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THE NEW TIMES

Vol.8. No.25. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1942.

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).

On Which Is Australia To Concentrate?

Sheep—Or Aeroplanes?

There are certain financial and big industrial interests overseas who seek to relegate Australians to the role of mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water" in a post-war world planned by these powerful interests. The "Australasian Manufacturer," using the above headings, vigorously challenges this plan in its editorial of June 20, which we deemed sufficiently important to reproduce on our front page: —

For some time past "The Manufacturer" has deemed it necessary to warn the industrialists of Australia of the dangers that are likely to threaten the manufacturing industries of the Commonwealth at the cessation of hostilities. It has consistently pointed out that in all probability they will be submitted to a barrage of overseas competition as violent in character as are the barages of shells today hurled against enemy posts.

It has urged, accordingly, the exercising of a measure of vigilance commensurate with the seriousness of the danger. And it has urged this course of action because, from time to time, it has seen on the distant horizon a faint foreshadowing of the impending storm.

But the latest foreshadowing was

on no distant horizon. Rather was it right under our very noses. And it must surely awaken even the most lethargic to a realisation of the seriousness of events to come. We refer to the recent exhortation to Australians by Mr. G. T. Folster, American radio news commentator, that they should concentrate on taking care of their 120,000,000 sheep, and let America take care of the 5000 aeroplanes a week.

"TAKING AUSTRALIA OVER"

Mr. Folster was addressing a Sydney gathering of the British Empire Union, and in the course of his speech declared: "America is not interested in taking Australia over. Americans are here because we are on our way to Tokio, and we are not going to waste any more time getting there than is absolutely neces-

sary." With the latter laudable sentiments all Australians are in complete accord. But we beg to assure Mr. Folster that not even for one moment had they even remotely considered the possibility of America "taking Australia over." But, like their American cousins, they desire to waste no time on senseless debates, but rather to get into step with them on the march to Tokio.

But with Mr. Folster's ideas as to how Australia should plan and conduct her industrial life, "The Manufacturer" violently disagrees. He said: 'by endeavouring to manufacture everything here in Australia, even against frightful odds, Australia is obviously trying to build up a closed circuit economy.' Australia, on the contrary, is of opinion that she is doing no such thing. She is convinced, indeed—and recent events have deepened that conviction—that by ensuring, as far as is economically practicable, a genuine measure of industrial self-sufficiency, she is taking the best possible steps towards guaranteeing her prosperity in the days of peace and her security in times of war.

A BLATANT INSULT

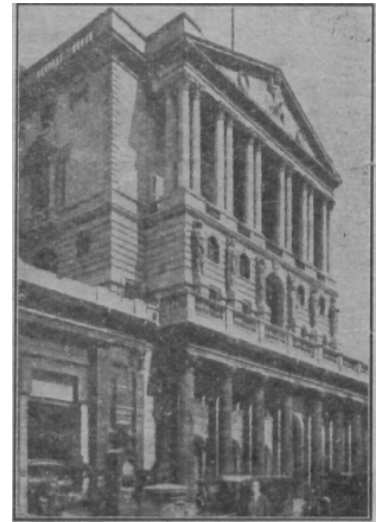
But the greatest bombshell came at the conclusion of Mr. Folster's speech. "Why," he asked don't you Australians concentrate on taking care of your 120,000,000 sheep and let "us take care of the 5000 aeroplanes a week?"

"The Manufacturer" doubts if there has ever been directed a more blatant insult to the manufacturing industries of Australia.

So, as a nation, we are to return to the minding of our 120,000,000 sheep! And, might we ask Mr. Folster, while we are minding the sheep, who is going to be minding us?

Away with such folly! Whether any or every country in the world likes it or not, Australia has determined to become an industrial nation. And from that determination no power on Earth shall shake her.

Indeed, as though to reply to Mr. Folster, during the very week in which he was making his objectionable proposal, a statement was issued by the Minister for Aircraft Production



THE BANK "OF ENGLAND"

This privately-owned institution is the headquarters in England of the international financiers whose G.H.Q. are in New York. Australians don't want to be mere "wood and water joeys," just to suit the post-war plans of these banksters.

that—in the very branch of manufacture we are to vacate to make way for America—Australia has, as a matter of fact, exceeded her planned output. For, according to Senator Cameron, Australia's production of war planes is well ahead of schedule. And the manufacture of aircraft is only one cog in Australia's huge industrial machine—the machine on which she is today dependent for Victory.

INDUSTRIAL INDEPENDENCE IS IMPORTANT

No! Mr. Folster, the past two and a half years of bitter warfare have burned deep into Australia's mind the importance of manufacturing industries. During this period she has had too many opportunities of seeing with her own eyes the miracles of production capable of being wrought in her own factories and workshops to consider even for a split second the question of abandoning a manufacturing policy. She has seen her factories turned into forts. Her workshops into arsenals.

(Continued on page 8.)

TASMANIAN A.L.P. CONFERENCE

Wants National Credit Used to Pay For the War

The Tasmanian branch of the A.L.P. wants the Federal Government to utilise national credit. At the annual conference of the party at Hobart on June 12th was stated that war expenditure could be met from such a scheme instead of from "burdensome interest-bearing bonds." Conference, on the motion of the State Government Treasurer (Mr. Dwyer-Gray) agreed to recommend the introduction of national credit through the Commonwealth Bank.

The Treasurer's motion was: —

"Recognising the great practical importance of a reform in the present financial system, this conference is of opinion that the time has arrived for the Federal Government to utilise National Credit. It should operate through the Commonwealth Bank only, in accordance with



HON. E. BROOKER, Chief Secretary of Tasmania.

the National Credit planks of the Federal Labour Party, both for a considerable portion of the Federal revenue requirements of the nation at war, and also in connection with a large proportion of the capital expenditure on public works, authorised by the Loan Council, now met by the issue of burdensome interest-bearing bonds; and further, that the Federal Government be requested to instruct the Commonwealth Bank Board to enter into active competition with the private banks."

The Treasurer declared that if delegates believed in a new order for Australia after the war, and wished Australians to lead normal lives instead of

the lives of slaves after the war, they would support the resolution.

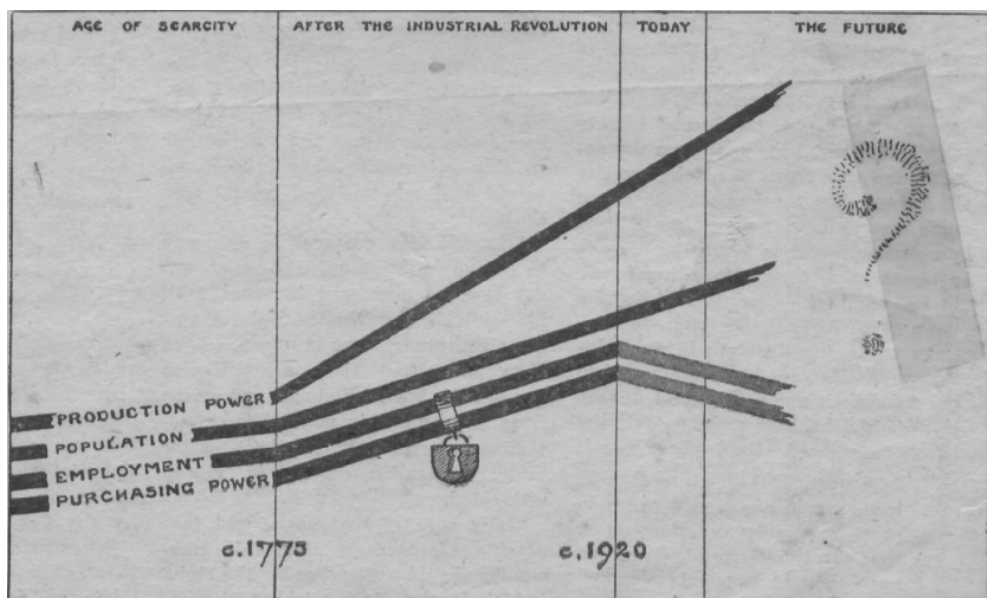
The Chief Secretary of Tasmania (Mr. Brooker) seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously. (It had been recommended unanimously by the Executive of the Tasmanian A.L.P.).

This Post-War Problem Must Be Faced!

The War Provides a Temporary "Solution"

When the War Stops: What Then?

UNLOCK THAT PADLOCK!



SIR CLAUDE READING—A MENACE

(A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H. BROWN.)

Sir, —More and more attention is being given to the question of reconstruction after the war, and all decent people welcome this healthy sign. Unfortunately, however, it is not without its unhealthy aspect, and the "old heads" are as active as ever in seeking to prevent any change in the controls, which have hitherto been exercised with such disastrous results.

The old men who took such a prominent part in the depression swindle are still in positions of influence and authority, and already leave no room for doubt as to the sort of "reconstruction" we shall have if they have anything to do with it. One such man is Sir Claude Reading, Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, who, for the past 15 years, has helped to keep the Australian people poor in the midst of abundance. He is in his 69th year, and this may explain why the things he says are so much out of date.

A Dangerous Man

While we naturally wish to show respect for the aged, the fact that Sir Claude is an old man is no reason why he should be allowed to again assist in bringing disaster to the Australian community. He did assist to bring disaster between 1929 and 1932, when he was one of the yes-men for Sir Otto Niemeyer, Professor Guggenheim, and Sir Hugo Hirsch. (Note the grand old English names!) These same men were also involved in the dismantling of the British shipbuilding yards, and in reducing the British Empire to a very perilous position. The London "Times" was right in the editorial which said: "A hidebound persistence in doctrines and methods which were sound fifty years ago may easily prove as costly in the financial and economic field as in the field of actual war. It might not lose the war, but it would almost certainly lose the peace." The doctrines and methods enunciated by Sir Claude Reading WOULD lose the peace, and discard them NOW, they will also go close to causing us to lose the war. We should not tolerate anything that constitutes a risk against the winning of the war or the establishment of a lasting peace based on individual security, personal freedom, and national justice. Not any of these will be possible of attainment if Sir Claude Reading and the present members of the Commonwealth Bank Board are permitted to remain in control of the People's Bank and continue to impose their anti-social financial policy. As O.B.H. said last week in his "Notes on the News," these dangerous men need attending to NOW. They ARE dangerous men, and the danger arises not only from the fact that they persist in doctrines and methods, which have been proved false and unsound, but also from the fact that they have designedly been placed in the position from which they can IMPOSE these false doctrines and unsound methods upon us. It is therefore urgent that they be removed from such positions or immediately required to implement a financial policy under which the people will be released from servitude and given access to the abundance of their own land.

A Prophet of Scarcity

Sir Claude Reading, as Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, gave a national broadcast recently, appealing for subscriptions to the Second Liberty Loan. He based his appeal on the assumption that there would be scarcity of money after the war, and that those who tried to deprive the people of their purchasing power in 1920, who did deprive them of their purchasing power in 1931, and who now plan to deprive them again AFTER the war, will continue to be the dictators in our "democracy." He gave his endorsement to the fraudulent manipulation of finance to keep the bankers supreme and the people suppressed. Read what he said:

- (1) Investment in government war loans would assist subscribers to meet any post-war depression.
- (2) It is surely only prudent to give some thought to possible "rainy" days.

(3) The post-war period must be a very difficult time for everybody. The holders of war bonds would have the savings represented by these bonds available to tide them over that period.

In No. 1 he tells us that he is thinking of an after-the-war depression. A depression is a period in which there is no diminution of our ability to produce things, but a deliberate withdrawal of the wherewithal to buy, and so we see that if there IS an after-the-war depression it will be the direct result of treasonable action on the part of the controllers of financial policy. Our plain duty is to take steps NOW to ensure that Australia's financial policy is removed from the control of such men and restored to the Crown through the Commonwealth Parliament.

Man-Made "Rainy Days"

In No. 2 he tells us to prepare for "rainy" days. When he speaks of rainy days he is not referring to the weather, but to periods in which money will be "tight" and therefore difficult to get. It is only "tight" when the bankers make it tight, and the so-called "rainy" days are another of the products of the application of the absurd ideas fostered by the financial oligarchy, and represented by Sir Claude Reading and the members of the Commonwealth Bank Board. A rainy day of the financial type becomes a fine day if one has money, and thus we see that so long as the community is freely supplied with money the rainy season will not arrive. It is clear however that plans are already being formulated in financial circles to curtail the supply of money after the war, and thus to bring "rainy days" upon those not able or unwilling to "invest" in the war loans.

In No. 3 he tells us that our gallant soldiers will win the war only to make conditions more difficult for themselves

and for us. To anyone not obsessed with absurdities of the past, the termination of the war should immediately open the way to less difficult conditions. With half a million men to be transferred from munition making to the production of civilian goods, and another half a million from the army to be absorbed in industry, it should be possible to reduce hours to 30 per week and at the same time immensely increase the output of goods. Pending their absorption in industry, every member of the Forces should continue to draw full military pay. This, of course, will be easy if money continues to be "available" in peace as it is in war, but if we allow a few men to prevent money from being "available" then the conditions will be difficult and probably ugly.

Note also the innocent statement that "the holders of war bonds would have the savings represented by these bonds available to tide them over the period." If our subscriptions to these loans are used "to pay for the war," as our political leaders so repeatedly declare, how will they become "available" after the war to tide over the difficult period, and why are we still paying for the last war if it was paid for by the loans obtained by the Federal Government in those years? Is it not rather the fact that the loans do nothing more than add to the national debt on which interest becomes payable forever through taxation? If this is the case, then does it not follow that the sacrifice of our sons is converted into a racket for bondholders, instead of being a successful effort to bring peace, security, contentment, and general blessing to the people at large?

Loyal Service to the People's Enemies

Sir Claude Reading is one of the men responsible for this deplorable state of affairs. He was a leading beneficiary of the Gas, Sugar, and Tobacco Monopoly, which owned three of the private trading banks. He was a member of the Union Club in Sydney, where he had contact with the money manipulators. He was "selected" in 1927 by the Bruce-Page Government as a director of the Commonwealth Bank soon after that Government had betrayed the institution to the trading banks. He was closely associated with the late Sir Robert Gibson in imposing the conditions of depression and closing the Government Savings Bank

in New South Wales. For this loyal service to the enemies of the people he was "selected" to succeed Sir Robert as chairman of the Board, and now he is retailing the same old financial humbug with the object of restoring the financiers to full control again after the war. His attitude menaces the peace, and I therefore suggest that all who find themselves in agreement with this view should immediately communicate with their Federal Parliamentary representatives, requesting the removal of Sir Claude from the Bank Board, and also the removal of every other member of the Board who approved or assisted in the implementation of the Premiers' Plan. It will be fatal if any of these men are permitted to have a hand or part in the reconstruction after the war. —Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.

189 Hotham Street, East
Melbourne, C.2,
June 21, 1942.

RUSSIAN PARADISE

"Russia has for more than a decade been accumulating enormous masses of arms and equipment at the expense of its population's standard of living, which is still very far below other European standards."—A Central European correspondent in "The Economist."

wealth and to the State to insist upon the vindication of our national dignity.

"No objection can be legitimately taken to the trial of any member of the American forces by our Courts, first, because international law recognises the right of every State to try offenders for offences alleged to have been committed within its boundaries, and, secondly, because the law in America applicable to criminal offences and the trial of persons accused, is substantially identical with the law obtaining throughout the Commonwealth.

"It may be pointed out that Section 41 of the British Army Act 1881 (which is applicable to Australian forces) recognises that grave offences, such as murder, manslaughter, or rape, should not be tried by courts martial if it be possible to avoid that method of trial.

"It is also to be borne in mind that recognition of the right of the American authorities to try their personnel by courts martial to the exclusion of our Courts, where injury has been inflicted upon Australian citizens, may have extraordinary and unforeseen consequences, quite apart from the disturbing effect upon public opinion.

"For example, what is to be the position if an American soldier, previously married in America, goes through the form of marriage with a Victorian girl? Is he to be prosecuted for bigamy according to the law of this State, or is he to be dealt with by an American court martial?

"Council considers a vital principle of national sovereignty is involved. Its members are fully conscious of the Commonwealth's deep obligations to its American Ally, and it feels that as the number of potential offenders among the American forces must be small, that confidence which is necessary for the existence of an enduring friendship between Australian and American citizens will be strengthened by the recognition of the principle.

"Both nations are at war to preserve the rights of independent peoples, and the Council urges that, in the interests of the Australian people, the essential right to try according to our laws persons of whatever race who are alleged to have committed offences within our boundaries should not be surrendered."

—"Smith's Weekly," June 6.

CIVIL COURT OR COURT MARTIAL?

"National Sovereignty Is Involved"

STATEMENT BY CIVIL LIBERTIES COUNCIL

On the subject of the handing over for trial by courts martial of Allied soldiers charged with certain offences—such as the case of the American soldier charged with the killing of three Melbourne women—the Australian Council of Civil Liberties, whose headquarters are in Melbourne, has addressed a statement to the Prime Minister, Acting Federal Attorney-General, and Attorney-General of Victoria.

Statement was prepared by the Legal Panel and Emergency Committee of the Council.

It asserts that the Australian Council for Civil Liberties feels it is of first importance that the rule of law in this community should be maintained and administered by its own Courts.

"Council does not seek in any way to prejudice this man, who must, under law, be presumed innocent until his guilt be established," the statement continues; "but if offences have been committed they are offences against the law of Victoria, and arises from happenings in which every Victorian citizen, and for that matter every Australian citizen, is vitally interested.

"It is a matter of grave and far-reaching importance that this community should not surrender the right (which is the distinguishing charac-

teristic of an independent people) to try, and upon conviction in due course of law to punish, any person who is alleged to have committed a grave offence against its citizens within its boundaries.

"Retention of this basic right is essential to maintain confidence in our laws, to enable the citizens of Victoria to feel that those laws are being effectively administered, and to show that we are a sovereign people.

"American Army authorities cannot claim any right to try a member of their forces for an offence against our laws to the exclusion of the State Courts, except by arrangement with the State authorities, or as a result of an over-ruling regulation passed by the Commonwealth Government.

"Council considers it inconceivable that either of these courses should be taken, and it appeals to the Common-

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Commenting on Sunday sport, Victorian Premier Dunstan says: "The Sabbath should not be used for profit making." These anti-profit chaps never object to usury, in the form of interest payments, which are calculated on the 365-days-a-year basis. To be consistent he should also insist that interest charges should at least be suspended on Sundays; and if he accepts the Christian concept he should object to usury on holidays, wet days, and all other days.

GESTAPO BUNGLE. —The evening press of June 11 reports, "A legally discharged soldier was illegally arrested as a deserter." An action for damages followed in which the Commonwealth pleaded that "the officer concerned had issued the warrant, but not as the servant or agent of the Government." Insurance companies and banking institutions often descend to repudiation tactics of this nature, but one would expect that the representatives of the people would at least be above such actions.

LOAN RAKE-OFFS. —Mr. Chifley stated in the House that the advertising costs of the first "Liberty" Loan were £21,153/15/4. The stock-brokers also received £26,568/1/6. The A.M.P. Insurance Company received £5000, and the T. & G. received £1875. These items alone total a grand rake-off of £54,596/16/10—and, of course, that is only a part of the waste campaign which could all be eliminated by obtaining the required amount from the people's Commonwealth Bank, without debt or the interest charges that cause terrific taxation to pay unnecessary and un-Christian usury.

CONFIDENCE TRICKS. —The proposals put forward by Mr. Scully (Federal Minister for Commerce) on the new price basis for wheat were described in the Melbourne "Herald" of May 30, by Mr. T. Lillie, President of the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association, as "the greatest political confidence trick that anyone has ever tried to put over the wheatgrowers." But why blame Mr. Scully, when the real culprit who fixed the price on behalf of the money manipulators is behind the scenes, in the person of Professor Copland.

LOAN PROGRESS. —The reported disappointing progress of the "Liberty" Loan, almost until the closing date, was possibly due, in part, to the fact that the dangerous practice of private banks using insurance companies, industrial concerns and public bodies as "dummies," through which they fill loans, has been realised and criticised adversely. Secondly, the bankers may have decided to embarrass the Government by stage-managed loan difficulties. An honest Government could avoid this blackmail by obtaining its finance through its own Commonwealth Bank, thereby saving taxpayers' millions which now go to pay interest to the private money-minters.

HONOURS LIST ERROR? —In the 1942 "Honours List," economist J. M. Keynes has pride of place as a Baron, for thinking up the idea of compulsory loans (taking money from people without their consent—just as Ned Kelly did before Keynes was thought of). Mr. A. W. Watts, a "performed" practical man who developed the "Radio-locator," and Mr. F. Handley, designer of the famous Handley Bomber (another "performed" man) merely received a modest K.B. apiece. Surely there has been a mix-up with the recommendation papers—which we hope will be corrected without delay.

WAR PROSPERITY. —The lie direct was given to press war-prosperity propaganda when a "Gallup Poll", taken in May, disclosed that 59 per cent, declared themselves worse off financially than before the war. Only 15 per cent, were better

off, while 26 per cent, were about the same. Perhaps those who insult the public for failing to subscribe to loans will now understand that the cause is not lack of patriotism, but lack of income. There are some, of course, who, because of their Christian convictions, object to the practice of usury.

WAR BAROMETER. —Recent developments had their reflection on the London stock exchange, reported thus by the Melbourne "Herald" of June 13: "Japanese landings halted the '1000 a night bomber boom.' The Bir Hacheim collapse and the German's Ukraine offensive caused oil shares to weaken. There was a sharp rise in Japanese bonds, encouraged by the assumption of a square deal for Japan in the peace settlement." Seemingly the money and share riggers are quite confident that the "new order" will safeguard their interests—irrespective of who wins.

TAXATION PUZZLE. —A manufacturer with an accessible income of £18,000 has been presented with a

tax bill for £22,000. He has town and country property and scrip, but the banks will not increase his overdraft, as there is no effective demand for his securities. It is just another example of having real wealth, but no money, which is the exclusive monopoly of the private banks. He's certainly in a mess, being completely in the bankers' trap. Maybe it will encourage him to study the financiers' confidence trick.

WAR GUILT. —After evening service, for six Sundays, a study class to which the public is invited will be held at Scots' Church Hall, Melbourne. The class will discuss a Christian basis for a "new order." One of the subjects will be: "Were the financiers responsible for this war?" It is not clear whether this subject crops up on June 21 or 28. If on the later date, there would be time for those readers who have studied this subject to go along. It might be quite interesting.

CENSORSHIP. — A conference of newspaper interests has decided to discuss the ban on the "Sydney Daily Telegraph," presumably with the object of opposing the ban; although they do not approve of the article which caused the ban, they feel they should defend the rights of the press—noble sentiments indeed. But, strangely enough, this body did not attempt to defend the "Radio Times" against either the censor or the "Herald" octopus.

—O.B.H.

unions in themselves, but I do not think they make a good foundation for a national political party. To begin with, the system is not conspicuously democratic. There is no more reason why we should be governed by railwaymen and transport workers, just because they belong to large and powerful unions, than that we should be governed by rich employers and landowners because they are paying the most taxes. It does not follow that because there are a great many railwaymen and transport workers they will have a real national outlook, not coloured by any prejudices arising from class or occupation. There is, however, a more fundamental objection. It is that a trade union background and training produce a certain type of mind, admirable within its limits, but not a deeply creative, really statesman-like mind. . . . If we ever do build Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land, it will certainly not be done under trade union rules. And for this good reason, that the very existence of a trade union assumes that its members are an exploited class, compelled to sell their labour to persons who will make a profit out of it, without any real interest in the work they are doing and what is being created by it, trying to strike the best bargain and not genuinely co-operating. I cannot see how a man who lives in this atmosphere can have much initiative and think creatively on broad national lines.

How Fascists are Made

"Going a little further Left, we arrive at another weakness. It can be illustrated by a reminiscence. Two or three years ago I accepted an invitation to talk to a summer school organised by a section of this further Left. I told them in this talk that they ought to make more effort to convert the middle classes, pointing out that the highly trained technicians, so necessary now in industry, were all members of these middle classes. With the enthusiastic approval of our audience, the leader of the party replied that they cared nothing for the middle classes, that one class-conscious navvy was worth all the middle classes put together, and so forth. Everybody cheered, but I felt rather melancholy, for I had hoped that we had met there not to see who could catch the easiest and biggest round of applause, but to try to talk a little sense. And I could not understand how a country could be run on silly rhetoric of this kind . . . the refusal to make converts outside the working classes is very dangerous. The assumption that any man in a position of authority, with some spare cash in his pocket, is the Enemy, who can never be persuaded to throw in his lot with the workers, and who may have to be summarily dealt with later, is very mischievous. That is how Fascists are made."

SUBS. FOR SOLDIERS AT HALF-PRICE

Direct subscriptions to the "New Times" for members of the A.I.F., A.M.F., Air Force or Navy are now available at HALF the usual rates.

Keep the boys on the military front well informed about the fight on the home front against the "enemy within." If you have a friend or relative in the armed forces, see that he gets the "New Times" every week. This is your opportunity, now that you can get a six months' sub. for him by outlaying a mere 5/- (which covers postage).

We may not be able to continue this concession after this month, so ACT QUICKLY.

FAMOUS BRITISH AUTHOR WRITES
Mr. J. B. Priestley, the famous English author, has written some excellent criticism of certain aspects of orthodox financial policy. We have, from time to time, reported him in these columns, although we do not agree with some of Mr. Priestley's views.

He is a Socialist and a mild Internationalist. He is also, we believe, an honest thinker, and we find some pertinent criticism of his fellow "Left Wingers" in one of his recent books, "Rain Upon Godshill." We suggest that some of the local "Left Wingers" would profit by reading it carefully with an open mind:

"My sympathies, I repeat, are Left Wing. But that does not mean that I have said goodbye to any critical intelligence I might have had. I am a critical Left Winger, which means that I am not likely to be overwhelmingly popular with all the others, for it is my experience that most Left Wingers take criticism very badly.



J. B. PRIESTLEY.

"It is as if most of them feel that you ought to turn a sharp, clear eye to the Right and a dull, hazy one to the Left. One bad trick that many of them have, to save themselves from testing the truth and force of adverse criticism, is to pretend that anybody who is not busy cheering the usual rhetoric must have been 'got at by the boss class.' This certainly saves trouble, but it does not make for intelligent progress. If you cannot stop to examine a reasonable objection, you will not be successful at running a great country, unless, of course, you adopt secret-police-and-concentration-camp methods.

Freedom of Speech

"I remember, a few years ago, there was a crowded meeting at the Central Hall to protest against the Anti-Sedition Bill, and I happened to be one of the speakers. H. G. Wells spoke just before me, and he

had just returned from Russia and, with that courageous honesty of his, which always sparkles a little with malice, he tried to indicate what he thought about some Soviet habits. But he was hardly given a chance. One section of the audience howled him down. They would not listen to any criticism of their Mecca. Yet we had all gathered there to defend freedom of speech. And there was a period when I seemed to be spending my time signing protests against the attempted dragooning of young Communists who had spoken their minds, or alternatively defending, against the jeering attacks of other young Communists, my sentimental bourgeois liberal notion that people should be allowed to speak their minds. There appeared to be two distinct ethical standards. If our party severely repressed all criticism, that was necessary and right, an example of sound, courageous, realistic policy. If the other side did it, that was yet another terrible example of their grim determination to destroy our freedom. These are merely cynical old political tactics, and they will not do. You cannot really improve the world by manipulating it in the same bad old way."

The Labour Party

Dealing with the official Labor Party, for which he has some admiration, Priestley says: "My own objection to it is that I distrust its trade union basis. Not that I dislike trade

The New Times

A non-party, non-sectarian, non-sectional weekly newspaper, advocating political and economic democracy, and exposing the causes, the institutions and the individuals that keep us poor in the midst of plenty.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1942.

No. 25.

Save Suburban Shops!

The drastic rationing of clothing will deal a serious blow to suburban shopkeepers, many of whom are not young and will face serious difficulty in obtaining a living unless the Government takes steps to do something for them.

The expressed wish of the Government is for people to keep away from crowded areas, such as the city, as far as possible during these days of air raid threats. In addition, public transport is strained beyond safety limits.

For these reasons every inducement should be given to the people to shop in their own suburbs. There is no real problem involved in doing this. The population of every suburb is known and a quota of clothing should be made available to each suburb—based on the population. If, at the end of each month, the rationing authorities were to find that certain suburbs had not taken the full quota there would be no harm done. A similar quota would be available to such suburbs during the following months, and it would soon be found that the more progressive of the suburban shopkeepers would take up the quantities not requisitioned by their less progressive competitors.

This method of working would assure a variety of clothes being available in the suburbs and, to a degree, would neutralise the advantages enjoyed by the city stores under the rationing scheme.

Summed up, this proposal means that an injustice to suburban shopkeepers can be avoided, the public may obtain the available clothing with less trouble, the crowded city problem could be reduced and the overload on public transport could be greatly relieved—truly a desirable state of affairs compared with the existing pandemonium.

Centralisation and Control of Morale

Agitation for the establishment of some sort of cartel in the drug-manufacturing trade has resulted in the formation of the Therapeutic Research Corporation of Great Britain Limited. The founder companies are:—

Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd.
British Drug House Ltd. (I.C.I.).
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.
May and Baker Ltd. (originally U.S.A.).

The Welcome Foundation Ltd.

According to "Nutrition and Therapeutics," products evolved as a result of research sponsored by the T.R.C. will be marketed and sold by the constituent companies under a common name, preceded or followed by individual trademarks.

The journal "makes no apology" for reiterating the principal objects of the new Corporation. They are stated to be:—

(a) To provide for the co-ordination and extension of research with a view to accelerating the discovery of new substances for the service of therapeutic and preventive medicine; to ensure proper collaboration with practitioners in the introduction of new medicinal substances; and to assist in the advancement of the art of medicine by the subsidisation of research on a broader and more rational basis than has so far been possible in the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

(b) To provide for the pooling of manufacturing facilities, where desirable.

(c) To enable the industry to cooperate more effectively in national planning by presenting to the Government through its appropriate organisations the pooled knowledge and facilities acquired by the constituent companies.

"The more effective prosecution of

research"? Impeccable! But "More effective co-operation in national planning" may be peccable or impeccable according to the policy informing the planning. Presumably this will concern the people's Government more than it concerns the T.R.C. of G.B. Limited, just as financial policy concerns the people's Government more than it concerns the Governors and Company of the Bank of England.

It is therefore to the people's Government that any question, which arises in the public mind, should be directed, and not to the promoters of the Corporation which hopes to cooperate with the Government.

A correspondent raises the following questions:—

Why do the doctors of the Ministry of Health differ from the doctors of the House of Commons concerning the adequacy of vitamins distributed?

Has recent research made it easier to control diseases, which have their origin in deficiencies in the diet?

To what extent do diseases due to deficiencies in the diet affect the vigour and determination of those subject to them?

To what extent, if any, do they depress morale?

And the powers of "minding" your own business?

Do deficiencies in the diet, when the effects are fully established, encourage that "free expression of constructive criticism upon which the

THE BIG IDEA

By C H DOUGLAS, in the "Social Crediter" (Eng.).

(Continued from last issue.)

If the Social Credit Government of Alberta had done nothing—and it has done many things—to justify its existence, the demonstration afforded by its enemies of one fundamental factor in the world situation would still have made it a landmark in human history.

That factor, completely demonstrated by the actions of the Canadian Federal Government in disallowing every Act of the Provincial Legislature directed to the inauguration of Social Credit, is that the Secret Government is determined to keep the world in turmoil until its own rule is supreme, so that one uninformed mob may be mobilised against another, should either become dangerous.

I do not think that anyone who will take the trouble to consider the actions of the Canadian Federal Government can fail to apprehend exactly why centralisation, Federal Union, and other "Bigger and Better" Governments are the most deadly menace with which humanity is faced today. There could hardly be a more concise picture of the events which followed the demand of the largest majority ever obtained by a Canadian Provincial Government that it should be allowed to deal with its own difficulties, than that contained in the following statement issued by an authoritative source in Alberta:

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. McKenzie 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 matter 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.

preservation of a great democracy depends"?

Are Members of Parliament subject to deficiency diseases like ordinary people?

And what about "the Government"? — "T.J.," in the "Social Crediter" (England).

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 hold.

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 20 cents for every one-dollar 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.

(Continued on page 5.)

THE BIG IDEA—Continued

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.

8. 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 had 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 money-lenders 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 revenue 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.

(To be continued. All rights reserved.)

A STRANGE REFORM

Who abolished the office of Master-General of the Ordnance at the British War Office? "Truth" (England) says that ardent reformer, Mr. Hore-Belisha, did, three years ago, and remarks that it is an amazing thing that there is nobody on the Army Council with any specialised knowledge of weapons, armour, mechanisation, aircraft, bombs, or ammunition, on the technical side. "O bless'd reformers, not in vain . . .!"

DONT FORGET MONDAY, JULY 6

As announced in our two previous issues, there will be a "gathering of the clan" in Melbourne on that date, when a dinner and social evening will be held to mark the occasion of the marriage, on the previous Saturday, of Miss Elma Turner and Mr. Eric Butler.



MR. ERIC BUTLER.

Those who are fortunate enough to be able to attend will look forward to having the privilege of meeting that very charming young lady, whose photograph adorns this page.

Mr. Bruce H. Brown will preside, and many others who are prominent in the movement will be present.

It is anticipated that not a little "inside information" will be revealed to the gathering, which, despite its social character, will provide opportunities for informal discussion among campaigners about other matters of mutual interest.

The organisers of this function are arranging to have a few musical items during the evening.

If YOU can come along, you are cordially invited to do so, but it is absolutely essential for catering and organising reasons, that you do NOT wait until the last minute to purchase your ticket. You may obtain your ticket, which takes the form of a small receipt, by sending 3/- to Mr. Hal Allsop c/o "The New Times," Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne or by calling at the "New Times" office (Room 9, Floor 5, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins St.) and purchasing it on the spot. Don't forget to bring your ticket along with you on July 6.

THOSE WHO CANNOT ATTEND

Unfortunately, there will be many who, for reasons of distance and wartime restrictions of transport, will not be able to attend, although they are admirers of Mr. Butler and his work for the cause. However, they will be able to join with those who can attend in making possible a worthy tangible tribute, by contributing now to the cash presentation, which will be made on July 6. Remittances for this purpose should be forwarded to the same address as that for tickets (see above).

A DESERVED TRIBUTE

We have no hesitation in saying

WOMEN'S WANTS

The Women's Advisory Council (London), in a questionnaire covering 40,000 women, found that "women wanted two-storied buildings, coal fires in living rooms, nursery schools for children, larger electric points, and no central heating or flats." The big idea of finding out what the people want seems to be catching-on. Obviously, they can obtain all these things if they have the money, and since they have empowered and charged the Government with the responsibility of providing an adequate money supply, the people's next job is to insist that the result be forthcoming.

that the "tangible tribute," however large, will be exceptionally well-deserved. We do not wish to "steal the thunder" of those who may offer some complimentary remarks at the function, but a few facts should be placed on record here and now: —

Mr. Butler started his crusading about six years ago, at the age of twenty, and into those few years he has crowded a concentrated effort, towards making Australia a better place to live in, that few would care to attempt in twice that time, with only half the difficulties to overcome. His platform work has taken him up and down the eastern part of the Australian continent, and to Tasmania; involving scores of thousands of miles of travel (most of it far from "first-class"), and thousands of public meetings, small and large. No one asked him to do this. No organisation paid him to do it. He could undoubtedly have been much more comfortable, and vastly more prosperous, had he not done it. Similarly, he is the UNPAID author of innumerable "New Times" articles that have appeared under his own name, a number of short stories and sketches under the



MISS ELMA TURNER.

pen-name of "John Clifford," and occasional unsigned articles. He is also the author of five excellent booklets, which have enjoyed a remarkable sale throughout the length and breadth of Australia—and beyond. For many months he has been in the Army, but has used most of his spare time and "leaves" to keep up the good work.

It is easy enough for us to write that "thumbnail summary," and it is easier still for you to read it, but it took sterling qualities to LIVE those six years—every strenuous, sacrificing second of them. We have some first-hand knowledge of that fact, and therefore look forward to the success, in every way, of its formal recognition on July 6.

Don't forget the time and place: 7 p.m., on the premises of Griffiths' Tea Rooms, 316 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Read in Comfort with Glasses Prescribed by—

CERTIFIED ANDREW C. GADDES OPTICIAN
STATE SAVINGS BANK BUILDINGS
157-159 ELIZABETH ST., MELBOURNE
TELEPHONE: MUY 111

SALVATION ARMY COMMISSIONER REPLIES TO MR. BRUCE BROWN

(To the Editor.)

Dear Sir, —Mr. Bruce Brown was kind enough to leave at my office a copy of your paper of June 12, and draw my attention to his letter under the heading, "God in the Slums," in which, upon the basis of four words in an advertisement—the title of your correspondent's contribution and of my talk at Thornbury—he makes a lengthy attack upon a world-wide organisation, and is afforded the hospitality of your leader page.

In the first two lines of his communication he admits that he knows nothing of the subject matter of my address, for he did not hear it. Yet he hastened to make one word in the title, the word "Slums," a horse, behind which to conceal the spirit, which animated his effort. He was also careful to hedge, here and there, by using words which gave him escape-loopholes: "that unfortunately is apparently the position;" "so far as I have been able to find out;" "if my information is correct," etc.

My address itself is, by reason of the ignorance of your correspondent as to its character, not impugned, and I have nothing therein to defend. Let me, instead, challenge that "feeling of protest," which burns within the breast of Mr. Brown, "at the suggestion in the title that God and the slums are one." However does he acquire that stimulation? The title suggests nothing of what is attributed to it, and no word of mine gave that impression.

No sane and sincere man could arrive at such a conclusion from such a negation of contributory fact.

As well say Mr. Brown and a greedy-for-gold community are one. I don't know your correspondent, but I should say it is scarcely a true thing to say of him. But there are greedy-for-gold people, and there is Mr. Brown, and also there are slums, and there is God. Who speaks of their oneness? Mr. Brown, not I.

Perhaps you will allow me to add that, just as Jesus Christ came into

the world for a specific purpose, so God is in the slums, working out that same purpose—seeking to save that which was lost; and with just that same mission the Salvation Army is in the slums—and all without any possibility of finding evidence to prove that the Father of Love, the Saviour of men, or the Salvation Army, have accepted any "rule of Mammon in preference to the rule of God." Let Mr. Brown speak for himself.

For the rest, I am not concerned with the peculiar antics of that stalking-horse of Mr. Brown's. Its feet do not once touch the ground of my address.

If Mr. Brown's reference, contained in that foolish challenge, and his added remark about the Salvation Army holding thousands of pounds' worth of shares in a private trading bank, point to a legacy made some years ago to aid the activities of the organisation amongst the poor, then he need lose no sleep on that score, for the gift has long since been realised, and spent for the original purpose of the legacy. The Gill Memorial Home is the evidence—it is housing the homeless men of Melbourne every night.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Brown is doing as much as are Salvationists, the world around, to alleviate the sufferings of the necessitous, in slums and elsewhere—I know of no organisation which has so successfully aided many thousands of families to leave slumland for healthier and happier surroundings as has the Salvation Army—and it certainly is a pity that he did not attend the Thornbury meeting, in which so much evidence was afforded as would have obviated the necessity for occupying your columns with this correspondence.—Yours, etc.,

WM R DALZIEL,
Commissioner.

69 Bourke-street, Melbourne.
June 18, 1942.

DEBT-FINANCE DEPLORED

Issue Must Be Faced, Says Tasmanian Paper

Under the headings, "The Issue Must be Faced" and "Federal Ministers And Liberty Loan," the following article appears in the Hobart "Voice" of June 20:

Melbourne, Monday: "Victory or defeat is often determined by success or failure in the battle of production," said the Minister for Air (Mr. Drakeford), speaking at the Melbourne Town Hall Liberty Loan demonstration today. "The battle of production depends upon the provision of finance."

This is all very well, nor is the "Voice" against subscription to the Liberty Loan. As long as such Loans are authorised it is proper to support them. But Mr. Curtin, now Prime Minister, declared three months after the outbreak of the present war: "The costs of the war can be met without piling up huge debts and without interest payments that suck our national life-blood." Does anyone suggest that the best way of winning "the battle of production" is to pile up huge debts and incur interest payments that suck our national life-blood? This issue must be faced. The State Labor Conference of Tasmania has just said so, and National Credit is on the Federal Labor Platform.

When requesting the public on Wednesday night to subscribe three million pounds a day to the new Liberty Loan till closing day on Tuesday next, the Prime Minister's eloquent broadcast included the following statement: "The

war is being financed by taxation, the issue of credit and public loans." What does Mr. Curtin mean by "the issue of credit"? If this only means temporary overdraft arrangements with the Commonwealth Bank secured by Treasury bills at 25/- per cent, this does nothing whatever to prevent "the piling up of huge debts" and "interest payments that suck our national life-blood."

What "Sound Finance" Says

The private banking journal known as "Sound Finance," issue of May 15, remarked that, up to that date, the note issue had increased from £50 million in 1939, to £90 million, and that the Trading Banks' holding of Treasury Bills had increased from £23 million to £51 million, and their holdings of "Government and Municipal securities (mostly Commonwealth bonds) have increased from £22 million to £56 million." It then adds this most useful and illuminating statement:—

"It is difficult to get a clear picture of the movements in Treasury bills, because the Commonwealth Bank (unlike the trading banks) does not publish its holdings of Treasury bills. A Govern-

ment can quite legitimately lean heavily upon its Central Bank in anticipation of public loan flotations. It can spend money and get things done as required by borrowing on Treasury Bills, and redeem the Bills out of the proceeds of a subsequent public loan." If that process, however extended, is Mr. Curtin's "issue of credit," it is repeated that this does nothing whatever to prevent the piling up of huge debts and incurring interest payments that suck our national life-blood, and has no sort of kinship with that "national credit" to which the Federal Government is pledged by the Federal Labor Platform on National Credit, and which the

Prime Minister did so much to help to frame at the Interstate Labor Conference at Adelaide in July, 1936. Since it took office in October last, the Federal Labor Government has increased Australia's national debt by no less than £131 million, excluding the present Liberty Loan of £35 million, and this is a record rate of piling up huge debts in Australia. Britain is doing the same thing, and will actually borrow the fearful amount of £2500 million this year. This means that, after victory, the harvest of debt will produce a harvest of starvation such as the world never saw before.

THE U.E.A. MEANS BUSINESS!

Hereunder we publish the third of a series of weekly messages from the Central Executive of the United Electors of Australia (Non-Party):

Real Democracy can, will, and MUST be made to work. The Australian Constitution enables it; Australian law and the Statute of Westminster provide for it; our British Parliamentary Institutions embrace it. IT IS OUR RIGHT—constitutionally, legally and morally! When, in the past, we have not gained the results we have wanted, we have been apt to blame everything and everybody from the Prime Minister downwards; everybody—excepting OURSELVES. We have looked everywhere for the culprit except in a mirror! If we really believe that "Parliament exists to carry out the will of the people" and that "the function of politicians is to yield to pressure," then let us at least be honest with ourselves and admit that IT IS NOT DEMOCRACY THAT HAS FAILED but that WE HAVE FAILED DEMOCRACY.

BUT—we have tried, and as far as we went we were successful. Hundreds of thousands of Australians have good cause to remember what happened to the unwanted "National Insurance Scheme," patterned by a handful of political puppets who decided what THEY thought was good enough for US. The electors remember because, through the efforts of honorary organisers, they were brought to recognise the bitter pill through its Socialistic coating of sugar. The Bill became an Act and still the people's fight went on; it wasn't waged by a committee, it didn't stop at resolutions, it refused to succumb, to hypocrisy and half-truths. Because the fight was DECENTRALISED right to the individual unit, the elector; because success depended upon the individual rather than upon some abstract "institution"; and because the electors realised that in association they could get what they wanted—THE WHOLE SORRY SCHEME WAS PIGEON-HOLED! For Democracy in Australia that was Victory Number 1!

Readers of the "New Times," and readers of some other newspapers and periodicals, which joined in with public opinion on the second major campaign, will not need to be reminded of the nation-wide demonstration against Casey's Commonwealth Bank Act Amendment Bill (1938). It is true to say that no more controversial, complicated, and technical Bill had ever been exposed to the light of public examination, and never was there such a widespread educational drive as that which, in a few short months, blocked the passage of the Bill.

We are confident that YOU in your thousands, together with other thinking men and women, can and will once again make the corridors of Canberra re-echo; this time to the concerted demands of a nation aroused to its dangers and its responsibilities. There are things NOT being done today that CAN and MUST be done if we are to win the

war and preserve the peace. YOU can put the CAN into Canberra! You will be given a lead in the near future when, on the advice of the movement, we will present our case. Whether it is accepted or ignored will depend upon YOU, reader; this Executive will wait upon your initial approval, which we are confident will be forthcoming. The first circular will tell you What, Why, and How. If you have convictions you will respond immediately.

Courage, born of those convictions, will prompt you to ACT.

A confidential circular is being prepared and will be posted during the next few days only, to bona fide supporters. Campaigners who took an active part in launching previous campaigns are invited to apply immediately for from one to six copies, giving the names and addresses of persons to whom they will undertake to deliver them. The circular will tell you WHAT, WHY, and HOW. You are under no obligation whatsoever. We believe the subject of the circular to be of VITAL importance to the future welfare of Australia and Australians, and we ask only that you notify the secretary as to whether you accept or reject the proposition put to you. All correspondence will be treated as strictly confidential unless otherwise requested.

We believe the future of the movement depends upon YOUR acceptance of the proposals, and that the success or otherwise of the campaign to be adopted by the majority DEPENDS UPON YOU. WRITE FOR YOUR QUOTA NOW!

Please remember the "Shilling Fund." A "bob" buys a "bullet," and we cannot win a modern war with popguns. Help us to help YOU.

—United Electors of Australia (Non-Party), McEwan House (Flr. 5), 343 Lit. Collins St., Melbourne, C.I. (MU2834.)

TIN PRODUCTION

Recent surveys on potential production areas indicate abundant deposits in Tasmania and elsewhere in Australia. In this connection, the following significant paragraph appeared in the "Herald" of June 2: "An effective tin production plan can be formulated, provided the Government will make the necessary finance available." Here, again, as in the case of rubber and countless other things, the obstacle is clearly tickets (money), for which the Federal Government is finally responsible. Let's insist on getting the tin, the rubber, and all other required things that are physically possible.

ON THE NEED FOR REAL SELFISHNESS

"Shut that damned thing off! I am sick to death of hearing this never-ending talk about sacrifice and national duty."

Roy Colbert was obviously annoyed.

His wife switched the wireless off and said: "I don't know what's come over you lately. You seem to be always irritated about little things."

"Oh, I'm sorry, my dear. I know that I have been a bit of a bore. But the job has been getting me down lately. We have been held up on a special technical job, important work for the Air Force, through official bungling and red tape. It riles me to hear Curtin implying that we, the people, are the only ones not doing a fair share in the national effort. He wants to shake up some of his own bureaucratic departments before shouting at us."

His wife, although a sensible woman of ordinary intelligence, never thought very deeply about things. She was governed mainly by emotional appeals. She was often out of her depth in little arguments with her more critical husband.

As she pulled her chair up closer to the miserable fire, she said with an anxious note in her voice:

"You are becoming too bitter about things. We must try to be tolerant."

"What! Tolerant of ghastly mistakes which are causing us all unnecessary hardships and hampering our war effort? I see these mistakes in connection with my work. That is bad enough. Then I come home of a night, tired out, to sit beside a miserable little fire, because a Fuel Board or something, like all other Governmental Boards, has done nothing but bungle. We can't even get decent milk now because of this crazy bungling."

"I know. I know I think that the main cause of all our troubles is our selfishness. Our leaders are quite right on that point." He looked exasperated, but replied in an even tone: "What do you do when the electric light fails?"

"I get you to call in an electrician."

"Good! And do you first question him on his morals and his state of heart before he starts work?"

"Er . . . no . . . I."

"Exactly! There is a technical job

AIRCRAFT PROBLEMS

The London "Evening Standard's" aviation correspondent is reported as saying: "The Air Staff does not contain engineers with the qualifications needed; the Air Council must act on the advice of anonymous technical experts." He describes this as dangerous, and quotes instances where such experts rejected the variable-pitch airscrew, and the retractable undercarriage; he also wants to know why the self-propelled bomb and the pick-a-back aircraft were pigeon-holed. His remarks indicate that the enemy's hand in a friendly glove is being operated by the "enemy within."

HOOEY DE LUXE

American magazine, "Life," publishes the following super-hoey: "America represents dynamism to Australians, while England represents stodginess." This statement is a reflection on the tact and good taste of "Life's" journalism, especially as the allegedly "stodgy" British, almost alone, held the enemy on all fronts for a lengthy period, during which the aforesaid "dynamism" didn't seem to help very much.

to be done. The doing of it has nothing whatever to do with morals."

She replied doggedly: "But I still think that the people are too selfish."

"Well, I don't. It's a pity that we weren't all more really selfish. We would get something done then."

"How can you say such a thing, Roy. Surely you don't mean it?"

"Of course I do. This sentimental talk about unselfishness towards some abstract thing called the nation is a farce. A nation is only a collection of individuals, isn't it?"

"I suppose so."

"Well, are individuals unselfish towards themselves? It's rot. If all individuals are happy and satisfied, then there is a happy, satisfied nation. Shakespeare was quite right when he told us to be true to ourselves. If we were all more selfish on behalf of ourselves, we would all be far better off."

"That's wicked nonsense. Do you mean that we should look after ourselves to the detriment of others?"

"No. That's the usual sentimental argument. As a general rule, when we do that, we only harm ourselves with the final result that we are worse off. So we are not then really selfish. We may try to be. Selfishness, according to my definition, is the taking of action, which brings the individual consistently greater results—that is, after allowing for the realities of any given situation. Take

a simple example: a crowd going to a picture theatre. The usual idea of selfishness is for the individual to rush in ahead of everyone else and get a ticket first. Well, if everyone does this, there is chaos, and the average individual is worse off than he was before. He therefore associates with his fellows, and a queue is formed. In order to obtain greater benefits for himself—selfishness—he is forced to associate with other individuals with the result that they also obtain greater benefits. That's what is wanted in this country today. Less talk about selfishness, sacrifice and other sentimentalism, and more talk about the importance of the individual."

His wife interrupted to say: "I think I see what you mean. But let's go to bed now. The fire is nearly out and there, is no more wood."

"Yes, I can see that. What a pity all the citizens of Melbourne wouldn't be so selfish as to take action to obtain more fuel for themselves. They could do this by a little association and application of pressure on individual Members of Parliament. We need to do less thinking and talking about the abstract, and to think and talk more about we concrete individuals who comprise the nation. I, for one, would do better at my work if I had, for example, a good fire to come home to every night. These little things are the important things in keeping morale high. If this is being selfish, then I am all for more and more selfishness."

—John Clifford.

REGIMENTATION REDUCES RESULTS

The inefficiency of regimentation was conclusively demonstrated by the London waterside workers in a test known as "honour week," during which all forms of control and regimentation were abandoned. The test showed that only 14 men in 1000 did not "play the game" decently, a better feeling existed, and everybody was much more cheerful. Not only does this justify the voluntary method, but it also gives the lie direct to those who bleat about the need for a "change of heart."

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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-arming 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

ON WHICH IS AUSTRALIA TO CONCENTRATE?

(Continued from page 1.)

Her skilled tradesmen into valiant fighters on the Production Front.

"The Manufacturer" appreciates, of course, that Mr. Folster in thus voicing his opinions, by no means speaks for the great American nation—the nation magnificently helping Australia and the whole British Commonwealth of Nations in their titanic struggle against tyranny. Indeed, the United States stand today as the world's shining example of the wisdom of encouraging manufacturing enterprise. For, had she been unfortunate enough, and unwise enough to have adopted any other plan of national development, she would at the moment be utterly incapable of turning out the mighty torrents of mechanical equipment destined ultimately to sweep tyranny off the face of the globe.

PERILS OF THE PEACE

The overwhelming majority of the American people and the overwhelming majority of the British people desire to see Australia build up in the Southern Pacific an invincible stronghold of Democracy. And the foundation stones of such a stronghold, it is unnecessary to add, are powerful manufacturing industries.

It is not against the people of America as a whole nor against the people of Britain as a whole that the people of Australia will need to exercise vigilance in the post-war period. Rather will they need to guard themselves against the self-seeking men of these, and of other, countries who would presume to place their own personal interests above the interests of this free young land.

But this same free young land warns them that it is alive to the dangers it will be called upon to face. It further assures them that

RUBBER PROBLEM

The following report relative to Free-French Africa and the Belgian Congo is interesting: "In 1911 rubber price was 4d per lb., which made it unprofitable to produce. Now the price is 2/3, with the result that neglected plantations are being worked again." So, you see, rubber was not, and is not, a problem; the problem is figures in books and pieces of paper (money). Could anything be more stupid?

it will meet the perils of the peace in the same valiant spirit as it is, today, meeting the perils of war.

May we add, in conclusion, that Australia by no means underestimates the importance of her great pastoral industry, the industry in which she holds the proudest position in the world. But her appreciation of the importance of this phase of her national life serves merely to strengthen her resolve fully to exploit her rich and varied natural resources. Confirms her determination, in short, to develop to the utmost both her primary and her secondary potentialities.

(Our sub-headings.—Ed., "N.T.")

INSIDE BRITAIN

In the recent debate on the food situation, Major G. Lloyd George mentioned that about one-third of family purchases of foods are now assisted by government subsidy. That the subsidy is paid from taxation money or money obligingly lent by the banks goes without saying—at present. Nevertheless, the precedent for the mechanism of subsidising goods is as firmly set as that for subsidising the consumer established before the war by the payment of old age pensions and the "dole."

Yes, why should the Jews of all people be permitted to set up their own private courts of first instance to deal with Black Market racketeers among themselves, handing over to the police only those malefactors they do not deal with by "business pressure" or "social ostracism"?

The following extract from the programme of the Strand Theatre appeared in "Truth" last week:

"By arrangement with Lionel L. Falck, 'Albion Operas Limited' present Offenbach's Tales of Hoffman' Production: George Kirsta. Musical Director and Conductor: Walter Susskind. Assistant Conductor, H. F. Redlich. Costumes: Katja Krassin. Men's suits: L. & H. Nathan Ltd. General Manager: Alfred A. Kaltmus. Secretary: Suzanne Czech. The very talented artists who appear include Ernest Urbach, Julius Gutman, George Israel, Hilde Zweig, Alice Schaeffer, and Sara Luzita."

Yes, Albion Operas.
—"Social Crediter," March 14.

NEW ECONOMICS IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES

The following letter, received by the "Social Crediter" (England) almost simultaneously with the news of the end of the battle of Java, has more than the melancholy interest of a letter read in lamentable circumstances unforeseen by the writer. A vigorous Social Credit movement on correct lines twenty years ago was a better practical proposition in a "smaller" country than in the land of origin of our ideas, and, as Douglas wrote in "Warning Democracy," "... modern scientific civilisation is irresistible in war . . . Any community, nation or continent which will successfully put these principles [Social Credit] into operation will either compel imitation from the rest of the world, or will reduce any attack upon its principles to the relative position of a mob of bushmen armed with bows and arrows." The members of the "Nederlandsch-Indische Nieuw-Economische Studiegroep," to whom we send greetings in adversity, at least know by what means alone their promised liberation from an alien yoke may be made certain:

"Dear Sirs,—In July, 1940, we have started here an organisation called Netherland East India New Economic Study group. It concerns itself with

the study of new economics and the propaganda of new economic thinking. It issues a monthly journal, 'Na den Oorlog.' A copy of it we are sending you as printed matter.

"During this year we have already made considerable advance with the spreading of the new ideas . . .

"You would oblige us much by authorising me to reprint translated articles in your journal in our monthly. The source, of course, will always be mentioned.

"Wishing you every success and awaiting with interest your reply, I remain.—Yours, etc.,

"E. H. F. VAN DEE LELY,
"Editor of 'Na den Oorlog.'
"Bandoeng, November 13, 1941."

CURTIN'S CAPERS

There has been strong overseas criticism of the hot-cold speeches of Mr. Curtin, based on the following irreconcilable statements made by him: "I defy the enemy to land in Australia," and "I say flatly that it is possible that Australia can be lost." Maybe it was the acrobatic word-spinning capacity of Curtin that prompted one U.S. writer to describe him as a "miracle man"; anyway, it's a much more generous term than "nitwit."

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