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THE NEW TIMES

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

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

Now, when the
padlocks for our
lips are
forging.

Silence is crime.

—Whittier (1807-1892).

National-Debt Racket Denounced In

British Parliament

Move To Stop It Foiled

More members of the British Parliament are joining in the fight against the real "Enemy Within." Bankers' "yes-men" on the Treasury benches counter their attacks by evasion, not allowing time for motions to be debated, ensuring that amendments will be ruled out of order, and similar wiles.

Another attack was made on April 23. This one was led by Mr. Ellis Smith. The following extracts from the Official Report ("Hansard") tells the tale:

NATIONAL LOANS BILL. Considered in Committee

Clause 1. —(Further provision for raising money. 2 and 3 Geo. 6. c. 117).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the Clause stand part of the Bill."

Mr. Ellis Smith (Stoke): May I ask for your guidance, Colonel Clifton Brown, on this point? My hon. Friends and I have two Amendments down, and it will facilitate discussion if we are allowed to take them together.

The Deputy-Chairman: I am afraid both Amendments are out of Order, being outside the Money Resolution, which we have passed.

Mr. E. Smith: The amendments raise a point, which, as far as I have been able to find, has not been raised before. In view of your Ruling, Colonel Clifton Brown, I propose to speak on the Question, "That the Clause stand part of the Bill." I shall divide the Committee on this, because it is an important matter. I understand that the 1930 Act is the Act upon which this Bill is based, and I want to draw attention to the 1919 Act upon which in turn the 1930 Act was based. It gives the Treasury powers for borrowing similar to those which applied in 1900, 1902 and 1914-18. Great changes have been brought about since that period. We have mechanised and modernised the Army, and, in our view, it is time that our methods of raising finance were modernised. It is for that purpose that we put down the Amendments, which have been ruled out of order, and for that reason we intend to oppose Clause 1. Section 1 of the principal Act states that the Treasury may borrow as they think fit on the security of the Consolidated Fund. We contend that it is the duty of this Committee as representing the nation to see that the Treasury carry out the powers which the principal Act gives to them. That is not being done now.

Why should the Government which represents a nation, pay the banks to lend them the nations own credit? Why cannot the Government raise their own credit in the security of the Consolidated Fund as the Act lays down? Because of what has taken place in the past we on this side feel strongly upon the matter, and many Members on the other side, had they known this question was coming on, would have shown that

they felt strongly too. In wartime, in order to encourage people to save and to reduce unnecessary consumption, it is sound policy to secure the maximum sale of National Savings Certificates. In that case the payment of interest is justifiable, but there is no justification in these days for the continued payment of interest to the extent of millions of pounds on bank created credit. Had our Amendments been adopted the nation would have been able to save

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FROM THE BANKER'S ECONOMIST, GOOD LORD, DELIVER US!

Mr. C. V. James, Economist of the Bank of New South Wales, in an address to the Legacy Club in Sydney, was, no doubt, giving advice to Australians from a Banker's point of view. The extraordinary nature of this advice can be summed up as follows:

"The more taxation we have the better;

"If petrol restrictions result in the closing of all motor businesses and the displacing from their present jobs of 80,000 to 100,000 men, what is that compared with the issues at stake?

"The lowering of the standard of living is inevitable if a total war effort is to be achieved;

"Rationing has not gone far enough; if necessary, regimentation should be applied;

"You cannot give people houses when you are running a total war effort;

"The number of men thrown out of employment because of war-time restrictions on imports and non-essential commodities is not the issue involved;

"The aim is not to get most people in employment, but to get the most out of production, and the most men in uniform. To do that you might have to reduce employment;

"Financial measures to be adopted in war-time justify greatly increased taxation;

"Taxi fares, short tram trips, race meetings, should be cut out."

Evidently Mr. James then had a twinge of conscience, when he added:

"I do not suggest that the Australian people should starve in the midst of plenty;

"The appeals from the Department of Commerce to increase the consumption of lamb, fruit and wheat are a step in the right direc-

Quite a "storm in a teacup" was caused recently, through the publication of some criticisms made by the Bishop of Willochra, Dr. Thomas, about the Child Endowment Act. In his diocesan journal, he suggested that the measure was a "bribe," and further referred to it as "panicky legislation."

In his opinion, the falling birth rate is a moral and not an economic question. He continued, "The falling birth-rate in Australia is very serious, but it will not be solved by child endowment. This is borne out by the fact that many wealthy people have small families, and very often none at all. On the other hand, in the last few weeks I have come across three extremely poor families, living under trying conditions in dilapidated homes, where children numbered 9, 14, and 18. To all appearances, they were happy families, and the parents did not claim that they were overburdened."

Bishop Thomas believes "that the birth-rate problem can be successfully tackled along lines of raising moral standards," duty to God, true religion, etc.

Although it may seem presumptuous for one whose Church standing is only that of a "miserable sinner," to take exception to the utterances of a Bishop; really—there are limits—and a

protest MUST be lodged. Has the Bishop seriously taken thought about probable repercussions to his statements? For instance, in the Arbitration Court will not the reaction surely be something like this:

Chief Justice to Mr. H. K. D. Battler, K.C. (representing Labour Union): "NO; Mr. Battler, I cannot allow you to waste the Court's time with such frivolous and insincere pleadings! It is useless now to try to bluff the Court with sob-stuff about the hardship of rearing a family of merely six or seven on the basic wage. You put that over the Court once before, and I've more than half a mind to commit you for contempt! Why, the Court has it on the best authority that rearing a small family like that doesn't cost anything at all. Who says so? Well, if you must know—the Bishop of Willochra."

Mr. Battler: "But, M' Lud; What does he know about it? Is he on the basic wage?"

Chief Justice: "No; at least, I don't think so. But he says he knows parents who have reared 18 children and found it no burden at all. But, in these cases—I must add—the moral standards were high—v-e-r-y high, indeed. When you can claim as much for your clients the Court will hear you . . . What's that? You are not appearing for a rabbit Union! That will do, Mr. Battler; THAT will d-o-o-o! Any more of your impudence, and I'll commit you! And, please remember, don't approach this Court with hard-luck claims for increases unless you can produce affidavits proving that every member of the Union has at least 18 children." (A heavy thud interrupts proceedings). "What th— E-r-r-r. Loosen his collar, Constable! Try the smelling salts; or a drop out of this flask! The Court is adjourned till Mr. Battler comes round." Space considerations prevent the tracing of repercussions in other directions.

The Bishop's forthright condemnation of the Child Endowment scheme as "panicky" and a "bribe"—which opinion, by the way, many other people endorse—drew forth a sharp reply from Sir Frederick Stewart, the Minister for Social Services. He said that this

(Continued on page 7.)

—ELH.

THE MENZIES GOVERNMENT

A Talk Broadcast from 7HO, Hobart, at 8.15 p.m., on Sunday, July 13, by JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

Last week saw the finish of the Parliamentary Session at Canberra, and it was pretty obvious that Mr. Menzies shut down Parliament just in time to save himself a major defeat and, perhaps, the loss of Government leadership.

The plain fact is that neither Parliament, nor the businessmen, nor the ordinary men and women, have shown confidence in Mr. Menzies. Mr. Menzies has done nothing, and said nothing, capable of galvanising this country into that action which the pressing needs of this great struggle so urgently demand.

The records of the Federal Parliament show the Menzies' Government fighting a rearguard action, continually making excuses for the mistakes of its administration.

Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden continually ask for more sacrifices, but Members of Parliament are demanding to know what is holding up the nation's effort, and they are not getting replies, which can be considered anything like satisfactory.

Speaking in Sydney on Saturday, Mr. Fadden is reported to have said:

"I cannot promise a rosy future; more sacrifices for the war effort are unavoidable, and the call on everybody will be heavier this year. For defence only, £250,000,000, which was £70,000,000 more than last year, would have to be obtained."

Mr. Fadden wants £250,000,000 for the war next year, and as the total income of those people in Australia who have over £4 a week only amounts to about £300,000,000, I think we are entitled to know where Mr. Fadden proposes to get the money.

Parliament has been asking this question for a long time now, and, up to date, has been unable to get an answer.

On June 24, Mr. Dedman, of Corio, asked Mr. Fadden the following question—(I quote from "Hansard"):

"What was the amount subscribed to the recent loan of £35,000,000—(a) by the public, (b) by the private trading banks, and (c) by the Commonwealth Bank?"

Mr. Fadden answered:

"It is the invariable practice of the Treasury not to publish amounts subscribed by institutions or persons without the consent of the subscribers. As no permission has been given in this instance, the information under b and c cannot be supplied . . ."

Now here is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. We know that neither by taxes nor by savings can we finance £250,000,000 a year, over and above ordinary State and Federal taxes; we know that for war expenditure last year taxes did not pay for 30 per cent, of the cost, and that an extra £140,000,000 had to be found; and next year another £200,000,000 will have to be found.

We know that the people's savings have not the remotest possibility of supplying one quarter of this extra money required, and yet Mr. Fadden will tell us nothing about it. All he says is he wants more sacrifices.

But Mr. Fadden is getting the money by issues of credit from the private banks. The banks are creating scores of millions of pounds of new credits, or illegal money; money that is not sanctioned by any law on the statute book. The private banks are creating credits, which serve all the purposes of money.

They are usurping the prerogative of the King; they are putting this country into unnecessary debt; and to hide the whole sorry business

Mr. Fadden is trying to tell us that Government loans, which are subscribed to by the banks just by writing out cheques on themselves, are being subscribed by the public.

How could the public subscribe about £100,000,000 a year out of their incomes after paying their taxes and the increased cost of living?

Yet, again and again in the House of Representatives and in the Senate the Government has been asked to disclose how much the Commonwealth Bank, and how much the private banks had subscribed to the various loans; and the answer:

"It is the invariable practice of

FARMERS' INTEREST-BURDEN

THE POSITION IN BRITAIN

The following extract from the House of Commons Official Report ("Hansard") for April 22, provides yet another example of the verbal "thrust and parry" that takes place when a champion of the people and a defender of the banks cross swords:

Mr. De la Bere asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what are the highest and lowest interest rates charged by the clearing banks to the agricultural borrowers for loans since the outbreak of hostilities?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Kingsley Wood): I regret that this information is not available.

Mr. De la Bere: Does the Chancellor of the Exchequer really mean to tell the House that the Treasury are not sufficiently interested to obtain from the banks these very vital figures, in view of the importance of the national larder? Is it not really a confession of complacency that he has no real answer to give, and will he try again?

the Treasury not to publish the amounts subscribed by institutions or persons without the consent of the subscribers."

"It is the invariable practice, —Why? We want to know why, and for whose benefit? Why should it be the invariable practice to keep secret the fact that the private banks, year after year, subscribe more than 80 per cent, of the Government Loans?"

Why should it be kept secret that men who haven't a penny in the bank are subscribing thousands of pounds to the loans? Why should it be kept a secret that Insurance companies, with only several thousand pounds in the banks can subscribe a million pounds to the war loan?

Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden were strong, bold and decisive and ruthless when they smashed the motor industry of this country; they have been strong and decisive with the farming community; they have been strong and ruthless with the taxpayer.

A little more strength and ruthlessness with the banking

fraternity probably would be much more appreciated by the taxpayer.

A little investigation into the banks' secret reserves might help to lighten our taxes. An investigation into the names of those who have large blocks of taxation-free bonds might provide us with profitable material for lectures on sacrifice.

It is perfectly obvious to me that Mr. Fadden and Mr. Menzies don't care tuppence if they smash up the U.A.P.; they evidently consider they are quite capable of defying the growing revolt in the U.A.P. as long as they have the support of the Money Monopoly.

There is no use beating about the bush. No Government, which is under continual pressure from the Money Monopoly, can hope to obtain the loyalty of the people—the idea is ridiculous.

We, in Australia, have a great part to play in this war. The people in England have had their towns and factories and docks incessantly battered; they have been working long hours under great strain.

No people in the world can stand that indefinitely. The time will come when the fresh reserves of energy from the British Dominions will turn the tide of the war.

We, in Australia, far away from the battlefield, form part of

money still—he wants more sacrifices.

Well, what does he want us to do? Can anybody explain to me? No wonder the country is in a muddle if this represents the state of mind of the Federal Government. We have the food here; why not let the people have it without constantly asking them to make useless sacrifices?

If the Government cannot make the financial system of this country fit the physical facts of this country then the quicker they are moved from office to make room for those who are willing to try, the quicker we shall get all the men and women in this country behind the war effort.

We have been two years at war and Mr. Menzies is still talking about appointing committees. If this war is going to be won by committees it will be one of the funniest wars on record. We have been two years at war and there isn't a munition factory in Tasmania where men and women can go to help their country. In every part of Australia there are small workshops with machine tools that are standing idle and men begging for orders, and can't get them. Any person who is interested in this should take a walk round the workshops in Hobart and hear what the men have to say on the subject.

The excuse given by the Federal Government when it started to disorganise the motor transport industry was lack of dollar exchange; when people found out that most of our oil came from the Dutch East Indies, the Government looked for some other excuse; and now we are told that shortage of tankers is the reason.

Yet the general secretary of the New South Wales Service Stations' Association stated "petrol importing companies emphatically inform my Association that they could bring to Australia considerably more petrol than they are permitted to market locally."

Australia only requires ten oil tankers to meet Government requirements; surely this is not beyond the resources of the Federal Government, especially when it concerns the welfare of so many people.

The destruction of the incomes and business equity of thousands of small garage proprietors on the off chance of getting a few more mechanics was surely a callous and clumsy piece of work; it was certainly the work of a Government that had no faith in its powers of obtaining loyalty. The small garage proprietors throughout Australia are key men in the development and maintenance of the transport system of the country, both in peace and in war. Why should they be destroyed without any compensation? Is it the policy of the Federal Government to entirely destroy the small man and drive him into the hands of the big monopolies?

Does Mr. Menzies expect us to watch this policy of centralisation develop to its obvious conclusion, and say nothing about it? The policy of centralisation of industry is being discarded in America—its birthplace. It is inefficient and it doesn't deliver the goods. But, which is more important, it destroys the morale of the worker and outrages human nature to such an extent that in years to come centralisation probably will be looked upon as the greatest blunder of our generation, and its worst disease. In America, Germany and Russia centralised administration has been practised for years; its disastrous and disheartening effects have been recognised, and are being rapidly discarded. Why must the Federal Government keep on practising the worst blunders of other countries?

these reserves of energy that will probably decide which way the war will go. It is the inability of the Menzies Government and of Mr. Fadden in particular to see this all-important point that exasperates so many keen observers.

Surely it is the first job of the Federal Government to keep everyone in good heart and good fettle ready for the day when we are to be tested to breaking point.

Our job is not to imitate England, and cut down the food supply of the people; our job is to do exactly the reverse; that is, give the people all the food they want and the best of food.

Owing to lack of shipping there is a surplus of food in THIS country; accordingly, the Propaganda Department says it's our duty to eat more lamb, more butter, milk and bacon, and drink more wine. But we are not allowed to have these very desirable foods unless we have money to pay for them, and Mr. Fadden, by his ruthless taxation, is leaving us without money to buy these things; and he threatens to take more of our

"FEDERAL UNION"-OR THE PRESERVATION OF PRIVILEGE

By R. LEESON.

This is a cry of anguish. After uttering it I shall possibly give up "thinking" and take to mumbling the magic words, "Federal Union"—just those words, over and over again. They are very satisfying words, and afford such comfort when one is confronted with hard and unfamiliar thinking.

Therein lies the rub—and the cause of anguish. For while an increasing number of us realise more and more clearly how wobbly our world has become, it appears that a lesser number are making any effort to meet the challenge of the times.

Everywhere one finds an increasing ineffectualness, an almost moral collapse at the prospect of being compelled to face a changing world. An easier way out is to pay 2/6 (did I hear someone say £5?), and join in the catch-cry of "Federal Union"—no one knows its implications, but leave that to the other fellow.

A lot of chickens are coming home to roost these days. For years now the inherent imaginative capacity of the people has been subject to a steady process of strangulation. By every conceivable channel and in unbelievable ways our most precious patrimony, the right to think for ourselves, has been assailed by the press, radio, motion pictures, and even literature. What possible spark of imagination could be left when the eyes and ears are bemused every waking hour by an unholy barrage of clap-trap for the gullible, pathetic jingoism, over-statement, sudden changes of political face, outright lies and what have you? The outraged senses reel, then wilt completely, and the outward appearance is one of apathy.

To express the belief that this apathy is more apparent than real doesn't help much in face of the appalling fact that we in Australia are being formed into an obedient and more or less unquestioning herd. In the very name of democracy, we are losing, in a few short years, our human dignity and all that our forebears patiently struggled to build into a democracy. Now in the last desperate effort to bolster "privilege," to maintain the status quo, under a slight veneer of change, of course, we are to be welded to a greater herd, so we shall tramp together our parallel paths back to a "new age" of medievalism.

We all have some idea of what we are fighting against—that, at least, is self-evident but have we any idea of what we are fighting for? On many occasions veiled warnings have been given by responsible men, that we may win the war, but lose the peace. We had better ask ourselves whether we are fighting to maintain a world condition or to make a really new age.

If "Federal Union" is the only contribution toward this vague, much talked of "new order," then heaven help us. What, precisely do we expect from this "Federal Union?" I have yet to read or hear any likely, workable product of this union. But I do know what it would do, on the other side of the ledger. It would join the world into another set of groups from which a war as horrible, if not more horrible, than the one we are at present engaged in, would be bound to emerge, sooner or later. What it would create would be a "Federal Union" bloc, a European bloc and an Asiatic bloc, together with all the seeds of essential antagonism and commercial rivalry. The whole thing is an impracticable mess such as might be produced by a pack of unthinking juveniles arranging and rearranging the map of the world. Dividing the world into power blocs is an old, well tried

game that has never failed to end in slaughter; and a new set of power blocs is one certain result of Federal Union. If the world is not to destroy itself, some form of agreement must be arrived at, but "Federal Union" is the surest way to cripple the possibility of such mutual agreement of free, independent peoples.

All else excluded, why the sudden glamorising of the federation of the United States of America? It is certainly not based on any clear-headed study of the social conditions prevailing in "God's Own Country." Have you read "The Grapes of Wrath"; have you ever studied the sordid record of the vast predatory financial institutions; have you heard of the racketeering and the gutter politics of Tammany Hall, or the public scandals of "bought" judges and "rigged" juries? In no coun-

try in the world is there such disproportionate wealth and poverty. Yet we are expected to derive moral and social support from a—"Federal Union."

The whole thing is a preposterous waste of time. The hours of fruitless discussion could be better employed putting our own house in order. Now is the time, as never before, to do something toward this end, before it is too late. We either perpetuate a doddering, inadequate financial system, with all its hateful privilege, or set to work and make some contribution to making this much talked of "New Order" a reality. Time and again it has been demonstrated that everything that is worthwhile in this world has been achieved by the free, inquiring spirit of the individual; it is up to us to preserve this spirit at all costs. Surely to heaven examples are not needed to show that the present trend of events is bound to extinguish our social and economic freedom. In spite of everything that our "Sound Finance League" may say to bolster the present monetary system it is certain that this war can have no other result, for our country, than bankruptcy and/or inflation. In a short while what little money we will have left in our pockets will buy us nothing. While there are other more equitable, workable monetary systems, surely we are not going to starve quietly, as we did in 1930, because everything is mortgaged to fraudulent creditors.

We still have our constitutional rights to prevent this eventuality, but if we don't exercise those rights now and dictate our own destiny, it is only a matter of time before we shall be powerless to do so without recourse to bloodshed. It is an axiom that once you give up the democratic right of criticising and calling to account those to whom political power is given, and the further right of withdrawing this power and placing it in other hands, you never get it back. While we still retain some vestiges of democratic power, let us use it as it was intended to be used—for the people, and by the people.

While we are wasting time in puerile discussion of "Federal Union" we are being made the pawns of those who seek to hold secure the world of privilege they have existed in, by manipulation of the money power. Believe me, there are many who are incapable of envisaging a better world than the one they live in. They are wilfully ignorant of the distressing sordidness of the lives of those who must sweat to provide incomes and privileges they will never share. Together with those who must have their "inferiors," who desire to feel secure and superior, to command and exhort respect, they will fight tooth and nail to preserve their privileges.

The tremendous development and application of invention and discovery has made it possible to make the things we need or rightly want quickly, cheaply and in abundance. What we want now is not a "Federal Union," but rather development of our social, political, and economic organisations rapidly enough to keep up with our material advancement. We have not developed our political acumen as rapidly as the present machine age puts responsibility upon us. We have not created consumer-buying power as rapidly as we can create the things to buy.

These are the things we need to seek to remedy, before all else. "Let us to the task."

Prospects in England

The "Age" reports that the British Labour leader, Mr. W. Holmes, in an address to officials at the Trades Hall, explained that labour in England rejected the Keynes plan of compulsory saving, but agreed to a scheme of voluntary saving on certain conditions. They obtained a guarantee that if a person saved £375 during four years of war, and then had to seek relief through falling on evil times, the fact that he or she had saved the amount would not be counted against them if they had to come before the assistance committee.

PUBLIC OPINION—THE GREATEST WEAPON IN THE WORLD

Australian Author's Acknowledgment

The following are highlights from a letter, which appeared recently in the Sydney "Daily Telegraph":

"Seemingly everybody from the Prime Minister down has said that only by all-in effort can we win this all-in war. Yet where is visible sign of any move towards it? We need someone now to tell Australians in understandable terms that anything they care to recognise as such, from sharks' teeth or coral beads to bits of paper, will serve as money to ensure that everyone pulling his weight gets his fill—the call is for someone (other than Hitler) to show us how to wed food-supply and idle labour for production. It is the great chance of all time to prove that reason and humane regard can triumph over fanaticism and brute force."

The letter was written by William Hatfield, the Australian author. Mr. Norman Rolls, of Ashfield, N.S.W., wrote to Mr. Hatfield, and the following is portion of the letter he received in reply:

"Dear Mr. Rolls, —Thank you for your letter, and for the copies of the 'New Times.' It is heartening to realise that my work is securing notice within a short

time of its publication, to the extent of being quoted from by people concerned with reform. I had not previously seen a copy of 'New Times,' and must say it is a forthright sheet. It was vitally necessary that some body should contest the arbitrary regulation prohibiting criticism of banking, and it is very likely due to the existence of a paper with a circulation among members determined upon financial reform that makes it possible for my book to appear without censure by the authorities."

[During last week Mr. Rolls obtained five new direct subscribers to the "New Times." He informs us that three of these resulted from writing to persons whose correspondence has appeared in the daily newspapers. — Editor.]

HUSH! HUSH!

In the British House of Commons on April 22, Commander King-Hall asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he has any means of ascertaining what percentage of the contribution to the results of a War Weapons Week made by institutions, such as banks and insurance companies, is due to the institution making an investment in Government securities through the medium of the branch office in the area holding a War Weapons Week which it would normally make through its head office?

Sir K. Wood: I am afraid that the information for which my hon. and gallant Friend asks is not available.

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THE TWILIGHT OF LIBERTY?

The war has brought great changes in our way of life in Australia. Long-accepted principles and long-standing institutions have been found wanting; many old ideas and traditions have been put to the test and failed us in our hour of need. For too long now we have been content to lead our own lives and leave the political administration of the country in the hands of mercenary professionals. As a result of this irresponsibility and indifference, together with the inefficiency and blundering of our professional politicians we have become involved in the greatest crisis that civilisation has yet had to face; a conflict not only of military forces, but one also of conflicting ideologies and philosophies.

So far, the real significance of the conflict that is going on **within** Australia has not yet been grasped by the majority of the people of this country. Nevertheless, the entire social and economic structure in Australia is being drastically altered.

Although some changes and some curtailments of liberties are expected in war-time, the sweeping changes we are now subjected to, in the name of war exigencies, can only be deplored as following the worst totalitarian tradition. There has been an increasing centralisation of power into the hands of fewer individuals with a vast and still-growing system of irresponsible bureaucracy springing up between the people and their Government.

Mr. Menzies in his world-broadcast pointed out the necessity for a greater war-effort on the part of this country. But the methods now being implemented, ostensibly to that end, threaten not only to strike a deathblow to the fabric of democratic Government in Australia, but to enmesh industry in a maze of bureaucratic Authorities, Departments, and Directorates that will retard more than they will assist the nation's war-effort. The time when Australians could tackle this problem on a voluntary basis of co-operation and co-ordination has now passed, it seems, and we are to see an era of increasing coercion and compulsion.

The new policy outlined by Mr. Menzies is one calculated to increase the influence of the big manufacturers, the monopolies and "Big Business," and decrease the importance of the small man. From being a free agent the small man will have to get used to being dictated to and directed by "major coordinating contractors," as well as having to comply with the hundred and one new Regulations now being framed for the "smoother" running of the vast network of Ministerial and Parliamentary committees and sub-committees.

We Australians have continually duped ourselves by saying: "It can't happen here." Now we must wake up to the fact that it **is** happening here. Every day, every week, means less responsibility on the part of the employee, and the elector. More and more we are being impressed into becoming part of a plan, a scheme, a cog in a huge machine. The process goes on continually, without check or hesitation.

It is not that most individuals have failed to see or to realise it. It is simply that all too many of us have indolently permitted and even abetted the process, "because of the war"; assuring ourselves that everything will be restored after the war. We have not honestly faced up to the situation, and asked ourselves, "Is this necessary?" or "Should we have permitted this?" Instead of fearlessly examining every action along those lines to satisfy ourselves that they were necessary, or even that they went far enough, we have been content to accept whatever our self-appointed leaders, with their record of inefficiency, shortsightedness and deeply entrenched prejudices chose to thrust upon us, without question. We have blindly and unreasonably ceased to think, and have, instead, "passed the buck" to others.

The insidious idea has been promoted that, because of the war, greater authority must be given up into the hands of our national leaders, while the individual retains less power—and less responsibility. Under the stress of war conditions the exact reverse should be the case. As individuals we must be prepared to accept greater responsibility than ever before. We must take into our hands greater and wider powers than we have previously exercised. In fact, we should exercise complete self-government of ourselves, our economic system, our financial system, and the nation, leaving Parliament as a coordinating medium, joining our individual efforts into a whole, removing the obstacles that appear in our path and presenting a true reflection of the spirit and determination, the desires and the **will** of the people.

Individual Responsibility. That is the key to our success or our failure. If we fail to acquit ourselves on this point, then, whether we achieve a military victory or not, we will most certainly fail to win the peace. So far we have not shown sufficient readiness to accept our individual responsibilities.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE BY SOME PEOPLE FOR OTHER PEOPLE

By FOOTLE

"The Federal Treasurer (Mr. Fadden) said during the weekend that no approach had yet been made to him to take the leadership of a 'Win the War' party, or to take over its organisation.

As our photographer was not present on the occasion, we are left to our own prejudices and devices in trying to determine whether the Treasurer bloke is fed up about something, whether he frowns upon the suggestion of the Party or merely upon the negligent blighters who slipped on the approach business, or finally whether he is a quiescent spectator of what he regards as the try-out of a new kite.

It is admitted that "the formation of such a party was formally discussed by a section of members," but it was only in the "dying hours of the Federal session." So here, again, we can't be certain whether the odour of death was permitted to invade the discussion, or whether it was hoped that such a stirring title would be sufficient to galvanise the sessional corpse into something resembling life.

More in sorrow than in anger, Mr. Fadden pointed out that "the U.A.P. and Country Party at the last election had been given the responsibility of governing, and if a national government was unattainable they must discharge their responsibility." You can almost hear the sigh. We all know the feeling. It has been symbolised by the chappie who wrote: "It's not fit for a dog to go out. Why can't father go?" But if I might say something to encourage the poor blighter, I would feel moved to point out that if there is anything to choose between a national government and a "Win the War" party, the bunce should, in my opinion, go to the W.W.P. and not to the N.G. (or the N.B.G. if the American practice of using a middle initial makes you feel better).

The advantages of a national government are considerable, for a national government is at once elevated above criticism and rendered practically impervious to the menace of a general election. It is obvious that democracy is becoming far too much of a good thing as far as the Government is concerned: and the Government can't be expected to stand much more of it.

As far as the suggested party is concerned, it might prove a good idea to find out which of our representatives are in favour of winning the war, but I'm not sure whether a "Win the War" party would settle the business. After all, the pages of history are strewn with the remains of parties, which have been found out; Conservatives who failed to conserve; Liberals who coiled up like wood lice at the touch of a hostile finger; and Socialists who attained to the peerage. So you wouldn't really expect a parliamentary johnny to be frightfully tickled over a slogan title. His function is to exploit slogans, not to fall for them.

You can't help feeling that something will have to be done about this government business. You can't expect ministers to fight against the multitude indefinitely. After all, even in a democratic State like ours, if anybody knows

what the Government wants, surely it must be the Government.

My daily newspaper, already quoted, declared "last week was the worst survived by any Federal Ministry for several years. Most members consider that only the recess averted a collapse." There you are, you see! How can you have "Demarkracy" if you're going to fight the Government every inch over a little bit of liberty here and a slice of income there?

You can take it from me that these blokes know what they want; and we're just ploughing the sands and building with lemon jelly in trying to teach them anything. They're impervious; they're.... oh, well, you can think of the beastly word yourselves.

We all thought we'd discovered a paradox in this poverty amidst plenty of talk that's been going on, but you've got to admit that every Government in the world, with the possible exception of that of Alberta, knew just what to do about that. All that had to be done was to abolish the abundance. I can't think how I came to overlook such a simple wheeze.

So if democracy tries to get up to any funny business with its Government, the first thing it knows it will find itself being abolished too. Stands to reason. You can see how fed up Mr. Menzies is already. He isn't going to stand much more of being told what the people want. Not with the chorus from Westminster still ringing in his ears, "Free's a jolly good fellow and so say all of us, including Wall Street and the Bank of England."

Nevertheless, and again I quote, "the rise of Mr. Fadden as a new political force is being forecast widely," for it appears that "only he can stave off a Labour regime." That clears the air a bit. We can see the firm earth again. Vox populi. Nix. My portfolio right or wrong! What matters a Menzies here or there, so long as the things that are Menzies' can be maintained in the face of the howling mob? All the same, I'm bound to say that this staving off of the Labour party doesn't look much more real to my jaundiced eye than Mr. Menzies' war effort.

It is, of course, evident that Labour is being a bit of a bally fag for as our correspondent proceeds, "Perhaps the most powerful disintegrating factor in the present position is the inability to control and if necessary, discip-

(Continued on page 5.)

The result is that we are finding that our society is being reorganised—with or without our acquiescence—into one in which it will be no longer necessary for us, as individuals, to accept any responsibilities whatsoever.

We must learn, learn quickly and learn now, to play our part as fully responsible citizens. Tomorrow is going to be too late, because there will be no tomorrow for Democracy along the road we are travelling.

NATIONAL-DEBT RACKET DENOUNCED IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT

(Continued from page 1.)

millions of pounds which are now being paid out in unnecessary interest on bank-created credit. In his Budget statement the Chancellor made reference to the work of the Select Committee on National Expenditure. I have read every report of that Committee and I want to join in paying tribute to the great contribution the Committee has made to the war effort. At the same time, however, we continue to adopt Victorian methods of obtaining our own credit. We say that we ought to obtain it on the security of the Consolidated Fund. The time has arrived when the Government ought to grant themselves credit by vote of Parliament and on the nation's security.

The situation is so serious that we cannot continue Victorian methods of raising credit. The National Debt is now £11,394,000,000, according to the final statement presented to us in the Budget Debate. The interest alone on that debt will cost the nation £250,000,000 a year. I suggest that as a result of the last Resolution we have passed we shall not be able to ascertain in future what we are really paying out in interest on the National Debt. If I understand the Resolution correctly, it will mean that in future when blue papers are placed before us on Budget Day, we shall not be able to ascertain, to the same extent as in the past, what interest we are paying on the National Debt. The creation of our own credit would be an unorthodox step of a progressive character.

The Government are very gradually mobilising the whole resources of the country, and that provides support for my next point. The minutes of the Macmillan Committee stated that the creation of credit or loans by banks is the creation of power to employ labour, and that therefore, the only limit is the amount and quality of unemployed labour. As a result of the great effort, which is being made by the Ministry of Labour, hardly any unemployed are left, and there was never a more opportune moment for introducing the unorthodox progressive step that we suggest . . . Section 3 (a) of the principal Act contains the words: "Charging on the Consolidated Fund any remuneration payable to the Bank of England in respect of the management of securities under the Act."

I would like to ask what is the total amount that has been paid to the Bank of England for managing these securities since 1939. Why cannot the Treasury themselves manage the securities

which have been taken over in order to assist us in financing the war? To borrow the genuine savings of the people is sound in wartime, but to pay others to grant us our own credit is out of date and mid-Victorian. We were desirous of moving the Amendments, which have been ruled out of order in order to alter that and to save the nation millions of pounds. As a result of the trade union movement spending thousands of pounds in educating young men, more and more of them are getting a grasp of economic and financial questions. Too long have the people of this country been exploited in this way and too long have we been prepared to accept Victorian ideas. Everything in life is being speeded up and modernised. The Army, Navy and Air Force have been modernised, and we should take the logical step of modernising the methods of raising our own credit. In these serious times the committee should be prepared to consider a reasonable step of this kind.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Captain Crookshank):... On this Clause the hon. Member for Stoke (Mr. Ellis Smith) seems to be raising the whole question of our financial policy and our borrowings both now and in the years since the last war. If I may respectfully say so, it is a very interesting topic, but the Clause itself is a narrower one. It is the one by which we are taking power for borrowing this year.

. . . . If at any time hon. Members wish to bring before us various conditions which they think ought to be inserted in our borrowing powers, they can find opportunities for calling attention to their suggestions by means of Questions, or Debates devoted to that purpose, but this Clause merely enables the Government to borrow this maximum.

Mr. Ellis Smith: . . . may I draw attention to the fact that Clause 1 of the principal Act speaks of the power of the Treasury to raise money, and states that it shall include the power to raise any money required for any Supply and later it adds:

" in addition a sum not exceeding £250,000,000." Now surely upon that Clause the question of raising money under the principal Act arises, because you cannot construe this Clause without reading the principal Act. I have read the principal Act, and if I understand it correctly it is the principal Act that gives the Treasury power to borrow in the way they are doing; and in my view it is time they borrowed

on the basis of the principal Act, that is, on the Consolidated Fund.

Mr. Pethick-Lawrence:... With regard to his reference to the principal Act, my hon. Friend is not seeking to repeal the original Act and to substitute something else. I do not know whether he could have framed an Amendment that would have conveyed his meaning, but the particular Amendment which he did frame, which no doubt conveys meaning as far as it could, has not passed the Chair, and for that, of course, none of us is responsible But, those Amendments being out of order, to propose to vote against the Clause itself, in which the point really does not arise, would be rather unfortunate, and I hope he will not do it, because—he did not bring the matter to the attention of myself or any of my hon. Friends who are likely to take part in this Debate—I should have to ask those who sit on these benches to vote against him and to ask for the Whips to be put on. I hope my hon. Friends will not put me into that awkward

position, because I do not want to quarrel with him on this matter. It would, however, be very unfortunate if any large body of Members were to be counted in the Lobby against the Clause, which simply says that the Treasury shall have power to borrow for the prosecution of the war such sums as may be required plus the extra £250,000,000. Therefore I do hope that this Clause may be carried without our having to go to a Division.

Mr. Gordon Macdonald (Ince): There is no intention to divide the Committee on the question of this Clause standing part, that is certain, but my hon. Friend the Member for Stoke (Mr. Ellis-Smith) has felt ever since this Budget was introduced that the question which he has brought forward ought in some way to be raised. He himself was advised that it could be raised on this Clause However, if this is the wrong occasion we shall seek some other occasion.

Question, "That the Clause stand part of the Bill," put, and agreed to.

UNITED ELECTORS' REPORT

Individual Action at Coburg.— Last month a house meeting was held by Mr. Grogan to discuss the world situation and the benefits of individual interest in the war effort. Supporters in Coburg have always been among the more active of our followers, and have proved the value of small house meetings again and again. But action in only one suburb is only a small beginning. Our aim must be to have meetings such as these in every suburb and make the name of the United Electors of Australia a household word in every neighbourhood. If you want any information on how to start meetings going in your district, or contacts with whom to get in touch to start the ball rolling, get in touch with headquarters, and we will supply the necessary information. There are always large stocks of literature available, well suited for distribution among new contacts. Swing into action now. Do YOUR bit to help win the peace and lay the foundations of a better social order.

The New Order: To combat the flood of propaganda urging Australians to adopt Federal Union as the cure for our economic and social ills, steps have been taken to fully investigate the problem of Post-war Reconstruction. Conferences have been held in order that the problem could be thoroughly discussed, and we hope within a very short time to be able to put before supporters an alternative suggestion for a new order after the war. We hope to be able to outline what form we desire this new order to take, how it is to be brought about, and to have the complete answer to the advocates of Federal Union.

Guarantor's Appeal: In order to stabilise the Movement's funds, an appeal for 200 guarantors at 1/- per week has been sent out. By this means we hope, not only to ease the burden on those supporters who have so unselfishly borne the brunt of the Movement's expenses, by spreading them over a wider area, but it is hoped that by this means a constant and substantial fund, coming in at regular intervals will be built up so that a drive can be got under way immediately to push the new proposals on this question of a new social order. We must have a fixed and assured income if we are to work at full pitch, and if we all do our bit, however small it may be, the

task will be much easier and its achievement more rapid. So, we appeal to all our supporters who are not now regular subscribers to help us with our great task by seeing that we are not held back through lack of financial support.

MEN AND MACHINES, BUT NO MONEY

"When the Government has closed down on the building; trade to the extent of millions of pounds, I cannot see it approving the borrowing of £15,000 by this council to keep thirty men in work." Alderman Hodgson said this at Mosman Council last night. Council decided against pressing for the loan. When present works are completed, about thirty employees will be dismissed."—Sydney "Daily Mirror," July 9.

Once again—and the truth bears repeating—we have the men, we have the materials, but must go on WANTING communal necessities because, forsooth, whilst real wealth is created by the people, its financial counterpart is created, but curtailed, by private financiers. Does Alderman Hodgson think that roads, footpaths and gutters are made out of money, and that because somebody says we are "short of funds" the public cannot have these improvements? Or does he realise that under the present financial policy a public works project becomes a gilt-edged, interest-bearing investment for the few at the expense of the many, instead of being an asset to ALL? Which side of the fence, Mr. Hodgson? Mosmanites should find out. Then they should get busy by BACKING or SACKING him!

—"Scissors."

THE "NEW
TIMES"
IS OBTAINABLE
AT
ALL AUTHORISED
NEWSAGENTS

Government of the People by Some People for Other People—Continued

line the House of Representatives." This makes the position of the people's elected representatives in democracy a bit clearer to those who were beginning to wonder what they were elected for. They are there to be controlled and, if necessary, disciplined. I don't know for certain the best method of disciplining a parliamentarian, but a handy start would be to force him to listen to every speech or be fined for the war effort.

The Government has so far resorted to nothing so Hunnish as far as representatives are concerned. It reserves its war effort for those who can take it, and the formation of innumerable well-paid committees is expected to achieve the desired result. Some call it one thing and some call

it another, but I suppose we can trust the advocates of force to know its limitations even if it is too much to expect them to know its history; and anyhow, wasn't it Napoleon who said he wasn't surprised at the idea that every man had his price, but only at the smallness of the price?

The rummy thing about all this is that every leader in the world except Mahatma Gandhi is declaring with my daily paper: "The paramount consideration today is winning the war"; and the bulk of the people and all their representatives are saying it too. Yet it is in this condition of things that the leaders find it necessary to control and discipline the representatives of the people Oh, pass me the headache-powders, please!

(1)

By C. H. DOUGLAS.

Interest attaches to the date at which the following article by Major C. H. Douglas was first published. It was 1921. It is reprinted now because of the assistance it may give to many outside our immediate circle in clarifying their ideas of the world which has to be put straight—for it is still "The World After Washington" which we inhabit.

This world is a testing ground for theories. When we say that we understand what is going on in the world we mean that we can, or think we can, relate the facts, as we see them, to some theory into which they fit, and from which as a logical consequence we can predict the emergence of further facts, not for the moment visible, much as the finding of a preposterous hat on the fragment of a political jigsaw puzzle stimulates us to search for other salient characteristics of Mr. Winston Churchill. Which is the method of modern science.

Now, the validity of this method depends on due recognition of the fact that theories of themselves have no value; that is to say, a fact which will not fit a theory is still a good fact, but a theory which will not explain or fit the facts is a bad theory. It is the purpose of this article to show that the actions of the responsible Governments of this planet are taken in accordance with a theory which is a bad theory; to which the facts of life do not fit, and from which actions, in consequence, come results which are not in accordance either with the theory, or, to be charitable, the expectations of those statesmen from whose deliberations they proceed.

This theory, although transcending all the bounds of what is commonly called theology, is most easily epigrammatised under the title of the Doctrine of Original Sin. It assumes the existence of an ideal world, possibly a new Jerusalem, in which people would act, not merely differently, but from fundamentally different motives from those now at work in the world. It "judges" those motives, finds them "bad," and as a direct and logical consequence conceives the function of Government, using that term in the broadest possible sense, to be mainly to run and see what Johnny is doing and tell him he mustn't. That is to say, it is Authoritarian.

The implications of this theory are almost endless, but it is sufficient for our purpose to examine its effects on the problems of War, Industry and Social Revolution. War, considered in the light of the popular interpretation of it, arises out of a fundamental desire, a wicked desire, on the part of peoples to fight each other. It is to be eliminated, if it can be eliminated, by the cultivation of "goodwill" among peoples (whatever that may mean) and by the concerted action of Governments to "regularise" the conflagration if and when it should break out; and so we have the Washington Conference.

But by no process of stretching can this explanation of war be made to fit the observed facts of the First World War. It is most improbable that one thousand persons in England, France and Germany collectively, had they been asked as individuals, would have agreed to walk out of their homes in August, 1914, and each, on his own responsibility, to start a personal fray with an opposing national. Modern war is only possible from the existence of a huge machine capable of overriding personal opinion, backed by an equally elaborate organisation for misdirecting and perverting it. Even by 1918, when half the world had sustained injuries at the hands of the other

half, it required the most elaborately organised "hate" campaign that the world has ever known to carry public opinion in support of the measures deemed requisite by the omnibus term "military necessity."

Nor is it fair to say that the average man in the street is such a natural born fool that after four and a half years of a war in which, as an individual, he was killed, maimed, broken in health and home, ruined financially, and—as very rich bankers like Lord Inchcape never tire of telling us—impoverished nationally, although a "winner," he requires safeguarding from a far worse war because of a widespread desire to repeat these experiences. Not a bit of it. There

is a growing tendency to acquiesce in the inevitability of another war, because along with war came certain phenomena which can be collected under the term of economic prosperity. Close reasoning not being a conspicuous attribute of the man in the street, he assumes that peace and economic depression are necessarily inseparable.

Since Social Revolution indisputably has an economic basis, it is clear, then, that these three phenomena — War, Industrial Depression, and Social Revolution—are closely inter-connected. The most cursory examination of History will supply the necessary confirmation—every modern war has been preceded and followed by economic depression, and has been accompanied by economic prosperity, and the majority have involved attempts at Social Revolution.

Bearing this in mind, let us suppose for a moment, as a tentative hypothesis, that wars are caused, not by the wickedness of human nature, but by a desire for economic prosperity, a desire balked, not so much by natural as by artificial difficulties. It may be noted, in passing, that even this desire has been more or less successfully criticised—witness the astonishing acquiescence in the

idea that our troubles arise from an Acquisitive Society. The necessity, inherent in the Doctrine, for providing means to keep humanity in the straight and narrow way, involves the existence of both a negative and positive mechanism—a machine for permitting human beings, on terms only, to achieve certain amenities, such as economic prosperity, on the one hand, and to prevent them from doing things, by the imposition of active discomfort, on the other. The agency of the first is Finance, with its concomitant of Employment as the condition of bed, board, and clothes; the agency of the second is Law.

Now observe again that these agencies fail to pass the pragmatic test—they do not deliver the goods. He would be a bold man who would contend that human nature reached its highest exemplar in the self-made rich; and the decline of sheep stealing, since that healthy and invigorating pastime ceased to be a hanging matter, is only paralleled by the increase of delirium tremens in America subsequent to the passing of the Prohibition amendment; which brings us again, by easy stages, to Washington.

America is the modern citadel of the Doctrine --the G.H.Q. of Dollar Diplomacy, the home of moral uplift, the Blue Sunday, and the hit-don't-argue policeman. We have progressed ourselves a good deal in this direction lately, but not so that it would be noticed in Chicago. That the majority of American citizens, among whom are some of the kindest souls in the world, detest these things is, of course, quite beside the point—they have no more control over them than has the average Englishman over the price of petrol.

The real objective (towards which the Washington Conference was one move) is the stabilisation and centralisation of the present World Order of Finance and Law, and the Hegemony, or final, permanent, and indisputable control, of that centralised Order by the powers represented by Wall Street and Washington. That aim involves certain limited and preliminary objectives. It is obvious that a situation, such as would arise should the United States become involved in war with Japan on anything like equal terms, would leave the British Empire (which has developed a culture too tolerant for Doctrinal purposes) in somewhat the same position in which America herself was left by the late lamented

(Continued on page 7.)

Sir Joseph Lamb: Will my hon. and gallant Friend ascertain what stores these large firms have acquired and are now holding for their own purposes?

Mr. Rhy's Davies: Will the hon. and gallant Gentleman undertake that when any schemes come before him to close the premises of small businessmen he will see that a proportionate number of branches of the big firms are closed in the same way?

Captain Waterhouse: There is no scheme at all at present for the retail shopkeepers. The retail shopkeepers are not at present being asked to concentrate. If they find that it is necessary owing to the reduction of business to concentrate, they will do it of their own free will, and in so doing they will not in any way be forced by the Government. The Government is generally sympathetic to their difficulties, and will do all they can to see that they get a square deal. Perhaps my hon. Friend the Member for Stone (Sir J. Lamb) will put his question down.

Mr. Lyons: Arising out of the very unsatisfactory nature of the position that has been disclosed, shall take an early opportunity of raising the matter on the Adjournment.

MONOPOLISTIC TREND

CONCERN IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT

Last week we published part of a House of Commons debate, which indicated considerable opposition to the Government's policy of "Concentration of Production," on the grounds that it favoured monopolies, and led to the inefficiency and wartime dangers of centralisation. In later debates this subject and kindred other matters received considerable attention. The two extracts given hereunder are from the Official Report ("Hansard"), for April 22 and April 23 respectively:

Mr. Stokes asked the President of the Board of Trade whether his attention has been called to the stock-in-trade of Messrs. Lewis's, Limited, which in February, 1939, stood at £497,710, in February, 1940, had risen to £696,740, and a year later to £878,721; and whether he is satisfied that no evasion of the limitation, of supplies imposed upon traders as a whole has been permitted in this case?

The President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Lyttleton): Yes, Sir. The obligation to limit supplies is not imposed upon traders as a whole but upon manufacturers and wholesalers. I have no evidence to suggest that there has been any evasion of the Limitation of Supplies Orders by any of Messrs. Lewis's suppliers. I understand that the increase in the value of Messrs. Lewis's stocks to which the hon. Member calls attention is due chiefly to the rise in prices of dry goods and to the Purchase Tax.

Mr. Stokes: Does my right hon. Friend really expect us to believe that a 100 per cent. increase in the value of stocks is due to the rise in prices? Further, does he think it fair that firms of this kind should get these stocks while the small traders are unable to get their legal requirements?

Sir Herbert Williams: Do I understand that it is the modern version of 9d for 4d?

* * * *

Mr. Lyons asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he will give an assurance that in any proposals for the telescoping of industry and the consequent closing of business concerns that will be entailed, he will safeguard the position of the small proprietor in that the multiple stores and co-operative society branches are not allowed privilege against him to his complete commercial annihilation?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade (Captain

Waterhouse): Yes, Sir. I can assure my hon. and learned Friend that, in approving proposals made by manufacturers for concentration of production, no advantage is given to the suppliers of large concerns that is not also available to the suppliers of the small retailers.

Mr. Lyons: Would my hon. and gallant Friend say whether, in view of the great apprehension on this matter, he would cause some public announcement to be made of the safeguards and their nature, so as to prevent hundreds of thousands of people being put into a pitiful position?

Captain Waterhouse: My right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade has made clear that his aim and object are to safeguard the position of the smaller men, and he will do nothing to their disadvantage at all. I hope that that will meet the point of view of my hon. and learned Friend.

Mr. Lyons: While I am grateful for that, would my hon. and gallant Friend take steps to see that some statement is made of what these safeguards are to be, because the word "safeguard" used by a Government Department is not trusted in the minds of the people? They would like to know concretely the proposals that are to bring about what my hon. and gallant Friend suggests.

Captain Waterhouse: My hon. and learned Friend will realise that these schemes are arranged between the firms concerned, and that it is therefore impossible for the Board of Trade to lay down any specific safeguards. What they have undertaken to do is to bear the interest of the small men specially in mind when schemes are submitted for approval.

Mr. Lyons: In the meantime will not the small man himself be put out of business because of the complete lack of policy of the Department in this matter?

THE WORLD WAR AFTER WASHINGTON—Continued

War... relatively unexhausted and a creditor to all combatants, a position which would shift Financial World Power back to London. Utilising the financial power recently acquired, the movement of which the Washington Conference was the visible symbol, drove a wedge into the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, reducing the naval armament question to a question of credit-power, i.e., potential building capacity, rather than actual power, thus apparently eliminating, or at any rate greatly delaying, any possibility of distraction from the main objective, and at the same time, forcing a settlement of the Irish question on lines which seem well calculated to eliminate Great Britain as an Atlantic Naval Power, while strengthening the hold of Finance on Ireland. Without offering an opinion as to whether the situation was inescapable, it may be remarked at once that President Harding is justified in his complacency. His term of office marks the bloodless surrender of the world's greatest Empire, and its deletion as an effective voice at other than parochial conferences. The British Government being wholly in the grip of International Finance, and, indeed, simply an instrument of it, is passive in the matter, which is not to say that all individuals in that Government are necessarily acquiescent. Once again it is the power of the machine, not the will of the man.

It would appear, therefore, that the Washington Conference had achieved definite results. It would seem to mark a victory for "normalcy," a staving off of a situation, which might involve not merely political, but economic revolution, and, at the same time, progress on the part of Wall Street and Washington to the goal of "Arbiter Mundi." And that would be so had not the conclusions attained by it left unsolved, and even complicated, problems fatal both to the theory and to the policy, which problems it is our business to examine.

In order to grasp the reality of these problems it is necessary to go back a little, to inspect afresh the pivot on which the whole situation turns. The Doctrine says, "If a man will not work neither shall he eat"; and both High Finance and Extreme Labour chant "Amen," each of them mentally reserving, for their own purposes, the right to define what is work.

But, enter a third party, Modern Applied Science and Technology, which says, "I will show you how to place the burden of Humanity on the backs of machines; to harness solar energy, through the medium of steam, oil, water-power, and even atomic energy so that one man, working under conditions of great comfort and enthralling interest, shall produce enough for one thousand, both of food, clothes and housing."

Thus, between Modern Science and the Doctrine is declared war to the death; for either Science will win, in which case the increasing majority of human beings will, in the nature of things, and not by any legalistic process, be released from the slavery of arbitrarily conditioned

PROF. COPLAND'S FUTURE

"Pleasant and affable" Professor Copland, "who has the knack of getting on with business magnates," ("Smith's Weekly," 12/7/41), has plunged into the turmoil of national life.

It is, indeed, ironical to read that Professor Copland, who should be protecting your interests and mine, and striking a balance between our interests and the interests of "big" business, should be most noted for his capacity of getting on well with business magnates.

However, he should stand the strain of national life very well, because he has had a sturdy apprenticeship (so we learn)—crossing lances "with the two most articulate sections of the community," of which monetary reformers are No. 1.

As Professor Copland has seen fit to accept the position as the spearhead of our present monetary system, he must accept an ever-rougher passage from an increasing number of people who are advocating vast improvements and changes in that financial system of which Professor Copland has been such a steady protagonist.

The overwhelming evidence that our present system is a monopolist's paradise is so plain that Professor Copland's renowned ability will need to be sharp, indeed, to find a chink in the armour of facts arraigned against him by these "articulate" monetary reformers.

—R. Leeson.

Mr. Arthur Chresby's North Coast of N.S.W. and South Queensland Tour

Mr. A. Chresby, State Hon. Campaign Director, N.S.W. Division, Electoral Campaign, will leave on a lecturing tour of the North Coast of N.S.W. and South Queensland next week. The following programme, subject to confirmation, has been arranged:

July 25-27: Newcastle.

July 28: Taree.

July 29: Wauchope.

July 30: Kempsey.

July 31: Coff's Harbour (stay of 4 days).

August 4: Grafton (stay of 4 days).

August 7: Casino.

August 8: Lismore (stay 3 days).

August 11: Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads (stay 4 days).

August 15: Brisbane. August 22: Maryborough-Nickenbah.

August 26: Brisbane.

Details of return journey will be announced later. "New Times" readers desiring meetings are requested to communicate with Mr. Chresby, Campaign Centre, Room 9, 3rd Floor, 296 Pitt-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Employment (which is the stronghold of the Doctrine) or Finance and Legalism will continue, as at present, to counter each advance of Science, so that labour-saving machinery will only enable men to do more "work," while sabotage and misdirection of effort will dispose of and waste the product, until such time as Science, misused and prostituted by the Captains of Industry, who know everything about their business except what it is for, will destroy civilisation.

Observe, then, that every industrialised Nation is faced with what it calls an "Unemployment" problem, and that organised Labour (oblivious to the glut of goods, and the organised attempts to restrict output on the part of the very people who called for more production three years ago) is calling for "Work or Maintenance." Just in that order. (To be continued.)

ERIC BUTLER IN SYDNEY

Since arriving in Sydney on Tuesday, July 8, Eric Butler has been very busy addressing meetings and making personal contacts.

He was given a dinner of welcome by the N.S.W. Electoral Campaign on Tuesday evening. In a short address he dealt with the present situation and future activities.

On Thursday, July 10, he addressed a small public meeting at Hornsby. A wet night, no doubt, kept many people away. Mr. Arthur Chresby, N.S.W. Electoral Campaign Director, also addressed the meeting. Many interesting questions were asked and answered to the satisfaction of those present.

On Friday afternoon, July 11, Mr. Butler addressed the Women's Division of the Electoral Campaign. Some interesting and stimulating discussion took place after the address. In the evening, Mr. Butler visited Epping and addressed the "Realist Club." He was given an attentive hearing.

On Saturday, July 12, he was the guest of a State Cabinet Minister's secretary, who arranged a small house meeting. Sir Frederick Stewart was present. A very lively and interesting discussion took place between Sir Frederick and Mr. Butler.

On Sunday, July 13, Mr. Butler

debated Mr. J. Bowden at the Sydney Rationalist Association on Russia and International Finance. There was a big attendance. The Communists were present in force. Mr. Butler's opponent, Mr. Bowden, urged those present to read the "New Times" and Mr. Butler's books.

Further reports of activities will be published in our next issue.

OUR SECRET WEAPON

The latest development in the war against "the enemy within" takes the form of high quality, double-sided gramophone records of short talks by Mr. Eric Butler and Dr. John Dale. If you have a gramophone, an electric pickup connected to your radio or a phonoradio, you can play these records to your friends. If you happen to have a public address amplifier and loud speakers fitted to a motorcar . . . well, the possibilities are obvious.

The records may be obtained at a cost of 16/- each (including packing and postage) from Mr. F. Arnoldt, Kerang, Victoria. If ordering one record, specify whether you want one of Mr. Butler or of Dr. Dale.

ANGLICAN BISHOP "SLATES" CHILD ENDOWMENT

(Continued from page 1.)

measure provided an opportunity for "children to share in some of life's amenities which so far have been denied to them." He further stated that ethical and spiritual values "are more readily obtainable if people are free from the depressing effects of family financial embarrassment. "Because," he said, "I believe that high moral standards are incompatible with low economic standards, I intend . . . that Australia should have more 'panicky legislation' of the endowment type." Fine sentiments, indeed, but what are these statements but an unconscious and complete admission of the effects of the present rotten financial system, which has denied children the opportunity to share in some of life's amenities, which has brought financial embarrassment to thousands, and prevented them from reaching high moral standards, and the realisation of ethical and spiritual values? As Sir Frederick is a supporter of the monetary system, which produced these evils, it is perhaps not surprising that his "panicky" remedy is to give with one hand and take back with the other.

While the initial effect of child endowment will be to give a measure of relief the blistering taxation that is to be imposed will soon nullify expectations.

The fact might well be noted, that the Child Endowment scheme is, in itself, a belated admission of the soundness of the Labour Unions claim that the basic wage is insufficient to maintain a family in decency and comfort.

In claiming that the falling birth rate is a moral, and not an economic question, Dr. Thomas seems to have entered into very debatable ground. Would it not be nearer the mark to regard it as both, but more economic than moral? If organised society—the State—allows an economic system to prevail, which deprives parents of any prospect of obtaining means to provide adequate sustenance for their offspring, then the moral guilt must rest, not on the individual, but on the State. One fact is unassailable, and that is,

that in times of 'prosperity the birth-rate increases, and diminishes in times of depression.

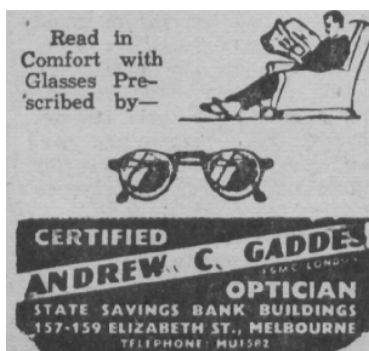
Since the outbreak of war, the expanding avenues of employment have made marriage possible to thousands who were previously debarred through lack of means, and it is a matter of common knowledge that the maternity hospitals are at their wits end to provide accommodation for expectant mothers. While no one would claim that moral standards have risen since the war began, it cannot be denied that economic standards have temporarily improved (except in the case of soldier's wives and families, of course).

A curious sidelight upon the effects of improved economic conditions is revealed in a report published in the Melbourne "Argus" recently. It said:

"Where have all the foundling babies gone? is a question being asked by many people who are told that at present babies' homes have few or no children available for adoption. Mrs. H. McCain, matron of Berry Street Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, believes that one of the reasons is that so many mothers have obtained remunerative positions in war industries that they are now in a position to keep their babies. Many mothers in these positions can afford to leave their children at the home to be cared for while they are at work . . . At present the Berry Street home had no babies available for adoption. The home received 200 applications for the last child available. St. Gabriel's Home, Balwyn, had only two babies; Presbyterian Church of Victoria Babies' Home, Camberwell, had a shortage, also Methodist Babies' Home at South Yarra."

The illuminating statement quoted above not only disposes of the fiction about unnatural mothers foisting unwanted children on Foundling Homes, but also indicates that economic lack or stringency is the main factor in placing and keeping them there.

—"Stirrem."



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A TRAP FOR THE UNWARY

Sir, —Although I was under the impression that we were fighting this war to preserve the sovereignty of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and to restore the sovereignty of the smaller nations attacked by aggressors—and never let it be forgotten that our new "ally," Russia, who is now said to be fighting to save civilisation and Christianity (!), has a record as black as that of Nazi Germany or Fascist Italy—I am becoming alarmed to note more evidence that the real objective of those who were responsible for the war, the Jewish International Financiers, is to actually destroy the things we are fighting for. Federal Union is now becoming a practical issue. Having used Hitler to start the war, International Finance has cleverly manipulated us into a very awkward position.

We are in danger of being stampeded by some very clever propaganda. Internally, the British countries are being quickly socialised — "Conservatives" and Socialists are unanimous that more centralisation, more restrictions and more bureaucracy are wanted. This is a prelude to international Socialism under the domination of Jewish High Finance possessing the only armed force in the world — Federal Union.

According to the Sydney press of the week before last, Sir Alfred Davidson, managing director of the Bank of New South Wales, has stated that Australia needs flexibility in her plans for both war and peace, "so that they could be co-ordinated with those of the United States and Russia."

This dastardly plot is making fair headway—some speakers even publicly suggest the removal of the British Monarchy as a prelude to greater world centralisation.

Unless we can frustrate this plot, money reform or any other kind of reform will remain a dream. The real fight at the moment must be against every move towards centralisation. Mere discussion of money reform, while we ignore what the enemy-in-the-rear is doing under the cover of war is sheer stupidity. We have the Sydney "Daily Mirror" running a campaign for the use of "national credit"—but, at the same time that paper advocates more centralisation and

Federal Union! Is this part of the tactics to defeat us? Let us take heed. If Federal Union is implemented rigidly, we will have an almost hopeless task. I therefore urge every reader of the "New Times" to write to his Member of Parliament immediately. Call on him to remember his oath of allegiance to the King. Expose this Federal Union. Drive its exponents into the open. Never let up on them. The war is reaching a critical stage, and we can expect a great blast of "spontaneous" propaganda—mostly emanating from the Jew-ridden United States of America and the Jew-ridden Soviet Republics of Russia. Action—not talk—is urgently needed. —Yours, etc.,

ERIC D. BUTLER (Sydney).

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United Democrats' Report

From Headquarters, 17 Waymouth-street, Adelaide.

Annual Meeting: This will take place on Saturday, July 26, at 2.30 p.m. After the business is disposed of there will be tea and a rally in the evening. As this is one of the few opportunities for meeting old friends, make a special effort to come to one or both of the sessions.

Bridge and Checkers Evening: Don't miss Saturday evening, July 19. Good prizes and good fun.

Lunch Hour Speaker: On Friday, July 18, the speaker will be Mr. W. G. Thompson, of Hobart, recently returned from the war. His subject will be "With the A.I.F. in the Middle East."

Special Afternoon Meeting: On Friday, August 1, at 3 p.m., an afternoon meeting will be held at the clubrooms. Mr. Wm. Macgillivray, M.P., will speak on "Current

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Parliamentary Topics." Afternoon tea; charge 1/-. Wednesday Evening Study Circle will meet at 8 p.m. at Headquarters. It was with much regret we learned, only a few days ago, that the Movement in South Australia is about to lose one of its towers of strength in Mr. Bruce H. Brown, who has been called to a higher position in Melbourne in the Government Department in which he has occupied a high and responsible position in Adelaide for about-three years. To say that we shall miss Mr. Brown is not enough. Within the short space of time he has been with us he has done work of an individual nature that only he could do. As president of the Christian Social Order, Mr. Brown did Trojan service in educating both clergy and congregations. When "circumstances" brought that splendid and unique work to a sudden cessation, Mr. Brown still carried on in his own quiet way. Many people—and not a few are well in the public eye—have cause to thank Mr. Bruce Brown for first enlightening them on the money question. Our warmest wishes go with Mr. and Mrs. Brown and family on their return to Melbourne.

THANK YOU!

The "New Times" has received the following donations since the last list of acknowledgments was published:

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