwealth Bank is the only bank in Australia that can pay a one-pound note for every one pound shown in your passbook as a deposit. The total amount of bank deposits (money in the banks) is about £550,000,000. Legal tender, consisting of notes and coins made at the Commonwealth Mint, amount to about £50,000,000, so that for every £1 of legal money someone has created £10 of other money, and clearly it is the banks that have worked the trick. A united and stern demand by the State Governments through their Premiers should be made at the Loan Council that the Commonwealth Bank shall function in the interests of its owners—the people of Australia.

We read with amazement of the appalling war taxation in Britain, but figures quoted in the *Advertiser* on September 29, 1939, show that a married man with a dependent wife and two children earning £500 a year, pays £27 income tax in Britain and £27 0s. 10d in South Australia. On top of that the South Australian has to pay heavy water and sewer rates, 8¼d a gallon petrol, 6 percent, sales tax and untold amounts in Customs duty charges. Professor Mills, of the Economics Chair of Sydney University, speaking recently on how the war should be financed to the Economic Society, a stronghold of orthodox (i.e., Rothschild, Guggenheim & Co.) finance, said: —

"We should put as much as we can on the shoulders of the taxpayers. Taxes, taxes and more taxes should be our motto."

What a ghastly statement. What a fine outlook for the taxpayers of Australia—that they are to be the ones to finance the war.

We know the misery and suffering in Australia now, and any added taxation must increase it, and yet this man says that we must heap taxation on taxation. If the people of Australia stand for that, they deserve it. This Government has lost no opportunity in following out the policy indicated by Professor Mills. The resolution passed in this House on August 23 reached the hands of the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, and when Mr. Makin, M.H.R., for Hindmarsh, asked what action would be taken, he replied: —

"The credit of the nation is, in fact, being used to finance present defence undertakings, and no doubt it would continue so to be used."

Mr. Menzies confuses, either wilfully or ignorantly, national credit with national debt, for it is by increasing the national debt that the Commonwealth is financing defence works. This procedure involves Australia in ever-increasing taxation to pay interest on the national debt, which now amounts to 1400 million pounds. More than half of this money has been cancelled out of existence, since total bank deposits and legal tender in Australia amount to only 600 million pounds, leaving nearly 1000 million pounds non-existent money upon which we pay interest. In addition to our national debt, municipal debts and semi-governmental borrowings amount to several millions. We are faced with the paradox that the more we progress the deeper we go into debt, so that although the population of Australia has increased four times since 1860 the debt has increased a hundred times. The remarks of Mr. McKenna this afternoon should make the supporters of "sound" finance wonder where we are getting. While it will be a tremendous

problem for Australia to finance the war, it will be a bigger one to finance the peace which we all hope will come in the not-too-distant future. We have not even solved the problem of the soldiers who returned from the last war. Numbers of them are walking the streets unemployed, but they are willing to offer their services again, for which they will at least receive clothing, food and shelter. Does anyone look with any confidence to the problem of dealing with the men who will return from the present war? Some of them are at least being taken off the dole. Are the men who return from the war to be thrown on the unemployment scrap heap? This is a problem, which we must face up to, and it is not too soon to start studying it now. The sooner we change our system, so that we can do the decent thing to these men who are going to sacrifice so much, the better we will be prepared to meet any eventualities which arise on their return. We must take one step at a time. The sooner we adopt the principle of getting certain moneys for defence, public works and other loan expenditure free from the Commonwealth Government as a right, and cut out this continual and increasing debt business, the sooner we will do our duty to the people we represent. While we cannot get the full application of it, we should adopt the principle. I intend to oppose the Budget because I consider it an injustice to the people of South Australia to add more taxation on their shoulders at a time when they are least able to bear it. The Treasurer himself has pointed out that the national income has been reduced; therefore the people are not in a position to stand increased taxation.

### "PEACE MUST BE NEGOTIATED—NOT IMPOSED"

#### Peace Pledge Union Urges Prime Minister

The Victorian section of the Australian Peace Pledge Union has sent a letter to the Prime Minister, urging that peace must be negotiated and not imposed after victory, if it is to be permanently and sincerely accepted by both sides. The letter expresses the view that, apart from any desire for the peaceful progress of the German people, the Nazi party must realise that war may involve its overthrow and the abandonment of such conquests as it has hitherto made. In view of this, it is suggested that the Commonwealth Government should not be unduly sceptical of proposals for general disarmament and a world settlement from Germany or other non-democratic States.

Thought not supporting a policy of collective security, the Union asserts that this principle, as defined in the League Covenant and elsewhere, does not demand that war be continued until the rulers of the aggressor nation are overthrown.

#### ERIC BUTLER TO VISIT TASMANIA

Eric Butler will leave for a brief visit to Tasmania next week, on either the 27th or the 28th. Although his itinerary is not yet to hand, we understand that he will probably broadcast from Launceston on Sunday, October 22, and from Hobart on Sunday, October 29. Further details will be published next week.

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(Continued on page 7.)

## NEW ECONOMISTS AND THE WAR

By "DOREMUS."

No New Economist can feel anything but the deepest regret that war has once again burst upon a world, which needs peace so badly. The prospect is not encouraging, and we must all be finding that it is as well not to brood on the grimmer aspects of the possibilities, which confront us. But it would also be a cardinal error to suppose that all is lost, that we must be driven by events into a sullen, impotent inactivity. It would be idle to pretend that we are in a position to control oversea events, but we can, as a body of people with no little understanding of events and their causes, exert an influence, so that out of the interplay of colossal forces, themselves beyond our control, some good may come.

The war has produced a new environment to which all movements and schools of thought have had to adapt themselves. Let us see how others view the war.

### COLLECTIVE SECURITY (Punitive)

"Hitler has offended against the canons of international morality and must be smashed, then we can have a new peace and a new system of collective security. But there can be no thought of peace With Hitler." This is the attitude of the British Labor Party.

### COLLECTIVE SECURITY (Constructive)

"If the worst comes to the worst we will have to fight, but why not call a peace conference now, with all the European powers present to hammer out a new Europe? It would be a conference between equals. If it failed the war would go on just the same, but it might succeed. The new Europe would be guaranteed by all the powers, so that even if Hitler broke his word immediately afterwards all powers would be equally pledged to resist him." This is the attitude of Mr. Lloyd George.

### PACIFIST

"Hitler is the product of Versailles. The German people do not want to fight, and would not do so if we refused. This would compel the politicians to go to conference. This policy may involve risks, but it also gives promise of a successful outcome, and the risks would be run for peace, not war. Even if we lose by it materially we gain in other ways. Worldly loss does not entitle us to violate the commandment, 'Thou Shalt Not Kill.' " This is the attitude of George Lansbury and the British pacifist movements.

### ADVANCED SOCIALIST

"The war is due to a clash between the British and the German systems of imperialistic capitalism. It is no concern of the workers of both countries, who should concentrate on ridding themselves of their capitalist exploiters. Any risks run in the course of this policy would be worth while, because they would be for a Socialist Europe and a Peace based on the Brotherhood of the Workers." This is the attitude of James Max-ton and the British Independent Labor Party.

### STALINIST

"Stalin is acting to safeguard the Soviet Union, and is extending its influence throughout Europe so that when the crash comes in Germany, and perhaps in England and France, it will be possible for the Soviet to spread Communism throughout Europe. Stalin is working for the safety of the U.S.S.R. and a Communist Europe." This is the attitude of the Communist Party.

### TROTSKYIST

"Stalin betrayed Communism in Russia by establishing the rule of a selfish bureaucracy. Now he is betraying it internationally by joining up with the arch-reactionary, Hitler. He is forced to do this by his initial betrayal of Communism in Russia. To keep the

Russian people quiet in the face of this betrayal he was compelled to resort to Russian patriotism as a drug. Moving along this line, he must take one step after another, or be forced to explain why he has not produced Communism. Patriotism leads to imperialism and so to aggression. By joining Hitler, he has managed to give the Soviet military successes to feed the Russian patriotism which he introduced as an alternative to revolutionary ardour." This is the attitude of the Fourth International, its "Communist League," and the disillusioned ex-Communists.

### BRITISH IMPERIALIST

"Britain's security depends on her holding the balance of power in Europe. Thus, when Germany was defeated and France was dominant, Britain had to befriend Germany to restore the balance. When Hitler came to power we endeavoured to hold Germany and France in the balance in the West, while in the East we favoured Germany, offended Russia, and winked at German aggression in the East, realising that it increased the tension in the East. When two powers hate each other they cannot hate us. But when Hitler got out of control last March we had to stop him, especially as there were signs that he might effect reconciliation with Russia. We guaranteed the integrity of Poland and the States lying between Russia and Germany, and tried to win the friendship of the Soviet. In this we failed, and must now face a Germany and Russia, which have made up their differences. The balance has failed, and we must fight to restore it. This will be possible when we change the German Government by removing the now pro-Russian Hitler. Hitler, having committed the unpardonable crime of helping Russia to introduce her influence into Europe must be eliminated." This is the attitude of the British Conservative Party.

### BRITISH CAPITALIST

"Hitler is committing suicide by letting Russia walk into Europe, but he is murdering us, too. Where will we stand in the face of a Communist Europe? The war must stop at once, so that Russia may be pushed back into her own territory. This may involve some concessions to Hitler, but that is better than letting him place all Europe, including Germany, at the mercy of Communism. After all, politics aside, we have investments everywhere." This is the attitude of the big British industrialists and super-conservatives, whose main concern is the perpetuation of their wealth and power.

### THE VATICAN

"The war is devastating countries primarily Catholic, and is by every standard a great disaster. It must be ended as soon as possible, but the final settlement must

be just. Hitler's policy is a grave problem in peacetime, but in war time the whole continent is apt to slip out of control. We must work for peace. The war is exposing Europe to the danger of International Communism." The Church is also, probably, equally aware of the danger of International Finance.

### AUSTRALIAN LOYALIST

"Britain is at war. Therefore we are too, because we have the same King. But apart from that, we are united with Britain in common interests. We dare not, even if we would, take the frail bark of the Commonwealth out into the stormy seas of international piracy without the protection of the Motherland. In any case, blood is thicker than water." This is the attitude of the Australian Government.

### AUSTRALIAN ISOLATIONIST

"Australia is not threatened. If we fight we shall get hurt, but not otherwise. Any help we could safely send to England would not help her much, but might endanger us. Our future lies in the Pacific. Australians must not be sent to foreign battlefields. Let us defend our own. The argument that we need Britain's protection also proves that we dare not weaken our defences by sending our men overseas." This is the policy of, at any rate, sections of the Labor Party.

\* \* \*

In the face of this almost bewildering diversity of opinion, what is to be our attitude? Such an attitude should depend not on the preferences of individual New Economists, on any of the detailed issues raised in the foregoing summaries, but should arise logically from such fundamental considerations as the philosophy of the sovereign individual and the fact of artificial money-scarcity in the face of material abundance.

The latter factor makes war inevitable between work-States seeking favourable export balances. This description fits all countries. Therefore it would be foolish to become enthusiastic about any of the issues raised by any one war, since all wars have the same cause, and it is this, which must be corrected. Hitler is the product of German poverty, and that was the result of international trade competition, therefore this war is no exception to the rule.

The philosophy of the sovereign individual postulates that the State should intervene in the fewest possible departments of private life, and that the individual should be freed from the possibility that any other individual or organisation should deprive him of his possessions or liberty. War drives Governments to take the opposite course. The individual is progressively restricted in his actions and progressively made dependent on the willingness of Governments to support him, and, in some cases, even to feed him. Therefore war is a state in which our philosophy is negated.

The present war, if pursued to its logical conclusion, will result in a Europe largely under the domination of Moscow, which many believe to be controlled by Wall Street financiers. The 90-days'-credit provision of the amended American Neutrality Bill, together with the American tariff-wall, will result in the rapid exhaustion of Allied gold stocks and Allied-owned foreign securities in payment for munitions. These, too, will come under the control of Wall Street. Thus, as was said in "Warning Europe," the war can end in the enslavement of the Western World to Wall Street. The main problem, it seems to me, is how to (Continued on page 7.)

**ANOTHER MYSTERY CLEARED UP**

By "THE WALRUS."

**"If you want to be a grocer,  
You must learn the 'Yes, sir! No, sir!'  
But I've something just as good, and three bags full."**

Recently I had a most illuminating conversation with a man who was able to clear up for me something which had been bothering me for a long time. He refused to disclose his identity, and I don't blame him, for politicians are so resentful and sensitive about some things. I couldn't see what he was getting at all at once.

He shoved his face close to mine and demanded,

"If you wanted to be a barber, what's the first thing you'd do?"

"Take something for it. Oh, sorry!" (Thinking he might be a barber.) "I don't know exactly. What would you do?"

"Learn the business," he proclaimed triumphantly. Evidently he had mastered his subject.

"And then...?" I asked breathlessly.

"That's all. But suppose you wanted to be a 'bus driver?"

"Ah, yes, that's different. Quite different."

"No, it isn't!"

"Eh? Oh no, of course not. Silly of me. Just for the moment I thought it was. I wonder if you'd mind awfully if I toddled along now . . ."

"It's the same, because you'd learn the business."

"I see."

"Or if you wanted to be a banker or an armament manufacturer . . ."

"Or just a burglar in a small way," I prompted, helpfully.

"You'd learn the business."

"Quite so." I was beginning to get the hang of this. "And now, I wonder if you'd mind awfully if I . . .?"

"And suppose you wanted to be a politician."

But I knew the answer now.

"I'd learn the business," I answered promptly.

"NO!" he yelled.

"No?"

"No. That's the very thing you mustn't do."

"Good gracious! Why ever is that?"

"Because no one ever does. Not only that, but you'd have to forget all you ever knew about arithmetic."

"You surprise me. Surely you can't be right. That's one of the things I thought you had to be rather good at. I thought you had to be ready on the instant to express, for example, the improvement in the meat trade, in saveloys and yards of tripe—so

many times round the bandstand and up the garden path, and all that."

"Bah! Did you ever know a politician who could count a simple thing like the unemployed?"

"We-ell, no. But perhaps they won't always stay simple. The unemployed, I mean."

"Well, what would you do if you wanted to find out?"

"Oh, er—the same as you, no doubt."

"And what do the politicians do?"

"Yes, I see what you mean. What do they do?"

"They ring up and find out the bank rate, and hand you that."

"Good heavens! Then we have been deceived all these years."

"Nit! Everybody knows it . . . except you, apparently. And d'you know how they arrive at rations?"

"Oh, do tell me! Not the bank rate again, surely?"

"No. This is rather special. They have to be extra careless about this. You know there's a gang of professors somewhere, slogging away at index numbers, and, according to them, the basic wage in Queensland is £4/4/-."

"That's so. But what's that got to do with rations?"

"Don't you see? Remember what I told you about arithmetic?" I nodded helplessly.

"Well," he explained, "they added up the two fours and they made it 8/- . That's how the ration scale came to start at 8/- a week."

"And didn't anybody spot the bloomer?" I gasped.

"Oh, one bloke is reported to have yelled out, 'Could you live on 8/-?' 'I'd hate to,' the Treasurer said. 'Well 'ands up those 'oo'd 'ate to,' shouts the bloke. All their hands went up. They thought he said 'eight too.'"

"Just fancy that! . . . I suppose you don't happen to know how the separation allowances for the new army were arrived at?"

"No, I don't," he confessed ruefully. "Somebody bungled that, if you ask me. I wouldn't be sur-

prised if some of the women keep alive for several months, what with doing a moonlight flit, and training the kids to do a bit of shop-lifting. I can't make it out. After all, the Government had the army in the bag, and were able to do what they liked with it. They had a great opportunity to see that this war was the last one, by making it impossible to feed the kiddies at all. Instead of that they're ready to blow a whole nine pence a day on the youngsters for food and clothes. Why, at that, Australia might still be there when the next 'war to end war' comes along . . . But, of course, there's always the hope that we might be back to barbarism by then."

"What difference will that make?" I asked.

"None at all to us," he answered. "But it might to the politicians."

I haven't seen him since.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**PEACE CONFERENCE WANTED**

Sir, —I am directed by the Melbourne branch of the Citizens' Anti-Dictatorship League (which was founded last month, and already has approximately 10,000 supporters) to inform you that this branch wholeheartedly approves of your leader-article on world peace conference possibilities in the *New Times* of last week.

We confidently expect branches in all States to support our resolution that the Federal Government, through its members, be urged to press vigorously for a fully-represented World Peace Conference.

Thanking you for having published our letter to M's. H.R. and with best wishes.—Yours, etc., Hon. Sec., Citizen's Anti-Dictatorship League, Melbourne.

**NEW ECONOMISTS AND THE WAR**

(Continued from page 6.)

defeat the plans of Wall Street.

On this subject combined understanding must be brought to bear, but means to this end would appear to be, firstly, to expose the whole Wall Street plot, so that, while Wall Street may succeed by force of circumstances, it will not succeed through our own stupidity. Secondly, if we can carry through the principle of National Credit for National Purposes we will help to make the accumulation of gold and securities in Wall Street meaningless, in addition to making the defence of Australia as efficient, as our physical possibilities permit.

[The retention of such political liberty as we have had would seem to be a prerequisite. —Ed., N.T.]

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**MELBOURNE (Cont.)**

(Continued from page 6.)

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## A HIGHLIGHT FROM "HANSARD"

Do Private Banks or the People  
Come First?HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SEPTEMBER 21:

HON. P. C. SPENDER: "In a time of war, certain national resources have to be directed to war purposes. If we obtain our war finance from the Commonwealth Bank, what is to happen to the credit resources of the private banks, for ordinary channels of investments will probably not be available?"

HON. E. J. HOLLOWAY: "I can see no reason why, if the resources of the Commonwealth Bank are drawn upon to provide credit for war purposes, the resources of the private banks should not continue to be available for ordinary investment. Obviously, we cannot continue ordinary methods of finance. I can see no reason why the Government should not obtain £15,000,000, £20,000,000, or £30,000,000 from the Commonwealth Bank, seeing that it proposes to obtain such amounts, before very long, from the private banks. It is regrettable, in my opinion, that the Government will not permit the Commonwealth Bank to enter into competition in this matter with the private banks. We must safeguard the interests of the people of this country, and we ought not to follow a course, which will place an intolerable burden upon posterity. Approximately half of the wealth we produce goes overseas, but that is no reason why we should not make the best use of the wealth we have within the country.

"When the last war broke out the Government of the day requested the private banks to furnish the funds that were needed for war purposes. The private banks replied that they were unable to do so, for the burden was too great for them.

John Hogan's  
Programme

Friday, October 20: Victoria Hall, Dubbo, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, 21st: 3 p.m., Peak Hill; 8 p.m., Parkes.  
Sunday, 22nd: 3 p.m. Condoblin Hall; 8 p.m., Lake Cargellico.  
Monday, 23rd: West Wyalong, Tallimba.  
Tuesday, 24th: 8 p.m.: Barellan.  
Wednesday, 25th: 8 p.m., Yenda.  
Thursday, 26th: 8 p.m., Griffith.  
Friday, 27th: 8 p.m., Leeton.  
Saturday, 28th: 8 p.m., Narrandera.  
Sunday, 29th: Yanco.

(Day and supplementary meetings are still possible in this area. Communicate with Jack Washington, Leeton.)

## BOOK THIS DATE

The Third Grand Dance-Social of The U.E.A. will be held on  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

WHERE? At 48 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

WHERE? One minute from Flinders Street.

WHERE? Opposite Melbourne Sports Depot

AT "SMOKY" DAWSON'S FAMOUS "HILL BILLY CLUB," where the floor is excellent, there's a comfortable lounge, and there's no early closing. THIS IS TO BE A NIGHT OF NIGHTS!

Tickets, 1/9 each, inclusive of tax and supper. Send for yours now, from Hon. Sec., Room 9, Floor 5, McEwan House, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

"Sir Denison Miller was consulted by the private banks, which asked him if he could get them out of their trouble. Ultimately, the Commonwealth Bank was able to arrange for all of the money that was needed to be provided. It is a startling fact that the Commonwealth Bank of Australia was practically the only bank in the world that did not take a temporary holiday at that time. Even the Bank of England had to take a holiday. But the small branch of the Commonwealth Bank in London did not close its doors for a single day. Visitors to London were always able to get from the Commonwealth Bank the accommodation they, required. I, therefore, urge the Government to review its policy, with the object of enabling the Commonwealth Bank to marshal our resources and provide the money that is needed for defence purposes."

MR. SPENDER: "I remind the honourable gentleman that one problem we have to face is: What is to be done with private funds that are available for investment if we do not draw upon them to help us with our war finance?"

\* \* \*

One problem we have to face! Is Mr. Spender more concerned with private funds than with the flesh and blood of Australian citizens, who are already staggering under the burden of debt FROM THE LAST WAR TO END WAR? Those who wish to see the private banks leave another trail of poverty and debt by financing this war ON THEIR OWN TERMS, should be invited to start right away for the firing-line, taking the private bankers with them! If such were done on a general scale there would soon be no more use for armaments than to occupy a site in the British Museum.

Tuesday, 31st, onwards: Wagga, Tarcutta, Tumut, Gundagai, Junee.

(Programme being arranged by Mr. A. Belling, Tarcutta.)

Thence to Young, Grenfell, Cowra, Parkes, Forbes, Orange, and return to Sydney.

ADDRESS AT TEACHERS'  
TRAINING COLLEGE

At the invitation of the Public Affairs Club, Teachers' Training College, Melbourne University, Eric Butler spoke on "Democratic Government" on Wednesday, October 11. A very keen interest was displayed by those present and many thoughtful questions were asked, which the speaker answered to the satisfaction of those present.

UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA  
(Non-Party)

## CAMPAIGN NOTES

Keen interest in the activities of the movement was evinced by a good attendance at the usual meeting of campaigners, held at headquarters on Tuesday night last.

A hearty welcome was extended to five delegates from four other pressure politics organisations, whose work is based upon similar principles to those of the U.E.A., and it is confidently expected that much good will result from joint efforts along the lines adopted.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, at 8 p.m.

At the Savoy Theatre, Melbourne, on Monday night last, Messrs. Eric Butler and Norman Rolls addressed a large and attentive meeting of the Peace Mission Movement with splendid results.

## SOCIAL NOTES

Supporters are invited to join the newly formed U.E.A. Club, which will undertake to arrange indoor and outdoor social functions throughout the summer months. Membership fee is 3d per week, and each member will be supplied with a U.E.A. badge, so that they

may know each other anywhere. Members' list can be signed at headquarters any time.

Members and their friends are asked to keep open the night of Wednesday, November 1, when the third dance-social of the season will be held at "Smoky" Dawson's well-known "Hill Billy Club," at 48 Elizabeth Street, opposite Melbourne Sports Depot. There will be several special items on this night; the floor is excellent; there is a comfortable lounge; and there is no early closing at "Smoky's." A first-class band will provide 50/50 music. To make final arrangements, would women supporters please meet with the Women's Section at the next campaign meeting, to be held at headquarters, at 8 o'clock sharp on next Tuesday, October 24?

Tickets for the dance-social, price 1/9 each, inclusive of tax and supper, are now obtainable, and those wishing to make this night a success are asked to get their quota at the earliest opportunity from U.E.A. Rooms, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Wymourh Street, Adelaide.

One of the outstanding features of the "Defence Without Debt or Taxation," Campaign is the response from country towns and districts. From Tarcoola, in the far West, to Pinnaroo, on the extreme East, requests for demand-forms continue to reach Head Office—in many instances from total strangers. The thanks of the Movement are due to Mr. Tossell, of Kadina, for the publicity given to the Campaign, both personally and in the pages of his paper, *The Farmer*. The work of Mr. Downs, of Millicent, also calls for honourable mention. He had visited Adelaide for an operation upon his eyes, but called at the office, with his head swathed in bandages, and collected some demand-forms before he returned home. A bundle of signa-

tures from Millicent was the result. Thank you, Mr. Downs! That cause is happy which possesses adherents like you.

The demand for Mr. Macgillivray's speech in the Legislative Assembly on the National Credit continues unabated, and two thousand additional copies had to be printed. They are now available for distribution; single copies, 2d 1/6 per dozen; 10/6 per hundred. The speech is printed unabridged, and the names of members voting for and against the resolution are given.

The speech against the taxation proposals of the South Australian Government has been delivered in the Assembly, and a report of it forwarded to the *New Times* for publication.

YARRA BANK  
MEETING

In spite of the very chilly wind on Sunday afternoon, October 15, another very successful open-air meeting was conducted on the Yarra Bank. Ron. Jones, Norman Rolls, Eric Butler, and Miss J. Robinson gave short addresses. Many new contacts were made, and quite a quantity of literature was disposed of. These meetings are doing valuable work, and Melbourne readers are asked to note that another meeting will take place next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

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STREET SELLING OF  
THE "NEW TIMES"

The value of street selling of the *New Times* has been well demonstrated over the past few weeks. Many new readers have been obtained, while the publicity obtained has been invaluable. Possibly one of the most encouraging signs has been the increase in the number of young people buying the paper.

Those few stalwarts engaged in this work—Miss J. Robinson, Norman Rolls and Eric Butler—appeal to others to show their faith in our cause by a little assistance. It is certainly not a very spectacular job. It is hard work, *but it gets results*. Apart from the actual sales by the sellers, investigation has shown that several city kiosks experience approximately 50 per cent increase in their sales when street selling takes place. Actionists are asked to come forward.

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