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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).

# Bureaucratic Lawlessness Increases

## This Planning Madness

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

With the suggestion of a Bread Board, and the zoning of bread distribution, loyal Australians are beginning to wonder whether we are living in a madhouse.

I am quite convinced that the majority of British citizens are fighting this war in order that they can live their own lives in their own way, free from the despotic dictates of Hitler and other power maniacs. But evidence has been produced time and time again in these columns to show that the war is being used by power maniacs in our own countries to impose the very things that we are fighting against.

These power maniacs will be found in the big political parties, financial circles and similar bodies. Although they work under various names, they are all working for the one objective: the centralisation of all power in their own hands, which means the further removal from the individual of his capacity to determine his own policy—i.e., his freedom.

One of the most dangerous of these groups is the Political and Economic Planning (P.E.P.) group in Britain. (I have dealt with the history and influence of this group in my book, "The Enemy Within the Empire.")

The P.E.P. planners believe in more planning, by themselves, more boards and more bureaucrats, mainly derived from their own ranks, to control the whole of society. These planners are rapidly putting their policy into practice in every country of the world. That they are merely a counterpart of the German planners will be seen by the following amazing admission in "Planning," December 9, 1941 ("Planning" expresses the policy of P.E.P.):—

"To Hitler, indeed, Europe will owe, as it owed to Napoleon, a number of achievements of permanent value. Above all, he has succeeded in recreating the basis of European unity, although on lines very different from his aims. Much of what he has done in building up economic and administrative unity in Europe, and in breaking down barriers, it will be neither desirable nor possible to undo. The issue is no longer whether Europe should remain united, but in what form and by what leadership." (My emphasis.) No wonder that the Bank of "England," directly connected with P.E.P., helped finance Hitler to power.

ALL PARTIES FAVOUR PLANNING.

The mania for planning is not con-

### PUBLIC OPINION

For once, a clear-cut question was asked by the Australian "Gallup Poll." The question was: "Do you favour or oppose marketing of farm products through Boards?" Fifty-nine per cent, opposed and 19% favoured, 22% being neutral. Here is positive evidence that the people are getting what they do not want. This would not occur in a democratic society. All political parties favour Boards. Why? It is about time the people looked for independent politicians pledged to obtain the results that the people desire—not what the bankers and planners want.

finied to any particular political party. In passing, I might say that there is no longer any such thing as a real conservative party in any country of the world. The "Conservative" Party in Britain has done as much as the Socialists in depriving people of their private property. Mr. Menzies once said that he was a "practical socialist." He certainly lived up to his words and introduced a maze of bureaucratic legislation. Mr. Curtin is continuing the good work. In a radio broadcast on April 24, Mr. Menzies said (as reported in Melbourne "Age" of April 25) that he was in favour of "the rationalisation of industry." The word rationalisation was first introduced by P.E.P.

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## "WAR BRINGS WORK"

"SYDNEY.—This is what the war has done to one country centre in New South Wales: Before the war there were more than eight hundred men on the dole; to-day, because of expansion of munition production, not one man capable of working is unemployed.

"One munition factory in the district has increased its operatives by thousands during the last eighteen months. Many boys have left the high school, and become apprenticed to the engineering and other trades, associated with the manufacture of weapons of war."—Melbourne "Herald," April 29.

True to its antediluvian policy, the "Herald" refers to the war as almost an angel in disguise! We well recall the pre-war claim of "Granny," that the unemployed were "unemployables." We remember its insistence upon there being no "funds" to pay would-be workers, and for the training of boys leaving school.

The "Herald" used to infer that these things just couldn't be done; but the advent of war scotched the utter imbecility of such presumption. The "Herald" adheres to the same financial policy as that which deprived hundreds of thousands of us of the benefits of peace, and now seeks to reduce us to a morale-destroying, standardised existence by taxing and cadging the meagre purchasing-power which, after the night-mare of depression, is at last available to us for the things now rationed and restricted.

Yes, "war brings work"—and hell! It brings also (to those who

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

**TREASURY BILLS:** These interest-bearing "instruments" (pieces of paper) are outstanding to the extent of £78,470,000. They are issued by the Treasury to the banks; generally when revenue falls short of estimates. They represent a first-class racket for the financiers, and are quite unnecessary, because the Commonwealth Bank could finance Budget deficits without lowering the dignity of Parliament. This racket should be stopped immediately.

**CHURCH STRATEGIST:** The Rev. Dr. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, is reported to have joined the band of amateur strategists advocating a "second front" (but not in Siberia). He also has it worked out, theoretically, that such action will fix everything. It is to be hoped he is in possession of the facts upon which to arrive at such a decision. Of course, it MAY be that the War Cabinet HAS placed all the facts before him. Let us hope so (for the sake of his reputation). It is a serious matter for uninformed people to advocate a course of action that may result in the slaughter of millions—especially when such agitation comes from churchmen and others not likely to take part in the slaughter.

**PRESS BUNK:** The Melbourne "Herald's" Finance Editor, in a special par in the issue of April 28 (the day after the big monetary reform meeting reported in our last issue), says that "a number of people" (pre-

sumably bankers) "are expressing concern at the action of so-called monetary reformers" who "obtain attention by tagging their ideas on to . . . better supported proposals for improving welfare." He proceeds to claim that there is always plenty of purchasing-power in the community—which means that industry distributes sufficient to purchase its production, and is equivalent to saying that the "Herald" pays out in production as much as it asks for its production. It would be interesting to hear his explanation as to where the "Herald's" profit comes from—that is, the amount it receives in excess of what it pays out as production costs.

**PARTY-HACKS OUT!** The constituencies of Wallasey and Rugby, (England) returned two Independents standing against Conservatives; which indicates that the electors have had enough of party hacks and their so-called National Government. The surest way to break the financiers' power is to defeat their political party machines. The next step would be to create machinery which would enable electors to recall all representatives who failed to give the results the people required. This would eliminate the possibility of power-drunk politicians committing a country to policies opposed by the majority of its citizens (one example: marketing-boards in Australia).

**POLITICAL PRESSURE:** The Melbourne "Sun" of April 24 gave an example of political finesse for the purpose of tricking State Premiers into forfeiting their taxation powers. At the secret meeting of State Premiers were General MacArthur, General Blamey, and other war chiefs, brought there to overawe and overcome the objections to creating a central taxation monopoly, by playing up the war situation (which has

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### MANPOWER MESS

The Melbourne "Herald" of April 27 reported that badly-needed engineers and skilled aeronautical technicians had been called up from important works by the man-power muddlers. Slowly, but surely, the utter incompetence of theoretical socialistic planners is becoming apparent. There is still hope that indignant electors will inform their respective Members of Parliament that they will be held individually responsible at election time if the aforesaid novices are not put where they cannot endanger the national safety. Have YOU informed your paid servant at Canberra? He's not a thought-reader.

—"Scissors."

## WALTER MURDOCH ON YANKEE "CULTURE"

The following subtle satire is reprinted from Walter Murdoch's "Collected Essays," which volume we cordially recommend. Although this essay was first published several years ago, it has a special interest to-day:

Say, folks (said the stranger in the smoking-carriage), this city of yours is certainly one great little old burg; but it's got to wake up. Sound asleep, that's what's wrong with it—hit the hay way back in the dark ages, and been snoring ever since. It gets me why you don't see it's time for everybody to get up and hustle some. What you got to get wise to is the rock-ribbed fact that we're not in the Dark Ages any longer—we're in the Age of Whizz and Pep and Zip; and if we want this little old planet to be what it might be and what it ought to be, why, every patriotic guy's got a right to quit sleeping and come right in and boost his own country along into a healthy state of punchful prosperity.

Say, I want you to understand that where you get off is when you imitate a bunch of moth-eaten, mildewed, out-of-date, old British dubs. I'll tell the world! Once you wake up and kick yourselves and look around and get keyed up to what you might call intensive living, you'll get a hunch that the real model for you, the man of to-day, doesn't live in England. If you want to help make the wheels of progress go round, you got to keep both eyes glued on the red-blooded, God-fearing, successful, two-fisted American business man. Of course, I don't want to get away with any holier-than-thou stuff, but, just the same, any guy with brains under his lid must admit that for vision and forward-looking idealism and brotherhood and financial efficiency, America has the rest of the world beat to a frazzle. And my own little burg, I don't mind telling you gentlemen in confidence, leads America. In breakfast-foods, tar-roofing, culture, office furniture, righteousness, and chewing-gum it sure wins the fire-brick necklace.

Take chewing-gum. It isn't only because I happen to be travelling in that line myself—I represent the "Jaw-Bliss" Chewing Gum Amalgamated—here's some of my cards; I'd

be pleased to have you pass them round—but the way I figure it you folks don't see the real international significance of the chewing-gum habit. I'd just like to give you an earful of facts, taken from your own newspaper; I always carry the clipping round with me, and I read it with a whale of a lot of satisfaction.

"Washington, May 23.—The Department of Commerce has reported that the United States is shipping chewing-gum to more than eighty foreign countries. It is estimated that the annual consumption of chewing-gum in the United States is 70,000,000 lb., and that the total value of the gum manufactured is close to £20,000,000. Great Britain is the greatest foreign consumer, with the Netherlands second, followed by Mexico and the Philippines. Last year Japan took 50,444 dollars' worth, and China 30,000 dollars' worth."

By heck, folks, that's one mighty comforting message to read when you've got a grouch about something. Mind you, we're only just beginning. It gets my goat to think of China, and us taking no more than 30,000 bucks a year out of it for gum. I don't remember just how many folks there are in that heathen country, but you can figure it out for yourselves that very very few of them have yet been persuaded to quit smoking their filthy opium, and come over to uplift and vision and chewing-gum. Same time, maybe, that's what makes it so inspiring for us missionaries who are carrying the gospel of the higher life to the ends of the earth. Just think of all there is still to do! Even we red-blooded he-men, putting one hundred per cent, pep into the job, will be busy for years and years before every man, woman and kiddo, from Greenland's icy mountains to India's what-d'-you-call it strand, drives to the movies in an American automobile to see an American film, assimilating American ideals and chewing American gum. Oh, baby, I guess that's some vision!

Just think what chewing-gum

means for the world's peace. It's a real link between all the countries on earth. Aside from the fact that chewing—just steady, solid, quiet, uninterrupted chewing—makes you feel kind of peaceful and harmonious and brotherly—it's a mighty strong link. Nations that look at the same pictures and chew the same brand of gum never feel like they could go to war with each other. In that respect, chewing-gum is the best peacemaker in the whole caboodle; it makes the League of Nations like two cents. I don't pretend to be a little tin archangel: same time, I do say that every time I trade a ton or two of gum I feel like I'd been whooping it up for universal brotherhood and all that.

Say, folks, I want you to have a heart-to-heart talk with yourselves, and ask yourselves, frankly and honestly, where this burg of yours stands in the great international chewing stunt. Walk along any of your streets and watch the people go into any movie theatre and look around when the lights are up; how many pairs of jaws will you see work steadily up and down? Not fifty per cent. Perhaps you'll say this is all a bunch of fluff—or "much ado about nothing," as William K. Shakespeare says; but let me tell you, it's a mighty important matter. It shows you've hardly begun to be Americanised—civilised, I mean. Folk that don't chew gum are liable to be the same folk that don't use vacuum cleaners or loose-leaf ledgers or any of the other signs of culture and civilisation. Tell you what it is, a real live go-getter walking around in Australia feels like he'd visited a school dormitory in the middle of the night.

Speaking of schools, of course, it's

## PRE-EXODITE BISHOPS

From a recent article in the Sydney, Press we learn that the Anglican Bishops of N.S.W. have agreed to observe the Sunday after May Day as "All Workers" Sunday, or some similar ridiculous title.

The Diocese of Sydney, which, in many of its actions has well earned the title "stupor mundi," has for some years had an "Industrial Sunday," and now the entire N.S.W. Church is to have thinly camouflaged "Red Sunday," no doubt at the instigation of one of their number who still lives in the mental climate of Exodus 5:5-19, and who is at this time going round barracking for "more employment" after the war.

Will someone explain to the Bishops a little about the Power Age? Is this what we are fighting the war for, so that we may continue to slave from daylight to dark in field and factory for the term of our natural lives?

Will someone tell them how the Hebrews felt about this sort of thing, and how they celebrated their release for 1000 years in sacred song and solemn rite?

How that Christ Himself chose this rite as the starting-point for the memorial of the later "exodus which He was to accomplish at Jerusalem"?

Between Archbishops who are regressions to pure Judaism, and Bishops who, not satisfied with Judaism, go right back to Isis and Osiris, is it any wonder that the influence of the Church is so barely perceptible?

Fortunately, Bishops do not cut very much ice in the Church of England. It is a deplorable state of affairs, but just at this present juncture it would appear to be a very good thing.

Perhaps if readers adopted electoral campaign tactics and wrote in

education you want; real, sound, business education. Not history and poetry and other junk like you get now. There's a lot of ballyhooing highbrows, calling themselves the intelligentsia and other trick names—fuzzy university professors and bone-heads of that sort—that are always shooting off their mouths about Latin and literature and all those folderols and doodads, and calling it education. You got to quit listening to those slobs and get wise to the fact that education means salesmanship, first, last, and all the time. Education for success.

First of all, you want a course in English. I don't mean Homer and Milton and other has-beens; but Business English, so as you can write a zippy ad. or a letter that a customer will react to. I'm a college man myself, and I know a whole lot of Ella Wheeler Wilcox's pieces by heart, but that's for ornament, not a real solid basis for earnest, efficient endeavour.

Then, of course, you need a course of Psychology, so as you can know how to handle customers. If you don't know human nature, how in Pete's name are you going to know just how much a customer will stand for, in the way of ornamental statement? I'm as by golly truthful as any other man—any other man in business. I mean; but you got to sell the goods. Psychology of salesmanship—the only kind of psychology worth a dime—tells you just when you can be a Truthful Willy and when you can't afford to be. There are some folks you can persuade to believe you're in business for their health, not your own; but there's others that won't fall for this, and with them you got to use other methods; you got to handle them so as they don't rightly know what sort of a four-flusher you are. Psychology puts you wise to all this.

These are both parts of salesmanship and so is the great science of advertising. Here, again, you're sound asleep in this burg. In the matter of hoarding and sky-signs and such symptoms of the higher spiritual life, you haven't begun to get wise to your opportunities. I hand it to you you've got a peach of a river here, if you only knew how to use it. All along the banks there ought to be miles and miles of hoardings big enough to be read by folks on the opposite bank. I've noticed quite a lot of beauty spots in the hills, too, where there are no hoardings to speak of, and that means neglected opportunities. Course I know there's a lot of long-haired zobs that spill a lot of punk talk about the beauty of nature and spoiling the scenery and that. Beauty of nature? Rats! It's just when folks are trying to admire the scenery that you want to butt in and inform them in capital letters that what they really ought to admire is your motor spirit or your soap or your chewing-gum, Beauty's all right for dreamers and back-numbers, but you got to sell the goods. Till you haven't left a single landscape within a hundred miles of the city that doesn't put across some piece of useful information, you haven't begun to understand the American spirit, the spirit that sent us toiling upward through the night towards the higher life, till now we're manufacturing chewing-gum to the value of 20,000,000 plunks a year. Where would Niagara be  
(Continued on page 3.)

to the Bishops about it, and plagued them as they visited their districts, they might be moved to look into the matter and to read passages like S. Matthew 6:11 v. 28-30, and a few more. They might possibly realise then that we are living in the reign, NOT of Rameses II, of Egypt, but of George VI., of England. But I fear it is too much to hope.  
-"AIAX" in the "New Era."

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# NO MONEY FOR THE PEOPLE

A Dialogue Broadcast from 7HO Hobart, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, May 3, by The Electoral Campaign Speakers.

B.: Last Sunday you stated that the vast majority of Australian families cannot afford to buy high-quality goods. You said that after they had paid for rent, food, lighting and fuel, etc., they had but a £1 a week or less left, to pay for clothes, trams, entertainment, doctors, holidays, etc., etc.

J.: Yes, that's right.

B.: And so a vast proportion of the industrial system of this world, with its power-driven, automatic machinery, and its army of highly-skilled technicians, organisers and inventors has to compete in vain for the few shillings left in the housewife's purse.

J.: That's right.

B.: The housewife seems to be more important than I thought, with half the brainy men in the world clamouring to lay their services at her feet

J.: Of course, these men have to be paid for their services; they can't live on nothing.

B.: You mean they can't live on what the housewife has left over after paying for rent and food, etc.

J.: They haven't the remotest possibility.

B.: But these men live; someone must pay them. What do they do, and who pays them?

J.: Yes, they live by making machines of various kinds for export to Africa, India, China and any place that isn't filled up with machines.

B.: And who pays these men?

J.: The banks pay them.

B.: And where do the banks get the money from?

J.: The banks create the money, or credit, out of nothing—cheque money or "loan" monies.

B.: That's how most of this war is being paid for, isn't it?

J.: Of course it is; that's how every war has been financed since Waterloo.

B.: The British Government hasn't paid off the loans for Waterloo yet has it?

J.: No, it is still paying interest on those loans.

B.: And on the loans of the last world war, too?

J.: Yes, and the loans for this war.

B.: So, many loans can be raised to build machinery for export to—where did you say?

J.: To any country willing to pay interest on a loan from the international banking fraternity.

B.: And money can be raised for making guns and planes for war. If these huge factories all over the world can get bankers' loans for building machinery for export and for purposes of war, why cannot these same firms get bankers' loans to make things for family use?

J.: Because you can't pay for them.

B.: But who pays for the machinery

that is exported to other countries; who pays for the war loans?

J.: They are never paid for—or, at least, they are never paid off. We just pay the interest on them.

B.: For ever?

J.: For ever and ever.

B.: I see. We can't pay for the goods that the factories could make for our own benefit, so the banks force the factories to make goods which the banks are willing to pay for. What kinds of goods are the banks willing to give us besides tanks and high explosive shells?

J.: They are willing to permit the manufacture of goods on which they could raise a good security loan.

B.: And what may these be?

J.: Anything supplied to a suitable Government.

B.: You mean a Government that is willing to guarantee interest payments?

J.: Yes. A Government that is willing to tax the people to pay the bankers. And remember, before this war, half of all our taxes were required to pay interest on loans. In fact, the banks prefer to lend money to Governments rather than to you and me, or to small firms.

B.: Even to "Socialist" Governments?

J.: The bankers prefer "Socialist" Governments.

## BUREAUCRATIC LAWLESSNESS INCREASES

(Continued from page 1.)

The present banking policy is deliberately designed to destroy all private enterprise and place it under the control of soulless monopolies. This crazy policy is producing results which I venture to predict were not foreseen by the most pessimistic.

Australia is likely to face an actual food shortage if the present policy of planning and communistic zoning is taken much further. And the most astounding thing is the fact that the more blunders the planners make, the more they plunge into further efforts for more planning! It's an astounding tribute to the British people that, in spite of this "bureaucratic lawlessness," which is stifling initiative and destroying the very foundations of our society, they are still in the war at all.

### WILL THE PEOPLE STAND IT?

A realistic review of the situation at present may well make us sad: the enemies of our civilisation are trampling supreme everywhere. But the British peoples have the habit of rising superior to the "leaders" and the "planners." We have done it in the past; we will do it again. As the bureaucratic pressure on the liberties of the people continues so will the resistance to that pressure increase.

One of the most hopeful items of news which I have read for a long time appeared in the Melbourne "Sun" of April 25:

"The rationing of heating and lighting fuel, which the Government proposes to introduce on June 1, has caused a definite cleavage between the Government and members of the House of Commons.

"The scheme is the first Government austerity measure of the war to which the people are opposed. The opposition is chiefly due to the widespread belief that sacrifices are being foisted on the people because of the Government failure to deal with the question of coal production.

"The dangers of a coal shortage were apparent in the winter before last, when it was evident then inadequate production was the basic evil, chiefly because of the withdrawal of too many miners from the pits. . . . All the forces of a costly new Government propaganda campaign were about to be turned on

B.: Why?

J.: Because the so-called Socialists believe in taxation; they like it; the higher it is the better they like it.

B.: You say then that the international financial ring will finance any Government no matter what its politics. But it will not finance the people, the individual man and woman.

J.: That's right.

B.: And because of this, industry has developed in a lop-sided manner.

J.: Instead of building houses we have built factories and palatial bank premises.

B.: And so the world has had too many factories of the wrong kind.

J.: All trying to export the same goods to each other.

B.: No country seemed to think of the bright idea of producing suitable goods for its own people.

J.: What's the use of doing that when the people have not the money to pay for them. The motor manufacturers of England have said that if they gave their motor-cars away, most people could not afford to run them.

B.: Nothing left in the housewife's purse, I suppose.

J.: And don't forget a car owner has to pay a tax of £20 on a 20 h.p. car, also insurance, before he can put the car on the road.

B.: This money system, or lack of it, seems to have us all paralysed. We don't seem to be able to do anything until somebody with a long nose, sitting in a bank parlour in New York says we may. But, I think even the

dullest of people realise now that if we can find in Australia £300 million a year for a war of destruction, then we can jolly well find a bigger sum for purposes of peace.

J.: And what are all the men going to do—the men who are now in uniform and in the munition factories?

B.: Well, there are plenty of houses to be built; there is a demand for high-quality goods of all kinds—perhaps we could have some high-quality goods for a change.

J.: Yes, it will be a very nice change. But all these high-quality goods—good houses, good transport to good houses outside the city, good food and good clothes and a good education—all these require money.

B.: So do aeroplanes and tanks and armies and navies. If we can have the one we can have the other.

J.: If you are permitted to have it.

B.: But what is to prevent us having it?

J.: Nothing very much. Just lack of the little tickets and figures people call money.

B.: And is this civilisation of ours to go crash, because too few little tickets and figures-in-books?

J.: It has very nearly done so. You may laugh at these little tickets, but the number of these little tickets you are given each week decides how you shall live, decides if children shall be under-nourished or not; decides if you must go on working when you are tired; decides how children should be educated; decides whether you shall fret or worry or whether you shall live like a free-born, happy individual—that's all.

B.: But to print money indiscriminately wouldn't get us very far. What we want to see is the stream of money that is directed into factories for export and factories for munitions diverted after the war into the homes of the people.

J.: That means taking away the power of spending money from the international bankers and placing it in the hands of the people.

B.: You mean placing it in the hands of the Government?

J.: No, I don't mean that—the Government gets too much of my money now.

B.: But how can you get that money into the hands of the people?

J.: This country, like every other country, was pioneered, built and made habitable largely by men now dead; they left us a going concern which, in turn, was made possible by what they acquired from previous generations in the way of knowledge, inventions, and democratic institutions, etc., etc.

B.: Our fathers have left us a great estate.

J.: The estate of Australia; and every Australian man and woman and child is entitled to a dividend from that estate.

B.: I think most Australians recognise that; there is, for example, a child endowment and an old-age and invalid

(Continued on page 8.)

## WALTER MURDOCH ON YANKEE "CULTURE."

(Continued)

to-day if we'd listened to the scenery books instead of putting up factories and making the little old cataract work for its living?

I'm going to show you. Before another year's out there won't be a beauty spot in the State that won't be giving you some useful information, in letters as big as houses, about chewing-gum.

Well, say, I got to beat it; this is my depot. Ticked to death to have met such a bunch of sociable guys; such a flow of conversation, too. It's me for Hoover and Prohibition every time on general principles, but if you gentlemen care to join me at the bar while the train waits, I'll show you how a red-blooded, virile American citizen practises the ancient art of shooting a highball. You will? Fine!

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## "DEMAND FOR GOOD MEN, NOT PARTY HACKS"

Under the above, encouraging heading, the Melbourne "Herald" of May 1 published the following report:

"London, Thursday.—Commenting on the results of the by-elections for Wallasey and Rugby, in which two Independent candidates defeated Government candidates, the Times, in a leading article, says (inter alia): These are symptoms of revolt, not against the Government, but against the party machines which, for many years, have tended to regard private means, or faithful party service, as the highest qualifications for a safe seat. Rightly or wrongly, it has been thought that policies affecting the conduct of the war have been dictated, or vetoed, by vested interests operating through the party machines."

"The 'Daily Express' says: 'Mere symbols of unity no longer satisfy the people—that is the lesson of the Government's reverses. The Tory and Socialist parties will not get the people to vote for obedient units in the Commons voting machine.'"

"The 'Daily Mail' says the results represent a reaction against machine-made party methods, which have been mass-producing a robot Commons."

(Since the "Herald" is itself a party-peddling paper, one could almost harbour a feeling of indebtedness to the publishers for reprinting these London reports.)

The Melbourne "Argus" appears to have gone one better, however, for in its issue, of May 4 it publishes a report from its Special Correspondent, in which he says: "... both the Labour Party and the Trade Unions' Congress received even a more severe knock than the Conservatives, for both Reakes and Brown (the successful candidates) are former members of the Labour Party who disagreed with Labour policy. Labour actively tried to defeat both candidates. It sent Miss Ellen Wilkinson to speak against Reakes, and it took the trouble officially to brand Brown as 'disruptive.'"

This is the third time since the war began that Independents have defeated Government supporters in British by-elections. For all that, the fact that the winning candidates are Independents does not necessarily mean that they will act in a 100% democratic manner. These candidates depended upon the electoral support of the people; now that they have gained access to Parliament they must be kept mindful of the fact that the people are now depending upon them. They were voted in, and are paid by, the electors, and it is now that the democratic duties of the electors COMMENCE—not END. They must INSIST upon their representatives re-presenting **their** wishes to Parliament; they must DEMAND that their expressed will prevails above all else; they must see to it that they get RESULTS. That road—and not the well-trod party-path—leads to true Democracy. It is merely a matter of "IF"—with all the emphasis that Rudyard Kipling put into his immortal poem—if the electors can be kept alive to those simple, fundamental, and ever-potent truths, then Democracy will live. If they fail to accept their individual responsibilities there is little hope of saving Democracy from the fate that had already commenced to seal its doom; for Public Opinion is, in the final analysis, the GREATEST WEAPON THE WORLD HAS YET KNOWN.

### REAL BRITISHERS-OR-?

"Big British Investment In Burma. About £100,000,000.

"Japanese occupation of Lower Burma has dealt a severe blow to British companies operating in that country. Burma is rich in natural resources, and practically all development has been made possible by British capital. Figures are not available to indicate the amount of British capital invested in the country, but it can be estimated at about £100,000,000."

Thus the Melbourne "Herald" of April 28.

I was beginning to wonder just how "British" a close study of the big investors who determine policy in Burma would reveal them to be. I also wondered how their "funds" were originally acquired, and what happened to them after investment. But the chief matter of interest to me was just how much the British

and the Burmese benefited by those investments, and to what extent the financial policies of those, and other British countries were influenced by them. I asked several of my friends—and found them wondering, too.

Then I read the following paragraph down near the bottom of the article (after having deciphered a couple of mixed lines, due, no doubt, to a printers' error): "British bank and insurance company investments in the country are extensive, while the value of privately-owned British property in Rangoon alone has been estimated at £40,000,000 to £50,000,000."

One doesn't need to walk far in this country to see £50 million worth of bank property; but reader, what's YOUR share in it? And if a fire destroyed the pen-and-ink "funds" in the strong-rooms, would Australians starve, go naked, and retire to the bush?"

—"Scissors."

## WHAT ARE ELECTORS SAYING?

### HERE IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE

1 Arthur Street,  
Malvern, S.E.4. March  
16, 1942.

The Hon. John Curtin,  
Prime Minister of Australia,  
CANBERRA.

Dear Mr. Curtin,—As a firm believer in the Labor platform, I had always regarded you as one of the best statesmen in our country, and praised your ability and veracity to my fellow-Australians. As I listened to or read your speeches, I felt confident that conditions would be different when you took over the reins of Government.

I find, however, that although you have been in power for a considerable period, you have not fulfilled any of the promises you made. The Commonwealth Bank is still NOT being used for the purposes for which it was meant. The workers are more than ever paying for the war. The creation of credit is still in the hands of the money monopolists. The output of munitions and vital equipment is restricted on the old capitalistic plea that there is not sufficient money, which, you know, even better than I do, is utterly ridiculous. No man ever had a better opportunity to do so much for his country and people. You have the power to legislate, not even needing a majority in both Houses, so why not change this rotten system. NOW, and let us advance, unrestricted, to win both the war and the peace. Let us have a REAL all-in effort. With best wishes to yourself and your Ministers.—I remain, yours very truly, F. W. ELLIOTT (Jnr.).

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.  
Canberra

March 24, 1942.

F. W. Elliott, Esq.,  
1 Arthur Street,  
MALVERN, S.E. 4, Vic.

Dear Mr. Elliott,—I am directed by the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th March, and to inform you that the observations contained therein have been noted.

Your attention is drawn to the National Security (Wartime Banking Control) Regulations recently issued by the Government. These regulations give effect to the Government's decision to bring the operations of the trading banks under effective control and prevent them from deriving any increased profits as a result of war activities. They also give effect to certain recommendations of the Royal Commission on Banking and make other provisions to meet present conditions of war finance.

It is considered that by these regulations we can be assured that the operations of the financial system will be directed wholly towards our common national purpose.

I wish to add that the policy of the Labor Party as set out in its platform will be adhered to, but would point out it is not possible to implement same in toto within any specified period, especially as we have not a Labor majority in both Houses of Parliament—Yours faithfully, E. W. Tonkin, Private Secretary.

1 Arthur Street, Malvern, S.E.4.  
March 29, 1942.

The Rt. Hon. John Curtin,  
Prime Minister of Australia,  
CANBERRA.

Dear Mr. Curtin,—I thank you for your letter of March 24, but as I have read so many replies that are word perfect with same, I feel that it is almost a Circular. However

here are three points on which, I am confident, you will enlighten me. As you have the power to regiment and control the man/and woman-power of the country, and instruct every citizen to carry an identification card to be produced on demand—without a majority in both Houses—why do you persist that you are unable to take away the power of credit creation from the money monopoly, and thereby save the country and people a huge interest bill?

Senator Darcey, in a recent speech in the Senate, stated: "That the Commonwealth Bank could easily lend to the Commonwealth Government £100,000,000 of credit, interest-free, tomorrow, to carry on the war." If this is so, why has not your Government availed itself of this opportunity?

Do you, as stated in your letter, REALLY consider that the National Security (War-time Banking Control) Regulations assure us that the operations of the financial system will be directed towards our common cause?

Thanking you in anticipation for a reply that will help to bolster up my waning confidence in the Labor Government,—I am, yours very truly, Fred. W. Elliott (Jnr.).

\* \* \*

[When forwarding this correspondence to the "New Times," Mr. Elliott enclosed a covering letter to us, dated April 27, in which he said: "I feel sure that, as almost a month has elapsed since my second letter to Mr. Curtin and I have not received a reply, I have, in Air Force parlance, been "scrubbed." I wonder why?"]

## ROOSEVELT'S EMPLOYERS

In some cheap press propaganda, in which Roosevelt was featured as registering for national service, he is reported, when asked who were his employers, to have said: "I suppose the people of U.S." For once he was nailed down to basic facts; but, judging from his actions, one would think that he employed the people of U.S. The U.S. people should keep this in mind and insist that he does what they require. That also goes for our own people and their "employees."

## PEOPLE'S CHARTER

Copies of the People's Charter for Responsible Government, published in recent issues of the "New Times," are now available at 1/6 per hundred from the United Electors of Australia, 343 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, C.I.

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## BRUCE BROWN' SPEECH AT BIG CENTRAL HALL MEETING

The following is the substance of the speech delivered by Mr. Bruce H. Brown, at the Central Hall, Melbourne, on Monday of last week, when eight hundred representative citizens met under the auspices of the New World Reconstruction Movement:-

What I propose to say to you is either true or false. If it is false, then someone should be able to demonstrate its falsity; but if it is true—and I declare to you that it is—then we would be very foolish indeed to disregard it. All our community difficulties arise from financial considerations; and, because we have been uninformed on that important subject, we have been suffering the miseries of hell when we should have been enjoying the happiness of paradise (applause); and that has come about because we have permitted the witch doctors of economics and the medicine men of finance to turn our minds away from reality and on to make-believe. Of course, it is true! I would not say it otherwise (laughter and applause). And because of that also we have seen the gifts of God debased while the symbols of Mammon have been glorified. "That is the thing that all of us should remember and retail to others.

Is it not true that our economists have tried to fill our minds with talk about "spirals," "cycles," "troughs"?—I once listened to a speaker who demonstrated troughs—at the end of the lecture he refused to answer any questions!—"sun spots"—even the transit of Venus and the "law" of the elect few, so-called supply and demand. Do you think that anything that is controlled by the one hand can be a law? What controls the extent of your demand? The size of your income, does it not? And what controls supply—the effectiveness of the demand; so, if supply is controlled by your incomes, it stands to reason that whoever controls your incomes is the "law." But our economists—who are still the official advisors, notwithstanding the fact that they gave us starvation in plenty—cannot see that. (Won't from audience.)

Is it not a fact, also, that many of our leading spiritual advisers still talk with the greatest eloquence about the frailty of human nature, the wickedness of the human heart, of the inherent selfishness of man. They will talk most eloquently about these things but how often do they preach on the text of Jesus Himself, that "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon; and, it is an indisputable fact that most of the things they say are due to some fault in ourselves, our natures, are the direct result of financial considerations. (Hear, hear!) Even the shady tricks in business—and they are multitudinous—are carried out for financial considerations.

I give you an actual case of a personal friend of mine—a Sunday School Superintendent. This man a most estimable citizen, on present standards, told me that it was necessary for him to go from one capital city to another to capture the trade of a competitor. I said, "You mean, to steal it." He said "No, to capture it." He had to go over to "capture" the trade of a competitor, because, unless he did so, he would go insolvent, and the success of his business was judged according to its financial results—not according to the service he gave! But, I said, "If you steal that man's business, you will send him insolvent." He said, "Yes, but it is either he must go through the court or I must." I said, "And you would solemnly preach on Sundays, 'Love your neighbour as yourself'?" He said, "Yes, I do." I said it is physically impossible to love your neighbour as yourself if you have to do that." He said, "Yes, it

never struck me before." I said, "Don't you know that a leader of economics—now an official adviser—no names—actually made the public declaration that the degree of prosperity a country could enjoy depended, not upon the bounty of God, not the ability to produce, not the resources of the country—but the amount of bankruptcy it could stand."

It is incredible, is it not? Do you see, ladies and gentlemen, how we have accepted that sort of thing as quite the proper thing? We have not questioned the veracity of it; but when we come to bring the intelligence God gave us to bear, and have a look at the actual conditions about, we can see that it is not true—(hear, hear)—and God knows that while we have been continuing in conditions that produce war, we have been kneeling to Him, and asking for peace! It is too stupid. (Loud applause.)

Well, now, ladies and gentlemen I would like to talk for an hour, but may I say this to you, that any person who lacks the understanding of the nature, origin and purpose of money is not competent to take any intelligent part in questions relating to our problems or what should be

done to solve them. (Applause.) So let us have a word or two about the stuff. What is this all-powerful stuff?

You know that, in 1916, Mr. Piddington said that no family having three children should be asked to live on any less than £5/16/2. And the only reason we could not have that was that our "financial resources" would not stand it! No one asked any questions about our production resources. That would have been too silly! In the Depression, we had what was called The Unemployment Problem; but the truth is that it was not the unemployment problem at all, for the simple reason that it was no such thing. Men do not have to go looking for work. It does not have to be looked for—with plenty of it waiting to be done at any point of the compass. (Applause.) What the poor fellows were searching for was someone who could PAY them for working. That is true, is it not? (Applause.) It is a financial matter—not a work matter at all. But how many of us question the unemployment problem? We still talk about it. What about the uniform railway gauge? Would it not be pleasant to have that today? In 1934, when we had men doing nothing, we had all the sleepers we wanted—I mean the bits of wood (laughter)—plenty of everything that was really necessary; but our Sovereign Government, Sovereign Parliament, National Parliament, had to abandon the idea, because it did not have any "funds." ("What about the Trading Banks?"—audience.)

They did not have any funds, and we could not have aeroplanes in Malaya because they were too costly to build. It is a disgrace. (Hear, hear.) I venture to say it is treason. (Hear, hear; applause, loud and continued); and in case anyone doubts what I mean by that, let me say I have two sons "over there," and am very much concerned about them. (Hear, hear.)

Well, what is this stuff—money? Suppose we gathered all the money there is, from one end of Australia to the other, and brought it all into the Commonwealth Bank, say, and we went down and asked to have a look at it. Now, mind, we are going into the Commonwealth Bank to see Australia's supply of money—and I want you to bear in mind exactly what you do see when you get there, because you should visualise the truth of the situation, when I think you will be just as hot as I am. Now, there are two sorts of money. One is known as legal tender (producing a £1 note), and they cost twopence a dozen. This is legal tender money—and, at present there are roughly £80,000,000 of that. Now, the other sort of money we would see would be bank deposits; and, according to records in the pass-books, there are £800,000,000 approximately of bank deposits in existence. Now, suppose we decided we would gather all our money out. We would soon mop up the £80,000,000; and then—we would be having a look at the bank deposits! Suppose I am your spokesman, and I say, "I

(Continued on page 8.)

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

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## THE BIG IDEA

By C. H. DOUGLAS, in the "Social Creditor" (England)  
(Continued from last issue.)

It should be observed that the Archbishop did not specify a war against Germany. Another great war would do. Clearly, it was something proceeding from war in itself which, to him, seemed an indispensable ingredient of the sort of New World he contemplated.

Now, I do not suppose that the Archbishop of Canterbury, in spite of his obvious Calvinism, and its consequent Old Testament philosophy, has achieved such an Olympian detachment from the sufferings of humanity during his numerous holidays as the guest of Mr. Pierpont Morgan that he really contemplated as desirable the scenes from Inferno typified by Rotterdam, London and Coventry. But I cannot see that he could mean anything but the idea covered by the remark of "Planning," the journal of P.E.P. (chairman, Israel Moses Sieff), that "only in war, or under the threat of war, would the British Government consent to large-scale 'Planning.'" "And I think that it is important to consider how this relationship between the Planned Economy of Russia, Germany and the Costa Rican New Deal, and the contemplation of a World War on the one hand, and the reluctance of the British Government to adopt this policy, while making, with certain important reservations, genuine efforts to avoid war, on the other hand, affects the real, though not specified, Peace Aims.

I am going to suggest, and I believe that it is quite easy to prove, that Britain was the only great power which wanted peace and the only factor which prevented Britain from remaining at peace, and still further, maintaining peace in Europe, was the domination of the Government by international Finance and its tools, notably the "Labour" or Socialist Party. And that it was exactly this domination of Britain which, by wrecking individual initiative, provided a spurious justification for "Nationalisation," now called "Planning." The objective was, of course, as in Russia and Germany, monopoly, miscalled Socialism. Once we accept the proposition that Britain is an obstacle to world monopoly, we can understand why the "Labour" Party first pressed for disarmament and then for war.

I do not think that it is a coincidence that both in Socialistic Germany and Socialistic Russia there were, and are, two features in common. One is steady and continuous preparation for war. And the other is scorn of Christianity, two at any rate of whose principles are that individuals are more important than institutions, and that the end never justifies the means.

Men make no mistake when they say that this is an ideological war. It is the war of the Old Testament against the New Testament, of Anti-Christ against Christ. This is not apocalyptic raving—it is not even, in the ordinary sense, religion. It will not be featured prominently in the calls to prayer of the "B".B.C. It is merely a statement of the trinity of philosophy, policy, and mechanism, brought into the present tense—that two philosophies and two policies, those of world domination and the materialistic Messiah, on the one hand, and individual freedom on the other, are now at death grips. Any one who cannot see that Judaism and Christianity have come out of the Synagogues and the Churches into the Banks, the Masonic Lodges, the Cabinets and the workshops, has little to contribute to the direction of victory and still less likelihood of recognising it when it arrives. He will not be greatly assisted by the pronouncements of the Archbishops.

To say that the stark issue is abstractions versus realities would, of course, leave much unsaid. But the Satanic use which has been made of such meaningless phrases as "public ownership and control" is an important feature in the struggle. How can a bloodless abstraction called "the public," having neither position nor dimension in time or space, own, still less control, anything? Yet the second largest political party in once-great Britain, the chosen tool of international Finance and intrigue, has largely been built up on blah of this description.

The simple fact is, of course, that the word "ownership" is itself largely meaningless. Except as a legal fiction, you do not "own" anything you do not control, and the object of the drive for "public ownership" is, as in Russia and Germany, to take away individual control and freedom and to centralise power in the hands of a new Ruling Caste. Old Testament moralistic abstractions are perhaps the most powerful agency to this end because they appeal to the lowest mob instincts, and they are not less identifiable when they masquerade under such vestures as "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite." Consider the state of France.

Although the fact is a little obscured at the moment, the human individual is the highest manifesta-

tion of divine attributes with which we are in day-to-day contact. What differentiates him from the lower orders, when he is different, is his initiative—the fact that he manoeuvres under his own steam. I am confident that there is an organised attempt to drive him down the scale of existence, so that he becomes primarily a number on a card index by taking away as far as possible any recognisable initiative, his potentially divine attribute. The present war, and the obliteration of nationalities, the talk of Federal Unions and United States of Europe, a purely Masonic conception, are all directed to that end. That is to say war provides the opportunity, perhaps the necessity, for conditions of existence in which the individual is wholly at the mercy of institutions, and those institutions are ultimately controlled by an international junta.

To say that the present crisis is adventitious—that it "just happened" and that everyone did their best to avoid it seems to me to be merely perverse.

The part of Germany has been sufficiently publicised. Everyone knows that the strenuous efforts (with reservations) of Mr. Chamberlain, who went to lengths never before approached by a British Prime Minister in "appeasement," were greeted with howls of fury not only by the British Socialist Party but by the Costa Rican press urging us to commit suicide, and were finally and irrevocably defeated by the treaty of non-aggression between

Mr. Stalin, who has said that he wanted war, and Germany, (Please note that I do not say "between Germany and Russia"—I don't believe that, politically, there is such a place, though there may be later on.)

The major strategy was simple, if grandiose. You bring about a state of affairs in which International Finance controls trade, industry, and distribution and would have no check on its extortions but for private enterprise. You bring about, as in 1928, major depressions and crises, and when you have intolerable conditions, as in Germany and the Distressed (Pardon me, Special) Areas, you say nothing can be done about it because there's no money.

When these conditions inevitably bring about war, you say War is the major evil of the world and comes from "private enterprise"; you spend eleven million pounds a day in pure destruction when you were unable to spend eleven million pounds a month for constructive purposes; and you set every available type of propaganda to work to advocate that the affairs of the whole world shall be finally and irrevocably handed over to a monopoly of the powers operating through finance and subterranean intrigue, so that effective revolt becomes for ever impossible.

It is, of course, the convenient fashion to say, "Yes, yes, but that is all past history—we must forget all about that and work for the future." There is no such thing as past history. Only by being quite certain what has happened, not merely what we are told happened, can we understand what can happen, Or to put it another way, only by knowing and understanding what and who caused the war can we understand how to win the war.

[The Archbishop referred to is not Dr. Temple, but his predecessor, —Ed., "N.T."]

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(To be continued.)

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

(From United Democrats, 17  
"Waymouth Street, Adelaide.")

"Y" Group: The Adelaide Town Hall has been booked for a dance to be held on May 30. With arrangements in the hands of Mr. Ken Langley, the Group is confident of a roaring success. The dance will be known as "The Black-out Ball," and since we want to make it a success, we hope for the support of South Australian readers.

Following an address by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Richards, the first speaker in a course of lectures on "Making the Best Use of Parliament," will be Mr. Stephen Dunks, M.P., of the Liberal League.

Mr. E. H. Hergstrom recently gave an interesting talk entitled "Why," to a meeting of about forty members, and an enlightening discussion followed on "Why Are We Fighting?"

The United Democrats are anxious to do all possible to assist this Group. So you may purchase your tickets (5/- per double ticket) for the Blackout Ball at 17 Waymouth Street. Secretary of the "Y" Group is Mr. John Chapple.

The Office: We regret that our office affairs are somewhat upset again. At the moment our assistant, Mrs. Hopcraft, is away sick, and this means that office work will get behind. Anyone who has any difficulty in getting matters attended to, please excuse us. We will do our best.

Our next Executive meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14.

—M. R. W. Lee, Hon. Secretary.

## HOW TO BEAT THE ENEMY

A passage from an article by Frank Lloyd Wright, the American architect, in the "Progressive":

To beat the enemy these crimes must cease: Crime 1, Chronic artificial scarcity; Crime 2, Real poverty; Crime 3, The general frustration of the people.

On account of these three crimes this nation has now utterly unrepayable money-debt, thousands of billions of hours of perfectly good manpower steadily unemployed year in and year out, lottery-conscripts by the million and countless billions wasted on exploited fright, again betrayed into a war with neither top, bottom nor sides.

No matter who wins this war, we, the people, will eventually have to resolve this clash between two despotisms: the visible despotism of the

## NOTES ON THE NEWS (Continued from page 1.)

nothing to do with the issue). Further, since Mr. Curtin has denied it, it seems that General MacArthur also exerted pressure for 50,000 men for military labour units. That's the way planners work. Each pleads for the other, and all use the war situation—to implement the bankers' policy.

**BUREAUCRACY:** During the Budget debate in the British House of Commons, Mr. John Braithwaite (Cons.) said: "Unnecessary expenditure probably totalled £2 million daily; we are not getting efficiency for the taxpayers' money. We are getting a multiplicity of officials who regard themselves as masters rather than public servants. Many are not competent to conduct the vast machinery of war. The result is, initiative and incentive are being buried under mountains of paper. Certain persons must dread peace because of the remuneration they are now getting." It is pleasing to note that the results of socialistic planning are being observed and criticised. There may yet be time to eradicate it—and commence a real war effort.

—O. B. H.

Axis Powers and the invisible despotism of the Democratic Powers. Why not resolve it now? If not, all must accept this rising tide of despotism. Democratic despotism is losing visibility rapidly as we sneak toward total war.

The ancient fable of David and Goliath might come in for a little national attention. The nation able to buy the most planes and guns the fastest, and rank-and-file the most conscripts is Goliath! Where is David? He with the pebble in his sling is the people. It is time for David to find the weak spot in the Goliath armour. Essential factors of victory for the people never did lie in this foolish trust in Goliath, the murder-machine. Outrageous bluff has already gone too far. We, the people, must get into effect a few ideas square with the form of government we profess. Victory for us lies in that direction. What would the essential factors of our victory be? As always in a democracy: Popular initiative! Buy back these United States of America for the people. Call back this one and elect a Congress that will capitalise this nation as planned by the Constitution and at whatever sum is the essential need of the whole people—a fair appraisal made of the share due its present owners—issuing stock to them, making them copartners in a genuine capitalism of the people, by the people, and for the people, instead of going on with this unconstitutional futile money-gamble now staked on gold.

Then our subservience to foreign influence would end. Call back the vassals of the present order for cause. Send others more capable and loyal. And if the Supreme Court proves to be disloyal to the Constitution—well—there is a name and a remedy for that.

This is counter-revolution by popular initiative! A counter-revolution that is now our only salvation. Only democratic dynamics can put an end to this outmoded international control by the out-of-date, abstract, big-money-industry of London and New York, busy now easing us into bigger and better wars whichever side wins this one.

## THE CAUSE AND THE CURE OF MALNUTRITION

An anonymous correspondent, "Pork and Stuffing," wrote to the "Huddersfield Examiner" of December 24, 1941:-

"In your issue of the 22nd inst. there appeared a letter signed by E. L.: headed 'Lessons From the War.' It appears to me that this letter was a subtle effort to prepare your readers for the joys of the communal form of post-war life, about which certain groups of people are so enthusiastic at the present time. Condensed, it points out that there were malnutrition and disease during the years of peace preceding this war, and suggests that the cure for the evil is communal feeding.

"Now Lord Horder, in drawing attention to malnutrition, suggested that the cause was poverty due to unemployment and short time.

"This truth so shocked certain so-called 'experts,' who would have preferred no doubt, to kept such facts dark, that steps were taken to find out the minimum amount of cheap food required to keep the individual in reasonable health at the lowest possible cost, and the answer was feeding centres and school meals. The letter does not attempt to point out the way to abolish poverty, or even suggest that poverty must be abolished, and the writer does not place much value on the right of every individual to freedom of choice, even in food.

To suggest that malnutrition is due of ignorance of parents is, except in a small number of cases, an insult to the common sense of the British public. It cannot be stated too often that the individual is the finest 'expert' on what he or she requires, and, if people only insist on incomes sufficiently large to enable them to purchase the food they require to

provide a maximum diet and not a minimum one, the British housewife will put on a meal for husband and children that will outclass any communal meal, both in variety and excellence in cooking.

"Let 'E.L.' concentrate on turning the war-time expenditure of £14,000,000 per day into peace-time pursuits, thereby raising the effective income of each family of four to nearly £10 per week, and I think we can guarantee to choose the right foods and cook them in the best way without the assistance of 'planners,' 'experts,' or 'bureaucrats' of any kind."

### Bishops and Pensions

The National Federation of Old Age Pensions' Associations (Eng.), which is working for "Economic Security for all at 60 years of age, through adequate pensions, and the abolition of the Means Test" by means of pressure on M.P.S to implement the will of their constituents, publishes in "The Old Age Pensioner" a letter addressed to all the Archbishops and Bishops in the country, along with ten of the replies received. Two replies were promising, four could only be described as "cool." and another four were simple acknowledgements.

### HOW TO USE UP MAN-POWER

From "The Draper's Record," (England), November 11, 1941:—

". . . ignoring extras and allowing for men and women in the Services, we reckon 66 coupons each for 40 million persons, giving a grand total of 2,640,000,000. each of which can change hands three or four times by May 31 next."

## PIE-CRUST PROMISES AND POUNDS, SHILLINGS AND PENCE

The following (minus my emphasis) appeared in the Melbourne "Argus" of April 28:—

"A gramophone record of promises made by Sir John Harris, when Minister for Education, to provide money for new buildings for Melbourne Technical School, was played at a meeting of the college council last night.

"After hearing a report by Mr. F. Ellis, principal of the college, on the inadequacy of buildings and equipment, the council decided to send a deputation to Mr. Lind, Minister for Education, to press for an immediate grant of money for new buildings in the terms of Sir John Harris's promise made in 1937.

"The report emphasised the fact that if the long-promised new chemistry school could be obtained, proper foremanship training classes could be

conducted in the building now occupied by the chemistry school. THE AERO ENGINEERING SCHOOL WAS UNFINISHED, AND NO TRAINING COULD PROCEED, DESPITE THE URGENT NEED FOR TRAINED MEN IN THAT INDUSTRY.

"Mr. John Storey, director of the Beaufort division of the Aircraft Production Commission, and a member of the council, said that ADEQUATE BUILDINGS WERE OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE WAR EFFORT. He said that if foremen in many important factories could be sent to a school for proper training PRODUCTION INCREASE FROM 50 PER CENT. TO 75 PER CENT. WOULD RESULT."

\* \* \*

Further comment would be superfluous. I would venture the belief, however, that the time is not far distant when intelligent Australian electors, realising the suicidal nature of past and present financial policy will rise in their thousands and DEMAND THAT WHAT IS PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE, BE MADE FINANCIALLY POSSIBLE.

In the meantime, it is up to every thinking man and woman in this country to expose every attempt at money-mesmerism until the curse of this country (frequently referred to as "sound finance") is removed entirely from our national life. Each one of us would be wise to take to heart the warning which appeared recently in the "New Era": "If the individual does not fight for Democracy—Democracy will not survive to safeguard the rights and liberties of the individual,"

—"Scissors."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RUSSIA AND ORTHODOX FINANCE

Sir, - (1.) Mr. Butler recommends that I investigate the real names of the economic advisers surrounding the Russian and American Governments." No, I would much rather that Mr. Butler himself undertook that difficult, if not dangerous enterprise.

(2) Mr. Butler tells us that Germany is a slave State that the Pyramids were built by slave labour, that International Finance is an almost exclusively Jewish monopoly, that financial terms allowed by U.S.A. to Russia are better than those allowed to Britain, that "left wing" supporters believe in taxation, and that left wing" writers told us that Japanese military resources were "bogged down" in China.

All this surely, is quite irrelevant to the question at issue.

(3) Mr. Butler suggests that Russia could get war equipment from Japan, but that she preferred gold! Most extraordinary, if true; what is the evidence? Only this, that Mr. Butler says so.

(4) Where Mr. Butler is, I think, fundamentally wrong is that he sees only two possible financial systems: his own, as yet untried, and "orthodox" finance. Is there no other possible system?

(5) Some short quotations from Soviet Money and Finance," by L. R. Hubbard, published by MacMillan:

(a) "The fundamental difference between the Soviet and capitalist financial and monetary systems is in the Soviet planning."

(b) "There is nothing in common between the gold rouble and the internal paper rouble. Soviet paper

currency . . . essentially a fiat currency."

(c) "The volume of the total currency issue is officially described as being fixed by the plan in accordance with the need for currency to carry on the business of the nation."

(d) "It is inevitable that, in the successive stages or phases of Soviet economic and social development since the revolution, the function, and to some extent the nature, of money should have undergone changes."

(6) In conclusion, let me insist that a monetary system, changing with economic and social development, and planned to carry on the business of a nation, is essentially different from orthodox finance.

It might even evolve into a "dividend system progressively replacing a work system," and then (happy thought!) Mr. Butler and I might find ourselves amongst the "economic advisers surrounding the Russian Government."—Yours, etc., A. W. R. Vroland, Gardiner, Vic.

\* \* \*

### Mr. Butler replies as follows:

Sir.—I have nothing to say in answer to Mr. Vroland's second letter, except to ask him the following simple questions:

(1) Is the Russian Government-financing its war effort by public loans and taxation?

(2) What are the approximate figures of the Russian National Debt?

(3) What is the total taxation in Russia?

(4) Isn't it a fact that the Australian Communist Party, which is wholeheartedly behind the policies of the Russian Government, supports

public loans and heavier taxation to finance our war effort?

(5) Is it a sensible policy for Russia to take some useless yellow metal in exchange for fish supplies, particularly as International Finance, centred in New York, is placing few financial restrictions on assistance for Russia? (Perhaps the obtaining of the gold, which will, no doubt, ultimately find its way to America, was one of the terms upon which the Wall Street gentlemen opened their hearts to Stalin?)

(6) What is my financial system? Perhaps Mr. Vroland could explain it simply for the benefit of "New Times" readers?

—Yours, etc., Eric D. Butler, Melbourne.

### THE GREAT FOOD MUDDLE

Sir,—Having been a reader and supporter of your paper for some years, I feel I must congratulate you on the great work you are doing for Democracy. I also wish to place something else before your notice which, perhaps, you may not otherwise hear about.

Your articles on the Food Muddle are very interesting, and, as I am living in a dairying and pig-growing district, I can bear out your statements; not only will there be a big reduction in butter production, but pig meat as well, as these two occupations combine.

Also, I was speaking to a farmer a few days ago who stated he would like to plant some acres of potatoes, and although he can plant them, he is afraid to do so, as he says that he wouldn't be able to dig them later, on account of insufficient labour.

What I desire to point out to you is that the fishing industry is not classed as an essential food industry by the Man-Power officials.

There is a considerable number of the younger men taken from this occupation which will make fish supplies scarce. It has been suggested that older men will have to replace them, but a man needs to be experienced to do any good at this occupation, and there are certain classes of net fishing which requires very experienced and strong men (such as surf fishing, where 21ft. 6in. boats are used with large oars 18ft. long), otherwise there is likely to be accidents, with loss of life. I am 52, and not as agile as a younger man, and I was thrown out of the boat into the surf beyond the breakers twice last Tuesday, also another of our men was thrown out on the Sunday, and we don't do these things purposely.

Our crews contained twelve men; we are now down to five, with the most active ones taken from us. Well, the few of us who are left can make a handsome living—but how about the food shortage?

Whereas our crews put hundreds of tons of fish on the market, we will be only supplying a few cases per week.

### WHY HAVE LOANS?

An unnamed war-loan representative is reported as saying that "an equally important aspect of loans was to limit spending." This assumes that John Citizen is too stupid to decide such matters for himself; while these super-men, whose wives probably wouldn't trust them with more than a shilling, are arrogant enough to dictate to others. However, the most important reason for Government loans, which was not mentioned, is to provide free pensions for bondholders; over 80% of whom are private banks and their "dummies," insurance companies and similar bodies. Half of all taxation is devoured by these vultures—who toil not and spin not. (Incidentally, loans DON'T reduce the total of spending.)

### TRANSPORT MUDDLE

Owing to the Tramway Board's failure to provide sufficient buses to transport war-workers to Fishermen's Bend, according to the "Herald" of April 11, four hundred men marched to the Man-power Office to protest. The men said that owing to transport bangles they were constantly late for work, and that their pay was docked through no fault of their own. They were referred to the Commonwealth transport authorities, and later telephoned Major Howe—but received no satisfaction. Again and again these disturbing examples of socialistic bungling come to hand. Surely it is time that those responsible were prevented from sabotaging the war effort.

We are only one instance of many such cases.

We have approached the Man-Power officer (D. Cameron), and he considers that fish is a rich man's luxury. I told him he was making it so. He doesn't seem interested in food supply.

—Yours etc., L. A. Mitchelson, Mario, Vic.

## NO MONEY FOR THE PEOPLE

(Continued from page 3.)

pension: that is a national dividend. isn't it?

J.: Haven't you ever read the forms to be filled in before one can obtain the old-age pension?

B.: No, I can't say I have; I haven't reached the age when one becomes interested in pensions.

J.: I haven't either, but I read one of the forms the other day—most humiliating. You have to be a pauper or practically a pauper before you are entitled to 24/- a week; if you have a little money saved your pension is reduced. And how would you like to live on 24/- a week after your life's work is done—pleasant prospect, is it not?

B.: I would rather die first.

J.: Then these are your social services and national dividends; based on pauperism, degradation and humiliation—the great heritage of a great people. Do you think that is fair, or honest, or reasonable?

### The "Future" of Music

(To the Editor, the "Social Creditor.") Sir,—As an erstwhile executive artist, I should like to endorse (in so far as it covers my own period) every word of Mr. Kaikhosru Sorabji's brilliant article on the "future" of music. Having been placed on half-pay for health reasons shortly after the last war, I studied music abroad, and having attained some success there, was first engaged on my return to this country for the international opera season at Covent Garden in 1927, subsequently appearing at the Three Choirs Festival, Albert Hall, and as guest-artist with the gallant Carl Rosa Opera Company, etc. Amongst a number of broadcasts, I was the original "Marcello" in the B.B.C.'s "La Boheme," but declined the last contract offered me by the Corporation. I played a final "Toreador" in "Carmen" in 1936—and since then have not sung a note either in public or private.

Mr. Sorabji's graphic word-picture of "organised gangs, cliques, rings and institutions of music" is literal truth. Singers are proverbially difficult to silence and my pristine enthusiasm died hard. But such is the effect of that "cesspool of corruption," the English commercial musical racket, that he who has the good fortune to be independent must extricate himself in order to preserve his self-respect.—Yours faithfully, Cuthbert Reavely (Capt), Sutton, Surrey; January 17, 1942.

B.: Well, what is your suggestion?

J.: That every child born into this country is entitled to an income in his or her own right, and no politician should have the right to remove that income.

B.: That is what you call a real national dividend?

J.: Yes and that dividend should grow in value as the machinery of production grows and is perfected. Men would then feel that their families, and especially their children, would have some protection against economic disaster.

B.: Would inherit some of the "estate."

J.: At the present time, in order to secure the future of their families, men have to set aside large sums of money every year. That cannot be justified in any court.

B.: Why?

J.: Firstly, because men with large families or small incomes cannot possibly save sufficient money without depriving their families of the vital needs of life. Secondly, because it is impossible to save food and clothes for your old age unless you store it in warehouses.

B.: For thirty or forty years?

J.: Of course the whole idea is stupid and based on a fallacy.

B.: The insurance companies seem to make millions of pounds out of this fallacy.

J.: Millions of money out of fear of the future.

B.: Perhaps they help to produce this fear.

J.: They are all part of the great money swindle, the greatest game of bluff this world has known. If this country cannot produce sufficient food and clothes for old-age pensioners and all others in need then it is time something drastic was done; if this country can produce plenty—and we know it can—then we should find out for what purpose men and women are being turned into paupers, or so near paupers as to be of little value to themselves and the community.

### TRIANGLES

The eternal triangle is now overshadowed, according to the daily press, by the infernal triangle—taxation, strikes and overseas conscription. It is pointed out that this triangle may wreck the Government. The press has yet to learn that inanimate things such as these are quite incapable of wrecking anything, and that the Hidden Government of Finance creates these issues as a

### Bruce Brown's Speech at Big Central Hall Meeting

want to see the bank deposit. You are the custodian of the people's savings. We have every confidence in you—(laughter)—and we just want to collect." The manager would say to me, very courteously. "I am sorry. It is not convenient to pay just now but if you continue to use our cheques, everything will be all right and so it would! I would write a cheque, and pass it into, say, Myers, get the goods, and Myers would deposit my cheque, and the bank would increase Myers account by the amount of the cheque: and we would have the same amount of deposit in the bank afterwards, but no real money would be handled. But we want to see the deposits. "Will you bring them out?" I would say. Well all the poor manager could do would be to bring down the ledgers and put them on the counter—beautiful

pretext for "changing the jockeys" from time to time. Some day, blind John Citizen will wake up to the secret gangsters—and their Party system.

### HONEYMOON

A new application is given to this word by Captain Lyttleton, British minister-for-something-or-other, in an endeavour to allay public fears of a post-war depression and unemployment. He suggests that the "honeymoon" will consist of becoming a "truly enterprising and gay country"—abolishing unemployment and modernising capital equipment, etc. When this is accomplished, the State (not the people), he says, will have to take the initiative and responsibility to improve common services and amenities—which apparently come last. May God preserve us from these work-mad State-worshipping maniacs!

### ANZAC DAY

Pomp, ceremony, wreaths and speeches again marked an anniversary of the "war to end war." On the outer were the real heroes of Gallipoli; grey and bent from age and want, many with their peace-time rags now replaced with a uniform, and for once with a few shillings in their pockets. Yet, they had the sparkle of battle in their eyes—this time for the "war of liberation." May their efforts be not in vain—this time.

counters and beautiful books—and he would open a "B" ledger. That is the one with my name in it.—(laughter)—and on the top of my page, in beautiful hand-writing you would see: "Brown: Bruce Howard." Below would be columns indicating deposits, dates, etc., and in the last column there would be figures re-presenting deposits at any given time; and he would say to me: There, Mr. Brown. There are your deposits." That is the literal truth, ladies and gentlemen, that the £800,000,000 of bank deposit money has no existence in this world except as entries in those ledgers. Not only so but that is the sort of money used in 95 per cent, of all business activities. It is the only sort of money our Government can borrow. They borrow illegal money, and charge us heavy taxation to pay interest on illegal money. (Hear, hear.) That, also, is treason. (Hear, hear.) If time permitted I would like to explain how it is done, what happens when a business man gets an overdraft, what happens when the overdraft is called in, what happens when a loan is floated—how funds are raised.

What a lot of absurd things we accept! I had a taxation demand the other day, and, on the outside, in a little square, it said: "Make Your Money Work." I ask you, ladies and gentlemen. HOW? It has got no life—as dead as a dodo, I put it there on the table, and unless someone "pinched" it, it would stay there; and yet, grown-up men come out and talk that rubbish—and get away with it because of our ignorance; because we spend no time examining the facts; because we put up with make-believe, and forget reality.

### SOLDIERS' CHILDREN

Recently published weekly allowances for soldiers' children are: First child, 17/6; second, 14/-; third, 11/6. The published scale does not go beyond three children, but presumably some provision is made. However, if the above basis of decrease per child applies, the seventh child would have to live on air. Yet we find Government spokesmen urging people to have more children, which is just another illustration of words not backed by action. Anyone who would design such a paltry scale of allowances is obviously mentally deranged—or worse.

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