

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. 24. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 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).

## Fascism Threatens Us on the Home Front!

### Warning to Australian Democrats

We wish—idle wish!—that every democrat in Australia had been able to listen to the Electoral Campaign broadcast, compiled by James Guthrie, B.Sc., from 7HO on May 14. (Of course, "national" broadcasts are reserved for OTHER purposes.) It was simply a straightforward presentation of three recent items from independent weekly newspapers—but such important items! This warning is so vital—especially in view of the impending Referendum—that we publish it in full:—

Again and again this organisation has warned its listeners against the policy of "the end justifies the means"—the policy of the devil.

We say this because we are satisfied that you cannot build a good house out of rotten material, and that a great and free country cannot be built out of regimented slaves. Such things don't happen; they never have happened; and it doesn't take much experience to see why they cannot happen.

It is madness to suggest that you can build a free and democratic country by imitating the methods of the totalitarian States—the States that we are limiting today.

If the people are going to have any say in the conditions under which they will live after this war then it is essential that they should demand for themselves the right to freedom of speech in the great organs of publicity, and not be merely listeners to the bright young lads appointed by Canberra.

Secondly, they should have freedom of speech in their own circles without being victimised by those in control of all the sources of income.

And, thirdly, they should not make the gigantic blunder of handing over control of their local affairs to absentee managers situated hundreds of miles away, who, therefore, are unapproachable.

Tonight I intend to let you know what the newspapers are saying—those newspapers which really mean business. The first quotation is from the "Social Creditor," England:—

"If any additional evidence were neces-

sary as to the world-wide nature of the plot against the individual, it would be furnished by the simultaneous attack on local government, where it still exists, and the transfer of its powers to a centralised government, en route to a world super-State.

"In England and Scotland, Parish Councils have gone, the County Councils are marked out to follow them. In Canada and Australia the war is a pretext for emasculating Provinces and States.

"The object is simple and indisputable. It is to transfer power to a bureaucracy, the appointment and promotion of which will be completely insulated from the general population, whose role is merely that of military or industrial cannon fodder.

"And the amazing feature of the plot is that very large numbers of the intended victims see in it their millennium, even in the face of evidence from every totalitarian country." (End of quote from "Social Creditor.")

The second quotation is from the Sydney paper called the "Century," of April 29. The article was entitled "Good Night Referendum," and it gave a description of the effect of the Government ban on newspapers on the people of Sydney:—

"Well, that's the end of the Referendum, was the almost unanimous and spontaneous statement that could be heard in the city streets on Monday. It seemed strange that so many people who apparently had never given the Referendum a thought should so suddenly discover their opposition to it. But, of course, they meant more than they said. It was a handy phrase to express their

sudden realisation of the dangers of centralised government.

"On Monday, Sydney saw in her own streets something that was very, very ugly. Something that even the most consistent critics of the Fascist set-up of the Federal Administration had not expected to see, at least not before the end of the war.

"There were no daily newspapers in Sydney on Monday. The Government had seized the newspapers and refused to allow the people to have them because the newspapers had disobeyed a Government order.

Sydney saw two armed officers of the Government standing with drawn pistols before the newspaper offices. Sydney saw crowds of students marching through her streets. She saw crowds running hither and thither to get hold of a newspaper, and on every face she saw contempt for the law.

"Sydney had only seen that before on newsreels, and Sydney had gone to war to prevent it happening in her streets. In the newsreels the matter was resolved by the Government calling in the troops to suppress the people; in our case, happily, the matter has gone to the courts.

"What happened on Monday was inevitable. From the day that Menzies laid the Fascist basis of our war administration, and during all the days and the months and the years that Curtin built so faithfully to the Menzies' plans of Fascism it became inevitable that the day would arrive when the newspapers would be suppressed. And no individual, party or institution is more to blame for this than the 'Sydney Morning Herald.'

"Under the powerful protection of the Herald, with its flattering, fawning floundering about the genius of the Big Four of the Curtin Government, a Fascist Administration has been set up that has robbed us of every vestige of democratic Government.

"When military and industrial conscription were applied, when little businessmen saw their business taken away and given to combines, when little

people all over the Commonwealth were pushed around to fit into the Fascist State, the 'Herald' exulted.

"It is the war, the 'Herald' said, the people mustn't complain, the Curtin Government is the only Government and regulation is the only system of government.

"Today the 'Herald' finds herself in the same position as some wealthy German Jews who backed Hitler into power. Today she is trying to rally the people to her defence because she says that she has just discovered that the censorship is political, 'Century' discovered that four years ago.

"'Century' was the first Australian newspaper to be ordered to submit every item it printed to the censor. That order came from the Menzies Government. One week one article was so emasculated that 'Century' came out with a blank page where the article should have been.

"Menzies then made an order forbidding newspapers to publish blanks. That is the order under which the daily newspapers are now being prosecuted. A shaft aimed at 'Century' by Menzies has hit the 'Herald' and 'Telegraph.' The 'Herald' is now getting a little of what the people of Australia have been taking for years from a power-drunk bureaucracy. But it shouldn't happen even to the 'Herald.' What happened on Monday should never have happened in Australia.

"It is the blackest spot on our record of democracy. In his valiant fight for the freedom of the press over a hundred years ago, Dr. Lang faced many difficulties, but even the despotic Governors of those days never confronted him with a pistol.

"The law of this current matter will be decided by the courts today. But if there is a law in this land, which permits the Government to draw a pistol on men who are trying to distribute a daily newspaper, then that law and the Government should be immediately banished.

"The Government must take notice of the state of public feeling exhibited in

(Continued on page 3.)

## TAS. COUNCILS SEEK POST-WAR FUNDS AT COST OF ISSUE

The following resolution, moved by Councillor P. Partington, of Glenorchy Council, was passed by the Conference of Tasmanian Municipal Councils at Hobart on June 1:—

"This meeting of Local Councils shall forward a request to the Federal Government asking that money for post-war reconstruction be made available through the Commonwealth Bank at the cost of issue, and that the co-operation of Local Councils in other States be solicited."

In introducing his motion to the conference, Cr. Partington said:—

"Those of us who believe that good government means local government—that is, government by those who live on the spot—cannot help but have noticed that there is an organised and powerful attempt being made to discredit and wipe out local government, and to put in its place a large and expensive bureaucracy controlled first from Hobart, but eventually from Canberra.

"One of the alleged reasons for this attack on local government has been that we have not got the funds necessary to keep up to date in our improvements. Let us examine this statement.

"We in Glenorchy find that out of every pound collected in rates we have to pay 12/- as interest on our debts, leaving us only 8/- in every pound to carry on all our services to the community.

"In other words, the chief job of ourselves and the council clerks and the police who are supposed to be looking after our districts is debt-collectors for the financial houses.

"I don't think there is a man in this room

## Canadian Politics

There is every sign that the only effective reply to the Socialist C.C.F. is Social Credit. In spite of the fact that C.C.F. obviously carries the money of international finance, it is unable to impose its views against the philosophy and proposals spreading from both Alberta and Quebec. The great danger is, of course, the overseas soldier, sailor, and air-force vote, which is being systematically fed with Socialist propaganda by the "B.B.C. and the 'British' Ministry of Information.

who could not supply a large variety of useful ideas for the improvement of our districts, and most of us are anxious and willing to make many improvements to our districts—but not at any price."

"In normal times, loan money can be obtained for these new projects, but if we go on borrowing, then the time will come when ALL our rates will be required to pay interest on loans, and we shall have no money left to pay our employees, or to give any services. This is the position we have been gradually driven into.

"The financial institutions are afraid that the ever-increasing debt charges will be too heavy for local councils to collect, and they will therefore refuse to go further into debt; it is for this reason that the spending authority is being slowly transferred to the State Government and thence to the Federal Government.

"At the present time, the State Government has lost the authority to collect income tax, and it is doubtful if it will ever get it back. The writing is on the wall for the Municipal Councils.

"The only chance of survival we have is to get access to cheap money at low rates of interest, not only for reconstruction and home building after the war, but for the conversion of our present loans. I have it on the highest authority that the cost of issuing new money in the form of loans is 1/2 percent.—that is, not 1/2 per cent, per annum, but 1/2 per cent, as the first and final payment.

"That, however, is something for you to study for yourselves. I only wish to say now that in the financing of this war only one-third of the cost is paid by taxation, very much less than one-third comes from the savings of the people; the rest is created by the banking system by merely writing figures in books."

## NOTES on the NEWS

Retail chemists are disgusted with the hot-water bottles purchased by the Government, and many refuse to sell them to the public because many of them are perished and fitted with unsatisfactory accessories. In addition, they object to having to sell them at the exorbitant price of 14/6, which they believe amounts to imposition. The President of the Pharmaceutical Guild stated, "the shipment is a waste of money, manpower and materials." If any buyer for a private firm was foolish enough to waste his firm's money in this manner he would be dismissed instantly. Now, what about those bungling officials responsible for this criminal waste? Surely more than dismissal is required to meet this case of sabotage.

YALLOURN'S YEARNINGS: A pleasing outcome of the recent disclosures of Yallourn's sordid conditions under the socialistic State Electricity Commission is the following resolution passed by 400 residents: "That until details of alternative proposals for self-government and housing are fully considered by the residents, the Government hold in abeyance the contemplated programme of legislation; and further, that when legislation is brought down it shall reflect the majority decision of Yallourn residents." Yallourn citizens have struck a real democratic note—namely, it's what they want that matters, not what the Government wants. Bravo Yallourn!

SOLDIER SETTLERS: Despite the fact that, owing to our crazy debt-and-interest money system, practically all primary producers are on the financial poverty line, returned soldiers are to be settled on the land once more! As was the case after the last war, they will be well and truly "settled" if the financial set-up remains unaltered. The plain and obvious fact is that bitter experience has shown that no matter how abundant the crops are or how efficient the farmers are, the bankers finally crush them out by rigging the money supply, which in turn controls the farmer's returns for his production. Surely this confidence trick will not be put over the soldiers again.

LUFTWAFFE LAPSE: Among millions of words poured forth in the daily press on the subject of the invasion crusade, one of the most significant items appeared in the Melbourne "Herald" (and other papers) of June 7. It drew attention to "the almost total absence of enemy air opposition" up to that time. This is indeed a curious circumstance. It cannot be explained by our special collective praying, which did not commence until after the event. Some commentators suggested that the Luftwaffe was being reserved for future occasions—which conveys the idea that Hitler was giving the Allies a start, so to speak. At any rate, it's more than passing strange.

COMMUNIST CAPERS: Some indication that Communists are recognised as being connected with the coal strikes in Britain as well as here is seen in the fact that the offices of the "Fourth International" and the socialist newspaper "Appeal" were raided by Scotland Yard. The Melbourne "Herald" report on this (4/6/44), pointed out that "apparently the Communists, who during the first year of Britain's war (not Russia's) knew something about sabotaging the war effort, now profess to regard the 'Trotskyites' as bitter enemies." Of course, in order to cover up their tracks the Communists now publicly urge the miners to resume work immediately—thus making it appear that the miners are solely to blame.

PERSECUTION PERILS: Some Federal Ministers appear to be afflicted with persecution.

(Continued on page 2.)

## Hollywood Highlight

A group of Hollywood producers, writers and actors have formed a society, with Mr. Sam Wood as president and Mr. Walt Disney as vice-president, to combat Communism, Fascism and other totalitarian beliefs within the industry.

The new society, the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals, declares that it "resents the growing impression that the industry is dominated by Communists, radicals and crackpots. . . . We believe in and like the American way of life; the liberty and freedom which generations before us have fought to create and preserve; the freedom to think, to worship and to govern ourselves as individuals, as free men; the right to succeed or fail as free men according to the measure of our ability and our strength. Believing in these things we find ourselves in sharp revolt against a rising tide of Communism, Fascism and other kindred beliefs that seek by subversive means to undermine and change this way of life." —Melbourne "Advocate," June 7.

# DOES DEMOCRACY NEED SOCIALISM?

The following is the full text of a transcribed radio address—the twentieth in a new series of national broadcasts—by Solon E. Low, Alberta's Treasurer, as heard over CFRN, Edmonton, on March 27:

I have received several enquiries, asking me Wherein-Social Credit differs from State Socialism and the policies of the C.C.F. Though we have dealt with this matter in previous broadcasts, I think it is sufficiently important to bear repetition.

## INVOLVES SUPREME STATE AUTHORITY.

I am convinced that the average person who has been led to believe that the socialist policies of the C.C.F. will bring about a reformed democratic system simply does not realise what the philosophy of socialism involves. I fear that few have read the full exposition of the C.C.F. proposals as outlined by the leading Canadian socialist authorities in the book, "Social Planning for Canada." Those who take the trouble to do so, I feel sure, will have grave doubts about handing over dictatorial powers to some supreme State authority—and, remember, that is the basis of all socialist planning.

**Because of the grave importance of this issue to all who have at heart the good and welfare of the people of Canada, I would like to discuss this question a little more fully and to put some pertinent questions before you.**

First of all, let us recount the basic facts regarding the whole problem of Post-War Reconstruction. What is it that the people of Canada want in the post-war period? What is it that the men of our fighting forces want when they return victorious?

I believe that those questions can be answered very definitely in these words: "They want the maximum of personal security for themselves and their dependents, and, above all, they want that security with freedom!"

## SECURITY WITH FREEDOM POSSIBLE

Will this be possible? Can Canada produce all the food, all the clothes, all the homes and the vast quantities of other things, which will be needed to ensure security for every Canadian? The answer need not be in doubt. Less than four years of war have proved what can be done. If the present productive power of the country were being used to provide consumer goods for our people, instead of goods which are being consumed for purposes of war, we should be producing sufficient to give every family an income of about 3000 dollars a year. Our present all-time record production has been reached even while the cream of our manpower has been diverted to the fighting forces and with all the handicaps of the inefficient features of the financial system, which we inherited from those bleak pre-war years.

**Canada's wartime production is proof that during the years when poverty, hunger and insecurity stalked the land, there was absolutely no need of such conditions being imposed on the people.**

Likewise, those accomplishments are positive proof that after the war we can have a Canada in which every man, woman and child can have the security that has been denied him or her in the past.

And that brings us to the next question. Can that security be provided with a full measure of freedom for all—freedom to live our lives without compulsion and regimentation, freedom to choose our work and freedom to find scope for our personal initiative? I have no hesitation in asserting most emphatically that not only is it possible for us to have security with freedom, but it is absolutely essential that such be the condition. If we fail in that, then this war against totalitarianism with all its sacrifices and suffering will have been fought in vain.

It is on this fundamental principle that socialism, no matter in what form, and democracy—that is democracy in its true sense—part company.

## EVIL INTENSIFIED BY STATE MONOPOLY

The basis of the socialist argument is that the evil conditions of the present system can be traced to private ownership, and that the first step to rectify these conditions is to nationalise the means of production—or in other words to transfer ownership of industry to the State. That sounds plausible, but several very important questions arise in connection with this premise.

In the first place, as I have pointed out in these broadcasts, the effect of "nationalising" industry is to create one vast State monopoly. One of the greatest evils, which the present system has created, has been the great monopolies which dominate our economic life. Yet in all seriousness, our socialist friends suggest that these monopolies, together with all other industries, should be replaced by one vast State monopoly.

**The evil of any monopoly is in the power, which is concentrated in the hands of those who control it.**

Suppose that you replace a private monopoly by a State monopoly, all you do is to replace one group of controllers by a more powerful group. The State officials who would operate the nationalised industries would have increased powers to dictate what should be produced, in what quantities it should be produced, by whom it would

be produced, what wages would be paid, and what the price should be.

There would be no competitive effort to please the consuming public, because there would be one authority directing production. If you did not like the kind of suit, the dresses, or the shoes or the houses provided, it would be just too bad—for there can be no appeal from the State. If you did not like the conditions under which you were required to work or the wages you were getting, you could not do much about it—for you would be a servant of the State, and you would have no alternative but to accept the conditions which the State authorities imposed upon you.

## ONCE ENTRENCHED HARD TO RID.

You may think that if the people did not like the results they got, they would be able to change the Government. Let us face that question frankly. Imagine the power, which would be concentrated in the hands of a socialist Government. They would have the power to appoint their party supporters to all the key positions. They would control the armed forces. They would control the money system. [And all newspapers, radio stations, etc.—Ed., "N.T."]

**With this vast power concentrated in the hands of a political party, may I ask how you think it will be possible to get rid of it?**

What we have to bear in mind is that simply because this power would be concentrated in "the State" it would not mean that the people would wield that power. Actually, the people would be divested of every shred of the limited powers they now exercise under our present inefficient system. All power would be centralised in the hands of those who control industry, finance and the political structure.

And, in order to plan and administer this vast State monopoly it would be necessary to establish a gigantic State bureaucracy. To get some idea of the extent to which this would be carried out, we have only to consider the bureaucracy that has been created during the four short years of war in order to deal with a limited wartime control of industry and commerce.

Actually, ladies and gentlemen, we are getting a taste of the bureaucracy of socialism now—but it is just a sample. How would you like it expanded and intensified into the real thing?

## MERELY NATIONALISED BANKING SYSTEM.

Now I want to turn to an aspect of the socialists case which deserves particular attention—namely, their attitude towards finance. As you know, control of the monetary system is the key to economic control. Today the monetary system is operated by a highly centralised private monopoly, which, by its power to control the quantity of money and its distribution, is able to control all production and to dominate every aspect of the country's economic life. It wields a power greater than Governments, and constitutes a virtual dictatorship.

That the advocates-in-chief of socialism recognise this is shown by the following statement from their book, "Social Planning for Canada":

**"In the modern economy those who control and direct today's financial system can dictate the type, the volume, and the method of tomorrow's production. This power is far too great to be left in the hands of private interests."**

In the light of that statement, is it not strangely significant that our socialist friends ignore the importance of monetary reform? Why is it that you will not find the socialists of any country attacking international finance? Why is it that they go out of their way to defend the present money system as a system—merely advocating its nationalisation?

Do you doubt this? Then let me give you two quotations from their official book, "Social Planning for Canada": On page 303 we read: "Most of the current criticism of the chartered banks is picayune stuff." Again, on page 305 we are told: "The Canadian Chartered Banks, when so nationalised, would in many respects stay remarkably unchanged."

## CENTRALISED CONTROL RETAINED.

What, then, would be the advantage of a socialised banking system? We find their own answer on page 306 of the same book:

"The difference between the present and the nationalised system is that the power of the banks to lend or withhold credit will be consciously used as an instrument of national policy." You will note that the power of centralised credit control is to be retained, the system as such is not to be changed, and that both this power and the system, are to be used—not to give the people the results they want—but as a means of carrying out the plans of the State bureaucracies.

Anyone familiar with the operation of our present financial system knows that so long as the system remains unchanged, its evils will persist. And moreover, it will continue to be controlled by that small group of international financiers who are able to manipulate all monetary exchanges.

Is it then any wonder that socialist propaganda is always well financed by the Money Power? Is it any wonder that Montagu Norman, Governor of the so-

called Bank of England, once stated: "Nationalisation? Why, I would welcome it."

## FUNDAMENTALLY SAME AS GERMANY

There is still one other aspect of this question to which I wish to draw your attention tonight.

Our socialist friends are always very anxious to repudiate any connection between what they are advocating and the national socialism of Nazi Germany. Let us consider wherein they differ.

The Nazis nationalised Germany's heavy industries and later brought all the others under their control. Our socialist friends are advocating the same thing.

**The Nazi overlords planned production, distribution, reconstruction, wages, and all aspects of the economy. Wherein lies the difference between that and the planned economy of Canada's socialists?**

The Nazis promised the people security, freedom from unemployment and the right to vote—that was before they seized control of all the institutions of the State and concentrated supreme power in their own hands. Too late the people found that while in one sense some of them had a greater measure of economic security individually and, collectively, they had lost every vestige of their freedom. "Freedom from unemployment" meant forced labour, and the "right to vote" was nothing more than the right to express approval, but not disapproval, of the gangsters who wielded supreme power in the name of the State. Surely the people of Canada are wise enough to save themselves from a future such as that.

Lord Acton once said: "All power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely." And that has proved to be the case throughout history.

## SOCIALISM DESTROYS DEMOCRACY.

And so I submit, ladies and gentlemen, that the doctrine of the Supreme State, which is the basis of all socialist philosophy, is no solution for Canada's problem. Far from democracy needing socialism, every step towards centralising power and concentrating it in the hands of a State authority operating through a vast bureaucracy is a further retreat from true democracy. Socialism destroys democracy—for the very essence of democracy is that the State and all its institutions should exist to serve the people and must, therefore, be controlled by the people; whereas under socialism in any guise, the people become the mere creatures of a supreme State authority.

**Under democracy the people are supreme; under socialism the State—that is, those in control of the State institutions—constitute the supreme power.**

Thus on examination we are forced to the conclusion that socialism is inseparable from totalitarianism. What a ghastly tragedy it would be if, in our anxiety to build a better Canada out of the havoc and carnage of this war, we blindly stumbled into the adoption of the very same kind of social system that has reduced Europe to a shambles and for the abolition of which our brave men are sacrificing their lives.

And now my time is up. Next week I propose to discuss the Social Credit alternative of a properly functioning democracy as the only effective means for building a post-war order based upon freedom; in other words, the kind of post-war order the overwhelming majority of Canadians want.

In conclusion, may I thank all of you who are contributing to our Radio Fund. Without this support we would find it impossible to continue these broadcasts—so I assure you that your help is appreciated by thousands who look forward to these weekly talks.

## LUNACY AND THE LAND

For sheer fatuity, if not worse, the "Tory Reform" proposal that British landowners should pay a license fee equal to three-quarters of the increased value of the development, before they may develop their land, appears to touch high water mark. Its working is perhaps best seen by an example:

A man owns an acre of land, the agricultural value of which at 1939 prices might be £20. He decides to build a house worth £2000 on it. He pays a licence fee of £1500, so that his house will now cost him £3500; the economic rent of it will be over £400 per annum, his rates will on this basis be about £200 per annum, and his Schedule A tax at present rates will be £200. Are we really losing our ordinary wits, such as they are?

The rating principle that a man should be taxed for improving the country has previously held the field for lunacy, but this proposal, which warns him to do as little as possible, puts it well into the shade.

—"The Social Crediter," April 1.

## THIS "LIBERATION" BUSINESS

You still don't know what the war's about, Clarence? Then listen to this:—

"There is in practice an ever-lessening difference between the State Capitalism of Britain [sic] (and even that of Germany) and the peace-time State Socialism of the Soviet Union . . . There is, further, a fundamental similarity between the federal plans for liberated Europe, including Germany, and those outlined by, Soviet Economists."

—"The New Russian Policy in Europe," in the "Sunday Express," March 5, 1944.

Don't overlook the gem—LIBERATED Europe!

# Notes On The News

(Continued from page 1.)

secution mania when anybody criticises their bureaucratic blundering. The Melbourne "Sun" of May 17 contained the following timely comment on this "trend": "Protests by newspapers against political censoring are described as part of a deep-laid plot to discredit the Government's referendum proposals—even when the newspapers concerned have been warm advocates of these proposals. When University students demonstrate against attacks on freedom of expression, an attempt is made to prove they were hired, and bribed to sabotage the Government. And now newspapers cannot even record the simple fact that citizens desirous of buying boots were unable to obtain them, without an excited Minister being assailed with a vision of a black hand grasping a (presumably) blood-stained dagger."

**CONSCIENTIOUS CLERKS:** Two clerks are reported to have been suspended at an Army engineers' store in Melbourne because they refused to work overtime when there was no work for them to do. At the appeal before the Manpower Board, Col. Evans, director of the engineers' store, was unable to say there was work for the clerks, but he assumed there had been work for them. Nevertheless, the victims' appeal was dismissed. Later Mr. Jude, one of the victims, said: "The position was caused by Army policy designed to replace civilians at base establishments with uniformed men. Officers are keen to retain their rank, and the stronger the establishment the better chance there is of promotion."

**SOVIET STANDARDS:** An article by Negley Farson in the London "World Review" is quoted by the N.Z. "Free Lance" for February 23 thus: "Soviet Russia has no need for any export market; the 160 million people of the U.S.S.R. are still suffering from the economy of under production, particularly in consumer goods. It will take at least four more five-year plans (20 years) to reach the standard of living for which the Kremlin is aiming at." Well, that is indeed an artful way to illustrate the ill effects of socialism.

**RUBBER RESTRICTION:** On January 1, 1944, international rubber regulation came to an end. The control body was formed 10 years ago, according to the Melbourne "Herald" of May 5, "to reduce world stocks and thus to raise prices to a profitable level." It set export quotas for nine-tenths of the world's rubber—and, strangely enough, in 1938, while the war clouds were gathering, the lowest quotas of 45% were fixed with the consent of the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and India (or rather, the handful of men who control such matters in those countries). How's that for sabotage?

**NEW NOTION:** Commenting on the Union demand for "a guarantee of 52 weeks' wages" for workers at the B.H.P. Newcastle and Port Kembla works, a Communist news-sheet declares this to be "a new and necessary approach to the wage question if real and permanent gains are to be obtained for the workers." It may seem to be a new notion; but as for the "gains"—well, whatever extra wages are paid by B.H.P. or any other industry, they will appear as costs in the final price of goods, which workers will have to pay. Communists have yet to realise that real money-gains can only materialise when extra income to the workers comes direct from the banking system without going through industry as a cost. Until they realise this, and endeavour to make this principle operate, they will continue to lead the workers up a blind alley.

—O.B.H.

## POWER-LUSTERS' PROPAGANDA

You may have noticed that anything which reduces the freedom of the individual, taxes him still more, and increases the number of his bureaucratic masters, is "progressive," "modern," "forward-looking," and "in accordance with the determination of the people." But if it aims at increasing his initiative, allowing him to control his own destiny, and to make a maximum use of scientific progress without having it forced upon him, it is "anti-Semitic," "bigoted," "feudal" and "reactionary" or just plain Fascist ("not Guild or National Socialist, oh dear me, no. We never mention "em.")

There is more than a grain of truth in the remark, "What vools we martels be." But are we really such fools as these people think we are?

—"The Social Crediter," March 18.

## HAWTHORN MOVEMENT

This non-party movement has arranged a public meeting at the Hawthorn Town Hall on Monday, June 19, at 8 p.m. Mr. L. H. Hollins, M.L.A., will be the principal speaker, and his subject will be: "The Hawthorn Movement and What It Stands For."

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## OPEN LETTER TO PREMIER DUNSTAN

Dear Mr. Dunstan,—The Melbourne "Sun" of June 7 contains a report of statements made by you at the Y.M.C.A. Centenary celebration in the Melbourne Town Hall. The report commences with a reference to your regret that, in Australia, there is a lack of interest, to a large extent, in the things that really matter.

Though I am disposed to share your regret in that regard, I believe it would have been better had you specified some of the things that matter and shown why they matter. The apathy of which you complain is the product of the mental conditioning of the people by what is miscalled an "education" system and by the propaganda poured forth by our "free" press.

You stated that a section of the community, which includes men in high places, is intent on deluding people in regard to some new order after the war. This section, you said, is forecasting money for all.

As was to be expected, you made no reference to those OTHER "men in high places" (including, unfortunately, yourself) who continue to delude the people with their false and misleading hocus pocus regarding the providing of "funds for the nation's war effort." Like most other public men, you support a system under which the nation's own credit is charged against the nation as debt.

"I believe we are heading for unlimited trouble if men and women expect to have everything made easy for them," you are reported as having said. It appears that, like many other persons whose thinking is divorced from reality, you hate the idea that anyone should become comfortable in this world without being made very uncomfortable in the process. The same paper as that in which your address to the Y.M.C.A. was reported, only a few days earlier published a photograph of a trench-digging machine, operated by ONE man, capable of excavating in one day a trench 500 yards long and five feet deep. That is just one of a large number of instances which could be quoted in demonstration of the truth that, as a matter of cold, sober fact, the provision of those necessities on which life depends and the amenities which are essential to a civilised order of life, IS being made easier. People who, like yourself, believe in the perpetuation of a "sweat of the brow" type of existence may deplore this matter of cold, sober fact. But you do not dispose of it by refusing to acknowledge it: you merely disclose a determination to divorce your ideas from reality.

In contending that "indefinite prosperity cannot continue after the war," you further manifest the widespread tendency—particularly evident among "men in high places"—to flee from reality. Surely you do not suppose that the primary producers, whom you CLAIM to represent, will be incapable of continuing to produce after the war. Similarly, is it conceivable that the technical skill, which has enabled the secondary industries established in Australia to supply our other requirements, will, in some mysterious way, be diminished after the war?

Seeing, therefore, that the continuance of prosperity is, from the viewpoint of physical reality, dependent on production, could you please indicate what there is, given the capacity and the will to continue producing, to prevent the continuance of prosperity after the war? And, if—as IS the position—the increasing use of mechanical instruments can relieve men and women from "sweat of the brow" conditions, why should you object to things being made "easy for them"? Do you not think that the people who have laboured and fought to prevent the imposition of slavery by Hitler and his allies are justly entitled, after the war, to be set free from such of the stresses and strains of economic activity as it is physically possible to eliminate? Or do you, like another public man with whose statements I have had occasion to deal in these columns, think that the economic struggle ("sweat of the brow" conditions) is necessary to the attainment of that abstraction, "national greatness"?

Evidently you, also, think in terms of abstractions, as witnessed by your use of the term, "national determination." It is not the realistic thinking of those who are advocating a fuller and freer life for all which will bring about the "day of disillusionment" feared by you: it is rather the mental attitude which exalts means into ends, which confuses causes and effects, which still thinks, in this age of mechanised mass production, in terms of the economics of the era of handicraft production.

One excellent definition of money is "a license to live." You are not unaware of the truth embodied in that definition. Therefore, your opposition to the proposal of those who are advocating the distribution of an adequate money income to all is tantamount to a denial of the right of the individual to live. As you, presumably, defend that law which makes it a criminal offence to attempt suicide, you also deny the individual the right to die if he is unable to obtain a license to live.

I say that you are not unaware of the truth that money is "a license to live." That you are not is proved by the following words quoted from your speech to the Canberra Constitution Convention:—"I am not yet convinced that the States, in close co-operation with the Commonwealth AND WITH THE PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, are unable adequately to deal with post-war reconstruction in all its phases." "... I believe that any failure to deal with problems following the last war was not due to lack of power but was due to lack of policy; AND CERTAINLY, MAY I SAY, TO LACK OF FINANCE..." "... As a member of the Loan Council, I can remember quite vividly

discussions at Loan Council meetings upon proposals for the provision of another £100,000 or £500,000 for the purpose of carrying out some important developmental work in Australia. We found that the professors, the economists, and the financial ADVISERS to the Government, in their wisdom, simply said, "No... the funds cannot be raised."

Yes, Mr. Dunstan, you spoke the truth on that occasion. What a pity you do not continually focus attention on the subject of finance! If you were a true representative of the people, you would also strenuously oppose the continuance of arrangements where under funds for purposes of government and development are created by the private money monopoly (the counterfeiters) and added to our crushing national debt. If it is illegal for the individual to produce and utter notes and coins, why are private financial institutions permitted to usurp the prerogative of the Crown, as the sovereign authority over the creation and cancellation of credit? By turning your attention to those vital questions you would be performing a service of much greater value to "the nation" than by talking nonsense about the disinclination of the people to turn out to a war loan rally. If our Governments did exercise

their prerogative to control the creation and cancellation of credit and currency, war loans would be unnecessary. That is a fact of which Mr. Curtin is well aware. Yet he continues to put Australia in pawn to the private money monopoly.

Finally, Mr. Dunstan, may I say that I regard as impertinence your arrogation of the power "to compel people to listen to what they should listen to of their own free will." Who are you to determine what people should or should not listen to? And who can claim the moral right "to hook up all broadcasting stations," including the "national" stations, which the people "own," in an attempt to foist upon them items to which they have no desire to listen? Unless people do listen of "their own free will" you may rest assured that no good will be achieved, by attempting to compel their attention. And, if you or any others of our "leaders" have anything worthwhile to tell the people, there need be no fear of unwillingness to listen. But the people are sick to death of the empty platitudes so freely served up to them by "leaders." An increasing number of intelligent people (if their number includes "men in high places" that is so much the better) are becoming convinced that this world CAN be made what you term "a sort of earthly paradise." And, Mr. Dunstan, they are determined to strive for the attainment of that better world.

I trust you will give careful consideration to what is written in this letter, and that your future public actions and utterances will be amended in accordance with such measure of truth and fact as it contains.

—Very truly yours, J. BRADSHAW, A.F.I.A.

## AUSTRALIA'S GREAT POST-WAR PERIL

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

Sir,—Mr. Clarence Goode, of Adelaide, has written an excellent reply to a series of articles recently published in the Adelaide "Mail" advocating "Federal Union" (i.e., an organisation to which we would be required to surrender our national sovereignty). These articles were prepared by the Rev. Principal, E. S. Kiek, M.A., B.D., President of the Federal Union Movement of South Australia, a man who has consistently supported the counterfeiting usurpers of the Public Credit. Mr. Goode's reply should be obtained and circulated as widely as possible, as besides being very useful for reference, it provides evidence of how the controllers of the Press use the "freedom of the press" to falsify, to misrepresent, and to suppress.

In thanking Mr. Goode for the action he has taken, I want to call special attention to the following extract from his reply:—

**"As an ex-Minister of the Crown who has taken an oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King, I am at a loss to understand how any member of Parliament in the British Empire, who has taken a similar oath, can advocate any form of World Government, which obviously means the dissolution of that Empire and its Parliamentary system of Government, involving the status of His Majesty the King."**

That raises a very important aspect of a very important matter, and I think each one of us may fairly ask our Prime Minister whether his support of a World Organisation to ENFORCE PEACE is consistent with his oath or affirmation of allegiance to His Majesty the King. A "world organisation" which would have power over Governments is clearly aimed at undermining the sovereignty of the King, and even though the Empire Prime Ministers have allowed themselves to be misled into supporting the idea, the duty still rests upon loyal citizens to do what they can constitutionally to prevent the plot from being put into operation.

The forces behind this Federal Union or World Organisation plot are identical with those, which were behind the French Revolution. You are not asked to accept my word for the accuracy of this statement. "Protocol" No. 3 contains the following:—

**"When the populace has seen that all sorts of concessions and indulgences are yielded it in the name of freedom, it has imagined itself to be sovereign lord and has stormed its way to power, but, naturally, like every other blind man, it has come upon a host of stumbling blocks, it has rushed to find a guide, it has never had the sense to return to the former state, and it has laid down its plenipotentiary powers at our feet. Remember the French Revolution, in which it was we who gave the name of 'Great.' The secrets of its preparations are well-known to us, for it was wholly the work of our hands. Ever since that time we have been leading the people from one disenchantment to another..."**

The things that have been done in the name of "Freedom!"

Whether these "Protocols" are genuine or not, it cannot be disputed that they foretell exactly what has taken place and what is still taking place. They also indicate that those responsible for them believe themselves to occupy a position of invincibility. Indeed, they actually say so: "At the present day we are, as an international force, invincible, because if attacked by those we are supported by other States... From the premier-dictators of the present day the goyim peoples suffer patiently and bear such abuses as for the least of them they would have beheaded twenty kings." The question is, is that a correct description of the situation or is it not? And are all the "premier-dictators" to be found in enemy countries?

Those who have been reading these letters regularly will recall that some interesting facts regarding Mr. Churchill's background have already been published, and in view of the great importance to the future of the people of the British Empire of what is now taking place in secret, there are a few more items which should be mentioned.

**In the year 1924 he appeared in the Courts as principal witness at the trial of Lord Alfred Douglas, who had published a pamphlet entitled "The Murder of Lord**

**Kitchener and the Truth About the Battle of Jutland and the Jews," in which the author made accusations involving Churchill and the late Sir Ernest Cassel.**

(Sir Ernest, you will recall, was the international Jewish financier who was connected with Jacob Schiff, leader of world Jewry, in financially embarrassing Britain in the last war, and who provided the funds for the establishment of the London School of Economics, from which our Director-General of Post-War Reconstruction has come!)

Mr. Churchill explained that his relations with Sir Ernest had been of a purely private nature; that Sir Ernest had been his father's friend and his own; had invested for him in 1901 £6000 of the money he had received from his American lectures on his South African experiences, and in 1905 a further sum of £6000 made on the "Life" of his father; and, finally, that Sir Ernest had given him the furniture for one of his rooms and a cheque for £500 as wedding presents.

Mr. Churchill was re-elected to Parliament in 1924, and very soon afterwards was appointed by Earl Baldwin as Chancellor of the Exchequer, which position his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, had held at the height of his career. (What a coincidence it was that the same Honest Stanley Baldwin, who helped to strip Great Britain of her defences, led our own Prime Minister a few weeks ago into a certain University to receive an "honorary" degree!) It was in Mr. Churchill's first Budget that provision was made for Britain's return to the Gold Standard, and he also gave a pledge that an accumulative cut of £10,000,000 a year would be made in future Budgets. Few men had served the bankers better. Regarding this, Mr. J. M. Keynes (since raised to the peerage and made a director of the Bank of England!) wrote as follows:—

**"In doing what he did in the actual circumstances of last spring, Mr. Churchill was just asking for trouble, for he was committing himself to force down money wages and all money values without any idea of how it was to be done. Why did he do such a silly thing? ... Because he was gravely misled by his experts. ..."** ("Social Creditor," 14/10/39.)

As previously pointed out, the re-introduction of the Gold Standard increased unemployment, the number of bankruptcies, and the number of suicides, but what did that matter so long as the supposed servants of the sufferers were obeying the orders of the oppressors? In presenting his third Budget in 1927, Mr. Churchill said he was "the public executioner who had to ensure that the bill was paid." He did not say what BILL, or from whom he took the orders, but his biographer, Hugh Martin, afterwards wrote:—

**"In all this, the influence of Churchill's American affiliations can be clearly discerned. He has always made it his special business to keep in touch with informed opinion on the other side of the Atlantic..."** ("Social Creditor," 14/10/39.)

There is little doubt that Mr. Churchill has frequently been what he said he was, namely, the public executioner. The late Sir Henry Strakosch (by whose will Mr. Churchill received a gift of £20,000) understood this perfectly, and estimated that the fall in prices during the four years following return to the Gold Standard in 1925 added silently no less than £1,300,000,000 to the capital value of the National Debt. We have only to consider the identity of

the holders of the bonds to understand who benefited from the swindle.

The frantic efforts now being made to get a "world organisation" established indicates that the controllers of the financial system fear the awakening of the people, and are therefore anxious to get them properly trussed up before they awake. This, is to be done at the instigation of the "American affiliations" referred to and through the "informed opinion on the other side of the Atlantic." Our chief "servants" are to be used for the purpose and we are to be given "freedom" IN CHAINS—the chains of Debt, Usury, Taxation, needless Toil and Regimentation.

—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN, 189 Hotham Street, East Melbourne, C.2. 11th June 1944. (To be continued.)

[Editor's Note:—The address of Mr. Clarence Goode is 301 Military Road, Henley Beach, South Australia.]

## FASCISM THREATENS US ON THE HOME FRONT!

(Continued from page 1.)

Sydney on Monday For many months now the Australian people have been growing increasingly resentful of being shoved around. It wasn't only the censorship that disturbed them. They seized on the censorship as a means of registering their convictions." (End of quote from "Century.")

The third quotation is from "Smith's Weekly," Melbourne, of April 29. It discusses a secret organisation for spying on the political enemies of the Government. Some of my listeners will be horrified with what you are about to hear; but it should be remembered that a Central Government is merely a disguised military organisation, the power of which grows with what it feeds upon. The article is entitled: "Is this the Gestapo?" I quote:—

"Smith's Weekly" has documentary evidence of the existence in Australia of an organisation akin to the Secret Police of the Axis countries. Members of this organisation are volunteers; they are unpaid; they are unknown to one another; they are known only by numbers. They are surrounded with all the mystery and hocus-pocus of a Phillips Oppenheim Service operative. They are known as military reporting officers, and their job is to furnish secret reports about their friends, acquaintances, neighbours, or business associates.

"These reports are written in code or cipher and are posted in plain envelopes to a secret G.P.O. box number, which is listed as being held by a non-existent private firm. Reports are signed with the secret number of the operative, who can also report by telephone to a secret number, mentioning his own number (such as M62) for identification.

"Implications of this organisation are far-reaching. At first glance it would appear that the duty of these unpaid military reporting officers is to report on any evidence of subversive activity, disloyalty, sabotage, or happenings which may have bearing on the effective prosecution of the war. But it goes a great deal further than that.

"Roneoed instructions issued to members ask them to report on the political beliefs of their friends and neighbours; to report any anti-Government feeling; to report conversations they have overheard or statements that have been made by people known to them or with whom they come in contact. Communists have been especially singled out for attention.

**In fact, it is a gigantic secret espionage system, the ramifications of which extend throughout, the Commonwealth. These volunteer spies may be watching your every move, listening to your every word and sending their secret reports, signed by a secret number, to a secret address.**

"One instruction issued to the so-called military reporting officers reads: "That one M.R.O. must not make himself known to another because once his identity is known his value as a secret agent is lost."

"Position then is that for all you know the man at the next desk in your office, the chap next door, the man who delivers the milk, the barber who cuts your hair, and the barman who serves your drink, may be military reporting officers who watch your every move, listen to your every word, sound out your views and send secret reports about you to the secret headquarters of this secret organisation.

"Particularly does this apply to your political views, your feeling about the Government, your ideas about anything at all. It is in just such a way that Germany's dreaded Gestapo works. Has the Gestapo come to Australia under the title of the Military Reporting Officers' Organisation?

"Smith's has in its possession complete evidence of the existence of this organisation, including secret numbers, secret telephone numbers, secret addresses, secret G.P.O. box numbers, secret instructions, secret codes, secret ciphers. In fact, the whole thing is very secret. It is so secret that it has no place in a democracy. Has the present Federal Labor Government gone mad, that it allows such a thing as this to exist." (End of quote from "Smith's Weekly.")

**I suggest that here is something that wants immediate investigation. You should write immediately to your Member of Parliament about it, and if "Smith's" have that information in their possession, then it should be made public so that we may know the persons who are attempting to turn this country into a complete imitation of Nazi Germany.**

# WORDY WAR AGAINST THE INDIVIDUAL

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

**A couple of weeks ago I wrote in these columns about the manner in which "education" is being divorced from reality. There is a wrong emphasis placed upon MEANS instead of ENDS. This seems to me to be particularly so in the world of literature, which has contributed a considerable number of writers to the "left wing" movements. Writers naturally tend to become abstractionists and to unconsciously believe that their word symbols are more important than the Reality they represent—that is, if they DO represent Reality, which is rarely the case these days.**

I once knew a man who pioneered a virgin piece of bush in North-Eastern Victoria. He eventually established a really beautiful orchard. His deep satisfaction, as he watched his vines and trees growing, was obvious. Time and time again I saw him look with pride over his creation. Here was a real creative artist, but he could neither express his feelings nor describe his creation in a written word picture.

Along comes a man who is a trained writer, a man who knows how to use words in their correct relationship to one another, but who could no more create an orchard than fly. Is he a greater or better-educated man than the orchardist? Obviously not.

At this stage someone may ask what all this has to do with social credit.

**It is vital, because it is an important aspect of the vicious campaign to divorce the individual from Reality and encourage false emphasis on certain human activities. Beautiful writing closely touching on Reality is one thing, but when an admittedly good writer of prose, such as H. G. Wells, uses his writing to put forward a philosophy-of-life created in a vacuum, that is an entirely different matter.**

It is generally agreed that Milton ranks as one of England's finest poets, but I regard him as the greatest tragedy English poetry ever suffered. He attacked all that Shakespeare stood for: concrete reality. Milton's deadly abstractionism was of the same type as Plato's "Republic," which helped wreck the real greatness of early Greece, and proved such an inspiration for our modern Utopians, men responsible for much of the blood-letting of revolutions.

I have now led up to the main purpose

of this article: to mention the manner in which certain types of modern popular novels, backed by big publishers and "suitably" reviewed by the big influential papers in all countries, are subtly degrading the individual as a value while preaching uncensored abstractionism. Ernest Hemingway, whose books, particularly "For Whom The Bell Tolls," are often said to be among "the great literature of our time," is being aped by many who are trying to become "tough" writers. And there are others. The following comment on this new writing was published in the form of a letter to the "New York Times Book Review" early last year. All social crediters should study it closely:

**"We are led to believe that no one wants the story of the individual as an entity of worth any more. Tree-ness and not the tree is the literary philosophy of the day. . . . From the time of the Greek playwrights through Shakespeare down through the heroic nineteenth-century novels of Dostoevsky and Thomas Hardy, the great concern of expressive men of thought has been with the place of the individual in the universe and in the world of men. Even up to within perhaps a decade of today there was still room for books on problems of the individual against the universe. . . . But today the journealese of 'world trends' has become the literature. . . . No novel can claim literary credit unless it concerns itself with mass migrations, generalisations of wars and revolutions in terms of whole villages and peoples. The individual, the particular. . . is unimportant. He is an insignificant fraction in the vast equation. As if the equation could possibly have any**

meaning without the existence, vitally necessary, of each factor that goes to make it up; Will we still have an equation when there are no more factors. . . . ?"

The writer of the above goes on to say: "I know of a book that has passed through the hands of a number of publishers, always with the same commentary: The style, the execution, the thoughtfulness and vitality of the subject and its treatment are superlative. But the solution of the problem always gets back to the individual. That won't do. You can't place responsibility for anything on the individual. That goes against 'world trends,' 'mass movements,' and 'historical perspectives.'"

I hope social crediters think seriously about the idea I have tried to put forward. We must be ever seeking out the "enemy," no matter in what sphere of human activity he attacks us.

## THE FARMERS OF RUSSIA

"May I also correct Mr. Crombie's statement that the Soviet Government gave to the peasants the land previously owned by the big landlords? Nothing could be more misleading. The Soviet Government expropriated both the big and the small landowners, and became the sole owner of all the land in the country. The peasants were turned into agricultural wage earners, who differ from the British agricultural workers in that they are deprived of all bargaining power. . . . In the countries where the means of production are privately owned, you run the risk of allowing a few to possess too much, while in the country where all the means of production are owned by the State, everybody has too little."

—"Another Ukrainian" in "The Scotsman," December 16.

The Russian agricultural worker is the lowest paid in Europe, comments "The Social Crediter," quoting the above.

## SECRET SESSION IN ALBERTA

Earl de la Warr, a "Labour" peer, has been in Edmonton, Alberta, recently to address a PRIVATE meeting of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs ("Chatham House"). As its secretary, Dr. Arnold Toynbee, now being kept at Oxford at the expense of the British taxpayer, remarked: "We are working secretly. . . to undermine the sovereignty of our respective nations." Or Provinces?

## FINANCIERS' FRIENDS

Professor Corkey, who wrote a completely unsound attack on Social Credit some years ago and has since been made Minister of Education in Northern Ireland, has been dismissed from his post. The Labour M.P.'s are furious and are preparing a Vote of Censure on the Government. Odd how Labour M.P.'s support anyone who defends international finance, isn't it?

—"The Social Crediter," March 18.

## THE POLICE STATE IN RUSSIA

**"It has always required a huge police machine to hold the Russians down, and the present one is the biggest the world has ever seen."**

—Max Eastman, the ex-Socialist, who lived two years in Russia. (Quoted in "The Social Crediter," March 18, 1944.)

# GOVT. CONTROL OF COAL PRODUCTION

Although the Federal Opposition seems to have no clear idea of the real cause of the troubles in the coalmining industry, two Opposition Members recently gave some sound evidence against Government control:

**Speaking on the Coal Production Bill on March 3, Senator McLeay said:—**

"There are only two references that I shall make to the Bill. It is obvious that this is an attempt by the Government to introduce into the coal-mining industry a dose of socialisation. It is interesting to note that over a period of eleven years the loss to the taxpayers that has been caused by the State-owned coalmine at Wonthaggi has been more than £1,000,000. The Minister of Mines in Victoria, in discussing this loss, made the following comment:—

**"When the mine is working our department is losing £3000 per week, but whilst it is idle we lose only £1000 per week."**

The price of coal from the State coal mine at Lithgow is higher than that of any private coal mine in the district. In the last four years, the Lithgow mine has shown a profit on only one occasion, and in 1943 it lost more than £16,000."

**Speaking on March 1, on the same Bill, Mr. Harrison (Wentworth) said:**

"I shall now describe the position in New Zealand. . . . The Wellington 'Evening Post,' of the 7th of February, published some interesting observations about national control. The Waikato field is under national control, whilst the Runanga field consists of State-owned mines. The article stated:—

**"The serious effect on coal output in the Waikato caused by stop-work meetings, absenteeism, and the early departure of men from the mines is revealed in a statement issued on behalf of all the mining companies operating in the district. Coal-mining operations in the Waikato field have opened disastrously this year," the statement says. The output for the period 5th to 31st January (nineteen working days) is 43,470 tons, compared with 58,163 tons for the same period of 1943—a falling off in production of 14,693 tons or 25.26 per cent, on 1943 production. These figures do not include the two Government mines at Mangapeehi and**

# SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

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

"25% Tax Impost' Campaign: In connection with this request letter campaign, which aims to secure the repeal of the clause in the "Pay-as-you-go" Taxation Bill, which imposes on taxpayers a payment of an additional 25% to meet an alleged "tax lag," we wish to report that while considerable public interest has been taken therein, there is still plenty of room for many more actionists to take part. It is our experience that in most cases people from all sections of the community, whether they are Trade Unionists, Housewives, Farmers, Shop Assistants, Small Traders or Business Executives, will readily sign the forms as soon as the campaign is brought to their notice. Mr. H. B. Harvey, the campaign organiser, with a handful of helpers, manned a table at the market on Friday, May 26, and gathered 754 signatures. This is an example of what a little initiative will do. How about it, you actionists—PARTICULARLY YOU INTER-STATE PEOPLE—what have you done? What can you do? Remember the phrase, "There is nothing so dangerous as individual initiative." Forms can be obtained from us for 1/6 per 100, plus 3d postage. Send for a supply today and get on with the job. If you do not feel that you can play an active part, how about a donation to the campaign funds? We have a variety of ideas, which can be used if we have the necessary finance.

A Bridge and Card Evening will be held at our rooms on Saturday, July 1, at 8 p.m. Basket supper—cosy fire—pleasant people. Come along and make it a success.

Books to Read: "RED GLOWS THE DAWN," by Michael Lamb. (A History of the Australian Communist Party). Price 6d. "The Frustration of Production of Motor Fuel in Australia," by A. W. Noakes. Price 6d. "The Miracle of the Machine," by C. Barclay-Smith. Price 6d. (All plus 1d postage.)

—F. BAWDEN, Hon. Secretary.

## DEBATE ON POWERS BILL

Following the meetings on the Powers Bill at Seville and Ringwood, a debate on this vital issue has been arranged for Thursday, June 22, at the Croydon Hall. Victorian supporters around these parts are invited to attend and help to make the debate successful.

## WORTH REPEATING

"The idea that a national Government is strengthened by concentrating all powers in one assembly at one centre is a dangerous fallacy, which constantly impedes the growth of the Commonwealth. . . . The reasons why one organ of Government cannot control all the affairs of a great community are many. It suffices to mention one, which, like other facts that are obvious, is constantly overlooked. In an hour are 60 minutes, in a day 24 hours, and in a year 365 days. The amount of business which any human being can transact is inexorably limited by these facts."

—Lionel Curtis: "Civitas Dei," page 419.

# BUREAUCRATS BUNGLE MEAT SUPPLY

On March 2, two representatives of Victorian country electorates gave Federal Parliament some solid facts concerning meat production and distribution, which throw more light on the mystery of meat rationing in this country. According to "Hansard," Mr. Rankin (Bendigo) said:—

"The peak period of the last lamb season produced one of the greatest messes ever known in the meat industry. We all know that during the peak period of the season there is frequently a glut, and that the processing firms use their opportunities to force the market down in order to buy stock at a cheap rate, but last season, owing to lack of organisation, there was insufficient labour available to handle the stock that came on to the market.

**"Taxation was so high that the men who were available would not work to their full capacity, because the more sheep they killed the higher they rose in categories of income."**

"The result was that thousands of sheep held over became 'stores' and were lost at the time when we possibly needed meat more than ever before. In a great portion of northern Victoria and southern Riverina, a fairly severe drought was suffered, but there was a period when the lambs raised could have been processed for export, although they were not first class. Transport was in such a shocking muddle, however, that, although a great proportion of the trucks available was provided for Ballarat, the Western District and Gippsland, the lambs from northern Victoria and southern Riverina were not trucked, and their condition deteriorated so much that they became useless to the meat trade. The authorities allowed lambs to be trucked back to the irrigation areas from Bendigo, but not south to Ballarat or the Western District, where pasture was available."

Mr. Scully: "There are good abattoirs at Bendigo."

Mr. Rankin: "Yes, and there is good storage, but only about one-twentieth of what was required to handle those lambs. They had to be disposed of within two or three weeks if they were to be fit for processing. If held over that period they lost condition. The drought-stricken settlers in those areas lost the only bright prospect they had of gaining something from the wreck. Not only did that happen, but also they would not allow 'stores' to be sent south from Bendigo. The Government allowed 'store' lambs to be sent to Melbourne to be sold on the Melbourne market, and then sent to Ballarat."

Mr. Pollard: "Who are 'they'—the Victorian Railways Commission?"

Mr. Rankin: "No, the transport authorities. . . . Sheep were forced on to the market by the conditions, and the only people who benefited were the three big processors, Vesteys, Angliss, and Borthwicks. They gained because of the lack of organisation by the public servants who are attempting to run the meat industry. . . . Do not make the owner of a large cattle station the representative of the lamb-raisers of Victoria!"

Mr. Scully: "Mr. Fiske is said to be the greatest authority in Victoria on fat lambs."

Mr. Rankin: "I did not refer to him."

Mr. Scully: "He represents Victoria on the Meat Commission, and he is Deputy Meat Controller in that State."

Mr. Rankin: "The Meat Board consists of 'fellows north of Sydney,' who have little

or no knowledge of fat-lamb raising. Victoria produces a very large proportion of Australia's fat lambs. As I stated the policy of the Government, formulated by public servants, has only benefited the meat processing companies, who have 'slated' the meat producer at every opportunity. These companies form an octopus that the Government must watch after the war. The sooner they are kicked out of this country and we handle our own meat, the better it will be for meat-producers and for Australia as a whole. . . ."

Mr. Alex. Wilson (Wimmera) followed Mr. Rankin:

"Countless thousands of pounds have been lost to meat-producers through the muddling which has occurred in the peak period for the marketing of fat lambs and sheep. Incidentally, that loss has been a severe blow to the nation, which urgently requires meat at the present time. It seemed anomalous to me that when so much fat stock "was offering, and could not be marketed, the Government decided to introduce meat rationing."

Mr. McLeod: "Meat rationing did not operate then."

Mr. Wilson: "No, but the Government announced its intention to introduce it. Undoubtedly, the position was greatly aggravated in the period of the season for the marketing of fat lambs by mishandling on the part of those in authority. True, war conditions created transport difficulties and there were contributing factors, but they caused producers to suffer great losses. In the north-west of Victoria, which contributes a large number of fat lambs to the export trade each year, many thousands of lambs ready for market could not be sent away, for reasons indicated by previous speakers. Those producers who succeeded in sending away their lambs suffered severe financial loss. I agree that Australia has not sufficient facilities for storing large quantities of meat, but I emphasise that this country has not utilised, to the best advantage, all the facilities that it possesses. In the electorate of Wimmera there is a freezing works worth probably £100,000, which has been standing idle for years."

Mr. Scully: "Is it also a killing works?"

Mr. Wilson: "Yes. The plant is modern in every respect. Two years ago I induced the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture and the Minister for Supply and Shipping (Mr. Beasley) to inspect this establishment, and they expressed surprise that, at that period, it was not being used. State authorities in Victoria have assured me that in the coming season the works will be operated. The reason advanced last season for allowing it to remain idle was the shortage of manpower. I contend that if manpower had been used to the best economic advantage, that concern would have been operating. . . . It will be reprehensible if recent experiences in the meat industry are repeated. We ought to learn from the mistakes that have been made, and I believe no attempt to "pass the buck" will be accepted by the Parliament or the people in explanation of even a small measure of the dislocations that have occurred in the meat industry recently."