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EVERY FRIDAY

THE

PRICE—FOURPENCE

# NEW TIMES

Vol. 9, No. 5 MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, FEB. 5, 1943

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper.

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)

## A New Move To Plan Our Post-War Lives

### The Hidden Hand" Again?

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

Sir.—Dr. Herbert C. Coombs has been appointed Director-General of Post-War Reconstruction. Like certain other "brilliant economists" who have done nothing whatever towards bringing security and peace to the people, he has had meteoric advancements. Applications were not invited for the position of Director-General of Post-War Reconstruction. He was "selected." We have been given no public information regarding the actual qualifications for the position, the method or basis of "selection," whether any others were even considered, or whether there are any secret conditions attached to the appointment.

Of course, people living under democratic institutions should hardly expect to be taken into the confidence of their Government, or even to have their wishes taken into serious account! That idea of democracy is merely one of the artificial trimmings!

But the "selection" of this man has far greater significance than appears on the surface. He may be a charming fellow, a devoted husband, and a model father, but in the matter of post-war reconstruction it is fair to assess our prospects at his hands by the nature of his "training," the things he has said and done, and the company he has been keeping. In all these latter respects, he is definitely suspect, and I for one have no faith whatever in him as a reconstruction guide. On the contrary, I look upon his "selection" as evidence that the Hidden Hand of the financial gang has been at work again, and that whatever is intended to be done under the guise of reconstruction is intended to be kept well within the limits of the financial policy dictated by the present controllers.

According to the Melbourne "Argus," Dr. Coombs is only 36, and his career has been marked by a rapid rise to high posts. . . . It is only eight years since he took the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of London. On his return to Australia, he joined the Economic Department of the Commonwealth Bank as assistant economist (kind of him wasn't it?). After the outbreak of war, he was appointed to the Treasury as Economic Adviser. In October last, while Director of Rationing, he was appointed

to the Commonwealth Bank Board, following the retirement of Professor L. F. Giblin. ("Argus," Jan. 16.)

Two days later, the same paper gave him a special write-up, describing him as "a brilliant young administrator." The write-up went on as follows:

"From being a school teacher he achieved fame as an economist.

"He is forthright and realistic.

"He believes that world economics is at the crossroads, and that if we are not prepared to direct social change we must face the consequences of instinctive social upheaval.

"He declined to discuss his ideas on reconstruction, but indicated that he would make every effort to ensure that the waste of unemployment would be prevented. Public works would naturally be a very important aspect of post-war activity, he said.

"In 1931 he went to London University, where he wrote a thesis on Central Banking for which he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. At London, his work was supervised by two brilliant economists, Professors Cotman and Gregory. He returned to Australia in 1935."

This report alone is sufficient to establish the claim that his "selection" for the position of Director-General of Post-War Reconstruction was inspired, and that the inspiration came through the local representatives of the evil "power" which between 1929 and 1931 imposed conditions of extreme depression and poverty upon the Australian public, in a land of abundance with raw materials and productive

capacity greater than had ever previously been the case. That was done to fit in with the plans of International Finance, whose representatives had been specially sent to Australia to place such ungodly conditions upon us, and who in pursuit of that nefarious purpose had been faithfully served by certain of the local "brilliant economists." These local "brilliant economists" had also had meteoric advancement to high posts, and were given special press publicity of an adulatory kind. One of them was specially used to gull the workers into believing that reduced wages were absolutely inevitable, and that they would really be far better off with less to eat, less to wear, and heavier debts. He wrote special letters addressed to John Citizen, for publication in Sir Keith Murdoch's syndicated press. (Sir Keith also attended the London School of Economics!) In the same way, the latest recruit to the ranks of the brilliant economists has been used to try to gull the people into believing that regimentation

will be inevitable after the war. Even in his capacity as Director of Rationing he wrote articles telling the people that their lives must be subject to more governmental control, and that it is in the home that the reconstruction must begin. As if wives and mothers can reconstruct their homes as they would wish to reconstruct them, when they are constantly struggling to make ends meet on insufficient incomes. Yet this allegedly brilliant young fellow has the hardihood to talk glibly in such a strain without even mentioning the question of finance or the need for better incomes for the people, i.e., more money and lower costs. The same old technique is at work again you see, and the tools being used have been carefully prepared and "selected." The "training" has been specially "supervised" at the Holy of Holies—namely, the London School of Economics.—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN, 189 Hotham-street, East Melbourne, 31st January, 1943.

(To be continued.)

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

Speaking of the tremendous sacrifice of the Russian people, the Melbourne "Sun" of January 30, says: "Men, women and children live and sleep in all their wearing apparel; food is scarce and inadequate—potatoes costing five dollars a lb. Money is worth little, and a barter system has developed by which even funerals can be paid for with goods." Under these circumstances their morale is indeed miraculous, but the existence of such conditions indicates that the centralised socialism which causes such chaos, exploitation and unnecessary sacrifice leave a lot to be desired.

**SEA SHELLS:** In contrast to our bankers' threat of "inflation," a Dutch official from the Netherland Indies recently arrived in Australia with the disturbing story that one of the northern islands was suffering from DEflation. It appears that the islanders do not value gold, silver or pieces of paper with numbers on them—or figures in bankers' ledgers. They pay their debts with coloured sea shells—the source of which is controlled by the enemy. However, the official found some nice shiny shells in a Melbourne store—and the islanders' problem was happily ended. We Australians know that one of our enemies (the banking monopoly) controls our source of money—and it's about time we dealt with that particular menace.

**RAID REASONING:** After questioning "why the Luftwaffe was able to raid at roof-top level despite unproved air defences," a London report continues thus: "Despite the danger to civilians, resumption of raids is not deplored, because they provide opportunities to test our unproved defences. London propagandists should have this presentation copyrighted, so that enemy propagandists can't use it to explain away the raids on Berlin.

**PRESS PRANKS:** For some time the daily press has been telling us that the right tactics against Japan is to creep upon Tokio, island by island. Now we are informed that this (as any child knows) would be too dilatory and costly. On the front page of the Melbourne "Sun" of January 26, appears the heading "Gloom In Berlin," while the following heading appears right across the top of the next page: "Hitler May Yet Win The War—With U-Boats."

**FADDEN'S FEARS:** In pointing out that the Commonwealth's debt has increased to £1860 millions under Labor management, Mr. Fadden says that, including the States' debts, the total national debt at the end of 1942 was £2300 millions, and that "42% of war-finance was borrowed by Treasury I.O.U.'s from the Central Bank." (He forgot to mention that these were farmed out to the private banks). After chanting the "Inflation Refrain" with raucous vigour, Mr. Fadden tried a different tune and touched a true note when he rendered: "We would then be in the position of having fought a war for the doubtful privilege of living the same regimented lives as our enemies." But Fadden finds the going too hard to reconcile the bankers' and the people's interests.

**DIETITIAN AS DIET:** Nurses at the Balmain Hospital, N.S.W., (whilst still working) had a hunger-strike because their bread was stale, the meat tainted, and the butter rank. The position was so bad that the nurses bought their own food out of their meagre pay while the strike lasted. The president of the hospital said he knew nothing about the strike until he read of it in the press—which indicates just how efficient he is. Anyway, the nurses have now been promised a dietitian to appease their hunger. It is to be hoped the

dietitian is not tainted, stale or rank. In any case, a dietitian is not a substitute for wholesome food.

**MANPOWER MYSTERY:** Magistrate Atkinson, of Sydney, has caused widespread criticism by closing his court during the hearing of manpower appeals, and refusing to disclose the court's decision. The magistrate, in attempting to answer the criticism, of course used the alibi of national security; but quite clearly the nature of the case made this alibi invalid. In this instance, as the appellant did not request a closed court, the S.M. seems to have exceeded his jurisdiction. It is a very serious matter, which could quite easily lead, as it did in Germany, to a complete negation of citizen's rights. These magistrates need watching.

**COMMUNISTS' CAPERS:** A correspondent in the Melbourne "Herald" of January 12 asks these questions: "Has the Communist Party abandoned its professed aim, to turn imperialist war into civil war?" and "If Russia were to become our enemy would the Australian Communist Party still remain loyal to this country?" He points out that in the last war Russians (not Communists) fought bravely for three years, and asks is that an argument for "Czarism." Further, he insists that "it is an insult to Australian soldiers who have fought and died to suggest that they have anything to learn from Russia in the way of patriotism or sacrifice." The writer of the letter is to be congratulated and—emulated.

**LEASE-LEND:** According to information given to U.S. Congress, under Lease-Lend arrangements most food for U.S. forces in the S.W. Pacific comes from Australia; without dollar payments U.S. receives supplies for her forces in Britain, including flour, vegetables and all overseas canteen supplies; also accommodation on British railroads; U.S. vessels are being repaired without charge in Britain; and Britain sent barrage balloons, corvettes, and other escort vessels to protect U.S. shores from submarines. Besides all this, Britain is assisting China and contributing enormously to Russia's stand by supplying huge convoys of war-essentials. So it would seem that Britain is far from decadent after all.

**ECONOMIC ECHOES:** Some time ago economist Keynes gave the cue that the post-war period was to usher in the "Work State" (not the Leisure Age). Since then Copland and others have played the "work" theme good and strong. Now comes another echo in the person of Professor K. S. Isles, of Adelaide, who presents Keynes as an English authority when asking and answering the question, "Can we have full employment?" (not "can we have more leisure?"). While these professors of prehistoric policies are prattling their "find work" nonsense, real scientists are endeavouring and succeeding in eliminating "work" with modern machinery and processes. Who's right? Do you want work or leisure?

(Continued on page 4.)

## ARMY-EDUCATION or SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA?

To the Editor: Sir.—The enclosed letter, which speaks for itself, was sent to "Salt," the Army Educational publication, on September 17 of last year. Although the editor of "Salt" writes a lot of "blah" about "Salt" being the soldiers' paper, my letter was neither published nor acknowledged. Since then I have noticed that pro-Socialist correspondents are given plenty of space. Knowing something about the personnel of the Army Educational Headquarters in Melbourne, the fact that "Salt" is becoming a propaganda journal to prepare the troops for Evatt's brand of Socialism is not surprising to me. And it's time that some questions were asked about the policy of "Salt." Who is responsible for it? No one seems to know.—Eric D. Butler.

The Editor, "Salt": Sir.—I would like to offer some comment on Mr. Frank Murphy's article, "Paying For The War," published in your issue of August 31.

Mr. Murphy states that his article "deals only with the financial cost of the war and the means available to meet it." The "cost" of doing anything in the physical world is the expenditure of energy. Our financial system is merely a convenient bookkeeping system. The bulk of money used to-day is what is called "bank credit," i.e., the cheque system. It is created by the private trading banks and our Commonwealth Bank. The only "cost" is the expenditure of men in doing the bookkeeping. Then why all this talk about the "financial cost" of the war! The manufacture of our legal tender admittedly "costs" more in expenditure of effort. But it is only approximately 1 per cent, of our total money supply.

The real "cost" of fighting a war is the expenditure of physical effort. As the people are making all the physical effort, it is remarkable that they should be going further into debt. This debt is the result of our policy of borrowing our own money from private institutions and paying interest on the debt for all time. We are still paying for the last war in terms of money, although we paid the real cost of the war as we fought it.

Perhaps Mr. Murphy could answer these questions:—

(1) Is it a fact that the private trading

banks create the greater part of all money used in this country, as a perpetual interest-bearing debt?

(2) As taxation is only a percentage of money used in financing our war effort, where are all the hundreds of millions of pounds coming from?

(3) As all money created in the country derives its value from the fact that the people are creating real wealth, and as the people are paying the real cost of the war as they fight it, why should not all money necessary be issued as an asset, the banking administration to be paid the cost of administration?

We would then have no debt. After all, the "uncivilised" peoples of the world have been fighting wars for centuries without going into financial debt.

Mr. Murphy's remarks about "Social Credit" are contrary to facts. He says that it "is far too vague and meaningless to be offered as a practical solution," but then goes on to admit that it "seems" to be concerned with the printing of money. Which indicates that Mr. Murphy makes statements without knowledge.

As a recognised Australian lecturer and writer on "Social Credit," I request the same space as Mr. Murphy to put forward a method of paying for the war which is scientific and accepted by an increasing number of prominent citizens throughout the British Empire. I trust that you can accede to this request in the near future. — Sincerely yours, Eric D. Butler (V43270).

## LEISURE STATE OR WORK STATE?

### A Post-War Problem That Must be Faced

**A fundamental difference between the Social Credit school-of-thought and all others is that social crediters aim at the Leisure State and the rest at some form or other of Work State.**

**What is meant by the Work State? It is a State in which the claim of an individual to a livelihood is based on the performance of a certain amount of work, and which employs compulsion in one form or another to impel its citizens to work.**

In the "Capitalist" State, for instance, the multitude of unpropertied men and women are lashed into the service of the wealthy by the invisible whip of starvation. In the Distributive State (G. K. Chesterton's ideal) the whip would be the same. It is true that by the redistribution of property the citizen would be made, to a certain extent, his own master: free to earn his own living, instead of having to hang about waiting for someone to employ him; but the whip would be there all the same, ready to come down on his shoulders if idleness, illness, or misfortune should cause him to slacken his efforts. The Socialist State claims the right to use compulsion pure and simple, and assumes the duty of providing "work or maintenance" for its citizens: that is to say, the citizen will be required to do some work if there is any, and only if there is none will be entitled to "maintenance"—at the expense of the rest of the community.

The Social Credit idea opposes each and all of these policies. It declares that they are based, consciously or unconsciously, on the theory of scarcity, and on the moral ideas evolved during the prolonged historic age of scarcity. It declares that there is no virtue in work as such, and insists on the right of the citizen to a free choice whether he shall work or not. It rejects the idea that justice requires that everybody shall do his share of the world's work, and replies that the world's work will be done best by those most competent to do it, who should be highly paid in return. (Note that under modern peacetime conditions idle and incompetent men are driven to enter industry as an alternative to starvation, while earnest and competent men are unemployed. Moreover, a humane employer will often keep an unsatisfactory worker in his job for the sake of his family. The presence of thousands of such "clock-watchers" must militate against industrial efficiency. Again, old men are often compelled to work long after their usefulness is over and when they are entitled to a rest, while young men are compulsorily idle. The same is true of the professions. Many teachers who "simply hate teaching" only take it up because "there is nothing else to do"—which is hardly fair to their pupils. All the professions are full of old men slaving away because they cannot afford to retire, and of young men barely able to make a living. The increasing age of the members of Governments is another sign of an unsound economic system. Young men cannot afford to enter politics unless they have a private income, or have the backing of a political Party. Under the Leisure State, work will be the privilege of the competent, not a task to be scamped by the "shirker.") Finally, the social crediter declares that freedom and leisure are essential to the spiritual evolution of man, and demonstrates that they are economically possible. In a word, the policy of the Social Credit State would be "maintenance" simply, without any condition as to work.

Objection to this policy is commonly raised on two grounds: (a) Religious or moral; and (b) sociological. There is also, of course, the "practical" objection of the "man in the street" that, if there were no compulsion to work, everybody would at once fall into idleness and dissipation. The good fellow never seems to realise that in saying this he is slandering himself. It is always others whose misbehaviour he fears. He cannot see that there are no others—only millions of you's and me's and the answer to his difficulty is that if everybody stopped working, there would be nothing to dissipate with. Let us examine the other more serious objections, assuming the economic case as proved.

Before proceeding, it would be well to stress the economic point that, unless we

turn our backs on scientific developments, the Leisure State is ultimately inevitable. We would have been enjoying it before this war if only we could have got people to realise its implications and order things accordingly. We had a large leisured class enjoying an existence graduated from modest comfort to grotesque luxury, and we had another large class compulsorily "retired from business," not because, as the man in the street believes, we were too poor to employ them, but because we were too rich to require their services. Every human invention ever made, from the Paleolithic flint to the latest electrical apparatus, has been designed to save labour and create leisure, or else to make leisure more enjoyable. We have definitely set ourselves to do away with labour, and we are continuing to do away with it. Any attempt, therefore, to "create employment" is running directly contrary to that process, and it is simply futile and ridiculous to try to run both policies concurrently. One or other should be stopped. The only logical course for those who object to leisure is to put a stop to scientific invention and to all co-ordination of industry, and to reorganise society so that each individual shall separately earn his own living. This is the objective of the Distributists, and its drawbacks are obvious. Anybody who, culpably or otherwise, failed in his job, would either starve or become dependent on others, and so we should find ourselves back in the age of scarcity, with periodic famines instead of periodic gluts as our principal economic trouble. The number of people whose dislike of leisure would push them to the logical extent of advocating Distributism is, however, small. Yet, their moral and other kindred objections to the Leisure State remain. Let us try to set these doubts and scruples at rest.

(To be continued. Next week: "Moral Objections to Leisure.")

(Adapted from the book, "Life and Money," by Eimar O'Duffy.)

## A NEW ZEALAND PLAN

**A repercussion in New Zealand of the Malvern Conference is that the "People's Plan" has been sponsored by the New Zealand Social Credit Movement—an organisation in no way associated with the Social Credit Secretariat (England). The following is an extract from a letter from a member of the Secretariat to a New Zealand correspondent:—**

"The 'People's Plan' has reached me since I wrote you on October 12. This has been read with attention . . .

"Page 13: Free vitamins, medical examination, and one meal a day. Page 17: Motherhood endowments, the right of women to full pay prior to and after childbirth. Page 19: Nutritional education, standard loaf—wholemeal. Page 21: Other divisions of industry to be organised on a voluntary co-operative basis with employees receiving an equitable share. Page 39: Seaweed from the New Zealand beaches. Page 42: Education to develop spirit of service . . . The quotation of such items is sufficient indication of their origin—offspring of the 'isms.' If you have read Stuart Chase's "Tyranny of Words" you will know all I want to say about page 30. Justice, Liberty, Service and Co-operation—a new world order mission composed of World Leaders—these windy abstractions are the traditional currency of the devil. Balloons which we are supposed to watch while the Armourer gets to work with his rivets.

"It is for individual men to determine—in their action—their own destiny. Freedom is as necessary to an individual as it is to a child in learning to walk. Freedom is the ability to choose or refuse alternatives as they arise. . . . Granted an increase of freedom proportionate to production, all such points as above, from vitamins to seaweed, would be settled (in doing, not saying) by people choosing what they want. And if they don't want seaweed then it's just too bad.

"Talking to Douglas recently, he said: 'I pay some attention to what a man says, and a great deal of attention to what he does.' Motives? I am sure that your Mr. Nash has the very best brand of motive; he is going to do the people a power of good; and so is the Archbishop of Canterbury from whose Malvern conference the 'People's Plan' is, I gather, derived. It is certainly not derived from Douglas.

"I think it was Lord Vansittart (a man worth watching) who recently said that the Englishman is kindly and generous to a fault, but that his besetting weakness is the inability to recognise the existence of evil. The point which we have got to get home to ourselves, as well as to others, is that there is always someone waiting with the chains and the rivets while we watch the balloons. Ready to pin prospective mothers down to pre-natal pay, duly inspected and certified correct

## A ROOSEVELTIAN EXPERIMENT

Extract from "Washington Wonderland" — "The Readers Digest," July, 1942—

"LIQUIDATION: Washington seldom has seen a brighter vision than Arthurdale, the forgotten West Virginia mining camp which Mrs. Roosevelt undertook in 1934 to transform into a model community—one, she hoped, which might point the way to a new mode of abundant living for all America. A going, taxpaying, 1000-acre buckwheat farm was acquired by Subsistence Homesteads, and promptly ploughed under. Into the sprawling 22-room stone house on the hilltop moved army engineers, geological survey crews, soil chemists, city planners, and specialists in sanitation, recreation, community singing, nutrition, crops, and handicrafts. In the White House, the First Lady, assisted by Rex Tugwell, drew plans. At various points W.P.A., N.Y.A., C.C.C., and F.S.A. helped. The Treasury paid out 2,697,157

dollars in cash, not counting free services rendered by 14 federal agencies.

"By 1933, 165 homesteads of three acres each emerged, surrounded by luxurious community houses, a school, factory, and co-operative exchange. But during the next four years no substantial industries came to Arthurdale. Farming was poor. The co-operative exchange languished in the red. Another Utopia got stuck in the mud. Early this year the project was abandoned. It is to be sold on credit—no down payment—to the former tenants for 175,000 dollars.

"F.S.A. once had 197 of these rehabilitation projects of all sizes. The total Government investment is 136,168,980 dollars. One-fourth of the projects already have been liquidated, and 35 more will go through the wringer this year."

## COBURG ANTI-CONSCRIPTION MEETING

**A meeting to oppose the extension of conscription to service overseas was held in the Coburg Concert Hall on Thursday night, January 21. The principal speaker, Mr. M. M. Blackburn, M.H.R., said that the voluntary system had NOT failed. The people of Australia had twice rejected conscription during the last war—even the soldiers in the firing line voted against it. These instructions from the people had never been revoked.**

Mr. Curtin and all political parties in Parliament had pledged themselves not to introduce conscription for overseas service. He went on to say that Communists who to-day advocated conscription might yet find that they had to fight conscripted Communists of some other country. Sending men overseas against their will could denude this country of an adequate force to defend it against possible invasion.

Mr. H. Nicholls, in supporting Mr. Blackburn, said that Mr. Curtin was pledged to fight against conscription, but he was now trying to introduce it by backdoor methods. Trades unionists and men in reserved occupations who were advocating conscription for others, were cowardly, he said, and if the advocates of conscription were logical, they would be urging industrial conscription at 6/- per day. He read a pamphlet issued by the Communist Party which said, inter alia, that "Unless Mr. Blackburn comes into

line quickly he will have to be treated as an enemy of the people."

Mr. F.C. Paice referred to the low rates of soldiers' pay, the paltry allowance for their dependants, the fact that so many returned men were getting such small pensions and, in many deserving cases, no pension at all. He said that those responsible for these conditions should be charged with defeating the voluntary enlistment of men. It was a wonderful tribute to our young men that in the face of all these things Australia, in relation to its population, had put more fighting men in the field than any other Allied nation. He advised those who do not support conscription to exercise their right as electors and write to their members of Parliament instructing them to vigorously oppose its introduction.

Mr. M. Hannah spoke briefly in support of the previous speakers, and related some of his experiences in the 1916-17 anti-conscription campaigns.

Anti-conscription letter forms, to be signed and forwarded to members of Parliament were eagerly taken by those present.

## ANTI-CONSCRIPTIONISTS DEMAND REFERENDUM

A public meeting convened by the No-Conscription Campaign was held in the Savoy Theatre, Russell St., Melbourne, on Sunday last, Jan. 31. The principal speaker was Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., who gave a resume of events in the House of Representatives during the past week. Laughter followed the statement that although reference to the limits of Mr. Curtin's first area, known as the South-West Pacific Area, was omitted from "Hansard," the area had already been published in an American newspaper with a world-wide circulation.

Mr. Blackburn outlined the three amendments he proposed to move in the House, and urged his listeners to take active steps to make their views on the subject known to their respective Federal Members.

Mrs. Mary Grant, who played a prominent part in the 1916 and 1917 anti-conscription campaigns, made a vigorous speech, and scathingly criticised Mr. Curtin for his extension proposals.

A motion protesting against Mr. Curtin's conscription extension proposals and demanding a referendum on the subject was carried unanimously. An appeal for funds received generous support.

—"Ajax."

## PLANNERS AT WORK

Protests against the transfer by national service officers of skilled tradesmen from their employment with the medium sized and smaller building firms to do labouring work for large contractors in other parts of the country were made in England recently at a meeting of the Federation of Greater London Master Builders.

Delegates spoke of skilled men arriving on large building sites and being told that they were not wanted, but would be "fitted in," and being employed on digging trenches; of carpenters acting as labourers to bricklayers, and bricklayers acting as labourers to carpenters; and of men being engaged on digging holes and filling them up again. It was alleged that the smaller builders were being exploited at the expense of one section of the industry, and one of the delegates declared that he had a great objection to his men being transferred to his larger competitors. Another said there were thousands of labourers in London to-day drawing unemployment pay while the Government were taking skilled operatives to do labourers' work.

## MRS. ROOSEVELT AND THE COMMUNISTS

Mrs. Roosevelt, who frequently has been criticised for hobnobbing with the Reds, in a letter to Eugene Connolly, Left Wing Leader of the American Labour Party, says that she was surprised to learn that another letter she had written was being used to support the Communist platform. "I have no illusions," she wrote, "as to the stand which the American Communist Party has taken in American affairs. I admire Russia and the marvellous fight which Russia is putting up. Russia has a right to the kind of government that Russians wish to have, but I do not wish to be controlled in this country by an American group that, in turn, is controlled by Russia and Russia's interests. I should like to see Labour people united, because it would add to their strength, but they cannot be united politically with people who act under the dictates and in the interests of another nation."

## THE FIGHT AGAINST BUREAUCRACY AND CENTRALISATION

According to the "Border Morning Mail," Albury (16/43), "an anti-Government campaign in S.A., sponsored by business leaders," is likely to extend to Melbourne. An un-named Government spokesman said that the Government was "disturbed." While the direct point of attack was the expansion of Federal powers, some of the opposition was aimed at the policy of the Labor Government, which it was feared, may find expression through the wider Federal powers in measures of Socialism.

In defending the Government against charges of bureaucratic control and regimentation, Dr. Evatt said if particular regulations or orders are unjust, and are not helping the war effort, the Government was always willing to have them reviewed, and when desirable, amended or withdrawn. It is encouraging to find that the proposal to place the manpower regulations in the hands of a bureaucrat has been withdrawn, and a Minister responsible to Parliament, Mr. Ward, remains in control. The following is a sample letter out of many thousands which are being forwarded by responsible citizens to Members of Parliament—

E. J. Ward, Esq., M.H.R.,  
Parliament House, Canberra.

Dear Mr. Ward,—I notice from an article in the "Sydney Morning Herald" of 16/43, under heading, "Man Power Control—Plan for Big Change," that Mr. Curtin's Government proposes "to remove control of manpower from the Minister for Labour, Mr. Ward, and invest it in a non-political authority, probably responsible to Parliament alone."

We, the constituents of Australia, are becoming skilled in understanding the kites which are invariably flown before decisive action is taken by the Government when it is aware that the ground it proposes to tread is fraught with danger. By such kites public feeling is tested in advance, and, if the wind is found to be too unfavourable, no further action is taken.

If the Government considers public reaction auspicious we will now see another large and most important field vacated by a Responsible Minister to become the plaything of a new nest of Bureaucrats, who may "probably be responsible to Parliament."

The Curtin Government seems to be bent on self-destruction. It is fully aware of the rising storm of public anger at the Governments consistent policy aimed at the destruction of RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT and the substitution therefore of Government by Bureaus.

The reason given can be described only by the word "naive." This most important field of administration is to be taken from your hands, Sir, from the hands of a Responsible Minister, duly elected by your Constituents, and fully responsible to Parliament, because, forsooth, it is "one of the most 'awkward' matters with which the Government has to deal."

What is meant by the word "awkward" in this context? Surely it means nothing less than that in this field the Government finds great difficulty in imposing its policy upon the People, which is another way of saying that the Government's policy and the people's policy are opposed one to the other. Whence, then, does the Government derive this hostile policy which the people resist? In a democracy there is one source of policy, and that is the People. The Government was placed in office for no other purpose than to implement the will and policy of the People, and so soon as it finds itself unable or unwilling to give us that service which every Minister has sworn a solemn oath to render, it should make place for those who are prepared to give us that loyal service, which we have every right to expect. Let the Government renounce policies which it finds to be "awkward"; let it renounce its allegiance to those who originate such policies and give its loyalty, allegiance and service to the people to whom these are due. If the Government does these things there will be no "awkward"

policies, and there will be no desire on the part of the Government to overthrow our ancient and satisfactory institution of Government by Responsible Ministers.

Democracy has been defined as rule OF the people, FOR the people, BY the people. HITLER himself believes in and practises rule OF the people; there is little doubt that he satisfies himself that what he does is FOR the people. These two are not the test of democracy. The crucial test of democratic government is rule BY the people. The people who govern are those who get what they want, i.e., it is those who originate and direct policy. "Awkward" policies have some source other than the people.

Mr. Curtin may retort to the above criticism: "But I am following this 'awkward' policy in order that we may win the war." Does Mr. Curtin believe that those who oppose his "awkward" policy are by one whit less desirous of winning the war than he? Does he think so contemptuously of Australians, who have raised him from his obscurity to the high office with which they have honoured him, as to believe that they need his compulsion to do all that is necessary in the military field, in the industrial field, and elsewhere to defeat the enemy? Does he not realise that the will to win the war must be the overwhelming passion of the people, and that if they have not that urgent and overwhelming passion, nothing HE can do about it will matter two hoots? Mr. Curtin is not unaware of a very widely held opinion that, so far from helping us to win the war, his addiction to bureaucratic interference is a dangerous waste of our resources and a grave impediment to our success.

There is one bright spot in the article under review, i.e.—"Violent opposition to the scheme is expected from Mr. Ward." I would like to assure you, Sir, that so long as you "violently oppose" the transfer of power and authority and responsibility from RESPONSIBLE MINISTERS to irresponsible, non-elected bureaucrats you will not be devoid of ample support from the source of all power—the SOVEREIGN PEOPLE.

A babe to survive must have FORM and LIFE. So is it with Law. A law must have: (a) FORM (given by Parliament); b) LIFE (given by popular support—this is called SANCTION, and it can come only from the people).

To enforce a law devoid of Sanction will always be "awkward." To pass to a bureau the administration of such a law is not Democracy—it is Dictatorship.

A babe with form but devoid of life—a still-born—is buried. So should it be with a law. Repeal is the only remedy for a law found to be "awkward."

Please God it will always be found "awkward" to administer in Australia any law devoid of Sanction.

## COMMUNISTS TO OPEN SCHOOL FOR REVOLUTION

A school for the training of young Communists in methods for the violent overthrow of the State and for the propaganda of atheism is to be opened in Melbourne. At a meeting held at the Princess Theatre on Sunday, January 24, to commemorate the nineteenth anniversary of the death of Lenin, the Communist leader, an appeal was made by the chairman for subscriptions to a fund to establish a Lenin Memorial School to promulgate Marxist-Leninist philosophy. ("Age," 25/1/43)

The objective of the school, the report added, is to coach Communist cadres as organisers for the movement. It is intended to obtain a site for the building near Melbourne.

Though Communists in their writings and speeches are, at the present stage, discreetly reticent when asked whether they still stand for the violently revolutionary doctrine of Lenin and his insistence on the inculcation of atheism, violent revolution and the propaganda of atheism are emphasised clearly in his teaching as the very A.B.C. of the Communist programme.

We welcome, all the same, the up-to-date declaration by Communists that they aim to "promulgate Marxist-Leninist philosophy." This honesty is helpful.

"The philosophy of the Communist Party," said the Communist publication, the "Workers' Weekly," Sydney (20/12/38), "is the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism-Dialectical Materialism. It excludes any interference by supernatural agencies. It therefore, includes atheism."

War, teaches Lenin, provides the ideal revolutionary situation without which a

revolution is impossible. "The objective revolutionary situation created by war . . . inevitably gives rise to revolutionary sentiments; it hardens and enlightens the best and most conscious proletariat. A sudden change in the mood of the masses becomes not only possible, but more and more probable . . . At any rate, only work in this direction deserves the name of Socialist work. The slogan that generalises and directs this work, and helps to unite and consolidate those who wish to aid the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat against its Government and its bourgeoisie, is the slogan of civil war." ("War and the Second International," pp. 53-4)

"The proletarian revolution is impossible without the forcible destruction of the bourgeois State machine." ("The Proletarian Revolution," p. 20)

Lenin quotes Engels with approval: "Revolution is an act in which one section of the population imposes its will upon the other by means of rifles, bayonets and guns all of which are exceedingly authoritarian implements. And the victori-

## EXPOSURE OF LOCAL COMMUNISTS' TACTICS AND OBJECTIVES

(A Review continued from last issue, of the booklet "Red Glows The Dawn.")

"We are sometimes accused of departing from our Communist principles. What stupidity, what blindness! We should not be Marxist and Leninist revolutionaries, nor disciples of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, if we were not capable of completely altering our tactics and our mode of action as circumstances may dictate. But all the deviations and all the ins and outs of our tactics are directed to a SINGLE end—THE WORLD REVOLUTION.—M. Dimitrov, general secretary, Communist International (p. 1846, Verbatim Report No. 39, Seventh Congress).

The author prefaces his third chapter, "The Holy War," with the above quotation, and under the sub-heading, "The Great About-Turn," he goes on to say:—

"As I have more than once inferred, there has been a remarkable change of front on the part of the Reds since June 22, 1941. The war is no longer a 'filthy imperialist slaughter'; instead it has taken on all the properties of the Jihad—the Holy War. We are no longer fighting to preserve the interest and profits of the big financier; we are now participants in a holy war to preserve democracy. The former saboteurs are aping the alleged 'reactionaries' and 'jingos' of the early months of the war, and the forgotten men of yesterday have become the feted of to-day. Incense has taken the place of insults; and reprimands for 'slacking' the place of refusals to help."

The reader of the booklet is given specific examples of this somersault, and inter alia, reads this about the "smoke-screen" leagues and societies:—

"Societies which had been born in obscurity, and which had, until then, lived furtive lives, mostly spent in dodging the provisions of National Security Regulations, suddenly discovered that the war was a noble thing and as suddenly commenced to hold meetings and congresses and to establish subsidiary bodies in the best form of pre-proscription years. . . . I have often been intrigued at the simplicity of the editors of some of our daily press organs in this respect. A number of them appear to be able to find space for the most trivial Red announcement, while important statements from the authoritative sources are abridged."

We lack the space to quote the amusing and illuminating account of how, at the end of August, 1941, Mr. Blain, M.H.R., an A.I.F. gunner, dropped a large-sized verbal brick at a congress in the Sydney Town Hall, arranged by the F.S.U., and blessed by certain Pink Parsons; but here is just one important paragraph from the story:—

These were not the only distasteful remarks for which Gunner Blain was responsible. At a recruiting rally on the Sydney Domain on September 14, he said that recently he had attended a public meeting called allegedly to aid Russia. On the platform were men of eligible age who were deep in the Communist Party and subversive propaganda last year. "When I said at that meeting," he added, "that it was always part of the Australian Communist creed that the British Empire was rotten, men of eligible age shouted, 'so it is!' There was not a good word of protest from the large crowd present, which afterwards gave an ovation to a Communist leader, who was recently punished by a court for a seditious offence."

## BEWARE SECURITY WITHOUT FREEDOM

Admissions about the need for correcting monetary policies are coming (especially in England) from "high" places, where previously there has been marked hostility to Social Credit ideas; and this is not all due to the influence of monetary reformers.

The truth is, of course, that the stupid and false financial set-up which is uniform through the civilised world (like all false things), has in it the seeds of its own downfall. These false and stupid ways were foisted on the peoples of the world because they served to involve the peoples of the world in a series of troublous experiences (war being one of them); the intention being to allow the power-mongers who are behind the League of Nations and the Central Banking ideas, by gradual and secret processes, to bring all other people to be more or less their tools, or dupes, or slaves.

The fundamental ideas of Social Credit are not monetary, but have to do with the establishment of a way of associated life which will honour and confirm maximum individual freedom of choice and acting to every human being; all the ways and means suggested by the genius of Major C. H. Douglas are thought to be all-important in the technical sense; but they are secondary to the avowed objective of human freedom.

The key to, and the essence of, Social Credit is freedom; and it is of the utmost importance that this shall be fully realised just now when the same power-mongers (as

mentioned above) are taking drastic steps to consolidate their stranglehold on the communities of the world. Their Big Idea is to fasten a chain of legalised compulsion on us by manipulating Cabinets and Parliaments, and by using an army of bureaucrats (very able and expert, no doubt) to map out exactly the kind of "New Order" which they think is good for us. Very liberal "social services" in the way of educational and health and Public Works developments may be part of the promised advantages; but all will be conditioned to our acceptance of some philosophy of servitude to the abstract official authority of "The State."

Some recent admissions by Dr. Evatt, for instance, are the more dangerous in that they point to the undoubted influence which the Social Credit movement has had in indicating that what is physically possible can be made financially possible.

If one assumes that Dr. Evatt's real intentions are coupled up with, and in line with, a few power-mongers of New York, and are not coupled up with, or in line with those who are genuinely loyal to our King, and to the traditions of British freedom and justice, then one can see a consistent trend in his actions.

Dr. Evatt and his associates (here and overseas), while pandering to well-meaning, but uncritical, monetary and social reformers, are making use of war-time conditions to pull the wool over the eyes of even less critical parliamentarians in making the way clear for a scheming few in a Federal Caucus to multiply the insults of bureaucratic interference, or else to return to the bad old ways of pure financial dominance of the many by the few.

—The Advocate, Melbourne, Jan. 28

The third chapter contains much more of the kind so far indicated, but the most priceless gem, in our opinion, casts its radiance in a different direction. With an interval of four days between them, two letters were sent by the Australia-Soviet Friendship League to the Melbourne Trades Hall Council. The first, dated September 3, 1941, drew the attention of the Council to the ban on "Moscow News" and other periodicals, and asked the Council to help to have the prohibitions lifted. The second, dated September 9, 1941, referred to the Council's notice several articles, condemnatory of the Reds, which had appeared in the "Bulletin," and invited the Council to approach the Government with the request that the publication of such matter be prohibited.

The author's comment on that revealing incident is hardly necessary, but it hits the bull's-eye:—

"You see, the Freedom that they screech about on the Sydney Domain and the Melbourne Yarra Bank is not the Freedom which you and I and tens of thousands of other Australians believe in: it is Freedom for Reds only."

Consideration of the third chapter may be appropriately concluded by extracting the following statement made by Mr. George Gibson, President of the British Trade Union Congress, when speaking at the conference held in Edinburgh on September 1, 1941. In expressing a warm welcome to Russia as an ally, Mr. Gibson said:—

"But this does not imply the least sympathy with the British Communist Party leaders, for the astonishing gyrations of these people have placed them in the lowest category in the esteem of the British working class. For them the war ceased to be an 'imperialist war' at 4 a.m. on June 22, and became a righteous one."

(To be continued.)

[Copies of "Red Glows The Dawn" may be obtained, at 6d. each (plus 1/4d. if posted), from booksellers throughout Australia (wholesale agents: Gordon & Gotch), or from the United Electors of Australia, 343 Lit. Collins St., Melbourne, C.1.]

## BRUCE BROWN TO SPEAK AT COLAC

Mr. Bruce H. Brown will speak at the Colac Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning, February 14, on "Serious Misconceptions." In the afternoon he will address a public meeting in the Victoria Hall on "Are We Men Or Marionettes?" In the evening he will speak at the Methodist Church on "Ignorance—The Crucifier."

—Dynamics.

## BUREAUCRACY AIDS MONOPOLY

An extract from the "Linen Trade Circular," October 24, 1942 is of considerable interest as indicating the state of mind prevalent in the cotton trade in England, and, no doubt, reflected more or less exactly in many other trades. I think the chief ingredients of this mood are, first, a deep sense of frustration of the war effort by centralisation, which is a fundamentally inefficient method of obtaining the best response—from British individuals at any rate. And second, a growing conviction that there are conscious forces at work exploiting war conditions for ulterior and after-the-war purposes. Here is the extract:—

"Merciless' Mill-Closing: Resignation of the chairman of the Cotton Board (Sir E. Raymond Street) and the Cotton Controller (Mr. Frank Platt) was demanded in a resolution passed by more than 800 Lancashire business men in Manchester. . . . The resolution, to which there was only one dissident, also called for the abolition of British Overseas Cottons Ltd., and the substitution for the three of one controller, preferably a chartered accountant, aided by a deputy and advised by a representative panel from the cotton industry.

"The meeting, at which Mr. Hugh V. Stowell, a Liverpool cotton merchant, presided, was addressed by Mr. J. Wentworth Day, and had been advertised under the heading, Bureaucracy, the menace to trade and industry.

"He described one of the 'injustices' he referred to in his speech as the 'merciless' closing down of mills without any reason or any share in the profits of other mills being given. Mr. Stowell said they were afraid that if the Control, as it now existed, were not broken up there would be a

ready-made combine for after the war with a full knowledge about everything and everybody." The Control should control and leave the administration, distribution and general handling to the trade," he added. (Our emphasis.)

It looks as if all Manchester's energy and indignation would be squandered in mere protest. Surely the proper channel for such a resolution, backed by people in a position to make themselves felt at election time, was to Westminster via their own representative there.

Overseas Cottons Ltd. is the centralised trading organisation under, I think, the chairmanship of the Earl of Carlisle, apparently set up to get hold of all overseas distributing organisations and contacts of the cotton trade while the war is in progress. It is not surprising that it is unpopular, for like all things of the kind in as far as it is not controlled for their own ends by individuals within itself, it is certain to be preponderantly influenced in their favour by the biggest concerns in the trade, and the smaller firms sense that.

—N. F. WEBB

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

(From THE UNITED DEMOCRATS, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.)

**POWERS BELL:** An active member of the Constitutional Powers Committee, Mr. H. Peek, gave us an interesting lunch-hour address on Friday, January 22. He said the Pressure Politics Campaign now sweeping the State was the most amazing political event in S.A. history. Within two weeks of commencement, almost 10,000 signed requests against the transfer of powers without a referendum had been sent into Parliament. Mr. Peek had experienced the force of Pressure Politics with the Hands Off Our Clothes Association, but the response of the people to this latest opportunity to express their will had quite amazed him. The President said there was the nucleus of another campaign contained in the first clause of the leaflet: "Economic security for all at least equal to a living wage . . . ." It is worth noting that the Communist Party, in an advertisement, urge supporters of the Powers Bill to write personal letters to their respective parliamentary representatives.

**WEDDING:** Our worthy secretary, Mr. M. Wentworth Lee, has decided to wed the girl of his choice and the happy event takes place on Saturday, February 6. The Executive extends to him and his partner-to-be all good wishes for their future happiness. We feel that all our members and friends who know of the work and untiring efforts Mr. Lee has extended to our cause will join with us in these good wishes.

—M. E. DODD, President.

## CHOSEN PEOPLE

"Convinced that they were the chosen people, the Israelites had for long interpreted this vocation as commissioning them in the name of God to overpower and either exterminate or reduce to subjection all other peoples. Despite the protests of a long line of prophets through whom God was seeking to educate them out of this delusion, it persisted to the end: the ideal of a world order based on the dominance of a Herrenvolk is one of the genuinely Jewish contributions to political theory."—The Regius Professor of Moral and Pastoral Theology, Oxford, Dr. E. L. Hodgson

"The Jewish Chronicle" (England), promising "a full and detailed reply" to Dr. Hodgson's pronouncement, says the Israelites "did, it is true, regard themselves as the 'chosen people,' as many other peoples have done or still do. But they used the words in the sense that they had been the chosen medium for the proclamation of the Divine law." Exactly!

## ANTI-CONSCRIPTION LETTER FORMS.

Copies of anti-conscription letter-forms are obtainable, at 1/6 per hundred (post free), from The United Electors of Australia, 343 Little Collins-street, Melbourne.

Finance dominance means that the pelt of the 'possum belongs to the one who starves him out.

Socialism or Communism or Fascism means that the pelt of the 'possum belongs to the official hunter.

Social Credit means that the 'possum keeps his own pelt.

## THE COMMONWEALTH POWERS BILL

By means of "Electoral Campaign" tactics, electors are making themselves felt in regard to the Powers Bill. (See also "South Australian Notes" in this issue.) One interesting indication of this is the following statement by Mr. H. S. Dunks (Liberal and Country League member for Mitcham, in the South Australian Parliament), published in the daily Adelaide "Advertiser" on January 23

In answer to numerous, letters from my Constituents I wish it to be known that I am not supporting the Bill now before the South Australian Parliament, which would give very wide and indefinite powers to the Commonwealth Government, because it is my considered opinion that it will destroy the Federal character of the Constitution, and take away the right of the people granted to them by the following Section:

"Chapter 8 (128). Alteration of the Constitution.

"This Constitution shall not be altered except in the following manner:

"The proposed law for the alteration thereof must be passed by an absolute majority of each House of the Parliament, and not less than two or more than six months after its passage through both Houses, the proposed law shall be submitted in each State to the electors qualified to vote for the election of Members of the House of Representatives, and if in a majority of the States a majority of the electors voting approve the proposed law, and if a majority of all the electors vot-

ing also approved the proposed law, it shall be presented to the Governor for the King's assent."

I will not record my vote to take away these rights from the electors, and would be obliged if the Constituents of my electorate will please be good enough to accept this explanation as an answer to the numerous letters and petitions for and against the Bill which I have received.

## WASHINGTON JEWS

"Jews have become concentrated in a few Government agencies, where they are disproportionate, where they are conspicuous for their numbers, where they have intimate contact with the public. These agencies are The Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Labor, the National Labor Relations Board, the Social Security Board, and some offices of the Department of Justice. Here the Jews are so numerous it is no wonder that the public which deals with them gets the idea that Jews are quite as numerous in the whole Government."

—W. H. Kiplinger: "The Facts About Jews in Washington," condensed by "Readers Digest," October, 1942 from the Washington periodical, "Washington Is Like That."

## SOCIAL CREDIT IN QUEBEC

We do not think that English-speaking Social Crediters realise the position of Social Credit in the Province of Quebec. The Province has a population of something over three millions, of which over a million are in Montreal, which is much like other cities.

But of the remainder, probably 180,000 read "Vers Demain," the admirable Social Credit paper whose paid circulation is over thirty thousand (more than all the rest of the Social Credit organs combined); a large proportion of these belong to the Credit Association which operates on the same lines as the Treasury Branches in Alberta, but is unofficial.

There are many aspects of the Quebec situation which are most intriguing. Quebec, then called French or Lower Canada, entered the Dominion with a disproportionate representation in Parliament, and still retains over one quarter of the Members, while the very large number of French Canadians in Manitoba and the West make them a formidable political force in other Provinces also.

It is true to say that the French Canadian while primarily a Canadian, is much less of an American than the average Canadian citizen—partly, of course, as a matter of language, but also definitely by reason of race and tradition. His affinity is much more Catholic, quite apart from religion, than it is Yankee-Puritan.

—"The Social Crediter" (Eng.) Nov. 21, 1942.

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

**PLANE FACTS:** Major Seversky, U.S. plane designer, is reported by the daily press as saying: "The blunt truth is that America has no fighter-planes in production worth a nickel compared with Britain's and Germany's best, and the sooner U.S. realises this and takes a realistic view of the situation the sooner the Luftwaffe will be smashed beyond repair." It is refreshing to learn from such a practical expert that journalistic exaggerations about U.S. super-products do not fool all the people all the time.

**JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES:** Some time ago "Jehovah's Witnesses" in Australia were declared subversive. Press reports of January 15 tell us that in Italy "three leading Jehovah's Witnesses were sentenced to death for desertion, and 49 others to life imprisonment." Now, since this sect opposes war in all countries—which, presumably, constitutes neutrality—Jehovah appears to have placed his Witnesses literally between two fires. Could it be that their strong criticism of organised religion is the real reason for their persecution and prosecution?

**POLITICAL PROMISES:** When uniform (centralised) taxation was forced on the people, the Federal Government declared "there would be no increase in income tax for the financial year." Alas, it was only a promise—just another glaring example of irresponsible Parties being used by banking gangsters to raise increased taxation to pay the gangsters their interest charges. The way to avoid unnecessary increases of taxation is to stop issuing interest-bearing loans.

—O. B. H.

## BOOKS TO READ

(Obtainable from the United Electors of Australia, Room 9, 5th Floor, McEwan House, Little Collins-street, Melbourne, C.I.)

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

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

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

"Story of the Commonwealth Bank": The Story of the People's Bank and How it Could and Should be Used. By D. J. Amos, F.A.I.S. Price, 1/- each.

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

## GO ON THE LAND, MY BOY!

Sir,—We are continually being told that Australia's prosperity depends on the primary producer. Quite so, but the experience of a well-known, up-to-date farmer on the Richmond River will do more to drive people off the land than on it

On urgent representations that the Government was asking for people to grow more potatoes, he did so under the Government guarantee.

This was his experience: He shipped 17 bags to Sydney, and they realised £17 5s. per ton. The following week he dug another 18 bags from the same patch and sent them to Sydney. They sent him a certificate of condemnation, stating they were affected with grubs. A week previously they were perfect, and these were identical potatoes. The grower could find no trace of grubs.

Of the previous week's consignment 10 bags were sold at 2s. 6d. per bag, and eight at 4s. total £3 4s. 9d. Against this expenses were: Freight, harbour dues, picking over, wharfage, weighing, commission, etc., £3 4s. 5d. He received back the magnificent sum of 4d. in penny stamps. In addition to above expenses, the labour

to pick and bag them was six persons for one day; 9s. to cart to boat, 9s. for bags, 1s. 3d. for twine, three planting for three days, and the seed cost £23 per ton.

The district was starving for potatoes, and he could have sold the lot on the ground at 25s. per bag, but was too honest to black market them. Another grower on the Richmond received 5d. per bag for 70 bags. The only logical thing for the Government to do is to abolish Boards, or abolish itself. Boards so far have only created big jobs for the lucky ones and chaos for the people. Democracy is supposed to be government of the people by the people and for the people. In practice it appears to be government by boards for the lucky few.—R. T. Harland, Broad-water.

(Reprinted from "The Northern Star," Lismore, N.S.W., Jan. 27.)

## LEFT-WING EXTREMISTS IN CANADA

"Toronto Saturday Night" says that Canadians have been subjected to a barrage of meetings organised by the more extreme Leftists for the purpose of cashing-in on the present popularity of Russia: "Most of these meetings, we are strongly convinced, are intended much more for the future political advantage of the Communist Party in Canada than for any immediate benefit to the Russians."

"It was extremely fortunate for all those associated with the visit to Toronto of Mr. Theodore Dreiser [well-known "American" writer] that Mr. Dreiser relieved his mind of his views about the British nation, people and Government in an interview the day before his lecture, instead of saving them for the public platform. . . .

The advantage of a man like Mr. Dreiser is that he blurts out frankly what is in his mind, while people like Professor Frank Scott say the same things in subtle and polished phrases which do far more damage and which cannot be dealt with by the Toronto police commissioners or the Minister for Justice. It is just as well that it should be brought to public attention that the motive behind a great

deal of the present campaigning for a second front and for an unmitigated and indiscriminating adulation of Russia is a deep-seated hostility to the British people and the whole political system which they developed and by which they stand, including their adherence to the tenets of the Christian religion. Mr. Dreiser's mentality is not widely different from that of our own more extreme Leftists; the amazing thing is that he should have wanted to talk to them, and they should have wanted to hear him, on the subject of "Democracy On The Offensive," since neither he nor they have the slightest interest in democracy whether it is on the offensive or the defensive."

## Obituary Notice

The friends of the late Mr. John Dwyer, of "Ullaring," Southern Brook, Northam, W.A., wish to express their sympathy with his relations in their bereavement. Mr. Dwyer, who was 76, had been a very keen social creditor for many years, and was respected by all who knew him. His loss will be felt by many who appreciated his sterling worth. His remains were interred in the Anglican portion of the Northam Cemetery on Monday, Jan. 25.

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