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THE NEW TIMES

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Every Friday, 3d

Why Was Prof. Copland Appointed To Savings Bank Board?

Reform and Reaction Clash in Vic. Country Party

BANKERS' INTERESTS SERVED

As intimated in our last issue, we feel that the recent appointment of Professor D. B. Copland to the Victorian State Savings Bank Board is a matter of grave concern to monetary reformers, and have therefore made an investigation into this and the events that preceded it. This investigation has, of necessity, taken us into the realm of party politics, and, as our readers will readily see, confirms our oft-repeated contention that little can be achieved through political parties.

It appears to us that the genesis of the trouble was within the Victorian Country Party, and that the removal of Mr. A. E. Hocking, an ex-president, from the State Savings Bank Board and his replacement by Bankers' Puppet Copland, arose from Hocking's determined stand for a monetary inquiry in 1934.

In that year the sup-press gave him a particularly torrid time. He conducted a bitter controversy with Leitch, then chairman of the Associated Banks, and indicted them for the part they had played in bringing despair to many farm homes. No suave diplomat, Hocking, after a vigorous and sometimes fiery debate at the Daylesford Conference of his party, induced the delegates to endorse his demand for a Royal Commission on monetary affairs.

The Commission idea was later adopted by the then Federal Government, which set up a panel which it believed was so constituted as to make sure that the activities of the financial ring would be thoroughly whitewashed. Someone, however, had blundered, and some of the recommendations are deeply embarrassing our financial rulers today. The result of it is that banker-controlled Commonwealth Governments have been engaged in sidestepping these recommendations ever since.

Hocking, who had told his Daylesford Conference from the chair, "that banking has been so shrouded in mystery that some people were afraid to consider it, while others would not do so for fear of victimisation," was regarded as a culprit, and became a marked man.

When Hocking was making his fight, Dunstan was a Minister in the banker-controlled U.A.P.-U.C.P. Government, and was then, as he is now, as silent as the tomb on monetary questions. Later, he was dragged out of this Government, with his two colleagues, and by the grace of God and the will of Albert Edward Hocking, he became Premier of Victoria. This was Hocking's one cardinal blunder. He had little insight into the worth of Dunstan as a reformer. Dunstan is unusually verbose, and an adept at playing off one section against the other, but on financial matters he is no more liberal-minded

than Australia's jinx, Sir Otto Niemeyer.

When the Government was formed, and before the vested interests began to flatter Dunstan into submission, Hocking was appointed a Commissioner of the State Savings Bank.

Momentarily, Dunstan forgot his extreme conservatism and embracing the Hocking policy, expressed the opinion that legislative corrections had to be intro-

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R. G. CASEY FOR WALL STREET

Sinister Moves Behind the Scenes

International finance is moving with such rapidity towards bringing every nation in the world under its control that it is becoming apparent that, if Australians really intend to put up a fight for political and economic democracy, they will need to make a very determined effort during the coming twelve months. We alone can decide our destiny in this country. Other nations will have to do likewise. Time and time again we have emphasised the alarming urgency of effective action to counter the opposition of finance. There should no longer be any necessity for us to warn people, as the very things we mentioned are being brought to pass.

The latest move, to appoint Mr. R. G. Casey as Australian Minister in Washington, is one of the most sinister and significant moves to take place in this country since the outbreak of the present war. As we will see, Mr. Casey is no mere mouthpiece of the financial oligarchy. He is one of them. It seems that the control of this country by Wall St., through the Bank of England, is no longer considered adequate, so a more direct channel of supervision is to be added. Whether the successful application of democratic action by citizens on such issues as National Insurance and the Commonwealth Bank Bill have been responsible for this latest step is a very interesting point.

THE HON. R. G. CASEY, D.S.O., M.C.

Finance always chooses its tools with canny foresight. A brief

"No Postman For 4000 People at Darwin." This was the heading of a report appearing in the Melbourne *Sun* on December 26, 1939. The report stated that, "although Darwin's population, excluding aborigines, is about 4000, the town has no postman. The vast majority of residents, who must call at the post office for delivery of their letters over the counter, is put to great inconvenience by long and annoying delays caused by congestion there."

No reason is given in the report for this situation. Readers are allowed three guesses why there are not more postal officials in this Northern town. Personally, I think it has something to do with a money shortage. I would suggest that, if 4000 people in Darwin demanded more postal officials, and kept on demanding something would be done. However, if they will not take this step, I feel that it will do them good to keep on walking for their mail until they develop a little more initiative.

Mr. R. W. Barrett, general manager of East African Coffee

Plantations Ltd. is very worried. According to a report appearing in a recent issue of the daily press, he says that the entire world coffee problem centres on the over-production in Brazil. "Practically, the only solution to the problem seems to be, according to Mr. Barrett, a reduction of Brazilian coffee crops in general." Mr. Barrett may know quite a lot about coffee production, but it is quite obvious that he knows very little about money production. I would advise him to take up a study of this very fascinating industry. He would then realise that the world is not suffering from an over-production of coffee, but from an under-production of money with which to buy the coffee.

I see that the banks are, as usual, in a very sound position. On the financial page of the Melbourne *Sun*, December 26, 1939, I was very interested to see that, although the banks met a "difficult year with solidity," the country was able to maintain a high level of economic activity in 1939. Just fancy that! Primary producers should also be considerably heartened to know that "the marked expansion which took place in Australian secondary industry during the year was helped appreciably by banking accommodation." As far as my rather limited knowledge of agricultural science goes, I am not aware that figures in books, cheques, notes or gold are used in the production of agricultural products. This produce is the result of considerable effort by the farmers, aided, of course, by nature. It is quite a remarkable thing that, although the private trading banks have never produced a pound of real wealth in their history, they claim to own practically everything, and charge the people interest for the privilege of working for them. Yes, they are certainly in a very sound position. But I don't think that the people who stand this swindle are too sound in the head.

The following news-item should be particularly encouraging to dwellers in the poorer suburbs: "The new season's crop of Brown Spanish and Western District Globe onions was estimated at 40,000 tons by Melbourne merchants yesterday. This contrasted with 11,000 tons in last season's drought and 35,000 tons in the previous year." All that is now wanted is an estimate of how much the people of our poorer suburbs are short of the money supply with which to get a decent standard of living. Having obtained this estimate, the Commonwealth Bank

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survey of Mr. Casey's history will clearly indicate, that from the bankers' standpoint, he is a most suitable person for his latest position.

He was born a member of the metal monopoly, while his father was one of the magnates of the bank-owning metal monopoly. He was educated at Cambridge (where Mr. Bruce also studied), and, after the last war, he returned to Australia and was actively engaged with the Collins House metal monopoly. From 1924 to 1931 he quietly worked in London as liaison officer with the British Government. He thus had ample opportunities of coming in contact with the "City" interests. Mr. Casey owed his appointment in London to Mr. Bruce, and, when in 1931, it was quite obvious that the Australian electors had had

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A PROFESSOR PASSES, OR KILLED BY KINDNESS

By "THE WALRUS."

There wasn't any fuss made about it. It was just one more inquest on the demise of a miserly eccentric, but wherever economists foregather the late lamented deserves to be honoured by a silent toast. For greater faith hath no man than that he is prepared to lay down his life for his principle.

The circumstances were quite unusual. The bequest to posterity in general did not consist of a hoard of gold, but of a hoard of food. Every room, indeed every niche in every room, was crammed with edibles, imperishable or otherwise. The house smelt like a ships' chandler's store, surrounded by decaying seaweed, on a deserted foreshore at low tide, and it was at first thought that the old man had died of gas poisoning. It was finally established, however, that the immediate cause of death was starvation.

That is possibly why no stir was created, starvation being a perfectly normal and acceptable cause of death in a civilised country, but the coroner seemed to think that the presence of so much food was not so accountable.

Details of the deceased's former life were, however, readily available. In his heyday the poor old fellow had been a lecturer of economics, and was principally known for his treatise on "International Trade," in several volumes, the three best known of which are: (1) "Interdependence"; (2) "The Lie of the Pilgrim Fathers," in which it was ably demonstrated that the early colonisation of America is a myth, with no more foundation than "The Swiss Family Robinson," since, in the absence of foreign trade, no one could have existed long enough to have families; and (3) "Unscientific Indemnity," in which he was able to show that after a successful war the victors should pay a colossal indemnity to the vanquished, as such a practice would cause the trade of the conquered to languish, and that of the conquerors to flourish.

WAS HE SANE?

It is doubtful whether the coroner was competent to judge of the scientific value of these works, for he devoted a good deal of the time of the proceedings to an inquiry into the state of mind of the deceased. Could the professor, in fact, in the opinion of his scientific brethren, be described as *compos mentis*?

They were all inclined to think the deceased was sane, although one of their number seemed wishful to demur. But it was discovered that this individual had been disgruntled in the past by deceased's opposition to witness's theory that the rise of Hitler and the perfidy of Stalin were due entirely to the disturbance of the ratio of savings to investments; and, anyway, the discussion on this point proved to be beside the mark, for among the deceased's possessions an authentic certificate of discharge from a mental institution was discovered, thus putting his sanity beyond all doubt.

HARROWING TALE

The case, as gradually unfolded, was a harrowing one. It seemed that it was this argument over the ratio of savings to investment,

coupled with a reluctance to countenance the watering of the gold standard, which lost the old fellow his official lectureship, or whatever they call it. It appears that his obstinate adherence to principle was thwarting him in many ways, for it not only made the matter of advancement undesirable, but rendered politics or the accumulation of a fortune a virtual impossibility. So he descended, finally, into a condition of extreme poverty. It is true that he continued to write, but his last pamphlet attracted no attention. The subject of his pamphlet was, "Why Taxation Makes Us Richer," a lucid explanation of the simple truth that, since borrowing makes for inflation and inflation makes for poverty, then taxation, which is the reverse of borrowing, must make for deflation and, therefore, for prosperity.

PARADOX

But that is by the way. The relevant fact is that he made less and less, and finally perished of starvation. But why should he die of starvation in a house crammed with food? Admittedly this was a point, which worried the coroner, but I didn't think I'd have to explain it to you. If you had read any of the professor's works on "International Trade" you wouldn't need to ask me. In both "The Lie of the Pilgrim Fathers" and "Unscientific Indemnity" you will find the professor's most important thesis developed in masterly fashion. It is difficult for me to put in as many words as the professor used volumes, but the final inescapable conclusion, undoubtedly, is that any nation grows rich by what it sends away from its shores, and poor by what it receives from other countries. Not only the professor, but, indeed, any economist, will tell you that the country to be envied is that which creates a favourable balance of trade by exporting more than it imports. The wealthiest country in the world is, therefore, that which exports to everybody and imports from nobody, and the poorest that which imports from everybody and exports to nobody.

So you see that the doom of such a man of principle as the professor, who knew that what applied to aggregations of individuals, must of necessity apply to single individuals, was sealed from the moment he was cut off from his activities. The well-meaning, but misguided, action of neighbours who had become thoroughly alarmed at the professor's emaciated condition, simply made doubly sure the assurance of his doom. Being rebuffed when they tendered money, they took to making tactful gifts of food, little dreaming that, by violating an economic principle, they were but hastening the poor old man's ruin.

But, not being economists, how could they know?

WHY WAS PROF. COPLAND APPOINTED TO SAVINGS BANK BOARD?

(Continued from page 1.)

duced no matter what the budgetary position of the State. He told his people, and, unfortunately, they believed him, that "the solvency of the individual was a consideration before the solvency of the State."

The producers, whom he allegedly represents, have witnessed a rather remarkable metamorphosis. The Dunstan who prattled so glibly about the need for adjusting the position of the farm, gave more and more time to an adjustment of his ideas.

The chicory growers, facing a hostile Commonwealth Bank Board, asked his Government to guarantee an advance account and enable a reasonable first advance to growers. Dunstan objected, and gave as one of his reasons that Bell, Deputy Chairman of the Bank Board, a buyer of chicory as Managing Director for Robert Harper & Co, and a friend of Dunstan's, had contended that the chicory was not worth the money asked. Growers later arranged their own finance, and sold at prices two and three times greater than Buyer Bell's valuation. Hocking was again in the picture, and criticised Bell and his colleagues for their refusal to allow the Commonwealth Bank to function as intended.

By this time it appeared to the more discerning as if the talkative Premier's period of transition was over. He had swung from the man who regarded the solvency of the farmer as of paramount importance to one whose policy it was to actively cooperate in the eviction of soldier-settlers and "closer"-settlers from the Victorian northwest. When the settlers sought some reasonable measure of compensation to save them from swelling the ranks of the unemployed, he opposed it bitterly, and again we heard his fatuous plea of, "where is the money to come from?"

Later, Dunstan refused to adjust the valuations of a number of remaining settlers who had been harshly treated. Now the complete bankers' man, he repeated his plea. The merits or justice of the cases were of little account. Hocking was again critical of his attitude and his want of sympathy, and the report of his succinct comment, "that the settlers asked for bread and got stone," is interesting.

Just about this time, an All Country Party Conference was held to discuss wheat. An observer for the *New Times* was present at this for a brief span, but after being sighted by the Federal Deputy-Leader Thorby, he was requested to retire. No one who was not strictly orthodox was wanted in this holy of holies. But they had forgotten Hocking, who at this conference suggested an unorthodox means of financing payment of the wheat crop. While the *New Times* could not concur wholeheartedly with the method of finance suggested, it had some merit, and was an alternative to the bleat, "Where is the money to come from?" It was significant that Dunstan, who had a brush at this conference with Hocking, gave it no support. It was just another illustration that any means of easing the debt burden by releasing additional credit was regarded as an anathema by Dunstan.

The chain of events was almost complete. Hocking, perhaps unwittingly, forged the last link when, at the recent Executive meeting of his party, he urged

that all reform organisations be called together to consider ways and means of rectifying Australian conditions once the world returns to peace. This was apparently too much for complete-bankers'-man Dunstan, and he ruthlessly removed Hocking from the State Savings Bank Board.

One of the two new appointments he made was McKenzie, an official of a wool-broking house. The Cabinet, in making this appointment, ignored the fact that the State's smaller woolgrowers often vigorously protested against the monopolistic control of their industry by wool-broking organisations. It, however, mattered little to Dunstan that he was now giving wool-broking interests representation on a State financial institution through a servant.

He next appointed Professor Copland, mouthpiece for financial interests, to the other vacancy. Although Copland has never been the friend of the farmer, and his writings have always been designed to suit high finance against those who produce, he has apparently had the sympathy of the Victorian Premier for some time. Was he not given the chairmanship of an Economic Committee to advise the Government how it could steer clear of the legitimate demands of the workless and the hard-pressed farm people? His sole qualification for this particular job of aiding the Dunstan Government was the manner in which he had used his degree to save the face of the banks. Was not Copland also an author of the Premiers' Plan, which deflated values from one end of the State to the other, and sold hundreds of farmers hopelessly into the bondage of the banks. Quite an imposing record for the nominee of a Country Party Government interested in the welfare of rural people!

The *New Times* wonders what talk took place over Sir Keith Murdoch's dinner table one night, just before the appointments were made. Did Melbourne *Herald* Murdoch, the bigwig of vested interests and major-domo of Victorian U.A.P., for whom Copland sometimes writes, and with whom Dunstan dined, have anything to say, or give any instructions regarding the appointment? Or did Dunstan and Murdoch spend the evening in idle chatter, to which both are so prone? These questions should prove of interest to Country Party adherents, who, if they expect to receive service, must start to clean a political stable, which is already bearing an Augean appearance.

The only way of doing this is to see that resolutions on monetary questions carried at conferences are not circumvented by the cold-blooded trickery and the ruthless dictator methods of one who has developed into the complete bankers' man.

C. FORD
The Caterer

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INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND ITS FIGHT FOR WORLD DOMINATION

Australia's Part in the Present Conflict

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

(6)

Throughout this story of International Finance I have continually stressed the point that the only contribution Australia can make in the life-and-death drama which is being fought out all over the world against the insidious influence of Finance is to make democracy—both politically and economically—a reality in this country. As yet we still possess the machinery of a Parliamentary democracy, and it can be made to function just so soon as we decide to make it do so. Nothing less than a determined effort by the individual electors of this nation can save us from the centralised control towards which Finance is rapidly working. Centralisation of finance and administration is being fostered from many apparently different quarters, and the ultimate aim is to bring this country under the complete domination of an international Government controlled by International Finance.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND AUSTRALIA

Before dealing with the various moves towards further centralisation in this country, it will be of interest to briefly examine the control of financial policy exercised by International Finance. I have already intimated that the Commonwealth Bank is in direct contact with the Bank of England, and receives advice once every fortnight. This was not always so, as we will see presently. The lesson we learnt in the 1929-33 depression should have removed any doubts on this matter. In 1929 the international group in New York launched their second attack on the British Empire. The first had been launched, as we have seen, just after the war.

New York's policy was dictated to the Bank of England, which, in turn, was responsible for sending representatives to this and other British countries for the purpose of telling us what we were expected to do. There should be no need for me to deal with the terrible results of that murderous financial policy; a policy which forced thousands of our people to take their lives in despair, ruined thousands of primary producers, put tens of thousands of Australian workmen on the dole, caused the birth-rate to drop alarmingly, and, generally speaking, forced the nation to its very knees. This is the same policy which has been responsible for such national tragedies as the tremendous increase in malnutrition amongst our children (another polite word for semi-starvation), slum areas, which tell a tragic story of thousands of people facing nothing but a hopeless future, and a wave of juvenile crime such as this country had never seen. No words of mine can describe the terrible treatment which this and other nations have had meted out to them by the international financiers. Our eyes are being continually directed by a financially controlled press to the atrocities in Central Europe. But, charity begins at home. After all, the refugees in Britain and Australia don't have their atrocities written up in the press and dramatised on the radio. But read such books as "Hungry England," by Fenner Brockway, and the tears will come to your eyes. Millions of British families, facing an utterly forlorn future, because their very lives are controlled by International Finance. Suffering such as the world had never seen. But, as I say, it is never dramatised; and the same here in Australia. The attack of finance has been more ruthless than all the Hitlers in the world can ever be. We at least see and recognise our enemy in a military conflict. As yet there are thousands of people in this country who do not recognise their financial enemies—in fact, they laugh when you mention it.

Apart from the financial control of Australia, through the Commonwealth Bank, since that institution came under the dominance of private finance, there is also a very close connection, as I have mentioned earlier, between the Overseas Group in this country—the Bank of Australasia, the E.S. and A. Bank, and the Union Bank—and the Bank of England. Readers of the *New Times* will, no doubt, be interested to know that Mr. Goschen, whom we have also dealt with, besides being a director of the Bank of England, is also a director of the Bank of Australasia. He belongs to a family which has direct representatives in the following financial institutions: Westminster Bank, Ottoman Bank, Atlas Assurance Company, Chartered Bank of India and China, National Provincial Bank, Mexican Railway Company, London Assurance Company, and the Provincial Bank of Ireland.

The sooner the Australian people sever connections with Mr. Goschen and all his international kith and kin, the sooner we will start to really do something to bring about a saner state of affairs in this country.

THE REAL MENACE TO AUSTRALIA

Now that the international conflict has started, Australia, like other British countries, is being prepared to fit in with the ideas of the financiers. Already the Commonwealth Government has betrayed the Australian people by placing them still further in pawn to the private financiers. While the cream of the nation is expected to die on the field of battle, the bankers will further tighten their death grip on the nation. Taxation will reach staggering proportions, and the entire economic structure of the nation will be smashed and individualism destroyed. This will be no figment of the imagination, unless the present policy is reversed very quickly; if, instead of pathetically talking about international Governments, we do not start to make our own national Government really do something.

Centralisation is being carefully fostered, and a most alarming move in this direction is the proposal to abolish the State Parliaments. This will remove representative Government still further from the people, and will place all authority in a central Government, which, in turn, will be dominated by finance. The move to abolish State Parliaments should be resisted by all democrats and those who are interested in the preserving of democratic institutions.

Apart from these alarming moves, we are also seeing the first steps being taken to bolshevise Australia. It is called Sovietism in Russia, New Dealism in America, and Planning in Britain. The first

step in this country is the establishment of various boards, which will gradually bring primary production under the control of the State. Slowly, but surely, the primary producers, as a result of a Social Debt-policy, are coming more and more under the control of Finance. Before long these boards will be telling them how much to grow and how to grow it. Individual ownership and all that it stands for will be wiped out. At this juncture it might be appropriate if I answer a question, which, I am sure, many readers have been asking.

I refer to the apparent contradiction between Finance and what we might loosely call Communism. I have already shown beyond all reasonable doubt that revolution and International Finance have been closely connected. Apart from the obvious fact that the socialisation of a country is suitable to private finance, as it brings the entire community under a centralised Government control, which, in turn, can be controlled by finance, I think that an extract from a book written by a former French Ambassador will completely and authoritatively answer the above question.

AN AMAZING ADMISSION

The name of the book is "Geneva versus Peace," and the author is Comte De Saint-Aulaire. Easily one of the most astounding stories of the inside intrigues of International Finance, it is, unfortunately, scarcely known in this country. The author was present at a dinner of international authorities just after the last war. A former Jewish revolutionary from Hungary, who had become a director of a great New York bank—one of those, which were responsible for financing the Russian Revolution—was also present, and, in the course of conversation, he was asked how it was possible that High Finance wished to foster Bolshevism. His answer, as given by Comte De Saint-Aulaire, is little short of amazing, and indicates beyond all reasonable doubt that the real enemies of civilisation are International Finance and Bolshevism. It also explains why all the Left-Wing groups are so unrelenting in their hostility towards financial reform. This bank director said: "Too much salt corrodes meat, too little lets it rot. The precept can with justice be applied both to the human mind and to the peoples of the earth. We, Jews, apply it wisely, as it should be applied, salt being the emblem of wisdom. We mingle it discreetly with the bread that men consume. We administer it in corrosive doses only in exceptional cases, as in the case of Czarist Russia. That gives you a partial explanation why Bolshevism finds favour in our eyes: it is an admirable salting tub in which to corrode and destroy and not to preserve . . . You will say that Marxism is the very antithesis of capitalism, which is equally sacred to us. It is precisely for the reason that they are direct opposites to one another, that they put into our hands the two poles of this planet and allow us to be its axis. These two contraries, like Bolshevism and ourselves, find their identity in the International. These opposites, which are at the antipodes to one another in society and in their doctrines, meet again in the identity of their purpose and end, *the remaking of the world from above by the control of riches, and from below by revolution* . . . Russia is the sick man of post-war times, much more nutritive to us than the Ottoman Empire and much less able to defend itself. Russia is our new feast. It will soon be a corpse and our only trouble will be to carve it up."

This director and his friends have been, apparently, very successful in carving Russia up, and the

same fate is the future of every other country which refuses to recognise the enemy in time.

THE TASK CONFRONTING US

The immediate task confronting this nation is to take effective control of financial policy. This means, first and foremost, the cultivation of a genuine Australian outlook, as opposed to an international outlook, which weakens national sovereignty and paves the way for a further attack by the international financiers. If we are to survive as a democracy, government must be brought closer to the people. As mentioned, the present war is more than a merely military conflict. It is a fundamental conflict between two ideologies. It is the climax of an issue, which has been fought down the ages: Is the individual more important than the State? Those who believe in the Christian tenets, such as embodied in the statement, "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath," must stand firm against all forms of tyranny. Apart from this, there is also the cultural aspect, which, I feel, has been entirely overlooked by many people. From a cultural viewpoint, there is very little in common between the Russian social and cultural outlook and that of Western Europe. Should Western Europe go down before a wave of Bolshevism, as appears extremely likely, unless the real enemies are recognised in time, the entire fate of British institutions and cultural traditions will largely depend upon the effort made here in Australia. Geographically, we are very fortunately placed. As far as raw materials are concerned, we have, possibly, the greatest undeveloped white man's country in the whole world. We could even contribute something of value to the world of culture without the aid of Hollywood's Jewish influence. All that is wanted is a supreme effort to face the issue fairly and squarely. Nothing can alter the fact that the British Empire, in every sense of the term, is today fighting for its very existence.

WE HAVE DONE IT ONCE

Some have expressed the viewpoint that the international group is too firmly entrenched to defeat. Well, in 1920-21, it was Australia that showed the world that International Finance *can* be beaten. While every other country was going through the first post-war depression Australia was enjoying comparative prosperity. Why? Because at that time we had a few real Australian leaders, such as Sir Dennison Miller, who, by the use of the Commonwealth Bank, were able to thwart the plans of the private financiers. Although the Bank has been hamstrung since 1924, when the Bruce-Page Administration betrayed the Australian people, the fact remains that just so soon as we demand that the Bank be used to finance the nation's requirements, without further debt or taxation, it can be done. The method of carrying through such a campaign to obtain this policy has already been applied. The defeat of the National Insurance scheme, by the new technique of pressure-politics, as opposed to party-politics, showed the Australian people once and for all that democracy can and will work if the individual electors will only accept their responsibilities. Thousands upon thousands of demand-letters, in possibly the greatest wave of organised public opinion this country has ever seen, showed that the power of finance could be beaten. Let us do it again!

CONCLUSION

Today we stand at the crossroads. The picture which I have tried to outline—and briefly, at that

(Continued on page 4.)

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DEMOCRACY MUST FIGHT TO RETAIN ITS RIGHTS

Dangerous Proposals From Canberra

The forces of reaction are working fast, and reformers will be hard put to counter the many blatant, as well as insidious, attacks being made on the cherished principles of democracy. It can be said that with the outbreak of war all semblance of democratic government in Australia started to disappear. True, the semblance was faint; still, it was a pretence—and that pretence is being dispensed with. Political dictatorship, unadulterated, if unidentified, has practically taken charge of the "democracies"; and the "democracies" are supposed to be fighting to uphold the principles of freedom and democratic government!

Mr. Menzies never tires of ranting about defending liberty, and about democratic rights. Even from the sacred precincts of the pulpit he propounds the doctrine of individual freedom: of the rights of the individual. Yet, in the privileged role of Prime Minister of Australia he enacts, or endeavours to have enacted, laws, which destroy, or are designed to destroy, the very principles he eulogises. An old adage says that the devil appears in queer places. The National Security Act is intended to establish autocracy in Australia for the duration of the war. The latest messages from Canberra leave no doubt as to what the position is intended to be **after** the war is ended. The following report is from the Melbourne "Argus" of January 2:

"Plans for a comprehensive review of the Federal Constitution are expected to be considered by the Federal Ministry before the middle of this year, and it is believed that the Ministry will arrange a comparatively early referendum to seek endorsement for the reforms proposed.

"The possibility of another attempt to amend the Constitution was hinted at in Ministerial quarters just after the outbreak of the war.

"Practically all the power likely to be needed for any of the wartime plans in prospect is now held by the Ministry under the National Security Act. This Act, however, will lapse six months after the war ends, and if post-war economic plans already begun are to be carried out the Constitution will have to be changed to give the Federal Parliament substantially wider peace-time powers.

"The Ministry believes that Australia may face another economic crisis when war spending suddenly ceases unless a careful plan is instituted immediately to transfer the national effort to peace-time production. Wider constitutional powers will unquestionably be needed to implement any nation-wide economic plans of the kind contemplated.

"The Ministry, it is believed, will seek permanent powers relating to marketing and considerably wider powers to control production. Wider marketing powers will enable effective stabilisation of primary industries and of secondary industries if necessary.

"The Commonwealth could then, if found desirable, continue oversea marketing under the same strict control which has been applied under the war-time acquisition plans. It would be able to continue to control both wholesale and retail prices and protect the public from excess prices.

"Production control powers would enable the Commonwealth to adjust production in accordance with available markets, and thereby make price stabilisation schemes effective."

* * * *

It would appear that those most directly concerned by these outrageous proposals are the primary producers. Their every action, it is proposed, shall be directed and regulated. The wheat-grower, the fruit grower, and the woolgrower, to cite major rural industries, already know something of the "benefits" of bureaucratic dictation.

The rural dweller is essentially an individualist: his fight against nature requires him to use original thought. Original thought is dangerous to orthodoxy; therefore it must be subdued, and, on occasion, crushed. The rural community at present is restive—it is thinking too much. Measures must be taken to place it under discipline if the system of privilege for the few is to survive. Those measures are surely being formulated. The rural producer would be well advised to be on his guard. However, the significance of the above report does not end with the rural producers: The whole of industry, it is intended, shall be placed under strict supervision. Plainly, the objective is monopolised in-

R. G. CASEY FOR WALL STREET

(Continued from page 1.)

enough of Mr. Bruce, Mr. Casey returned posthaste from London to Australia, and entered the Federal Parliament as a member for a "safe" seat. Since that time Mr. Casey has played a treacherous part as Treasurer, until last year, in pawning the Australian people to the private banking octopus. It now appears that he is to play a still more subtle role.

HIS VIEWS ON FINANCE

In 1937 Mr. Casey paid a visit to London at our expense, and, after returning, wrote an article for the Melbourne *Herald*, of February 2, 1938. The *Herald* stated that the article was also appearing in the *Times*, London. From this article we select the following as typical of some of the more dangerous views, which Mr. Casey holds: "*Australia still needs overseas capital. Although our domestic savings have been growing steadily, they are quite inadequate fully to exploit the developmental opportunities of the Commonwealth.*" This nonsense was from a man who was supposed to be the Federal Treasurer. Mr. Casey finished the article with the following significant words: "*I believe that Australia represents probably the most attractive field for investment of any country in the world.*" In other words, Mr. Casey believes that the real assets of Australia should be pawned to overseas financiers, and that the Australian people should be indebted to these interests forever. Now that he is to be centred in America, we can expect American finance (the Wall Street gang) to be better informed on "the most attractive field for investment of any country in the world." Slowly but surely every country in the world is coming under the finan-

cial domination of this group, which aims at world domination.

WHAT WE SAID IN 1938

Our views on Mr. Casey were expressed as follows on March 11, 1938: "Mr. Casey is an insidiously dangerous man. He is not just a paid actor like Joe Lyons, a buffoon like Professor Copland, or a go-getter like R. G. Menzies. He is one of the inner gang, knows what he and the gang want, and relentlessly pursues that objective. He is loyal to the money monopoly and a traitor to his country. He must be thrown neck and crop from the public life, and it is the job of Australian citizens to see that he and his system are finally and irrevocably cast out . . . We want the Australian people to have sovereign control of their own money supply, a control that has been filched from them. Casey is not merely an accessory to the filching. He is one of the gangsters."

WHAT WE SAY TODAY

There was never a greater issue confronting the Australian people than the present attempt to bring us completely under the rigid control of international finance. If we are to survive, we must intensify our efforts to sweep the present financial powers from control. We warn the Australian people that this move to establish a closer relationship with international finance in America, through a man who has shown time and time again that he belongs to that class of traitors responsible for our present deplorable situation, is one of the most menacing moves we have yet seen. It must be the signal for an increased attack upon the present financial swindle in Australia. It is a challenge, and it *must* be met.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND ITS FIGHT FOR WORLD DOMINATION

(Continued from page 3.)

—is not nice to contemplate, but the time has long passed for clouding the issue. We have got to face the fact that the present situation calls for a high degree of courage, and a burning belief in the cause for which we are fighting. To say that it is a case of life and death is understating the case. Every person who knows the position has a great responsibility. No excuse can relieve those individuals from throwing their whole weight in the balance for civilisation.

We have two enemies: The financiers on one hand, and the Left-Wing groups on the other. The financiers are our conscious enemies. The Left Wing groups our unconscious enemies. Should we be successful in wresting financial policy from the control of private financiers, and sweeping them from power once and for all, Australia

can preserve civilisation and culture as we understand it, and offer a hand of hospitality to those who may seek to escape the possible break-up of civilisation in Western Europe.

Whether we are destined to become great in this sense or not, time alone will prove. But we have a great heritage and a great future if we will only fight to win. Possibly, as one writer has put it, Australia may become the New Britannia in a New World. Surely this is worth striving for; or will we, like other civilisations before, suddenly collapse into chaos, with no future, no hope, and jungle law? Each reader must make his own choice. It is a fight to the death between International Finance and the individual. If civilisation is to survive the individual *must* win.

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industry under the sanction and protection of the State. With the monopoly of industry, including the rural industries, where does the individual stand? He stands at attention, waiting for the word of command to spring to the job allotted to him—or starve. We are told that the present war is to save democracy from Totalitarian encroachment. The most urgent "war" for Australians to conduct in order to defeat it, is within our own boundaries of Australia. The only effective technique to employ is to make democracy function by exercising the power of the vote. Parliament must be rescued from the hands of treason by the electors instructing their respective Representatives as to what they want represented to Parliament. Parliament exists to make the WILL of the people prevail.

NEW ZEALAND'S INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY ACT

Is It the Stepping Stone to Dictatorship?

By A NEW ZEALAND CORRESPONDENT

Following the sensational landslide to victory by Labor in 1935, whilst the New Zealand public were still mentally breathing a sigh of relief at their escape from the fires of the Nationalists, a Bill was being quietly hurried through Parliament, which was to bestow on the new Government powers that even a Caesar or a Ghenghis Khan might have envied. Not even a whisper of the full import of the powers concealed within the clauses of this remarkable document were bruited beyond the walls of the House. Only now, when a crisis is rapidly developing within these shores, is a presentiment of a fresh menace to our few remaining liberties and the last vestiges of democratic government left us, being felt by a few members of the enlightened public.

Known, innocently enough, as the Industrial Efficiency Act, this Bill bestows on the Minister of Industry and Commerce powers, which no democratically elected Government, had ever yet dared to assume. In a few brief clauses, this one man has been granted absolute control over the industrial life of the entire Dominion, answerable to no man or institution, and free to act as he sees fit, without reference to Parliament for his actions. He is as complete a dictator in his sphere as a Roman Emperor. With one adroit action, the Labor Government has vested in itself the necessary powers to legally impose and enforce as complete and absolute a dictatorship upon the people of New Zealand as has ever been witnessed in history. Aiming at the subjection of the people to a State autocracy, every provision has been made to enable the State's minions to proceed with their relentless drive to reduce the people to mere bond slaves the moment the time is ripe to do so.

Bitter experience has taught us that in the shadows of the past are forged the links of the chains that are to bind us still closer to the banker's inkpot. Too late do we awake to find that the barriers against our further progress have long since been in readiness to bar our way, and blindly, passively, the people are thrust still further down the slope to the state of peonage and serfdom that is to be their lot under the super-State. Just as the seeds of the present degradation and humiliation of mankind were sown in 1919 at Versailles, so were the laws that were to pave the way for the hidden dictatorship of the democratic countries framed in the past when electors were still positive that it "couldn't happen here."

The I.E.A. in New Zealand has laid the basis for the domination of the New Zealand people. The die has been cast. International Finance has laid its mines well; for war is its ultimate arbiter, and it is determined to emerge from this welter of blood and agony as unchallenged and unchallengeable master of the world. The cost in human suffering we have long since learnt is the merest tithe in pushing such grandiose schemes to their successful conclusion. The success of this war will depend more on keeping the common people in subjection and in ignorance of the true state of affairs than on any military manoeuvre; and it is for this purpose that Acts, such as the I.E.A., were passed.

LABOR PLANNING.

Modelled on the lines of England's P.E.P. scheme, the I.E.A. aims at the amalgamation and trustification of industry into huge

monopolistic combines and trusts controlling the nation's entire productive and distributive resources. The rationalisation will proceed along orderly and strictly legal lines, the small man being absorbed or crushed out of business. The huge octopus-like, world-wide oil trust, in the early days of its growth, has shown us the methods that will be used to force the small man into submission, and the baits that will be used to lure in those possible competitors whom it would be too costly to fight. The completed plan will represent a huge nation-wide enterprise, with a few individuals at the top controlling the entire machinery along the lines they desire.

They will plan the lives and the futures of the mass of the people under them, who will be entirely dependent on them for the means of existence and the right to carry on with their own particular job. Nothing will be too small or too unimportant to come under their control; their domination will be carried to the minutest feature of our social and economic being. Already we have had a few of our minor industries rationalised—the motor spirit trade, the cement trade, the shoe industry, and the chemists. The glass and sugar industries have been rationalised for many years, as have the tobacco and steel industries.

DICTATOR OR . . . ?

Over all sits the Minister of Industry and Commerce. He is the Sultan of I.E. His bureau of assistants, all of whom hold their positions at his whim, carry his edicts into effect. The powers detailed to him under the Act are

numerous and comprehensive. He may appoint or dissolve industrial committees as he sees fit, adding or removing members according to his whim of the moment. He may appoint a committee to control a particular industry, or he may control it himself, and abolish the committee altogether. All findings of these committees are subject to his approval. It is within his power to decide on a price level on any particular commodity, and to decide what that price shall be without reference to either Parliament or any commission. If he deems it necessary, he may enforce a licensing system on any or all industries, and may discriminate as to who shall be the recipients of licenses and who shall not. He has also the right to cancel licences after they are issued. The Act gives him the power to order a business to close down, or to compel it to amalgamate with another firm, or to hand over a monopoly to any firm, as he pleases.

Within the framework of the authority acceded to this "servant" of the people, are detailed powers which give him the right to control the entire industrial life of New Zealand in precisely the same manner as a managing director would control a company, except that in this case there are no shareholders or debenture-holders to raise any objections to any line of action determined by the Minister in his process of rationalisation.

Of recent years private individuals have frequently appealed to the courts for rulings on various new laws passed by the Government of the country, often with great success on their part. This somewhat disconcerting action by members of the public raised difficulties for the Government when the import restrictions were first introduced to New Zealand. But now, at the request of the Minister, the people of this country have been deprived of the most ancient right that was ever granted them—the right to take their grievances to a court of law for redress. There can be no appeal against the decision of the Minister—his ruling on any point is final, and the complainant may not appeal to the courts for a ruling on the matter by a judge versed in constitutional law. The Minister's decision is as

final and absolute as any decree enunciated by Herr Hitler or Il Duce. When the Governor-General of this country permitted the Government to place its legislation, and the people, beyond the jurisdiction of the law, he committed one of the most heinous crimes in the history of democratic government. If any day deserves to be called Black Friday, surely none deserves it better than that day in New Zealand's history.

GUARANTEED PRICE ANOMALY.

An interesting sideline of this Act is the Internal Marketing Board, an innovation by the Government, which has been in vogue for some time. A recent action by that body raises doubt as to whether they are there to assist trade within this country or are agents for foreign exporters. Despite the fact that lemon-growers in this country are Wandering aimlessly around New Zealand trying to induce someone to purchase their lemons, which are rotting away on the trees, the Board imported a shipment of Californian lemons because of the shortage. The price, too, offered the home grower for his lemons will not cover even his production costs. Perhaps, too, it is merely coincidence that a country that once was in a position to export onions and shipped large quantities away each year, is now forced to import them for home consumption. Apparently all is not as well with the farming community as we are led to believe. People tend, perhaps, to lose sight of the fact that the guaranteed price system applies to only a few branches of farming. We are hearing continually about the dairy farmer, and how well off he is with the guaranteed price to stabilise his industry. But nothing is said about the woolgrower, or the wheat-farmer, or the meat industry, all of which are as important as the dairy industry, while the fact that many of the woolgrowers in the South Island recently voted *against* the imposition of a guaranteed price system being introduced to the wool trade, was given very little attention by those who praise the Government for its excellent work in assisting the farmer to his feet.

(Continued on next page.)

BIG COUNTRY TOUR PLANNED

Co-operation Needed

As mentioned in our last issue for 1939, Eric Butler and Norman Rolls plan an extensive country tour in Victoria, starting in the last week of this month. There is no necessity to stress the urgency of getting the message of economic reform to the public in the short time left for effective action. It may well be a case of now or never.

One supporter has generously made his car available for this tour. It is hoped to meet travelling expenses from collections, sales of literature, etc. However, if this tour is to be the success hoped for, all country supporters will have to co-operate to the utmost. Eric Butler is prepared to speak night and day if the co-operation is forthcoming. Real action is wanted.

It is hoped that the tour will include the north-central districts and any other centres which can be contacted on the way north. Across into N.S.W. as far as Deniliquin before working up the Murray to Mildura. From there south through the Mallee and Wimmera; then to the Western District and back to Melbourne. Country supporters who have not yet got in touch with Eric Butler (c/o the "New Times"), offering support at their respective centres, are urged to do so immediately. It is necessary that all arrangements be made well in advance. Let us start the New Year with a determination to really achieve big things.

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New Zealand's Industrial Efficiency Act

(Continued from previous page.)

There can be no doubt that the Labor Government has certainly done much good since its election to office in 1935. It has probably done more to abolish abject poverty from this country than any other Government of recent times. But that is no excuse for permitting it to neglect the most important items of their programme. There is too much tendency to let ourselves be dazzled by the bright light of publicity thrown on the small things that have been achieved, and to forget that, as yet, Labor has not touched even the fringes of the most important points of its 1935 platform.

THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

So long as the I.E.A. remains on the Statute Book in its present form, it will remain a danger to what is still left us of our democratic rights and privileges, and until it is either amended or removed the electors of this country must do their utmost to prevent any form of dictatorship arising, under the guise of national efficiency activities. Under the cloak of national emergency, such emergency measures will be imposed on the nation to hold it in subjection, ostensibly for co-ordination for increasing our war efforts. But it is quite certain that any such measure that is aimed at the restriction of the liberties and freedom of the people will remain, as did many such "temporary" measures introduced during the last war, as permanent features of these steadily encroaching restrictions. Every effort will be made to beguile the people into a position from whence it will be impossible to free themselves from the shackles chaining them to this present insane economic system.

Only by resisting this war hysteria, which is merely a cloak to stampede the people into accepting conditions and privations that in normal times would raise an immediate storm of protest, can we hope to oppose, with any chance of success, the attacks that will be launched against the remnants of our freedom. There can only be one war, and that against this grasping, parasitic growth battenning on the life-blood of the community. Until that is removed, and society is able to proceed along the road to prosperity and happiness that is its heritage, all other efforts to sidetrack any constructive, and not destructive, movement must be disregarded. War, in any shape or form, is abhorrent, and contrary to the principles and creed preached by that great Teacher 2000 years ago. No amount of glossing-over or camouflaging can hide the fact that this deliberate destruction of human life and property is neither justifiable nor within the bounds of Christian ethics. With the abolition of the cancer of International Finance will go the prime cause of all our modern orgies of massed massacres of helpless men, women and children. But never by waging war against people who are as innocent and free from any responsibility as are we. Then don't let's talk about how wrong this all is. Let's do something about it, and keep on doing it until it's put right. Whatever it is, the people of New Zealand will be right there in the forefront.

What of 1940?

With this issue, the "New Times" enters the sixth calendar year in which it has been published—1940.

It should be obvious to our readers that 1940 will be a year fraught with tremendous potentialities for progress—or retrogression: a decisive year.

This journal has, undoubtedly, played a valuable part in the fight for real freedom and economic security for the Australian people. In 1940, however, it must play a much bigger part if the ideals and objectives for which it stands are to materialise—indeed, if they are not to be overwhelmed by the forces of reaction.

To play this bigger part, a substantial increase in circulation and some financial assistance will be required. Today, the "New Times" is in a stronger position than ever before, but that strength must be rapidly increased.

To that end, we must ask the co-operation of our supporters. EVERY reader can help by buying an extra copy every week and finding a reader for it. Also by sending us a donation, large or small, immediately.

In 1940 the "New Times" will certainly play its part. Will YOU help it to do so adequately?

ERIC BUTLER ADDRESSES MEETING AT YACKANDANDAH

On Thursday, December 28, Eric Butler addressed a small but attentive meeting at Yackandandah. Dealing with the most topical subject of the moment, the introduction of compulsory military training, he pointed out that this move would pave the way for the establishment of complete dictatorship in this country. He urged that electors defeat the financial powers by demanding that enlistments be kept voluntary, and that all defence expenditure be financed through the Commonwealth Bank without further debt or taxation. Many demand forms were signed at the meeting.

PROCRASTINATION IS THE THIEF OF TIME

Have you ordered that
EXTRA copy of the
"New Times" yet?

DON'T SPEND A
PENNY—
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Times" Shopping Guide.

U.E.A. CAMPAIGN NOTES

1940 Offensive Started

Undoubtedly, 1940 will be a big year, and if all campaigners work hard they can make it THE big year. In fact, the year promises to be so eventful that, if we are not up and doing, our efforts may be defeated. Let our New Year resolve be to strain every effort to prosecute the greatest war in history, the war to end dominance by a fraudulent financial system, and thus to bring in an era of peace and plenty for all. We have derived a certain amount of encouragement from our efforts during 1939. The various Campaigns introduced the idea of the Electoral Campaign, or Pressure Politics, to diverse sections of the community, and taking these in conjunction, it can be readily realised that there is only a small proportion of the people who are not acquainted with the idea at all.

FRANKSTON GROUP has commenced action on the local government by assisting in the organisation of a meeting being called by a councillor to publicly discuss the council's financial position. Messrs. Parker and Lazarus will be on the platform, and can be relied on to place the facts before the ratepayers. Individual initiative of this kind is what is wanted. There is an example. Reports of activities will be welcome at Headquarters.

GOOD PUBLICITY was given to the famous "Paragraph 504" during the Marriage Loan debate over 3DB Heckle Hour. It is estimated that there are 100,000 listeners to this session. Don't miss an opportunity to use the air for propaganda work.

Physical help is needed at Head Office to cope with the increasing work, also financial help is needed to meet the corresponding growth in expenses and to pay office rent, telephone, etc.

A MEETING, TO DISCUSS 1940 CAMPAIGN, WILL BE HELD IN THE ROOMS, 5th FLOOR, McEWAN HOUSE, ON TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 9 AT 8 O'CLOCK.

MOVE TO ABOLISH STATE PARLIAMENTS

The following alarming report has appeared in the Sydney press, and confirms our repeated warnings that a determined move to abolish the Parliaments would be launched. This move must be fought by all democrats:—

"A big drive for members is to be made by the State Parliaments Abolition League in January.

"Many men will be engaged as organisers and canvassers, and they will be paid on a commission basis.

"Later, the campaign will be extended to the other Australian States.

"A preamble of the Constitution will be printed in pamphlet form and distributed to the public.

"Grafton Chamber of Commerce and Bowen (Queensland) Chamber of Commerce have asked the League for copies of the constitution, with a view to establishing branches.

"Registered office of the League is Ocean House, Martin Place, Sydney."

"LEFT" BOOK CLUB'S RED HERRING

By V. J. DURY

In the latest "Left News" (No. 42, Oct., 1939), edited by Victor Gollancz, there appears an article by the above-named gentleman on "What Sort of Society?" He writes, "What sort of a society must emerge, so far as this country is concerned, from the agony of war? What sort of a society will alone have been worth the sacrifice, perhaps, of millions?" First of all, he states, "It must be a society from which the scientifically inept and morally evil system of production for private profit has been eliminated."

The question we must ask ourselves in the light of this statement is this: "Is our productive system inefficient?" Perhaps poverty amidst plenty is a reasonably good answer. Of course, our productive system under private enterprise is amazingly efficient. Full distribution of the production, however, is another question—which Victor Gollancz leaves unanswered.

Mr. Gollancz also overlooks the fact that even in nature the law of profit making exists. If you plant a seed of any sort it will return in season a handsome profit. There is nothing morally wrong or inept in that particular cycle of production.

FREEDOM

Again he states: "Secondly, then, the society to be established . . . must be a society in which men and women have political, cultural and intellectual freedom, as well as economic freedom: in which there is complete freedom of opinion and its expression...."

"The problem, then, to which members of the Left Book Club and Left Book Club Groups should direct their minds is, I suggest, the following: Economic planning in the genuine interests of the whole community is the *sine qua non* of a decent society (that which is indispensable and essential). It implies rigid control."

One naturally asks, who is to decide which or what is essential or indispensable? Who is to do the economic planning? Is it the same people who have "planned" for Russia?

CONTROL

The reader will do well to glance back at the preceding paragraph referring to political, cultural, and intellectual freedom, and then ask himself or herself what sort of freedom is implied by Gollancz's expression, "rigid control." Rigid control means control by someone. Who is to control? The Soviet procedure is put forward as the very essence of this *sine qua non* of a decent society. Yet the evidence relating to Russia and forthcoming to prove the Left Book Club's assertion through its mouthpiece, Victor Gollancz, is contrary to what British people regard as political,

cultural and economic freedom. Russia today is ruled by alien interests; Russia today represents the very apex of Jewish financial domination, under a so-called planned economy. The gigantic taxation machine, which has now been set up, enslaves the Russian people to a far greater extent than even the Tsars ever dreamed of. Men and women can be well fed, but they can also be slaves to a system, which in itself, may be perfection (Utopian) to those who have the power of "rigid control" and the enforcement of "balanced budgets."

British capitalism and so-called American capitalism are left high and dry when compared with the State-capitalism now enslaving the Russian people. Another revolution is coming in Russia. It will be a real revolution, because it will throw off that subtle domination by Jewish financial interests, who long ago swore to encompass Russia's complete ruin. Such propaganda as the "Left Book Club sponsors is inspired by the very same interests as those in Russia today.

PUZZLE

"Left Book" propaganda has puzzled many people—its attacks on British institutions and parliamentary democracy and the praising of the Russian "system" through a misguided prelate of the Church of England, who wrote, "The Sixth Socialist Part of the World" are means to the end—"world domination." Christianity to them is something to be wiped off the face of the earth. Not that we have ever practised it—but because it would work. Freedom to think, live, eat, express your very being in the work you want to do; freedom to choose one thing at a time is the very essence of Christianity. "Rigid control," as expressed by Victor Gol-

lancz, is something to fight against to the very death. Australians have a great duty to perform. The debt and interest system must go. It is as distinct from the production system, which Victor Gollancz calls inept and morally evil, as a horse's tail is from its head. At present, the tail (the money system) wags the head (the productive system). The productive system in itself is all that could be desired.

MONEY

The distributive mechanism (money), which the banks control, is not scientific, and its use is morally evil and inept. It causes suffering and waste, and, what is more, wars. We must break this monopoly of power by demanding, through our parliamentary representatives, the issue of debt-free and interest-free credits. The profit system is natural to nature and also scientific. The money system is man-controlled, and the source of all evil—worth calling evil. Nature and the use of natural laws increase our production. The money system does not at any time equate consumption and production, hence it must be rectified.

SO NOW WE KNOW!

Speaking on Defence Expenditure in the Senate on the 29th November, Senator Darcey asked the Minister representing the Treasurer, upon notice:—

1. Is it a fact that the Acting-Treasurer has issued a warning that there is a likelihood of the people of Australia being asked to submit to some "tightening of the belt" due to heavy war expenditure?

2. If so, will the Acting Treasurer peruse the finding of the Royal Commission on Banking and Finance, to the effect that "the Commonwealth Bank can issue debt or interest-free money to the Government"?

3. Would not this obviate the necessity of the "tightening of the belt," as suggested by the Acting-Treasurer?

4. Will the Acting-Treasurer state how much of the £10,000,000 loan will be farmed out to the private banks, and how much will be supplied by the Commonwealth Bank; and will the usual commission of 5s per cent, be paid to the private banks for the amount they put into the loan?

Senator McBride: "The Treasurer has supplied the following answers:—

1. Yes.
2. and 3. The attention of the honourable Senator is invited to the comments of the Treasurer in his budget speech, in regard to the statement referred to.

4. The distribution of this loan between the Commonwealth Bank and trading banks is a matter of negotiation between those institutions. There were not under-writing costs, commission charges, or other floatation expenses in connection with the loan."

(Comment upon such a low-temperature admission is unnecessary.)

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

Quarterly Meeting, December 13.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, —Our last annual meeting was held under the shadow of approaching war and, as none could say how war might affect our policy, it was decided to hold quarterly meetings during the continuance of hostilities so as to lighten, as much as possible, the heavy burden of responsibility for the making of decisions, which, under the New Democracy, rests upon the shoulders of the chairman. Recommendations as to the policy to be pursued under a given set of circumstances, when made by a body such as this, do help the chairman to come to a decision, and lighten, though, I am afraid, they do not remove, his responsibility. For it must be constantly remembered that the very essence of the New Democracy is that no power shall be given to anyone without his accepting personal responsibility, and, conversely, that no one shall be asked to accept responsibility without being given personal power. Under the old democracy neither power nor responsibility were personal matters. Power could be exercised by a chairman and the responsibility for its misuse thrown upon a committee, or the power could be exercised by someone in the committee and the responsibility thrown upon the chairman. Under the New Democracy, power and responsibility go together and cannot be divided.

WAR POLICY

"As soon as war had actually broken out, a hurried meeting of the Secretariat took place, and the following resolution was carried and forwarded to all the States:

"That, during the continuance of hostilities, it shall be the first duty of the Movement to do its utmost to see that the war is not financed by means of interest-bearing debt, but by the issue of costless credits, created by the Commonwealth Bank for that purpose, in order that, whatever may survive the war, the present financial system shall not."

"This prompt action was of considerable assistance to some of the other States, whose executives appeared for the moment stunned by the lapse of the nations into war, and uncertain as to what they could do about it. It gave them the necessary impetus and pointed out a direction, and we received letters thanking us for our action. You will be asked tonight to adopt that resolution as the wartime policy of the United Democrats.

STATE PARLIAMENTS

"Correspondence has been received from Western Australia to the effect that we should not exclude the State Parliaments from the scope of our demands, as we have done up to date. It has been pointed out that representatives from the State Parliaments form the Loan Council, which is in a position to exert considerable pressure upon the Federal Government, and that resolutions demanding issues of debt-and-interest-free currency for the prosecution of the war, if passed by all State Parliaments, could hardly be ignored. You will be asked to state whether this policy meets with your approval.

"The Secretariat has written to John Hogan, stating that, if he intends to make a tour of South Australia, while it cannot assist him financially, it will introduce him to the different wheatgrowers' associations in Adelaide and its own

members, and contacts in country places. It has been suggested that this is not enough, and that this meeting might be prepared to raise a weekly fund of £3 per week to assist him while in this State. You will be asked to indicate your views on the matter.

PRESSURE-POLITICS PROGRESS

"Since the outbreak of the war, the Federal Government has made no attempt either to revive the National Insurance Act or to proceed with the Commonwealth Bank Amendment Bill. As to the 'Defence Without Debt or Taxation Campaign,' since its inception we have been able to keep going a steady flow of demands from South Australia to Canberra. We have got into touch again with many of our old country members, who are working now with the same vigour as distinguished them in the early days of the movement, and we have made many valuable contacts; in particular, that of the Citizen's Association of Peterborough (consisting of thirty-one members), who, when we sent them fifty demand forms, got them all signed within an hour, and ordered another thousand.

"Mr. Macgillivray has delivered another speech in the House upon the evils of taxation, which is not in any way inferior to the speech in support of his now-famous motion for the use of our National Credit. (Copies of this second speech can be purchased in the office for the 'large' sum of /d.) One motion, identical with Mr. Macgillivray's, has been passed by the Tasmanian Legislature, and a similar motion is now before the House in Western Australia. We have been again granted permission to erect our tables and solicit signatures in the thoroughfares of Adelaide and Unley, and it is confidently anticipated that other local authorities will follow their example.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

"Under the capable leadership of Mr. Bruce Brown, the purely educational side of the Movement is advancing by leaps and bounds. It must be throwing a tremendous strain upon its leader, but he is achieving results that no other person but himself could obtain, and he has set people thinking over our financial system who had previously never given it a moment's consideration.

"It is hoped that we will be able to form another class for studying social credit technique next year.

"The present position of the movement in South Australia is one of constantly-increasing strength, and it is becoming more and more evident that the Electoral Campaign is a weapon which, if properly handled, will enable us to get what we desire.

TRIBUTES AND A WARNING

"In this connection I wish to bear my testimony to the debt the Movement in South Australia owes to Mr. Hergstrom, to whom the credit for the adoption of the Electoral Campaign is entirely due. It took us nearly two years to learn how to use the Electoral Campaign correctly, and many (myself included) doubted the value of our new weapon, but Mr. Hergstrom has never doubted it, and it is very largely due to the fact that he had the wit to discern its value, and the courage to persist in experimenting with it that we occupy the position we are now in. The Association is also indebted to Mr. Allen for educational work carried on in the

columns of the press, and to Mr. Harvey for organising and supervising the operations of the "Tenth Legion" at Unley.

"An ambitious education campaign among school committees and parents' meetings in the public schools is being planned by the Rev. C. D. and Mrs. Brock, which, it is hoped, will bring the Movement into closer contact with the oncoming generation.

"Today, in my opinion, there are only three things that can check our victorious career:

- "1. We may start quarrelling among ourselves.
- "2. Some of our people may start chasing will-o-the-wisps and neglect their proper job.
- "3. The rules of the game may be changed by our opponents.

"We trust that we have common-sense enough not to do the first.

"We hope that the people in question may soon tire of the second.

"We will deal with the third danger when we come to it."

* * *

The meeting adopted the Executive's war-policy resolution, and the recommendation of Western Australia, re pressure on State Parliaments. It also passed a recommendation that a letter be sent to John Hogan, asking if there was any possibility of his extending his campaign to include South Australia, and, if so, that an appeal be made for voluntary contributions.

The resignation by Mr. Hergstrom of his position as secretary to the United Democrats was accepted with very great regret.

The chairman then declared the meeting closed.

WALL-ST. STATES REAL POLICY

A recent report from New York states that Mr. Thomas Lamont, a partner in the famous banking house of J. P. Morgan and Co., said "that the United States should be kept out of the war, but encourage the sale of war materials to Britain and France and strengthen her own economic and financial resources to help to make a permanent peace."

And so, while the manpower of Britain and France dies on the battlefields the Wall Street gang will obtain a further financial grip of debt, and we can well visualise the type of "permanent peace" they will dictate when it is all over.

Who Is Your M.P.?

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

Parliament House, Canberra, is sufficient address.

BALACLAVA . . . White, T. W.
 BALLARAT . . . Pollard, R. T.
 BATMAN . . . Brennan, F.
 BENDIGO . . . Rankin, G. J.
 BOURKE . . . Blackburn, M. M.
 CORANGAMITE . . . Street, G.
 CORIO . . . Casey, R. G.
 DEAKIN . . . Hutchinson, W. J.
 FAWKNER . . . Holt, H. E.
 FLINDERS . . . Fairbairn, J. V.
 GIPPSLAND . . . Paterson, T.
 HENTY . . . Gullett, Sir H.
 INDI.....McEwen, J. S.
 KOOYONG . . . Menzies, R. G.
 MARIBYRNONG
 Drakeford, A. S.

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

TIT-BITS FROM THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

could be used, as mentioned in Paragraph 504 of the Banking Commission's Report, to make up the deficiency, "free of any charge." Unfortunately, owing to the fact that, as yet, insufficient people have demanded that the Commonwealth Bank be used in the interest of the people, nothing of this nature is likely to happen at present. The problem, therefore, appears to be what to do with this record crop of onions. The Onion Board found a solution two years ago by dumping thousands of bags in the sea. I would suggest that members of the Onion Board should also be dumped there, unless they can offer a sensible solution to the problem.

* * *

Believe it or not, one of Victoria's educationists has discovered that the only hindrance to educational facilities in Victoria is a shortage of funds. In the Melbourne Sun of December 22, 1939, the headmaster of the Dimboola High School, Mr. P. J. McIntyre, was reported as saying that "Victoria lagged behind other States in education because of lack of funds, not staff troubles."

In the same report Mr. Lamb, M.L.A., was mentioned as impressing on parents and scholars the need to study social questions and economics. This is certainly very encouraging. I wonder if Professor Copland will now tell Melbourne University students why there is a shortage of funds. He knows.

* * *

What a wonderful thing this "morality" is! A recent report in the Australian press informs me that the United States Government has decided to widen the scope of its "Moral" arms embargo. This embargo is to cover the sending of aircraft to countries which bomb civilians and open towns. Unless this embargo is a little more practical than a mere "moral" one, I am rather afraid that this is just another sample of the hypocrisy, which we get from financial interests in America. Mr. Morgenthau, U.S.A. Treasurer, said two weeks ago that it "wouldn't be in the interest of world peace" to break off trading relations with Russia. In spite of the "moral" embargo, it is reported that American planes are being used to "liberate" and "civilise" the Finns. The strange thing is the fact that the "Finns don't seem to desire liberation. Still, it should encourage them to know that America is applying a "moral" embargo. They will die contented.

* * *

Mr. Spender, Federal Assistant-Treasurer, seems as "if he might know a thing or two. In a recent issue of the daily press he was reported as follows: "Asked today whether war-loan issues would interfere with developmental works, Mr. Spender said the problem had to be approached from the viewpoint of the man-power available . . . To the extent of resources, development must not stand still while the war was on."

It is very pleasing to hear Mr. Spender admit that it is the "extent of resources" which really matters. All that he has to do now is to demand that the financial policy of the country be altered for the purpose of allowing these resources to be utilised without further debt and taxation. Needless to say, Mr. Spender is not likely to take this step without a little persuasion from his electors.