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EVERY FRIDAY **THE** PRICE—FOURPENCE  
**NEW TIMES**

Vol.9 No. 25 MELBOURNE FRIDAY JUNE 25 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).

# Big Protest Against Crushing Regulations

## Melbourne Shopkeepers Belligerent

### Great Rally at Assembly Hall Starts "Pressure Politics" Drive

Retailers from every port of Melbourne and suburbs attended a meeting at the Assembly Hall on Tuesday evening, May 18, to protest against the severe restrictions placed upon the retailers of confectionery, aerated drinks, milk, cream and allied essentials, under the Commonwealth Government's "rationalising" schemes.

The meeting was convened by the Federated Retail Confectionery, Refreshment and Mixed Business Association of Australia (Victorian branch), and the president (Mr. C. H. Jackson) occupied the chair. With him on the platform were members of the committee of the association, and Mr. E. H. Herstrom (representing the South Australian Chamber of Retail Trades and Professions), and Mr. O. B. Heatley (campaign director, United Electors of Australia). Proceedings throughout were marked by an

evident desire on the part of all speakers and the audience generally to "do something practical" to get rid of the mass of restrictions and red tape in which they felt they had become entangled.

#### MR. CURTIN AND CONFECTIONERY.

Mr. Jackson, opening the meeting, said they had assembled to protest against many injustices that had been heaped upon them. The Prime Minister, in a speech in Perth prior to the launching of the latest War

Loan, made an unwarranted attack upon the confectionery trade. He said that any person buying a seven-penny packet of confectionery was "retarding the war effort." If he had directed his criticism to department stores he might have come nearer the facts. These establishments, by a process known as "impulse selling," disposed of a lot of the kind of rubbish which people would buy on an impulse and under provocative temptation.

Strictures might also have been appropriately cast upon the indiscriminate opening of canteens by the Government or under Government approval in places where shopkeepers were already rendering the necessary service of this nature.

Such canteens were literally taking away the legitimate business of the shopkeepers. They were expected to scrape some sort of living out of what was left over by the canteens. Mostly elderly people conducted these shops, and they were serving the public usefully and keeping themselves and their families as law-abiding and loyal citizens. Canteens should have no priority over these shops. (Applause.) The Government restricted the output of soft drinks and made some suggestion that it was restricting also the output of beer, but that was a statement to be taken with reserve. Various other restrictions were imposed on the trade, such as repeated increases in the price of milk. In the past eighteen months there had been three increases in milk prices without any proportionate increase in the retail price to protect the shopkeeper. The production of ice cream had increased from 300,000 to 500,000 gallons per year, but the bulk of this increase was due to forced or "impulse selling by specially-created departments in the big department stores. The result was that the normal sales of ice cream by shopkeepers were adversely affected, while an undue consumption was stimulated. The selling of all this extra ice cream involved undue use of raw material, machinery and staffs of salespeople and ad-

ministrators. The Government had stopped the sale of cream, and it was reported would also severely restrict sales of milk by the shops. But it must be remembered that the small shopkeepers had no representative in Parliament like the big stores had.\* (Laughter.)

Evidently the Government was determined to do away with the small businesses because new milk bars have begun to make their appearance in these big stores, while the small shopkeeper's milk sales were to be restricted.

In fact, the small shopkeeping industry was being victimised because it was not strong enough to protect itself. They were caught in a cleft stick between Capitalism and Socialism. Socialism sold their goods in the canteens and Capitalism grabbed all the trade that was left.

Mr. M. Purvis, vice-president of the Confectionery Association, moved the following resolution:—

"That this mass meeting of confectionery, milk bar and mixed business shopkeepers, on account of the deplorable condition of the small business brought about either directly or indirectly by Government restrictions, demands that the Prime Minister answer the following questions:

"(1) In view of the published statement of the Prime Minister at Perth during the latest War Loan campaign 'That any person buying a 7d. packet of confectionery was retarding the war effort,' and as only by the permission of his Government is this commodity allowed to be manufactured, is his Government prepared to stop the manufacture of confectionery, which action would lead to the further closing of small established businesses?

"(2) In that event, is his Government prepared to compensate these people who are  
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\* The speaker presumably referred to Mr. A. W. Coles, M.H.R., who is also a chain-store magnate.—Ed., "NT."

## Politicians and Planners Warned

One of the most encouraging things we have read for a long time appeared in the March issue of the "Review of World Affairs" (England). We hope and believe that it applies equally to Australia. "It foreshadows a great struggle by and by"—but that cannot be avoided, and the sooner the issue is joined the better for all concerned. The extract reads as follows:—

"The broad mass of these Islanders are firmly determined to get rid of restriction and compulsion at the earliest possible moment after the war. Any politician who fails to notice this will get into an appalling amount of trouble. Oddly enough, although nothing is more striking than this national determination to see the greatest possible measure of individual liberty restored at the earliest possible moment after the war, yet a growing number of political leaders of all parties have failed to see it—especially so those of the Left.

"There are two extremely important movements afoot in direct opposition to each other. The masses are talking and thinking more of the return of freedom than almost any other subject, while the politicians are talking more about planning and regimentation of every kind than has ever been heard in British history before. It is a very strange business and almost inexplicable. It foreshadows a great struggle by and by. Many people are still too busy to notice the clashing tendencies, and still fewer have had time

to think about the possible consequences. "One politician after another commits himself to post-war schemes involving bureaucratic management of the individual from birth to death. The Leftists are more totalitarian than anyone else, though there are not a few amongst members of the Conservative Party. That any politician with even a meagre knowledge of British history can seriously believe that this highly independent nation will capitulate to bureaucracy is incredible—a people which has pulled down and destroyed every repository of power which has dared to manifest itself during a thousand years, which has faced and overcome every form of tyranny upon which it could lay hands will never give itself over to control by an executive decreeing when and where one shall be born, in what subjects one shall be educated, the kind of work one shall do, the measure of one's amusements, the size of the house one may build, the day upon which one must finally cease work, and the type of State coffin into which one will be placed at the last.

"Any system which threatens to produce uniformity—especially an ugly uniformity—will in the end be rejected. Britain is a country of highly aristocratic instincts. The masses are radical, democratic and rough—but they are aristocratic to the core. Their easy-going tolerance, love of sport, uncommon respect for human life in peace, and personal disregard for it in war, all illustrate this. They love splendour when it does not affront good form, and are 'dangerously extravagant.' They quickly recognise mediocrity and despise it. To imagine that such a people will consent to become a planned nation of leaden creatures is ludicrous. They are an incurable race of individualists who will never be levelled.

"If, in a moment of national weakness, clever politicians ever succeeded in imposing a managerial system, it would be overthrown quickly. The danger is real because too many politicians of all parties are saturated with Continental doctrines of one kind or another. Too few know British history. In journalism and in politics there is a dangerous tendency to copy Continental ideas. Indeed, half the phrases used for describing military campaigns and the post-war world are recently borrowed from some foreign country or another. Far too many political and economic ideas now widely propagated as ideals are in fact the very doctrines from which foreign tyrannies have sprung.

"The British people already dimly realise all this, but many politicians don't. There is a dangerous and widening gap between the broad mass of the nation and political leadership."

## A Fair Deal for Suburban Shops? Brunswick Council's Move

On the motion of Cr. Adams, seconded by Cr. Jacobs, the Brunswick City Council (Melbourne), at its meeting on June 14, resolved:—

"That in order to obtain more decentralised and more equitable distribution of rationed commodities for small shopkeepers and consumers, this Council approves the principle of ALLOCATING RATIONED GOODS ON THE BASIS OF MUNICIPAL POPULATION NEEDS.

"That the matter also be referred to the Municipal Association with a view to obtaining the support of other Councils for the proposal.

"That each Council approving the proposal should make representations to the appropriate authorities for the necessary control of policy and administration to effectively implement the proposal.

"That the letter-forms for sending to Members of Parliament, which are being issued by the Federated Retail Confectionery, Refreshment and Mixed Business Association be brought to the notice of the Brunswick Traders' Association."

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

The Victorian elections have demonstrated the need to sound the tocsin against the practice of Party Bosses arranging uncontested electorates on a quid pro quo basis. Fourteen seats were bartered in this manner; which means that the electors in those constituencies were disfranchised. If the practice is not stopped our political machinery and principles will be reduced to a mockery. Every effort should be made to prevent this evil recurring, especially at the nearing Federal Election. Electors should be alert and endeavour to prevent the dangerous trend of "uncontested seats."

**WINTER WOES:** Mr. Dawes, of the State Relief Committee, in an annual appeal for blankets, as per the Melbourne "Herald" of May 29, said that "hundreds of indigent cases were on the committee's files." Just contrast Mr. Dawes' appeal with that of the bankers, their tame economists and their megaphone (the daily press), demanding compulsory loans to permit forcible seizure of more of the remnants of the lower incomes. One body tells us of the existing poverty and distress, whilst the other tells us that prosperity is here—not just around the corner, as of yore. Who's telling lies?

**POPULATION PRATTLE:** The House of Lords recently held a debate, the theme of which was, "Large families must become popular." It is significant that the Lords discussed every angle of the population decline—excepting the incomes so necessary to rear and educate large families.

**BUTTER BLUSTER:** Big Boss Curtin is reported in the Melbourne "Sun" of June 11 thus: "No relaxation of the butter ration imposed on Australia will be entertained by the Government." Continuing, he said that "all butter available in excess of the 8oz. allowance will be exported to those who now are only receiving 2oz. per week." Presumably this will apply even if the manpower bungle is corrected and our butter production is increased to normal. Such a course might be related to the "Allied Food Bank" scheme, and might be an early start to give effect to that Planners' stunt. In any case, this is a matter for the Australian people to decide—not Mr. Curtin. Incidentally, the set-up of this international food-control body and the powers (if any) vested in it need close scrutiny.

**BREAD BRAWL:** Arising from the action of a N.S.W. baker, Mr. W. P. Aylward, who is prepared to go to gaol rather than sabotage his bread production, as ordered, Mr. Ifould, N.S.W. dictator on such matters, is reported in the daily press of May 31 as "accusing Mr. Aylward of threatening

the whole structure of bread rationing." What a shame! Mr. Ifould also said that "attempts to overturn industrial principles must be resisted." Presumably bureaucratic tyranny which sabotages bread production, in this case from 100 to 20 loaves, must not be resisted! Such an attitude can only be accurately described as Hitlerism-deluxe.

**EVATTS ERROR:** Reversing a lower court's decision, and finding that Jehovah's Witnesses were not a subversive body, the Full High Court stated that "the direction of the Attorney-General (Dr. Evatt) was not justified by the Constitution or the National Security Act, and the Regulation under which it was made was invalid." So much for Evatt's legal ability. This judgment should be kept in mind when viewing Evatt's desperate attempt to obtain power from State Parliaments to meddle  
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## Pasteurisation Menace

In Hobart a parliamentary committee has been holding an enquiry into the milk supply. On Wednesday, June 9, evidence was given by Dr. A. H. MacDonald, the chief medical officer of the Barnado Homes. He said:—

"We have found that pasteurised milk lowers the children's resistance to tuberculosis. In most of our Homes the children are given raw milk, and tuberculosis is practically non-existent. Professor Sprawson, our dental expert, has found that the children's teeth tend to decay with pasteurised milk."

## Lies, Impostors, Treachery, Defamation, Scandal, Truth and Honour

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

Sir,—Sir Keith Murdoch has been writing special reports about what he calls "The Battle of the Brisbane Line." These reports have been considered so important that they have been allotted almost half the space of the "Leader" page in the Melbourne "Herald." He gave the "full story," and used some expressive words; seven of them are suggested as the heading for this letter.

A man who has been to the London School of Economics (the admitted purpose of which is to provide the chief bureaucrats for the exercise of power and authority when the people have been fully regimented) should be familiar with the meaning of these words, but in view of the way in which they have been used by Sir Keith, it seems probable that the things that he has been seeing with his eyes have not been registering properly on his brain. That could explain his apparently paradoxical attitude of privately working against the very things he publicly advocates. By this I mean that while he publicly pleads for truth and honour, for many years he has worked for the perpetuation of a fraudulent system which depends on lies, imposition, treachery, defamation and scandal "to dupe and disarm the people and run them into political sheep pens." As an Australian citizen who has studied the working of that fraudulent system I express the view that Sir Keith Murdoch is as much responsible for the suffering to which the Australian people are being needlessly subjected as any other man in the Commonwealth. Indeed, I go further and say I know of no other living Australian (unless it be Professor Copland) who has been more culpable.

Using some of his own sentences as a starting point, let us have a brief look at a few facts. He wrote this:—"Mr. Scullin's Government was swept into office in 1929. Within a few days it suspended by administrative action compulsory training for the defence of Australia, and spent much of its time in turning into the streets thousands of Army and Navy men and discouraging and destroying the fighting services." As a professing Christian, will Sir Keith deny before God that:

(i) he was aware of the change in financial policy which had been privately decided upon in 1928, and

(ii) with the knowledge that there was an un-Australian majority in the Senate to keep a proper check, he was a party to the "sweeping-in" of Mr. Scullin's Government so that it would bear the odium of what had been deliberately planned to follow?

Will he also deny before God that he was a party to the campaign at that time for ruthless "economy" in Government expenditure, that he joined in the spreading of the lie that we had been living beyond our "means," and that he lent his aid to the systematic plan to foster the idea that money was more valuable than wealth? To maintain the fighting services would have cost "money," and the supply of this sacred stuff had been cut off. Not only so, but every attempt on the part of the Government to remove the shortage was resisted by the press and rejected by the Senate. Will Sir Keith deny that he knew this?

The contraction of our productive agencies between 1929 and 1931 to fit in with a deliberately-engineered reduction of purchasing power was a greater imposition than has ever been attempted by any indi-

vidual member of the present Federal Government, and consequently the men who assisted in that imposition were greater impostors than any member of the Federal Government. Did Sir Keith not also help to spread the lie that social credit had failed in Alberta when it had not even been tried there?

Could anything have been more treacherous than the use of Professor Lyndhurst Falkiner Giblin to write special "appealing" letters to "John Smith," assuring him that a lowering of his living standard was not only inevitable, but that really and truly it would be good for him? Those letters were a disgrace to their author and a bigger disgrace to the man who permitted their widespread publication. Hundreds of thousands of honest, God-fearing men and women were so betrayed on that occasion that they were led to vote for the supporters of a plan the intention of which was to crucify them. They felt that surely they could trust men like Sir Keith Murdoch, Sir George Pearce, Sir Robert Gibson and Sir John Latham. In my opinion it was treachery of the worst kind.

As to defamation, did he not join in the attack on the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales, and help to promulgate the suggestion that the then Premier of that State was a rogue and a vagabond? Did he (Sir Keith) not represent to us that Mr. Lang was attempting repudiation, when all the time he was merely asking that consideration should be extended to us similar to that which had been extended by the United States to Great Britain? Did not Sir Keith spread the defamatory report that those of us who sought to expose the true cause of the nation's difficulties were irresponsible cranks and dangerous men?

And what could be more scandalous than the use of the newspapers of the Commonwealth to foster absurd ideas of the past about finance, to keep the people (both civilian and fighting services) in permanent financial subjection, and to throw ridicule upon those who seek to debunk those absurdities by incontrovertible facts. For a man in the position of Sir Keith Murdoch to use every channel of publicity for propaganda to secure the perpetuation of a system which, though beneficial to himself, is inimical to the welfare of the fighting forces and the general population at large, is a scandal which should have immediate attention by the proper authorities.

In the light of the foregoing, I pass Sir Keith Murdoch's own words back to him, "We want a national honour that rises above these tricks and evasions and calculations; that counts no costs in making Australia great and strong; respected abroad and generous at home; that scorns injustice. We want a sense of national honour comparable to the selfless patriotism of the dying soldier." Up to now Sir Keith has fought against these things.

—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN,  
189 Hotham St., E. Melbourne.

## THE "LAND FOR THE (Chosen) PEOPLE" RACKET

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

I have endeavoured to indicate in the preceding pages that the solution of the land question depends on a decision on two prior matters of intention, separate in themselves, but probably interconnected in practice: just as there is no fundamental difference between an economic monopoly relying on Finance for its sanctions and a State Monopoly relying on Police, other than the relative unpleasantness of being starved to death on the one hand, and "liquidated" by the Ogpu on the other.

The first of these matters has, I think temporarily, been decided. In order that anyone who will consider the situation with an open mind may draw his own conclusion, I would ask merely consideration of the three factors which can be easily verified:—

(1) The announcement of "the Government" that "it" will "pursue a policy of full employment for all after the war."

(2) The fact that with considerable unemployment, the armistice years were outstandingly characterised by the fact, not of poverty amidst plenty which was certainly far older, but that the recognition of the fact and its source in the financial system was forced down the throats of the orthodox, or London School of Economics, Economists.

(3) That under cover of an arranged war, with its unparalleled waste, a propaganda for increased production and still more "work," identical with that which failed in 1919-1920, and was succeeded by the slump and ruin of 1921, is under way, with "Reports" for "greater efficiency" of this, that or the other appearing, at public expense and for individual disadvantage, at short and fairly regular intervals.

All of this is implemented by the component parts of the New Order which, for some reason, awaited a World War. I have already expressed the opinion that the object of the New Order is to prevent any

effective remedy of the defects of the Old Order.

The most outstanding feature of the past seventy-five years has been the extension of both economic and political insecurity. In spite of immense increase in productivity, the individual, not merely among "the poor" but every section of the population, is far less secure in his station and person and far less able to improve that condition, than he was in his father's day. The New Political Technique is to admit this, to plead repentance and a change of heart, appoint a Royal Commission and issue a Report. This is the procedure which has been followed since we came under the rule of P.E.P., and the Uthwatt Report is the Outline of Things to Come in regard to Land.

It may be premised that the Chairman, from whom the Report takes its name, is an Australian, brought up to University age in Australia. He is, of course, none the worse for that. But if there is a worse administered land than Australia, except Russia, I have yet to learn of it.

I feel that I cannot do better, in indicating the advance to "security" contemplated in our New Order, than to quote at some length from an admirable letter which appeared over an initial, in the "Scotsman" of February 10, 1943. It is specifically written in

regard to Scotland, but applies with equal force to England and Wales. For the benefit of those who are not familiar with Scottish Law and custom, it may be explained that a "feu" is practically the equivalent of an English hereditary Freehold with restrictions, the main practical difference being that an English Freehold with restrictive covenants says what you may not do, while a Scottish Feu Charter says what you may do, usually providing a simple mechanism for varying this use by consent:—

"The proposals in question" are those that (a) not only is future 'feuing' to cease, terminable Crown-leases to be the sole house-tenure of the future, but also (b) that existing feus be converted into Crown-leaseholds, and all conform to the Oppressive English leasehold system, under which the lessor, at the end of the term, acquires the tenants' buildings without compensation; (c) the yearly mulcting of the tenants on five-yearly 'valuations' of alleged site-value increases, as often as not merely reflecting modern versions of the old offence of 'debasement' of the currency."

"As regards private leases, at least of rural subjects (as is well known), tenants after a long fight obtained compensation for improvements, but under these new proposals not only the new 'Crown tenants' but even the about-to-be-converted feuars are to be shorn of that long-fought-for right. Worse still, the doctrine of the English Crown-lease is apparently to be applied—that the tenant is responsible for leaving the building in order, and will be held responsible for the cost of doing that (maybe thousands of pounds) to the State's satisfaction.

"There are two aspects of the matter: the personal and the municipal or constitutional. As regards the former, the hundreds of thousands of small feuars (many of whom have built their houses out of savings and through the aid of building societies) seem likely to be faced with eventual forfeiture of their little heritages, and, pending that, subjected to periodical extortions, and a 'stand and deliver' at the 'evictable' term—when on each occasion they will have to repurchase.

"Feuars will only now begin to appreciate the tremendous social value and security of the 'feu charter' and the Scottish feuing system, which was devised just to give the security of tenure of the home, which is now threatened.

"There is, of course, nothing new in the Uthwatt suggestions; on the contrary, they are a well-worn form of reactionary measures of which Scottish history shows previous examples—i.e., efforts by the Crown to get cancellation of charters and to substitute Crown-leases. Scotland resolutely opposed that policy, realising the tremendous implications of the 'freehold' (to use that term in its primitive sense of permanent and independent), and particularly that of the 'houseplace' or retrance, which even in England has held until now a sacred character—and even in England the oppressive 'Crown-lease' has been comparatively limited in extent. The effect on the character and independence of the people, of a nation-wide 'Crown-lease' system (a Sword of Damocles over the home!) can only produce an abject, timid and servile race."

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## Protests Against Crushing Regulations

(Continued from page 1.)

being deprived of their livelihood and life savings.

"(3) If the manufacture of confectionery is to continue, this meeting demands that this Government prohibit the sale of confectionery at all canteens, excepting those at military camps."

### SHOPKEEPERS "TORTURED" TO DEATH.

Mr. Purvis said that in the past they had been content to merely grumble while watching their businesses being frittered away. When Mr. Curtin said the purchase of a packet of confectionery was doing something against the war effort he (Mr. Purvis), as a seller of confectionery, was not going to accept that reproach from any man. He had a badge on his coat (the badge of the Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' League of Australia), which some persons who criticised the retail confectionery trade did not wear. (Cheers.) He took it as a personal affront to himself when he heard Mr. Curtin say that buying a packet of confectionery was holding up the war effort.

A person who worked in any way for the war effort had as much right to buy things as the person who was in a position to buy things in a canteen. Most of these canteens were owned by the Government, and the Government got the profit while other citizens went to the war. Who, then, was doing more to ruin the war effort than the Government themselves? (Cheers.)

Confectionery shopkeepers were being "put slowly to death by torture." For his part, he would rather be executed instantly than piecemeal.

In mixed businesses many small lines were unobtainable to-day; on the other hand, there were new businesses which had started since the war, and these could get plenty of such goods.

### SMALL SHOPS STARVED.

Mr. Rudd, treasurer of the association, said they were taking all the kicks. They were caught between their customers and the Government. Did they intend to sit down and do nothing about it? Their stocks were dwindling, their living was being taken away; men who had spent years building up businesses were forced to take jobs beyond their physical capacity, leaving their wives and children to try to save the shops, without sufficient stocks to enable them to carry on.

The motion, which was seconded by Mr. Rudd, was carried unanimously.

### "PRESSURE POLITICS" WEAPON.

Mr. E. H. Hergstrom described the objects of the South Australian Chamber of Retail Traders and Professionals, which, he said, had been formed to cope with just such a crisis as now confronted the small shopkeepers of Victoria. They saw a process going on whereby the small shopkeeper was being eliminated. He was being sacrificed for the departmental stores. The Government was out for the Socialisation of industry. As each industry was eliminated the Government stepped into its place. There was, however, a method of fighting this injustice. The method could be expressed in a phrase used by President Roosevelt—"pressure politics." By "pressure politics" was meant groups of individuals coming together and bringing pressure to bear on members and on Governments by sheer weight of numbers. Presuming there were 15,000 small businesses in Australia of the kind represented by that meeting, they could exert effective pressure, by writing individually to Members of Parliament, and by taking concerted action, to bring their grievances before the Government. Where as individuals they would fail, collectively they would succeed. With this in view the committee

of the Retail Confectionery, Etc., Association had drawn up a letter which every member of the association would be asked to sign and the association would see that it reached the right quarters. The letter was as follows:—

"Mr. Blank, M.H.R., Canberra, A.C.T.

"Dear Sir,—As a loyal citizen, I desire to register my disapproval of the unnecessary banning and restricting of food supplies, such as meat, butter, cream and eggs, etc, which Australia can produce abundantly if freed from manpower bungling and other forms of Government interference with production and distribution. Moreover, I object to the wives and children of men in our fighting forces being denied health-giving cream and confectionery—quite incorrectly called luxuries.

"I also draw your attention to the plight of small shopkeepers who are quite unfitted for war service yet are willing and able to serve the community, but who are prevented from doing so because of Government interference and regimentation. An example of this is found in canteens at private workshops, which duplicate distribution services and cause inequality of civilian distribution.

"You will realise that many of these elderly people, in addition to serving the public, are also endeavouring to be self-supporting, and to keep a home together for their sons and relatives in the fighting forces. If the banning continues, more of these people will be driven out of business, thus increasing the confusion and adding to the public inconvenience.

"I look to you as my Federal Representative to register my protest in the House and to take immediate steps to have these banning and restricting Regulations abolished immediately. Please advise me if you are not in sympathy with my desires.

"Yours faithfully,

"Signed .....

"Address....."

"Federal Electorate....."

Mr. Hergstrom said that in addition to signing the letter themselves members could put it before all their customers and get them also to sign it. The effect could be made irresistible.

### BUSINESS BEING CENTRALISED.

Mr. O. B. Heatley, of the United Electors of Australia, supported the idea of pressure politics by means of letters. He said that all authority was being centralised to-day. That left no scope for the individual business man. This was entirely subversive of democratic government, and in opposing it shopkeepers would not only be saving themselves, but rescuing the whole community.

A member of the audience said that the big department stores were out to crush the small businesses and quoted instances in his own experience where certain firms were crushing the small trader.

On the motion of Mr. E. Williams, seconded by Mr. L. Samuels, it was resolved to recommend to the committee that it invite other trade organisations to co-operate with the retail confectioners with a view to presenting a united front for the defence of small businesses.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the secretary enrolled a large number of new members of the association, and arranged for the signing and presentation of 100,000 letters to members of Parliament and Governments protesting against victimisation of the small shopkeeper.

(—Condensed from the "Australasian Confectioner," May 25.)

## THE "COMMON CAUSE" MOVEMENT

### What Are the Communists Up To?

The dissolution of the Comintern may or may not be a blow to Australian Communists, but we may take the word of Mr. Sharkey, their Federal President, that it will in no way affect their activities. They have by this time acquired sufficient momentum of their own, as well as a definite strategical objective, at present kept in the background. Naturally, the latter must be to ultimately establish the Communist "State." However, it is not merely their aims, but their tactics, that are worthy of interest.

Their immediate objective since the ban was lifted seems to be to win respectability, and thus the right of entry into as many organisations as possible. To this end they have seemingly become devoted patriots—albeit that devotion is chiefly to their adopted fatherland. Such is their recently-acquired enthusiasm for the war-effort that they pretend to regard all others as slackers. Their infiltration tactics—working into the heart of and capturing existing organisations—are well known. Another method of enlarging their sphere of influence is to form new associations, like the Australia-Soviet Friendship League, which is angling for affiliations in every direction. This league, under the guise of friendship for Russia, is fast gathering in sympathisers, "pinks" and "near-reds," to the Communist fold, and so building up reserves in anticipation of future needs.

Their latest and boldest venture in this direction is the launching, in Adelaide, of the "Common Cause" movement, an enterprise more cunning in conception than anything they have yet attempted. The Communists, of course, disclaim authorship; yet not only are they strongly represented on the executive, but there is evidence to prove that some three or four Trade-Union Socialists and Communists were the instigators of the idea. First impressions of the "Common Cause," confirmed by later contacts and investigations, suggest that there has been a coming together of the Communists and the theoretical or academic Socialists (there are six university professors on the original committee), at which reunion the "big idea" was born to capitalise the general desire for social betterment, and incidentally bring more grist to the Communist mill.

At a monster meeting in Adelaide Town Hall, the "Common Cause" was inaugurated, with much blowing of trumpets, both in the press and on the radio. There were lavish advertisements and free publicity—the orthodox daily, the "Advertiser," gave it nearly a column, both before and after the meeting. On the platform were Pro-

fessor Isles (the Keynes' Plan exponent), as chairman, supported by Federal Unionist Professor Portus, Rev. Guy Pentreath, Dr. Duguid, Tom Garland and a fellow-Communist—tub-thumpers cheek by jowl with professional, men, and priding themselves on the fact.

That was some months ago. The movement now claims 2000 members, has large branches in leading suburbs, and intends to spread to the other States. The planners have done their work well, for by virtue of the social status of many of the original members, representing almost every profession and middle-class occupation except "business," they have attracted a large following of "nice" people, whose sincerity can hardly be doubted.

Just how little the promoters of "Common Cause" mean to do towards materialising their altruistic but nebulous objectives, as advertised in their brochure, is realised when an attempt is made to discover a definite working policy. They have none; or, rather, the real purpose which "Common Cause" is to serve remains undisclosed and help in suspense. Meantime, all awkward questions are side-stepped and discussion of economic or social reform is to be squashed. The only "duty" required of members is that they bring more members; the only question to be discussed at the Study Circles is how best to win the war.

By these means they no doubt hope to incline many people, by gradual and imperceptible inoculation, to their Socialist ideas of State ownership and control, and build up a large body of opinion that will stand by them at election time, or at such time as they make a bold bid for power. For they will then come forward as champions of the New World Order, referred to so beautifully but vaguely in the "Common Cause" pamphlet.

As for the Common Causers, they will share the fate of the little oysters in "The Walrus and the Carpenter." Having taken the innocents for a walk, their guides and friends will then proceed to eat them up!

—Mary H. Gray.

## THERE IS MONEY IN SOCIALISM!

(A Talk Broadcast from 7HO on May 30, by JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.)

In a Socialist State, where the Government controls all the means of production, transport, communications, education, etc., the power possessed by the ruling political clique is enormous. Even if a Socialist State could be made democratic and the people had a vastly greater experience in political affairs than that possessed to-day, the power possessed by the ruling clique would still be very great—very much too great.

The power possessed by Dr. Evatt, for example, in Australia, is greater than is good for any man; these powers, of course, are given under threat of invasion, but these powers are so great that vast alterations can be—and are being—made in a short time, so that, when the threat of invasion disappears, other things will also be found to have disappeared; and some of those things were of very great value.

Dr. Evatt is a very powerful man, but not all-powerful. Dr. Evatt, like Stalin, is dependent for the security of his country on outside help. That outside help is given under certain conditions—certain promises being made and certain concessions guaranteed. Dr. Evatt is in America now, no doubt discussing the various agreements. What these agreements are, we may find out when Dr. Evatt returns to Australia.

The point I wish to make is this: that Dr. Evatt is one of the principal, if not the principal, Socialist leader in this country, and is dependent for much of his power on help and influence from outside this country.

The Russian Revolution was financed and made possible by some of the wealthiest men in the world. The industrialisation of Russia was carried through by the same men—and none of them were Russians.

Let us examine the case of the London School of Economics. This is the factory which pumps out masses of information and data for students of economics all over the world; this mass-produced data is the pabulum on which students of economics in

Australian Universities are fed. This London School of Economics was given a very large grant of money from Sir Ernest Cassel, the armaments millionaire and founder of Vickers. When Cassel was asked the reason for this grant he said it was for the training of the Socialist Bureaucracy of the future.

Engels, the man who financed Karl Marx, the founder of modern Socialist ideas, made his fortune out of the exploitation of child labour in the mills of Manchester.

We see, then, that the founder of modern Socialist ideas, Karl Marx, the cathedral of Socialist Planning and Economics (the London School of Economics) and the world's greatest "Socialist" State (Russia) were helped and financed, and their work made possible by very wealthy men, and, in the latter case, by Kuhn, Loeb & Co., of New York.

In the face of this evidence (and there is very much more available) there seems to be some reason to doubt the belief which has been fostered, that "Socialism" is a "working class" movement.

Among farmers and mechanics I have found very few Socialists; and among the few who were Socialists, most of them had as much idea as to what Socialism really meant as a Russian peasant did before the Revolution; and amongst those who did know something about it, they would probably bitterly resent the type of Socialism which is being pushed on us by stealth by some of the wealthiest men in the world.

The tremendous efforts made by Dr. Evatt, and his assistant Commissar in Tasmania, to get rid of the Australian Constitution, is merely an outward and visible sign of the feverish activity going on underneath to get rid of all obstacles in the way of introducing a complete Socialist Bureaucracy.

I cannot imagine how any Australian can look forward with any hope to his country being run by a horde of Government officials directed by a small coterie in Canberra. Any person who does see any hope in such a prospect must be either weak in the head or without any experience in human relationships.

Of course, there are men who expect to get jobs and big salaries and many other things out of the new governmental departments which are growing up like mushrooms. Such men who clamour for power-without-responsibility formed, we are told, the main support of the Nationalist Social-

ist Party in Germany. They came mostly from what is called the lower middle class, and formed the great mass of Hitler's petty officials.

You may laugh and joke at the petty official, but he represents the means by which a great country can be enslaved. When you have a country where all authority is vested in officials, and those officials have no power of initiative, and then have those officials backed by Dr. Evatt's legal system, which makes it impossible for a taxpayer to take an official to court, then you have a state of affairs under which no free men can possibly live.

I have stated that Socialist ideas, Socialist propaganda and a Socialist State were originated and financed by some of the wealthiest organisations in the world; I am now going to draw your attention to something equally strange, and perhaps more important.

It has been known for quite a long time, especially in the inner financial circles that a man on a decent piece of land, free of debt, could make himself independent of outside help; he could become economically free. Such strongholds of free men were a thorn in the side of every dictator; they simply could not be beaten into submission.

Accordingly, the independence of the man on the land was attacked with the world's most powerful and vindictive weapon—special taxation. In England, the taxation on the land was so heavy before this war started that the only use to which land could be put, to clear expenses, was speculation.

In some cases, when the father died, the son had to sell half his land to pay the estate duties; and, as happened in many cases, when the son was killed in action, the estate had to go up for sale again; and in the course of one generation, the land belonging to the family practically disappeared and fell into the hands of some institution.

The result, of course, was pathetic, and naturally everything was blamed for this except the people who imposed the taxation. Notice the technique—destroy any possibility of any man making a home on the land or any profit out of the land, then take it from him and give it to some Government official to run.

Now, it would appear from this tragic

state of affairs that a "Socialist" Government had been in "power in England for the last fifty years; but such was not the case for only about four years had a Labour Socialist Government been in power in England, and for about eighteen out of the past twenty-one years a so-called "Conservative" Government has been in power with a large majority.

Well, then, how can you explain why a Conservative Government would deliberately destroy rural England and tax the land more heavily than any other country in the world? The answer to that is this:—That those members of the Conservative Party who have formed the great majority of the House of Commons had no more say in the Government of their own country than has my dog. These men were hand picked before the elections; they were under strict discipline, and they had to vote as they were told by the Party Whips, and only a few had the temerity to rebel.

These "Conservative" Members saw the shipyards of England and Scotland stripped of their equipment and sold under a forty year lease, in which it was stipulated that no ship should be built in those yards during that time; they saw the land reduced to chaotic ruin; they saw the British Army and the British Navy reduced almost to impotence. These "Conservative" Members saw all this, but refused to take action. Now, then, can you tell me what the "Conservative" Party stands for?

The "Conservative" Party was just a name to trap fools. Just as the "Labour Party" was. Slowly and painfully people are beginning to see that no matter what Party is in power the policy is dictated from outside, and that policy is always the same:—the destruction of the small man by taxation, so that he loses his land, his savings and his home, and is forced to creep on his knees to the local Commissar for a job.

Property is changing hands in Australia because of Government action. Socialists should make it their business to find out who is collecting this property. They would get many surprises.

To-day, Socialism is the greatest vested interest in the world; there is big money in it. It's a racket; and anybody who thinks that Socialism is a working-class movement should ask themselves to dinner with some of the Socialist leaders!

## WISE WORDS FROM THE QUEEN

I have been reading the full text of Queen Elizabeth's special radio address to women on April 11 of this year. The Queen touched on several points which I do not think can be stressed sufficiently; for example, the importance of DOING things, and the fact that our civilisation must, to be saved from chaos, BE BUILT UP FROM THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FAMILY.

I commend the following realistic statement to our "planners," who spend most of the time writing plans and constitutions:—

"For you (women), though you may not realise it, have done work as great as any book ever written." (In other words, actions are more important than the written descriptions of actions.)

Her Majesty obviously realises that the efforts of the nation are based on the efforts of individuals who are never mentioned in the headlines; that even mothers at home are playing just as vital a part in saving the nation as soldiers:—

"In your different spheres, believe me, you have done all that he has done, and in different degrees you have endured all that he has endured. For you, like him, have given all that is good in you regardless of yourself, for the same cause for which he is fighting—our cause, the cause of right against wrong. Nobody, man or woman, can give more.

The above extract, moving in its direct simplicity, is, in my opinion, equal to anything I have yet heard from the "great leaders." Might it not be appropriate to ask why all "our" propaganda during this war has been progressively relegating the British Throne to the background?

Queen Elizabeth's remarks on what she would like to see taking place in British countries after the war are very pregnant:—

"I must say I keenly look forward to the great rebuilding of family life as soon as

the war ends... It does, indeed, seem to me that if the years to come are to see more real spiritual recovery, the women of our nation must be deeply concerned with religion and our homes the very place where it must start... If our homes can be truly Christian, then the influence of that spirit will assuredly spread like leaven through all aspects of our common life, social, industrial and political."

Social Crediters will find themselves in agreement with the Queen's sentiments. We believe that a stable, contented society is dependent upon contented individuals. We also know that Christianity, as a philosophy based on reality, contains enough potential explosive force to wreck the reign of institutionalism. (Unfortunately, a great many "Christians" to-day are actively engaged in reversing the teaching that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for Sabbath.)

Christ said that the Kingdom of God is within each one of us. We, individually, must save ourselves. The more we leave it to institutions, the more we undermine our own will to save ourselves. Social Crediters know that the only hope for the functioning of real democracy in this country is the acceptance of personal responsibility by individual electors.

The fight is clear-cut: The institution versus the individual. Christ told us where He stood. Judas is not the only one who has denied Him! But, perhaps, bank-overdrafts and interest-payments are a bigger inducement than a few pieces of silver!

—Eric D. Butler.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

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

The Fighting Forces Protection League is again out to assist the boys in the Forces. A new campaign is being started: this time an effort is to be made to lift the heavy and iniquitous tax on all canteen goods. A leaflet, headed, "Should a Soldier Pay?" is in the hands of the printer. It points to the amounts of Excise Duty payable on cigarettes (1/4d. each), tobacco (1/3 1/4d. and 1/4d. for fine cut and pipe), beer (6/4d. per pint); while the 12 1/2% sales tax applies to matches, washing soap, boot polish, etc.; with 25% on shaving cream, razor blades, etc. The F.F.P.L. refers to the "quick success" of the campaign against tax on deferred pay. This is the kind of action we advise and assist. We appeal to all our supporters to lend a hand in this further move to arouse a democratic outlook in our "Democracy." The address of the F.F.P.L. is c/o 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, where the new leaflet will be obtained.

—M. R. W. Lee, Hon. Secretary.

### ERIC BUTLER'S BOOKS

(Obtainable from New Times Limited, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.)

"THE ENEMY WITHIN THE EMPIRE." A short history of the Bank of England. Price, 6d. Postage 1/4d. (4/- per dozen, post free.)

"THE MONEY POWER VERSUS DEMOCRACY." The best "hand-book" for Australian democrats. Price, 9d. Postage 1/4d. (6/- per dozen, post free.)

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### AVAILABLE SHORTLY

#### Major Douglas's Latest

The new series of articles by C. H. Douglas, entitled "The Land for The (chosen) People Racket," now appearing in the "New Times," is also being published in book form by The Democratic Federation of Youth, Room 9, Floor 3, 296a Pitt-street, Sydney, N.S.W., to whom orders and remittances, for copies of the book, should be addressed.

Price: 2/- (plus postage).

## NEW AIMS IN EDUCATION

Notes compiled by C. H. Allen to give the gist of "New Aims in Education," by Gove Hambridge. (McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York):—

The book takes the form of a series of letters from a parent to his son at college. The themes are revolutionary and often distinctly American. The ideas particularly stressed are those of freedom and the uniqueness and importance of individuals. It is thought that the book may help the scholar to see the road by which he is to travel to an understandable goal, and understand the obstacles—especially the institutional obstacles—that would stand in his way.

Use is made of a long and thorough investigation known as the "Pennsylvania Inquiry," which is anything but flattering to the educational systems of to-day. The colleges have become set, so that it is difficult for them to adopt different habits, and there is no adequate technique for discovering, let alone satisfying, individual needs. Many students are fooled by the college processes and the "sheep-skins" finally handed to them by the college (degrees, presumably) seem like sly symbols of the dumb sheep they have been.

Scathing remarks about education are common, but constructive experiments are generally on a small scale and isolated. One outstanding development is a new type test, as an alternative to present-day examinations, and it seems to indicate that the outstanding need in the educational system is some means of breaking down the regimentation which exists. Learning in colleges should be a "profession," so that the student would not be interested in getting "marks," but in becoming properly oriented to life and its problems. It is the duty of every man to develop his own intelligence to the extent his nature will allow. Reliance on opinion primarily takes one on the road to intolerance and bigotry. One can be a thorough expert in one branch of science, and yet be a thoroughly civilised human being. On the other hand, an instance is given of a narrow research worker who ignored much that vitally affected him in the world about him.

Education should aim to impart knowledge that becomes a permanent part of the individual. The examination procedure is something like the practice of making a captive run the gauntlet, with everyone standing in line to take a crack at him with a club. If he gets through he deserves to live! To give credit for cramming is "worst of all."

One purpose of education is to make you a reasoning animal, but remember that the power to forget is useful. In education you yourself are in the centre of the universe. No one can force knowledge into you. There are infinite variations in the minds of human beings.

Education should be broad enough so that if something puts you out of your stride in your own speciality you can find a place elsewhere. The usefulness of the expert is limited unless he can break through the "disciplines" and talk a common language. The time has come when we must hang together, or we shall hang separately; but it is always individuals who break out and explore the unknown—the wisdom of democracy consists in encouraging this tendency as a great human advantage.

U.S.A. has done with the European systems of educational privileges, but there is no less waste, and sometimes there is tragedy in foisting college preparation on those unsuited for it.

All reality is a blended and constantly changing whole; each one of us should have a chance to go as far as he can along his own trail. Through such subjects as physiology, anthropology, psychology, history, philosophy, etc., we follow the ceaseless and fascinating quest of man to understand himself. The student is the hand on which the glove of education must fit.

Glaring examples are given to show up

the weaknesses of the present examination system. Description of the new kind of test is given, but it is not easy to epitomise. The acceptance of the new testing method by many outstanding experts "makes me feel that this method really does the job."

The real function of the new method of measuring educational achievement is to help a student to a continuous understanding of himself. Old-time examinations are hurdles; you may scrape your shins, even if they do not trip you over. The new type of "exam" is a measuring device. A series of graphs is given showing how the results of the tests can be charted to show characteristics of individuals and of groups. A cumulative record should go along with each student, to be used, and not merely filed away in a cabinet.

On the whole, at present, freedom and flexibility are conspicuously absent. Would it not be better if the educational system were designed from the beginning to train students to do independent work in school, and gave them every facility for understanding themselves, discovering their own best methods of working, and seeing clearly at all times (because of the tests) how far they had advanced in mastering any definite body of knowledge?

Considerable space is devoted to the results of the "Pennsylvania Survey"—what the diagrams show is that a whole set of labels under the present regime are meaningless. What is needed is a thorough-going revision to provide tests which are relevant to the real purpose of education, or provide standards which represent reality.

Before anything else the system ought to give you competent teachers.

There is little serious attempt at present to utilise personal interests and motives as the forces most likely to lead students on to a greater mastery of ideas. The need of the world is for more people who can see things whole, and help others to see them whole. In the course of his study a student should never have to "pass" anything, or IN anything.

Education can be made a vital and constantly growing thing by keeping its interrelationships alive, as in an organism.

A good teacher hates mass methods, and he should be freed from red-tape, and meaningless requirements. College may even dull or kill the inward drive and persistence that makes a man achieve worth-while things. There is constant encouragement for him to take the easiest way to graduation, via credits, rather than the hard way of self-discipline.

The time has not yet arrived when education is so well adapted to the needs of individuals that anyone would be a fool to cut himself off voluntarily from its courses.

## THE HISTORY YOU DID NOT LEARN AT SCHOOL

By ERIC D. BUTLER. (Continued from June 11 issue.)

One of the best accounts of the fight between King Charles II. and the Money Power was given by the famous English poet of that period, John Dryden. In "The Medal," Dryden exposed the policy of the bankers:—

Perhaps not wholly to melt down the King,  
But to clip his legal rights within the ring.

Dryden's greatest poem, "Absalom and Achitophel," contains more real history than all the text-books that orthodox historians have written about the period under review. The two claimants to the throne were to be played off against each other. Dryden tells us why Shaftsbury supported the cause of Monmouth:—

"Not that he wished him greatness to create,  
For politicians neither love nor hate,  
But for he knew his title, not allowed,  
Would keep him still depending on the crowd."

The individuals who supported Shaftsbury were ready

"For several ends to serve the same design."

There were those who—

"For interest sought to embroil the State  
To sell their duty at a clearer rate,  
And make their Jewish markets of the throne,

Pretending public good to serve their own.  
Others thought kings a useless, heavy load,  
Who cost too much and did too little good.

These were for laying honest David by  
On principles of pure, good husbandry."

David was Charles II. Dryden's pen picture of Slingsby Bethell, the sheriff of the City of London, is a damning one:—

"Shinier, whose youth did early promise bring  
Of zeal to God and hatred to his King."

In youth he spent his time—

"Heaping wealth by the most ready way  
Among the Jews—which was to cheat and pray,"

and in maturity—

"If any leisure time he had from power—  
Because 'tis sin to misemploy an hour—  
His business was by writing to persuade  
That kings were useless and a clog to trade."

Bethell had written a treatise on the "Interest of Princes and States," in which he attacked monarchies.

So far from Charles II. being a "clog to trade," the customs duties which in 1661 yielded only £200,000, in 1685 yielded £800,000. ("Jacobite Movement," by Petrie.)

"It was indeed this very increase in productivity which made possible that increase of money, the issue of which the City interests were scheming to get completely into their own hands. But of that, according to their campaign, nothing must be said. It must instead be put about that a monarchy was of its nature irresponsible and unfit to be trusted with the nation's monetary supply. No credit must be given to the King for the increase of the country's trade; the whole blame for the temporary crisis of 1673 must be placed upon his shoulders." (Hollis, "The Two Nations.")

(To be concluded.)

## THE FRUSTRATION OF PRODUCTION OF MOTOR FUEL IN AUSTRALIA

(Continued from last issue.)

Mr. Drakeford (Maribyrnong), discussing this matter in Federal Parliament, November 23 1939, said:—

"The Honourable Member for Gippsland referred to an oil well there as 'Mac's.' I thought it was MacGowan's well, from which Messrs. Ramsay and Treganowan have regularly, for a long period, purchased oil, which, having been refined, has been used for lubrication purposes.

Mr. Patterson: "About 150,000 gallons have been sold in that way."

Mr. Drakeford: "In view of that, and the production of oil at any time for anyone who cares to make a visit there, it is extraordinary to hear the remarks made about the discovery of oil in Australia. Oil has been discovered—even the Minister (Mr. Perkins) conceded that—and can be produced in large quantities.

It was thought that there was indifference and apathy on the part of the Government, in regard to the production of oil. Some people suggested that the major oil companies were exercising influence in order to retard development of the oil industry in Australia. Whether that is true or not I do not know, but it has been suggested to me that it is a fact, and the apparent lack of interest of the Common-

wealth Government lent colour to that view.

"This matter was the subject of a debate in the Victorian Legislature in 1935, when the State Parliament passed the Petroleum Act. Some people thought the areas laid down for development under that Act were too small for anything effective to be done, but now it is suggested that, as the result of influence exerted by the major oil companies on the Victorian Government the areas will be made much larger—so large, in fact, that it would be impossible for a small company to have the funds to operate to the required extent.

"Neither I, nor, should I think, any other honourable member, is equipped to deal with the technical side of this industry, but I am informed by a Mr. Lightner, who was on the field on my second visit, and who claims to have had experience in the principal American and Mexican oil fields, that in 80 per cent, of those fields the conditions are similar to those at Lakes Entrance. That is to say, in 80 per cent, of the oil fields, the oil has to be pumped. Gushers are only a small proportion of the total of producing wells. The people of Australia apparently will not believe that there is oil in Australia until they see it rise under pressure." (To be continued.)

## NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

with the Constitution, and also in conjunction with his overseas mission. It should make electors very wary about any commitments he may unconstitutionally enter into over there.

**PLANNERS' PLOT:** Professor Copland, of "Premiers' Plan" fame, took the part of chief mesmeriser at the "planners' meeting" at Melbourne Town Hall on June 14, at which he undertook to tell the audience what the Government was up to. He didn't undertake to tell who was the real Government, but he did attempt to prove that rationalisation was not a bankers' subterfuge to conceal the moves towards nationalisation. He disclosed that the Planners intend to maintain the rationalising bureaucracy for two years after the war. Presumably when the two years expire, another two years of control will be imposed—provided the populace hasn't expired in the interim, which is quite likely.

**ALUMINIUM ARRANGEMENT:** Secret details of "Alcoa," the international aluminium combine, have now leaked out. According to U.S. reports the U.S. Reconstruction Finance Corporation secretly advanced 68 million dollars to "Alcoa," Britain loaned 55 million dollars, and Australia laid out 3 million dollars against deliveries. When questioned on this, innocent Mr. Makin said he had "no knowledge of any investment by Australia in the Canadian plant." Canada's contribution to this stunt was the writing off of 170 million dollars of excess-profits tax. The report states that U.S. has bauxite supplies. So has Australia—and perhaps this arrangement has some bearing on the obstacles placed in the way of these being developed. It certainly needs investigation.

**FRIENDS AND FUNDS:** Hanson Baldwin, writing in the "New York Times," deplors the lack of friendship between U.S. and British soldiers, and says that "although American soldiers [in Great Britain] are more than adequately fed, housed and entertained, they are rarely seen with British troops in the street." He also points out that "U.S. soldiers, although practically under orders to do so, never salute British soldiers, and vice versa." Similar observations have been made on this matter in Australia, and no good purpose comes of it; but, if the authorities are really anxious to improve relationships, they might at least try raising the British and Australian soldiers' pay, at least to that of the U.S. soldiers, because pay-inferiority complex is not conducive to happy relationships.

**PURSE PROBLEMS:** The Melbourne "Sun" of June 12 reports a "street snap-shot" on "the reason for small families in Australia," which resulted in six out of every nine stating that it was "an income problem." Here we find "common sense" in its correct setting; that is, sense common to the people, and not to be found in the "brain-trusts," whose opinions on so-called population problems are so heavily featured by the press. Actually, reproduction is not a problem, nor is the supply of figures on bits of paper (income) a problem, and the sooner the brain-trusts who regard effects as problems are removed the safer we will be. These Planners are a positive menace to human progress.

**"COMMO" CELLS:** Mr. W. M. Hughes, M.H.R., has opened fire on the N.S.W. Teachers' Federation by charging it with being a pro-Communist organisation, which did not really represent the great body of teachers. He also denounced the N.S.W. Trades and Labor Council as a Communist body, which would not permit anybody to say one word against Russia, but which received criticism of the British Empire with shouts of approval. Many other organisations seem to be diseased as a result of Communist white-anting—which might be considered as a compliment to the borers' ability, were it not offset by the

fact that most democratic Britishers never suspected a plot to substitute foreign "isms by stealth. From now on the borers will have tougher timber to penetrate.

**BANK BOGIES:** Having regard to present-day circumstances, the following from the "Herald" of September 16, 1935, is most interesting: "Overdrafts are becoming harder to obtain and higher standards of security than usual are being sought. This 'tight money' condition arises from the depletion of the banks' cash reserves." Time marches on! If one suggested at that time (as it was suggested by intelligent "cranks," as distinct from bankers and economists) that hundreds of millions could and should be created (from the ink pot), as IS being done to-day, such ideas were described as crazy. And yet the bankers and economists who deliberately planned the depression are still at large. Ye Gods!

**MANPOWER MUDDLE:** Commenting on Mr. Curtin's statement that "Australia is now safe from invasion," Mr. W. M. Hughes, M.H.R., says that although he is a member of the War Council, he knows nothing about it; but, if it is true, at least 100,000 or more men can be released for industry, and, of course, call-ups should cease. Quite so; and it should be also possible to dispense with those "flying gangs" raiding public places, boarding houses, trains, etc., and to retire quite a number of those bureaucratic boards and departments that have sabotaged our food supply. Australia will not be really safe until this is done.

—O.B.H.

## QUEENSLAND ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

The secretary reports as follows: "We have received quite a lot of congratulatory remarks concerning our booklet on the Frustration of Production of Motor Fuel in Australia." The first edition is already sold out. We have a second edition on order and all orders will be promptly attended to as soon as the new edition is received from our printers. Single copy, 6d., plus 1/4d. postage; or 4/- per dozen, plus 4 1/4d. postage.—A. W. Noakes, Hon. Secretary, Room 14, 2nd Floor, 142 Adelaide-street, Brisbane.

## Social Science Lectures

The next fortnightly lecture in this series will be given by Mr. F. A. Parker, B.A. Dip.Ed., on Wednesday night next, June 30, at the rooms of the United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, Little Collins St., Melbourne, commencing at 8 p.m. The subject, "Limits of Compulsion," will provide a welcome opportunity for clarifying the term, "freedom," as used by electoral campaigners. These lectures are handled in an interesting and informal manner, and provide the maximum "audience-participation." So come along and bring your friends.—O. B. Heatley, Campaign Director, United Electors of Australia.

## NEW BOOKLET

"THE TRAGEDY OF HUMAN EFFORT." (Major Douglas's Liverpool Speech, 1936). Recommended by the Social Credit Secretariat as specially suitable for distribution at the present time.

Price: 7d. each, 46p. per dozen, post free. Obtainable from: The Electoral Campaign, N.S.W. (Women's Division), 3rd Floor, 296 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Printed by M. F. Canavan, 25 Cullinton-road, Hartwell, for The New Times Ltd. McEwan House, Melb.