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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1939.

Every Friday 3d

Compulsory Training Opposed

DEMAND GROWS FOR USE OF THE NATION'S CREDIT

All over Australia the demand for the removal of autocratic compulsion—whether it be physical, as in the case of compulsory military training, or financial, as a result of increased social debt and consequent taxation—is starting to become an issue, which members of Parliament can no longer ignore. A real parliamentary democracy is a society in which a majority of the electors decide their own policy, while it is the function of the members of Parliament to see that that policy is carried into effect, irrespective of political-party programmes. Although Australia is supposed to be engaged in a war to crush "Hitlerism," the very internal policy, which the minority Government is pursuing, is building an insidious form of "Hitlerism" in this country.

A nation is comprised mainly of individuals who co-operate with a view to their mutual advantage. The very fact that the present Government had to resort to compulsion in order to strengthen its defence forces is, in itself, a most damning indictment of the economic policy, which this nation has followed. When it is remembered that before war broke out there were tens of thousands of young men in the economic doldrums—even walking the roads without any reasonable means of livelihood—and feeling that they were not wanted by the nation, perhaps that action is not very surprising. Although the net of economic conscription has caught some of the more needy of those young men, it must be remembered that if the financial policy of this country had provided more young men with a decent standard of living, there might have been less difficulty about recruiting. They would at least have felt that they had something worth fighting for. And more important, had that financial policy been a sane one, there might have been no "necessity" to talk about military defence at all, as Australia would have given a lead to the rest of the world in removing the causes of war. If one nation will only give a lead, the others won't be long in following.

ELECTORS TAKE ACTION

Apart from the fact that compulsion is contrary to the democratic spirit, the sources from which those who are being conscripted will be paid means increased debt and taxation for the rest of the community—including of course, that section who, because of religious or other beliefs are opposed to military action in any shape or form. We are pleased to be able to report that this step towards "Hitlerism" in Australia is being vigorously opposed by many individuals who understand what real democracy means. In Melbourne, the following elector's demand-form has been drawn up by a group of citizens, and is already in great demand:

"... M.H.R.,

"Dear Sir,

"I desire to inform you, as my Parliamentary representative, that

I am opposed to the introduction of compulsory military training. Democracy presupposes that the individual shall make his personal choice in these matters, and, if there are sufficient men in this country who think that they have something worth fighting for, there should be no difficulty about enlistments. If we are going to try and defend the country by military methods, we want it defended by free men, and not conscripts.

Furthermore, I object to the community being further penalised (Continued on page 8.)

NATIONAL CREDIT RESOLUTION PASSED BY W.A. PARLIAMENT

The following resolution was passed unanimously by the Legislative Assembly of West Australia on December 7, after the original resolution moved by Mr. Marshall, M.L.A., had been subject to three amendments:

"In view of the deplorable state of our primary industries and the ever-increasing poverty and unemployment in our midst, the national credit of the Commonwealth should be used in the interests of defence, the primary industries, and the general welfare of the people of Australia by and through the Commonwealth Bank without inflation or any charge."

This resolution marks a further step towards the dethroning of money and those who control it, as the masters of the people.

MONETARY REFORM IN LEETON, N.S.W.

'New Times' Advocated as Movement's Journal

The following extracts from a report appearing in the Leeton (N.S.W.) paper of Tuesday, December 5, will be of interest to our readers:

"A general meeting of the Leeton Monetary Reform Association, which was formed following an address delivered on that subject in Leeton in October last, was held in the Band Hall on Tuesday evening

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND NATIONAL FINANCE

Important Move in New South Wales

The Blaxland Shire Council in N.S.W. is to be congratulated on its really progressive and intelligent policy, and it is to be hoped that it will be emulated and extended co-operation by shires, boroughs and city councils throughout not only N.S.W., but the whole of Australia. It is the duty of every ratepayer in Australia to bring this example to the attention of his local council and demand its imitation.

The Blaxland Council recently passed certain important resolutions relative to Local Authorities and National Finance. But it went further than that. It decided to undertake some practical ACTION. This action has already produced encouraging initial results. The following letter from the Blaxland Council, addressed to all councils in N.S.W., through their respective town or shire, clerks, sets out the resolutions we have referred to and the action initiated:

"BLAXLAND SHIRE
COUNCIL.

"Phone: No. 12,
"Wallerawang.

"Council Chambers.
"Wallerawang,

"11/11/39.

"Dear Sir, —By direction of council, I forward the following details

of resolutions passed at a recent meeting of this council:

"(a) That the time has arrived when Local Authorities should have a real voice in the affairs of the nation, and that if, as has been mooted, the Federal and State Parliaments of Australia are to jointly confer on national problems during the duration of hostilities, then Local Authority representation should be co-opted at such conferences.

"(b) That, in the opinion of this council, present financial methods are not adequate to meet the needs of necessary works, maintenance and utilities, and urges the expediency of progressively liquidating the national debt, the abolition of interest, and the freeing of the Commonwealth Bank policy so that it may work in the interests of the nation, as set out in Section 504 of the Report of the Royal Commission on Banking.

"(c) That this council draws attention to the loyalty and unselfishness of the volunteers for national service, on the one hand, and the attitude of the purely financial institutions, holding practically the whole of the monetary and credit structure for usance, on the other.

"(d) That these resolutions be transmitted to every Local Governing Body in the State, with an invitation to co-operate.

"The resolutions, as set out, are self-explanatory, and the support and co-operation of your council is invited.

"If this is accorded, would you please submit the recommendations to your local Parliamentary representatives and also advise me of the result?

"I enclose extra copies to assist you in remitting the matter to your local Parliamentary representatives, should this be the wish of your council, and await favour of your advice as to the action taken, in due course. —Yours faithfully

"C. D. BROWN,
"Shire Clerk."

(Continued on page 8.)

THIS GOLD-STANDARD BUSINESS

Interview With a Distinguished Economist

By "THE WALRUS."

I've been in trouble over this Gold Standard business for ages. Some well-meaning friends put me on to Adam Smith, Jevons, and Professor Marshall, and told me to listen out for some chappie or other on the air—The Washerman, I think it was. From what I succeeded in making out of the business, it seemed that the gold standard was almost exactly the same as electricity: lots of people knew what to do with it, but no one seemed to know how it got there. Imagine my joy when I met a Distinguished Economist, who agreed to listen to me! I reproduce my interview, which is still fresh in my mind:

"I'm in a frightful jamb over the gold standard. I wish I could fit it in with my notion of economics, but my intelligence is such that, unless you can talk to me as to the very young, I don't think I shall ever understand it. So I think, if you don't mind, that, perhaps, the best way would be for you to answer a few questions."

"Certainly, my dear man! Certainly!"

"Well, to begin with, would you say that gold is a commodity?"

"Naturally!"

"And what gives it its value?"

"Demand, of course. It is something everybody wants."

"Now, that's just what I want to get at. I haven't seen any gold for years and years, and I don't remember that I ever wanted any. Do you want any?"

"Yes, of course. Everybody does."

"But why? What would you do with it if you had it?"

"I'd sell it."

"You wouldn't keep it?"

"No; of course not."

"Then you don't really want it."

"Certainly I do, so as to sell it."

"And that's why everybody wants it?"

"Yes!"

"So as not to have it?"

"Oh, if you like."

"Well, where does it get to finally?"

"In the safe-keeping of the banks, of course."

"Lying around in chunks, sort of?"

"In bullion form certainly."

"And the chappies, whoever they are, who own it, just leave it at that?"

"Yes!"

"Then they don't really want it either. It must be somebody else who does. Who is it?"

"I've already told you. Everybody does."

"Oh, yes! So you did. Sorry! Wouldn't it be a pill if gold went out of fashion, like ostrich feathers, and it turned out that nobody wanted it after all?"

"Why on earth should it?"

"Well, nobody seems to know what to do with it when everybody wants it, and I thought it might be awkward if someone decided it as in the road, after all, and compelled the rightful owners to remove it. What d'you think they'd do with it?"

"I think you're a fool."

"So do I. I told you that at the beginning, but I really am trying, so don't lose patience yet. Now, assuming that everybody goes on

wanting not to have gold, as at present, and insist on dragging it into their calculations, would you say that in estimating the price of an article we do so by saying it is worth so much gold?"

"In the final analysis, yes."

"And that, if the production of that article outstripped the gold available, each article would be worth a little less gold?"

"Yes!"

"In other words, prices would fall?"

"Naturally."

"In spite of the fact that, except for possible economies in productions, each article would cost the same to produce—in terms of energy, I mean?"

"I suppose so."

"And if all commodities outstripped gold there would be a general fall in prices?"

"That is so."

"Yet it is possible to imagine a state where all commodities continue in the same relation to one another, while all have changed in relation to gold?"

"Oh, very likely."

"Then just what is the stabilising value of gold, since all commodities, including real estate, would be devalued in relation to it?"

"I've told you that gold is necessary because everybody wants it. It is tangible, incorruptible, stable . . ."

"Yes, I know. I read about it. Let's try another way. Do you say that gold is not only a measure, but a necessary measure?"

"Yes."

"But that it tends to vary?"

"Well, yes."

"And that it is impossible to have a measure which never varies? Why is that?"

"Because we must have gold."

"Dash! I keep forgetting that. Well, can you tell me why the yard measure and the pound weight never vary?"

"Because they have no value in themselves. You couldn't buy a pound's worth of inches, could you?"

No, but you always know how long an inch is going to be. So I was thinking that it might be an improvement if the monetary pound were a fixed unit of value based on energy. Would that be possible if money had no value of itself?"

"It might. In fact, anything seems to be possible, except getting you to see the value of gold. But, although it might be possible, it would still be undesirable."

"Why is that?"

"Because we must have . . ."

"No, don't say it again. I do hate to be reminded of my foolishness. Let's try something else. Now, suppose this country had everything it needed for its people, but no gold. What would happen?"

"We would export goods to buy sterling."

"Is that the same as gold?"

"Well, no. It used to be, but certain—er—adjustments have had to be made."

"I've heard something about

WALL STREET AND MOSCOW CARRY ON

Russia-U.S.A. Breach Not Likely

Those who entertained lingering doubts about the Wall Street-Moscow plan for world domination must have received a shock when the invasion of Finland took place. In view of the close relationship between America and Russia, many people thought that if the Roosevelt Administration was so interested in world peace, as we have always been led by the press to believe, it would have immediately severed trade relationships with Russia, and thus prevented her from obtaining some of her war materials. Reports appeared in the Australian press two days after the invasion of Finland suggesting that America should *discontinue sending war planes to Russia*. This confirms the allegations made in many well-informed circles that America, through her trade agreement with Russia, was actively engaged in supplying the latter with war materials. Russia, in turn, has, conceivably, been sending some of this material on to Germany.

WALL STREET SPEAKS

Although it is apparent that a great wave of anti-Soviet feeling swept America, in connection with the Finnish invasion, this in no way influenced the financial group who control the Roosevelt Administration. They refused to break off

that, but never mind. What do we do with our sterling when we've got it?"

"We pay interest abroad and get goods from overseas."

"But I'm assuming that we've everything we want, except gold. So why go to the trouble of producing a lot of goods we don't want so as to get a lot of other goods we don't want?"

"But, my dear man, no one can exist without an export trade."

"Now I seem to have blundered into something else I never was able to see. You mean, if one man on an island can produce enough for himself, like Robinson Crusoe, two men can't, even though the stuff is there to be got?"

"What nonsense you talk! How do you propose to pay external indebtedness?"

"I think it would be a good idea to repay what we really owe in something which can be produced."

"And what if the creditors don't want your produce? It is then you find you must have gold."

"Which you purchase by overseas exports?"

"Exactly!"

"The same exports they didn't want before? I wish I wasn't so thickheaded. There's only one more thing I feel like asking: Why was the dollar devalued?"

"Gold was so much dearer that each gold dollar had to contain less gold."

"That's what I supposed. Are there any gold coins?"

"Not in circulation."

"Most of the gold is in chunks—I mean, bullion form?"

"Yes."

"And no one ever uses it for anything?"

"Not as far as I know."

"Well, since gold is so entirely essential, as you say, how would it be if we used a bar or two to gild a dollop of iron or something? Then you could show the people the mountains of gold, and they'd think you were right back on the gold standard. It would be just the same as devaluing the dollar, and you could always adjust your gilded mountains to production . . . Oh, must you go?"

relationships, as it would not be "in the interests of world peace." Well, well! We seem to have some recollection of a 25 per cent, tariff being imposed on all German goods early this year by the same Roosevelt Administration, which move, no doubt, played its part in provoking war. Of course, now that they have the war nicely going they must take good care that both sides are not short of material.

In the meantime, the Secretary to the American Treasury (Mr. Morgenthau, who is a member of the Jewish Brain Trust, directing Roosevelt, and connected with Kuhn, Loeb and Co.) states that he is studying the Finnish debt question, but declines to comment on a report that there is a likelihood of a moratorium offer to Finland. No; one could hardly expect the financiers to make any "sacrifices." That great privilege is left to the common people of every nation.

CHRISTMAS MAILS

Early Posting Campaign

The Deputy-Director of Posts and Telegraphs (Mr. R. N. Partington) is seeking the co-operation of all readers in regard to the posting of Christmas gifts and greetings. He would like as many as possible to post such mail matter before Friday, December 15, and suggests that packets be endorsed, "Do not open until Christmas." By doing this you will materially assist the department and eliminate any possibility of your gifts and greetings not being delivered in time. If everybody delays their greetings until the last day or so, the congestion may prevent the postal staffs from effecting delivery before December 25. The charm of your gifts and greetings lies in their receipt before Christmas Day, so do your shopping now, pack securely, address fully and plainly, and post early to avoid disappointment to your relatives and friends.

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We suggest to "New Times" readers that a gift at one or more of these inspiring books by C. Barclay-Smith offers a satisfactory solution of the Christmas Gift problem:

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Add 3d. Postage on Each Book.

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Mr. D. Scouler, 82 Ruthven-street, Waverley, Sydney: "These books have really inspired me and have opened up fields of thought and endeavour that I never dreamed existed."

These books may also be purchased as a complete set of ten volumes—known as the Art of Life Reading Course—and bound in dark blue or dark red Rexene, with gold blocked titles, for £2/12/6 (including postage). If bound in brown imitation crocodile leather, the price is £2/17/6. The complete series may be obtained upon payment of 10/- deposit, and 10/- fortnightly.

The Leisure Age Book Co.

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Have YOU read "MONEY" yet? Send for a copy Now. Price 1/1, posted, from "Save The People's Bank" Campaign, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND ITS FIGHT FOR WORLD DOMINATION

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

(4)

A close study of the vast amount of authoritative literature dealing with the factors and events which led up to the last war has been responsible for the widely-held belief in well-informed circles that the real objectives of the last war—as desired by International Finance—were the Russian Revolution, the formation of a League of Nations, and the financial and political subjugation of Great Britain.

No greater error can be made than to regard the present conflict as a mere military conflict. International Finance is now moving into position for one desperate attempt to consolidate the results of the last war and achieve complete world domination. The tremendous military machine in Russia today is the armed force of International Finance.

THE PLAN OF ATTACK

I have so far dealt with methods by which the last war was prolonged, the first move by High Finance towards the World State through the establishment of a vast bureaucracy in Russia, and the first step in the smashing up of the British Empire—or to be more correct, the smashing up of British institutions. The following statement by Mr. L. D. Byrne, Technical Adviser to the Alberta Government, and one of the most astute economic and political minds in the world today, sums up the situation in a brilliant and graphic analysis: "As the operation of their disastrous financial system led to widespread economic distress and growing social discontent, International Finance has been manoeuvring the situation for a final bid for world domination. Great Britain and France were jockeyed into a position in which it became increasingly certain that they would be embroiled in war with Germany and Italy. The necessary financial assistance to ensure that all nations were well armed was forthcoming, thereby ensuring that the combatants would inflict the maximum damage on each other. *In passing, it should be noted that throughout the preceding post-war year of economic distress no such financial assistance was made available to relieve the economic plight of the people in those countries.*

"To any one who has followed the situation closely, it would appear that the broad plan of campaign of the Money Power is to engage Great Britain, France, Germany, and Italy in a war which will wreck those countries. This would leave, intact the forces of Russia—i.e., of International Finance—masters of Europe. At the appropriate moment, through their control of the entire economic structure of the United States, and because of the economic conditions developing there, the Money Power will be able to collapse the economy of that country and precipitate revolution. By the same tactics as they have already adopted in Russia and elsewhere," it would seem that International Finance hopes to create a situation in which it will be able to seize power and establish a dictatorship in the U.S.A. This might be done through the establishment of a Soviet Union of American Republics or some similar social system. Thus the Money Power is moving to gain within a comparatively short time its objective of world domination and to destroy the British Commonwealth of Nations."

HITLER WAS USED

It can be taken as axiomatic that very few men obtain power under present economic and financial conditions unless those groups who control finance are so disposed. Hitler was certainly no exception to the rule. The evidence that the International Group in Wall Street with the aid of the Bank of Eng-

land, was desirous of building a strong and highly centralised Germany is very considerable. Apart from this evidence, the following statement by Dr. Schacht upon the resignation of Hindenburg in favour of Hitler is particularly significant: "*For three months we shall have to do what Hitler tells us. After that he will have to do what we tell him.*"

Hitler seemed to have other ideas, and, although the reign of tyranny which the Hitler Administration was responsible for was, no doubt, acceptable to the financiers as the first step towards preparing Germany to fit into the World Police-State, a serious position arose when Hitler severed contact with International Finance, dismissed Schacht, and removed the Jewish control of the nation. From then on it started to become obvious that war was the next step. No doubt, the International Financiers were convinced that Hitler had served his purpose in preparing Germany for complete bolshevisation, and now had to be removed.

Just what tactics were used to force Hitler's hand may never be known, except to the historian of the future. However, one feature of the general position is more than significant. As L. D. Byrne points out, although Hitler had no difficulty in obtaining raw materials for war purposes—practically all controlled by International Finance—various methods were used to throw up trade barriers against consumable goods for the German people. For example, Roosevelt, controlled, as we have seen, by the financial oligarchy, early this year imposed a 25 per cent, duty on all German goods coming into America. This was done while on the other hand he was asking a peace gesture of Germany! This embargo meant that Germany was less able to obtain foreign credits for raw materials.

This and other steps by the financiers created the ideal environment to force a dictator of the Hitler mentality into a European war. Great Britain and France were jockeyed into position by the same powers, and as mentioned, one of the main objectives of the present conflict is to first destroy British democracy and establish a system similar to that operating in Russia.

HOW BRITAIN IS BEING BOLSHEVISED

With all its defects, the "Anglo-Saxon character" and all that it stands for is, possibly, the greatest bulwark against tyranny in the world today. Finance realises this, with the result that Britain is today fighting for her very existence. The *real* enemy is not Hitler and Germany, but the powers which control Britain, and which are working for the complete bolshevisation of the nation. The war has been used to bring down "emergency" powers as the first

step. Since then we have also seen the following steps:

(1) Universal national service, added to the conscription of youth, which means the cessation of innumerable privately earned incomes. The entire nation will yet be on Government pay, with all individual money-power gone.

(2) Tremendous increase in taxation, which is smashing up all the privately owned estates and bringing them under the control of the Government—i.e., the banks. It is interesting to note that this move has the sanction of most Labour supporters, with their mania for higher taxation. This is bolshevisation with a vengeance, as the entire means of production will pass to the control of the financial oligarchy who control the Government.

(3) The breaking up of the British home by compulsory separation of mothers from children and husbands from wives in the evacuation areas. The Russian term for this process is "communisation."

Possibly one of the most deplorable statements in connection with this last move was made by Lady Astor, M.P., who is reported as saying: "The whole future of our children is going to be changed by this great experiment. We shall find that the child of two to five is better off without the mother, if that mother is untrained or too busy to give it the time it needs." Lady Astor believes the mother "*is necessary only during the first year. The child of two to five must have discipline and proper care.*"

This recalls the statement of a Bolshevik writer in a pamphlet on the objectives of Bolshevism: "To remove children as much as possible from the influence of parents and family life, it is extremely desirable that special children's towns should be established."

Just how much the British people will endure of this sort of thing, even if it is advocated by Lady Astor and others of her ilk, is a moot point. However, the general trends are alarming. On top of this the war situation has been used to advantage for furthering the idea of Political and Economic Planning (P.E.P.), which I have already briefly referred to earlier in this story of International Finance. We have seen how the Bank of England, back in 1931, was interested in this project. As a matter of fact, the first chairman of P.E.P. was Sir Basil Blackett, a director of the Bank of England. Apparently, Sir Basil Blackett's ideas of running this planning campaign were too open for those who wanted more subtle tactics, with the result that he was forced to resign. The new chairman was Mr. Israel Moses Sieff, head of Marks and Spencer, the great chain store concern. Since then a policy of "infiltration" has been pursued, with the result that "planning is in the air." Even "respectable" circles discuss the merits of "planning." Of course, people in these circles would be insulted if you told them that they are moving parallel to the Communists and their policy.

One of the most damning statements on the progress that the planners are now making appeared in a recent issue of an English church-magazine.

"STATE-AIDED MONOPOLIES"

The following extract will indicate what is happening, and likely to happen: "The Political and Economic Planning group, under the chairmanship of Mr. Sieff, is out to reduce every public and private activity in England to a compact mechanism of State-aided monopolies, combines, and chain-stores, under the control of a few financiers . . . This wonderful

and genial movement for the enslavement of Great Britain is making fair headway, and has succeeded in laying hands on pigs, bacon, milk, potatoes, turnips, 'buses. . . . The latest to join the movement is the National Birth Control Association, which has, accordingly, altered its name to Family Planning Association. It will tell when and whom to marry, how many children to bring into the world, when to divorce, when and how to die, all according to the lofty standards of a group of financiers' financial needs and benefits."

The outcome is hard to foresee at the moment. If the British people and their institutions are to survive, the present onslaught on every worthwhile tradition will need to be resisted immediately. The present war makes the situation doubly hard. The only contribution that Australia can make to the fight to save civilisation is to attack the financial problem internally and expose similar moves, which are being carefully prepared to completely enslave this nation as well. There is every reason to believe that, because of our geographical position, we will possibly play a decisive part in the tremendous struggle which will certainly be decided, one way or the other, within a comparatively short period.

THE CONTROL OF THE WORLD'S NEWS

Any discussion on International Finance, without a brief mention of the manner in which the news-channels of the world are also controlled or influenced by the financiers, would be incomplete. During the last war, Sir Cecil Spring Rice, British Ambassador to America, whom we have already mentioned, wrote: "One by one the Jews are capturing the principal newspapers. . . and the banking house of Kuhn, Loeb and Co. is active in everything of interest to Germany." In his book, "From Pharaoh to Hitler," Bernard J. Brown, a Jewish lawyer of Chicago, states: "Jews have muzzled the non-Jew press." In view of the Jewish influence in International Finance, this last quotation takes on a sinister meaning. Henry Ford, in his clash with Jewish International Finance, just after the war, learnt the tremendous power of a controlled press, and has been strangely silent on this question ever since. The London Times, influential paper in connection with British financial policy, is now owned by the Astor family. Major Astor is a director of the great Jewish Bank of Hambros, while the Hon. H. R. Brand, who is another director, is managing director of the Jewish Bank of Lazard Bros., which was one of the international banking houses mentioned in the financing of the Soviet.

Possibly the most illuminating statement concerning the connection between International Finance and the control of the main channels of news was made in 1935 by Mr. Fleetwood-May, a chief official of Reuter's, when he lectured to the Post Office Telephone and Telegraph Society at the Institute of Electrical Engineers, London. He said: "The fact of being the world's news-centre means a great

(Continued on page 7.)



The New Times

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

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"PARADISE" THROUGH WAR

In its sub-leader of Tuesday, December 12, the Melbourne "Herald," under the title, "Paradise Retained," offers the following comforting information: "The sun shines—sometimes, the wheels of industry turn. An official report forecasts that Commonwealth war spending this year of £60,000,000 will provide directly about 100,000 jobs, 20,000 of which will have to be filled from other occupations, leaving a net gain of 80,000 new jobs. In its monthly summary of conditions, one of the great banks reports relatively few adverse effects, a stimulation of primary and secondary production, and helpful reactions on the tone of business in general."

No doubt some people have been wondering why it is that we could not bring about some sort of stimulation without war expenditure. That is one of the great enigmas which future historians will puzzle about when they come to study the history of the present insane era—an era which has been responsible for such a contradiction in social organisation as the plight of millions of people eking out a miserable existence while production is either limited or destroyed—an era where man has been driven to war, which is social suicide, because he has neglected to control the means of distribution.

Ruminating over such statements as the one quoted above, we can well imagine our future historian comparing us with the superstitious tribes of Africa, and other "uncivilised" peoples. After all, are we very different? We spend quite a lot of money, which, incidentally, under the present monetary system, we can ill afford, in an endeavour to show these "backward" people the folly of accepting as almighty the pronouncements of their witch doctors. But, while this is going on, millions of our own kith and kin are suffering untold agonies because as yet we have not shown sufficient initiative to challenge the pronouncements of our private banking witch doctors, who have us believe that the only manner in which we can get some more money for the amenities of life is to have a war.

Reverting to the "Herald's" statement again, we would point out, in connection with increased employment, that war will also solve another problem which has been worrying the "puritans" in our midst for some time. We refer to the question of whether people should be allowed any access to the increasing pile of consumable wealth in the modern world as a result of science, without first of all participating in what our "leaders" like to call work. However, now that we **have** a war there will be plenty of work—shooting, bombing, gassing and starving people (or assisting to those ends)—and thousands of formerly unemployed people will be allowed to eat in comparative contentment. 'Tis a mad world, my masters!

It is high time that we saw a little sanity in Australia. Even if we haven't any interest in our own welfare—we must think of posterity! Fancy it reading that in the twentieth century we were a race of lunatics, with the banks as our headquarters!

APPLE AND PEAR GROWERS DEMAND JUSTICE

Since we reported in our last issue the move by the apple and pear growers to line themselves up with the rest of the primary producers in a demand for economic justice, we have received further information—particularly from N.S.W.—that the spirit of revolt is growing.

Speaking at Orange, the well-known fruit centre in N.S.W., one orchardist said, "minorities in Europe are not being treated any worse than we are. Orange, apple and pear growers are a minority, and the export board is attempting to foist on us a colossal blunder—the fruit pool."

A meeting of fruit growers at this centre passed the following two significant resolutions on December 9: "That Senator McLeay be informed that in the event of the apple and pear board acquiring our apples and pears at less than the cost of production we will seek counsel's opinion as to its legality." Also, "that this meeting of apple and pear growers instruct the Orange Produce Rural Co-operative Society to organise a gigantic protest with leading Apple and Pear organisations throughout the Commonwealth against the establishment of the Apple and Pear Acquisition Act."

If the fruit growers will only realise that while they have no

difficulty in producing real wealth for consumption, they, along with the rest of the community have not, as yet, control of the production of money claims to this wealth, they will be taking a big step forward. There are thousands of people in Australia who very rarely taste fruit because of the present rotten economic system. If the people as a whole had an adequate supply of money claims in their pockets they could buy the wealth, which the fruit growers and other primary producers have grown. As a matter of fact, under a decent system, we could consume all our fruit in Australia without having to worry about exporting at all.

The first thing that the fruit growers must do is to organise political pressure by demand-letters telling their respective members that they are opposed to bureaucratic boards, and, furthermore, that they want a profitable price for their produce without penalising other sections of the community. All electors can join in this demand. Any member who asks where the money is to come from should be "sacked" at the first opportunity, as he will stand a self-confessed ignoramus.

We have already spent thousands of pounds on a Royal Commission on Banking to tell us something which every informed person knew twenty or more years ago: that money is practically a COSTLESS CREATION, it is not wealth, but only a claim to wealth. Therefore, the creation of money by the private banks as a debt, which the community has to pay interest on, is robbery. All fruit growers must make a stand.

A TASMANIAN WRITES ON DEMOCRACY

'Man Versus the Institution'

We have pleasure in publishing below extracts from an article by Mr. J. Guthrie, B.Sc., Chairman of the Electoral Campaign, Hobart, which recently appeared in an English contemporary. The writer very ably clarifies the issue confronting society today, while his views on political democracy are worthy of close study by every intelligent democrat.

The fight is "Man Versus the Institution." Men have delegated their powers to institutions, and the men who have been given control of our institutions as the servants of the people, have become our masters. The people, through various causes, have come to believe they can no longer control their own affairs, and can expect nothing from their own institutions but constant punishment.

INSTITUTIONALISM

That is one phase of institutionalism. Another phase is the machine-like nature of institutions, which gradually build a routine or ritual or legal code, which becomes sacrosanct, and to alter which tremendous forces are required.

Now, all large movements form themselves into organisations, which ultimately become institutions, like the Labor Party, and which suffer from a common disease—namely, fatty degeneration of the heart.

The result is that if any real reform work is to be done, it is done by individuals or by a small minority group of individuals, and seldom by large organisations. Nothing is more pathetic than the large groups of men and women who, years ago, having seen some of the truths embodied in Socialism, Social Credit, or Land Reform, consider that there is no more to be learned, and that they have reached the ultimate truth.

THE DRIVING FORCE

Actually, the driving force for reform is coming from small, active minorities of men who submit themselves to the humiliating, but also invigorating, task of doing something, trying something. The experience gained by these small, select groups takes two or three years before it can pass into the literature of the country, and thence to the knowledge of those spectators who call themselves followers of Major Douglas, Karl Marx, or Henry George.

The trouble with these self-styled followers is that they follow so far behind that it is impossible to call them to your assistance in times of need.

It may be said that it is dangerous to move too far ahead of the main army of followers; that is true, provided the enemy is advancing. But our enemy is now on the defensive, and retreating, and we have no time to keep on arguing with those who are never near the firing line.

TASMANIAN EXPERIENCE

Our experience in Tasmania has proved that since we have drawn apart from all useless alliances and parties, and have relied on the merits of the actions of active workers, we have strengthened ourselves a hundred-fold. We have not the slightest desire to amalgamate with any party. Those who are sympathetic towards our aims are helping us at the present moment; that help is most encouraging and widespread. We have no desire to barter this widespread support of active workers for some dubious political entanglement of a sectional nature.

Every man who stands for Parliament has every right to do so; and no man has been, or will be, opposed by us who complies with our policy, as enunciated from time to time. And we have only one policy, that is, to help the people get what they want. But the people must decide the issue, not the party bosses.

With a policy such as ours, it is manifestly insincere to fight on any issue where there is no popular demand behind it. Most people have their own ideas as to what that popular demand should be, and it therefore behoves them to conduct the educational campaign to elicit that demand. A demand will eventually crystallise out, which will have the imprint of many hands.

WHAT IS THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN?

The Electoral Campaign is a mechanism to help the people to maintain control over the policy of their representatives in Parliament and elsewhere; it also acts as a whip to keep those representatives attentive to their own electorate. It is obviously absurd (Continued on page 8.)

WARNING AUSTRALIA!

The Enemy Within the Gates

By CLARENCE GOODE, ex-Commissioner of Crown Lands and Minister for Agriculture, S.A., 1915-1917)

No proper understanding of the issues involved in the present world conflict is possible, which does not recognise that the existing financial system is doomed. Not only was it breaking down under its own dead weight of debt, but the centralised power of international finance was being challenged by the greater power of an enlightened democracy throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations. This was particularly so in Canada, where, but for the outbreak of war, the people were about to establish their sovereignty over the international interests by becoming "masters in their own financial house."

A DESPERATE GAMBLE

There is ample evidence to support the view that an international financial hierarchy with headquarters in Wall Street, New York, has manipulated the Governments and people of Europe into this war, in a desperate gamble that in the resulting chaos democratic action may be frustrated, and the enslavement of mankind under a system of centralised bureaucracy—such as exists in Soviet Russia—may be established in every country. Their first objective is to smash the British Empire, because the English system of Parliamentary Government, with all its faults, is still the greatest obstacle in the way of world domination.

THE TOTALITARIAN STATE

Nazism, Fascism, and Communism are but differing labels for the same thing. The totalitarian State, under a so-called dictator, who in reality is a tool in the hands of international forces, working to establish a world totalitarian State, under the control of members of that race whose belief that they are the "chosen people" is a denial of the brotherhood of man, the Fatherhood of God, and, consequently, of the whole Christian philosophy.

PURPOSE TO GOVERN THE GLOBE

The Rev. F. J. Mills, of the Russian Baptist Mission, says in his book, "Changing Russia": "In endeavouring to set forth the significance of the changes taking place, it must be remembered that Russia is but a pawn in a universal programme. The Communistic plan is to Bolshevise the world; its atheistic purpose is to govern the globe." And when it is remembered that the great Wall Street firm of Jewish bankers, Kuhn, Loeb and Co., financed the Russian industrial programme, it should be clear to whom Russia is in pawn "and whose purpose it is to govern the globe."

THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE INDIVIDUAL

The following statement, by an eminent English thinker, is a significant warning: "Of all the centralised Governments, so far as I understand their organisation, Russia is by far the greatest threat to the individual, whether he is called a proletarian or anything else . . . I believe that the state of affairs in Russia has been consciously achieved by truly anti-social and anti-cultural forces, and that an attempt is being made to achieve this all over the world by methods which, I think, it is vital should be better understood. I should like to state my conviction that centralisation is being fostered everywhere, and from the same source,

DON'T SPEND A PENNY—without consulting the New Times" Shopping GUIDE.

with the object of world domination."

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN AUSTRALIA

Our immediate concern is to know what is happening here in Australia. Communistic propaganda is rampant throughout the industrial unions and the civil services, and is penetrating into the clerical, professional and educational organisations, while even the religious and reform movements are not immune from its influences. Its purpose is to undermine and discredit the English system of Parliamentary Government by holding up to view all that is worse under that system, and, by comparison, extolling what is best, even to exaggeration, of all that may or may not be good, in Soviet Russia.

GOVERNMENT DISCREDITING DEMOCRACY

In addition to this propaganda, the Federal and State Governments are adopting a policy, which tends to discredit democracy. The excessive taxation, restrictive legislation, the delegation of undue authority to boards and committees, the refusal to take any decisive action to meet the urgent needs of the primary producers, the callous refusal to pay invalid pensions to tubercular patients, or to institute a system of family endowment, or to provide adequate pay for those called to serve in the defence forces; conscription of man-power, while "money-power" is again permitted to exploit the nation by charging usury on so-called war loans—all tend to prepare the soil in which Communism may and does flourish.

USED BY INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS

The Australian Broadcasting Commission is also being used by the international interests to further their ends. One of the regular radio lecturers a few weeks ago recommended a series of books, published by a Jewish publishing house, all of which advocate political and economic planning—the control of production, the socialisation of industry and the centralisation of power in the hands of bureaucracy. An American visitor (Professor Millikan, the cosmic-ray expert), while giving lip service to democracy, made a deliberate attempt to discredit the Government of Alberta—the nearest approach to a real democracy the world has yet seen.

SOWING THE SEEDS OF DISSENSION

It is clear that Australia is not being overlooked by the international interests, which, by manipulation and insidious propaganda, are sowing the seeds of dissension, which make for civil strife under cover of which even our remaining forms of democratic government may be taken away. The people of Australia would then fall under complete control of those who seek to enslave mankind, and this great Commonwealth may be dominated by those whose aim is centralised power over one totalitarian State—the whole world.

DEBUNKING A DEPUTATION

One of Life's "Might-Have-Beens"

By "H.J.M."

A short time ago I was privileged to attend with a deputation, which waited on the Minister for the Promotion of Kindness to Children, in order to explain the difficulty that is being experienced in getting magistrates to convict in cases of alleged cruelty to children. As the Minister's reply will probably interest readers of the "New Times" it is given verbatim:

"You misguided individuals," said the Minister, "give me a pain in the neck. You know quite well that all the cases of cruelty in which action is taken occur among people who exist at or below the breadline. You have seen for yourselves the influence of poverty on so many of our social evils, and yet you come to me, not to ask that a way be found to remedy the poverty-stricken conditions which warp men's bodies and souls, but with a request for vengeance. Surely you realise that to wreak vengeance upon the perpetrators of a crime does not in the least remedy the conditions, which give rise to the offence.

FUTILE REQUEST

"I don't mind telling you that I regard most of you as blots on the landscape. People who prefer to continue paying taxes for the upkeep of police courts, prisons, mental hospitals, and charitable institutions, rather than exercise their grey matter to remedy the conditions which keep these institutions full to overflowing, are a menace to society. In your position you could exert a vast and beneficial influence on social conditions, judging by the futility of your request, you are the type of individuals who encourage the Government to cherish the quite erroneous idea that it has a mandate from the electors to see that the present crazy financial structure, with its attendant evils—poverty, crime and disease—is propped up as long as it is possible to do so."

HOPEFUL SIGNS

Here the Minister for P.K.C. paused to recover his breath. "As a politician," he resumed, "who is endeavouring to be honest while serving a public that is, for the most part, selfish, deluded, criminally indifferent, and ungrateful, it is a source of satisfaction to me to note the recent wave of enlightened public opinion which seems likely to undeceive my colleagues in this respect. Already this enlightened public opinion has resulted in some remarkable speeches on financial matters being made by courageous men in some of our Australian Parliaments, and, once members realise that their political future depends on serving the interests of the electors, instead of those of the financial oligarchy, they will rally round these men and we shall achieve rapid and far-reaching results.

"It will I think" he went on, be generally admitted that what we term the present social system is not a system at all, but merely the backwash incidental to the drive to power of a soulless financial machine which is deliberately enslaving humanity. A machine which can decree that there shall be money for guns and no money for slums, money for war and no money for peace, money for propaganda and no money for education—a machine which, in short, controls the credit of the nations.

CRIMINAL FOLLY

"Fortunately, there are in Australian public life some exceedingly able men who realise that a large proportion of Australia's children are crippled in mind, body and estate before they are even born. In common with the rest of us,

these children are co-heirs to the fruits of scientific advancement, and science has increased productivity to such an extent that there is now no need for poverty, no need for slums, no need for children to be taken from school at an early age and then thrown on the industrial scrap-heap. There is, moreover, no need for men to fight and swindle and lie and cheat for a livelihood, while the bounty of God is destroyed and restricted. It will, therefore, be seen that these children have a heritage which is theirs by right, and which has been deliberately stolen from them.

"HOWEVER"

"We politicians must, however, constantly remember that the public has in the past always cooperated with the controlled press in order that any members who seek to throw off the yoke of their financial taskmasters may be discredited, slandered, misrepresented, and expelled from office. The credit monopolists are not ungrateful, and while we serve their interests we shall continue to enjoy the honour and material prosperity that it is within their power to give. I am sure, therefore, that you will agree with me that, until such time as the electors indicate that they can be relied upon to support the courageous individuals who rebel against the party bosses, we should do nothing in our endeavours to alleviate the sufferings of these unfortunate children that would violate our implied mandate 'not to breathe on the works.'

LEAVING CAUSES UNTOUCHED

"Indeed, the only action we can take in the matter will be to fine and imprison their equally-unfortunate parents, and to hand over the children to one of the charitable institutions which are doing such excellent work in the community. I am, therefore, introducing at an early date a measure, which will ensure that any persons accused "by an approved charitable institution of cruelty to children shall be held to be guilty unless they can prove their innocence.

"I can assure you that the proposed legislation will in no way interfere with the fundamental causes responsible for so much hopeless misery among the poorer sections of the community, nor will it give Australian citizens that economic security which might tend to make them rebel against the vast and increasing burden of debt and taxation to which they have become accustomed."

The Minister for the Promotion of Kindness to Children slumped back in his chair amidst murmurs of gratified approval from the deputation. Strange to say, the approving murmurs seemed to aggravate the Minister, for, springing to his feet, he yelled to the attendant: "Porter! Throw this herd out on their ears."

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"WE ARE FIGHTING WITH OUR BACKS TO THE WALL"

The Assembly Hall meeting in Melbourne last Monday evening was well attended to hear Eric Butler deliver an address, which was described by many as the best they had heard him deliver. Without once referring to notes, he carried the audience with him for over an hour and a quarter in a lucid and graphic analysis of the international situation, and the part played by the power of finance. Enthusiastic applause frequently punctuated this stirring address. The chair was taken by Mr. E. L. Kiernan, M.L.C., who said, in opening the meeting that he was very pleased to once again preside at such a meeting.

In opening his address, Eric Butler said: "When speaking of the tremendous power of finance—particularly international finance—in the world today, I sometimes think of the story concerning the old lady, who, upon attending the zoo for the first time, was shown the giraffe. Looking very fixedly at its tremendous height for some time, she said: 'I don't believe it!' And so with many people when you prove beyond all reasonable doubt that International Finance plays a vital part in world affairs today. But, because these people refuse to believe what they literally see happening does not alter the facts. And it is facts which I am asking you to face to-night."

Those who have followed Eric Butler's series of articles in the *New Times* will be familiar with some of the material, which he used in his address. However, some of the facts, which he brought forward, were a revelation to all those present. After dealing with the situation generally, he very ably showed the control, which International Finance has in this country. "All over the world," he said, "we are seeing a tremendous fight being waged to save civilisation. War is only an intensification of the economic war. It is a much quicker and more graphic way of achieving a certain goal. For example, the economic war, which was launched against this country at the behest of the international financiers in 1929-30, brought about untold suffering, misery and poverty amongst the Australian people. Thousands were driven to suicide in despair, while innocent children suffered. But these terrible sufferings were never dramatised in the daily press or on the radio. No, the power of finance is much too subtle for that."

"And now we see another attack being made. Not by Hitler, who, like many other 'leaders,' has been used, but by the same powers. The only contribution, which we can make to the present struggle against the complete smashing of British institutions throughout the world, is to refuse to be stamped by those who want us to renounce our national sovereignty in favour of a centralised world government. Further centralisation is the next move towards absolute control by Finance. The first step has been mooted in this country. It is suggested that we remove the State Parliaments. This is centralisation with a menace. We also notice the move towards Bolshevisation by means of the various boards, which are being set up to, control primary production. This is all in line with what Finance desires."

"If we will only recognise these dangers in time, we can yet save the situation. Those in the front line of this battle have worn themselves out in the fight to get the facts to the people. We have got to have more manpower and more financial assistance. No words of mine can adequately bring before your imagination the

dangers which threaten this and every other country today. Literally speaking, we are fighting with our backs to the wall. We want your help. Every real Australian must throw his whole weight into the present struggle. The first thing to be done is to sever connection with International Finance by wresting financial control from the private trading banks in Australia. This means organised pressure along the lines, which are familiar to most of you. It calls for an acceptance of personal responsibility."

"WE HAVE DONE IT ONCE"

"Australia can give a real lead towards world peace if this step can be taken. And we have the traditions of the past to inspire us in a great campaign. When the first move against the British Empire was taken by International Finance in 1920-21, we were the only country to say 'No.' Of course, at that time we had a real Commonwealth Bank and some real leaders, such as Sir Denison Miller. We have done it once. And we can do it again. All over the country the pressure is being applied. Various campaigns are being conducted with a view to obtaining control of the members of Parliament while there is still time."

"That is the great task confronting us today. A supreme effort calling for courage and initiative is wanted. We want the cultivation of a burning desire that Australia is destined to give a lead, and we also want the vision to carry us on. Let me conclude with those great and inspiring words uttered by Lincoln, 'That we hereby resolve that this nation, shall, under God, have a now birth of freedom, and government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.'"

"THE GREATEST ADDRESS YOU HAVE EVER HEARD"

After the financial appeal, the result of which was particularly gratifying, quite a few questions were asked, and answered to the satisfaction of those present. Before closing the meeting, Mr. Kiernan asked if someone in the audience would move a vote of thanks to the speaker. In a few, stirring and telling remarks, Mr. J. Lazarus, of Frankston, appealed to those present to give all the help for which the speaker had appealed. He said: "Tonight you have listened to the greatest address you have ever heard, and, for that matter, are ever likely to hear. Australia can, and must, lead the way." In conclusion, he called for three cheers for the speaker, which was given in a manner very rarely seen at a public meeting. Thus concluded one of the greatest and most enthusiastic meetings ever conducted in the history of the movement.

The proportion of "new faces" in the audience was very encouraging, while the quantity of literature and demand-forms disposed of afterwards indicated the keen interest of those present.

THE NEW PEACE AND PLENTY POLICY

(Reprinted from the English News-Letter, "Reality")

At present there exists a necessity, which can be peacefully removed, for industrial groups in every country to act as aggressors and encirclers in trading relationships. Each and all need access to raw materials and markets capable of absorbing their products. This double necessity can be, if the will is present, peaceably satisfied to the advantage of producers and consumers everywhere.

The present frustration of the peaceful solution of the raw material and market problems lies in the financial system as it is now worked. The fight for markets; the fight for access to raw materials; the charges and facts of aggression and encirclement—these are all effects produced by the attempts to recover financial costs either at home or abroad from the consumers who have not collectively sufficient money to meet them.

Consumers have not enough cash or financial credit, to buy all that is available.

Producers therefore are threatened continually with bankruptcy and financial ruin. This applies to industrial groups within each nation, and also to nations as international traders.

Each desperately strives to be the one ruined; each fights by economic aggressions and encirclements to get a big enough share of the short purchasing power to escape bankruptcy; and every such success for one group means a failure for another.

So accusations arise and the seeds of war are sown.

THE REMEDY

The remedy is to remove the prime cause of the struggle, which is financial frustration, and to adjust money to make it serve peace by presenting a truthful account of the realities of production, exchange of raw and finished materials, and the consumption thereof—a purpose in which it fails at present.

We live in a world of plenty, but consumers have not access to it on a scale comparable with its bounty. A peaceable change in financial policy could easily arrange this without sacrifices from anybody.

Producers have to fight for a market to keep solvent. A peaceable change in financial policy could easily assure ample markets and guarantee all producers against the risk of bankruptcy.

Distressed areas (whether called Wales or Germany) could easily be transformed into areas of prosperity and real peace by the same change of financial policy.

The retention of present financial policy is not worth a single life, much less a war; for it breeds war, denies distribution of the plenty that can be produced, and restricts life and "living room."

It is well worth changing financial policy to end war and to produce living room honourably and peaceably for all.

ATTITUDE TO HITLER

Let us say to Hitler: "You accuse, us of 'encirclement,' of denying you 'living room'; you complain that we have an unfair share of the world's resources, and that we withhold access to raw materials. Perhaps you are right, and maybe you can prove injury therefrom. We will help you to define your trouble and measure it in concrete terms so as to help to clear it away."

"What kinds and quantities of resources do you want from us, but can't get? What kinds and quantities of products do you want us to accept from you which hitherto we have not accepted?"

This question goes straight to the prime cause of all wars in this industrial age. It asks for a statement of unsatisfied physical needs. Given that statement (particularly by Germany in this instance, but by all other nations

concerned in the present conflict), there are financial methods available for removing past obstacles to the satisfaction of those needs, and securing peace on the basis of *mutual* appeasement.

These methods have been examined by experts both in the Treasury and the Bank of England, whose reports are ready for attention as soon as the Government decides to act on them. They were explained to a committee on finance presided over by Lord Macmillan, our Minister for Information.

EXPEDIENCY

The practicability of this New Peace and Plenty Policy has never been questioned by high technical authorities, but only its expediency by political leaders from the points of view of their various ambitions or ideals.

But in face of a world war, the loss of millions of lives, and the destruction of the work of generations, who dares question its expediency?

This peaceful way has not been tried. It *should* be tried now, and every reader of these words has the power, as a citizen of a democratic country, to take a hand in ending the war and establishing peace without poverty, not only in Britain but in Germany, too.

Write to your Member of Parliament—sending a copy of your letter to the local newspapers—and tell him what you think. His duty is to do your bidding. Your duty is to tell him what you want.

THE PRESSURE IS ON!

Many people were pleasantly surprised to see the following report, which appeared in the Melbourne *Argus* on Thursday, December 7:

"CANBERRA, Wednesday. Another investigation into the Australian monetary system is being sought by some Federal members as a result of a campaign by finance reform organisations in various States.

"In the House of Representatives today, Mr. Price (U.A.P., S.A.) gave notice of his intention to move for the appointment of a Select Committee of the House to investigate the possibility of financing Federal expenditure—particularly war expenditure—by central bank action to expand credits.

"In the last few days most Federal members have received thousands of printed circulars from all parts of Australia demanding Government action to compel the Commonwealth Bank to issue interest-free money to finance the war.

"The campaign appears identical with that launched a year ago, when National Insurance was being discussed, and which profoundly influenced the decision to abandon National Insurance."

The pressure is on. We urge all our readers to help to increase the pressure.

IS AUSTRALIA A BANKRUPT NATION?

Must We Repudiate?

EFFECTS OF ORTHODOX FINANCE

Since its inception, the "New Times" has been pointing out the insanity of so-called "Sane Finance." Today it is not altogether a lone voice crying in the wilderness. More and more frequently other weekly journals, not within the orbit of the press-ring, show encouraging signs of appreciating the situation. The latest example of this to reach our notice is an article in the "Catholic Worker" of December 2. It bore the headings: "Australia a Bankrupt Nation," "Public Debt Grows as Bankers Fleece People!" and "£1,300,000,000—in Pawn!" We reproduce the article in full hereunder:

In 1939 Australia will spend £60 millions on defence.

In 1940, £100,000,000.

In 1941,?

But whatever is spent on the financing of the war, one thing appears evident: It will mean the breakdown and collapse of the whole system of usurious banking to which we are accustomed.

It will mean the end of the present economy and its replacement by one, which, we hope, will be saner and more just.

ARMAMENTS BEFORE BABIES

The war was declared without consulting Parliament. The Government proposed to spend hundreds of millions in financing defence. Across their front-page the *Herald* proudly splashed: "£60,000,000 on Defence." At the same time, every attempt is being made to discourage a sound scheme of child endowment, costing a paltry £6,000,000.

FINANCING WAR

When the question of financing the war arose, the Loan Council was called. It had to use three methods of raising the necessary money:

1. Increased taxation.
2. The extension of credit.
3. Bank loans.

All three methods have been used. With the first two measures we have no quarrel. With the third we are in violent disagreement. The Loan Council raised a loan of £10,000,000 from the trading and Commonwealth Banks. In return for this service, the banks demanded their blood money. Interest was charged at the rate of 3½ per cent.

BANKS TAKE USURY

To this interest the banks have not the slightest moral title. It is simple usury. The money is being used for expenditure, which is quite unproductive. It will be blown up on the fields of Seymour and Ingleburn.

Only one politician had the common sense and the principles to attack the banks for their bludgeoning. Mr. Dwyer Gray, Premier of Tasmania, said it was merely an expedient by which the banks would share part of the resulting "boodle."

We would go further and say it was simply an expedient by which the banks tightened the stranglehold they have on the Australian people

This stranglehold is revealed to us in the national debt and national interest payments.

PUBLIC DEBT: COMMONWEALTH AND STATES

Year.	Public Debt, £,000.	Per Head.
1900 ..	197,000 ..	£53
1905 ..	231,000 ..	58
1910 ..	259,000 ..	59
1915 ..	383,000 ..	77
1920 ..	781,000 ..	146
1925 ..	968,000 ..	163
1930 ..	1,106,000 ..	171
1937 ..	1,263,000 ..	185

GREAT WAR EXPENDITURE

The interesting fact about the table is the enormous increase from 1915 onwards. During the five years 1915-20, the national debt doubled. Whilst the enormous increase in the size of the debt since 1920 has largely been due to the effect of the war, in 1938, the total war debt of Australia was still about £270,000,000.

Of the total public debt in June, 1938, £686,000,000 was owed in Australia. £544,000,000 was owed in England. £45,000,000 was owed in New York.

INTEREST BURDEN

Even more interesting than the growth of the national debt is the increased interest payments we have to make.

Interest, sinking fund and exchange charges on public debt of all States are as follow:

Year.	Interest, etc., £,000.	Per Head, £ s. d.
1901 ..	8,000 ..	2 0 0
1911 ..	10,000 ..	2 5 0
1914 ..	11,500 ..	2 7 6
1918 ..	15,000 ..	3 2 6
1921 ..	20,000 ..	3 13 0
1931 ..	41,000 ..	6 5 0
1937 ..	41,000 ..	5 19 0

If we include the Commonwealth, the interest charges amount to £45,000,000. Of this sum, half is payable in Australia and about one-half overseas. Here, once again, we notice the heavy increase in the interest burden, due mainly to the debts contracted during the Great War. Naturally, the interest burden is not immediately apparent in the years 1914-18.

TAXES INCREASE

A third means of appreciating the tremendous burden imposed on us by the last war is by noting the manner in which the taxes increased.

Commonwealth Taxation.

Year.	Total, £,000's.	Per Head, £ s. d.
1913-14 ..	16,500 ..	3 7 6
1914-15 ..	16,900 ..	3 7 6
1915-16 ..	23,500 ..	4 15 0
1916-17 ..	24,500 ..	5 0 0
1917-18 ..	24,600 ..	5 0 0
1918-19 ..	32,400 ..	6 7 6
1919-20 ..	41,000 ..	7 15 0

During these seven years the taxation burden per head of population more than doubled, and the

tax collections actually increased about two and a half times.

CAN WE PAY?

From these statistics we can realise the enormous strain imposed on Australia by the last war. But the expenditure of the last war will be negligible as compared with the amount spent during this struggle; and the question we must ask ourselves is: Can we pay for this war? And the answer is a decisive, No!

POLITE REPUDIATION

In fact, we cannot and did not pay for the last war. Some measures of liquidating the interest and debt burdens were enclosed.

Firstly, we inflated prices a little. This meant that £1 in 1914 would buy more than £1 in 1920. Consequently, we did not pay our debtors the real value of the money they lent to us.

Secondly, and particularly during the depression, we reduced the interest rates and suspended payment on our war debts to Britain.

Thirdly, since 1927 we have simply borrowed money to repay interest on old debt, or we contracted new debts to liquidate old ones.

In other words, Australia is bankrupt. We are like a spend-thrift floating loans to repay old debts incurred.

AUSTRALIANS BEFORE BANKERS

There is only one prospect of paying for this war. We can offer our overseas debtors payment in wool and wheat. If these are not acceptable we must repudiate.

The right of every Australian to a decent livelihood comes before the right of international financiers to their usury. During the last depression, when repudiation was feared, the Bank of England sent two of their clique to advise us how to pay.

We paid, and paid literally with the lives of our Australian workers.

This time we will stand no dictation from financiers like Guggenheimer Gregory or Otto Niemeyer. Our motto must be: Take our wool or wheat or we'll repudiate.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND ITS FIGHT FOR WORLD DOMINATION

(Continued from page 3.)

deal. London could hardly have become" the financial hub of the world if it was not also the news-centre. News collected on an internationally organised scale was originally nothing to do with newspapers, but stated as an essential part of *International Finance*. It began with Fuggers, financiers, who had correspondents all over Europe."

Needless to say, the *direct* control of the entire press of the world is not exclusive to International Finance. Still, the ramifications are tremendous, and the sooner people realise this the sooner they will start to understand that the flood of ideas concerning planning, world Governments, etc., which have been, and are being, carefully fostered from many quarters, has one end in view: Intense centralisation everywhere, as the prelude to world domination.

(To be continued. Copyright reserved.)

COMPULSORY TRAINING

Public Meeting in Port Melbourne Town Hall at 8 p.m., Friday, December 15.

Chairman:

Hon. E. J. Holloway. M.H.R.

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PEACE CONFERENCE CAMPAIGN

The following is a short report from the Hon. Sec. of the Peace Conference Campaign, Room 9, Floor 5, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Since our last report a further large order for letterforms has been received from the printers, and a steady stream of enquiries has been maintained in all States. We ourselves have now handled through this office upwards of 40,000 forms.

Circulars and sample letterforms are being continually posted to people all over the Commonwealth, and an appreciable percentage of these are being returned completed and signed, for despatch to the respective members.

TASMANIA. We are informed that Mr. H. C. Barnard, the member for Bass, has assured his constituents that he will support any move to bring about a peace conference, and we understand that similar support is now confidently expected from the member for Wilmot.

N.S.W. — A supporter in the Wagga district writes: "In 1916 President Wilson appealed for peace without victory, and was met with shouts of derision and scorn. So we got the peace of Versailles, and have nearly lost democracy in the process. I believe your Peace Conference Campaign is the only one that will save democracy from perishing. War and the consequent depression will almost inevitably lead to Communism in Europe, and either Fascism or Communism here. The Prime Minister has often said that we must not lose democracy, and so I think your petition will gain force as the months go by; and my view is that if we can press it now whilst winter creates stalemate, it may be heard. We can at least fulfill the patriotic duty of trying to save our people from being blindly led into the descending darkness. So I wish you every success, and will help wherever I can."

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Weymouth Street, Adelaide.

"Defence Without Debt or Taxation"

We are pleased to announce that we have received permission to erect our tables in the streets of the city of Unley for the purpose of collecting signatures to demand-forms. As usual, the "Tenth Legion" has responded nobly to the call for volunteers to serve at these tables, and a good harvest of demands is confidently anticipated. Mr. Hoffman is about to start on a caravan tour through the State collecting signatures to demand-forms and selling literature. He is open to receive donations, or agencies for small articles, for which there is a constant demand, and he will keep in touch with Headquarters during his travels. Honourable mention must be made of the continuous work carried on by Mr. Beames, of Port Lincoln, and Mr. Bottroff, of Ettrick Brae; also of the good results obtained by Mr. Pyle, of Franklin, and Mr. Clark, of Largs Bay.

Wheatgrowers' Meeting at Balaklava

Three of our members motored from the city to Balaklava (60 miles) on Friday, December 1, and attended the above meeting of farmers, convened locally to consider the wheat-price problem. The speakers were Messrs. Lyons and McKenzie (M.P.'s), and Mr. Bruce Brown, as visitors, and also two local farmers. At long last,

MAYFIELD, N.S.W. — A group of workers in this district has already handled nearly 1000 forms.

The Australian section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has received a communication from its British section, containing a resolution pressing for a conference, and urging the President of the U.S.A. to move in the matter. This action has also been adopted by the Australian section of that body.

VICTORIA. At a public meeting held at Moreland on Sunday last, a resolution was carried without dissent to the effect that a Brunswick and Coburg Peace Group be formed, and that a big meeting be held early in the new year. Rev. Lanyon will act as provisional secretary. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., and Mr. Eric Butler was the speaker.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS — We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the campaign funds: Miss Helen Baillie, £2; "Anonymous," £10; Dr. W. Maloney, 10/-; Miss Eleanor Moore (on behalf the W.I.L.P.E.), =2; "Humane," Gnowangerup, W.A., 10/-; Bentleigh (Vic.) Group, 7/6.

Thanks are also due to the hundreds of people throughout Australia who are assisting in the drive for signatures, and collecting, wherever possible, a penny per signature to defray our considerable postage and other expenses; also to the ladies and gentlemen who have been giving their assistance at headquarters.

In accord with public demand, our letterform has been slightly revised and improved. These are available in quantities of 10 for 3d, 25 for 6d, 50 for 9d, or 100 for 1/6, posted to any address.

there seems to be a growing determination amongst farmers to stand up for their dues, and there is a good chance that their demands for a payable price for wheat will be supported by the community generally. Before and after the meeting opportunity was made to distribute literature, and to get signatures to "Defence Without Debt or Taxation" demand-forms. A few of the more wide-awake farmers joined the party over a cup of coffee, and discussed in detail our method of using pressure-politics to get what the people require. A demand-form, applicable to the farmers' needs, was drawn up and forwarded to various key-men in the district.

These sort of outings are enjoyable, and are an effective means of making contacts for future expansion of our operations. They are recommended to all members.

Picnic

Members and friends are reminded of the picnic, which will be held tomorrow afternoon, December 16. The meeting-place will be outside 17 Weymouth Street, at 2.30pm.

If sufficient cars are present the picnic will be held at Hawthorndene, otherwise at the Botanic Gardens. Basket tea; no charge. Bring your "eats."

Women's Luncheon

There will be no women's luncheon this month, owing to the Christmas holidays.

A TASMANIAN WRITES ON DEMOCRACY

(Continued from page 4.)

to suggest that the executive of any party should have control of the Electoral Campaign.

The spectacle of professional politicians going about hawking whips for their own backs is a trifle ludicrous, and it is apt to raise much speculation as to the genuineness of the whips offered for sale.

This criticism might appear harsh, but any political party, which tries to run a party machine, and also a mechanism, one of whose objectives is to destroy party machines, must stand accused of insincerity, and, moreover, it will encounter our emphatic repudiation.

And where we are fighting a mighty power like the financial institutions, with its tentacles buried in every other institution in the land, and with powers over our environment never before known or understood, a frontal attack on the Financial Dictatorship means nothing short of civil war. The nature of the problem, therefore, is not financial or even political; it is more in the nature of a military problem.

As a small militant force, Electoral Campaigners cannot ally themselves with any party or sect. *Their duty is to find out where there is a large force ready to take action and to help and guide it to success.* That force is a public opinion backed by a sufficient number of people who are, so interested and determined to get what they want that they are prepared to put up a fight for it. Anything short of this is quite useless.

No one can be sure from day to day what turn public opinion will take—that is determined largely by time and place. To tie ourselves beforehand to fight for a certain thing at a certain time would be merely stupid.

A Double-Barrelled Christmas Present

If you have a thoughtful friend or acquaintance to whom you would like to give a suitable present, and, at the same time, you would care to make a little gesture to this paper, you can achieve both purposes for an outlay of 3/9—by immediately sending that amount to this office to cover three months' subscription to the "New Times" for your nominee (whose name and address you will need to indicate).

Monetary Reform in Leeton, N.S.W.

(Continued from page 1.)

months, from the first of last January, the Commission's Report and *Hansard* to be available to members on loan for short periods."

"The committee further decided to commence a form of pressure politics by use of the personal demand-forms, to be sent to the Federal representative, demanding that Section 504 of the Royal Commission's Report be put into operation.

"It was decided to advocate that members of the association subscribe to the *New Times* as the best monetary reform weekly paper in the country, and that the paper be the movement's official organ . . .

"A monthly dinner was decided on, with a speaker to address the movement at each dinner."

COMPULSORY TRAINING OPPOSED

(Continued from page 1.)

by more debt and taxation to pay those in the army.

"I therefore demand that all enlistments shall be voluntary, and that defence be financed through the Commonwealth Bank without further debt or taxation, as referred to in Par. 504 of the Royal Commission on Banking. It is useless winning a war to be drowned in debt.

"Should you fail to carry out these instructions I will be forced to vote and work for a truly representative member at the next elections.

"Yours faithfully,

YOUTH MUST SPEAK

The present trends are fraught with grave dangers. Apart from the undemocratic aspect of this military compulsion so far as the community in general is concerned, it must be mentioned that the majority of those who are to be conscripted have not yet had the opportunity at the ballot box of participating in the government of the country in any way whatever. Therefore, this latest step is particularly undemocratic.

If we meekly allow most of the youth of this country to be driven, willy-nilly, into military activity, regimented on paltry pay, and the rest of the community also regimented financially to provide the money from their absurd insufficiency, then we have reached a pass which may presage the death-knell of hope for a real Australian democracy. The position is alarming, and Australian youths now have a legitimate opportunity of making their voices heard without heeding the cry that they are not old enough to take an interest in political matters. If they are old enough to be conscripted for purposes of death, they are old enough to declare their own policy concerning matters of life. The rest of the community must help them in this fight, and, by so doing, also help themselves.

ALL DEMOCRATS MUST HELP

If Australia is to play any part in establishing world peace, all internal policies, financial and otherwise, must be dictated by the people of this nation. Control of national policy must be wrested from the reigning financial gangsters, and Australia must show the rest of the world that there is a way out.

We have been asked to inform readers that supplies of the demand-form, as published above, are obtainable from the Anti-Compulsory Military-Training Association in Melbourne; secretary, T. C. Day, 18 Bangalore St., Flemington, W.I.; or from W. F. Allen, 15 Callandish Rd., Burwood, E.13. The price of the forms is 1/- for 50, post-free. They may also be obtained at the *New Times* office if those desirous of obtaining them call in person.

BRITAIN SUPPLIES GERMANY?

The following item is taken from an English newsletter of October 21: "Britain barter rubber and tin to Russia in exchange for timber. This sounds all right, and the papers have voided undue comment. *Does it not seem obvious, however, that the rubber and tin could be passed on by Russia to Germany?* Is this the reason behind Russia's apparent certainty that submarine attacks will not hold up the transactions?"