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# THE NEW TIMES

Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,

In God's name, let us speak while there is time!

Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,

Silence is crime.

—Whittier (1807-1892)

Vol. 6. No. 36. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, SEPT. 6, 1940.

## Should We "Leave It To Labor"?

### MORE PLATITUDES FROM MENZIES

### Mr. Curtin's Policy Speech Reviewed

While many people have expressed unreserved enthusiasm for the Labor Party's financial policy for the coming elections, we can only accept it with many reservations. It represents a big advance in thought by the Labor Party; but we also recall similar promises, which were made by the New Zealand Labour Party before it was first elected to office.

Monetary reformers in the sister Dominion were delighted with the announced policy of the Labour Party, they worked to help that Party into office—and then confidently sat back and waited for the expected results. They are still waiting. And while they have been waiting, the Labour Party has proceeded to "Sovietise" the country, with a drastic increase in bureaucracy and regimentation. Debt and taxation have also been increased. Political democracy has been undermined.

We must not make this fatal mistake in Australia. We have been slowly but surely building a sound basis for real political and economic democracy in this country over the past few years. Are we to throw this all over in a few weeks and pin our faith to a political Party? We know that Finance is not very concerned about any of the centralised Party groups. But, it IS worried about the decentralised political pressure on a non-Party basis, which allows the electors to choose or reject one thing at a time. Surely we are not going to ignore the lessons of the past.

Here in Victoria we have a Victorian Country Party, which has also passed some very fine resolutions about monetary reform at its conferences, but has anyone heard of the head of that Party, Mr. Dunstan, ever challenging financial domination of the State Governments at the Loan Council meetings? No.

Let us state again that we do not believe that any Party can introduce political arid economic democracy; in fact, the Party system of government is the very antithesis of real democracy. If the monopoly of credit is to be broken the electors must obtain control of individual members of Parliament, no matter what label the members may be wearing.

Political democracy must precede economic democracy, and we might take this opportunity of mentioning that, when the Emergency Bill was recently brought down in the House by Mr. Menzies—Industrial Conscription with a vengeance—only nine Labor members in the House of Representatives voted against it. Mr. Curtin was not one of these.

#### WHO SHOULD FRAME POLICY?

Mr. Curtin's policy speech was full of the usual political platitudes, while his references to the need for planning industry conjured up visions of bureaucratic socialism in full operation. Many who have followed his recent addresses in the House have been very perturbed about his continual references to socialism. The financiers' men are introducing

that sort of thing fast enough without Mr. Curtin lending a hand. It seems to be merely a suggestion to shift power from one centralised group to another centralised group. We desire the electors to have supreme power. After dealing with the proposed planning of everything, Mr. Curtin went on to say that, although there would be much criticism of this policy, it had been declared by the Commonwealth Labor Conference. Who is the Australian Labor Conference to

(Continued on page 3.)

### THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON BANKING-A SHORT HISTORY

"Goaded by the advocates of the Douglas credit system, Mr. Lyons promised during the election campaign that the Ministry would consider instituting an inquiry into the currency system of the Commonwealth if a majority of the Parliament desired an inquiry. . . . In the far North of Queensland, Mr. Hunter read what Mr. Lyons promised in Tasmania. Accordingly, Mr. Hunter gave notice of a private members' motion affirming the desirability of such an inquiry.

"Within two weeks Mr. Hunter found himself promoted from the corner benches to the Ministry."—"Argus," December 8, 1934.

Mr. Hunter was strangely absent from the House when his motion was to be moved, with the result that it lapsed. Now, would there be any connection between Mr. Hunter's strange absence and his sudden promotion to the Ministry? Many months went by before Mr. J. McEwan, member for Indi, was one of those responsible for having the inquiry started. Mr. McEwan also suddenly found himself in the Ministry. (He seems to have lost quite a lot of his interest in financial reform since that time, although the re-

### Demands More Sacrifice

At the Camberwell Town Hall last Monday evening, Mr. Menzies outlined his Government's policy. Tremendous interest was evinced in the meeting, as evidenced by the record attendance; although it was obvious that not all those present were in accord with what Mr. Menzies said. His address was, as usual, a mixture of half-truths and platitudes.

He did not bring forward any arguments with which we have not dealt in these columns in the past. The most interesting aspect of his address was the fact that he was impelled to refer to such matters as financing the war through the Commonwealth Bank, petrol rationing, the problems of the wheat farmers and other important matters.

Mr. Menzies' attitude towards the fundamental problem confronting the nation — financial policy—was summed up in the statement that he did not come before the people with any half-baked financial or economic theories. He said that the Government had set out to make the greatest war effort of which Australia was capable, whatever the financial cost of that effort might be. Of course, the only real cost is that of raw materials, man power and food-stuffs used. Finance should only be a mechanism for utilising these things; in itself it can have no cost except that of administration. The following statement from the address clearly indicates that the growing demand for the use of the nation's credit to finance the war

has Mr. Menzies very worried. "It meant the use of the public and private credit resources of the country to the utmost; much Government control; no profiteering; the forgetting of private interests." This was a clever sop without any foundation of evidence that Mr. Menzies really means what he said. For example, although he spoke about private interests, he did not mention the tremendous rake-off by the private banks, who are still drawing interest on the debt they created against the Australian people during the last war. Apparently Mr. Menzies is prepared to allow these private interests to utilise the public credit in their own interests, and, as their own property.

#### MORE SACRIFICE

As usual, Mr. Menzies introduced the old, old cry of "more sacrifice." This, of course, was mainly in the financial sense. He spoke of higher taxation, and, although Mr. Menzies, with his legal training, claims to be logical, it was rather contradictory of him to then go on and tell us how the standard of living was being increased. If taxation is to be increased without a greater increase of purchasing power, it inevitably means a lowering of the standard of living, with a lowering of public morale. One of the most staggering statements made by Mr. Menzies in connection with this matter was, that he doubted if the people fully realised that in some cases their income had been actually increased beyond the pre-war level. Perhaps Mr. Menzies has not yet heard of the chaotic conditions in the wheat belts, where many farmers, with their families, are suffering untold hardship because he and his Government have refused to pay them a decent price for their wheat. Perhaps he has not heard of the apple and pear growers who are in a similar plight, and for similar reasons. His statement that "The financial arrangements made for the agricultural industries demonstrated the value of the Australian banking system, and showed the Commonwealth Bank in its true light as the people's bank," would almost suggest that he has been carefully reading the "New Times" from week to week.

However, this was another of the (Continued on page 8.)

cent successful meetings in his electorate have apparently forced him to modify his position a little. In a recent letter to one of his electors he says, "I am prepared to go part of the way."

" . . . and great care has been taken to select appropriate persons to conduct the inquiry."—Mr. Lyons ("Hansard," November 23, 1935.)

However, even a hand-picked Commission was forced to admit some facts—e.g., that the Federal Parliament should control monetary policy, and, that the Commonwealth Bank, as the Central Bank in this country, should regulate the credit requirements of the nation. Furthermore, it was admitted that money can be issued free of any charge.

It cost the Australian taxpayers £22,000 to be told these simple fundamentals about the monetary system. Public agitation resulted in many Members first denying what the Report said, and later, in a withdrawal of the Report from circulation.

(Electors might ask all election candidates whether they will press for the continued public circulation of the Report.)

## FINANCIAL INTERVIEW

By "THE WALRUS."

**The only excuse I can offer for the following is that my friend is modern. He is a journalist and, therefore, able to give verisimilitude to a story which on cruder lips might appear to lack the conviction of sober fact. I suggested this tactfully.**

He agreed airily.  
"Oh, that! Yes, well, it is a bit out of character, I admit. You see, in the interviewing business it is as impolite to question the interviewee on his particular line as it is to talk 'shop' over the liqueur brandy. That's why you generally see a king playing 'bears' in your illustrated paper, or a Hollywood star being kind to dumb animals, or a professional pugilist presenting the cup for an egg-and-spoon race. That's news value. Everybody doing something else, if you get the idea. Nobody wants to hear Einstein on Relativity; you can find out all about that in the British Museum or wherever it is. What everybody's bursting to hear is Einstein's reaction to cosmetics, or some other footling thing of general interest. Same with politicians. Everybody knows 'em so well that it's quite a relief to see 'em kick off at a football match. So what you say about verisimilitude and all that is right on the nail. Fancy sending me to interview a financier on the subject of finance. I question the decency of the proceeding."

That wasn't quite what I meant. But this is what he told me:

\* \* \*  
I bowled into my appointment quite confidently, expecting to see a thin, dark, mysterious person with a profile like a pound sterling sign sporting a morning coat, a black cloak as big as a shroud, and a soft, black felt hat a couple of sizes too big. But this bloke could have sold ice-cream on the beach for all the mystery there was about him. The only thing that didn't come as a surprise was his desire to remain anonymous.

I was a bit stuck for a start. To tell you the truth, I didn't know the line of demarcation between high and low finance. To me it all seems a bit high. . . . Well, there I was, wondering how to strike a sympathetic chord—same as you might with a horsey cove by wondering out loud whether Arthritis is worth a pony or a shirt each way, or something like that, but I couldn't think of any-

thing bright and breezy about the conservation of exchange or bi-metallism or what shall we do to preserve the equilibrium of the candelabra or what not, so I just blurted out that my paper would be honoured if he would favour me with his views on modern finance, and whether it had anything to do with anything at all, as our politicians were so fond of saying.

"What do they say?"  
That gave me a shock. I had begun to think it couldn't speak.

"Oh, er, they say that money hasn't anything to do with social problems . . . the unemployed, for instance. I gather the unemployed are so because they don't like work."

"They're crazy!"  
"Eh? Oh, I daresay some of them are. Enough to make 'em go crazy, I sh'd think."

"I mean the politicians."  
That took me in the midriff, I can tell you. I mean, I wasn't prepared for such a startling revelation of humanity.

"And what about the economists?" I asked, somewhat weakly.

"What do you mean by 'economists'?"

"I mean the blokes who tell you that nobody creates money—the banks wouldn't descend to it, and the Governments wouldn't dare—beyond the bit we carry about in our trousers' pockets, that is: the blokes who tell you that every tit-bit that makes the worms sit up isn't necessarily food: the blokes who try to kid you to go hunting outside the realms of eats in search of the elusive vitamin. I mean the johnnies who think you can win a war by going in for a permanent sort of Lent, and who think you can get the most out of peace by destroying things that somebody wants; who suddenly demand the forced sale of the baronial halls because the supply of sevens has conked out, or something equally bamboozling for ordinary jossers. In short, dash it, I mean economists. You simply must have heard of them."

"Stuffy asses!"  
(Gosh! He doesn't like them

either. Where do we go from here?)

"Are you sure you wouldn't like to make a statement?" I suggested. I don't often make the suggestion because I usually write the interviews myself, but I was pretty flummoxed, I can tell you. I was expecting all the usual boloney, and here he was, as sane as a coroner, though not as gay. "May I take it, for instance, that you don't believe in 'sane finance'?"

"You may not."

"Sorry!" I swallowed hard, but it served me right. I should have known it was too good to be true.

"I'll put it another way. Would you say that it is better for a private monopoly to create and control the money used by a nation, to claim such money as its exclusive property, than for a Government body to perform that vital function?"

You know, I always ask that one. It's a real winner, because a "yes" or "no" must be the answer. And no one ever dares to say "no." I waited calmly, though inwardly chortling. But this bird didn't even bother to hop along the perch to get a better squint.

"Certainly!" he announced, as decisively and calmly as a vegetarian who has been asked if he would like a second helping of synthetic soya steak. From that

point the initiative passed out of my hands, though I tried yet another question.

"Would I be trespassing too much on your time by asking why you hold this amazing view?"

"I am not accustomed to give my reasons, but in my opinion it is good to keep the people in a state of striving and conflict, with resulting class distinctions. This makes government easy, because the foolish, who are very numerous, may, by acquiring money, achieve a status which makes them an invaluable defence of existing conditions. Moreover, the policy of government and the channels of applied science may be unobtrusively controlled, whereas, without this control, which keeps hands busy and eyes downwards, it is questionable whether life would have any meaning for those who like to be in control. . . ."

My politeness could stand no more.

"I suppose," I interjected, "that crime, insanity and prostitution. . . ." A bell rang.

My interviewee excused himself and picked up the telephone receiver. He replaced it and faced me gravely.

"Mr. X will see you now."

My head swam.

"Do you mean to say you aren't Mr. X?"

He seemed surprised and a trifle hurt.

"I am his private gentleman."

## SKILLED LABOR, THE WAR EFFORT AND "BIG BUSINESS"

**In the House of Representatives on August 20, Mr. Rosevear, referring to National Security (Employment) Regulations, said:**

" . . . Paragraph 1 of regulation 2 provides that if it appears to the Minister that the efficient prosecution of the war is likely to be prejudiced by reason of a shortage of persons skilled in any particular trade, he may take action to train a sufficient number of persons in that trade. This, of course, means the dilution of skilled trades. Paragraph 2 empowers the Minister to destroy any award, determination or agreement in order to carry out his purpose. I submit that the onus of proof that there is a scarcity of skilled labour in any industry rests on the Government. After viewing the munitions works and annexes we are convinced that the skilled men in those works are not being used to the fullest advantage. This was particularly noticeable when we visited the Chullora workshops and annexe. Fifty men were engaged inside the munitions annexe at the Chullora shops and of the thirty outside the annexe who were employed in British munitions factories during the last war, not one is engaged in munitions work today, despite the fact that their services have been offered to the Government by the New South Wales Railways Commissioner. Similar offers by State workshops and by private manufacturers have been rejected. I have no doubt that such a state of affairs exists in many other places. Apparently it does not suit the Government to make use of available skilled labour, though for what reason I have never been informed."

Mr. Gregory. —"What would be the Government's object in refusing to employ these men?"

Mr. Rosevear. —"I do not think the Government is aware of the position. It is satisfied to obey the dictates of the representatives of big business in this connection. For all we know, it might suit Mr. Essington Lewis's purpose to keep these factories out of the munitions pool, and I presume that it is his guidance that the Government is following. Regulation 2 provides that if it appears to the Minister

that there is a scarcity of labour he may take action to correct the position. I question very much whether the Minister, offhand, could even name half a dozen factories engaged in the manufacture of munitions, or whether he could tell the House, from his personal knowledge, anything about the availability of skilled labour in certain industries. Although the regulation provides that the Minister may do certain things, he has to rely for advice on his advisers, in this case the State munitions boards or Mr. Essington Lewis. Who after all, is Mr. Essington Lewis?"

Mr. Nairn. —"He is the best man in Australia for the job."

Mr. Rosevear. —"That may be so, but we must also remember that he is a representative of the steel combine which is the biggest "munitioneer" in Australia. He is certainly no good friend of the workers engaged in the steel industry. Who are the members of the New South Wales Munitions Board. The board comprises Sir Phillip Goldfinch, managing director of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited; Mr. Hartigan, Commissioner of Railways for New South Wales, and Mr. Kneeshaw, a representative of the cement combine, who was at one time, and may still be as far as I am aware, a member of the United Australian party consultative council of New South Wales. Thus, this fine democratic organisation is largely composed of those who rank in the Commonwealth as the greatest exploiters of the workers. Trade union officials say of their companies that they always attempt to evade awards of the Arbitration Courts by pleading that the industries they represent should not be covered by the awards. These are the men upon whose advice the Minister will make his decisions."

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## Election Howlers (No. 1)

"VOTE FOR MENZIES—AND WIN THE WAR."

## SHOULD WE "LEAVE IT TO LABOUR"?

(Continued from page 1.)

draw up a detailed policy for the Australian electors; a policy which took this centralised group weeks of careful thought to prepare? As usual, it covers everything, from building ships to preventing bush fires. The electors are expected to pass an opinion on all sorts of technical questions; such as, whether we shall use aeroplanes or ships to defend the country. It is sheer nonsense to expect the electors to pass competent opinions on any of these things. The electors should frame their own policy, a policy of certain specific results, which they can recognise when they obtain it. The one major result, which the people of this country desire, is a successful conclusion to the present conflict without the loss of democracy in the process. They want a maximum war effort without pawning the nation to private finance. Having heard what results the electors want, it is the job of the Members of Parliament to call in competent experts, and hold them responsible for getting these results. For example, the military authorities are the obvious experts on the best methods of defending the country. If they aren't, then it is rather a hopeless position to ask the ordinary citizen to decide. If finance prevents the maximum effort by the military machine, it is the members' responsibility to tell financial experts that all financial obstacles must be swept aside. The people must frame policy, and Members of Parliament must represent that policy. All this argument about how we are going to defend the country is so much nonsense, and completely clouds the real issue of the electors obtaining control of financial policy.

### PLANNED INDUSTRY?

In the course of his speech, Mr. Curtin said "manufacturers and business men must submit to their output, and the nature of that output, being so directed that there would be a minimum of waste and a maximum of efficiency and order." This implies that private industry and business has failed, and that the Government must take a hand. This would mean more red tape and bureaucracy, of which we have already had far too much. If the Government will only tell the manufacturer what they desire, and make sure that financial policy will allow what is physically possible to be made financially possible, private enterprise can organise itself. There are far too many people wanting to plan other people's lives and work; second-rate experts dictating to first-rate experts. Financial policy is the crux of every other problem before the nation. Why doesn't the Labor Party make this one point clear to the people, instead of introducing all these conflicting and useless side issues? No, these planners must be telling the people what to do. Most of them suffer from the same mania as the bankers. "They know what is 'best' for the people. 'Power always corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.'" How Mr. Curtin can reconcile his plea for more individualism with his statement that he would have to have greater power is beyond us.

### FINANCIAL POLICY

Although Mr. Curtin dealt with the general question of finance to a very encouraging manner, in some respects it appears that Labor's policy is still far from satisfactory. Mr. Curtin knows better; but this political Party racket is such, that prospective Prime Ministers must always keep their eyes on Party-controlled votes. We are thoroughly in ac-

cord with Mr. Curtin's statement that the Government must have complete control of credit policy. However, neither in Mr. Curtin's speech, nor in the detailed financial policy of the Party, which we have read carefully, is there a clear understanding that the only cost of issuing money should be the mere cost of administration, without any debt.

On the question of taxation, we can only say that Mr. Curtin's views are alarming. If he knows enough about the money question—and we know that he does—he should have courageously told us that all taxation is a swindle and a robbery (at least, until war-effort, public works and civilian consumption together exceed the limit of productive capacity). Instead of this, he joins with the Communists—and we believe that the Lang Labor Group are substantially correct in their allegations of Communist influence in the Australian Labor Party—and talks about "soaking the rich." He blithely talks about the Labor Party reviewing the incidence of taxation so that taxes would conform to the principle of the individual's ability to pay. What hypocrisy, when just previously, he spoke about national control of credit for the nation's effort. If the Labor Party is going to finance the nation's effort with the national credit, why resort to any taxation? It appears to us that Mr. Curtin is trying to pander to the monetary reformers and "left-wing" groups at the same time. If the implementing of real democracy depends upon these tactics, then the position is very nearly hopeless. Fortunately, the electors are not forced to vote as Party machines tell them. They can still tell prospective candidates what they want.

### MR. WILSON AND THE LABOR PARTY

If the Labor Party is genuine about this question of monetary reform, we would like to know why a Labor candidate is to contest the Wimmera electorate against Mr. Wilson, the sitting member. Mr. Wilson has a clear understanding of the fundamental problem confronting the nation, and has the courage and ability to speak out. He believes that he is there to express the will of his electors, and has never failed to contact his electors on every possible occasion. Perhaps that is why the Labor machine does not like him. It is deplorable that, as we read in the press, supporters of the Labor Party in the Wimmera are forced to do what the central group dictates. Many Labor supporters in this electorate have stated that Mr. Wilson has done everything that could be expected, and that they could not conscientiously enter into a campaign against him. Apparently, the Labor machine is more interested in having the Labor Party in control of our national affairs than getting results, whether by Labor Members or not. We believe that the Wimmera incident has clearly shown where the Labor Party, in this State at least, stands, and, we sincerely hope that the electors of Wimmera give the Labor machine a very definite indication of their hostility to such deplorable tactics. It might teach some of the "planners" and centralisers a lesson.

### THE JOB BEFORE US

Our job is clear. We must carry on with the work of mobilising public opinion on a non-party basis, until the ELECTORS in every electorate control their Member of Parliament, irrespective of his

affiliations. All prospective candidates at this election must be asked where they stand. Only those candidates who give a definite undertaking to do as the electors demand should be supported. Those who refuse should be exposed. This line of action will clearly indicate whether Labor candidates are sincere or not. We are only concerned with them as individuals—not as members of the Labor Party. Let us make it clear that we have the greatest respect and admiration for many individuals in the Labor Party. But, don't be confused or led away by dazzling promises, promises carefully made to catch votes. Press on with organising public

opinion. It may seem a long road ahead. It may seem endless at times; the going may become tiring and the mirage of party politics a great temptation. But remember this: the great advances in the onward march of the British people were not the result of Party action. Even the bringing into being of the Commonwealth Bank was the result of the activities of an individual, Mr. King O'Malley. He says his greatest opponents at that time were the Labor leaders. We advocate the longer-sighted but sound policy for ultimate victory, because WE CAN'T AFFORD TO MAKE THE MISTAKE MADE IN NEW ZEALAND.

### "SECRET TAXATION"

"A more glaring example of using a national service for purposes of taxation would be hard to find than is seen in the case of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The announcement by the Postmaster-General of a reduction of the Commission's share of the licence fee from 12/- to 10/- illustrates this process more flagrantly than usual. Half the reduction is to be passed on to the public, the Treasury taking the other half, thereby yielding £60,000 more to the Government out of radio licences.

"During the six years from 1933 to 1939 the P.M.G.'s Department made a net profit of £681,800, after paying expenses of the technical equipment of radio services. Out of this sum £100,000 has been paid away as interest on debt incurred by other departments, leaving a final profit of £581,000 taken by the Federal Government as consolidated revenue. Thus the public of Australia has been taxed to the tune of £100,000 a year under the guise of providing a national service.

"It is obvious that any reduction of wireless licence fees should come from the P.M.G.'s Department share of such fees, which show yearly a large surplus of unexpended money. Instead of doing that Mr. Thorby proposes to tax the public still further by taking another £60,000 a year at the expense of the Commission. Most of the capital cities need

new studios, which can only be built out of reserves the Commission can set aside each year. The reduction now proposed is a sop to the public by taking a shilling off the fee while the Government takes another shilling for itself. It is time this method of secret taxation was abolished and an honest system introduced."  
—Hobart "Mercury," sub-leader, August 23.

### Anti-Conscription Petition in U.S.A.

The following petition is being circulated in the United States by the Liberty Union (organised by David W. Kassens, of Idaho):

"Whereas: It is generally conceded that volunteers make the best soldiers; and

"Whereas: The conscription of individuals for war is contrary to the principles of democracy as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, which proclaims that life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are inalienable rights; and

"Whereas: The conscription of individuals is unconstitutional, because the thirteenth amendment clearly states that "involuntary servitude shall not exist within the United States; therefore

"Be It Resolved, that all recruits should be volunteers with compensation sufficient to induce the required number to enlist.

We, whose signatures are herewith attached, unite to maintain the civil right expressed in this resolution."

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## Those Who Have Fallen

The British Commonwealth of Nations has been at war for twelve months; the conflict shows every indication of being a long and bitter struggle. The fate of British culture and British institutions depends upon action along correct lines. Millions of our race gave their lives in the last war for certain ideals, which were sabotaged by the financiers when the conflict finished.

An alien force has been progressively undermining British ideals. If most of the people who are so busy waving flags and urging everyone to make sacrifices—except, of course, those operating the financial system—were to really appreciate the difference between British ideals and the ideas of "British" financiers, we would quickly see much more unity of purpose than we have at present.

The great British poet, "Bobbie" Burns, might be appropriately quoted on this point:

"Be Britain still to Britain true,  
Among ourselves united;  
For never but by British hands  
Maun British wrongs be righted."

To us, the thousands of lives being lost in the present struggle mean something more than mere "losses" in the military-statistical sense. We regard them as having been individual, living human beings, and we say, with that great democrat, Abraham Lincoln, who was assassinated by an agent of the Money Power:

"That from these honoured dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Let us see that the torch of real liberty is carried on undimmed; not extinguished by a bunch of international crooks called financiers. This is the only brand of patriotism we understand.

## ELECTION CANDIDATES WHO'S WHO?

### For Party or for People?

**On Saturday, September 21, the people of Australia will appoint a Government to administer a policy in the framing of which they have played no part. This is the farcical side, but the other side to contemplate—the side in which reposes the hope for humanity—is that THE MACHINERY EXISTS WHEREBY THE PEOPLE CAN GOVERN THEMSELVES.**

The self-same machinery that imposes on them a policy of dubious inspiration, is available to bring in a policy THEY THEMSELVES DESIRE. The key to government of the people, by the people, and for the people, LIES IN THE HANDS OF ELECTORS.

It is to enable the people to use the machinery of democracy for the betterment of the nation, and not, as at present, for sectional benefits (which is the aim of the Party system of government), that the United Electors of Australia came into being. Its purpose is to provide the individual—the unit of a nation—with the means of expressing his or her desire on a matter that is vital and intimate to him or herself—one's personal economic condition. This being every individual's primary material concern, it logically follows that it is the primary material concern of a people. It is a policy framed on this basis that

the U.E.A. is assisting the people—through true representatives, irrespective of Party considerations—to place before Parliament.

#### CANDIDATES ASKED

In accordance with the objective of the U.E.A., it is necessary to ascertain the attitude of candidates on the important point: "Will you accept instructions from the majority of your electors if those instructions are made manifest to you as a Member of Parliament?" Therefore, every candidate for the Senate and the House of Representatives in Victoria has had the following UNDERTAKING posted

(Continued on page 7.)

## WHAT IS JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY?

The following brief answer to the above question is that given by the "Far Eastern Trade Bulletin" (August, 1940), which is published by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Sydney.

Japan's foreign policy, as distinct from that prognosticated by numerous foreign correspondents and "observers," many of whom have never set foot on Japanese soil, is a clear-cut one.

It is pro-Japanese.

There are two angles to Japan's policy. The one consists of Imperial defence, and the other commercial and industrial expansion.

To defend her Empire, Japan follows the same policy as does Britain in defence of her Empire. She aims at creating an army, navy and air force sufficiently strong for her protection.

Japan's commercial and industrial policy is similar to England's, though fraught with far greater difficulties. Japan seeks to increase her trade with the world. Being denied vast quantities of raw materials—seeing that England and other nations have vested interests in territories protected by high tariff walls—Japan seeks such materials in the great neighbouring country—China—where tariffs are uniform to the whole world. She wishes equal opportunity with Britain, the United States and other Powers, to purchase raw materials in China, for the purpose of turn-

ing into manufactured goods, for sale to China and abroad.

As Japan is denied the privilege afforded the British Empire and some other countries, of finding an outlet for her surplus population in four continents and a part of the fifth, she is compelled to become, to a certain extent, what England was when Napoleon referred to her as "a nation of shopkeepers." Unfortunately, however, Japan's population, which is considerably greater than England's, will have increased to such an extent in the next decade or so that there will be no room to house her teeming millions in her island home.

The problem is an urgent one, and it, as well as other questions such as access to raw materials and markets for manufactured goods, is likely to be brought nearer solution when the present European conflict has ceased.

Whatever the outcome of the war, the economic situation is likely to be one of the paramount issues, Japan's purpose will then be to secure for herself—as other nations will attempt to secure for themselves—the maximum of the good things of this world which are necessary for her existence as an Empire.

## QUESTIONS TO ASK CANDIDATES

- (1) Does the candidate recognise that Members of Parliament are the paid servants of the people, and should represent the wishes of their electors, irrespective of Members' own personal opinions?
- (2) If elected, will the candidate undertake to do what a majority of his electors may request, even if it conflicts with the views of his Party?
- (3) Does the candidate believe that the real cost of war is the materials and man power expended?
- (4) If so, does he not agree that the real cost of a war is paid for as it is fought?
- (5) Is it not true that our financial system should be only a mechanism for utilising our manpower and materials?
- (6) As the people make all the necessary real sacrifices, and pay the real cost of winning the war, during the war, why should they afterwards be called upon to pay a recurring interest bill on a financial debt to private banks?
- (7) Are you in favour of the financial system being made to reflect the real facts in order that the people will not be burdened with a perpetual financial debt and needless taxation?
- (8) Are you in favour of the Commonwealth Bank being used to finance the war effort without adding to debt or taxation?
- (9) In view of the fact that many Australians have responded magnificently with interest-free loans of money they had to earn, why can't the private banks do likewise with money they create at practically no cost?
- (10) If you are not in favour of this, you therefore think that it is right and proper that we should pay heavy, recurring charges for services only rendered once? For example, you believe it quite sensible that the British taxpayers should be still paying interest on the Battle of Waterloo?
- (11) Are you in favour of petrol rationing, which will throw thousands out of employment, with resulting chaos economic collapse, and lowering of public morale?
- (12) If you are in favour of petrol rationing, will you tell us if there is any shortage of external and internal supplies?
- (13) Is it not a fact that a 30 per cent, reduction of private and commercial petrol consumption has already taken place—due to increased retail price and voluntary restriction?

## UNITED DEMOCRATS' REPORT

From Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

With the Federal elections looming ahead there are now two major topics of interest. To United Democrats we would put forward a humble third—the annual meeting to be held at Headquarters on Saturday, September 7, at 2 p.m. We would ask them to forego for once the election meeting or the broadcast policy speech, and rally to the support of their own organisation. Its conduct is their affair and each member has a democratic responsibility towards it. All supporters will be welcome, though only financial members are entitled to vote. Fees may still be paid at the office. Business will be the presentation of reports and the election of officers, and the formulation of a policy for the coming year. At 5.30 there will be an interval for tea, supplied by courtesy of the women's division.

## Watch "The Watchman!"

Mr. E. A. Mann ("The Watchman") is opening his campaign in The Boomerang Theatre, Dandenong, TONIGHT, Friday, September 6, at 9 p.m. ROLL UP

## VOTES SHOULD GET RESULTS

### WHY THEY DON'T AND HOW THEY CAN

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

(Based on a talk broadcast from 7HO, Hobart, and 7LA, Launceston, on Sunday, September 1, at 8.15 p.m.)

**Every three years we have the privilege of electing the men who are to represent us in the Federal Parliament. These representatives are paid by us to carry out our wishes in Parliament. If we find that our wishes have not been carried out, then we have the power to sack our particular representative and elect a new man. That is the theory of Democratic Government; the practice, of course, is quite different to that.**

Some people think that a representative in Parliament should be a skilled lawyer or a skilled economist or a military expert; but if a representative were to be expert in every problem that came before him, he would require to be expert in every branch of human activity. Obviously, no man can be expert in more than one or two sections of human activity, and, therefore, our ideas of what constitutes a capable representative will require to be very severely overhauled.

The actual administration of a country is carried on by experts; that is, by civil servants, manufacturers and other active members of the various trades and professions. Our representatives are there, not to tell experts how to do their jobs, but to convey the wishes of the people to those experts. If the people want a new sewerage system somewhere, then it becomes the duty of the representatives to pass on the instructions to the appropriate experts. Our representatives are not required to draw out plans for the sewerage system; that is not their job. The experts employed are not required to tell us if we deserve to have a better sewerage system; that is not their job. Their job is to do as they are told in the most efficient manner, and if they cannot do it, to make room for those who can.

#### JUDGE BY RESULTS

Only by results can the people judge whether they are getting what they want, or not.

Judging by results, the people of this country are not getting what they want—not by a very long way. And as a democratic country is one where the people get the results they want, we can say very definitely that there is not really democratic government in this country. In Australia there exists all the essential machinery for making our representatives in Parliament give us the results we want. That we do not get them is not the fault of the machinery of Parliament, but of ourselves, who refuse to use that machinery properly.

It must be perfectly obvious to the least observant that a great deal of work goes on in Parliament that brings no advantage to ourselves, the electors of this country. Every year, miles of paper flow through Parliament, and each year hundreds of new laws and regulations are imposed upon us by our paid servants; and none of these laws adds anything to our freedom, prosperity, or our happiness. In fact, we find that in times of depression our taxes are increased without permission; strangely enough, they are also increased in times of prosperity. In times of peace or in times of war an excuse is always found to increase taxation, but never is our permission asked. If voters have no say in the amount of taxation, which they have to pay, then in what do they have a say?

#### PARLIAMENT "IN REVERSE"

In some mysterious way the whole purpose of Parliamentary

Government has been deflected from its original purpose, and instead of being a means of getting those things done which the vast majority of the people want done, it has been turned into a powerful instrument for preventing the people getting what they want.

To be precise, our Parliament has been turned into a vast milking machine, a vast tax-collecting machine, with a few social services flung in to keep the people quiet. Even our great social services, such as the Post Office and the Broadcasting Commission and the Commonwealth Bank, have been turned into huge taxing machines.

Most of the men who sit in Canberra today are merely dummies who sign blank cheques for a Government which does not sit in Canberra—an unseen Government which controls the great monopolies: the banks and the newspapers. These are the people who govern this country. Most people know this.

#### PARTY POLITICS

As soon as a move is made to tackle a vital question, it is very skilfully turned into a Party question, and any member who doesn't vote with his Party commits political suicide. Thus, by flinging one Party against another, members of Parliament are prevented from doing anything useful for the people who elected them to Parliament. By means of the Party Whip and of Party Loyalty, the people of this country have had their vote rendered useless. Any man who knows anything about Party Politics will tell you how absolutely useless it is trying to do anything useful against the Party Machine.

The Party Machine moves as the bosses want it to move. If the great financial houses want something done, it is done—whether by the Labor Party or the U.A.P. doesn't matter, it is done. If you study every big move made by the leaders of the two Parties and the leaders of the financial houses, you will always find them moving in the same direction—more taxes, more regimentation, more restrictive laws, more debt. Confiscation of wages and property can be done in two ways: by military dictatorship or by taxation. Taxation is much more effective, and produces bigger dividends.

We can say, therefore, that although the followers of the Labor Party or the followers of the U.A.P. are perfectly sincere in their ideas and convictions, and stand for many high ideals, the bosses have one policy in common—namely, the "sovietisation" of this country.

#### "SOVIETISATION"

The first step in "sovietisation" of the people is to prevent any person acquiring economic independence except with the permission of the little clique in control of the country. This is done in three ways:

First, by means of taxation: people gradually have their property and savings confiscated.

Secondly, no business is allowed to prosper without permission of the credit monopoly; and, if need

be, all credits are withdrawn unless the management toes the line.

And thirdly, administrative positions in national affairs are generally closed to men of character and independent outlook.

Thus the entire population, with a few fast-disappearing exceptions, are entirely dependent for their existence on a small body of men who control the country. That is the position we have arrived at. If you do not believe that is the position, how can you explain why, in this country, millions of men and women are quite incapable of getting those things done they are very anxious to have done; and are quite unable to protect themselves against the multiplicity of laws passed by their Government? How can you explain the silence of so many capable men who, as you may know privately, are indignant at the present state of affairs?

I have given you the reason for it, and I did not get that reason from a textbook; I got it from my own experience. I compared my experience with that of other men who have tried, as I have tried, to tell the people the truth, and I know what the cost it—and I know how few are able to pay that cost. And I know where the attack is coming from.

That is why I warn you not to put your faith in Political Parties. They are very convenient instruments for those with a desire for power. A Party is like a club; it can be swung by one man. And the people who are swung have as little say in its destination as a wooden club. The real strength of the parties is hidden by compulsory voting; if there were not compulsory voting it is probable half the voters would not go to the poll. Why should they?

But the vote is one of the most powerful privileges you have—if it were properly used.

Your first job is to make sure that the candidate you elect gives a written guarantee that he will carry out the wishes of the majority of the people in your district as soon as these wishes are made known to him. (If these wishes are not made known, then you cannot criticise your Member of Parliament. If your member refuses to carry out these wishes, when made known, then, of course, everybody knows what to do with him.) In this way each number will be controlled from his own district, and he can only defy his own electors at the expense of his seat in Parliament—so, he will do as he is told.

### Mystery Man Found

"When the President said he had made no offers to Alfred M. Landon and Frank Knox to join a Coalition Government, he doubtless spoke the truth. He made no offers—directly. But in Washington it is well known that he had a go-between to handle his offer. One New York paper—the "Herald Tribune"—mentioned his name, Frank B. Altschul, and described him as a brother-in-law of Governor Herbert H. Lehman.

"Mr. Altschul is much more than that. He is the American head of Lazard Freres, the great international banking concern, with its main centres in London and Paris. Lazard played an important role—perhaps the most important—in the Chamberlain-Daladier appeasement policy before the war. Lazard was reported to have had large sums of money tied up in Germany, and to have sought to release them through the policy of appeasement. M. Bonnet, outstanding exponent of appeasement in France, was generally regarded as "l'home de paille de Lazard."

"Although Lazard in Paris and London was appeasement, Lazard in the U.S. was strongly anti-appeasement. Mr. Altschul and his American associates are for standing up to Hitler—presumably to the point of American inter-

vention. His participation in the Roosevelt-Landon affair may be traced to concern about Lazard funds in Paris and London. If international bankers do not make war, they certainly have an interest in its outcome not shared by their fellow-citizens. Mr. Altschul will doubtless be heard of again."

—"Uncensored." June 1, 1940.

### Scared Banker Talks

Allan Sproul, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, is scared of the financial revolution, the impending crisis facing the entire financial world. Speaking before the New York State Bankers' Association at Syracuse, in June, Sproul said that "revolutionary forces are abroad in the world," and that banking institutions are "coming to a day of testing."

"I do not think," he added, "the banking system can meet the requirements of that test today, but will be able to meet them if it is aroused to requirements of this critical time."

Sproul said the national banking system is not in a position to compete with totalitarian finance. Wonder why?

—"Money," New York.

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#### PUBLIC MEETINGS:

TO-NIGHT, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, TYABB HALL, TYABB, 8 p.m.  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, MAIN STREET, CHELSEA, 8 p.m. SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 8, RECREATION GROUND MORDIALLOC, 3.30. TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 10, RIGHTEOUS GOVERNMENT MOVEMENT,  
CHELSEA, 8 p.m.  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, LOCH MALL, LOCH, 8 p.m. FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 13, MECHANICS' HALL, FRANKSTON, 8 p.m. Speaker:  
MR. A. J. AMESS, and Others

HEIDELBERG TOWN HALL, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, MAYOR CHAIRMAN.  
RINGWOOD TOWN HALL, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, MAYOR CHAIRMAN.  
BOX HILL, TOWN HALL, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, MAYOR CHAIRMAN.  
Speaker: CR. D. C. McCALLUM, J.P.

#### YOUR CANDIDATES FOR FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS:

##### SITTING MEMBERS:

MARIBYRNONG: A. S. DRAKEFORD. WIMMERA: A. T. WILSON  
CORIO: J. DEDMAN. WANNON: T. H. SCHOLFIELD.

##### MOTORISTS' CANDIDATES:

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FLINDERS: A. J. AMESS, Ind. RIVERINA: JOHN HOGAN, Ind.  
HENTY: S. J. THOMAS, Ind. INDI: CR. T. NOLAN, C.P.  
MELBOURNE: J. S. SMITH, Ind. GIPPSLAND: G. BOWDEN, C.P.  
DEAKIN: CR. D. McCALLUM, J.P., Ind. BALACLAVA: C. W. SANDFORD, Lob.  
SENATE: MR C. C. PEACE.

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# Will Democracy Survive?

By ERIC D. BUTLER

(Continued from Last Issue.)

**We have seen the futility of the electors concerning themselves with the technical administration of our economic system. When the investigation along these lines is taken a little further and applied to our present political system, we begin to see how Parliament has been perverted from its original purpose.**

As to why Parliament exists, there appears to be the utmost confusion of thought at the present time. The same applies to members of Parliament; and, contrary to the true conception of democracy, Parliament has been so perverted from its proper function that we find it imposing its will upon the electors instead of the electors imposing their will upon it. In a truly democratic society Parliament is not an institution to impose its will upon the people. It is an institution for them to impose their will upon it. It is in the people, the democracy that sovereign power should reside. Reference to Parliament calls to mind how Walter Murdoch, in one of his delightful essays, compares Parliament with a gadget, and suggests that we immediately start to make use of it. To quote the late F. F. Gould, whose work for democracy in England must serve as an inspiration to all democrats, "The correct perspective is to regard Parliament as a typewriter tapped by the almighty voter."

The original idea of Parliament was a meeting place for the populace, and possibly the nearest approach to this was the old Greek, idea of a free, deliberative assembly. However, it is obviously ridiculous for several million Australians to meet at Canberra. We therefore send along individuals to represent our wishes and our desires—at least, that is the theory of government by the people; although, as we have seen, it is not an actuality at the present time. Following the above line of reasoning, it will be readily seen that the sole reason for a Member of Parliament is purely functional. If his own opinions are contrary to those of a majority of his electors, he must be prepared to advocate the views of his electors or resign. He is the paid servant of the people, and must realise that his job is to re-present the wishes of those who pay him, and press vigorously for their fulfilment. However, if he is expected to represent the demands of his electors, as distinct from the demands of his party, it is quite clear that his electors must inform him clearly what results they want, and also show that they are prepared to support him, irrespective of parties, as long as he presses for those results. In other words, the people should, as pointed out earlier, frame their policy and send members of Parliament to Parliament to re-present that policy and see that the administrative machinery is put into operation so that that policy is implemented.

## CAN THE "EXPERTS" GET RESULTS?

In view of some of the past efforts of our economic experts, some people are naturally sceptical about the suggestion that we leave the technique of implementing our policy in their hands. To some extent one must admit that this attitude is quite justifiable, and it must be admitted that some of our experts in the past have uttered undiluted nonsense. However, quite a few people feel that our experts know better, but are dependent for their livelihood and prestige upon the very interests we are attacking. Of course, the ideas incorporated in our educational system have been mainly based on scarcity. Most well-informed experts now recognise the problem as one of abundance, and there are so many well-informed groups or individuals who state that they have a solution, that the obvious thing is for the electors to demand that the Government call in responsible experts immediately and hold them responsible for getting the existing or potential plenty distributed to the people. During peace or war, what is physically possible must be made financially possible.

It must be pointed out in fairness to some of the criticised experts that the main responsibility for apparent failure must rest with the people, who have never wielded their power, and have thus allowed finance to dominate them and the experts. It is reported that Professor Copland has stated that he can do it "when they tell us."

Professor Copland has been subjected to considerable criticism for his part in the formulation of the Premiers' Plan, and rightly so; but he certainly got results. Unfortunately, he got results for the wrong

people. But they wielded the power, while the electors did nothing. The banks demanded the balancing of the budget. As the people made no demands, Professor Copland went ahead and devised a scheme to balance the budget. It certainly would have got that result, but the financiers began to see that the suffering it was causing might cause a revolt, and the scheme was not taken to its conclusion. However, the outstanding thing, which emerges from this event, is the fact that experts can get results under pressure. What the people must do is to organise greater pressure than vested interests, and demand the results, which they want. If they allow themselves to be divided on the method, or even if they agree upon some method, they are pursuing a very dangerous course. If the method fails they then have only themselves to blame, but if they pin the responsibility on the expert to get the desired result, he will either have to satisfy the electors or lose his job. Even Professor Copland could devise a scheme, as he is reported to have admitted, if he found that his career and well-paid job depended upon getting results. Should Professor Copland and his colleagues state that they cannot do it, then there are plenty who can. Real democracy depends upon individuals—representatives and experts—accepting personal responsibility. Power without responsibility has undermined democracy.

The important issue confronting society at the present time is for the electors to have a clear conception of the proper relationship between the electors and the experts. We can well quote the words of Dr. Joad on this point. In his book, "Liberty To-day," he writes as follows: "**Thus the apparently innocuous doctrine, that in a democracy the community should prescribe the end and the expert determine the means, results only too often in practice in conferring a charter upon (he experts to impose upon the whole community in the name of means, ends upon which it has had no opportunity of expressing judgment, and this danger, I suggest, arises because in a modern community so-called means frequently reveal themselves on examination to be not means at all, but ends masquerading as means. The conclusion is not that the expert should not be consulted and used, but that vigilance is required lest his employment should become a pretext for foisting upon the community measures which it has not willed.**"

This confusion between ends and means has been the downfall of democracy in the past, and those who govern through finance will take every care that the people are asked to pass their opinions about all sorts of means. But we must keep our eyes on the ends.

In order to further elaborate upon this important point, let us take the building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge as an analogy. Although it would have been unlikely, suppose that the people who wanted the bridge had been asked to pass an opinion upon a technical method to be utilised in building it, and still further, suppose that a majority of them could have reached some agreement upon a scheme, what would have been the position if the bridge collapsed on the day it was finished? Obviously, the people would only have themselves to blame. But if they hold experts responsible, they are then in the position of judging on results, and results alone. The same applies in the economic sphere. The gap between production and consumption needs bridging with a sound money bridge. The electors must not fall into the trap of passing an opinion upon the technical method to be used, because, if the scheme they decide upon fails, they only have themselves to blame. This has happened time and time again in the past.

If the Sydney Harbour Bridge had collapsed on the day it was finished, the people would have had no difficulty in agreeing that the experts had failed. Needless to say, the experts employed would have found it impossible to get another contract. The same attitude must be adapted to our economic experts, and we can rest assured that they will certainly get results when they know that their reputations and livelihoods depend upon it.

Lord Horder, at an important gathering of leading Englishmen, gathered to hear Sir John Orr (whose outstanding work in connection with nutrition stirred Great Britain), said that he would lock up the Ministers of Health and Agriculture and Transport in a room together with the Governor of the Bank of England, and would not release them until they had solved the joint problem of food production and distribution. Under such an arrangement we can rest assured that a satisfactory scheme would be forthcoming before very long.

Experts get results in every sphere in which we use them correctly. They will also function in the economic sphere if we exercise our prerogatives.

Experts must be on tap—not on top.

(To be continued.)

## WAR AND CRIME

**The following press cutting with our emphasis) throws further light, if that be needed, on the relation between economic opportunity and crime:**

"One effect of the war has been to decrease crime appreciably. Crime in the London area and in the Home Counties, which surround the metropolis, has reached what is believed to be its lowest level. Scotland Yard officers state that never in their experience have they been so little troubled by the depredations of burglars, thieves, pickpockets, smash and grab raiders, car thieves, and the like. They all seem to have gone out of business for the duration. In pre-war days at least forty cars were stolen every night. Since it became necessary to lock all cars left in the streets, only one car a night has disappeared.

"What is the reason for this creditable state of affairs? For one thing it is known that many men who espoused crime as a means of livelihood, have found better opportunities in some form

of national service. The modern Bill Sikes is as patriotic as the average run of people, and he is shouldering a rifle, manning a gun or a searchlight, or turning out munitions with the rest of the community. Those, who are left are afraid. They cannot move very far without being challenged by the War Police, the Air Raid Precautions wardens or by the regular policemen. And now there is the armed Local Defence Volunteers in every quarter of the land. These men have authority to shoot if a man refuses to halt, and already they have exercised that right. So the night walker, intent upon crime, knows that he stands some chance of receiving a bullet."

## MONSTER MEETING

LEGION HALL  
ALLCENTRE ROAD, BENTLEIGH.  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 3 p.m.

This meeting will be the first of its kind ever held in Melbourne. All the candidates are to be invited, and will be asked to answer questions from the electors.

### 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.) Tel: MU 2834.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## "ON PRINCIPLE"

Sir, —When the New Zealand Social Security legislation first imposed a tax of 5/- on all women, there were some hundreds who protested and who wrote letters to their M.P.'s objecting to this latest imposition upon already sorely taxed incomes. One letter pointed out that the best security is "that peace of mind and health of body, which are only assured when all members of the community can enjoy a decent standard of living with the necessary financial means, and hence the freedom to choose how they shall order their own lives."

Only one of the women—as far as I know—has had the courage to act upon her convictions and has refused to pay the levy for 1939 and 1940 with the result that she has been obliged to appear at the City Police Court. Mrs. Porter is no willful law-breaker, however; she is the mother of three sons, one of whom has left "to fight for freedom," and her home is the happy meeting place of many friends. She is fighting this tax on two principles: firstly, that as she has no independent income of her own, she cannot possibly be expected to produce the 5/- tax; and secondly, that, as a realist, she knows that New Zealand is rich enough in potential production to provide social security without incurring debt and without imposing taxation. Mrs. Porter's stand should bring home anew to every woman the fact that this system does not recognise her service to the State in her capacity as a mother and housewife. That is why women in particular, should strive for national dividends. This case must also have forced many people to see the injustice of the Social Security legislation and will no doubt have given courage to hundreds of women who object to the tax but who dare not face the ordeal of trial in a public court.

It was clear that the magistrate was nonplussed by Mrs. Porter's attitude. He was concerned with administering the law and saw her as "the accused," her case one of thousands in which the husband has to pay the wife's obligations. Mrs. Porter, however, stuck firmly to her insistence on individual responsibility and when reminded that the great majority of women in her position had obediently paid up, replied that she could answer only for her own actions, and must be allowed to act on her own convictions. The magistrate sought equally unsuccessfully to make Mr. Porter pay the fee but he as valiantly defended the individual's right to act on his or her own responsibility. "This is not a case of being unwilling to find the money," he said, "it concerns a fundamental democratic principle regarding the supremacy of the individual." In despair, the magistrate bent his perplexed gaze upon them and murmured: "You are both being very obstinate!"—Yours, etc.,

MONICA G. TOWNEND.  
Dunedin. N.Z.

## WARNING ELECTORS

Sir, —Seemingly the stupidity of party politics will die out slowly, so that it behoves electors to realise now how alert they will need to be to supervise the Federal Parliamentary actions, after the elections.

One ardent Menzieite, in a letter to "the Border Watch," was candid enough to say that we must expect a policy of "tax and take, your wealth until you howl for mercy." Counter action by the electors should soon be able to turn any Government from such arrant stupidity.

If we study the banking section of Mr. Curtin's policy, we find a whole heap of monetary reform jargon which may hoodwink many uncritical people to whom a vague knowledge has come about the existing financial swindle. Those who may vote for a Labor candidate should also realise how very dangerous is a so-called policy speech involving intricate technical ideas. If Labor should be returned to office, and things begin to go awry (as in New Zealand), those in office can say that their actions are in accordance with their hustings promises. If any good purpose was to be served one could show seriatim how very incomplete and actually faulty are Mr. Curtin's financial outlines.

In the Labor manifesto, prominence is given to aspects of "National Control." If each person thinks of his or her own life and activities, to each will come a realisation that he does not want to be "controlled" by a junta, or by a cabinet, or by financiers, or by Parliamentarians, or by bureaucrats. National control will mean in practice some such centralised form of management.

The much more important matter of the determination of monetary policy is merely hinted at vaguely. In a statement of policy one is careful to set out the RESULTS, which are required, in this case to those who manage the monetary machinery. To the experts are delegated all matters of method, so long as it is understood that no excuse will be accepted if the results which the people want do not eventuate.

Much more gravely important are the omissions in Mr. Curtin's screed. Weak links in a chain are bad enough, but if there are missing links then the chain ceases to be a chain.

Wake up, electors, and be prepared to stir yourself in demanding any and all the tangible results which are physically possible in war-effort and in peace-time effort; and show in no uncertain manner that you mean to stand no nonsense from your Parliamentary representatives until the wanted results eventuate!—Yours, etc.,

C. H. ALLEN.

Millswood, S.A.

## King O'Malley and the Commonwealth Bank

The following letter from Mr. King O'Malley was read in the Senate on May 16, by Senator Darcey, and will no doubt prove of interest to our readers:

"Brother D'Arcy,—

"In your speech of the 18th April, 1940, you inadvertently declared in answer to Brother Herbert Hays, that King O'Malley was not a member of the Labour Ministry that established the Commonwealth Bank. If he were not, will you please name the man who put up a fight from 10 o'clock in the morning until a quarter-past six o'clock in the evening, and, after 21 members went to dinner, won it by one vote?"

"Yes! Brother! I was there in the Fisher Ministry, and put up the all-day fight, and was the only man who voted for the creation of the Commonwealth Bank.

"I am enclosing for you my booklet, in which you will read the whole story of the fight on the 5th October, 1911. I forced the Government to put it in the policy that year. That is why you will find that I offered £10,000 to charity if any member of the Labour Ministry ever made a speech in favour of the bank up to the 5th October 1911.

"Will you kindly read the booklet, and will you also have this letter put in "Hansard."

"Cordially yours,  
"KING O'MALLEY."

## Election Candidates—Who's Who?

(Continued from page 4.)

to them, together with a fully explanatory letter: "The Secretary, "United Electors of Australia, "McEwan House, "Little Collins and Elizabeth Streets, "Melbourne.

"Dear Sir,—I have your letter of the..... and wish to inform you that I quite agree with the contention that members of Parliament are sent there for the express purpose of giving effect to the WILL of the People.

"This being so, I have no hesitation in undertaking to give effect to the wishes of the majority of electors for the Federal Division of ..... as manifested by them and conveyed to me as a member of parliament; provided only that the carrying out of such wishes is physically and constitutionally possible.

"Yours faithfully,

(To be signed.)

## FIRST REPLIES

Candidates have been requested to return the form within ten days of its despatch, failing which it will be understood that the candidate is not prepared to subscribe to the Will of the People, as set out in documentary form.

It is now our duty to inform electors of the results, up to the time of going to press (Wednesday last).

The following candidates have signed the UNDERTAKING unconditionally:

## FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

INDI. —Nolan, T. J. (C.P.). BALACLAVA. — Sandford, C. W. (Lab.).

MELBOURNE PORTS. —Holloway, E. J. (Lab.).

FLINDERS. —Amess, A. J. (ind.). KOOYONG. —Allen, Wm. F. (Ind.). HENTY. —Thomas, S. J. (Ind.).

Further results will be published in these columns on Friday, September 13, and the final lists on Friday, September 20.

## Does Menzies Remember?

## GEMS FROM THE PAST

"Europe today is a mass of conflicting interests talking of power, and each nation saying, 'I wonder when he will attack me?' It is public opinion that will keep the world sensible and at peace, but public opinion must have an opportunity of expressing itself. I return to Australia more democratic than when I left a few months ago."—R. G. Menzies, at Perth. (Melbourne "Age," July 29, 1936.)

"I know some amiable people at a club to which I belong who think that dictatorships are rather a good thing. Some of them have even offered me the job."—R. G. Menzies, at Hawthorn. ("Argus," August 13, 1936.)

"I am prepared to resist the institution of a dictatorship in Australia by every means available to a citizen."—R. G. Menzies, Old Melbourne's Luncheon, December 1938.

"The first lesson for the Government of Australia was that in these times of emergency they must not hesitate to take the people into their confidence and give them leadership on well defined lines."—R. G. Menzies, Constitutional Association, Sydney, October 24, 1938.

Perhaps the following extract from the Melbourne "Herald" of October, 6, 1938, will prove prophetic: "Tragedy, indeed, if Mr. Menzies were to be remembered only as a dazzling promise in our national affairs."

## UNITED ELECTORS' REPORT

Weekly Lectures: Next Tuesday, in the lounge of the Christian Club, Floor 8, Albany Court, Collins-street (near Swanston-street), at 8 p.m., Mr. L. G. De Garis, on "The New Theory of Money—Wise Currency." All welcome.

Contact: All U.E.A. supporters and readers of the "New Times" residing in the Carnegie district, are requested to communicate immediately with U.E.A. headquarters, A public meeting is to be held in that district shortly. (See advertisement elsewhere.)

Acknowledgement: Per Registered Envelope, Elsternwick, £1 with thanks.

A Reminder: Would those who signed "self-assessment forms" and whose commitments are overdue, please make an effort to send in their regular contributions, however small. The consistent work of your honorary staff depends upon your united support.

Women's Section: Any assistance which ladies visiting the city are able to render at headquarters will be greatly appreciated.

Late Dr. W. Maloney: Members of the U.E.A. Executive honored the passing of a great friend and supporter when they visited State Parliament House on Saturday afternoon last during the lying in state. A suitably inscribed wreath was placed at the side of the coffin.

Enquiries: Hon. Secretary, United Electors of Australia (Non-Party) Room 9, Floor 5, McEwan House, Little Collins-street, Melbourne. Phone: MU2834.

## MONSTER DAIRYMEN'S DEMONSTRATION

## Eric Butler and R. G. Caldecott to Speak

That great stalwart, Mr. R. G. Caldecott, of Tongala, is in action again. A monster demonstration of dairymen has been arranged to take place at Kyabram on September 19, at 8 p.m.

Petrol rationing and the regimentation of the dairying industry will be discussed. Eric Butler and Mr. Caldecott will address the meeting. Mr. Caldecott originally intended to have this rally in Tongala, but after Eric Butler's last meetings at this centre, it was decided that there was no hall big enough to hold the audience expected.

Mr. J. Fraser, chairman of Transport Board; Mr. J. M. Kerr, Superintendent of Dairying and chairman of Central Committee, and all factory managers, are being invited to attend. All "New Times" readers in the Goulburn Valley are asked to co-operate in a move, which has nation-wide possibilities.

## Motorists' Protection League

The Hon. Organiser of the Australian Motorists' Protection League reports:

"Very successful meetings in country districts against the petrol rationing proposals. Country newspapers are giving prominence, some as much as full front-page articles. Members are enrolling rapidly, and it is hoped to reach the 10,000 mark before the Federal Election. Good reports are coming in from other States. South Australian Headquarters' address is 17 Waymouth-street, Adelaide, and West Australian branch, Box K 877, G.P.O., Perth. Anyone sending donations to the campaign should nominate members to cover the amount of donations. The Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce, working on their own initiative, are doing splendid work circulating a booklet entitled "Death to Industry."

## MORE PLATITUDES FROM MENZIES

(Continued from page 1.)

many sops which he threw out, and we sincerely hope that the primary producers throughout Australia will clearly indicate on September 21 that they have had enough of this treacherous sacrifice policy, and that they demand that members of Parliament shall see that the unfettered production of Australia is distributed to the people of Australia in order that the highest possible standard of living be maintained. Apart from finance, we challenge Mr. Menzies to tell us what, apart from a few luxuries, we are short of in this country, that we must make more sacrifices. He may reply that we are short of finance; but finance, we repeat again, should only be a costless mechanism for utilising real things.

### THE PARTY FIGHTERS

Last week we heard Mr. Curtin on behalf of the Australian Labor Party, roundly condemn the Menzies Government. Mr. Menzies returned the compliment last Monday night by roundly condemning the Labor Party. This procedure is called democracy; both sides have put forward various planks in their platforms for the purpose of gaining votes. When government is reduced to this sorry farce it is no wonder that Hitler and his henchmen twit the democracies with being nothing better than uninformed rabbles. What is wanted at the present time is neither a Labour Party, a U.A.P., a Country Party, nor any other Party, nor a national Government: what is really needed is a national policy from the Australian people. We are sick and tired of these continual platitudes about "Win-the-war" candidates, and "Win-the-war" Governments. Everyone knows that we desire to win the war. That is the definite policy of the Australian people, but it is essential that the war be won for the people, and not for the financial interests.

All members of Parliament must realise that they are there for the purpose of carrying out the policy of the Australian people. It is about time that the people clearly stated their policy instead of apathetically listening to the mumbo jumbo emanating from these Party leaders.

### PETROL RATIONING

On the question of petrol rationing, Mr. Menzies dodged

the issue with some smart statement that the R.A.A.F. was the finest Motorists' Protection League in the world. Mr. Menzies spoke about saving our money abroad, but as Mr. Menzies well knows, no Australian money ever leaves this country. Mr. Menzies did not even try and prove that there was a petrol shortage in Australia for defence purposes, or for civil services; neither did he attempt to prove that there would be any difficulty in getting supplies from other sources in the future, and, more important, neither did he attempt to deny the many public allegations by reliable authorities in this country, that Australia has its own petrol supplies. If the Government would only challenge the oil combines, instead of handing over valuable oil-bearing areas to them, such as was done by the Menzies Government a few months ago, we would make some real progress.

### PRIMARY PRODUCERS

Mr. Menzies said that his colleague, the Minister of Commerce Mr. Cameron, would tell the Australian people the full story about the primary industries later in the week, when he spoke in South Australia. Mr. Menzies said: "Had there been no control instituted at the outbreak of war, the Australian wheat industry would have fallen into chaos." We can only weakly ask: "Then what in goodness's name, is the position of the wheat industry at present?" We have said sufficient to indicate that Mr. Menzies avoided any discussion of the fundamental problem confronting this nation; he offered no guarantee that victory would be for the people; he failed to indicate that the shilly-shallying which has gone on in the past will not be continued in the future, and in conclusion, he failed to give the impression that he is a man fully believing in what he says. We believe that Mr. Menzies knows better, and we call upon all loyal Australians to tell all members of his Government that they are not satisfied with what he told us, and that, unless they are prepared to obey the clearly expressed wishes of the majority of their electors, they will be cast into political oblivion on September 21. We sincerely hope that the electors of Kooyong will set an example to the rest of Australia.

## ASSEMBLY HALL RALLY

### Election Issues Clarified

The rally at the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, last Tuesday evening was one of the most successful meetings in the history of the United Electors movement. The hall was comfortably filled by an audience, which was keenly enthusiastic throughout the meeting.

The chair was taken by Mr. A. O'Callaghan, who said, in opening the meeting, that neither of the speakers were interested in getting into Parliament. They were both concerned with the preservation of British democracy.

Mr. F. C. Paice was the first speaker, and in a very lucid manner dealt with the real issue at the elections. "Electors must obtain control of Members, irrespective of their party label. Members of Parliament must govern, and not be governed, by private financial interests," he said. Dealing with the war effort, he said that it was ridiculous to suggest that we had an all-in effort while there were still thousands of unemployed and many manufacturers without contracts. Quoting from the Melbourne "Age," he gave evidence of the manner in which some manufacturers who had obtained orders for defence work were unable to proceed because the private banks refused to make credit available. Loud applause greeted Mr. Paice's stirring denunciation of the miserable payment to those offering their services in the fighting forces. He said that this country could afford to give them at least as much as those who were staying at home, and, if it were claimed that this could not be done, he suggested that those stopping at home should not receive any more than those going into the fighting line.

Dealing with Mr. Menzies' plea for an all-in effort, he said that there could be no such thing while the private trading banks were allowed to control the nation and write a perpetual debt against those who were doing the real things.

Mr. Paice said that electors must make up their minds at this election to vote only for those candidates who promised that they would obey the clearly expressed wishes of the majority of the electors. This meeting had been arranged for the purpose of obtaining support for a series of metropolitan meetings at which all candidates will be asked to attend and answer questions put to them by the electors.

Eric Butler dealt with the general international situation in relation to the election. He said that this war was the continuation of the last war, and the same forces of international finance were endeavouring to wreck the British Commonwealth of Nations as a prelude to a world-dictatorship. He traced the history of events since the last war and said that, although International Finance had tried to implement a world-government through the League of Nations after the last war, this had failed. He indicated that Federal Union was the plan this time, and urged all those present to fight any suggestion to destroy the sovereignty of the British Empire. "The British people have led the world to freedom in the past, and they can do it again if we only fight this war in the British way," he said.

We must obtain control of our institutions. We must preserve those things we are fighting for. This election is most critical, and, although we may not attain our objective, we can take a big step forward. He appealed to all those present to help in the campaign to introduce real political and economic democracy. "We want a national policy at the present time," he said, "not a National Government."

The financial result of the meeting was most gratifying, and will help the campaign considerably. Literature sales were excellent, while many bundles of specimen copies of the "New Times" for propaganda purposes were taken away by those present.

Floral decorations for the hall, and music before the meeting were kindly supplied by the Misses Baker. The co-operation of those who acted as stewards was outstanding, and contributed to the general success of the meeting.

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