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# THE NEW TIMES

Vol. 7. No. 36. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 1941.

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).

## Bushranging Onslaught By Bank"

### Typical Farm Tragedy Cited in Parliament

It has been said that a bank overdraft is like an umbrella that is lent when the weather is fine, and whose return is demanded when the rain starts. It is worse than that, because the banks themselves bring the financial "rain." Typical results of this charming little prank were described in Federal Parliament on August 20. We quote from "Hansard":

**Mr. Baker** (Maranoa): We have heard a good deal about the new order that will emerge from the present titanic struggle. I am pleased to notice that the Treasurer (Mr. Fadden) is in charge of the House at the moment, as I desire to make an appeal on behalf of men who are struggling in the rural industries. I refer particularly to sheep growers, wool - producers, cattle-raisers, fruit-growers, dairy-men and wheat-growers. I propose to read extracts from a letter, which is a sample of dozens of letters that every member who represents a rural electorate gets. This letter, which was addressed to me, is dated July 28, and states:

"I take the liberty to write to you sir, in support of the proposed inauguration of a general federal moratorium. In doing so, I beg to submit particulars of my own case and that of my neighbour. I am a grazier with a life's experience on the land. I came out here with a family of four in 1928 from New South Wales. I had previously drawn a block of 16,700 acres, in 1925, and shortly after bought sheep and started wool and sheep raising. The country was virgin and heavily timbered and pear infested, with no improvements except being half enclosed with fencing. In 1927, I erected a house, wool shed, and yards, and subdivided and completed the 14 miles of dog and rabbit fence. The first two years, 1927 to 1928, I made a profit.

"The local bank manager then induced me to mortgage the property to buy more sheep, which I purchased at the cost of 21/- a head, in 1928. The first clip from these sheep and those I already had struck the wool slump in 1929, and for the following ten years there were only three years that wool reached a payable price. This was accompanied by droughts, epidemics, and the failure of the artesian bore to supply water I was depending on. I then had to borrow £500 to put down three tanks. This was borrowed from the Lands Department, not from the bank.

"Since the British wool purchase scheme started, I have shown a profit and pulled round. I have improvements to the value of between £4500 and £5000, and 3000 sheep. I myself and my wife, son and two daughters have all worked on most economical lines and most efficiently. I forgot to mention that three of us worked on the pear poisoning for three years before the advent of cactoblastis. The bank's security has never been jeopardised. Shortly after war was declared the bank gave me notice of foreclosure."

In many other cases the private banks gave notices of foreclosure as soon as war was declared. The letter continues:

"I was forced, at great expense, to go to Brisbane twice to engage a

solicitor and" counsel to defend my case, etc., under the Mortgagees' Relief Act. As a result, there have been two Supreme Court hearings of the case, and the matter now stands adjourned until October 9. The other day my solicitor wrote and said I had exhausted my rights under the Act, and that I am only protected up to the time of the next hearing. I am quite at a loss to know why. Although the judge stopped the bank taking my place, he ordered me to advertise it at £5300, a ridiculously deflated price. In 1940, my property was valued by the country valuer of the Primaries' Wool Firm at £8390; hence, if my place is sold at £5300, I shall be a heavy loser and get nothing out of it. "It is apparent to me, by this result of my case, that the Mortgagees (Continued on page 8.)

### LACK-OF-MONEY EXCUSE IS "BLITHERING ROT"

#### SYDNEY DAILY PAPER DEMANDS USE OF NATIONAL CREDIT

The new Sydney daily paper, the "Daily Mirror," has published a number of editorials urging use of the national credit. Speculation is rife as to how long such articles will continue before the banks manage to stop them, probably by pressure on advertisers. This is what the "Daily Mirror" said on September 4:

#### "GOT NO MONEY."

Action to bring about the new social order instead of so much platitudinous humbug is what Australia needs today. And there is no need to wait until the dim future "after the war" before making an effort to even up the scales of social justice.

There are 16,000 male unemployed in this State at a time when the services of every able-bodied man and woman should be employed either on war work or on the subsidiary efforts needed to maintain and expand the war effort.

Sydney has no water. About 10 years hence we might have water when the Warragamba Dam is completed, but the water from this dam will have to be treated because of impurities. The work cannot be speeded because there is no money.

The Snowy River scheme cannot be thought of because of the cost. A city of a million and a half people is to go without water, and water that is vital to the defence of the city and for our war industries, because there is no money.

#### What blithering rot!

No longer will the people of this State or of Australia put up with

**Mr. Dedman** (Corio) (1.36 a.m.). —I should not have risen at this late hour but for a matter, which I consider to be of supreme importance. Certain constituents of mine, members of the Militia Force, have received notice that they will be required for continuous military duty for the duration of the war. I have not made any bones about where I stand in regard to conscription. I am opposed to conscription for home service as well as for service overseas. I am opposed to it on religious grounds, because I do not believe that any man or any Government ought to force any individual to take up the art of killing his fellow men. But apart from that aspect, I take up the case of my constituents now because many of them have de-

pendent mothers, sisters or younger brothers. It is totally unfair and inequitable that a sacrifice should be demanded from those individuals, whereas other individuals make no sacrifice at all. The men concerned are members of the 10th Anti-aircraft Battery stationed at Williamstown racecourse. It is merely by chance that they are not in the infantry, where they would be called upon to serve two periods of three months each year and be free for the remainder of the year to earn good wages in order to meet their commitments. I suppose that the Minister will say that it is necessary to call these men up for the duration of the war because they are members of a technical unit in which the period of training is long. My answer is that if the Government gave a sufficiently high scale of pay it would get all the volunteers it needs for any branch of the Services . . .

I am concerned, too about another aspect of the matter, and I am sorry that the Minister for the Army (Mr. Spender) is not in the chamber to hear what I have to say. When these young men complained to me I immediately rang up the commanding officer of the unit concerned. He was not particularly pleased about it. He said that the men had no business to come to me. I deny that. This is a very serious thing; they had every right to come to me as their member. I do not concede the right of soldiers to approach members of Parliament about trifling matters of military routine, but in such an important matter as this they had every right to come to me. As a sequel to my talk over the 'phone with the commanding officer the unit was paraded and the men were told that on the next occasion they approached their member in connection with military matters they (Continued on page 8.)

### WALL STREET AND THE WAR

"What the stock market probably needs to sustain it or improve it, taking a short or day-to-day view, is freedom from fear of any sudden change in the complexion of things abroad, a war active enough to stimulate the EXPORTS upon which present hopes are built, yet not decisive enough to indicate an early end to the war. And, of course, a war in which the position of the Allies is never QUITE jeopardised."

—Robert Laffan, in the "Wall Street Journal," May, 1940. (Our emphasis.)

### DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF MILITIAMEN

#### M.H.R. ALLEGES INFRINGEMENT

An interesting supplement to the article about the militia, which we published last week, is provided by Mr. J. J. Dedman, M.H.R. for Corio. We quote from a recent speech he delivered in Federal Parliament, as reported in "Hansard" No. 10:

## THE CREDIT POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT

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

**At the end of this month the Federal Parliament meets to discuss the Budget. The Government will have to find approximately £250,000,000 to finance this year's war effort, and there are three different methods by which this can be done. One is by taxation, the second is by savings of the people contributed in the form of loans to the Government, and the third is by Bank Credit created by the private banks, or by the Commonwealth Bank, or by both.**

**The extra war taxation imposed by the Federal Government will raise but £80,000,000 a year; the genuine savings of the people may be put down at about £40,000,000 a year — which leaves a gap of £130,000,000 still to be found.**

In the last war, the great gap between what the people could pay and what was required to finance the war was filled by the private banks creating the necessary credits. This was done in several ways, one of which was by the banks extending credits to the war industries, and also by extending week to week credits to the Governments to cover the payments of all those in Government service, and finally by contributing to the war loans. By these methods, and others, the private banks, by creating the necessary credits, which were operated on by cheques, created the extra money required for the extra war effort.

This process of the banks of expanding credit to meet expanding needs is, of course, absolutely essential, and is the means by which the great expansion of human effort has been financed over the last century. Our complaint about the process is that the policy of those who control the Credit Monopoly is used to enslave the people of this and every other country over which they have a stranglehold.

The wages and salaries paid out by industry is financed by the banks; all money in circulation, therefore, starts as a debt to the banks. As the money issued each week or fortnight does not cover such things as interest charges, profits or all such things as re-investments and resales, etc., the community as a whole is never in the position to pay back all the debts owing to the banks. The result is that all new buildings, etc., that are placed upon the face of this earth have to be financed by fresh loans from the banks.

In other words, the results of expansion, initiative and invention fall automatically into the hands of those who control the credit monopoly; and our colossal structure of debt reveals to all those who have eyes to see, and brains to think with, the results of the

chronic and artificially created shortage of purchasing power.

In what other way can you explain why progressive communities like those of America and the British Dominions should find their Federal and State and Municipal Governments burdened with debts, which are never paid off, but always increase? How else can you explain why 90 per cent of the land and properties of those countries are mortgaged to financial institutions?

You yourself may have had some doubts about the real position, but financiers themselves are quite clear on the subject. Here is what the United States "Bankers' Magazine" said:—

"Capital must protect itself in every possible manner by combination and legislation. Debts must be collected; bonds and mortgages must be foreclosed as rapidly as possible. When, through a process of law, the common people lose their homes, they will become more docile and more easily governed through the influence of the strong arm of government, applied by a central power of wealth under control of leading financiers. This truth is well known among our principal men now engaged in forming an imperialism of capital to govern the world."

Listen to what Mr. Reginald McKenna, Chairman of England's largest bank, has to say:

1. "I am afraid the ordinary citizen will not like to be told that the banks can, and do, create and destroy money.
2. "And that they who control the credit of the nation direct the policy of Governments, and hold in the hollow of their hands the destiny of the people.
3. "The Bank of England, and no other power in Heaven above or Earth beneath, is the ultimate arbiter of what our supply of money shall be. The regular expansion of money supplies which must be undertaken if trade is to be active and the price level stable has not been permitted."

Now listen to what Philip A. Benson, President of the American

Bankers' Association said on June 8, 1939:

"There is no more direct way to capture control of a nation than through its credit system."

Well, listeners, there is the position. When through a process of law forced upon us by Mr. Fadden, ably supported by Mr. Curtin, the common people lose their homes and most of their wages they will, like the Germans, become more docile and more easily governed through the influence of the strong arm of Government applied by a central power of wealth under the control of leading financiers. This truth is well known among our principal men now engaged in forming an imperialism of capital to govern the world, and its name shall be Federal Union as a start to a World State.

Mr. Fadden and Mr. Curtin anticipate trouble at the next Budget Debate in Parliament, and they are going to sidetrack the issue by another Royal Commission on Banking. As the findings of the last Royal Commission on Banking have been conveniently shelved, how can we expect any more from this Commission introduced at such a time?

The financial position is quite clear, and quite different to that stated by Mr. Fadden. The position is this:

Australia requires extra money to finance the war; that money does not exist, but has to be created as the needs arise. There is no possibility of extracting this extra money from the people either through, taxation or compulsory loans. The money must be created by an expansion of credit.

The extra money created is based on the extra work and effort put out by the Australian people, and neither the private banks nor any other privileged body has a right to claim that money as its own and therefore no right to claim interest on it.

Secondly, it is Mr. Fadden's and Mr. Curtin's duty to see that the private banks claim no new monies as their own and that they are prevented from putting this country further into debt.

Furthermore, it is their duty to prevent the wastage of Australian food by distributing it to the people. This can best be done by reducing prices of foodstuffs by credit issued by the Commonwealth Bank to subsidise prices, and, at the same time, pay the farmers a reasonable price for their products.

The price-fixing commission is under Government control, and there can be no further inflation of prices without the permission of Mr. Fadden and his colleagues. Mr. Fadden need not worry about inflation if he is prepared to take steps to guard the interests of the people. He has control of the situation if he is prepared to take control.

How can the Prime Minister obtain the loyalty of the people if he is not prepared to do anything to protect the people, and let them get on with their work?

To say that there will be inflation of prices if the Commonwealth Bank creates the necessary credits for the prosecution of the war, and no inflation if the private banks do it, is just sheer moonshine.

I think it is time the people of Australia told their Members of Parliament what they think of all this political jugglery, and told them to stop holding up the nation's war effort by their attempts to wage a war by financial methods which are as out of date as the weapons of the Boer war.

It is your duty to write to your Member of Parliament and tell him what you think of these things, and what you want done about them. If you are not prepared to write, then anything is likely to happen in Parliament this month and, as usual, what happens won't be to your liking.

## MORE F.U. PROPAGANDA

**The "Sydney Morning Herald," in one of its frequent reviews of the latest Federal Union literature, discusses the book, "Decision," by Lionel Curtis. The review states:**

**"There is a numerous school of thought which holds that war cannot be banished until the anarchy of national States has been abolished. To this end they propose federation as the only effective means of turning the irresponsible, self-seeking of national sovereignties into mutual helpfulness and so of removing the clash of interests and ambitions which leads to war."**

Mr. Curtis advocates federation of Britain and the dominions as the first step in a scheme to prevent war in the future. It might be asked why he should desire to Federate the British Empire, presumably meaning by this the establishment of an over-riding control. The British Empire is in intention and in theory, if not in fact, composed of decentralised autonomous units each of which has the power, if it cares to exercise it, of determining its own part in the scheme of things.

Mr. Curtis, however, proposes that a standing commission should assess the taxable capacity of the various countries in the federation, and that the revenue required for general security, as voted by the federal legislative body, should be assessed upon these various nations in the ratio so declared. Each nation would return representatives to the legislative body on a population basis, and there would be an Upper House in which, as in the American Senate, each nation would have equal representation, but its function would be advisory, except on proposals to alter the constitution.

The "Sydney Morning Herald" continues: "The objection which

many people see to the scheme for federating existing national States, as proposed by Mr. Streit and others, is the difficulty of persuading the people of those States to surrender their power over their vital concerns to a body which includes representatives of other national States." The paper goes on to say, "Would force be necessary to compel one or more recalcitrant nations to remain in the federation, such as happened in the American Civil War?"

Well, we have been well warned by the voluminous literature surrounding the propaganda of Federal Union as to the intention of the Internationalists who seek to impose their will upon the People by means of either Federal Union or "The Gestapo." Each method is equally abhorrent to the People of the British Empire, but one or the other will be imposed upon us unless we act and act quickly. How can we act? By challenging Federal Union whenever it raises its head, either in the press, on the radio or elsewhere, whether openly or concealed, and by writing immediately to all our parliamentary and local representatives informing them of the danger.

### MR. BRUCE H BROWN

will give an Address at the Monthly Meeting of Members and Friends at the Rooms of The Douglas Credit Movement of Victoria (Room 8, First Floor, The Block, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne) on Thursday, September 18, at 8 p.m.

All Welcome — Admission Free.

### TO OUR READERS

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## ROOT CAUSES MUST BE TACKLED

### Broadcaster's Plea for Individual Responsibility

In concluding an address, broadcast by 3KZ on August 10, Mr. J. Bradshaw, A.F.I.A., said:

Perhaps you may reject this diagnosis of the world situation. It may be, you consider this war to be due solely to the lust for power of Hitler and his Nazi gangsters. To take that view, however, is to disregard the fact that there have been Hitlers before. There were, for instance, Napoleon and Bismarck. More recently, there was Kaiser Wilhelm. But it is highly improbable that any of those tyrants could have carved out their careers of blood and destruction if they had lived in countries inhabited by economically independent and politically contented people.

From a searching examination of the forces operating in the world today, the conclusion appears unavoidable that the fundamental cause of modern warfare and the race in armaments by which it is preceded is the prevailing financial system, which, by arbitrarily restricting necessary finance in each country keeps consumption of commodities unnecessarily low. Thus, there is brought about the accumulation of primary and manufactured products for which foreign markets have to be sought. The ruthless international competition thus engendered can finally bring only one result—WAR. If, as Mr. Casey declared, unemployment is, in the long run, a greater enemy of democracy than Nazi Germany; if, further, we intend continuing the present large-scale and highly mechanised industrial processes, under which an ever-increasing volume of unemployment is inevitable, it is quite certain that some new financial mechanism for distributing the abundance of products now made possible will have to be devised. The wages system is obsolete. In the face of a refusal to face these undeniable facts and to accept their implications, it is sheer hypocrisy to talk of a "new order." There are people who, though they continue to repeat what is in danger of becoming a platitude, namely, that this war is a struggle between Christianity and Paganism, appear to ignore the vital principle enunciated by Christianity's Founder, that institutions were made for man, not man for institutions. In order to conform to the requirements of their anti-social financial system, those who control and manipulate that system insist that individuals must be regimented, impoverished, frustrated and degraded.

I would conclude this broadcast by making an urgent appeal to all who cherish the ideals of Freedom and Justice to co-operate in the building of a better, nobler, social order — an order in which there shall be provided for all peoples the basis of a life wherein those ideals shall find ever-increasing expression, wherein what is physically possible and desirable shall be made financially possible.

Such co-operation involves acceptance of individual responsibility, the kind of responsibility which democratic citizenship requires, and which entails keeping in touch with, and supporting our political representatives when they are endeavouring to bring about much needed reforms. That can be done by writing to them to inform them of what results we require and what legislation we do not desire. They are supposed to represent US in Parliament. Do not forget the statement of the late Joseph Lyons of which I reminded you, namely, "the banks had confidence in my Government and we were able to carry on." That statement implies that no Government which might be given a mandate by the people to implement a liberal policy of reform and social improvement would be able to carry on—because of the opposition and obstruction which would emanate from the banks. It is also tantamount to a declaration that the banks constitute a dictatorship.

Therefore, it is essential that you and I, as electors and citizens, should face up to our responsibilities as such by keeping in touch with our representatives, and advising them of the results we desire.

Mr. L. H. Hollins, M.L.A., remarked recently that, "if we are to bring about the reforms required, I believe that the initiative must come from the electors themselves." And so it must.

By shouldering those rights and responsibilities of democratic citizenship, by accepting the challenge of the times, by taking the initiative in social and financial reform with an utter disregard for the propaganda contained in the financially-controlled daily press, we, in this pleasant land of Australia, may generate, not only for ourselves, but for the whole world, a ray of hope -- a ray of hope, which, exalting and ennobling the social and economic order, shall rise into a sun.

## DEFENCE WITHOUT TAXES

### BILL BEFORE U.S. CONGRESS

How to pay the financial cost of America's vast defence programme is proposed in a Bill which is now pending in the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives.

It is H. R. 159, introduced by Congressman Jerry Voorhis of the 12th District, California, on September 4, 1940, and reintroduced on January 3, 1941.

It contemplates that defence costs may rise to 50 billion dollars, a sum which cannot be viewed with equanimity either as additional taxes or as increased interest-bearing government debt.

The Bill provides that the Government shall deposit its promises-to-pay in the Federal Reserve banks, as is now done, but without interest, drawing cheques against the credits so erected, precisely as is now done, except that all such cheques and also the currency used as till-and-pocket-money under them, shall be earmarked by printing the words "Defence Funds" on them. Precedent for such ear-marking exists

in the blue and orange coupons used to distribute surplus commodities by the U.S. Surplus Commodity Corporation.

Such cheques and currency will be kept separately by banks, as trust funds on a 100% reserve basis, transferable by cheques similarly ear-marked, and the banks will be paid for their services per cheque at a rate to be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury. These funds, it is provided, may circulate without hindrance in all transactions, particularly in the payment of wages up to 10,000 dollars a year. An income tax of 100% is levied on defence funds whenever paid to any one person, for services or profit, at a rate above 10,000 dollars a year. The Bill makes no change in the present taxes on incomes paid in other than defence funds.

## AMERICA'S FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

By Andrae B. Nordskog, in "Money," New York.

The Federal Reserve System, privately owned, came into being in 1914, the Federal Reserve Act having been adopted December 23, 1913. Its purpose, so we were told, was to create an "elastic" currency and to put safeguards around the banks so as to strengthen them.

Beginning with the 1920 deflation and down through the crash of 1929, 15,000 banks in this country closed their doors with losses to depositors running into billions of dollars.

One very interesting fact which I have never seen in print before, is that although at all times during our two major depressions the surplus cash accounts of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks amounted to between 100 and 200 million dollars, not one dime of that surplus was used for the purpose of aiding a member bank in danger of failing. Nor was ever a dollar of that surplus used in assisting such a bank, once its doors were closed, to reopen them.

This compels the important question of: "Why accumulate such tremendous surplus, if not to tide over a member bank which has an emergency need?"

On May 18, 1920, the Federal Reserve Board and the Class A directors of the 12 Reserve banks held a secret meeting in Washington, D. C. Two years and nine months later, February 22, 1923, the Baltimore "Manufacturer's Record" exposed, for the first time, the secretly printed report of that meeting, as recorded by stenographers. In that 18,000 word editorial, the "Manufacturer's Record" said that it was one of the most fateful meetings in the financial history of the world, a meeting which no other organisation, including the Inter-state Commerce Commission or the Supreme Court of the United States, would ever have dared to hold in secret, and reach its conclusions in secret and withhold its conclusions from the public. On Feb. 23, 1923, that long editorial was published in full in the "Congressional Record."

At that fateful meeting the Federal Reserve Board members and Class A directors of the Federal Reserve banks secretly conspired to sharply increase the rediscount rate of the Reserve banks. The normal 2 per cent, rate was jumped to 4 per cent, to 6 per cent, to 8 per cent, and 10 per cent, with call rates jumping to 19 per cent, and 20 per cent.

Who could pay such rates and remain solvent? Not even sure-shot gamblers unless they were fortified with huge surpluses.

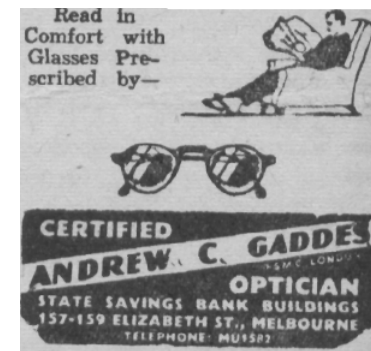
Factories closed, stores closed,

farms were taken from their once proud owners. Banks, both State and National, by the thousands closed each year.

People by the millions lost their jobs; millions driven from the homes they were paying for. Millions of marriages broken or orphanages filled with homeless children, romances wrecked and lives dwarfed and twisted from their natural courses.

### WANTED URGENTLY

In order to simplify attaching their mobile public-address amplifier unit to cars, the UEA. requires a trailer. There must be quite a number of unused trailers about, and we make this urgent appeal to supporters to locate them, and to forward particulars of same to the Hon. Secretary, United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, Little Collins Street, Melbourne.



THE "NEW TIMES" IS OBTAINABLE AT ALL AUTHORISED NEWSAGENTS

## A BOOK YOU MUST READ

### 'The Money Power Versus Democracy'

By Eric D. Butler. Price, 10d posted.

This book is being acclaimed by readers from all over Australia as the finest exposition of political and economic democracy to yet appear in this country.

This book will save you a lot of talk. In forty-eight pages, the author has crystallised the philosophy, history and application of democratic principles. A handbook, which every supporter should have.

ALSO BY THE SAME AUTHOR: "The War Behind the War." Price, 4d, posted

Every person who desires to gain a thorough knowledge of the real background to the present conflict should read this booklet. The most critical and impartial analysis of the Jewish Question" to appear in this country.

The above are obtainable from the "New Times," Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1941.

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## THE NEW DESPOTISM

Latest reports on the Apple and Pear Board reveal only too clearly, to even the most casual observer, the extent to which the process of "Stabilisation" and "Planned Economy" is steadily swallowing up our primary industries.

In the course of the investigation of the Board's activities, it was revealed that a heavy loss had been incurred on the Fruit Acquisition Scheme. The Chairman of the Board (Mr. J. B. Mills), however, pointed out that despite this, the Government, through the acquisition scheme, had attained its chief objective—**STABILISATION OF THE INDUSTRY, and retaining growers on their properties despite the loss of overseas markets.**

The briefest examination of the general position of the fruit growers is all that is needed to show exactly what this "stabilisation" of the industry means. One victim of the stabilisation process, when fined for moving apples, which were the property of the Commonwealth, told the Court that it was impossible for him to keep his family under the conditions of the Apple and Pear Acquisition Regulations. The Board offered him £75 to keep his wife and two children, and he worked all hours of the day and night for this. Although the sympathy of the Court was extended to him, he was, nevertheless, fined; while no steps were taken to remedy the matter and see that it would not occur again. He was merely an individual opposing the strength of a huge impersonal Board, and as such his personal problems received scant attention. The laws laid down by the Board are devised only in the interests of the "Industry," not of the individuals who compose that industry.

In the process of "stabilisation" we must naturally expect this sort of thing to continue; as with most industries controlled by highly centralised bureaucracies, the individual finds himself up against an impenetrable stonewall as soon as he violates the all-important "Plan." The Scheme, or the State, comes before the individual and his particular wants.

"A real problem could be created and serious injustice done to the industry," said Mr. Mills, "if the Board were to allow itself to be influenced by propaganda in relation to low prices. **If the public were led to believe that apples and pears were a low-value commodity the industry would suffer a severe economic setback. To remove fruit in the blossoming period by spraying to destroy it would probably be the most economical form of crop restriction.**"

Obviously, "too much" fruit presents a serious problem to orthodox economists faced with the already "difficult" problem of our alarmingly high rate of malnutrition among children! Much as Dame Nature would like to give us apples and pears in abundance, we must be taught by subtle propaganda that such things are high-value commodities and artificial restrictions must be placed on their production.

Planned Economy might provide for "order" in the economic system, but a disorderly plenty is preferable to an orderly poverty. Let us have an economy that will allow us to reap the greatest material advantage from an extra good crop of fruit, and yet still allow the grower to have a decent return for his services.

Under a Planned Economy, however, with its centralised control, plans, once laid down, can only be altered with the greatest difficulty, and usually it is the individual who has to pay the penalty when things go wrong.

It is easier to change the minds and opinions of individuals than it is to change the plans of Boards. How much harder is it going to be to change the minds of highly centralised Government departments, or of Central World Government, if this process of "stabilisation" and centralisation is allowed to go on unchecked?

## WAR EFFORT OF AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER

By FOOTLE

**From the morning I got the telegram from Old Pongo I was torn between longing and reluctance to feast the old optics upon his martial form, as the magazine chappies would say. I tried to picture the dear old egg, all lean and haggard—the typical Digger—but it was no go.**

I might just as well have tried to imagine an emaciated policeman or a whiskerless Bernard Shaw. I was pretty worked up, I can tell you, and the war effort in the Footle kitchen went into a bit of a fade. (I ought to explain that Aunt Ella is still fighting a thoroughly Muscovite rear-guard action in the War of the Kitchen—lamb chops every hour or so, and wine instead of tea, and goodness knows what else.)

"I wonder how many limbs he has," I murmured pensively as I stared at the Camembert.

"Don't tell me there's another of those wretched things," exclaimed Aunt Ella in distress. "I shall tell the grocer about it this time.

"Never mind the grocer, now, Aunt. I was thinking of Pongo."

She sniffed, and said with great meaning, "Percy isn't the sort you see in cheese; and I think it high time you stopped calling him 'Pongo,'" she added.

"... and whether he is whole or part," I continued evenly, though secretly shattered. "I sincerely trust a grateful nation will never cease to remember what she owes to the Pongos."

In trepidation I went to meet the old lad. Of course I need not have worried. Life gets a great kick out of us humans. When all the numbers go up you always find the thing you've worried most about is pretty well the only thing that can't possibly hurt you. If you're scared of fire, you're practically certain to meet a watery grave; if you're superstitious about ladders you can bet your life you're destined to fall down "a shaft, and so on. The law of cussedness is infinite in its variety and operation.

I believe I was almost peeved when a totally unchanged Pongo suddenly loomed at me and bore me off in search of the foaming beaker.

"Are you sure you're quite all right?" I hazarded when at length we faced each other as in the days of yore.

"G'lord, yes. Why shouldn't I be?"

"Well, you know—fellows come back with all sorts of things..."

"Yes, don't they? Stuffy asses. Never catch me humpin' souvenirs about... bits of enemy gear acquired in casualty clearing stations and all that. You should see 'em swappin' perfectly good cigarettes away for Italian noses. Good Virginias, too."

"Excuse me, did you say noses?"

"Yes, fingers, too, of course. Sentries, y'know. Johnny Ghurka's bit of fun."

"I wish you'd tell me something about the war," I suggested. No one ever does—except 'Our Special Correspondent.'"

"Oh, the war's all right," replied Pongo easily. "You get used to it. Some of the boys make quite a wad out of Crown and Anchor. Of course, the moving about is a frightful bally fag. Look at all that traipsing the lads went through, right up to Benghazi, when if they'd only known they needn't have gone any further than Tobruk. But, of course, I wasn't in that. I had a marvellous piece of luck. I got to Cairo."

"While the other blokes were fighting? I thought soldiers reckoned it bad luck to be left out of a scrap?"

"I couldn't say about that. I read very little nowadays. But I'll admit there are times during training when even the front line looks desirable; and then again there are times in the front line when anything at all looks desirable. Footle, old boy, I find you rather sickening."

I pretended not to notice. "So you went to Cairo? What was it like?"

"Frightfully rummy place, old boy. No bally salt-spoons anywhere."

"But what about the bazaars? The Mouski, for instance."

"Oh, ah, yes! The Mouski! I didn't bother. You see, I found several decent places where I could get my sort of cigarettes. Gezireh wasn't bad—but Albion Park is better."

"You saw the pyramids, naturally."

"Yes, rather. Got photographed on a camel... and met a nice little nurse..."

"Yes, but the pyramids. What are they like inside?"

"I don't know, really. But there are plenty of guide books; I might have one in my pack."

"No, don't bother!" I said hastily. "Didn't you get any impression from them at all?"

"If you must know, they're a bally fraud, I sh'd say. Just beastly great heaps of stones. Absolute bilge to call 'em one of the seven wonders of the world. Not to be compared with Sydney Harbour Bridge..."

"But," I suggested, "isn't the wonder how they got there? Just imagine those great masses of stone..."

"But what rot!" snorted Pongo. "To hear some people talk about the difficulty of this an' that, you'd think they were trying to prove the darn pyramids can't be there. Well, the bally things are there. That seems to me to settle the question."

"To get back to the war. You weren't wounded?" "No fear!"

"Nor disabled through sickness?"

"Certainly not!"

"Then what are you doing here?"

"I've been sent home to help the war effort."

"Oh, is that all?" I ejaculated weakly. "I'd no idea you'd be as bad a soldier as all that. Tell me about it." Pongo told me.

"Remember the early months I put in getting in and out of the Army? Well, my own idea is that when the Authorities found that I'd slipped through while they were celebrating my defeat, they were so annoyed and flabbergasted they'd have come after me into a Nazi internment camp. Anyway, one day I was called up to orderly room.

"What are you in private?" asked the colonel.

"Business director!" I said.

"Oh, indeed, is that so? Yet I am credibly informed that you enlisted as a gentleman... Now, which is it to be?"

"Seeing it couldn't be both, I plumped for 'director', and, well, here I am. Man Power and all that, y'know. But the real cup of anguish is yet to come—for my co-directors, of course. My hat, but they'll be peeved. Have another?"

## REVIEW OF REFORM PROGRESS

By the Campaign Director, United Electors of Australia,

**Frequently when campaigners meet, the question is asked: Are we getting anywhere? It is said that big things move slowly. Well, that seems especially true in regard to political and financial reform, because of the deep-seated preconceptions on such matters. However, there is ample evidence to prove that, not only are we definitely moving, but the movement is increasing in velocity.**

**The following illustrations, which are only a few taken at random, will serve to demonstrate that our activities are rapidly bearing fruit:—**

Reliable information is to hand dealing with the reception met by certain economists when lecturing to business executives at a regular fixture held in Melbourne; it is reported that previously dumb listeners now have the temerity to ask questions which indicate doubt as to the soundness of theories presented by the Oracles. Moreover, such questions in certain circumstances brought forth astounding answers, which, by implication, were to the effect that "the game was up" owing to public awareness.

There are also impressive statements by individual public men, and pronouncements by certain widely read financial journals, along with quite a number of country papers, and publications issued by other organisations, which are very encouraging, indeed. In political circles we witness a few members of each political party developing an independence, which is causing grave concern to their party bosses.

The following extract from the "Herald," 21-8-41, convincingly indicates that we are moving: "New South Wales State U.A.P. will discuss the cause of the election defeat, and plans for reorganisation; U.A.P. speakers will debate the following motion: **That the U.A.P. is declining through lack of discipline exercised over the Parliamentary members.**' A further motion provides that the Commonwealth Bank should be compelled to extend credit instead of compulsory taxation through public loans." Here is clear-cut evidence that the party machine is on the defensive; and, incidentally, a public admission showing the audacity of this clique in attempting to impose their policy on the people's representatives.

More recent information in the "Herald" (23-8-41) reports the Acting Leader of the Victorian State Labour Party as seeking the assistance of the Attorney-General to prevent electors from sending their instructions direct to State members. This should indicate the futility of placing any reliance on parties.

The motion dealing with the

### Mr. Arthur Chresby in Queensland

During his recent tour of southern Queensland, Mr. Arthur Chresby, Campaign Director, N.S.W. Electoral Campaign, paid a visit to the Maryborough-Bundaberg area.

Local supporters arranged a week's itinerary of lectures covering a radius of some fifty miles, which included four public lectures, four addresses with chart demonstration to supporters, lunch-hour address to Rotary Club and radio talk over 4MB. Besides these, Mr. Chresby was worked at high pressure by enthusiasts who were anxious to get inside information and to learn the technique of the Electoral Campaign methods.

Already, as a result of a motion carried at one of his public meetings, letters are being sent to Federal and State members of Parliament and local authorities demanding that pressure be

(Continued on page 8.)

Commonwealth Bank emanating from the U.A.P. is certainly interesting; doubtless it is inspired by the flat-out advocacy of national credit by the Sydney "Daily Mirror," all of which is unquestionably the result of years of solid penetrating work by campaigners in all States. Doubtless you who read this played your part—if not, it's not too late even now—there are still more individual members to influence—and there is the new evil of bureaucracy and Federal Union to fight (if these are implemented, our good work may be lost).

There is much more evidence of progress, but this should encourage you in your task. Never let up. Our cause has been fought by many gallant men and women. Many have passed, on; we pause to honour them, and then renew our resolve to fight on until we finally overcome the remaining obstacles, which stand between the people and a better new world.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Oil Monopolies and Steam Cars

Sir, —You are to be congratulated on your article, "The Oil Scandal," in the "New Times" of August 15. It is a vital topic at a vital time, and you do the community a great service by airing items of interest that do not see the light of day in the daily press.

Another angle from which I suggest you attack the Monopolist Oil Companies is the way inventions have been bought up, so that our reliance on oil is complete.

One item in mind concerns the steam car. From facts gleaned from a one-time prospective buyer, there was the Stanley steam car on the Australian market. The car was simple in operation, depreciation light, running costs far below petrol motors, the car being also neat and compact in design. My informant paid a deposit on one, but suddenly it was discovered that the type of car in question was unprocurable, and the monies were refunded. This occurred in 1923. Enquiries showed that the patent was bought by one of the major oil companies.

Such a mode of transport in this era of chaotic petrol rationing,

and dislocation of industry, has much to commend it, and who could raise a protesting voice against such use of man's ingenuity and still remain an Australian patriot?

Perhaps the above will provide the "New Times" with material for another attack on the monopolies. More details or practical experience may be available to you to make a forceful article.

To many, the idea of a steam car may seem obsolete, but I think it is no more so than the charcoal gas (Producer-Gas) units that the Government is encouraging motorists to instal.

Many people will remember the steam buses in London. One company (The British) had a fleet of them, and the fact that they were used in such a capacity, in such a large city, speaks for itself.

For service, although they caused untold amusement to visitors, what about the steam cars of Rockhampton? Old-fashioned, no doubt, but war demands sacrificing something, so why not fashion? And, whilst on the subject of those cars, is it only a coincidence that they were found unsatisfactory, and unsuitable for a city like Rockhampton, and their replacement by Diesel buses was necessary?—Yours, etc., R. Reynolds, Eumundi, Qld.

## \* A Sensational Booklet

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THE CONSPIRATORS.

Dr. Schacht (of the German Reichsbank) and Mr. Montagu Norman (Governor of the Bank of England) talking things over before the Second World War.

"In view of the disastrous policy followed by the Bank of England after the last war and the part it is believed to have played in the re-armament of Germany, does not the right hon. gentleman (Sir John Simon) consider it time that the people knew a bit more about the proprietors of this unique concern?"

—Mr. R. Stokes, in the British House of Commons, April 16, 1940.

## THE TRUTH ABOUT ALBERTA

A fortnight ago we published, under this heading, some facts about Alberta and events in that Canadian province during recent years. As a further corrective to the misleading reports, which have appeared in the daily press, here is a brief summary of the legislative record of the Aberhart Government:

### CREDIT OF ALBERTA REGULATION ACT.

#### Why Passed:

1. Because there was widespread poverty and distress throughout Alberta.
2. Because Alberta, one of the richest provinces in the Dominion could produce abundance for her people.
3. Because the only reason why Alberta's people were living in poverty was the lack of purchasing power.
4. Because such purchasing-power should be made available to the people, by using their own credit, as would enable them to obtain, at all times, what they wanted.
5. Because this could be done by a scientific balancing between money and goods produced.
6. Because control of credit, being, in the words of Hon. Mackenzie King, "A public matter not of interest to bankers alone, but of direct concern to every citizen," credit policy should be vested in an authority responsible to the representatives of the people.
7. Because banks, being manufacturers of credit and functioning as public utility concerns, supplying a service of primary and vital importance to the lives of the citizens of Alberta,

should be licensed and subjected to supervision only in regard to policy—the results they provide, and unless the people of Alberta can use the resources of their own Province as they desire, and determine the results which shall accrue to them, they have no property and civil right in the full sense. (Banking administration being under Federal Jurisdiction was in no manner affected by the Act.)

#### What Happened:

Disallowed by Federal Government, August 17, 1937. What It Would Have Done:

1. Would have secured the results demanded by the People—a lower cost to live, and monthly dividends.
2. Would have provided markets for Alberta manufacturers and traders.
3. Would have led to tremendous industrial development in manufacturing Alberta goods by processing Alberta produce.
4. Would have resulted in rapidly absorbing every unemployed person into useful employment and relieved the aged and infirm of the necessity of working for a living.
5. Would have led to increased business activity in which industrialists, wholesalers, retailers, and banks would all have benefited.
6. Would have enabled taxation to be reduced drastically.
7. Would have made it possible to deal with the debt problems.

### BANK TAXATION ACT.

#### Why Passed:

1. Because under the present system, the Government has one source of revenue only—Taxation.
2. Because the people of Alberta are already taxed beyond their ability to pay.
3. Because banks are the only institutions claiming the legal right to monetise the credit of The People to such an extent that they create and issue monetary credits many times in excess of the legal tender money they old.
5. Because banks can thereby create money out of nothing.
6. Because the present method

of taxation of individuals is confiscatory and unnecessary.

#### What Happened:

Assent withheld by Lieutenant Governor. Declared unconstitutional by Supreme Court of Canada. Appeal by Province from Supreme Court decision to Privy Council dismissed.

#### What It Would Have Done:

1. Would place over two million dollars new money in circulation
2. Would have permitted an equal amount, otherwise paid in taxes, to remain in the ordinary channels of industry, thus aiding employment and acting as a tremendous impetus to business generally, or,
3. Would have enabled the Government to embark on a six million dollar highway and market roads programme under the three way Dominion-Provincial-Municipal plan, or,
4. Would have provided a hospital and medical service in districts where those are not available, or,
5. Would have set up a fund for Crop Insurance, or,
6. Would have given decreased School Taxes.
7. Would have provided increased purchasing power for the People of Alberta.

### REDUCTION AND SETTLEMENT OF DEBT ACT.

#### Why Passed:

1. Because under the present financial system debt cannot be paid without creating new and larger debts. The People of Alberta possess only about 20c for every \$.00 of debt—this they owe to the banks, and they can get no money except as a debt to the bankers.
2. Because private debts, largely due to accumulated interest, had increased to such an extent that they were out of all proportion to value received.
3. Because many outstanding debts had been incurred during the war and immediate post-war years when values were high.
4. Because the original debt had already in many cases been paid in interest charges while the principal remained unchanged or showed little reduction.
5. Because people could no longer continue to pay interest of 8 to 10 per cent.
6. Because financial corporations refused to recognise that the inability of people to meet their obligations was due to lack of adequate returns on what they produced.
7. Because no people or country can prosper and progress so long as they labour under a burden of those who deal in money as a commodity.

#### What Happened:

Declared ultra vires of the Province by the Courts.

#### What It Would Have Done:

1. Would have established, a basis of settlement for all outstanding debts.
2. Would have reduced all debt incurred previous to July, 1932, by applying all interest paid from that date to the passing of the act on reduction of principal.
3. Would have settled definitely question involved in debts, which have become uncollectable.
4. Would have led to a restoration of confidence and encouraged those who, through no fault of their own were living in poverty and struggling against odds which they could not possibly overcome.

### ACT TO ENSURE PUBLICATION OF ACCURATE NEWS INFORMATION.

#### Why Passed:

1. Because the control of news and the control of credit are both exercised by the financial interests
2. Because "The freedom of the press" has become license to distort news, misrepresent facts and withhold information from the public.
3. Because this anti-social aspect of the press, under inspired direction, is being used to thwart the people of Alberta in their struggle against finance.

#### What Happened:

Assent withheld by Lieutenant Governor. Declared unconstitutional by Supreme Court of Canada. In the appeal of the Province of Alberta from decision of Supreme Court of Canada, the Privy Council refused to hear Alberta's argument by their counsel.

#### What It Would Have Done:

1. Would have ensured that all newspapers in Alberta would publish all the facts in their news reports of Government matters so far as this was possible, and if from any cause false statements appeared, equal space would be given for authoritative correction.
2. Would have ensured that the same information which every publisher demands from correspondents to his columns, i.e., the names of contributors of articles, would be available to The People when demanded by their representatives.

### HOME OWNERS' SECURITY ACT.

#### Why Passed:

1. Because under stress of world conditions and a falsified financial system, over which individuals had no control, many were forced to mortgage their homes.
2. Because conditions had changed since these loans were received so that commodity and labour prices bore little relation to the continued high price of money.
3. Because there was grave danger of many Alberta citizens losing their homes.
4. Because in most cases, these homes represented the total life savings of many people.
5. Because it is just as much the duty of any Government to protect the homes of individual members of Society against the confiscatory practices of unscrupulous moneylenders as it is to defend its people against the invasion of a foreign aggressor.
6. Because there can be no sanctity of Contract which does not recognise that human life has, at least, as much value as considerations of "money."

#### What Happened:

Disallowed by Mackenzie-King Government, June 15, 1938.

#### What It Would Have Done:

1. Would have prohibited foreclosures or sale under mortgage proceedings of any farm home.
2. Would have prohibited foreclosure or sale under mortgage proceedings of any home in a town, city or village unless the plaintiff first deposited 2000 dollars with the Court which would be paid to the owner if dispossessed to enable him to purchase another home.
3. Would have induced debtor and creditor alike to seek equitable basis of settlement through medium of the Debt Adjustment Board.
4. Would have enabled home owners to enter into new contracts commensurate with their present ability to pay.

### SECURITY TAX ACT—

#### 1938. Why Passed:

1. Because the Government required additional revenue for one year to replace the loss of re-

venue from the Bank Taxation Act before the Privy Council.

2. Because the additional revenue was essential to provide the people with the benefits they needed.

3. Because it was equitable that equitable companies and similar institutions should make good some of the taxation they have escaped for years.

4. Because the government is pledged to the people to remove the burden of taxation from individuals, and until we gain control of our credit resources, this can be done only by transferring it to institutions, which are better able to bear it

#### What Happened:

Disallowed by Mackenzie-King Government, June 15, 1938.

#### What It Would Have Done:

1. Would have realised 1,500,000 dollars sufficient revenue to balance the Provincial Budget.
2. Would have helped the Government considerably to give tax relief, to provide additional relief projects, increase School Grants, and undertake many other benefits planned for the people.

### CREDIT OF ALBERTA REGULATION ACT (1937 AMENDMENT).

#### Why Passed:

Because Credit of Alberta Regulation Act had been disallowed by the Dominion Government

#### What Happened:

Assent withheld by Lieutenant Governor. Declared unconstitutional by Supreme Court of Canada. In the appeal of the Province of Alberta from decision of Supreme Court of Canada, the Privy Council refused to hear Alberta's argument by their counsel

#### What It Would Have Done:

Would have brought all the benefits of the Credit of Alberta Regulation Act, which it supplanted.

The marriage of Grace Mary Iggulden, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Iggulden, of East Brighton, to Ronald Roberts, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Roberts, of Parkville, was quietly celebrated at the home of the bride's parents last Saturday afternoon. The Reverend Ashby Swan officiated.

## MONOPOLIES and the WAR EFFORT

The startling revelations  
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## ALIEN INFLUENCE IN ENGLAND

Douglas Reed's latest book, "A Prophet at Home," has caused quite a stir. Certain papers, particularly in Sydney, have been reprinting certain chapters from this book. However, we note that all these papers studiously ignored Reed's chapters on the Jewish Question and kindred matters, which should be read by all loyal Britishers. With this end in view, we reprinted extracts on August 8 and 29, and September 5. Here is another:

I have given this brief sketch so that a few people, at least, may gain some idea of the position of the Jewish immigrants to this country. There are a very large number of them. Very few of them, now, will ever leave again. The British taxpayer cares for them. In practice they seem to enjoy greater privileges than the native inhabitant, since they are ineligible for military service and will, therefore, presumably survive the war, while they are eligible for employment, which is easy to obtain when all the young men of this country have been called away, and when they take this it is called "helping the national war effort," whereas if John Smith gets a job that is just called getting a job.

To have achieved so fair a deal as this, they must quite clearly have had the support of very powerful forces indeed. . . . I have shown that the several safeguards attached to their entry to the country have all proved illusory, and the solid-sounding promise that they would only be allowed to take employment if this does not conflict with the interest of British citizens subsequently proved just as illusory. For one thing the British citizens, in large numbers, are away at the war and cannot look after their interests. To take the job of a Britisher who is called up may debatably count as "helping the national war effort," but what of the Britisher when he returns, and his peace effort?

The position may be alleviated a little, if they do not return, by the fact that some of the more influential of these people, after staying just long enough in England to proclaim that they were a hundred per cent British, found means when war broke out to transmigrate further and become for the nonce a hundred per cent American. Such was the case of a much-publicised writer who saw the light of day in Roumania, then spent some years in Germany as a hundred per cent German, came to England after the advent of Hitler, and announced simultaneously that he still loved Germany and was a hundred per cent British; and then moved on to confer the boon of his citizenship upon the United States.

Such cases as are known do not suggest that the provision about the "interests of British citizens" actually operates, in the granting of employment to these newcomers.

### "49th PARALLEL."

For instance, in the early days of the resumed war (I am forestalling my narrative a little, for the sake of coherency) the Ministry of Information decided to make a film called "49th Parallel." The "49th Parallel" is the boundary separating Canada from the United States, an attractive location for film-making when war is being waged all over Europe. . . . This film was to have been the most stupendous contribution to our war effort, and Miss Elizabeth Bergner, who was born, I believe, within the limits of the old Austro-Hungarian monarchy, who saw the heyday of her fame in pre-Hitler Germany, who then came to England and who, at some function for Austrian patriots paid the last Austrian Minister Sir George Franckenstein, the eloquent tribute, in her delightful English, that he was "a passion-

ate Austrian," Miss Bergner was chosen to play the lead — and crossed the Atlantic. . . . The Ministry of Information advanced, the sum of £22,086/13/7 towards this film, which had not yet been completed; whether it will be completed in time to give that enormous impetus to our war effort, which was confidently expected from it, seems doubtful. A large number of other people, including Miss Bergner's husband, were given for the purpose of going to Canada to make this film those coveted exit permits which a British subject, having no particular contribution to offer to the country's war effort, might vainly seek to obtain for his children. I believe one or two of them have returned.

Why the film was so long delayed is a thing not yet explained. Miss Bergner, in a radio-telephonic interview from pleasant Hollywood (she seemingly did not penetrate farther towards the frozen north than Winnipeg), intimated to a London newspaper that she felt she had a grievance about the whole business. I do not know what part she was intended to play, but having the most pleasant memories of her personality, and of her charmingly squirming manner of expressing herself. I wonder whether she was better suited than any British actress of the day for the part of some hardy Anglo-Saxon woman pioneer.

However, in this case the Ministry of Labour was apparently satisfied that there was no conflict with the interests of any British player; the Ministry of Information thought that the good which would accrue to the country's cause was worth £22,000; and the Passport and Permit Department of the Foreign Office considered the undertaking of sufficient "national importance" for the hardy and one hundred per cent British pioneers to be allowed to cross the Atlantic.

I have quoted only one case. There are many others, great and small, which might make a sane patriot wonder sadly if all was well.

Not one member of Parliament has ever risen to protest against this kind of thing, which in its patent unfairness is such shrieking contrast to the clean white faith and spirit of the millions of Britishers, and of their allies, who

are fighting all over the world, on land, at sea and in the air, to retrieve the world.

### PARLIAMENT'S ATTITUDE

But the attitude of the British Parliament in the question of the Jews is curious. When great problems of the British Empire are under discussion the House is sometimes almost empty; speakers address twenty, forty, sixty of their fellow members, in a House containing 615. The Colonial Empire, with its 50,000,000 inhabitants, is discussed but once a year in this House, and at last such debate there were never more than a hundred members present. On one famous occasion Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, as Dominions Minister, tried hard to awaken interest in important colonial problems. "We are combating sleeping sickness," he said — and the few members present roared with laughter, for one of the Government whips was sleeping quietly beside Mr. MacDonald on the Front Bench. The noise of their mirth even awoke him. A marvellous picture of England in wartime, of front-line life—for are we not "all in the front line" this time, even those on the Front Bench?

Yet this House, with its 600 odd (and I mean odd) members earning a minimum of £600 a year, with its indifference to the domestic scandals of England—for if you explore the wastes of "Hansard" you will find that the party elected to represent the working-class seemingly has as little interest as the Tory Party in the derelict areas and the slums—this House can at any moment be stung to impassioned activity by the mere mention of the word "Jews"!

This was the most curious and most perturbing result of my study of the Parliamentary debates between the resumption of the World War, in 1939, and the end of 1940. As I have said, such great Imperial problems as that of the colonies received only the briefest and most transient attention, and aroused but the most languid interest in a sparsely attended House.

The matter of the "friendly aliens" was given four full debates; the Palestine debate, in which it cropped up in another form, was in reality a fifth; and at question time hundreds upon hundreds of close analyses of the debates were made; it might be found that this subject occupied more Parliamentary time, in the British House of Commons, than any other single question during the period I have mentioned!

A perusal of the Parliamentary Reports for this period will show anyone who may be interested that there is a number of Members in the House who seemingly devote their entire attention to this matter. Elected by British voters and paid by the British taxpayer

their constituents seem in effect to be practically without representation in the British Parliament; while the group of immigrants in whose interests they expend so much energy is represented out of all proportion to its size and value to this country.

This state of affairs led to the most absurd extravagances, especially during the summer months of 1940, when Britain passed through her greatest ordeal for many centuries. A patriotic Englishman, reading the Parliamentary Reports of that period, might clutch his head to find that the sufferings of his fellow country-people were of small account compared with those of a group of alien immigrants.

### BRITONS NEGLECTED

Scores of thousands of British soldiers, cast into the enemy's hands by the collapse of the French and Belgians on their flanks, were prisoners in Germany. Thousands of Britishers from the Channel Islands lost everything they had, and found themselves, overnight, homeless and destitute refugees in England. Thousands more who had been earning their livelihoods in Germany, in France, in Norway, Denmark, Holland and Belgium, were in like plight. In Nice, reported "The Times": "Several hundred British subjects, mostly elderly retired people, have been sleeping on borrowed mattresses in the streets, and for the most part penniless and starving." The lot of "the British refugees" (subsequently alleviated) was even mentioned, once, in "The Times," which said that letters reaching it referred "with some bitterness, to the lack of assistance; according to one correspondent British subjects who followed the British Ambassador's advice and left Germany when war appeared inevitable, regret bitterly their action, and say that, at least, the Nazis would have fed them."

Not only that, but this country awaited, day and night, an invasion which, if it had succeeded, would have meant the submergence of the British nation for centuries, and Britons of all classes, armed with shotguns or unarmed, lay on the coasts and in the hedgerows after their working hours to defend their native land, if they could. Not only that, but the moment was approaching for London and the other great cities to be mercilessly bombed, and, as this was plain to foresee, the urgent need of the hour was to prepare deep shelters, health services and food distribution, and the removal of women and children to safe places.

Yet, if you wade through the columns of "Hansard" for those days, you will find but meagre references to these things, but you will find pages of protest and expostulation on behalf of "the friendly aliens." In terms of despairing incomprehension ("How can anybody be so stupid?"), speaker after speaker asked why the services of these "friendly aliens" were not immediately used to promote our war effort.

Yet at this time more than a million friendly Britons languished in unemployment; hardly a Member thought of them, or troubled to ask why their services were not used to promote this same "war effort." That "friendly aliens" were denied employment was proclaimed to be disgusting and even anti-patriotic; the denial of employment to native citizens of the country was seemingly thought to be natural. The internment of "friendly aliens" was declared to be inhumane, intolerable, incompatible with all "British tradition," and "incalculably harmful to us in American eyes." The internment without charges or trial of British subjects was generally accepted to be a necessary measure in wartime and, during all this windy, ignorant and prejudiced debate, hardly a voice challenged it.

## UNITED DEMOCRATS' REPORT

From Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Lunch Hour Speakers: We regret that the address by the Rev. E. H. Woollacott, arranged for September 5, has had to be postponed. The 19th and 26th are still vacant dates, but on October 3, Mr. A. E. W. Short, an Adelaide paper merchant, will speak on "Paper-making in Australia."

Victory Without Debt Association: The work involved in enabling the people of Australia to get Victory without Debt ("Victory over Debt")—which every thinking Australian wants — is steadily proceeding, under the capable direction of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. B. Symons. Supplies of Demand Forms are available at 17 Waymouth Street. As a result of former campaigns on

other issues, signatures are now easier to get. Try it and see. Send signed forms to us, and Mr. Symons will be able to keep a steady stream flowing to the respective Federal Members.

**WANTED. —Full-time Organising Secretary. Must be social creditor. State age, qualifications, and salary required.**

**A Bridge and Checkers Evening** will be held on September 13.

Office Hours: Until a new Secretary is appointed, our Office and Clubrooms will be open daily from 12 to 3 p.m. and at 6.30 to 8.30 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## 'BUSHRANGING ONSLAUGHT BY THE BANK'

(Continued from page 1.)

Relief Act is not any use at all, and is all in favour of the big man (the financial institutions). My debt to the bank, mostly accrued interest, is about £3700; thus, they had a long way to go before their security was endangered. My clip in December next, I expect to realise £1000, and that will then reduce my liability. I shall then have a further increase of approximately 500 or 600 lambs. In short, I am being butchered in cold blood, with the shadow of foreclosure hanging over me. This bushranging onslaught by the bank will deprive me, my wife, son and two daughters of a living and a home, and force us off with nothing.

"Such treatment is comparable with the days of Pharaoh and out of step with the supposed regime of justice and security. We, as Britishers, expect better than what we are getting from a judicial tribunal permeated with city influences and prejudices. All we ask for is justice and security. It is farcical to hear cases like this on affidavits and with closed doors. I contend that the only way we can get a fair deal is through a general moratorium for rural as well as secondary industries.

"There was no justification for the bank's onslaught, as the revenue from wool and agistment has kept the place going right through the depression and has paid all yearly interest, rates, wages, netting and loan charges, but they are not satisfied with the 8 per cent, interest I paid at the start and 6 per cent, now—no, they want the property as well to hand over to some favoured client. My solicitor told me that there were hundreds of cases such as mine going through the Brisbane courts (with closed doors), hence, the public and press know nothing of this. A fellow grazier who drew his 15,000-acre block the same day as I drew mine has gone through the same vicissitudes as myself and has been harassed by his bankers and forced to put his place on the market for a quarter of its value, but, in the absence of finance and want of confidence, and owing to the financial crisis, there are no buyers. He has now enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. He has a wife and three young children. Surely such cases as these should be protected by a general federal moratorium."

The position of the writer of that letter is typical of that of scores of others who are struggling on the land today. The banks are merely foreclosing, and if they get what is owing to them they

are quite satisfied. I appeal to the Treasurer to do all in his power to provide some relief for these unfortunate men. If there is one section of the community, which needs protection more than another, it is the primary producers. I hope that my appeal will not fall on deaf ears. I suggest that a moratorium under the National Security Act should be put into operation as soon as possible.

## Democratic Rights of Militiamen

(Continued from Page 1.)

would be dealt with. I ask the Treasurer to take this matter up with the Minister for the Army, because no officer in charge of a unit has the right to adopt such an attitude. In fact, I understand that the Minister for the Army has issued instructions that the practice must cease. I brought the matter of the calling up of these young men for the duration of the war to the notice of the Minister for the Army today, and he gave me a reply, which does not satisfy. The last paragraph of that reply reads:—

"Any cases of hardship can always be considered on their merits and it is within the rights of those who may be affected to make application through the commanding officer for leave or exemption from such full-time duty."

Just imagine the treatment that they would receive from their commanding officer if I told them to pursue that course. I have been in the Army, and I know how difficult conditions can be made for individuals who are unpopular in the eyes of those in command. I do not think that the young men, 25 in all, will from now on receive a very fair spin. Whatever may happen in the future, I appeal to the Government to release these men from service for the duration of the war. All of them did two three-monthly training periods last year, and their regular camp training this year. So, to a large degree, they have discharged their duty to the country. I urge the Government to give instructions for the release of these men from the obligation to serve for the duration of the war. I treat this matter very seriously indeed. Last night the Government was given a taste of the pressure which members of

## TREATMENT OF RETURNED SOLDIERS

In the House of Representatives, at Canberra, on August 20, the member for Griffith (Mr. Conelan) referred to the matter of pensions for men invalided home from the present war. "Hansard" reports him as follows:

"I enter an emphatic protest against the treatment that is being meted out to soldiers who have returned from the present war. In Brisbane today are men who have been invalided back to Australia. I have in mind a married man who relinquished his position in order to enlist. He was in camp in Australia for seven months before he was sent overseas, and reached the rank of sergeant in the 2nd Field Company. He was abroad for five months, for a considerable portion of which period he was in hospital, and was then returned to Australia as medically unfit. He applied for a pension, but the Repatriation Department refused to grant it. He was given sustenance for himself, his wife, and three children for a fortnight, and was then offered a job at the Stanley River dam with the hammer and gads, work which would severely tax the capacity of a man in the best physical condition. After two days, he collapsed, and was returned to hospital in Brisbane. He again applied for a pension, but it was refused a second time. I took up the matter with the Repatriation Department, and was advised that his condition was not attributable to, or aggravated by, his military service; yet before going overseas he was examined by two medical officers attached to the Repatria-

tion Department, and was also X-rayed! He may have had some disability, which had lain dormant for a number of years; but surely it cannot be argued that a recurrence of the complaint is not attributable to, or aggravated by, his war service! When a man is prepared to make the sacrifice of serving his country overseas, and is returned to Australia because of illness caused through no fault of his own, surely it is not too much to ask that he be given a war pension! The promise made in the last war, that this country would be fit for heroes to live in at the termination of the struggle, is once again being made; yet men invalided back to Australia are being denied a pension. Can we wonder why the Department of the Army is not getting the number of recruits desired? The refusal of pensions to men who have made great sacrifices, which have resulted in their being unfit to resume their former occupations in this country, must tend to induce young men to refrain from volunteering for service overseas. It is time that the Government saw that any man who has been sent overseas in the interests of his country, after having been pronounced fit as the result of a thorough medical examination, is given a war pension, in circumstances such as I have described."

## MR. A. CHRESBY, IN Q'LD.

(Continued from page 5.)

brought to bear on the Federal Government, to resist any attempt to subordinate the British people to any authority outside the Empire.

Of course, there is a certain amount of adverse criticism, especially by those who never heard the lectures, but this has had the effect of focusing interest on the subject which otherwise would not have arisen, and is to be welcomed rather than otherwise.

this party can bring to bear when it mobilises its numbers. I want the Government to understand that if it does not take action favourable to the men, I shall do my best to repeat that performance.

Mr. Chresby's supporters in this area take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the benefit his visit has been to the cause, and hope his impressions are such that he can be enticed to return at some future date to the welcome which awaits him from the many friends he has made in sunny Queensland.

—R.C.B.

## Birregurra Meeting

Eric Butler addressed a small, but attentive meeting at Birregurra (Vic.) last Saturday evening, September 6. The comparatively small attendance was the result of hurried organisation of the meeting, and a very wet night. However, Mr. Butler's address will give the movement a definite fillip in this district.

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