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THE

NEW TIMES

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Vol. 5. No. 43

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1939.

Every Friday 3d

CONSCRIPTION IS COMING

YOUTH AND THE PRESENT
CRISIS

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

If any argument was needed to prove that Australia was drifting towards complete regimentation and dictatorship prior to the war, there has been no doubt about the matter since. If the present trends continue very much longer, without active public opposition, then we are almost certain to see Parliament as an institution suspended altogether.

Time and time again over the past twelve months I have emphasised that the real issue confronting the Australian people was that of maintaining and strengthening such control as they have of their Parliamentary institutions. In other words, while we have some semblance of political democracy, we can fight for economic democracy. Without political democracy, real money reform can only remain a dream. The sooner we appreciate that fact the sooner we will face up to the real issue of the moment.

THE DECLINE OF LIBERTY

In the *New Times* of June 9, I pointed out that liberties were being filched, and stressed the urgency of getting control of Parliament and preserving our liberties. The issue at that time was the National Registration Act, and the failure of electors to take adequate steps to force the repeal of that piece of legislation is a misfortune, which they may appreciate before very long—when they find the Act being used against them. Since then other legislation has been brought down which aims at destroying the rights of the individual. In other words, Finance is using the war to further attack our political institutions. This being the case, we should not be afraid to introduce Electoral Campaign tactics "to all those organisations which are fighting to preserve liberties. Personally, I am not primarily concerned whether they are comprised of money-reformers or not. I am concerned with their attitude towards Parliament and democratic government. If they are agreed that they do not want their liberties filched, the task of Electoral Campaigners is to show them how to harness public opinion. If this is done, we not only keep our liberties, but we also give the public a demonstration of their power. Once they have done that they can go forward to more victories on the straight-out money issue.

**YOUTH AND
CONSCRIPTION**

Some people have told me that my concern about the decline of liberty in this country was a little exaggerated. "It can't happen here," has been the usual attitude. Well, I have very little doubt that Mr. Menzies' latest effort, on behalf of "democracy," in introducing compulsory military training without even calling Parliament, has even given these people something to think about. Whether we like it or not, the fact remains that the road to conscription has been entered upon. Unless the public can be aroused to take vigorous

action immediately, we will find more measures being introduced by mere proclamation. The time to fight back has arrived. In times of "peace" my generation is kicked from pillar to post by the rotten economic system. In times of war we are expected to die for that system. And I would like to point out that we are also finding the, subtle weapon of economic conscription being used to force youth into the army. But even this has not proved effective enough, so we now see compulsion being introduced. On top of this, those in the militia are not allowed to take part in political agitation. What a great state of affairs it will be when a large section of Australia's youth is (Continued on page 3.)

Open Letter to Australian Electors*Ladies and Gentlemen,—*

If the events of the past few weeks have not stirred the dormant citizens among you out of their almost-chronic apathy, then we are afraid that the possibility of democratic reform in Australia is a mere myth, existing only in the imagination of those comparatively few individuals who have tenaciously fought, against all opposition, for your political and economic liberation.

Time after time during the past four years we have pointed out to you how we Australians have been drifting towards definite political dictatorship and complete financial serfdom. Although some of you have heeded our warnings we have, as yet, been met, all too often, with the parrot-cry: "But it can't happen here." Well, it is our unpleasant task to tell you that it IS HAPPENING here. In fact, it HAS HAPPENED in more than one instance. Although we could write columns on certain things, which have taken place since the outbreak of war, a brief reference to two events should indicate the appalling state of affairs in this allegedly democratic and prosperous country.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S FURTHER
BETRAYAL OF THE PEOPLEThe "Investments Control Board"
And What Is Behind It

Last week the Federal Government appointed what it called an "Investments Control Board." The purpose of this Board is officially given as "to co-ordinate and control demands on the investment market." That is to say, to control the flow of money, to determine who shall be allowed to use it, and to say what shall be done with it. At the instigation of International Finance, similar Boards have been established in other parts of the British Empire, and that is why the living standards of the people are being attacked through higher taxation, which is being demanded to meet interest charges on the "investments."

Is it not time our responsible authorities were required to state clearly what exactly they mean by the term, "investment market," and what exactly is marketed there? Where is the "market" held? Who assembles at it, and what changes hands?

**THE TENTACLES OF THE
OCTOPUS**

To get a clear idea of what is behind the appointment of this latest "Board" it is necessary to remember that the industrial and financial life of Australia is controlled by three monopolies, and these are known as the Sugar Monopoly, the Metal Monopoly, and the Overseas Group. These monopolies own the Australian Trading Banks, and have their direct representatives on the Board of the Commonwealth Bank—e.g., Sir Claude Reading (Sugar Monopoly), A. F. Bell (Metal Monopoly), and J. R. Ashton (Sugar Monopoly). Those who control finance control everything, and no

responsible man any longer disputes the fact that the finances of Australia are controlled by a few men on the directorates of banks, insurance companies, and trustee agencies.

Now, the three banks of the Sugar Monopoly are the Bank of New South Wales, the Queensland National Bank, and the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney; the banks of the Metal Monopoly are the Commercial Bank of Australia, the National Bank of Australasia, and the Bank of Adelaide; and the three banks of the Overseas Group are the Bank of Australasia, the E.S. & A. Bank, and the Union Bank. The first three banks are directly concerned with the A.M.P. Society, the Australian Mutual Fire, the Mercantile Mutual, the Perpetual Trustees, the Permanent Trustees, the United Insurance, and the Queensland Insurance; the second three are directly concerned with the A.M.P. Society, the Colonial Mutual Life, the Colonial Mutual Fire, the Atlas Insurance, the British Dominions Insurance, the London and Lancashire Insurance, the Union Trustees, the Equity Trustees, the National Trustees, and the Trustees Executors; and the remaining three are directly connected with the Bank of England, the Australian Mercantile Insurance, the Palatine Insurance, the Phoenix and British and Foreign Insurance, the Trust Agency and Loan Companies, the Australian Estates and Mortgage, the Caledonian and Australian Mortgage, the British Traders' Insurance, the Union Insurance, the Ocean Marine Insurance, the Marine Insurance of London, and the N.S.W. Section of the English and North-erners' Assurance.

MONOPOLISTIC POWER

These banks and their allied financial institutions can finance themselves into any enterprise in which they are interested, and can withhold finance from any enterprise that threatens their establishment. (Continued on page 5.)

The first was the Lord Mayor's hospital appeal in Melbourne last week. How many of you residing in Melbourne actually stopped to think what a travesty of prosperous democracy it indicated? To have hundreds of misguided—although sincere—women waving collection-boxes under your noses, in order to try to persuade you to donate money, of which you are already artificially short, is bad enough. But, when you stop to think that the Federal Government can suddenly "find" MILLIONS of pounds for its war purposes, with no effort at all, and, at the same time, pleads (as often before) lack of a mere £45,000 or so to relieve some of the terrible suffering (much of it due to the money-scarcity imposed on you), which already exists in your midst, you begin to realise that Germany and Russia are not the only countries which could do with a general clean-up.

The second event, which, no doubt, gave nearly all of you a nasty shock, was the re-introduction of compulsory military training. In spite of all the promises and assurances of the past, Mr. (Continued on page 3.)

IT RESTS NOW WITH US

By MILES HYATT

[In this thoughtful article, now published posthumously in "Community," the journal of the Christian Auxiliary Movement, Miles Hyatt deals with that dogma which experience shows to be the greatest impediment to real progress—the Leadership Dogma.]

The final disappearance of war depends on the grasp, by people in general, of certain elementary principles of political action. Soon or late this will come, according to the measure of energy, which is put into their demonstration by means of positive action on correct lines. People will, in fact learn how to get what they want without war, and without the deprivation of others in the process.

But it is probably true that the next war will come too soon for this development, and that the key to the immediate situation rests in the unwitting hands of "our class"—if I may so designate those of us who are suffering from the after-effects of a university education.

Without exaggeration, it is fair to say that the ability to use that key seems to entail the repudiation of the whole trend of our pagan education (which has become second nature to most of us) and the bringing of ourselves back to the very different *Christian* philosophy of humility—almost, though not quite, an impossible re-orientation for persons of "puritan" outlook.

The pagan milk on which we are suckled throughout the course of our "higher education" may be defined by the name of "the leadership principle." This truly is of the Devil, for it holds that greatest of the Temptations of Christ, the offer of power to "grasp this sorry scheme of things entire" and "remould it nearer to the heart's desire," with or without shattering it to bits first. But for some of us the question will arise: Nearer to the heart's desire of whom? Of those "remoulded"? Or of the person who does the remoulding?

Let there be no mistake about this -- the leaders who receive clenched fists or outstretched arms are not the only, or even the worst offenders. Liberals and Conservatives find equal homage in the clapping of hands and the traditional three cheers. All political parties are vitiated with leadership-ideology, parliamentary Socialism more so than any of them. Coloured shirts may make it more conspicuous, but it is not necessarily more potent for evil in these than in stiff collars.

The leadership-principle is the belief that our higher education, superior intellect, birth, bank-balance, push or debating skill have given us a divine mandate to plan the lives of other people. It is the conviction that we know better than our fellows what they want or ought to have. It is, in short, an attempt to impose moral and intellectual slavery upon others, by conceiving of ourselves as *delegates* rather than *representatives*: by thinking of associations as something to be "run" by our-

selves according to our pattern of ideas, rather than as the means by which the individuals associating together may obtain what they want.

Far too often the young ambitious party-politician and the "Christian" social reformer, out to rebuild the world on his own lines, according to a preconceived idea of what people need, are indistinguishable from each other in respect of this perverted characteristic. The preconception arises out of lack of real opportunity to achieve, a lack which is frequently not consciously realised, but which leads to the perversion of a natural instinct into the unformulated belief that its owner is a "born leader." The permeation of this ideology is in direct proportion to the frustration. In Germany, Russia, America and Britain it flourishes more vigorously than in France or Norway, for instance. The Scots are more prone to it than the English. * Its root philosophical causation may be said to be inability to realise the unique nature of Christianity.

Of course, in England we have also the "democratic principle," to which our "leader" must pay something more than lip service, but which he manages to circumvent with the self-deception of the philosophically unsound—and, as we all realise, usually in ignorance of displaying any insincerity of purpose. With the policy he is

HEAR SENATOR DARCEY

on "How the War Should be Financed," at the Old Playgoers' Theatre, Nicholas Buildings, Swanston St. (opp. St. Paul's Cathedral), on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, at 8 p.m.

about to *impose* irrevocably settled in his own mind as a "programme" (though usually he is vague enough if pinned down to details), he and others of his type offer people the choice of voting on alternative hard names—Protection, Socialism, Social Justice, Rearmament, Collective Security. These names stand for planned methods of a highly technical nature; or they represent vague abstractionist philosophy. In either case they are not understood by one in ten thousand of those who are persuaded to vote on them—who "choose" one or other according to their sovereign right, in the belief that it will give them the results they want, and are left to wonder at the appalling effects actually achieved.

I need not stress a further matter; that the existence of this mentality on the part of "leaders" and its toleration by the people is a direct invitation for a consciously evil power to step in and direct the destinies of both. The same casualness of philosophical foundations which has failed to distinguish the vital doctrines which are uniquely Christian will have little belief in, and even less knowledge of, the Devil and all his works, and will cheerfully

*The effects of vocation on character, too, are not sufficiently realised. The attitude of an engineer in this respect may be fundamentally different from that of a man whose youth has been spent in a counting house.

walk hand in hand with him to disaster.

Now at this point two facts must be restated, both of which are conveniently ignored by our unconscious careerists. They are:

FIRST: that people really want *things*; they do not want persons, parties, ideas or programmes; they want more and better food, better houses, good clothing, more leisure time and the means to enjoy it. They have a list of "don't-wants" also — bombs on their houses, limitations on their personal freedom imposed by unnecessary work or lack of money or someone else's planning as to how they should live their lives. These things are *results*, to which methods should be subservient.

SECOND: that abundance-conditions in the present century make it quite unnecessary that any individual should wait in vain for anything he can reasonably need or desire, and they obviate the necessity for most of the limitations by which people are now restricted.

To return to our young reformer: there is, in the light of these facts, no excuse for the kind of leadership, which is concerned to regiment the living of other people's lives. On the other hand, there exists a "leadership principle" laid down by Christ himself, which exactly fits the necessities of the case—the "hard saying" to the disciples at a similar stage in their development, *that the one who would be greatest among them must be the servant of them all*.

Real "service to the community," of which we hear much and see practically nothing in political life, is precisely this. In fine, the "leader" should have got himself into such a frame of mind that he has no "ideology" of his own, nor any pet theories about methods. In this mind he should approach those of his fellows whom he intends to *represent* (note the word) and to them he should say: "Please decide among yourselves what concrete *results* you want, in the order you want them. It will be my job, as your representative, to transmit your demands to the appropriate experts, and to see that they deliver the results you have demanded, in the correct order and within a reasonable time. For this I make myself personally responsible† and if I do not act as I have undertaken, it is at all times within your province to insist upon my immediate resignation, as in the case of any other servant who neglects or exceeds his instructions."

At this present stage of development, however, it may be the duty of such a leader to place certain facts before the people he is proposing to represent; but there is danger here again: they must be *facts*, they must be *whole facts*, and not half-truths or theory. Of these the most urgent current fact is that of abundance, potential and actual.

This article began with the statement that "our class" might hold the immediate means of preventing the imminent war. Possibly the subsequent matter has seemed very far from war and the motives and causes which bring wars about. Lack of space forbids too close attention to the underlying connection between them. It must be left to the intelligent reader who knows already that poverty, competition, the clash of futile abstractionist ideologies, the substitution of means for ends, and the conviction on the part of "leaders" that they are empowered to plan the lives of their fellows—all these constitute unnecessary limitations on personal freedom;

A SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE

In these days of pseudo-"democracy," when strutting bureaucrats order the lives of their employers even as to how the said employers should part their hair (if any), it is as refreshing as a cool change after a sweltering day to meet a real servant of the people. Such a man is Richard Darcey, Senator, from Hobart, Tasmania. Elected to serve and watch over the interests of the people, he has spared neither time nor energy on their behalf. He has unceasingly fought against the blighting influence of the Financial Monopoly, which prevents the people from gaining their rightful economic and political freedom. Neither sneers, contemptuously nor personal abuse of the witting or unwitting tools of High Finance deflect him from his high purpose.

Now the question arises: "Are the people (Yes, that means "you"!) going to give their true and staunch servant the support, the help, the encouragement that his courageous fight demands?" Only those who know what it is to struggle lone-handed against the vested interests of greed and ignorance can truly assess the magnificent efforts of Senator Darcey, who refuses to be silenced in the enemy's camp.

At a public meeting at the Old Playgoers' Theatre, Nicholas Buildings, Swanston Street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, November 1, at 8 p.m., Senator Darcey will speak on "How the War Should Be Financed."

FREE LEAFLET AVAILABLE

One of our readers was so impressed with the facts and figures given in connection with the cost of the last war, which appeared in the issue of October 13, that he donated £5 for a reprint of the material in leaflet form for distribution. The leaflet also has an advertisement for the *New Times*, and readers can obtain quantities for the cost of postage. We urge readers to make use of them.

and it is in an atmosphere of limitation and restriction that war thrives.

"Freedom," said a great thinker of our age, "is a real thing. It consists in freedom to choose or reject one thing at a time." To the "Puritan" these words may well be meaningless; but to him especially it must be stressed that, at bottom, it is for personal freedom only that men fight, and will continue to fight and when they have gained it, they will fight no more.

†How the Christian tenet of personal responsibility for one's action is covered up by the committee-system as soon as the wrong "leadership-principle" enters in. Note also that by demanding a specific result, people ensure that they will know it when they get it. To achieve that result the responsible executive may find it necessary to take State control of an industry, to license banking: to put a duty on eggs—but this is far cry from a vote for Socialism or a vote for Protection, the results of which the unfortunate electors would certainly not recognise.

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CONSCRIPTION IS COMING

(Continued from page 1.)

forced into the militia, regimented upon a few shillings a day, and not allowed to openly criticise the Government!

CAN WE TRUST MR. MR. MENZIES?

Personally, I consider Mr. Menzies a menace to really democratic government. He is much more astute than Mr. Cameron, who is openly a straight-out conscriptionist. Mr. Menzies is following a policy of "gradualism." His actions in the past have not given us very much hope, while his attitude towards the problems of youth has been, like his attitude towards every other problem, very evasive. This would appear to be a very appropriate time to publish a letter, which I sent to Mr. Menzies on August 23 of this year, and also his reply. My letter read as follows:

"Dear Mr. Menzies, —This letter is written to you for, and on behalf of, my own generation. I would like to obtain your views in connection with certain matters affecting the future of young people in this country. Although you may have many other things to exercise your mind, I feel that this matter is important. In fact, in view of the hopeless position facing thousands of young people in this country, and the fact that the very foundations for the future of the nation depend upon a healthy-minded civic outlook in our young people, the issue is one of vital national importance. The least that we, the young generation, can expect is a lead from our Prime Minister. You have now had considerable time to give us some indication that you and your Government will do something. But what has happened? I, for one, have been bitterly disappointed and rather indignant to see that you are perpetuating the very system, which is making the matter much worse. The frightful result of that policy can be seen in the increasing juvenile crime figures, which reflect the rising youth unemployment figures. Child slavery in industry continues to also increase, in spite of all the conferences and pious resolutions.

"Recent police journals have been forced to point out that youth in this country is being driven to crime because of the present conditions. Surely, sir, this matter is most alarming, to say the least of it. In case you are not too familiar with the realities of the position, although it is your responsibility to be familiar, let me bring a few things under your notice. I think you will agree with me when I say that they are a damning indictment upon a so-called democratic country.

"Let me, first, tell you what Burt Harrison, the 18-year-old Sydney lad, who recently committed suicide, wrote before he shot himself: 'No work, no money, no friends, no brains; there's nothing in the world for me.' That boy was murdered, sir; murdered by the rotten economic system, which denied him the right to live. That same system is also denying thousands of other young people the right to live. What chance have the thousands of boys 'on the track,' who are hounded from pillar to post? They are forced to 'jump the rattler,' and when caught are given a few days in gaol. They are thus started on the way for a life of crime; and their numbers are increasing. These lads are expected to prove sound citizens, and take a pride in their country. There is very little incentive to take pride

in a country which treats its young people like that.

"The position in the past has been bad enough, but, as mentioned, it is rapidly getting worse. Malnutrition strikes at the very foundation of our national health. It is also getting worse. And what of our girls? Well, not to dodge too fine a point, they are being driven in increasing numbers to a life of prostitution. Any social worker can tell you that. They are forced to sell their bodies, in order to obtain the claims to life, which the system denies them. Now, these and other matters are becoming so obvious that even the most reactionary are becoming alarmed. It is time that those in responsible positions faced the issue. Action is wanted, not mere talk. While platitudes are being made young lives are being wrecked, and the effects, no matter what may be done in the future, will be a permanent scar on the outlook of these victims of an anti-social system.

"In view of these facts, I would like you to consider the following questions, which at the present juncture demand an answer:

"(1) As Australia is a wealthy nation, is there any necessity for malnutrition to be increasing among our children?

"(2) Is there any reason to prevent every boy and girl in Australia from obtaining a sound liberal education which will fit them for their responsibilities in after life?

"(3) Is there any reason why every boy and girl should be not allowed to play their part in helping to develop this country?

"(4) Is it not a fact that the majority of parents cannot afford to leave their children at school because they are short of money and must send them out to work, in order to bring a few more shillings into the home every week?

"(5) Is it not a fact that the average employer, in order to remain solvent, must employ juvenile labour at slave rates, in order to minimise costs? This would seem to indicate that the public is chronically short of purchasing power.

"(6) If you continue to increase taxation, as you are doing, will this not further reduce the purchasing power of the people and force employers to still further reduce labour costs by employing more juvenile labour? I would point out that, while 15,000 boys and girls under, the age of 16 were employed in Victorian industry in 1932, this figure had risen to over 30,000 for 1938, and is still increasing.

"(7) Would you agree with me that the underlying cause of all the problems confronting youth is one of finance—or rather a lack of it;

"(8) As you have been continually telling us that you are short of finance, can you tell me where the Federal Government got millions of pounds for rearmament only a few months after it was stated that there was no money to give towards the after-care of the vic-

tims of the infantile paralysis epidemic in Melbourne?

"(9) Do you not agree that there is something wrong in a country where millions of pounds for destruction can be found, but none to provide our children with a decent start in life?

"(10) In conclusion, do you not also agree that, unless you and your Government can find sufficient money to give the youth of this country a decent chance, the moral, civic and physical fibre of this nation is going to be irreparably ruined?

"I feel that the whole matter is of such national importance that I would like to receive a reply from you at your earliest convenience. —Yours faithfully,

"ERIC D. BUTLER."

MR. MENZIES REPLIES

In answer to my letter, I received the following:

"Dear Mr. Butler, —I have your letter of 23rd August, regarding the various problems of young people today.

"My Government is taking a special interest in these matters, and you may be sure that it will not relax its efforts. —Yours sincerely,

"R. G. MENZIES."

For a complete evasion of the issue this would take some beating. However, I am beginning to wonder if the latest effort by Mr. Menzies is the "special interest" he is taking in my generation. If so, he is looking for trouble. I, for one, can assure Mr. Menzies now that I refuse to be subjected in any way to unjust and undemocratic compulsion. He says that his Government is at war. Well, I am "at war" with his Government. First, because it is paving the way for complete dictatorship, and, secondly, because it refuses to face the financial swindle.

In conclusion, I appeal to every lover of freedom to come into the campaign for democracy now. Conscription is coming unless we act; and, for God's sake, don't tell me "it can't happen here."

WILL YOU BE THERE?

On November 9, as advertised elsewhere in this issue, Eric Butler will give a special address at an important Rally at the Assembly Hall. In the circumstances, there is no need to emphasise the necessity of every possible supporter attending. However, it is also essential that as many newcomers as possible are also in attendance. This needs publicity, and it is suggested that all supporters do everything in their power to make this meeting known. You may be able to donate an advertisement in your local paper. If you belong to an organisation, let the members know. Tell your friends. Help make this rally a great success.

For over four years the *New Times* has unflinchingly pursued its policy for political and economic democracy. It has stood firm in the present crisis, and the time has arrived when we are in a position to strike a further real blow for reform. Hear the first attack launched at the above meeting.

OPEN LETTER TO AUSTRALIAN ELECTORS

(Continued from page 1.)

Menzies, without even calling Parliament together, has introduced the thin edge of the conscription wedge.

If we must have "defence" in this country, then we want those who are going to do the defending to do so only as free men. Furthermore, the first step should be to see that each of them has something worth defending. The mere fact that the voluntary system has failed is sufficient evidence that, from that angle, the majority of men in Australia are not very concerned with defence at all. Many of those who have joined have been forced to do so by economic conscription—in order to get three square meals a day and the certainty of a bed. Judging from reports to hand, it is doubtful whether they are even getting decent treatment when they DO join. They certainly won't become rich on the "magnificent" rates of pay! Now the Government has decided that, as it cannot force enough young men to join by economic conscription, etc., it will use other tactics.

Ladies and gentlemen, we would like to know what you are going to do about all this. Are most of you going to take things lying down, as in the past, OR—forget the racehorses, hotels, and picture-shows for a few minutes now and then, get down to urgent realities, and use your democratic power while it is still yours? While the daily press is directing your minds many thousands of miles away to the menace of "Hitlerism" in Germany, the same kind of menace is raising its ugly head right here in Australia. We can assure you that you are facing what is possibly the most important crisis in Australian history, and we, therefore, urge you to "give us a hand" in the great fight ahead—your fight, remember. Of course, if you are "too busy" or "have no time" at present, we would suggest that it won't be long before you will have plenty of time. We understand that you often get plenty of time to think about things when you are in the trenches or—in the case of the Indies—waiting sadly at home. Just think it over—NOW.

Yours faithfully,

THE NEW TIMES

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INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND WORLD PEACE

The dreaded storm in Europe has still not broken irrevocably. Whatever the reasons for that may be, it behoves all thinking people to use every minute towards holding up the impending disaster, and exposing the machinations of International Finance, which are, at bottom, responsible for the present situation.

Although some, people take the view that now war has been declared it is hopeless for us to attempt to do anything about it, we cannot share that view; and we are not very enthusiastic about merely "exploiting" the war—as one correspondent puts it—for the purpose of money reform. Nations are comprised of individuals—human beings—and money reform would be of no earthly use to those who would be blown to hell. We believe that political democracy must precede economic democracy. If a majority of the Australian people—whether they be money reformers or otherwise—have no desire to enter into an avoidable international carnage, but desire that this nation shall, as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, press for an immediate World Peace Conference, then it is their prerogative to express their wishes in a constitutional and democratic manner. On the other hand, if the people of Australia merely acquiesce in the present policy of drift they are signing their own death warrant, because the time will rapidly come when they may have little chance of even expressing their desires. We are under no delusion about a World Peace Conference being of the slightest use unless the causes of the present trouble are attacked and removed, then or after. We have been the strongest possible critics of all that "Hitlerism" stands for, and we believe that there is now an opportunity of paving the way to its removal, once and for all, without having to resort to the smashing up of civilisation. We are not alone in our belief.

As we have pointed out during the past few weeks, there has been sufficient evidence, even in the daily press, to indicate that a section of public opinion in Britain favours a conference. Mr. Lloyd George was reported in the Australian press on October 23 as having made further proposals for a Peace Conference while addressing his constituents. Judged even from the most reactionary viewpoint, the following statement by Mr. Lloyd George is plain common-sense: "If discussion showed that Hitler was unaccommodating, we could quit with a clear conscience, and the whole world would acknowledge that the responsibility for plunging mankind into catastrophe was entirely Hitler's."

In the Melbourne "Herald" of Tuesday, October 24, there appeared the following significant report: "Impending changes in the British Cabinet are mooted and a reconstruction on lines calculated to bring greater force and vigour into the prosecution of the war." It has been apparent that Mr. Chamberlain is not liked in certain quarters, because he has always shown a preference for negotiation as opposed to force. That is why a continuous campaign has been conducted against him over the past two years for the purpose of replacing him by either Mr. Churchill or Mr. Eden.

In the meantime the Wall Street financiers in New York appear to be working to their plan. Russia is playing her part in the ghastly game. While remaining strictly neutral, she dominates the situation in Europe, and without her trade assistance Germany would be in a very awkward position. On the other side of the Atlantic it appears that the Wall Street group will be successful in having the Arms Embargo repealed, and, as Senator G. P. Nye is reported as stating: "This would not prevent an American ship landing arms in Belgium for trans-shipment to French armies, or German armies, for that matter." In the last analysis the international situation reveals International Finance determined to finance the arming of both sides, as it did during the last war—while the unfortunate populations of Britain, France, and Germany are bombed out of existence.

In spite of all criticism to the contrary, the Anglo-Saxon character is, possibly, the greatest bulwark against tyranny in the world today. The outcome of the coming carnage—unless thwarted—will be a deathblow to all British institutions and liberty, leaving International Finance completely dominating the world.

That is why we urge that all Australians, through their members of Parliament, should throw their weight into the balance for peace.

This alone is **real** patriotism.

MY SONG FOR ME

By "THE WALRUS."

You never know what startling revelation will be made next when you catch a Cabinet Minister off parade. A week ago, if anyone had told me that Mr. Chamberlain sang the "Horst Wessel" song on Saturday nights in his bath, I would have treated the rumour contemptuously. Yet here is the Queensland Treasurer, Mr. Cooper, under cross-examination during the trial of 38 men charged with unlawful assembly, owning up that he had sung the "Red Flag." According to the Rockhampton "Morning Bulletin" of October 13: "He added that he sang the song because on occasions he thought it was good to sing it . . ."

And he didn't just sing it in his bath either. I'm not sure whether we ought to accept his reason that he sang it because it's a good 'un to sing. That's all right for "hearty old bucks" like the "jovial squire" calling for "Chorus, gentlemen!" to songs with "nothing naughty about 'em excepting the rhymes"; but if today we only sang songs that were good to sing, we'd be pretty quiet neighbours, unless we stuck to pre-war vintage.

Just listen to the songs people sing nowadays—or try not to listen, I suppose I should say. The American love song, that doleful recitative, which is punctuated by gloomy plonks in the background like sounds made by someone abstractedly shying clods on a coffin, may be good singing for anyone coming out of an anesthetic, but I can't imagine it as good hearing for anyone save some lost way-farer who had given up hope of seeing his fellow-man again. Incidentally, I hope I never hear an American lament.

Proceeding to the other pole in the world of Yankee song, we find ourselves in a strange, brittle land of determined hilarity, which no cacophony has yet been able completely to express (though, to give it its due, cacophony has had a good crack at it); whilst in between there is that dreary no-man's-land, inhabited almost exclusively by hillbillies and dogies, who mournfully insist that skies are blue because dreams come true—or the other way about; I'm never quite sure.

I hope you see what I mean. People don't sing songs because they are good to sing. They sing them because someone has spent money on advertising them, and because everybody else is suspected of singing them. I wonder Mr. Cooper had the crust to say what he said—in front of the legal gentlemen, too.

The principle of the thing is so inconvenient, anyhow. Once you start singing songs because they're good to sing, you admit the personal element. The moment Mr. Cooper started to sing the "Red Flag" in political company, other hon. members would be obliged to give a rendering of their choice in self-defence. There would be an outburst of "Scots, Wha Hae," "The Harp That Once" and "All Through the Night," to say nothing of "Knocked 'em in the Old Kent Road." Surely it's far better to ignore the merit of the lyric and carry on comfortably, as at present, by singing on every possible occasion, "For We Are Jolly Good Fellows," and letting it go at that.

We've got to be reasonable. After all, politicians don't make speeches because they're good 'uns to make. They make them because they're good for the party, and no party man is allowed to make any other sort. Once you grasp this you can see how unreasonable the critics are to apply high falutin' standards to their representatives. "Good enough for 'em," as Lord Macaulay said.

Anyhow, when you get down to bedrock you find that people don't really do anything just because it's good to do it. They do things as a general rule because they hope to receive some good, which isn't at all the same thing; and that is precisely why we have to have prisons and pubs and politicians and polemics and any other alliteration you can think of, except perfection.

There is yet another factor to be taken into account in this "Red Flag" singing business, and that is that Mr. Cooper probably realised that the 38 men who were on trial for unlawful assembly could hardly be demonstrated to be getting anything out of their stunt, and, in their view, were actually doing something which seemed to them good, regardless of cost to themselves.

That is a very unsettling experience for a politician, and I commend it as an extenuation to those of his colleagues who are apt to take seriously Mr. Cooper's assertion that he sang the "Red Flag" because it was good to sing it.

Perhaps, after a while, they may get him to sing "Booms-a-Daisy."

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S FURTHER BETRAYAL OF THE PEOPLE

(Continued from page 1.)

lished activities. The Sugar Monopoly claims Sir Claude Reading, Chairman of the publicly-owned Commonwealth Bank, as one of its beneficiaries and agents, and we also find that Sir Walter Massy Greene and Sir Frederick Stewart (Federal Cabinet) are, or have been, beneficially interested. This monopoly dominates the life of New South Wales and Queensland, and has direct connection not only with the control of the Commonwealth Bank, but also with the control of the Loan Council!

The Metal Monopoly dominates the life of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, and claims as beneficiaries and agents Alex. F. Bell, formerly Director of the National Bank, but now a member of the Commonwealth Bank Board, as well as R. G. Casey, formerly Commonwealth Treasurer and Chairman of the Loan Council, and Col. Cohen, ex-Victorian representative of the Loan Council. This monopoly connects up the Baillieus, the Caseys, and the Cohens, and even takes in Sir Colin Fraser and Essington Lewis (both Commonwealth "advisers" in regard to supplies), to say nothing of Sir John Latham, now Chancellor of the Melbourne University, and formerly a useful member of the Commonwealth Government—he actually helped Mr. Bruce and Sir Earle Page to place the Commonwealth Bank in the hands of the Credit Monopoly!

The Overseas Group, besides connecting up directly with the Bank of England and the Armaments Ring, includes among its beneficiaries no less a person than the Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, as well as Mr. J. V. Fairbairn, now a Minister in the Federal Cabinet and Mr. Bruce's successor for the electorate of Flinders in the Commonwealth Parliament!

These three groups control the banking system of Australia; the Life, Fire, and Marine Insurances; the savings of the people; all mercantile loan agencies; the principal industries, and nine-tenths of the institutions that receive deposits and negotiate advances. "They can say who shall have credit and who shall not. They can boom or paralyse. They can inflate or restrict. They are the economic masters of the country."

PERSONNEL OF BOARD SIGNIFICANT

In the light of the foregoing, the personnel of this new Board takes on a new significance. They are as follow:

Sir Claude Reading,
Sir Walter Massy-Greene,
Mr. F. W. Eggleston,
Mr. J. B. Chifley,
Mr. J. H. Gosse,
Mr. C. A. Norris,
Mr. A. C. Lewis,
Mr. J. M. Hardie, and
Mr. James McCann.

Every one of these men, with the possible exception of Mr. Chifley, represents the private banking and financial institutions, and have been placed on the Board for the express purpose of perpetuating the prevailing financial methods which enslave and impoverish the whole community and thwart the benevolent purposes of God. All of them are old men who have betrayed their compatriots into financial slavery, and yet the majority of us still accept them as "advisers" and "controllers."

The inclusion of Mr. Eggleston is particularly objectionable. He has

been a well-paid banker's watchdog for years, and has taken a leading part since 1929 in almost every step dictated by the banks to render financial conditions more stringent throughout Australia. To him, financial results desired by the banks are more important than the distribution of the bounty of God or the suffering of the people. He has been Chairman of the Commonwealth Disabilities Commission, whose voluminous reports have dealt exclusively with the "apportionment" of money, but studiously avoided any reference to the PRODUCTION of it. References have already been made to the position of Sir Claude Reading and Sir Walter Massy Greene, and investigations into the interlocking of the various financial directorates reveal that Messrs. Gosse, Norris, and Lewis also represent insurance and trustee companies which are but branches of the banking monopoly.

FINANCIAL INTERESTS PLACED BEFORE HUMAN INTERESTS

In the Federal Parliament a few days ago Mr. Spender, the Assistant Commonwealth Treasurer, gave some slight indication of the scheme afoot. When he was told by some of the people's representatives that all finance required for Australia's war demands should be provided by the Commonwealth Bank, he replied: "I remind the honourable gentlemen 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?" So, you see, our soldiers are not to suffer and die to protect Australian territory, Australian homes, Australian women and children, or anything else Australian; but simply to provide an investment market for private funds! What else could a war be for? Private funds consist of financial credit, financial credit consists of figures representing the monetisation of real credit, and real credit consists of the materials, resources, and abilities of the people. The real credit has, therefore, been stolen by the controllers of financial credit, and the investment market is nothing more than the manipulation and exchange of pieces of paper representing claims to the community's credit. These so-called "private funds" have no existence other than as entries in bank ledgers, and so the flower of our manhood is to be slaughtered in order that these entries may be recorded as debt in the name of the finance controllers and entitle the holders of bonds to receive interest thereon forever.

A SWINDLE—AND THE SWINDLED

The H.M.S. *Courageous* and the *Royal Oak* have both been sunk and thus wiped out of existence, but the record of their alleged money "cost" still remains in the debt book, and, although the vessels have gone, the interest charges remain to be paid forever; and this, mark you, notwithstanding that the private funds supposed to have been used cost nothing to produce—they were simply figures entered in books; and this is the stuff available for "investment"!

Nothing has been more indecent than this latest outrage on the part of the Commonwealth Government, which is further proof that the Australian people are ignorant and spineless. They are ignorant about the most important subject in the

HERE, THERE AND ANYWHERE

By H. A. HOTCHKIN

The writer takes the reader upon a short literary ramble in an endeavour to shed a little light in places that may be dark, and also to encourage those who have no great inclination towards the reading of good books to do so, for he is convinced that no man can learn too much and that the fate of the world rests in the hands of an enlightened people.

My first extract I take from *The Justice of the Peace* of June 10 and the quotation given was made by Mr. E. C. Mulvany, B.A., LL.B., in a lecture to the Honorary Justices' Association of Victoria:

"The tyrant who, in order to hold his power, suppresses every superiority, does away with good men, forbids education and light, controls every movement of the citizens, and, keeping them under a perpetual servitude, wants them to grow accustomed to baseness and cowardice, has his spies everywhere to listen to what is said at the meetings, and spreads dissension and calumny among the citizens and impoverishes them; such a tyrant is obliged to make war in order to keep his subjects occupied and impose on them the permanent need of a leader."

Those remarks were made 2000 years ago by Aristotle.

Quoting Mr. Mulvany: "Little as I like dictatorships, one must admit, that, for whatever sacrifice their peoples have made of the personal liberty we cling to, they have created internal systems positively frightening in the speed with which they achieve great public works, the clearness of mind and freedom from conflict and delay, the limitations that are placed on acquisitiveness and speculation, above all, in the care of the needy and the elimination of destitution, in this regard, I found France and the British Isles an appalling contrast."

From *The Martyrdom of Man*, by Winwood Reade (referring to Cato and war):

"Besides, it was his theory that the annihilation of foreign powers was the building up of Rome. He used to boast that, in his Peninsular Campaign, he had demolished a Spanish town a day. There were in the Senate many enlightened men, who denied that the prosperity of Rome could be assisted by the destruction of trading cities; and Carthage was defended by the Scipio party. *But the influence of the banker class was employed by Cato's side.* They wanted every penny that was spent in the Mediterranean world to pass through their books. Carthage and Corinth were rival firms, which it was to their profit to destroy. These money-mongers possessed great powers in the Senate and the State, and, at last, they carried the day.

"It was privately resolved that Carthage should be attacked as soon as an opportunity occurred."

From the French magazine *Cyrano*. After making certain statements, based upon the memoirs of a certain Sidney Warburg, connected with the Jewish banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co., New York, who, it was alleged, financed Hitler and the Nazi Party, on the

understanding that, when in power, Hitler cease the payment of reparations to France, and, instead, seeing that the financial position of Germany would not permit both, pay the interest payments, etc., on sums lent to the Reich by Kuhn, Loeb and Co., the magazine goes on to say: "It is this firm that has absorbed the tens of hundreds of milliards which have fled from Europe, and which has left her troubled and unbalanced; and it is this firm that has seen to the investment of these sums in the United States. If the situation becomes stabilised or improves, there is a chance of a gigantic reflux of European capital from America to the Old World. In which case, the whole of American economy is threatened with collapse.

"In order that the Roosevelt system, depending upon the extension of credit and continuous spending, may function, European capital must not leave America; and, in order that European capital may stay in the U.S., it is necessary... that Europe remains in the Agony of War."

* * *

From "Eyes on Japan," by Victor A. Yakontoff ex-president, Russian-Japanese Society, under the heading, "Crisis of Imperialism":

"By the 'monopolistic stage' of Capitalism, Lenin understood a point in the system at which the concentration of capital became such as to give control to finance-capital either through the merging of banking and manufacturing interests, or through the subjugation of the latter by the former. At that point the exporting of capital to exploit 'backward' nations became imperative, in order to ease economic conditions at home, and thereby postpone social revolution in the mother country by increasing imperial revenues at the expense of abused and underpaid colonials."

Did I hear somebody mention the British Government's purchase (at its own price) of our primary produce?

* * *

From "Eyes on Japan" (page 154):

"The growing social unrest in Japan, where not long ago many believed that the paternalism of the 'haves' was enough to mollify the 'have-nots,' is no passing phenomenon: it can hardly, be eradicated by intimidation and laws passed against *'dangerous thoughts.'*"

These thoughts may seem dangerous to some; at the same time, they may appear to many others the only ray of hope for the betterment of their miserable lives. Keeping in gaol those who happen to fall into the hands of the law does not prevent others, who live under intolerable conditions, from thinking and revolting against their enslavement.

WHAT WAR MEANS

"Whichever side might claim the ultimate victory, nothing is more certain than this: "That victor and vanquished alike would glean a gruesome harvest of human suffering and misery."

—Britain's Prime Minister Chamberlain.

world, finance, and so spineless that they servilely accept hardship, poverty and misery when they could have comfort, plenty, and happiness. They look up to their "Sirs" as honourable men, when most of them are callous enemies within the gates.

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(Continued on page 7.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PAYING FOR WARS

[This letter, says the writer, was first submitted to the Sydney Bulletin for publication in its "The Other Fellow's Mind" section, and was not accepted. We wonder why. You are allowed three guesses.]

Sir,—When a fallacy is propounded by an authoritative person, whose views in many respects are sound, it is accepted by people who are not in the position to dispute it, to the detriment of public opinion.

Such an instance occurred on September 28th, when the A.B.C. commentator, "The Guardian," postulated: (a) The real cost of a war is the material used up, and, theoretically, the whole cost can be paid out of taxation, (b) Instead of paying for the war as it is fought out of taxation, it is only fair to pass some of the burden on to posterity by way of interest on loans, since posterity will gain in freedom as a result of the war.

War is destruction of energy and the products of energy, hence, a war is actually paid for as it is fought, by the energy of people who live and die during its course. Statement (a) is therefore correct if the terms "cost" and "taxation" means expenditure of energy. "The Guardian," however, used the terms in that sense in the first part of the sentence, and in the financial sense in the second part, which implies that the community receives money at the same rate at which prices of production are generated—an assumption which has no foundation in fact. It follows that within the confines of the existing monetary system it is neither theoretically nor practically possible to finance the war from monetary taxation. This is not an argument in favour of borrowing, but a reason for readjusting financial policy to enable defence to be conducted without debt.

Regarding (b) I question if war has ever gained any freedom for succeeding generations. On the contrary, war hinders progress inwards freedom. Firstly, there is the loss of freedom entailed in repairing the destruction due to war. Then, the majority of citizens experience further encroachments on their freedom, insofar as they forfeit a further portion of the fruits of their energy in interest payments.

No living person had anything to do with the Napoleonic wars, which were paid for by the energies of those who lived and died at the time; yet we are giving part of our earnings to people who had no more to do with it than we, and this is supposed to be payment for those wars! By the same token, where is the sense or justice in imposing upon posterity the obligation to give their earnings to a few contemporaries because of follies we commit today? Posterity pays neither those who make the sacrifices, nor their descendants. —Yours, etc.,

K. TAVENDER.

Angaston, S.A.

"AS A LOST MAN AWAITS THE DAWN"

Sir,—You deal too gently with Mr. Hagenauer (Open Letter, *New Times*, Oct. 6), but as a Presbyterian, I am only too glad to see him being dealt with at all. He is one of those who compelled me, for the health of my soul, to refrain from church going at the time of the last "war to

end war," with so many other women and men, who could bear the denial of their faith from the pulpit no longer.

We are many, if we are inarticulate, and we wait, as a lost man awaits the dawn, for the Christian leader who will dare to teach that the laws given us so long ago by Jesus of Nazareth are real, reasonable, logical, liberating and workable. The only laws that ever have worked, or ever will be found to work.

Then such a rule as "love your enemies" will be translated into the plain language of unrestricted trade, financial emancipation, adjustment of industrial and territorial difficulties and mistakes for the nations, just as one neighbour would help another—just as Germany helped Australia in the days when our Presbyterian churches could find among themselves no men to offer for the thankless and obscure task of succouring the native refugees made by the ruthless occupation of this continent. And the Lutheran Church sent them.

Myself, I do not fear the Hitlers of the world, for, had the nations kept that rule, Hitler would be a man without a grievance, free to use his gifts for normal and beneficial ends; but I do fear, from the bottom of my soul, the Hagenauers and the Heads amongst us who, accepting leadership, deny and discredit the laws laid down for the material and spiritual salvation of the people by the one Faultless Intelligence we know. For this there is no condemnation great enough. —Yours, etc.,

ROSETTA FLYNN.

Blackburn, Vic.

YOUTH AND CONSCRIPTION

Sir,—We have been warned. Mr. J. T. Lang, as reported in your columns, warned us: "There will be a call for volunteers . . . There will be a big response. The need for reinforcements will arise. The voluntary response will not be equal to the requirements. Then will come conscription, and there will be no Referendum—just an Act of Parliament passed overnight."

Yes. Just as simple as that will democracy be betrayed and Australian Youth sacrificed on a foreign battlefield.

And what will be Youth's reaction? Will they acquiesce in their own destruction? Will they again fight for the preservation of the money power? Most certainly they will.

Not because they want to—they could easily have volunteered, but

because, as Mr. Eric Butler has said, they lack imagination. The volunteers lacked imagination; could not visualise the horrors that await them on the battlefield.

Remember, these men *had* to be conscripted.

No. They will not resist because they lack individuality.

Divine evolution intended man to evolve into a reasoning being—that very capacity to reason ensuring his individuality—but from time immemorial every person or body of persons—autocratic or "democratic"—entrusted with the leadership of the masses has so interfered with the natural process; has substituted such submissive regimentation of the individual that men have evolved—retrogressively—into sheep.

It is this sheep in man that refuses to oppose authority, however inimical that authority may be to his interests; allows such impositions as conscription and the rotten economic system which renders his life so devoid of amenities that, truly, life—a "complete" life—can be condensed into that famous cynicism: "We are born, We propagate. We die."

Now we are being asked to be born and then—die.

And Youth will die unless *that sheep* is overcome. How can it be overcome? An appeal to reason? I am afraid time is too short to repair the ravages of centuries. No; our only chance lies in an appeal to instinct—the greatest instinct of all—the instinct of self-preservation.

An appeal to reason will be completely submerged in the tempestuous spate of propaganda: A graphic delineation of the death and mutilation of war *might* float on the seas of destruction—a life-buoy for floundering Youth to grasp. —Yours, etc.,

"PRO HOMO."

Mandiga, W.A.

PSALM 1939

The politician is my shepherd; I am in want.

He maketh me to lie down in relief camps.

He leadeth me beside the still factories.

He disturbeth my soul.

He leadeth me in the path of destruction for his party's sake.

His policies frighten me.

He prepareth a reduction in my salary, in the presence of mine enemies.

He anointeth my small income with taxes; my expenses runneth over.

Surely unemployment and poverty shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in a mortgaged house forever. —From the *Comox Argus*, Vancouver, B.C.

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INSIDE YUGOSLAVIA

Serbs and Croats Trying to Patch Up a Quarrel

It was recently reported in the "Christian Science Monitor" that energetic attempts are being made to patch up the quarrel that has existed for so long between the Croats and Serbs in Yugoslavia, for fear that the Axis Powers might exploit the quarrel to their own ends, and to Yugoslavia's cost. The "Monitor" reported that a provisional agreement had been reached between the Yugoslav Premier, Mr. Dragisha Cvetkovitch, and the Croat leader, Dr. Vlatko Matchek, with the approval of the Regency Council.

This is the third time in five months that the Yugoslav Government, which is predominantly Serbian, has made an effort to reach a compromise with the Croat demands, in order to prevent Yugoslavia becoming another Czechoslovakia. It is not clear just how far the Croats have been taking advantage of this situation, but they have certainly threatened on several occasions that they would secede with the aid of the German Reich, if their demands were not met. It must be remembered in this respect that, since, the absorption of Austria into the German Reich, the Germans have had a common frontier with the Slovenian part of Yugoslavia, which forms a small province just north of the Croatian part.

Following the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia in March, both the Serbs and the Croats indicated a desire to settle their differences. The Serbs are willing to allow the Croats a small measure of autonomy, but the Croats insisted on their right to absolute autonomy within a United States of Yugoslavia.

FEDERATION PROPOSAL

In April, the Yugoslav Premier, Cvetkovitch, went to Zagreb, the Croatian capital, to negotiate directly with Dr. Matchek. He was reported to have obtained "full powers from the Regent, Prince Paul, to make any concessions deemed necessary." The two leaders agreed that the Yugoslav State should be divided into three autonomous provinces: Serbia, Croatian, and Slovenia. Each was to have a separate Parliament, but the central or Federal Government was to control Foreign Affairs, the War Department, Finance and Commerce.

Difficulties were encountered in assigning the boundaries between Croatia and Serbia, especially in the province of Bosnia, where the population is mixed; and towards the end of April it was decided to create a separate province of Bosnia, as a way out of the difficulty, and to join Croatia with Slovenia as one administrative unit. The details of the plan were to be worked out by a new coalition Cabinet, and a Parliament elected by a "fair" ballot.

This tentative agreement was rejected, however, by the Regent, without offer of any explanation. It was believed that the rejection was due simply to the Regent's desire to hold plebiscites in some

districts, to determine to which province they should belong. **COMPROMISE**

Negotiations between the Serbs and the Croats were recommenced in the first week of August—after Dr. Matchek had several times threatened to ask for German help. A new agreement was reached, whereby the division of Yugoslavia into self-governing provinces was to be postponed, so as to avoid having to change the Constitution while the tension was so severe in Europe. For the time being, however, the nine Croatian districts were to be joined together into a single administrative unit, enjoying certain privileges of autonomy. This plan was drawn up by economic, financial and juridical experts, and presented to the Regent, Prince Paul, on August 5, but three days later it also was rejected by the Regent. As a result, negotiations were broken off, and declared to be suspended indefinitely.

This left Yugoslavia facing a situation in which the Croats would have been forced into the arms of the Germans. Any move in this direction would greatly strengthen German domination in the Balkans. The increasing tension of August forced the Yugoslavs to make yet another effort, however, to remove their internal dissensions before war should overwhelm Europe; and it has now been arranged that the Croats are to take part in the Cabinet, but there is to be no change in the Constitution until the Boy King comes of age two years from now. Thus the first definite step has been taken towards the solution of this 20-year-old political controversy.

THE POSITION IN NEW ZEALAND

Bureaucratic and Dictatorial Measures Being Introduced

It has been quite apparent for some time that those people who expected a Labor Party to bring economic democracy in New Zealand have been sadly disillusioned. Regimentation and bureaucratic government is getting worse, as witnessed by the following report appearing in the Australian press on October 20:

"AUCKLAND (N.Z.). Thursday. —Allegations that the state of war was being used by the Government as an excuse for introducing socialistic, bureaucratic, and dictatorial measures having no real bearing on war were made today by a deputation of 2000 business men.

"They sought assistance of Auckland Chamber of Commerce to remove the present industrial and commercial difficulties, saying it was almost impossible to conduct their businesses in anything faintly resembling the normal manner."

Having read Mr. A. N. Field's latest book, "The Truth About New Zealand," we have had our worst fears confirmed. The people of New Zealand will have to forget all about parties and start demanding results. Even Mr. Lee, who has been the only able critic to stand up to the present regime, indicates in his book, "Socialism in New Zealand," that he is not thoroughly conversant with the real problem. Australian electors must not fall into the same trap by pinning their faith in a Labor Party.

PROPAGANDA WINS

Limited quantities of issues of the *New Times* with articles pertaining to the present international situation are available for propaganda purposes at 1/- a dozen posted. These articles have a permanent educational value, and all supporters are urged to have copies available to hand to contacts when discussing the present situation. We recommend the issues containing the following:

"The Brier Basin Scandal." This astounding article reveals what happened during the last war, and the method in which Finance supplied both sides with iron ore, etc., from the Brier Basin. Eric Butler's series of articles: "Europe — What's Behind the Scenes?" "Youth Pleads For Life." "Will Wall St. Win the War?"

The issue containing the last-mentioned article also contains Mr. MacGillivray's speech. All supplies were exhausted, but now that some returns have come to hand from newsagents, we are pleased to say that a limited number are available.

WHAT PAPERS DO YOU READ?

The *New Times* has to carry on with a skeleton staff, and although much of the writing is done voluntarily, it is impossible to cover every paper in Australia. We would like to know if there are any readers who would cooperate to the extent of sending us press cuttings from the particular papers they happen to read. If several dozen readers throughout Australia could do this regularly it would be a big help.

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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Public Opinion and a World Peace Conference

At the request of the Victorian Branch of the Citizens' Anti-Dictatorship League, we publish below their latest report:

WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE

Since the publication of our letter to you in the *New Times* of last week, we have received encouraging letters from many parts of Australia urging us, through our members, to take a census of public opinion upon this question without delay.

We have, therefore, posted urgent circulars to hundreds of public-spirited persons throughout the Commonwealth enclosing copies of a letter to be addressed to members of the House of Representatives, through this office. We can rely upon these people to faithfully carry out an intensive canvass of the electors, and we shall make a record of the number signing.

Although replies have only just commenced to arrive, the results have more than justified our action, and it is our intention (since our branches in each State have adopted the proposals) to prosecute a Commonwealth-wide campaign, which will reach a majority of the electors, and truly reflect the will of the people on this vital question.

We trust that you will find space to publish the letter enclosed herewith, and allow us an opportunity of reporting the progress of the campaign in your next issue.

THE ELECTOR'S LETTER TO THEIR MEMBERS OF

YARRA BANK MEETING

Another very successful meeting was conducted on the Yarra Bank last Sunday afternoon. Although the weather was again very wintry, a large audience attended and listened with keen interest to the speakers. Both Norman Rolls and Eric Butler spoke. Many new contacts were made, and quite a few *New Times* were sold by the movement's youngest actionist—Jack Browne. Although Jack is only 12 years of age, his example, in selling the paper in Elizabeth Street and at meetings, has aroused admiration in many quarters. This should prove a challenge to many dozens of supporters to lend a hand. Eric Butler will be away for the next two Sundays in Tasmania, but meetings will be held as usual, and Melbourne supporters are asked to co-operate.

WORK

The natural, healthy human being wants work, but that work is of his own choosing, if possible, and, if not, it is the achievement of some conquest over a natural limitation, in overcoming which he feels a certain pride, if not pleasure. In other words, as A. R. Orage pointed out, there is (1) work of one's choice, which is leisure; (2) work imposed on one by Nature, sometimes disagreeable, but not necessarily so; and (3) work imposed on him by other men—work for wages—employment, to which a man can scarcely ever adjust himself without the loss of some valuable part of his personality. For only one square peg in a million drops into a perfectly square hole.

PARLIAMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

.....M.H.R.

Dear Sir, —

WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE

I sincerely believe that the possibilities of establishing World Peace lie in the holding of an immediate World Conference, before the present situation results in complete chaos.

In a Democracy, the function of Parliament is to carry out the Will of the People, and I regard it as your sacred duty to represent my wishes, irrespective of party considerations.

As a loyal citizen of this country, it is my desire that you, as my Parliamentary Representative, do everything in your power to bring about a consultation between representatives of all nations, including Australia, with a view to establishing world peace. Yours faithfully,

(Signed).....
Address.....

Federal Electorate.....

(Copies of this letter may be obtained at 1/6 per 100, or 9d. for 50, posted, from: Hon. Sec., Citizens' Anti-Dictatorship League, Room 9, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.)

Peace Mission Movement Addressed

On Thursday night of last week Eric Butler delivered a special address on the possibility and desirability of a World Peace Conference to a meeting of the Peace Mission Movement, held at the Centenary Hall. The response to Eric's message may be judged by the fact that after the meeting Norman Rolls sold a current copy of the *New Times* to approximately half the people present.

THIS IS IMPORTANT!

A Special Address with a Message and a Challenge

BY

ERIC D. BUTLER

ON

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

ASSEMBLY HALL, COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE,

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, at 8 p.m.

In this time of crisis everyone has a duty and a responsibility. On the above date Eric Butler will clarify the issues confronting Australia at the moment, and point the way we are endeavouring to go. This will be a public meeting, and we urge all supporters to make sure that they are in attendance. All new readers of the "New Times" are cordially invited.

WE WANT A PACKED HALL.

AN IMPORTANT SPEAKER AND AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Defence Without Debt or Taxation

We would be obliged if those modest people who come into the office, drop a big bundle of signed demand forms in the box, and depart again, would also leave a slip of paper containing their names with the bundle. The same remark applies to country people who forward an envelope full of completed forms, and nothing to show from whom they come. Our chairman hates to see good work go unacknowledged, and he has pleasure this week in giving, honourable mention to the work of Messrs. Burgan, Dodd, Finn and Noack in Adelaide, and of Messrs. Trudgeon, Beames, Power and Mazzarol in the country.

An offer of co-operation in the Campaign from the Peterborough Citizens' Association has been received and thankfully accepted.

Local Objectives

Mr. Snelling, at Semaphore, besides helping with the greater Campaign, is running a local one for a hospital, and has obtained some hundreds of signatures by

means of the "envelope" method. An envelope containing the demand form is handed to one householder at the top of a street. He signs it and passes it on, and it finally reaches the householder at the end of the street, from whom the canvasser collects it. This method is being tried in the greater Campaign, but it is too soon yet to pronounce a verdict.

Educational Movement

Under the capable leadership of Mr. Bruce Brown, this Movement is rapidly becoming second to none in importance in South Australia. It is throwing a tremendous strain upon its leader, but he is achieving results that possibly no man but himself could obtain, and is arousing thought that must inevitably be reflected in political action in the near future.

Women's Division.

The women's monthly luncheon will be held on Wednesday, November 1, at 1 p.m. The speaker will be Mr. C. Goode, who will take for his subject, "A Grave Warning to United Democrats."

UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA (Non-Party)

Campaign Notes

At the usual meeting of campaigners held on last Tuesday night it was decided that we should assist in taking the census of public opinion in respect to the desirability of a World Peace Conference, as advocated by the Citizens' Anti-Dictatorship League, whose letter-form, to be signed by electors and despatched to members of the House of Representatives, was approved.

At the invitation of the newly formed No-Conscription Movement to send a delegate to their preliminary meeting, Mr. N. Rolls will attend on behalf of the U.E.A.

The next meeting of campaigners will be held on next Tuesday, October 31, at 8 p.m., in the U.E.A. Rooms, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Social Notes

Members are being enrolled for the U.E.A. Club, which will conduct indoor and outdoor functions during the summer months. The fee is 3d. per week, which entitles members to a U.E.A. badge. Name register available at headquarters.

Supporters are reminded of the grand dance-social to be held on Wednesday, November 1, at 8 p.m. at "Smoky Dawson's Famous Hill Billy Club," 48 Elizabeth Street, opposite Melbourne Sports Depot. There will be special items including vocal numbers, cards, novelties, etc. Admission, 1/9 (including tax and supper). Everybody welcome.

Who Is Your M.P.?

Below is a list of Federal electorates in Victoria and the corresponding M.H.Rs.

Parliament House, Canberra, is sufficient address.

BALACLAVA - White, T. W.
BALLARAT - Pollard, R. T.
BATMAN..... Brennan, F.
BENDIGO . . . Rankin, G. J.
BOURKE. . Blackburn, M. M.
CORANGAMITE. . Street, G.
CORIO.... Casey, R. G.

DEAKIN. . Hutchinson, W. J.
FAWKNER. . Holt, H. E.
FLINDERS . . Fairbairn J. V.
GIPPSLAND . . . Paterson, T.
HENTY . . . Gullett, Sir H.
INDI.....McEwen, J. S.
KOOYONG . . Menzies, R. G.
MARIBYRNONG

Drakeford, A. S.
MELBOURNE
Maloney, Dr. W. R.
MELB. PORTS, Holloway E. J.
WANNON . . Scholfield, T. H.
WIMMERA . . . Wilson, A. T.
YARRA . . . Scullin, J. H.