

ON OTHER PAGES

"THE WATCHMAN" AGAIN! (Page 4)

INFLATIONITIS (page 2)

FRANK FORDE'S FOLLY. (Page 4)

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).

Government Boards Condemned

Citizens' Meeting at Coburg

Citizens of Coburg attended in numbers at a public meeting held in the Town Hall, Coburg, on Wednesday, September 9, to protest against Marketing Boards controlling and destroying the food of the people, which is made scarce and dear.

Cr. J. Morris, chairman, said that it was desired, to indicate to the Governments that the people were not content to have their food marketed by Bureaucratic Boards. The cry for man-power seemed ridiculous when the number of persons employed in hindering the producers and consigners of Victoria equalled the number in the 15th Infantry Battalion. He cited the case of chicory, which had been shipped to Sydney and back to Melbourne, bringing a price which was more profitable to the growers and all concerned than the Board's price. Tons of prime tomatoes had been sent from the canneries to be dumped into a tip in Coburg. Government Boards were taking half of the proceeds of crops of orchardists. A voice: "They are taking the lot."

Mr. J. M. Atkinson said that although the meeting was conducted without party political tinge it should be noted that Government Boards were being foisted on to the people. Senators Keane and Cameron had been asked at a public meeting, held in Frankston, if the

new Government would abolish Boards. The answer was "No; you will get better Boards."

Housewives were unable to get cheap fruit and sugar to make jam.

Politicians believed in dearth rather than cheapness. Goods worth £1 were therefore priced at £2 instead of pricing food at £1 and leaving £1 for other things. High Court judges argue for scarcity like the politicians. While the people are content to put up with such lunacy we could buy only in the dearest markets. Unless democracy functioned by the will of the people democracy was dangerous.

Mr. V. A. H. Clark, president of Fruitgrowers' Defence League, said that twenty-five years ago fruit-growers were free men. The export trade had been manipulated by the "Big" men. Finding that verbal protests to members of Parliament were not effective, growers decided to market their own fruit. Numbers were prosecuted because they dared to fight for their freedom. It had been estimated that the Fruit Board had incurred a loss of £2,500,000. The growers in Gippsland received

2/10 per case, yet the consumer had to pay 25/- per case for "Granny Smiths." The Boards were bleeding growers to death and sucking the consumers dry. Dictatorship was growing on us as in Germany and Japan, and in America they were trying to get a grip on the producers. Potatoes could be bought at £4/10/- to £5 per ton until the Board fixed the price at £6 per ton, and then 50% of the crop remained in the ground. The growers would not plant potatoes for the Government Boards to confiscate. Mr. Clark urged his hearers to stick to their State Parliament, and said that the local M.P., Mr. Mutton, had worked hard in opposition to Boards.

Miss Robinson, secretary of the Housewives' Association, said that although the people had rejected, by referendum, the proposal for extended powers of marketing control, those powers were being expanded by the Government. The people had the power through the ballot box, and the fault, was in the people who allowed their Government to muddle. We were supposed to be fighting for freedom, yet women could not get an apple a day for each child or enough eggs and potatoes for the family. "What we want," said Miss Robinson, "is to get back to the days of freedom."

Mr. Tatam (fruit grower) said the growers and the consumers would have to get together and speak with one voice. Growers had held public meetings where disgusted State members attended, but they could not get Federal members near the place. Much was said about freedom. Where is freedom to-day? Young growers starting out will not be able to carry on under dictatorship. A young grower who would have received £75 for his crop from the Board decided to use his own initiative and sold his crop privately at a profit of £200. "Two detectives came to my stand," said Mr. Tatam, "and they said, 'We suppose you know who we are?' I replied, 'No!' but I know who I am. I am the grower and owner of this fruit." In trying to get rid of these cursed Boards and in fighting for freedom, honest men were treated as criminals. "I might yet be put behind the walls, but I would rather live on bread and water than lose my freedom and live in bonds."

A Voice: "Austerity." (Loud applause.)

Mr. J. Lewis said his son, who was now a prisoner of war had helped him to clear their orchard. The crop now falls to the ground for birds to eat.

Mr. Barclay said he planted his orchard when sixteen years old. The whole crop to-day belonged to the Board when ripe. He could not let anyone have a feed of apples. He could say, "If you steal the apples I can't help that." School children who asked him for apples could not be given some. He had to say to the children, "If you were pigs you could have as much as you like." He used to sell Gravensteins and make £140 per acre; under Board arrangement, he received £69 per acre. A grower at Hastings carted and sold a consignment numbered as sixty-nine cases. The Board paid for fifty-five cases, which fetched grade prices of 9/- and 14/- per case. The grower received a cheque for £3/14/6 from the Board.

Cr. Purser, of Ringwood, said that the financial interests had a grip on everything. To-day men were serving money. Money should be serving men.

Mr. Poularis said five millions of cases of fruit could not be exported to England last year. Yet scarcity prevailed. The people in control did not know a pea from an onion. People who did no work in the business could not know the value of the work.

A questioner asked if it was the big growers who were exploiting the small men. In reply, Mr. Clark explained that it was the vested city interests behind the experts. The small growers could control ten acres, whereas the larger owner had to contend with those in control.

Resolutions of protest to be sent to the Prime Minister and the Premier were read by the chairman. The meeting agreed to a suggestion that resolution be altered to read: "We, the people, demand abolition of Boards," and that all electors be advised to write to their respective members in Parliament to indicate that they desired abolition of the food Boards. It was also resolved that the Coburg councillors be asked to have all municipalities and shires circularised to urge similar action in other localities.

A local committee was appointed to carry on activities.

BEWARE OF FEDERAL UNION!

By ANNE WELLER, M.A., in the "Peacemaker."

Regarding the article in the "Peacemaker" of 30/6/42, advising a critical study of the above, as advocated by Clarence Streit in "Union Now With Britain," may I suggest some points for the student to consider while reading this persuasive author?

(1) The theory on which the whole case for Federal Union rests, e.g., that National Sovereignty is the root cause of wars, has no foundation in fact. It has been proved and demonstrated beyond doubt that, while there may be contributing factors (many of which are deliberately fanned into flame after war looms on the horizon), it is the international sovereignty of financial interests that is the basic cause of modern wars. The real economic problem, underlying the whole situation is nowhere dealt with fundamentally in Streit's books—indeed, it is avoided, and stated to be less immediate than the necessity for the nations getting together—surely a case of putting the cart well before the horse!

(2) Is Federal Union a practically possible way to achieve the first step towards the goal of amicable union between nations? Leaving the easy realms of pleasing theories, and coming down to necessary detail:—

(a) Is it not a fact that the same political and financial "leaders" to whom we owe the present catastrophe will carry out this scheme? How can the people exert their influence on such matters of world policy when, up to the moment, they exert practically no power over the policies of their own home Governments?

(b) In which case, would Federal Union not mean merely absentee dictatorship, complete (vide Streit) with control over the sanctions of defence, currency, etc.?

(c) Is there not, therefore, a possibility that this plan is just another scheme

of "power politics," with centralisation of power, leading inevitably to future dissensions?

(3) Streit in no way substantiates his constant affirmations that decreasing our national freedom will increase our personal freedom.

(4) Up to date, federation, as known in various parts of the world, has not passed the acid test of success—are the peoples in these States progressing in the conditions of their environment? The figures of unemployment and poverty give the answer. All history shows that it is a complete fallacy that the bigger an organisation is the better and more efficient it is.

(5) Is it not a fact that it is decentralisation, not centralisation, of power that will give the only hope for the people to assume their responsibilities and to impress themselves as individuals on their nation's policies? If decentralisation were adopted as the keynote of a post-war policy, the awakened, people would have a chance to reconstruct their own country from within, throwing off the bonds of finance from their own Governments, and producing conditions that would make for a happy people—willing and eager to co-operate with other such people all over the globe.

Any plan which puts international before national effort as a first step towards true world peace is doomed to failure. As has been sadly proved, international efforts, while the worldwide reign of finance prevails, are powerless to prevent wars or change a system in which the seeds of war are inherent.

(6) Finally, is it not a fact that much of the success with which the plan of Federal Union has "caught on" has been due to insistent propaganda on its behalf, and to the fact that war-stricken peoples are ever ready to clutch at straws?

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Despite the assurances that centralising taxation under the Federal Government was simply a war measure, the daily press now reports that some Ministers think that this financial control should be retained when peace comes. Extension of other "wartime" powers is also to be sought. The obvious remedy is for the people not only to refuse to surrender further power, but to quickly regain that which has been wrongly taken from them.

NEW ORDERS: Following the historic gathering of Catholic and Protestant church officials in London, a similar gathering met at Newcastle (Australia) to discuss a ten-point proposal for social justice and world peace. The ten points seem vague enough to permit complete agreement, but maybe something more specific may arise from them. It is well to remember the difficulties confronting such bodies in dethroning the secret financial power behind Governments—the bankers have taken the precaution of ensnaring churches in their debt system by overdraft accommodation.

BOMBAST: "If the public does not stop spending, the Government" (people's employees) "will have to ration everything." Thus spake Herr Curtin, according to the Melbourne "Sun" of September 7. Leaving aside the bombast of this dictatorial statement, and assuming he was conscious of his words, the purpose of rationing, it seems, is to stop spending, not to equitably distribute scarce commodities. Which is in line with Sir Keith Murdoch's statement that "the value of rationing is the discipline it imposes." It is certainly very confusing.

BANKERS' TOOLS: A New York report states that the motion picture (Continued on page 7.)

PROPAGANDA

A Talk Broadcast from 7HO Hobart, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, September 6, by JAMES GUTHRIE., B.Sc.

To-day all countries are being swamped by torrents of propaganda. This persistent and large-scale attack on people's minds is one of the main features of our times. Let us examine for a few minutes what lies behind this desire to mould people's thoughts in a certain definite manner.

First of all, propaganda is desired to produce certain results—to produce action of a certain definite kind.

Now the actions of men and women are taken in response to certain facts which they come up against in their daily lives: the facts are important, but what is just as important as the facts themselves is what the people think about them.

What people think about the facts determines the kind of action they will take; hence the tremendous amount of energy poured into the propaganda machine.

Propaganda, when it is used against the interests of the people, is used firstly to conceal the facts or to present them in such a manner as to make them have no useful meaning. Secondly, when the facts make themselves known to large numbers of people, propaganda is used to prevent the people thinking about them in a practical and commonsense manner what will produce useful and beneficial action to themselves. And, thirdly, when these two methods of propaganda fail—in other words, when people have obtained the facts and have thought about them in a manner which shows signs of producing combined action—then propaganda is used to stop action: that is, to stop any experiment being made which will prove the correctness of the ideas formed in the minds of the people.

The scientific method, which has produced such amazing results in our lifetime, simply consists of collecting facts, then sitting down and examining the facts and forming theories or ideas about them, then testing these ideas or theories by actual experiment.

In the scientific world, as soon as an experienced man forms a reasonable theory about a collection of important and ascertainable facts, people in all parts of the world put the theories to actual test by experiment. It is this continual experimentation which has produced such astounding results in the physical world of to-day.

Men cannot confront facts or events intelligently without thinking about them; thinking about facts or events is of little value unless men form a theory about them. Their theory may be wrong, but if they are honest thinkers they will find out in due course that their theory is wrong and they will form a new theory more in conformity with the facts.

Scientists have formulated a great number of wrong theories, but the mere fact that they have formulated a theory of some kind has given them something to work on, has given them a standard of comparison, a starting-point, a frame of reference; and as their experience grew and their facts accumulated they had to scrap their old theories and build new ones which were more in conformity with their growing and deeper experience.

This method has given spectacular results in our knowledge of the physical world.

But when we come to the political and economic world, we find that although there are plenty of useful and important facts available to us and although there are several very important and widely held theories about these facts, no experiments have been permitted in any country, with the exception of Russia, to prove these theories.

The Russian experiment has been so surrounded by ridiculous propaganda from the Left and Right that one has to be a very highly trained and painstaking observer to discover what has really happened. The war has already destroyed a great part of the Russian experiment and the low standard of living of the people who face entirely different problems to those which we have faced robs the experiment of much value, for the English-speaking world.

If people in various parts of the world had been permitted to carry out economic experiments over the last 25 years, we would have had at our command a tremendous amount

of very valuable information which we could have used with great benefit to ourselves.

But not only have these experiments been most ruthlessly suppressed as I shall describe later, but we find that the huge international propaganda machine is preparing us for an economic and political experiment on a world scale—and you and I are to have no say in this experiment.

The international propaganda machine is preparing our minds for a vast experiment of a world State, or Federal Union as it is called, where a central Government will control and direct a large collection of nations.

Now, a vast world-wide experiment like this should obviously and naturally proceed from a series of smaller experiments successfully carried out to the satisfaction of the people, involved: these peoples, satisfied with the successes obtained in their smaller experiments and willing and anxious to continue that success on a greater scale, would ask for and sanction the larger experiment. But what are the facts? Here they are:

1. All economic experiments, with the exception of the Russian experiment have been ruthlessly suppressed.

2. The only large-scale and successful attempt at voluntary co-operation—the British Commonwealth of Nations—is being ridiculed and abused by the large-scale economic experiments.

3. The new idea of a World-State and World-Parliament, or Federal Union as it is called, has not been asked for by any people in any part of the world.

4. But this large-scale experiment is going to be enforced upon us by a few men because—

5. We have failed to make a success of the small-scale experiments.

The amazing mental attitude behind these would-be world planners—men who have ruthlessly killed every important economic experiment—is that if we cannot build a canoe that will float in water, perhaps we will have more success at building an Atlantic liner. Or to put it another way, a man who can't organise a grocer's shop probably will be more successful organising a large State of one million men.

Now this idea of a World State, which is being forced upon by all the various forces of the propaganda machine, is not the idea of ordinary men and women; it is not the idea of experienced men; it is not the idea of educated men; it is not the idea of scientific thinkers. But this idea, through constant repetition, will be gradually accepted: it will become, or is expected to become, part of our environment—an old friend, as it were; something we take for granted, like taxation.

That is the nature of propaganda; when it is successful it produces automatic thinking along certain lines, and any person who attempts to upset this line of thought comes against obstacles which can only be overcome after a tremendous expenditure of energy.

Even in dictator countries where the Government can shoot at sight—or impose severe penalties on any person who does not do as he is bidden—even in these countries propaganda is used on a large scale to induce people to do things they don't want to do.

Propaganda is used because it is cheaper and more effective than a large police force. It is much cheaper and more effective to make people do things they don't want to by making them believe by propaganda that it is essential for them to do these things, than to use brute force to make them.

People in this country believe the payment of taxes is essential to winning the war; those who don't pay taxes are threatened with heavy penalties. But these penalties, however heavy, would be quite ineffective if everyone refused to pay taxes. No penalty can be as effective as the belief by the people that taxation is necessary. This belief is in the nature of a religious sanction and it takes the place of a military sanction.

In Persia, the mountain chiefs did not believe in paying taxes and refused to pay taxes; and when the Shah of Persia sent his army down to collect the taxes the army was invariably wiped out.

It should be noticed, however, that these mountain chiefs were without the advantages of a modern educational system, and they did not understand the meaning of taxation, and so the methods used to collect taxation were very expensive and not always successful.

During the last depression, millions of people throughout the world starved and were destitute because there was a shortage of money to buy food and clothes; although there was a huge surplus of food and clothes, these millions of people still starved and were destitute because people believed that nobody should have food and clothes without paying money. This idea, which is a form of religious sanction and is the chief basis of a slave State, is rapidly being destroyed.

This idea, once it is broken, will
(Continued on page 3.)

INFLATIONITIS

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

Sir,—Hysteria has broken out. At present it is confined mostly to the ranks of our leaders, but they are doing their best to convert it into an epidemic. It takes the form of inflationitis, and one of its alarming features is its semi-global activity. We have heard of it in England, in America, and in all parts of the Commonwealth of Nations.

It may become more dangerous than the mysterious influenza epidemic that took millions of lives after the last war. Its seriousness must be acknowledged, as otherwise such solid men as President Roosevelt, Montagu Norman, Professor Giblin, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Chifley, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Menzies would not be so concerned. And the fact that they are so concerned should have its appropriate effect on us, because as the "press" approves of their financial ideas there is nothing more to be said. Readiness to die, not a desire to reason why, is the great virtue.

When reading the Budget speech in the Federal Parliament recently, Mr. Chifley warned us that if financial credit from the Commonwealth Bank is used "to pay for the war" it will create a serious risk of inflation. He did not explain what inflation is, or why we use the term almost exclusively in relation to our money arrangements. When we increase the number of divisions in the fighting forces we never speak of an inflation of the Army. Why is that?

When Mr. Curtin spoke to the community in his national broadcast inaugurating the "Austerity" campaign, he repeated word for word what had been read to the House of Representatives by Mr. Chifley, and used the occasion to issue another warning that the use of financial credit obtained from a community-owned banking institution would lead us into grave dangers. He, too, referred to the risks of inflation, but like Mr. Chifley, was careful not to tell us what it really is, and why it should be that we cannot allow a community to have an increase in its money supply without subjecting it to risks and threats and actual robbery.

And Mr. Fadden felt called upon to say his little piece along similar lines, but he went further and declared that the position is so serious that there must be an immediate check on all spending in war departments. To me, as the father of two sons on active service, that is one of the most deplorable statements ever made by a supposedly responsible public man, and shows quite clearly that his approach to the subject is impossible. It is not a check on spending that is

called for. What we need is an examination of our productive capacity to ensure that all our resources are being utilised. There must be no "check" on our efforts at all. The money figures are quite unimportant to anyone who understands the nature, purpose, and origin of money, and they are made to appear important only because of the conditions under which the Government obtains them. We are concerned with the amount spent only because the Government takes it from us after it has been privately created and issued to the community as interest-bearing debt. I say without the slightest hesitation that the agitation now being fostered by the Leader of the Opposition in the Federal Parliament, if permitted to go on, will be of far greater benefit to the enemy than to us. Mr. Hughes and Mr. Menzies are equally culpable in this.

Now the fact that this talk about the dangers of inflation is taking place in all Allied countries is the clearest indication that the same financial system is operating in all of them. That system is one of our greatest obstacles to the all-out prosecution of the war. To make out that inflation is some new danger to be avoided, when the fact is that inflation has been in operation since the commencement of the war is a dishonourable attempt to mislead, stampede, and impose upon citizens ill-informed on the subject. The financial system under which we suffer so acutely is an alternation of inflation and deflation, and does not admit of any middle "ation." These alternate periods of inflation and deflation are the very basis of the so-called "sound finance" to which our leaders are committed. In this respect we were warned by Thomas Jefferson, former President of the United States, what to expect, but lack of intelligent interest in the subject has permitted a coterie of international financiers, owing allegiance to no country, to impose the very conditions envisaged by Jefferson, under which they exploit all countries. This is what Jefferson said:

"If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the corporation that will grow up around them

will deprive the people of all their property, until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

Truer words were never spoken, for the corporation has not only been permitted to do that very thing to the Americans, but also to do it to the people of practically every country in the world.

Inflation does not mean an increase in money. It means an increase in prices. If every one of us had our income doubled to-morrow there would be no inflation unless the increased income was accompanied by an increase in prices. Now prices do not go up of their own accord. They are PUT up. The usual excuse for putting the prices up is that costs have risen, but frequently they are put up simply because the people can purchase freely. But "cost" is the important consideration, and it stands to reason that if money is allowed to reach the community only through industry, and then only as debt bearing interest charges, any increase in the money supply automatically increases debt and interest. Consequently, so long as the present methods are continued it will always follow that an increase in the supply of money will mean an increase in the costs of production and give manufactures just cause for increasing prices. But if money for national use were brought into existence as a credit to the nation instead of a debt to the banker, it need not carry the burden of interest at all and could be distributed to the community without causing any increase in costs, i.e., without inflation. It is therefore clear that if the Commonwealth Government had more competent financial advisers all fear of inflation could be removed.—

Yours faithfully
BRUCE H. BROWN
189 Hotham Street,
East Melbourne,
13th September, 1942
(To be continued.)

LECTURE ON AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

Remarkable Novel by American Writer Quoted

We have much pleasure in reprinting a precis of a lecture by Mr. Eric D. Butler to the Association to Defend British Culture on Saturday night September 5. As usual, Mr. Butler's address indicated considerable research work and historical knowledge:-

To-night I desire to explode some popular myths about the American War of Independence.

In 1821 Chief Justice John Jay said to his nephew, William Heathcote De Lancey: "Let me tell you, William, the true history of the American Revolution can never be written." Jay declined to give his reasons, saying: "You must be content to know that the fact is as I have said, and that a great many people in those days were not at all what they seemed, nor what they are generally believed to have been." (From Edward Floyd De Lancey's introduction to Jones's "History of New York.")

Hilaire Belloc, the British historian, in his book, "The Last Rally," offers some relevant criticism of the popular or "Whig" interpretation of history: "Like all official history, as it approached the term of its natural life (it is still vigorous, but its decay is manifest), it sank from level to level in the community. To-day, it is still the orthodox history of the elementary schools; it is defended, though with increasing difficulty, in the national universities; but its

Propaganda—Continued

prevent any possibility of another depression being forced upon the people.

People to-day are not enslaved by systems so much as by ideas. Few people know from where and how their ideas were obtained; the vast majority have had other people's ideas imposed upon them by various means.

To-day, more than any other time, it is not what happens that matters so much as what people think about what happens. A man who kills another man is driven into gaol by public opinion; a man who causes the death of millions of men not only gets off scot free, but is applauded. It is not what happens that matters so much as what people think about what happens.

And by suitable education and propaganda it would appear that people can be made to ridicule their best friends and to praise and lionise those who are destroying everything they hold dear. Propaganda is one of the most powerful forces in modern society, and one is only sensible to treat it with great suspicion. Propaganda is not all bad; some of it is good. What makes it good or bad is the purpose to which it is put. I don't mean that it is justifiable to tell lies or to distort the truth for some good purpose; the end does not justify the means—as many people seem to think.

Propaganda is necessary to counteract the tremendous forces of organised evil that are let loose on the world to-day. Some of us believe that there are some things in this world worth preserving; such things as truth, beauty and the right of a man to grow up in freedom and security. But the right to enjoy those things must be fought for and be won afresh by each generation.

For over five years we have tried to place in front of you the thoughts and ideas of what we consider honest and scientific political thinkers, and also to expose to your view the dishonest and unscientific thinker. We have paid for the privilege of doing this.

These broadcasts have to be paid for and we think it is now time a few of the many people who believe in what we have been saying should help by contributing 6d. or 1/- a week. If your beliefs are not worth 6d. a week then, indeed, they have little value.

We have a debt standing to our name, and I hope some of my listeners will help us to liquidate that debt this week Mrs. Guthrie will be found at the Electoral Campaign Office, 101 Collins-street, opposite the Imperial, every Wednesday and Friday afternoons, and she will gladly accept your donations.

native ground still remains the great mass of the lower middle class, and there it is the greatest effect in those historical novels with which we are blessed or cursed. A future generation, perhaps the next, may watch with interest the appearance of some real piece of historical fiction wherein our fathers shall be made to behave as they did behave. The effect will be startling."

REMARKABLE NOVEL

Many competent students of American history, particularly some Americans, are convinced that the American Revolution, like most revolutions, was the result of certain grievances being exploited by powerful and unscrupulous groups. Most people do not know that a great number (particularly "better class" people) of the American colonists, while objecting to the British Government, of that period, were not in favour of bloodshed. They were subsequently treated shockingly by the rabble-rousing rebels who incited mob action. Real history now relates the part played by the Jewish financiers in helping the rebels against Britain and eventually bringing France, Spain and the Netherlands into the war against Britain.

Most people have heard of Kenneth Roberts, the great American historical novelist, whose book, "North-West Passage," was filmed. But very few have heard of Roberts' book, "Oliver Wiswell," a novel based on the American Revolution. And no wonder. It debunks much of the popular version of the history of that time and shows some of the real facts. I venture to say that no film will be made of this book. I urge everyone to read this novel, one of the greatest of this century. I propose to quote pertinent extracts from it: and to introduce other information which substantiates Ro-

Letter to the Editor

Muddled Thinking

Sir:—A contemptible, lying campaign is now well under way throughout Australia; its main purpose is to discredit and finally destroy the "New Times" and what it stands for. The Communists make no secret of their intentions: "... break the influence of those who preach, in the 'New Times' and elsewhere, the very ideas that Hitler preached when he was climbing to power in Germany." ("Guardian," August 1.)

As any honest person can readily see for himself, "the very ideas that Hitler preached" are NOT preached in the "New Times." I and others, the main individuals being thus attacked by the Communists, are against anyone climbing to power—i.e., have always opposed the suggestion that our main task is to get "our" men into Parliament. So it is hard to follow the logic of the "Guardian's" statement. But why mince words? Such Communist writers are not interested in logic. They are unscrupulous liars and power-lusters of the worst type.

But the greatest obstacle to attaining real democracy in this country is in the ranks of "social crediters" themselves. Frankly, sir, some people who go around talking "monetary reform" terrify me. I have heard the greatest nonsense uttered from time to time. First it was: "Tell Butler not to attack the Communists. They are well-meaning people. We may convert them." The people who said this had never studied the international material supplied by Douglas and others.

Well what now? The Communists

berts' contentions. Listen to the American hero of the novel;

"We're all agreed about some of the things you say, Mr. Leighton," I said, "we're all agreed that England'll have to govern these colonies differently: but there's considerable difference of opinion about our loss of liberty. I haven't lost any liberty yet under English rule, but I've lost plenty of it under the rule of Americans. . . . And from what I know about the Sons of Liberty, there's no part of these colonies where freedom of speech hasn't been suppressed, the liberty of the press destroyed, and the voice of truth silenced—not by legal means, but by the orders of self-appointed and ignorant committeemen and by little mobs of lawless and equally ignorant men."

Here is another observation made by one of Roberts' characters:

"Patriots be damned," the farmer said. With a shaking hand he pointed his knife at the three militiamen in the corner. "Look at 'em! Patriots! We never knew what trouble was till Patriots like that began to march up and down the roads! They took our horses, stripped our corn, ran off with our cows, stole every apple off our trees, killed our chickens. . . . Patriots," he muttered. "Human lice! Good-for-nothing scoundrels and dregs!" He looked up at Buell defiantly. "That's what they are in this province, brother; and if saying so makes me a Tory, I'm a Tory!"

One of Churchill's ancestors was a member of the Sons of Liberty! And here is the outburst by one character who fought with the rebels: "They weren't fighting for liberty! We were freer before we fought than now! They didn't know what they were fighting for! . . . what about the enormous amount of stock-jobbing, the extortion, the low acts and devices to extort wealth, that existed among our noble Patriots? What about our patriotic army contractors who got rich in one single campaign by stripping us of our miserable pittances. . . . What made Washington say repeatedly that idleness, dissipation and extravagance had laid fast hold on most of our people; that speculation, stealing and an insatiable thirst for riches had apparently got the better of every other consideration with most of those brave Patriots of ours? . . . Why was our army ragged and half fed? Not because the country was poor, but because there was neither

system, common prudence nor integrity in the management of affairs! . . . A good part of our officers were of the lowest class of people! They led their soldiers to plunder and commit every sort of mischief. Those from some States weren't fit to be shoeblacks."

THE DECLARATION OF "INDEPENDENCE"

The following extract is hard-hitting against Jefferson, the man who framed the American constitution. Wiswell, the hero of the book, is talking to some of the pro-British Americans who have been driven into the swamps by the rebels:

"Well, sir," I said, "I can give you a general idea. I can't recite it for you; but two sentences stick in my mind and I can say 'em for you word for word. Every Loyalist, almost, knows its first sentence—When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation' . . .

"Do you know who wrote the paper?" he asked.

"Thomas Jefferson, I'm told, sir." The judge nodded. "I see: I see, you said 'one people,' did you not? 'When it becomes necessary for one people'." He made an exasperated movement. "Four-fifths of the people of this island are loyal. Two-thirds of the people in New York and Pennsylvania are loyal. More than half the people in all of North America are loyal. It looks to me as though Mr. Jefferson hasn't a high respect for the opinions of mankind—not if he wants mankind to think that I and all others who have fled to the security of this swamp, and another million of our fellow-countrymen, are not people." "You'll be equally interested in the other sentence," I said. "It reads, we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." "Well, well!" Judge Hendon said. "So all men are created equal! So they're endowed with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness!" He shook his head. "I suppose we, in this swamp, are supposed to be in possession of our liberty, and engaged in the pursuit of happiness, since Mr. Jefferson declares them to be our unalienable rights' . . .

"Another abuse mentioned," I said, "is that the King has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their subsistence." "The judge looked irritated, "Five new commissioners were appointed for this whole country, and fifteen or twenty clerks to go with them. Those are the swarms who harass Americans and eat out their subsistence! How do they compare with the packs of rebel militia that pull down our homes, maim our cattle and make the lives of our women-folk a perpetual nightmare!" . . .

"I've heard enough! From the beginning, twelve years ago, the rebellious agitators against England have consistently disavowed any desire for independence. For twelve long years the rebel leaders have solemnly affirmed and reiterated that they only wished to obstruct and defeat a weak ministerial policy, thereby to secure a redress of grievances. At every opportunity they vowed they abhorred the thought of independence! James Otis, Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, John Dickinson—all of them said independence would be a

(Continued on page 6.)

HOMES

So long as there are homes to which men turn at the close of day, So long as there are homes where children are, where women stay, If loyalty and faith be found across these sills, A stricken nation can recover from its gravest ills.

—Elbert A. Smith.

advocate, "... a strong campaign in support of the Curtin Government's uniform taxation proposals" ("Guardian," August 1).

Another individual recently expressed the opinion that the "New Times" was not putting forward any constructive views. Upon being questioned, he admitted that he hadn't read the paper closely for several months!

Then there is another individual with money-reform-cum-socialist views who complained that the "New Times" had forgotten Douglas. How remarkable! It is the only paper in Australia reprinting fully all material written by Douglas. And a pity some of these people wouldn't study him. They might learn something.

And I must not forget the "compromise exponents." "Give ground," they say. Yes, that is what the enemy wants: All into a great compromise huddle.

As far as I am concerned, such "money reformers" are a menace. Monetary reform is not the supreme issue to-day. We must expose the enemy, his policy, his tools, name him, and generally help the people to get control of their institutions.

Douglas said that quality is what we want, not mere numbers. Personally, I think that Douglas, a man who will be one day recognised as the greatest genius produced by Britain, has more to contribute than some of our self-styled "social crediters" and other "money reformers," who want to shout like hell, spend a lot of hard-earned money, and sit around in academic groups—but, above all, do nothing. And, of course, never mention individuals, because "we are fighting the system, not individuals." Will some people never learn from experience?—Yours, etc., ERIC D. BUTLER, Melbourne.

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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The "Watchman" Again!

In the radio session, "News Behind the News," broadcast from 3UZ on Sunday, August 23, "The Watchman" expounded some characteristic nonsense about the value of the Gold Standard. His talk could not have been bettered by any of the orthodox apologists who advocate (consciously or otherwise; economic enslavement for the people of the world. Mr. Montagu Norman and his friends would have been very happy to hear it.

Apparently, some "able and far-sighted men" who have been busily hoarding gold in a big hole at Kentucky, U.S.A., are the authorities on how valuable this "precious" metal is as a basis for a "sound" financial system, while some "self-styled" economists (who, after all, only experienced the results of the deflation policy foisted on the people in order that currency might be put back on a "sound" gold basis), are wholly ignorant of its use.

On the contrary, these "self-styled" economists realise that economic intercourse based on the Gold Standard has its use. It is most useful to the individuals who control the gold as a means of making Governments of countries devoid of gold conform to their dictates. In the World Depression, caused by the deflation policy of the bankers, we saw individuals deprived of their means of livelihood and businesses taken away from them because of the lack of money. Similarly, Governments have had their power usurped by the gold controllers. No, Mr. "Watchman," the "self-styled" economists have experienced the results of the "stability" which the Gold Standard imposes, and are not overawed by the "big" men who, according to you, know better by virtue of being "able and far-sighted."

To liken the influence of gold, which has a purely psychological effect in men's minds—if they are suitably mesmerised—to the physical influence of radium and radio waves appears quite a logical comparison to this credulous broadcaster. Perhaps a truer comparison would be to liken the belief in fairies on a small boy's mind to the belief in the Gold Standard on "The Watchman's" mind. The small boy, unless he is hampered in observing facts, will soon discover that the fairies are not interested in his good or bad deeds, and consequently his actions will not be made to conform to his childlike superstitions. Apparently, "The Watchman" has been hampered in observing facts.

If "The Watchman" is correct, a country producing nothing but gold is better off than a country producing REAL wealth. However, the countries which have been "led astray by new-fangled currency ideas" will be forced into the abandonment of these schemes "under the new international relations foreshadowed in the Atlantic Charter," and come back to the golden fold.

What do you think of that last assertion? We think it sounds ominous. However, some well-informed people say, with more candour than kindness, that "The Watchman," despite his oracular pretensions, does not give news behind the news; but merely views behind the times. He certainly seems to have conveniently ignored some of the obstacles to the success of the international financiers' plot.

Christian Democracy

Sir,—Mr. A. J. Hannan, K.C., in a letter to the Adelaide "Advertiser," has made a stirring appeal for educational activities which will tend to the establishment of a Christian democracy, and some people may think that in this way we would be able to bring agreement amongst all who "want to create a better world."

Actual discussion, however, would show the difficulty of agreement about the contents of such words as "Christian" and "democracy," and one may doubt the practicability of such agreement until the semantic discipline suggested by Stuart Chase in his book, "The Tyranny of Words," is more commonly practised amongst educationalists.

For instance, many people think and teach and act as if Christianity were connected with a pathetic and repeated effort to do the undoable. We cannot say that Christianity is being practised, until in some area, or amongst some group, satisfactory dignity and harmony in social intercourse are discernible. More simply, Christianity is a way of getting done the things we want to do, with the proviso that we are as careful as we can be not to lose sight of what is Reality (i.e., God).

Again, democracy is not merely a form of government. Democracy could be accomplished under a one-man administration, as well as under a number of forms of elected Ministries.

Decentralisation will be the test by which to measure any true democracy. Not only will finance and administra-

FRANK FORDE'S FOLLY

In announcing that five of the 16 members "or associates" of the Australia First Movement who were interned early in March had been released at his insistence, Dr. Evatt gave evidence of being troubled in his mind. He said he had "made a careful independent examination of the cases," and had had the five liberated on the day liberation was recommended by "the advisory committee," to which body they had appealed. He invited other members "or associates" still detained to lodge appeals without insisting upon a public hearing, which was prohibited by National Security regulations: It was "regrettable" that this had been insisted upon, for there was "reason to believe that some of the appeals might have succeeded." When all appeals had been disposed of he would "place before Parliament as full and frank an account of the facts and proceedings as is consistent with national security."

The Attorney-General's statement suggested at least to cynics, a lively anticipation of a hot debate at Canberra and a desire to take some of the responsibility for the internments does not rest on Dr. Evatt's shoulders. They were ordered by the Army Minister, Mr. Forde, a few days before the Attorney-General left for Washington. Dr. Evatt did not come into the picture until he had taken up his duties again at Canberra. It having by that time become evident that Mr. Forde had got himself and the Government into a dreadful mess, control of internment cases was transferred from his department to Dr. Evatt and while Mr. Forde remains Army Minister—a position to which he brought neither aptitude nor training, unless service on the anti-conscription front in the last war can be counted as such—it will not be switched back.

First mention of the Australia First cases was made by Mr. Blackburn in the House on March 25. That devotee of the Four Freedoms intimated that he had protested against the right of public meeting being denied to the Australia First Movement, which, "so far as I have been able to discover, operates only in New South Wales," by N.S. Wales Police Commissioner MacKay, now Director-General of Security or something, consequent upon attempts to break up its meetings by plug-uglies from the waterfront and other haunts of Communists. Mr. Blackburn did not say this, but he said that "15 members of the Australia First Movement" had been interned "after the House rose last month." He refused to believe that any of the 15 "or any other Australian-born person" sympathised with Japan, adding that he had "consistently taken a position in this House and elsewhere that persons, particularly those who are Australian-born, should not be imprisoned without trial on the mere suspicion that they had committed offences." He put it to the House very pertinently that enemy spies and agents were not recruited from the ranks of persons "engaged in addressing public meetings and openly opposing Government policy," as the Australia-Firsters had done in the exercise of "the free expression of opinion, a valuable safety valve."

Mr. Forde gave his version on March 26, in reply to a member's question, obviously prearranged. He made it as sensational as he could, and Sydney papers in reporting him improved the shining hour; one decorated the full width of its front page with the headline, "Spy Murder Plot Alleged; Gang of 20 Caught, Says Forde." That gentleman declared that "twenty persons—nineteen men and one woman—who are believed to have been associated with the so-called Australia First Movement, have been arrested and interned." Documents

tion be decentralised, but to a growing extent power will rest in the hands of the individuals of society. Each person, too, will be expected to take full responsibility for their own actions, and to avoid encroaching upon the freedom of others. Few would deny that a sense of spiritual values can become a growing factor more markedly in just such a democracy. — Yours, etc.,

C. H. ALLEN.

Millswood, S.A.

"indicating a Fifth Column activity of the worst kind" had been seized—in which State or States and on whose persons or premises he did not disclose. The documents set out "elaborate plans for sabotage": for treasonable contacts with Japanese invaders, who were to be welcomed to this country as "friends and liberators," and for "the assassination of prominent people." "We shall stand no Quislings, whether they come from the highest or the lowest," Mr. Forde thundered in conclusion.

A very excited debate followed. Public trials were demanded by members; and Mr. Curtin promised that "the whole processes of the law will be invoked." It was suggested that the charge should be high treason, and penalty, on conviction, death. Mr. Hughes intimated that if his name was on the assassination list he would get in first. He declared that "the real purpose of the Australia First Movement is to prepare the way for the coming of the Japanese," and that "the men who started the movement in New South Wales sent their spies and shock troops" to Westralia. "They" ("the men who started the movement in New South Wales") "still walk the streets." "No," Mr. Forde interposed: "the bulk of the internments have been in New South Wales."

There were no treason trials. The only persons placed in the dock were three men and a woman, all little known Westralians, and the charge was conspiracy, the Crimes Act, theme of a thousand Labour attacks, being invoked for the purpose. The principal witness was a rolling stone in police employ, who admitted Communist connections. The woman and one of the men were acquitted (in this man's case, it was admitted by the police that "for at least 10 days after he was first

(Continued on page 5.)

The Censorship A N.S.W. INCIDENT

The well-known J. T. Lang wields a powerful pen, and the majority of his articles are read and quoted the length and breadth of Australia. They appear weekly in the bright "Century" Labour paper. Naturally Lang's articles have been the target for political censorship. On one occasion "Century" appeared with a blank page where the article should have appeared. Almost immediately a regulation was introduced to prevent readers being given any inkling that the censor had been at work. Chief Publicity Censor in New South Wales during that hectic period was Mr. H. Rorke, who last week was featured in the "Herald" as an opponent of political censorship.

The all-time low in political censorship occurred during the period of evacuation from Greece and Crete, during the Menzies' regime. Lang wrote an article condemning the action of the Menzies Government in allowing Australian troops to be sent to Greece without adequate equipment and adequate air support. The censors rejected Lang's article. By strange chance, the Sydney "Sun," the same day, had a leading article dealing with, the same subject.

So "Century" typed out the leading article from the "Sun" and submitted it to the censor as if it had been written by Lang. Within a short time it came back with the blue pencil right across it and the stamp, "Publication Prohibited." Yet, word for word, it was what had already appeared in the "Sun."

The editor of "Century" then interviewed the Publicity Censor and fronted him with the handiwork of his department. The Censor declared that his department had been the victim of a trick. "Century" retorted that the action in prohibiting the same material for publication in "Century" as already had been published by the "Sun" proved to the hilt that the our paper was being made the victim of unfair discrimination.

"Century" further declared that the incident was proof of political censorship. After that incident the atmosphere cleared considerably on the censorship front.

"The Voice," Hobart, August 29

ASSIGNMENT IN UTOPIA

Reprinted from the book of that name, by Eugene Lyons, formerly the United Press correspondent in Moscow, etc. (Continued from last issue.)

BOOK I. PRELUDE TO MOSCOW

IV. I Defend Sacco and Vanzetti

Vanzetti had worked as an unskilled laborer, peddled fish and taken some part in local strike agitations. Sacco was a skilled shoe worker. But as anarchists they neither sympathised nor co-operated with the organised American labour movement, which they regarded as simply a part of the apparatus of capitalist enslavement. Despite this, American labour in the end was obliged to overcome its first, revulsion and accept the Sacco-Vanzetti case as in large measure its own. Moore had slashed through the many layers of outer differences to the core of identity between Sacco and Vanzetti and all other workmen. To accomplish this, he did not hesitate to use any and all instrumentalities of publicity. On the one hand, the labour records of the two men were "built up" and emphasised; on the other, the attitudes of the prosecution were exposed as essentially anti-labour.

By the time I arrived on the scene, John Nicholas Beffel and others had already done the groundwork, under Moore's guidance, in this connection. Because my presence, in 1921-22, happened to coincide with the period when the case exploded into world significance, I received at the time more credit (or blame, depending on the point of view) than I merited. A series of articles in the old "New York World" by Samuel Spewack, in particular, sensationalised and exaggerated my role. I figured in his version as one of three men—an Italian, a Spaniard, and a young American—who sat at their typewriters in a chilly little office in Boston and incited the whole world to protest. This journalistic, simplification infuriated me. As a matter of fact, Felicani, Lopez, and I, writing articles and news stories in Italian, Spanish, and English, respectively, were very minor factors in a situation that had outgrown all of us by that time and was rolling along on its own momentum.

It is a curious fact that Sacco and Vanzetti, whose names are linked inseparably, saw one another very rarely in the seven years between their arrest and electrocution. Sacco was kept in the county gaol at Dedham, Vanzetti in Charlestown Prison. Only on those rare occasions when some new hearing or empty formality brought them into court did they meet, embrace, and chat briefly. Several times, almost a year elapsed before they met again. By the time their cold bodies were laid out on adjoining marble slabs in the death chamber, they had become almost strangers.

Of the same race, the same political faith, their destinies intertwined, they were yet men of the most contrasting temperaments and minds. Sacco was the Latin at his most impetuous, a man of emotion rather than logic, driven literally to madness on at least two occasions by the ordeal of imprisonment and waiting. The separation from his pretty red-headed wife and his two children, from friends and work, consumed his flesh and shook his reason. A week of incarceration for a man like Sacco was more terrible than a year for the more phlegmatic and contemplative Vanzetti. Sacco was a caged and raging animal; Vanzetti seemed a monk in calm seclusion. Under the ferocious Italian moustaches which gave him a look of fierceness in the eyes of the ordinary American, the fishmonger from Piemonte had ascetic features and eyes of a tenderness that haunted one.

With every year of imprisonment Vanzetti seemed to grow calmer, gentler, more philosophic. His was the consolation of genuine martyrdom, in which there was no rancour but an ever-deepening understanding. Where Sacco had acquired his anarchist beliefs at second-hand, more attracted by its harsh code than its philosophy, Vanzetti had read and studied the poets and prophets of his

faith. His mind was crystal clear, and expanded immensely in the enforced leisure of his seven years' isolation. Some of his letters and speeches from the prisoners' cage have the ring of enduring literature—this despite his use of English, an alien, half-apprehended tongue. Certainly the scene while he was being strapped into the electric chair, when he proffered his forgiveness to those who were about to snuff out his life, belongs among the high moments in the history of the human spirit.

I saw Sacco and Vanzetti frequently, either in the company of Moore or alone. But in the fight that reverberated through all the nations and made their linked names a familiar word, their own roles were passive. They merely waited. My day-to-day contacts were with members of the defence committee, zealous Puritan ladies, visiting reporters, lawyers, wrathful anarchists, conniving communists, distressed liberals, local newspapermen, and the extraordinary assortment of men and women drawn together by a common interest in freeing the two men.

In the final year of the case, five years later, the liberal intellectuals rushed belatedly and flamboyantly to the rescue. But at this juncture the affair had not yet become respectable or sufficiently notorious. The enlightened attorneys, poets, novelists, columnists, educators, who were to hold the spotlight in the last frenzied months of the futile fight in 1927, were with few exceptions blissfully oblivious to the affair in 1921-22.

It was a motley and colourful and rather high-pitched company that gathered around the defence at this stage. Some were moved by an undiluted urge to save two innocent men, others were interested primarily in the propagandist value of the case; still others got an emotional kick out of the battle. At one extreme were hot-headed and desperate Italians and Spaniards distrustful of all law, bitterly sarcastic about the hocus-pocus of the motions and affidavits, and often refusing on principle to co-operate with their own lawyers. At the other extreme were men and women of old New England stock, chiefly concerned with saving the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the stigma of an ugly miscarriage of justice. I can recall vital meetings, in which a snarling, red-headed little Italian exponent of direct action argued some question of policy with a benign pacifist like Mrs. Evans. It was Moore's delicate job to reconcile these people and placate their idiosyncrasies.

Because we all worked under great tension, in a ceaseless ferment of hope and despair, we moved in a strangely electrical atmosphere, surcharged with emotion and at moments touched with hysteria. Lack of funds forced a great many of the group to live very closely together in one narrow house on Rollins-place, and that scarcely helped matters. If anyone could record that house, its people, its complicated cross-currents of conflicting political philosophies, the erotic overtones characteristic of

nervous strain, what an incredible novel it would make!

Commonplace stenographers accidentally drawn into this intense atmosphere developed into flaming radicals. Roughneck detectives sprouted a social conscience. Cautious A.P. of L. officials hobnobbed with foreign firebrands. A milk-white, golden-haired little poetess swept like a tornado through the defence group, working havoc among the harassed men and spreading despair among their wives and sweethearts; she dominated the lives of a writer, a strike leader, a lawyer, and a Boston newspaperman in quick succession, with forays into the domestic preserves of half a dozen others, while composing soulful verses in defence of the accused Italians. A gawky, half-savage boy, lured from the Maine woods to plead with his mother, a crucial identification witness, to retract her perjured testimony, had to be forced, literally, to take a bath; soon he blossomed into a spick-and-span U.S. Marine. One of the closest comrades and most ardent defenders of Sacco fell hopelessly in love with Sacco's wife (he married her after Sacco's execution). Within the larger drama of the case, there developed complicated cycles of lesser dramas of private emotion.

Of the reporters who had covered the trial for local newspapers and the great press agencies, not one believed that the foreigners had been proved guilty. A few of them, on the contrary, were deeply convinced of the men's innocence, so that several prominent Boston newspapermen, like Sibley and Folsom, sided openly with the defence. The newspapers themselves, however, were a solid phalanx against us.

I had a privileged inside view of their attitude. In one of the frequent periods when the defence committee went completely broke, I got myself a job on the Boston "Telegram," a scandal-monger sheet now happily out of existence and unmourned. It occurred to no one on the staff, fortunately, to connect me with my notorious namesake at defence headquarters. I enjoyed the ticklish sensation of seeing my Sacco-Vanzetti publicity releases kicked into the waste-basket with a growl of distaste, while feature stories under my signature were being published in the paper; and of writing inflammatory defence literature on the "Telegram's" time and typewriter. I attended to many an assignment by the city editors on the telephone from the Sacco-Vanzetti office. The rigmarole of legalistic gestures unrolled slowly and dully. More motions for a new trial based on new evidence, confessions of perjury by State witnesses, exposes of other State witnesses as criminals—and every motion matched by a denial from the self-righteous Judge Webster Thayer. All the forms of justice were preserved, only the spirit was absent. Many years later I wrote: "Sacco and Vanzetti were given all their legal rights. They were deprived only of their liberty and their lives."

(To be continued.)

Frank Forde's Folly—Continued

detained he was not served with a Ministerial detention order"); the others were found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment for three years (Bullock), and two years (Williams). Counsel for the convicted men said they would appeal on two grounds: (1) the verdict was against the weight of evidence; (2) the sentences were too severe.

Dr. Evatt now declares himself satisfied that "there was no guilty association between members of the Australia First Movement in New South Wales and a group of the same name in Western Australia," which may be taken to mean that there was no association whatever. Mr. Forde could have satisfied himself on the same point, very important to the N.S. Wales Australia-Firsters, months ago, but evidently he didn't bother. If he did, he concealed his conclusion, if any, from Parliament and the public. In one of Parliament's thoughtless moments, this Minister—as the N.S.W. Chief Justice put it in the case of Mrs. Pankhurst Walsh—was invested with "arbitrary powers over the life and liberty of every Australian citizen, members of Parliament included," and he doesn't seem to have ever realised that it was a most serious matter to take away the reputations, livelihoods and liberties of these Australia-Firsters and hold them in custody without trial.

All Mr. Forde's references to their case were disingenuous or worse. Tackled in the House on June 2, he protested that "in March last I said, some members of this organisation have been responsible for certain actions." He drew no such distinction. He tarred all the Internees with the same brush. In his second (and last) reference to them in March, he said,

The members of the Australia First Movement have been interned because the Government is mindful of the

necessity for vigilance." "Charges, he added, "will be made against these men, and they will be given an opportunity to answer them." June 2 found him saying that "many of those who have been interned have lodged appeals and I have given instructions that the hearings are to be expedited; I was informed to-day that 16 typists had been put on to hurry the work forward." How much expedition there was Dr. Evatt's statement, made twelve weeks later, has shown.

In the cases of the Communists Thomas and Ratliff, expedition was the order of the day. Mr. Forde had them out a fortnight after he became a Minister. Yet, unlike the N.S.W. Australia-Firsters, these Russia-Firsters had been convicted and sentenced. They had been caught running a secret propaganda factory, directed against "the imperialist war" and against recruiting for the A.I.F., and their confederates being engaged in beating up recruits for the Communist party. Interned after they had served their sentence, they went before an appeals tribunal headed by a Judge, the Government of the day having surrendered to that extent to the Demands of Communists and their fellow-travellers. The tribunal's report was very unfavourable to the fellows and their application. Mr. Forde set them free in spite of it.

Afterwards Communists bragged, in their evil and lawless press, giving a list of names in contempt of Mr. Curtin and the censorship and attacking the owners in the argot of the gutter, that the Australia-Firsters had been interned on information supplied by them. It will be Parliament's duty to determine how much truth, if any, there was in this boast. For, obviously, the whole black business, which should be the end of Mr. Forde as Army Minister, will have to be referred to a Select Committee.

—"The Bulletin," Sydney, Sept. 2

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Lord Mayor of Brisbane Speaks Out

(Continued from last issue.)

An Address by the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman J. B. Chandler, to the Rotary Club, Brisbane, on Monday, 8th June

For years past an almost endless stream of literature has been poured out by some of the most brilliant writers of the day and disseminated amongst the public, using every quirk of the pen, every atom of imagination and every conceivable artifice—truthful or untruthful: its object, the spreading of dissension, class-hatred and destruction. It is easier to destroy than to build. The minds of the people are being poisoned against the present system and this poison is all the more dangerous because of the insidiousness with which it does its deadly work. The thoughts of the people are becoming so satiated with this propaganda that a large portion of them have come to accept it without thought and without question. Let me give you an instance. I suppose it is quite safe to say that there is not a business man of any importance whatever in this whole Commonwealth whose income has not severely depreciated as a result of war or taxation or both. You, gentlemen, are probably a fair average sample of the class I speak of. What is YOUR experience? Has not your income dwindled by a quarter—half— or three-quarters, perhaps in some cases even more? I am not complaining of this—the war must be paid for and obviously those who have the greatest material interest at stake must pay the larger portion of the cost of its preservation, but how many of our so-called working men and women of this country believe or have realised what this taxation means? It is true that some businesses and some companies are making larger profits than they have made before. That in itself is not important. What counts in the final analysis is how much do the proprietors or shareholders of these businesses or companies receive as net income after payment of taxation? In most cases infinitely less than they did before the war, but I tell you that Mr. General Public does not understand, this nor believe it. I have contacted scores and scores of workers and their representatives and talked to them, but to-day statements of this kind make no impression—they still believe that the employer is gouging the workers and making fat profits out of the war. And whose fault is it? Yours and mine.

For years we have seen this propaganda all around us, but has its probable effect really impinged upon our consciousness: have we given it serious thought—or more important, have we taken any action?

It should be our job to educate the public to a realisation of the value of individual enterprise. We spend millions annually in boosting our goods to the public. How much do we spend in boosting the system of private enterprise which makes the production of those goods possible? We should glorify industrial achievement and make it clear that he who by his brain and enterprise creates more goods for use is our greatest material benefactor. But have we made any serious attempt to do this? I think we must agree the answer is NO, yet it seems so obvious a course as to

Promised Potatoes

"The Commonwealth Government was trying to increase the production of potatoes by 50 per cent., and gave an assurance that labour would be available for digging when the time came. This statement was made at Canberra on August 29 by the Commerce Minister (Mr. Scully)." — "Voice," Hobart.

Perhaps the various forms deemed necessary to put this promise into effect had not been designed until the recent outcry against the potato shortage, which was the result of further bureaucratic muddling. Are we to expect more forms, more regulations, and more bureaucrats? Past experience seems to point to the fact that it would be over-optimistic to expect more potatoes.

make one wonder why it has escaped attention.

Consider also the political aspect. It is apparent that in a democracy politics must play a continually increasing part, but what have we done in this direction? Have we selected our brightest and most intelligent men to represent us in Parliament; have we made sure that they are trained, educated and equipped with all the necessary knowledge—political, economic and social—to enable them to state our case in the most effective manner? Have we given them a cause to fight for? Have we assisted them with our help, our encouragement, our work, and our money, or have we sat back indifferent and disinterested and allowed good men to be discouraged and beaten, and our politics to get into the hands of the ignorant, the place-seeker, the pot-hunter, the unscrupulous and generally the worst instead of the best elements

LECTURE ON AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

(Continued from page 3.)

calamity and a crime. On this ground they secured the help of Pitt, Burke, Conway, Barre. Now, they've turned traitor to those who helped them. Pitt, Burke, and all the others have been made parties to a disruption of the British Empire. The men responsible for this Declaration are political hypocrites, as those of us who disagree with them have always charged. While openly disavowing a wish for independence, some of them must have been treacherously working with that end in view all the time!"

* * *
Alexander Hamilton, one of the leading figures in the American Revolution, a man whose name is associated with "liberty" in popular history—I am quite sympathetic towards many of his views—is commented on as follows by Cecil Chesterton in his "History of the United States":—

"Of these the most important was the creation of the first United States Bank. Here Hamilton was quite certainly inspired by the example of the English Whigs. He knew how much the stability of the settlement made in 1689 had owed to the skill and foresight with which Montagu, through the creation of the Bank of England, had attached to it the great moneyed interests of the city. He wished, through the United States Bank, to attach the powerful moneyed interests of the Eastern and Middle States in the same fashion to the Federal Government. This is how he and his supporters would have expressed it. Jefferson said that he (Hamilton) wished to fill Congress with a crowd of mercenaries bound by pecuniary ties to the Treasury and obliged to lend it, through good and evil repute, a perennial and corrupt support. The two versions are really only different ways of stating the same thing. To a democrat such a standing alliance between the Government and the rich, will always seem a corrupt thing—nay, the worst and least remediable form of corruption: to a man of Hamilton's temper it seemed merely the necessary foundation of a stable political equilibrium. Thus the question of the Bank really brought the two parties which were growing up in the Cabinet and in the nation to an issue which revealed the irreconcilable antagonism of their principles.

"The majority in Congress was with Hamilton; but his opponents appealed to the Constitution. They denied the competency of Congress under the instrument to establish a National Bank. When the Bill was in due course sent to Washington for signature he asked the opinions of his Cabinet on the Constitutional question, and both Hamilton and Jefferson wrote very able State

of the community? Have we not been too busy; too anxious to make money to increase our businesses—in general, too indifferent and too selfish to carry our rightful share of the obligations which democracy imposes on all its citizens if that democracy is to be really worth while? And what is the result of our neglect? Politically, we have been weighed in the balance and found wanting. There are, of course, still some excellent politicians, perhaps even more than we really deserve, but is there not a large proportion whose knowledge, experience and honesty of purpose may well be questioned? As a result, has not our Parliamentary system deteriorated to a point where it has become government of the indolent by the ignorant? Lack of leadership is frequently ascribed as the cause of our political desuetude, but have we supplied the inspiration? No man can give of his best in a struggle without weapons with which to fight, and a motive to fight for: the more inspiring the motive the better the fight.

Have we not failed to realise that the maintenance of the status quo is not an objective in itself? Have we given conscious thought to the development of an industrial system organised to give the greatest results to society? Have we given thought to the business structure as a whole or

have we been content merely to consider our own particular interest in an existing system? Planned and used constructively, what could give us a greater abundance of material in which to draw for inspiration than the system of private enterprise with its tremendous vitality—its great record of success, achievement and development, its fertility in design and invention, its wonderfully developed capacity for production? Is there not sufficient material, here to furnish us with all that any fighting organisation could desire? But if individualism is to continue, it must keep in step with natural progress; it must modify and adjust itself to meet new times and new conditions. Our present system needs many alterations, many improvements. The system must be moulded to suit the times—the times cannot be moulded to suit the system. You may ask for a continuance of capitalism, but it must be a capitalism designed and shaped not for the enrichment or aggrandisement of the few, but to supply the maximum amount of the world's goods to the many. Our business structure should be entirely remodelled. Many of our practices should be eliminated. Much wasteful and unnecessary competition should be stopped. Businesses must be better organised—better regulated. A BRIDGE MUST BE FOUND BETWEEN THE WORLD'S ENORMOUS CAPACITY TO PRODUCE AND THE PEOPLES EQUALLY ENORMOUS CAPACITY TO USE OR TO CONSUME.

Yes, have capitalism by all means, but it must be controlled capitalism.

Individuality and individual enterprise is the greatest factor in the world's development. Cut this out and what have you? A mouldering, unprogressive, decaying system. Take away individual enterprise and individual incentive, and material progress will cease. But that does not mean that every man with an idea must be free to do as he pleases. The fact that a community offers scope for the development of individuality and enterprise should imply that there is an equal obligation on the individual to serve the community. He should reap his just reward, but his reward should be apportioned according to the degree in which he serves society. Yes, by all means let us have individualism, but let us see that it is organised individualism.

You may say there are many reasons why you cannot take an active part in public affairs. You have insufficient time; your business absorbs all your thought; your company won't allow you. You may give these and a hundred reasons why you cannot afford to participate in matters of this kind, but I tell you the time has come when you cannot afford NOT TO PARTICIPATE in them unless you wish to be completely submerged—to lose your freedom of thought and action—to become a cypher whose very life is controlled and regimented from start to finish. YOU MUST TAKE PART in the struggle that is now on your doorstep or run the risk of being forever relegated to servitude.

Some years ago when I suggested that Australia should build a high fleet of aeroplanes as the most logical means of defending this country, it was regarded as fantastic or ridiculous. People said the country could not face the enormous expenditure that would be involved, but to-day we are facing not only that expenditure but ten or perhaps a hundred times the amount, and we know we HAVE to face it because our very lives are at stake. But I say now that a practically similar position exists with the social and economic warfare that is going on around us. Economically we must fight or perish.

Every person is needed, but this must be a voluntary army. This is a case where you cannot use conscription, but unless a sufficient number do bear their share, nothing but inglorious defeat can ensue.

Maybe you do not agree with what I say. You may think I have exaggerated; that I am an alarmist; but I sincerely believe that it is not a case to-day of waiting for the revolution. THE REVOLUTION IS HERE—it is taking place NOW—it is going on all around us NOW.

If you agree that that is so, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Papers in defence of their respective views. After some hesitation Washington decided to sign the Bill, and to have the question of constitutional law to the Supreme Court. In due course it was challenged there, but Marshall, the Chief Justice, was a decided Federalist and gave judgment in favour of the legality of the Bank."

THE HYPOCRISY OF BURKE

"To me he said, 'Oliver, we're never sure, over here, when we're being told the truth about what's going on in America. Everything that happens is supposed to be printed in the 'National Register.' Unfortunately, Mr. Burke edits the 'National Register,' and Mr. Burke's a Whig. Consequently, there's nothing in the 'National Register' that isn't coloured. Every line in it is calculated to further the interests of the Whig party. The Whigs will lie, steal, destroy the British Empire to get back into power."

Burke is held up as a great protagonist of the American revolutionaries, particularly on the issue of taxation without representation, which is the popular reason given for the revolution. Cecil Chesterton, in his "History of the United States," states: "As for the suggestion sometimes made that there was something unprecedentedly outrageous about an English Parliament taxing people who were unrepresented there, it is, in view of the constitution of that Parliament, somewhat comic. If the Parliament of 1764 could only tax those whom it represented, its field of taxation would be somewhat narrow. Indeed, the talk about taxation without representation being tyranny, however honestly it might be uttered by an American, could only be conscious or unconscious hypocrisy in men like Burke, who were not only passing their lives in governing and taxing people who were unrepresented, but who were quite impudently determined to resist any attempt to get them represented even in the most imperfect fashion."

S.C.M. of S.A.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the S.C.M. of South Australia will be held on Thursday, September 24, in the Rechabite Hall, Grote-street, Adelaide, at 8 p.m. The agenda: To receive the chairman's annual report and accounts of the past year, to collect annual subscriptions, elect officers for the coming year, to transact general business and decide our future policy. All members are urgently requested to attend this important meeting, as now is the time to act. So roll up—Don't leave it to others.

—J. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec.

NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

industry has begun a nation-wide drive to sell a billion dollars' worth of war bonds through rallies, parades and personal appearances by Hollywood stars. Since the U.S. Government has complete power and facilities to manufacture and issue its own money without borrowing from private money lenders, it can be assumed that the bankers are using Hollywood as their agents to foster the idea that the Government is necessarily dependent on private sources for finance. Behind the smoke-screen of subscriptions from genuine savings, the banks will CREATE most of the finance and the Government will act as tax-gatherer for the financiers, in order to provide them with post-war pensions in the form of interest payments.

BEEF MUDDLE: Further evidence of muddling on the part of the socialistic planners can be observed in the proposed two-days per week ban on beef. Allowing for the increased demand caused by the influx of U.S. forces, which is more than offset by the loss of export markets, it is obvious that our supplies are not impaired. So, it is also clear that the ban is simply for the purpose of meeting the chaotic situation caused by theoretical bunglers, instead of replacing them with efficient practical men who satisfactorily handled the position before the control Boards were instituted.

PRESS PRESSURE: Self-defence propaganda appears in the Melbourne "Herald" of September 8 wherein it reports: "A disquieting element has been introduced by non-political men taking up the cry about the Irresponsibility of the Press." If such is the case, it is a hopeful sign of a realisation that the press is simply an organ of the financial power which controls and dictates the policy of Parliament. The daily press is controlled through overdrafts and advertising "hand-outs." It will be a happy day when the people realise the danger of being influenced by our servile daily press.

CHIFLEY'S CAPERS: Press reports of Mr. Chifley's broadcast display strong opposition to using the people's Commonwealth Bank for raising war finance without private bank interest charges. His remarks make it clear that he is only a sounding board for Copland, Giblin and Co., whose wisdom and knowledge brought us the last depression, and prevented the national development which was physically possible and capable of making us safe against our enemies. Their plea was, as now, that we must protect the financial structure—we must make the physical facts fit the money supply. Chifley himself doesn't seem capable of understanding much—he has even admitted in Parliament that he cannot understand a bank balance-sheet which explains why his theoretical economic advisers are able to use him to put over their orthodox jargon.

JAPAN'S DIET: Ray Cromley, "Wall Street Journal's" former Tokio correspondent, advocates a Fish and Bean Blockade. He points out that without these commodities to balance their diet the Japanese cannot carry on, because rice alone, although filling, does not give much energy. This viewpoint is especially interesting in view of the fact that Russia recently renewed the fishing agreement with Japan in exchange for gold payments. The fish help Japan to carry on the war—whilst the gold is useless to Russia, since she has the Lease-Lend facilities which are supposed to waive the question of payment, at least until after the war, when we are led to believe, repayment may be made in kind, not gold.

LABOUR CAMPS: Further evidence of the drift to Fascism in Australia is contained in the Melbourne "Sun" report of September 8 in connection with prosecutions launched by the Allied Works Council. It appears that five men conscripted for work by this body under the manpower regulations were arrested for refusing work. If the democratic ideals for which we are fighting are to be preserved, the

manpower regulations must be abolished without delay.

COMMUNISM Archbishop Booth, speaking at the Salute to Russia meeting in the Melbourne Town Hall on September 8, whilst giving due praise to Russia's war effort, debunked many of the propositions of the local Communistic hot-heads. He pointed out the extensive help given by Britain, and declared that Russia had a voice in the councils which decided use of pooled allied resources. Naturally, factual unemotional statements of this nature were not well received by the socialistic audience. When he told them that he refused to speak with his tongue in his cheek, and despite disagreement with his remarks, he was going to say his piece, he was still less popular. He then proceeded to give examples to support his view that conditions were far superior in Australia, notably in housing and living standards. It was indeed a fearless and impartial and factual rebuttal of Communistic hooey—and it showed there was no relationship between the gallant Russians on the battle front and the windy local agitators.

LEASE-LEND: Although this term is widely used, nobody seems to know how much is lease or how much is lend. Dealing with repayments, however, it has been stated in the press that the President of U.S. may accept same in whatever form he approves, but it has not been made clear whether or not other nations have that prerogative. In this matter the following reference appearing in the Melbourne "Sun" of September 4 is interesting: "The agreements specify the elimination of monetary transactions where possible." It is difficult to know whether this is a sign of realism, an admission of the unworkability of the debt structure, or propaganda to bolster up some semblance of the old-fashioned idea that money migrates, like the birds, from one country to another.

DAYLIGHT SAVING: There is strong opposition to "daylight saving" in South Australia, according to the press of September 5, which reports the President of the Housewives' Association as saying that her association opposed it. The same report also said that the President of the South Australian Chamber of Manufacturers remarked: "The scheme was hazily conceived and it was difficult to see how it would benefit industry or any phase of war work, when most factories were blacked out and artificial lighting had to be used night and day." Since the people were not permitted to express an opinion on this issue, it appears to be just another piece of sectional legislation, enacted to appease one or two noisy newspaper proprietors who have a strong desire to meddle with the lives and habits of other people. It is another argument for the proposition that no legislation should be enacted until and unless a majority of the people have approved it.

BANKER'S BLUNDERS: The part played by the international bankers in causing the present world-wide carnage is illustrated in the leading article of the Melbourne "Sun" of September 5, viz.: "Recalling the structural damage to Anglo-American relations by the war debts controversy, and that Hitler's path was paved by the delayed-action upheaval of 1914-1918 finance. . . ." Having now admitted what students of the money racket have been saying for years, in the future the press may also admit that the delayed-action effect of 1939-1942 finance has continued to pave the way for post-war "Hitlerism."

—O.B.H.

THE AYES AND THE NOES

A magazine published monthly for private circulation among the members of an association interested in the sales side of industry has just published an analysis of the replies received to a questionnaire drawn up, apparently by Mr. Vickers (Mr. Vickers's name is mentioned by a commentator). The organisation has branches in fourteen centres in England and Scotland, and is under royal patronage.

Sixty-six members replied to the questions put to them. The analysis of the replies is given below, because so far as it goes it is evidence of the claim made in this journal (says "The Social Crediter") that it is not ignorance of the facts about money that is the chief, or even an important obstacle to the establishment of an order of society in which the power until lately exerted mainly through finance is decentralised:—

"Fifty-seven answered 'yes' and nine 'no' to the first question: 'Do you agree that after the war large amounts of money (whether paper or cheque money) will be needed to finance the construction of houses, ships, and all kinds of things to replace war losses?'"

"Forty-nine answered 'yes' and seventeen 'no' to the second question: 'Are you satisfied with the evidence given—that the banks can and do create money out of nothing?'"

"Fifty-four answered 'yes' and twelve 'no' to the third question: 'Do you agree that the banks forego nothing when they lend newly-created money to the Government?'"

"Thirteen answered 'yes' and fifty-three 'no' to the fourth question: 'Do you consider it right that the banks should be allowed to create and lend to the Government money, i.e., claims to other peoples' goods, and be paid interest as well as being owed the capital sum, causing an increase in taxation and the National Debt?'"

"Fifty-seven answered 'yes' and nine 'no' to the fifth question: 'Do you consider the Prime Minister of Canada is right and that, when trade activity requires an increase in the total amount of money (paper and book entry), new money should be spent into existence by the Government without a capital debt and interest charge, instead of being lent into existence by the banks, at interest?'"

"Fifty-five answered 'yes' and eleven 'no' to the sixth question: 'Do you agree with Mr. Keynes, of the Bank of England, when he said last February—"It is a question of materials and man-power, not of finance. The humbug of finance is not

what it was. It rears a very cautious and timid head to-day, and I don't believe it will be the obstacle it was in 1919 and the succeeding years?'"

A "Government" run by the majority of the contributors would not necessarily provide the community with either an improvement on the Work State or more opportunity than there is now for the electorate to determine policy, in the sense of the results to be obtained by common effort.

Potatoes? What Else?

To get potatoes one must go to foreigners. They say, "Potatoes, yes, and what else do you want?" And if you do not want anything else you get no potatoes. Mothers should write to their local M.P.'s and let them know that while our children's fathers and brothers are fighting for our ideals foreigners control food for our children.—MOTHER OF FOUR (Newport).

—"Fifty-Fifty" Melbourne "Sun," 14/9/42.

Interviewed by our representative, a small business man who until recently conducted his own business in the trade said that the facts quoted above were 100 per cent, right. He thought he might get a job from a wholesale firm which conducts inter-State and export trade "in a big way—the partners, 'Issy' and 'Ossie,' having a thorough grasp of the business.

THE PACIFIC WAR AND THE ENEMY WITHIN.

Under this heading in our issue of December 15 appeared an open letter to Federal Members from Eric Butler. Many people believe this to be the clearest, most damning, and hardest-hitting piece of writing ever directed against the Money Monopoly and its political "yes-men." There is a challenge in every sentence. A copy was sent to every Federal Member.

At the request of many people, and in the interests of a really free Australia, we have had thousands of copies of the above letter reprinted for mass distribution.

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YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

You are represented by the M.H.R. for your electorate and by all the six Senators for your State. For your convenience, here is a list of the Federal electorates in each State, with the name of the M.H.R. shown opposite each electorate; also a list showing the Senators for each State:

M.H.R.'S

VICTORIA.
 Balaclava..... T. W. White
 Ballarat..... R. T. Pollard
 Batman..... Frank Brennan
 Bendigo..... G. J. Rankin
 Bourke..... M. M. Blackburn
 Corangamite..... A. M. McDonald
 Corio..... J. J. Dedman
 Deakin..... W. J. Hutchinson
 Fawkner..... H. E. Holt
 Flinders..... E. S. Ryan
 Gippsland..... T. Paterson
 Henty..... A. W. Coles
 Indi..... J. McEwen
 Kooyong..... R. G. Menzies
 Maribyrnong..... A. S. Drakeford
 Melbourne..... A. A. Calwell
 Melbourne Ports..... E. J. Holloway
 Wannon..... D. McLeod
 Wimmera..... Alex. Wilson
 Yarra..... J. H. Scullin

NEWSOUTH WALES.

Barton..... H. V. Evatt
 Calare..... J. P. Breen
 Cook..... Thos. Sheehan
 Cowper..... Sir Earle Page
 Dalley..... J. S. Rosevear
 Darling..... J. J. Clark
 Eden-Monaro..... J. A. Perkins
 Gwydir..... W. J. Scully
 Hume..... T. J. Collins
 Hunter..... H. James
 Lang..... D. Mulcahy
 Macquarie..... J. B. Chifley
 Martin..... W. V. McCall
 Newcastle..... D. O. Watkins
 New England..... J. P. Abbott
 Parkes..... Sir Chas. Marr
 Parramatta..... Sir F. Stewart
 Reid..... C. A. Morgan
 Richmond..... H. L. Anthony
 Riverina..... J. I. Langtry
 Robertson..... F. S. Spooner
 Sydney E..... E. J. Ward
 Sydney N..... W. M. Hughes
 Sydney W..... J. A. Beasley
 Warringah..... P. C. Spender
 Watson..... S. M. Falstein
 Wentworth..... E. J. Harrison
 Werriwa..... H. P. Lazzarini

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane..... G. Lawson
 Capricornia..... F. M. Forde
 Darling Downs..... A. W. Fadden
 Griffith..... W. P. Conelan
 Herbert..... G. W. Martens

Kennedy..... W. J. Riordan
 Lilley..... W. A. Jolly
 Maranoa..... F. P. Baker
 Moreton..... J. Francis
 Wide Bay..... B. H. Corser

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide..... F. H. Stacey
 Barker..... A. G. Cameron
 Boothby..... A. G. Price
 Grey..... A. O. Badman
 Hindmarsh..... N. J. Makin
 Wakefield..... J. G. Duncan-Hughes

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Forrest..... J. H. Prowse
 Fremantle..... J. Curtin
 Kalgoorlie..... H. V. Johnson
 Perth..... W. M. Nairn
 Swan..... H. Gregory

TASMANIA.

Bass..... H. C. Barnard
 Darwin..... Sir Geo. Bell
 Denison..... A. J. Beck
 Franklin..... C. W. Frost
 Wilmot..... J. A. Guy

NORTHERN TERRITORY.

A. M. Blain.

SENATORS

VICTORIA.

C. H. Brand, W. G. Gibson, J. W. Leckie, D. Cameron, R. V. Keane, J. A. Spicer.

NEWSOUTH WALES.

W. P. Ashley, J. J. Arnold, W. J. Large, S. K. Armour, J. I. Armstrong, T. C. Arthur.

QUEENSLAND.

W. J. Cooper, T. W. Crawford, H. S. Foll, G. Brown, J. S. Collings, B. Courtice.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

J. McLachlan, G. McLeay, O. Uppill, P. A. McBride, A. J. McLachlan, K. C. Wilson.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

H. B. Collett, A. N. MacDonald, R. E. Clothier, J. Cunningham, J. M. Fraser.

TASMANIA.

H. Hays, J. B. Hayes, B. Sampson, W. E. Aylett, R. Darcey, C. A. Lamp.

IN BRITAIN'S PARLIAMENT

MAY 6 NOMINEE SHAREHOLDINGS (IDENTITY.)

Sir John Mellor asked the Attorney-General whether he will refer, for the opinion of the Law Revision Committee, the question whether Section 101 of the Companies Act 1929 should be amended so as to require nominee shareholders to disclose, and companies to register, the names of the beneficial owners of the shares, without thereby affecting companies with notice of any trust?

The Solicitor-General (Sir David Maxwell Fyfe): My Noble Friend does not consider that the question of law to which the hon. Member refers is one which could usefully be considered by the Law Revision Committee. As to the question whether the existing machinery is sufficient to enable information about nominee holdings in shares to be placed at the disposal of the Government, I have nothing to add to the answer given to my hon. Friend on April 28, 1942.

Sir J. Mellor: Having regard to the general terms of reference of the Law Revision Committee as laid down on their appointment in 1934, would not this question be within the scope of the committee if referred to them by my hon. and learned Friend?

The Solicitor-General: If my hon. Friend will look at the purposes of the Section whose reference he suggests, he will find that they are,

first, to relieve the company from taking notice of equitable interests in shares, and, secondly, to preclude persons claiming under their equitable titles from converting the company into a trustee; that is, it is concerned with the relations of the beneficial owners of the shares of the company. Now, the results of an alteration would be to cause certain administrative difficulties for companies, and these are matters of administration of the Companies Act, and not a matter of revision of law, which is the purpose of the committee to which my hon. Friend refers.

Sir J. Mellor: Would these administrative changes be possible without some amendment of the Companies Act?

The Solicitor-General: The difficulty with regard to that is whether my hon. Friend has really directed his attention to the Section which would assist in that matter. As I understand my hon. Friend's purpose, it is to have clearer provision for the general knowledge of who the beneficial owners are. It is not therefore helpful to amend a Section which deals with relations of the nominees with the company, but I am quite prepared, in view of my hon. Friend's insistence in the matter, to consider all the relevant provisions on the object, which I think I correctly interpret, he has in mind.

U.E.A. ACTION

THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

Thousands of loyal Britishers throughout Australia, determined to uphold British traditions of freedom, are now in action to arrest the dangerous drift towards Fascism in Australia. Thousands more are wanted in this campaign (so there is still room for YOU) to protect the home front for our fighting forces from Fascism from within. There is grave danger in some of the ill-conceived regulations in operation—for example, the "Manpower Regulations," which not only abolish liberties won after centuries of effort, but are also a denial of our declared war aims. Moreover, these regulations cannot be regarded as helping the war effort, because of the industrial dislocation they have caused. Also, they are the direct cause of closing-up thousands of small business concerns and shops belonging to soldiers or their dependents—which means that the regulations are a menace to their future livelihood, as well as their liberty. Obviously, if their interests are to be safeguarded, these dangerous regulations must be abolished by the only

effective and constitutional means—the "Electoral Campaign." If you have not already applied for Letter Forms on this issue you should do so without delay. Those who have advised us of their requirements should receive same within a few days. On this occasion, for special reasons, all signed forms are to be returned to the U.E.A. office with Member's name and electorate clearly shown.

Regarding the "Action Chart" enclosed with "confidential circular," we urge all supporters who have not already returned same to do so as early as possible. In reply to enquiries about the "Anti-depression" campaign, we advise that this is being held back awhile to avoid clashing with the immediate objective Headquarters also wish to acknowledge encouraging letters received and the splendid financial assistance to date, and to point out that we will be happy to acknowledge plenty more. Any special information or help in connection with the campaign will be gladly given if you drop a line to the Hon. Secretary, United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, 343 little Collins-street, Melbourne, — O. B. Heatley, Campaign Director.

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