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BUSINESS. (Page 6.)

EVERY FRIDAY

# THE NEW TIMES

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

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

Now, when the  
padlocks for our  
lips are forging,  
Silence is crime.

Whittier (1807-1892).

## The Political-Party Racket Exposed!

### Big London Daily Newspaper "Spills the Beans"

There have been a number of indications recently that the people of Britain are learning the evils of party-politics, at least as fast as Australians. Some of these indications have already been referred to in these columns. Here is another—an article appearing in the "Daily Mirror" of February 6, under the heading, "The Whips Are Men With Too Much Power":—

The new M.P. arrived in the House of Commons. "You present your credentials at that office," said his friend, "you leave your hat here, and over there you hand in your conscience."

"Over there," was the office of his party Whips, the men the newcomer could expect to rule him for the rest of his career in Parliament.

To outsiders the Whips are men of mystery. To the average M.P. they are men of destiny who can make or break a political career.

Most M.P.'s arrive in the House of Commons straight from the excitement of the poll.

They are flushed with success. The electorate has confided in them a solemn trust, and they are anxious to carry it out.

Some bear fiery crosses of reform which to their innocence they expect to brandish to a dazzled House.

And, believe it or not, you and I, as taxpayers pay the Whips of the Government in power many thousands a year to turn these fiery crosses into damp squibs.

It takes the new M.P. only a very short time to realise that, in the

view of the Whips, his personal opinions are of no account, and that he has been elected merely as a member of a party and not as an individual.

From the day he takes his seat he is no more than a number—expected to attend, speak, and vote exactly as he is told.

If he does not the Whips will quickly find a way to make him.

Let us probe the source of the strength of these Whips.

Captain Cunningham-Reid, the Conservative member for Marylebone, is one of the men who has good cause to know them well, for his passages of arms with them have been many.

There are few things about which the captain and I could agree, but at least I will support him when he writes the following:

"The Whips certainly protect their own chicks. They are past masters at using their influence to keep the wrong men in and the right men out. This practice will only be curtailed when the Whips' Office has some of its power taken away and when adequate searchlights of publicity are

focused upon those who deserve blame."

This extract is from his book, just published, "Besides Churchill—Who?" (W. H. Allen, 2/6).

The Whips have 14,000 good reasons for keeping their Government in office, and every one of these reasons is a nice crinkly pound note. That is the sum which we taxpayers pay the Whips for a job which has nothing to do with running the nation. It relieves their minds of any financial worry while they run their parties.

Why the money should come from public funds is to most people a mystery.

However small the amount may be it still means that every person in this country pays to keep in power

a Government whether he supports it or not.

There are two Chief Whips these days. One, James Stuart, is a Conservative, the other Sir Charles Edwards, is a Socialist.

Each of them pockets £3000 a year for keeping his followers in order. Their eight assistants get the tidy sum of £1000 a year.

Here is the explanation given by Cunningham-Reid:—

"In order to justify the Government's party Whips being paid by the Treasury (that is to say, the public) instead of by the party, the Whips are occasionally given a few routine Treasury documents to sign. They are not the kind of documents that they have to read. On an average each Whip has to sign his name (Continued on page 8.)

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

**The remarks of Mr. A. Hopkinson in the House of Commons indicate that the Libyan reverse was due to British two-pounder tank guns being opposed to German four-pounders, half-pivoting gun carriages against full-swivelling carriages—and "too few of even what we did have."**

He also says Lord Beaverbrook is responsible and is the curse of the country. But he overlooked Montagu Norman.

**SHODDY SUITS:** The worst part of clothes rationing is to come in the form of shoddy, standardised clothes. A practical manufacturer is reported in the press of June 22 as saying that, "compared with material normally produced, the standardised cloth would wear only half as long, because the price at which it was pegged would only permit a single-weft material. A double-weft suit would cost about 10/- more, but would last far longer." Obviously on this basis the theoretical planners would not save material, but would waste it.

**BIG POW-WOW:** We are informed by the press that Roosevelt and Churchill conferred at length with the Chinese Ambassador (Mr. Soong), who is the "big noise" in banking in China. Isn't it remarkable how the bankers manage to obtain these positions of trust for themselves or their henchmen, and are on the spot to decide policy? Incidentally, the "New York Post" has started a big push to boost Roosevelt into full leadership of the Allies. Keep your eye on the ball.

**GRAFT IN U.S.:** The U.S. "House Military Committee" has discovered a sordid condition of excessive brokers' and vendors' profit, and exorbitant salaries, bonuses, and fees for management in war department contracts. Under Government control, graft, corruption, and bungling seem inevitable; but there is a school of internationalists who postulate that if Britain and America were joined in the holy wedlock of "Federal Union," the ensuing spiritual uplift and change of heart would eliminate these and all other rackets!

**ROMMEL-ITIS:** If the daily newspapers' exaltation of the German general continues, Army Intelligence may be expected to start an enquiry into the sympathies of the writers concerned. If Rommel is half as good as reported it would be a good idea to offer him, say, a shilling a week more pay (deferred, of course) to come over on our side.

**DEBT OWNERS:** The apostles of "sound" finance, in a special Melbourne "Herald" article of June 16, say this about ownership of the national debt: "An internal debt is easier than an external one to handle, because the debtors and creditors are the same people." This naive proposition suggests to us a very simple way to dispose of the debt. All we have to do is to make contra entries in the accounts of citizen-debtors and citizen-creditors, and—heigh presto!—all taxpayers are forthwith relieved of taxation in hard cash required to pay interest amounting to more than £1,000,000 per week. Fancy not thinking of that simple wheeze before!

**LONGER PARLIAMENTS:** Feelers are appearing in the daily press re. prolonging the term of State Parliaments. It is noteworthy that no individual State members are named as advocating this—and also that none of them oppose it. References are usually to the effect that "there is a move for this purpose," etc. The men behind the scenes just get the idea into print—and watch for reactions. There certainly should be a strong reaction in this instance, against political employees extending their jobs—without reference to their employers (the electors).

**U.S.-SOVIET PACT:** M. Molotov reveals, says the daily press, that U.S. has arranged credits (debt) for Russia to the extent of £750 millions. It was reported that earlier U.S. credits to Russia were free of interest: which, if true, indicates a very touching attachment between the financial dictators of the respective countries. It is worth noting that Britain has not obtained similar terms.

**IMPORTED FOOTWEAR:** Prominent advertisements have been appearing in the daily press for high-priced imported British footwear—which, incidentally, requires no more ration tickets than shoddy shoes local manufacturers are compelled to make. It seems strange that shipping space, allegedly needed for vital war equipment, is being used to transport shoes which could be made here. "Taking coals to Newcastle." The inference from this situation is that the war position must be well in hand.

## SHIPYARD NEEDED, SAID ADMIRAL

### But the Banks Sabotaged It!

The following report, appearing in the Melbourne "Age" of June 30, will no doubt provide Mr. Ripley, of "Believe It Or Not" fame, with excellent material. Seeing that we are in the throes of a major war, it should be the forerunner of charges of high treason. It speaks for itself:—

#### SHIPYARD BUT NO ORDERS.

Sold By Auction.

SYDNEY, Monday.—A shipyard designed to build patrol vessels for the defence of Australia was to-day sold at auction before it even had received an order to build a ship. Efforts to induce the Prime Minister to stop the sale were unavailing. Machinery was all in place ready to start production, but the boilers were cold.

The head of the firm said the shipyard was designed by a naval constructor, and a syndicate was formed on the understanding from the Navy that it would be given orders for patrol vessels. The construction and fitting out of the yard cost £18,000. The establishment was offered to the Commonwealth Government for £7000 when no orders were forthcoming, but the offer was not accepted. The factory property brought no offer, but there was keen competition for the machinery.

The manager stated that on May 18 a conference was held with the Minister of the Navy (Mr. Makin), to save the shipyard. Later a letter was received from Engineer Rear-Admiral P. E. McNeil, of the Navy

department, which stated that it would be a great mistake if the yard was dismantled at the present time. On May 28 Mr. Makin, in company with Rear-Admiral McNeil, visited the place, and the Minister suggested to Rear-Admiral McNeil that the yard should be put into operation. On June 17 he telegraphed Mr. Makin that the banks had advertised the property for sale, and that, in an interview, Rear-Admiral McNeil promised suitable contracts would be made available.

Mr. Makin replied on June 22, the manager added, stating that he would consult Rear-Admiral McNeil to see if anything could be done. On June 25 the manager advised Mr. Makin that Rear-Admiral McNeil informed him that there were no immediate contracts. A telegram received from Mr. Makin on Saturday last read: "Further discussions which have taken place between myself and Admiral McNeil reveal the inability of the Navy department to utilise your plant. Certain altered plans regarding the building of small craft have now limited prospects of this class of work. Will be happy to make any endeavour to place yourself in satisfactory employment."



## A PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN SPEAKS

Notes from a Sermon Preached Recently by  
Rev. J. E. Hull, M.A., in the Wynyard  
(Tas.) Methodist Church.

**We are hearing much from time to time about a New World after the war. Those of us who are older remember similar slogans that drove us on during the last war, but even so we are not cynical; only we just feel sure somehow that any New World will come, not as a gracious gift from the powers above, but as the result of intelligent and incessant demand by the mass of ordinary men and women below.**

The Churches have a grand record of social welfare work. They have given themselves lavishly in relief work, orphanages, homes for needy children, and a thousand other works of love. They have provided as far as their means would permit for the needs of the poor, the unemployed, and the casualties on the industrial front.

### Salvage Not Enough

But for years many of us within the Church have felt that all this was not enough. We know now that we can no longer be satisfied with dressing a few of the running sores of the body politic. We must go deeper, to the root of the trouble.

This war is forcing people to realise two things at least. First, that there is money available in almost unlimited amounts for war purposes. The General Conference Minutes of the Methodist Church state:

"We cannot be unmindful of the fact that the present world war has shown that Governments can find money for the provision of necessities when so obliged. We are convinced that if the same energy and resourcefulness which are now being used to ensure war-time efficiency were directed towards . . . measures of economic and social development, the advances . . . would be incalculable."

### Basis of New Era

Second, we see that despite the transfer of millions of men from productive to unproductive work, the rest of us are still able to maintain both ourselves and them with the necessities of life, as well as provide the enormous quantities of material to be destroyed in war. This results from the little-realised possibilities of modern production.

Let us see a few examples of this, gathered from here and there. Lord Leverhulme has said that we could provide for the wants of all by each doing one hour's work per week. So rapidly have productive powers grown, that this statement is probably out of date. It is calculated that there is sufficient power and plant in the U.S.A., if fully used, to supply the needs of five times the present world population. A girl with a machine can make 60,000 safety razor blades in a day. A modern electric lamp machine throws out bulbs at the rate of 422 per minute. Numerous inventions that would still further increase production are blocked because of their far-reaching results. We can produce all we need with a minimum of effort.

### Distribution Difficulty

The difficulty is in distribution, and arises because people never have sufficient purchasing-power to buy all the goods they have made. Many believe that the power to make money rests with the Government alone, but actually the money power is in private hands. Financiers determine the amount of money or credit in circulation.

The famous quotation from the "Banker's Magazine," an American publication, for August 26th, 1924, will bear repetition: "Capital must protect itself in every possible way, both by combination and legislation. Debts must be collected, Mortgages

must be foreclosed as rapidly as possible. When, through a process of law, the common people lose their homes, they will become more docile and more easily governed through the strong arm of government applied by a central power of wealth under leading financiers."

### Deliberate Depression

The depression that followed 1924 was not the result of the war, neither was it the "inevitable" slump after boom times. It was deliberately manipulated. Mortgages were foreclosed. Overdrafts were called in, new credit refused; and so in all countries unemployment was rife; men and women tramped the roads in thousands looking for work that no one could give them; hundreds of small business men went bankrupt; and the suicide rate went up.

The gulf between productive-power

and purchasing-power must be bridged. . . . If, for example, a country produces £10 million worth of goods, and the people possess only £5 million in money, then the difference must, at present, be exported or destroyed. When export has not been possible, we have dumped millions of bags of coffee in the sea, killed off millions of cattle, sheep and pigs, in an endeavour to stifle production. Worse still, because hidden, we have restricted production. It may be of personal interest to many to know that just a few years ago an order was issued for the restriction of 121,000,000 lbs of tea in India, Ceylon and the Dutch Indies.

### Frustrated by Finance

To-day our supposed £5 million may be increased by the issue of new credit, or it may be decreased by the calling in of credit; but all at the wish or whim of the financiers. Under a Christian economy, the people would be supplied with purchasing-power equal to the amount of goods produced.

This war will also force on us the fact that interest must be checked. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, has suggested that interest payments should cease when an amount equal to the original principal has been paid. The relief such a measure would afford is almost unbelievable. For example, in 1860 New Zealand borrowed £70,000 to pay for the Maori War. Up to 1938, N.Z. had paid in interest £278,000—and still owed the original £70,000!

The Australian National Debt was £197 million in 1900; £258 million in 1910; £1400 million in 1938. It tends to double in approximately every

ten years, and in 1938 we were paying in interest £1 million per week, or £110 each minute. It has been calculated that if our National Debt increases for the next 70 years at the same rate as for the last 70, we would then owe \$780,000,000,000—and for interest alone each family would have to find an average of £13,500 per annum!

### The Church Must Speak

In the cry for a New World, the voice of the Church must be heard. This is a Christian demand. The Methodist General Conference says again:

"We recognise that the present economic and monetary system is based in and fosters motives of gain and self-interest that are contrary to the spirit and example of the Lord and is largely responsible for conditions that are a denial of brotherhood. We affirm that where the implications of Christian ethics conflict with economic practices, the Christian principle should be given effect to, regardless of what ultimately may be the consequence to our existing social order."

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

From the United Democrats' H.Q, 17 Waymouth St., Adelaide.

**ANOTHER YEAR CLOSES:** Before these notes are printed, our financial year will have closed, and we will be making arrangements for the annual meeting on July 25 (Saturday) at 3 p.m. To start the next year well, we are asking you to do even a little more with "THE VICTORY ROAD." So that we can make our second parcel up to 1000 copies and distribute some of them free, we are asking for donations to a VICTORY ROAD FUND. Nearly 1500 of these booklets have passed through this office in about three weeks. Why not make it 2500? I will personally start the fund with 10/-. This booklet is obtainable for 3d. per copy, 2/9 per dozen, or 50 for 10/- (post-age 9d.).

**OUR ANNUAL MEETING** is to be followed by a social evening, and we hope to have brief talks from two of our Members of the State House. We want to make this an opportunity for members and non-members to meet and talk. Further details will be given later.

**NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING,** Thursday, July 9.

—M. R. W. LEE, Hon. Sec.

## BOOKS TO READ

"Federal Union Exposed": A book you MUST have. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Banks and Facts": How to Finance the War for an All-in War Effort. By Bruce H. Brown, Price 6d. each.

"Money"; What it is and how the Money System Works. By S. F. Allen. Price, 1/- each.

"Victory without Debt": Showing that Victory can be Won Without Creating a Huge Burden of Debt to be Paid Off After the War. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Answer to Tax Slavery": Explains the Taxation Racket, and shows WHY we Really Pay Taxes. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Story of the Commonwealth Bank": The Story of the People Bank and How it Could and Should be Used. By B. J. Amos. Price 1/- each.

Obtainable from the United Electors of Australia Room 8, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins-street, Melbourne, C.I.

## THE GOLD BOGEY

**"Costing about £500,000, the giant dredge in the Ovens' Valley, near Bright, on which construction was begun three years ago, is nearly ready to begin gold recovery."—Melbourne "Herald," June 12.**

I suppose it won't be long now before we have enough gold to win the war for us. We can't exactly buy Hitler & Co. out, because, although I'm not an economist, I understand Germany is "off" the Gold Standard. By the way, this raises a point or two. Since we of the "Democracies" do not use gold internally, and since our enemies base their total war effort upon physical things rather than upon the gold myth, who are we to trade the gold with—ourselves? When the "Gold Standard" was in vogue (if I may put it that way), the idea was to dig the gold out of a deep hole in, say, this country, swap it for some real wealth produced over in America, for instance, and the fellows over there would then dump it into a deep hole of their own! It all seemed very strange then, but nowadays, when manpower is so urgently needed, when machinery and transport are the very sinews of our total (?) effort, and, money (according to recent evidence) is so hard to GET, the story the "Herald" puts over seems fantastic!

Half a million quid! Phew!

But that's not all. The "Herald" continues: "One of the two largest in the world and largest in Australia, it compares with a medium-sized cargo ship, and its 5000-ton bulk is a conspicuous landmark." (I'd call it a monument to man's stupidity! But, then, I'm not an economist.) "Its powerful engines will operate deep dredging buckets which will excavate 12,000 tons of gold-bearing earth daily." Now for a little arithmetic. Twelve thousand tons daily; that is 26,880,000 lbs. weight. Divide by 7,000,000 (approximate population of Australia), and what do we get? Nearly four pounds weight per head, man, woman and child! What if this were iron ore? (Don't tell me that would be impossible; I'll undertake to show you vast tracts of land in South Australia and New South

Wales, which are rotten rich in iron, copper, and other vital ores.) What if it were coal? Every home could have a coal fire; each family of five would have nearly twenty lbs. of coal per day!

Wouldn't that be better for this nation than a buried heap of useless yellow metal? At this time of national crisis every thinking man and woman should satisfy themselves on this question, and other questions like it; and having done so, ASK YOUR FEDERAL MEMBER WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT IT, for THERE IS AN ANSWER. Perhaps the racket-rag of Melbourne answered it in the same article when it continued: "Although designed and FINANCED in London, it is 88 per cent. Australian-made." (My emphasis.) Our people made this mighty machinery, and "London" FINANCED it! Quoting from the article again: "Its production over the first six years is expected to average £220,000 worth of gold a year." So, with the aid of giant machinery, we can produce nearly a quarter of a million pounds' worth of gold every year, but we couldn't find the money to "finance" the production of the giant we built ourselves!

"It will reach a possible depth of 130 ft. below water-level." (And in permitting such a performance, one might add, those responsible will surely have reached a record level in waste and wanton stupidity.)

"The Shire of Bright has benefited from the erection of the dredge—it owes its present low electric power tariff to the extension by the company of a power line to the dredging site." (Not until the God of Mammon blessed the district with a damn-fool dredge, were the lives of the people of Bright made brighter!)

What will our fighting forces think when they march past this "conspicuous landmark," where, according to "Granny," "manpower will be the main problem"?

—"Scissors."



## COMMISSIONER DALZIEL'S "REPLY"

(A Letter to the Editor from Bruce H. Brown.)

**Sir,—What a pity Commissioner Dalziel's vision was so full of an imaginary stalking horse that he could not see the real points in my letter on the subject of "God in the Slums." That letter related to God, the Slums, and the Salvation Army, and not to anything that might have been said at that Thornbury meeting. Facts are not altered by bullying words or emotional outbursts, and nothing the Commissioner could have truthfully said in the course of his address would have disposed of the awkward points or lessened the accuracy of my criticism.**

It was made perfectly clear that I understand and fully appreciate the self-sacrificing work of the individual Salvationists in their "salvage" operations, but it was pointed out that, by assisting to maintain a financial system that produces slums faster than it is possible to clear them away, the Salvation Army is serving Mammon, even though its leaders may think they are serving God. It was also made perfectly clear that it is far more important to remove the CAUSE of slums than to devote our efforts exclusively to relieving some of the effects of them, and that the Salvation Army is not taking any effective part in this aspect of the matter.

### Fundamentals Evaded

Instead of replying to these fundamentals, Commissioner Dalziel preferred to take the course of indulging in debating trickery and personal insinuation. It may be that I am insane and insincere, as he charitably suggests, but suggestions of that kind usually come from the enemies of society who fear the light from the torch of truth being focussed in their direction. I had not previously thought of Commissioner Dalziel in that class. However, he may have been following the example of the chief priests and elders who could not stand the disturbing truths uttered by Jesus, and described Him as a "fellow perverting the people." His stalking-horses frightened them, too!

Hedging is something with which I am not familiar, but apparently Commissioner Dalziel is a master of it. His "reply" is full of it. He wrote: "He (Mr. Brown) was also careful to hedge here and there by using words which gave him escape loopholes—that unfortunately is apparently the position; 'if my information is correct,' etc." I have not been able to find what is meant by the word "etc.," and therefore invite Commissioner Dalziel straightforwardly to quote the actual portions of my previous letter which justify his use of the term, "etc.," in regard to hedging. My own feeling is that it is another dishonourable dodge to distract attention from truth.

Following this is the challenge to "that feeling of protest which bums within the breast of Mr. Brown at the suggestion in the title that God and the Slums are one." To show the absurdity of my attitude he brackets me with what he calls "a greedy-for-gold community." This very phrase betrays the superficiality of his thinking, and confirms that he has done nothing to identify and help destroy the real enemy of God and Man. There is no greedy-for-gold community in the world, but EVERY community is needy-for-money. It was this universal NEED FOR MONEY that led St. Paul to say, "The love of money is the root of all evil," but the significance of this pronouncement has not yet dawned upon the leaders of the Salvation Army.

### Salvation Salvage System

From my earliest childhood I have heard and read of how, through the Salvation Army, God has been at work in the slums. Indeed, I have often wondered what the Salvation Army System would do without the slums, the drunkards, and the wayward women. These are so important to the salvage system that they are almost a vested interest. The "War Cry," which is the official organ of the Salvation Army, bearing

the Blood and Fire symbol, came regularly to our home in the years gone by, and consistently fostered the idea that a soul "saved by the blood of the lamb" could be as happy in the slums as anywhere else; that mothers, mentally tortured by the never-ending struggle to make ends meet when the bankers impose a system that makes it impossible for them to meet, can nevertheless forget all this and enjoy the Kingdom of God in conditions of depression, destitution, disease, and death; and that there is something divine in the hardships of poverty, even though God provides plenty for all and Jesus came that we might have LIFE more abundantly. In this respect the attitude of the Salvation Army is a wonderful help to the oppressors of the people, who impose conditions of poverty and then make donations towards "relief." Even though slums may be an opportunity for Salvationists, they are an abomination to the universally beneficent Creator, and while it is quite permissible to bracket Mr. Brown with a greedy-for-gold community, it is a crime to bracket God with Slums.

Commissioner Dalziel inferred in his "reply" that my reference to the Salvation Army holding shares in a private trading bank had no point, since "the legacy made some years ago to aid the activities of the or-

ganisation amongst the poor . . . has long since been realised and spent for the original purpose of the legacy." All I need say on this point is that the Salvation Army Property Trust, of 140 Elizabeth-street, Sydney, is the registered holder of shares in, the National Bank of Australasia Ltd. to the value of £6660. This may be confirmed by reference to sheet No. 117 of the official register (666 fully-paid £10 shares!). The philanthropy of bank shares!

### The Points He Ignored

May I repeat the points made in my previous letter, and ask Commissioner Dalziel why he ignored them? They are as follows:

1. The very existence of slums is the clearest proof that the religious organisations have accepted the rule of Mammon in preference to the rule of God. (Under an honest financial system there would be no slum areas.)
2. The Salvation Army succours the wounded, but acquiesces in conditions which increase the number of casualties.
3. The Salvation Army invites God into the slums but makes no protest against the system which inevitably produces slums faster than people can be rescued from them.
4. Slums are the direct product of financial considerations, and financial considerations have no part in the Kingdom of God.
5. Parents would move out of slum areas and have comfortable homes of their own choosing if they were given incomes equal to the extra expense involved.
6. The Salvation Army's activities in regard to slums are analogous to a naval organisation which sends out hospital ships to rescue survivors from torpedoed

vessels without doing anything to identify and destroy the submarines which do the torpedoing.

7. The Salvation Army and other religious bodies aid and abet a system which thwarts the purposes of God and prevents mankind from enjoying the gifts of the Creator.
8. The Salvation Army is trying to help the fellow on the scrapheap while at the same time it is a direct beneficiary of the ungodly system which threw him there, and will throw others there.

What are his answers to these?

Once again I acknowledge that the Salvation Army does a lot of splendid "relief" work, and I wish them success in continuing it so long as the necessity lasts. What we are seeking to stress, however, is that the religious bodies should investigate the truth or otherwise of the assertion that our community difficulties are almost entirely the product of a false system of finance, and join with those who are striving to have the system adjusted so that it will reflect the Will of God, instead of putting us in servitude to Mammon.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.

189 Hotham St., East

Melbourne.

28th June, 1942.

## LETTER TO KARL MARX

"In the new organisation of mankind, the children of Israel will spread over the whole surface of the earth and will become everywhere, without any opposition, the leading element, especially if they can impose upon working classes the firm control of some of them. The government of the nations forming the Universal Republic will pass without effort into the hands of the Jews under the cover of the victory of the proletariat. Private property will then be suppressed by the rulers of the Jewish race, who will everywhere control public funds. Thus will be realised the Talmudic promise that, when come the times of the Messiah, Jews will possess the wealth of all the peoples of the world." —From a letter written by Baruch Levy to Karl Marx, and quoted in the French journal, "La Revue de Paris."

## ZONING FAILURE

The following press comment on milk-zoning indicates that even leading-article writers face up to realities—sometimes. "Officialdom has not demonstrated that it can manage a distributing business more economically or efficiently than private enterprise." And yet, despite this proven failure, we are to have a bread-zoning plan. Continued bungling by bureaucratic theorists should at least convince the people that Curtin's socialism is not the answer to their problems.

had far more to say on. Service estimates than the colonel.

"Thanks to his Boswell, we have a full record of the old gentleman's views during the age of enlightenment which preceded the war. Though his utterances were sometimes paradoxical, he never believed in scrapping battleships 'pour encourager les autres,' or in cutting Service pay to stimulate recruiting, nor was he partial to Abyssinian sanctions, which were the laughing-stock of the world, or the handing over of naval bases to Ireland. It has been alleged that at the time of Munich, when peace-pledgers were becoming so bellicose, Colonel Blimp "was unnaturally pacific. We may put it down to his conservatism. He was so old-fashioned as to believe that armies require weapons to fight with."

—"Social Crediter," March 21.

## ITEMS FROM ENGLAND

The report that Mr. Israel Moses Sieff has taken the highly improbable and unnecessary course of buying "The Times" is causing hilarity in London, Liverpool, Turkey, and other places. It is suggested that the rumour originated orally in the form that Mr. Sieff had bought the times not "The Times."

It is understood that Commander Stephen King-Hall's suggestion to the House that "Sacrifice Weeks" should be substituted for "Warship Weeks" does not mean that the Warships are to be Sacrificed.

The press announcement that "A campaign to explain to the people of Britain the full magnitude of the task before them is being considered by Ministers, and leading members of the Government are likely to take part," is not likely to meet with much enthusiasm.

It is felt that, with the whole world at war, the "magnitude of the task" can scarcely be missed; more would be gained by a practical move to decentralise industry and free it from the stranglehold of red tape, which prevents it producing the quantity of arms needed for victory.

The carrying and launching of naval torpedoes from the air was a British invention of the last war. A bevy of admirals tackled Mr. Alexander in Parliament on the reasons for the neglect in developing and providing aircraft suitable for use in such operations under modern conditions. Mr. Alexander said that new designs were being produced, but he added that the old types were also going back into production. The speed of the older types is entirely inadequate to evade attack by modern, land-based fighters in coastal operations.

In the "Daily Telegraph" of March 16 "Peterborough" wrote: "Comrades" was the way Mr.

Noel-Baker addressed the Fabians yesterday at their conference on post-war German problems. There were quite a number of aliens in his audience. They are largely responsible, I understand, for the increase in membership of this body since the war.

"Mr. Noel-Baker can speak of Germany and the Germans with authority. He recalled the time when there was a strong democratic movement there. One evidence of this was interest in international sport. He said he had played football and run on the track in Germany.

"His speech to the Fabians was broadcast in Germany last night."

Lord Vansittart, speaking to the Cambridge University Conservative Association, said recently: "After this war Britain has got to show that she prefers her friends to her enemies, and that she is at least going to distrust her ex-enemies until they give further cause for confidence than they have yet given.

"Despite all that has been said, Dr. Schacht is the most unscrupulous and oleaginous scoundrel I have ever come across."

Pastor Niemoller, although deserving credit for the way he stood up to the Nazis on religious grounds, was a complete reactionary and expansionist. There was absolutely nothing in Nazi foreign policy with which he did not agree.

In a letter to the "Sunday Times" of March 8, Mr. Gerald Reitlinger wrote on the subject of Colonel Blimp:

"Now that the country expects professional officers to rescue it from the results of twenty years' neglect of its defences, is not this joke exceeding the modest proportions to which it is entitled? Colonel Blimp was not much consulted on Service matters. Those remote kinsmen, Tom Blimp, M.P. (Labour; any old constituency), and Professor Blimp, of the School of Mythological Economics,



## 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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### Fettered By Finance

The second "Liberty" Loan of £35 millions has been "raised." All forms of publicity available to the Government were employed in "raising" it. Politicians made speeches; the press carried editorials and advertisements; the radio, both national and commercial stations, continually stressed the urgency of the need and the dire consequences of failure; collection stations were set up in the streets; and towns throughout Australia were given quotas.

That money is needed is unquestioned. But it would be interesting to know just how the aggregate was made up. Mr. Scullin, when in an opposition party, earned credit by his enquiry as to what part of loans was subscribed by the Private Banks. The reply that the Commonwealth Bank Board did not consider that it was in the public interest that it should be known to whom we are in debt, indicates that an elected Member of Parliament is in a position inferior to that of a nominated Member of the Bank Board, when national finance is considered. Perhaps Mr. Scullin, now an important member of the party in office, will again make the enquiry; and, perhaps the information will be forthcoming. Perhaps, and much more likely, nothing of the sort will take place.

The concentration of effort used to "raise" the loan is a clear indication of the need for a new method of war finance. At present rates of expenditure, the amount "raised" will provide little more than a month's requirements. A new loan will be needed shortly, and is already under discussion. Mr. Curtin, and certain members of his Cabinet, when in opposition, stated most vigorously the intention to meet the cost of war "without piling up huge debts and without interest payments sucking our national life-blood." If we are to credit the Prime Minister and his team with honesty, we can only, assume that the power which refused information to Mr. Scullin has refused permission to Mr. Curtin to finance the war as he had proposed. Mr. Curtin's position may be that of the great English statesman, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, when he said: "The Government itself was not to be a substantive power in matters of finance; but was to leave the money power supreme and unquestioned."

Whatever the cause, Mr. Curtin has described our financial system as "sucking our national life-blood," even in peace. In its present methods, the Government is in the position of a fire-brigade trying to extinguish a fire with a bucket system, when a modern fire-cart with all its equipment is on the spot waiting to be used.

Men who refused to use such appliances would be classed as lunatics or criminals, and would be dismissed by an infuriated people. A Government which refuses to give maximum aid to the people, by adhering to a system of finance that is inadequate, cumbersome, and shackled with a totally unnecessary load of debt, can never inspire the community to its utmost war effort. The war machine runs on the wheels of finance. If finance fails, all our efforts must fail.

### GENERAL MacARTHUR'S CHEQUE

#### A READER'S REALISTIC REFLECTIONS

To the Editor: Sir,—The daily press appears to be getting rather tangled. Although I am a reasonably patient reader, I seem to be unable of late to follow logically the contradictions of our "dailies."

For instance, on June 19 the "Argus," in referring to General MacArthur's £1000 subscription to the War Loan, said: "There was no moral obligation on the American Commander-in-Chief to assist our war loan. . . . The duty of financing Australia's war effort is wholly Australia's."

In contrast to the above, the same newspaper on the same day quotes General MacArthur as stating: "I know of nothing more ethically satisfying or more economically sound than to subscribe to the future of Australia."

The "Argus" described MacArthur's action as "a simple act of friendship" which "touches a different chord," but the General's subscription was not a gift; when the Commonwealth Bank official asked: "What about the interest, sir?" the General replied: "Let it accumulate." Obviously, the

General doesn't need the money at present, and he will reap a return in the future; that is, provided the purchasing-power of Australian money is not greatly reduced in the meantime.

So much for the "ethical" and "moral" aspects, and I trust that I am not interpreted as criticising General MacArthur or any other friendly soldier from the U.S.A.

To me, another strange point is that people are asked to put "every shilling they possess" into the war loan? Under the present financial system it is a mathematical truth that indirect taxation alone deprives EVERY ONE OF US of over half our income. Direct taxation is responsible, together with high prices, more than double-charge for transport, etc., for taking a big percentage of what we have left. What

## THE BIG IDEA

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

(Continued from last issue.)

**Like all undertakings which have been pursued to the stage of realisation, the Big idea has firstly an objective, secondly a method of technique, and thirdly a dynamics by means of which the human individual can be made to conform to the technique so that the objective may be realised or attained.**

**The objective is World Dominion.**

**The technique is centralisation by a graded executive, operating through Law and Finance.**

**The dynamic forces are Fear and Desire.**

There are numbers of fairly intelligent people who accept the idea that the world is moving inevitably to Dictatorship of the type adumbrated by Stalin, in the same way that the drawing rooms of the mid-nineteenth century were filled with believers in the inevitability of "Progress." The two ideas are not unconnected—they are the direct consequence of the delirium of materialism—the acceptance of the dogma that the one end of man is gadgets, and he must at all costs be kept employed under discipline making more and more gadgets, and carrying the blessings of his gadget civilisation to the benighted heathen.

That this is not mere unconscious error is quite easy to demonstrate to anyone open to conviction. There is not a large newspaper in the world which has not misrepresented the technological increase of production per man-hour as "unemployment," and as a failure of statesmanship. Not because things which ought to have been made were not made, which may be true, but because of the determination, conscious and vicious, to keep unemployment and poverty synonymous. And that this misrepresentation is part of the Big Idea is, I think, demonstrated conclusively by the dangerous nonsense being circulated by all the machinery of propaganda at this critical time in regard to the Russian Social and Economic systems.

**U.S. Writer on U.S.S.R.**

To anyone who wishes to obtain an unbiased and objective view of Soviet

would happen to us if we DID put ALL WE HAD into such a fund? And where would the EXTRA money to pay us all our interest come from? General MacArthur put his money into the Commonwealth Bank, in response to appeals made by a Government which has the constitutional RIGHT, per medium of the same Commonwealth Bank, to create ALL its money supplies. Would any one of your readers dare to challenge that statement? I think not.

Money subscribed to loans will not make shells, bombs or 'planes. It may BUY some AT A PRICE from the great metal combines. AND WE SHALL HAVE TO REPAY IT-PLUS INTEREST, perhaps for ever.

What I want to know IS ARE WE REALLY IN A BETTER MILITARY OR MORAL POSITION than we were BEFORE pieces of paper were signed and handed over?

If citizens, instead of lending money, had dug up from somewhere quantities of metal, iron or steel railings, or something of similar value to the war effort to-day, wouldn't we in that case be better off? Our mines could be relied upon to return the equivalent, plus a bit more, in metals after the war.

What is chiefly troubling me, Mr. Editor, is this. If it is true that we Australians have difficulty in finding sufficient money at the present time to pay for the things which we are ALREADY PRODUCING, where is the money to come from AFTER THE WAR to pay interest on the money we are BORROWING?

AND WHY CONTINUE WITH SUCH A PARADOXICAL AND STUPID ARRANGEMENT WHERE-BY WE ARE EXPECTED TO PAY FOR WHAT WE USE, NOT ONLY ONCE, BUT MANY TIMES OVER?

—Yours etc., "BROKE, BUT BATTLING," Melbourne.

Russia I can recommend the Russian section of "Looking for Trouble" by the American journalist, Virginia Cowles, who took considerable risks to get away from the spoon-feeding which is the usual treatment of investigators. The following paragraph gives, I think, a clue to the real situation:

"I saw nothing new. The factories club-houses and schools I was shown were third-rate imitations of Western progress. All this I had expected but what I hadn't expected was that I should be asked to marvel at the most commonplace conveniences, as though I had come from a jungle ... the misinformation and ignorance of the conditions in the outside world were grotesque.

"For a nation that sent its disciples abroad to convert the plutocracies to the leadership of Moscow, it seemed to have little to offer from a practical point of view, other than squalor and poverty. But far more disconcerting than the wretched conditions was the tyranny that gripped the capital. It was estimated that the purge, which had swept the country during the past two years (1936-7) had sent over six million people to concentration camps."

**Bureaucratic Socialism**

This seems to me to be a good, non-technical description of the salient characteristics of a bureaucrat socialist State. The determination to obliterate standards of comparison, the use of every means of publicity to represent a retrograde tyranny as a marvellous advance, the espionage and the mass cruelty are all there. If this is the New Order that we are fighting to establish, then Flanders Poppies should be superseded by a crown of thorns.

The writer goes on to indicate growths which are beginning to raise their ugly heads everywhere. "Minds were doped with distorted information until they became so sluggish that they had not even the power to protest against their miserable conditions . . . the contempt for intellectual and moral values, and the ruthless disregard for the individual was not only depressing; it was evil. I felt the same way as I had in Spain and Germany; that if I didn't get a breath of fresh air, I would stifle. The physical appearance of Moscow helped to accentuate this feeling. The streets were as drab as the mentality of the people . . . not a single gay head-dress, a bright shop front, even a happy smile."

**Way to Better World?**

Remember that this Paradise was inaugurated by the introduction in a special train from Germany of a gang of New York Jews, and then consider whether, along this path, is the way to a better world. The matter has been much better put than I can put it.

"Ye are of your father, the Devil, who was a liar from the beginning . . . By their fruits ye shall know them. Do men gather figs of thistle or grapes of thorns?"

There is current in Germany a prophecy, known as the Lehnin prophecy, which is said to be one of Hitler's nightmares, that the last King of Prussia will have no successors, but that after him, "Israel will dare a deed unspeakable, which only death can redeem." Possibly "Admiral" Canaris, whose real name is Moses Meyerbeer, and who is said to be the most powerful man in Germany, could throw some light on the story.

(To be continued. All rights reserved.)



## THEY CALL IT PROGRESS

A Dialogue Broadcast from 7HO, Hobart, at 6.30 p.m.  
Sunday, June 14, by the Electoral Campaign Speakers.

B.—What do you think about women voters? Do you think they use their vote sensibly at election times; do you think they know what they are voting about, or that they can understand the great national issues that are at stake? It appears to me that women have got very little from that vote from which they were taught to expect so much.

J.—I don't think women know how to use the vote, nor do I think they have obtained anything more than they would have got if they had had no vote.

B.—I don't think women understand politics; most of them don't pretend to understand. But men pretend to understand. The question is: Do men really understand politics?

J.—I think men are more interested in such things as politics than women are; but I don't think they understand politics—I mean real politics—any more than women do. They are too easily bluffed by names and long high-sounding words that don't mean a darn thing.

B.—That's what I think. Men are too easily bluffed; they keep on getting rises in wages, but they never seem to consider what those wages will buy. We women know what we can buy each week; we know what we have left over when rent, food and clothes are paid for. Money has no real meaning, except what it can buy.

J.—Wages go up and prices go up, and we are no better off than before.

B.—The labouring man in Queen Elizabeth's time got only a shilling a day, but he bought more than 150 eggs for a penny—one twelfth of his daily wage, or less than an hour's labour.

J.—And now a labouring man couldn't buy 150 eggs with the price of a whole day's labour.

B.—A labouring man gets paid, in money, about 16 times what he got over 300 years ago, yet, with this high increase in wage, he cannot buy as much food as his forefathers did, even though they were handicapped with primitive agricultural implements.

J.—These facts show how stupid we have been; we have wasted our time discussing every political topic pushed in front of us and never thought of investigating the all-important question of who creates our money; how it comes to us and who decides how much our money shall buy.

B.—Those who decide the financial policy of this country decide most other things, don't they?

J.—Rothschild stated this clearly when he said, "I care not who makes the laws of the country as long as I issue the money."

B.—Our members of Parliament have made the Parliamentary laws, but the "Rothschilds" have made the real laws—the laws which decided how many eggs we shall buy for a shilling. Now the question is how the "Rothschilds" decide how many eggs we can buy for a shilling?

J.—Well, let us examine the Post Office Department. It is run by the Government, controlled by the Government, and as is said, owned by the Government—whatever that means.

B.—And so we pay 2½d. to post a letter that cost our fathers 1d.

J.—That is because of the policy behind the Government. The Post Office makes a profit each year. That money should be used to reduce the cost of postage and telephones, but it is not.

B.—It's against the policy of the "Rothschilds."

J.—The amount you have to pay for telephone service is not the cost of labour; that labour cost is very small. The main part of it is the cost of the apparatus and equipment. But by far the biggest portion of the cost of the service is

for the payment of interest on the capital. And the Telephone Department is not allowed to use its own profits to buy new equipment; all new equipment must be financed out of borrowed money.

B.—The Department is not allowed to use its profits to buy new equipment?

J.—No, it is not.

B.—That's the policy of the present Labor Government?

J.—Yes, and the policy of the U.A.P. Government, also.

B.—The policy remains the same?

J.—Yes, it is the "Rothschild" policy,

B.—The policy of increasing debt and increasing prices.

J.—How can it be otherwise, when everything we erect on the face of this earth starts life as a debt to the banks. The more energetic we become, the more we build, the greater our debts become and the greater our rates and taxes.

B.—We are penalised for being energetic?

J.—And so we are faced with two alternatives. We either refuse to get further into debt by refusing to build new schools, houses and roads, etc., in which case we have a depression, or we go on building and get further into debt.

B.—But there are other alternatives surely? We could go on building without getting into debt by issuing cur money through the Commonwealth Bank.

J.—But no Government has ever been permitted to do that. Some Governments have tried, but have been very quickly put into their place. I have quite a lot of interesting information about that.

B.—The banks finance the building of all works and roads; they finance the payment of wages for Government and private firms?

J.—Some wages are paid in cash.

but nearly all business transactions are done by cheques, or bank credits. This enables the banks to issue their own currency—cheque currency—by which over 90 per cent, of the business transactions of this country is carried on. The people of Australia have, lying in the various banks, amounts of over £500 million. The total cash in Australia is £80 million—about half of this is in the tills of the banks—let us say £50 million.

B.—That means the banks owe their clients over £500 millions and have only one tenth of that in cash!

J.—So that if all the people demanded repayment of their deposits the banks would have to close their doors.

B.—The deposits are really only figures in books; the cash is not there to back them. The banks can issue loans for millions of pounds; they can write cheques on themselves and with these cheques can buy land and buildings, shares in companies, and war loan bonds, and yet not have the cash to back it? In other words, the private banks can issue their own currency—manufacture money. But does the law of the land say nothing about this?

J.—The law says that legal tender shall consist of coins and bank notes.

B.—It says nothing about cheques?

J.—Nothing.

B.—So you infer that cheque money is illegal?

J.—Why not?

B.—Cheques are not actually currency, and you cannot, by law, force anyone to accept a cheque?

J.—Of course not, neither can you force anyone to accept a counterfeit coin.

B.—You have stated that over 90 per cent, of the business transactions in this country are done by cheque, by bank credit, which you state is illegal money, issued by private banks, private companies—but isn't there something more important than that attached to it? How much cash is there in Australia to pay off debts?

J.—About £80 million.

B.—And what is the total debt owed by Australians?

J.—I don't know exactly, but the debt of Australian Governments is

about £1500 million. Other public bodies owe about £300 million. The capital value of the country for rating purposes is over £2000 million. So we are safe to say that the Australian people collectively owe a debt of £3000 million, although some estimate it much higher than that.

B.—Well, let us say that we Australians have a debt of £3000 million at least, to pay off—and this debt is increasing every year at, say, over £150 million a year—

J.—And you haven't seen anything yet.

B.—Then what money do the banks issue to us that we can use to pay our debts?

J.—Since the collective money debts of this country and of every other country have increased, and are increasing, we can say that the banks have never issued sufficient money for us to pay our debts.

B.—That is obvious enough.

J.—The mounting debt is like a gigantic boil; it is an outward and visible sign of the disease underneath. But the origin of the disease has been stated clearly by several authorities in this way. For example, if a farmer is given a loan of £100 to sow his crop; he spends that £100 in the community, but he has got to get back from the community at least £105 to pay back the loan and the 5 per cent, interest.

B.—But the £5 is not there, so he cannot pay it back!

J.—Unless he robs someone else of his loan!

B.—If the Government permits the private banks to issue illegal currency and knows that this currency is so arranged that the people of Australia collectively cannot possibly collect enough money to pay their debts, how can it legally force anyone to pay his debts in cash.

J.—It is the sacred duty of the Government to see that no money is issued except with the sanction of Parliament, and in conformity with the Constitution. And if it doesn't do this, and if the currency is not adequate for the purpose of paying debts and carrying on legitimate trade, then the Government, by its negligence, automatically destroys all money contracts.

B.—Well, the sooner we put our money system beyond the reach of speculators, the sooner we shall reach an all-in war effort.

J.—Then we shall be sure of winning the war with a minimum of suffering and at the same time give us a chance to win the peace.

## "WE ARE CLEARING THE DECKS FOR ACTION"

The following is the fourth of a series of weekly messages from the Central Executive of the United Electors of Australia (Non-Party):

URGENT. The Confidential Circular referred to last week is now being posted to bona fide "contacts" and to those recommended by them. Supporters who do not receive a copy within the next few days are urged to write for one or more without delay. No major action will be taken until this initial stage is thoroughly dealt with. Names and addresses of known enthusiasts are required immediately: the urgency of this matter will be evident in the near future. Do not let YOURSELF down!

Headquarters Staff. We are pleased to report that our appeal for assistance at the office has already met with gratifying response. Honorary officers will now be in attendance on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights from 6.30 o'clock. Wednesday nights present an opportunity to women since two ladies have volunteered their services on that night. We expect to announce shortly that the office will be open.

Country. The first replies to our weekly messages as (from as far off as the north of Queensland), have exceeded all expectations! The following encouraging passages are extracts from the first few opened:—

"I have pleasure in answering that call to action." "To know that the U.E.A. plans renewed action pleases me immensely. I have realised for some considerable time that if we are to survive this conflict as individuals we must speed up our plans for action and be prepared to go to it." "Action and nothing but real action will bring us successfully through the present vital period. Can we get a sufficient number to act in time?" "I

also have pleasure in submitting the names and addresses of the keenest reformers in this area." (This man sent sixteen names, assuring us that each of these would in turn contact many others, "thus helping in the great task that lies before us.") "I am doing all within my power to further the movement's interests here, by contributing regular articles to the local paper, etc., etc." "To me this is the best news I have read in the 'New Times.'" "I want to become a member of your Group." "Will do my share in whatever manner you wish; have a typewriter and duplicator," etc. From a young suburban supporter: "I offer my services as a typist, etc.; have my own typewriter." One great stalwart, playing a big part in U.E.A. activities in the country, is 86 years of age; another is 76 and going "all out!"

Now reader, a mere handful of actionists have provided us with scores of good "contacts." Can you imagine the ultimate result if YOU DO YOUR SHARE? One dozen "contacts" have given us nearly one hundred names of progressive, public-spirited individuals. Do some mental arithmetic for yourself and then DO SOMETHING FOR ALL OF US.

Fighting Fund. An army without ammunition is a "gone coon"; you can't win a modern war with pop-guns! The "Bullet" fund is under way, but a wide response is essential to launch such an ambitious campaign. A "bob" buys a bullet; five shillings fills a magazine; ten shillings or a pound—how much is it worth TO YOU to start and maintain the activities of fellow-campaigners who have voluntarily stepped

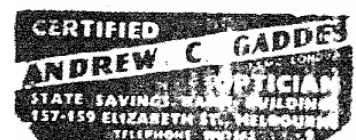
## WORK PROBLEM

Commenting on absorbing women into industry, Mr. Ward is reported as saying "the problem was not to find women, but to find jobs." And yet we learn that Dedman-the-wrecker intends to close down more industries and displace another 300,000. Perhaps he thinks the problem will be easier if it is bigger. This chap also seems determined to wreck all medium-to-small business men.

into the front lines, and are ready and waiting to GO OVER THE TOP? We have specially requested publication of these pointers confidently anticipating tangible support from every section of the community, and from all over the Commonwealth. The next step must be taken BY YOU.

—United Electors of Australia (Non-Party). McEwan House, Fifth Floor. 343 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, C.I (MU2834).

Read in  
Comfort with  
Glasses Pre-  
scribed by—





## THIS CHURCHILL BUSINESS

The Lybian debacle, the latest of the successive defeats which Britain has suffered on various battle-fronts, has roused dissatisfaction and anger in Britain, with regard to the conduct of the war, to fever heat.

A bewildered and incensed populace is demanding to know why, despite repeated demonstrations of the folly of opposing enemy forces with inadequately armed and numerically inferior forces, this fatuous policy is being persisted with.

It is now fully realised there, that the repercussions from these defeats extend far beyond the bounds of the nation itself, and that the lowering of British prestige increases the danger of neutral nations throwing in their lot with the Axis.

The Supreme War Council disclaims responsibility, and to allay public uneasiness, after each defeat has changed the army commanders with such rapidity that it is difficult to gauge their number or remember their names. Some scapegoat must be put forward to hide the real culprit; and this, of course, is precisely what subordinates were created for. The British public, however, is refusing to be fooled any longer by these "passing the buck" tactics, and is indicating its belief that responsibility for these defeats rests primarily—not with the field commanders—but in the war headquarters.

For some considerable time after his assumption of office as Prime Minister, any expression of doubt of Mr. Churchill's capacity was regarded as flat blasphemy or worse, but the fact cannot longer be denied that recently a change of attitude has taken place.

The "no confidence" motion tabled in the House of Commons last week, proves that in some quarters at least, Mr. Churchill is no longer regarded as being above criticism or censure. Mr. Churchill has supporters as well as opponents, and according to cabled statements the Government is expected to survive the challenge, unless in the meantime something disastrous occurs in Egypt. In this article it is not intended to discuss the alleged merits or demerits of the Prime Minister, but to draw attention to a most remarkable reason put forward to offset suggestions for his deposition. This is, "if Churchill goes, there is no one who can fill his place."

If it be true that Britain, with a population of some 47 millions, is incapable of producing more than one individual competent to fill the office of Prime Minister, such a position is a serious indictment of democracy and gives ample justification for German sneers about British decadence.

If the Churchill Cabinet reshufflings made from time to time is taken as an index, there would be some foundation for such a charge against Parliament, but so far as the nation at large is concerned, it is an unjustifiable slander.

As things are, to claim that the House of Commons (or, for that matter, the Australian Parliament) contained the flower of the nation's intellect, ability or culture, would be ridiculous.

There are sound reasons for assuming that there are in Britain many potential leaders, quite as capable as the present Prime Minister; but they are not in Parliament. Various reasons for the paucity of men of outstanding ability in the British Parliament have been advanced, but recent happenings indicate that those which come closest to the mark were put forward by Douglas Reed in "Disgrace Abounding."

Briefly stated, his diagnosis is the "Party System" and "The Old School Tie." He suggests that something might be done to remedy slum conditions "if you could only oust the old men and the old idea that Power and Office are things to be kept circulating among a small group of people, all inter-connected through marriage and the old school and university associations. . . . Office for the sake of office, not for the good of the people. . . . Be in the peerage or marry into it is the golden rule. . . . England seems to have been made safe for plutocracy."

In the course of his biting indictment of the party system he pictures the hopeless position it would impose on a "genius" who desired to enter Parliament with the view to securing better social conditions. "If

he has not an old school tie it is still remotely possible that he may induce some local Conservative Association, if they think him docile enough, to put him up as candidate at an election. Arrived in Parliament, he disappears among the crowd of backbenchers, threatened with boycott if they vote against the Government on any issue."

Remarkably enough; somewhat recently the London "Times," which is regarded as the mouthpiece of crusted Conservatism, expressed views which accord substantially with Douglas Reed's criticisms.

Commenting on the results of two by-elections in which the Government candidates were defeated by Independents, it stated: "Men have been preferred who would not

trouble the Party whips, instead of men of high intelligence and strong character."

Of late, events in Britain have shown that the electors are realising the stultifying effects of the Party system. Experienced Parliamentarians generally keep an ear close to the ground, and Sir John Wardlaw-Milne's "no-confidence" motion probably owes its origin to rumblings of discontent in his constituency.

In a crowd of pigmies, any man of average height would appear to be a giant; and it is not to be wondered at that Mr. Churchill, with his forceful methods, oratory, and intolerance of criticism, is an outstanding figure amongst the crowd of "Yes-men" in Parliament, produced by the Party system.

There appears to be a well-founded belief that too much power has been placed in Mr. Churchill's hand, and though limited power may not corrupt its possessor, it often produces an affection known as "swollen head." Like Britain, Australia has experienced the many evils associated with the Party system.

If it desires to have a Parliament of men and not robots, it must vote the system out of existence.

—"Stirrem."

## WHEN THE WAR IS OVER

I have more than a faint suspicion that when at last the war is over the real fight for Democracy will begin.

I cannot see the thousands and thousands of men and women who sit in authority over ration books, yellow books, pink books; who visit back gardens to observe if the yard of wire-netting is being correctly applied to its purpose; who sit in offices to give the O.K., or otherwise, to applications for this, that and the other. . . . I cannot see, I repeat, all these men and women, together with thousands of others now busily employed in directing and curtailing other people's lives, relinquishing their well-paid duties without something approaching a revolution.

It's against human nature, especially when most of us will be so used by then to being inspected, thwarted and be-booked, be-formed and be-licensed, that we shall take it all as part and parcel of life's annoyances from which there is no escape.

There are sides to war which are neither tragic nor devastating—merely the grand and glorious opportunity for those who love power, but are not in themselves big enough, to support it humbly, to expand like that frog of the fable in competition with the cow.

The worst of it is, too, that these same people are often excellent for war conditions. In their inner gratification at being at last able to direct without having to strain every nerve to obtain even the minor self-satisfaction of direction, they become over-conscientious to a degree. The

## A LAST-MINUTE REMINDER

Even to-day Melbourne readers of this paper may, if they hurry, obtain tickets for the dinner to Eric Butler, which takes place on Monday night.

The caterers cannot allow for an appreciably greater number than that now known to be coming to the dinner. The organisers of the function, therefore, take no responsibility for the almost certain disappointment of those optimists, if any, who may venture to arrive on Monday night without having obtained a ticket before the week-end. Anyone without a ticket who now finds it quite impossible to call and purchase their ticket at the "New Times" office may avoid such disappointment by telephoning MU2834, stating their name, and reserving a ticket.

Remember the time and place: 7 p.m. sharp, on the premises of Griffiths Tea Rooms, 316 Little Collins-street (between Elizabeth and Swanston streets), Melbourne.

DRESS WILL BE INFORMAL.

## TREACHERY IN BRITAIN

The Melbourne "Age" on March 23, 1937 published this tit-bit:-

LONDON, March 22. An explanation is demanded by the "News-Chronicle" as to why the War Office rejected an offer Ransomes and Rapier, engineers, of Ipswich, to make tanks and shells for the Government without profit.

It was stated that the directors when approached in 1935, deplore the necessity of rearming, but agreed to manufacture shells on the basis of no profit, no loss. They suggested that all munition makers should do likewise. The Secretary of War (Mr. A. Duff Cooper) replied that he appreciated the offer, but would not press Ransomes and Rapier to accept contracts.

The managing director of the Ipswich firm (Mr. R. E. Stokes) then asked whether it was the War Office's policy not to give contracts to firms who did not desire to make a profit. The War Office replied, welcoming such patriotism, after which Ransomes and Rapier tendered for 150,000 shells. They were given to understand that the price would be favourable. Mr. Stokes asked, therefore, that an announcement be made in the newspapers, after which the War Office stated that it did not desire to proceed further.

Mr. Stokes declared that Ransomes and Rapier offered to make shells at 17/11 each, which was 3/7 cheaper than the lowest tender and 9/1 cheaper than the Woolwich, arsenal cost. It would have saved the Government £30,000.

The War Office informed Ransomes and Rapier later that it had rejected the offer because Ipswich was vulnerable to air attack, and also because it could get shells at 13/- each.

Mr. Stokes maintains that shells can only be made at that price (13/-) with a German shell lathe which produces shells at five times the rate of normal British methods. The German process was banned however, because the Director of Munitions regarded it as too complicated for semi-skilled labour.

\* \* \*

Comment: Instead of talking hot air about what we shall do with Hitler, Goering and Co., after the war, would it not be more practicable to arraign Mr. Duff Cooper and others concerned in this and similar anti-British action.

A sturdy British offer from a firm of international repute—for that is what Ransomes and Rapier are known to be—was simply poured down the sink. Is it any wonder that Britain has had to fight with her back to the wall for three years? The second front so strongly advocated of late, should be right in England and should be directed against the internal enemies of the British war effort. Clearly, the British war Office was aware, more than five years ago, of the German superiority in shell production, but solely for financial reasons, would do nothing!

## WAR EXPENDITURE

Official treasury figures disclose that for the eleven months ending May 31, Australia's war expenditure was £268 million. This comprised £186 m. from loans and £80 m. from revenue. Main revenue items disclosed were: Income tax, £54 m.; Customs, £23 m.; Excise, £28 m.; Sales Tax, £24 m. There is a difference here of £49 m. between the total of these items (£129m.), and the £80 m. spent from revenue. This £49 m. has to be accounted for; the amount nearly equals the bankers' interest bill, so it was probably not mentioned on that account, in case of criticism.

## JAP. PROPAGANDA

Tokyo radio and press are busy finding excuses for the battle, and dismiss it as "nothing more than a diversion." What a pity our press reports could not be widely circulated in Japan, and their propaganda made available to us (without mutilation); then both sides could do some multiplication and division sums, and probably find the answer to be—a lemon.

## POSTMAN'S KNOCK

"Canberra, Thurs.: After providing for interest and exchange charges, P.M.G.'s Department showed a net surplus of £4,067,746 for the financial year ended June 30, 1941. . . . Total revenue for the year was £19,493,213 and working expenditure £13,521,903, leaving a gross surplus of £5,974,310." —Melbourne "Herald." June 5.

Apart from the mathematical error involving a sum of £3000 (according to my arithmetic), there is the matter of a mere couple of million pounds which seems to have been picked out of the public purse. Do we understand that this colossal figure was paid away in "interest and exchange charges"? Surely this is "Postman's Knock" in excelsis! Only, instead of getting kisses, we, and the kiddies, and posterity, get a number of kicks in the middle; once when we pay the extortionate 2½d. per letter, twice when we pay private bank charges, and every year when we pay the annual interest bill!

We say we are a Democracy; we claim the P.M.G. Dept. is a social service. All right what are we going to do with this surplus? Not put it into "Consolidated Revenue" so as to ensure payment of the proverbial pound of flesh" surely! Or, are we?

—"Scissors."



## MOBILISING WOMEN IN GREAT BRITAIN

By B. M. PALMER, in the "Social Crediter" (England).

**P.E.P.'s broadsheet on mobilising woman-power and part-time employment falls naturally into two parts, according to whether the difficulties dealt with are real or unreal. This classification is not, of course, recognised by the compilers of the pamphlet, but it is glaringly apparent to those who know that war cannot be won without an increase in social credit more than commensurate with the advantage which the Axis powers are at the moment enjoying.**

The leeway to be made up has been increased lately. This has been recognised by all, and real anxiety is felt (and shown) by those individuals known as the public.

The position as stated is this: the ordinary reserves of women, workers are now practically exhausted, and the supply of women over thirty who can be drawn in as full-time substitutes is limited. The Ministry of Labour has therefore been compelled "to fall back on that large reserve of women, mostly married, who could give some, but not the whole of their days or weeks to the service of the country in its hour of need."

### THE SOLDIERS' WIVES

An advertisement in the "Birmingham Post" for part time factory workers, worded, "Release your younger sisters for the A.T.S., the W.A.A.F.S and the W.R.N.S." brought 600 applicants in a few days, and a larger advertisement the following week brought 1000. There is real determination to win the war and little doubt that the women will do their best; but that the wives of service men should be obliged to work to supplement their meagre allowances, and so support their children is one of those unreal difficulties which, so long as it is regarded in any quarter as advantageous, must militate against the war effort. To add unnecessary anxieties to the heavy load the soldiers' wives have to bear will not make them more efficient workers. To help to end the war and to get her man back again is quite enough incentive for most women.

The real problem can be summed up in a few words—to get the optimum output in the minimum of time. This means that, having due regard to circumstances, every process must be completed in the best possible way.

### LONG HOURS NO GOOD

The short sighted view that long hours of work over long periods would in the long run give us the production we need has already been proved mistaken. The Medical Research Council of the Industrial Health Board has stated that as soon as the working hours exceed sixty a week, latent wastage increases proportionately.

A very interesting side light is thrown on this by the P.E.P. report, which states that in two factories at least, J. Lucas (Birmingham) and Hoovers, part-time women, workers are found to be more efficient than full-time workers. Hoover's experience is probably typical "When the first set of part-timers appeared in the factory

### MILK ZONING

Giving evidence before the Milk Board, Mr. J. D. Johnston pointed out "that zoning caused higher costs to the dairymen and that the public interest was disregarded." It will be remembered that the public were not even consulted about milk-zoning - or any other zoning. It was simply imposed on them by a few seekers after power and jobs. These socialistic power-lusters put over a story about better service and lower prices; neither of which have eventuated. It's time planners were zoned—no—not stoned.

and all proved to be fairly elderly, very gloomy forebodings were expressed as to the effect of the scheme on production, but in actual fact in the fuse assembly department, which is entirely manned by part-time workers, production is now well above the level attained when it was staffed by full-time workers."

There is no need to emphasise the significance of this in respect of the social credit—it is a "lesson" which if we could "learn" it now and remember it when the war is over, might be of great value if it could be dissociated from the unreal difficulties with which our productive system is hemmed in on every side.

P.E.P., as can be expected, gives great prominence to these in regard to the part-timer, and small help as to how they may be dealt with. Here are some of them—

additional work for wages department and clerical workers, double payment of health and unemployment insurance, double training to get one full day's work, high transport charges, and income tax.

### CRECHES AND INCOME TAX

It is interesting to note that the universal development of day nurseries which "has not been achieved in time" (sic) has not been such a deterrent as was expected. Women who have wanted to help in the war have found their own solution to their domestic problems. And even P.E.P. see that to find staffs for a large number of day nurseries, so far from increasing the labour supply, will actually diminish it.

But income tax! Some months ago (May 10, 1941) I told of a conversation with some workmen who made it plain that they were not income-tax minded. Since that time they have fully experienced the working of the Act, and have not become reconciled. The friction, worry and discontent it is causing will soon be realised by all. A workman was overheard to say last week that his wife had "cut up rough" at the idea that some of the tax might be taken from her housekeeping allowance. Propaganda placards (themselves arithmetically inaccurate) in the factories proclaiming "the more you earn the more you have left over after paying income tax" are not likely to breed contentment among the less well-paid, especially those on

a fixed weekly wage who know that however hard they work they can receive no more. Letters have been written to "The Times" asking that the B.B.C. should "explain" these things to wives, and perhaps their objection to going out to work would be lessened.

### SOCIALISM AND BUREAUCRACY

The instincts of these people are sound. They think they are Socialists. But they don't know what Socialism is, and when they experience its results they detest them.

What is Socialism?

"It is simply more law, an extension of exactly the process which has stultified the progress of the industrial arts. There is no more prospect of producing a tolerable state of Society by passing more laws, and imposing more sanctions, than there is of repairing a motor car suffering from a choked carburettor by devising a fresh tax upon it. The world is suffering from a fantastic and unnecessary book of Regulations, every additional one of which, while apparently beneficial at the moment, exacerbates the disease." —C. H. Douglas: "Where the Carcase Is."

In a letter to "The Times" of February 16, Mr. C. S. Wade says: — "I doubt if more than a few people realise how very costly and cumbersome the present system is. In the building and civil engineering trades some 85,000 firms employ more than 1,000,000 men on casual labour

(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 ENGLISH AND THE CROWN

"Because the typical English mind mistrusts clear-cut formulas, a logical pattern, severely rational boundaries, and likes to move delicately in a slight haze; because we distrust definition, probably because we mistrust the intellect, believing in instinct and intuition, getting the "hang" or the "feel" of what we wish to understand; and because we prefer to see our institutions grow like trees, slowly suiting their shape to the prevailing winds of circumstance; it is dangerous to deal with English life in separate compartments, for everything here shades off into something else, the political into the economic and the economic into the social. All you can do is to plunge in, risking the charge—which I am always ready to meet with equanimity—of wildly generalising. You are bound to make mistakes. But here and there, as you hurry through the haze, you will run slap into the truth.

"Now, the first thing you notice in the English scene is the Crown, and the honest democratic examiner and critic of that scene is at once in a trap. For you cannot be an honest democrat and declare that what is very dear to the people should be taken away from them. And it would be absurd to deny that the ordinary people, not only in Britain, but in all the dominions of the Empire, have both a reverence and an affection for the Crown. . . . Nobody compels the people to turn out by the hundred thousand and cheer, as they do, anywhere between Windsor and Winnipeg. The Crown is no more imposed upon the people than beer and football and films are imposed upon them. All the evidence points to nine out of ten, among the poor as among the rich, possessing this reverence for the idea and affection for the persons of Royalty.

"And it is not hard to understand why they should. The Crown has little direct power, so that it cannot be blamed if anything goes wrong. On the other hand, it remains the symbol of supreme executive power, and is the most attractive kind of symbol, nothing abstract, nothing remote, nothing intimidating, but some nice, kind, smiling people, forever surrounded by impressive glittering paraphernalia and pageantry, living a mysterious life in palaces but also for ever coming out and behaving like friendly fellow-creatures. The combination is irresistible, and the most able president with the most charming wife and family can never hope to compete with it. There is as much difference as between a rather shabby string quartet playing in the street and the full band of the Grenadier Guards.

"Unless, then, you believe in a rather ugly dictatorship by a small and ruthless minority, you cannot advocate the abolition of the Crown. But why should anyone want to abolish it? It is represented now by persons whom it is difficult not to respect for their determination to do their job as well as it can be done."

—J. B. Priestley, in "Rain Upon Godshill."

### OIL ABUNDANCE

The New York "Post" reports that surplus gasoline in the U.S. middle west is providing as big a problem as the shortage of motor fuel on the east coast. This must be one of the problems that Federal Union is expected to solve. If the whole world gets behind U.S., then between them they will probably manage to get the oil where it is wanted.

### THE POLITICAL-PARTY RACKET EXPOSED!

(Continued from page 1.)  
four or five times a month; about three minutes' work."

The Whips are supposed to be the talent scouts of their party, and most of the appointments are made on their recommendation, certainly the minor ones.

There are, however, men with no stomach or desire for Ministerial appointments.

Well, the Whips still have another trick to play. The Chief Whip does a quick exit and returns to the stage as Chief Patronage Secretary to the Treasury. His pockets bulge with appointments—civil, legal, ecclesiastical, and lots of others.

Still, there are men to whom these things do not appeal, and who prefer to follow the dictates of their conscience.

To deal with them, there is the little matter of "counting out" the House while they are speaking, for it is easy for the Whips to see that the necessary forty members are not present—easy, at least, when the Government has a big majority.

These are days when bold men of independent opinions are needed to lead us. Are we likely to obtain them in such circumstances?

There are many thinking men who feel that it is out of keeping with the standard which the Mother of Parliaments should set that public money should be used to aid any Government to keep its power.

It is even more open to criticism that any man charged with the discipline of a Party should have it in his hands to bestow public office.

## GANGSTERISM

The move for compulsory unionism appears to have reached the stage where a regulation covering it has been tabled. It is argued that this measure will avert strikes, yet nearly all the strikes have occurred in heavily unionised industries; which illustrates the mentality and lack of scruple of the gangster minds behind the move. Under the vague description of "worker," every individual could be compelled to pay tribute to professional power-lusting agitators who, unlike Al Capone would be backed by law. This is one of the greatest perils to democratic principles ever presented.

struggle with before this latest imposition. Much more could be said on this subject, but I will resist the temptation for, whatever the news from the war fronts may be, forms must be dealt with."

Thus it seems that the contribution women part-time workers can make to the war effort is valuable, and indeed indispensable to victory, and that the chief difficulties in the way have been created by the regulations and restrictions of bureaucratic socialists, who see to it that they shall work, as their men do, with one, hand tied behind their back.

## CONTINUOUS WAR

A report in the "Argus" of June 13 states that "six nations of the Iroquois (Red Indian) tribes will declare war against the Axis." It is pointed out, however, that there will be a slight flaw in the declaration, because "the Iroquois nations declared war against Germany in 1917, and by a mistake failed to sign the peace treaty; therefore, the Indians formally have been at war continuously with Germany for twenty-five years." Under the circumstances, one wonders why they bother about another declaration. In any case, since war brings prosperity, there might be a good case for continuous war, on a voluntary basis, for those who prefer it.

## MOBILISING WOMEN IN BRITAIN

(Continued from page 1.)

terms, and it is quite normal for a worker to change his employer 10 or more times in 12 months. Acting upon orders from the Inland Revenue Department, the employers are filling in millions of cards and forms for the current half-year and are now deducting tax assessed on last year's earnings from a very small percentage of the men on their present pay rolls.

"In future this form filling will continue to harass employers and their depleted and overworked staffs, who had quite enough forms to

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