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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)

# FRAUDULENT DEPRESSIONS

## Will We Take Another?

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

**Sir—If we may take notice of straws in the wind, the men who put us into the depression of 1929-1932 are planning to put us into another similar period when the present war terminates.**

Indications of this are obvious in the daily shouting per radio, about "saving," "leading," and "sacrificing"; in the inspired propaganda from official sources; and in banking advertisements. All of which are intended to maintain the lie that Governments can get money only from the pockets of the people; that money itself is more valuable than the things it will buy; and that unless the PEOPLE supply money for the Government the war cannot be successfully prosecuted. The facts are that the more money we "save" the greater the number of bankruptcies; the more money we "lend" the greater the interest to be paid and the heavier the burden of taxation; and the more we "sacrifice" the greater the strain on our morale. Money in itself has no value at all—the value resides in goods and services, and the purpose of money is to facilitate the use of these. The prosecution of the war does NOT depend upon the taking of money from the people's pockets—it depends upon our ability to establish and maintain, large armies properly equipped with arms. The queer thing about this campaign to fool the community in regard to finance is that it is directed towards the common people, whose kith and kin are sacrificing THEMSELVES, and whose loved ones are suffering personal anxiety and much inconvenience that comforts may be sent to them.

These indications of another depression in the hatchery are to be seen, as previously mentioned, in the public statement of Sir Claude Reading, chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board.

He said that the period after the war will be financially "difficult"; that we should prepare for "rainy days"; and that in order to "tide us over" the rainy period we should save and lend. Following this there was a report in the Hobart "Mercury" of 24th June, from its "Special Service in Canberra," that "FEDERAL FINANCIAL ADVISERS AND BANKERS are not satisfied with the result of the second Liberty Loan," and that "compulsory contributions to future loans is forecast." Will your Hobart readers get in touch with the "Mercury," and ask for the names of the "advisers" and "bankers" referred to? They have obviously been the real Government, and it is high time we knew their identity, and in whose interests they govern. There was also the advertisement in the "Labor Call" of 11th June, in these terms: "To-day a great amount of money is in circulation. But it will not always be so—and the wise man knows it. He exercises his wisdom by building up a balance in the bank against a post-war period of uncertainty." There will be no period of uncertainty after the war unless the men who betrayed us financially in 1928-1931 are allowed to betray us again, and it is a great pity that a workers' journal is being used to foster such a treasonable idea. This is one of the reasons why the worker continues to be a "wage slave." He is at the mercy of the money controllers, and the very men who should be fighting for him are actually fighting against him. And then, in a letter received a few days ago from a lady

supporter, I was informed that a very clever civil engineer has the certain conviction that a slump is inevitable two years or less after the war.

All this has led me to the conclusion that some definite effort should be made to counter this after-the-war-depression idea, and the best way to do that appears to be to explain what a depression really is, and how it comes about. I therefore propose, Mr. Editor, to try to do this, in the hope that readers will spread the facts far and wide, so that there will be sufficient people informed on the subject to influence the conduct of Parliament. An informed public opinion would not accept conditions of depression, and it is plainly our duty to do what we can towards securing that "informed opinion."

A depression is a period in which there is a serious reduction in the amount of money in circulation. When the supply of money is reduced it means that the money value of goods is also reduced, making money MORE "valuable" and goods or wealth LESS valuable. It makes the PEOPLE and their Government weaker, but the BANKERS stronger. In war time the bankers are required to keep the

money supply plentiful, and to that extent lose their dictatorial power, and so in peace time they proceed to curtail the supply and thus to re-establish themselves in unquestioned POWER. Depressions hitherto have been associated with the international gold standard, and Mr. Sumner Welles, one of Mr. Roosevelt's Under-Secretaries, speaking for Wall Street interests, has already announced that the plans for post-war reconstruction include the re-establishment of an international gold standard. Now it is through the gold standard that prices are manipulated to serve the purposes of FINANCE, and a fall in prices is the Bankers' excuse for making the "money market" tight and calling in overdrafts. For those who want chapter and verse they will find it in paragraph 93 of the report of the Monetary and Banking Commission, which reads as follows:

"The Bank of England had developed a technique of credit contraction and expansion which enabled it to keep England on the Gold Standard. The guide followed was the movement in the exchange rate. If, for example, the sterling-dollar rate went to the gold export point, and (Continued on page 7.)

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

**A recent "Gallup Poll" discloses that 66% express themselves as satisfied with the war effort. Obviously John Citizen has no facts on which to answer such a question. What would be the answer if the question was "are you satisfied with the result of the war effort"? Readers might suggest this question to the manager of "Gallup Polls," A.P.O.P., Box 751F, Melbourne.**

**WASTE EFFORT:** In the House of Commons during the no confidence motion, Sir John Wardlaw-Milne asked "what is the Government's excuse for asking workers to strive to the utmost to produce weapons which were already out of date, and for sending men into battle with the scales constantly against them? The surprise weapon which knocked out the Allied tanks a few days ago were used against Bilbao in 1937." The answer to this is apparently to be found in the "Sun" of July 2, where it is stated that New Zealand troops defeated a panzer unit with bayonets; which proves, of course, that equipment is not necessary!

**WAR BAROMETER:** The "City" of London (the money changers) are reported to be concerned with the Libyan debacle. They question the production efforts, the austerity campaign, and the extent of the living standards sacrificed. They take comfort, however, from the recent increase in German currency which, they say, indicates a loosening of government control of the financial situation. The main consideration of these Shylocks is not winning the war, but preserving their counterfeiting money system.

**ARMY METHODS:** Strong objection was made in the House by Mr. Blackburn, M.H.R., against militia officers bringing pressure on soldiers to join the A.I.F. It appears that they play on the inexperience of the young recruits by saying that "if they do not enlist they will be sent to a distant battle station." The moral make-up of officers who descend to such despicable tactics would not indicate that honesty of mind so essential to win the soldiers' confidence.

**STEEL MONOPOLIES:** The President of the Congress of Industrial Organisation (U.S.), as reported in the

"Sun" of June 26, says that "The war production programme of tanks and ships is being delayed alarmingly, and that the giant steel corporations are responsible for the bottleneck in steel plates for shipbuilding." The same issue reports that the U.S. tanks used in Libya were already obsolete. Hitler's best friends seem to be in high places.

**A.I.F. RAW DEAL:** Between seventy and eighty returned soldiers marched direct to a deputation to Mr. Forde in Adelaide to ask for home leave. They wanted to join their own units, presumably in their home States. They pointed out that they had absolutely nothing to do other than report for parade each day. The authorities claimed there was no transport. The men found transport, but were not allowed to use it. These men had been away overseas for more than two years. Such inefficient bungling, and the grave injustice caused is not likely to improve the men's morale.

**SECRET SERVICE:** The Melbourne "Sun" of June 26, in an effort to allay public criticism of the socialistic planners' bungling of the food shortage, suggests that "citizens should not refrain, from a sense of 'peaching,' from reporting cases of food shortage due to hoarding." You note the effort to blame and insult citizens for effects of official bungling—and the attempt to foster the Gestapo methods of spying on each other. The plain fact is that responsible bodies of men have demonstrated that there is a shortage of food and that the position is caused by the bungling of the man-power board in conscripting the labour required to produce the food. Strong objections should be forwarded immediately to the managing editor of the "Sun"; he will then know that watchful eyes are on him.

-O.B.H.

## TAX COMMISSIONER ON THE SPOT

### CHALLENGE TO LEGALITY OF TAXING TO PAY INTEREST ON ILLEGAL

**"The following report, headed, "Whew! One-Man Revolt," appeared in "Smith's Weekly," June 27; but the so-called "re-volt" described therein is not original or exclusive to the business man referred to—similar action has either been taken or is intended by many others.**

A Brisbane business man has served notice on the Federal Deputy Commissioner of Taxation, Deputy Sales Tax Commissioner and the Town Clerk of Brisbane of his intention to refuse further payment of either rates or taxes, pending the receipt of a satisfactory answer to two questions submitted.

Questions are: (1) Quote the Act which makes bank credit, called "bank money or cheque currency, legal tender? (2) Give explanations of what money the banks issue that we are entitled to use to pay interest, taxation, that would not involve the robbery of someone's loan?

He states that unless he receives a satisfactory reply to the above questions he proposes to issue a High Court writ on the Commissioner of the Federal Deputy Commissioner of Taxes on the following counts:

(1) That I have under the Land and Income Tax Act 1910, Sec. 134, applied to you to answer certain questions dealing

with "bank credit" money and "interest" money, which have not been answered.

Charge: Concealing and delaying prosecutions against the laws of the Commonwealth.

(2) That I claim under the Criminal Code Act. Part VI., Vol. III., page 434, Sec. 285, that the demand for tax applied of or on (.....) was fraudulent false accounting by a public officer.

Charge: Fraudulent False Accountancy by a Public Officer.

(3) That I claim that the tax is being collected to repay Bank Credit money borrowed from the banks, which I allege is not legal currency. Bank Act. Vol. 1, pages 221-223.

Charge: Aiding, abetting and compounding the felony issue of illegal money.

(4) That I claim the tax is being collected to pay interest money on money borrowed from the banks which I allege involves the robbery of someone's loan. Criminal Code, Sec. 227.

(Continued on page 5.)

## THE PROBLEM OF HOME LIFE

A Dialogue Broadcast from 7HO, Hobart, at 6.30 p.m., on Sunday, June 21, by the Electoral Campaign Speakers.

B.—In our daily rounds of activity we get annoyed with many things; we are hindered and frustrated; we plan ahead, but our plans are upset; we form natural antagonisms against those who upset our plans. For example, pedestrians seem to form a united front against motorists, the country against the town, the young against the old, employees against employers—

J.—And wives against husbands?

B. (laughing).—Most of us usually blame those nearest at hand for most of our troubles. You, however, are quite different—you blame a small group of men in Melbourne and New York for most of our troubles. Don't you think that is strange and a trifle unreal?

J.—I suppose it is strange and unreal if you look at it that way. We all have our troubles and misunderstandings: most of these are, no doubt, avoidable; some are inevitable. But there comes a time when intelligent men will recognise that continuous trouble is either being deliberately produced by an outsider, or it has some serious and deep-rooted cause. I have taken part in many enterprises, military enterprises, engineering enterprises, social and private enterprises; they have all had their difficulties and setbacks, but we overcame them, regularly and consistently, even under the most adverse conditions. I know what is probably impossible, and I know what is possible; but I do not accept the political and economic conditions of the last 25 years as reasonable or inevitable, or natural, or the results of carelessness, or even the results of any system. I believe we have been witnessing economic and political chaos deliberately produced, and produced by men who knew what they were doing.

B.—You believe there is disease in the world; some of it is our own fault, some of it caused by others?

J.—Undoubtedly; and disease, like health, can be organised, just as quarrels can be organised.

B.—We have fights between small boys, and prize fights organised by promoters.

J.—With the promoters standing outside the ring.

B.—Watching the fighters knock each other out.

J.—That is the essential nature of modern fighting, and many modern quarrels and most modern friction.

B.—With the promoters standing outside the ring.

J.—Getting off scot-free.

B.—And their victims knocking hell out of themselves! Well, then, let us get down to brass tacks and examine the most important problem, the problem of home life. Let us examine some of its friction, its troubles and its problems, and see how you can sort these out.

J.—No, thanks! Nothing doing. If you think I am going to take the place of your mother, your family doctor, and the parson you are mistaken. I am satisfied the Angel Gabriel couldn't solve some of the family problems in this town. I am—

B.—Just a minute! You started this. You said that many of our fights and frictions were unnatural and organised by outsiders.

J.—But I didn't say it was unnatural for a wife to find fault with her husband.

B.—I see, you won't face up to it. Here we come to a definite problem, an important problem, and we want to know what effect your political and economic ideas have on these, the most important problems of life—home life. And you won't face up to it—pathetic, isn't it?

J.—I am quite willing to listen to what you have got to say about it. I am always willing to learn.

B.—Well, I am going to throw something at you and see how you like it. Listen to this by H. G. Wells: "The manners and morals, the laws and arrangements between the sexes to-day, the expectations people have and the rights they claim in love and marriage constitute now a vast, dangerous, unhappy conflict and confusion. It has ceased to follow a code or a system. It is like a panic, like a debacle. In the past there has been stress, suppression and sorrow in sexual life, but never so chancy, unjust, and wasteful a time as this one. It is a state of affairs in which no one is safe for happiness, and no conduct sure of success. . . . The con-

temporary love-story begins in illusions and goes on by way of misunderstandings to conflict. It opens cheaply and ends in dispute or dull resignation." How do you like that? Do you endorse those statements?

J.—I think it is a very powerful and amazing piece of descriptive writing; but I don't think it is worth discussing.

B.—Why?

J.—If I were to describe to you the story of a puppy-dog with a stone round its neck flung into a slimy pool, would you be keen to hear the full details of the poor creature's frantic, but hopeless, struggle?

B.—I am afraid not.

J.—Well, I am not interested in Mr. Wells' domestic problems of poor couples doomed from birth to face domestic disaster.

B.—Why doomed to end in disaster?

J.—Men and women are complicated creatures, you know. To put a man and woman in a small box, sometimes called a house, and to expect them to live there together for forty or fifty years is a problem difficult enough for the best of couples.

B.—I know that.

J.—But to expect young men and women, brought up on poisonously romantic Hollywood films, brought up on novels as helpful to real life as a rattlesnake is to a new-born babe; men and women, swamped from the A.B.C. by the sickly strains of negroid

sex-moans which masquerade as music - to expect the victims of this poisonous dope to be fit people to live with is to expect something you have no right to expect.

B.—Is that all?

J.—You send the children to schools, rob them of their initiative and their common-sense, and in place you cram them with stuff they neither understand nor can use to their own advantage—and you call this education.

B.—Any more?

J.—You send them from school ignorant of their own minds and bodies, ignorant of the society in which they are going live; you condemn them to fifty years' penal servitude on an office stool or an a job which means nothing to them or their families or the community in which they live. And after you do this you ask me to discuss the results of this Devil's harvest and this quotation from Wells—what was it?

B.—"The expectations people have and the rights they claim in love and marriage constitute now a vast, dangerous, unhappy conflict and confusion. It has ceased to follow a code or a system. It is like a panic, like a debacle."

J.—Like a panic, like a debacle. Like England after Baldwin and Montagu Norman had killed every attempt at self-preservation.

B.—You haven't finished the subject of marriage, have you?

J.—Life is full of risks; we all have to take chances. But I don't think the risks that most young wives are asked to take these days are either fair or reasonable.

B.—Why not?

J.—Men who have work that interests them, work which demands their skill and attention, and which makes them feel they are building up a progressive community—these men do not require other people to entertain them and give value to their lives. Their work is part of their life and not something to be forgotten as soon as possible; their work builds the home, and the home builds the work.

B.—To-day you think Work, Home and State are separate entities?

J.—Not only separate, but antagonistic. The home has little connection and very little interest in the monotonous and soul-destroying work of the average wage-slave; they look upon it as a penal institute that steals the best hours of each day, gives few holidays, and then casts aside its victims after the life-force

(Continued on page 3.)

of the word, but let us not expect miracles as the result of its establishment. Much will depend on the extent—which careful investigation and experience alone will reveal—to which it may be possible for the Central Bank to operate smoothly and in full. Meanwhile, let us bespeak the most careful consideration for the Bill and a speedy passage for it to the Statute Book."

In general, it may be said with confidence that the measure meets the demands of those, and they are many, who have fervently desired to see the control of credit pass from private hands to the State. The evil of unrestricted and uncontrolled finance now stands exposed for all to see, and the warnings of the Popes in their social Encyclicals on the unscrupulous manipulation of credit by the few stand vindicated in the light of current events.

A sound financial system is particularly needed in Eire, for it is in the process of building up, almost from nothing, an industrial system which, it is hoped, will put an end to the scourge of emigration, and will, prevent the country from becoming the "out-farm"—as Mr. de Valera called it recently—of its industrial neighbours. Eire's financial resources, therefore, must be harnessed to this effort if it is to succeed, and the public must be encouraged to place their confidence in the venture and help it to the best of their ability. With the Government guiding the finances of the country and directing some part of them into the service of the country, there is every likelihood that, when normal conditions are restored the industrial development of the country will prosper.

## YET ANOTHER CENTRAL BANK!

### WILL IT REALLY BE A "PEOPLE'S" BANK?

**Eire is to have a Central Bank—if the Central Bank Bill, recently introduced by the Government, has been passed. (Its passage was regarded as almost certain, but we have no definite confirmation.)**

The introduction of the Bill seems to have given rise to some vague optimism, such as prevailed among Australian reformers when our own Commonwealth Bank was established 30 years ago. We hope it is not equally premature.

We have not yet received sufficient data on which to base a critical analysis of this new move, but the following report from the current issue of the "Irish Review" is interesting:

Monetary reform of the utmost significance is foreshadowed by the terms of the Government's Central Bank Bill.

The main feature of the Bill is its proposal to abolish the Currency Commission in favour of a Central Bank, which will have the sole right of note issue, will control in certain directions the operations of the commercial banks, and which will have a directorate appointed by the Minister for Finance.

The Bill is a document of 61 sections and 3 schedules, many of them of a purely technical nature, but its general purpose may be gauged by its definition, in section 6, of the duties and functions of the Central Bank.

These are stated to consist of "taking such steps as the Board may, from time to time, deem appropriate and advisable towards safeguarding the integrity of the currency and ensuring that in what pertains to the control of credit, the constant and predominant aim shall be the welfare of the people as a whole."

With this ideal very few people will have any quarrel.

Control of the commercial banks will be exercised to ensure that a safe ratio is maintained between assets and liabilities. Should this ratio widen beyond a given point, the bank concerned will be obliged to deposit with the Central Bank a specified amount, which will not bear interest, under penalty of having to pay £100 for each day in which it is in default.

This regulation will not only tend to curb dangerous speculations by the banks, and so safeguard depositors' interests, but it may be invoked to force the repatriation of money accumulating abroad, directing at least a portion of it into investment with the State. While the enactment of this power will depend upon several factors, not least upon the demands on finance made by industrial and economic development in the country, the Government's possession of the

power is necessary if it intends, as it professes, to subserve currency and credit to the welfare of the people, instead of allowing them to become the agents of the few.

Repatriation of currency has long been advocated by those who wish to see home industries prosper through the active support of the whole population. This sentiment is in accord with the mind of the Government, which, as Mr. de Valera declared recently, had successfully completed the first stage of a long-term policy for the foundation, and expansion of home industries; and it is fully realised in Eire that the future of the country depends largely on the ultimate success of this scheme.

The Central Bank Board is to consist of a Governor, appointed by the President on the advice of the Government, and eight directors, five of them appointed direct by the Minister for Finance and three selected from a panel drawn up by the Associated Banks (as the eight shareholding banks are to be called under the new Bill). This method of appointment is a departure from that recommended by the Banking Commission, which suggested four non-banking and three banking directors. The new system will mean that the majority on the Board will not necessarily have banking experience.

When the Central Bank begins to function, consolidated bank notes—in issue at present to a total of about £6,000,000—will be gradually withdrawn and the note issue will become the exclusive right of the Bank. The entire capital of the Bank will be held by the Minister for Finance, and its profits or losses will be a matter for the State.

Commenting on the new Bill, Senator Liam O Buachalla, an authority on banking affairs, states:

"The Bill is challenging in many respects and is courageous. It certainly provides for the setting up of a 'Bannic Caannais' in the fullest sense

## RATIONING PLANNERS

Leading Melbourne tailors say that the life of a suit from the proposed standardised cloth will be little more than six months. This opinion from practical men leads to a search for the culprit responsible for such an obviously stupid decision—and, sure enough, as one would expect, the responsible person is an economist in the person of Dr. Coombes, director-general of clothes rationing. It is a regrettable fact that bunglers and economists are synonymous. It is surely absurd for a person responsible for such waste as this to be described as an economist.

**The Problem of Home Life—Continued**

had been removed with no attempt at reasonable compensation for wear and tear.

B.—And the State robs the family of authority; it reduces their meagre income by taxation, and it refuses to exercise its rightful authority in protecting the home against a fraudulent money system which initiates prices and destroys quality.

Don't you think bad health has a lot to do with domestic difficulties?

J.—Of course, it has, and I should say half a dozen half-staved kids sitting in a small house on a rainy washing-day, listening to a statesman making a speech on the need for sacrifices would be my picture of Hell-upon-earth.

B.—Don't you think a nagging wife in a small house would be worse?

J.—This is where we come to economics.

B.—What has a nagging-wife to do with economics?

J.—That's easy to explain. If you live in a large house you might manage to escape, when the wife throws a bad fit. But in a small house. . . .

B.—It's not fair.

J.—It's not cricket I don't think the Angel Gabriel could stand up to it. Besides, when you have a good bank account you can always go for a holiday. A little change is good for you, and, dash it all don't we all need a change sometimes?

B.—Now I think you have struck the main point. We need a change now and then; nothing like a change to fully appreciate old friends and familiar places.

J.—It's the monotony that kills, and the inability to escape it. I think monotony kills more than hard work.

B.—Husbands complain about nagging wives, and wives that grow old; but what service does the community provide for mothers of families?

J.—What service do you want?

B.—If the future world is going to contribute anything to human happiness it will have to see that those who have families do not develop into human drudges. It is not good for the mother or for the children. Every mother who requires it should be assured of skilled and well-trained help in a well-appointed house. What is the use of modern organisation, invention and machinery if we cannot supply this elementary necessity?

J.—Yes, but all that requires money. "Where is the money to come from?" shout, all the politicians.

B.—We are spending £1 million a day on war, and England is spending over £10 million a day. If we can spend that on the weapons of destruction, surely after this war we can find money for the home.

J.—A £1 million a day, £7 million a week; a pound a person per week or about £4 extra a week for each family.

B.—£4 a week extra for each family is not a bad start.

J.—And if the boys come home and engage in productive work instead of destructive work they ought to be able to add to that £4 a week.

B.—We expect it.

J.—Do you think a well-appointed house, with well-fed kids, in which the mother is not a drudge but a woman of good health, and in which the father sees a constantly-improving future in front of him—do you think such a home would produce happiness?

B.—It won't guarantee happiness, but it is a terrible big step in help in helping it along.

J.—You Think so?

B.—I don't think so, I know it is so. That is, with the ordinary decent man and woman.

J.—Who are the majority?

B.—Yes, they are the majority.

J.—If a dictator were to offer these ideal homes to the people, would you support him?

B.—Certainly not.

J.—Why not?

B.—Because a well-appointed home and well-fed children do not mean

anything if all the brains and talent and individual spirits of the country are to be controlled and suppressed by a Gestapo.

J.—Hungry people don't worry about that.

B.—But why should there be hungry people when there is plenty of food?

J.—Well-fed and well-housed people don't like Geatapos; hungry people don't care. Isn't that the reason for hungry people?

B.—To provide a reason for Gestapos?

J.—That's the Big Idea.

B.—Chaos is necessary to produce dictators.

J.—Therefore, first produce chaos.

**TO MR. AND MRS. BUTLER**

**The dinner and social evening in honour of Mr. Eric Butler and his bride, held in Melbourne last Monday night, was an outstanding and happy occasion, exceeding the hopes of those who arranged it.**

Indeed, the attendance stretched to its limit the accommodation that had been arranged.

Among the apologies, due to prior engagements, were those of Senator Darcey and Mr. Alex. Wilson, M.H.R., who said he looked forward to "the continuation of the wonderful work that Mr. Butler is doing."

After the dinner, Mr. Bruce Brown, who presided, paid an eloquent tribute to Eric Butler's work, and wished him and his wife every happiness in the future. His remarks were supported by Dr. John Dale, Mr. Hal Allsop (Editor of the "New Times"), Major G. B. Maltby, Mr. F. C. Paice (chairman of New Times Ltd.), Captain J. Johnstone, and Messrs. F. Robinson and J. Iggulden.

Subsequently, Mr. Brown made the presentation, on behalf of those present and a great many others who could not attend. It consisted of a handsome leather wallet, well filled with what Mr. Brown referred to as "printed stationery" (£1 and £5 notes). Mr. Butler, in responding, spoke eloquently and at some length. In addition to remarks appropriate to the social nature of the occasion, his speech continued much that was informative, and he was accorded frequent and vigorous applause.

We apologise to our feminine readers for being unable to reliably report what Mrs. Butler wore, but we can assure them that she looked very charming indeed beside her proud husband in his sergeant's uniform.

During the evening, musical interludes were provided by capable artists, in the persons of Miss Loyes Pink and Sgt. James Foran, who gave vocal items, and Mr. Geoff. Bentley, who contributed a flute solo.

We lack the space to report Mr. Butler's speech, and the speeches in his honour, but the latter were typified by two of the three communications printed hereunder, and read to the gathering by Mr. Brown.

July 1, 1942.

Dear Mr. Brown,—May I, through you, as chairman of next Monday's function, take this opportunity of paying my tribute to Eric Butler's work in our common cause, and to wish him the happiness he so richly deserves.

His six years' work upon the platform and in the "New Times" represent an outstanding contribution to the ultimate victory of economic and political democracy. But these last six years were merely the more important role he is destined to play for the Greater Victory when the last shot has been fired and the "Last Post" sounded. . .

I once likened Social Credit to a beautifully-cut diamond of many facets. However you turn the diamond you see new colours, new beauty. And no two people see the colours or the beauty quite the same. And so it is with the campaign for the Social Credit State. No one mind or pen, can adequately represent it to others or do justice either to the number or brilliance of its facets.

Eric Butler's contribution to the campaign differs from mine or yours. He has rendered service on phases of the

campaign that I have no more than touched upon, or am not competent to touch upon.

I salute this remarkable young man and his bride and wish them all the happiness for themselves that their work, in association, will one day make possible for others.

With kind personal regards. Yours sincerely, C. BARCLAY SMITH.

Editor, the "New Era," Sydney.

July 2, 1942.

Bruce H. Brown, Esq., Chairman of the meeting celebrating the marriage of Mr. Eric Butler to Miss Elma Turner.

Dear Sir,—I am very sorry that I am unable to attend this gathering in person, but I hope you will convey to Mr. and Mrs. Butler congratulations from myself and friends in Hobart on the occasion of their marriage.

It has been a great encouragement to us to see a young man like Eric devote so much of his time and energy to our great cause; already his contributions to the movement have been monumental and if he had achieved nothing more than write his booklet, "The Enemy Within the Empire" he would have done something of which we older men might be proud. This booklet, I think, has done more to stir up outsiders than anything we have handled.

Social Credit is more, very much more than monetary reform; it is a philosophy of life and it should bring co-operation and harmony into any community of co-workers. A home which is built on Social Credit principles should be a happy and permanent one, and we, therefore, feel sure of the permanent happiness of the future home of Mr. and Mrs. Butler.

So, Mr. Chairman, I drink a toast to Mr. and Mrs. Butler; Long may they live amongst us, and may their efforts be crowned with success.

—Yours sincerely, JAMES GUTHRIE, Chairman, The Electoral Campaign, Hobart.

(Copy of cablegram just received; original unfortunately mislaid :)

**CABLEGRAM.**  
LONDON. 6 p.m. July 6.  
**BUTLER**  
**MELBOURNE**  
Best wishes. Oceans and oceans of prosperity. May you drown in it.  
(Sig.) MONTAGU NORMAN.

**CONCEALED NEWS**

The Archbishop of York, Dr. Garbett, is reported in an obscure part of the press as strongly criticising war news presentation. He says: "It is irritating and humiliating when the enemy tells us by radio what we are not told officially and more accurately until many hours after." Of course, officialdom would answer: "Ah, but we mustn't let the enemy know" (what he knows); and Curtin would say: "He might be baiting us to see what we know. Then when the people know nothing large sums of money will be given to the newspapers and others to warn you not to tell (what you don't know)—anyway, it's good work to stop criticism."

**ODD ITEMS**

(From the "Social Creditor.")  
The idea that "justice" and "equality" are the same thing, belongs to the same order of intelligence as that which believes that the Dictatorship of the Proletariat means that every Russian can buy a dictaphone.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is no confirmation of the story that Mr. Curtin, the Australian "Labor" Prime Minister, who now regards Washington as "Home" is generally referred to by his name with the syllables transposed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Another story which is current, but doubtless apocryphal, is that an international Chemical Monopoly, which is controlled by Jews, has a synthetic rubber substitute which it has kept off the market pending an arrangement with the Japanese to attack Malaya and ruin the British rubber planters and their trees, and that the wild nonsense about the responsibility of the planters for the Singapore disaster is a smoke screen put up from the same source.

\* \* \* \* \*

What has happened to the "B."B.C.'s dear "Russian" friend, M. Lozhovsky, without whose name no Red Army communiqué was complete until a month or so ago? Has he joined the American Fleet?

\* \* \* \* \*

Another tale that is surely apocryphal is that United States food-canners are to use the Fort Knox gold for plating cans, now that the major source of the world's tin supply is in enemy hands.

\* \* \* \* \*

London "Times" advertisement: — "Well-known finance house has FUNDS available for the purchase of large, well-established businesses. Well, nobody else has! And on purchase to whom will they belong? And (supplementary question) THEN what?"

\* \* \* \* \*

And wasn't the Minister careful not to disclose the names of the chief proprietors of the "Daily Mirror," which the "Evening Standard" so badly wanted to know a year or two ago? Not now of course!

\* \* \* \* \*

The policy in force: To introduce and entrench Bureaucratic Socialism.

To use the National Credit for this purpose.

To use monetary reformers to put this over.

The policy for social crediters: To attack and discard Bureaucratic Socialism.

To expose the Big Idea behind (and its control of policy in relation to National Credit).

To endeavour to effect the reconstitution of democracy by means of Policy Associations.

**GAMBLING DENS**

In urging less secretive stock exchange transactions, the Melbourne "Herald's" finance writer points out that "as a section, of the Labor Party seeks to abolish private stock exchanges, brokers should endeavour to see that their services are presented as favourably as possible." The main point under discussion was the buying and selling, unknown to the public, of large parcels of shares. That is the really big bankers' business, for which the rest is little more than a blind. This chap puts up a grand fight for the bankers and their legalised gambling den; he deserves the title of "defender of the faith."

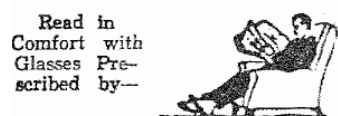
**WASTING PAPER**

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—I recently purchased a tiny presentation card (valued at a small fraction of one penny, and priced at fourpence) at a large city stationery shop. The attendant made out a docket which measured approximately 5 x 8 inches. Since each docket is made in triplicate, it means this approximately 120 square inches of paper are used in recording the sale of a thin card measuring no more than three square inches! This is but one illustration in thousands from the superfluous pages in the "Herald," for example, it would appear that the cry of paper "shortage" should really be paper "wastage."

—Yours, etc.

"UNWRAPPED."



Read in Comfort with Glasses Prescribed by—

**CERTIFIED ANDREW C. GADDE OPTICIAN**  
STATE SAVINGS BANK BUILDINGS  
127-134, GASTREY STREET, MELBOURNE  
77, SOUTH BRIDGE STREET, SYDNEY

## 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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### Co-Operation or Regimentation?

Much of what passed between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill must of necessity remain secret. But a joint statement emanating from them reads: "There is no force equal to the driving determination aroused in an informed democracy."

This statement expresses one of the justifications of democracy as a social system. No amount of dragooning and coercion can rouse in an individual or in a nation the energy, both mental and physical, that comes in consequence of a willing co-operation and enthusiasm arising from an understanding and belief in a cause. If the statement means anything it means that the best, or perhaps, the only, way to bring the war to a successful conclusion is to obtain the complete co-operation of the people of the United Nations.

Unfortunately, there is little to suggest that as a principle of policy this is being applied. More and more our social and industrial relationships are falling under the control of Boards; more and more regulations are being framed without considering the wishes or reactions of the people. Citizens are being indexed and classified and labelled, not as informed democrats who are responsible for the nation's policy; but as cogs in a machine or as pawns pushed here and there on a chessboard at the dictates of an unknown mind.

No man may freely enter that occupation for which inclination and training may fit him. No employer, although he has the most intimate knowledge of his own needs, can employ the man he feels is most suitable. Instead, he must take a man sent from a Government bureau. Such centralised control spells inefficiency and dissatisfaction. No "driving determination" is roused that way. In fact, such a policy is based on the principle that the average man is incapable of a voluntary effort of any worth, and responds only to direction exercised from above.

It is regrettable that up to the present nothing of real value has been done to obtain a concerted public opinion on matters relating to our war policy. We all know that our armed forces are fighting those of the Axis Powers. But this is not enough. We may know whom we are fighting against, but we must know what we are fighting for. The people hope, and we see from time to time, that our leading citizens hope, that the post-war world will be a better one. But hopes, of themselves, do not build anything. If the British people and our Allies are to put in the effort they are capable of, it will come only as a result of the certainty that the post-war world will be a world of greater economic security, and greater political democracy; a world where every child will have an opportunity to develop to the maximum along the lines his (or her) powers and inclinations make possible. Until the people see the first steps being taken to the inauguration of such a society, full-hearted co-operation and "driving determination" will not result.

### JUSTICE FOR DAIRYMEN

The following item appeared in the "Gippsland and Northern Co-operator" of July 2. It is another indication of the willingness of editors of rural papers to assist in educative propaganda—provided the "copy" is sent to them, which relieves them of the responsibility of the views expressed. It should be remembered that editors are not free men; therefore, campaigners should endeavour to see that they receive suitable "copy."

(To Editor, the "Co-Operator.")  
Sir,—Your article in the issue of June 25 dealing with the serious position of dairymen is timely indeed; you strike the right note when you say "the time for half measures is past." "I would go further and say: it is time we stopped pulling our word-punches and called a spade a spade, and theoretical economists—bungling nincompoops.

The problem of dairymen has been correctly stated as being financial; that is, that theoretical price fixers have compelled them to accept prices which do not even permit costs to be recovered, so the position is reduced to price—or money.

Economists, because of their academic, non-practical training, ignore the all-important human factor, and approach such problems from the viewpoint that production must be made to fit the money available, instead of making the money supply fit production; the farmer is permitted to produce butter and cheese, but there is a counterfeit law to

prevent him from producing money, and obviously those charged with the responsibility of ensuring an adequate money supply are not as efficient as the farmer.

The British Government is subsidising food prices to the extent of over a million pounds per week; in this way price increases are prevented from reaching the public, thus eliminating the outcry of unthinking people when producers seek a just price increase. The political reaction to the public outcry should be kept in mind by those endeavouring to obtain the price increase, the British plan offers a suggestion in this connection.

A similar scheme could be advocated by the dairying industry; moreover, if such a scheme were financed by additional Commonwealth Bank credit, the result would be even more beneficial than the British plan which operates with taxation monies provided from consolidated revenue.

Seemingly the political represen-

I am a little doubtful as to the utility of this idea. As I see it, we are fighting Germany and Japan for the benefit of a third party, the Promoter. There are faint indications quite recently that the Promoter may get further into the melee than had ever been his intention, but the process will have to go to greater lengths before it can be called a fight.

I do not want to waste the time of the Superior Persons who have long ago risen above what they describe as hidden hand theories, but the rest of us must be impressed by the accumulating evidence that much more is involved than a nice, clean-cut war against Hitler and the Mikado. Let us contemplate our Prime Ministers for a few moments, omitting, for obvious reasons, Mr. Winston Churchill.

#### Canada's Prime Minister

Mr. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, commonly known as the Washington Post, has had a remarkable career. I may perhaps repeat as germane to the matter the remark made to me by a prominent Canadian when I said that I had been informed in Washington in 1919 that Mr. King (almost as unknown to the general Canadian public as was Mr. Stanley Baldwin to the British public of the same period) would be the next Prime Minister. My friend observed, "Well, we Canadians didn't know it, anyway."

To say that Mr. King's spiritual home is in Washington may perhaps be to limit his domesticity unduly, but it certainly isn't in Westminster. I should be the last to claim that the efforts of the Imperial Government, in the main dominated by Mr. Baldwin, were, during the fatal armistice years, either distinguished or even moderately courageous, but anything Mr. King could do to make them completely abortive was done. The World Economic Congress of 1933 might—probably would, because of its limited agenda—have been a failure in any case, but Mr. King left nothing to chance in indicating, in able collaboration with Mr. Cordell Hull, of the United States, that any putting-to-rights of world affairs, wherever else it might come from, would not be allowed to proceed from London.

It would be unfair, however, to omit the effective collaboration with the Bank of "England," for which reliance upon him could always be placed. The disallowance of the Acts of the Alberta Legislature, the appointment of an official nominated by Mr. Montagu Norman to control the Bank of Canada, and many other minor policies, obviously did nothing to cool the welcome he could always expect to the South of the Canadian Border, whatever the Canadians themselves may have thought, or of the repercussion on the Imperial link.

#### Messrs. Curtin and Nash

And we may cast a glance in passing, at Mr. Curtin, the "Labour" Prime Minister of Australia, of whom few of us had heard until, like Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Mackenzie King he appeared from nowhere with no false sentiment in looking to Washington to console him for any very slight regret for the passing of Britain. And there is Mr. Nash of New Zealand, of whom it was said that the inter-

tatives of the dairymen are not assisting the dairymen's association as well as they might by pleading their cause more strongly in the Federal House, and it would help considerably if each individual dairyman wrote a personal letter to his member urging him to do more in this direction.—Yours, etc., O. B. Heatley, 32 Paxton-street, East Malvern.

## THE BIG IDEA

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

(Continued from last issue.)

It is becoming a commonplace to hear people say, we're fighting two wars"; by which statement is meant, that our enemies are not merely Germany and Japan but a vaguely apprehended and ill-defined factor in regard to which there is some hesitation as to its name.

ests of international Finance were quite safe while he remained de facto, if not *de jure*, Prime Minister. At time of writing, Mr. Nash is representing New Zealand in Washington. It should not be overlooked that while the "Liberal" or "Labour" Parties in the Dominions, which tend to be the dominant parties, seem curiously liable to develop a nasal accent England, which seems incurably "Conservative," whatever that may mean provides a touching example of Imperial Unity by providing leaders from the Conservative ranks, who are delighted to conduct the calf to the water, even if it may transpire that there are difficulties in making it drink. The negroid sex-moans retailed by the "B."B.C. under the title of entertainment, are no doubt expected to develop the right culture for the appropriate policy. Taken by and large, the British Commonwealth for the past 25 years provides a remarkable object lesson in the workings of "d'markrazy."

#### The "Indian Problem."

The subject of what is commonly called India (which is as descriptive as a reference to Europe) is, of course much too large to be dealt with in detail here, but certain facts are essentially relevant to a grasp of the larger picture.

The Indian Congress (significant title) is not, and never has been, representative of more than the most insignificant fraction of the indigenous population. The second is that is known to be, and to have been for many years financed from the same source as was the Russian Revolution.

And the third, and most significant, is that the so-called "Indian problem" has assumed intractable proportions only from a date which is common to two incidents. The first of these is the foundation of the Federal Reserve Banking System by the Warburgs, which set the stage for the War, and to which I have already made reference. And the second, which at first sight would appear to be both wildly irrelevant and absurdly disproportionate, is the Marconi Scandal.

#### Pawns and Players

There can, I think, be no appreciation of the problem with which humanity is faced, and therefore no hope of a decisive and satisfactory outcome from it, without a recognition that States—Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States—are simply "Counters," in the sense that the word is used on the Stock Exchange. Exactly as shares are manipulated by the big operators, the destinies of whole people are played with by the same type of Group, with as little compunction or respect for the results to the population concerned as the big share promoter has for the public, where no question of legal danger is involved. M. Coty, the French millionaire, entitled his expose, which dealt with some of the aspects of the situation, "Financiers who Sport with the World."

To say that, for instance, the United States—still less the American people—is deeply involved in this policy is fundamentally as meaningless as to accuse the Pennsylvania Railroad of complicity. We have got to know, and the whole future of the world depends upon our knowing, who are the directors who use one country after another as a base of operation. As usual, the surest clue is to found by a consideration of the enquiry "Quis beneficii"—Who benefits?

We can clear of the ground at once of one candidate—nothing which has happened in the last twenty-five years, to go back no

(Continued on page 5.)

## HOW DEMOCRACY IS UNDERMINED

A Dialogue Broadcast from 7HO Hobart, at 630 p.m. on Sunday, June 28, by the Electoral Campaign Speakers

B.—In this country there are laws against selling eggs, against selling milk, against selling apples and clothes, and against a hundred and one different things, there are so many laws now that soon the only way to keep within the law will be to do nothing.

J.—There is a law against that, too.

B.—The breakdown of justice in dictator countries has been due to the inability of the ordinary man and woman to obtain any kind of protection against his own Government. If the Government in this country keeps on making hundreds of new laws which are so comprehensive, so complex and so numerous that not even lawyers understand them, how is the ordinary man to obtain justice even in a court of law? What protection can he get against his own Government?

J.—Strange things happen in war time; the Government must have comprehensive power to do things, and to do them quickly, so it issues regulations to cover all emergencies. But the trouble is that the emergency of war is used to make new laws which the people would not tolerate in times of peace, the Big Idea being that the people will get used to the new restrictions and so make it easier to maintain them after the war.

B.—People complain about the number of laws passed; but laws are passed by Parliament—by the people's representatives in Parliament. How does it come about that the people have no power to stop laws being passed that they dislike, and to get laws passed which they want?

J.—Parliament passes the laws of this country, but one has to know what exactly is meant by Parliament.

B.—Parliament usually means the Party in power. If the Party in power has a majority of only one it can force laws upon us and we must abide by them.

J.—I don't think even that is a true picture. In Australia, voting is compulsory, and in most electorates voters have to cast a vote for one of two Parties.

B.—Even if they belong together.

J.—Even if they belong to neither. In Britain, voting is not compulsory, and there only just over 50 per cent of the people trouble to vote, and most of that 50 per cent, must be unintelligent.

B.—Why must it?

J.—Just have a look for yourself at England before this war—the England of Baldwin. Was there ever a British Government so utterly incompetent; was there ever a Government which has reduced a first-class power to chaos in so short a time? There are the results of your Party system. A system of "yes" men, regimented like schoolboys, voting as they were told to vote, and doing it against their own conscience.

B.—And destroying their country in the process.

J.—That is Party politics.

B.—Well, let us continue the argument and say voting in Australia represents 60 per cent of

### THE BIG IDEA

(Continued from page 4.)

further, could conceivably be expected to advance the interest of the communities linked together by the British Crown. On the contrary, it is obvious that, for instance the, the present war is being fought for the destruction of that association. The only question at stake appears to be which of the controlled groups nominally takes over the assets, the hidden promoters being in control of a majority shareholding whoever "wins." At the same time, it is essential that the assets shall be handed over in a condition which will not cause trouble. That is to say they must be converted into servile States forever unable to revolt against irresistible world police under the orders of the promoters.

Bearing, this in mind, we can consider the events to which the Marconi Scandal made an important contribution.

(To be continued.)

the voters, and say the Parties are divided 35 for the Government; 25 for the Opposition. The Government, when it passes a law then represents 35 per cent. of the voters of the country.

J.—Certainly not.

B.—Why not?

J.—There are seven good reasons. First of all, before a Bill is brought into Parliament it goes before a Caucus meeting. There it is put to the vote; the vote might go say 20 for, 15 against.

B.—And the motion in favour of the Government is carried.

J.—And the member of the Government Party are forced by the rules of the Party to vote for the Bill in Parliament.

B.—That is why, even if many speak against the Bill, the Bill becomes law?

J.—The majority of Parliament may be against the Bill, but the Bill will become law if the majority in the caucus wants it—and the caucus meeting may not be fully attended.

B.—So in this case the law enforced by Parliament on the people represents only some 20 per cent. of the voters.

J.—Not even 20 per cent, of the voters.

B.—You are not going to cut it down further?

J.—Well let us look at it again. You admit that out of a Parliament of 60 members a Bill can be passed under the Party system if only 20 are in favour.

B.—It could be passed if only 16 were in favour of the Bill; and if the Caucus meeting were a small one, by less than 16.

J.—We will be generous and say 20 members can do the trick. In the present Federal Government the caucus can make 18 out of its 36 members Cabinet Ministers.

B.—The caucus can therefore be sure of at least a 50 per cent, vote on any Bill at a Party meeting.

J.—It can also appoint Members to Standing Committees at £2 a day on the top of their £1000 a year. Not only can the caucus give salaries and extra allowances to its selected Members, but it can withhold assistance during elections from those Members who vote against the Government Bills.

B.—Which means the Member does not get back again.

J.—And loses £1000 a year, plus extras.

B.—We can't even say that a Government Bill represents 20 per cent of the voters, and yet it becomes law.

J.—No, we can't; especially when people vote for a Party with a big programme only a few of whose items the voter endorses.

B.—We weren't asked to vote for unification of taxation, but it was passed by both Houses. How many voters does that represent?

J.—We don't know; we were given no chance to discuss it.

B.—Yet it altered the whole framework of the Constitution.

J.—Parliament had no right to pass such a law without consulting the people.

B.—The case is now before the High Court for decision, so it is not law yet.

J.—But it should not have gone before the High Court; it should not have been passed through Parliament. Mr. Beck, representative of Dennison, voted for this Bill to alter the Constitution of Australia. What right had he to do such a thing? He didn't make any mention of it in his election speeches; he never called a meeting to discuss it with his electors. That is only making a joke of Democratic Government; it is making it unworkable.

B.—But it was pushed through as a war measure.

J.—It is not a war measure; its spokesmen intended it to last after the war. It is not necessary to destroy the Constitution to obtain £10 million a year in taxes. Even if it were necessary to destroy the Constitution, the people could have been given an opportunity to say whether or not they wanted the Constitution altered. We must watch very carefully all those so-called war emergency Bills, otherwise we shall find ourselves in a worse mess after this war than we were after the last war.

B.—If the Government Caucus keeps on passing more and more laws. Law will be brought into complete disrespect; people must have faith in the justice of their laws, they must know where they stand and they must know that any grievance can be given a just hearing in a court of law.

J.—But the Government regulations have taken most of the work of ad-

ministering justice out of the Law Courts and flung it into the hands of Government officials.

B.—Government departments make their own laws and inflict their own penalties.

J.—Just how much power the new Government departments have can be seen by the little piece that is tacked on to each new law. It states: "The Governor-General (or Governor) may make regulations not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters and things which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out and giving effect to this Act." The effect of this is that Parliament issues a blank cheque to the departmental chiefs who proceed to make numerous regulations, all with their appropriate penalty. These regulations are carried out by petty officials far away from the seat of Government. These petty officials live in a world of their own; the whole war effort may be stopped, supplies may be held up, but these little tin-gods keep on swamping all and sundry in a flood of paper forms.

B.—I suppose they think they are doing good work.

J.—They don't think—they just keep on writing: writing out green forms, yellow forms, red forms and pink forms—working like machines.

B.—What a colossal tragedy that a great people and a great empire should be destroyed by red tape and a horde of little officials. It seems incredible; it sounds like some diabolical joke played on us by the devil himself.

J.—Not much of a joke to those who are working night and day fighting an enemy who has had six years' start! It's the work of a devil; nothing is more certain. But to corner this devil is not such an easy task. It's not good enough to blame all the distressing hold up to red tape: red tape doesn't grow out of the ground—it is manufactured by men.

B.—We hear a lot about red tape—what exactly do you mean by it?

J.—Red tape is another name for Bureaucratic Socialism; that is, taking power and initiative from the individual and handing all power over to the Government officials who have no power of initiative—no power to act, no power except to hold up the work of others.

B.—Their power to do that seems unbounded. But why is such a system tolerated? Surely the one thing we need to-day is to give full scope to men of initiative, men of action, men of talent and experience. Why is it necessary to hamper the efforts of all our best men with hordes of petty officials?

J.—All the war-time executives are appointed by the Government—that is, Mr. Churchill in England and Mr. Curtin in Australia, and no amount of criticism—and there has been much—has been able to produce any effective results.

B.—To destroy individual initiative is to destroy the greatest thing in this world—the greatest power of the British peoples. Surely no statesman would deliberately do that.

J.—Many strange things are done in the name of religion, and the religion of the British and Australian Cabinet Ministers is Bureaucratic Socialism.

B.—Which destroys all initiative. Well, what can we do about it?

J.—All we can do is to expose Bureaucratic Socialism for what it really is—an instrument to bring every man who can do anything, who has done anything and who is willing to do something, under the control of petty officials who have never done anything in their lives but restrict the efforts of others. In times of peace nobody notices the horrible inefficiency of Bureaucratic Socialism. Treasury officials can hold up activities for twenty years and nobody takes much notice of it. If a Treasury official holds up a job for only twelve months he thinks he is hustling. In war-time, the peace-time organisation of the civil service spells disaster, humiliation and defeat. Haven't we had our fair share of that?

B.—More than our lair share.

J.—And what have our intellectual socialists been talking about all this time?

B.—Capitalists.

## FEEDING JOHN BULL

**Exactly five years ago the British Government was determined to keep the standard of living down to the lowest possible level. This mentality, peculiar to the financier, is by no means dead, and is now expressing itself in excessive taxation of the wage earners and compulsory loans.**

One of the High Priests of this dreadful tyranny—J. M. Keynes has been elevated to the peerage, mainly on account of his plan to compulsorily take away the people's incomes by way of so-called loans.

Production of food in the British Isles is now at an all time high level; but let us not delude ourselves into believing this state of affairs will be allowed to continue when peace comes. Producers will be persecuted and prosecuted by the law, unless the people can dethrone the financial rulers who operate through scarcity of food or the means of obtaining it.

By way of jogging our memories, we reproduce the following item from the Melbourne "Herald" of June 26, 1937:—

**"FINE FOR GROWING POTATOES."**

"Bluff, red-cheeked Mr. R. W. Halliday, Peterborough farmer, has proved to the Welsh people for the first time that potatoes will grow on their mountains.

"And the Marketing Board have fined him £1000 for doing it. "A penalty of £2 an acre has to be paid by anybody who lays down new land to potatoes. But Mr. Halliday doesn't mind; he knew this would happen, for he is a member of the board himself.

"At the back of his car is always a trowel for sampling earth. On a visit here one day—his wife is a Tenby woman—he dug a shovelful of Williamstown Mountain, took it

home with him, had it analysed, found it good.

"So he bought an area of bracken and bramble land for £2000. With three tractors he cleaned it up in four months, though a job like that usually takes three years. The machines, working up and down three slopes day and night, ploughed the virgin mountainside to a depth of eighteen inches.

"Local people suspected unauthorised experiments with tanks. A landing party from a warship, sent by the Admiralty from Milford Haven, actually went up the mountain to make sure.

"But they found that was all Mr. Halliday was out to conquer, and now row on row of potato plants wave in the sun on the gentle slopes.

"(Note: Williamstown Mountain is 170 feet high—but they call it a mountain in Wales.)"

\* \* \*

Would it not be more logical and nearer to the peoples' hearts if Mr. Halliday, instead of Mr. Keynes, were honoured by a peerage. In decency, at least, the British authorities should hand back to Mr. Halliday that £1000.

## BY TRADITION OR REVOLUTION?

By ROGER LLOYD, in the "Nineteenth Century" (London).

A recent inquest into the incompetence of our propaganda to-day has come to the surprising conclusion that it is all because the Labour Party did not demand the reversion of the Ministry of Information "when they joined the Government. Had they done so, they would have taken the weapon of propaganda out of the sphere of the Tory Mind: as it is, the Tory Mind is sprawling all over our propaganda and automatically renders it useless. It is a remarkable judgment, and the reasons set out in its justification are still more remarkable. Their essence can be gathered from these two quotations from the inquest—an article in "World Review." by Mr. J. B. Priestley:—

"When the British Tory mind condescends to engage in propaganda the result is bound to be a failure. For this mind is too fixed in its illusion to be able to appeal successfully to other minds. Our Tory starts all wrong, simply because his mind is years behind everybody else's. He talks earnestly about 'tradition' and 'heritage,' and then wonders why the audience is cold, because it does not occur to him that the only heritage known to most people down there consists largely of dwindling trade rising unemployment, scarcity amid plenty, and the sad antics of the money market. They know, even if he doesn't, that the world that could produce a Hitler was already a melancholy chaos, that the twenty years between wars were a bitter failure, that men's hope and faith must be restored to them again. When one world tragedy has succeeded another, when we have watched the cracks widen into the abysses, a mind that turns instinctively to the past can make few converts. The reason is plain. This past is leading inexorably to the present, with what terrible result we know only too well."

It is, on the whole, a graceless and even an unscrupulous comment. It is graceless because it reveals a thoroughly undemocratic readiness to despise a set of human beings who, if mistaken, are far from being despicable. There was truth as well as paradox in the Gospel warning that hell fire was the penalty for calling a brother a fool. The comment is unscrupulous in that Mr. Priestley knows perfectly well that by Tradition and Heritage more is meant than is covered by the admittedly disgraceful stretch of national history between 1918 and 1939, or even the longer stretch between the Industrial or the French Revolutions and to-day. As a judgment it is not worth more analysis than this; and it would not even be worth the space needed to call attention to it if it did not represent in a neat and handy form the essence of a very deadly doctrine which the Left Wing intellectuals are daily pumping into the minds of all those whom their propaganda sheets can reach.

This doctrine is a kind of pseudo-religion. The first article of its creed is that all Conservatives are partly knaves and partly fools, but mostly knaves. No opportunity is lost of rubbing in the perfectly true fact that the Quislings are everywhere mostly recruited from the possessing classes, though it is not generally

### "INDEPENDENT"

In the Maldon by-election for the British House of Commons, Mr. T. Dryberg (Ind.) defeated the National Government candidate by a majority of 6993; which seems to be a pretty good line on the electors' attitude to the National Government propaganda. It is very heartening to learn that the people are realising the danger of bankers' political gangs operating under different names. Yet it is to be hoped the selected independent is not a dummy also; that is, that he owes no allegiance except to his electors, will take steps to ascertain, what his electors require—and simply represent their policy in Parliament.

mentioned that the Communists generally form one regiment of that infamous army. Then, by a sleight of hand which, incredibly, does not seem to be generally detected, it is assumed, first, that all possessing classes vote Conservative, and that the workers do not, and second, that the personnel and the wealth of the possessing classes remain what they were. Add to this the further assumption that those who have wealth, and so are predisposed towards the Tory mind, must necessarily be insincere in appealing to democracy and liberty because when it comes to the point they will value their wealth above their country. (Again, to be fair, it must be added that the partisanship shown by many Conservatives at the time of the Spanish Civil War was such as inevitably to bear just this interpretation.) But the heart of this heretical pseudo-religion is the assumption that what is called Tradition is useless and even harmful, that those who value it live only in the past, and that it can have nothing to offer to the progressive mind of to-day. All this, of course, can only have meaning on the assumption, which the Left Wing intellectual seems perfectly prepared to make, that it is possible for a community to dissociate itself completely from the long history which gave it birth. History is Bunk: Henry Ford said it, and Mr. Priestley appears to be ready to echo him.

It is easy to point out the flaws in this, but the trouble is that only the converted will listen. For this girding at Tradition has already done a deadly work, as anyone may see who analyses the changed tone of the popular Press. A campaign for spiritual revolution against the whole content of our traditional heritage, as two thousand years have formed and

bequeathed it was once the prerogative of a few intellectual journals; but to-day it is the common place of the three or four most popular and widely circulated of all dailies and weeklies. The result is that Mr. Priestley is plainly right when he says that to talk earnestly about Tradition is to make sure of a chilly and hostile audience. And yet the very people who scorn it live by it. What else is it but the epitomised experience and strength of a Tradition which has enabled the people of a dozen cities to face air raids undismayed? To what else but Tradition was Mr. Priestley himself appealing in those glorious two or three first Sunday night postscripts of his? Yet the word is generally scorned for all that, and the thing it is popularly supposed to represent is rejected. What it is in itself is not generally known: it is recognised only under the disguise of its parody and perversion, and so clothed, it is very properly rejected.

That all this is lamentable needs no proving. And to denounce the intellectual perverses who have caused it is a waste of time. Their crime is probably due to their ignorance; for pure intelligence utterly unchecked by judgment does make ignorance. But something should be done about it because it is extremely dangerous. I can imagine no reconstruction which would be more certain to bring upon the mass of the people an intensified form of the social miseries from which so many suffered during the decade 1930 to 1940, than a reconstruction of which the demand to escape from Tradition was the watchword. Every single watchword that we use to keep us going as we pass through this ordeal, every humane idea that we guard now and mean to build the new social structure around later, is formulated and inextricably embedded in the very Tradition which the intellectuals are busy repudiating. That mercy is bet-

ter than cruelty, that a man must be truly free because his personality is sacred, that the basis of all social life is wise, freely agreed law, consistently administered with neither favour, caprice, nor price, and that these demand a true equality of opportunity, are all of them ideas which came to man through Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem is hardly to be denied. These ideas are the founts of our Tradition, and they have been formulated, guarded and progressively developed in proportion as the history of the nations of the West has been true to the Tradition which made them. To repudiate that Tradition, even though the history of the last twenty years has been largely a mockery of it, is in fact to repudiate the qualities and ideas which lie at its heart. To cut oneself off from a stream of history must be to separate oneself from the good no less than from the bad in it. A new order in which neither Athens, Rome nor Jerusalem has any say will be a very merciless affair. We might just as well let the Germans have their way and be done with it.

The difficulty about a Tradition by which people all unconsciously live is that in the last resort it cannot be explained. Merely to list its component parts is not, of course an explanation. But at least we might try to defend it, and even to popularise it. The case is at present going by default. This seems to be the job of the enlightened Conservative. He will have to be prepared to denounce the fatal aberration of his own party: whereas it was once understood to be tied to the hereditary aristocracy, it is now understood to be tied to finance and big business. Whether this popular supposition is right or wrong it is widely held, and it is deadly. When he has done this, he will need to explain in winning and popular language what our Tradition is, why it is to be valued, how it can be delivered from the perversions which have nearly strangled it, and then be developed. This will be the really potent propaganda, and if it is done as well and as tirelessly as the revolution mongers have done theirs, we shall be able to change the word Revolution into Reformation, and then there will be no hope for our children.

## A "LOCAL CREDIT" EXPERIMENT THREATENED BY EIRE'S CENTRAL BANK BILL

Under the heading, "Will Dail Ban, Perish Council Tally Systems?", the following interesting letter from a correspondent appears in "The Standard" (Eire), of March 13:—

One of the minor—or, perhaps, not so minor—tragedies which will result from the passing in its present form of the Central Banking Bill, read for the first time in the Dail last week, will be the outlawing of such promising experiments with local credit as that reported in "The Standard" last October.

This was the case of Our Lady's Island Parish Council, in Co. Wexford, which last year produced hundreds of tons of turf and brought real happiness to many homes in the parish, although there was not a penny "legal tender" to finance the scheme.

There was last year an unlimited demand for turf. There was turf in the parish and unemployed men to cut and save it. But there was no money to pay them." The Parish Council approached the banks, the County Board of Health, the County Council, various Government departments and the Turf Development Board. But there was no money anywhere to pay the unemployed men of Our Lady's Parish.

So the Parish Council issued tally cards valued at sixpence and a shilling each, valid within the confines of the parish only, and payable on demand to the Parish Council treasurer. The unemployed men were paid in these tallies. The local merchants took them for goods and gave them in change to their customers. So the money continued to circulate and to exchange goods and services within the parish until the turf was sold by the Parish Council and the tallies redeemed with the "legal tender" so obtained.

Next year this will not be possible if the Government gets its way in the Dail. Credit is something sacrosanct. It is all right to leave it subject to the whims and fancies of private finan-

ciars, who seek only their own advantage by their use of the community's credit. But it would be intolerable to permit the representatives of the community, on which the credit rests, to use it intelligently and disinterestedly for the benefit of the community as a whole.

It is curious, indeed, that the drafters of the new Bill have made an exception in favour of clubs of unemployed persons, permitting such clubs to issue their tallies for internal use. But they forbid the Parish Councils to do the same for their parish. Is the credit of a club of unemployed men better than the credit of a parish? Or, indeed, is the paper backing of a bank better than the real credit of a parish, which disposes of men and their labour and the natural resources of the soil, which will retain their value when the banks' paper will be valuable only to the paper merchant?

But bankers the world over are afraid of people who discover the value of their credit. There was the case of Michael Unterguggenberger, of Worgl, in the Austrian Tyrol, which is told, by Professor O'Rahilly in his great book, "MONEY." He was Mayor of that small town in 1932, and he discovered that chronic depression could be changed into prosperity by using the local credit for the benefit of the town. Neighbouring towns began to take notice and to imitate. But the banks stepped in. The Worgl Committee was sued by the Austrian National Bank, and the Appeal Court ordered the discontinuance of the Worgl tallies, which were shaking the foundations of the world's financial structure by introducing prosperity without usury. Better a world war than that.

### REAL WAR COSTS

The following realistic words were credited to President Roosevelt in the daily press of June 16: "Real war costs cannot be measured, compared or paid in money; they must be, and are being paid in blood and toil." The only possible explanation for him making a statement like that is that he must have been reading the "New Times"—unless the daily press got the statement mixed up.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

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

"The Victory Road." We apologise to those many friends who are unable to obtain copies of this booklet. Owing to printing difficulties, Mr. Barclay-Smith has been unable to completely fill our second order. We received 240 of these, however, all of which have been sold. The balance of the order is expected soon.

"Victory Road" Fund. This has been opened, anticipating that the printing difficulties (due to manpower shortage) will be overcome, and that we will be in a position to distribute a number of free copies where they will do the most good. Donations to this fund will be gratefully received. Our Annual Meeting, Saturday July 25, will give you an opportunity of formulation policies for the coming year. Members' subscription, £1/1/-, are now due, and are already coming in. At the social evening to follow the meeting we hope you will find an outlet for your social reform energies in a lighter vein.

--M. R. W. Lee Hon. Secretary.

**FRAUDULENT DEPRESSIONS**

(Continued from page 1.)

a drain of gold was threatened, the Bank endeavoured to check it by initiating a credit contraction. This was usually brought about by raising the Bank rate, (i.e.) the minimum at which the Bank was prepared to discount first-class bills of exchange. The Bank sometimes supplemented this action, by the sale of securities on the open market. The result of such measures was a rise in interest-rates, because the banks were accustomed to follow the lead of the Bank of England; a restriction of credit; and a tendency for prices to fall. The higher interest rates tended to encourage foreign investment in England, and any fall in prices to discourage imports; the demand for sterling increased, and the rate moved towards parity. If there were an influx of gold, the Bank might lower the Bank rate, and, if necessary, purchase securities, leading to a fall in interest rates, an expansion of credit, a rise in prices, and a movement of the exchange

rate back towards parity."

We have to thank the members of the Monetary and Banking Commission for explaining the procedure so clearly. It shows that booms and slumps are arranged for the British Empire through the Bank of England; that other banks follow the lead of this Old Lady; and that it is as the direct result of bank action that we have—

(a) A contraction of the quantity of purchasing power, a fall in the price of products, and general conditions of business depression and personal hardship; or,

(b) An expansion of the quantity of purchasing power, a rise in the price of products, and general conditions of business activity and community progress.

Next week we shall see how this Bank of England technique, conforming strictly to the policy of international headquarters in Wall Street, New York, was callously used to shamefully cheat the people after the last war.—Yours, etc.,

BRUCE H. BROWN,  
189 Hotham-street, East Melbourne.

**N.W.R.M. AND ACTION**

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—I listened with much interest to a broadcast speech from the N.W.R.M. through station 3AK on Sunday night last. The speaker's clear radio voice, with delightful English accent, conveyed to listeners the identity of individuals responsible for the international monetary system which is the cause of widespread suffering. This information should arouse resentment in the minds of many right-thinking persons. Seeing that the members of the international financial group exercise complete control over the policy of Governments, perhaps I may be permitted to suggest that the remedy entails action directed towards a change of our Government's financial policy. A sufficient number of members of Parliament will readily take the steps needed in Parliament when they feel assured that such steps conform to the will of their electors. Therefore, action, should be taken by electors in each electorate to exert pressure upon the local representative regardless of his party label, to demonstrate to him that such steps are authorised by the sanction of his electors, and that he must produce the desired results or perish politically.

The power of the electors comes not from knowledge alone, but from relative action. Ten men working to this objective must achieve better results in an electorate than thousands whose demonstrations and protests rise like smoke and disappear into the air. The advantage accruing to "us" from decentralised action will set an example which the members of the free nations of the earth may safely follow. The enlargement of a problem does not simplify its solution.

It is to be hoped that the demonstration to be made at the Melbourne Town Hall, on July 28, will result in effective action on the part of those who attend to gain information.

—Yours, etc., "LOCALISED ACTION," Coburg, 6/7/42.

**SAVINGS POLL**

Three "Gallup" Polls on the question of compulsory savings have been taken between September 1941, and June, 1942. The first two, in which the question asked was obviously loaded to influence a "Yes" vote, gave a majority of 55 per cent, and 51 per cent, respectively in favour. In the June poll, in which the honest, clear-cut question, "Should the Government introduce compulsory saving?" was put, a "No" majority was given; the figures being 46 per cent, against, 44 per cent, in favour, and 10 per cent, neutral. A significant aspect of this and other "Polls" is the terrific press propaganda to stampede the people into the required decision. It is quite obvious that the press know when the polls are being taken, and it is a reasonable assumption that they influence the questions and the framing of them.

**TOWN HALL MEETING IN MELBOURNE**

A public meeting, convened by the New World Reconstruction Movement, will be held at the Melbourne Town Hall on Tuesday, July 28, at 8 p.m.

Speakers will include Senator Darcey, Mr. Bruce H. Brown, Rev. J. T. Lawton and Councillor Bruce Longfield.

"The N.W.R.M.'s "New World Charter" will make its "debut" on this occasion. Copies will be presented to representatives of the 26 "free" nations.

Music will be provided by Dr. Floyd at the grand organ, and by massed military band on the stage.

**BAD OMEN**

The "Sun" of June 30 tells us that Sir Earle Page has arrived in U.S., along with Sir Leith Ross (another dangerous economist) from Britain, to discuss creating advance machinery for post-war rebuilding. Sir Earle Page will be remembered as the man who, along with Stanley M. Bruce, did a good job for the private Banking monopoly, by placing the Commonwealth Bank under their control. He is evidently selected as the man to commit Australia to the role of "wood-and-water joey" to the "Wall Street" financiers—but there is a deal of opposition awaiting this move.

**GEELONG READERS, PLEASE NOTE**

Those readers of the "New Times" residing in Geelong and surrounding districts who are interested in meeting fellow-reformers with a view to arranging concerted constitutional ACTION are invited to get in touch with Mr. H. Abrahamsen, 9 Bloomsbury-street, Chilwell, Geelong.

**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.

"Story of the Commonwealth Bank": The Story of the People's Bank and How it Could and Should be Used. By D. J. Amos. 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.

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

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THE CONSPIRATORS.

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

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

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

PRICE - 6d.

## TAX COMMISSIONER ON THE SPOT

(Continued from page 1.)

Charge: The enforcement to steal someone's loan.

(5) That I claim that under the Commonwealth Crimes Act 1914-1932, Part III., Sec. 44, I must not conceal or delay any prosecution against the laws of the Commonwealth and that the demand for tax is trying to compel me to do it.

Charge: Trying to force plaintiff to "Conceal and delay prosecutions against the laws of the Commonwealth."

He further claims that when a writ is served on the Commissioner of Taxes he cannot legally collect any more taxes from the plaintiff until such time as he appears in court, and that no judge can try the case without leaving himself open to a criminal charge of "personal interest" as Australian judges are all taxpayers.

In support of this contention he quotes Commonwealth Acts of Australia, Crimes Act 1914-1932, Sec. 34, page 469:

(b) Being a Judge or Magistrate, wilfully and perversely exercises Federal Jurisdiction in any matter in which he has a personal interest shall be guilty of an offence. Penalty, Imprisonment, two years.

In further support of his case he claims: (1) Legal tender is carefully defined by law, and does not include cheques. (2) Bank cheques are illegal currency, and have not the backing of legal money.

(3) As the outstanding debts owing by Australians are over £5000 million, and legal currency issued is about £70 million, it is clearly impossible for anyone to pay his debts with legal money without robbing somebody else.

(4) In demanding payment of taxes (or rates) the Commissioner of Taxes is aiding and abetting (a) Common theft, (b) Collecting money to repay illegal money.

No reply to the letters had been received from either the Deputy

Federal Commissioner of Taxation, Deputy Sales Tax Commissioner or the Town Clerk at the time of going to press.

In the event of no reply being forthcoming within a further seven days the next round in this one-man battle against the Taxation authorities will be the issue of High Court writs.

We're all interested in how he fares.

## MORE BUNGLER

As a result of transport bungling about 300 'plane producers walked out of the engine factory of the Commonwealth Aircraft factory. The trouble arose from the inadequate transport arrangements, which compelled the men on shift work to walk, not only to the city, but to suburbs as far distant as Frankston and Mordialloc. It is a disgraceful state of affairs, and once more illustrates the incompetence of socialistic management. The men are evidently determined to put an end to this dangerous state of affairs, which constitutes a menace to our war effort.

## RATION VOUCHERS

It is worth noting that the private banks have worked themselves in as intermediaries through which the vouchers are to be distributed and collected between retailers and wholesalers. On the surface it seems innocent enough, but experience shows that bankers are not actuated by altruistic motives. They are noted for their long vision; and, as it has been suggested in Parliament that coupons could ultimately supersede money tokens, it may be that they are merely backing and getting control of both horses. There are also other immediate reasons—which may be discussed later.

## WHARF MUDDLE

An official investigator of wharf bottlenecks is reported in the daily press thus: He found "wharf gates guarded by a Commonwealth peace officer, a customs officer, an American provost, an Australian provost, and a State policeman." Apparently this army is substantially for the purpose of protecting insurance companies against pilfering—yet in the past six months, there had been scores of cases of theft. It is not stated whether or not the cost of the guard is greater than the amount stolen.

## PEOPLE'S CHARTER

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

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