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**RICHARD E.
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'Phone: J 1873.

THE**NEW TIMES****"CATARRHEX"**

Clears Up Catarrh.

A. Nasal
B. Pulmonary,
C. Stomachic.

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1939.

Every Friday 3d

CONFERENCE OR CHAOS?**PEACE CAN YET BE WON**

As far as we are aware, we have been the only paper in Australia to give a clear, specific lead on the possibility of public opinion in this country being mobilised in the interests of a World Peace Conference before the dreaded storm breaks in full fury in Europe. Since our first editorial on the question in our issue of October 13, events have more than proved that there has been a big swing of public opinion in this country in favour of a peace by negotiation. We have received congratulatory letters from all over Australia, while many new readers have expressed their thanks for the fight we are making. One correspondent writes as follows: "While there are papers in Australia possibly equal to the 'New Times' on purely financial matters, they seem to lack the necessary quality of 'guts' when it comes to the international situation." We desire to thank all those who have written. The material support over the past few weeks has also been very stimulating, and we can assure our readers that the spirit of the late Tom Moore, who, as founder and first editor of the "New Times," so courageously clarified our policy in relation to international affairs, will continue to live in these columns. If the policy, which was laid down then, was right, then it must be still right.

Possibly the outstanding feature of the international situation last week, was the pathetic attempt by the press to maintain public interest. It is perfectly obvious that the press reports are a mass of conjecture and propaganda. Glaring contradictions appear, while the "reports" of what Hitler is thinking, or proposing to do, might be all right as comic reading, but we would again remind the daily press in this country that it is dealing with adults—not children.

IMPASSE

In spite of the expected Nazi "offensive" on the Western Front, it is quite apparent that neither side is keen to try and break through the opposite lines. The terrible loss of life necessary for such an attempt would possibly amount to millions, so that public opinion in Britain, France or Germany would hardly stand it. Even Hitler is dependent to some extent upon public opinion, and those who suggest that he is such a fool as to try and break through the Maginot line, with the resulting loss of possibly a million lives, ask too much of our imagination.

This leaves the possibility of a big air offensive, but it is rather a mystery to the man in the street why very little has taken place along these lines. Once again we feel sure that there is a growing realisation of just what unrestricted aerial warfare would mean. It seems that enthusiasm is ebbing everywhere, with the result that there is a growing desire for a cessation of "hostilities" and a Peace Conference. If the present opportunity is lost it may never come again. If hostilities start in earnest it will be a case of trying to build on the wreckage when it is all over.

News filtering through from Britain last week indicates the desire for peace and the action, which is being taken. Stuart Morris, formerly Canon of Birmingham, has resigned from Holy Orders as a protest against the An-

glican Church's support of the war. But most encouraging of all is the news that thirty Labor Members of the House of Commons have formed a "Peace Bloc." Needless to say, this news was not featured in the daily press.

CAUSES OF WAR MUST BE REMOVED

As we pointed out last week, we are under no delusion about the value of a Peace Conference, unless the causes of the present friction are attacked. The best that a Conference would probably do would be to give us a breathing space. The causes of war are to be found in the internal financial systems of every nation. Finance can only be attacked nationally—not internationally. If only one country could successfully break through the domination of the financial system internally, it would quickly lead the world out of the present impasse. But we have got to have peace to do it.

Of course, should the proposed Peace Conference take place, unless the peoples of the world ex-

(Continued on page 7.)

Open Letter to the Premier of Tasmania

Dear Mr. Dwyer-Gray, —

Allow us to congratulate you on your fine stand in introducing your resolution in the Tasmanian House of Assembly in connection with the community control of credit, as reported in the Launceston "Examiner" on Monday, October 30. The report reads: "That the national credit of the Commonwealth should be used in the interests of defence, the primary industries, and the general welfare of the Australian people will be the text of a resolution submitted by the Premier."

FARMERS NOT GETTING SQUARE DEAL**Widespread Dissatisfaction**

Immediately before the outbreak of war the two most important industries of Australia, wheat and wool, were in a precarious condition, and those engaged in the industries, and dependent on them, were voicing strong protests to the Federal Government for its neglect to take measures to bring about remunerative stability.

Since the outbreak of war, announcements that the British Government had agreed to purchase the whole of Australia's surplus primary production at equitable prices naturally quietened the unrest in the country districts, as it was confidently expected that the prices would cover costs of production, plus a reasonable profit to the producers. But, apparently, the trust placed in the Government to watch over the interests of the producers is not being strictly honoured. There is dissatisfaction among the woolgrowers. The average figure resulting from wool appraisements tells them that they have been let down. The "Argus" wool reporter, in the issue of October 27, comments as follows:

WOOL

"There is growing discontent among wool producers at the war-time average price which has been accepted for the Australian clip. The price, 10½d per lb. sterling, is equivalent to 13 7-16d Australian currency on the present basis of exchange.

"Writing from Sydney, a leading grower says: 'the average for the first week's appraisements is 10½d., and not bad catalogues. In many cases growers of what would be regarded as useful wools have received an average of only 9d. These prices in many instances fail to meet the costs of production.'

"Another grower protests against a 'pegged' wool price, while no steps have been taken to prevent the rising costs of production.

"There has been a queer conspiracy of silence,' he writes, 'regarding the disadvantages of the atrocious bargain forced upon us by some little men who preferred a hysterical gesture to the common-sense course of mutual ad-

vantage, a reasonable price, which Britain and the British trade would have welcomed cheerfully.'

"In Queensland some growers take such a serious view of the wool situation that a movement of protest is afoot. Similar steps are contemplated in South Australia, and the general opinion is held that unless substantial profits are realised from the sale of wool to foreign countries the basic price will enforce embarrassing readjustments of land and stock values.

"Manufacturers in Britain also, particularly in Yorkshire, are astonished at the low price which Australia has accepted for wool. The opinion has been expressed freely in Bradford that the price should have been 12d per lb. sterling.

"The president of the British Wool Federation (Mr. D. Ackroyd) is reported to have said that Bradford is overjoyed at the low rates. He added that there could now be no justification for any increase in the cost of woollen clothing in Britain.

"Moreover, informed comment in Britain suggested difficulties not only for the growers, but for the Commonwealth, in the surprisingly low price for the wool.

"How, it has been asked, can the growers meet the rising costs of production, which are inevitable if the war continues, and how can the Commonwealth budget safely for exceptional expenditure due to the war with such a moderate return for wool, the principal export commodity of the country."

WHEAT

In regard to the wheat industry, the wheat growing community is resentful of the delay and secrecy with which the matter has been treated. There has been nervousness, now justified, that a price would be proclaimed which would be inadequate to enable the industry to carry on. The anticipation of a bumper harvest has faded almost to expectation of a failure in a large portion of the total wheat growing area, and this (Continued on page 3.)

We await the report of your speech with interest, and, should you be successful in having the resolution passed, you will have helped to bring the matter of financial reform still more prominently before the Australian people. With the Tasmanian and South Australian State Parliaments supporting the national control of credit, we are quite sure that such a lead will arouse other States.

Trusting that you will carry on the good work.

Yours faithfully,
"THE NEW TIMES."

A WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE— WHY NOT?

"Speak Ye Now, or Forever Hold Thy Tongue!"

CONTRIBUTED BY NORMAN F. ROLLS, HON. SEC., PEACE CONFERENCE CAMPAIGN, ROOM 9, 5th FLOOR, McEWAN HOUSE, LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

If there is any truth in the meagre reports which filter through the corrupt and corroded channels of the daily press at the present time, the fate of Europe, and, possibly, of civilisation itself, hangs in the balance. We know, at least, that the blind butchery has started, even whilst the stage is being frantically set. At the same time, we have sufficient evidence to prove that efforts for a peaceful settlement of human affairs are being deliberately thwarted. Letters to our daily Sup-press are being ignored on a wholesale scale. We are being muzzled and trussed.

FORCE OF RIGHT AND WRONG

As I write millions of innocent men and women—and children—are feverishly engaged in the manufacture, supply, transport, and emplacing of mountains of munitions and war materials, the cost of which—under a sane financial system—would have assured all of us a standard of living never even imagined by any, save those who stop to think.

All the forces of science and invention, handed down through the past by master minds and lives devoted to the service and progress of the human race, are now being brought in to play a ghastly part in a conflict that can only bring despair, disease, destruction, and death; force measured against still greater force in the bitterness and hate of a revenge-complex which will surely deprive mankind of the last vestige of reason in a world gone mad.

All the force of millions of men and the might of modern machinery by the prostitution of intelligence let loose in a frenzy of waste and wickedness that may know no bounds. For what?

PUBLIC OPINION

It is true that, whether it is the desire or intention to prosecute the war to the fullest (which would seem almost impracticable) *another force*, more potent than any I have mentioned, must and will be brought into bold relief against the darkening gloom.

VOX POPULI—VOX DEI

That force, so frequently misguided and misdirected in the past, has, during the last few years, grown from the plaintive voice in the wilderness of uncertainty to a swelling tide of enlightenment, both in Germany and throughout the British Empire. That force, the greatest weapon known to humanity, is PUBLIC OPINION.

COLLAPSE—AND CHAOS!

Only rigid censorship and the blocking of news channels, together with mass-mesmerism on credit and money matters have prevented the right mental attitude from rising superior to physical force up till the present time. Should the latter be allowed by blindness and stupidity to retain the upper hand, it will, undoubtedly, be utilised to overthrow the existing order and what little remains of sanity BEHIND BOTH FRONT LINES, bringing about complete collapse of all we cherish in times of peace. The door, which might have been opened to true democracy, freedom and security, may then quite probably be used to usher in a more complete dictatorship and financial bondage controlled by centralised power with world influence and world control.

In the meantime, for the sake of "morale" and "diplomacy," the flower of the nations—in ignorance

and innocence—must suffer and die. "Their is not to reason why. . . ." Wholesale war and revolution may both be expected to take toll in a tragedy to be enacted to the bitter end, whilst populations are wiped out and the power of reason fails for want of expression—until it is too late.

ALTERNATIVE, AND DECENTRALISED AUTHORITY

What is the alternative? If public opinion based upon logic and reason, is to be reckoned with, why not *before* the holocaust? If the leaders of the nations concerned have the power to bring their people face to face in mortal combat, they have the privilege of facing each other in the presence of the representatives of all countries at a conference table, before the eyes, or at least in the hearing, of the whole world. Unless these leaders have something to hide or personal ambitions to satisfy, they will meet as true representatives of their respective peoples and face up to the facts with the determination to attack the problem by removing the *cause*, instead of fooling with the *effect*.

The common people either want war or they do not. With them it is a question of life or death—now, whatever has been the record of their leaders in the past.

THEIR OWN WORDS

Britain's Prime Minister, Mr. Chamberlain:

"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."

Australia's Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies (speaking at Brisbane on June 29 last):

"War will mean the disappearance of the victor, as well as the vanquished."

Field Marshal Goering (addressing the British and German war veterans at Berlin, July, 1936):

"In another war the flower of the nations' men and women will have to fight. Europe will be destroyed if the best in all of the nations are wiped out. A new conflict will exceed even the ghastly tragedies of the Great War."

These men, and those in similar positions of trust, have made themselves responsible for the welfare of their peoples in times of peace; they should be considered a thousand times more responsible now that war is upon us! Whilst they continue to claim such representation the people must hold them responsible for the outcome of the present situation.

WHO WANTS WAR?

Whilst there is yet time to stem the tide of threatened chaos, every minute should be regarded as precious—even as each human life is precious—and be utilised to estab-

lish reason where bigotry exists and tolerance where there is prejudice. Time and time again we have been told that the PEOPLE of Britain do not want war; that the PEOPLE of Germany do not want war, and I have no doubt whatsoever that this is true. Who DOES want it then, and why?

THE WORLD MUST KNOW

Some person or persons are responsible for the present deplorable position—and they have reasons. Some cause or causes are at the bottom of it all, and they must be brought to the light of day before the eyes of the world. If Hitler is wrong in the eyes of the PEOPLE, regardless of press reports, then his own people must replace him or go under. The suggestion that any great nation, however misguided, would defy the rest of the world—after the cause has been given full, unbiased publicity—for the sake of the retention of its leaders would seem too incredible.

THE TIME TO SPEAK IS NOW

Whilst the desire for peace and security is still uppermost in the minds and hearts of all people, and the possibility of a peaceful settlement still exists, it must be conceded that the sacred duty of every man and woman is to press vigorously for a fully representative World Peace Conference.

Our duty as Australians is clear. We have no *direct* influence over the leaders in Germany or in the countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and no *indirect* influence outside of Australia, until we ourselves have expressed our wishes in the matter. Our leaders, however sincere they may be, can form no opinion other than that of a small minority (amounting to bureaucracy and dictatorship) without an expression of public opinion IN A TANGIBLE FORM. There is but one way that the will of the Australian people on the desirability of holding such a World Conference can be rendered articulate, and that is by:

1. Acceptance of individual responsibility;
2. Expression of personal desire;
3. Transmission of desire in tangible form.

Thousands of people are already doing this by signing letters addressed to their Federal Representatives and posting them to Canberra. Most of these letters are being sent through this office so that, as nearly as possible, a true record may be made of the number signing. Letters to members are available at 100 for 1/6, posted to any address in the Commonwealth. Any quantity will be sent at this rate from the above address. Organisations are urged to draw up their own letter, so that the work may be carried out with the utmost speed and be as decentralised as possible.

The vital question before the people today is:

CONFERENCE OR CHAOS?

We in Australia claim to deplore dictatorship and desire REAL democracy. All right, Australians! There is the question—NOW GIVE YOUR PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVE YOUR ANSWER!

C. FORD
The Caterer

IS AT

204 High St., Prahran

Telephone: Win. 6066.

MONEY! MONEY! MONEY!

Money is the counters in a system of bookkeeping which should, but does not, represent correctly the true cost of doing and making things. Money itself has no value—any more than figures written on paper or coins have value. One cannot eat or live on money: all the notes and coins in the world would not keep one alive on a desert island.

Money is a most ingenious system, which should be used by civilised people solely as a convenience for enabling all that can be produced by the people's industry to be made available to the people for their use.

Money does not properly serve this purpose at present, but is kept always in short measure, so that useful work is held up for lack of it, and the people go short even of what is now produced.

This absurd state of affairs is tolerated by the people because they are deceived, by those who have seized control of the money system, into believing that money is a commodity, strictly limited in quantity, because it is the hardest thing in the world to produce.

All the newspapers and other principal channels of publicity take part in this deception—this suppression of the most important news in the world today.

Read any newspaper at the present time and bear in mind the truth about money as explained above: see how all the so-called problems and difficulties of the world would cease to be problems and difficulties if only money were made to serve its common-sense purpose. Is there one of them in today's daily paper that could not be immediately simplified or solved?

Try finding one.

Then remember how important it is to break the conspiracy of silence operated by the press concerning the facts about money.

Every reader of the *New Times* can resolve to use every opportunity to increase its circulation, for we have a definite message of liberating truth, the importance of which cannot be over-estimated in these days of chronic crisis and danger of universal violence.

Money costs nothing to create, and this fact shows that what is physically possible is, therefore, financially possible.

This, in turn, means that when monetary reasons are advanced to obstruct or to frustrate a humane demand, such as increased pensions for the aged, or less taxation or better social services, we are confronted with a false doctrine designed to deny the possibilities of peace and plenty for all.

Get another subscriber today if you can!



DON'T SPEND A
PENNY—

without consulting the
"New Times" Shopping
Guide

"REACHING FOR THE STARS"

A Temperate and Tolerant Survey of Nazi Germany

BOOK REVIEW BY ERIC D BUTLER

"Reaching For the Stars," by Nora Waln, should be read by every lover of human values, and those who believe in the fundamental decency of human beings, no matter to what race they happen to belong.

After the biased cant of the daily press and the radio commentators, this temperate and tolerant book provides a refreshing stimulant to the belief that the human urge for freedom will eventually overcome all despotisms and tyrannies.

The "Saturday Review of Literature" describes the book as follows: "Subtle tragedy, deep understanding, tenderness, and hope pervade the pages of this book. In it Nora Waln, Quaker and student of Oriental Philosophy, has distilled the essence of four years of observation as a resident in Nazi Germany, and has portrayed the impact of totalitarianism on the German people with rare sensitiveness."

TOLERANCE WANTED

Nothing could be more viciously calculated to cloud the emotions of people than such loose terms as "the German nation is in favour of so-and-so," or "the German nation threatens this or that." Nations are comprised of individual human beings, distinct from their "leaders," whether they be Adolf Hitler—or, possibly, R. G. Menzies. Nora Waln understands that distinction.

She is a pacifist and makes no attempt to conceal her views. One must admire her courage and balanced outlook, which, after four years in Germany, left her a more convinced pacifist than ever. Her close contact with the common people of Germany, coupled with a burning desire to know and understand their outlook, has fitted her to write with authority.

After all, every effect has a cause, and the present system of German government should be recognised as the result of the harsh treatment meted out to Germany since the last war. It is pleasing to see that Dean Inge has also made a very refreshing contribution to the German problem in a recent issue of the *Church of England Newspaper*. To quote: "The things which we hate in Germany are largely the creation of the Allies, especially France, after the peace. If we had made things easier for the Weimar Republic there might have been no Nazism. Let us cease from the childish habit of personifying other nations as monsters."

HOW THE PEOPLE LIVE

Apart from indictment of the political system, which prevents free criticism by the individual there are delightful pen-pictures of the modes of living and enjoyment adopted by the people:

"Boisterous in their enjoyment, they danced in the open, sometimes with flowers in their hair, the blonde heads of the women shining in the sun. . . . It was usual to see people whose hands were callous with toil playing musical instruments. No gathering was without its song. They scattered music over their great river, over their

wine-clad hills, and along their forest-ways."

These are the people we might at any time be trying to gas or bomb. Nora Waln found them no different to ourselves. A delightfully courteous people, with a culture so deeply based on the traditions of the German folklore, that not even the regimenting of a political system can stamp it out. If the causes of war were removed, and we are as responsible for these as any other nation, the fundamental urge for friendship and peace would break the bounds of any political tyranny. The author found the desire for peace uppermost in the minds of the German people everywhere.

REGIMENTATION

The writer found evidence everywhere of the manner in which the people are regimented. However, she found a loyal undercurrent of thought for individual liberty. Even some of the young generation, despite the Government's propaganda, are thinking for themselves: "you foreigners cannot have any idea how beset with difficulties we young Germans are. We have to join the Hitler Youth. We have to accept as gospel every Nazi word. Otherwise we have no future. We are told quite plainly that no job and no profession will be open to us if we do not accept National Socialism. I want to be a doctor. I am ready to take my final high school examination next term. . . . And no one is allowed to take the examination who does not have a reputation as a believing Nazi."

Many more instances are given. They are terrible. But, then, one could give similar instances—perhaps not so harsh,—which happen in Australia, for all our boasted "democracy." Tyranny knows no geographical boundaries. But, then, neither does truth. Nora Waln says, and who would not agree with her, that it is not only the German people who need more truth—the whole world needs it.

PACIFISM IN GERMANY

Many books on Germany are written in a very heavy and detailed style, which, to the general reader, becomes rather wearisome. But it is not so with this book. Its writer is an artist of delicate perception, who takes the reader through a Germany very seldom portrayed by other writers—or the daily press. The loves and fears of the people, the different customs and the changing scenery in different parts carry the reader along with unabated interest. Although the word pacifism has been struck from the German vocabulary, the author gives ample evidence that its spirit refuses to be crushed. "This greeted me in castle and cottage.

It was said by ardent supporters of the party, as well as by ordinary German men and women, who whispered their pacifism; by those who went courageously forward as pacifists until arrested, and then continued their pacifism in prison. In fact, I got the impression that pacifism might be out of the vocabulary, even in army books, but that Germans had not done with its practice yet."

THE REAL VOICE OF GERMANY

If the desire for liberty in a people is strong enough it will eventually win. It is rather unfortunate that we talk too much about the German *nation*, and not enough about the German *people*. The following extract, which quotes a German girl, speaks volumes: "You may think that our radio is the voice of our people, but it is not. The voice of Nazism is trumpeted, but the true voice of Germany is a murmur so low that only the patient and gentle can hear it. Many of us who were formerly deaf to all but the cause that enthralled us are listening now to news that is never published."

There can be no doubt that certain "democracies" could, in peace time, help the German *people* considerably if they allowed them access to the surplus raw materials which they so urgently require. Such action would be a direct gesture to the German people. Most readers of this journal know that before we can do that we must put *our own* house in order. One thing that struck me after reading this book was the comparatively pitiful efforts, which reformers in this country make at times—compared with those of the ones whose faith in humanity keeps the spirit of freedom alive in such countries as Germany. While we make excuses that we are too busy to worry whether our liberties are being filched, etc., these people still maintain their faith in spite of prison or other hardships.

I can strongly recommend everyone to read this book. They will feel the better for having done so. Possibly they will feel as I did: that behind the smoke screen of inspired "news" and views prevailing today, there is quite a strong heartbeat in the body of Freedom in every country of the world. That body needs nourishing, but it is only by appealing to the *best* in man that the world will ever get out of the present turmoil. This calls to mind another book which I have just read: "Power—A New Social Analysis," by Bertrand Russell. Russell says:

"If I had to select four men who have had more power than any others, I should select Buddha and Christ, Pythagoras and Galileo. . . . No one of the four would have affected human life as he has done if power had been his primary object. No one of the four sought the kind of power that enslaves others, but the kind that sets them free. . . ."

"It is not ultimately by violence that men are ruled, but by the wisdom of those who appeal to the common desires of mankind, for happiness, for inward and outward peace, and the understanding of the world in which, by no choice of our own, we are forced to live."

Today, not only Germany, but the whole world, is ruled by coercion, economic or otherwise. The best help we can offer the German people in their struggle of "Reaching for the Stars" is to do a little more active struggling here in Australia to remove some of the *causes* which light and fan the sparks of national hatreds at the present time.

Farmers Not Getting Square Deal

(Continued from page 1.)

is accentuating the predicament in which most farmers find themselves. The personnel of the Boards appointed to administer the compulsory acquisition of wheat and wool does not inspire the producers with confidence that their interests are in the best hands. Protest meetings are again becoming numerous throughout the wheat and wool growing districts, and members of Parliament representing these districts should have no illusions as to what to expect when the next election is held if they do not get busy in the House and see that the wool and wheat industries get a fair deal.

REGIMENTATION

There is reason for the rural industries to be perturbed. The management of their affairs is being taken out of their hands and placed under compulsory administration, such as, we are told, the war is being fought to prevent. Senator McLeay is forecasting measures to be enacted which will place the planning of rural production in the hands of bureaucratic boards. This means that in all probability acreage will be restricted and apportioned, class of production stipulated, and price fixed. The producer will have no say in the matter whatsoever; will just have to do as he is told. In this connection, the farming community would be well advised to be on guard, ready to instruct their Parliamentary representatives to oppose any legislation designed to take away the freedom of the individual by imposing dictatorial control over their affairs.

Peace Mission Movement Hears Plea for Peace—And Acts!

The hall at the Universal Guest House, Fitzroy, Melbourne, was packed to capacity on Wednesday, October 25, when Eric Butler and Norman Rolls, as the guest speakers of the evening, addressed local workers in the cause of peace.

The proposals to support the objective of a World Peace Conference were carried another step forward by the forming of a willing group who will undertake an immediate canvass of their own districts, obtaining signatures to the letters addressed to members of the House of Representatives. Members of this movement are to be complimented upon their ready acceptance of their individual responsibility in this urgent matter.

Christmas Mails for the British Isles and Europe

The Deputy Director, Posts and Telegraphs (Mr. R. N. Partington) desires to remind readers that the time has now arrived to prepare Christmas gifts and greetings for despatch to relatives and friends in the British Isles and Europe. To ensure delivery of parcels before Christmas Day, they should be posted without further delay.

Mr. Partington desires to emphasise that, as in the case of parcels, the senders of small packets are required to fill in and affix thereto a declaration form indicating the nature and value of the contents, and that both parcels and small packets must be posted by being handed in over the counter of a post office. Care should be taken to ensure proper packing, wrapping, tying, and addressing.

THE PRINTED WORD

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LET THERE BE PEACE

Eminent statesmen are saying that a new world must evolve from the fracas at present taking place in Europe. They hint that peace is an even greater problem than the problem of the "war." It would seem that the "powers that be" dare not allow the "war" to end, for fear of the chaos, which would result from cessation of the activities, and their ramifications, dependent on a state of war. Their dilemma can be easily appreciated when it is contemplated what it would mean if the millions of men mobilised in the military forces and the millions engaged in munition making were to be suddenly thrown on the labour market. The result would be chaos and anarchy. It would not be far short of the mark to say that Hitler's peace offer has been turned down on account of the fear of peace there must be time to plan before the machinery of war is allowed to stop. Destruction of human life and property, apparently, under existing guidance, must go on while the "powers that be" placidly plan—plan what?

Ostensibly the "war" is to protect democratic ideology from aggressive encroachment by totalitarian ideology. Unfortunately, as far as Australia is concerned, certain legislation enacted creates an uncomfortable suspicion that all is not what one would wish to believe. Suspicion is strengthened when phases of the Nazi regime have been extolled by Prime Ministers and men in administrative positions. Suspicion becomes decidedly uncomfortable when the much-vaunted liberty of the individual, a cherished ideal of democracy, is seriously reduced at the whim of a few executive officials. A recent example of "Hitler" government in our own country is the implementing, by regulation, of control of all capital. This means that an individual or a company cannot, without first going through the humiliating ordeal of obtaining permission, call on the public for assistance to establish a business or extend an existing business, or even call on partially-paid shares to carry on the normal financing of business. If this is a sample of planning for peace, it would appear that the people of the democracies are between the devil and the deep sea, as, whatever the outcome of the "war," democracy would be doomed.

The League of Nations reports that only by the preparation for war has the world been saved from financial collapse. This is an admission that the "system" under which the world has struggled along for so long has failed; for it is hardly logical to believe that a system is a success which can only function by the building of armaments with which to destroy those who employ it. The question requiring an immediate answer is whether the esoteric coterie of financiers, which has been the directional controller of world affairs, is the same, which is planning the "new world." Directors of a "system" which ordained that millions of people should starve in a world of abundance, and that the majority of humans should designedly be kept at penury-level, are not fit and proper persons to be entrusted to plan a "new world." Evidence rather favours the belief that the unsavoury dictators of the passing era are trying to reshape things so as to enable them to retain or regain world dominion.

The present "war" or crisis is marked by a comparative absence of hysterical "patriotism." This points to the fact that the peoples of the world have unconsciously learnt something during the past twenty years which has banished much hate, and intolerance from national character. More is national feeling one of reaching out for understanding, and a desire for friendship and peace. No dictator in any country can break down that feeling. Apparently public opinion in most countries is exercising restraint on national leaders, and, if public opinion can be assisted to give tangible expression to its wishes, it is probable that sanity will return to the world and a new order of peace and plenty for all ensue. A common-sense first step towards this end would be to insist on a peace conference representative of all nations.

It is criminal to allow the present march-to-disaster to continue when it is within the power, and the rights, of the peoples of the world to stop it. Those who are planning are afraid of **the people**, and, in consequence, are doing all possible to place them under dictatorial discipline, and to remove any right that may still exist for self-determination. While a vestige of this right remains the people must be assisted to use it.

In Australia it is a deplorable fact that there is a tendency to underestimate the importance of Australia as an influential nation in world affairs. As a matter of fact, Australia could often sway a world issue if she controlled her national policy and did not act at the behest of outside influences. It is possible that there would

not have been a Sino-Japanese war if Australia had pursued a sane Australian policy in relation to Japan. If she would follow an Australian policy in regard to Europe, it is more than probable that she could bring influence to bear, which would contribute to establishing world peace. These claims may sound extravagant, but is it not likely, if the people of Australia led the way in insisting on a world peace conference, that other countries would follow the example?

THE NOT-SO-GUSHING BORE

By "THE WALRUS."

An announcement in the Brisbane press and over the National Stations has voiced the pathetic displeasure of Mr. Percy Pease, Minister for Lands and Deputy Premier of Queensland on occasion, over all this earnest inquiry, which is going on, or said to be going on, in the matter of Australia's artesian water supply. Mr. Pease says that all these pronouncements of imminent failure are doing Australia a great disservice.

Mr. Pease doesn't, of course, use the same mellifluous terms as I do in referring to the matter. In fact, the report, as I heard it, was of startling ambiguity. It appeared, at first, that he was objecting to publicity being given to an allegation that bores were no longer gushing, and, as I wasn't thinking about water at the time, I was puzzled to know why he was so concerned about the silencing of that worst kind of bore, the gusher. Silly of me, of course, but I always get politics and boredom tangled up together.

But when the dullness of my perception was penetrated, I had to agree to his proposition, especially when he told us that two bores under Government observation haven't ceased gushing—much.

THE OSTRICH IS RIGHT . . .

Anyhow, suppose all the basic facts of existence were to become common property, where would we be? Fortunately, we don't want to be bothered about the basic facts of existence, and when we do stumble on one we generally look round in time to see the notice board, "Keep Out! This means You!" (sd. Lord No Zoo), and we amble placidly off again.

Anyone can see what a fantastic place the world would be if we were all earnest enquirers after truth. When I make out my income tax return, do I get the Commissioner of Taxation to help me? I do not. Nor do you. When I see by the displayed advertisements that everybody's beer is best, everybody's toothpaste is best, everybody's pills, porridge, pants, pickles, and pig's-feet are the best, do I denounce them in the name of mathematics? I do not. Nor do you.

For goodness' sake let's keep our illusions as long as we can. I hate the man who tells me my film star is really bandy, cross-eyed or bibulous, and the feeling which prompts me to this resentment prompts me also to observe the moonshine on the river but not on the dust-bin, and to conceal the fact that my pants are held up by a nail. "We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little life is rounded with a sleep." Nothing has existence except we think so.

AND SO IS PERCY.

Percy is quite right: so, possibly, is the ostrich. If all our lives we are calling against two-headed pennies or throwing loaded dice, it is surely better not to find out. And if that be so, it is our obvious duty, once we do find out, to prevent others from doing so.

In this matter of the gushing bores, it isn't as though anything can be done about it. Royal Commissions have no more power over water under the earth than they have over water on the brain, and, in any case, Royal Commissions aren't appointed to be taken any notice of. Properly speaking, a Royal Commission is the oblique of an inconvenient issue.

I feel I would like to help brother Perce. He believes that the "Merry heart goes all the way," and the long-faced professors are getting his goat. Now, how would it be if photographs were taken of all the non-functioning bores, showing them as gushing as ever, and, if anything, a little better than ever? A picture of something that's all right is merely a vivid presentation of a statement or suggestion that that something really is all right. Almost any photographer who knew his business could do it. No one would object. The grazier wouldn't take a bit of notice. He has demonstrated in the past that he will put up with anything; and he's so used to losing millions of sheep that it wouldn't even matter if he preferred to believe the photographer rather than the bore. It's an idea, anyway. I only want to help.

AUSTRALIA'S CREDIT

It is the duty of everyone to help when the credit of the country is in danger, and, as Mr. Pease suggests, no one will want to lend money to an arid Australia. I am with Mr. Pease more wholeheartedly than ever, in consideration of this aspect. I didn't really expect him to be as ready as that to pop one over the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street. It's a sound scheme. The loss of our water would hardly affect us at all, so long as we could get Monty Norman to conjure up some money for us somehow.

How gratifying would be the spectacle of a famine in a waterless land, and Our Perce bringing home the paper!

The "New Times" Fights YOUR Fight

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Donations Still URGENTLY Needed

Have YOU "Done Your Bit" Yet?

PLEA FOR PEACE CONFERENCE GROWS

Working along the lines of true democratic action, the Peace Campaign, which was launched recently in Melbourne, is rapidly enlisting the support of the public throughout Australia.

At the request of the P.C.C. Committee, we publish the following extracts from letters received, which are typical of the correspondence flowing in daily. Readers may judge for themselves.

From an M.H.R.—"I am in receipt of your circular, which I appreciate greatly for the splendid wording of its contents. I enclose my limit (cheque enclosed) whilst there is so much poverty and misery around us, and you can count upon me to do my very best to attain the ideals so well explained in your circular. With all greetings and good luck. Yours fraternally."

From an M.L.C., Vic.—"I am enclosing 2/6 with the letter-forms, and would be grateful if you would send me 100 similar forms for signatures. I desire to help your movement in every possible way. I appreciate the initiative and the public spirit, which has sponsored it. The hope for peace depends upon those people who are prepared to assert the RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO PROTEST, who still believe that the PUBLIC WILL SHOULD BE PARAMOUNT, and who still have faith that the voice of the people can triumph under our so-called democratic system. May every success attend your efforts"

From a Doctor, —"Yours of the 23rd welcomed. You can assure your committee that I am doing my best to destroy the murder called war, and I hate dictators as I do the Devil. I wish all the people who cause war were under my medical care. They certainly would never recover."

Rainbow (Vic.) —"Your urgent circular to hand this afternoon's mail. I was able to secure six signatures in the main street, and support to the extent of six shillings. I will secure the other four signatures in time for the midday mail." (That's action!)"

Yulecart (Vic.) —"Received your letter yesterday evening, and am returning signed forms. I am enclosing 2/4 covering those sent and 100 more to be sent immediately."

Mayfield (N.S.W.) —"I received your circular through — of Sydney. It is the best idea I have yet seen . . . Please forward me 100. I hope to make it 1000 by next week. Posted some to Granville, N.S.W." (This from a woman; a REAL woman.)"

South Yarra (Vic.) —"Am glad to know your organisation has been set up to stimulate public opinion in regard to a Peace Conference and to organise that opinion so that it can make itself felt effectively. I enclose copy of a letter I have sent to the Prime Minister urging a World Peace Conference. I have also circularised Victorian Federal Members. Kindly send me 100 forms as Hon. Sec. of the Committee. I will get the — Committee, of which I am a member, to also give publicity on the question. I enclose 11/6, being 1/6 for forms and 10/- donation towards your work."

Tongala (Vic.) —"Your welcome circular to hand, and have pleasure in enclosing cheque for £1. Kindly forward me five hundred letter-forms and a small parcel of your circulars, so that I can make new contacts"

Winchelsea (Vic.)—"I had no difficulty in getting the ten forms signed. Will you please send me another fifty? I enclose five shillings for expenses."

Donald (Vic.)—"Will you be kind enough to forward 100 P.C. forms, for which I enclose two shillings."

Morwell (Vic.)—"I am returning forms signed. The campaign is being received very well here. Post me a further fifty."

Such has been the response to the plea for the only sane and Christian approach to the settlement of the European and World crisis that the Committee appeals for more voluntary workers to assist at head office. The first essential is to secure the greatest number of signatures in the shortest possible time, so that the Representatives of the electors in Parliament are given positive proof of the WILL OF THE PEOPLE in this vital matter. The attitude of all Members of Parliament will be carefully noted, and the work of this organisation will form the basis upon which the Australian people may work for a just and lasting peace.

Many other organisations have already adopted the principle of this campaign (the PRINCIPLE is all that matters at the moment), and arrangements are being made by others to act upon the same lines. To those individuals who have already responded, and to the hundreds of other REAL men and women throughout Australia who are also playing their part in a question of life or death, we say THANK YOU.

Below, is a copy of the letterform in use, which will be posted to any part of Australia in any quantity at the rate of 1/6 per 100. The circular letter is also available at two for 1d. All enquiries to the Hon. Sec., Peace Conference Campaign, Room 9, Floor 5, McEwan House, Little Collins St., Melbourne, Vic.

..... M.H.R.,
Canberra, A.C.T

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.....

THE MONOPOLY OF MONOPOLIES

By ALFRED T. FLEMING.

It is a common error to divide the community into the two classes, the "haves" and the "have-nots." It is due to this fundamental error that so many people place a totally wrong construction on the term, the "Money Power." They regard the two terms, the "haves" and the "Money Power" as synonymous.

However, there is this vital difference—that the "haves" are merely people who are reputed to "have" money, whereas the Money Power (private bankers) has the monopolistic privilege to **create** it as and when it chooses.

That is to say, the "haves" can only have got their money by acquiring it from other people (honestly or otherwise does not affect the argument). But the Money Power, as stated, can create it—and the word "create" means to make out of nothing.

A more truthful picture is, therefore, obtained by dividing the community not into those two classes, but into three, as follow:

1. The Money Power.
2. The "haves."
3. The "have-nots."

It is quite true that the first category consists of a mere handful of men, quite unknown to the general public. They are not entitled to a separate category on account of their numerical strength—for that is negligible. But they must be accorded one on account of their key position, for they hold that Monopoly of Monopolies, the power to create—and to refuse to create—money, and, more disastrous still, the power to destroy it, not in accordance with the community's needs, but at their own whims and fancies.

CONTROL

By control of the creation, restriction, and destruction of money, the Money Power can release—or withhold—as it wishes, the potentialities of industry from the "haves" and the "have-nots." As the Money Power invariably permits only a scarcity of these products to be released, the "haves" and the "have-nots" are kept busy squabbling about how this Money-Power-created scarcity shall be divided.

Further, by its control of the press, political parties, and other means of influencing public feeling, it can embitter the "haves" and the "have-nots" towards each other, each section blaming the actions or inaction of the other section for its troubles.

In fact, it is due to this very control of the sources of information and of all the means of propaganda that the initial error (on the part of the victims), mentioned at the opening of this article, has arisen. This division of the community into these two classes is deliberately fostered by the Money Power, and put across for public consumption chiefly through the medium of rival political parties and their associated press.

BEATING THE AIR

So long as the "haves" and the "have-nots" argue merely about how the released scarcity shall be divided, the Money Power does not interfere. But if the fight threatens to interfere with its power to maintain the scarcity in any way, then the Money Power can easily drop some new bone of contention between the parties and divert the squabble into, for them, less dangerous channels.

Consequently, political fights are always about dividing the scarcity, never on the division of the plenty—for the fight is always about something to which the Money Power does not object.

In fact, while the Money Power allows the electorate to choose the opposing teams, the former not only

chooses *the game* to be played, but it draws up the rules and appoints the umpires as well.

Hence, by control of all means of propaganda, the Money Power keeps the rest of the community very busy indeed. "Haves" versus "Have-nots," Capital versus Labor, Jews versus Anti-Jews, one industry against another industry (e.g., Eat More Fruit versus Eat More Bread); everyone so busy fighting someone else that hardly anyone realises the existence of an enemy common to them all.

A great cry went up for a United Front. But what was it for? As usual simply to fight some other section of the community; any section but the Money Power.

TWO WILLS

Our quarrel, the community's quarrel—with the Money Power—is not on personal grounds. It is just a demand, exerted through the medium of your servant, your member of Parliament, to get the results we want from the facts of plenty, in order that the goods which manufacturers would like to make, but dare not do so at present, can be made and distributed to the community.

It is a battle between two wills with opposite objectives. We want the potentialities of plenty distributed to consumers with the least amount of trouble, in order that all can each enjoy economic security under conditions of maximum personal freedom; the Money Power wants to restrict and centralise the potentialities of plenty so as to consolidate its own "power to withhold," and by this means dominate the lives of all consumers under conditions absolutely devoid of personal choice or real freedom. Which of these two wills is to be obeyed by public representatives, backed by the sanctions under their authority, is the fundamental issue of our time.

A PLEA FOR TOLERANCE

"It is, perhaps, too much to hope that this calm resolution and peaceful spirit will not be affected by the horror and violence which modern war inevitably brings in its train; but we trust very earnestly that the press and public organs of propaganda will refrain, during the present struggle, from the organised campaigns of hatred and falsity which were so ghastly a feature of the war of 1914-1918. . . . The German people are not monsters of inhumanity or barbarous Huns; they are just plain folk, like ourselves, though subject to an evil system of tyranny, whose roots are to be found in the mysterious workings of history, by which modern Germany was formed. Unless we, their enemies, can retain a full sense of their humanity and misfortunes, as well as our own, the conditions of a tolerable peace are unlikely to be secured by any new treaty, and the tragedy of Versailles will be repeated once more."

—*The Advocate, Melbourne, September 7.*

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(Continued on page 7.)

Ratepayers' Defence Association, Coburg Deputation to Council

Representatives of the above association were heard at the meeting of the Coburg Council on Monday night, October 23, when the council was considering the confirmation of a special order to borrow £30,000 for permanent works and undertakings.

The speakers for the association were Mr. D. McInnes and Mr. F. C. Paice. Both spoke in opposition to the loan, and pointed out that increased loans meant increased rates to meet loan charges, and that an ever-increasing proportion of these rates must go to meeting these charges, thereby leaving a diminishing proportion of the increased rates available to the council for maintenance works.

They said that Mordialloc Council had almost reached the saturation point of borrowing, having regard to its ability to meet loan charges out of revenue.

Coburg Council would also reach that point very rapidly if it continued borrowing. It would then have to curtail necessary works, causing further unemployment and distress, just as Brisbane Council had done.

Extracts from Mr. Macgillivray's speech in the South Australian Parliament were read, and the speakers pointed out that for the year 1938-39 the whole of that State's income tax, motor, land and all other taxes were absorbed in the payment of interest on loans. They objected to the council borrowing from private financial sources, instead of requesting the Commonwealth Bank to make the necessary money available to them under the powers, which Section 504 of the Banking Commission's Report states it possesses. If they were refused

the money in this way, then, at least, they should borrow from their own Commonwealth Bank until such time as sufficient pressure was brought to bear upon the Federal Government to compel it to take control of the monetary POLICY, in the interests of the people as a whole.

The Mayor, Cr. Parker, pointed out that the Commonwealth Bank had been approached for the loan, but it had refused to advance the money on overdraft, and the State Savings Bank had refused to advance more than £10,000 on overdraft.

The deputation then pointed out that when the council received a refusal from the Commonwealth Bank it should immediately have convened a public meeting of ratepayers and invited the Federal Parliamentary representative to be present, and explained the position to them, in order to instruct their M.H.R. to DEMAND, on the floor of the House, that the bank make the money available DEBT FREE.

ENMORE SHOPKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION MEETING ADDRESSED BY S. F. ALLEN

On Monday night of last week, Enmore shopkeepers and visitors heard a most interesting lecture by Mr. Stanley F. Allen, F.C.A. (Aust.), on finance and its relation to business and taxation.

The speaker is well versed in his subject, and is a well known Chartered Accountant and Local Government Auditor.

Mr. Allen described the method by which all public activities are financed today, showing that there is a growing burden of debt, both public and private, and that to keep up with the expanding economic system under orthodox methods, we cannot escape an increasing load of taxation, either to pay for public works directly or to pay interest on borrowed money. Yet there is a growing volume of opinion, which is spreading even to the economists who may be considered orthodox, that money or credit, which in this case may be regarded as the same thing, can be made available free of cost.

An interesting observation was made by Lord Stamp recently: "While, a few years ago, no one would have believed it possible that a scale of taxation such as at present existing could have been imposed on the British people without revolution, I have every hope that, with skilful education and propaganda, this scale can be considerably raised." There spoke the die-hard upholder of orthodoxy, and the system upheld by it is ruining enterprise, devouring the nation and inflicting misery on the people.

The chairman of the meeting, Mr. J. A. Lynch, said that those who had been prevented from attending the meeting had missed a treat. But it is believed that another meeting will be held in the near future. The following resolution was passed:

"This meeting of Enmore retail traders desires to express its concern with the financial position of Australia. The greatly increased

taxation with which we are threatened, and the prospect of big war loans, and the volume of unemployment, due to alleged insufficiency of Government funds, are causing apprehension in the business community. We feel assured that there are methods of financing the nation's activities other than by the old expedients of borrowing and taxation, and wish to make plain to the Governments of the Commonwealth and State our conviction that new avenues be explored immediately to avert economic disaster. The powers enjoyed by the Commonwealth Government, under Section 51 of the Constitution and under the National Security Act, leave no excuse for any failure on the Government's part to depart from the orthodox methods which are proving inadequate to our needs."

THIS OR ANY OTHER WAR"

Rev. G. Hale Makes Declaration

On Sunday evening, October 8, Rev. G. E. Hale, Minister of the Adelaide Unitarian Church, preached on "This or Any Other War: Where I Stand and Why." The following extracts are culled from his sermon, as reported by "The Beacon" (published by the Unitarian Church, Melbourne).

"I acknowledge with shame my share of responsibility, however fractional, for the terrible state in which the world finds itself. I respect those whose honest views on the war situation are diametrically opposed to mine, and, possibly, to me.

"But, once and for all, in the presence of Almighty God and of you, my people, I refuse either actively to assist or passively to tolerate war in any form or pur-

WAR IN AUSTRALIA Wheat Position Acute

The announcement that the price of wheat for the forthcoming crop is to be 2/11 per bushel, *in bags*, at terminals, heralds a revolution in Australia. A revolution which will be conducted on purely constitutional and democratic lines, but nevertheless a test as to whether the people of Australia are Australia or whether they are merely vassals of sectional interests, both inside and outside Australia. No self-respecting individual, or section of the community, could possibly countenance such direct insult and betrayal of confidence by Government as implied by the fixation of an uneconomic price for wheat. Apart from making wild conjectures, there can be no legitimate purpose for deliberately destroying the wheat growing industry of Australia. Not only does the price of 2/11 mean bankruptcy to the men engaged in growing wheat, but repercussions carry right through the community to the last individual: If an insufficiency of money is injected into the distributing heads, then necessarily the economic machine of the nation must become disrupted, if not wholly paralysed. The wheat industry is one of the nation's most important industries, and therefore one of the main distributing sources feeding purchasing power to the community. If the costs of production are not in the price obtained for wheat, then the money representing those costs cannot be handed on to individuals, businesses, professions, firms and industries waiting for it to liquidate their costs.

That the seriousness of the situation is recognised is shown by the diversity of interests represented at the meeting held at Bendigo on Tuesday, October 31. The meeting indicated clearly that not only the wheatgrower, but professional and business members of the wheatgrowing community also, would not tolerate the action of the Government in regard to its handling of the wheat position. It was strongly intimated at the meeting that if the Government did not take measures to place the industry on a safe and sound basis the Government would be dismissed from office. The wheat farmers and their supporters very definitely intend to show the personnel of the sitting Government that democracy means obeying the WILL of the people, and not the will of outside influences. In the opinion of the *New Times*, it is fortunate that the "powers" behind the present Government have blundered over the wheat issue, as it is high time democracy functioned before its power to do so is completely taken away. There is war in Australia—constitutional war.

pose; and I pledge my whole-hearted support to any activity which, in my judgment, will make for international peace.

"Sooner or later—the sooner the better—there must be a world conference . . . of those who recognise the dire need of a new way for humanity to live together, men and women who will be empowered to lay our all, our patriotisms and everything else, on the great world's altar for the welfare of our common humanity."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

M.H.R. ON WAR AND PEACE

Sir, —Should we not recommend:

1. End present war by negotiation —the only sane way;
2. Future international peace be assured by world collective security pact;
3. World conference to be called as means to such an end?

Centuries ago Aristotle said inequality was the source of all wars and revolutions, and this same great truth was recognised at the close of the last war, when that great Frenchman, Albert Thomas, told the delegates at the Peace Conference that *no lasting peace was possible unless it was POUNDED UPON SOCIAL JUSTICE.*

In my humble view, to the continuance, in an ever-increasing degree, of those economic and social inequalities spoken of so long ago by Aristotle, and the absence of the element of social justice as the basis of the man-made peace terms of our time, can be traced the cause of mankind being again forced into the shadow of another terrible war, which bids fair to outdo all its ghoulis predecessors in unspeakable horror and criminal vandalism, and which, if fought out to the so-called bitter end, meaning the forced submission of one group to the greater might of another, must re-sow that crop of hate and the spirit of revenge, whose harvest must inevitably be the continual recurrence of future wars.

If we believe—and history makes any other view impossible—if we believe that war is the trade of savages and barbarians; if we believe that there never was a good war; no, not one; if we believe that war is a great illusion, that it cannot bring victory to any, but only loss and misery to all, then surely we should all be praying for an early solution which will save humanity from a period of rape and murder, the horror of which we cannot conceive, with conditions at the end of which no one can foretell.

Dr. Fosdick, who is well known internationally, said: "War is the most colossal sin that afflicts mankind. It is utterly and irremediably un-Christian; in its total method and effect it means everything that Jesus did not mean and nothing that He did mean. It is a more blatant denial of every Christian doctrine about God and man than all the theoretical atheists

on earth could devise. We cannot reconcile Jesus Christ and war. That is the essence of the matter."

If this is so, surely all who call themselves Christians must favour every effort to end the present conflict.

The immediate necessity for a World Conference to me is self-evident. There must be a World Conference, a real Peace Conference, representative not only of those who are now at war, but all those who are still neutral. Surely it is well known that everywhere the *people* want peace, but do not know how to obtain it. Because the last Peace Conference was such a woeful failure it is no reason why we cannot have another. The unhappy results should, and must, reach us to avoid such mistakes, if they were mistakes, again.

The story of the last war is now history. Every cause for which the Allies fought, and for which such sacrifices were made, and which on the first Armistice Day we thought had been finally gained, we now know have been lost, or, in fact, were never won. In short, that great bloodbath, with all its terrible sacrifices of life and limb, and the comfort and happiness of millions of people, was absolutely in vain.

Because of this 90 per cent of the world's people want a world organised for *peace*, rather than a world organised for *war*.

This can only be gained by a system of collective security, and this can only be established as the result of a World Conference.

In the efforts necessary to bring this about our Government, as well as all others, will be asked to express its wish. Our duty, then, is to see to it that Australia's answer shall be in favour of peace by negotiation, as the result of a World Conference, which should be initiated at the earliest possible moment.

In a remarkable book published by W. Heinemann Ltd., London, entitled, "The First World War," we get what are called the official figures of the war, as follow:

Nations that fought	20
Total killed	10,000,000
Total wounded	20,250,000
Prisoners and/or Missing....	6,000,000
	£
Total direct cost	38,340,000,000
Total indirect cost	22,000,000,000
Total cost in money	60,340,000,000

Yet these colossal losses in human life, health, happiness, and material wealth we are assured will

only be a fraction of what may happen if the present conflict develops into another Great World War. With such an alternative staring us in the face, should there be any hesitation on our part in urging the calling of a World Peace Conference? Surely the answer must be NO! —Yours, etc., E. J. HOLLOWAY, M.H.R. Federal Members' Rooms, Melbourne.

[We are pleased to publish Mr. Holloway's letter, with which we are, on the whole, in agreement; but cannot regard a "Collective Security Pact" as a guarantee of real, permanent peace. — Ed., "N.T."]

ERIC BUTLER IN TASMANIA

Eric Butler opened his Tasmanian tour with a short address over 7LA, Launceston, on Sunday evening, October 29. This was also relayed to 7HO, Hobart. On Monday he addressed the 50,000 League in Launceston at lunchtime, and a very successful public meeting in the Mechanics' Hall at night. On Tuesday he left for Hobart, where he was to address the following meetings:

Wednesday, November 1. —Public meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. Reception after.

Thursday, November 2. —New Norfolk, at 8 p.m.

A report of these two meetings will appear in our next issue. Tonight he will speak at Huonville, while on Sunday, November 5 he will give four addresses, as follows:

Public Meeting Domain, 3 p.m.
Radio Talk from 7ZL at 6 p.m.
Radio Talk from 7HO and 7LA, at 8.35 p.m.

Address to the W.E.A., at 8.50 p.m.

Eric will return to Launceston on Monday, and leave by boat to return to Melbourne for the Assembly Hall meeting next Thursday.

CONFERENCE OR CHAOS?

(Continued from page 1.)
ercise a little vigilance, they may find the International Financiers using the Conference to further their plan for world domination. Mr. Lloyd George, speaking of the peace negotiations which followed the last war, said: "They [international bankers] swept statesmen, politicians, jurists, and journalists all on one side, and issued their orders with the imperviousness of absolute monarchs, who knew that there was no appeal from their ruthless decrees." We would not desire that to happen again. However, there is such a growing knowledge of the insidious power of International Finance in even high government circles of practically every country, that a Peace Conference forced by public opinion might mean the complete smashing of the plans of the international financial group to dominate the world.

THERE IS STILL HOPE

The position is still hopeful, and every minute should be used by all democrats in giving a clear, tangible expression of their desires to their respective Members of Parliament. Let Australia as a nation speak on behalf of peace. What is required is a mobilisation of public opinion. Let us recall those great words of Rev. Studdert Kennedy, written just after the last "war to end wars": "For centuries the people have been driven into wars like sheep, because there was no public opinion." How true it is. Now is the opportunity to show that the people can keep out of wars by public opinion.

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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**UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA
(Non-Party)**

At the usual meeting of campaigners, held at headquarters on Tuesday night last, reports of the progress of the Peace Conference Campaign were received with enthusiasm. The meeting expressed its determination to assist in every way possible to further this work, and to co-operate with all other bodies in holding a big public meeting in Melbourne, to be arranged by various organisations, as soon as possible. The evidence already to hand showed that this campaign is already being conducted in all States.

Mr. N. F. Rolls, who acted as U.E.A. delegate to the preliminary meeting of the No-Conscription Movement, reported as follows:

"At the well-attended inaugural

meeting held last night, a committee was formed, and plans were laid for launching the movement at the Yarra Bank on Sunday next."

As reported elsewhere in this issue, on Wednesday, October 25, Messrs. Eric Butler and Norman Rolls were the guest speakers at the Peace Mission Movement's meeting at the Universal Guest House, Fitzroy. The proposal to co-operate in the campaign to urge a World Peace Conference was accepted by a strong group, who will undertake an immediate canvass of their particular districts.

The NEXT MEETING of the U.E.A. will be held on TUESDAY, November 14, since next Tuesday will be the Melbourne Cup holiday.

West Australian Notes

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 81 Barrack Street, Perth.

Marked activity is noticeable in the metropolitan area, and the Macgillivray pamphlet is finding a ready sale. It is, as yet, too early to anticipate a rush of orders from the country, but, no doubt, a huge sale will be the order when it does start. The pamphlet in question has been sent to all State members in the Legislative Assembly, who from now on will experience more inquisitive interest, regarding their actions or inaction, on the part of their constituents. The latter are beginning to realise the part they must play in a real democracy. Democratic Government throws responsibility on to the individual. . . if he will not accept it, then he assists the advent of dictatorship.

The revival of an old branch for the Electoral Campaign at Claremont will be hailed with delight.

If you are a new reader of this paper, we want you to write to our Headquarters, 81 Barrack Street Perth. If you want your name kept confidential, your confidence will be respected. We must have the names and addresses of all individuals, who can be advised from time to time of the strategy of the campaign, and, in the event of an emergency arising, can be sent such information as will be necessary for their co-operation.

The formation of an up-to-date library at Headquarters, of which members can take full advantage, will shortly be launched. Mr. W. F. Andrews will be the librarian, and has requested mention of this project in these notes. He requires books of political, social and economic literature, and would welcome any books which any person would care to contribute. The works of Henry George, Gessell, Marx, Douglas, Soddy, Kitson, Stamp, R. G. Hawtrey, and other contributions to the Economic matter of our time would be especially welcomed. The membership fee for 12 months will be 1/-, plus 3d for each book borrowed. The time for reading each book is seven days, after which a further 3d must be paid if you desire to hold the book for an extra week. Under no consideration, however, will any member be allowed to hold any book longer than two weeks. All W.A. readers are asked to co-operate in this project and thus establish a New Economic Library, for which there is a definite need. If the book you have in mind to send is in a dilapidated condition, please send it in. We will renovate it, and it will thus

help to fill up our library shelves with good literature. Should this meet with a lively response, the library will be launched and opened before Christmas.

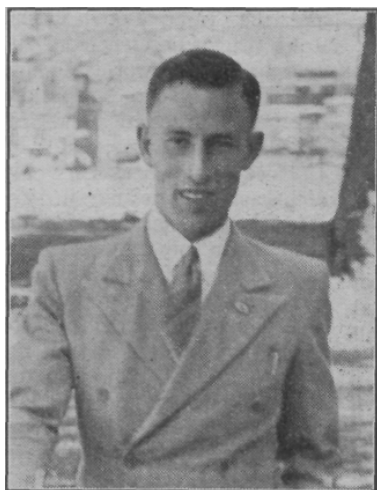
Full stocks of the Macgillivray leaflet are now on hand at 1d per copy. Please allow for postage when sending for your supply.

All old members in the Claremont area are requested to get in touch with the acting secretary, Mr. Retallack, 53 Carrington Street, Claremont, as soon as possible.

Reports from all groups would be greatly appreciated.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

DEFENCE WITHOUT DEBT

So constant has been the flow of signed demands for *Defence Without Debt and Taxation* into the office that there has been no need, in Adelaide, to erect tables and canvass for signatures in public places. This method will be adopted, however, as soon as the flow shows signs of diminishing. In the meantime, it is recommended to all country and local centres as the most efficient means of obtaining signatures that the Movement in South Australia has, as yet, discovered. Honourable mention must be made of the work carried on in Adelaide by Mr. Vogt, Mr. Spies, and Mr. Fitzgerald; also by Mr. Saulsby, of Largs Bay, and Mr. Coombes, of Karoonda.

CENSORSHIP

Members and friends are urged to write to their local Member of Parliament in the following terms: "Dear Sir,—I request you to voice my emphatic protest against the present censorship of public news

and private correspondence coming into Australia. Such a censorship can have no military significance whatever, and is solely designed to keep us in ignorance of what is transpiring overseas. —Yours faithfully,"

EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Applications are invited from members competent to conduct a course in social credit technique, to commence in February 1940. The class will be conducted at Headquarters on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday evenings—whichever is most convenient to the instructor. Applications should be addressed to The Chairman, United Democrats, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

BRIDGE EVENING

The monthly bridge evening will be held this Saturday, November 4. As the winter season closes next month, interest is becoming yet keener, with leading scorers fighting to maintain their positions. A summer session is contemplated.

BENTLEIGH MEETING

The public is invited to attend a meeting at 420 Centre Road, Bentleigh, on Monday, November 6, at 8 p.m., to form a committee to arrange for the holding of a large public meeting at Bentleigh in respect of WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE.

YARRA BANK ACTIVITIES

At the Yarra Bank last Sunday afternoon, whilst Ron. Jones was opening the meeting on behalf of the U.E.A., a large crowd was gathering at the adjacent platform of Mr. Townley, a well-known speaker. The sincerity of the speaker and the keenness of the crowd prompted one of the U.E.A. supporters to investigate, and it was with gratification that the speaker's subject was found to be the proposed World Peace Conference, and the matter he was putting to the public was the circular and the letterform sent out by the Peace Conference Campaign. Mr. N. Rolls was then invited to address the meeting, and, whilst the crowd continued to grow, the nature of the campaign and its objectives were outlined in a forceful manner, resulting in an almost unanimous desire on the part of those present to join in the drive for signatures and permeate other organisations without delay. Several supporters meanwhile sold the current issue of the *New Times* and other literature. On next Sunday at 3 o'clock, U.E.A. speakers will carry on the good work, and help from members will be appreciated.

GET THE FACTS!

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

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