

The "New Times" is a really independent, non-party, non-class, non-sectarian weekly newspaper, advocating political and economic democracy, and opposing totalitarianism in all its forms.

THE NEW TIMES

Vol. 10. No. 20. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1944

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).

The Problems of Post-War Reconstruction

Centralised Planning Not Needed

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

In this, the fifth year of the war, which we all hope will be the last year of the war, there is tremendous activity in the political world. High speed 'planes are flitting backwards and forwards across the country, carrying with them the political chiefs, their secretaries and their deputies to conference after conference.

Whatever the ordinary man and woman may be planning for their families after the war, the political world is working day and night making plans for their future.

The most important part of the international situation today is the political situation, and the political situation resolves itself into a battle for power.

It is pretty obvious now that the military war did not go according to schedule; all sorts of unexpected things happened, and happened in a most amazing manner. And I think, too, that many of the great schemes being planned for post-war reconstruction are going to be upset in a manner which is going to surprise many people.

* * *

To plan one's own life is a very difficult and slowly evolving process; to plan the life of an entire family is an impossible task. And for any one group to attempt to plan the lives of an entire nation is not only impossible—it is ridiculous.

Does this mean that I object to planning? No, it does not. I am planning a house, which I hope to build after this war if I have any money left after the tax collector does his damndest. I reckon I can design a better house than the professors at Canberra.

But my trouble is not to plan a house—enough. There are hundreds of good plans available. The trouble is not to get materials—there has always been plenty of bricks and timber available. The trouble is to pay the financial price demanded.

I am not prepared to pay the price demanded for even a modest new home; the price is too great. The fact that I am prepared to live in a badly built house doesn't mean that I don't want a better house, nor does it mean that I do not appreciate a better house; nor does it mean that I am old-fashioned or conservative, and object to planning my future. It means that my income is too small to permit me to do things I want to do. After I pay for food and clothes and light and fuel and transport and rates and taxes I have only a small sum of money left. To hand over the whole of that small sum—or most of it

—to pay rent on a new house or pay interest on a mortgage on a new house is something I don't intend to do.

To see young couples struggle to pay rentals of even tiny flats or to pay off the loan on a house and furniture is a tragic sight—tragic because the consequences are usually very sad.

Whatever houses are built in the next few years, they will probably be out of date long before they are paid for by the tenants. The problem is not to build houses; these can be built soon enough, especially if preparations are made now to gather materials and to train men. The problem is for the Federal Government to arrange finance on terms, which will not cripple young couples struggling to own their own houses.

In England, where experiments have been made in rehousing people out of the slums, it was found, much to the surprise of the planners, that the health of the people became worse in the new houses because the money demanded for the increased rents had to be taken from money previously spent on food.

And I think my health would deteriorate rapidly if I had to find the money for a new house. After all, we are human beings, and however necessary food and shelter may be for the maintenance of the health of animals, that is not sufficient to maintain the happiness of a vigorous and energetic people.

I suggest to you that the Federal Government cannot offer houses to the people at a decent rate because of its financial policy. No person with an up-to-date financial policy has the remotest possibility of getting into the Federal Government or into the charmed circle of professional planners who monopolise the front seats at Canberra.

Slowly and painfully the man in the street is beginning to see that the New Powers demanded by Canberra in the terms of the Referendum are going to lift none of the burdens from his shoulders, but instead they are going to impose new burdens.

Mr. Chifley, the Commonwealth Treasurer,

let the cat out of the bag when he said in November of last year:

"After the war we must have heavy tax rates, and more direct and positive controls."

And there is no denying the fact that your tax rates will be heavy, and will continue to be heavier, if the Federal Government's financial policy is maintained after the war.

It is absurd to suggest, and criminal madness to perpetuate, the idea that the large capital structure of this country, added to the cost of reconstruction, should come as a debt to the people of this country.

Have we got no national assets? Are we to have no dividends from these assets? Must we keep on paying, paying, paying, as a bankrupt people with nothing but liabilities?

Before this war started the entire State Income Tax of Tasmania was required to pay interest on the roads, schools and public property of this State. The Federal Government had the power, and still has the power, to issue money at the cost of administration to help the States build roads, schools and hospitals; it could do it at the cost of ½ per cent, if it wishes to, but it doesn't wish to, and that is the stark naked truth.

The Federal Government has the power to do this, but it refuses to do it, and because it refuses to do it we have to pay through the nose for everything. The Federal Government wants more powers after

this war—well, we intend to see that it gets no more power until it uses the power it already possesses for lifting the burden from the shoulders of the taxpayer.

Taxing the people and handing them back a dole is going to solve no problems, especially as there is a large and increasing army of Government officials to be paid out of the taxes before the dole is paid.

Fortunately, a large number of people are beginning to see that all this planning and scheming is going to leave them worse off than before, and the possibility of the Federal Government being granted more control over the lives of the people is becoming more remote each day.

The Federal Government no longer hopes to get its way by means of a referendum, and it will try again to get the State Parliaments to sign their own death warrants and grant the additional powers demanded.

According to the Constitution, State Government has power to give away its own powers to the Federal Government. Naturally, those who framed the Constitution of Australia never anticipated that any State Government would volunteer to commit suicide, but these people could not foresee that Federal Government would grow up and acquire the tremendous powers it has today.

These powers can be used, and are used, to coerce the States into obedience. Because of its disabilities under Federation,

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Regarding the House of Commons debate on the bankers' plot to reimpose the Gold Standard, the Press of May 13 informs us that "the Chancellor was PROVOKED by the concerted PRESSURE of Members into an emphatic utterance that the attitude of the present Government towards a return to the Gold Standard would be one of the most VEHEMENT OPPOSITION." Well, that's something; but it may be merely a bluff, which is all the more reason, why YOU should get busy on your Federal M.P. and tell him: that you require him to resist this plot to the utmost.

RATIONING: A Washington report states that 85% of U.S. meat rationing has been abandoned, and that "the only other rationed goods in U.S. now are butter, margarine, cheese and evaporated milk." Having regard to the fact that America is supposed to have a large army in England for the invasion, which presumably she is capable of keeping well fed, this would seem a welcome indication that U.S. has solved her food problems. Furthermore, it seems unlikely that she would remove rationing unless Britain's food supply was also safe and sufficient. Presumably experience proved, as in Australia, that bureaucratic control sabotaged the food supply, and U.S. decided to let the producers get on with the job to recover the position.

MANPOWER MONSTER: A radio talk under this heading, according to a press report, was censored by the general manager of a Sydney broadcasting station. The talk was to be given by Mr. E. K. White, leader of the Liberal Democratic Party. As almost half of it was censored, Mr. White declined to give it. One passage of the speech quoted in the press report was: "Except for its principal executives, Manpower is peopled by a regiment of power-crazed nonentities." Now, apart from the correctness or otherwise of the statement, obviously it could not assist the enemy. And besides, excluding the "principal executives" appeared to be a generous gesture. Under the circumstances it is difficult to understand the censor's action.

INFLATION IDEAS: Further evidence that taxes and loans are used, primarily for "relieving" the people of their purchasing power is contained in a U.S. news item published in the daily press on March 22, viz.: "The drawing of so-called excess purchasing power into one channel, namely, taxes or bonds, has prevented a more sensible solution from being found."

FREE FARES: The Chairman of the Tramways Board (Mr. H. H. Bell) is reported to have received a proposal to abolish fares, so that all persons engaged in collection and accounts may be made available for useful war work. The same proposal was sent to the Railways Commissioners. In commenting on this, the daily press drew attention to the loss of revenue implications, and mentioned that the person who forwarded the idea asked that royalties for the idea be forwarded to him. Well, theoretically, we (you and me), do own those Trams and Trains, and it does seem queer that we pay fares through others to ourselves. It might be worthwhile to try this idea, just to see if we really do own those "public" transport facilities.

VANSITTARTS VERSION: By way of contrast with the many Press prophecies of Germany's internal "cracking-up," the fol-

lowing by Lord Vansittart, chief diplomatic adviser to the British Foreign Office from 1938 to 1941, is interesting: "Be not deceived, there is no real or original German underground movement, as events have proved. The element of truth is swollen out of all recognition by fiction. There is no quarter from which an effective underground movement could have come." From this it would seem that only when defeat is visible and near will the "cracking-up" take place.

WHITE AUSTRALIA: That small coterie of persons referred to as the Presbyterian Assembly, according to the "Sun" of May 10, are urging the suspension of the "White Australia" policy. So yet another church body joins the forces attempting to break down our cultural and economic standards! Is it any wonder people are forsaking the church? Strangely enough, while these persons prattle about our population problem, they are seldom heard protesting against the appalling housing conditions, or the bureaucracy which prevents would-be mothers from being in a position to bear and rear white Australian children, nor do they persistently denounce the anti-Christian financial system which prevents parents from having sufficient income to provide for their families.

NEW JERUSALEM: Mr. Curtin is reported in the Melbourne "Herald" of April 25 (Anzac Day), as having told a press conference in U.S.A. that "the proposed Jewish settlement in the Kimberleys (W.A.) would receive the Government's consideration," and pointed out that Australia needed population. Once again we observe Jewish objectives being protruded into the limelight.

OIL OWNERS: The London "Times" analysis of oil controllers discloses "U.S. interests hold 23¾% of the shares in big Iraq and Persian Gulf enterprises. In the Sheikdom of Kuwait, the same group hold a 50% interest, and in Bahrain and Saudi

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Pertinent Questions

What is described as "a University survey," as reported in the Melbourne "Herald," produces some alarming statistics on Melbourne's housing conditions. As a result the sponsors pose the following questions: "(a) How can Melbourne be called a 'garden city' when 24% of all dwellings in the metropolitan area have little or no gardens? (b) How can we be called prosperous and well-fed when more than 10% of families in the city area still have insufficient incomes to meet their minimum needs?" Perhaps a competition between the certified economists—Copland, Giblin, Wood and Co.—for the best answer to these posers would bring results. Perhaps!

Manning Repudiates Anti-Semitism

The following is the complete text of a recent statement issued by the Social Credit Premier of Alberta (Hon. E. C. Manning), as reported under the above heading by the Edmonton paper, "Today and Tomorrow," on March 2: —

"It has been brought to my attention that an erroneous impression has been created in certain quarters that the Social Credit Movement is anti-Semitic. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"I wish to state most emphatically that Social Credit is not opposed to any religion or race, as such. It is only when the adherents to any religion or the people of any race take collective action as a group to attack the principles of Christianity and democracy, which are fundamental to Social Credit that conflict arises. For example, the German nation embraced the religion of State worship and acted as a nation to attack Christianity and democracy. This brought the united forces of the Social Credit movement into conflict with Nazism before we had a war on our hands. However, we were not attacking Germans as Germans.

"The philosophy of life known as Social Credit embodies both political and economic democracy in their true meaning, and is

directed towards the attainment of Freedom for each and every individual, irrespective of race, religion or anything else, with the assurance of the complete social security that this involves.

"The pursuit of this objective brings us into violent conflict with the adherents of the opposite concept of life, who are actively engaged in the enslavement of humanity and the perversion of every principle fundamental to the democratic ideal.

"In exposing and opposing the conspiracy of individuals and corporations seeking to impose a state of financial and economic dictatorship upon all nations, the advocates of Social Credit consider it most important that the facts of the case be placed before the people, irrespective of the colour, race or creed of the conspirators.

"In establishing a properly functioning democracy we have to overcome the divisions of party politics, religion and racial origin, which have been deliberately fostered by those who seek to enslave the people. In this crusade for human liberation there is no place for anti-Christianity, anti-Semitism, anti-Catholicism, or anti-anything else. Tolerance and co-operation must be the foundation upon which we build.

"We are all Canadians—whether Protestants, Catholics, or Jews—whether of British, French, Ukrainian or any other racial stock. Then let us eliminate all this talk of anti-this and anti-that, and get on with the job of working together for the democratic social order we all want in common, in which every individual will be assured justice, equity, and freedom irrespective of colour, race or creed."

Canada's Debt Burden

"On February 20, Mr. J. L. Hsley, Canadian Minister of Finance, announced that interest, etc., on Canada's National Debt will be 307 million dollars for the year 1944-45. The pre-war debt absorbed 128 million dollars per annum. Thus, the burden has increased by 140%.

"Another year in the defence of liberty for this system and our chains will be three times as heavy."
— "Vers Demain," Quebec, March 1, 1944.

HEALTH AND THE "GOLD STANDARD"

By DR. JOHN DALE. (Continued from last issue.)

The modern monetary system is essentially a ticket system. Money in Australia has consisted of two fractions, a smaller fraction, legal tender—that is, notes and coin issued by the Government—and a much larger fraction consisting of bank credit created by the banking system and recorded in its ledgers. The legal tender serves in the main as the pocket money of the community. It is constantly circulating in and out of the banks, largely on a weekly basis, out of the banks towards the week-end, into the pockets of the people, and back to the banks through the retail traders. But most of the big-scale business of the country, over 90% of the total, is carried on by the use of bank credit, transferred by cheque from one account to another in the ledgers of the banking system, which thus operates as a book-keeping system for industry.

The total money in existence in Australia before the war was about £500,000,000, but it was not static. A continuous process of creation and cancellation was taking place. The creation consisted in the continuous issue of money to industry in the form of loans and overdrafts, whilst its destruction or cancellation took place when the loans or overdrafts were repaid. It will be understood that the issue takes place to industry mainly for the purpose of production of goods. Industry passes it as salaries, wages, profits, et cetera, to the people, who in turn buy the goods, and industry, being paid for the goods, repays its debt to the bank. Any one unit created as an integer in a bank ledger will pass from page to page in the ledgers and may take the form of a coin and go out to the public through pocket, till and pocket, before returning to its entry in ledger form for cancellation.

It is emphasised here that, just as continuous production and consumption of goods are taking place, so also, continuous creation and cancellation of money are occurring, and that the latter—that is, the issue of the money—determines the former—namely, the production of the goods.

This generalisation is almost dangerously simplified; but it is fundamentally true and necessary to an understanding of the power and of the function of money. Thus it is possible to say with truth that although there was at any one moment in a year only about £500,000,000 in existence in Australia, yet in the course of the year the banking system had created and cancelled perhaps three or four times that amount—well over £1,000,000,000 in the year!

It will be understood also how the industrial system, in producing goods, generates "costs," which appear in "prices," and how the money, advanced to industry and passed to the public, is returned to industry and cancels the costs; and further, how one unit of money, issued to industry and passed to the public, on being returned to industry and back to the banking system, can cancel only one unit of cost.

This point is emphasised in order to expose the fallacy that any particular unit of money, whatever form it may take for the time, can "circulate" and cancel many costs in industry, and that, therefore, the amount of money needed in the life of the community is difficult to calculate or control properly.

This alleged difficulty is part of the smoke screen covering a subject which is complicated enough without deliberate obscurity. In general, as is indeed common sense, the amount of money needed corresponds to the volume of production which is desired, as has been so abundantly illustrated by the great financial depression and by the war, and further, the amount of money in the hands of or standing to the credit of consumers at any one time should correspond approximately with the prices of consumable goods on sale at that time.

During the financial depression the rate of creation and cancellation of credit money was slowed. In fact, the creation almost ceased; but the banks, mortgagees, landlords, et cetera, endeavoured to get back loans, interest and rent at the same rate as before. Many people were made bankrupt or were dispossessed, many concerns came under the control of the banks, and business stagnated, with all the effects we know.

That murderous depression, with its dreadful effects on physical and mental health, was purely a man-made monetary calamity. The "blizzard that struck us" was not a natural phenomenon, despite the innocent astonishment and astrological inquiries of our economists.

The preparations for the present war, however, and the war itself, with the immensely increased production required, have necessitated a great increase in the supplies of money, to the jubilation of politicians, who saw the solving of the unemployment problem, and of the people, whose poverty was relieved, and to the consternation of the banking fraternity, who see well enough the difficulty of explaining how easily money can be produced when obvious necessity demands the full employment of resources.

Such is the madness of a world directed mainly by power mongers, and in which it is accepted that work or employment is the end of man, and not the exercise of his creative faculties and enjoyment of the goods he creates! What, however, is the purpose of production? Obviously it is consumption, and the business of a monetary system should be to facilitate that.

The present world crisis is a phase, or the development of a phase, in the age-old struggle for liberty—that is to say, for freedom from oppression or outside control. The power complex presents a diffi-

cult problem, the solution of which has to be faced.

In general, power appeals to men because it satisfies one of the innate dispositions or instincts—namely, that of self-assertion. Obviously, we may assert ourselves in many ways, some good, some bad. The good ways include those of creative achievement in the arts and sciences, and in social organisation—that is, leadership in a good sense—not that of the decoy sheep in the slaughter yards, who, by the way, besides having a bad conscience, must have a haunting fear that the butcher may one day fail to recognise them! The bad ways include those depending on power, on the ability to compel other men to obey our will. Throughout history power has been exercised to a large extent through physical violence, or the threat thereof, and in the last resort it is so still; but from early days it has also been exercised through the possession of wealth and the control of money. Those who possessed wealth have been powerful as compared to the relatively destitute.

As civilisation has progressed and physical violence has been increasingly frowned upon, the indirect exercise of power through control of money has become increasingly important, and has been practised consciously and subconsciously.

THE MAN WHO CARRIES A PORTFOLIO

City folk of the ordinary type have been much intrigued by the ever-increasing numbers of men they meet in the trains, in the streets, at clubs and fashionable hotels who carry a portfolio under their arm. Although in evidence before the war, this cult of the portfolio, or satchel, has grown out of all proportion to what might be termed the "natural sales increase." What is the reason for this phenomenon; or, in good American lingo, "How come?"

For the benefit of the uninitiated, the portfolio has become the sign of office of those who hold positions in the various departments of Government—more particularly those who during wartime restrict, prohibit, or control the clothing we wear, the meat, butter, sugar and tea we consume, and fix the prices of everything we buy, sell, or "trade-in." So you see, Mr. Citizen, the solution of the portfolio mystery is perfectly simple.

At peak hours as we hurry to or from our place of toil, thousands of these portfolios are similarly wending their way, carried by men of different strata in the departments, but controllers all.

We may even judge the rank of the official by the quality of the satchel he carries. Roughly speaking, they may be placed in three broad classes; by their portfolio shall ye know them:

The plain type of article, formed of fibre, and having a simple press fastener, usually belongs to the under-officer. He is not at the moment possessed of great power, yet is above the rank and file of clerks. He is the man who occasionally attempts to

What power resides in the control of the money supplies, now that money may reasonably be called the lifeblood of a modern community! Few monarchs have exercised such power, as have the international financiers of modern times. America has to a very large extent been governed by its major financiers through the Federal Reserve Bank, Britain by the Bank of England, France by the Bank of France, and so on. A member of Ramsay MacDonald's Cabinet in England described how "twenty men and one woman of the British Cabinet waited one black Sunday afternoon in Downing Street garden for a financial decision from the Federal Reserve Bank in New York." Mr. Graham, speaking in the House of Commons on September 10, 1931, said: "It was specifically put to us [the late Ministers] that, unless one item in particular—a 10 per cent, cut in unemployment benefit, to yield £12,250,000—was included in the programme, it would not restore confidence, and we were told that no other item could be put in substitution . . ."

One of the earliest of the great international financiers said: "Let me make the money of the country and I care not who makes its laws."

Great statesmen such as Lincoln and Gladstone repeatedly referred to the overwhelming power of money, and Lloyd George, speaking of the Versailles discussions after the last war, described how "statesmen, jurists, etc. were swept aside by the financiers." The late Pope Pius XI, than whom probably no one was better informed on temporal matters, stated in one of his Encyclicals: "Those who control credit possess such power that none dare breathe against their will."

Some men smile depreciatingly at revelations such as these; but they are a sufficient explanation for the blazing paradoxes that have torn our world asunder and have almost, if not quite, destroyed our hopes of peace and progress. (To be concluded.)

Notes On The News

(Continued from page 1.)

Arabia certain American companies possess exclusive rights." The granting of concessions by Governments to such big groups causes monopolies and often war when friction arises between rival gangsters. When this occurs the peoples of the countries concerned have to do the fighting and dying. Meanwhile all Governments obtain their rake-offs in the form of "petrol tax," which, of course, has to be paid by ever-trusting John Citizen.

RUSSIAN RESEARCH: The English, American and Canadian surgical research mission, which visited Russia, has caused some disappointment among our local socialists by announcing that they had "returned without learning anything of first importance." Dr. E. R. Carling, a member of the mission, in a B.B.C. broadcast, also said that "generous offers had been made to Russia for reciprocal participation in research, but the gesture had so far not met with any response." Inside information now to hand from various sources indicates that Russia has a long way to go to catch up with the western world.

PACIFIC PROBLEMS: The Melbourne "Herald" recently reported that U.S. is setting up a committee for, among other matters, the disposal of the Pacific islands. The report also predicts that the U.S. Acting Secretary of State (Mr. Stettinius), when in London this month, will seek a guarantee that all bases needed to dominate the Pacific will be handed over. All this hinges around the Australia-New Zealand Pacific Pact, which, according to the "Herald," is highly distasteful to the United States. Yet a lot of effort was exerted by Curtin and Messiah Murdoch to even arouse interest in the Pacific at the beginning of the act!

—O.B.H.

A Day in the Life of a "Lolly-Pig" Inspector

9 am.—General conference of inspectors at head office. Direction given that the name "liquorice all-sorts" be altered to "liquorice some-sorts," the "all" giving manufacturers too wide a license. Oblong sorts only allowed. Inspector Muzzle, the "all-day sucker" inspector, taken off field work for the day to try out experimental "sucker" in baby-pink instead of red, which is expected to save 5 oz. of cochineal a month in N.S.W. alone.

10 a.m.—Left in limousine to tour S.S.E. area (map D).

10.30 a.m.—Arrived at McGoogan's factory, which, under W.O.I. orders, has been manufacturing only "lolly-pigs," "bull's eyes," "humbugs" and "lolly walking-sticks" (standard design only permitted, with crook of stick eliminated to conserve manpower).

11 am.—Found, in looking around, that the "pigs" tails were $\frac{3}{4}$ in long. Pointed out that Dept allowed only 5-16 in. tails. Ordered they be cut by 1-16 in. McGoogan protested that tails would then have blunt ends. It not being W.O.I. policy to harass manufacturers, told him I'd think it over.

12.30 pm.—Have thought it over constantly since 11 a.m. Suggested trouble could be overcome by installing carborundum-wheel and whittling 1-16 in. off. McGoogan said he had no wheel. Rang W.O.I., Dept. of Supply, Manpower, Import Procurement and Labor and Industry. Think carborundum-wheels not allowed in lolly manufacture. Then suggested he eliminate curl in "pig's" tail. He said straight tails wouldn't look like pigs, and his customers wouldn't buy them. Told him W.O.I. had power to make his customers buy them. Still seemed disinclined to make straight-tailed "pigs," so advised him, after further deep thought, he could stick to 1 in. tails if he took 1-16 in. off snout. Argued till lunch.

2 p.m.—McGoogan said he had been ordered to make "humbugs" with vertical stripes instead of horizontal. Complained that it would be costly. Told him sternly that cost had nothing to do with W.O.I., which was concerned only with conserving manpower and materials. Also advised him "humbugs" were a matter purely for the "humbug" inspector, on whose province it would be unethical for me to encroach. Don't think McGoogan wishes to cooperate with W.O.I.

4 p.m.—Ordered McGoogan, on phoned instructions from "bull's-eye" inspector, to make "bull's-eyes" flatter on top to prevent their rolling and perhaps becoming lost, and to untwist barley-sugar to conform with straight style gazetted under new regulations.

4.10 p.m.—Ring from A.D.D.W.O.I. that manufacturers of "lolly-pigs" must switch to jube manufacture, and that my new job will be Inspector of Jubes (Soft). Another inspector is to be appointed to cover Jubes (Hard).

—"Bo," in the Sydney "Bulletin," April 12. (After reading about the dither in Mr. Dedman's W.O.I. Department over the banning of pink "sugar-pigs" and the stripes in "bull's-eyes.")

THE SOCIAL CREDIT MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The next meeting of the S.C.M. of S.A. will be held in the United Democrats' rooms (17 Waymouth-street, Adelaide), on Thursday, May 25, at 8 p.m. After the conclusion of general business a lecture will be given by Mr. D. J. Amos (chairman), entitled, "Australia and Democracy."

—J. E. Burgess Hon. Sec.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

(From The UNITED DEMOCRATS' headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.)

Friday Luncheons: The question of the falling attendance at our Friday luncheons was discussed at a recent executive meeting. The general feeling was that this decline was due to the fact that on a number of occasions recently we have not had a speaker to address the gathering. Therefore, someone will speak each Friday at 1.20 p.m. on "up-to-the-minute happenings." We urge all members to come along and bring a friend each Friday. It is a splendid opportunity for members to get together and compare notes; also the profit on the luncheons gives our finances a handy fillip.

Referendum: There are a number of indications that the Federal Government may not be granted the extra powers they are seeking if a referendum is held. Therefore, it seems likely that they may make a further attempt to cajole the State Governments into ceding them the powers sought without referring the matter to the people. It is imperative from our point of view that this must not be allowed. Now that the State elections are over we suggest that Social Crediters should write and congratulate their member on his election (or re-election, as the case may be), and take the opportunity of instructing him as to what you wish him to do regarding this matter.

BOOKS: Have you read the following?

"The Enemy Within the Empire." (A short history of the Bank of England.) By Eric D. Butler. Price 9d. "Power Politics and People's Pressure." (An exposure of the conspiracy for International control of our country—and a way out.) By L. S. Bull. Price 1/-. "The Story of the Commonwealth Bank." By D. J. Amos. Price 1/3. (All plus 1d postage.)

—F. BAWDEN. Hon. Secretary

—"The Draper of Australasia" March

It has recently been my good fortune to read "Eastern Vistas," by Audrey Harris, which book, to many readers, might appear to be just another very interesting travel book. The book appealed to me for three reasons. Firstly, her travels took place not long before the war. Secondly, she was travelling in order to understand the people of the countries she was to pass through, and seemed very well equipped for the job. Thirdly, because she was leisured. But that did not mean, as the "moralists" always impute, that she was idle. No, Audrey could not be idle; so she decided to pack a few belongings and spend the next few months in a particularly active manner.

Now, why was it that Audrey had this good fortune, and not you or I? Fate had smiled kindly on Audrey, it happened that her father had money and was prepared to hand some of it over to his daughter. Understand that Audrey had done nothing to earn this money. To the best of my knowledge a great deal of her past life had been spent in the manner in which she planned to spend this piece of her future in travel. Nothing her father had done in earning the money could possibly have benefited Audrey's soul. The sweat worry and toil had all been fathers—but here was Audrey with a face full of character and personality!

Why was Audrey not the abject, characterless creature one would expect, seeing that character can only be shaped or the grindstone of toil? Well, evidently the grindstone is not so essential to the shaping of character.

Here was Audrey morally naked and unashamed, without any moralists to point an accusing finger at her, for choosing a leisured existence to one of toil. No, the moralists did not accuse her, they envied her the freedom she was about to enjoy. Did she not have the right, through the possession of money, to order her existence as she thought fit? Who cared how she got her money? She had it that was all that mattered!

There she was, with a bottle of champagne, saying good-bye to a few friends and relatives in London, preparatory to setting off on her travels to the East via Europe and the trans-Siberian railway. She travelled much further, but we shall follow her only as far as Korea. During her travels she gained many impressions of the countries she passed through and the peoples she met, but one of her earliest impressions, and one which she was destined not to forget, was of the efforts taken by the customs, officials of the various countries through which she passed, and more particularly in Russia, to prevent her carrying to the inhabitants of those countries, any luxuries except through the high-price system prevailing.

No one questioned the effect upon Audrey's morals of the possession of those things, but large numbers of snooping and prying officials had to be set after her to prevent her passing on those things to their fellow-countrymen, except through the high-price system.

Well, Audrey didn't sit down and fret about these artificial obstacles to travel, she moved on, and was astonished by the large number of the peasant population of Russia and Korea who spend much of their time in travel. Whole families were travelling hither and thither and thoroughly enjoying it. They chatted with Audrey and taught her scraps of their language. They shared their food with her, and sang to her, and generally made themselves amiable and pleasant travelling companions. They called her "Comrade," not because they were Communists; they knew little about Communism, but the goodness of the sunshine and the soil was in their souls. They could not feel comradeship and cheerfulness without comrades, and here was Audrey.

The question to ask here is why these "backward" peoples are able to travel so freely and happily, whilst we more "progressive" peoples must think so long and so seriously before taking even that short annual trip to the hills or the seaside, only to decide, possibly, that it cannot be done?

Why, when we travel, must we wear the expression of a bilious undertaker and hedge away from our travelling companions, or make only the gloomiest contributions to conversation? There must be some explanation to this strange phenomena, and my guess is that the cause is to be found in the high price, high tax system!

You see, these relatively primitive peoples of Russia and Korea are blessed with cheap travel. They have not yet been fully burdened with the full cost of highly centralised bureaucratic control, nor have they been burdened with the financial cost of "non-paying" branch lines to their railways. But, mark my words; these things will creep upon them as surely as drought creeps across a desert. Then, watch for changes in these happy, care-free people. Human nature does not change, but human character can, and under the burdens I have mentioned above, it changes as surely as does the colour of a leaf under the scorch of the sun.

Now, why is it that progress should be a burden upon us? Should the building of more railways necessarily mean that we should have less time and money for travel? Incidentally, it does mean that to a Japanese city-dweller working from 8 am. to 10.30 p.m. every day, with only three days of holiday per year, but it does not mean it to his fellow-countrymen in Korea. Why?

The reason is this: Railways are easy to build. All one need do is find a hole with iron ore at the bottom, manufacture some steel and roll it into rails. Next we obtain the etceteras, lay the rails, build the stations and rolling stock, and there we are! We need not worry about passengers

because, if the fares are low enough, there will not be lacking people who want to travel. But something is lacking in our picture. Yes, we have really forgotten the very thing without which a railway or anything else cannot be built. We have forgotten money. Of course, no railway can be built without money, and money is ever so difficult to find, except, of course, when there are railways to be blown up.

Money is so difficult to find, that during the last war bankers were worried frantic to get sufficient of their clients to act as dummies for them in subscribing to war loans, so that the public would not learn who really was providing the money. From that experience they were cute enough to make arrangements early before this war to hide the real source of the funds, which have financed it.

Having built your main railway lines, you must make possible the opening up of fresh centres of settlement; by building branch railways. To do that you must first raise the necessary money, and you raise the money by going to the money creators—the banks.

Now the money creators endeavour to hide the fact that they create money, by claiming that they lend money belonging to their depositors. Well, when your bank buys government securities, or invests in any loan whatever, does it reduce your bank balance, and others, accordingly? "Like smoke, it does!" you say. Yes, it is smoke, just a colossal smoke screen, erected for the express purpose of hiding the truth from you.

Of course, the bankers might not wish it to be too obvious that they have un-

AUSTRALIA'S GREAT POST-WAR PERIL

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

Sir, —When we realise what a magnificent place the world could be for everyone, we cannot help wondering why it is that so few are PERMITTED to experience the benefits of such marvellous resources and munificent bounty. A POLICY has been followed which has prevented the people from having life more abundant as promised by Jesus, and it is the purpose of this series of letters (which was begun in September last) to reveal the policy and identify the people responsible for that policy. Unless we can do that, all our hopes for the future will come to nought.

It has been shown that the plan specified in "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion" includes the creation of an intensified centralisation of government "in order to grip in our hands all the forces of the community." Action to secure that intensification of centralised government is proceeding before our very eyes, and it is the intention of the planners that our educational facilities, as well as all channels of propaganda, shall be used for that purpose. Part of Protocol 5 reads as follows: —

"THERE IS NOTHING MORE DANGEROUS THAN PERSONAL INITIATIVE: If it has genius behind it, such initiative can do more than can be done by millions of people among whom we have sown discord. We must so direct the education of the goyim communities that whenever they, come upon a matter requiring initiative, they may drop their hands in despairing impotence."

One might say that they have almost succeeded in bringing the bulk of the people to that very deplorable condition of mind. The part just quoted should of course be read in conjunction with that part of Protocol No. 9 which says: —

"Who is going to verify what is taught in the village schools? . . . We have got our hands into the administration of the law, into the conduct of elections, into the press, into liberty of the person, but principally into education and training as being the corner-stones of a free existence. We have fooled, bemused and corrupted the youth of the goyim by rearing them in principles and theories which are known to us to be false, although it is by, us that they have been inculcated."

Who, indeed, is going to verify what is taught? If anyone takes the trouble to look carefully over the textbooks used in our educational institutions, particularly those dealing with economics, they will find how thoroughly the intention just quoted has been carried into effect. As an institution which has been so misused, the London School of Economics is a classical example, and you, Mr. Editor, are entitled to our gratitude for publishing last week that illuminating "Nursery for Planners," which you quoted from "Vers Demain" of 1/2/44. In this respect, I feel I should invite special attention to the words of C. H. Douglas, as published in the "Social Creditor" of 27/1/40. He said this:

"During the interval between the war of 1914-18 and its resumption in 1939, I am not aware of a single suggestion or criticism which - has proceeded from the London School of Economics, whose endowments were largely provided by the late Sir Ernest Cassel [an international financier], which would either reflect on the monstrous financial policy of this country during that period, or would assist public opinion in an effort to obtain an improvement in it. On the contrary, a steady stream of special pleading, tending to a Bureaucratic Revolution, by the crippling of private enterprise of every kind except banking, has accompanied support of the incredible

limited funds at their disposal. In this case they would lend through one of their financial, or semi-financial, subsidiaries, say, through an insurance company.

In this manner the creation of credit can be disguised as the loan of funds belonging to policy-holders, but no policy holder will be informed that monies paid up by him have been so invested and are no longer available to him. You see, there is no essential difference between the monies you deposit in a savings bank, and those you deposit with an insurance company, except that in the one case you reserve the right to claim the return of your deposit when it pleases you to have it, and in the other case you are effectively discouraged by penalties from withdrawing your deposit until an agreed upon date or a certain occurrence.

In the case of the insurance company, there is, of course, another point of difference; the company must operate through a bank, because if it chose to operate otherwise, and created its own credit by issuing its own cheques, the banks would effectively put an end to its operations by demanding cash from the company when those cheques were received over their

counters as deposits. But that fact does not alter the effect of the loans made by the institution. In neither case is your deposit affected by any loans the financial institution might make to other parties. Your deposit and every other deposit remain intact.

But there was one danger, which, in days gone by, the banks had to studiously avoid when making loans, and so creating deposits. Every deposit becomes a liability on the part of the banker, to the depositor. The depositor might choose at any moment to withdraw his deposit in notes and coin. Indeed, in a moment of panic, all, or most depositors, might demand notes and coin.

Fortunately for the banks, financial technique and financial control have progressed since those bad old days. Government policy is now so amenable to the demands of financial policy, that bank notes and police protection can be had for the asking. Panics also can be controlled, and directed, through the exercise of the control of high finance over all avenues of publicity. Panics only take place when high finance desires them for the furtherance of its own policy.

—H.R.
(To be concluded.)

SOIL, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD VALUES

Under this heading we recently published four important and interesting speeches made in the House of Lords on October 26 last. The subject was again raised in the House on February 2, and we quote from the Official Report of the ensuing Debate: —

(Concluded from last issue.)

Lord Geddes: . . . There is no doubt whatever that you can produce from the fields a great quantity of food by the use of chemical fertilisers . . . that is what I think has blinded a great many people to the real problem. The food that we eat . . . [is] divided sharply into two parts, possibly more, but certainly sharply into two parts—the part which is required as a fuel to provide the energy for movement, for all those activities in which we as men and women can indulge, and the part which is required to repair

and replace and recreate our actual bodies themselves. Now it seems pretty clear that so far as the fuels are concerned they are not necessarily of such fine and precise composition in order to be useful to us as are those portions of our food, which go to the building, or rebuilding of our own bodies and tissues.

There is a very long history behind this controversy. It goes back for nearly a century, and it has been made a very difficult controversy to follow by the dominance for so many years of the German school in connection with biology. The German school—Virchow, Schwann, Liebig—laid the emphasis upon the cell out of which in their millions our bodies are created, and they regarded food for the cell as all that was required. Apart from that, and really obliterated and eclipsed by the German school, very likely as a result of the Franco-Prussian War and the prestige the Germans got through that war, there was a French school of which Professor Bechamp was the leader, working at Montpellier in the fifties of last century. This school had a quite different idea about the structure of the body and the vitality and vigour of the body, and I think it was a great pity that as a result of the Franco-Prussian War and various things that followed it in the 'seventies a great deal of the work of Professor Bechamp was entirely ignored and overlooked . . .

[Lord Geddes went on to detail the nature of the research, which he thought should be undertaken on the basis of Professor Bechamp's work.]

Lord Snell: . . . I can repeat what the noble Duke said on the last occasion, and say that the arguments advanced today will be noted by the Departments concerned.

With regard to the Royal Commission, in drawing up the terms of reference, the Government was careful to make them so comprehensive as to exclude nothing, which might have a bearing on the present trends of population. Perhaps your Lordships will permit me to remind you of those terms of reference:

"To examine the facts relating to the present population trends in Great Britain; to investigate the causes of those trends and to consider their probable consequences; to consider what measure, if any, should be taken in the national interest to influence the future trends of population; and to make recommendations."

Your Lordships will note that the Commission is asked to investigate the causes of the present trends of population, and it may be that certain methods of soil cultivation are amongst those causes. If the Royal Commission so decides, it can, under its terms of reference, examine that question; but the Commission must be absolutely free to decide upon the scope of its inquiries, and it must itself determine the evidence, which it shall receive . . .

The Earl of Portsmouth: My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Snell, who has just replied for the Government, has not ruled out the possibility of research, but on the side suggested by my noble friends, Lord Hankey and Lord Bledisloe, he has not given us much encouragement. I have forgotten which Government phrase it is—whether "active consideration" or "urgent consideration"—which means that something may happen, but I do hope that consideration of the priority kind will be given to this matter by the Departments concerned. . . . I do hope that this consideration will be active, not only from the noble and learned Viscount's point of view as Chairman of the Royal Commission, but from that of the scientific and research departments of the Government itself. I beg leave to withdraw.

Motion for Papers, by leave, withdrawn.

"New Times," May 19, 1944— —Page 3

(Continued on page 4.)

PLANNING AND PRIMARY PRODUCTION

Under this and other headings we have recently given extracts from speeches by Members of Federal Parliament, in which they critically reviewed the position on the vital "Food Front." Here is another informative speech on this subject, quoted from "Hansard" for February 17: —

Mr. Adermann (Maranoa, Queensland): My own district is a rich dairying centre, and the chairman of the local district war agricultural committee informed me that the district was allotted, under the Army releases scheme, 330 men for the purpose of assisting production. After the lapse of seven months, not a score of men have been sent to Kingaroy.

I say without hesitation that the dairies, which have gone out of production there number more than the men, released from the Army. The tragedy is that the allocation of one man to each dairy would have preserved the farms. In my electorate more aged farmers have fallen by the wayside and died at their tasks than the number of men released in my district. That statement cannot be challenged.

Of the twenty men released to work in the district, one half were discharged from the Army against the recommendation of the local war agricultural committees. Scores of recommendations for release were made, and we recognise that all of them could not be granted by the Army. But the Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde) explained that men are being released in accordance with the undertaking that he gave to Parliament. I ask where are the men being sent? They are certainly not being allotted to Queensland in anything like the numbers that the State requires. That is causing me grave concern.

In many instances, one additional man could prevent a farm from ceasing production. Last season 100 dairies were sold in my district. Notwithstanding that we have experienced the best dairying season in Queensland since 1917, the production of butter has declined by 2000 tons as compared with last year. We are missing the opportunity of the bountiful season, which God has given us.

The Minister for War Organisation of Industry has said that production has increased. Insofar as dairying in Queensland is concerned, whether we consider whole milk, butter or cheese, the reverse is true, as the figures which I have cited show clearly. . . . Mr. J. Sparkes, a prominent Hereford breeder in the Dalby district, adjacent to my own district, has stated that he cannot supply anything like the number of Hereford bulls required by the dairymen. What does that signify? To me it indicates that the dairymen intend to breed for beef in preference to breeding for milking stock, because it makes for an easier life, and will not mean slaving day and night in the dairy."

Mr. Pollard: Beef production has increased.

Mr. Adermann: Quite so.

Mr. Pollard: The dairy farmer likes to get higher prices, just as the worker likes to get higher wages.

Mr. Adermann: That is an argument for an increase of the price of butter. I trust that the investigating committee will go thoroughly into that subject, and that the Government will receive its recommendations sympathetically. . . . Producers have been invited to nominate persons for release from the Army and also from the Allied Works Council, in order to work in primary industries, but I regret to say that applications made to the Allied Works Council receive very little consideration.

I direct attention to the case of a semi-invalid of more than 60 years of age, who has only his wife, who is suffering from milking eczema, and has been forbidden to go into the dairy, and another lady to help him, in a dairy in which 130 cows are being milked. He applied to the Allied Works Council for the release of a man and his application was rejected.

I renewed the application for him and it was rejected again. I made it clear that I would keep on applying on his behalf. The only reason given for the refusal to release the man was that this semi-invalid of 60 years of age could find time to do some repair work to his house. I know that this man rises before daylight and has to work well into the hours of darkness. If he did any repair work on his house it was done during an hour or two in the middle of the day, when he should have been resting. As it is, he is working day and night, and he ought to be given some relief. . . .

I suggest to the Government that it should allow wheat-growers in Queensland who have machinery lying idle to use their plant to produce wheat to the maximum capacity. A good deal of wheat-producing machinery is partially idle in Queensland because of the restrictions that are in force. Yet, every day, about 400 tons of wheat has to be transported from southern areas to Queensland.

If more wheat could be grown in Queensland, a great deal of man-power and transport could be diverted to more useful service, and we should not hear remarks by Commonwealth Ministers to the effect that insufficient transport is available. I do not ask that extensive additional man-power should be made available for wheat-growing in Queensland; I ask that our people there shall be allowed to grow wheat to their maximum capacity.

Vegetable production is very important in these days. Just before I left my electorate to come to Canberra, I made an investigation of the position. We all know that Commonwealth Ministers have urged that vegetable production should be increased. The tragedy is that gluts so often occur in this industry with the result that growers are compelled to accept unprofit-

able prices. Guaranteed prices are not available. When gluts occur growers are dependent upon the charity of a Commonwealth department, which may buy their surplus produce and send it to hospitals or elsewhere in order to maintain prices.

Mr. Pollard: I suppose the honorable member does not complain because the surplus production is purchased?

Mr. Adermann: No. But the trouble is, that all the growers do not reap the benefit; those who do not consign vegetables to the market on that particular day do not participate in it, nor does the price paid cover the cost of production. Why should the industry have to depend on the charity of a Commonwealth department?

Mr. Pollard: It is not charity.

Mr. Adermann: It is, when the department purchases the vegetables and gives them to the hospitals.

Mr. Pollard: Would the honorable member be surprised to know that stockmen have asked that similar action be taken in regard to sheep?

Mr. Adermann: I can cite with authority instances in Queensland of the Government having fallen down on the contracts it has made, on the ground that quality was deteriorating. A contract was made with a resident of the Mundubbera district, covering £1000 worth of Swede turnips.

Every man in the district who can speak with authority certified that the quality was absolutely first-class, and that nothing better had ever been seen. Because the Army refused to eat turnips, the grower was told that the quality was deteriorating, and the contract was set aside.

On the legal issue of quality, the Government might succeed in certain instances if the matter were taken to court; but it has a moral responsibility. The chief factor of the loss of production is the lessening of the confidence, which the growers have in the Government. To say that the quality is deteriorating, when everybody knows that it is not, is despicable. I have been in-

formed on the authority of the chairman of the Gayndah and Mundubbera shires, that not a vegetable-grower in those two districts will grow vegetables in future because of the actions of the Government.

Mr. Pollard: Some growers expect to be paid contract prices for third and fourth grade vegetables.

Mr. Adermann: Yesterday, I asked the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture a question regarding the delivery of cases with a view to saving the Stanthorpe fruit crop. I am sorry to say that the Minister followed his usual practice of generalising, and, in effect, giving no information. I asked him what action he had taken in response to the representations that had been made to him by all sections of the fruit industry. His reply was:

"This matter has received the constant attention of Timber Control in Queensland, and every effort is being made to relieve the position which is acute in varying degrees in the fruit industry generally."

That is a general answer, which meant nothing to the fruit-growers of Stanthorpe. Had the honorable gentleman, three or four weeks ago, taken action to release nine or ten men to assist the saw millers to get the cases out, the position would have been met. Today, I received the following telegram:

"Man-power requirements Stanthorpe saw millers still not met. Growers have already lost many thousands of pounds' worth fruit. Result serious. Case shortage calamitous. Loss now inevitable. Growers desperate. Delay inexcusable."

That is signed by the chairman of the Deciduous Sectional Group Committee. I urge the Minister to take action immediately to save the balance of the crop. Two or three months ago, at the instigation of some of these fruits-growers, I wrote to him, on the suggestion of a local resident, asking that a licence be granted to a small saw-miller at Amosfield, just across the New South Wales—Queensland border. Transport was available. Had the honorable gentleman complied with my request, one or two men would have supplied all the cases that were required for the whole of the fruit industry in that district. . . . The growers of primary products of all classes are losing confidence because of the bureaucratic control by inexperienced departments.

JEWISH AIMS AND BRITISH INTERESTS

(An extract from Douglas Reed's latest book, "Lest We Regret.")
(Continued from last issue.)

The power wielded by organised Zionism over the British Parliament and Press is only realised by those who have served the British Government in Palestine, or by writers who discuss BOTH sides of the case. The lives of British administrators in Palestine were made so difficult by the knowledge that any effort to be just to both Arab and Jew would forthwith bring on them virulent attacks in Parliament, that they longed to reach the age of pension and retirement. They were ruthlessly pogromed for the smallest hesitation in yielding to every Zionist wish.

Sir Ronald Storrs—whose book, "Zionism and Palestine" (Penguin Books, 1940, being a chapter from his reminiscences, "Orientations," Ivor Nicholson and Watson, 1937), gives an excellent account, written with painstaking fairness to both sides—says that after the Easter riots of 1921, "I had to endure such a tempest of vituperation in the Palestine and World Hebrew Press that I am still unable to understand how I did not emerge from it an anti-Semite for life."

Indeed, since the Balfour Declaration was made, Zionism has become one of the greatest sources of anti-British virulence in the world.

Today, the British Government is supposed to have perceived the danger which its actions in the last twenty-five years have brewed in Palestine, to have restricted land sales from Arabs to Jews, and to have restricted Jewish immigration to the figure of 75,000 for the five years, 1939-44, after which "no further Jewish immigration will be permitted unless the Arabs of Palestine are prepared to acquiesce in it."

But the "extermination" campaign has now been opened, clearly with the aim, among others, of destroying this promise. If that happens, we shall provoke new hatred for ourselves.

We may be prevented from hearing the Arab case, but the Arabs know for what purpose "a Jewish Army" is proposed, and they remark that many Members of Parliament support the proposal. The bitter dispute in Palestine is only suspended, during the war, and after it will flare up, if British policy does not administer Palestine in future with more honourable regard for the interests of the native inhabitants. It is no interest of ours, to conquer foreign lands in the interest of others; and we already live under the reproach contained in T. E. Lawrence's words, in "Seven Pillars of Wisdom":

"Honour: had I not lost that a year ago when I assured the Arabs that England kept her plighted word?"

AUSTRALIA'S POST-WAR PERIL

(Continued from page 3.)

appears in it is written by the half-educated for the uneducated? Events since the Protocols were written have entirely confirmed the intention of producing a multitude of morons so conditioned mentally that they will accept the frustrations of the past as inevitable and, like cattle, will be satisfied with the position in which their enemies can continue to exploit them by theft of their substance and destruction of their lives in war-time, and by theft of their substance and imposition of personal suffering in peace-time.

The important question is: Are the "Protocols" being fulfilled or are they not? If they ARE being fulfilled, whose interests are thereby served?

—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN,
189 Hotham St., East Melbourne, C.2. 14th May 1944. (To be continued.)

PROBLEMS OF POST-WAR . . .

(Continued from page 1.)

Tasmania has to go cap in hand each year to obtain grants to carry on its essential services. At present it is negotiating with the Federal Government over shipbuilding, the aluminium industry, the apple industry, and the milk industry. All these, the Federal Government has, unfortunately, the power to destroy.

The result is that as soon as you build up a strong central Government all other government is destroyed, power of initiative and control is removed from every town and village, and centred in the one capital city, Canberra. And those who have had any dealings with Canberra know what that means.

This modern process of the centralisation of Government power in the hands of a few Planners; they have a glorious time, pushing and shoving people about; they feel quite exhilarated; the power goes to their heads; they become drunk with power and become resentful of all opposition. You then reach the stage, which every totalitarian State passes through. And don't forget, these States were built up on the slogan: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

The ordinary man may be slow to learn, but he is learning the hollow mockery that lies behind these political catch phrases, which have been bandied about so freely by those who have so nearly destroyed individual freedom.

The ordinary man has learned the mockery of political catch phrases so well that he has hardly any belief left in the word Progress. But progress, if it is to come at all in the real things of life, in the character and quality of men and women, will have to come from the men and women themselves; they will have to take a part in the planning of their own affairs.

Democracy and freedom is not built by the Government, but by the people; passing laws won't give you your freedom, it must grow out of the will of the people, out of individual effort and desire. You can't make a man free if he doesn't want to be free. Democracy grows up from the home and the village and the town; its local and fundamental political organisation is the Municipal Council.

The place of a Central Government is to co-ordinate the work of Local Government, not to destroy it and try to take its place. A State Government has no right to give away any of its powers to the Central Government without consulting the people; it has no mandate to do so; it is wrong to do so, and I advise you to write to your Members in the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, telling them your wishes in this matter. The people have a right to be consulted before they are stripped of their few remaining powers, and I suggest that each one of you demand this right.

THE PLANNER AND THE BUREAUCRAT

The Planner and the Bureaucrat
Were walking through the land.
They wept like anything to see

Such quantities unplanned.
"If this were only State-controlled,"
They said, "it would be grand."

"If seven Pinks with seven plans
Talked for a year or more,
"Do you suppose," the Planner said,
"That we should win the war?"
"I doubt it," said the Bureaucrat,
"File ZQ.584."

"O traders come and talk with us,"
The Planner did entreat;
"A pleasant walk, a pleasant talk,
"To lead you up the street!"
To each he posted copies four
The notice to repeat.

"The time has come," the Planner said,
"To talk of many things.
"Of trading licence, price control,
"Of quotas, pools and rings,
"Why haberdashers should be zoned,
"Why aliens can pull strings."

"A loaf of bread," the Planner said,
"In quarters must be sold,
"Loose vinegar is coupon-free,
"But bottled is controlled;
"Now, are you ready, traders dear,
"To found an Age of Gold."

"I weep for you," the Planner said,
"I deeply sympathise.
"With sobs and tears he closes down
With all but the largest size,
Which State officials will direct,
Control and organise.

"O traders," said the Bureaucrat,
"We've had our bit of fun,
"Why don't you get to work again?"
But answer came there none,
And this was scarcely odd, because,
They'd beggared every one.

—London "Truth."

THE "NEW TIMES"
IS OBTAINABLE
AT
ALL AUTHORISED
NEWSAGENTS

Printed by M. F. Canavan, 25 Cullinton-road, Hartwell,
for the New Times Ltd Melbourne.