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THE NEW TIMES

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B. Pulmonary,
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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MAY 31 1940

Every Friday 3d

THE ENEMY IN THE REAR

WILL AUSTRALIA BE BETRAYED ON THE HOME FRONT?

"The European peoples are no longer under the governments of their respective nations. They have passed under another sceptre. They have become the subjects of another Power—a Power unseen but felt in palace as in cottage, in Russia as in Spain, by every parent and every child, by every potentate and every labourer. No nation on the European continent has any longer an independence that is more than nominal. The political autonomy of every one of them has been surrendered to the will of a despotism before which every kingdom and empire and republic fawns in the most abject subservience . . . the occult Powers of MONEY who rule and reign."

—Dr. David Jordan, former President of Stanford University, U.S.A., in his revealing book, "The Unseen Empire."

"They (the international bankers) know no Motherland; they are without honour and without decency. Their sole object is gain."
—Napoleon.

"The Money Power preys upon the nation in times of peace, and conspires against it in times of adversity."

—William Jennings Bryan, famous American statesman.

The *New Times* has constantly warned the Australian people during the past few years that a deliberate move by International Finance was being intensified to bring the entire world under a rigid system of world slavery. Writers in this journal have played their part as loyal citizens of the British Commonwealth of Nations in endeavouring to expose the forces, which are working to destroy our civilisation. Stubborn, ignorant prejudice was encountered everywhere; although prior to the outbreak of war tremendous progress was being made in many parts of the British Empire.

It has become more and more obvious as the war proceeded that the main objective of the International Financiers is to "bolshelize" the British Commonwealth of Nations under the excuse of national emergency. The establishment of the National Government in Britain was the first tragedy, which the people were warned about time and time again. To suggest that the British troops will fight any better because Mr. Churchill is Prime Minister instead of Mr. Chamberlain is to ask too much of our credulity. The real reason for substituting the new British Government was to make sure that the British people were fighting for the "right" war aims. Practically every member of the present British Government is in favour of the much-boasted idea of International Government, the most poisonous and treacherous idea ever presented to a long-suffering and deluded humanity.

This Government of "internationalists" lost no time in finally Sovietising Britain. The military crisis was used as a pretext. Democratic Britain, as we have understood the term, no longer exists. It has been "bolshelized" as effectively as Russia and Germany. Having seen that Britain was thus dealt with internally, while making sure that the British

troops are dying to further their proposed International Government, the financiers in America may now give some "assistance" for the purpose of smashing Germany. It has been very apparent that there have been some very sinister things going on recently. American exports to Germany via the neutrals have been considerable, while even a close perusal of the daily press indicates that Britain has been hindered by Finance from putting forward a maximum war effort.

Although every lover of British culture, British freedom and our conception of democracy, will feel a lump rise in his throat as he

(Continued on page 3.)

PRESS CUTTINGS

By "SCISSORS."

ARGUS, 14th May:

"Consideration will be given by the Commonwealth Bank Board, at its meeting in Melbourne today, to the new Commonwealth Loan, which will be floated in a few weeks. Although the exact amount and terms of the issue have not yet been announced, it is generally believed that not less than £20,000,000 will be sought . . . It is not expected by financial men in Melbourne that the rate will exceed £3/5/- per cent."

(The Commonwealth Bank "... can even make money available to Governments or to others free of any charge."—Report of Royal Commission, paragraph 504. "... Then, if the Government is determined upon a policy which the Bank Board will not accept, the Government will have to obtain any legislation required, and, if necessary, appoint a Board which will carry out that policy."—Conclusion of paragraph 529.)

A perusal of the first two numbers published of the Parliamentary Debates for 1940, shows only too clearly that as the present war extends, our liberties, both of action and of speech, are being grievously curtailed. It may well be doubted whether the absolute monopoly of exchange given to our banking system upon the outbreak of hostilities (it is now a heavily-punishable offence for the ordinary Australian citizen to buy or sell bills of exchange on overseas firms except through the banks) was necessary to enable us to win the war. The same thing may be said with regard to the monopolies of wool, wheat, apples, pears and other commodities granted by the Government to certain Boards. Some measure of control was no doubt unavoidable, but was it absolutely necessary to deprive the actual producers of these things of all but a very minor voice in the disposal of them? It is, at least, questionable.

Now comes the attack upon our freedom of speech. Nobody objects to Communist and Fascist newspapers being censored. Organisations which, when in power, not only deny all freedom of speech to their political opponents, but treat it as a crime to be punished by the severest penalties, cannot complain when a little of their medicine is handed out to themselves. But that the heavy hand of the Censor should descend upon the printed reports of Parliamentary Debates is another matter altogether. The citizens of Australia have a right to know what their representatives are saying in Parliament; therefore, to print an important protest by the Leader of the Opposition as a cloud of stars, and all allusions to it by other members as further clouds of stars (Parliamentary Debates, 1940, No. 2, pages 230, 232 and 236 is not only an intolerable abuse of Governmental authority but a grave infringe-

ment upon the privileges of Parliament.

THE PRICES COMMISSION

Senator Collings is perturbed about the working of the Prices Commission. He states that at Manly, N.S.W., between August, 1939, and April, 1940, bacon rose from 11½d to 1/4 per lb.; potatoes from 1½d to 2½.; dripping from 4½d to 6d; steak from 10d to 1/2; fish from 1/- to 1/9; leather jackets from 6d to 9d and smoked haddock from 1/1 to 1/4½. Fruit and vegetables increased in price, on an average, by about 3d in every shilling; and clothing, boots and shoes showed an average increase of 20 per cent. He wants to know why these things should be. Well—we would suggest that he studies the personnel of the Prices Commission and their various business connections for a start.

MONEY "BACKED" BY GOLD?

Representative Rosevear asked the Treasurer what proportion of the reserve against the note issue was actually held in gold, as distinct from sterling (claims on English currency), as the Commonwealth Bank did not discriminate between the two in its balance sheet. The Treasurer could not (or would not) tell him; but, according to the Report of the Australian Monetary Commission (pages 324-5) practically no gold is held against the note issue: in fact so very little gold is held for any purpose either by the Commonwealth Bank or the trading banks, that the Commission in its tables showed the amount as nil. So much for the fiction of our "gold-backed" currency.

INTEREST-FREE MONEY.

The idea that it is possible to finance the present war with interest-free money seems to be dawning in the minds of several of our representatives at Canberra. Mr. Conelan urged the Prime Minister to follow the example set by New Zealand in the matter and received the usual evasive answer, characteristic of the Prime Minister, when tackled upon that subject. Representative Dedman summed up the

(Continued on page 3.)

(same edition): "Hospital Finance. It was recently revealed that a number of Sydney hospitals owed their grocers, butchers, and other tradesmen sums running collectively into many thousands of pounds. The Dubbo Hospital not only owes a grocery firm £800 but it collects £20 rental each month from the firm to which it is so heavily indebted. The firm has written to the hospital board, suggesting that the situation is "a little Gilbertian."

(For the benefit of new readers: The financial system responsible for Bankrupting businessmen, and depriving the people of proper hospital facilities, whilst providing "financial men in Melbourne" with private interest from national moneys, is known as "sound finance.")

ARGUS (same edition): "Ballarat, Monday.—When Mr. J. M. Breen, treasurer, reported

(Continued on page 6.)

FOR PLAIN MEN ONLY

By "THE WALRUS."

It would seem that if I had been a little more patient last week I might have arrived a little—a very little—nearer the goal of my understanding of this money business. The financial lad of my newspaper this week instructs his readers how to avoid monetary inflation, and addresses himself particularly to the "plain man."

I always shrink a bit when I encounter that term, "the plain man"; it never fails to remind me of something which I know cannot be intended. Foolish and sensitive of me, of course, and I suppose, on the whole, "the plain man" is to be preferred to "the man in the street," who is so uncomfortably close to the "man in the gutter."

Anyhow: "The plain man may reasonably ask to be informed regarding this 'evil' called monetary inflation."

Note the attitude of concession and the inverted commas, which adorn the word "evil," by which the writer seeks to convey his conviction that it is really quite otherwise. We know what he has in mind, of course. When the private banks cause inflation, you mustn't use the word "evil" until you hunt up a nice set of commas, but whenever the proposal is made that a government bank should resume its sovereign right to issue, own and control the money of the realm, the financial lads throughout the world hurry into ink to inform us that not only would inflation be the result, but that the resulting evil must be shorn of its commas.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Our man proceeds: "While the subject is one which cannot be adequately explained in a sentence or two . . . there is nothing really mysterious about it." What he means, doubtless, is that even with money, causes are accompanied by effects, just as with phenomena, natural and otherwise. This, as you know, has always been our own contention, so that, confronted by a good result, we have been apt to conclude a good process. And, on the other hand, confronted by our "civilisation"—well, we haven't found the proper word yet. But just how science helps our financial lad, isn't clear.

LORD GOWRIE TO THE RESCUE

Lord Gowrie now comes to the rescue. "My advisers have given full consideration to the problem of financing the huge costs of war. They are convinced that, while a liberal and modern approach must be made to it, there is no easy path to be followed." It doesn't seem very tactful, to my way of thinking, to give such emphasis to the *full consideration* given by said advisers. It seems as though his lordship wasn't really expecting them to do anything of the sort, and that they had almost taken him by surprise.

The trouble, as it seems to me, is that we shan't know what to blame for the future "depression": whether the liberality, the modernity or the difficulty of the breathtaking approach now about to be made. It is very apparent that his lordship's advisers are very concerned to avoid our extinction by too sudden deflation, for; poor as we are we are very useful creatures to our financial system.

VERY PERPLEXING

It must be very perplexing for them. On the one hand economists seem to be worried about the effect of sudden prosperity: they fear we might burst, like some deep sea monster suddenly elevated to the surface, and, on the other hand, we might collapse like some whale suddenly forced to unheard-of depths. So Lord Gowrie's advisers follow their inspiration and announce, "they are resolved to avoid the evils of monetary inflation. They intend to continue their efforts to give

effect to their policy of low interest rates."

So there you are! They'll give you a toothache to accustom you to the idea of the broken leg they know to be inevitable. And they do know it to be inevitable, for *they* are going to do the job. For all their little jokes about difficulty, they are really very capable blokes. Notice the feat they are going to perform with the interest rate. As I pointed out last week, they can reverse the process of "nature" in the matter of their own pet commodity, money; so that when that commodity (and I have their own authority for calling it a commodity) becomes scarce, it becomes cheaper instead of dearer—if they want it to.

SMOKE SCREEN

Unfortunately, the writer doesn't tell the plain man why the "advisers" want money to "cost" less. It is, in my humble opinion, to prepare the public mind for the era of cheaper and cheaper money, to be introduced so that the public, rejoicing at its new "bargain," will refrain from asking where the money comes from, who made it and whom it belongs to. The difficulty above referred to by "my advisers" has probably to do with the existing interest rates on securities, which would lose all value by a sudden collapse. But leave it to them, dear reader; difficulty is nothing to them.

They are very worried about the awful blunder they made last time. For people became really prosperous during the last war effort; even the very humblest were actually enjoying the good things if they could keep out of the war zone. Well, that mustn't happen again, not on any account.

MORE SMOKE SCREEN

Here is our financial lad once again:

"Commonwealth spending for war purposes will rise considerably in the near future, thus increasing money incomes . . . unless purchasing power is concurrently reduced it will be difficult to obviate rising prices."

Well, there we are again! Please correct me if I'm wrong, but the idea expressed in the last sentence seems to be that since rising prices reduce purchasing power, this reduction must be avoided by reducing purchasing power. Perhaps the writer was a bit sensitive of uncovering the real idea behind all this, but I have found that the truth nearly always makes more sense. The financial lads have a knack of killing two birds with one stone, and if I were a thorough rascal and sufficiently self-interested, and if I thought I could get away with it, the probability is that I should say the same as they are saying, so that I could get my dupes to believe that the war was being won by terrific money sacrifice, and at the same time divert their attention from the fact that I was a counterfeiter on a large scale.

This gives an undoubted *double entendre* to the last words of the financial lad. "The sacrifices which are to be demanded of the

community in the shape of increased taxes and subscriptions to war loans assume a significance additional to that which may be ascribed purely to patriotism."

I should jolly well think so, indeed, but isn't it a lark that he can round off his article by words which might easily be pinched from the *New Times*?

THE BURDEN OF SAVINGS

The following remarks of the same waiter may be regarded as a pure embellishment: "By relieving the people of a portion of their savings the Government takes a step which tends to equate purchasing power to the reduced quantity of goods available for civilian consumption." You wouldn't credit that those who think such a lot about money and such a little about people would have such a sense of fun. They not only try to kid you and me that the people have saved in their little S.B. accounts an amount almost equivalent to half the money in existence (including bankers' imaginary money), but that actually the people find their savings a burden, and ask nothing better than to be relieved of them.

"IT DON'T SEEM RIGHT TER ME"

But the financial lads aren't going to stop just there. No fear! "The objectives are further pursued by measures adopted to control prices . . ." Oh, no! I must pause a moment; I simply can't pass that. Won't this have the effect of increasing purchasing power, an effect that has to be avoided at all costs? But let the poor man finish . . . "to control prices, internal money rates, investment and foreign exchange transactions. The plain man will therefore do well to remember that cheerful acceptance of increased taxation, liberal support of war loans, and ready acquiescence in various control measures, will assist the Treasury authorities to finance Australia's war effort according to an ordered plan."

Well, speaking as one of the plain citizens, one of the plainest, I suppose I should admit, I am going to say what the typical plain man is always supposed to

A DRAGLINE EXCAVATOR

The Journal of the Institution of Civil Engineers (England) for March, 1940, featured a most interesting article by William Barnes on the development and performance of the dragline excavator. The writer points out that the dragline excavator has the advantage over the power shovel because it can dig below its own level, and that it is now largely displacing the power shovel on big engineering jobs.

Details are given of a "walking" dragline excavator, fitted with a six-cubic yard bucket on a boom 135 feet long, working in a deep, wide canal cutting near Lanaeken. The machine worked, almost continuously, two or three shifts (18-24 hours per day), for 4-5 years, and excavated about 5,500,000 cubic yards at the average rate of approximately 100,000 cubic yards per month. The machine, powered by a 280-horsepower diesel engine, weighed about 300 tons. The average output was approximately 240 cubic yards per hour, and the diesel-oil consumption was approximately 6.5 gallons per hour (about 37 cubic yards per gallon).

The machines are made in a variety of sizes, and with scoops made heavy or light according to the job.

In California, one of the 12-cubic-yard draglines, working 24 hours a day on the "All-American" Canal, excavated the enormous quantity of 5,501,000 cubic yards in 12 months. With 150 boom machines, an average of 400 cubic yards per hour can be maintained.

say: "It don't seem right ter me!" I should like to see *the Treasury assisting the plain citizen*. If it would only do that, I wouldn't be so mean as to insist on cheerfulness.

TO THE NEW READER

At a time like the present, when there is no shortage of the real things needed to ensure comfort and liberty for everyone in the community, we yet find ourselves surrounded with poverty, fear and debt, while every day fresh inroads are made on our liberties through taxation and vexatious regulations.

In consequence of this, we find a fertile breeding ground for Fascism, Communism, and other varieties of change—some of which may possibly add to our material well being, but all of which exact the price of still further surrender of our reasonable liberties.

Parliament is rapidly falling into disrepute. Why? Because Parliament has lost most of its real powers to *add* to your liberties. Parliament can do little more than *take away* your liberties. Parliament is ineffective. For proof of this, read what Ministers are daily telling deputations which wait upon them. All sorts of desirable plans are put before Cabinets—plans for hospitals, schools, roads, etc. We have the men who are willing and anxious to do the work; we have the skill and experience; we have all the materials. Only one thing is lacking. That thing is finance. Finance is a matter of bookkeeping entries, of proper accounting for things done. In other words, finance is, or should be, a *reflection* of facts. Instead of this, we have allowed it to *control* practically all our activities.

Until this state of affairs is righted we shall never regain our prosperity or our liberties; and it can be righted through Parliamentary action in such a way as to extend our liberties and without any interference with private property. Parliament is elected by the people. **THIS MEANS YOU**; and it is your duty to yourself, to your dependants, and to your fellow-citizens to give serious thought to those removable impediments which are preventing Parliament from doing its duty and which are stopping the further progress of our country.

The *New Times* has been established to assist you in getting at the truth of things. It is anxious to help you. You, in turn, can help it by becoming a *regular* reader and by getting your friends to read it.

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THE ENEMY IN THE REAR

(Continued from page 1.)

thinks of the manner in which Finance dealt the Britain we have known a smashing blow last week, this should not prevent every loyal Australian from resisting the introduction of such legislation in this country. Now, *as never before* we all have a duty. No matter what transpires in the dark days ahead, let us make it a part of the great cause for which we are fighting that we shall hand on, undimmed, the torch of democratic government for which so many of our race have given their lives in the past. Unless this is done, we may win the war and lose the very thing we are supposed to be fighting for. Someone might mention this to Mr. Menzies, and ask him if he remembers his own famous statement in this connection.

WILL "BOLSHEVISM" GIVE EFFICIENCY?

The excuse for the "bolshevisation" of Britain, which has received so much publicity, is that it will give greater efficiency to the prosecution of the war. Just how this result will be accomplished by such means is a mystery to those who know anything about organisation. If it *should* be necessary for the people to relinquish *some* of their liberties in a time of national crisis, they should do this voluntarily, with the explicit understanding and guarantee that they will be able to regain their liberties when the crisis has passed.

In view of the fact that this country is usually expected to fit in with the ideas introduced into Britain, it is time for every thinking person to ask himself if absolute Government control of the whole nation will give greater efficiency. In spite of what the bolshevisers say, the fact remains that private enterprise can "deliver the goods" with the minimum of Government interference. The only thing, which prevents private enterprise from putting forward the greatest effort, is FINANCE.

Even "The Watchman," in his daily diatribe, made a reference, two weeks ago, to the fact that it had been pointed out in Britain that aeroplane production was being hindered because of an "aeroplane ring." He mentioned that statements had been made that the smaller firms were without contracts because the big monopolies refused to sub-let. We are now going to see thousands of Government officials—second-rate experts—telling first-rate experts how to do things. This was done to some extent in Britain during the last war and the results were simply tragic.

If the Government informs businessmen technical men, and producers just what results it needs, and if the banks are forced to make finance available for the cost of administration, the greatest national effort will be made with the least amount of friction. Decentralised individual effort will not only allow the nation to make a maximum effort; it will also ensure that *the peace* shall be won, instead of being lost, as it was after the last war.

C. FORD The Caterer

IS AT

204 High St., Prahran

Telephone: Win. 6066

FINANCE RETARDS NATIONAL EFFORT.

Some people get a little indignant when they are told that even now finance is controlling the war effort. I therefore quote two items from recent issues of the Australian press. The first appeared on May 17, when Mr. T. Mutch, U.A.P. member in the New South Wales Assembly, asked the Premier, Mr. Mair, if his attention had been drawn to the alarming announcement in the cables by Sir Alfred Herbert, controller of machine tools for the British Government, that in spite of the grave crisis, more than half the productive machinery was allowed to lie idle nightly while tens of millions of pounds were now being sent to America to purchase munition supplies. While this is going on, there are still hundreds of thousands of unemployed in Britain. There are over a million bureaucrats ordering other people about, while the new Government proposes to add to this number. The skeptics might think this over and then laugh it off—if they can.

The second item is a statement by no less a person than Mr. B. S. B. Stevens, former Premier of N.S.W. He is reported in the press on Tuesday, May 21, as follows: "It had been stated that full employment was reached. Even in certain key trades, there was unemployment. In Sydney there were big engineering firms without substantial defence orders." If Hitler hears of that sort of thing he must feel considerably cheered. I have no doubt that there is a "shortage of funds."

Apart from this, the writer can give some accounts from personal observation of the position in the agricultural industries. There is no need to deal with the tragedy of the apple and pear growers. I met several growers who are tipping their crops down old mines. The people have insufficient money with which to buy the fruit. If the Government continues to appease the financial gangsters by robbing the people further through increasing taxation, they will be unable to even buy as much as they are buying now. More primary producers will go bankrupt, while we will have more bolshevism under the name of "ordered" marketing. I might mention, for the benefit of those who have such a mania for an "ordered" society, that the ants have a perfect ordered state, while a cemetery is even more orderly. Many farmers have informed me that they have been unable to even get sufficient finance from the banks to top-dress their pastures for the coming season. Production will therefore suffer. All this is called a national effort. Ye gods! While this folly goes on—private enterprise hindered by lack of finance the national debt continues to soar higher and higher. And still we see the pathetic example of people thinking that they are materially helping the war effort by making loans. If the people gave the Government every penny they possess, it would not run the war for more than a few months. However, it is all good propaganda to cover the fact that the bulk of the war finance is being MANUFACTURED as a costless creation by the *private trading banks*, and written up as a debt against the community, which is expected to pay interest forever and forever. Every reader of this paper must make the fact known to the people that EVERY INCREASE IN DEBT AND TAXATION IS A BAREFACED ROBBERY, A

VICTORY FOR THE ENEMY AND A BLOW AGAINST THE MORALE OF OUR PEOPLE. Every Member of Parliament should be given to clearly understand that we have had enough of this treasonable policy. If we fail to make this united demand we will only have ourselves to blame for getting what the financiers have in store for us.

LINCOLN SET AN EXAMPLE.

If the Australian people are going to really help to meet the German aggression with superior force, the first essential which every Australian citizen in favour of this policy should realise is: **THAT THE WAR IS A NATIONAL MATTER, AND SHOULD BE FINANCED WITH NATIONAL MONEY—NOT ISSUED AS A DEBT AGAINST THE PEOPLE.** Apart from all the authoritative quotations, clearly indicating that this can be done, which have been given in these columns time and time again, one real democratic leader in history demonstrated that it *can* be done. His name was Abraham Lincoln.

The story is told by one reliable authority as follows: "During the Civil War Lincoln and his Secretary of the Treasury applied to the bankers for loans to the Government to carry on the war. The bankers are reported to have replied something like this: 'Well, war is a hazardous business, but we can let you have it at from 24 per cent, to 36 per cent.' "The President and his Secretary heatedly refused, stating the terms were outrageously unpatriotic. The moneylenders are said to have replied: 'If the Government doesn't want the money at that figure, why, we will loan it to the Southern Confederacy,' which they did.

"This was the real reason Lincoln issued the greenbacks, which became the nation's currency, *entirely free from the incidence of debt, interest or taxation.* With the greenbacks he was able to pay the soldiers, and finance the war unto victory for the Union, thereby incurring the enmity of the international bankers, who immediately plotted his assassination." Lincoln said that Democracy would rise superior to the Money Power. Every Australian elector must realise that no matter how serious the military situation becomes in Europe, this must not be allowed to provide an *excuse* for destroying our few remaining liberties. Finance is the pivot upon which the whole problem turns; but while it remains under the control of private financiers there is no ultimate hope for our Empire or civilisation. The enemy in the rear must be beaten. Every elector can play a part. —

Eric D. Butler.

Have You Read It?

The Story of the Commonwealth Batik. By D. J. Amos, F.A.I.S. Price 1/-.

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTES

(Continued from page 1.)

situation very neatly when he said: "Having utilised to only a slight degree the powers of the Commonwealth Bank to finance the resources of this country, it (the Menzies Government) is now resorting to borrowing, because, it says, those who support it want to lend their money and draw interest upon it." Referring to the Governor - General's statement that Hitlerism constituted the gravest challenge to Christian civilisation, he remarked: "I believe that statement to be true, but I further believe that the conditions that have existed in this country during the last ten years have also constituted a grave challenge to Christian civilisation. It savours to me of hypocrisy for the Government to direct its attention to a challenge away off on the other side of the world and to be blind to a challenge right here in Australia."

DOUGLAS CREDIT AND THE GUERNSEY EXPERIMENT

Senator James McLachlan makes some allusions to Douglas Social Credit, which for sheer inaccuracy are very hard to beat. "It has been tried over and over again," he asserts, "and in no instance has it succeeded." It has *never* been tried anywhere yet, not even in Alberta, though they are trying hard to overcome the legal difficulties which prevent them using it.

He then cites the experiment of the Guernsey Market in 1822 (although this was merely an instance of an issue of interest-free money) and states that instead of the Market debt of £4500 being liquidated in ten years, as was anticipated, it was not discharged until 72 years later. He omits to add that there was no special reason why the Market debt should be redeemed earlier, as it proved a quite satisfactory form of currency *and did not carry any interest.* By creating and using Market notes, instead of borrowing the money, the people of Guernsey saved themselves some £15,000 interest and finally discharged the debt; whereas, in 1914, they had paid £33,000 in interest on a £15,000 bank loan incurred in 1836, and still owed the amount of the original debt.

ANONYMOUS DICTATORS

On April 16, 1940, Mr. Stokes asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons whether he would introduce legislation to alter the charter of the Bank of England, so as to enable the names of the bank proprietors, together with the capital holding of each of such proprietors, to be published.

Sir John Simon: "No, sir." Mr. Stokes: "In view of the disastrous policy followed by the Bank after the last war and the part it is believed to have played in the rearmament of Germany, does the right hon. gentleman not consider it time that the people knew a bit more about the proprietors of this unique concern?"

PROCRASTINATION IS THE THIEF OF TIME

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DAILY PRESS

Daily newspapers have a policy. Either they are democratic in that respect, allowing those who care to express themselves upon matters of public import reasonable freedom so to do, or they are merely channels for the propagation of certain ideas, suppressing those that are not in alignment with themselves and vested interests.

Sir Philip Gibbs, in his book, "Ordeal in England," asked the question: "Who wants war?" After furnishing the evidence that the rank-and-file of the peoples of Europe did not, he summed up in these words: "Their opinions and feelings fail to find expression in a sinister press, which is utterly insincere, and deliberate in its policy of inflaming hatred and passion."

That is the opinion of an educated and well-known author—and it is an opinion, which is becoming widespread. It is as well to know our press.

The biggest newspaper combine in this country is that which is grouped around the "Herald"-Weekly Times," of Melbourne, commonly alluded to as the Murdoch Press, its managing director being Sir Keith Murdoch, of "Heathfield," Toorak, Melbourne.

We learn from "Smith's Weekly," of January 14, 1939, quite a lot about this newspaper knight and his business activities.

"In Perth, before a new company was formed to take over the West Australian K.M. had been on the train. In Adelaide, before a new company bought the 'Advertiser' for £1,250,000 from Sir Langdon Bonython, K.M. had been on the train. In Brisbane, before a new company merged the 'Courier' and the 'Mail', K.M. had been on the train," says "Smith's."

Sydney is, at the moment, the only capital city on the mainland where Sir Keith and those behind him do not run the most powerful daily.

Behind this huge propaganda machine we find the financial power of the Baillieu family, of Collins House, Melbourne. Among this group's vast business connections the most important is Broken Hill Pty. Ltd., that vast organisation producing the major proportion of steel and allied products in our national war effort—and, incidentally, showing an annual balance on the credit side of the ledger of from £1,000,000 to £1,250,000, to say nothing of liberal issues of bonus shares.

The enormous political influence that this huge newspaper combine wields can be well imagined. By the mass-production of its syndicated opinions—apart from matters of fact—it can mould the public mind.

If this huge combine is desirous of creating a savage war-hate psychology, by editorial and cartoon, by all the subtle arts of propaganda, it has the power to do so. Only the well-informed mind can be proof against its onslaughts. A famous prelate once wrote: "If, in England, the Bible maintained one thing and 'The Times' maintained another, out of 510 persons 500 would be of the opinion of The Times." Is not this also true of our syndicated press??

But let us look further into the affairs of the press combine in this country. There was published on January 3 of this year a Centenary number of the "Herald," and we find therein some very enlightening statements. We find that the Chairman of Directors of the "Herald"-Weekly Times" is one Theodore Fink, an 85-year-old gentleman of the Jewish race. We find further that, "apart from the formulation and expression of editorial policy, he interested himself closely in the literary features which had now become prominent in the paper." (Our emphasis.) We find also that a notable "Herald" man of former days was one Sir Henry Gullett, now Minister for Information in the Menzies Government; or should it be Minister for Propaganda? We find that in its innocent youth, when the "Herald" was published as the "Port Phillip Herald," its slogan was, "Impartial, not neutral." In the 'nineties it ran a column "for the discussion of all matters of public interest." Shades of a departed glory!

Today this huge combine presents a closed door to the expression of public opinion on matters of any import. It is the servile mouthpiece of rapacious money barons. While its columns reek with tales of want and woe, of food and produce restricted and destroyed, and of the dire distress of our citizens, not one word of protest at the monetary policy which causes all this do we find in its editorial comments.

BEHIND THE SCENES IN FRANCE

This article by Renato Fameo appeared in "II Popolo d'Italia" of March 11, 1940. While the factual material will be of interest to readers, this journal does not endorse all the opinions expressed.

Since the middle of 1939, almost without warning, there has broken out in the neighbouring democracy of France a kind of anti-Bolshevik crusade, with the dissolution of the French Communist Party, imprisonment of its most active leaders, expulsion from the Chamber of the relative "honourable" deputies, and the confiscation of the dissolved Party's assets. The conclusions which have been somewhat generally drawn from these events—both by that classical example of the superficial, the "man in the street," and by certain critics evidently not very abreast with the times—call for an elucidation of the matter.

This French anti-Communist movement...is nothing more than the very mediocre result of the private economic interests of a group, or rather an exclusive economic oligarchy, now in power: the "Comite des Forges"; the "Comite des Forges" which, in fighting Communism, is doing nothing more than fight the most dangerous ally of the "Haute Banque"* and thus the "Haute Banque" itself which, for more than 21 years, has become its most unwelcome competitor in the industrial field.

It is necessary to review a short period of French history. In 1919—France, by the Treaty of Versailles, having seen an enormous increase in her resources of iron and coal—there was observed a phenomenon never before recorded: the claim of the "Haute Banque" to manage the iron and steel industry which had always been in the past the inviolable prerogative of the eight or ten members of the "Comite des Forges."

The "Comite des Forges" and the "Haute Banque"—it should perhaps be explained—are the two greatest economic powers, the two real oligarchies in fact, which, almost from the beginning of the last Republic, have ruled France. The former being the ally (or rather the financier) of the Right, for the simple reason that only the Right can force on the country a policy of armaments highly profitable for the "ironmasters," it was perfectly logical that, the battle engaged, the "Haute Banque"-depository and director of masonry, as well as representing the Jewish world—should ally itself with or better still, finance and so control, the Left, by the convenient means of the Grand Orient. If our memory does not deceive us on page 273 of the Report of the Masonic "Convention" of September 1921, we may actually read the words: "We must organise the defence of the Republic. By the union of the Left parties, of which the Grand Orient will be the nucleus, we will triumph. It is, therefore necessary for all the good willed radicals, socialists, and Communists to unite and adopt a common programme, uniting all their energies."

It was the announcement of the offensive: and already, as may be read on page 224 of the same Report, "the Socialist Party, realising that masonry was taking an increasingly important part in politics, (had) decided, as a matter of policy, to enter our order." And

* Collective name for a group of private banks which finance big capitalists, foreign Governments, etc., all founded before the middle of the 19th century, including de Rothschild, Heine, de Neufville, Mirabaud, Vernes, Mallet, Hottinguer.

so in 1923, a "Cartel of the Left" came into power, supported and paid by the Grand Orient that is, by the "Haute Banque," defeating the Rightist Chamber which the "Comite des Forges" had caused to be elected in 1919 in order to vote the most profitable business of the construction of the Maginot Line.

From this moment there was waged, in the free and democratic land of France, for the private financial advantage of not more than forty individuals, a furious political war which, as it bound the gun merchants still more to the Right, likewise still further reinforced the close bonds between the "Haute Banque" and the Left, stirring up the masses and dividing the unwitting citizens against each other. Badly beaten by the victory of the Left, the "Comite des Forges" attacked the Government immediately on financial ground with that tragic devaluation of the franc which, on July 22, 1925, reached its maximum (240 francs to the £) and which led, on the following day, to that truce between the two parties which was named "Cabinet of National Union" presided over by Poincare, and this time no longer Rightist as in 1914, but neuter, anodyne and conciliating both to bankers and industrialists.

This armistice lasted for a good seven years from 1925 to 1932, but only to await events more favourable for a resumption of the conflict. The economic crisis of 1932, in fact, gave the "Haute Banque" its opportunity to launch a new attack, taking advantage of certain financial difficulties of the "Comite des Forges." And, profiting from the Ostrich scandal, a new "Cartel of the Left" came to power.

This stroke of the bankers was certainly sinister. The "Comite des Forges" replied with the same weapons, and with tripled violence: the Stavisky scandal; and so strong was this reply, so much emphasis was laid on the 25 dead and 900 wounded of the tragic February 6, that there came about the new short-lived armistice which bears the name of Gaston Doumergne. However the violent conflict, notwithstanding the new truce, was still carried on beneath the surface; and both the oligarchies surreptitiously sharpened their weapons and prepared their plans. It was from this moment that the "Haute Banque" determined to win at any cost, plunged headlong, making use of masonry again, into relations not only with the Left in general, but actually with the Communist party, in order thus to menace, by means of social upheaval, the power of the gun merchants. Typical and highly significant in this connection is the following resolution of the Grand Orient of April 20 1934: "We hope for an agreement with Russia and with Bolshevism, and we earnestly beg all our brethren to overcome every preconceived fear and to give themselves to the common victory." How the "Haute Banque" completely succeeded in its plan is as perfectly known, as it is shameful. Nothing was rejected: not even the humiliating Franco-Russian Pact, as counterpart to the orders given to the French Communist Party by the Comintern to make common cause (Continued on page 7.)

NATIONAL CREDIT VERSUS NATIONAL DEBT

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN MR. "QUEST" AND MR. "GUIDE,"
BROADCAST FROM 5KA, ADELAIDE, ON MAY 21

Q.: Did you hear the broadcast talk by the Hon. T. Playford, the Treasurer of South Australia, about National Credit?
G.: Yes; and also I have read the pamphlet by the Hon. P. C. Spender, the Federal Treasurer, on the same subject.
Q.: What do they mean by National Credit?
G.: They do not make that clear; but if you take a common-sense view then you will see that there need be no mystery about the matter. The word credit is akin to the word faith—*that adventurous faith which can move mountains*. In Australia, our abundant material and human resources together make up the credit of Australia. The National Credit **money**, about which there is so much haggling, is just that amount of money required to allow us to make full use of these resources.

NATIONAL DEBT

Q.: But what about the 1400 millions of pounds of debt which we owe; how does that affect us?
G.: Debt is a nasty word, and we must expect nasty effects from it. We have built up our system of community life on a basis of debt and still more debt; but if, instead, we now make the *National Credit* the basis of all our hopes and actions, we have a chance to wipe out our debt forever.

IN WAR-TIME

Q.: But the war news is so unsettling. Is this the time to talk of mere financial matters?
G.: It certainly is the time. Mr. B. S. B. Stevens, the late Premier of New South Wales, is no irresponsible scaremonger. This is what he said in his recent book, *Planning for War and Peace*: "An entirely new financial organisation is needed in the present situation." He evidently realises how the existing financial arrangements hamper our war efforts. By a proper use of our National Credit we will be released from all the artificial restrictions, which orthodox financial policies now impose on us. Then we will be able to use all our resources to push on our war efforts and also to escape a postwar depression like that we suffered after the last war.

Q.: But money for war is already plentiful compared with the money doled out to us for peace requirements.

G.: Yes; more money is certainly being released, but much of it is debt money, which will leave its unholy burden upon future generations. Also, it should be noted that we do not have to search for *customers* for the things we produce for war purposes; we don't sell them to the enemy; we just *give* them the shells.

INFLATION BOGEY

Q.: Our Treasurers say they are afraid of inflation; can we avoid that?

G.: The word inflation has been used, and is being used, as a bogey word, and some ignorant people are scared; but the very people who flaunt the bogey word are also the people who by means of the sales tax, flour tax, petrol tax and other taxes cause the rise of prices, and a rise of prices is the inflationary effect to be feared if the amount of money is increased in a wrong way.

Q.: I see that inflation means a rise in prices; how can I know that a demand for the expansion of the National Credit will be carried out in the RIGHT way?

G.: You can only judge by the RESULTS: the full responsibility should be put upon the managers of money matters to alter their methods, so that prices do not rise as the result of more money. The *British Government* recently arranged to *subsidise producers* of foodstuffs to prevent the prices from rising.

USE OF NATIONAL CREDIT

Q.: It seems to me that other results, which we want from the proper use of the National Credit, are:—

Firstly: Adequate finance for a tremendous war effort;
Secondly: Adequate finance for all Public Works, especially at the beginning of peace;
Thirdly: To reduce our National Debt.

G.: All that is right and possible; it will be done when the people of Australia wake up to the fact that there is another fight "on" besides the military one; a more subtle fight, a more fundamentally vital fight, and that is the fight against financial overlordship and centralised power in any form.

THE COMMONWEALTH BANK

Q.: By reading the *Story of the Commonwealth Bank*, by Mr. D. J. Amos, I gather that in Sir Denison Miller's time the Commonwealth Bank was run as a people's bank. What is the position now?

G.: It is not being run like that now, but the people can demand a change, and they will demand it as soon as they understand that OUR Bank—that is, the People's Bank—has the power, and can be made responsible for properly regulating the supply of money in the community. When this is done on our behalf, money will always be available for expansion of industries, and the goods produced in industry will then be distributed to those who want them.

Q.: But it is openly admitted that new money is being released by the Commonwealth Bank as part of the money needed under war conditions.

G.: Quite so; yet when some people ask *why* in the same way money cannot be released free of interest to finance the *whole* of our war effort, there is a tendency to evade the question and fly off into a scare mongering protest that it would be disastrous to have an *unlimited* expansion of credit money.

Q.: They must know that people will not be satisfied by such a ruse, because no one outside a lunatic asylum would advocate an *unlimited* amount of money.

G.: The limit is, of course, set by the limit of resources, whether at war or for peace; electors should get the habit of always making no end of a fuss if the construction and maintenance of roads, hospitals, schools and housing schemes are held up or neglected for lack of *money*.

WHAT CAN ELECTORS DO?

Q.: That is all very well to talk about: I want to know more exactly what I and my fellow-electors can do.

G.: You have, of course, the power of a vote, though, unfortunately, at election time many

confusing issues may be brought under your notice.

Q.: But I can look out to choose a good man.

G.: Even the ablest and most honourable men are up against sinister forces behind the scenes, which are cunningly entrenched.

Q.: Wilberforce found that when he set out to liberate the Negroes from the legalised bonds of slavery.

G.: Yes, but when he had the *people* of Great Britain solidly with him, they *won through* against all the vested interests in or out of Parliament.

Q.: What, then, are the prospects at the next Federal election?

G.: Well, platforms and promises from parties and candidates count for next to nothing; the people must come to see that the real issue is whether those who manage the money affairs are to be the servants of the people, *or whether* the International Financiers are to continue to be the masters of our destinies.

Q.: That's a big issue, especially as we have no direct influence over the Directors of the Banks, whether public or private.

G.: We have no adequate power except over the individual members of Parliament whom we elect. The people, *if they are united*, can press their own elected representatives in both State and Federal Parliaments for the *results*, which they want to see, accomplished.

Q.: That is still a big issue.

G.: We can "come to it" one step at a time, *but* let us be *sure* that it is a step in the right direction, bringing *more*, and not less, freedom. The choice of the first step depends on the people themselves. Let them choose and press for ONE RESULT, which will benefit everyone except the international financiers.

Q.: The people are looking for suggestions.

G.: Lower Taxation is an issue, which "fills the bill." The fact that most taxation is sheer robbery will be *seen* when a proper National Balance-Sheet is prepared and published. If the people are persistent about it, they can win through to victory against all the stupid and wicked conventions about taxation, which have accumulated through the last century.

Q.: Do you think this can happen at next elections?

G.: It can happen at any time, quite apart from election considerations, but near election time people are more inclined to discuss political questions; so now is a good time for everyone to be active in the issue of *the People versus the International Financiers*.

Q.: I get you. We electors must demand such results, as we want.

G.: Yes. If we get what we want we live in a democracy. The people who govern are the people who get what they want. If we do not get the results we want, it is because we as electors are not using our democratic powers properly.

Q.: We seem to have wandered away from the National Credit issue.

G.: Yet it is all closely related just as soon as electors force the issue, they can have "National Credit money used to relieve the unnecessary burdens that are piled on us today—have it used for constructive and useful purposes. Then, having gained a victory on one issue, we can use our power again and again on other issues as they arise.

WHY DO WE HESITATE?

Q.: Then why do we hesitate? We have the numbers on our side, and righteousness on our side.

G.: Ingrained apathy and traditional worship of officialdom are the two great retarding factors, as I see it. But, given the proper use of our National Credit money, restrictive policies will be swept away. Then every venture, which we have the imagination to conceive, and the faith to undertake will be carried through successfully.

Q.: Thanks for this opportunity to discuss matters; where can I get further information?

G.: My experience is that at the United Democrats, 17 Waymouth-street, one is helped to get the facts right; there, more than anywhere else, you can turn your sentiments about Faith, Hope and Charity into sensible political action. Remember the address: 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

* * *

Listeners should know that this broadcast has been made possible by the generosity of an Adelaide businessman, who wishes to remain anonymous.

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PRESS CUTTINGS

(Continued from page 1.)

an overdraft of £9028/10/6 at the meeting of the Ballarat Base Hospital committee tonight, he explained that it was hoped the position would be better in June." (It springeth eternal!)

"Ballarat Benevolent Home.... The number of inmates was reported as 295, and the overdraft £4408."

* * *

ARGUS 15th May:

"Substantial improvement in Victorian Government finances was announced yesterday by the Treasury. Progressive deficit at April 30th was £2,732,531 . . ."

(This is public finance. The people pay the loss.)

ARGUS, 21st May:

"Profit of £1,103,744 reported by Colonial Sugar Refining Co. Ltd. for year ended March 31, is a record for the company."

(This is private finance. The people pay the profit.)

And so the HERALD reports:

"TRADE WELL MAINTAINED. —Bank Survey. Apart from the dislocation by the coal strike, business activities throughout Australia were well maintained in April, says a review of business conditions by the National Bank. Increased taxation is expected to cause a shrinkage in purchases of luxury and non-essential goods, though it might be some time before the decline in buying demand becomes noticeable. Seasonal prospects have improved as a result of excellent rain, notably in Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria. Outlook for winter-feed and seeding conditions for crops are now ahead of normal for the time of year. Retail trade shows an easing tendency, due partly to the coal strike, increased taxation and continued mild weather, with a consequent reduction in purchases of winter clothing." (So now we know. Then there is also the story about the new-chum who filed the barbs off a barbed-wire fence, so the Boss's cows wouldn't get scratched.)

* * *

ARGUS, 24th May:

"Canberra. Thursday. By a short-sighted policy the British Government was forcing the sale of margarine to the detriment of Australian and New Zealand butter, Mr. Cameron, Commerce Minister, declared in the House of Representatives today." (The shortsightedness in British policy, not only in England, but throughout the Empire, lies in the money-shortage, Mr. Cameron. This alone is responsible for restricting the consumption of butter in favour of margarine, and for the ruination of dairy farming.)

* * *

HERALD, 11th May: "A.M. P. Assets Increase By £5,500,000 In Year." (Comment unnecessary.)

* * *

ARGUS, 25th May:

"New Land Tax. Many Cases of Hardship. . . The doubling of the rate of tax itself is a severe impost on landowners, . . . but that is not all. Many valuations have been increased for 1939-1940, and this means that in some cases the land tax paid for 1940-1941 will be actually treble that paid for 1938-39."

* * *

ARGUS, 24th May:

"London. Thursday. City circles believe that two effects of almost unlimited Government powers over persons and property conferred by Parliament last night will be checking of inflation and control of banks . . . The Government could do one thing that would have great significance without

ROOSEVELT AND PEACE

Let every reader beware against the nostrums and remedies offered by the world's prominent men, for the plain fact is such prominence can only be achieved by men who are the pliable tools in the hands of the unknown dominant men in the background, who in every case are those who have unlimited supplies of the money they (and they only) are allowed to create. These men in the background are opposed to the true simple remedy of distributing economic freedom to the masses, and who are now enthralled by a clever system of wage-slavery. But their opposition has to be covered and disguised, they dare not oppose openly they fear the light of exposure for exactly the same reason that Scripture tells us is the one why men love darkness. No remedy can come, therefore, from the world's "public" men, but we can expect some clever fakes. And when you hear these fakes, there is always a test that will show them up. For instance, Mr. Chamberlain and the House of Commons heard Mr. Dalton (old Etonian) say on March 10, in Parliament:

"I prefer, if we are to speak of peace aims . . . the peace aims indicated by President Roosevelt in that most remarkable and—it is not too strong a word—that noble broadcast address last Saturday . . ."

(For our part, we wonder why Mr. Dalton has to go to America for peace aims?) Mr. Dalton quoted Mr. Roosevelt as saying: "the world needs a real peace, with guarantees for the integrity of the small nations and of relig-

ious and intellectual freedom. We need today a moral basis for peace. . . . It cannot be a moral peace if freedom from invasion is paid for by tribute . . ." And so on. Later, Mr. Chamberlain said, "I accept and subscribe to the words used the other day by President Roosevelt as to what a peace should be."

Leaving aside the questions of what our peace or war aims has to do with Mr. Roosevelt, or who he is speaking for or what business it is of our politicians to accept guidance from him, the fake nature of Mr. Roosevelt's "noble" words can be tested by observing HOW HE HAS APPLIED THE PEACE HE REFERS TO IN AMERICA.

In the first place, why refer to the "world" as if it were a person?

The "world" does not need peace, but PEOPLE do. It is not "nations" that require guarantees, but PERSONS.

What guarantees have the American unemployed that their homes shall not be sold up, if they fail to pay tribute to the Loan Companies? Also, why did U.S. Marines invade Nicaragua, bombing its capital and turning the country (against the will of its inhabitants) into a Wall Street Debt Farm? Mr. Roosevelt is all for guaranteeing the integrity of Poland, and speaks noble words for "world" peace, but is he in favour of guaranteeing every American citizen against economic insecurity and financial aggression in his own country? If so, let him get on with the job, if he is not then his words are mere bunk, designed to betray.

We have noticed that rent-collectors are not interested in "moral" arguments, and know that the REAL basis of peace, far from being 'moral,' is economic.

Not by their words shall men know Prominent Persons, but by their fruits and actions. Observe these, and the hollowness of their nostrums becomes apparent, and soon the necessity will be seen of initiating plainly our OWN peace terms and linking them up, not with "worlds," "nations" and such like abstractions, which do not get shot in wars, but with everyday humdrum necessities and desires of common men that are personal and individual.

—G. Hickling, in *Reality*.

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**Behind the Scenes
in France**

(Continued on page 4.)

with the bankers. Strikes, riots and disturbances brought France, more than once, to the brink of revolution. At length, however, the "Comite des Forges" and the Right were overcome and the ascent to power of the "Front Populaire," with Leon Blum at the head, was a *fait accompli*.

Such briefly, are the facts. What, now, were the consequences or the damages suffered by the "Comite des Forges" from this Communist victory of the "Haute Banque"? These are the principal: 130 industrial concerns passed into the hands of the "Haute Banque"; the loss of control over the Bank of France, which—by means of an astute reform of its statutes" put through by Blum in August 1936—entered into the possession of the bankers. Confirmation of this may be had in its new president: the freemason Jouhaux.

As will be readily appreciated, the misfortune of 1936 was most serious for the "Comite des Forges," the worst of the whole series. It was a result of the action of Communism, which unscrupulously stirred up the tranquil French proletariat . . . The gun merchants quite understood this; and once they succeeded in defeating the "Front Populaire" . . . it was logical . . . that they should have desperately thrown themselves against Communism with the same ardour . . . with which the "Haute Banque," years before, had made an alliance with it.

The present anti-Communist crusade of Daladier appears, therefore, as a re-conquest by the "Comite des Forges"; a vendetta, a punishment and, above all, a preventive war so that their adversaries may never again in the future meet a Communist Party on their way with which to make another alliance. Nothing more . . . Should the "Haute Banque" again resume control, then Communism would reappear once more. Daladier himself, who passes today as the upholder of French nationalism, does not act on his own account, but as a "man of straw" of the "Comite des Forges," as Blum acted as nothing other than the figure-head of the Jewish-Masonic bankers.

—Reprinted from "Italian Press Digest."

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VICTORIA**

Stirring Meetings at Several Centres

The latest reports from the North-East of Victoria indicate that Eric Butler and Norman Rolls are making their presence felt. Feeling has been running high in several centres as a result of rumours, deliberately spread, that Eric was a Communist and anti-British. It is reported that after the Tongala meeting several people saw fit to send wires to certain quarters in Melbourne, charging Eric with having made statements, which were disloyal. In view of the fact that he has been one of the most consistent opponents of Communism and the attack by international finance against the British Commonwealth of Nations, these charges are rather ironic. The chair at the Tongala meeting was taken by the shire president, who expressed deep interest in all that had been said, while the resolution demanding the financing of the national effort without further

ing of its kind ever held in Albury. Eric Butler was in great form, and answered question after question until nearly midnight, when the meeting had to be closed. Those present were unanimous in their demand for another meeting as soon as possible. Although the two campaigners are finding the demands for return meetings almost impossible in some cases, they will endeavour to do their best. Eric addressed the Albury Apex Club last Wednesday but we have not yet received a report.

STIRRING TATURA MEETING.

After the Tongala meeting on Tuesday, May 21, the two campaigners travelled across to Tatura, where feeling was running high as a result of varying rumours. A special reporter was paid by the local police to take down Eric's speech. This was, no doubt, a result of the Tongala meeting. A big audience in an expectant mood attended on Friday, May 24. They were not disappointed. An attempt was made to stop the meeting, while a charge that the *New Times* was a Communist publication (!) was answered by the reading of a letter from the Department of Information, stating that the paper was decidedly anti-Communist. Eric Butler rose to speak in a very tense atmosphere, and gave what Norman Rolls described as the greatest address of his career. In a speech lasting well over two hours, he challenged his critics, pointed out that the present financial system was treasonable, and urged that every person who was *really* loyal to the British Commonwealth of Nations must help in getting the real facts to the people. Thunderous applause greeted the conclusion of his address, while the special reporter was apparently so overwhelmed by the address that the reporting was forgotten. The critics were completely silent and didn't ask one question. Literature was sold as usual, and new readers to the *New Times* signed up.

This meeting was fully reported in the local Tatura paper; also both the Shepparton papers, where the campaigners will speak next Sunday. Meetings were to take place every night this week, and will be reported in our next issue.

**Hughesdale A.N.A.
Meeting**

On Wednesday evening June 6, the above body will receive a speaker from the U.E.A. Eric Butler will be the speaker if he is available.

Action at Essendon

We have to advise that a Ratepayers' Loan Protest Committee has been formed at Essendon.

A public meeting has been held and the £100,000 loan has been temporarily stopped. The secretary is Mr. W. D. Donnelly, J.P., of Puckle-street, Moonee Ponds.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From Electoral Campaign Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Listeners-in to 5KA on Tuesday evening, May 21, were entertained for fifteen minutes by a lively discussion between Mr. "Quest" and Mr. "Guide" (Messrs. C. H. Allen and M. E. Dodd respectively), on *National Credit versus National Debt*. Many good points were made and hazy notions about money made clear. The inflation bogey was laid low, and people were shown how to get what they want.

There is little doubt that the radio is a most effective and direct method of propaganda. This broadcast was made possible by the generosity of an Adelaide businessman who is interested in our work. Does any other altruist feel that he would like to serve our cause and the good of humanity by sponsoring or helping to sponsor another such talk?



U.E.A. Business Meeting

A business meeting will be held next Tuesday, June 4. The business will consist of a discussion on campaign policy in view of the international situation.

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A Gallant Worker Passes On
We regret to announce that Miss M. Hayes, who was one of the early stalwarts of the movement in Victoria, has passed away. Words cannot adequately express our regrets at the loss of this outstanding personality.

debt, taxation or inflation, was carried by the meeting. Those present at the meeting, including returned soldiers, said that they were amazed at the charges made. Another meeting has been specially arranged for this centre, and the critics are publicly challenged to appear and make their accusations. This meeting is to take place tonight, Friday, May 31, and the stir, which has been caused, is expected to result in a record audience. Special carloads from Echuca, Tatura, and Shepparton will attend. Full report will appear in next week's issue.

SUCCESSFUL ALBURY MEETING
Although the meeting in Albury, N.S.W., was not as well attended as was confidently expected, it was the biggest meet-

TO OUR READERS—
You may obtain your copy of the "NEW TIMES" from any authorised newsagent. Should your agent not have supplies, please ask him to communicate direct with New Times Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I. Tel: MU 2834.
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DEBT AND TAXATION RETARDS WAR EFFORT

An Important Message, in Questionnaire Form, from the United Electors of Australia

HOW DOES DEBT AND TAXATION RETARD OUR WAR EFFORT?

Thoughtful citizens realise that industry must be kept going to support military activities. It will also be realised that, as pointed out by Senator Collings, Australia cannot afford to have 250,000 unemployed persons. Those who have studied the position will understand that the present and promised terrific taxation prevents industry from absorbing this army of unemployed—and thus defeats its purpose.

IS THERE AN ALTERNATIVE TO TAXATION?

Most citizens believe that taxation is inevitable; this is due to the fact that such persons have not examined the matter for themselves, as they will readily admit. If the reader happens to hold such a view the following answers in the questionnaire form will be interesting and informative. However, this question cannot be fully answered until the cause of taxation is understood—the following questions and answers will make the matter clear.

WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF TAXATION?

Most people would reply, "The war," quite forgetting that we have taxation in peacetime. Others will say: "It is for the purposes of government." The latter would be partly true—but the truth is that *approximately half of all taxation is required to pay interest on loans to Governments by private money-lenders.* It will, therefore, be obvious that loans are the major cause of taxation, and that, if borrowings were eliminated, *the need for at least half of taxation would immediately disappear.*

HOW DOES TAXATION RETARD BUSINESS?

Our taxation burden is £1 million per week, half of which goes as "interest" to financial monopolies. Thus it will be clear that at least half a million pounds per week would be available to the general public as EXTRA purchasing-power if the present unsound borrowing practice were eliminated. It is equally clear that wage-earners could have more goods and services, which, in turn, would provide jobs for our army of unemployed, who at present are a liability through no fault of their own.

DOES THE WAGE EARNER PAY MORE TAXES IN THE LAST ANALYSIS?

Yes, through indirect taxation, such as sales tax, amusement tax etc., the bulk of which is passed on. The need for this passing-on process can only be eliminated by eradicating the cause of the taxes. Primary producers, wage-earners, professional men, manufacturers, and retailers should realise that in their common interests they must bring pressure on their Federal Parliamentary representatives, whose duty it is to remove the cause—there is no other way out.

CAN GOVERNMENT BORROWING BE ELIMINATED?

A study of Section 51A of the Constitution will show clearly that the Federal Government has sovereign powers to provide its own finance. A study of the findings of the Royal Commission on Banking will confirm this. It cannot be disputed that the Federal Government could, and should, provide finance for itself and State Governments, instead of being subservient to private moneylenders, as at present—indeed, the present practice is lowering the dignity of our Parliamentary institutions.

HAS THE GOVERNMENT THE NECESSARY BANKING FACILITIES?

Yes, the Commonwealth Bank is the Government Bank—it is the nation's bank, with the nation's resources behind it—it is the only institution legally empowered to provide the nation's money supply—it can supply the necessary finance without debt or taxation.

WHAT IS THE AUTHORITY FOR THIS STATEMENT?

The Royal Commission on Banking, which consisted of eminent judicial and financial experts, made it very clear in Paragraph 504 of its Report that the Commonwealth Bank can provide Governments or other bodies with finance free of charge. Please read that again, because it is very important and quite indisputable. It also makes it clear that Governments have no need to be beholden to private money-lenders or financial monopolies—therefore electors must insist that this undesirable practice shall cease.

DO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS PROFIT FROM WAR?

Yes, these institutions, such as private trading banks, whose interests are interwoven, provide 80 per cent, of the loans (the general public is unable to take up more than 20 per cent.), and the more loans raised the more they receive as "interest." The daily press supports them by clever propaganda, which educates the public to believe that taxation is inevitable. Soldiers give their lives *without interest*, taxpayers pay taxes *without interest*, while moneylenders *lend their money and receive it back, plus interest.* This is obviously unjust.

WHO IMPOSES THE TAXATION?

The people's representatives, each of whom must be held personally responsible. These individuals, with a few notable exceptions, shelter behind political parties, over whom the electors have no control—therefore, citizens must deal direct with their representatives and compel them to correct this evil—each elector must also accept personal responsibility and bring the matter under the notice of his representative—otherwise the member concerned cannot be expected to know what is required of him.

DO POLITICAL PARTIES KNOW THE POSITION?

The "United Electors' of Australia (Non-Party) has made the position quite clear to all individual representatives, and, since these individuals constitute the parties, all parties must be aware that they are permitting an unjustifiable practice, which can only lead to individual and national bankruptcy—the purpose of this "National Welfare Campaign" is to prevent this national crisis. Owing to public pressure on this matter the Federal Treasurer, Mr. Spender, has published a leaflet, which is issued through the Department of Information, wherein he admits the public pressure against the borrowing practice. He also admits that the Government can use and has used, the Commonwealth Bank for finance. Mr. Spender, however, fails to understand that at present the financial monopolies are getting something for nothing by way of interest, although he deplores the principle involved. The truth is that these monopolies obtain their interest at the expense of the taxpayer.

WILL PUBLIC OPINION COMPEL REPRESENTATIVES TO ACT?

Yes. That is the only way to correct the position. Public opinion must be aroused, and you are a necessary part of that public opinion - - *therefore, you must be aroused.* Public pressure is the only force that politicians obey, which, as a matter of fact, is their function. Obviously, electors must let their representatives know what is required of them; citizens need not know the *method* by which the correction may be made, as they probably would not be expert in such matters. However, they are the only experts in the matter of what *they require*, and they pay the members to employ the necessary experts to get *what is required.*

HAVE ANY PARLIAMENTS TAKEN ACTION IN THIS MATTER?

Yes, the South Australian, Tasmanian, and Western Australian State Parliaments have passed majority resolutions, calling on the Federal Government to use the said powers and facilities, as indicated in Paragraph 504 of the Royal Commission on Banking Report. Surely no further evidence is required as to the practicability and desirability of the proposals of this "National Welfare Campaign." Doubtless, the action of these State Governments impelled Mr. Spender to issue the leaflet, entitled "National Credit," which is a belated indication that the Government is taking notice.

HAVE REPRESENTATIVES STATED ANY OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS?

A few have had the audacity to suggest that the present financial system of debt and taxation is a benefit to the community. It is true that it benefits financial interests, which represent perhaps 5 per cent, of the community. Such a system is poor consolation to the other 95 per cent, who supply the benefit by giving the 5 per cent "that something for nothing," which Mr. Spender professes to object to.

IS THE INFLATION BOGEY RAISED TO SCARE THE PEOPLE?

Yes. It would never do for the people to examine the fraudulent money system; such an examination would quickly disclose the injustice of it! The present controllers of the money system prefer the present form of "inflation," from which they receive millions of pounds in interest. Our Governments, taxation officers, and, if necessary, police force, act as collection agencies for these interests—and it is interesting to note that the taxpayer pays for the maintenance of these collection agencies, believing, of course, that such collection is for purposes of government.

HAS ANY COUNTRY CONTROLLED INFLATION?

Yes. The London *Daily Telegraph*, of 2/2/40, reports Sir John Simon as saying that the British economists had overcome inflation by operating a special fund, from which all "permitted price increases are met." Thus, agreed-upon original prices remain unaltered to the consumer. If our experts cannot do likewise they must make way for others who can, and will. It is sheer nonsense to suggest that our man-made money system cannot be controlled.

WHAT ACTION SHOULD CITIZENS TAKE?

Your personal well-being depends on the action *you take.* The best way to act is to spread the idea of the "National Welfare Campaign." You can contact the campaign headquarters and obtain a "Co-operation Form," which contains suggestions as to how you can assist. You will realise that with-

out you the campaign cannot succeed; therefore, you are urged not to leave it to the other fellow. It is intended, with your help, to obtain one million "Letter Forms" signed and sent to individual members. These Letterforms are obtainable from the "United Electors of Australia (Non-Party)," McEwan House, Little Collins St., Melbourne, at 2/- per 100. Copies of this questionnaire are also available at 6d per dozen. The campaign will be financed from sales of this literature, along with any donations, which you and others care to forward. All work will be honorary.

IS SIMILAR ACTION BEING TAKEN IN OTHER STATES?

Yes, similar action has already been taken in other States by kindred bodies. The "United Electors of Australia" have prepared the way with preliminary literature to representatives, and now your support is necessary to ensure success. All enquiries on this matter should be forwarded to the "National Welfare Campaign," United Electors of Australia (Non-Party), McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

FRUITGROWERS ORGANISE

(From our Frankston correspondent.)

The recent monster meeting of protest by fruit growers on the Mornington Peninsula (Victoria), which gathered the largest meeting ever held in the Public Hall at Hastings, has been followed up by a subsequent meeting of the newly-formed branch, held at Somerville.

The enthusiasm is sustained at high pressure, as evidenced by the numbers in attendance, and at the last meeting the following resolution was passed:

"That the members of this organisation are definitely opposed to any future control of the apple and pear industry by Government boards."

Fully ninety per cent, of the growers wish to see as early a return as possible to the usual orderly marketing channels.

Mr. A. Noble, of Tyabb, is the secretary, and would be glad to reply to any enquiries concerning this movement along the line of pressure politics.

King's Birthday Weekend at Ballarat

Eric Butler proposes to visit Ballarat on June 15, 16 and 17. Will any supporters who can arrange meetings and accommodation, write to U.E.A. headquarters immediately.

World - Government Plot Exposed!

The series of articles by Eric Butler, which recently appeared in the "New Times" under this heading, together with other matter, has now been printed in booklet form.

The price will be sixpence per copy, seven pence if posted, from New Times Limited, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.