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EVERY FRIDAY

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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).

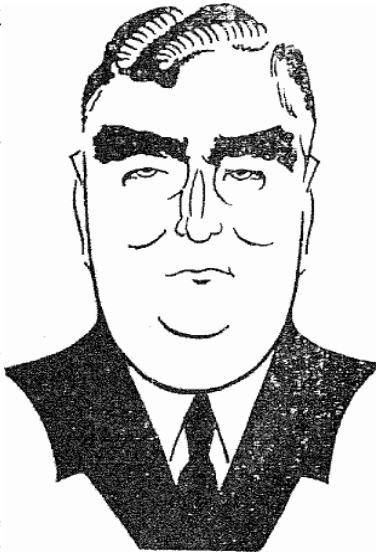
Menzies Shows His Hand Again!

Broadcast Attack On The "Electoral Campaign"

In the Melbourne "Argus" of July 25 appears a paragraph reporting a broadcast address given by Mr. Menzies, M.P. in his address, on "Freedom" (!), the former Prime Minister apparently considered "the art of what was called pressure politics" of sufficient importance to devote a considerable part of his time to an attack on it.

Apparently Mr. Menzies has been somewhat concerned with the number of electors' letters he has seen. That he has seen fit to make an effort to discredit such action, is no doubt due to the increasing use electors are making of letters addressed to their Parliamentary representatives, as a means of conveying their wishes on the management of our Commonwealth. In a feeble effort to deride it, he states that it was used by "Douglas Credit people." That followers of Douglas have written to members of Parliament is unquestioned. But Mr. Menzies' familiarity with the letters must have proved to him, as to many others, that people with a variety of labels, and of no label at all, have seen fit to act in a similar manner. Examples occur in what might be thought most unexpected quarters. The Melbourne "Herald" of July 15 furnishes an example. An enquirer, signing himself J.G., had asked if his modest investment would be affected by the proposed 4 per cent, profit limitation. The "Herald's" financial expert, in replying, advised: "Write to your member of Parliament, objecting to this."

The Australian Knitting Mills Ltd., in a circular dated July 22, 1942, also



MB. R. G. MENZIES.

on the 4 per cent, profit limitation, advises shareholders to write to the member of Parliament of their constituency immediately, and to place their views before him. In an excellently worded passage the circular states: "... if you feel that the taxation is unfair, is discriminatory,

and, therefore, is harmful to the war effort, then it is suggested that you exercise your responsibilities as a citizen of a democratic Commonwealth and seek, through your elected representative, the right to place your views before the Government." The circular was issued "By Order of the Board." In addition, the Company has supplied an accompanying list of all Federal members with details as to correct address, etc.

In the Melbourne "Sun" of July 23, appears a paragraph stating that the directors of G. J. Coles are opposed to the Federal Government's proposals. "They urge shareholders to wire or write immediately to their Federal members and Senators strongly protesting against this 'unjust and foolish proposal' until it has been finally discarded by the Government."

Mr. Menzies is further reported as saying: "Many electors believed that the function of their members was to ascertain what a majority of his electors desired, and then to plump for it in Parliament. A more stupid and humiliating conception could

hardly be imagined." Recollecting that Mr. Menzies went to England some years ago to prove (unsuccessfully, it is true) that "absolutely free" did not mean absolutely free, it would be of no value to hear his definition of "Representative Government." Such is unnecessary, however, as his broadcast address indicated only too clearly that he interprets it to mean that electors, majority and minority alike, must accept as law, what he, or others, in pursuance of their own wishes, may consider needful.

It may be necessary to remind Mr. Menzies that Hitler calls meetings of "Representatives" and so conveys to the people what HE decides is to be done. But perhaps he needs no reminder. That may be one of the ideas which, after returning from Germany some years ago, he considered we could with, advantage learn from Nazism.

Another matter on which Australians differ from Mr. Menzies, and his type, is where he thinks the task of representation

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WHAT HAMPERS RUSSIA'S WAR EFFORT?

MORE EVIDENCE OF TIE-UP WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

In spite of the optimistic utterances by some of the "great leaders" about Russia's war effort, the hard fact is that the German effort is proving far superior. It is becoming evident that the "famous" correspondents in Russia, who, as they admit themselves, have never been allowed within hundreds of miles of the actual battle zone, have only written what the Soviet spokesmen allowed them to write.

M. Lozovsky told a Moscow press conference on April 24 that the Germans were in desperate straits, "that the German rear was disintegrating and the people exhausted."

Churchill's famous statement that over 2,000,000 Germans had been killed prior to the spring offensive by Germany is now seen to have been mere Churchillian nonsense.

Cripps and Eden gave us all to understand that the Russians had millions of trained men, all superbly equipped. We definitely know that Britain has sent over 3000 of her best tanks to Russia, as well as a large number of aircraft.

Beaverbrook, fool that he is, told us that the hope of humanity depended on the Russian front. Where is that hope now?

Russia, under the control of the Socialists, who have always claimed to be the world's greatest planners, has been preparing for war over the past 20 years.

According to the "Malaia Soviet Encyclopaedia," of which the military editor is Marshal Voroshilov, Russia spent £8,000,000,000 on war preparations over the three years before Germany attacked.

There is no denying the fact that the Russians are splendid fighters, are fighting on their own soil, and should other things being equal, be able to more than cope with a smaller country which is, at the same time, fighting the rest of the world.

But the Russians are being overwhelmed in disaster after disaster. Why? Evidence has been mounting

for a long time which indicates that the Russians are suffering from an extreme form of the finance-socialism which is growing in this and other British countries. We know how this finance-socialism is hampering our own war effort.

More Facts About the International Financiers

I have produced irrefutable evidence in these columns in the past to prove that Soviet Russia is no more free from the baleful influence of the Jewish International Bankers than we are. My facts have never been answered. I have received several letters which upbraid me for "attacking" the Socialist citadel. These people never produce facts. It is no use discussing the subject with people whose only suggestion is that I read "The Socialist Sixth of the World," by the Dean of Canterbury. I have read every well-known pro-Soviet book published: But I have also read quite a few other books.

Here is a little more evidence about the International Financiers and Soviet Russia:—

The following extract from a speech by Mr. Louis T. McFadden, ex-President of the Pennsylvania Bankers' Association, in the U.S.A. House of Representatives on June 15, 1933, speaks for itself:—

"At one time Trotsky was a favourite with Jacob Schiff. During the war Trotsky edited "Novy Mir" and conducted mass meetings in New York.

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NOTES ON THE NEWS

In an obscure part of the daily press it is reported that "Joe McWilliams, the anti-Semitic agitator, has been freed of the charge of draft-evasion, but has been taken before a Federal Grand Jury investigating sedition."

What anti-semitism has to do with draft-evasion or sedition is not explained, but one wonders if he has offended some highly influential people who are able to use the State machinery and who are determined to "get" him.

BRITAIN'S EFFORT: For once, evidence of Britain's virility and capacity has been permitted to appear in the daily press—to the effect that "British shipyards have produced an average of one warship every two days": a performance unequalled by any other power. Hitherto, the daily press appears to have assisted what appears to be an aspired campaign to develop and convey the idea the British are a decadent race: the emphasis has been placed on the efforts of Russia and America. With all due respect to these nations, there is not a shred of tangible evidence to prove that Britain is more decadent or inferior, having regard to all short-comings—most of which are due to alien financial influence in British affairs.

IMPORTANT PRISONERS: Commenting on an arrangement with Japan for an exchange of prisoners, the Melbourne "Sun" of July 20 says: Twenty-seven Japanese and five Siamese have arrived in London on the first stage of their journey. Among them was Viscount Kano, former Director of

the Yokohama Specie Bank." This is an interesting side-light on how the works are worked. What a pity we couldn't exchange Montagu Norman for one honest fighting "Tommy."

NEW ORDER: As a possible indication of the bankers' New Order, the following remarks of Mr. E. J. Mackrell, State Minister for Labour, are worth filing for reference. "The Government was wise to continue the unemployment tax and build up a reserve fund which now amounted to £1 million," he said. He expected that "within six months of the end of the war, Victoria would have 15,000 men on sustenance." Many similar comments are appearing to prepare the people for the bankers' financial depression—and unless the people are encouraged to commence an anti-depression campaign, Mr. Mackrell's expectations will be realised.

STANDING ARMIES: U.S. Army officials aim at providing a permanent post-war draft (conscripted) army of one million: exemption be-

(Continued on page 6.)

WISDOM ON THE WIRELESS

A Talk Broadcast from 7HO, Hobart, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, July 19, by JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

For many years now one of the most popular pastimes has been poking fun at our politicians. No story about politicians is too incredible to be easily swallowed by most people. We have poked fun at our politicians because we have believed that they are an unchangeable breed, from which we can expect nothing but more and more taxes, promises that are not fulfilled, and large quantities of words that have no meaning, and which are not intended to have any meaning.

The result of this has been that our best men have consistently refused to enter politics. These men are not prepared to waste their time and to expend a prodigious amount of effort to obtain results which are obviously ridiculous. Accordingly, we have allowed ourselves to be governed by second-class men, and their work is there for all to see.

In the past, the ordinary man and woman could afford to ignore, and most people did ignore, what happened in Parliament. But now, since Parliament passes laws affecting almost every activity of our daily lives, and affecting them deeply and fundamentally, we can no longer afford to ignore the acts of Parliament.

The following story is told of the great Chinese philosopher;

"In passing by the side of Mount Thai, Confucius came on a woman who was weeping bitterly by a grave. The Master pressed forward and drove quickly to her. "Your wailing," said he, "is that of one who has suffered sorrow on sorrow." She replied, "That is so. Once my husband's father was killed here by a tiger. My husband was also killed, and now my son has died in the same way." The Master said, "Why do you not leave the place." The answer was, "There is no oppressive Government here." The Master then said, "Remember this, my children: oppressive government is more terrible than tigers."

Government to-day means the right to extract from our pockets large slices of our income, and to use the armed forces of the Crown against us if we object. It means it can increase the price of any commodity which we show any desire to use.

If we have the temerity to bring a Government official into the law court, to seek justice, he can use all the best lawyers in the country against us; he can use our money to pay them, and he can bankrupt us in the process.

But if a Government official wishes to bring us into court, and he seems to love doing so, he has a bundle of printed forms ready for the purpose; it costs him nothing, and we have the privilege of paying his expenses.

Always we hear our politicians saying that Parliament must have more power; always acts are passed giving Parliament more power. But that increased power that is given to Parliament is taken from us—taken from the individual, taken from the home and the small community, and centred in a small group hundreds of miles away.

Parliament cannot increase its powers without taking away some of your power, my power; the money it takes from me I can no longer use; I have lost control of it; I can no longer decide where and how it shall be spent. My power to make decisions has been reduced; my power to help others has been reduced. And because a large part of my income has been taken from me, I must now go to the Government seeking their help. I have become a mendicant, dependent on the will and charity of the all-powerful State.

I don't think a reasonably intelligent man with red blood in his veins can look forward to any further movement in this direction with anything but disgust and fear.

If we as a people have anything to offer the stricken people of this world it is how to build up small communities on voluntary co-operation. The Nazis' offer is to build up a New World Order on compulsory co-operation.

This question of voluntary co-operation goes deep down into the problems of this war and the peace to follow. Many, people sneer at the very idea of voluntary co-operation; they consider that such a thing is impossible, that it has broken down and is in disrepute, I do not believe this.

The A.I.F., both the first and the second, were based on the foundation of voluntary co-operation; they voluntarily submitted to military discipline in order to achieve a purpose. If they can do this, others can also do it. In fact, all the great work of this world has been done on the voluntary principle. All our food and clothes have been produced and delivered to us—until very recently—on the basis of voluntary co-operation.

You cannot force a man to do anything of great value. Most of our leading newspaper articles are written by men because they are paid to write, not what they think or believe, but what they are compelled to write; and I don't think that you need to be told how horrible and sterile are the results.

One thing which a dictator or his supporters will not tolerate is the right of a man to decide for himself what work he will or will not do; the right to decide whether or not he will participate in any venture.

In war time, of course, we all live under conditions of artificially created scarcity, and we have to live under artificial conditions approximating to a dictatorship—that's what wars are for. But in peace time many so-called Planners want to prolong these artificial conditions; they want to order other people's lives; they want to plan other people's lives; want to order them to do all sorts of things. And, as one well-known writer says, "A passion for

giving orders is almost complete evidence of unsuitability for giving orders."

Co-operation is a very useful social asset, and should be taught to all government officials, but unless co-operation benefits the individuals co-operating it has no value. The fact remains that co-operation is just like a motor car—only useful when it takes us where we want to get to.

The greatest achievements of man still remain the achievements of individuals. No committee of men ever produced a great literary work, a great painting, or a great piece of music, and, I make bold to say, they never will. Even in practical affairs no one would be so stupid as to suggest the running of a business or an army by means of a committee.

It has been suggested that the best committee is a committee of two with one member permanently in bed.

I have been associated with groups of men, most of my life, and I can say with assurance that the "group intelligence" becomes lower and lower the larger the group becomes, and it is almost impossible to reach a high level of intelligence unless one demands the right periodically to live alone.

As the individual has no possibility of developing to his full stature if he is constantly surrounded by others, neither can a community develop to its greatest height if it is merely a small and dependent part of another body.

There is no such thing as a large democratic State, and there is no possibility of one, unless it is composed of small democratic states acting together in voluntary co-operation. Wherever you have a large State with one all-powerful central Government dictating the policy of every small unit, there you have the seeds of tyranny and corruption, and there you have all the abuses and inefficiency of absentee management and

centralisation, and there must follow, as night follows day, eventual break-up and disruption.

There is being instilled into the youthful mind a very poisonous idea the worship of bigness. Anything big is considered better than anything small. "God is on the side of the big battalions," modern America is greater than ancient Greece; a city tenement is greater than a country cottage; Melbourne is greater than Hobart; the city is greater than the village; the majority is greater than the minority. And before we leave this subject I want to ask you this one question: How many professors at English literature are equal to one Shakespeare?

Of course, the whole idea is stupid, but we live in a stupid world, and all the agencies of propaganda are, apparently united in the task of creating mass stupidity. And worst of all the stupid things I have ever heard is the idea of treating everybody as if they were the same. We are not all the same; that is one fact we are sure of, and on that fact alone all the schemes of the would-be world-planners will ultimately crash.

The regimentation of the people, the planning of other people's lives, is attractive to certain types of psychological misfits like the house-painter of Vienna. They belong to a warped cultural type—the type which hopes to attain power without responsibility, like the hordes of officials of the National Socialist Party of Germany. These are the type of people who are the instruments and the road to power of the power-maniac. These are the means by which giants are laid low and an independent people are brought into serfdom.

In Germany one can see tyranny in action; one can see a powerful Government imposing its will on everyone. There it is obvious, and because it is obvious it will ultimately be destroyed. But is that the most dangerous type of Government? If Hitler were more powerful he would not require to use violence; violence is a sign of weakness.

Aldous Huxley, in his "Brave New World," showed another type of dictatorship—a more lasting type; exaggerated, of course, but a very good dramatisation of his own beliefs. There he showed a dictatorship where everyone was carefully looked after from birth to death; they had no freedom, but they were well fed and clothed and housed and provided with dope. He said people believe blindly in progress, but those who control the world to-day have different ideas on progress. These people object to artists and inventors, and men with ideas who upset the mass production machinery—such people have to be removed.

They are being removed. What these men want are men and women who fit quietly into the industrial system without desiring anything else; stable men, yes-men, men suitably educated to remove all initiative. If a powerful central Government can be set up controlling all means of livelihood, this Brave New World pictured by Aldous Huxley can become a reality. Ultimately, such a Government would destroy itself, but it would put the clock, back 100 years. The first thing necessary for the building of this New World was War. We have that war. War weans centralisation of power in the hands of a few. Will we be able to get that power back after the war? Will we be able to get back into the hands of the people the power that has been taken from the people?

POOR INDIANS!

A recent number of "Planning" announced that its editor, Mr. A. D. K. Owen, who is also general secretary of P.E.P., had departed at a few days' notice to a post on the Civil Service Staff in India.

Rumour, which related that Mr. Owen went with Sir Stafford Cripps, has not said that he returned with him.

Perhaps Mr. Owen's planetary revolutions now focus on a different sun?

—C. H. Allen.

BEWARE OF THE BUREAUCRATS

The Federal Government is threatening to prohibit business profits in excess of four per cent, on the money subscribed as business "capital." Some firms who register a large number of separate shareholders are circularising these people, suggesting that shareholders should write to their Members of Parliament, and request them to do what they can to prevent this arbitrary limitation on dividends.

This proposed action of the Government is typical of the flat-rate, or what I call the wet-blanket, type of action which is likely to become more prevalent and more depressingly drastic if the Socialistic tendency of the present Cabinet cannot be arrested.

Protests more numerous than from those whose purchasing-power is likely to be reduced will probably be necessary if the immediately threatened measures are to be stopped.

For this and other reasons it may be worth while to contrast the Social Credit way of encouraging private enterprise, and at the same time guarding the public from exploitation. Readers may thus be stimulated to do what they can to make it difficult for the Federal Government to go on with their bull-in-the-china-shop bungling with commerce. It should not be difficult for readers to see that every move which has a throttling effect, without doing any appreciable good, will make it more difficult for future Governments to institute satisfactory reforms.

No reformation of the "set-up" of commercial enterprise generally can bring satisfaction to the producers and consumers alike unless amongst the rules of the game of finance there is one which says that money incomes must equal the prices of goods available.

Socialists always seem to overlook this fundamental necessary proposition. Also, the beauty of the "Just Price" mechanism (which is offered as one of the means of maintaining the rate of flow of incomes as nearly as may be equal to the rate of flow of prices), is that no compulsion is suggested; each product or class of producers can be treated with separately, and arrange-

ments made according to the type of business transacted.

To each person (or firm) who agrees to limit profit to a certain percentage on turnover (not a percentage on subscribed money capital), there would be offered an agreed percentage bonus to allow such person (or firm) to sell his wares for less money than that shown as his price by standard accounting methods.

It is not likely that the details of arrangements to be made with manufacturers of machine-made commodities, like cigarettes, would be identical with those to be made with manufacturers of artificial limbs, where each unit turned out must be fashioned to a different specification.

This is not the place to recount the reasoning leading mathematically to the conclusion that the suggested "Just Price" bonus is necessary if useful industry as a whole is to remain solvent.

On the other hand, anyone can see that this new bonus credit money will act as a healthy stimulant to industry, for it will reduce prices to the consumer without reducing wages or legitimate profits. By contrast, any device for distributing extra money known to orthodox financiers and accountants has the effect of increasing prices.

The time may not be ripe for demanding the Just Price (and its stablemate, the National Dividends but there is urgent need for action to slow-up, or stop, the Socialistic bungling. When we do make a change in our system we want to be sure that freedom is increased rather than decreased, and that every normal citizen will see that the economic results are satisfactory to him and to his fellows.

BRITISH AND PROUD OF IT!

(Condensed from "Mufti," the Official Organ of the R.S.S. and A.I.L.A., May, 1942.)

In case there should be the slightest vestige of doubt where the R.S.L. stands, let it be stated that the R.S.L. is British, and aggressively so. It has no intention of standing passively by while attempts are made to weaken the link with the Mother Country.

Returned men have affectionate memories of Britain, and of the magnificent British troops with whom they were privileged to serve as comrades in the days of the last war. Their first experience was of the gallant 29th Division, a body of men as much like Australia's own as could be imagined. Right onwards through the three and a half years of warfare that followed the landing at Anzac, the A.I.F. served alongside the British Tommy, and learned to admire and respect him for the great soldier he was.

There were often weak regiments, made up of new drafts, youngsters who should have been at school—but these came only when the war had taken toll of Britain's manhood, and men and boys were sent in together to finish the job.

Returned men are not fair weather friends, nor do they readily forget services rendered. Australia has past debts to redeem—debts to kinsmen who have borne the cost, in blood and money, of the defence of the Empire—a defence which has stood Australia in good stead until now.

Nor would returned men add one iota to the criticism of the British war effort. If there is to be any blunt speech—if there are to be any statements made without regard to sentiment or family ties—then one can begin at home and question whether we in this country possess the right to criticise. Having allowed Britain to carry the major burden of defence, and leaned on her down the years for protection against foreign aggression, Australia hardly stands in a strong position to criticise.

In its two and a half years of peace and calm, ensured to Australia over most of that time by the men of Britain, serving on all seas and in all lands, the Commonwealth can hardly be said to have given of its best. Actually, it began to move with determination only when danger approached its back door. Returned men fought an uphill fight for two years to secure a 100 per cent war effort, and even now much remains to be started.

Threading the recent criticisms of Britain was a suggestion of decadence. The heart of the Empire was on the wane, and virility was a quality found only in the Dominions. . . .

On what ground can we stand as a nation for a general criticism of British virility? Where has there been so much softness, surely the precursor of decadence, as in our own cities?

Where does there exist any evidence of British decadence?

Is it in the Royal Navy, whose ships are on all seas, fighting against odds that are greater than ever, and who only come under notice when the enemy is dealt with or is victor? Is it in the Army, which has shown itself on top on every occasion it has been afforded equality in equipment and air strength?

Remember 1941! France, Holland and Belgium had gone. Only Britain remained—a non-military nation, which carried on the fight unaided against the armed might of a warlike nation, powerful in its own right and swollen with the spoils of conquered countries.

It cannot be in the air that Britain shows decadence. There is no one now who doubts that Germany, from July, in 1940, threw in everything she had to blast England off the map. The Germans do not do things by halves, nor do they send a boy on a man's errand, or a battalion to do the work of an army corps. German offensives are timed for the precise moment when every man shall be in his proper place, trained, fully equipped, and ready to strike. All these conditions were present in August, 1940; and yet the attack failed. The numerically weaker British Air Force gave the Luftwaffe such a hiding that it lost heart, and went home, not to return.

No one has dared to suggest that there is the slightest hint of decadence

in the Mercantile Marine. Evidence that the men of the Mercantile Marine possess in full measure the spirit of the race is afforded every day. Two names in Britain's long and glorious story of the sea will descend in history to endure as long as Britain endures. They are those of Captain Kennedy of the "Rawalpindi," and Captain Fegan of the "Jervis Bay." Wherever seamen meet and speak of bravery—wherever the courage and daring of fighters at sea are toasted, these names will recur, for the men who bore them wrote into the world's maritime history two of the most glorious chapters ever penned.

There was no scuttling of their ships—no running to port behind a smoke screen—no surrender of ships armed to the teeth and capable of fighting on; they went into their fights, to certain death, and fought to the last, going down with their ships.

Decadent! If the men of England are decadent, then it must have been from the very gods themselves that they have descended.

If there is no decadence in the Navy, the Army, the Air Force, and the Mercantile Navy, then where in

God's name is it supposed to exist? The services are not a thing apart from the nation. They are the same people in different clothes. Where does the decadence lie?

It cannot be amongst the civilians, for no people have stood up so well to the indescribable horror of bombings as have the men and women of Britain. Other peoples have lost their morale, but the British have shown that they can "take it." Not all the bombings of 1940 and 1941 could drive the munition worker away from his bench a minute longer than the actual time of the bombing. There was no mass evacuation of civilians. They stayed put, on their jobs, as they stand put to-day.

Britain is no decadent. Germany has done its worst, and still Britain gives back more than she receives. Mussolini, who was loud in his declarations of British decadence, has been made to eat his words. Singapore has gone, but it was held for two years, and was not lost to Germany. It would not have been lost at all but for the fact that two other nations entered the war—one on the British side, and the other on the side of the enemy. Unfortunately for Britain, its ally was the unprepared one, whilst the other had planned for war for over a decade.

Whisperers have talked of a lack of vision in the Pacific, and of bad military strategy there. They talk of a lack of defence facilities at Singapore, contributing to the loss of what was claimed to be a second Gibraltar. But who has shown less vision than Australia?

Let us be quite honest with our-

OPEN LETTER TO R. G. MENZIES

(Answer to his statement appearing in "Truth," 12/7/42.)

By STANLEY F. ALLEN. F.C.A. Aust.)

Sir,— You stated: "If our motto is to be that each citizen is entitled, whatever his own effort or deserts, to a maintenance which will remove the fear of want—in other words, that utter security in the economic sense is our divinely allotted portion—all incentive to effort will vanish, and we shall become a race ready for the destroyer."

You went on to say: "If I am to have freedom from want I must pay the price of that freedom. I must work and strive"—"In the sweat of my brow must I earn bread."

Therefore, I presume you would say that this struggle to live by sweat, toil and the fear of want is our only escape, and is the only road to freedom. If so, God save the people and our future generation! It is like saying, "If you do not work, you shall not live," and yet we do all we can to dispense with labour energy!

No one doubts the fact that through adversity and trial we gain by overcoming—it is part of our existence; but that does not mean that we should continue to tolerate those things we HAVE overcome.

There will always be struggle and effort, "still more truth and light to break forth" on our way through life, with natural forces to conquer and to use as stepping-stones to greater things. But to keep man toiling, sweating and fearing the morrow, because he may be "demoralised" with security in freedom, and with less need of compulsory work, is a hideous conception, and it is foreign to the growing thought of this new age.

Truly man will want to work, and will work, in that age which assures to him true freedom and economic security, but he will not rest content to continue as a work-slave.

This question should be related to the period before the war, when many thousands of our Australian boys were tramping the roads in search of the means to life—and existing on the miserable dole standard, while our political leaders were stating, parrot fashion, that "No funds were available."

A London "Times" leading article of July, 1940 states that, "In the European disorder of the past twenty years Hitler finds one of his easiest targets." "He finds another in the contradiction of our economic system."

"The chronic unemployment, the inequalities of social privileges and vested interests, the burning of wheat and coffee while men went hungry,

the senseless accumulation of gold in Fort Knox, all these reproaches have been flung once more at the old order."

"Much harm may be done to our cause," says the "Times," "both in Europe and overseas by the insinuation that we stand for the old order, and that our only aim is to restore the status quo in Europe and to maintaining it at home."

Before the war, surplus man-power, or what we have learned to term unemployment, was the "world's fuming, quaking volcano," and our bewildered world leaders have tried to cover up the sore with all manner of make-believe remedies until war itself covers the glove.

War for the time being has absorbed man-power and devoured man's surplus products—but the bill of costs awaits us to-morrow. We have yet to learn the significance of the findings of the study group of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Oxford), which was that "unemployment is not a problem in itself, but is an aspect of the much wider question of maladjustment in the Economic System."

"Those who are outlawed from the Money System, but who yet cannot be exterminated en masse, nor allowed to starve to death in their millions, have become the key factor in the whole political situation."

Sir George Julius, a noted Sydney engineer-scientist, once stated:

"Don't blame the machine—blame the financial and economic policies of the world for the surplus man-power problem."

You, Mr. Menzies, still cling to the old idea that work and more work for the other fellow is our salvation, and you evidently fear the coming of a leisured age.

This is the philosophy of Sisyphism—Sisyphus, in Greek mythology, was condemned as punishment for his sins to spend eternity in rolling up a hill a huge stone, which rolled down again as soon as it reached the top. The Sisyphist economist, instead of concentrating on the result, concentrates on the effort. Instead of aiming at the production of goods, he aims at the promotion of work.

The unemployed have been the poverty-stricken forerunners of that leisured community possible within a sane economic system, which is based on Social Justice, and where the

(Continued on page 5.)

selves. Although for the past fifteen years Australia has talked of Singapore as its first line of defence, it has done little towards equipping itself to fight there. It was left to Britain to develop and garrison it. . . .

Let us give the knife another twist within ourselves, and ask whether we were not, after all, the people lacking vision. Our own defence chiefs made frequent inspections of Singapore, and surely knew of its weaknesses. Yet little was done to build up our defence. . . .

If Australia is to criticise, let the criticism be deferred until we are making sacrifices equal to those of the people criticised. Great Britain, in her hour of trial, is greater than ever. Australia should be too, but we are in danger of becoming a nation of whimperers, that is, if it is true that some of our spokesmen accurately reflect our spirit, which we doubt.

To-day, far from being decadent, Britain is mothering the world of freedom. To Russia she is sending the 'planes, guns and tanks she sorely needs herself. Even to American troops a constant stream of munitions is flowing. Bishop Booth recently related how, in the Middle East, the A.I.F., after losing the bulk of its equipment in Greece and Crete, was re-equipped with the most modern guns, tanks, etc., which came in a constant stream of boats from England, via the long, perilous, submarine-infested route around the Cape. Britain delivers the goods, but few understand the colossal nature of the task and the magnitude of her commitments.

Whilst Australia has, at the moment, good reason to be grateful to America for her generous assistance, and will remember with heartfelt gratitude the help she is giving long after the last visiting soldier has gone home, she owes an allegiance to Britain that cannot be undermined by the needs of the moment. There are inhibitions, however the Prime Minister may deny them.

It should be emphasised, too, that the American people themselves would have little respect for Australians, and little faith in their protestations of gratitude and friendship, if the very warmth of their protestations indicated a cooling of the sense of gratitude towards those who have safeguarded them in the past.

Britain has passed through critical times, and has had many moments of depression, but it is likely that no hint of danger or of some secret weapon of the enemy chilled them as did the thought of Australia leaving the Empire. Well might the people of Britain have said with Caesar, "Et tu, Brutus."

One of the services the R.S.L. would find contentment in rendering in this war would be the strengthening of the bonds of Empire. League members realise more than any other section the need for unity. Unity, spiritual and material, maintains the Empire and gives it strength and vitality. Every blow at that unity is a blow at each of the parts that form the Empire. Every attempt to belittle the Mother Country depresses our friends, feeds the East with doubts, and our enemy with encouragement.

Returned men are one with the British Empire—for any other suggestion breaks faith with the thousands of Britishers who have died, or are daily going to their deaths, that the Empire shall survive and its peoples permitted to live their lives in their own way, as they have done for centuries, under the British flag.

RETURNED SOLDIER'S LEAGUE

Press reports inform us that the R.S.L. passed a resolution which included provision for an increase in pay for all members of the fighting forces, amounting to 2/- per day, plus a 50 per cent increase in dependent's allowances. Although they were not long-sighted enough to also insist that the increase should not be off-set by further taxation, it is a hopeful sign to note that this body appears to be taking up the soldiers' burden; another hopeful sign that this body may be facing up to realities, is their reported objection to the restriction of primary production, which they describe as cruel and callous.

The New Times

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

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FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1942.

No. 30.

An Important Matter

As the result of splendid work done by monetary reformers, almost every man to-day knows something of the need for monetary reform. The public demand for the use of the nation's financial credit is becoming intense.

Yet this advance may be completely nullified by neglect of other factors. A calm review shows us the elements of danger which demand appropriate action. We may observe that while the urge for monetary reform is strengthening, democratic control of our political mechanism is weakening. Responsible Government is being engulfed by Irresponsible Bureaucracy. Myriads of forms, cards and tickets and tens of thousands of clerks, supervisors and inspectors employed by Government Boards conform to a given policy. The monetary system can be changed to suit any policy. Hitler has proved that. The use of the nation's financial credit to give freedom to the Bureaucratic Juggernaut conforms to a policy entirely different from the policy which provides finance for the personal freedom of the electors. Sheer necessity, therefore, demands democratic control of policy.

A change of Government policy can be effected by a given amount of pressure, provided by a sufficient number of individuals. The individual has responsibilities as well as rights. His failure to accept responsibility results in the loss of his rights. When a sufficient number of electors decide to reject what they do not want, and to get what they do want, they will control Government policy. We shall then witness the abolition of officious intrusion by officials of Government Boards, and the reinstatement of Ministers who shall be responsible to the people for the attainment of the desired results.

By the small effort of writing to inform his member of Parliament on what he wants, the individual elector generates a unit of political power. By conveying his idea of independence to others who agree to act similarly, the number of units multiplies until sufficient power is generated throughout the community. By the application of this power the people may enforce their policy through the agency of their Parliamentary spokesmen.

The invisible power behind Bureaucracy is operating under the cover of war. The suggestion, "Wait until this war is over," need not persuade us to abandon vigilance and chance the loss of that which we are fighting for. The time, for counter-action is now. As policy precedes results, so must appropriate legislative measures precede the enjoyment of personal freedom.

It is to be hoped that a sufficient number of electors will see the need to engage in correct action before the enemy becomes completely entrenched. The matter is really important.

OBSCURING TACTICS

From the "Social Creditor": The British Association for International Understanding, which describes itself as "An independent society, formed to assist British people to understand international affairs," publishes a sheet called "British Survey," which reached a correspondent in the army in a Government envelope, marked "Education Dept.," with a War Office label and official paid. In these circumstances extra interest attaches to the policy of the "Survey," and no coy editorial note that "'British Survey' is precluded from advocating any policy. But the views of the expert writer of this issue are given below. . . ." can absolve the Association from responsibility for spreading those views. We are not at the moment concerned with criticising the article ("How Britain Pays for the War") in detail, beyond saying that its tone is spuriously unorthodox, and that it ignores the fundamental question of the origin of bank-created debt. What we are concerned with is the probable modes of reaction to it. The unwary reader might believe it wholesome, which would be unfortunate, or he might disbelieve it and engage in intricate financial argument. In either case he would unconsciously accept the unexpressed assumption of the article, which is that the root policy of the monetary

system is sound, although a little superficial tinkering with the machine may be needed to put the world right. Because of these obscuring tactics few readers of the article will look beyond and see that control by the people of the policy of the monetary system is an immediate necessity; and fewer still will recognise that now even this would be ineffective without the simultaneous control by the people of the policy of the bureaucratic institutions which to-day govern our lives. The organ of tyranny has changed, and the growth of government by decrees, regulations and restrictions signifies that the power to determine the all-in-policy of the people is contained at least as much in the bureaucratic machine as in the money system.

SHAPE OF MATHS TO COME

Boys and girls at school will be taught to be "good citizens" if proposals by the Scottish Education Department are adopted.

In a circular to teachers and the churches the Department urges that arithmetic should include an "intelligent approach" to income tax, rates, Customs duties, budgets, savings and insurance.

Will We Take Another?

(A letter to the Editor from Bruce H. Brown.)
(Continued from last issue.)

Sir,—Since 1924 the Commonwealth Bank has been an instrument of oppression. It has been shown that in that year it had been surrendered to the control of men representing institutions which were themselves creators and leaders of money at interest on a large scale, and whose very existence depended upon the continuance of the fraudulent system of finance under which money is regarded as a commodity instead of a mere medium for the EXCHANGE of commodities.

As pointed out by Mr. D. J. Amos, in his "Story of the Commonwealth Bank," the bank immediately became an appendage and convenience of the private banks, to be run for their special benefit. The rates charged for financing primary produce began at once to rise, and were soon more than doubled, and the producers of the 1924-25 season had to pay £7 millions in bank charges, COMPARED WITH ONLY £3 MILLIONS THE PREVIOUS YEAR. When the farmers of Western Australia formed a voluntary pool, they applied confidently to the Commonwealth Bank to finance it, as the bank had done under Sir Denison Miller for similar pools in previous years, but it was no longer the same bank, and both it and the private banks alike imposed conditions which were intolerable. Finally, when the farmers, unable to secure the necessary money in Australia, obtained it from the Co-operative Wholesale Society in England, the concerted action of the private banks and their new ally, the "people's" bank, frustrated the scheme.

Soon afterwards, the then Prime Minister, who has been described as "Australia's Greatest Son!", paid a visit to England, where, as expected, he attended a lot of banquets. At one given by the bankers, he explained how the Commonwealth Bank had been transferred by his Government to the control of a board of directors, "charged with the duties of Central Banking." Central banking was evolved by Paul Warburg, of the Federal Reserve System, with the object of gaining control in all countries.

According to the London "Times," our Greatest Son also said this:

"The intention is that the Board shall control credit in Australia as the Bank of England regulates it in this country, and advice is now being sought from officials of the Bank of England as to THE EXACT STEPS NECESSARY to bring about a fully effective central banking system."

At the very same time, the late Sir Robert Gibson, then Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, and a beneficiary of the bank-owning Metal Monopoly, was expressing himself IN AUSTRALIA as follows:

"The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Bank has given consideration to the advisability of conferring with THE MOTHER BANK OF THE EMPIRE, the Bank of England, on matters connected with central banking. In this connection, the late chairman had important discussions with Mr. Norman, the Governor of the Bank of England, by whose courtesy it has been arranged that Sir Ernest Harvey shall pay a visit to Australia with a view to investigating . . . and making recommendations that . . . the central banking system of Australia may be co-ordinated with that of the Bank of England AND OTHER CENTRAL BANKS OF THE EMPIRE."

Sir Ernest Harvey and Stanley Melbourne Bruce travelled to Australia together!

Now, the Bank of England, which controls purchasing power in England was, AND STILL IS, a private corporation, and in the Bank Charter of 1844, under which it operates, it is laid down that in all its dealings with the public the Bank of "England" is to carry out its transactions with regard to its own interests alone AND NOT WITH ANY VIEW TO THE PUBLIC ADVANTAGE! And this is the bank which Sir Robert Gibson described as "the Mother Bank of the Empire." The truth is that it is a vampire bank, and even the

as "a private money-making concern" (1/5/36).

In 1927 Sir Ernest Harvey gave the final directions for making the Commonwealth Bank, which was supposed to be a national bank operating for the good of the people, a central bank operating for the benefit of the private bankers, and the Bruce-Page Government obediently brought in a Bill to deprive the bank of its Savings Bank business. This Act "took away the bank's cash reserves, which had enabled it to compete with private banks, terminated its trading operations, and reduced it to a banker's bank, so that it became neither a trading bank nor a savings bank, nor yet a reserve bank, but a thing of threads and patches, at the mercy of private institutions." ("Hansard.") The Bill became law in December 1927, and made the bank the final arbiter of the issue of debt money. It was now one of the 28 "central" banks established in the world since the war, with the express purpose of securing "banking hegemony of the world," and conditions had thus at last been fixed in Australia for the application of the policy of deflation which the international financiers had already inaugurated abroad.

To seal the issue and make the private money monopoly supreme in Australia, Stanley Melbourne Bruce, "Australia's Greatest Son," got the Financial Agreement incorporated as part of the Commonwealth Constitution. This "Agreement" provided for the establishment of a Loan Council, to control all Government borrowings, and since then a group of beggars have regularly met round this Loan Council table to beg for "funds." The meetings gradually became more and more turbulent, and at one stage resembled a bear garden. The Melbourne "Argus" has described them as "unprecedentedly bitter," "long and acrimonious," etc. The beggars round the table were supposed to be the representatives of sovereign Governments, all of whom had plenty of work to offer, plenty of materials to use, and plenty of idle labour, but all of them were chronically short of money. In the name of sovereign Governments, they had gone there to borrow what they alone had the legal power to create! They also knew that while they were doing the begging there was always a small group of men in a room adjoining the Loan Council, men who receive little publicity, but make all the decisions. This group does not argue with the sovereign Governments; it merely gives them orders. And seeing that these "sovereign" Governments, although elected by the people, are subservient to a super-government NOT elected by the people; and seeing also that this super-government wields absolute power over us WITHOUT ANY RESPONSIBILITY TO US, it is important that we should know who they are and how they got there. Without going into personalities, it can be said that this non-elected body represents the private banks, the insurance companies, the Metal, Sugar-Gas-Tobacco, and Overseas landed monopolies, and the big pastoralists; and that with the completion of the tie-up of the Commonwealth Bank and the imposition of the Loan Council, Australia was ready for the Depression, WHICH IT GOT!

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE H. BROWN.

189 Hotham Street,
East Melbourne.
26th July, 1942.

(To be continued.)

THE BIG IDEA

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

A passion for giving orders is almost complete evidence of unsuitability to give orders.

An order, or command, is an inherent, pre-requisite of a function. To be justifiable, it must proceed from someone who is fully aware of its effect, of the capacity of those to whom it is given to carry it out in the circumstances in which it is given, and aware of the constant supervision required to ensure fulfilment.

All this, in its turn, requires technical knowledge of devolution—the resignation of the order—giving faculty at the proper stage, to someone else; and a rigid self-discipline not less exacting than that imposed.

People who have had much experience of giving orders justifiably and successfully, give as few orders as possible, by reason of having learnt that the surest way to make trouble for yourself is to give an order.

A Utopia is a comprehensive order, and it is significant that the devisers of imposed Utopias are invariably those people, organisations, and races who manage their own affairs worst.

Notice particularly the use of the word devisers. Observation of political affairs, and some experience of life, has convinced me that the real Plotters, while having the clearest possible conception of their own objective, rely in the main on the devisers of Utopias to provide them with a ready-made popular propaganda. Then, by control of the press, broadcasting, political, and commercial patronage and other mechanisms of social and economic power which can be summarised under the control of credit, the widest publicity and assistance is given to the particular Utopia which lends colour to the concentration of power (such as "Abolition of Private Property," "The Classless State," "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity") and the Utopianists and their dupes wake up to "The Dictatorship over the Proletariat"—the Slave State.

There is, I think, one safe rule to apply to all Schemes, Plots, and Plans. It is, I believe, called the Golden Rule, and it is not new. Disregard all fine phrases. Disregard all appeals to your "Public Spirit." Don't bother about Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Don't waste time trying to find out who the Proletariat are going to dictate to, when we're all propertyless, and so all Proletariat. Merely enquire, "What are you going to do to me, and how do I stop you if I don't like it? Can I kick your inspectors and your Ogpu-Gestapo and your Kommissars out of my (excuse me, my mistake, the proletariat's) house, or can they kick me? If I believe that it isn't my business to spend the rest of my life making tractors for China, and say so, do I get my coupons, or don't I? In the bad old days, to quite a considerable extent, I did. I should have been just like everyone else in that respect, only the coupon merchants (who seem to have names suspiciously similar to the Planned Utopians) said that what they called a reserve of labour, and other people called the unemployed, must be available and so couldn't have any coupons."

If you ask the Utopian this kind of question, you will discover an interesting fact—that one of the biggest parts of the Big Idea is the indispensability and invulnerability of the Ogpu. Or call it the Gestapo—or the G-men. Or the "snoopers." We don't hear much about the Ogpu nowadays, but, like Mr. Benjamin Cohen, of the U.S.A., it's there. And so we come to the core of the matter—it isn't the scheme that matters—that's just to keep you quiet, like Mackenzie King's cry of "Hands off Alberta." It's the sanctions that matter. You think a World State would be governed by saints? Remember the wise Lord Acton, Absolute Power corrupts absolutely."

There is in existence, unpublished, and carefully protected against "accidents," the main outlines of a Scheme which would accomplish all

the social betterments which the realities of the situation at any moment make possible—and that is much more than any Utopian proposal contemplates. That scheme has at the moment no practical value whatever. What is required is a shift of sanctions.

"The Jews show a strong preference for the Emperor [Wilhelm], and there must be some bargain. Since Morgan's death, the Jewish Banks are supreme, and they have captured the Treasury Department . . . forcing upon him [the Secretary to the Treasury] the appointment of Warburg, the German-Jew, on the Federal Reserve Board, which he dominates. The Government itself is rather uneasy, and the President himself quoted to me the text, 'He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.' One by one the Jews are capturing the principal newspapers, and are bringing them over as much as they dare to the German side."—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British Ambassador to Washington, to Sir Edward Grey, November 15, 1914.

"The majority of the English do not realise that, having done their duty by the inner Jewish circle, they have now got to disappear as a world Power."—"The Coming War" by General Ludendorff, Chief of the German General Staff; published 1931.

OPEN LETTER TO MR. MENZIES

(Continued from page 3.)

monetary system is controlled in order to serve man and not enslave him.

Their miserable "dole" is the first poor frost-bitten little bud of an ample share in the nation's plenty. (Australia Unlimited.) Every man, woman and child is entitled to a dividend (an assurance of a better standard of living) in keeping with the productive capacity of the Commonwealth, whether that wealth (goods and services) is created in association by means of machine-power or by labour-power.

As one of our present day world prophets and seers said some years back:

"The more the maintenance of life can be shifted from the backs of men onto the backs of machines, the more important it is to find a creative outlet for the human energy released."

Whilst politicians have been desperately trying to find work, science and scientists are more rapidly eliminating the need for work.

Our leaders should concentrate on distribution, as that is the great and vital issue.

The production is self-evident, and prosperity is not a condition of satisfactory banker-financed figures. The true prosperity is the measure of the people's contentment of mind and bodily security.

So long as economic unemployment continues to be regarded as a disease to be "cured," and not as a symptom of health to be accepted and encouraged, so long is our industrial civilisation on its way to death.

It is not a question (really) as to how much work man must do to live (to obtain a decent standard of existence), but rather how much does man need to do in this age of plenty, and the power to produce even greater abundance.

Imposed idleness is not leisure—leisure is a positive thing. It means using time for some purpose—the original idea of the word "school" is leisure.

Man has not subdued the material

Well, there we are. Where do we go from here?

It cannot be overlooked that corruption, misinformation, the insidious social poisons of Hollywood and Broadcasting House, the extraordinary success of the abstractionist idea that it is better that all should be miserable than that only some should be happy—that there should be no grass in the field rather than that some blades should come up first—have gone very far in this country. It may be—I do not think so—that there are not enough English, Scottish, and Welsh, submerged and bedevilled as they are by swarms of aliens, still able to recognise facts, and strong enough to deal with them. But if it should prove that there are enough, the general outline of their task, grim enough in all conscience, is clear.

Like most important matters in the universe, it appears to have a Trinitarian aspect. It involves an ideology, a dynamics, and a technique. They are separate, but indissoluble.

The ideology begins very simply. We have to discard the idea that every child is born into the world to mind someone else's business, and substitute the fact that he is responsible for minding his own. That he should help, not meddle. It is not without interest that Mr. G. D. H. Cole divides his time between Planning the Universe, and writing detective stories. The Ogpu complete.

The next point is equally simple and far-reaching—that groups are inferior to individuals. Majorities have no rights and are generally not right. They are an abstraction to which it is impossible to impart the qualities of a conscious human being. The attempt to construct a system of human relationships on, the "rights" of majorities is not democracy. If it were, democracy would stand self-condemned. There is nothing of that kind of democracy in the New Testament but plenty of it in the Jewish Bible—the so-called Old Testament. It is only possible to associate—i.e., to form a majority

for the purposes of a function—"we descend to meet." To rule humanity by function is exactly what the Jews wish, and have largely succeeded in doing. Socialism is the complete rule of the individual by functions, and is Satanic. *Demon est Deus inversus.* "Total war" is a total demonstration.

Genuine democracy can very nearly be defined as the right to atrophy a function by contracting out. It is essentially negative, although, contrary to the curious nonsense that is prevalent about "negativeness," is none the less essential for that reason.

This genuine democracy requires to be carefully distinguished from the idea that a game is a necessarily bad game simply because you can't or won't play it, and therefore the fact that you can't play it is the first recommendation for a chief part in changing the rules. On the contrary, that is an a priori disqualification. For this reason, if for no other, a period of discipline in the prevalent social and economic systems in, say, the early twenties, seems highly and pragmatically desirable. No play, no vote. Bad play, Grade 3 vote. But you needn't do either.

The power of contracting-out is the first and most deadly blow to the Supreme State.

(To be continued.
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NO DEMOCRAT

Interviewed by an elector in his prospective constituency of Cardiff, Sir James Grigg, Secretary of State for War (Britain), refused to sign a pledge that he would act according to the clearly-expressed will of the majority of his constituents.

He said that he was bound by the collective decisions of the Cabinet, and that such an agreement would be incompatible with that loyalty. He did not regard himself as M.P. for Cardiff first and Cabinet Minister second; if he were discarded in a subsequent reshuffle of the Government, he would resign his seat.

He did not agree that the war effort was being sabotaged by bureaucratic interference. He admitted that private initiative gave the best results, but attached primary importance to the necessity under war conditions of what he described as "control."

The beet subsidy was suggested to him as an instance of the correct method of gaining results by inducement. Seemingly out of his depth here, he said that farm labourers' wages were controlled, and when it was pointed out that that did not matter so long as the farmers got a payable price, he said, "What a cost!"

Sir James also objected to the democratic agreement on the grounds that there was no mechanism to furnish such clearly-expressed wishes. Reply was made that such mechanism could be provided.

REMEMBER THE SPIDER

London "Truth" for April 10 writes:

"Only 6.5 per cent, of the Americans who took part in a recent poll in the magazine 'Fortune' favoured Federal Union with Britain. Perhaps it is as well, since the conditions, it appears, on which they would insist are that Washington should be the Union capital, that the dollar should be the national currency, and that Britain should abolish all titles, including those of the King and Queen."

The journal comments in triolet form:

John Bull and His Cutie
"Shall I ask her to wed?
John, remember the spider!
In his folly he said:
'Shall I ask her to wed?'
And he did and is dead,
Well-digested inside 'er.
Shall I ask her to wed?
John, remember the spider."

88 Pitt Street,
Sydney.

STANLEY F. ALLEN, F.C.A.,
(Aust.), Chartered Accountant.

ASSIGNMENT IN UTOPIA

Reprinted from the book of that name, by Eugene Lyons, formerly Moscow correspondent for United Press, etc.

BOOK I. PRELUDE TO MOSCOW. 1. Revolt Against Ugliness.

In America we still romanticise the glories of a hard, poverty-ridden youth. Our rags-to-riches legends and literature overlook the fact that Tony the Bootblack ends up as a hod-carrier or a gangster more often than a millionaire. They overlook the more vital fact that when he does achieve wealth he generally carries the scars of the unequal struggle on his mind and spirit forever. He can rarely attain the mellow quality of the full, cultured existence of these whose rise was more orderly, less desperate. Our up-from-the-gutter type of true, or nearly true, story is written by the few who did creep out of the quagmires of want and its endless degradations. The many who were swallowed up, or who emerged broken in body and spirit, do not write autobiographies or make after-dinner speeches.

On the East Side of New York, where I grew up, we knew hardship and fear in their less romantic guises. Our streets teemed with crowded, chaotic life, like the underside of a moss-grown stone. Our tenements were odoriferous garbage heaps, where the same over-abundant life proliferated. We knew coarseness, vermin, want, so intimately that they became routine commonplaces. The affluence, the ease, the glimpse of ordered beauty were distant and unreal, like stories in books. Only the ugliness and sweat and unrelenting tussle were close and terribly familiar.

The idealisation of poverty as "the university of hard knocks" seemed to me insult added to injury as early as I was able to think at all. The be-furred ladies who came into the social settlements of our slums to assure us patronisingly of the blessings we were enjoying infuriated me. They fascinated me, too, with suggestions of incredible far-off splendors in their meekness.

I was presiding at a Boy Scout meeting at the Educational Alliance one evening when just such a lady, trailing clouds of radiance from her up-town world, came into the room. Her intrusion offended some vague sense of fitness in me, so that when she asked me an innocent question I ordered her sharply not to interrupt our meeting. The reward of my impertinence was an invitation, several days later, to call on her at a West End Avenue address. I had never

seen such elegance at close range (though it was only an ordinary apartment), and passed through the interview in numb bewilderment. I remember the softness of the rugs, like lush grass, and the loveliness of a little boy who called my hostess "mother"—the word "mother" somehow did not jibe in my experience with glossy, care-free nicely-upholstered women; it had always meant harassed, overworked and slovenly women. But what I carried away chiefly was a burning humiliation, because the lining of the overcoat I gave up to the valet was in tatters. In my confusion, when I retrieved the coat, I slipped my arm into the torn lining instead of the sleeve, and the glamorous lady herself helped me extricate myself. The shame of it rankled for months.

Poverty was only half of our routine ordeal. The other half was an acute awareness of being aliens and intruders in a nation of Americans. Between the world of our text-books and movies and newspapers and the other world of our homes and parents there was a deep gulf: different interests, preoccupations, ideals, languages. On the threshold of your home you removed your American self like an overcoat, and you put it on once more when you left home. We lived this double existence so continuously that the idea of an integrated life, in which home and out-of-home activities were part of the same pattern, was beyond our imagination.

The school principal, Dr. Kottman, talked casually in my hearing one day about playing baseball with his son. The implication of a father who talked the same language and played the same games as his son, I can still recall, struck me as bizarre.

No American with deep roots in the American soil can understand the nostalgic homelessness of immigrant children, the pathos of second-generation aliens. "Land where our fathers died, land of the Pilgrims' pride"—sung in the assembly hall by several thousand Jewish, Russian, Italian and other foreign boys and girls whose fathers had never heard of the Pilgrims. We were "Americanised" about as gently as horses are broken in. In the whole crude process, we sensed a disrespect for the alien traditions in our homes, and came unconsciously to resent and despise those traditions, good and bad alike, because they seemed insuperable barriers between ourselves and the adopted land.

We were caught and tangled in a

NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

cause of dependents will not be considered as a result of new scales of financial assistance for wives and children (note the reason for financial aid). In some official quarters here it is proposed that about one-third of our war-time munition production shall continue after the war. These moves are indicative of the New Order the planners have in mind. The similarity of the proposals in all countries is of special interest, especially as they are almost identical with those of Hitler after the last war.

HOME LIFE: A strong objection by Archbishop Mannix to Government action likely to break up home life was reported in the Melbourne "Sun" of July 21. He hopes Australia will set her face resolutely against further attacks on the family life. "I would regard with deep suspicion and grave concern any Government policy which pursued this policy. Australian ideals are not, and should not be, modern Russian ideals."

M.M.B.W. LOAN: In reporting that another £300,000 loan at 3½% had been subscribed without underwriting, the Melbourne "Sun" of July 21 says the loan replaced a previous loan which fell due to private interests on July 1. And so the game goes on! Ratepayers will be interested to know that nearly three-

quarters of every pound extracted from them by this body, under penalty of fines, goes to pay interest to the above-mentioned "private interests" and others. Subscribers to this benevolent institution should write to the secretary and ask him for an explanation.

LOCAL FASCISTS: Commenting on the recent interference by detectives with Sydney "Sun" reporters, Senator Ashley is reported in the Melbourne "Herald" of June 27 thus: "The action was totally unwarranted and savours of Fascist tactics—the very thing against which we are fighting." He and his department were ignored. "Regarding those responsible, I cannot understand the Gestapo methods adopted." Just the same, unless those responsible are removed to a place of safety, the public uneasiness will remain.

PLANNING: Following the dangerous food situation due to the planners conscripting primary producers into the army, a panel of planners is to be set up to draw up plans and quotas for a big food-production drive. Surely it is obvious that planners, plans and quotas will NOT produce food. What is needed is that the real food growers be released from the army and permitted to get on with their real job. The planners could then be put in the army, and kept there.

mass of people for the most part resigned to their fate, sodden with hopelessness, and in a stupor of physical exhaustion. For the average boy it was easier to burrow deeper into the heap, taking the aroma and the drabness of the East Side into his soul, than to attempt the Gargantuan job of escaping. The Americanism that he acquired and dragged into the writhing heap was the loud, vulgar, surface—the slang, the sporting page, the crude "success" ideals of the movies and yellow journals—and nothing of the grandeur at the core of America.

But when the urge to escape does enter the blood of a slum denizen, it is a feverish thing that drives him with whips of fire. "Success" is never a pale, beckoning star. It is a flaming ball that blots out nearly everything else in the boy's firmament. Elsewhere it may be mere self-fulfilment. On our East Side it was that and more—a species of defiance and revenge against the clinging squalors and the smugness of the lucky ones, and, above all, against the social system that breeds such plague spots.

Whatever the expression of that pitiless ambition, it is always shot through with hatred for the status

quo. Sometimes it is openly defiant of restraint, and carries the jungle law of dog-eat-dog competition to its logical conclusion in crime, gangsterism. At other times, the predatory technique is kept within the safer bounds of legality. Whether the exceptional boy revolting against putrescent surroundings turns into an unprincipled criminal or unprincipled business-man is often simply a question of the proportions of courage and cleverness in his make-up.

And occasionally, as in my own case, the clamouring protest transcends the personal. The driving ambition widens out to embrace all the disinherited and exploited. It becomes a conscious protest against ugliness, and injustice as such, and embraces passionately whatever formula of social revolt is closest to hand. There is a vast and unbridgeable difference between the radicalism that is accepted at second-hand, from the outside, through the mind, and the revolt that is nurtured in one's very bones. Those of us who were or thought ourselves — "socialist" instinctively, through spontaneous hatred for the reality as we savored, it, could never quite get over a certain distrust of "converts" to the cause from other social strata. (To be continued.)

TOUGH GUY

The following is an extract from an article "The Toughest Man in the World," by Westbrook Pegler, which appeared in the "Minneapolis Star Journal":—

"With all his faults, the man who happens to be our war President is one of the toughest men in the world. We have the comfort, at least, in a terrible hour, of knowing that the head of our nation is not only a hard fighter, but a tricky fighter, too—as many private citizens and groups have had cause to complain since 1932.

"This may sound disrespectful, but even in the present solemn hour I submit that in a brawl with Adolph Hitler—who is, after all, the principal enemy—it is well to have a man in the White House who will not bother to break clean or keep his punches up.

"We are fighting as foul an enemy as history has produced, and a political leader of the stylish oops-sorry type would be a great handicap. But we all have reason to know that when our man warms up to a scrap, anything goes.

"I predict that before this is over Hitler will be looking to the referee and yelling 'foul,' because he tore up the rule book himself, and that fact gives Mr. Roosevelt the right to use all the Hitlerian methods of the enemy, and to improvise a few tricks of his own. If that's not unthinkable—well, this whole war is unthinkable.

"But Hitler made the war, and the Japanese struck our country a sneak punch on a quiet Sunday morning while the envoys of Japan were

Some day the banks will find that even all their terrifying power cannot hold back the demand for economic freedom.

Hitlerism made Germany a Police State. Federal Union for Europe would make Europe a Police Continent—"Super Hitlerism."

The real anarchists are those people who are clinging to an outworn, obsolete financial system, for it is this which is bringing us to chaos.

Vague resentment concerning poverty in one nation may easily be directed towards other nations, whereas all are suffering from the same thing, the lack of power to buy the result of their own productive capacity; and no country makes the sane financial test of equating incomes to production in order that the dire need of its people could be satisfied.

sucking wind and grinning peaceful remarks to our Secretary of State.

"This is going to be, as it has been, up to now, an utterly ruthless, dirty war, thanks to Adolph Hitler, and the amenities of civilisation are going to be waived.

"Before long the American people will be in a mood to approve any brutality that may be used on the enemy's civilians and civilian hostages, because the savagery of the Germans and the Japanese will make this country war-mad.

"We all know that most of the arguments that the America First crowd used against President Roosevelt were true. He put us into the war against Germany by evading the Constitution, and his promises that American boys would not be sent to a foreign war were campaign trickery to get himself re-elected. But we may thank him for it now and be glad, because he tricked us into a great advantage which otherwise would have been lost."

MESMERISED MEDICO

A specious argument by Dr. Reg. Ellery, comparing Russian and Australian medical systems, was reported in the Melbourne "Sun" of July 23. He said that "there was no such thing as a private practice in Russia, and that the rich" [presumably those having enough money] "were the only ones able to obtain the very best medical attention" [presumably from private practitioners]. The remedy, according to this chap, is to socialise the hospitals; but he does not produce a shred of evidence to prove that the standard of treatment under State control in Russia is satisfactory. Moreover, his argument shows that the problem is simply a matter of money, and that those without it cannot obtain the "very best" attention, which he admits to be procurable from our private medicos; and, of course, he fails to mention that a socialised or State-owned institution is responsible for the shortage of money, which prevents our people from obtaining the "very best" medical attention.

INSIDE INFORMATION

The "Information Sheet," of the Douglas Credit Assn. of N.S.W. contains much "inside" information of interest to social crediters. It is working in association with the Social Credit Secretariat (advisory chairman, Major C. H. Douglas), of Liverpool, England.

The current (July) issue may be obtained by sending 6d. to the publisher, W. H. Hand, Box 21, P.O. North Sydney, (Annual subscription, 5/-.)

-Advt.

What Hampers Russia's War Effort?

(Continued from page 1.)

When he left the United States to return to Russia he is said, upon good authority, to have travelled on Schiff's money and under Schiff's protection. He was captured by the British at Halifax, and immediately, on advice from a highly placed personage, set free. Shortly after his arrival to Russia he was informed that he had a credit in Sweden at the Swedish branch of the bank owned by Max Warburg, of Hamburg. This credit helped to finance the seizure of the Russian revolution by the international Jewish bankers. It assisted them in subverting it to their own ends. At the present time the Soviet Union is in debt. From the date of Trotsky's return to Russia the course of Russian history has, indeed, been greatly affected by the operations of international bankers. They have acted through German and English institutions and have kept Russia in bondage to Germany and both Germany and Russia in bondage to themselves. Their relatives in Germany have drawn immense sums of money from the United States, and have, in turn, financed their agents in Russia at a handsome profit.

"The Soviet Government has been given United States Treasury funds by the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Banks acting through the Chase Bank and the Guaranty Trust Co., and other banks in New York City. England, no less than Germany, has drawn money from us through the Federal Reserve banks, and has re-lent it at high rates of interest to the Soviet Government or has used it to finance her sales to Soviet Russia, and her engineering works within the Russian boundaries. The Dnieperstroz Dam was built with funds unlawfully taken from the United State Treasury by the corrupt and dishonest Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Banks . . . Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, the Russians have a right to set up any form of government that pleases them, and suits their needs. But for some reason, whether due to some defect in the Soviet form of government or to some other cause, Russia has not been able to maintain its present form of government, otherwise than at the expense of countries in which there is greater freedom for individuals, and in which the property rights of citizens have been respected and preserved. Open up the books of Amtorg, the trading organisation of the Soviet Government in New York, and of Gostorg, the general office of the Soviet trade organisation, and of the State Bank of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, and you will be staggered to see how much American money has been taken from the United States Treasury for

KEY TO VICTORY

"For an island Power such as England, dependent for nearly two-thirds of her food on imports, an assured and ample food supply is the key to victory," says Captain Bernard Acworth, who, in an article in the "Patriot" of April 9, gives a salutary reminder that it would be disastrous for Great Britain to prejudice her activities, on her sea-front by premature land action on the continent. Fire-eating propagandists for "a second front" do no service to our cause by distracting attention from the importance to Britain of the Battle of the Atlantic, for whatever hopes of victory may be based on the expectation of a great victory by Russia over the German army, if that expectation should not be fulfilled, Great Britain will only be able to carry on the war indefinitely if her sea-power is uncompromised.

"Food is our war barometer, and our rations are shrinking," continues Captain Acworth, "Improvement in our food position in 1942, and thus our power of endurance, rather than exhortations to 'belt-tightening,' would be regarded as a test of whether our grand strategy is being wisely directed.

the benefit of Russia. Find out what business has been transacted for the State Bank of Soviet Russia by its correspondent, the Chase Bank of New York; by Lloyd's Bank of London; by Kleinwort Sons & Co. of London, whose correspondents are the principal New York banks; by Glyn Mills & Co. of London, and their American agents—that is, the International Acceptance Bank of New York, the Chemical Bank & Trust Co., H. Clews & Co. Kidder, Peabody & Co., Winslow Lanier & Co., and Lee, Higginson & Co., the promoters of Swedish Match. Find out how much United States money has passed through the Bank of Russian Trade of London, and through the Midland Bank Ltd."

Further Evidence

That a recognition of the representatives of International Jewish Finance by the Soviet Government existed after the Revolution cannot be denied, as witnessed by the following evidence: In the late Francois Coty's paper, "Figaro," in June, 1931, the following item concerning Mrs. Otto Kahn (her husband was an associate of Warburg and Schiff, and one of the men mentioned in connection with the financing of the Russian Revolution) appeared:—"She was officially received by the Soviet Government, which gave in her honour a grand diplomatic dinner and several brilliant receptions. The ceremonial displayed exceeded in pomp and solemnity the journey of Amanullah, when King of Afghanistan. The Red Army lined the roads at the present arms. . . . It was the least that the heads of the 'Proletarian Dictatorship' could do in order to honour the wife of one of their sovereigns."

The London "Star" of July 23, 1935, published an announcement that Mrs. Otto Kahn was again visiting Russia:—"After her visit to the U.S.S.R. a few years ago, a sinister political significance was alleged by a French newspaper. The truth is that Mrs. Kahn is interested in Russia, and when she goes to Leningrad is officially welcomed by the great Stalin himself. Incidentally, there is something rather amusing in the fact that as her travelling companion to visit the Soviet, Mrs. Kahn has Lady Ravensdale—Sir Oswald Mosley's sister-in-law."

Lady Ravensdale and the late Lady Cynthia Mosley were daughters of the late Marquis of Curzon, and their mother was a daughter of the Chicago Jewish millionaire, Levi Leiter.

Should the above evidence be insufficient, let me proceed still further. I commend the following extract:—

"Foreign capitalists, who come into the U.S.S.R. with serious intention to develop our natural resources and to invest their capital in the country's industries meet with the good will of the Soviet Government and obtain opportunities for working at a profit which gives them an interest in making additional investments beyond those provided for in the concession agreement."

No, the above does not come from a "capitalist" paper; it is from the Economic Survey of the State Bank of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Moscow, January, 1929, Mr. C. Hollis, the British historian, quotes it in his book, "The Breakdown of Money."

Mr. Hollis is a great authority on financial history. He makes the following observation on the above: "It is notable that the first concern of the Soviet whenever it has made any of its trade-pacts with other governments, has been to arrange for credits. Financiers have not been unwilling to give it these credits because, if there is to be foreign lending, they prefer to lend to a government rather than to a private firm, for it is more difficult for a government to default."

And that is why the bankers want

central government control of the whole nation. "Nationalisation?" asked Mr. Montagu Norman, "we would welcome it."

Significant Facts

Since the outbreak of war between Germany and Russia we have learnt some more important facts. We have been told openly that Russia is financing her war effort by a policy of public loans similar to every other country in the world—with the exception of Germany, whom the financiers appear to desire to be as efficient as possible, in order that she won't be beaten, too quickly.

We also know that certain forces have done everything to see that Russia is preserved as the Mecca of a new international order. Russia's demands for the territories of small states have been apparently agreed to.

A report in the Melbourne "Age" of July 18, on the growing tension between U.S.A. and Finland, states:—

"This action is expected in diplomatic circles to give encouragement to Russia which has long been pressing for an American rupture with Finland. It is believed that the American action will tend to reassure Russia concerning the attitude of the United States generally."

While Britain's position has been weakened to send equipment to Russia, while the outposts of the Empire have been almost neglected, Russia has suffered great reverses the result of which has been an organised cry for a "second front."

Bearing in mind this pressure for a "second front," and the fact that Britain is at war with Japan, who threatens the very existence of Australia, the following news items are worthy of close study:—

"New Russian Ambassador to Tokio."

"New York, Tuesday, A.A.P.—Tokio official radio says that the new Russian Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Jacob Alexandrovich, will present his credentials on Thursday and later have an audience of the Japanese Emperor."

—Melbourne "Argus," July 8.

"To-day, April 13, is exactly one year since the conclusion of a pact of neutrality between the U.S.S.R. and Japan. . . . Notwithstanding the extremely complicated world situation, the pact has played a positive role and retained its force. . . . By agreeing to extend the Soviet-Japanese Fishing Convention for one year, the Soviet Government reiterated its

readiness to maintain with Japan normal business relations on the sober appraisal of mutual economic interests. . . . If the Japanese side will strictly observe the obligations it has undertaken, then the Soviet-Japanese neutrality pact will have retained its significance to the peoples of both countries."

—The Moscow "News," translated from "Pravda," quoted in the "Bulletin," of July 15.

"Reports reaching London from Washington insist that Russia is continuing to supply oil to Japan under a pre-war agreement. The Soviet, in this agreement, undertook to permit Japan to have one-half of the oil produced from Russian wells on Shakhalin Island, amounting to 1,600,000 barrels a year."

—Melbourne "Herald," July 23.

The position of the British Empire should be the first consideration of British citizens. Should Russia suffer worse catastrophes in the coming weeks, it will be because of bureaucracy run mad, not because the individual Russians are poor fighters. Russia can never be conquered. Her size and population make complete conquest impossible. But Germany may eliminate Russia as an effective fighting force.

The combination of Soviet Russia and International Finance, to which the British Empire has been made subservient, has proved disastrous. The sooner this fact is recognised, the sooner this war will be won for the British peoples. We don't want to suffer the terrible tribulations being experienced by the Russians.

DANGEROUS MAN

Into the limelight once more comes one of the men who framed the Premiers' Plan (which accelerated the 1929 depression) in the person of Professor L. F. Giblin. This man, a man who has demonstrated his inability to elevate his mental attitude above that of the cave man, in giving evidence before the Federal Parliamentary Committee on Social Security (vide Melbourne, "Sun" of July 22), said: It is better to pay a man to shift sand from one heap to another than pay him for doing nothing." He also said that shifting sand is identical with producing motor cars in Australia at a money cost of £400 when they could be imported for £200. Ignoring the mania for work (for the other fellow), just ponder on the immensity of the brain that produces such propositions—and remember, that is all he has ever produced.

MENZIES SHOWS HIS HAND AGAIN!

(Continued from page 1.)

ing the wishes of a democratic people is humiliating. We regard such a position as one of honour. But we have no word adequate to describe the position of one who accepts a large salary on the pretext of being a representative, and then, for reasons which can be surmised but not proved, sets out to pursue a policy in opposition to the wishes and interests of those from whom he is taking money.

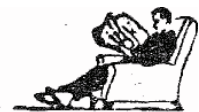
That a member of Parliament is able to express his "reasoned convictions" in Parliament is just plain drivel. Electors know from painful experience that no candidate can receive a party nomination unless he proves, by deeds as well as words that he will have no convictions other than those he is required to have. The party rooms, the party whip, etc., are just devices to see that independent "reasoned convictions" do not arise.

Mr. Menzies says that pressure politics would kill statesmanship. Public opinion is most strongly convinced that statesmanship is just about dead. It has been replaced by political partisanship.

And Mr. Menzies played no small part in arousing that conviction. For example, citizens well remember how Mr. Menzies, for reasons not yet made public, compelled the waterside workers of New South Wales to aid the armament programme of Japan, by loading much-needed scrap-iron,

Finally, Mr. Menzies condemns "pressure politics" as an appeal to fear. This is indeed illuminating. In the press, of July 23, he is reported as speaking at a meeting of the Burwood A.W.N.L., where he raised the terrifying bogey of inflation. He must surely know, as any well-informed citizen now knows, that inflation is not, like the change of the seasons, the result of natural law; but a result of deliberate action by the financial controllers, for whom he is a willing mouth-piece. His action here is reminiscent of the schoolboy's definition of a joke as "something which you do to someone else to make yourself laugh; but if done to yourself, would make you cry."

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COUPONS AND MONEY

The proverbial root of much evil is in a constant state of flux and for that reason an ever fresh subject for discussion and thought. In orthodox circles money without a gold backing, real or alleged was unthinkable within memory of people not yet middle aged. Nowadays almost all individuals look upon gold as a queer fetish of past generations. In our minds now there exists no longer that link between gold and money that years ago made the two words almost synonymous. So quickly do ideas change.

In these pages it has already been mentioned on several occasions that ration cards, tickets and coupons are a rudimentary form of money, incomplete but possessing many of its characteristics. Those coupons are permits to buy. Each type of coupon is limited to relate to only one kind of article; legal tender money is available to buy anything that is for sale. Coupons are limited money. For instance, it might some day occur to the authorities to use the coupons so as to constitute a full discharge of debt incurred in purchase. This could be quite simply effected by everyone having to buy their coupons with money, and the retailers or wholesalers receiving credits to equal their coupon values. Such a scheme may be contemplated and this may account for the banks taking steps to get astride the flow of coupons. At present there is undoubtedly a duplication in function by coupons and money.

Civilisation has been an organic growth, and is the sum total of countless and mainly minute contributions by individuals over the ages. Planners have had very little to do with it and as a rule have hindered progress, occasionally even putting the clock back. If the planners who now inflict themselves on the world had had their way, no doubt the money system would have been a coupon system. For each kind of commodity, tea, meat, medical attention, beer, sugar, theatres, tobacco, train service, sago, bananas, etc., etc., there would have been a special ticket issued to each person. This would ensure "equality." It would also ensure a colossal amount of filling in of forms, of writing up of ledgers, of booking, and of balancing, apparently so beloved of present day "efficiency" experts. It would be possible to keep track of every sausage, to know exactly what every person consumed; in fact, the possibilities for statistics would be limitless. The men whose minds work only in symbols and are impervious to reality would be in their glory. That Jones is a tee-

Totaler, Brown a vegetarian, MacTsvish prefers whisky to beer or tea and Atkins has no time for the theatre are their respective misfortunes, and at best an opportunity to pass legislation containing double treble, and quadruple negatives, not unknown in recent Acts of Parliament. And this hell on earth would have constituted the planners' ideal—and, indeed, one they are probably aiming at.

Try to picture the world as it would have been under those conditions. Then suppose that a genius had risen who had thought of a universally acceptable ticket, money, to take the place of specialised coupon. What a howl of derision, what cries of "impossible!" "madness!" would have burst from the planners and their satellites. Why, no one would know how many dog biscuits had been consumed last week! No one would know anything! The muddle! The chaos! No effort would be spared to prevent a practical experiment to see how it worked, even if all the people in, say Alberta, were prepared to try it and take the consequences. The newspapers would print lengthy and involved technical discourses by well known planners and a garbled version of the new proposal. We know all the other tricks that would be played, and if the reader has nothing better to occupy his mind with he can people this fantastic world with Stamps and Hitlers, and Reiths, not forgetting the modest Benjamin Cohens, and visualise what they would do and how the people would react.

On the other hand, it would be as well if, instead, we all put our minds to work on the problem of preventing such a hideous nightmare from becoming a reality. We are well on the way towards it.

—H.R.P.

SMALL SHOPS

Of the 6500 small retail shops in Birmingham before the war, some 2000 have gone, either destroyed by bombs, or hit by rationing and shortage of materials. It is estimated that 65 per cent, of Birmingham shopkeepers have other jobs to help meet the loss in trading.

The only solution proposed by the Board of Trade is that the shopkeepers who were carrying on should subsidise their rivals—an impossible suggestion, in view of diminished turnover and lower profits.

The National Federation of Small Shopkeepers is pressing for a scheme of compensation by the Government.

FILM FINANCE

Bearing in mind the nature and effect of cinema "culture," the following facts on its financing, taken from "Money Behind the Screen," published in 1936, are of considerable interest:

Harold G. Judd combines directorship of Pinewood Studios with eight chairmanships and twelve other directorships, including the Scottish Insurance Corporation, Bankers' Commercial Security Limited, Christian Police Trust Corporation Limited, the Mercantile Credit Company Limited, Girl's Education Company Limited.

The recent re-organisation of Denham Laboratories may perhaps afford some clues to the sources of Korda finance at the present time [1936]. For, in addition to A. Korda, E. H. George, and C. H. Brand, the directors of the company are S. G. Warburg (a partner of M. M. Warburg and Company, Hamburg, and Warburg and Company, Amsterdam, the continental banking houses related through the Warburg family with the New York Bankers, Kuhn, Loeb and Company), and D. Oliver (director of Grundivert A. G. Hamburg)."

There is also mention of a German film bank which financed films—the character of which it approved—and wanted to set up a similar organisation in England.

MONEY FIRST

Hitherto men with large families have been discouraged from joining the A.I.F. because of the extra family allowance. It is now announced that they will be encouraged to do so. That is just one more illustration of how money controls the army. And here's another. Owing to the niggardly pay of the W.A.A.F.'s Mr. Drakeman suggests that families might be willing to take in these unfortunate patriots who receive the magnificent sum of 4/6 per day to cover board, lodgings and fares. As there is no necessary shortage of money (figures in books and pieces of paper), which is all Australian-made, why cause these hardships and hinder the war effort?

We can produce and secure by exchange enough—to provide all with adequate food, warmth, shelter, and more, without taking from any what they now have. The only thing standing between people and plenty is lack of money.

N.W.R.M. MEETING

"The citizens' meeting held in the Melbourne Town Hall last Tuesday, under the auspices of the New World Reconstruction Movement," was attended by a huge audience. Because war-time conditions make it necessary for us to "go to press" much earlier in the week, our report of the meeting will appear in our next issue.

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