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EVERY FRIDAY

THE NEW TIMES

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Now, when our
land to ruin's
brink is verging,
In God's name,
let us speak while
there is time!
Now, when the
padlocks for our
lips are forging,
Silence is crime.
Whittier (1807-1892).

M.L.A.'s Warning On Centralisation Danger Pertinent Speech in the N.S.W. Parliament

During the recent Address-in-Reply Debate in the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, the Member for Armidale (Hon. D. H. Drummond) spoke of the dangers inherent in the proposals to give more powers to the Commonwealth Government. According to the N.S.W. "Hansard" (No. 7, pp. 215-216), he said, inter alia:—

In the course of this debate frequent references have been made to the proposals of the Federal Government to attempt to secure complete control of the whole of the affairs of the Commonwealth. The hon. Member for Auburn, speaking with a good deal of authority, had something to say yesterday with regard to dictatorship, and the hon. Member for Kogarah, in his speech this morning, said very frankly that if we had only one Government in Australia it would be easier to find a solution for our difficulties. If one turns to history one finds a constant factor operating, irrespective of the state of civilisation and of the varying local conditions. And when one finds a factor constantly operating in the same way and under the same condition, one can only come to the conclusion that no amount of verbiage and clouding of the issue will prevent a reasonable human being from assuming that, given a similar factor, one will get a similar result in this modern age.

I gave to the press a statement to the effect that the high road to dictatorship right through history has been shown to be the centralisation of government, and, shorn of verbiage and emotionalism, Dr. Evatt's proposals mean centralisation and nothing else. Only the local country press published my statement, which I will now back with references to show that I have some slight knowledge of this matter. Go back to the beginnings of our western civilisation, to the story of Greece.

Gradually there was a concentration of power in Athens, which eventually destroyed Greece itself. It is on record by that great historian and British authority, Lionel Curtis, that in Rome the gradual withdrawal of the powers of local government from the local governing communities which gave Rome its original strength, gradually destroyed the spirit of citizenship in Rome, and, even if the northern barbarians had not attacked Rome it would have fallen by reason of the fact that it had not enough men of public spirit to maintain it. From ancient Rome let me turn to the reply which ex-President Calvin Coolidge, of the United States of America, made to a deputation which, in 1926, urged the granting of greater powers to the Federal Government of that country. He said:

"No method of procedure has ever been devised by which liberty could be divorced from self-government. No plan of centralisation has ever been adopted which did not result in bureaucracy, tyranny, inflexibility, reaction, and decline. Of all forms of government those administered by bureaus are about the least satisfactory to an enlightened and progressive people."

Centralised Government by a bureaucracy at Canberra is what we will have if the Commonwealth Government has its way. This State is governed to too great an extent by a bureaucracy, not from choice, but from the simple fact that it embraces too large an area for local governing bodies to successfully administer it.

HOW TO READ THE "NEWS"

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

As a result of uncontrollable circumstances, I find that I now have to read two weeks', sometimes more, issues of the daily press at once. And I have reached the conclusion that, if possible, this is the best way to obtain a real perspective of the "news" which the big, centralised presses are pouring out for the "benefit" of the public.

When a person reads the paper every day, he is inclined to forget what he was told a few days previously. I seriously suggest that the thinking citizen should retain each day's issue of his paper, wait until the week-end, and then read the week's "news." And he should read Saturday's paper first and Monday's last—that is, if he wants to get the best results.

I recently applied this system of research to the Battle for Stalingrad, and this is what I discovered:

On October 22 "Red Star" declared that "Twenty-two divisions are concentrated against Stalingrad; 15 infantry, three motorised and four tank, possessing 500 tanks, 1200 field guns, and 1000 trench mortars, with 800 aircraft."

But I was amazed to read that, on October 29, seven days later, the Stockholm correspondent of the "Times" remarked that the Germans no longer believed that the Red October works could be taken by small arms fire!

The fall of the Red Barricade and Dzerzhinsky factories had been admitted on October 21, when it was admitted that the only section of the factory area remaining in Russian hands was the Red October factory; but, on October 29 the A.B.C. announced that the Germans were still trying to penetrate the Stalingrad factory district. A delightfully clear picture of the battle! But I was further amazed to read in a "Times" dispatch of October 26 that the correspondent marvelled at the tenacity of the garrison (he must have marvelled from Moscow, because, as far as I know, no foreign correspondent has been allowed near the front) and said: "How it manages to retain the city is one of the war's near miracles." Unfortunately for the "Times" correspondent, another "authority" stated on the same date, that the Russians held a half-mile strip along the Volga in the north. And still another "authority" claimed that the enemy had a wedge along the Volga on the north.

Since then, although it was obvious that

the Germans had taken portion of Slalinrad, the press still talked about the "city being held." No wonder that people are in a hopeless fog of confusion. I have learnt the following facts from a study of the last month's daily papers: Stalin wants a "second" front to beat Germany. Stalin is confident that he can beat Germany even if no "second" front is forthcoming. Only Canadians took part in the Dieppe raid. More British than Canadians took part in the raid. The British military leaders must learn from the Russians and Americans. "The New York Herald-Tribune," commenting on Admiral Ghoramley's recall (from the Solomons), says ample unofficial evidence of costly tactical blunders in the Solomons which jeopardised the success of the first American offensive has awakened grave concern over the quality of the leadership." (Melbourne "Sun," October 26.)

All the Allied peoples must be tolerant towards each other, and not cause dissension. "If your strategists are planning to hold the Empire together, then sooner or later they will find themselves strategising alone. . . . We realise that England has a difficult problem in India, but, in the light of what is doing there, how can England expect us to talk of principles and look our soldiers in the face?" (Extract from American magazine, "Life," reported in Melbourne "Herald" of October 10.)

The writer of the "Protocols" pointed out very clearly that, before the peoples of the world could be enslaved, confusion of ideas would have to be created by the controlled press. For allegedly forged documents, the "Protocols" prophesied with uncanny skill! One of the biggest problems confronting people to-day is to try and see reality behind the smoke-screen of confusion. This journal exists for that purpose. Therefore, pass it on. Help to remove the smoke-screen of confusion and show the people what exists behind it.

affairs. Let me quote something that is of extraordinary value of the present time. I refer hon. Members to the recent book by Henry Torres, entitled "Pierre Laval, Cynic, Crook and Traitor." Chapter 13 reads in part:

"France is a thing, thought Laval. His own thing. And the thing of three to five hundred voracious parasites who were able to lay their hands on a country, bare it of its substance, and lead it to perdition; the coalition of interests and appetites, shady financiers and business men, wire pullers, venal journalists, exploiters of corruption, who handle the powerful levers of public opinion all working in the same direction."

Torres goes on to explain why it was possible for 300 to 500 "Parasites" to bring France to its present position under the heel of the German conqueror. He writes:

"How did it come about that a nation which had preserved its health and balance, which administered its overseas Empire with kindness and wisdom, whose flag flew from the most beautiful ship in the world, which tried perhaps to spare the expense of a revolution by adopting the popular front—how did it come about that this nation permitted itself to be led by a gang of criminals? How did it fall into the hands of a group which borrowed its customs and language from milieu of prostitution, which refers to work as 'business' and to money as 'dough'? In view of the fact that the country was sound—as is brilliantly demonstrated by many works of the spirit—so many conquests of the will—should we accuse the regime and condemn democracy? To arrive at

such an arbitrary generalisation would be to ignore the special conditions of French political life."

The method from the days of Napoleon on was first to concentrate power in the bureaucracy of Paris, and then to rob the local people of all initiative. France has one-fifteenth of the area of Australia. If France could not control Paris when all power was centralised, how then can we escape a similar tragedy? The whole teaching of history is that centralisation of government, even in countries that are relatively small, must inevitably be followed by the same result. Quite apart from politics and the cheap sneers of members of this House who are concerned about their own immediate good, I challenge those who propose to hand over to Canberra bureaucratic powers per medium of unification, either open or camouflaged as it is at present, to supply one real reason why what has happened to the countries I have mentioned will not happen to ours. I am not challenging the centralisation of power for the purposes of war. Unfortunately, however, the levers of public opinion are centralised at the present time—the control of radio and press—and hon. members will need to be vigilant to see that the right of free men to express their opinion on questions such as this is in no way curtailed either directly or indirectly. Otherwise we may find all our liberties taken from us.

My statement is supplemented by something that was said by Sir Henry Parkes, the father of Federation. Perhaps it is symbolic that his picture has been re-

(Continued on page 4.)

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Another outstanding victory against despotic Boardism has been won by the people in four Australian States by the suspension of the Apple and Pear Board. Doubtless the statement that Tasmania and Western Australia require the Board to operate in these States is partly a face-saving formula to soften its defeat. However, there are still more victories to be won: the people's food supplies will not be safe until every food-control Board is abolished. If electors continue and increase the pressure on individual members of Parliament, this branch of bureaucracy will be completely routed.

ABSENTEEISM: The dictator-mind predominated the judicial-mind when Judge O'Mara, commenting on absenteeism, said: "A man should be disciplined by something more than loss of pay." During the course of his investigation, this worthy strolled along to look at a factory a little after nine a.m.—and, presumably, left before the fatigue of this task overtook him. He then moralised on a matter of which he had no experience—namely, the effects of sustained routine and arduous toil. It is about time these pompous persons were "told where they get off."

QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST: When the conference assembled at Canberra to discuss the Constitution Alteration Bill, Dr. Evatt caused a sensation by withdrawing the first objectionable Bill and substituting a new measure, which, according to delegates, would achieve the same purpose by different means. This legal luminary, like most others, needs to be watched very closely. The special attention this chap has paid to removing the safeguards to our States' and national sovereignty, since his contact with U.S. Federal Unionists, is very significant.

LOADED DICE: Ned Hogan (Board-champion and Victorian Minister for Agriculture), who had nothing to say about the profiteering tactics of the Apple and Pear Board, now suggests that the Prices Commissioner should pay attention to private fruit-sellers' charges. This is just one indication of the tactics which may hamper private enterprise in rehabilitating itself and restoring order. Private enterprise may also have to contend with the Transport and Liquid Fuel Boards, and "dumping" from the States still under the Apple and Pear Board. Other difficulties caused by the sudden and partial suspension of the Board may serve to unjustly discredit private enterprise (growers and distributors). However, a sympathetic public should see them through.

PATENT MEDICINES: Mr. Dunstan (Premier of Victoria) points out that the new and sweeping Federal controls over patent medicines (but not professional prescriptions) is just another example of duplication and usurpation of power. Quite true. But who asked either State or Federal political employees (M.S.P.) to interfere with the people's choice of medicines? Certainly it was not their employers (the people). The idea is especially peculiar to impractical politicians that their employers are helpless babes who are unable to manage their own affairs. It is a very dangerous idea, and in

this case may lead to institutional or professional racketeering. The correct approach is for the people to exercise their prerogative of free choice. "Mind your own business" should be the slogan of each individual.

MIXED MARRIAGE: The Anglican Bishop of Goulburn, Dr. Burgmann, has also joined the "New Order" parade, and suggests a "marriage" between Anglo-Saxon and Asiatic-Russian ideals. Marrying the East to the West, so to speak! Like some others, he considers that the military prowess of the Russian soldiers is sufficient evidence of the desirability (to us) of the Soviet way of life—an understandable yet two-edged proposition, because, regrettably, yet just as "logically," the same specious argument can be used to explain the driving force of our common enemy! This "boomerang" type of propaganda can surely be bettered.

REPUDIATION: At the recent A.L.P. conference, only Senator Frazer and the Queensland Premier, Mr. Cooper, endorsed Mr. Curtin's appeal to repudiate the tacit agreement between the Government and the Militia. It is reported that Mr. Curtin fought all day to conscript the Militia for overseas service. It is pleasing to note the strong objection of other delegates to conscripting others into perils from which they themselves are exempt.

POST-WAR PERIL: As well as pointing out that no referendum was necessary to give the Government power it already possessed to meet war conditions, Mr. F. T. Perry is reported in the daily press thus: "The underlying objective of the referendum was to continue indefinitely the emergency controls which most people wished to see ended as soon as possible." It is pleasing to note the growing realisation of the dangers of post-war centralisation of power at Canberra. It only remains to translate this apprehension into action. This can best be done by electors writing to their respective Members of Parliament (Federal AND State).

GLOBAL POLICE: Just prior to Sir Stafford Cripps' elevation from Cabinet rank to aerial administration, he made a strong plea for "A World Police Air Force" to control the world after the war. Perhaps he asked to be given charge of aircraft production, with a view to subsequently helping this "Federal Union" brain wave; but, on the other hand, this crazy idea is being pushed so hard that the people are becoming aware of its perils—so perhaps the world-planners have warned him off, for making the pace too hot. —O.B.H.

CRITICISM OF CONSTITUTION PROPOSALS

(Speech by L. H. Hollins, M.L.A., continued from last issue.)

Paragraph (i) relates to "national works and services, including water conservation and irrigation, afforestation, and the protection of the soil." This item impinges on the present rights of the States. What State would not be prepared to implement huge national programmes of water conservation, irrigation, afforestation, and for the protection of the soil if the necessary money was provided? Many projects of that nature should be put in hand after the war. The Minister of Water Supply, I know, will agree that national works of outstanding importance cannot be carried out to-day simply because we lack the finance to pay for them. We have the men available to do the work, at least we will when the war ends, and there is a crying need for the services those works would render to the community. If the Federal Government is prepared to make the necessary money available, I feel certain that this Government would not hesitate to undertake such projects. Therefore, there is no need to suggest that this extra power should be given to the Federal Government.

Paragraph (j) sets forth power to make laws relating to "the improvement of living standards in both rural and urban areas." Here we are again faced with the need to provide economic security for the individual, and that cannot be guaranteed unless each member of the community is assured of a just income. Then the living conditions of all persons in urban and rural areas would be assured, and they would receive a fair share of the national production.

Paragraph (k) deals with "the power to control transport, including air transport." It is significant that this appears as a minor item in these proposals; yet it was the principal item in the referendum of 1937, which was rejected by an overwhelming majority. On that occasion the people were afraid to give the Commonwealth Government the additional powers it sought. In effect the people voted for the continuance of State control of transport; yet paragraph (k) is aimed at achieving what was rejected by the citizens of the Commonwealth on the last occasion. Of course, if the Federal Parliament is prepared to make money available to inaugurate a great national scheme of airway transport, I believe no State Government would try to impede its efforts.

Paragraph (l) relates to "national health and fitness." Again we are confronted with the need to better the economic conditions of the community. If workers are living in a state of fear, if they are unemployed and are dependent on a meagre sustenance allowance, how can they be expected to enjoy good health? . . . It merely comes back to a matter of finance. If the community is in a position to buy the whole of its production and each person is in a financial position to buy what they need, conditions of economic security have been established. I contend that if the Federal Government used the powers it has now, not only could it finance the war without debt, but it could, when the war ends, introduce all sorts of wonderful schemes which have been well thought out by responsible people, but which cannot be introduced while the private banks control the nation's credit.

The same considerations are true of child welfare, which can only be assured so long as the children in the home are able to enjoy the right kind of food in the right quantity, and so long as they are able to be clothed and housed properly. Child welfare in institutions can only be guaranteed so long as the money is available to provide the institutions and to pay qualified workers. It is not a matter of physical difficulty, or of altering the Constitution, but it is a matter of finance. So I could continue along these lines and show clearly that the Commonwealth Government has all the powers necessary to cope with such problems.

We see in paragraph (xii) of section 51 of the Constitution that the Commonwealth Parliament already has power over currency, coinage, and legal tender. The Constitution was drawn up more than 40 years ago and it indicates the possession of some knowledge of financial problems by the men of those days. They could not be seriously blamed for not understanding that the great bulk of the money we use is financial credit.

Figures show that 99.3 per cent. of the money we use to-day is financial credit created, in the main, by the private banks, and has no existence outside the ledgers of the banks. For that reason, if any alteration is needed in the Constitution I suggest that it is a simple and legitimate alteration that would be supported by the great bulk of the people of the Commonwealth. If we were to insert in section 51 the words "and financial credit," and delete the word "and" before "legal tender," the phrase would read "currency, coinage, legal tender, and financial credit." Then the Commonwealth Government would have powers which would be clearly set down, but I maintain that in section 13 all the power necessary is given.

It may be suggested by certain honourable members that this mention of financial credit is so much loose talk, and that it is not justified in this debate. I do not propose to deal with it at length, but I shall deal with it briefly to prove my point that the

Commonwealth already has the necessary power not only to carry on the war effort, but also to handle post-war reconstruction. Let me quote one authority of a completely unbiased nature—the "Encyclopaedia Britannica"—which says that—

"Banks create credit. It is a mistake to suppose that bank credit is created to any important extent by the payment of money into the banks. A loan made by a bank is a clear addition to the amount of money in the community."

Nothing could be clearer than that. It is a statement of fact, and it is substantiated by world authorities.

It should not be necessary for me to quote other authorities, but, nevertheless I feel that it is essential to point out that this tremendous power now wielded by the banks was recognised as early as 1800, when the third president of the United States of America, Thomas Jefferson, said:—

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. Already they have raised up a moneyed aristocracy that has set the Government at defiance. The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the people, to whom it properly belongs."

Then we have another equally eminent gentleman — and I could quote many others from Great Britain in recent years—the Hon. Reginald McKenna, ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer and chairman of the Midland Bank, England. He made this statement when speaking to the shareholders of the Midland Bank—

"They who control the credit of a nation direct the policy of Governments and hold in the hollow of their hands the destiny of the people."

Another equally eminent statesman from the old country, William Ewart Gladstone, said:—

"From the time I took office as Chancellor I began to learn that the Government itself was not to be a substantive power in matters of finance, but was to leave the money power supreme and unquestioned."

Mr. Holland: He also said that the quickest way to get into a lunatic asylum was to study finance.

Mr. Hollins: The subject of finance is not one that the ordinary mind takes to kindly, but I do not believe the financial problem is a difficult one. It is certainly a subject that requires much study, but the greatest difficulty is to throw out one's preconceived opinions. We find that the ordinary man connected with a financial institution has his interests vested in his job, and as a result he tends to be prejudiced against, and very often hostile to, any suggested alteration. Therefore we should not be vitally concerned with the opinions of such persons, most of whom are highly regarded citizens in any community. Although they are qualified ac-

countants, they are not necessarily financial experts.

For the reasons that I have given, I am justified in viewing with considerable alarm the proposals that have been put forward by Dr. Evatt. Frankly, I cannot accept the view of some persons that the members of the Federal Cabinet, who have been responsible for the suggested alteration of the Constitution, believe that their proposals will solve the problem. The public utterances over the last ten years of the Prime Minister, the Commonwealth Treasurer, the Commonwealth Attorney-General, and many of their colleagues, indicate that they agree with me in what I have been saying, and for that reason I am justified in feeling considerable alarm that they should put forward their proposals when the Commonwealth Parliament already has sufficient power in the Constitution to carry out its programme. I should not like to suggest that the proposed alterations to the Constitution are an attempt to destroy State Parliaments, but when it is implied in the Federal Labor constitution that State Parliaments should be abolished, one begins to realise what may be behind this movement. Vital powers could be taken from the State Parliaments, and that would mean the death blow to six sovereign States; but the giving of centralised control to the Federal Parliament would be worse—it would be dangerous beyond words. Decentralisation and not centralisation is needed, not only in the States but in the Commonwealth.

When Governments and public institutions are brought as closely as possible to the people they represent, the result is true democratic government. I do not suggest that the present Federal Government would attempt to introduce Socialism, but it seems to me that if the State Parliaments are abolished and powers to implement the policy of Socialism are granted to the Federal Parliament, a system of government will result which will be perilously near to National Socialism. If the Federal authorities, and particularly the Federal Ministers, would show the same degree of zeal for taking control of money power as they have shown towards bringing about a change in the Constitution, we would be very proud of them.

I have contended that the Federal Government has all the power necessary to handle the post-war situation if it will control finance. If present financial methods are pursued and the proposed alteration to the Constitution is effected, the result will be an increase of bureaucratic tyranny. The Federal Government is not capable of handling all the activities that come within its sphere. In one year alone it set up 67 Boards and committees. They are not controlled by the people, and their members cannot be removed as readily as can a member of Parliament. When elected representatives accept full responsibility for their actions they are demonstrating democracy at its best, but when powers are delegated to independent Boards and committees a very serious position is created.

RUNNING THE HOUSE ON RED TAPE

In keeping with modern war-time trends in this country, and as a gesture of good-will to the nation, my wife and I have introduced a complete RED TAPE SYSTEM in our home. From top to bottom the whole joint now runs on Red Tape. And you'd be surprised the difference it's made.

Although under our simple (and obsolete) methods of running things our home seemed plenty big enough for the two of us it was quickly evident that more accommodation would be needed to carry the Red Tape. So we took over the two houses on either side of us, knocked down the intervening fences, and built sheds over the back yard. Then I turned our bedroom and lounge into offices, hired a public servant and a typist, and set about putting our affairs on a proper Red Tape basis.

After a couple of months, by dint of desperate and frenzied disorganisation, we had the old homestead pretty well red-taped. Our household staff then consisted of the following:—

Director-General of Domestic Affairs (that's me), Deputy Director of Domestic Affairs (my wife), Comptroller of the Kitchen, Supply Commissioner, Domestic Caterer, Finance Administrator, Garbage Supervisor, One maid.

In addition, we had a Domestic Board of Control with an Advisory Committee—as well as a couple of expert advisers to advise the Advisory Committee. This was quite apart from the sub-committee, who could be found in every nook and cranny.

Although I have gone deeply into debt and have been forced to borrow from relations in order to keep this gang functioning, it's been well worth it, because our house now runs like clockwork (or very nearly so).

To give you an example; suppose we happen to be running short of sugar. The maid reports the matter to the Domestic Caterer, who rings up three or four grocers to get quotations for "sugar, white, household, 2 lbs. of." These quotations are then carefully entered in one of our special food requisition forms (blue, with a pink border), and passed on to the Supply Committee for scrutiny. With its pencilled comments on all three copies, these forms then go before the Finance Administrator, who sees whether my bank balance will stand this, and initials it accordingly. The Kitchen Comptroller then comes into

things by writing a report as to why we have no more sugar, who used it, why, and stating reasons as to the general advisability of more sugar. Then, after the form has been initialled by my wife and has lain on my desk for a couple of days, I finally get my hands on it and sign my approval on the little dotted line at the bottom. Then, maybe, we get some sugar.

The whole thing is so refreshingly simple that we're kicking ourselves for not thinking of it ages ago. It takes those Government departments to teach a man a thing or two.

We call tenders for all the jobs around the house now, such as cooking, washing up, cleaning and maintenance. We've got a specially constituted Board who take care of this Section—not on their own, mind you; they receive advice from the sub-committee, who draw up long and amazingly useless reports, which nobody takes any notice of, anyway.

Nobody ever gets the sack, nor do we blame anyone for errors or mistakes, because we have installed a system of "Passing the Buck," which is as good as, if not better, than anything ever conceived by any Government.

Although the maid is the only person around the place who actually does any useful or constructive work, everybody else has a cast-iron alibi which has convinced us of their indispensability.

Our system of hiring people is very interesting, and is in strict conformity with Red Tape methods. Our Kitchen Comptroller is a professional piano-accordion player, and, although he knows nothing whatsoever about kitchens, he plays the piano-accordion very well. Besides he's my wife's uncle's brother-in-law.

Our Supply Commissioner has had a long and honourable career with the Water and Sewerage Department, and is the Secretary of our local ping-pong club, which should be good enough qualifications for practically any Red Tape job.

My wife hired the fellow who acts as

Anti-Board Campaign

An indication of the tremendous opposition to food-control Boards is provided in the following letter from a country supporter to the United Electors of Australia: "Public opinion here is very hostile to all marketing Boards. Please forward immediately another 200 Letter Forms. I had no difficulty in obtaining signatures, and have had numerous enquiries for letters, so I am anxious to get on with the campaign, which I regard as an important part of our fight for freedom." This lively desire to actively campaign again recalls the exciting days of the National Insurance fight, and U.E.A. headquarters will be happy to receive your order for "ammunition" along with thousands of others. The cost is 1/- per 100, posted, from United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins-street, Melbourne. Let us know that you also are in earnest about this fight for freedom. —O.B.H.

MEETINGS AT MALVERN.

The "Marketing Boards Abolition League," recently formed in Malvern, is receiving much support in its endeavour to assist the people of Malvern and surrounding suburbs to register their protest. If YOU live in that area and do not want these Boards to continue to work against the people's well-being, attend at least one of the two meetings arranged. In the Tooronga Progress Hall, Malvern-road, on Friday night, December 4, Mrs. Serpell and Mr. J. M. Atkinson will address a citizens' protest meeting. Mr. H. Holt, M.H.R., and Mr. T. D. Oldham, M.L.A., will be among the speakers at a further meeting to be held in the Malvern Town Hall on Monday night, December 14. Attend one of these meetings, and let your voice be heard in this protest. If you are prepared to assist, contact the Hon. Organiser, F. W. Elliott, Jnr., 1 Arthur-street, Malvern, S.E.4.

THE TIME IS NOW

Out of the strife and suffering of this war will emerge a new social order. The people throughout the British Empire have still supreme constitutional authority. We in Australia still have the freedom to determine our destiny. Choice is the essence of freedom. Once that freedom is surrendered to some group of men who wield absolute power in the name of a supreme State, the individual will be deprived of his power to choose. Consider the widespread propaganda in favour of Socialism, the proposals to centralise control of governmental policy at Canberra, and the proposals to abolish State Parliaments to make way for provincial councils, to "administer" a policy formulated by a band of bureaucrats. Labor supporters, in their child-like faith, might believe that while "the party" is in power all is well—but they would not feel safe under the same power wielded by some other party at a later time. Totalitarianism may vary considerably in detail, but it is the same in essence wherever there is centralised power. In the words of Lord Acton, "Absolute power corrupts absolutely." We cannot have a functioning democracy — government "by" the people—in accordance with the will of the people—unless the people are organised and united to declare their will and to insist on obedience to their wishes. The formation of citizens' policy groups in every electorate to clarify the will of the citizens and convey the wishes of electors to the parliamentary representatives in each electorate is an urgent need for the preservation of our democratic rights.

Unless we face up to the issue and act NOW there is a real danger. Something more than vigilance is required to halt the hasty work of the centralisers. Bureaucratic government is irresponsible and anonymous. Democratic government requires the action of democrats to awaken the electors to the responsibility which is theirs to get the results they want through representatives who should transmit the desires of their electors to Parliament.

W.A. NOTES

Mr. F. Jones writes that he wishes to "apologise for an error, committed in haste," which appeared under the above heading in a recent issue. Mr. Jones, we are assured, is not now the Correspondence Secretary, and all correspondence in future should be addressed to The Secretary, The Electoral Campaign, Room 6, 81 Barrack Street, Perth, W.A. The secretary's name is Mr. W. F. Andrews.

Our Finance Administrator. Although this fellow doesn't know much about finance, we feel very satisfied with him. You see, he has a beautiful set of initials, and as much of his work consists of initialling forms, we've no kick coming.

Here's our latest problem. We have got to hire a cook next week and we don't know whether to employ a very nice young master plumber (who attended the same class as myself at the 'Varsity), or a rather elderly chap (the father of the maid), who holds some of the most marvellous certificates on internal combustion engines.

THESE CONSTITUTION ALTERATIONS

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

(Continued from last issue.)

Sir.—In his special statement to the House of Representatives at the introduction of the Bill to alter the Constitution, Dr. Evatt said this: "Problems of employment, of housing, of health and child welfare, of vocational training, of markets and price stability will call for enterprise and statecraft of the highest order. The whole history of the Commonwealth Constitution shows that these problems cannot be solved without wider powers in the hands of the Central Government."

I wonder if this is really so. Who controls all these things now? Who controlled them during the period of the depression? If it is necessary to alter the Constitution before we can improve them, why was it NOT necessary to alter the Constitution in 1931 before deterioration of them was imposed? Every one of the so-called "problems" mentioned by Dr. Evatt is controlled by financial considerations, and will continue to be so controlled even though we do alter the Constitution as proposed.

Taking up the study from the point reached last week, we find that after declaring that useful occupation should be provided for all the people, the Bill goes on to enumerate fourteen items in respect of which it is intended that the Parliament shall have power to make laws. These fourteen items are as follows:—

- (i.) Reinstatement and advancement of returned soldiers, and also of dependants of deceased or disabled men; (ii.) employment; (iii.) Development of the country, production, and markets; (iv.) Production and manufacture of goods, supply of goods and services, and establishment and development of industries; (v.) Prices of goods and services; (vi.) Profiteering; (vii.) Population; (viii.) The Four Freedoms; (ix.) National Works and Services; (x.) Living standards; (xi.) Transport; (xii.) Health and fitness; (xiii.) Housing; (xiv.) Child Welfare.

That's a comprehensive list, and it must be agreed that if positive attention is given to them instead of the negative attention to which we have been accustomed, there will be no shortage of WORK. The funny thing about it, however, is the fact that the very men who have helped to prevent positive attention in the past are the very men who are still accepted as expert "advisers." I refer to Sir Otto Niemeyer, Professor Guggenheim, Montagu Norman, Colonel Cohen, Sir Claude Reading, Professor Giblin, Professor Copland, and Professor Mills, none of whom found the Constitution an obstacle when they wanted to impoverish us.

Suppose we agree that if all these items were directly under the control of a Commonwealth Government Department with instructions to obtain the maximum results on the basis of our physical resources there would be "useful occupation for ALL the people," is the provision of WORK the purpose for which Australian young men are fighting and dying? It is not. Dr. Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, hit the nail on the head when he said: "I am inclined to agree with the biblical saying that work is a curse. If you have money, you can have leisure; but if you have no money, its unemployment. Personally, I'm rather doubtful about this blessing of work." What we are after is LESS work—shorter hours, earlier retiring age, and later commencing age. Finance alone prevents it.

If the soldiers and their dependants are given an adequate income of money they will not be worried about reinstatement or advancement. Investors are supplied with incomes without "working" for them, but when it is suggested that the men who risked their lives to protect the "investor" (among other things) should be treated equally well, the suggestion and those who make it are frowned upon. The fact is that we have been able to maintain the soldier and his dependants during the war when the soldier was producing NOTHING, and we can continue to do so AFTER THE WAR if we so desire. This will mean continuing to PAY him or his dependants, and so we see that the question is one of FINANCE. It really has nothing to do with the Constitution at all!

As to Item 2, "employment" means WORKING for someone and getting wages for it. A man who gets wages without WORKING is a gentleman! What is more, he is INDEPENDENT! Wouldn't it be a shame if we gave the men who saved the nation at the expense of their own health the opportunity to be gentlemen and independent? To the orthodox mind it is, of course, fantastic to suggest that a supplementary supply of money be distributed to the people quite apart from the question of "work." That, in conjunction with increasing use of solar energy and machinery, would help more and more of them to become "ladies" and "gentlemen" and to be independent of slave drivers. It would enable them to choose or refuse, and thus give freedom to develop their personalities.

Not long before Sir Henry Gullett died I put this question at one of his public meetings: "If we continue to use more and more machines, and the machines continue to displace labour, how are the people to get access to the production of the machine unless we adopt some new method of distributing money to the community?" He replied: "I don't know. I haven't studied that aspect of the problem." Apparently Dr. Evatt hasn't studied it, either. Scientists are doing their best

to eliminate the need for manual labour, but our governments evidently intend doing their utmost to increase it!

In Melbourne, a few years ago, a returned soldier was found in one of the streets in a state of collapse. He was suffering from malnutrition, which is a fancy name for starvation. He had had little to eat for four days, and explained that he "had been looking for work" for three years. There was no shortage whatever of WORK waiting to be done, but he had not been able to find anyone who could PAY him for doing it. Because he could get no pay he could get no food, even though the producers of food were looking for markets! Employment is therefore also a question of finance, and is not a question affecting the Constitution at all!

And yet, believe it or not, in all the official talk and published statements regarding the proposed alterations, the question of FINANCE is not even mentioned! Why?—Yours faithfully, Bruce H. Brown, 189 Hotham-street, East Melbourne, November 29, 1942.

(To be continued.)

BEWARE OF REVOLUTION ADVOCATES

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

That a great change is coming after this war, very few people would deny. Most of the obvious evidence at present indicates a change to the worse for the individual. Out of the exhaustion of the last war, revolutions and violent social upheavals were spawned. Many are making no secret of their belief that we will follow the Russian precedent at the conclusion of this conflict.

I have dealt with the part played by International Banking Houses in the Russian Revolution, and I have analysed the internal economy of Russia as a result of the Revolution. But all revolution possesses the seeds of further violence, particularly when the new rulers as the result of revolution allow their new-found power to dazzle them. The history of Kronstadt during, and just after, the Russian Revolution is a warning to all those who heed advocates of revolution.

Kronstadt is the chief naval base of the Soviet Union. It is situated at the mouth of the River Neva, which flows into the Gulf of Finland. Peter the Great first recognised its immense strategic advantages when he captured it from the Swedes in 1703 and built a fort and docks on the island. The history of Kronstadt has been one of almost never-ending rebellion. A Kronstadt officer led the unsuccessful "Dekabrist" mutiny against the Czar Alexander I. in 1825. After the February 1917 revolution, the Kronstadt Soviet opposed the Provisional Government of Kerensky and declared a "Kronstadt Republic." The garrison played a big part in the uprising of July that year, and finally carried the day for the Bolsheviks in October, 1917.

Ironically enough, the same soldiers were staging another revolution three years later, in 1921. One writer sums up the cause of the revolt in these words:

"In order to understand how and why the Kronstadt sailors came to lay down their lives fighting against the regime which they had installed in power, and to understand the consequences of their actions, it is essential to grasp the main reasons for this threatened collapse. They were three:

"Seething discontent and disillusionment and terrible hardship among the peasantry and the workers in the towns. Discontent and jealousy among the lower ranks of the Communist Party. A fundamental difference of opinion between Lenin and Trotsky on the question of trade unions.

"The most important of these was the first . . . The country as a whole was cold and hungry, disease-ridden and exhausted . . . conditions became worse. At the end of January, 1921, a cut of one-third was made in the already meagre bread ration in Moscow, Petrograd and other large towns. . . . At the beginning of February, a terrible fuel crisis was announced officially. . . . All over the country, Communist speakers, endeavouring to impress their audiences with long lists of figures, were angrily howled down with demands for food and heating. In the towns large numbers of factories had to close down owing to the lack of fuel, and in the country the attitude of the peasants became more sullen and menacing. Armed resistance was continually being offered to the troops, who were sent to requisition corn.

"Within the Communist Party itself bitterness and disillusionment was also rife among party members, many of whom, revolting against the tendency towards bureaucracy, openly declared that the Revolution had not developed according to expectations. Favouritism in supplying Communists in higher positions with all kinds of luxuries, such as extra food, special trains and automobiles, led to jealousy."

The sailors of Kronstadt, after visiting their home towns, and seeing conditions, were stirred. Strikes broke out among

AN M.P. IMPOSES POLICY

In England recently, Mr. Tom Driberg, M.P. (Mr. William Hickey of the "Daily Express") recently held a meeting in his constituency in the course of which he gave an account of his representation of the division in parliament. The formation of a working committee for Burnham in connection with the Constituency was taken up. The report in the local paper continues:—

"Mr. Driberg explained that such committees had already been formed at Maldon, Braintree and Silver End, and would be formed in all parts of the constituency. These various committees would send delegates to the central committee, which would be established with headquarters and a permanent secretary at Maldon. All persons over 18 years of age, living in the Maldon Division, would be eligible for membership of the Association, which would have a broad progressive programme based on three points, viz., (1) support of the Atlantic Charter; (2) endorsement of the four freedoms set out by Mr. Roosevelt—freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of expression and freedom of conscience; (3) extension after the war of the now accepted principle that production must be for use rather than for profit. It would be educational and cultural as well as political. The subscription would be a minimum of one shilling a year and the main object would be to keep the constituency in touch with the member, whoever he might be, that represented it in Parliament. It would be self-supporting

and he wished it to be emphasised that it was not his personal association." [Our emphasis is to display Mr. Driberg's d'markrazy.]

Just before his election Mr. Driberg paid a visit to America, where circles in close touch with Mr. Roosevelt (whom he saw) are said to have expressed great interest in the prospects of his election.

A TIMELY WARNING

Major C. H. Douglas, in a speech delivered at Aberdeen in 1932, said: "It is not at the present time in many ways so important to have a scheme for putting the world right, as to find out why you cannot have that scheme effective; and to find some method by which you can make it effective. . . . The great bar to the setting right of the difficulties of the world at the present time is the idealist, the Utopianist—the man who is perfectly certain that he knows what the world ought to be, and is determined that there should be that sort of a world, and that you shall live in it."

Referring to the people who really control the world—the great financiers—Major Douglas continued: "Those people who know the present Governor of the Bank of England, Mr. Montagu Norman, know he is an earnest crusader in the cause of a World State. . . . Most of these people have the idea of creating a World State which will be so tremendously powerful that no individual rebellion against it will be possible, and that is the idea which is behind all these suggestions that the real cause of war is nationality; which, as I said at Glasgow, is about as sensible as saying that the cause of quarrels between individuals is the existence of individuals, and that therefore the way to abolish quarrels is to abolish individuals."

In conclusion, he said: "You never do get things done until some one person does them. No idea was ever invented by a committee. The public will never do anything; you, individually, have got to do it."

PUBLIC MEETING

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to us to see that we in Kronstadt are fighting for the Soviet power. The Communists concealed this and opened fire. . . ."

From a military point of view the task which the Soviet authorities had undertaken of crushing the rebellion by force was by no means easy. The rebels held out. Inside the Kronstadt fortress, the newspaper produced by the rebels reviled "sanguinary Field Marshal Trotsky, who stands up to his waist in the blood of the workers. . . ."

But, after several days, Kronstadt fell to the Government forces. Alexander Berkman, a German anarchist who was in Petrograd at the time, noted down the following bitter entry in his diary: "March 17 Kronstadt has fallen. Thousands of sailors and workers lie dead in its streets. Summary executions of prisoners and hostages continue."

The Government proceeded to wreck bloody vengeance, to shoot hundreds of those who had swept it into power. Local Communists never mention the above history, which should warn us what happens when traditional society is overturned and power-drunk revolutionaries get in control. No, revolution will never add to the happiness of the people of this country.

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SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE INSIDE

The daily press, which has so much of its attention rivetted to the far ends of the earth, is, nevertheless, strangely silent about the political and economic situation in South Africa. Yet, South African affairs are far from being without interest to intelligent Australians, and, in some important aspects, are strikingly similar to our own. This is indicated by the following reports from South African correspondents of the "Social Creditor" (England), appearing in the October 3 issue of that journal:

From Dr. Lorrie Smith, Port Elizabeth:

An accurate analysis of the present political situation in South Africa would require volumes. This is merely the sketchiest of outlines.

Party politics here is little more than a vice. The acrimony shown in the House of Assembly at every session is probably the most disgraceful exhibition of personal animosity to be found anywhere in the Parliaments of the British Commonwealth of Nations. The standard of debate common in the House plumbs lower depths every session, and is now looked upon by the general public with derision and disgust. The majority of the public are anxious to get on with the business of prosecuting our war effort to the utmost of our ability, and fiercely resent the amount of time wasted each session in party mud-slinging.

Everyone deplores party politics and blames it for the backwardness of the country in the past and the present. Those with greater insight feel sure that "Corner House" is subsidising several factions in order to keep the opposition divided into as many camps as possible. ("Corner House"—home of the chamber of mines in Johannesburg—is where the mine magnates foregather to plan their policy.)

The financial policy of the Government is strictly orthodox, one might say "in the narrowest sense," for the gold mines are the chief of our mineral resources to have been exploited to date and each successive Minister of Finance is imbued with the idea that a fall in the price of gold would bring catastrophe in its train. The present Minister, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, is no exception, and seems to be terrified at the idea of even the slightest departure from orthodoxy, but will slavishly follow the lead of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer.

At the present moment the Government, with the aid of the Labour Party and the Dominion Party, has a working majority of 18. The present party position is as follows:—

United Party (Government).....	72
Dominion Party	8
Labor Party	4
Nationalist Party (Opposition) ..	60
New Order (O.Prow's)	2
Afrikaan Party	2

The Dominion and Labor Parties support the Government in its war policy. The National, New Order and Afrikaan Parties are anti-war, pro-German, and oppose the Government's war effort in every way possible; they are also anti-British, anti-Jew and anti-native and coloured, being chiefly responsible for the upholding of the "colour bar" which favours the segregation of all coloureds and natives and precludes them from all "skilled labour" occupations.

The United Party feels that its position is precarious, so the Party Drum is banging away throughout the length and breadth of the country in nervous anticipation of an impending general election, which is due next year. Loyalty to General Smuts and the United Party is being extolled as the supreme virtue of the moment, but at any time loyalty to party has always taken precedence over loyalty to the electorate in any constituency. The average M.P. has but the very slightest contact with his constituents. His contacts are usually with job-seekers or people with a grievance. To the best of my knowledge there is no single constituency wherein the electorate have a mechanism whereby they can express their will to their Member.

The Senate or Upper House is generally regarded as redundant. It consists at present of 42 members, made up as follows: United Party, 23; National Party, 15; Afrikaan, 1; Labor Party, 2; Dominion, 1. The function, of course, is the same as that of the House of Lords and the powers somewhat less. The Senate can, of course amend Bills that have been passed on to it after the third reading and send them back to the Government for reconsideration, but on the whole it acts merely as a rubber stamp upon Government Bills. In my own opinion, Senators are most useful in the lobbies or refreshment rooms of the House, where they meet M.P.s on common ground and in conversation can influence them to sane ways of thought and action.

The Bantu race, which constitutes about eight-elevenths of our total population is represented in the House by three members, who are Europeans. A decade ago they were not represented at all. . . .

At the present moment, unpropitious though it be, our group is working out the details of a Voters' Association Campaign, calling upon all enrolled voters (Parliamentary) to abolish the evil of party politics and to establish a true democracy here in South Africa. We aim to set up a mechanism in every constituency whereby the voters can make known their collective wants to their representative M.P.s and demand that the latter carry them into effect.

The most distressing things are happening here. You are aware that large quantities of deciduous and citrus

*If Bantus are ever elected to the House it is certain that every Afrikaans-speaking M.P. will leave and resign at once.

fruits were exported from here in pre-war times, and that the war has completely stopped all export. Instead of the people benefiting by an increased supply of fruit, the Government has set up control boards for marketing fruit. The boards keep the markets in short supply in order to keep prices up and compel the growers to bury often as much as two-thirds of their crops, forbidding them from giving any away to friends (the plea being that the recipients will then not purchase their requirements on the local markets). The net result is that the prices of fruit are so prohibitive that fully 90 per cent. of the population cannot afford to buy any fruit at all.

A citrus farmer we visited last week was in despair. He said that his entire crop (15 acres of eight-year-old Washington Navel oranges and five acres of tangerines) rotted on the trees last year because he was not allowed to send any at all to market. This year he has again been prohibited from marketing his fruit—eight years of hard work brings him no financial remuneration whatsoever. He has determined to hew down and uproot these orchards to plant lucerne and concentrate upon milk production.

This is the plight of all our deciduous and citrus fruit growers—many thousands of them—who had concentrated their labours upon the production of choice fruits for export.

Couple this with the fact that over 75 per cent. of our population suffers from chronic malnutrition and are in dire need of the vitamins contained in fruit (classified high amongst the "protective" foods) and you have a typical picture of the direct results of adhering to orthodox finance. We have been at pains to point this out to our own Finance Minister (Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr) at a public meeting held here last Thursday. Mr. Hofmeyr was stumped and hedged by saying that he was not prepared to give a reply to the question, but that the Government were "looking into" the matter. . . .

There has been a tendency by some study-groups in this country and Rhodesia to be led up the garden path by C. K. Streit's works, "Federal Union" and "Union Now With Britain."

From Mr. S. W. Fitt, Port Elizabeth:

INITIATIVE—AND ALL THAT

By W. WILSON, in the "Social Creditor" (Eng.).

Considering the chaos to which the world has been reduced, there might appear to be some justification in the argument that those who have so nearly succeeded in realising their plans for wrecking organised society must be possessed of more "initiative" than have those who have attempted to prevent the rot. A little thought, however, will show that this is not so.

"The dynamic forces (employed by the enemy) are Fear and Desire." ("The Big Idea.") Obviously, Douglas does not intend here to imply that planners use their own fear and desire as a dynamic. Definitely not. He refers to the fear and desire of individuals everywhere, of you and me and our neighbours. Planners in general are using our initiative to propel us in the wrong direction, just as financiers in particular are using our credit to hold us in the wrong path. It is extremely doubtful whether planners are any better blessed of initiative (motive power generated from within) than are bankers of real credit. Their power resides in the fact that they understand the psychological techniques of Initiative, and apply this technique upon the minds of people who are unaware, or only vaguely aware, that such a power exists. Occultism!

Again, it would be as great a mistake to condemn fear and desire as such, as it would be to decry money as the root of all evil. Desire is a universal motive force. Fear is one of a number of emotions which assist in arousing or arresting desire. The problem of individuals everywhere is how to regain control of their own emotions and desires from the usurpers. And the problem behind the problem is that people are unconscious of the fact that the control of their emotions and desires has been usurped.

This leads to a consideration of the technique of initiative. Forgetting that peculiar conglomeration of truth-cum-phantasy-cum-fervour-cum-charlatanism which is lumped together under the word "psychology" in public libraries, let us take a look at the work of those hard-headed gentlemen who, by trial, error and elimination—and at vast public expense—have arrived at certain principles of human dynamics which work more or less consistently. I refer to the "ad-men" and propagandists.

Preparing an advertisement is rather like making a cake, and the skill employed in getting together and weighing out the ingredients is no less exacting. Just as the good cook always has his mind on the appetite of the eater, so does the good propagandist rivet his attention on the desires of his public. The technical ingredients of literature intended to lead others to action are:

- 1 Devices to attract and hold attention.
- 2 A description of the goods, or programme. (Policy.)

There happened to be an American troopship in when they printed "After Victory What?" in the "Advertiser," and all copies were sold out. We know it created a stir and lots of copies were sent home to the States. The "Advertiser's" circulation is between two and three thousand, but many copies are sent up to sons, husbands and brothers serving in Libya. I believe we told you that out of the two thousand copies of "After Victory What?" we had printed, we sent one to each M.P. (about 180) and one to each provincial councillor (180): also one to each Senator. We know it created a considerable fluttering in the dovecotes while Parliament was sitting in the New Year.

I went on leave to Capetown at the end of February and had about four hours with Senator [] . . . He told us many things about what goes on behind the scenes. The line up in this country is a pretty tricky one, chiefly owing to racial hatreds and differences, but according to the Senator the main fly in the ointment is the control exercised over the South African Reserve Bank by the Bank of "England." The Chamber of Mines (gold and diamonds), South African Press Association and the Argus Press are extremely powerful, and the set-up they are now working for is to get someone into the Cabinet whom they can trust implicitly. It seems they have Havenga in mind, and do not appear to trust either Smuts or Hofmeyr if the war were to end. Their idea is to try and get Havenga into the Cabinet during the war, so that no difficulty would be experienced in building him up in the newspapers to become Prime Minister as soon as the military need for Smuts' leadership had ceased. † As the Senator put it, Mr. [] (mentioning the banker) is in a position to instruct the press in terms of "Bulls for Havenga and Bears for Hofmeyr." I understand that the gentleman has now gone to America on the Purchasing Commission for South Africa.

At present everyone here is convinced that the whole prosperity of the country is bound up with the mines. Another feature, of course, is the Jewish question, which is acute here. The professions are literally overrun and so are most of the universities. . . . I am told by a once ardent Freemason who has seen a bit of daylight that the Scottish lodges have practically exclusively Jewish masters sitting on them! What some of the chaps coming back from up north after the war will do and say doesn't bear contemplation. . . .

†General-Smuts is 72 years old.—Ed.

M.L.A.'S WARNING

(Continued from page 1.)

moved from the walls of this Chamber. He said in his "Fifty Years of Australian History":

"As a matter of reason and logical forecast, it cannot be doubted that if the Union were inaugurated with double the number of the present colonies, the growth and prosperity of all would be more absolutely assured. It would add immeasurably to the national importance of the new Commonwealth, and would be of immense advantage to Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland themselves, if four or five new colonies were cut out of their vast and unmanageable territories."

member, for instance, evacuation. One basinful of Panic; a large teacupful of Mother Love; seasoning of Patriotism, and half a dozen wopping great Reasons which have mostly been proved false by actual events. Now try Fuel Rationing.

The Injunction is the least subtle part of the technique. It amounts to a more or less direct command to act, which the competent propagandist uses as a sort of detonator spark, dropping it into the explosive mixture at a point nicely timed. The fact that the psychological injunction is being reinforced more and more by legal and military sanctions is evidence enough that the invisible hypnotists cannot rely on the total efficacy of their remote dynamic. But we must not under-estimate its terrible power.

(2)

If I possess a means of driving railway engines by remote control, and my objective is to abduct the Brighton Belle, my first concern will be to distract the driver's mind from his own controls. If I am clever and lucky, I might induce him to step down from his cabin to see my new gadget, and, as part of the demonstration, lose his train for him. Or, if I cannot make him leave his cabin, I might at least devise some trick to make him take his hand from the brake lever, and then start up his train under him, making it perform queer and unexpected antics.

The direct hypnotist usually operates upon a willing subject who, by a voluntary concentration of attention, surrenders that conscious awareness which normally controls his subconscious engine. The process is completed by the hypnotist suggesting sleep. This puts the conscious mind out of operation, leaving the hypnotist in absolute command of policy and action. The driver is right out of his cabin, and the Brighton Belle travelling full steam ahead for Southend.

For the propagandist the task is more subtle and less sure. He has to jump the barrier of conscious judgment without assistance from his subject, and without hope of putting him completely to sleep. Hence his need of those interim tricks, reason impulses and emotion impulses.

"Hi," he shouts to the driver, "do you realise that 84 world-famous scientists, sitting in Geneva, have proclaimed that 72 per cent. of all rheumatism suffered by engine drivers in Hawaii is caused by standing too long in draughty engine cabins?" And while the poor fellow is using his best hand to scratch his head over these cabalistics, the propagandist starts up the engine with an emotional appeal.

The effectiveness of this sort of psychological dose increases with repetition. If the driver finds that his engine behaves, not once but many times, in a way that it shouldn't behave according to the laws of the controls he knows, there comes a time when he loses all faith in those laws. The individual has lost his faith in his own ability to produce desired results by voluntary actions.

If there is one characteristic above all others which marks the advancement of humanity past the condition of animals, it is surely to be found in the continued development of consciousness. An animal may know, but a man knows that he knows; he can control the use of knowledge. Although it is profoundly true that "you" (meaning an outsider) cannot change (the abstraction) human nature, it is no less true that every healthy individual possesses the urge to modify and perfect his own nature. This urge expresses itself in two ways: in the attainment of a firmer control over his instincts and passions and by a steady refinement of his powers of objective judgment. Notice that these two active motives are complementary to each other. Both lead to the same result: the strengthening of the conscious mind in relation to the subconscious—the raising of the wide-awake Self—the Ego—higher and higher above the instinct-plane of the animal. Hypnotism not only binds back the individual to his animal self, it also puts the animal on a leash.

Now I am quiet certain that the "steam" which propels the human engine is generated in the subconscious part of the mind in our conscious mind we formulate desires through the reason (which, so far as it is purely "conscious," amounts to nothing more than a skilful coupling up of accumulated sense impressions). We may therefore regard the ego as the driver in a small cabin of consciousness, with his hand on a single control called Reasonable Desire. This control is the beginning—the initiative part—the dynamic, but it is not the dynamic itself. (To be continued.)